



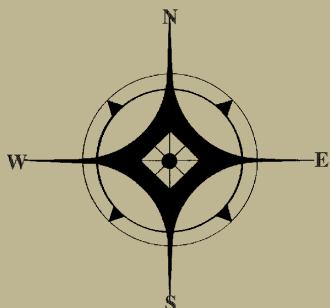
# THE ASV

NEWSLETTER OF THE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

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JUNE 2012 · NUMBER 205

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

Give my regards to Broadway. And ask them if they got my letter, *they* being officials of Spike TV in their offices along that famous strip.

Several copies of that letter, a respectful but strongly worded missive seeking to correct a wrong preparing to hit televisions in living rooms across America, went out back in the winter.

Written on ASV members' behalf and with the endorsement of our board of directors ("O'er the ramparts!" said one), my letter was among the thousands of other messages online and in the mail to the Spike brass urging cancellation of the show American Diggers.



According to Spike's own promotional material, the show follows a former professional wrestler-turned-treasure hunter as he digs up backyards in historic places hunting for salable artifacts. To you, learned ASV'ers, I need say no more.

To the Spike people, though, I explained, "To regard artifacts as merely marketable commodities is to waste knowledge whose sole source is that artifact and its context. It is also unethical and in many instances, illegal. To disregard accepted archeological practice is to do a disservice to the resource and to the public."

And I thought this might tug even at a TV exec's heart: "Analogous to this glamorization and promotion of wanton destruction of rare resources would be a television show following poachers through the African bush and filming them as they shoot elephants and hack off tusks or rhinos and saw off their horns. The outcry over such depictions would be deafening but no more justified than opposition to a show glorifying what is essentially poaching from the past."

Spike was not alone with its awful offering a few months ago. In a real head-scratcher, National Geographic's TV presence was home to a similarly inappropriate show called Diggers. However and significantly, NG was responsive early to complaints from the archaeological community, and talks with archaeologists remain underway for ways to turn a travesty into a teaching opportunity.

NG's website now bears no sign their show ever existed. But as of this writing, the other show is still in the Spike TV lineup. I've never dignified either production by watching, so I wouldn't directly know if the shows are on or not.

It was gratifying to see and join so strong a response from so many quarters in the archaeological world to these shows telegraphing wrong messages to a public that questions too little. Be proud that the ASV stood up and sounded off. I sure am. ⊕

## FROM THE OFFICE OF THE STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST

**Michael B. Barber, PhD, State Archaeologist**

To paraphrase Mark Twain with regard to investing in the stock market, jasper was used during the Paleoindian Period. Other periods when it was used were Late Woodland, Early Archaic, Middle Archaic, Early Woodland, Late Archaic, Middle Woodland, and the Contact Period. I am continually amazed when supposedly learned archaeologists find a piece of jasper and know the site dates to Paleoindian. How does this work, I wonder. We worked five seasons at the Keyser Farm site (44PA0001) where one-third of the lithic material was jasper. Associated primarily with Potomac Creek and Keyser ceramics, does this make the site Paleoindian? I think not unless Paleoindians were making ceramics and were occupying the site in the 15<sup>th</sup> and late 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.

A second myth relates to the concept that all jasper originates along Thunderbird Creek. Find it anywhere in Virginia and it defines a trade network back to Thunderbird. This too is nonsense. The work of Chris Stevenson examined six sources of jasper in the Commonwealth all of which were used by Virginia Indians to manufacture stone tools. And let's face it, Thunderbird jasper is not the best cryptocrystalline in the world. It was a local material used by local people as the only game in town. Far from the amazing "exotic" material, it was pretty run-of-the-mill and, although it did travel with its users, there is little evidence to suggest it was of the quality that it was sought after from afar.

A third myth is not so highly held but I actually worked with an archaeologist who indicated that a quartzite Kirk point could not be Early Archaic because it was not manufactured from jasper. This one, at least, has few proponents in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I hope.

