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Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

There's a Biggs Ford in your future

By Joe Dent

Principal Investigator

There are few things archeologically more exciting than a late prehistoric village, and the Archeological Society of Maryland in recent years has played a very large role in the excavation of many such sites in the Potomac Valley region.

The Annual Tyler Bastian Field Session and the Society's members have done much to help excavate and further understand the Barton Village, Claggett Retreat, Winslow and Hughes sites, stretching from Allegany to Montgomery counties. The Society is about to begin another such chapter, this time at the Biggs Ford Site in Frederick County. Consider this your personal invitation to rejoin the effort or even participate in the fun for the first time.

In the mid 1950s Spencer O. Geasey, well-know ASM member and passionate student of Maryland archeology, first tested the Biggs Ford Site, along Glade Creek, a small tributary of the Monocacy River just outside Frederick. It is within one of the fields of a farm owned by William and Barbara Crum.

Shortly after initial testing by Spencer the site was brought to the attention of the newly installed State Archeologist, Tyler Bastian. Unfortunately he also learned that a sewer interceptor pipe was slated to cross the site in short order. Tyler mobilized and initiated a salvage operation of the part of the site to be impacted.

For 10 months beginning in October 1969 he and volunteers focused their efforts on recovering artifacts and testing features along an excavated trench about seven meters wide by 230 meters long. That work indicated the presence of two superimposed Late Woodland villages, one assignable to what archeologists call the Montgomery Complex (circa AD 1400) and a larger village that is part of the Keyser Complex (circa AD 1500).

Many believe that this effort foreshadowed the official inception of the Annual Spring Field Session a couple of years later in 1971. Whatever the case, all this early excavation offers a great deal of information on the sites. An exact-location surface collection by the Maryland Historical Trust, Office of Archaeology directed by the current State Archeologist, Charles Hall, was conducted on the site in 2009.

Given all this work we can guarantee that we will be right on top of the site when the first shovel hits the ground (remember the initial misstep at Claggett Retreat?) and that artifacts and features will be prolific. I also have to note that Charlie Hall was the driving force behind the upcoming excavations.

What can we expect to encounter this spring? The earlier and smaller village appears to have been about 60-70 meters (200-230 feet) in diameter if it was a typical stockaded Montgomery Complex community. We hope to at least be able to collect charcoal for more precise radiocarbon dates of the occupation and perhaps

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Upcoming events

May 24 – June 3: ASM field session, Biggs Ford, Woodland site in Frederick County.

June 1: ASM board meeting. Biggs Ford field school site. 10 a.m. All are welcome.

June 14 – 24: ASM field session, Leonardtown in St. Mary's County, 17th Century historic site.

October 17-19: Three-day conference focused on the Ice Age colonization of the Americas. Santa Fe. http://www.paleoamericanodyssey.com

October 31 – November 3: Eastern States Archeological Federation meeting. South Portland, Maine.

October 30 – November 2, 2014: ESAF meeting, Solomons Island, Maryland

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. Archeological 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 material from Chapel Point and Heaters Island. The lab in Crownsville will be open Tuesdays from 9:30 until 4. 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 Jessie Grow 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 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.

JefPat offering a public archeology program

The Public Archeology Program of Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum this year will again be at the Smith's St. Leonard Site, the location of the 2010 ASM Field Session The site was the core of a large 18th-Century plantation. Excavations will focus on buildings and other features detected last year by ground-penetrating radar.

The Public Archeology Program runs from May 7 to June 29. Excavations are conducted between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays, weather permitting. Tuesdays and Thursdays are spent in the Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab, washing and sorting the artifacts.

This is a good opportunity for participants in the CAT program to work on their certification and an opportunity for anyone interested in archeology to help excavate a site, with no prior experience needed. To register, contact Ed Chaney at 410-586-8554 or echaney@mdp.state.md.us.

