



ASM Ink

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Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

Time to begin planning field school trip

For the second year running, the ASM field school will be held at Swan Cove, the site of Emmanuel Drue's home and tobacco pipe kiln until his death in 1669. Because this site represents the first known kiln site for Chesapeake tobacco pipes, Ivor Noel Hume has called Swan Cove "of monumental significance to archeologists on both sides of the Atlantic."

This will represent the fifth season of excavations at this site. "When the wonderful ASM crew departed last May, they had uncovered a large number of intersecting features, as well as posthole evidence for a large earthfast building wall," said Anne Arundel County archeologist Al Luckenbach. "The Lost Towns Project crew continued excavating these features throughout the 2004 field season -- but only about half of their extent has been explored."

He said these intact deposits have proved to contain a wonderful assemblage of 17th Century artifacts. Notable among them are deposits of clay, loaves and muffles as well as a unique "cross-pipe prop extender" featured in the 2005 *Lost Towns Calendar*.

One of the goals of the 2005 field session will be to continue the excavation of these deeply stratified deposits -- an unusual opportunity for the ASM field school. Another goal will be to pursue the large building first discovered last May. But Luckenbach feared many will be disappointed to learn that we will not be continuing the poison ivy survey on the Swan Cove slope last year.

Since ASM departed, the journal *Ceramics in America* has published a lead article on the Swan Cove Site - Luckenbach (2004) "The Swan Cove Kiln: Chesapeake Tobacco Pipe Production (ca. 1650-1669)." Those interested in learning more about Swan Cove also could consult Luckenbach, Cox, and Kille (2002) "The Clay Tobacco-Pipe in Anne Arundel County, Maryland (1650-1725)" and check out the Lost Towns web site at www.losttowns.com

A field school registration form is inserted in this newsletter.

MEANWHILE, ASM is looking for someone to take over sales at the field session. Marilyn Thompson will do it again this year, but this will be her last time. If you are interested, let her know and try to spend some time with her this year to see what is required and how the job is done. She can be reached at 410-338-4799 or mdthomps@bcpl.net

Upcoming events

July 25: Cara Fama talks about the changes going on at Lost Towns. 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis. Chesapeake Room. 410-222-7441.

July 30: All-day Falls of the Ohio lithics conference. Louisville, Kentucky. \$15, includes lunch. For information contact anne.t.bader@amec.com or chezmoi@insightbb.com

August 12-14: National Powwow, MCI Center, Washington. For information: www.americanindian.si.edu

August 22-26: M-NCPPC Adult Field Session. Civil War, prehistoric, Smithsonian lab visit. \$30 a day or \$75 for 3 or more days. Contact Heather Bouslog at 301-840-5848 or e-mail heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org

September 9-11: Annual conference, Society for the Preservation of Old Mills, Westminster. Includes Mason-Dixon tour. For information, contact Bob or Jane Sewell at 410-833-2313 or see www.spoom.org

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

September 16-25: ASM field school. Swan Cove, Anne Arundel County.

October 15: ASM Annual Meeting, Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Cumberland. Theme: French and Indian War.

October 21 - 23: Developing International Geoarchaeology meeting, Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada. DIG 2005 is aimed at promoting and encouraging the application of the geological sciences to archeological problems. Information at www.dig2005.com

November 9-13: ESAF meeting, Williamsburg, Virginia. www.esaf-archeology.org See flier in this newsletter.

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 for information on CAT activities check the ASM website or contact your mentor or director Chris Davenport. He can be reached at 301-845-8092 or dig4funds@aol.com

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 revin@sha.state.md.us

Web alerts let you keep up-to-date

By John Fiveash

ASM Webmaster

Search engines let you find information related to archeology and sort through the hundreds of sites out there on the World Wide Web. But how can you keep track of new information developing?

One answer is automatic alert systems. These are preset searches on a daily (or even hourly) basis that send the results to your e-mail account.

