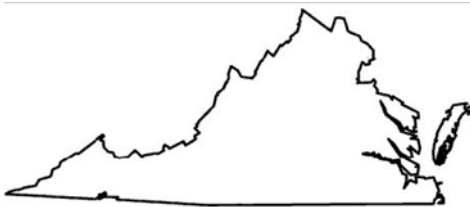




**Newsletter  
of the  
*Archeological  
Society of Virginia***

**December 2007  
Number 187**



**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*

December 7, 2007.... It is a gray overcast day with periods of drizzle and the temperature in the mid-forties here in the holler today as I write to you. The weather has been interesting during the past ten days. Last week at this time I was slogging around in snow that was five inches deep which was immediately followed by five days of temperatures in the upper sixties. It is mid-December and I suppose that the Weather Channel would describe the weather as unsettled. I am looking forward to the holidays though they will be history as you read this offering in January. I hope that you and your families have/had an enjoyable Holiday Season and look forward to a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.



Mike Wilke looks presidential at the 2007 ASV annual meeting in Williamsburg.

Looking back on my first year as your President, I see a lot of good things happening. Kittiewan Plantation is moving forward having had very successful and well attended public events as well as a number of private group tours. Thanks to the efforts of the Trout's, the Canal Boat artifacts have been moved to Kittiewan and a display is now in place at the barn. Lyle Browning and Harry Jaeger are working out the details to move the Canal Boat to Kittiewan—the facility in Richmond has experienced structural problems requiring its immediate removal from the building. The investigation of a foundation type of entity for Kittiewan is moving forward.



Canal Boat display at Kittiewan.

The Massanutten Chapter is nearing the goal of raising the necessary funds to construct the roof over the Morris Kiln in Rockingham County. Donations, the exciting and very successful Silent Auction at the Annual Meeting, funds from the ASV, and a Chinese Auction at the Chapter's Christmas meeting have the goal in sight. The sale of a very limited firing of reproduction Morris Kiln pottery recently completed by a local potter should bring the total over the top. Each of these pots are stamped on the bottom with the ASV logo and the words Morris Kiln. Many have already been spoken for but if any remain, they will be made available on the Society website. The only holdup then will be the final approval of a variance and the weather.

The Archaeological Technician Certification Program is flourishing with the number of students continuing to rise. As a result of these increasing numbers, the Certification Committee co-chaired by Carole Nash and Bruce Baker has been developing initiatives to better serve the students. The ASV is also in the early stages of developing a regional training partnership with Maryland and Delaware.

Craig Lukezic with Peter Bon and others formally began a certification program in Delaware in late 2007. With a number of ASV volunteers joining former ASV President Joel Hardison at field schools in North Carolina during the past two seasons, interest in a program in that state is increasing.



Certification Program enrollee and Upper James River Chapter member Hannah Short presented a paper at the ASV annual meeting on a prehistoric component at the Longdale Mining Complex.

The development of the structure for awarding the yearly Sandra Speiden Scholarship is moving forward. This award was made possible by a bequest made to the ASV upon the passing of former Nansemond Chapter President Sandra Speiden and is available for graduate students in archaeology and anthropology. The committee is developing the criteria and protocols for applicants with the goal of awarding the first scholarship in August. You will get an opportunity to meet the first awardee at the 2008 Annual Meeting in Martinsville.

The redesign of the ASV website is moving along and should be completed by next spring. Preliminary designs were submitted by Mark Freeman of Stories Past to Faye Wade, Cynthia Hansen, Lyle Browning, and myself. A

final design was selected and details are moving forward. I think that you will all enjoy the new design and visit the site often.

The upgrades on the Virginia Department of Historic Resources' Data Sharing System (DSS) are scheduled to be completed in January of 2008. When the new more user friendly system is up and running, a regional training program will be initiated through the combined efforts of VDHR and the ASV to familiarize all who are interested in the recordation of local archaeological sites. So far, the Virginia Museum of Natural Science in Abingdon has agreed to provide their facilities for the training in Southwest Virginia, as has the DHR offices in Richmond. We will be looking for locations in Northern Virginia, Southeastern Virginia, and the central Shenandoah Valley. These classes will hopefully be on weekends and focused primarily on ASV members unlike the previous sessions several years ago that were focused on CRM firms.



Trube Short and Eliot Balazs excavate a shovel test pit at Chippokes Plantation State Park in October 2007.