2014 state budget: Good news and bad

By Maureen Kavanagh

Maryland Historical Trust

Among the actions in this year's legislative session last week were approval of a state budget for the fiscal year 2014 (July 2013 to June 2014). The good news is that the Maryland Historical Trust received level funding from the previous year. This means that no additional cuts are anticipated in either staffing or operational expenses.

However, for the second year in a row there is no funding in the budget for the noncapital grants. Noncapital grants are the funding source for projects such as the ASM annual field session, the ASM survey and registration program and other archeological survey and testing projects throughout the state. While disappointed, we remain optimistic that the noncapital grant fund could be reinstated in the future with an improving economy.

Three areas of progress in Maryland

By Rodney Little

Condensed from remarks at the March 23 Archeology Workshop

This has been a busy year for archeology in Maryland. The level of field and lab activity and involvement throughout the state is high. I'd like to comment today about three activities in particular that the Trust has been involved in this year.

Projectile Point Guide: The website "Diagnostics Artifacts in Maryland," hosted by the Maryland Historical Trust's Archeology Lab at Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, was launched in 2002 with a guide to Native American ceramics in Maryland.

Over the last 11 years the website has grown to include Colonial ceramics, post-Colonial ceramics and Small Finds. The most recent addition to the website this year is a section on projectile points, covering all of the most commonly found projectile points in Maryland, along with their descriptions, chronology and photographs.

Archeological Research: The MHT serves as a repository of information on archeological sites and also as a curator of Maryland's archeological collections. As part of its mission one of our responsibilities is to make that information accessible to our citizens.

In addition to the diagnostic artifacts website, we have two other projects that are helping to make information accessible.

Our synthesis project, creating a database synthesizing information on archeological excavations conducted over the last 40 years, is continuing to reap results. As just one example, our most recent request was from a researcher from the Smithsonian studying estuarine ecosystems, who was interested in crab remains from archeological sites. The query generated a list of 13 such sites with collections at the MAC Lab that he will be able to examine.

In addition, the establishment of the Gloria S. King Research Fellowship at the MAC Lab has generated six research proposals in its first year. Although the award will support two projects, a total of four projects are likely to go forward. These two initiatives are helping to establish Maryland as a go-to place for archeological research.

Appropriate Place of Repose: Some of you are aware of our efforts in trying to resolve a decades-old issue of Native American human remains, primarily from salvage excavations, that have been curated at the MAC Lab.

Through many discussions and meetings, a working group of Indians and archeologists were able to work through the complex requirements of state and federal law (NAGPRA) as well as their differing viewpoints to reach consensus on recommendations for the appropriate places of repose.

An updated inventory was done by the Smithsonian on important populations before they were placed in the ground. The remains are being curated in the ground on state-owned lands in order to be in compliance with NAGPRA.

Ancient Roman coin found in California. So what

"Context is crucial. Consider the story archeologist Dean Snow (1981) relates of the remarkable discovery of an ancient Roman coin in California. Does such a discovery provide support for a hypothesis of pre-Columbian Roman settlement of the west coast of North America? The context of the coin argues otherwise; it was found in a parking meter in downtown Los Angeles."

-- From "Frauds, Myths, and Mysteries" by Kenneth L. Feder

There's a Biggs Ford in your future

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learn more about that village's landscape. Does it match the Winslow Site ASM excavated for two years in early 2000s?

We are also most interested in the larger Keyser Village at Biggs Ford. It was around 110 meters (360 feet) in diameter and we know from Tyler's earlier work that it was palisaded. Here again, we would like to run a suite of radiocarbon dates and focus in on village landscape.

Many of you know my enthusiasm for uncovering house structures and that obsession will surely emerge again at this site. We never were able to uncover an unequivocal house pattern at the Hughes Site, another Keyser Complex component ASM helped with in nearby Montgomery County. But I'm sure our luck will change at Biggs Ford, and there are any number of other elements of the site that need our attention.

