

ASM Ink



December 2013, Vol. 40, No. 12

Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

Audience, Maureen the big winners

ASM's Annual Meeting last month had many highlights, beginning with the naming of recently retired Maryland chief state archeologist Maureen Kavanagh as the winner of this year's William B. Marye Award for outstanding service to state archeology.

This was followed by five speeches, led off by the National Park Service's Stephen Potter telling about the nine-year archeological and historical study of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal. A large



number of found sites still are awaiting research, he said, and countless others have yet to be uncovered, in some cases, like Shawnee villages, because they left no lithic or ceramic artifacts.

Heather Bouslog, an archeologist and member of the host Mid-Potomac Chapter, told of the finds at the Bussard farm, a few yards away from the meeting site. The 65 attendees were invited to visit the site over lunch.

Fewer than 150 people live in Brookeville now, but during the War of 1812 it was the second biggest town in Montgomery County. Which could have been why President James Madison fled there when the British invaded Washington, making Brookeville the nation's capital for a day. Robert Hines told what students from Richard Montgomery High School and a few volunteers found in their work at the still-standing house where the

president stayed before going back to his burned-out home.

The last two speakers brought the audience up to date on ASM's two field schools this year. First Jim Gibb told about the happy results of the search for evidence of a 1662 chapel in St. Mary's County. Then Charlie Hall told of equally pleasing results at the Biggs Ford Site in Frederick County.

The silent auction and a donation jar resulted in about \$600 for the analysis fund.

In presenting the Marye Award to Maureen Kavanagh, ASM President Claude Bowen said she was

Continued on Page 5

Upcoming events

December 7: ASM board meeting, Miller Branch, Howard County Library, Ellicott City. 10 a.m.

October 30 – November 2, 2014: ESAF meeting, Solomons Island, Maryland. NOTE: If anyone has any ideas for talks or speakers contact Stephen Israel at ssisrael@verizon.net quickly.

Volunteer opportunities

The following volunteer opportunities are open to CAT participants and other ASM members:

The **Smithsonian Environmental Research Center** seeks participants in its Citizen-Scientist Program in archeology and other environmental research programs in Edgewater. Field and lab work are conducted during the week and on occasional Saturdays. Contact Jim Gibb at jamesggibb@verizon.net

Montgomery County is offering opportunities for lab and field work Wednesdays, 9:30 to 2:30. Call 301-840-5848 or contact heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org. CAT opportunity.

ASM field session collection: Volunteers have turned their attention to work on material from Chapel Point and to catalogue data entry of Rosenstock material. The lab in Crownsville will be open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 3. Contact Louise Akerson at lakerson1@verizon.net or Charlie Hall chall@mdp.state.md.us.

The Lost Towns Project of Anne Arundel County welcomes volunteers for its prolific Pig Point prehistoric site. Fridays. Call Jasmine Gollup at 410-222-1318.

Mount Calvert. Lab work and field work. 301-627-1286.

Jefferson Patterson Park invites volunteers to take part in its activities, including archeology, historical research and conservation. Contact Ed Chaney at echaney@mdp.state.md.us or 410-586-8554.

The Maryland Historical Society is looking for volunteers to help rehouse all its archeological material which was damaged when a steam pipe burst. The work is being done at its Baltimore office, 201 W. Monument Street, weekdays between 8:30 and 4. Volunteers will have to commit to at least 40 hours of work. Contact Kate Gallagher at kgallagher@mdhs.org anytime or midweek at 410-685-3750, extension 342.

The Archaeological Institute of America provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities worldwide, Call up www.archaeological.org/fieldwork/ to get started. Remember to add the extra A in archaeological.

CAT corner: For information on the CAT program, and updates, visit the ASM website.

Park Service now has archeology web site

The National Capital Region of the National Park Service has launched a web site featuring archeological information, <http://www.nps.gov/rap/>

"Information about past and present archeology projects at national parks around the nation's capital is presented through 'virtual exhibits' and multimedia presentations," the NPS said, adding that the site is geared toward multiple audiences.

"Teachers as well as children and their parents will find information about archeology, fun things to do, and how to get involved. Professionals will find reference materials, links to key laws and policies, and important contact information."

