



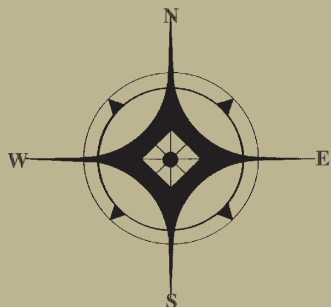
THE ASV

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

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THE MISSION OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA IS TO PROMOTE THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY OF VIRGINIA AND ADJACENT REGIONS.



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PRESIDENT'S JOURNAL - DAN KEGLEY

One of the opportunities I most looked forward to in my presidency was representing the statewide ASV, and I have had three occasions to officially do so.

In late March, I travelled to the Radford Public Library to speak at the New River Valley Chapter meeting about my plans for the office and recent work by my home chapter, Wolf Hills. A couple of weeks later, I was before a large and welcoming group of Friends of the Chilhowie Public Library and guests from the public talking about archaeology and prehistory in Southwest Virginia.

As vice president of the Wolf Hills Chapter, my principal duty is arranging speakers for chapter meetings. With the 150th anniversary of the start of the Civil War this spring, I wanted the May chapter meeting's topic to be timely. On May 20, Dr. Robert Whisonant, emeritus professor of geology at Radford University and a national expert in the interplay of geography and military strategy, spoke about salt, lead, and the railroad and their contributions in making Southwest Virginia a target of Union raids during the Civil War. The program created an opportunity to bring the chapter and the ASV into partnership with other groups - the Virginia Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission's local committees in Smyth (for which I am co-chair), Washington and Wythe counties, as did the Museum of the Middle Appalachians in Saltville and Terry Hunt, president of the Saltville Historical Foundation and Civil War re-enactor - all came on board to promote and produce a worthwhile evening. The audience on May 20, plus the wider audience exposed to program information in local media outlets and on flyers around the region, are moving to new levels of awareness of the Archeological Society of Virginia and its Abingdon-based chapter. It was an outreach effort that I am hopeful will bring new members into the chapter and society. I look forward to more visits to other chapters and more ways to represent the ASV as the top-notch organization that it is.

One a different note, recovery and reconstruction continue at Glade Spring just west of here, and a mile north of Chilhowie following an EF3 tornado in the early hours of April 28. Three people died at Glade Spring.

This stark reminder of nature's power gives me a reason for me to say this to all ASV members, especially those in more tornado-prone areas: when conditions are favorable for severe thunderstorms and tornadoes, play it safe and head to a basement or other strong shelter.

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

Michael B. Barber, PhD, State Archaeologist

Sometimes people just do not understand artifacts. Like everything else, this value system is on a continuum. At one end are the folks who think artifacts are totally expendable. Why keep animal bones as Indians ate everything they encountered? If you want to know the temper of a potsherd, break it in half to get a clean edge. At the other end of the continuum are those who feel every artifact is somehow sacred. You cannot do any chemical analysis as that might be destructive. Break the patina on a copper artifact just to determine its trace elements for sourcing? Not a chance.

And like most things, the real “truth” lies somewhere in the middle. Artifacts are not expendable for frivolous destruction; nor are they inviolable sacred objects. The reason for their collection, curation, and study is to provide us with an avenue for understanding the past. As Jim Deetz (1967:45) put it, “artifacts are fossilized ideas.” Our job, as archaeologists, is to unlock these ideas through the study of the artifact. If the idea or behavior can be discovered by collecting that animal bone and actually seeing what was eaten or washing the edge of the potsherd to see the temper instead of breaking it, all the better. By the same token, if you want to determine whether a piece of copper is from the Great Lakes or Europe, remove that patina of copper sulfate and get to the real metal.