I have an alert that searches the web for new items that have the term "archeology" in them. Each day I receive a mail message that lists the results of the search. Because of the two spellings, you might want to put down both "archeology" and "archaeology." You can specify "North American archeology," but stories probably won't include that geographical reference and won't be picked up. "Maryland archeology" is more likely to produce hits.

Many information providers and databases offer this type of service. Let's look at how it can be set up using the GOOGLE Alert Service. First, go to the GOOGLE home page (www.google.com), click on the link to "About Google." This takes you to a page that contains information about a wide range of services that the search engine company can provide. Click on "Google Services & Tools" to get to the Google Alert Tool. On this page, the first item is "Alerts." Click on the bell icon to get to the alerts setup page.

On the setup page you will find a box in which you can enter your search terms, type of sources to search, frequency of search and your e-mail address. To set up the alert service:

1. In the search terms box, enter the keywords that you want Google to search for. Remember that the more complicated you make the search, the narrower the range of returned items will be.
2. Next choose whether you want the search engine to limit itself to "News," "Websites" or a combination of the two.
3. Choose how often you want to run the search: "once a day," "as it happens" or "once a week."
4. Enter the e-mail address that you want to have the alerts sent to. If you are afraid of getting spam or extra ads as a result of this service, you can set up an alternate account. Some servers allow users to have extra accounts. Otherwise, set up an account on Hotmail, Yahoo or any of the other free e-mail sites and use that for your alerts. (I have used Google Alert for several months and haven't seen any change in the amount of spam that I receive.)

If you need to change any of the characteristics of the alert service, you can log onto the Google server and make those changes. This particular service is easy to setup, change and cancel if needed.

Nominations being accepted for Marye Award

Each year ASM selects one (usually) person to be honored for outstanding contributions to Maryland archeology with its William B. Marye Award. The final choice is made by an awards committee headed by Tyler Bastian, the former longtime chief Maryland archeologist, but the nominations come from the ASM membership.

Nominations are not carried over from one year to the next. If you have submitted unsuccessful nominations in the past, you may want to resubmit the name this year. Detailed but concise statements are most likely to be helpful to the committee, also specific information rather than general statements. Those nominated need not be members of ASM but must have made a significant contribution to our state's archeological record, in the past or currently.

Last year the award was presented to Howard MacCord, who helped shape the development of archeology in Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic, beginning in 1933. Other recent winners include Louise Akerson, Norma B-Wagner, Robert Wall, Bill McIntyre, Hettie Ballweber, Roy Brown, Gretchen Seielstad, Dick Johnson and Richard Slaterry.

Who is honored this year is up to you. A nomination form is included with this newsletter. Send it in by August 29 to the address on the form.

Indians join Salisbury ossuary seminar

By Beth Ragan

Native Americans and archeologists came together April 30 at Salisbury University to discuss from their different perspectives the Harbor Point Ossuary (18WC23), an Indian burial site that came to light during house construction in Salisbury in February, 2004. This mini-symposium included presentations by some of the archeologists involved, the physical anthropologist who analyzed the remains and a panel discussion with representatives of the local Native American communities.

Ed Otter, who directed the excavation of the ossuary, expressed his frustration with the fact that this was a recorded site, and one he had hoped to systematically survey some years ago, but funding had not been available for the work. He explained that most of the ossuary had been removed by the police, who first had suspected the site was a crime scene. Excavating what remained under significant time pressure was a challenge and Otter described how, in consultation with Gina Hamlin, then chair of the Maryland Commission for Indian Affairs, he used digital photography and a printer on-site to record the complexly interlocking bones in situ. The printed and annotated photographs accompanied the remains for analysis and were returned to the Native American community with the remains, which were to be reburied.