"It is exciting to launch a comprehensive web site for National Park Service archeology here in the National Capital Region," said Stephen R. Potter, NCR's regional archeologist. "We hope that both the

public and professionals in the field will find something of interest and we will continue to update and expand the site to serve the needs of the community."

Three archeologists walked into a bar ...

What's the ideal holiday gift for the archeology-loving person in your life? And one that doesn't cost an arm or a leg, not even a toe? It's a renewal membership in ASM. There are several levels of membership but they all have two things in common: They offer a gateway to a year's full benefits and they are inexpensive. If you lead a solitary life or don't want to impose on anyone, then treat yourself to this passport to activities and information, from field school sessions and informative meetings to journals and newsletters. It is all yours for a few pennies a day. Such a bargain.

You'll find a renewal form with this newsletter or on the ASM website. If you've already renewed, thanks and you can skip reading this article. If you haven't renewed yet, do so right now so you don't have to read any more articles like this.

A gathering of muses on a Frosty day

SHA archeologist Carol Ebright recently found herself in Vermont where she stopped at Otter Creek to honor her favorite point type and then visited the grave of poet Robert Frost. Like a good archeologist, she connected the mental dots and ...

Looking at Points on a Snowy Evening *by Carol A. Ebright*

What point this is I think I know
An Otter Creek from long ago
A side-notched blade with squared-off ears
And grinding on the base below

It's rhyolite—that's not so queer
An ancient quarry site is near
Up on South Mountain's rocky flanks
Where Natives trod all through the year

There, biface were made from blanks
From bedrock sticking out of banks
Where long thin flakes fell in a heap
From knapping with some antler shanks

The point is lovely, thin, and sleek
I found it in some dirt so deep
Alas it is not mine to keep
Alas it is not mine to keep



Powhatan's center is found, preserved

By Steve Szkotak

Condensed from the Washington Times, June 19, 2013

GLOUCESTER, Va. — A farm field overlooking the York River in Tidewater Virginia is believed by many Virginia Indians, historians and archeologists to be the center of a complex, sprawling empire ruled by Powhatan long before the first permanent English settlement in America was founded in 1607. It was called Werowocomoco, which roughly translates to a "place of chiefs."

"This is like our Washington," said Kevin Brown, chief of the Pamunkey tribe. "History didn't begin in 1607 and there are a lot of people who overlook that."

On loan to archeologists for more than a decade, these 57 privately owned acres will be preserved forever under an agreement years in the making and to be officially announced Friday.

The deal is important for Native Americans because they believe their story has been overshadowed for centuries by the narrative of John Smith and his fellow Europeans. In a departure from past digs involving native sites, archeologists sought the counsel of Indian leaders before and during the exploration, honoring their wishes that burial grounds not be disturbed and helping interpret what was discovered.

For Ashley Atkins, a College of William & Mary doctoral candidate who has worked at the site since 2005, "recovering things out of the ground" was secondary to working with her fellow Pamunkey.

"Unfortunately, native people in the past have had no involvement at all in the way that their history has been investigated, uncovered and presented to the public," said Atkins, who is 28.

Jeff Brown, Kevin Brown's brother, worked at the site for years. He recalled Indians visiting the sweeping expanse overlooking the York River and being overcome. "It gets emotional," he said. "And when you're digging you can really feel it."

Martin Gallivan, a William & Mary anthropologist, said the involvement of native people "enhanced the project immensely."

Only a fraction of Werowocomoco has been explored, perhaps just 2 percent. After decades of research, archeologists used the writings of Smith and others, ancient maps and detective work to conclude with near-certainty that this was Powhatan's seat of power about 15 miles from Jamestown.

Powhatan's chiefdom covered 30 political divisions and a population of 15,000 to 20,000 people. Excavations have yielded the outline of the largest longhouse ever found in Virginia and a system of ditches that may have separated sacred and secular areas.

Randolph Turner, a retired state archeologist whose hunt for Werowocomoco dates to the 1970s, said Powhatan's empire was "one of the most complex political entities in all of eastern North America." The leader "had the power of life and death" and expanded his empire through warfare or the threat of warfare.

"He's one of the most interesting political and military figures that I've ever read about," Turner said. "And we're just getting hints in the historical records of all he accomplished in his lifetime."