So, come join us at Biggs Ford. Frederick is a friendly city, the scenery is great with many other historical sites nearby, and the city has wonderful restaurants. I can assure you the archeology will also be equally outstanding, surely taking place in mild temperatures, cooled by balmy breezes and of course under my trademark perpetually blue skies.

Field school odds and ends

Parking: Parking will be an issue. There is NO parking at the site. Two churches that are about 1/2 mile from the site will allow parking there and a shuttle service will run to the site. Final details will be emailed to all registrants before the session begins.

Speakers: Wednesday, May 29, after lunch, Elizabeth Moore, of the Virginia Museum of Natural History, on faunal analysis.

Wednesday, May 29, 6:30 p.m. Joe Dent on "Late Woodland Village Life in the Potomac Valley." C. Burr Artz Public Library, 110 E. Patrick St., Frederick.

Saturday, June 1, 1 p.m. Roy Brown will demonstrate "Hafting: How to attach a rock to a stick." At the site.

Maureen Kavanagh will present multiple on-demand "Trowling Clinics" as needed.

Other speakers are likely, but final details were still being worked out.

Picnic: The annual picnic will be held Saturday, June 1, on site after the workday ends. Raindate: June 2.

Lodging: Several motels are in the area, including:

Super 8 Thurmont. 300 Tippin Dr., Thurmont 301-271-7888. ($49-60/night)

Travelodge Frederick. 20 Monocacy Blvd., Frederick. 301-663-0500. ($65/night), 7 miles to the site.

Comfort Inn Red Horse 998 W Patrick St., Frederick. 301-662-0281. ($99/night). Close to many restaurants and shopping. Closest to the site short of the Hampton Inn – Fort Frederick (running at about $150/night), about 7 miles to the site.

Camping: The only camping that definitely identified is at Cunningham Falls State Park. The park is booked for Memorial Day weekend, but there are spots available during the week.

NEXT: June 14 – 24, another ASM field school, this one a 17th Century historic site in Leonardtown, St. Mary's County. See application with this newsletter or on the ASM website.

Lynne Bulhack named MHT's top volunteer

For her work in designing and fabricating 100 ceramic plaques to mark where Native American remains were reinterred under the new archeologists-Indians places of repose agreement, Lynne Bulhack was honored as the Maryland Historical Trust's Outstanding Volunteer of 2012.

"Lynne didn't just produce 100 plaques, the crafted them," said ASM President Claude Bowen in making the award at this year's Archeology Workshop in Crownsville March 23.

"Each was blended with clay from the region where the individual to be marked had been excavated. Each was unique, having been impressed with some natural or manufactured object and reflecting the individuality of the remains to be placed below it."

A trained potter, against a tight time schedule she delivered the first set of 18 plaques in early 2011. Then came 11 plaques for Eastern Shore remains, 34 for Central Maryland, 27 for Western Maryland and an additional 10 for the 2011 collection.

Charles County wants archeological assessments

Archeological reports are now required for all new subdivision applications in Charles County. The assessment covers both the property itself and adjacent properties.

"All applicants for active and proposed Preliminary Plans of Subdivision and Final Plats of Subdivision, must identify all historic resources included on the National Register of Historic Places and the Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties, and all cemeteries, burial grounds, and archaeological resources on or adjacent to the subject property," the rule reads.

"To meet this requirement, applicants are required to complete a preliminary archaeological assessment (Phase 1A) which will include records and historical documents research consistent with the Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Investigations in Maryland. Please note that information on archaeological sites may only be available to qualified professional archeologists."

LiDAR search finds 133 sites in Iowa area

By David Robert Weible

Condensed from Preservation, Spring 2013

The Loess Hills of western Iowa have long been home to the largest known collection of Central Plains Tradition Native American earthlodges in the Great Plains dating to between 1250 and 1400 AD And thanks to LiDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, the collection just got a lot bigger.

