



ASM Ink

February 2006, Vol. 32, No. 2

Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

From the Trust: MHT's plans for the year

By Maureen Kavanagh

State Terrestrial Archeologist

As we work our way through the winter of 2006, planning already is in full swing for our upcoming spring events. The committees for the March 18 Workshop, April's Archeology Month and the annual field session in May are busy getting ready.

We also have a number of field projects planned. The underwater archeologists will continue their Assateague survey in the spring, this time on Sinepuxent Bay. Rivers of the Lower Eastern Shore also are being surveyed by graduate student Jason Moser for shipyard sites, a project funded through an MHT non-capital grant.

The terrestrial archeologists will be finishing up a survey of Department of Natural Resources lands in the middle Potomac area, then completing a management plan for DNR. In the fall, we will be resuming work at the Beetree site a potential Civil War camp site in the Bentley Springs area of Baltimore County and an inventory of sites along the North Central Railroad Corridor in northern Baltimore County, both coordinated by Charlie Hall.

This year we hope to make some major updates and improvements to the information on our web site. The MHT site has 50,000 visits annually and archeology pages typically have received the most interest. Among the items we plan are:

- Featured Phase III/Data Recovery projects.
- Frequently asked questions about various common topics such as metal detecting, cemetery maintenance and archeological site reporting.
- More "fact sheets" on special archeological topics of interest, such as the recently posted feature on petroglyphs.

Check out the site at www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net

The archeology staff also will be assisting with a web/GIS project to develop information on historic roadside markers, including digital pictures, searchable text and maps, to be posted on the MHT website.

We are working with the Council for Maryland Archeology to develop a plan for creating access to

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| <p>Inside: A pullout guide to local archeology resources</p> |
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Upcoming events

March 4: ASM board meeting, Crownsville. 10 a.m. All are welcome.

March 18: Archeology workshop. Crownsville.

April: Archeology Month.

April 1: Spring Symposium. Crownsville.

Volunteer opportunities

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

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

ASM field session collection: Volunteers are needed to work on up-grading collections associated with previous field sessions. Currently, the collection from the Rosenstock Site, a key Late Woodland Montgomery Complex area, is being upgraded. The lab in Crownsville is open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 4. For additional information contact Louise Akerson rakerson@comcast.net or Charlie Hall hall@dhcd.state.md.us.

The Lost Towns Project of Anne Arundel County. 410-222-7441.

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

Jefferson Patterson Park invites volunteers to take part in its various activities, including archeology, historical research and artifact conservation. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at 410-586-8501.

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 archaeology.

CAT corner

For updates and information on CAT activities check the ASM website.

Special fieldwork opportunity: Richard Ervin of SHA is working on the Broad Creek Cemetery, a 17th through 19th Century cemetery on Kent Island. On occasion and on very short notice, it is necessary for him to conduct emergency excavations in preparation for new interments. Contact him at 410-545-2878 (days), 410-643-7128 (evenings) or by email at rervin@sha.state.md.us

Preview of coming attraction

The first of this spring's big ASM events is the 15th annual Workshop in Archeology, planned for Saturday, March 18 in Crownsville.

Details will be in next month's newsletter, but here's a peek: Julie Schablitsky will present "Archeology of the Donner Party," a collaborative research project among archeologists, human osteologists, forensic scientists, ground penetrating radar specialists and historians investigating the fate of the Donner Party stranded in the Sierra Mountains in the winter of 1846.

There also will be sessions on petroglyphs, a historic overview program for CAT participants and underwater features.

Lois Iley wins ASNC's Cresthull award

The Northern Chesapeake chapter of ASM has named Lois Iley as the 2005 winner of its Cresthull award.

In citing her, the presentation said, "During the past 15 years she had been one of the most active participants in all of the chapter's activities." Among the cited fieldwork were some in outings in both extremely cold and extremely hot weather.

