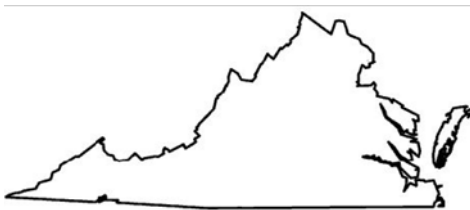




**Newsletter
of the
*Archeological
Society of Virginia***

**June 2007
Number 185**



**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***

It is early May as I write this article for the June Newsletter. I do think that spring has finally arrived even here in Highland County. I have had to mow the lawn twice already and since the day has been wet, it almost looks like I can see the grass growing outside of my window. The trees are budding, the early harbingers of imminent warm weather (colts foot and blood root) have come and gone, and now a variety of flowers including the dogwood trees are in full bloom. However, I am not totally convinced and will wait a while before putting my house plants on the front porch.

I attended a meeting of the Nansemond Chapter in Portsmouth on April 20 and enjoyed the opportunity to share in George Ramsey's birthday celebration. It was a pleasure meeting the members of the Chapter and I thank them for their hospitality. Since the Board meeting was scheduled for April 22 and the round trip from here in the mountains was over 500 miles, I stayed with Teresa and Dwayne Preston for the weekend. I would like to thank them as well for their gracious hospitality and the Saturday visit to Jamestown.

I will be visiting the Wolf Hills Chapter meeting on May 18 and look forward to spending the evening with the Chapter members. As I noted in the previous article, I would like to visit with each of the ASV Chapters during my tenure of office and share some time with you all. Contact me to set a date, the title of my presentation is "You Are The ASV".

At the ASV Board meeting at Kittiewan, exciting news was announced. Sarah Speiden who passed away recently bequeathed to the ASV monies to be used as scholarships to graduate students majoring in archaeological fields. A committee was appointed including some

members who are currently working on graduate degrees and others who have attained those degrees to establish criteria for potential applicants. This fund will be named the Sarah Speiden Scholarship Fund in her honor. The money received will be invested so that the scholarships will be awarded yearly as long as the ASV exists beginning in 2008.

At Kittiewan, progress on the Plantation House is moving forward with public opening expected in the near future. The timber sale has been held which will provide much needed funds to this end. The timber tract was cruised by a professional forester and it was recommended that a tract of approximately 40 acres of mature timber be harvested before disease and weather decrease its value. Patrick O'Neill and Bruce Baker with ASV members have been conducting an archaeological survey of the tract prior to harvesting. Your help on this effort is needed.

As I noted in the last issue of the Newsletter, your help is needed with the sales of ASV publications including the 2007 Trilogy. Volume One is available and Volume Two is currently being printed. Contact your local bookstores to provide outlets for its sale. A local presence will not only increase sales but should also increase the membership rolls of your Chapter. There are a lot of people out there who have an interest in archaeology but do not know that there is an outlet for that interest locally.

I hope to see many of you at the last season at the Keyser Farm Site scheduled for July 23rd through August 5th. I will also be attending the survey and testing project scheduled for October 29th through November 3rd at Chippokes State Park in Surry County and hope to see you there as well.



ASV President Mike Wilke takes elevations at Keyser Farm in July 2006.

From the Office of State Archaeology

by Mike Barber, State Archaeologist

There is a lot of archeology going on in Virginia. We have academia, house museums, CRM groups, Archeological Society of Virginia members, Department of Historic Resources, state agencies, federal agencies, and who knows who else doing archaeology in the Commonwealth. The problem is that no one knows exactly what is going on, where our research is taking us, or where we lack data. We need to develop a comprehensive understanding of where we are and where we are going.

The Department of Historic Resources is devising 2 strategies to attempt to correct the situation: a comprehensive state archaeological plan and research design and a DHR / Academic Summit. The first, the state plan, has been in the works for a year. In fact, the concept was hatched by the Council of Virginia Archaeologists more than a decade ago but lacked adequate support to come to fruition. DHR, in cooperation with COVA and ASV, has now taken the lead to developing this plan. The overall concept calls for 2 volumes, one to outline the current level of our understanding of the archaeology of Virginia and a second volume to outline management practices. The first volume will be organized by time period and by regions and will provide a comprehensive, synthetic rendition for each.

Beginning with Paleoindian and ending with the twentieth century, the chronology

will be broken down at the regional level if appropriate. Currently, 3 chapters (Paleoindian, Middle Woodland, and Contact) are being written and will be ready by May 2007. They will stand as prototypes for the remainder. As DHR has entered into an agreement with ASV to fund the chapters, the time invested in the volume by the authors can be minimally compensated for. Anyone interested in authoring a section and/or chapter or joining the State Plan Committee should contact me as soon as possible.



State Archaeologist Mike Barber confers with Bill Johnson at the Keyser Farm site in July 2007.

The second strategy to deal with the archaeological information gaps will be the DHR / Academic Summit. The Archeological Society of Virginia has graciously extended their annual 2007 meeting in Williamsburg to 4 days. The additional day, Thursday October 11, will be dedicated to presentations given by members of the academic institutions in Virginia with archaeological programs as to their theoretical approaches, faculty, research interests, students, publications, CRM capabilities, etc. (See the schedule beginning below). These presentations will be followed by papers by DHR members as to the activities of Collections, Regional Offices, and Review and Compliance to outline what the state is going. Finally, a panel discussion will close out the session with an overview of what challenges face academia focusing on campus preservation plans.

If the day proves fruitful, it may be followed by similar sessions with house museums and CRM firms discussing their programs. These strategies will prove fundamental in developing the archaeological research design and directing the data gathering in Virginia over the next decades.