The discovery of Werowocomoco can be credited to a dog belonging to the land's owners, Lynn and Robert Ripley. Lynn Ripley used to walk around their land with her Chesapeake Bay retriever. She would remove debris that could cut her dog's paws, and found arrowheads, spear tips, pipe stems and pottery shards.

"I am absolutely convinced this is Werowocomoco," Turner said. "It makes no sense for it to be anywhere else."

That conclusion is supported by the U.S. Park Service, William & Mary, the Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities.

Virginia Indians hope work at the site will continue to build on what is known about Powhatan and the centuries before him, dispelling myths about what the first European settlers found when they arrived. "I want people to understand there was a real civilization, a complex cultural community that existed prior to European colonization," Atkins said. "Europeans didn't bring civilization. They brought a lot of other things, some good, some bad."

Correction: A photograph from the Barton Site in the last edition of this newsletter identified the person being shown a newly discovered something-or-other as Dave Frederick. It really was Brent Chippendale. We apologize to both of them.

Audience, Maureen the big winners

Continued from Front Page

employed early in her career by Tyler Bastian, who then headed the Maryland Geological Survey's Division of Archeology. She took over the Monocacy River Research Project, which resulted in a report that is still a classic in the study of piedmont riverine archeology in Maryland. The work is the result of Maureen's exceptional statistical research design, fieldwork and writing skills.

Through the 34 years that she practiced as a professional archeologist with the State of Maryland, she proved her ability to handle multiple large, sensitive and complex projects, often at the same time.

Nowhere was this skill better exemplified than in her role over four and half years as co-chair (with Dr. Virginia Busby) of the Working Group on American Human Remains (a.k.a. The Working Group on an Appropriate Place of Repose). During this period, Maureen organized more than 18 meetings and eight ceremonies which lead ultimately to the re-burial of nearly all Native American remains curated by the State of Maryland.

Maureen also assisted in the reorganization of the State's archeological sites inventory. This work took place in the early days of personal computing and Maureen was among the first who saw the value of the new technologies to the archeological community. She was an early advocate of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for archeology and as a result pursued and received a master's degree in computer science from The Johns Hopkins University.

Maureen's support of the ASM has included co-directing (with Dennis Curry) two annual field sessions at the Chapel Point site and three sessions at the Rosenstock site. She has also participated in a leadership role in virtually all other excavations undertaken by ASM. She also organized nine annual Workshops in Maryland Archeology that have become a mainstay of ASM's and the Maryland Historical Trust's roster of spring activities and a preview of each year's Maryland Archeology Month.

ASM offers its sincerest thanks to her on behalf of the entire archeological community for the work mentioned above and for the many other services (too numerous to mention here) to the state's archeological community and especially to its avocational archeologists.

Recommended reading

What are some archeology books you think ASM members will enjoy reading or find useful? Send us your suggestions. This list comes from Barbara Israel.

"Ethics in American Archaeology," edited by Mark J. Lynott and Alison Wylie, Second Revised Edition 2000. Society of American Archaeology, Washington, D.C.

"Ethical Issues in Archaeology," Edited by Larry J. Zimmerman, Karen D. Vitelli, Julie Hollowell-Zimmer. 2003. Society for American Archaeology and the Altamira Press.

"Stealing History, Tomb Raiders, Smugglers, and the Looting of the Ancient World," by Roger Atwood. 2000, 2004. St. Martin's Press, New York, N.Y.

"Loot: The battle over the stolen treasures of the ancient world," by Sharon Waxman. 2008. Times Books, Henry Holt and Company

Chapter notes

Anne Arundel

Meets the second Tuesday of the month at the Severna Park Branch Library, 45 West McKinsey Road, Severna Park. 7:30 p.m. Contact Mechelle Kerns at AACHapASM@hotmail.com or the chapter website <http://www.aachapasm.org/calendar.html>

Central Maryland

Central Chapter has no formal meetings planned, but it does engage in field work and related activities. Contact chapter President Stephen Israel, 410-945-5514 or ssisrael@verizon.net

Charles County

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the second Thursday (September-May) in the community room of the LaPlata Police Department. Contact President Carol Cowherd at cowherdcl@gmail.com or 301-375-9489. Chapter website is charlescoasm.org and its blog is ccarchsoc.blogspot.com

December 12: "What Archeology Is Telling Us about the Lives of African Americans Who Lived at Mount Calvert," by Mike Lucas.