**VIRGINIA  
DHR**

<http://www.dhr.virginia.gov>





# CALL FOR PAPERS

## ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

72<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 12 - 14, 2012

WYTHEVILLE MEETING CENTER

The Archeological Society of Virginia is calling for archaeological/historic papers for their 2012 Annual Meeting. Members of the ASV, COVA, and others are encouraged to participate. Field trips will include the Wolf Creek Indian Village (reconstructed Late Woodland village base on excavations by Col Howard A. MacCord) and the Town of Saltville (Late Pleistocene paleological site, Pre-Clovis Site (?), Civil War fortifications, salt production, etc.).

- Formal presentations - 20 minutes.
- Student papers - 20 minutes (contact Laura Galke at [Galke@gwffoundation.org](mailto:Galke@gwffoundation.org)).
- Chapter presentations - 10 minutes.
- Poster sessions.
- Book Room
- Handouts are encouraged.

**Deadline for abstract submission is August 31, 2012. 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:

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540 387-5398

## KITTIEWAN PLANTATION BRIEF - MARTHA WILLIAMS

While quiet, the winter months at Kittiewan were not entirely uneventful. Cindy Dauses and Kathleen Baker continued to sort through the endless Cropper archives; Randy Turner worked away in the ASV Library; Bill Bjork, Bruce Baker, and Wayne Edwards continued repairs and modifications at the manor house; and our friends from the Hunt Club pruned trees along the entrance drive. Two large groups—Colonial Williamsburg’s 2012 Antiques Forum pre-conference workshop (40 people) and Clear Vision Services (18 people)—also toured the property in February and March.

With spring in full swing, Kittiewan is once again open to the public on the second Saturday of each month. Warmer weather means a return to grounds and house maintenance—Carl Fischer and volunteer Tim Kerr have already mowed several times. The Kittiewan Committee approved several projects to enhance the property in 2012. The long-anticipated upgrade of the manor house’s electrical system has begun, as has the installation of a raised kitchen garden (thanks, Faye and Jim!), and continuation of last summer’s archeological testing program will resume in June. From leading tours to weeding gardens, there are plenty of ways to get involved—if you can help, we’d love to have you!

Research in the Cropper archives continues to produce tantalizing hints about the people who made Kittiewan what it was in the past. For example, the brief letter written by Josh Barbour to Loren Clark in 1932 reminds us that perhaps the most important residents of Kittiewan (and the ones about whom we know the least) were African-American. For over two centuries, they tilled the fields and performed the countless other tasks that kept Kittiewan functioning. As slaves, most of them appear only as anonymous entries in the 1850 and 1860 slave censuses, although Patrick O’Neill’s persistent research has yielded some names. William, Bob, Nancy, Miles, and Ned, all servants of William Selden, died (and presumably were buried) at Kittiewan, while Edmund Johnson and Amy Whiting, also Selden servants, were baptized at Westover Church in 1849.

After emancipation, some former servants apparently stayed on to work as paid farm laborers. Thanks to the photographs in the Cropper archives, we can meet two of them face to face. “Aunt” Patsy Hilton, born ca. 1850 at Kittiewan, was the daughter of Currie and Frankie Wyatt who may have been Kittiewan slaves; in 1865, Patsy Wyatt married Solomon Hilton, son of former slaves at neighboring Weyanoke Plantation. Pleasant Whiting, baptized at Kittiewan in 1852, still lived nearby with his wife Lucy, their four children, and a niece in 1900.



*“Aunt” Patsy Hilton.*

And what of Josh Barbour? In 1900, Pleasant Whiting's next door neighbor was William Barbour, also a farm laborer. William and Charlotte Barbour's youngest child, one-year-old Josh, eventually became the "efficient, honest, and trustworthy" employee for whom Loren Clark was pleased to write a brief recommendation thirty years later!

(Note: Kittiewan Plantation and Frank Stephens' REO were featured in the January-February 2012 edition of REOECHO—the newsletter of the REO Club of America, Inc. John Breckon, a member of this group, visited Kittiewan in 2011 and heard the tale of Frank and his car from Harry and Shirley Jaeger. Thanks, Harry and Shirley, for putting us on the national map!