In 2008, Iowa became the one of the first states to use LiDAR to canvas the surface within its boundaries. The plane-mounted radar system uses lasers to gauge the distance between itself and the ground below resulting in a detailed topographic map showing bumps and depressions in the surface of the Earth that are accurate to within one meter.

"Many of these earthlodges have a distinctive signature on the landscape and, if you know what to look for on the LiDAR maps, you can actually spot them," says John Doershuk, Iowa's state archeologist.

So beginning in the summer of 2011, a team from the state archeology office analyzed the maps to identify targets in the 900-acre Iowa Glenwood Archaeological State Preserve near the Nebraska border before going out into the field to identify them.

In a report released in December, the team identified 133 new sites, including roughly 12 earthlodges. The report also deemed 41 sites as eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

Well, Indy, science marches on

By Jeremy Hsu

InnovationNewsDaily, June 10, 2011

This isn't your dad's archeology, Indiana Jones. It's not even your breathless brand of chasing down wondrous relics and brawling with Nazi stooges. Today's archeologists can search for buried ancient cities from space, fly laser-toting airplanes over the sites to map them in 3-D and see what lies beneath the ground by using radar and other special instruments.

That's all before a single trowel begins excavating. Once the digging has uncovered samples from artifacts or bones, it's off to the lab for some radiocarbon dating, perhaps some CT imaging scans and possibly even DNA testing of biological remains.

Read on to see the new tools in the archeologist's arsenal.

Metal Detecting

Nothing beats a metal detector when searching for musket balls, bullets and belt buckles. The technology first came into its own during World War II, but has since become a staple tool of the subfield known as battlefield archeology. That's not surprising when considering how much metal ends up on battlefields ranging from Little Big Horn to Agincourt.

Still, many archeologists often have a love-hate relationship with metal detectors. That's because of hobbyists or amateur treasure hunters who use the device to find and dig up artifacts as historical keepsakes or even to sell them on eBay.

Digital Archeology

David Hurst Thomas at the American Museum of Natural History in New York remembers when computers had not yet ushered in the Digital Age. For his doctoral thesis in 1971, he wrote a program that represented a computer simulation capable of predicting artifact deposits from Shoshone Indians who had lived in Nevada.

Much has changed since Thomas wrote his computer simulation on punch cards that stored digital information for early computers. Archeological labs use computers to process the latest 3-D scans or radar surveys of ancient sites and archeologists carry laptops or tablets into the field on digs. Virtual modeling has begun to digitally recreate ancient cities such as Pompeii in Italy.

Even the computing power and extra features packed into smartphones could help, said Tony Pollard, director of the Centre for Battlefield Archaeology at the University of Glasgow in Scotland.

"You've got mobile phones with camera and video and GPS and access to Internet," he said. "I'm pretty sure the mobile phone will become a tool for archeologists."

Radiocarbon Dating

Radiocarbon dating, a technique developed in 1949, looks for traces of naturally occurring carbon 14, which is an unstable form of carbon that decays by half its amount every 5,730 years. It doesn't work for objects more than 50,000 or 60,000 years old, but can give rough estimates of age within a 200-year range.

"By giving us the ability to see the dating, it has really changed our view of deep time," said Thomas.

GPS Devices

The location-finding services of GPS have become standard kit for archeologists who want to pinpoint artifacts, buildings or features. That has allowed archeologists from Australia, New Zealand and Turkey to begin surveying World War I trenches at the Gallipoli battlefield in Turkey.

GPS figures out locations on Earth by comparing time differences between signals sent from satellites that make up the Global Positioning Service network. But the precision of the typical GPS used in cars and smartphones can be off by as much as 66 feet. Archeologists at Gallipoli have boosted the accuracy by installing fixed ground stations that can help correct any satellite signal inaccuracies.

"Differential GPS is much more expensive than normal GPS, going from a few hundred dollars to tens of thousands of dollars," said Pollard. "But it's increasingly replacing the more old-fashioned GPS for doing archeology."