Dana Kollman said she had been given one month to carry out a basic forensic analysis and that the highly fragmented condition of the bone excavated by the police made some types of analysis unfeasible. However, there were 35 recognizable individuals, almost evenly divided between males and females and ranging in age from a newborn to over 60. Aside from a significant number of cavities, these individuals were generally healthy and showed low rates of arthritis and other signs of a skeletally stressful life.

The Indians present were invited to share their understanding of their group's traditional territories and then the discussion was then handed over to a panel consisting of Gina Hamlin; Mary Hope Billings, the current Indian Commission chair; Chief Sewell Winterhawk Fitzhugh of the Nause-Waiwash; Chief Rudy Hall of the Accohannocks, and Chief Medicine Cat of the Assateagues.

After talking about how much things have changed for the better in the relationships between archeologists and Native Americans in this area, they expressed their concerns and frustrations over the perennial questions of identity and recognition for Indian groups, particularly in Maryland at present.

Geneticist finds few early Asian settlers

By Guy Gugliotta

From the Washington Post, June 6, 2005

A Rutgers University geneticist studying the original migration of colonists from northern China to the New World more than 10,000 years ago has determined that these first settlers numbered as few as 70 people.

Evolutionary geneticist Jody Hey devised a complex model to describe how one population can split into two, then fueled it with data from nine genetic sequences common to both Native Americans and northern Asians.

What he found was a surprisingly small "effective," or childbearing age, population of about 70 individuals, who broke away from an ancestral Asian community of 9,000 to cross the Bering Strait land bridge to the Americas about 14,000 years ago.

"It suggests something on the order of a tribal group," Hey said in a telephone interview last week. "So few people may be a little bit surprising, but there hasn't been much information out there. To the extent that there is conflict, the conflict is with scholars' intuition."

Hey, reporting in the June issue of the journal PLoS (Public Library of Science) Biology, said he used genetic data from northern Asia and from Native American populations from the United States southward to the Andes and the Amazon basin.

He said the peak probability for time of settlement based on his calculations was 7,000 to 8,000 years ago, but "the peak is very broad" and extends back to 13,000 or 14,000 years ago, which corresponds roughly to estimates based on archeological records.

"My analysis is consistent with other estimates," he said, even though an argument rages among archeologists who date the arrival of the first immigrants anywhere from 11,000 to 14,000 years ago, or even earlier.

Is Indiana Jones necessary?

By Thomas H. Maugh

Condensed from the Los Angeles Times, December 10, 2004

Gene Savoy, 79, is among the last of a dying breed - the swashbuckling adventurer whose devil-be-damned expeditions plow through the world's rain forests in search of lost history.

"I would rather die out there than not explore," Savoy said from his hillside home overlooking Reno, Nev. Lean and lanky, with a bandito mustache, he looks like a character out of a 1930s adventure movie.

He has probably seen more of Peru's Chachapoya architecture than any man alive, discovering, by his own account, more than 40 ancient cities. The Peruvian government gave him a medal, the Order of the Gran Pajaten, for bringing attention to a region once thought archeologically barren.

People magazine has called him the "real Indiana Jones."

Real archeologists agree - and some wouldn't mind if he were chased through a cave by a rolling boulder. "Savoy's involvement in the Chachapoya saga clouds the scientific issues, attracts a lot of crackpots and scares off serious researchers who don't want to constantly have to deal with Savoy's tedious legacy of lost cities/El Dorado fantasies and delusions," said Keith Muscutt of the University of California, Santa Cruz.

For many archeologists, Savoy's exploits are the source of annoyance. They see him as a charlatan who steals credit from genuine scientists and makes highly publicized forays that damage sites and attract looters.

Archeologists - a group that Savoy often dismisses as "fuddy-duddy academics" - go to a site and carefully document what they find, preserving artifacts and eventually building a theory to explain their discoveries.

Explorers, such as Savoy, have a preconceived theory and go smashing through the forest in search of proof. Most archeologists spend years working at a site and report their findings in journals and at scientific conferences. Explorers announce their discoveries to the press, then go on to the next expedition.