In addition, the citation said, "Our chapter is like an iceberg in that the portion seen by the public and most members is only the tip: the meeting programs, displays, outreach presentations and fieldwork. None of these things would be possible without the preparation, logistic support and behind the scenes effort of members such as this evening's honored recipient."

The award, presented since 1994, is named in honor of Paul Cresthull, a founder of the chapter and longtime activist in Maryland archeology. It is awarded each year to a chapter member who represents the example set by Cresthull "through his love of learning and educating others, his desire to preserve our cultural heritage and his dedicated personal commitment of time, money,



effort and energy over 30 years to the preservation of the archeological heritage of our county, region and state."

Dog park or Civil War site?

By Annie Gowen *Washington Post, January 5, 2006*

For years, the cosseted canines of North Arlington have had the run of a scrap of land at a historic Civil War fort, exasperating history buffs who ache at the sight of dogs taking care of business on a parade ground where President Abraham Lincoln once reviewed the troops.

Everybody in Arlington thought the matter was finally settled in late 2004 when, after public meetings crammed with pro- and anti-dog forces, the Arlington County Board voted to move the park to a less historically significant site 200 yards away. The county plans to build a \$430,000 "canine exercise area," with a urine drainage system, deck and \$44,000 water fountain system for humans and dogs.

The Fort Ethan Allen controversy has reignited in recent days, after construction workers began uncovering what one National Park Service consultant deemed "fairly significant" Civil War artifacts while digging a pathway for the new park. Brandon S. Bies, a cultural resource specialist for the Park Service, told county officials in a memo Friday that he and construction workers had uncovered glassware, a canteen spout, a musket ball and a brass button still attached to a scrap of uniform at the site on North Stafford Street.

The discovery has prompted historians and several neighbors who never wanted a dog park to urge that the county halt digging until a complete archeological survey can be done. Two or three fresh holes have appeared recently that could indicate that looters have been at work, Bies said.

"What we're going to do right now is to limit the disturbance of the existing artifacts until we have a plan," said Steve Temmermand, Arlington's division chief for parks and natural resources.

Wally Owen, the author of "Mr. Lincoln's Forts: A Guide to the Civil War Defenses of Washington," said the site could reveal key clues about a soldier's life at the fort -- part of a ring that protected the capital from Confederate assault during the war. The soldiers who lived there protected Chain Bridge, a main artery into Washington, said Owen, assistant director of Fort Ward in Alexandria.

Civil War artifacts found at C & O Canal

By Jennifer Lenhart

Washington Post, January 5, 2006

Windswept and rocky, the knobby point overlooking the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal in present-day Potomac provided a strategic lookout but little shelter for the Union soldiers who fortified the spot in 1862.

Beginning that winter of the Civil War, soldiers of the 19th Massachusetts Infantry are believed to have guarded this Montgomery County site on the C&O, then an important commercial route parallel to the adjacent Potomac River. Off duty, soldiers went down the slope and away from the bluffs to a roughhewn encampment built of logs covered in dirt and shaped in the form of a Greek cross.

Such an encampment was known as a blockhouse, a common site along the C & O during the war. Nine such fortifications punctuated a 25-mile stretch of the Potomac between Great Falls and the Monocacy River.

Inaccessible and wild, the Potomac site has languished, a little-known, off-trail excursion in Montgomery's Blockhouse Point Conservation Park, just off River Road. It was rarely visited, except for the occasional Civil War historian or relic hunter who knew the path from the private horse farm abutting the park.

Then, just a few years ago, a group of archeology enthusiasts came ready to break a sweat in pursuit of long-forgotten history. An ongoing archeological dig at Blockhouse Point park, led by county archeologist Jim Sorensen, has uncovered Civil War-era buckshot, clay pipe bowls, a bayonet part and other artifacts.

The dig has shed light on daily life in a Civil War soldiers' camp and pushed to the forefront the idea that Montgomery should have a Civil War museum.