Medical Scans and DNA Tests

Even a 3,500 year-old Egyptian princess or an Italian Renaissance woman can still get medical scans and DNA testing. Researchers used computerized tomography (CT) scans to spot hardened arteries that may have led to heart disease in ancient Egyptian mummies.

One team of archeologists aims to extract DNA from the skeletal remains of a woman found at a Florence convent in Italy. That may allow the group to identify the bones as belonging to Lisa Gherardini Del Giocondo, a woman who historians say could been the model for da Vinci's "Mona Lisa."

Isotope Geochemistry

Bones can tell much about the lives of past humans when archeologists apply the right chemical analysis. The ratio of isotopes — different versions of elements such as nitrogen and carbon — can reveal the diets of ancient peoples. But such chemical balances can also provide unique markers that reveal where a person grew up.

"When you're raised on a piece of land, you absorb the chemical signatures of where you were raised from groundwater and plants that grew in the soil," said Thomas.

That means the level of a certain strontium isotope can tell if humans buried at Spanish missions were born in Florida or in Spain. Archeologists found soldiers from places as diverse as Finland and Scotland buried in the same German mass grave dating back to 1636 and the Thirty Years' War.

Satellite Imaging from Space

Nobody from Indiana Jones' day could have imagined satellites high above the Earth helping pinpoint the locations of buried ruins. But now, archeologists regularly look to the visual images compiled by Google Earth to scan and use radar imagery from NASA or commercial satellites.

Infrared satellite images have revealed pyramids, streets and palaces that lie buried in Egypt, as well as ancient rivers hidden beneath the Sahara. Such radar imagery has steadily improved over the years until it can now resolve buried features as small as 1.3 feet and as deep as 33 feet, said Sarah Parcak, an Egyptologist at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.

Radar, Magnetometers and Soil Resistivity Tests

Before excavation begins, archeologists can get a peek beneath the surface with a wide array of technologies. Such instruments create a 3-D image of what lies beneath and give archeologists a huge edge in knowing where to dig without bringing in a backhoe to tear up everything.

Ground-penetrating radar transmits pulses into the ground that reflect off buried materials, buildings and soil changes. Magnetometers detect buried artifacts based on the changes they create in the Earth's magnetic field. And soil resistivity instruments can pick up on similar buried features based on abrupt changes in electric current as it runs through the soil moisture.

LiDAR

Above the jungles of Central America, a device aboard an aircraft used millions of laser pulses to penetrate the thick forest canopy and map ancient Mayan settlements in 3-D. LiDAR's (Light Detection and Ranging) ability to image everything down to 1.2 inches means that archeologists can create detailed reconstructions of everything from the siege works outside old U.S. forts to underground tunnels from World War I in France.

Thirty years ago, using photographs and plain old pen and pencil to survey would take weeks," said Pollard. "Now, LiDAR can do it in minutes."

The technology can even measure subtle differences in crop height that may reveal buried features in everything from ditches to buildings, said Parcak. She added that using such 3-D mapping power with satellite imaging could give archeologists a powerful combination of tools.

Robot Explorers

The uncomplaining nature of robots makes them ideal for scoping out virtually inaccessible sites. That has mostly meant underwater archeology so far, with the notable exception of the Djedi Project robot helping archeologists in Egypt. In another case, a team needed a submersible robot to investigate a World War I underground headquarters in Belgium that had flooded.

Archeologists can expect smarter and even more flexible robotic assistants in the future. Carnegie Mellon University is developing a snake robot that can wriggle into man-made caves containing ancient ship pieces in Hurghada, Egypt.

Trust's Orlando Ridout dies of cancer

By Jacques Kelly

Condensed from The Baltimore Sun, April 10, 2013

Orlando Ridout V, a historian of early Maryland buildings who explored crawl spaces and attics for their social and architectural details, died of pancreatic cancer complications April 6 at Anne Arundel Medical Center. The lifelong Annapolis resident was 59.