I am pleased to note that the ASV is growing. In 2006, the Highlands Chapter based in Monterey in Highland County was formed and accepted by the Board of

Directors. This Chapter was organized by yours truly. In 2007, the Middle Peninsula Chapter based in Mathews in Mathews County was formed and accepted by the Board at the Annual Meeting. This Chapter was organized by Jackie Wareham with the assistance of Russell Darden. The first steps in the organization of a Chapter in Loudon County are underway with Michael Clem working toward this goal. In a conversation with Brian Bates at the Annual Meeting, he assured me that he would attempt to reactivate the Peter Francisco Chapter. Bruce Baker who now lives in Amelia will provide assistance with this effort to bring the community and Longwood College together to this end.

The Roanoke and Thomas Jefferson Chapters are still struggling. I ask that all of you in the Roanoke and Charlottesville areas make a concerted effort to bring these Chapters back from their relative inactivity. I will be bringing my message to the Richmond Chapter in January and look forward to addressing the Blue Ridge Plateau and Middle Peninsula Chapters during the year. I would also like to have the opportunity to visit the revitalized Peter Francisco, Roanoke, and Thomas Jefferson Chapters as well as the developing Loudon County Chapter.

There are a number of other issues underway including the development of marketing initiatives, members scheduled to speak at the Virginia Association of Museums meeting at the Homestead in Hot Springs, the ASV now registered as a nonprofit fund raising organization, and a committee formed to investigate the fish weir owned by the ASV as well as others that there is just not enough room in this column to discuss.

Don't forget that we have to sell our publications, the Society depends on your activity and initiative....

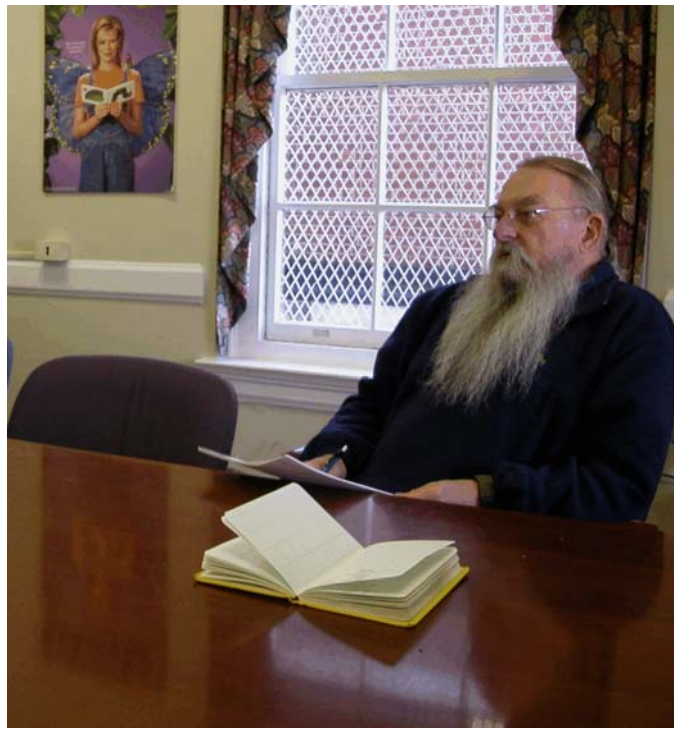
**YOU ARE THE ASV.**



## *From the Office of State Archaeology*

by Mike Barber, State Archaeologist

October, Archaeology Month, has been a busy and important time for the Commonwealth. Over 40 programs across the state were presented which highlighted the importance of archaeology to our understanding of the past as well as an understanding of who we are. At DHR, the kick-off began at the end of September with a cooperative exhibit with DCR at the State Fair. Dee DeRoche organized the exhibit with DCR counterparts which focused on the Chesapeake expeditions of John Smith 1607-1609. At the end of the fair, attention quickly turned to the annual meeting of the Archaeological Society of Virginia in Williamsburg. This year the meeting included a DHR/Academic Summit where Virginia Colleges and Universities reported on their programs and DHR outlined the capabilities and responsibilities of the regional offices and DHR Central in Richmond. A field trip to Jamestown was also included as part of the meetings with a very gracious and informative program provided by Bill, Jamie, David, Blye, and others. Many thanks to Jamestowne Rediscovery. The meeting also included 30 plus papers, a banquet presentation by Dr. David Moore of Warren Wilson College on the Berry Site, a 16th century Spanish fort, and the normal ambience of all ASV sessions.