I always go to a quote by Ted Reinhart in a recent COVA newsletter (Virginia Archaeologist, Vol. 23 No. 2, pp.29, 2006) in stating that:

"We are in the golden age of American archaeology."

I believe that to be true and we need to take advantage of this golden situation to provide a road map for the future of Virginia archaeology.

Department of Historic Resources / Academic Summit

Session I of the ASV Annual Meeting

Theme "Virginia Before 1607"

October 11, 2007

Ramada Inn 1776

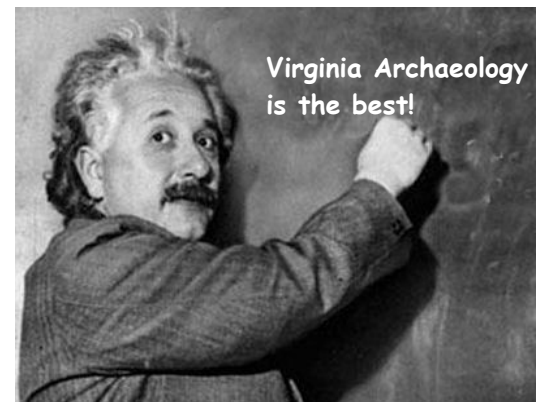
Williamsburg, Virginia

Preliminary Schedule



Morning Session:

9:00 - 9:25	Introduction (Michael B. Barber, DHR)
9:25 - 9:40	Washington and Lee University (Bernard Means)
9:40 - 9:55	James Madison University, (Clarence R. Geier)
9:55 - 10:10	Radford University (C Clifford Boyd)
10:10 - 10:25	Longwood University (Brian Bates)
10:25 - 10:40	Break



10:40 - 10:55 University of Mary Washington (Douglas Sanford)
10:55 - 11:10 The College of William and Mary (Martin Gallivan)
11:10 - 11:25 Sweet Briar College (Lynne Rainville)
11:25 - 12: 40 University of Virginia (Jeffrey Hantman)
11:40 - 11:55 Virginia Museum of Natural History (Elizabeth Moore)

11:55 - 1:00 Lunch

Afternoon Session:

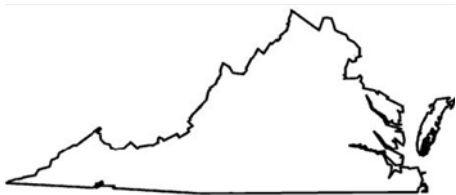
1:00 - 1:15 Winchester Region Preservation Office (Robert Jolley)
1:15 - 1:30 Roanoke Region Preservation Office (Thomas Klatka)
1:30 - 1:45 Capital Region Preservation Office (Christopher Stevenson)
1:45 - 2:00 Tidewater Region Preservation Office (E. Randolph Turner/David K. Hazzard)
2:00 - 2:15 SHPO 1st Floor (Dee DeRoche)
2:15 - 2:30 SHPO 3rd Floor (Joanna Wilson)
2:30 - 2:45 Wrap-Up (Michael B. Barber)

2:45 - 3:00 Break

3:00 - 5:00 Campus Preservation Plans: Panel Discussion
 (Carter Hudgins, Moderator)
 (Panel: David Brown, Ben Ford, Laura Galke, Joe Jones)



Washington and Lee University students excavate on the school's historic Colonnade in May 2007. Lee Chapel is visible in the distance.



ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

Update on the DHR Archaeological Collections Volunteer Program

From information submitted by Dee DeRoche

The DHR Archaeological Collections Volunteer Program continues to attract volunteers that are helping process important Virginia archaeological collections, notably from Gloucester Point and Keyser Farm. Sara Leonard also provided the volunteers with a PowerPoint presentation on historic ceramics. The photographs on this page show the dedicated volunteers working on a recent weekend in the Spring.



Irma and Al Pfeffer are cataloguing artifacts from Gloucester Point.



Elizabeth Bollwerk, Kimberly Stern and Natalie Ross sorting and counting Gloucester Point artifacts.



Katie Duff and Summer Chaffman cleaning finds from Keyser Farm.



Northern Virginia Chapter

Adapted from the chapter newsletter *The Datum Point*

Volunteers have been working with Mike Johnson to survey a Riverbend County Park, which borders along the Potomac. Three days of survey in April led to the identification of a dozen new prehistoric and historic sites. Two quartz Selby Bay-like points and a rhyolite

Piscataway point suggest a Middle Woodland occupation (ca. 500 BC to AD 500) within the park. Historic finds include a 19th century stone quarry and a 1960s fishing park visited by current volunteer and then teenaged Scott Silsby.



Riverbend quartz point



A High Hollows household on House Mountain.

The Upper James River Chapter

Submitted by Bernard K. Means

Steve Bilicki of BRS Consulting presented a lecture on underwater archaeology and Michael Gregory, Washington and Lee graduate from 1983, talked about his field work among the High Hollows adjacent to House Mountain here in Rockbridge County. The ASV certification work in the lab was renewed in early June after a hiatus to deal with Washington and Lee's spring excavations, much to the delight of our chapter members. One chapter member noted that "I find myself going slightly stir crazy without doing archaeology on a rather regular basis."

The Wolf Hills Chapter

adapted from the chapter newsletter
Points of Interest

Several people braved a cold March day to visit a site that had been excavated by members of the Wolf Hills chapter. The Cornelius site contained cultural occupations dating from the Paleoindian (notably Clovis Points) to the Late Woodland, the later represented by a palisaded village site dating to around 1200 A.D.



Dr. Charles Bartlett speaking to Wolf Hills chapter members about the Cornelius site.

Current ASV Officers

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

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



ASV members of all ages help excavate at Keyser Farm on July 28, 2006.



Send newsletter submissions to:

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Deadline for Submission to June Newsletter is August 15!!!