

ASM Ink



November 2024, Vol. 51, No. 11

Newsletter of the Archeological Society of Maryland, Inc.

www.marylandarcheology.org

Upcoming Activities

[ESAF 91st Annual Meeting](#), November 7-10, 2024, Newport, Rhode Island

December 7, 2024 – ASM Board Meeting – Virtual

April 5, 2025 – ASM Spring Symposium

ASM's 2024 William B. Marye Award

The 2024 William B. Marye award winner, Dr. Julia King, is a native of Maryland who never forgot her Maryland roots and has spent most of her life studying the archeology of Maryland and the surrounding region.



Dr. King began work at the Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum in 1987, where she directed survey and testing at several major sites located within U.S. Naval facilities, including Mattapan-Sewall at PAX River and Posey at Indian Head. In 1996, she was appointed the first director of JPPM's newly created Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab, and over the next decade helped establish that facility as a premier research and conservation institution. Her vision was that the lab should not only serve as an artifact repository but should also create ways to make information accessible to researchers and the general public. She secured grant funds for sweeping overview studies, two of which resulted in major interactive websites—*A Comparative Archaeological Study of*

Colonial Chesapeake Culture and *Colonial Encounters*.

Soon, she began service at the college in southern Maryland where she has been able to tap the youthful energy of eager students in a variety of field projects, giving them



firsthand experience in how to approach archeological problems. As a testament to this training, many of her students have gone on to successful archeological careers. Using this student workforce, she tackled two of Maryland's most elusive "needles" in the state's cultural haystack. The first of these was the 17th century Charles County Courthouse at Moore's Lodge. Using archival and county land records, her team was able to narrow the search focus, before employing her students on an extensive shovel-testing program. Dozens of STPs and a few test units later, a pattern of 17th century artifacts revealed the outlines of the site. Then in 2008, she

worked to assemble a team to search for the 1680's era Piscataway Indian fort in Zekiah Swamp. Miraculously, using similar techniques, three years later the fort was found! Coincidentally, this discovery of Fort Zekiah had been a long-sought after goal of none other than William B. Marye himself.

Another noteworthy contribution is her ability to forge lasting bonds with Native communities such as the Piscataways and the Rappahannocks, engaging them as partners in research of their ancestral lands. Throughout her career our award winner has made, and continues to make, outstanding contributions to Maryland archeology, through educating and training students, disseminating information for researchers, prolific publishing, frequent lecturing, and engaging native communities. She is most deserving of this award.

President's Note

I want to take some time to thank the Eastern Shore Chapter of ASM for hosting the 2024 Annual Meeting. Thank you to all the speakers who joined that day and the Eastern Shore team who skillfully arranged everything: Julie Markin, Wendy Hubbard, Tracy Hayman, Sarah Mason, and Julia Berg.

Thanks for taking it on and providing an excellent event!

*Thank
you!*

Another special thank you to Barbara Israel, Elaine Chhean, and Aaron Jarvis for their service as Secretary, Treasurer, and At-Large Trustee respectively. We appreciate all your work in these positions over the past years!

Thank you to those who continued board services and our newest Board Members. Welcome to Krista Morris as Treasurer, Patricia Melville as Secretary, and John Newton as At-Large Trustee. And continuing their service we have Vice-President, Katharine Fernstrom, Membership Secretary, Ethan Bean, and our At-Large Trustees; Lynne Bulhack, Brent Chippendale, Don Housley, Jim Gibb, and Julia Berg. Thank you!

Valerie

The Piney Grove Site 18BA483: Kim Edition

Much gratitude for Zac for his co-authorship/archeological editing

When I saw the St. John's Church Western Run parish and cemetery, I could not contain my awe. This was true for every day of the dig. The stonework was beautiful and set the mood for the day.



The Piney Grove Site 2024 dig was held over the course of 5 days. We began Wednesday, October 2nd and went through Monday the 7th, with a break on Sunday, because of the church services being held. Zac wore his Clovis Point belt buckle for luck for those of you keeping score and passing the picture of the ASM buckle around. The switch up clearly worked despite me only finding the smallest sherd of glazed redware possible. Zac gave a thumbs down on that one.

I admit that I have gotten a bit too confident about my STPs. I went to field school just to learn how to dig 35 cm diameter, round, Shovel Test Pits so that I would be less anxious about my level of suckage. Apparently, I needed humbling. I was horrified to learn that I would be digging 50cm x 50cm square, Northeastern style STPs. My panic was real. Over the course of the five days, I aimed for perfect walls and corners. I also vowed to beat the quartz enriched soil and cause sparks with my shovel like Zac did. Reader, I tell you, I most certainly did not. Not any of it. My holes were crooked, over or undersized, and Zac was the one to straighten up the curvature in my walls. In my defense, a weak one, I did not use a sharpshooter (spade). But even with lopping



the roots, not even cutting them with my shovel, I was defeated. My brazenness was further eaten away by an undignified fall and clear inexperience. I was able to keep my bearings and my STPs did face north with the southwest corner in the correct location. Anyone who knows my sense of direction knows that a major miracle occurred.