State Archaeologist Mike Barber listens attentively at a meeting of archaeologists helping write the new State Plan.

The ASV meetings were followed by a week long excavation at Battersea Villa in Petersburg and a week long excavation at Chippokes Plantation State Park in Surry County. In partnership with the private sector, excavations at the 18th century Battersea Villa proved to be a gratifying experience in public relations as well as historic archaeology. The Chippokes excavation, a cooperative effort between sister state agencies, was equally gratifying and successful in testing a Middle Woodland encampment on the banks of the James River. Thanks go to all the Battersea and Chippokes folks and especially to the volunteers who made both excavations possible.

Archaeology Month is over and 2007 fast approaches history, literally. We need not lose the momentum gathered for the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement. 2007 can be marked by substantial progress in the understanding of the past. The commemoration of Jamestown has brought us two state-of-the-art museums which will educate future generations of Virginians for decades. And we, as Virginians, have also recognized that our culture is the result of the blending (creolization) of English, Native American, and African cultures. But we also need to recognize that the archaeology of the Commonwealth does not end January 1, 2008. Many opportunities and challenges await us in the future. We will be dealing with the State Archaeological Plan and Research Design, increasing the list of priority sites for stewardship, working with the Archaeological Conservancy to preserve sites, educating the public as to the importance of archaeology in their lives, increasing enrollment in the Certification Program, and countering uncontrolled metal-detecting, to name a few. 2007 may be coming readily to an end but 2008 should prove of equal interest.

# The Archaeological Conservancy: Preserving Virginia's Past for the Future

By Sonja Ingram

The Archaeological Conservancy is the only national nonprofit organization that acquires and permanently preserves important archaeological sites across the United States. In our 25-year history we have acquired over 425 archaeological sites in 39 states with 4 sites currently in Virginia. Once the Conservancy acquires sites they are managed as permanent archaeological research preserves to be held in perpetuity. Professional archaeologists with valid research proposals are allowed to excavate at Conservancy sites, but no sites are allowed to be 100 percent excavated.



Surface collected tools from the Bryant site in South Boston.

Sites preserved in Virginia by the Conservancy include the Conover Site, a Paleo-Indian site in Dinwiddie County; the Upper Lunenburg Church site, a 17th century Anglican Church site in Richmond County; the Bryant Site, a Woodland Village along the Dan River in South Boston and the Kippax Plantation site in Hopewell, a 17th and 18th century trade center and plantation that was home to Jane Rolfe, the granddaughter of Pocahontas, and Thomas Rolfe, who was the son of Pocahontas.

In addition to saving important sites, the Conservancy also publishes *American Archaeology* magazine, offers archaeological-based tours throughout the Americas, and relies on member

support. For more information on how you can join The Archaeological Conservancy, visit our Web site at [www.americanarchaeology.org](http://www.americanarchaeology.org). ASV members can also be a great help to Conservancy staff by acting as volunteer site stewards or in identifying potential sites for Conservancy acquisition. If you know of a site that should be considered for acquisition, or would like more information on the Conservancy's work in the eastern U.S., please contact:

The Archaeological Conservancy  
Eastern Regional Office  
8 East 2nd Street  
Suite 200  
Frederick, MD 21701  
(301) 682-7073  
[tac\\_singram@verizon.net](mailto:tac_singram@verizon.net)



Surface collected Dan River ceramics from the Bryant site in South Boston.



The **Archaeological Conservancy's** considerations in acquiring properties for preservation:

- 1) May be historic or prehistoric period sites;
- 2) Must be eligible for National Register of Historic Places inclusion;
- 3) Must have significant research potential;
- 4) May or may not be threatened with destruction;
- 5) May be any size;
- 6) Will most often be privately held, especially sites adjacent to public land such as parks;
- 7) May or may not have local management groups/stewards, although having local supporters and management plans will make a site a better candidate for acquisition;
- 8) May sometimes be acquired by The Archaeological Conservancy as an interim protective measure until local agents complete financial arrangements for local acquisition;
- 9) May in some instances remain in use for agricultural (or other) production, if that use does not conflict with preservation of the site;
- 10) May in some instances include buildings on the site.

