

# ASM Ink



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Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

[www.marylandarcheology.org](http://www.marylandarcheology.org)

## Upcoming Activities

September 20, 2025 – MHT Workshop in Archeology – Crownsville, MD

September 26- October 1, 2025 - PaleoDigger Excavation

October 18, 2025 – ASM Annual Meeting in Charles County

## President's Note

I continue to be overwhelmed with how enthusiastic and willing to serve our members are. Each of you are vital members of our ASM family, you are hard working and dedicated. I was reminded of this when the first person we asked, was more than willing to take on a position.

I am very pleased to announce that Danielle Knight agreed to serve as one of our At-Large Trustees to complete the remainder of a vacated term that runs through October 2026.

I hope you all are well and enjoying the hot summer weather. Stay safe and hope to see you soon!

Valerie

# 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Tyler Bastian Field Session in Maryland Archeology

**Tom Kozikowski and members of his Frostburg Frostbot Lego League Team at the 2025 ASM Archeological Field School at Teagues Point in Charles County Md.**

**Lynne Bulhack**

May 31, 2025, I was sitting in a blue chair under what Jim Gibb pointed out was a Charles County campion poison ivy vine.



Three very enthusiastic Frostburg Frostbots were taking a mud bath - break from field work when I asked Tom Kozikowski for permission to take a photograph. Well, as soon as the camera focused slip-sliding splashing, joyful abandon was replaced by a more solemn demeanor.



We are so glad you made the trip from Maryland's Ridge-and-Valley physiographic province to Charles County on Maryland's coastal plane.

Thank you for joining us with your joyful enthusiasm!





**In Case You Missed it: We are incredibly lucky that Steph Soder earned her drone operator's license and was able to provide incredible arial photographs.**



**Redaction: what I reported as a Porpoise Tooth is a Horse Canine**



# MHT

## PaleoDigger at Barton Save-the-Date

September 26- October 1, 2025

Contact: Dr. Zac Singer at [zachary.singer@maryland.gov](mailto:zachary.singer@maryland.gov) for more information.

**WJZ's Marty Bass visited St. John's Western Run Parish to discuss the Piney Grove archaeological site with Dr. Zac Singer!**

<https://www.cbsnews.com/baltimore/video/13000-year-old-quarry-excavated-at-baltimore-area-church/>

## MHT Crownsville Lab

The Cresaps Fort Site has proven formidable. Volunteers are still labeling bags and artifacts with their new Park Service artifact numbers. The process has been time consuming but because of the rebagging and relabeling, not only do we ensure that every part of the process has been done, but we get to see our favorite artifacts many times.



Artifacts were sorted and cataloged, given MHT numbers, bagged, and then when the Park Service numbers came, those were added to

bags, tags, and now labels could be placed onto the artifacts.

This is us—a bit tired, still going, and going, and going. Join us! Pat makes cookies!



