



# ASM Ink

June 2002, Vol. 28, No. 6

**Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.**

## Archeology Month Planning Committee Thanks ASM!

*submitted by Caryn Trinkley and Carolyn F. Hoffman,  
Maryland Archeology Month Co-Coordinators*

As you are no doubt aware, we have just celebrated the 10<sup>th</sup> Maryland Archeology Month (MAM) and planning is already underway for April 2003. As part of the wrap-up for MAM 2002, the planning committee would like to thank ASM members for assisting in the distribution of posters and calendars of events. We are happy to report that 187 public libraries and 13 state welcome centers across the state received Archeology Month materials prior to April. This would not have been possible without your assistance.

Together with the Council for Maryland Archeology, Inc., the Office of Archeology at the Maryland Historical Trust, and the Maryland State Highway Administration, the ASM and its members play a pivotal role in the success of Archeology Month. Thanks so much for your help as an organization and for the willingness of individual members to pitch in to ensure the continued success of this important annual event!



## Iris McGillivray dies

Iris McGillivray, a longtime member and officer of ASM, died May 9, 2002, at her retirement home in Pennsylvania. Dedicated to ASM and its mission, Iris's many contributions to the society included several terms as secretary and being a fixture at the sign-in table at field schools.

The family suggests that if someone wants to make a donation in her memory, it should be to ASM. Send the contribution to ASM Treasurer Sean Sweeney (do you have his address), marked, "In Memory of Iris McGillivray."

*Excerpted from the obituary, Baltimore Sun, May 16.*

Iris Precourt McGillivray, a former Anne Arundel County librarian, died Saturday from stroke complications at a retirement community in Devon, Pa., her home for three years. She was 80. During the 1960s, Mrs. McGillivray was the head of children's services for the Annapolis branch of the Anne Arundel public library system. Born and raised in Stevens Point, Wis., Iris Precourt attended the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, earning a bachelor's degree in 1943. She earned a master's degree from the Johns Hopkins University in 1969. A resident of Baltimore's Mount Vernon Place until the 1970s, she had been a docent at Walters Art Gallery and was a member of the Engineering Society of Baltimore. She lived in Exton, Pa., from 1972 to 1982, then returned to the city neighborhood until 1999. She maintained an interest in anthropology and archaeology and was a longtime member of the Archaeological Society of Maryland. In 1947, she married Archie McGillivray, who died in 1986. Mrs. McGillivray is survived by a son, Alan D. McGillivray of New Orleans; a daughter, Mary M. Mayer of Berwyn; a sister, Dorothy Hoppe of Tucson, Ariz.; and two grandsons. Another daughter, Suellen McGillivray, died some years ago.

# CHAPTER NEWS

## **Anne Arundel Chapter**

Chapter meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at the County Heritage Center complex on Riva Road, Annapolis.

\*The chapter still needs a new president. Please contact Carolyn Gryczkowski at (410) 222-7328, e-mail: shadow@chesapeake.net, if you would like to assume the duties of president.

The Lost Towns of Anne Arundel Project offers many volunteer opportunities. The lab is located at 2666 Riva Road and is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The phone number there is 410-222-7328. The crew also welcomes volunteers in the field. For more information, contact Lisa Plumley at 410-222-7441.

The Lost Towns Project hosts one-hour workshops on one or two Mondays per month from 1:30–2:30 PM in the Chesapeake Room of Building 2664 of the Heritage Center on Riva Road.

## **Archeological Society of the Northern Chesapeake**

The chapter meets the second Thursday of the month, from September till May, at Harford Glen. Meetings are held at the Harford County Environmental Education Center at Harford Glen, just off MD 24, 2.5 miles north of I-95 exit 77, and start at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Field Work Opportunities:

**June 22-23** Garrett Island

**July 8-12** Susquehanna Park Jr. Rangers

**July 19-22** O'Neill Privy

Please call Bill McIntyre (410) 939-0768 for more information on dates and time

Please contact Dan Coates at (410) 273-9619, dcoates716@aol.com, or danielcoates@md.ngb.army.mil, for additional information on chapter activities.

## **Central Chapter** (*Metropolitan Baltimore area*)

Please contact Stephen Israel at (410) 945-551, in the evening, or e-mail ssisrael@abs.net, emailto:ssisrael@abs.net for field work and volunteer opportunities.

## **Mid-Potomac Chapter**

For information on chapter activities, please contact David Back (301) 530-2920.

## **Mid-Shore Chapter**

Meetings held the fourth Friday of each month. Please contact President Bill Cep for more information about chapter activities, (410) 822-5027, e-mail: ccep@crosslink.net

## **Monocacy Archeological Society**

Meetings will be held on the Wednesday closest to the 15th.