"He literally wrote the book on Annapolis and its 18th-Century architectural history," said Pete Lesher, chief curator at Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum in St. Michaels. "He was one of those persons whose reputations literally did precede him. When I first met him, I expected a button-down look. I found he had a gregarious, outgoing manner and his hair could be on the wild side, with a full beard. He was easy to talk to and was thoroughly accessible."

He was the son of Orlando Ridout IV, a Maryland Historical Trust founding director, and Elisabeth Lawton Ridout, an artist. An ancestor, John Ridout, came to Annapolis in 1753 as secretary to Gov. Horatio Sharpe.

"What he really had a passion for was getting things right," said a friend, Willie Graham, curator of architecture for the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. "He liked to get out and look at buildings and study them first-hand, getting his hands on them and then learning how to read them."

He was raised on a family farm at White Hall on the Broadneck Peninsula and later lived in houses near the City Dock and on Ridout Row in downtown Annapolis.

After graduating from Annapolis High School in 1972, he earned a degree in architectural history at the University of Virginia. He then began a lengthy association with the Maryland Historical Trust and soon rose to be chief of research, survey and registration.

"He had a knowledge of the architecture of the Chesapeake region," said a friend, Carl Lounsbury, senior architectural historian at Colonial Williamsburg. "He had grown up on a farm and he knew barns, dairies, stables, tobacco houses, granaries and corn houses better than anyone in the region. He used buildings to discuss their social history."

"He was a phenomenally hard-working, analytical guy who really advanced his field," said J. Rodney Little, director of the Maryland Historical Trust. "He was an expert on nails and he loved the nitty-gritty field stuff, crawling under buildings or examining a hot and baking attic. He was really more of an archeologist who did work above the ground."

He was named a City of Annapolis "Living Landmark" and received the Maryland Historic Trust's Calvert Prize in 2012.

Ridout also taught a course, "Field Methods for Architectural History," at George Washington University.

"He was so at ease with people; he taught so many of us in the field his art of reading a historic structure through the clues it contained," said the maritime museum's Lesher.

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

May 14: Sarah Grady will talk on "Smithsonian Citizen Science Program in Archaeology: Erosion and Sedimentation at the 19th-century Sellman's Connection Site."

June 11: TBA

September 10: TBA

November 12: Julie Schablitsky will speak on the War of 1812 Caulk's Battlefield.

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 7 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

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Dinner at a local restaurant at 5:45 p.m. Contact heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org or call 301-840-5848 or Don Housley at donhou704@earthlink.net or 301-424-8526. Chapter website: http://www.asmmidpotomac.org Email: asmmidpotomac@gmail.com Check our website for information concerning ordering the book, "Montgomery County Mills: A Field Guide," published by the chapter and reviewed in the January edition of the ASM newsletter.

May 16: Charlie Hall, the state's terrestrial archaeologist, will conduct a workshop on soils and site formation processes. Bring your own dinner or contribute $7 for pizza and salad dinner. The workshop begins at 6 p.m.

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

May: Sunday date TBA. Annual ASNC Picnic. Upper Bay Museum, North East.

Upper Patuxent

Programs are the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at Mt. Ida in Ellicott City. Potluck suppers are held at 5:45 in September and March. Otherwise, dinner is available at the Diamondback in Ellicott City at 5:30 p.m. Contact Dave Cavey at 410 747-0093 or hoplite1@comcast.net The group now has a Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/pages/Upper-Patuxent-Archaeology-Group/464236446964358 or try UPArchaeologygroup@yahoo.com

May 13: Two mini-programs: "An Overview: New Challenges at the Pine Valley Park Hunter-Gatherer Procurement site in the Maryland Piedmont, Manchester, Carroll County, Maryland" by Stephen Israel and "Searching for the Dead: Using ground-penetrating radar to locate unmarked colonial graves in a Howard County churchyard" by Jenifer Johnson.

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

May 24: Show & Tell, rescheduled from February.

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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