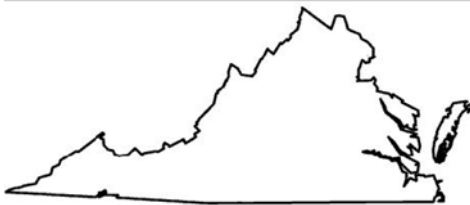




**Newsletter  
of the  
*Archeological  
Society of Virginia***

**April 2007  
Number 184**



**The mission of the  
*Archeological Society  
of Virginia*  
is to promote the archaeology  
& anthropology of  
Virginia & adjacent regions**

***From the Desk of President  
Mike Wilke***

Winter finally arrived here in the mountains of Highland County in the latter part of January and I had to plow my driveway as well as those of my neighbors. The effort that was required to attach the snowplow to my four-wheeler was either rewarded or its installation did not prevent a need for its use. I suppose that it would depend upon whether one is looking at the situation in a positive or a negative manner. And, the forecast is for more of the same over the next several days. The bright side is that it will definitely not result in the six to ten feet of snow that towns and cities in New York state are experiencing.

As your new president, I presided at my first Board meeting in January and look forward to the next two years. I am excited about what lies ahead and have several initiatives that I hope will be completed during that time. At the meeting, I appointed a Marketing Steering Committee chaired by Sara Bell (nsbell@cfw.com ) to develop a marketing strategy for the Society's publications as well as current and future signature items.

The committee will also partner with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (DHR) to market the many DHR publications. This is named a steering committee since the concept will include a member of each Chapter to serve as a contact person to develop local outlets and to submit suggestions to the committee.

*Continued on Next Page*

This idea began to develop when I received a copy of an email from Ed Bottoms of the Nansemond Chapter listing local book stores that were interested in selling the 2007 Trilogy series. By making ASV and DHR publications and merchandise more readily available and visible on a regional basis, sales will increase. More importantly a visible presence will be established to those who have an interest in Virginia archaeology which should result in a membership increase.

A committee chaired by Carole Nash (nashcl@jmu.edu) was also appointed with the goal of establishing a separate, financially self-sustaining foundation-like entity to focus specifically on the development and operation of Kittiewan. Whatever type of organizational unit results will remain responsible to the Board of Directors and require the approval of the Board for policy and major operational decisions. The formation of this entity will enable the ASV to once again focus on the archaeology of the state and region and to expand upon the current outreach to members of the ASV, local school systems, and those interested in this exciting field of study.

One of the major tools for outreach and communication available to the Society is the ASV website ([www.archeology-asv.com](http://www.archeology-asv.com)). Past President Faye Wade appointed a committee during her term of office tasked with the submission of proposals to redesign the website. Unfortunately,

the death of Mr. Cropper and subsequent receipt of Kittiewan pushed the website redesign into the background. I have placed Faye's goal on the fast track and hope to have the redesign completed within the next six months.

When I was elected to the office of President Elect two years ago, I publicly stated that one of my goals was to empower the Chapters and to have members become active participants in the operation of the ASV. The formation of the Marketing Steering Committee was the first step in that process. I have initiated steps to revitalize the Roanoke, Thomas Jefferson, and Peter Francisco Chapters and will make a concerted effort to visit each Chapter at least once during the next two years. Each member and interested observer is an important part of the future and the growth of the ASV. It should be noted here that the Highlands Chapter may well lose the title of the ASV's newest Chapter very soon. Dave Brown (dabro3@wm.edu) with the help of Board members Charlie Manson, Cindy Dausen, and Molly Kerr is working on the formation of a new Chapter in the Gloucester area. This is certainly exciting news.

Included in this mailing is a questionnaire that I hope you will complete and return to the ASV. We are searching for members who will be willing to offer their special skills and interests to the ASV not only in the field but also to the operation of the business of the Society.

# ASV Needs YOUR Special Skills!!!

The Archaeological Society of Virginia is a large, diverse organization whose main goal is the preservation and understanding of the Old Dominion's archaeological heritage. Thanks to members like you, our organization has grown quite large with dedicated chapters located throughout the state. However, with our growth, ASV finds that we need special skills that we did not envision when we were a smaller organization. This is where YOU can help. Can you do carpentry, operate a laser transit, or do you have experience with accounting, investment counseling, or computer programming? Are you an artist, tax specialist, or grant specialist? Do you have some other skill that you think might help ASV? Let us know!!!