## Conservation and Scientific Analysis of Copper Bead from Kaiser Farm Excavations

Melba Meyers, conservator for Virginia's Department of Historic Resources, has completed basic conservation of a copper bead recovered from the Kaiser Farm excavations. There is sufficient intact copper remaining for the material to be sent off for laser ablation, which will help determine if the copper is from native sources or material introduced by Europeans. Mike Barber, state archaeologist, suspects that the copper is from the Great Lakes region.



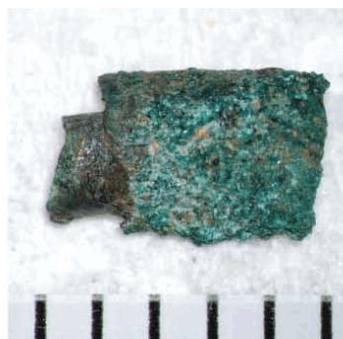
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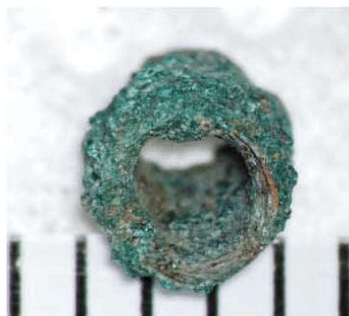
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44PA1 DURING CLEANING  
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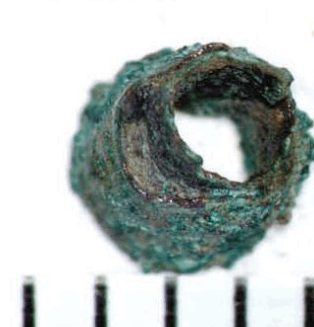
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## ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

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Members of the Upper James River Chapter of ASV participated in the recent archaeological investigations at the Chippokes Plantation. If your chapter has worked on an interesting archaeological project, please send information – and PICTURES – to the Newsletter Editor. Photographs on this page are courtesy of Hannah Short.







# ASV Archaeology Around Virginia

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## Open House at Kittiewan

Submitted by Patrick O'Neill



The exterior of Kittiewan is decorated for the holidays!

The Kittiewan Committee hosted an Open House on December 15, 2007. Charles City County had a Christmas Parade that morning the Highway north of town and maybe next year we can participate! Two cedar trees from the property were decorated inside the house, and lots of cedar branches and ribbons with mistletoe placed around the house. Thanks go to all who made the event happen! On that day, one person signed up for the ASV and another was asked to be an officer for the newly formed Middle Peninsula Chapter, so we feel privileged we could help!

Bill and Nancy Trout, donned with colonial tri-corner hats, had Virginia Canal Boat Society displays in the barn where they are currently relocating their collections!

## Kittiewan Looks for Period Furniture

Submitted by Molly Kerr

Do you or someone in your family have 18th-century living room furniture (period or reproduction) that you would like to donate to Kittiewan? Kittiewan is looking for furniture to help celebrate its 18<sup>th</sup> century heritage. Many of the pieces currently in the house date to the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. We would love to recreate an 18<sup>th</sup>-century parlor in the "Panel Room" with items in the Chippendale style - such as sofas, mirrors, chairs, candle tables, etc. Kittiewan is looking for pieces in good condition that would be appropriate in an 18<sup>th</sup>-century parlor.

Please understand every piece suggested may not be "right" for us. We will need to be selective on what we accept, as like all homes, storage is a problem for us, too. If you think you can help, please submit photographs to Royce McNeal ([roycemcneal@hotmail.com](mailto:roycemcneal@hotmail.com)) or Harry Jaeger at ([snafu.manor@verizon.net](mailto:snafu.manor@verizon.net)).



The interior of Kittiewan is also decorated for the holidays!



## ASV Members Speak Out



**Note from the Newsletter Editor:** This issue of the ASV Newsletter inaugurates a new column that allows any ASV member in good standing to voice their opinion about matters important to the ASV and Virginia archaeology in general. This opinion column does not reflect the views of the editor or the ASV board. The basic rule for something to be included is that the discourse must be CIVIL. Do not single individuals out for negative comments or use language that is generally recognized as obscene or profane. The first column is by long-time ASV member Howard MacCord, Sr., whose contribution embodies civil discourse.

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### ONE GUY'S VIEWS ON ASV-KITTIEWAN

Howard A. MacCord, Sr, RPA

As an ASV member since 1946, with a full-time commitment to ASV and Virginia's archaeology since 1962, I have definite ideas as to what ASV stands for and where it ought to head over the next few decades. I will be concise, though I want to say enough to encourage every member to publicize his/her ideas re: the future work and structure of ASV-Kittiewan. I claim no one has a monopoly on ideas, so let's make all of ours available for consideration.