And there may be unique artifacts which you may not want to do any destructive analysis. To paraphrase the ultimate Commandment in *Animal Farm* (Orwell 1945:Chap 10), “All artifacts are equal but some artifacts are more equal than others.” This is a lesson to be learned. Once making the catharsis that artifacts are not just objects but contain data, one has to realize that some artifacts are more data rich than others. For example, on a 17th century site, a marked bailing seal contains more data than a broken kaolin pipe stem. One might argue that the pipe stem’s bore diameter can supply information on chronology and that the clay material points to a European origin. This is true but those data cannot stand up to the bailing seal which perhaps is marked with “Surry” and the date “1629.” The level of information is much more precise and acuity of data more fine-tuned. While the pipe stem’s strength is in numbers, the bailing seal can stand alone.

As we continue to discover and refine hard scientific approaches to archaeological questions, we will be ever more prone to utilize destructive techniques. The balancing act will be knowing when and where to use them.

Department of Historic Resources: www.dhr.virginia.gov
mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov

References Cited

Deetz, James

1967 *Invitation to Archaeology*. The Natural History Press, Garden City, New York.

Orwell, George

1945 *Animal Farm*. Secker and Warburg, London.



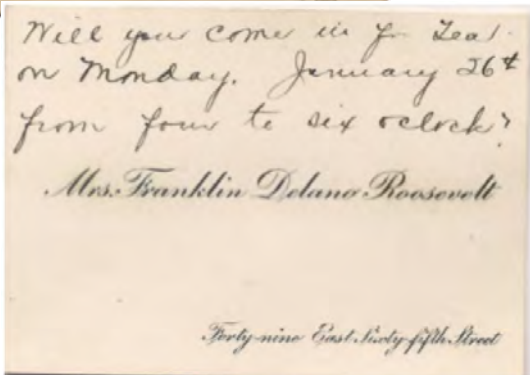
Dr. Mike Barber in his native attire and habitat.

THE KITTIEWAN BRIEF



Spring has sprung at Kittiewan! The consistent efforts of the Kittiewan committee and volunteers have turned up some interesting “finds” that make Kittiewan a constantly evolving historical puzzle.

FOUND IN THE ARCHIVES. . . . numerous insights into the accomplished life of Wilma Clark (Cropper), who lived at Kittiewan for nearly her entire life. One particularly unique archival “artifact” was this invitation, sent to Wilma in 1931 from soon-to-be First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. The invitation resulted from Wilma’s involvement with the King’s Daughters, a service organization that had selected her as Virginia’s representative to a Chautauqua seminar. Mrs. Roosevelt routinely invited such state representatives to tea.



FOUND IN THE HOUSE. . . .the exterior rear wall of the original (ca. 1770) house, as it

would have appeared before the mid-nineteenth century addition was built. Volunteers Bruce Baker and Bill Bjork have been stripping and repairing the twentieth century plaster and wallboard in the (former) narrow bathroom, in preparation for converting this area into a display space devoted to the families of Kittiewan. This strip of gray-painted beaded weatherboard, located next to an original rear window of the house, will remain exposed beneath plexiglass to allow visitors yet another glimpse of the original fabric of the building.



FOUND IN THE YARD west of the manor house. . . new archeological deposits and features related to the historic landscape of this previously unexplored area of the property. The program of systematic shovel testing and unit excavations, organized by Bruce Baker and Martha Williams, preceded the



installation of boxwoods and an herb garden. The tests have located an intriguing concentration of early nineteenth century material and what appears to be the foundation of a twentieth century outbuilding. Excavations will continue throughout the summer on “open” days (second Saturday of each month) and other Saturdays as practicable. ASV members and certification students are invited to participate. Check the ASV or Kittiewan website for the latest scheduling information.

In other news, Kittiewan is slowly gaining visibility! Volunteers and committee members Patrick O’Neill, Molly Kerr, and Cindy Dausen guided visitors from the Lifelong Learning Institute in Manassas through the house and grounds in mid-April. Another

large group will tour the house in mid-May. You can help increase our visitation, too! And check out our Facebook page! Talk up Kittiewan as a tourist destination--better yet, volunteer your services! Contact Shirley Jaeger at (804)-273-0247 - shirley.jaeger@verizon.net.