I expected the poison ivy and even vines and briars. I did not expect the thorns at the site to remain in my skin for over a week. After getting past 50cm depth, I tend to roll and yes, thorns were all over and in my body. These things were mean, and they are the reason I wear black every season on digs. Usually, black hides the blood. It did not this time. I apologize to everyone that was scared away from my delightful STP in the briar tree. Zac teases “what dig doesn’t take a chunk out of Kim?” Truth. But the best stories are the bloody, poison ivy covered ones.



The Piney Grove Site was originally found because of CRM work in 2001 and the road passing by St. John’s was moved after the archeological documentation was done. We followed up with our STPs to hunt down the original site. The 2001 dig found quarry workshop debris of a chalcedony that develops a snowflake like patina, which has been named “weathering amber chalcedony” by archaeologists in Virginia. Zac analyzed the assemblage from 18BA483 in 2018 as part of a Gloria King Fellowship at the MAC Lab and recorded many overshot flakes at the site. Overshot flakes are struck off cores and bifaces to efficiently remove square edges and thin the cores and bifaces. Overshot flakes are associated with the Clovis peoples because it is their intentional reduction method of choice and is unique to their cultural traditions.

Weathering amber chalcedony is also known as “St. John’s Quartzite.” The stone was named for the church. Zac showed me the difference between the cortex and the weathering up close after the dig. The cortex is the outer portion of a rock and the weathering, which could be mistaken for it, is more of a cloudiness that occurs. It is very much like the patina we see on glass. Because the amber chalcedony is weathered by rain and other environmental factors, the side that is facing downward will have less weathering than the exposed side. Because of the difference in weathering, it is possible to reconstruct the position of the artifact in the soil.

In the end, 56 STPs were dug, in a 4-meter grid. Chipping debris and a scraper were found in a hot spot area leading to the idea of a second activity area at the site.



Scraper



Flakes (Chipping Debris)

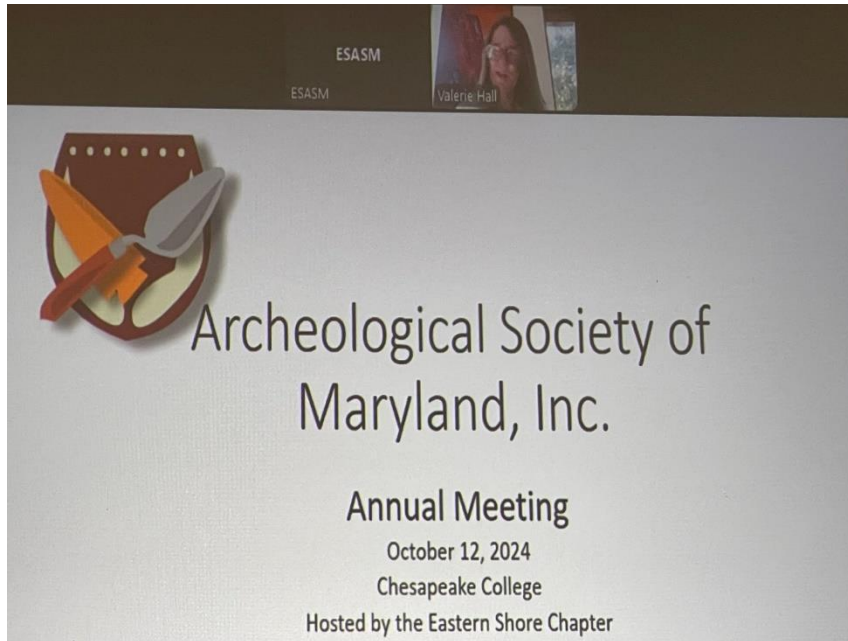
The scraping tool suggests a second activity area since the area investigated in 2001 was separated in space from the newly discovered location and consisted primarily of chalcedony knapping and biface production. The recovery of a sidescraper at 18BA483 hints at a tool use area, perhaps where hides were scraped as part of the production of tailored clothing.

The scraper that was found suggests a new area of interest to return to and is the first formal tool made of chalcedony to be found on the site. The tool is being left unwashed and minimally handled to preserve the ability for conduct residue analyses. Zac wants the first elephant blood protein on a tool in Maryland. Let's cross our trowels and shovels for that! A follow up excavation will be coordinated, hopefully for Fall of 2025.

Thank you to St. John's Church Western Run parish and everyone that participated in the dig!!!

The ASM Annual Meeting

The ASM Annual Meeting was held on October 12, 2024, at Chesapeake College at the Eastern Shore Higher Education Center, in Queenstown, MD, 21658. The meeting was from 9am-3pm.



Dr. Zac Singer and Katie Gill updated us on the 2024 Annual Field Session Investigation with their presentation: **Hunting for the 'Maryland Monster': Update on the 2024 Annual Field Session Investigations of the Home of Col. Thomas Cresap**. They highlighted significant artifacts recovered from the site and preliminary interpretations of



the archaeological features investigated during the Field Session.

The official GPR near the headstone showed nothing suggesting burial function. The headstone was likely placed within the last 60 years.