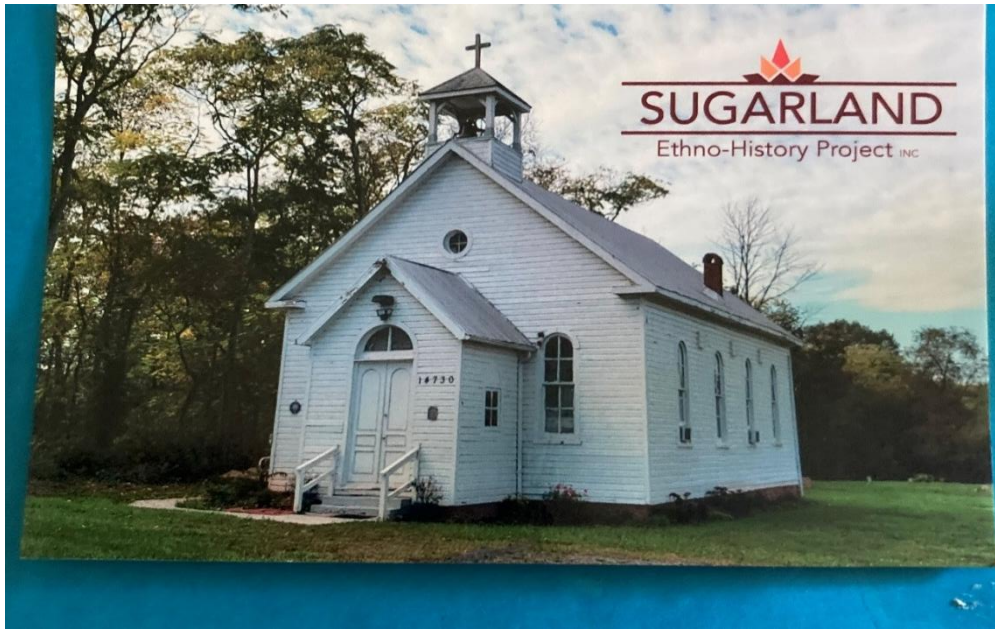




# Heritage Day - Coming in Hot

Cathy Camut

On June 28, Montgomery County Maryland Parks held its annual Heritage Day celebration. Hosting the event was the ASM grant recipient, the Sugarland Ethnohistory Project. Founded after emancipation in the rural county, Sugarland became a self-sufficient African American town with a church, a school, a store, and a post office.



*Figure 1 St. Paul's Church, Sugarland, MD*

During the event, the 1893 church was open for tours and a Sugarland descendant was there to give an oral history of the church and community. Also, at the celebration there was The Good Gift Project. They presented their traveling Enviroscape model. This model brings groundwater science to life through a fun interactive experience making invisible water systems visible. We learned where drinking water comes from, how pollution travels, why conservation matters, and what we can all do to help.



*Figure 2 The Good Gift Project*



ASM members and student volunteers are currently excavating the farm site of Nancy and Basil Dorsey, Sugarland (18MO777) who were one of the founding families. Student volunteer Anna Dayton observed the hard life of the original residents created their own social dignity. An up-close look at ceramics and other household objects, as well as possible smoke house and root cellar features give a deeper understanding of the people and social networks based on the community's constant need to grow and process food.



*Figure 3 Anna Dayton, Student Volunteer*

# The Meadowcroft Rock Shelter

Kim Malinowski

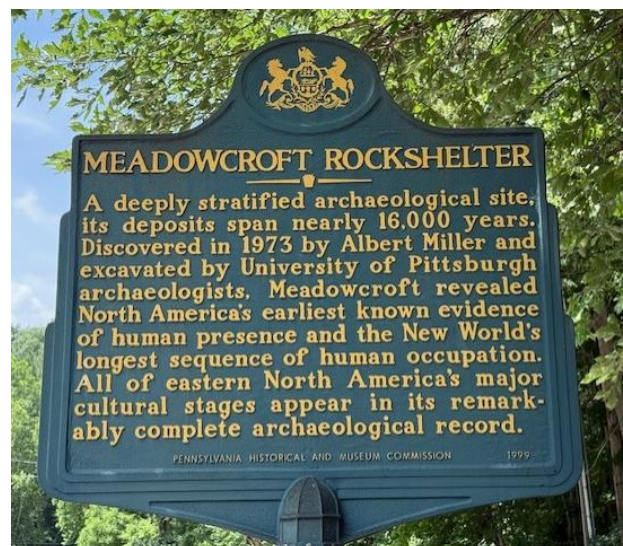


No, it's not in Maryland, but when one has 55,000 miles on a 2023 vehicle, one has a bit of wanderlust. I wanted to see something "different" for the summer solstice—that was my only requirement. I have an intense love for minerals, so a rock shelter near my unwanted family reunion sounded like the perfect retreat, and it was much more than that.



meticulous. A razor blade was used to section some of the levels instead of a trowel because of how thin they were. That type of precision allows me to believe what the tour guide explained. I will be writing a professional travel log in the future, but for now, let's just be tourists. Well, I did get the tour guide's notes—so maybe not casual tourists.