CERTIFICATION OPPORTUNITY

Huntsberry Farmstead, Frederick County, Virginia:

Test Excavation 2011

Thursday, September 22 – Wednesday, September 28, 2011

(Meets Requirements for Historic Excavation)

Background

By the 19th century, the Huntsberrys were well-established along Red Bud Run and made up a segment of the agrarian landscape of Frederick County, Virginia. The property was first ceded to the Jacob Huntsberry from Lord Fairfax in 1762. The Huntsberry farmstead unwillingly became a part of a different landscape on September 19, 1864, when it became ensconced in the Middle Field, a site along with First Woods and Second Woods, where 1500 men were killed or wounded in one battle of Third Winchester Civil War Campaign. The Confederate General Jubal Early occupied Winchester but Union General Phillip Sheridan's troops were marching on the city from Berryville to the west. Slowed by the Berryville Canyon, the wagon train bogged down and the element of surprise was lost. Early moved his troops south to meet the Union attack and Sheridan countered by sending a portion of his troops north to meet the Confederates. The armies met along Red Bud Run with fierce hand-to-hand combat ensuing. It has been suggested that Huntsberry House acted as a Union hospital after the military engagement which is likely true as most standing structures which survived were used as such.

Huntsberry Archaeology

Currently, the site consists of 4 major features. The remnants of the dwelling are made up of a limestone foundation measuring 25' by 35' with a full cellar ca. 6.0' deep. A ground level room extension is located to the west with an asymmetric brick chimney on the western wall, south of central placement. The second feature is an additional limestone chimney north of the main house. To the north of the second structure (or room) is a concentration of brick rubble and other cultural debris. The fourth feature lies to the south and is represented by a locus of cultural material marking a previous barn.

The overall research questions will be posed within a regional framework. The focus will be the nature of agrarian life on a fairly isolated tract of land in Virginia's Great Valley. Dependent on the material culture recovered, questions relating to the transition from frontier to settled community will be examined. The varied use of different landscapes will be looked at from the standpoint of a Colonial coastal plain oriented gentry coming into a mountainous setting. While the evolution of the dwelling and its material culture through time will be examined, differences between a local craft industry and the developing industrial complexes and transportation systems and their effects on northwestern Virginia will also be considered



A series of 2.50' square units will be excavated placed at strategic structural and/or cultural locations. Each unit should give insight into building construction, occupation chronology, activity areas, Civil War impacts, and every-day life on a 18th and 19th century farmstead in Frederick County, Virginia.

Field School

The Huntsberry Field School will run from Thursday, September 22 to Wednesday,

September 28, 2011. It will be joint effort by Department of Historic Resources, Preservation Virginia, Shenandoah Valley Battlefield Foundation, USDA-Forest Service, and Archeological Society of Virginia. Staff Principal Investigators will be Mike Barber, State Archaeologist for the Commonwealth and Mike Madden, Forest Service Archaeologist for the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. Crew Leaders will be Richard Guercin and Michelle Rosado. The crew will be made-up entirely of volunteers. Primitive camping will be available.

APPLICATION FOR HUNTSBERRY FARMSTEAD

FIELD SCHOOL

2011

Applicants should be members of the Archeological Society of Virginia and will gain the best experience if enrolled in or graduated from the Certification Program. Passport in Time participants are exempt. Children as young as 12 years of age may participate if accompanied by a responsible adult, although they must be 16 years of age to enroll in the Certification Program.

Name of Applicant:

Date(s) of Attendance:

Address:

Email Address:

Chapter Affiliation:

Enrolled in Certification Program ___ yes ___ no

Enrolled in Passport in Time ___ yes ___ no

Archaeological Experience:

Special Skills:

CONTACTS

Submit Applications to

Certification Program – Mike Barber (540 387-5398) mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov
Huntsberry Department of Historic Resources,
962 Kime Lane, Salem, VA 24153.