Please contact Joy Hurst, president, email- hurst\_joy@hotmail.com, (301) 663-6706, for information on chapter activities.

## **Southern Chapter**

Please contact Kate Dinnel for information on chapter activities at: katesilas@chesapeake.net, or dinnel@dhcd.state.md.us

## **Upper Patuxent Archeology Group**

The chapter meets the 2nd Monday from September to June. Please contact Lee Preston at (443)838-1443, or via e-mail at lp Preston@mail.howard.k12.md.us, for more information on chapter activities.

## Western Maryland Chapter

Archeology Month in western Maryland was filled with people, memories, artifacts and activities. Members and friends joined in spreading the word about our rich history. News coverage in local papers, Internet and television has sparked new interests. Public activities have kindled a subtle awareness of archeology that will serve to support a burning interest in many, for years to come. Members Bob Bantz and Wes Cooper have also been nurturing the coals in the local schools, teaching and encouraging an excitement about the past lying beneath our feet.

In May, our own Roy Brown was a guest lecturer at the Oregon Ridge Primitive Technology Weekend, north of Baltimore. Containers are taken for granted by most of us. Not so, in the past! Past and present are connected. We must carry water, gather materials, cook meals, and protect our valuables. Roy creates a strong link in his "Primitive Containers" workshop. Make no mistake, 'primitive' does not mean crude, but rather 'first'. No steel tools here. No metal pots, no nails, rivets or welding. All of his programs are a purist aboriginal retracing of the past. His is more than a 'technology', but rather, a soulful connection with our ancestors.

We urge ASM members to participate in the CAT program. Enrolled or not, the broad reading list is exciting and *can be shared with anyone*. The more we read, the more we discover the continuity of concerns between those of the past and those of the present. The CAT reading list is developing a 'world view' that includes people of all continents and a global perspective of the environment. Not so coincidentally, that view forces a closer look at our own back yard. CAT is more about the journey than the destination. Call a CAT participant and become a time traveler.

The Chapter is preparing for a full and exciting Fall/Winter program line-up. Our fall speaker series is filled with notables and timely topics! All of our meetings are casual, friendly and open to the public. Please come and share the adventure! Visit the Western Maryland Chapter on the web for connections to the rest of the archeological world. The early inhabitants of this land knew nothing of state boundaries. Find out what the neighbors are doing in your aboriginal backyard.

### Program Calendar:

**September 27** – *Introduction to the State Archeologist/Winslow Site Overview*- Dr. Charles Hall

**October 25** - *Cactus Hill Site* – Mike Johnson – Archeologist, Fairfax Co. Virginia

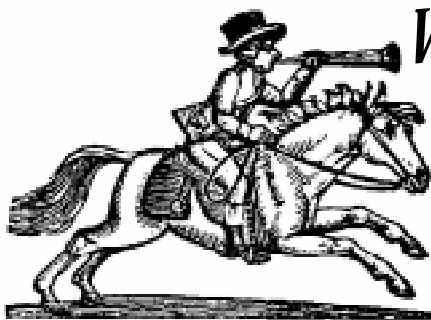
**November 22** – *American Indian Month* – Dr. Dixie Henry

**December** – Christmas Break

Programs are at 7:30 PM, the fourth Friday of the month at the LaVale Public Library unless otherwise advised. For more information, contact Roy Brown- 301-724-7769

Chapter Email- [wmdasm@yahoo.com](mailto:wmdasm@yahoo.com) Chapter

Web site - [www.geocities.com/wmdasm](http://www.geocities.com/wmdasm)



## *We Have A Winner!*

*The official Maryland Archeology Month poster won second prize from the Society of American Archeology at its annual meeting in Denver in March.*

# Maryland Archaeology Month Poster Contest 2002

*"Come . . . Let Us Tell You How They Lived"*

*Submitted by Heather Bouslog, Archaeology Month  
Poster Contest Representative*



The Maryland Archaeology Month's Poster Contest is in its fifth year and growing stronger with each year. Students from all over the state enter the contest with the hope that their poster & essay will win the prize and prestige of being placed in Maryland's State Capital.

The contest was initiated to educate and draw the younger student into archaeology. It is geared for 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders; its goal to show the importance of archaeology by involving the student in hands-on research and thought incorporating each year's theme into a poster form with accompanying essay.