Carbon dating places the first occupants at around 19,000 years. Pre-Clovis. This has controversy around it, but the practices that were explained and demonstrated were





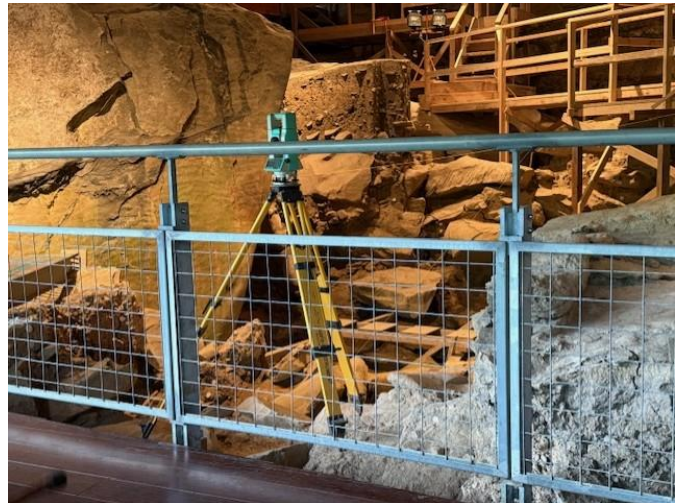
It was a several story climb up steps to get to the protective overhang over the rock shelter. There are nice places to step aside and pause to look at nature while gasping. I admit that I wanted to climb the sandstone but knowing my perchance for danger, falling, and concussions, I was grateful for the stairs. There had been rain the day before so the



creek was swift and swollen. Looking out over the trees and water as I went up allowed for a close-up perspective to a grand perspective of the horizon in the distance and the water looking peaceful.

The temperature was immediately cooler beneath the awning. I was greeted by the open face of the rock shelter that was both plunged into the past with part unexcavated waiting for future techniques and technology and the full

dig and excavation that showed each level of sediment and the location of each tool or feature with small shiners. In one breath, science, wonder, history, and connection all hit as I tried to count the strata.



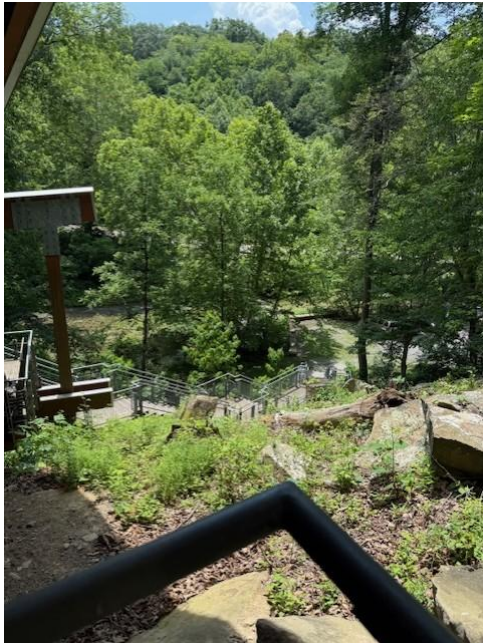
19,000 years of use leaves a lot of levels with complex matrixes—everything from calcined bone to beer cans. The tour guide explained that the rock shelter was a stopping point, a place rest during longer journeys, and it begs the question about what other stops there were and what sites are left.

Most of the lithic tools and debitage were chert. I was told “flint and chert” and swallowed back with my soul “they are the same thing with different names.” After breathing, I focused on the view and not the abstracts and papers that I was already searching for. The Malinowski family

reunion agreed on “flint” because of the flintlock. I was bribed to keep my mouth shut and let them hold their keychains without rebuttal.

The Miller Lanceolate was dated to be about 12,000 YBP. They sell key chains and stone replicas—I did not want a projectile point attached to my keys because of the likelihood of it cracking in my backpack and finding it catalogued at the lab. I have copyrighted or bad photos from the display in the museum portion—so please look it up.