Passport in Time – Mike Madden (540 265-5212) mjmadden@fs.fed.us
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, Virginia 24019

Certification Program - Carole Nash (540 568-6805)
Geographic Science Program
James Madison University
Harrisonburg, VA 22807
nashcl@jmu.edu

Bruce Baker (804 561-0420)
10290 Reed Rock Road
Amelia, VA 23002
bakerbw@tds.net

LOST VIRGINIA HISTORY: THE MONTAGUE TALLANT COLLECTION

Randolph Turner

During a recent visit to Bradenton, Florida I wandered into the South Florida Museum and was amazed to see featured there a remarkable archaeological collection. Accumulated by Montague Tallant largely before World War II, the collection spans several thousand years of Florida prehistory, including as well a considerable number of gold and silver artifacts attributable to early Spanish contact with Florida Indians. Do a review of Florida archaeology during the first half of the 20th century, and you will see Montague Tallant's name frequently appear.

But what especially got my attention was Montague Tallant's Virginia connection. The South Florida Museum, as part of their promotion of the collection's exhibit, provides a brief biography on Tallant (see their website listed below as well as Bennett 2011). They note he was born on March 7, 1892 in Christiansburg, Virginia and arrived in Florida with his family in 1909. At that time, the museum says he had an archaeological collection of Virginia artifacts, presumably largely from the Christiansburg area, that numbered over 2,500 specimens. While at the museum I was able to meet with Valerie Jackson Bell, curator of collections, and talk to her about Tallant's Virginia connections. Sadly, those artifacts attributable to Virginia still in the Tallant collection could be held in one or two hands at most. As clearly illustrated by Tallant and his Virginia collection, past archaeological collections as they disappear become part of Virginia's lost history.

Currently, I am trying to determine if any portions of the Tallant collection attributable to Virginia still survive. If anyone has information on Montague Tallant and his Virginia collection, I would be most appreciative to hear from them. I can be reached at erturner48@cox.net. Amazingly, as famous as Tallant is in Florida, I have yet to talk with one person in Virginia who knew of him and his connection to Virginia archaeology.

Reference Cited:

Bennett, Thomas Peter
2011 The Legacy, South Florida Museum. University Press of America, New York.

South Florida Museum Web Site -www.southfloridamuseum.org/TheMuseum/TallantCollection.aspx



Montague Tallant, 1930s, holding shell artifact at shell midden on Tampa Bay, FL. Original photo at South Florida Museum.



One of the few surviving artifacts in the Tallant collection attributed to Virginia. Photo provided by South Florida Museum.

THRIVING INDIAN POPULATION LIVED IN MATHEWS BEFORE 1607, SPEAKER SAYS

Elsa Cooke Verbyla, Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal

Editors Note: This is a slightly abbreviated version of an article appearing on March 24 in the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal. It features Nansemond Chapter member Ed Bottoms and a talk he gave in Mathews County. Article and photo used by permission.

A thriving and populous nation of American Indians lived in Virginia at the time English settlers arrived in 1607, and when the two groups met, “something was bound to happen,” said Ed Bottoms.... But that, he told an overflow crowd in Mathews Thursday night, “is another story.”

His topic, instead, was the development of the “Indians of Prehistoric Mathews,” or how the native populations lived and developed in the millennia before European colonists changed everything.

His talk, hosted by the Mathews County Historical Society at the Kingston Episcopal Parish House and sponsored by MCHS, the Gwynn’s Island Museum, Mathews Land Conservancy, Mathews Maritime Foundation, and Middle Peninsula Chapter of the Virginia Archeological Society, drew a standing-room-only audience.



Ed Bottoms (seated) identifying an artifact after a talk on Virginia archaeology in Mathews County.

