



# THE DATUM POINT

January 2021

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

Chapter Website – [www.nvcasv.org](http://www.nvcasv.org)

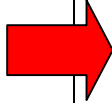


**Zoom Meeting this month!** Patrick O'Neill will talk about Alexandria and the American Revolution. Here is the link in case the email I sent out did not reach you.

**Topic: Northern Virginia Chapter Meeting**  
**Time: Jan 13, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time**  
**Join Zoom Meeting (may have to cut and paste)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87247624485?pwd=MjI1eWtqRjVKVXZQaWI0MHdkZUJZQT09>

**Presentation and meeting will start at 700pm.**



## **SMALLPOX INNOCULATION AND BRITISH NAVAL INVASION: ALEXANDRIA IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**BY PATRICK O'NEILL**



**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**

Happy New Year!!!! Once again, I find myself at the helm of the chapter! I hope to do you proud. I have also been elected as Vice-President of the ASV under newly elected President Mike Barber.

January is time for Chapter dues and renewal. See the box above as well as the last page of the Datum Point for instructions on how to renew.

We may have Zoom meetings all year depending on what regulations are surrounding the pandemic. Be patient, and we will try and connect with you as much as we can!

General George Washington ordered all soldiers to receive smallpox inoculation. Dr. William Rickman set up a field hospital at Jones Point south of Alexandria in 1777, to process all soldiers coming through the area from the south towards New York. Things went wrong, really wrong.

In April 1781, British warships sailed to Alexandria in search of General Lafayette to keep him from coming to Yorktown. These warships threatened Alexandria, the Maryland shoreline, and Mount Vernon.

Tune in to the Zoom meeting to see what happened!

## **CART**

### **Fairfax County Archaeological Research Team**

As the end of the year approaches the CART team is preparing for the new year and new projects! The CART team continues to wrap up projects completed over the past few months with research and report writing as well as processing the massive number of artifacts brought into the lab this year. This has not been the year we anticipated but CART has worked incredibly hard adjusting to a new way of collaborating virtually and safe field work.

This month we also say goodbye to Senior Archaeologist Chris Sperling. He will be departing Fairfax after more than a decade with the CART team to lead the historic preservation program in Calvert County. Chris has lead a number of projects throughout the county and leaves behind a legacy of a comprehensive team of in-house archaeologists, he will be missed!



The CART blog will be posing a new series of staff spotlights over the next few week, the first focuses on John Rutherford who has more than 35 years of experience as an archaeologist. To read John's full interview and learn more about his journey with archaeology please visit our blog <https://cartarchaeology.wordpress.com/2020/12/02/staff-spotlight-john-rutherford/>



Fairfax's ArtiFACT page has featured oil lamp discovered in one of the county's oldest sites, Ash Grove built around 1790 by Bryan Fairfax. To learn more about this beautiful artifact and others please check out the artiFACT page <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/artifacts>.



We hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday season, our volunteer program is currently suspended, and our offices remain closed until further notice. If you would like to be notified when we can again accept volunteer assistance, please email [cartarchlab@live.com](mailto:cartarchlab@live.com).

## 2021 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Patrick O'Neill	<a href="mailto:PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET">PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET</a> 703-244-6275
<b>Vice-President</b>	vacant	
<b>Treasurer</b>	Barbara Leven	<a href="mailto:levenbarbara2@gmail.com">levenbarbara2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Corresponding Sec</b>	John Kelsey	<a href="mailto:jkelsey@cox.net">jkelsey@cox.net</a>
<b>Recording Sec</b>	vacant	
<b>Datum Point Editor</b>	Patrick O'Neill	<a href="mailto:PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET">PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET</a>
<b>Webmaster</b>	Chris Havlicek	<a href="mailto:christo829@juno.com">christo829@juno.com</a>
<b>Certification Liaison</b>	Ann Wood	<a href="mailto:annpwood@gmail.com">annpwood@gmail.com</a>

### Other Public Archaeological Programs in Northern Virginia/DC

<b>Fairfax Co. Archaeology (FCPA)</b>	Dr. Elizabeth Crowell	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov">elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov</a> 703-534-3881
<b>Mount Vernon</b>	Joe Downer	<a href="mailto:JDowner@mountvernon.org">JDowner@mountvernon.org</a> 703.799.6831
<b>Gunston Hall</b>	Dave Shonyo	<a href="mailto:archaeology@gunstonhall.org">archaeology@gunstonhall.org</a> 703-638-9724
<b>Alexandria Museum</b>	Dr. Eleanor Breen	<a href="mailto:Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov">Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov</a> 703-838-4399
<b>DC City Archaeologist</b>	Dr. Ruth Trocolli	<a href="mailto:Ruth.Trocolli@dc.gov">Ruth.Trocolli@dc.gov</a> 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/](http://www.virginiaarcheology.org/)**

**The Chapter meets at 7:00p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of each month via ZOOM until the pandemic is over.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!**