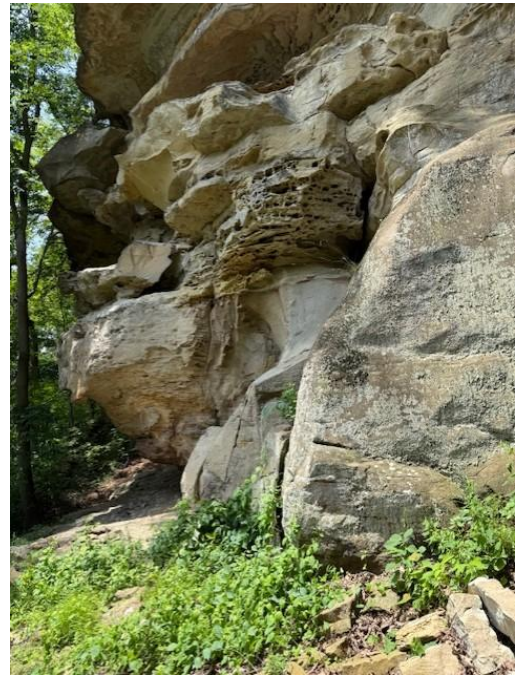
After a brief explanation of the site, we could go up another 26 steps to look above the rock shelter. I let everyone go ahead of me as I asked questions. The tour guide let me



take a photo of her notes and the strata she was to point to. The papers she told me about are downloaded to my computer showing the strata and research and admittedly, many others are being exchanged with enthusiasts.

I made my way to the top and calculated how the excavation was done and how I would do it. Then, I looked at the carved graffiti and the view. Humans seem to be

humans. Beer cans, a great view, and soft stone to carve initials into. 19,000 years and present day—all in one place.





# C.A.T. Corner

The updated CAT Program Guide has been emailed to current CAT Candidates and is available for download from the CAT webpage. Please delete the old one. For more information the CAT Committee Chair can be reached at [CAT@marylandarcheology.org](mailto:CAT@marylandarcheology.org)

**Precontact Ceramics and Lithics CAT Workshops** on July 30, 2025, beginning at 9:30am. The workshops will be held at Chesapeake College. Dr. Zachary Singer will be teaching.

**Laboratory Techniques Workshop** will be held at the MHT Workshop.

# Summer 2025 ASM, Inc. New Project Applications

It's time for the next ASM New Project process, **applications are now being accepted, but must be received by August 29, 2025.**

- Applicants should submit the ASM Project Request Form (attached) along with any supporting documentation to: [Valerie.Hall@marylandarcheology.org](mailto:Valerie.Hall@marylandarcheology.org)
- The ASM, Inc. New Project Review Group (appointed by the ASM President) will review and:
  - Provide a recommendation or
  - Ask for additional information
- If a project is recommended by the New Project Review Group, the Proposal will be brought to the Executive Board for Vote
- Decisions will be provided to the requestor and published in the Ink
- For 2025, \$12,000 are still available for the year with a suggested cap of \$5,000 per request
- Grantees will be expected to provide a brief article for the Ink and submit a Journal article for consideration.

We look forward to reading and reviewing your projects!

If you have questions or need additional information, contact [Valerie.Hall@marylandarcheology.org](mailto:Valerie.Hall@marylandarcheology.org).



# Citizen Science in Archaeology: SERC Endowment

Since 2012 the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center's (SERC) Citizen Science in Archaeology program has engaged the public in the science of archaeology, excavating plantation sites dating to the 1650s and 1750s, researching the 20<sup>th</sup>-century shell-button industry on the Delmarva peninsula and the 18<sup>th</sup>-century copper mining industry in northern Maryland, and reconstructing the diets of the region's colonial settlers. The investment in volunteer time and energy over the past dozen or so years is staggering, providing the information and objects on which the Woodlawn exhibit was built. Now, to sustain the program, we have to invest money as well as labor. SERC has an endowed fund for just that purpose and seeks donations—investments—to build sufficient resources to hire a fulltime archaeologist to lead the program into the future. You, too, can become a member of the Smithsonian Environmental Archaeology Laboratory Team (SEAL Team) with your generous, tax-deductible contribution.

Thank you.