Many of those attending had accepted the groups’ invitation to bring their own prehistoric artifacts for identification; after Bottoms spoke, projectile points, hatchets, arrowheads and many other tools were pulled from boxes and bags and spread out for comparison.

Bottoms said Clovis points—the oldest certified forms of Indian life, from 12,000 to 13,000 years ago—have been found in Mathews. Stone artifacts from every period of Native American development that followed, from the Hardaway series (9,000 years ago), the Archaic period (9,000-3,000 years ago); and Woodland period (3,000 years ago until settlers arrived), prove that the Indians were here and stayed here.

An inexorable sea level rise of about one foot each century since the end of the last Ice Age, about 10,000 years ago, has covered many of these artifacts which are now found routinely in the Chesapeake Bay and on

its shores. During the Ice Age, the bay was a relatively narrow channel of the Susquehanna River, Bottoms said.

The Indians used spears, atl-atls (spear throwers), nets and bolas over the millennia, hunting everything from mammoth, bison and horses in the earliest ages, to fish, birds and other creatures as the centuries moved on. “People were eating anything that didn’t eat them,” Bottoms said.

Their earliest tools reflect a highly mobile society that lived on hunting. He traced the development of shapes, flaking patterns and refinement of stone tools which is essential in dating artifacts; and noted that Mathews County has no native stone, and that the tools formed here were made from rocks that had been traded or bought.

The last defined era of the pre-settlement age, the Woodland period, brought three important developments, Bottoms said: agriculture, the bow and arrow, and the development of clay pottery.

These advances allowed the Native Americans to settle, form villages and tribes, and for their population to grow. They developed ceremonies and confederacies, and had distinct social structures when the English arrived in Virginia, bringing that era to an abrupt end.

CALL FOR ASV PAPERS



2011 Student Paper Competition

The Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV) provides cash prizes to the best student papers presented at the Annual ASV Meetings. This year's conference will be held October 13-16 at the Frontier Museum in Staunton, Virginia. The competition is open to undergraduate students and graduate students. Three official award categories exist, recognizing student research contributions in Prehistoric Archeology (The McCary Award), Historical Archeology (The Williams Award), and Collections-Based Research (The Virginia Museum of Natural History Award). Two judges will evaluate the presentations. Students need not specify the award category in which they are interested.

Awards of \$100.00 are provided to contest winners, once their winning paper is submitted to the ASV's Quarterly Bulletin. In addition, award recipients will receive a free one-year membership in the Archeological Society of Virginia.

Requirements:

- 31 August 2011: Presentation abstract is due to the ASV program chair, Michael B. Barber – mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov
- You must notify Laura Galke, student affairs committee chair, via email [Galke@gwffoundation.org] of your intent to participate by August 31, 2011.
- Please include a copy of your abstract in this email.
- Competition participants must register for the ASV annual meetings and be members of the ASV.

For details about this year's annual meetings online:
<http://asv-archeology.org/News/NewsAM.html>



Students should prepare a written version of their presentation, to be submitted by October 1. This written paper should be provided to Laura Galke, Student Affairs Committee chair. An email to Laura Galke (Galke@gwffoundation.org) with the paper (draft version is acceptable) as an attachment is encouraged. Papers sent via the postal service should arrive to Ms. Galke, 268 King's Highway, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22405, by September 23, 2011.

- Participants should prepare an oral presentation to present at the Annual Meeting in October. The presentation should be no more than 20 minutes in length and visual accompaniment in the form of a PowerPoint presentation is encouraged. Presentations will be evaluated based upon content, effectiveness of presentation, professionalism, contribution to the field, and enthusiasm.
- Participants are responsible for attending the ASV Annual Meetings in October and for presenting their paper at their assigned time.

Please watch for upcoming announcements in the ASV newsletter and website for additional details. If you have any questions regarding the contest, please contact

Laura Galke, Student Affairs Committee Chair,
Galke@gwffoundation.org Phone: 540-370-0732 ext. 26.