A museum to accompany the dig site is desired because there really is no place in the county to go to appreciate its Civil War history, said Don Housely, retired chairman of the Wheaton High School history department and a dig volunteer.

Full commitment to a museum is up to the County Council, which has not scheduled any action on the issue, but the county has been purchasing parcels of land adjacent to the park, said archeologist Sorensen, of the county Park and Planning Department. The museum, or any building, cannot be built in the park, a county conservation area where permanent structures are not permitted.

The county has purchased about 80 percent of the land that would be needed for a museum and is expected to own the full tract in the next year or two, Sorensen said.

Other Montgomery Civil War sites, at Sandy Spring and elsewhere, commemorate safe houses and other significant places where escaping slaves sought safe harbor as they journeyed north along the Underground Railroad.

The proposed Civil War museum and interpretive center would display artifacts uncovered at the encampment along with hands-on, educational displays.

The numerous artifacts collected so far are being catalogued and studied by Sorensen.

"We found a .30 caliber rimfire cartridge, one of the first cartridges that was made by the Remington company," he said. "We found a percussion cap and a lot of nails and things like that, and the clay pipes and a horseshoe."

Sorensen and his volunteers have uncovered the outlines of the cliff-top bunker and the crude earthen soldiers' shelter. Old chunks of charred wood have raised speculation that the encampment might have been torched in one of the many raids Confederate troops staged on Union encampments along the C&O.

Housely began his retirement last winter by starting to research a history of Montgomery's blockhouses. He is combing archives for soldiers' diaries and letters that tell about their interaction with other military units and local residents.

Ultimately, he wants to see a greater acknowledgment of Montgomery County's role in the Civil War. "It seems natural that we had a role, since we're on the border with Virginia, and the Potomac is a natural crossing place," said Housely, a lifelong county resident. "There's a lot of stuff around here that you don't think about that is actually connected with the Civil War."

ANTHROPOLOGY OUTREACH OFFICE
DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

**A Guide to Resources on the Local Archeology
and Indian History of the Washington D.C. Area**

This guide describes many of the organizations in the Washington D.C. area concerned with local archeology and Indian history. State archeological societies, anthropology departments of local colleges and universities, and local museums are additional sources of information.

(* Denotes organizations that offer volunteer opportunities in archeology.)

MUSEUMS AND ORGANIZATIONS

National Museum of Natural History

10th & Constitution, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20560

Naturalist Center

741 E Miller Dr., SE,
Leesburg, VA 22075
703-779-9712; 800-729-7725
email: natcenter@aol.com

The Naturalist Center is a large public facility for hands-on investigation into anthropology and the natural sciences through its collection of specimens, totaling over 20,000; a large selection of reference materials; and scientific equipment. The Anthropology section includes self-guided teaching units on Paleo-Indian stone tool technology, Eastern United States archeology materials, and North American Indian pottery, as well as a large selection of reference books.

Anthropology Outreach Office, National Museum of Natural History

Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560-0112
202-357-1592
email: anthroutreach@nmnh.si.edu

The Anthropology Outreach Office distributes a bibliography on Indians of Virginia, the District of Columbia and Maryland and information leaflets as well as bibliographies on archeology, American Indians and summer fieldwork opportunities.

National Anthropological Archives

Smithsonian Institution Museum Support Center
4210 Silver Hill Road
Suitland, MD 20746.
301-238-2873; Fax 301-238-2883
Email: naa@nmnh.si.edu
Website: <http://www.nmnh.si.edu/naa>

The NAA has manuscript material as well as old maps and historic photographs related to local archeology and Indian history. The Archives is open to researchers, by appointment only, on Tuesday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A catalog and various finding aids are available.

