THE DATUM POINT



February 2021

Newsletter of the NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER (NVC) OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Chapter Website - www.nvcasv.org



Zoom Meeting this month! Patrick O@Neill will talk about Enslaved People Escaping to the British during the War of 1812 on the Potomac. Here is the link in case the email I sent out did not reach you.

Topic: Northern Virginia Chapter Meeting Time: Feb 10, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time Join Zoom Meeting (may have to cut and paste)

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82245677799?pwd=YkF KZWZIdUFTQi80aVprUkFKRnhLQT09

Presentation and meeting will start at 700pm.

Chapter Membership Renewal!!!

See the information to renew your membership to the Northern Virginia Chapter of the ASV on the last page of this and every Datum Point. Send the form and check to Barbara Leven, Chapter Treasurer.

FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT PATRICK O'NEILL

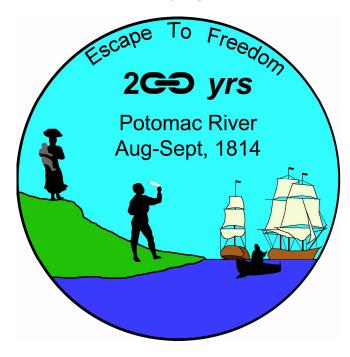
The January ASV Board Meeting went well. President Barber has outlined some initiatives, including the feasibility of putting a quality lab at the Kittiewan Visitors Center.

If you are interested in helping with the survey and mapping at the Bull Run Mountain Preserve, email me at <u>patrickloneill@verizon.net</u>. It will be fairly physical.

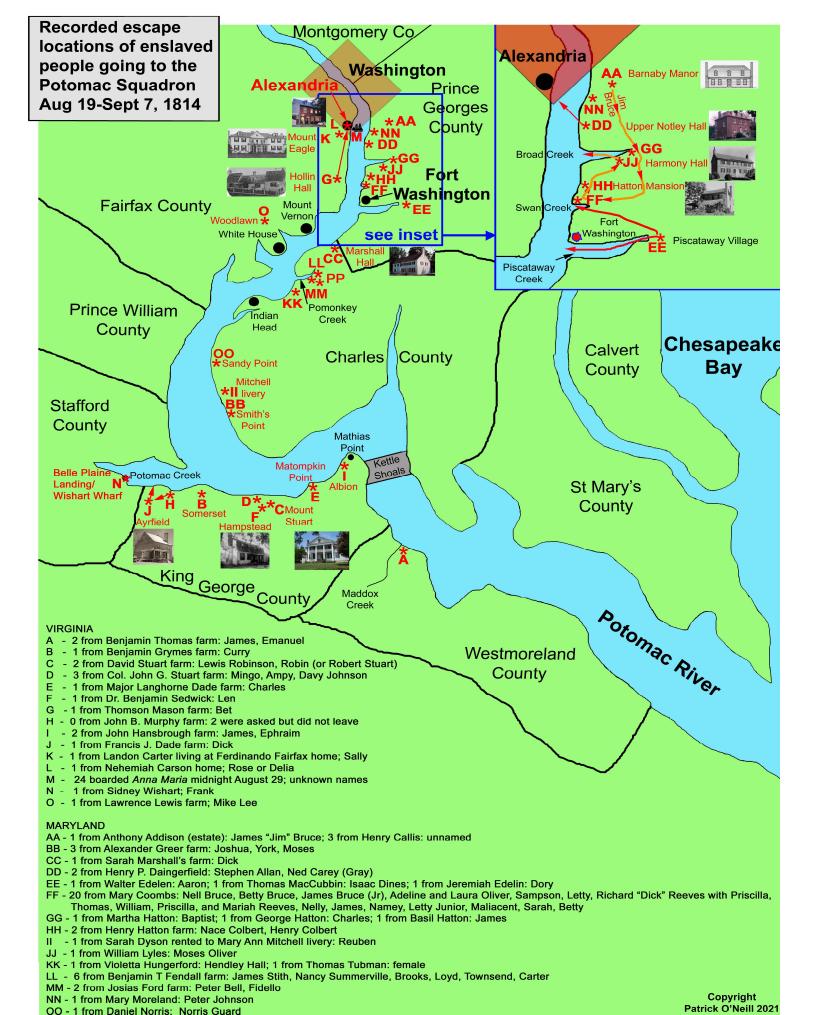
I know some of you have been vaccinated, and hope all is well with that.

ENSLAVED PEOPLE ESCAPING TO BRITISH SHIPS ON THE POTOMAC IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 1814

BY PATRICK O'NEILL



When seven British warships sailed up the Potomac River to assist with the attack on Washington in August 1814, at least 68 enslaved people along the river escaped bondage and went to the ships to find their freedom. The escape stories of these men, women, and children are told through the depositions giving by their owners, neighbors, and enslaved co-workers after the war. The chart on the next page shows the names of the enslaved and locations of their escape. Join the Zoom meeting to hear this special presentation.



PP - 2 from John Stoddert: Primus Mitchell, Harry

CART

Fairfax County Archaeological Research Team

Happy 2021! As CART begins this new year, the team is taking some time to ensure that we will be prepared for the projects to come by wrapping up a few older ones. The field crew has Completed some very daunting backfilling projects. This is an important step in preserving archaeological sites as well as ensuring the safety of those visiting our parks by filling in an excavation site once the investigation is completed. There are different types of backfilling methods; we can use a perforated tarp to line the base of an excavation if we intend to return to the site, or we can fill in the area with no liner if we do not intend on returning to the completed area.







Our crew was very excited to be back in the field with the nice weather recently. We were even more excited to find a frog that had taken refuge in an old test unit. Soon the field crew will be returning to Riverbend to continue our survey of the park, as well as begin a new project in the next few weeks.

Our lab staff continues to impress everyone by the amount of work they can do, especially over the past year without the aid of our volunteers. Lab Director Elizabeth and Assistant Lab Director Daphne continue to process the numerous artifacts brought into the lab while balancing multiple projects at once. Cataloging these artifacts gives us more insight into the work we have completed and will help to inform future investigations by identifying the types of artifacts we commonly find in Fairfax County. To stay informed on our recent work please visit our blog http://cartarchaeology.wordpress.com/.

Our volunteer program is currently suspended, and our offices remain closed until further notice. If you would like to be notified when we can accept volunteer assistance, please email cartarchlab@live.com.

2021 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

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DC City Archaeologist	Dr. Ruth Trocolli	Ruth.Trocolli@dc.gov 202-442-8836

NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION Name:
Phone:
ADDRESS:
EMAIL:
Individual (\$15) Student (\$5) Family (\$17)
Return to: Barbara Leven, Treasurer, NVC/ASV 9518 Liberty Tree Lane Vienna VA 22182
Chapter members can join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia at www.virginiaarcheology.org/
The Chapter meets at 7:00p.m. on the 2 nd Wed. of each month via ZOOM until the pandemic is over.
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!

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