To begin, I offer the two word caption **ASV-KITTIEWAN**, as a short, to-the-point name our organization might adopt to use in day-to-day activities, like answering telephones and heading news items. It embodies our history, current emphases, and current missions, to wit:

1. ASV's long, creditable record for high-quality archaeological work involved site surveys, testing, preservation, rescue, research, and data publication. Our mission is to continue and build on this record, thereby justifying our existence as an archaeological entity. We should aspire to do no less.
2. Historic Kittiewan Plantation was given to ASV by a longtime Life member, Mr. William Cropper, because he liked our work and prospects. His gift is a great example for others to follow, as a few have done momentarily in recent years. Two conditions are in the granting deed, and ASV agrees to live by them. One is to maintain Kittiewan as a working plantation indefinitely, and the other is to open the property and its collections to the public, as part of Virginia's Travel Industry.

Benefits from this combined structure are many. ASV aids Kittiewan through its corporate, non-profit, educational structure. ASV activities, such as state-wide archaeology, museums, an ASV headquarters, and related functions are congruent with the plantation setting in the tourism world, and thus we carry out Mr. Cropper's expressed desires. Kittiewan benefits ASV by providing a favorable image and a respected address for the society, plus room for expanding its archaeology-related work. We have room to grow! And produce!

As is obvious from the forgoing, we have four distinct functions to deal with—at multiple, long-term levels. These are (as I see them):

1. A headquarters and paid staff for ASV, with such subordinate activities as a library, collection management, memberships, budgeting, payrolls, archives and history, publications, publication sales, coordinating the other functions, and other ad hoc chores.
2. An Archaeology Directorate to work with members, chapters, and others throughout the state. This would involve field schools, the Certification-Training Program, operating a research-conservation laboratory, responding to emergency calls from landowners regarding finds, working with other archaeologists, coordinating local archaeologists under the Virginia Plan, and related matters. ASV's archaeology would not infringe upon nor compete with various governmental and academic efforts, nor with contract archaeology companies. There is plenty of now-not-done archaeology for all—and will be for years to come.
3. A Plantation Manager to maintain Kittiewan's buildings and utilities, keep grounds clean and attractive, provide for safety and security, operate a pool of vehicles and equipment, protect natural resources, and develop and oversee income-producing activities, such as farming and logging, in keeping with a plantation operation.
4. A Public Relations/Tourism Directorate. This person would be in charge of the historic house, museums, sales store, advertising, publicity, recruiting and training volunteers, working with news media, giving awards, coordinating fund-raising, and related matters.

The above functions need continuing financial sources to draw upon, and each would need a sizable 'nest egg' in order to hire one person to begin its operations. I recommend a first-year start-up fund goal for each function be set at \$100,000, following which the staff would participate in further fund raising, especially with ideas. Each function should generate some income itself, but ongoing donations would be necessary for the first decade or so. In addition to funding the four operating departments listed, ASV should develop an Endowment Fund to ensure its future. Further, to build needed permanent structures, such as museums and a laboratory, and improve the plantation's infrastructure and utilities, a Capital Improvement Fund would be needed. Publicity, eye-catching activities, and aggressive fund-raising are essential, if we are to grow.

These ideas are offered as suggestions or discussion topics for the officers and Board of ASV. I can enlarge upon any item, as needed. I urge ASV's members to think about this bold future for ASV and to submit their ideas to the President, Mike Wilke, or to a Board member to present for discussion. Members leaning towards philanthropy (or with friends who so lean), are urged to view the various aspects of ASV-Kittiewan as well worth their generosity. You can even specify the activities you wish to support. ASV needs major financial help.

While this newsletter item has not yet been approved by the ASV Board, it does set forth my considered views. I urge you to follow suit with your constructive ideas.





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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

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



Photograph by Amy Bertsch and  
courtesy of Alexandria  
Archaeology.



Barbara Magid of Alexandria  
Archaeology reports that the display of  
the recently recovered Clovis point from  
the city has encouraged increased  
numbers of visitors to make the trek to  
the Alexandria Archaeology Museum. If  
you have not been to the museum  
recently, it's time to go now!!



**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 March 2008 Newsletter is  
February 1!!**