Alexandria Archaeology Museum

Torpedo Factory Art Center, Studio #327

105 N. Union St.

Alexandria, VA 22314

703-838-4399

Ruth Reeder, volunteer coordinator

email: archaeology@ci.alexandria.va.us

The City of Alexandria, incorporated in 1749, reflects many changes in economic focus, ethnic diversities, patterns of land use, and types of social stratification. Artifacts on display at the museum come from a variety of residential, commercial, and industrial sites. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Saturday, 10a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

This Center is devoted to the excavation and preservation of sites within the City of Alexandria. Year-round projects include field excavation, conservation, laboratory analysis and historical research involving both professionals and volunteers. Minimum age is 16 for volunteer opportunities. Internships and work studies also are available. Examples of recovered archeological specimens are on display in the museum.

County Archaeological Services*

Fairfax County Park Authority

2739 West Ox Rd.

Herndon, VA 20171

703-787-3778

email: Michael.Johnson@CO.Fairfax.VA.US

The Fairfax County Archaeological Survey is a center for archeological research and preservation in Fairfax County. Program resources include a research laboratory, artifact study and type collections, an extensive literature and map library on local and regional prehistory and history, and two full-time staff archeologists. Office hours are Tuesday–Saturday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. The lab is open Tuesday evenings, 6 to 9 p.m. Please call in advance.

An active archeological site survey and testing program in both prehistoric and historic archeology is available to volunteers. The program offers training and experience in fieldwork, laboratory techniques and report writing.

Virginia Department of Historic Resources *

Division of Archaeology

2801 Kensington Ave.

Richmond, VA 23221

804-367-2323

<http://state.vipnet.org/dhr/>

This office conducts research projects on threatened sites around the state and is the repository for the state's archeological collections. The artifact collections are available to researchers by appointment. The archeological library containing reports on Virginia history and prehistory is open to the public. The Center offers volunteer opportunities year-round in the archeology lab and periodically for excavation of threatened sites.

The Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum *

10515 Mackall Rd.

St. Leonard, MD 20685

410-586-8500

www.jefpat.org/

Jefferson Patterson was created in 1983 as a facility for research, interpretation and recreation. The park contains a high density of Native American camp and village sites from 7500 B.C. to A.D. 1630 as well

as 17th Century English Colonial sites. A visitor's center contains exhibits and a museum shop. Park hours are 10a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday – Sunday during April 15 to October 15. The park contains the remains of prehistoric and early historic sites from about 7500 BC to the 19th Century. Volunteer opportunities available. Call 410-586-8501.

Archaeology in Annapolis *

Historic Annapolis Foundation
18 Pinkney St.
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-267-7619; 800-603-4020
www@annapolis.org

Archaeology in Annapolis is a year-round collaborative project between Historic Annapolis Foundation and the Department of Anthropology, University of Maryland, College Park to carry out citywide excavations in the Historic District of Maryland's capitol. The project has excavated over two dozen 18th and 19th Century sites. Public summer tours of excavated sites are available upon request. Archaeology in Annapolis offers volunteer opportunities year-round, with archeological field sessions during the summer months. It operates the University of Maryland Summer Program in archeology during June and July.

Historic St. Mary's City *

P.O. Box 39
St. Mary's City, MD 20686
240-895-4960
www.stmaryscity.org

Archeological excavations have been conducted at colonial St. Mary's City since 1969 and the site has one of the largest 17th Century artifact collections in the United States. It also holds an extensive collection of prehistoric and 19th Century artifacts. A large public exhibit consists of several reconstructed 17th Century buildings, a Late Woodland longhouse and an almost totally preserved 1840s plantation. Most of the town of St. Mary's, Maryland's first settlement and capital, lies buried under the soil of this 800 acre State Museum. St. Mary's City offers an annual field school and welcomes volunteers (18 years or older) to assist in ongoing excavations mid-June and mid-August.