If you have a special skill that you are willing to share, contact ASV President Mike Wilke at:

1062 Little Egypt Road  
Monterey, VA 24465  
e-mail: [legypt@htcnet.org](mailto:legypt@htcnet.org)



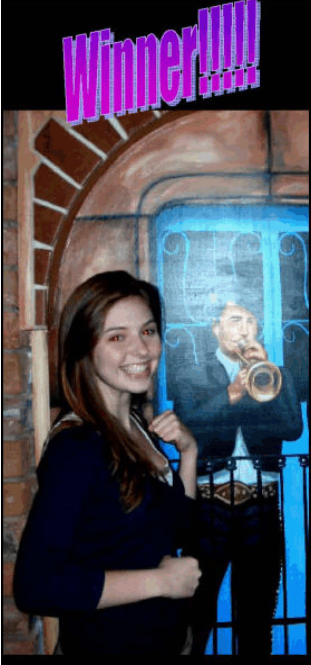



## Virginia Archaeology at the MAAC Conference

Virginia archaeology and archaeologists were well represented at last month's Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference (MAAC) in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Numerous sessions featured papers on topics directly related to the archaeology of Virginia, including a session on Virginia archaeologists. Other topics of interest from throughout the middle Atlantic region were of course presented as well. An evening lecture by noted scientist Dr. Douglas Owsley, Division Head of the

Smithsonian's Physical Anthropology Division, on his efforts to scientifically study the Kennewick Man skeleton was well attended. Dr. Owsley presented some of the latest findings that he and his team obtained from their research into Kennewick Man.

There were so many undergraduate and graduate students among the presenters at this year's MAAC conference that separate awards were given for best graduate student paper and best undergraduate student paper. Sharon Allitt from Temple University won the best graduate student paper for her presentation "The Mohr Site: In Search of a Proxy - A Preliminary Stable Isotope Study of Deer Bone as an Indicator of Human Dependence on Maize (*Zea Mays*): Agriculture in a Northeast Prehistoric Village." The best undergraduate student paper went to Kristen Chasse of Washington and Lee University for her paper "Mortuary Practices at the Reckner Site."

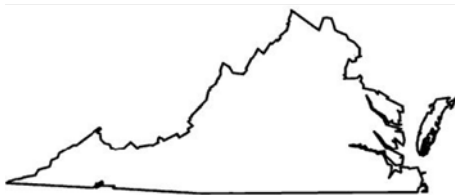




**Monongahela  
Mortuary Practices  
at the Reckner Site**

Kristen Chasse  
Washington and Lee  
University

Kristen won the 2007 Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference best undergraduate student paper contest for a revised paper written originally for *Grave Matters: On Death and Burial*. Her paper will be published in the next *Journal of Middle Atlantic Archaeology*.

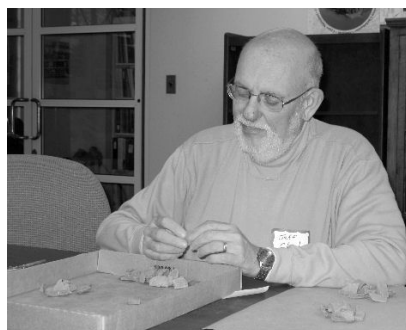


# ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

## The DHR Archaeological Collections Volunteer Program

Submitted by Dee Deroche

The DHR Archaeological Collections Volunteer Program started the last weekend in January and is planned to continue the second and fourth Fridays and Saturdays through May. We've had up to 13 volunteers on any one day, more on Saturdays than on Fridays. Many are ASV members, some are Certification students or graduates, some are university students and others simply members of the community. Participants have come from at least three ASV Chapters, Greater Richmond, Nansemond, and Thomas Jefferson. Volunteers are welcome to sign-up throughout the spring. Activities have included cleaning artifacts from Keyser Farm and Maycock excavations, sorting Native American pottery from the Owen Collection, cataloging and labeling a variety of artifacts, and assisting with Integrated Pest Management. We try to fit the tasks to the aptitudes and inclinations of the volunteers. All the pictures on this page are from February 10 and appear courtesy of photographer Chip Payette.