**Jim Gibb, Chief Archaeologist, SERC**

For online donations:

<https://serc.si.edu/donate>

- Click on “DONATE NOW”
- Select or enter amount of donation
- In the “Please use my gift to support” section, donors need to type into the box that is populated with “Area of Greatest Need” and change that to “Citizen Science in Archaeology Endowment”.
- Complete the address section
- Add credit card information

For checks:

Make payable to “SERC” and write in the memo section: **Citizen Science/Archaeology Endowment**

Mail to:

SERC Development  
647 Contees Wharf Road  
Edgewater, MD 21037

If anyone has questions or needs assistance in donating stock or via wire transfer, please Christine Buckley at (443) 482-2333; [buckleyc@si.edu](mailto:buckleyc@si.edu); or Toby Franzen (443) 482-2412, [franzent@si.edu](mailto:franzent@si.edu).



## Citizen science: Case studies of public involvement in archaeology at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center

James G. Gibb

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To link to this article: <https://doi.org/10.1080/20518196.2018.1549815>



Published online: 29 Nov 2018.



# Ethics Committee

## Archeological Society of Maryland Code of Ethics and Conduct May 2025

The Archeological Society of Maryland (ASM) is committed to a safe, healthy, and respectful environment in which to explore our shared history. ASM participants (including, but not limited to, society members, chapter members, registrants, guests, and visitors) agree to adhere to the following principles and rules, and to address any complaints or violations to the ASM President, Board or their designee. This Code of Conduct and Ethics Agreement outlines the standards of behavior expected of all members and guests to ensure the protection of archeological resources, the integrity of research, and the well-being of all participants. Continued participation in ASM activities is contingent upon adherence to these standards.

### Respect

ASM participants and guests have a duty to respect the individual and collective rights of others and to not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, place of birth and/or physical disabilities. ASM participants and guests have an obligation to treat everyone with dignity and respect and to adhere to zero tolerance against all forms of discrimination and harassment.<sup>1</sup>

### Stewardship

Stewardship—identification and conservation—of archeological sites and artifacts is a guiding principle in avocational and vocational archeology. We conserve these resources for one another and for future generations. ASM members have a duty to encourage and support the conservation and effective management of archeological sites and collections, including both terrestrial and underwater contexts

- **Site Preservation:** Members must follow best practices for archeological site conservation (“wise use”). This includes rejecting unauthorized digging, collecting, or disturbing artifacts and features.
- **Legal Compliance:** Members must comply with all local, state, and federal laws governing private and public property, archeological sites and resources.
- **Ethical Behavior:** The selling, trading, valuing, or personal collection of artifacts obtained through Society activities is strictly prohibited.
- **Honest Reporting:** Members must ensure that all data and findings are recorded accurately and honestly.

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<sup>1</sup> *Discrimination refers to unfair treatment or different treatment of a person or group based on characteristics like race, gender, or disability. Harassment refers to unwelcome conduct that creates a hostile environment, often based on protected characteristics, and can be verbal, physical, or visual*

- **Confidentiality:** Members must respect the confidentiality of sensitive site locations and research findings to prevent looting or unauthorized access.

### **Provide detailed and accurate reports of sites and field work**

ASM members have a duty to take detailed notes of any field work and when recording new sites. All documentation should be submitted in a timely manner. Once you excavate a unit or feature, you have destroyed that context, the information is all that survives for the benefit of future researchers in notes, drawings and photographs. All documentation from a site is owned by the organization sponsoring the field work and is as much a part of the collection as the artifacts and samples.

### **Education and Representation**

Archeological sites are not the possessions of archeologists; they are part of our common heritage. ASM members should strive to engage and educate citizens in the protection of cultural resources. ASM members shall treat descendant communities with respect and encourage their engagement in activities.

ASM members shall conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on ASM when interacting with the public or representing the organization at events. Members shall seek approval from the ASM President or Board before making public statements or media representations on behalf of ASM.

### **Health and Safety**

ASM members have a responsibility to adhere to all safety guidelines provided by the organization and by the professional archeologists, or their designees, with whom we work. This includes wearing appropriate clothing and footwear, using tools responsibly, and following best practices. Members should communicate any physical limitations or health concerns that may affect their ability to safely participate in activities. Members shall not use illegal drugs or alcohol during field activities or in situations where such behavior could jeopardize safety or professionalism.