"Exploring is the key," Savoy said defiantly. "The scientist tells you what you found, but you have to find it in the first place. ... Let the scientists come in later."

The tension between Savoy and the archeological establishment has unfolded in one of the most forbidding places in the world - a spot in northern Peru known as Ceja de Selva - the Eyebrow of the Jungle.

Nobody knows where the Chachapoya came from, but starting about 1,300 years ago, they began to spread through the Ceja de Selva, reaching a population of about 500,000. They built their cities on mountaintops. The Chachapoya's downfall began around 1470, when the Inca began a war of conquest against them. Ultimately, infectious diseases brought by the Europeans killed as many as 98 percent of the Cloud People.

Savoy had been the editor of a small newspaper in suburban Portland, Ore., but he spent his spare time studying Asian religions and ancient cultures. When his marriage broke down and the newspaper failed, Savoy, then 31, hopped a plane to Peru in 1957.

By 1965, he was convinced he knew the location of the lost city of Vilcabamba, where the Incas had fled to escape the Spanish invaders. He was able to convince Peruvian officials and private donors that he knew where to look and he set off with more than 100 men and several hundred horses and mules.

Finally, as he recalled in his 1970 adventure classic "Antisuyo: The Search for the Lost Cities of the Amazon," scouts stumbled across a pile of red roof tiles that he immediately recognized as Incan. The team spent four months clearing and photographing the site, now a major tourist attraction.

For archeologists and Peruvian preservationists, such discoveries are a double-edged sword. Long-lost worlds are brought back into the light. At the same time, the protective veil of obscurity that has kept them safe for many centuries disappears.

Before Savoy, even Peruvians didn't know much about the Cloud People. Today, what is left of their civilization is a prime target for looting - in part, because of Savoy's much-publicized expeditions.

The most egregious example occurred in April 1997, when authorities discovered that five burial caves had been ravaged, with more than 200 mummy bundles cut to pieces and scattered.

Some archeologists think the image of the daring explorer discovering lost empires is overblown.

"The simple truth is that finding Chacha archeological sites in this area ... is about as hard as finding elephants in a zoo," said Muscutt. "There are ruins on many, if not most, ridges."

Harford CC plans archeology course this fall

Jim Gibb will be teaching a course on the Archeology of Maryland at Harford Community College fall semester, Friday evenings between September 9 and December 16, from 7 to 9:50 p.m. The class will cover both prehistoric and historic periods and combine classroom instruction, independent research and field work at the Hays-Heighe House on campus. Field methods will be stressed and Michael Stewart's "Archaeology" will be the text. For more information on the course contact Jim Gibb at 443.482.9593, JamesGGibb@comcast.net; or Prof. Sharon Stowers, SStowers@Harford.edu. To enroll, contact the college at 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, MD 21015-1698; 410.836.4000; or the college website -- www.harford.edu

Books: Over there and under here

Two longtime ASM members have had books published recently, though neither has anything directly to do with archeology.

Former ASM president Dick Johnson has written a memoir of his life and his World War II experiences, "Twenty Five Milk Runs." Johnson was a bomber pilot flying out of England and the book documents each of his 32 missions as well as his life before and after that experience. His style provides readers with a good feel of what a tour of duty in the Army Air Force was like as well as of Johnson's irrepressible sense of humor.