Maryland Historical Trust *

100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7661
<http://www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net>

The Maryland Historical Trust performs a wide range of activities relating to archeology and includes Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum. Resources include an extensive library; an inventory of historic standing structures and archeological sites; slide and historic map collections; extensive artifact collections, and the Maryland Archeological Site Survey files. The facilities are primarily for staff, student interns and professional researchers, but the Trust works closely with the public in other areas. The Trust holds an annual historic preservation conference and produces a quarterly publication on preservation activities throughout the state. It also publishes technical reports and popular leaflets on Maryland archeology and maintains a traveling exhibit on Maryland archeology.

The Trust conducts terrestrial and underwater archeological surveys and excavations throughout the state and welcomes volunteers. It maintains a registry of volunteers who are notified as need arises for projects. For information on volunteer opportunities in terrestrial archeology, contact Charles Hall at 410-514-7665; for underwater archeology, contact Susan Langley at 410-514-7662.

National Capital Regional Archeology Program*

1100 Ohio Dr., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242
202-619-7280
<http://www.nps.gov\arp>

The National Capital Regional Archeology Program administers 11 major parks in Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. The parks contain a variety of sites from 8000 B.C. to the late 19th Century. The major activities of the Regional Archeology Program include conducting surveys and inventories, excavating and researching of specific sites for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, curating of archeological collections and protecting archeological resources through enforcement of historic preservation legislation.

The Archaeology Program accepts volunteers interested in assisting in its various projects. Contact Marian Creveling, Director of Archeology Lab, at 301-341-0709 or Stephen Potter at 202-619-7280.

Pamunkey Museum

Box 2050 Lay Landing Rd.
Pamunkey Indian Reservation
King William, VA 23086
804-843-4792

The Pamunkey tribe was the most powerful tribe in the Powhatan Confederacy around A.D. 1600. The museum contains exhibits on the history of the Pamunkey tribe, their native dress, foods, arts and crafts and tools. The museum also offers pottery demonstrations, upon request, and a craft shop. Museum hours, subject to change, are Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Jamestown Settlement

P.O. Box 1607, Rt. 31 South at Colonial Pkwy, 1-64, exit. 242A
Williamsburg, VA 23187
757-229-1607; 888-593-4682
www.historyisfun.org

The Powhatan Indian Gallery describes the Native American cultures that existed in coastal Virginia when the English colonists first arrived in the early 17th Century. Outdoors is a re-creation of an early 17th Century Powhatan village consisting of several longhouses, which contain reproductions of projectile points, stone and bone tools and garden implements and house furnishings. Costumed interpreters demonstrate American Indian craft work. The museum is open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Archaeological Institute of America

656 Beacon St.
Boston, MA 02215-2010
617-353-9361
email: aia@bu.edu
www.archaeological.org

The AIA publishes an annual Fieldwork Opportunities Bulletin, which lists U.S. and foreign excavations seeking volunteer workers, paid staff members and students. The guide also includes a listing of state archeologists who may be involved in local excavations and seek volunteers. Send \$19.95 to Oxbow/David Brown Books, PO Box 511, Oakville, CT 06779; 800-791-9354, or email www.oxbowbooks.com. The AIA's bimonthly magazine, *Archaeology*, features an archeology travel guide to sites in the New World in the May/June issue. For further opportunities, contact the Anthropology Departments at George Washington University 202-994-6075, American University 202-885-1830, Catholic University 202-319-5080, University of Maryland 301-405-1423 and George Mason University 703-993-1440.

Potomac 'Ghost Fleet' becoming a park

By Tom Pelton

Condensed from the Baltimore Sun, December 5, 2005

ON THE POTOMAC RIVER -- Susan Langley glides her kayak up to the slouching wooden hull of a shipwreck and touches a wooden peg sticking out of a wall of planks encrusted with barnacles.

All around the archeologist, the rotting ribs of more than 200 ships jut from the murky waters of a shallow bay near Nanjemoy in Southern Maryland.

She's exploring one of America's largest maritime graveyards - nicknamed "the ghost fleet of Mallows Bay" - which will soon be turned into a public park and wildlife area.