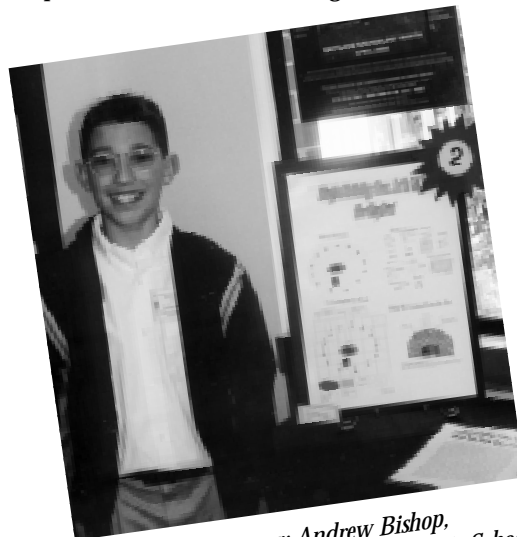
The poster contest is an effort of cooperation between The Maryland Historical Trust, the Archaeological Society of Maryland, the Council for Maryland Archaeologists and the State Highway Administration. Students from all over the state enter the contest. This year the winning entries were hung in the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau. The Visitor's Center has hundreds of people from Maryland and outside the state coming in for tours. All these people saw the Archaeology Month Poster Contest winning entries and were enlightened about archaeology in Maryland (at least to some degree!) Students receive Savings Bonds, Certificates of Achievement, the Annual Field School t-shirt and the best prize—a free day at the Annual Tyler Bastian Field School at the Winslow Site in Montgomery County! The Award Ceremony was held in the Anne Arundel Room of the Maryland Inn in Annapolis.



## *First Place Winners*

*From left to right: Tori Smith, Alex Richardson, Sarah Lal,  
eighth-graders from Walkersville Middle School, Frederick  
County; teacher: Mr. Robert Bodnar*

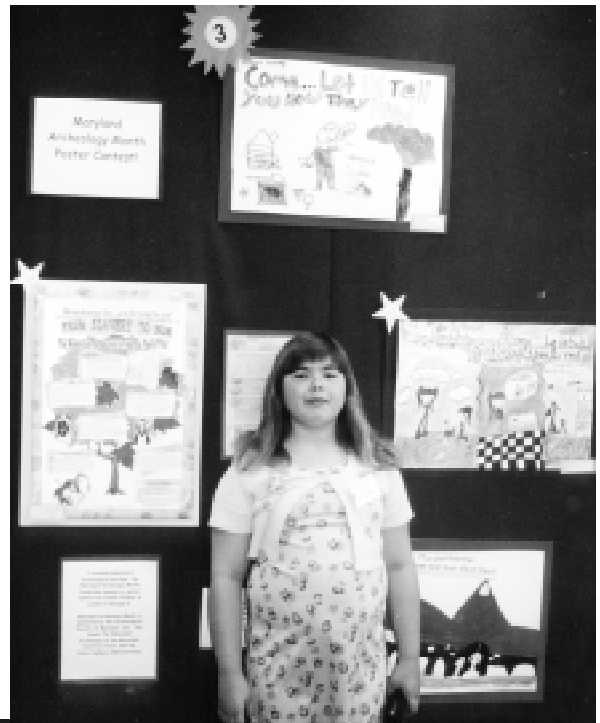
Speakers included: Dr. James D. Sorensen, M-NCPPC Archaeologist, who gave the Opening Remarks. Charles Hall, the State Terrestrial Archeologist, spoke about 'Maryland Archeology Month' and the importance of preserving our sites. J. Rodney Little, the Director of the Maryland Historical Trust emphasized the preservation theme during his address.



*Second Place Winner: Andrew Bishop,  
eighth-grader from Walkersville Middle School, Frederick  
County; teacher: Mr. Robert Bodnar*

The Presentation of Awards was presided over by ASM president, Nancy Geasey, with Dr. James Sorensen assisting. Each winning student was given a certificate and welcomed with applause as he or she approached the podium to shake hands with Nancy Geasey and receive congratulations. The students' teachers were invited to share the podium with their students and they were shown appreciation with archaeological books awarded for them to use in their classrooms.

Julie Ernstein of the University of Maryland Department of Anthropology gave the closing remarks.



*Third Place Winner: Theresa Bouslog, fifth-grader from Judith A. Resnik Elementary School, Montgomery County; teacher: Ms. Stephanie Share*



*Honorable Mention: Left to right (top) Mary Taylor, Angela Hawkins (bottom) Santonio Wallace, Davon Booth, sixth-graders from West Baltimore Middle School, Baltimore City; teacher: Ms. Felecia Martin-Egbe*



*Honorable Mention: Christine Hsu, sixth grader from Gaithersburg Middle School, Montgomery County; teacher: Ms. Hoch*

As in all projects, there are a lot of "behind-the-scenes" people to thank. We would like to thank: Louise Akerson, photography; Darlene Bryant, Certificates of Achievement; Charles Coleman, Photocopying; Dennis Curry, Website; Bob Hines and the Richard Montgomery High School Volunteers In Archaeology Club, compiling mailings; Mary Jo Robey, Annapolis & Anne Arundel Conference & Visitor's Bureau; Needwood Mansion Employees, Judging; Kathie Rogers, compilation; Sean Sweeney, Treasurer; Jim Sorensen, Poster Contest Representative, poster display, judging, setting up, etc.; Caryn Trinkley, coordination of Award Ceremony, Reception Poster Display, mailing lists, invitations, photography, etc., etc.

