



THE DATUM POINT

September 2026

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

Chapter Website – www.nvcasv.org



NO MEETING IN SEPTEMBER
THE ASV ANNUAL MEETING
SEPT 25-27

FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT
PATRICK O'NEILL

Please come to the Annual Meeting in Glen Allen next week!!!!!! [Volunteer Sign-Up Spreadsheet](#) and claim your shifts to volunteer some time at the Annual Meeting! All shifts are broken down into **1-hour blocks**.

On Saturday afternoon of the Annual Meeting, there is going to be a workshop on the Section 106 process, open to all! The ASV signed the letter to Congress! Here is some background: <https://culturalheritagepartners.com/open-letter-to-congress-from-national-coalition/>



Recently, Bill McGovern and I were at the Fairfax County Archives in the courthouse!

Location: Drury Plaza Hotel
11049 West Broad Street
Glen Allen, VA 23060
804-354-1542

Registration: [2026 Annual Meeting](#)

Meeting: \$40

Banquet: \$45



ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

86th ANNUAL MEETING



SEPTEMBER 25-27, 2026

Drury Plaza Hotel Richmond
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

ASV 86th Annual Meeting Silent Auction Catalog



Opens Friday at 7 AM
Closes Saturday at 2 PM
Location: Shenandoah Room

This year, the ASV Meeting Committee is trying something new, a Silent Auction. It's an attempt to defray some costs. You'll be given a number on the back of your meeting name tag. That number allows for more anonymity.

At the **Annual Meeting** will Saturday the 26th from **12:15-1:15** in the Rappahannock Room. (ASV Members Only)

This is where we'll be voting for New Board Members and possibly other issues.

Saturday evening is the **Banquet**. This year's speaker: **Dr. Matthew Reeves**, Director of Archaeology at James Madison's Montpelier. (Cash bar 5:00-6:00pm; Banquet 6:00-9:00pm)

Sunday morning is the ASV Board Meeting, where this year's Board wraps business and hands things off to the new Board Members.

August's Meeting was our Picnic!

We enjoyed a day at Alanwood Farm again. Patrick toured three sites on the Farm property and another site, just up the road.



Nature of History: Buzzing Through Brandy Station

Beekeepers rescue a long-established hive from the walls of a historic property on the Culpeper battlefield.



Over the decades, the American Battlefield Trust has helped save 2,353 acres at [Brandy Station](#), the site of the largest cavalry battle in North American history. Within our holdings on that historic landscape stands the Wiltshire House, a property eligible for the National Register for Historic Places once occupied by John Wiltshire, overseer for Richard Coope Cunningham. More recently, the site has been home to about 10,000 bees.

As part of the Trust's commitment to preserve, rehabilitate, and restore the landscape before transferring it to the Culpeper Battlefields State Park, several dilapidated outbuildings on the Wiltshire property that do not contribute to the area's historic significance were slated for demolition. During this process, a large hive of about 10,000 bees was found occupying a six-square-foot cavity in the wall of one of these sheds.

Faced with a hive-or-die situation, Tom Saielli, Land Stewardship Manager at the Trust, and Drew Gruber, Park Manager at [Culpeper Battlefields State Park](#)([opens in a new window](#)), contacted [Cedar Mountain Battlefield Foundation](#)([opens in a new window](#)) (CMBF) president and park volunteer Keith Price and his wife, Felecia, who have kept bees in the past. Realizing the scope of the project, the Prices looped in an Orange County beekeeping family. “The moment we saw that hive, we knew Felecia and I couldn’t do it alone,” said Price. “We called in the Arndts – Don, Melissa, and their teenage daughters Romina and Amy – who’ve been keeping bees for years.” The two families immediately buzzed into action. [Full Article here](#)



2026 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Patrick O'Neill	PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET 703-244-6275
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Other Public Archaeological Programs in Northern Virginia/DC

Fairfax Co. Archaeology (FCPA)	Dr. Jeffery Alvey	fcpa-archaeology@fairfaxcounty.gov 703-534-3881
Mount Vernon		
Gunston Hall	Dave Shonyo	archaeology@gunstonhall.org 703-638-9724
Alexandria Museum	Dr. Eleanor Breen	Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov 703-838-4399
DC City Archaeologist	Dr. Ruth Trocolli	Ruth.Trocolli@dc.gov 202-442-8836
Germanna Foundation	Dr. Kelly Arford-Horne, MA, RPA	kelly.arford-horne@germanna.org 540-423-1700

NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The link above allows you to pay online via PayPal (no need for an account) or Venmo. You can still pay via a traditional check, as well. Our dues go towards many different supportive efforts beyond paying for our website. We participate throughout the state with: Scholarships; Donations to Sites; Memorials; Fieldwork Opportunities; Educational Programs; and more.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-Mail: _____

Dues:

Individual (\$15) _____

Family (\$17) _____

Student (\$5) _____

Please make check payable to NVC/ASV.

Return to:

Barbara Leven, Treasurer, NVC/ASV

9518 Liberty Tree Lane

Vienna VA 22182

The Chapter meets at 7:30p.m. on the 2nd Wed. of each month. *Meetings may take place in-person and/or on Zoom. Details with start time and on-line/in-person information will be provided in the Datum Point newsletter prior to each meeting.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!