Kittiewan's committee invites you to join in continuing the work of preserving and interpreting this special property. Plans for 2012 include more archeological work, continued organization of the archives, gardening and landscaping, and modifications to the interior of the Manor House. For more information, contact Martha Williams at [mwilliamslonomo@aol.com](mailto:mwilliamslonomo@aol.com). ☉

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Charles City, VA  
804.829.2272  
[www.kittiewanplantation.org/](http://www.kittiewanplantation.org/)

182 E. 101<sup>st</sup> Street,  
Apt. 2  
New York City  
April 28, 1932

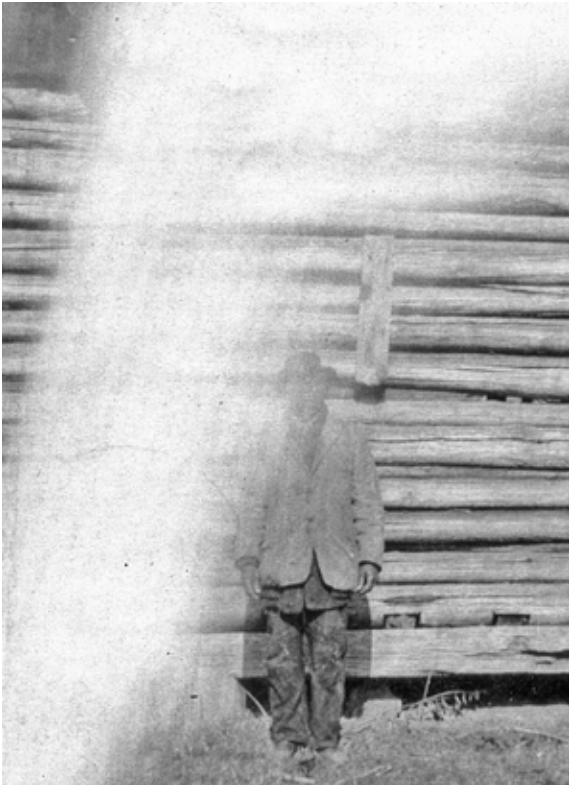
Mr. Clark.

*Dear Sir. Just lines to ask you to do me a favor if you please. I have been out of work, for a few months, and I am trying to get a job as a Butler or a Houseman. And I can't get it without references. I worked for you for about five or six years and you know that I am earnest (sic), and that what they want to know if they can trust me or not. Times is very hard up here. Plenty of people out of work. Hope you will do the favor for me and if you can send them as early as possible please. Hope you haven't forgotten me. Thanks in advance.*

*Josh Barbour*

*P. S. Enclosed you will find envelope addressed to me.*

*On the back: To whom it may concern—Mr. Josh Barbour has been in my employ for 4 or 5 years and I found him very efficient, honest and trust worthy in every respect with very good habits*



▲ Pleasant Whiting.



▲ Could this young boy be Josh Barbour?

## MIDDLE PENINSULA CHAPTER UPDATE

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### Thane Harpole

In April, the Fairfield Foundation partnered once again with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Virginia Department of Historic Resources to expand the archaeological survey on the future Middle Peninsula State Park. The first effort in January 2011, was a great experience, albeit a little cold, but this time around we had a huge crew, beautiful weather and were highly productive. Volunteers came from many parts of Virginia representing the Middle Peninsula, Nansemond, Northern Virginia and Howard MacCord Chapters. State Archaeologist, Dr. Michael Barber, graciously joined us for the two days of excavation, and also delivered a well-received lecture on prehistoric lithic analysis to our sizable crowd of attendees.

This year we completed 142 shovel test pits (adding to the 120 dug last year), so that we've almost covered the largest agricultural field on the park as you approach the core of Rosewell plantation. Most of the shovel tests were positive, yielding small fragments of brick, oyster shell, and the occasional green wine bottle glass, Chinese porcelain, or lead shot. The information gathered here will add to our knowledge of Rosewell's larger plantation complex, which includes a number of nearby sites investigated through surface collection in the 1970s, and an extensive late 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> site that likely served as a wharf and warehouse complex.