His archeology experiences are mentioned in a few places, including the one that involved drug smuggling in Anne Arundel County. Another relates his introduction to archeology, in southern Illinois:

"In the spring of 1935 after I finished the seventh grade, my grandfather took me fishing in the river one Saturday. As we were going across a field to the fishing hole, I found a fine Indian ax. I had assumed that all Indian artifacts had long since been found. When I learned how wrong I was, I wanted to forget about fishing, and hunt 'arrowheads.' Grandpa said that nobody was interested in 'Indian rocks,' and we came to go fishing, so we went fishing. After we went home from fishing, I ran back to the site where I had found the ax, and in a half-hour I found four fine arrowheads. I already knew that Grandpa was at least one quarter Cherokee, since he had told me that the Grandfather Zopher Johnson Jr. had married a Cherokee woman during the Indian removal in 1838. My non-Indian ancestors were already living in the area before that time. One of the three 'Trail of Tears' came through that part of Southern Illinois in 1837. It was the Goshen Trail. This made me at least one sixteenth Cherokee, the same as the great Cherokee Chief John Ross, if Grandpa's tale was true. There is some controversy about this Indian connection, but I guess a DNA test will clear this up. This 'connection' helped spark my interest in collecting artifacts. I had barely turned thirteen at the time.

"After every rain, I could be seen at various fields along the river. I obtained the owner's permission when possible, and this often paid off as they sometimes gave some of their own finds to me since they only had a casual interest. I got so that I could recognize Indian sites as we drove past them. The soil color was the clue, and I would soon hitchhike back to the site after a rain. Fishing took a distant second to this new obsession, and my collection built rapidly."

The book, written under his full name of Richard Riley Johnson, is available at Amazon or, if an autographed copy is desired, can be ordered from him for \$25, postage included, at 5901 Joe Road, Deale, Maryland 20751.

Speaking of Deale, another Anne Arundel stalwart, Lois Nutwell, has put out a photographic history of Deale. "A Ripple on the Wind" contains a wide variety of pictures of many phases of area life and attractions. Copies can be obtained in Deale, at the Barnes and Noble in Annapolis (\$15) or directly from Lois, at 4438 Indigo Lane, Harwood, Maryland, 20776, for \$18, including postage.

Arundel girl wins state archeology award

Veronica Lathroum of Lindale Middle School in Anne Arundel County has won the Special Prize in Archeology at this year's Maryland History Day scholastic competition. The announcement was made by the Maryland Humanities Council.

Veronica's award-winning exhibit was on hieroglyphics. Some 350 pupils participated in the various Maryland History Day categories. The award was presented April 30. In addition to a cash prize and a plaque, Veronica has been given a scholarship to this year's ASM field school, which is taking place in her home county.

Has your address or email address changed? Make sure ASM knows so we can stay in touch.
Contact Membership Secretary Brenda Urquiza. Address on the back of this newsletter.

Chapter notes

Most chapters are in in summer hibernation. Here is information on how to contact them.

Anne Arundel

The chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month from 7:30-9 p.m. in the Chesapeake Room, Heritage Center, 2664 Riva Road, Annapolis. Contact Jim Gibb at 410-263-1102 or jamesggibb@comcast.net

Central

Central Chapter does not have monthly meetings, but tries to stay active with field projects. Currently it plans to explore rockshelters reported in the North Branch of the Patapsco River. The chapter will continue to survey and identify potential archeological sites for future exploration and will begin finalizing the 10-year Big Gunpowder Rockshelter Survey Project. Contact Stephen Israel at 410-945-5514 or ssisrael@abs.net

Mid-Potomac

Contact james.sorensen@mncppc-mc.org or heather.bouslog@mncppc-mc.org, or call 301-840-5848. Chapter website: www.mid-potomacarchaeology.org

August 22-26: Mini-field school, working on a rockshelter in Montgomery County. On August 23, primitive technologist Tim Thoman will be giving a workshop on prehistoric methods of fire-making and flintknapping.

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. However, the April meeting is held at the Talbot County Historical Society Auditorium. Contact Bill Cep at 410-822-5027 or email ccep@crosslink.net

Monocacy

The chapter meets 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

Northern Chesapeake

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

August 28: Annual picnic. Susquehanna State Park.

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. Most are preceded by dinner at 6 at the Tiber River Café in Ellicott City. Contact Lee Preston at 443-745-1202 or roseannlee@earthlink.com

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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