"Look at this! Wooden nails, practically the oldest technology in the world," said Langley, who studies historic sites for the Maryland Department of Planning. "It's amazing they were still using them in World War I, when this cargo ship was built. It shows they were trying to save metal for the war effort."

The creation of the 1,921-acre Nanjemoy Natural Resources Management Area - at a cost of more than \$7.5 million to the state and federal governments - is a victory for residents of Charles County, who fought off plans to build a nuclear power plant and a gravel mine along the shore.

Boaters in kayaks and canoes will be welcome to paddle among the decaying hulks, perhaps guided by pamphlets and numbered markers, said Tom Roland, chief of parks for Charles County. Now, a locked gate and private land make the wrecks inaccessible to most people. Most of the ships were dumped in the bay after World War I, when a government contractor created a junkyard to get rid of surplus cargo vessels.

But some remains are much older. Some are believed to date to the Revolutionary War, while others include a World War II patrol boat, a steel passenger ferry that operated into the 1960s and a menhaden fishing vessel abandoned in the 1980s.

Preserving the wrecks and the forested shoreline around them will save the largest stretch of undeveloped property along the Potomac River south of Washington. It is an area that is rapidly being devoured by subdivisions and sprawl, neighbors say.

Donald G. Shomette, a historian and maritime archeologist, describes the history of the area in his book "The Ghost Fleet of Mallows Bay and Other Tales of the Lost Chesapeake."

Perhaps the first boat was abandoned on this forested shoreline on July 23, 1776, when a group of British loyalists from Virginia exchanged gunfire with a group of patriots from Maryland, Shomette wrote.

The patriots fled, smashing a hole in the bottom of their longboat to prevent its capture. Over the next century and more, other vessels were abandoned in this remote inlet, including log canoes, schooners and fishing boats.

During World War I, the U.S. government created the Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corp. to build a huge "bridge of wooden ships" across the Atlantic Ocean. The idea was to produce cargo ships to supply U.S. allies in Europe faster than German submarines could sink them.

Taxpayers paid about \$1 billion for the construction of 296 wooden steamships, each about 240 feet long. But because they were built hastily, the "emergency fleet" turned out to be too leaky, small and slow to do the job. By war's end, in 1918, not a single ship was deemed seaworthy enough to make it across the Atlantic.

"We built these ships to save France and England from starving," Shomette said. "But they turned out to be a huge white elephant."

Two hundred and fourteen of the wooden steamships were hauled to Mallows Bay, where a company started to scrap them for parts. But the company folded, and local residents picked over the vessels' skeletons.

Over the decades, many other ships were dumped here, including the Bodkin, a 243-foot submarine chaser. The largest is the 390-foot passenger ferry Accomac, built in 1928 to carry 1,200 passengers and 70 cars across the southern Chesapeake Bay. It was abandoned in 1973 in what by then had become a chaotic no man's land.

"It was a classic littering situation," Langley said. "Because someone else had dumped stuff, other people figured they could dump stuff, too."

February lectures offered by London Town

The annual London Town winter lectures series will take place on five consecutive Tuesdays, beginning January 31. This year the focus is on recent discoveries in archeology in the Chesapeake Bay region.

January 31: What Archeology Can Teach Us About the Past. By David Muraca, archeologist with George Washington's boyhood home.

February 7: John Smith's Chesapeake Voyages: 1607-1609. By Wayne Clark, of the Maryland Historical Trust.

February 14: Archeology and Reconstruction at Washington's Distillery. By Dennis Pogue, of Historic Mount Vernon.

February 21: A Decade o Archeology at London Town. By C. Jane Cox, archeologist with the Anne Arundel County Lost Towns Project.

February 28: Comparative Archeology of t he 17th Century Chesapeake. By Julia King, of the MHT Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum.