# Lost Towns Project

[EAC/Archaeology Inc.](#) is looking for adult volunteers to assist in their current excavation at [Historic London Town & Gardens](#)! This project aims to document the historic

## Fieldwork at London Town with EAC/A



landscape along the bank of the South River in the shadow of the William Brown House.

The focus of this volunteer crew will be on artifact recovery at our standing mesh screens.

EAC/Archaeology can accommodate up to three volunteers in each session.

Please sign up for a single time slot (morning or afternoon) on a

single day so that we may accommodate as many interested volunteers as possible over the course of this program.

For more information or to sign up, [click here](#).

## Volunteer at the Lab!

The Anne Arundel County Archaeology Lab is currently open to volunteers on:

- Most Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- Saturday lab hours are currently on hiatus.

You can [check the lab schedule or sign up here](#). The lab is located at 839 Londontown Road in Edgewater, MD, just behind the [London Town](#) visitor's center.

Volunteers help process artifacts by washing, labeling, sorting, and cataloging them. No experience is needed. Volunteers must register in advance. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

For further information, contact our volunteer coordinator at [volunteers@losttownsproject.org](mailto:volunteers@losttownsproject.org).



# River Days



**Saturday, September 13th**

[Fort Smallwood Park](#)

**All 11:00 am – 3:00 pm**

This summer, the Anne Arundel County Executive's Office will host four River Days festivals at different waterfront locations throughout the county.

"The goal of these events is to provide public water access and inspire our residents to become stewards who will protect the health of our local waterways," said County Executive Pittman. "River Days provide families an opportunity to get out on the water and fall in love with that place that they live."

River Days Festivals are hosted by the County Executive's Office. All events are free and open to the public. Each festival will feature fun activities for all ages, including boat rides, water activities, environmental educators, live music, games, crafts, food trucks, and more. Boat rides are free, but capacity is limited and tickets will be available first come, first served to festival attendees beginning one hour before each scheduled boat ride departure.

For more information, visit [aacounty.org/riverdays](http://aacounty.org/riverdays).

## Archaeology of the Patuxent River: Canoeing through History



**Saturday, July 12th**

**9:00 pm – 1:00 pm**

Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary  
1361 Wrighton Road  
Lothian, MD

Join archaeologist Drew Webster, from Anne Arundel County's Cultural Resources Section, in a canoe expedition to learn about the archaeological and cultural history along the Patuxent River. Drew will share how archaeological sites inform us about past ways of life from early occupations over 10,000 years ago to historic times.

Ages: 13 years old and up. Under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

Fee: \$20 per person, entrance fee included. [More information and registration here.](#)

# Volunteer Opportunities

## ASM Volunteers Needed:

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

**MHT Volunteer Lab, most Tuesdays and Thursdays. (Thursday is temporary and is the Cresap's site only):** The lab in Crownsville. Contact Zachary Singer at [Zachary.Singer@maryland.gov](mailto:Zachary.Singer@maryland.gov)

**The Smithsonian Environmental Research Center** seeks participants in its Citizen-Scientist Program in archeology and other environmental research programs in Edgewater. Field and lab work are conducted on Wednesdays and on occasional Saturdays. Contact Jim Gibb at [jamesggibb@verizon.net](mailto:jamesggibb@verizon.net)

**Charles County for Lab and Field Work** welcomes volunteers. Contact Esther Read at [ReadE@charlescountymd.gov](mailto:ReadE@charlescountymd.gov) For more information, contact Carol Cowherd at [ccasm2010@gmail.com](mailto:ccasm2010@gmail.com)

**The Anne Arundel County Archeology Lab in Edgewater**, in conjunction with **The Lost Towns Project**, accepts volunteers for lab work. No experience needed. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. The lab is generally open 2-3 weekdays each week from 9:00-3:00. Volunteers must sign up in advance. There are occasional opportunities for fieldwork as well. For more information, the current lab or field schedule, or to sign up, email Drew Webster at [volunteers@losttownsproject.org](mailto:volunteers@losttownsproject.org)

**Howard County Recs and Parks** invites volunteers interested in processing collections and conducting historical research to contact Kelly Palich at [Kpalich@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:Kpalich@howardcountymd.gov) or 410-313-0423.