ASV CALL FOR PAPERS

ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

71st Annual Meeting

October 13 - 16, 2011

Frontier Museum, Staunton, Virginia

Sleep Inn, Staunton

Are you looking for an avenue to share your knowledge of Virginia archaeology and history? The Archeological Society of Virginia is calling for archaeological papers for their 2011 Annual Meeting. Members of the ASV and others are encouraged to participate.

- Formal presentations - 20 minutes.
- Student papers - 20 minutes (contact Laura Galke at Galke@gwffoundation.org).
- Chapter presentations - 10 minutes.
- Poster sessions are permitted.
- Handouts are encouraged.

Deadline for abstract submission is August 31, 2011. Please complete the form below.

NAME _____

COMPANY/AFFILIATION _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PAPER TITLE _____

E-mail _____ ASV Member _____ COVA member _____

Audio-Visual needs: slide projector _____ computer projector _____ overhead projector _____

Please mail ASV member abstract and biographical information to:

Michael B. Barber, State Archaeologist
Western Regional Preservation Office
962 Kime Lane, Salem, Virginia 24153
mike.barber@dhr.virginia.gov
540 387-5398

THE EGLOFF ATLAS OF VIRGINIA ARCHAEOLOGY

Dee DeRoche, Virginia Department of Historic Resources

The new Egloff Atlas of Virginia Archaeology has recently been made available on DHR's website. This version, which replaces the previous Atlas of Virginia Archaeology, was designed and implemented by Mark Freeman of Stories Past <http://www.storiespast.com> under a COVA contract and incorporates updated technology.

The Atlas provides links to approximately 100 destinations in Virginia which are open to the public and feature exhibits or information related to archaeology. It uses Google Maps to allow zoom and movement within the maps displayed. Each site included in the Atlas is represented by an icon showing the site name on a mouse-over, and full information on a mouse click. There is also a list of sites by region that connects to the map.

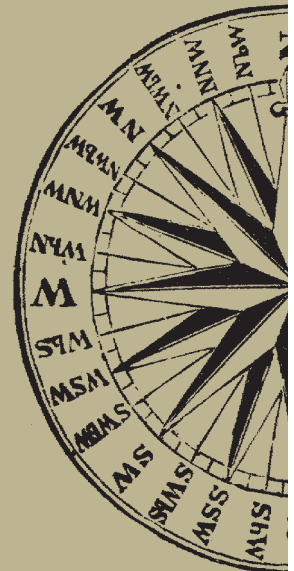
Also contained in the Atlas are new sites and current information on contact, opening and entrance fee details, and site descriptions. This data updating was undertaken in early 2010 by VCU interns under the supervision of Keith Egloff and Dee DeRoche at DHR. It was spearheaded by then VCU history student Lisa Vaughn Jordan, who has since become Director of the Colonial Center in South Hill, VA.

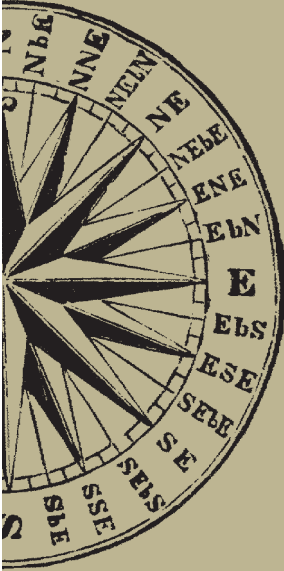
The interactive version linked with Google Maps can be found at <http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/atlas/EAtlas1.html>. A text only version also is available at <http://www.dhr.virginia.gov/atlas/sites.xml>.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS SURVEY - COVA

The Council of Virginia Archaeologists is conducting a survey of all organizations that may own/house/curate archaeological collections in Virginia. The goals of the survey are to assess the approximate volume of existing collections, their current state, any needs for assistance in caring for collections, and if researchers can access materials. For further information contact Esther White, Co-Chair of the COVA Collections Management Committee. She may be reached by telephone at 703-799-8626 and by email at ewhite@mountvernon.org.