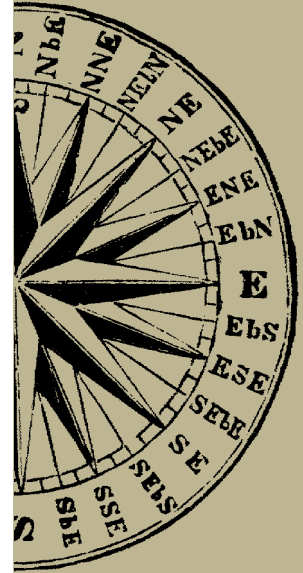
In addition to this, we also put in 32 shovel tests at the site of a planned native tree arboretum in honor of recently-retired Delegate Harvey Morgan. This area is located near the shoreline of the York River on a beautiful and breezy portion of the park. All of these tests were positive and indicated a fairly substantial Woodland period prehistoric occupation. As we process and research the artifacts, we hope to learn more about the age of this material and compare it to what was found nearby during previous archaeological survey work in the early 1990s.

## KITTIEWAN VISITATION POLICY

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### Bruce Baker

Recently we have had two trespassing issues at Kittiewan. One trespasser had a metal detector, and he is being prosecuted. The other trespasser wasn't caught. Because of this I have placed Kittiewan on a permanent watch with the Charles City Sheriff's Office. They will patrol the area a couple of times during the day and night. We have three tenants on the property, and if someone comes out there they don't know they will call the sheriff's office and they in turn will call me. For the time being if anyone plans on going out there please call Bill Bjork (804-306-0646) or me (804-339-1864) so that if we get a call we can tell them you are authorized to be there. Someone is usually there on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Thank you for your cooperation.





▲ Survey volunteers at Roswell.



▲ Shovel testing at the location of the proposed Morgan Arboretum.

## NANSEMOND CHAPTER'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH

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### **Bert Wendell, Jr.**

As part of the ASV Nansemond Chapter's Community Outreach Program, Bert Wendell, Jr., President of the Nansemond Chapter, gave a presentation on "Virginia Indians and their Stone Tools" to Rebecca Winslow and her 4<sup>th</sup> grade class at Tallwood Elementary School in Virginia Beach, Virginia on April 19, 2012. Rebecca Winslow is a member of the Archeological Society of Virginia and its Nansemond Chapter.

The students were instructed in the areas of: the migration of people from Asia along the Bering Straits into the North American continent; the Paleo, Archaic, Woodland, and Mississippian periods; the concepts of hunting, fishing, and gathering, agriculture and life within the village; the different Indian tribes and their languages (Algonquian, Siouan, and Iroquoian) in Virginia at the time of contact with Europeans; the social and economic relationships between the native people and the colonists; reduction of native people's population by diseases and warfare; manufacturing techniques involved in making stone tools; the different types of stone tools (projectile points, knives, drills, scrapers, axes, celts, adzes, etc.); and that Native Americans and their tribes still exist and are living amongst us within Virginia and the United States.



*Bert Wendell talking to 4th grade class. Photo courtesy of Caitlin Kaminski, Gifted Resource Teacher, Tallwood Elementary School, Virginia Beach.*





*Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) tribal representatives with Governor McDonnell.*

## CHEROENHAKA (NOTTOWAY) TRIBUTE TO GOVERNOR MCDONNELL

From Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Press Release

Recently, on Saint George's Day, Chief Walt "Red Hawk" Brown of the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Tribe of Southampton County Virginia, along with other represented tribal Chief Men, Council Members, Clan Mothers and Tribal Heritage Foundation Directors, presented an Annual Tribute of 3 Arrows, one Beaver Pelt and a Peake (Wampum) Belt to Virginia Governor Robert F. McDonnell. The Treaty of Peace Tribute was presented to the Governor symbolic of the February 27, 1713 Treaty of Peace on the one part by the Honorable Alexander Spotswood her Majesties Lieutenant Governor and Commander in chief of the Colony and Dominion of Virginia and on the other part by the Cheroenhaka (Nottoway) Indian Nation's Chief / King Ouracoorass Teerheer aka William Edmund. Article I of said treaty states that said Nation of Indians shall from henceforth continue Tributary's to her Majesty of Great Britain and her SUCCESSORS under the Subjection of the Government of Virginia.