**Montgomery County for Lab and Field Work** welcomes volunteers. Contact link: <https://montgomeryparks.org/activities/history-in-the-parks/archaeology/>

**Mount Calvert for Lab and Field Work:** call 301-627-1286.

**Jefferson Patterson Park** invites volunteers to take part in its activities, including archeology, historical research, and conservation. Contact 410-586-8554.

**The Archaeological Institute of America** provides an online listing of fieldwork opportunities worldwide. Click on <https://www.archaeological.org/fieldwork> to get started.



# Chapter News

## Central Chapter

Central Chapter meetings are by Zoom only. Katharine Fernstrom sends the link to the email group. Stay tuned for more details. For more information and to be added to the Zoom list contact Katharine Fernstrom at [katharine.fernstrom@marylandarcheology.org](mailto:katharine.fernstrom@marylandarcheology.org)

## Charles County

Meets in person September through April at the Community Room of the LaPlata Police Department in LaPlata, MD on the third Thursday of the month. Email [ccasm2010@gmail.com](mailto:ccasm2010@gmail.com) for more information.

## Eastern Shore

Dates and events are on chapter's website [ASM Eastern Shore \(google.com\)](http://ASM-Eastern-Shore.google.com) Facebook page Eastern Shore Maryland Archaeology and Instagram (@esmdarch). For more information, email [esarcheology@gmail.com](mailto:esarcheology@gmail.com) or [jmrkin2@washcoll.edu](mailto:jmrkin2@washcoll.edu)

Calendar is here: [bit.ly/ASM-ES](http://bit.ly/ASM-ES) and events are open to members and nonmembers. To be added to our social media updates, email [esarcheology@gmail.com](mailto:esarcheology@gmail.com).

**All events are open to anyone who wants to attend!**

### **Open lab at Washington College:**

Contact Julie Markin at [jmarkin2@washcoll.edu](mailto:jmarkin2@washcoll.edu).

## Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month from September through June. Please email Don Housley at [donhou704@earthlink.net](mailto:donhou704@earthlink.net) for further information.

For up-to-date information concerning meetings, please contact Don Housley at [donhou704@earthlink.net](mailto:donhou704@earthlink.net) or 301-424-8526 or check the chapter website: [www.asmmidpotomac.org](http://www.asmmidpotomac.org) , or send an email to: [asmmidpotomac@gmail.com](mailto:asmmidpotomac@gmail.com)

## Monocacy

For information contact: [monocacyarcheology@gmail.com](mailto:monocacyarcheology@gmail.com) (mailbox monitored intermittently) or call Jeremy Lazelle at 301-471-8433.

## Northern Chesapeake

A business meeting at 7pm and is followed by the presentation at 7:30. Locations vary. Contact Dan Coates at 410-808-2398 or [dancoates@comcast.net](mailto:dancoates@comcast.net)

## Western Maryland

Programs are held the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm at the **History Discovery Center at Blue Spring at 400 N. Mechanic Street, Cumberland, MD**. Unless noted. Chapter email: [wmdasm@yahoo.com](mailto:wmdasm@yahoo.com)

Meeting announcements are sent also to CTN; WFWM, and the Oakland Republican.

Lab workdays! Excavations at the Jane Gates Heritage House uncovered several boxes of artifacts dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. There will be hands-on cataloging sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2pm to 5pm for the month of April until the artifacts are analyzed and cataloged. These lab days will be at the new History Discovery Center at 400 N. Mechanic Street, Cumberland, MD. It's free, open to the public, and no experience is necessary to participate. More information email: [info@oxbowculturalresearch.com](mailto:info@oxbowculturalresearch.com).

# Contact Us:

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-percent discount on items sold by the Society.



Contact Membership Secretary Ethan Bean, [ethan.bean@marylandarcheology.org](mailto:ethan.bean@marylandarcheology.org), for membership rates.

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