The lectures are held at 10 a.m. at the pavilion at Historic London Town. The snow date for each is the following day. Admission is \$10 for each lecture, but they are free to London Town Foundation volunteers and members. For information, call 410-222-1919 or click on www.historiclondontown.org

MHT tells its plans for this year

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unpublished archeological reports and report abstracts. Since reports can now be delivered in digital format, there are opportunities for electronic publishing, either through the web or on CD.

By the end of the year, we hope to have report abstracts linked to the MHT library GIS (geographic information systems) and also accessible over the web. In addition, we are taking the lead on scanning the required CAT readings so that they can be made accessible to the CAT candidates in electronic format.

Last year intern Bridget McVae completed work on a database of shipwrecks and obstructions, in cooperation with underwater volunteer David Howe. This year we hope to develop a GIS layer showing mapped locations of these sites.

The Tuesday lab sessions in Crownsville will be continuing. Volunteers currently are organizing the Rosenstock material as we work our way through the field session collections.

There is no news to report resulting from the transfer of MHT to the Department of Planning. However, the governor's budget for next fiscal year was announced January 11 and it includes significant increases in support for museums, heritage areas, historic preservation grants and IMPART (the academic programs initiative) over the last several years' budgets.

The large increases in the historic preservation grants and IMPART funding in particular would mean expanded opportunities for funding archeological grant projects and internships. Although the governor has proposed these funding levels, the legislature can opt to reduce them before the final budget is passed.

You can visit the Preservation Maryland web site, www.preservemd.org, for more information. Updates will be posted throughout the legislative session. At that site, you also can sign up for e-mail alerts to receive a notice of actions affecting these initiatives at critical points throughout the session.

Chapter notes

Anne Arundel

The chapter will meet bimonthly. The next meeting will be in February. Details to be announced by new leader, Mechelle Kerns-Nocerito. For information on this chapter, contact AAChapASM@hotmail.com

Central

Central Chapter has no formal meetings planned. But if someone has a site they want investigated, contact the Maryland Historical Trust or Central Chapter President Stephen Israel at 410-945-5514 or ssisrael@abs.net

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Needwood Mansion. Dinner at a local restaurant is at 6. Monthly lab nights are the first Thursday of the month, from 7 to 9 at Needwood Mansion. Contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org, or call 301-840-5848. Chapter website: www.mid-potomacarchaeology.org

Mid Shore

The Mid Shore Group meets at 7:30 on the fourth Friday of the month at the SunTrust Bank on Goldsboro Street in Easton, from January through September. Contact Bill Cep at 410-822-5027 or ccep@crosslink.net

Monocacy

The chapter meets at 7 p.m. on the Wednesday closest to the 15th of each month at the Walkersville Middle School. Contact Joy Hurst at 301-663-6706 or hurst_joy@hotmail.com. Chapter website: www.digfrederick.bravehost.com

February 15: Ronald Marvin, Jr., Roger Brook Taney House Site Manager and former National Park Service archeologist.

Northern Chesapeake

Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month. Contact Dan Coates at dancoates@comcast.net

February 8: Richard Sherrill on "Susquehanna - Maryland Canal." Havre de Grace. 7.

April 8: The Paul Cresthull Memorial Lecture. Harford Community College.

Southern

Contact Kate Dinnel for information at katesilas@chesapeake.net or 410-586-8538.

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Mt. Ida, near the court house in Ellicott City. Contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or roseannlee@earthlink.com

February 13: Robert Wall on "The Barton Site."

March 13: Cherry Koontz on "Two Weeks Around the Horn."

April 10: Charlie and Helen Koontz on "Egypt: Pyramids, Temples and Sculptures."

May 8: Jim Gibb on "Stalking Early Colonial Tidewater Sites."

Western Maryland

Programs are the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 p.m. in the LaVale Library, unless noted. Contact Ed Hanna, 301-777-1380. Chapter email: wmdasm@yahoo.com Website: www.geocities.com/wmdasm

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

ASM. Inc 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@aol.com

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