## The Highlands Chapter

Submitted by Mike Wilke

The Highlands Chapter continues to grow. The Charter Membership term has closed with a total of twenty members but interest is expanding. The publication of an article describing the upcoming speaker Carole Nash for the January meeting in the local newspaper resulted in a full house on a windy, slippery, and snowy evening with attendees from both Virginia and West Virginia. A follow-up article published in the same paper resulted in a number of callers expressing interest in joining the Chapter as well as the description of sites to be investigated. Upcoming speakers will include Bob Jolley (Frontier Forts), Tom Klatka (Blacksmithing), Clarence Geier (Fort Edward Johnson), and Hunter Lesser (Camp Allegheny). The Highlands Chapter will be busy during the upcoming year updating the current site reports recorded in the DHR data base and investigating and recording new sites.

## Northern Virginia Chapter

Adapted from the chapter newsletter *The Datum Point*

The Northern Virginia chapter recently mourned the passing of **Malcolm "Rich" Richardson**, long-time member and former president of their chapter from 1984-1985. January's *The Datum Point* included reminiscences from John Imlay, Mike Johnson, Suzanne Levy, and Patrick O'Neill. Rich began volunteering with the Northern Virginia Chapter of ASV in the early 1980s when he offered the use of his welding torch to cut through a sheet of tin covering one layer of a unit two feet below the surface of the ground. Rich went on to make other major contributions to archaeology and beyond. In addition to indexing over 50 years of the *Fairfax Herald* – as written about in the *Washington Post* – Rich also worked with Smithsonian physical anthropologist Doug Owsley on various forensic cases, including genocide investigations in Bosnia. In addition to receiving the "Amateur of the Year" award from the ASV in 1991, he joined with John Imlay and Dale Brown to receive in 2004 a "Special Award" from ASV for their outstanding work in preserving and recording cemeteries inside and outside Virginia.



Malcom "Rich" Richardson talks to Martha Williams in 1991 when he received his "Amateur of the Year" award from ASV. Photograph courtesy of Julian Williams.





## The Upper James River Chapter

Submitted by our newest member Hannah Short

Hi, everyone! We are the Short family and we live in Middlebrook, VA. Our family consists of Bob, Chris, Hannah (22), Millie (19), Grace (15), and Trube (12). We recently joined the Upper James River Chapter and are very excited to be a part of the ASV!

Chris and Hannah are working on their

archaeological technician certifications and having a wonderful time doing it. We are a homeschooling family and live on a small farm. We raise most of our own food and have a big vegetable garden, fruit trees, dairy goats for milk and cheese, chickens for eggs, Irish Dexter cattle for milk and beef, and also occasionally raise turkeys and pigs. There are a wide variety of interests among the members of our family including, but not limited to, hunting, scrapbooking, quilting, homemade cosmetics, music, history, all things Scottish, 4-H activities, and, of course, archaeology!!! God has blessed us greatly and we seek to honor Him in all that we do. We look forward to the adventures that await us with the UJRC of ASV!



The Short family. Submitted by Hannah Short.

## The Wolf Hills Chapter

Submitted by May Tabor

The members of the Wolf Hills Chapter held an election at their December 1, 2006 meeting. The president of the Wolf Hills Chapter for 2007-08 is Dan Kegley, P. O. Box 1601, Chillhowie, VA 24319, email address - hearthside@ntelos.net. Dan is a newspaper photographer/reporter, so he should be a good information sharer. He's working on certification so he is really committed to archeology and he will be a great leader for our chapter and an asset to the ASV membership.



Virginia was well represented at the 2007 Society for Historical Archaeology meetings in Williamsburg, Virginia. ASV's presence became immediately known to over 1500 archaeologists, since the December *Quarterly Bulletin* was included in every member's registration packet. Additional copies of the *Quarterly Bulletin* were eagerly snapped up by members attracted to this issue's dramatic color interior illustrations.

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## Current ASV Officers

**President:** C. Mike Wilke  
**President-elect:** Patrick O'Neill  
**Vice President:** C. Neil Manson  
**Secretary:** Stephanie Jacobe  
**Treasurer:** Bill Thompson

legypt@htcnet.org  
patrickoneill@erols.com  
nielmans@comcast.net  
aureus@usa.net  
twarchitects@livenet.net

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**For more information on ASV go to:**  
**<http://www.asv-archeology.org>**



Photograph courtesy of Laura J. Galke.

ASV members Hannah, Chris, and Trube Short work on certification at Washington and Lee University's Laboratory of Anthropology, February 6, 2007.



### **Send newsletter submissions to:**

Bernard K. Means, Ph.D., RPA  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Washington and Lee University  
Lexington, VA 24450  
or via e-mail at: [meansb@wlu.edu](mailto:meansb@wlu.edu)

**Deadline for Submission to June Newsletter is  
APRIL 21!!!**