ASV BOARD MEETING WRAP-UP - Stephanie Jacobs

The State Executive Board met on Saturday April 16th in the ASV Library at Kittiewan Plantation. After the approval of the minutes from the last board meeting Carl Fischer, ASV Treasurer took the board through the financial health of the organization. Due to increase of postage and printing fees for the Quarterly Bulletin and the Newsletter the Society with a vote from the membership raised dues last year. With an increase in membership funds coming in the Society is now on more stable financial footing.

Lyle Browning reported that the Canal Boat artifacts from the excavation of the James River Center in the 1980s have been moved from the Virginia Department of Transportation warehouse in downtown Richmond to Kittiewan.

The Certification Program is going strong with 94 students presently enrolled. At the Mid-Atlantic Archaeological Conference in March, Certification Committee members Mike Barber, Cynthia Hansen, and Carole Nash represented the program in panel discussion entitled, "Certifying Archaeological Technicians." Other panel members represented the Certification program in Maryland (Jim Gibb, Steve Israel, Charlie Hall, Alex McPhail) and Delaware (Craig Lukezic).

Certification opportunities for this season are available at: Mount Vernon, Colchester, Centerville, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Wintergreen Nature Foundation, Quantico, Montpelier, Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The Certification Committee wishes to host a Certification Weekend/Picnic at Kittiewan in 2011. Details are under discussion.

During the meeting the board also saw a draft for the new Kittiewan website prepared by Society webmaster, Lyle Browning. The work on the new website will be ongoing and board members will review it in more detail before it goes live. Lyle also mentioned the issue with PayPal use on the ASV website. He is aware of the problem and will work with Past-President Faye Wade and our web hosting company to resolve the issue soon.



Martha Williams reported in the education program she has prepared for introducing children to archaeology. She is utilizing part of the Bill Thompson unprovenient collection that was donated to the ASV by his wife Kitty. She hopes in the future to make this available so chapter or members can do the program with school or other children's groups.

The board will be holding a two-day meeting at the US Forest Service Office in Roanoke on July 23 and 24, 2011.



ASV OFFICERS

President Dan Kegley
hearthside@embarqmail.com

President-Elect Elizabeth Moore
Elizabeth.Moore@vmnh.virginia.gov

Vice President Carole Nash
nashcl@jmu.edu

Secretary Stephanie Jacobs
aureus@usa.net

Treasurer Carl Fisher
cfischer@hughes.net

Newsletter Co-Editors

Randolph Turner
erturner48@cox.net
Laura Wedin
lwedin@vt.edu

Webmaster

Lyle Browning
lebrowning@att.net

Certification Program

Carole Nash
nashcl@jmu.edu
Bruce Baker
bakerbw@tds.net

COVA CONTACT

Laura Galke
galke@gwffoundation.org

DHR/

STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST
Mike Barber
Mike.Barber@dhr.virginia.gov



UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 16 VDHR Joint State Review Board and Historic Resources Board Meeting, Richmond
<http://www.dhr.virginia.gov>
- June 27-29 Project Archaeology Workshop, Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC
<http://anthropology.si.edu>
- July 23-23 ASV Summer Board Meeting, Roanoke
<http://www.asv-archeology.org>
- Oct. 13-16 ASV Annual Meeting, Staunton
<http://www.asv-archeology.org>
- October 14 COVA Fall Meeting, Staunton
<http://cova-inc.org>
- Oct. 27-28 ESAF Annual Meeting, Mt. Laurel, NJ
<http://www.esaf-archeology.org>
- Nov. 2-5 SEAC Annual Meeting, Jacksonville, FL
<http://www.southeasternarchaeology.org>