January 15: NOTE DATE CHANGE: Cathy Thompson on the latest county activities relating to Port Tobacco.

February 13: Patrick O'Neill on War of 1812 Battle of the Potomac (August/September 1814). Location: Port Tobacco Village (Courthouse or Stag Hall)

March 19: NOTE DATE CHANGE. Program TBD

April 10: "Overwhelmed By the Sea: An Afternoon at Point Lookout State Park" (and sand tempered pottery), presented by Lynne Bulhack.

May 8: Laura Cripps will talk about experience with geophysical techniques.

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Needwood Mansion, 6700 Needwood Road, Derwood. Dinner at a local restaurant at 5:45 p.m. Contact heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org or 301-840-5848 or Don Housley at donhou704@earthlink.net or 301-424-8526. Chapter website: <http://www.asmmidpotomac.org> Email: asmmidpotomac@gmail.com Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-Potomac-Archaeology/182856471768>

December 18 (Wednesday): Meeting and holiday party at the Agricultural History Farm Park Activity Center in Derwood from 6-9:30 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. The chapter will provide the turkey and traditional side dishes. Attendees are asked to bring an appetizer, side dish or dessert and a gift (\$15 or less) for a gift exchange. Entertainment includes the latest edition of "Archaeologists Gone Wild" and archeology jeopardy.

January 16: Ilka Gray, chapter member, will speak on "Tell es-Safi/Gath, an Archaeological Project in Israel" identified as Canaanite and Philistine Gath, the home of the biblical Goliath.

February 20: Chapter members Vivian Eicke, Jack Marshall and Valerie Hall will share their stories and photographs of travels to the American Southwest.

Monocacy

The chapter meets in the C. Burr Artz Library in Frederick the second Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. For more information, visit the chapter's web page at digfrederick.com or call 301-378-0212.

Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. Members and guests assemble at 6:30 for light refreshments. A business meeting at 7 is followed by the presentation at 7:30. Contact Dan Coates at 410-273-9619 or dancoates@comcast.net Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/northernchesapeake>

December 12: Annual Dinner Meeting featuring Jay Custer speaking on Late Woodland points of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Delaware. I.O.O.F. Hall, Aberdeen.

January 8, 2014: The Delaware Flotillamen at the Battle of Elk Landing, 1813 by Charles Fithian. Havre de Grace City Hall.

February 12: Jim Gibb on the St. Francis Xavier excavation. Historical Society of Harford County, Bel Air.

March 12: Julie Schablitzky on archeological investigations at Caulk's Field, a War of 1812 battle site in Kent County. Historical Society of Cecil County, Elkton.

April 25: Stephen Potter will deliver the annual Cresthull Memorial Lecture for Maryland Archeology Month. Edgewood Hall, HCC, Bel Air.

May: Date and site TBA. Annual ASNC picnic.

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Ellicott City Colored School. Dinner is available at the Diamondback in Ellicott City at 5:30 p.m. Labs are held the second and fourth Saturdays of the month. For location and other chapter information contact Dave Cavey at 410 747-0093 or hoplite1@comcast.net On Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Upper-Patuxent-Archaeology-Group/464236446964358> or try UPArchaeologygroup@yahoo.com or <http://uparchaeologygroup.weebly.com/>

December 9: Holiday party at Bare Bones Grill.

January: No meeting, because of bad weather.

Western Maryland

Programs are the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the LaVale Library, unless noted. Contact Roy Brown, 301-724-7769. Chapter email: wmdasm@yahoo.com Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/wmdasm>

December: No meeting, due to holidays.

January 24: Show and tell.

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The Archeological Society of Maryland Inc. is a statewide nonprofit organization devoted to the study and conservation of Maryland archeology.

ASM members receive the monthly newsletter, ASM Ink; the biannual journal, MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY, reduced admission to ASM events and a 10% discount on items sold by the Society. Contact Membership Secretary Belinda Urquiza for membership rates. For publication sales, contact Dan Coates at ASM Publications, 716 Country Club Rd., Havre de Grace, MD 21078-2104 or 410-273-9619 or dancoates@comcast.net

Submissions welcome. Please send to Myron Beckenstein, 6817 Pineway, University Park, MD. 20782, 301-864-5289 or myronbeck@verizon.net

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