The Maryland Historical Trust, Council of Maryland Archaeologists, the Archaeology Society of Maryland and the State Highway Administration

Thank you for your Support!!!!

# Archeology Month in Western Maryland:



*Ed Hanna demonstrating  
fire-by-friction*

Camped just east of the Allegheny Front, along the shores of the Conhongeronta, known as the Potomac River<sup>1</sup>, the Western Maryland Chapter planted some seeds, special seeds, planted at all depths. No one knows when they will germinate or mature, but one thing is certain: they will grow.

In full view of Cumberland's Western Maryland Railroad Station, the Chapter set about to lure the uninitiated to the growing-fields of our passion, Archeology. Two tents, filled with relics of the past, enticed casual observers to come closer. Tools-of-the-trade lay scattered about, lonely for the hands of a would-be historian.

As a reflection of an earlier time, old men joined earth's oldest tools and woodland fruits on ancient nutting stones. Awe-struck children, of all ages, came closer. An ominous tripod carrying carefully prepared soil was surrounded by anxious young



*Allegany Co. Museum "First Residents" Exhibit*



*Gary Grant explains artifact displays to C&O  
Canal Park Interpreter Rita Knox*



*Ken Wilmot helps visitors Matt and  
Zachary screen for artifacts*

# Growing Archeology in the Hills

*submitted by Ed Hanna*



*Roy Brown demonstrates flint knapping.*

screeners. Artisans crafting tools the old way, knapped their stones nearby. The wonder of wood-on-wood entranced the curious. The miracle of the ancient friction fire emerged from wisps of smoke and as it did, the soils of their imagination became fertile.

The tapping, cracking, and the smell of smoke in the air, was punctuated by raindrops and the perfume of dripping leaves and wet grass. The distant rumble of thunder was as an echo of the past while Cumberland, the Queen City<sup>2</sup> leaned on working trains and memories of lumbering canal boats. It was easy then, to begin planting the seeds of archeology.

Over 300 visitors huddled under shelters to hear the stories. They were eager to learn more than just 'the old ways', but the lifeways of those who were here for thousands of years before we came. They were hungry for a connection to the past. Many were surprised by the complexity of early life. Many more were intrigued by the things they shared with the "First Residents". Things like shelter, fire, peace-of-mind, water, food and a sense of family.

Directed to the nearby Allegany County Museum, these neophyte historians could commune in the cloister-like setting of the "First Residents" exhibit. In a few days, some would rediscover the old way along Braddock's mountainous highway to the west. The precursor to the

National Road, Braddock's Road, once called Nemacolin's Trail, led many through the wilderness from Fort Cumberland.

Played out on the birthplace and burial ground of mammoth canal boats, visitors received the healthy seeds of archeology. Perhaps some will find their way to another village on the Cohongoronta, along Ancient's Pathway, to the Barton Village Site and beyond.

<sup>1</sup> *The Cohongoronta name was an Indian term for the Upper Potomac, used by Thomas Jefferson and found on old maps of the 1700's.*

<sup>2</sup> *The Queen City term comes from the late 1800's when the city was booming and the 2nd largest city in Maryland. It was a common term used in those days to lend a regal tone to some cities.... Pittsburgh claims that name too.*



*Bill Norris cracking walnuts on a nutting stone*



*Bob Bantz with his Braddock Road display*

*The Archeological Society of Maryland Inc. is a statewide non-profit organization devoted to the study and conservation of Maryland archeology.*

ASM, Inc. members receive the monthly newsletter ASM, INC, the biannual MARYLAND ARCHEOLOGY, reduced admission to ASM, Inc., events and a 10% discount on items sold by the Society. Standard active annual membership rates are \$20.00 for individuals and \$30.00 for families. Please contact Dan Coates for publication sales at ASM, Northern Chesapeake Chapter, P.O. Box 553, Fallston, MD 21047-0553 or (410) 273-9619, e-mail: dcoates716@aol.com. For additional information, and membership categories, please contact Phyllis Sachs at P.O. Box 65001, Baltimore, MD 21209, (410) 664-9060, e-mail psachs4921@aol.com.

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Submissions welcome, please send to Myron Beckenstein, 9256 Feathered Head, Columbia, MD 21045, myronbeck@aol.com, (410) 381-91115.

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