Chief Brown said that "this was a most honorable and humbling experience for our Tribe to have walked the path that our ethno-historic Chief, Ouracoorass Teerheer aka William Edmund, walked some 299 years ago." He said that "this was also a historical moment in the history of the tribe here in Southampton County and that we look forward to the 300 year celebration of the Treaty of Peace with the tribute to the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia come Saint George Day , April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013." "We are very thankful and most appreciative that Governor McDonnell took time out of his busy schedule to not only accept the Treaty of Peace Tribute, but also for taking an interest in the proposed vision the tribe has for "Cattashowrock Town," a mega tourism attraction, Palisade Native American Village, on the tribe's 100 acres of land located on Old Bridge Road, in Courtland, Virginia." Chief Brown gives a special kudos to the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Honorable Doug Domenech, for assisting the tribe in bringing this historical moment to fruition.

*Editor's Note: Both Chief Brown and Teresa Preston, who also participated in the ceremony, are members of the ASV's Nansemond Chapter.*

# VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY UPDATE

**Elizabeth Moore, Curator of Archaeology**

Students from the Piedmont Governor’s School for Math, Science, and Technology (PGSMST) have been working with ASV member Dr. Elizabeth Moore of the Virginia Museum of Natural History to conduct archaeological testing at an early 20th century site, the Gravely House. Built by representative to the Virginia legislature Will Gravely and his wife Carrie Anson Gravely in 1906-1908, the house was occupied by the Gravely family then converted to a multiple apartment rental property until 2005 when it was demolished by the current owner.

Excavations yielded no intact features or foundations associated with the house itself but did identify a concrete fish pond and a stepping stone pathway located in the gardens behind the house and many artifacts currently being analyzed by the students. The Gravely House was the first residence built on Mulberry Road, the street containing many of the larger and more elaborate residences in Martinsville. In addition to conducting test excavations, students are also conducting documentary and genealogical research and collecting oral histories from previous occupants of or visitors to the property.

Project results will be presented by students in a public forum at the end of the school year. Students are working on this project as part of their junior year research methods class taught by Dr. Nina Huff.



*Students cleaning artifacts from the Gravely Huse site at the VMNH archaeology lab.*



◀ *Students learning the fine art of surveying with a laser transit. They are being taught by ASV life member Nick Coleman.*



▶ *Students removing leaf litter above what would be later identified as a small concrete fish pond. We found out after a weekend rain storm after the pond had been partially cleared of fill and debris that the pond still retained water.*



◀ *Students excavating a unit at the Gravelly House site. shovel test pits were excavated across the site and used to guide the placement of excavation units.*

## FROM THE VDHR'S COLLECTIONS

### Dee DeRoche, Chief Curator

One of my favorite topics, the use of VDHR's archaeological collections, is the subject of this report. At the beginning of April a group of researchers brought a slightly different slant to working with our Study Collection. As is usual, their aim was to find parallels to an artifact assemblage, but in this case, an additional goal was to gain experience using curated collections. Dr. Julia King, of St. Mary's College of Maryland, scheduled a visit by her Archaeology Practicum class.

The students arrived well-prepared, with notes, sketches, scale drawings and images of artifacts from the Addison Plantation site that related to specific research topics: merchant activities, architectural hardware, wine bottles and stemware, horse furniture, animal bone, tobacco pipes and other material categories. They recorded details of similar and contrasting items from other early eighteenth century sites, on the Virginia side of the Potomac, in VDHR's collections, using site inventories, artifact catalogs and digital image files in the process.

The students not only learned more about a particular time period and type of site, but also gained experience in using materials housed in a repository and an awareness of the information potential of curated collections. Hopefully the continuing use of this innovative educational strategy will give generations of students the confidence and inclination to make use of curated collections in their future research.

Additional activity with VDHR collections involves designing a new exhibit based on recent acquisitions of twentieth century ceramics created by Virginia Indians.



*Students comparing Corotoman artifacts to those from Addison Plantation.*

Vessels of great variety from three generous donors will soon grace our ground floor hallway and illustrate how the native pottery production tradition continued during the past century. Stay tuned.



*Archaeology students from St. Marty's College of Maryland using VDHR's Study Collection.*

## APRIL 2012 BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### Martha Williams

The regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Society's Board of Directors convened at Kittiewan on Saturday, April 21. In addition to discussing various items of Society business, Board members were able to inspect on-going work on the property, including contractors at work rewiring the Kittiewan manor house and the installation of a kitchen garden behind the house.

Perhaps the most significant issue that was discussed is a proposed revision of the Society's by-laws that would reorganize and streamline the present committee structure. The new committee framework would be organized around six functional categories: Administration, Education, Research, Outreach, Kittiewan, and Development (including fund-raising). The Board authorized the creation of a bylaws revision document, which will be reviewed by a special committee prior to the Board's July meeting. If the Board approves, the reorganization plan will be placed in front of the general membership for a vote at the annual meeting in October. The membership will be informed of any impending vote at least 30 days prior to the October meeting.

The ASV also has nearly completed an ambitious publications project—the digitization of ALL issues of the *Quarterly Bulletin* since the founding of the Society in 1940 through 2010. This effort, undertaken primarily by Lyle Browning and Patrick O'Neill, has resulted in a folder of searchable QB issues that is 13 GB in size. After a final review, the Society will offer the publication for sale (price and format [DVD vs flash drive] is to be determined). Target date for completion is the October annual meeting.

State archaeologist Mike Barber also reported on activities at the Department of Historic Resources in Richmond. Mike and conservator Dee DeRoche reviewed a variety of issues, including work on revising the state's collections policy and its Data Sharing System (site forms, etc.), as well as coordination with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission on preserving underwater archeological sites. Of particular interest to the general membership is a schedule of upcoming meetings and activities. These include an Upland Symposium in Roanoke (September 14-16, 2012); cemetery and archeological ethics workshops at the annual Preservation Virginia meeting in Leesburg in September; and the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference in Virginia Beach (March 2013).

Finally, on a sadder note, President Dan Kegley noted the passing of Nancy Trout, wife of Dr. William Trout, long-time ASV member and founder of the Virginia Canal and Navigation Society. The Board voted to donate \$100 to the VCNS in Nancy's memory.



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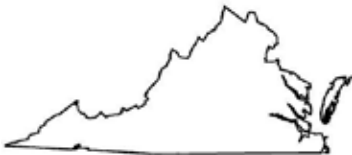
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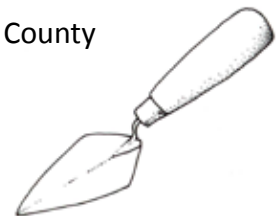
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# UPCOMING EVENTS



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- June 9** ASV Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County
- July 14** ASV Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County
- July 21-22** ASV Board Meeting, Roanoke
- August 11** ASV Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County
- September 8** ASV Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County
- Sept. 14-16** Upland Archaeology Symposium 11, Roanoke
- Sept. 23-25** 27th Annual Virginia Preservation Conference, Leesburg  
<http://preservationvirginia.org/>
- October 12** COVA Fall Meeting, Wytheville
- Oct. 12-14** ASV Annual Meeting, Wytheville  
<http://www.asv-archeology.org>
- Oct. 25-28** Eastern States Archeological Federation Annual Meeting  
Perrysburg, Ohio  
<http://esaf-archeology.org>
- November 10** ASV Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County
- December 8** ASV Kittiewan Open House, Charles City County



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