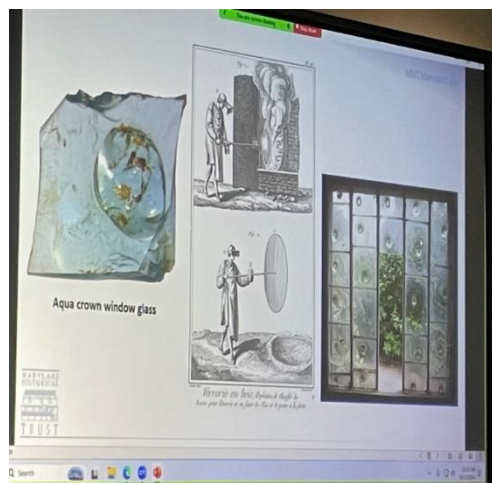
Many primary documents were discussed, and the resurvey of deeds were shown. Good Hope 1771, Good Hope in 1750, Indian Seat in 1740. The secondary sources are less trusted and have less validity. Primary sources find material culture and allow for ground truthing. Magnetic susceptibility, gradiometry, ground penetration radar clearly showed a square, rectangular pit feature and a stone lined, dark hole.



In October 2023, the ground truthing began and there was a distinct orange subsoil, and it contrasted with the light brown feature.

Artifacts found were included in the slides. Notable faunal remains included a finger of a bear and pig jaw bones. Artifacts indicated an 18th century site and included precontact artifacts as well.

The Field Session allowed for photogrammetry of the site. Gun flint for musket and pistols were found, as well as olive glass, tow lead shot, tin glaze ceramic, pipe stems with a heart and a 4 makers marks. We were able to see the x-rays of the folding knife dated 1750-1790.



We also saw examples of crown window glass. Crown glass is blown having an oversized pontil and starts as a circle. It is then cut. The domed section that has the pontil was used but has a distinct curvature. The slide image offers a quick demonstration of the technique.

Zachary Singer is State Terrestrial Archeologist at the Maryland Historical Trust.

Katie Gill is a master's student in her final semester of the Applied Anthropology and Historic Preservation dual program at the University of Maryland in College Park. Katie was the archaeology intern for the Maryland Historical Trust while working at the Cresap's Fort site in Allegany County.

Willie Graham presented: **Reimagining Hemsley's Cloverfields.**

In 2017, a foundation representing the builder's descendants purchased Cloverfields to restore it as a private museum. Research revealed the house dated to 1705, earlier than previously believed. Throughout the restoration, significant findings emerged about how each successive owner adapted the mansion to meet the evolving needs of Maryland's Eastern Shore gentry over the centuries.



Graham explained how paint analysis, changes in architecture, dendrochronology, the cornice and porch design accounted for changing dynamics with guests, servants, and enslaved

people. Time, place, and status changed in the family.



Discoveries made during the restoration process demonstrated how architectural forensics uncovered the original features of the house.

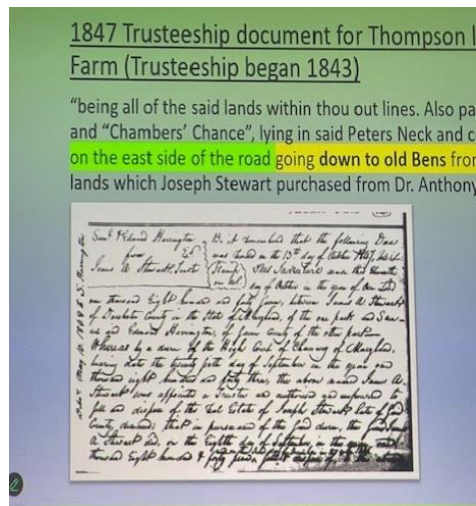
Willie Graham is an independent scholar specializing in the research, restoration, and interpretation of historic buildings and landscapes in America, the British Caribbean, Bermuda, and England.

Aaron Levinthal presented **The Archaeology of the Birthplace of Harriet Tubman.**

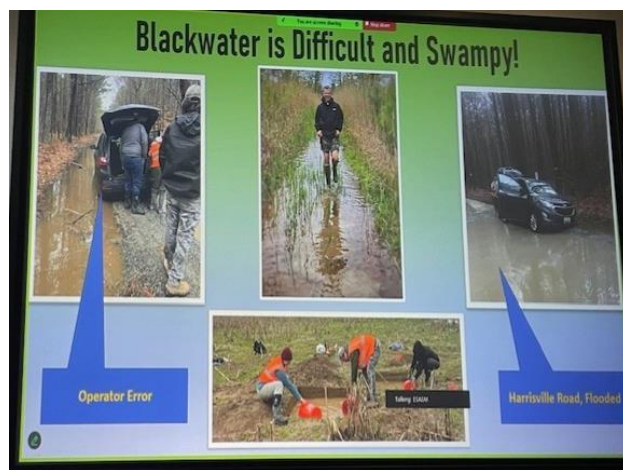
Over the past several years MDOT archaeologists have explored landscapes that would



have been familiar to Harriet Tubman, her family, and countless others. Aaron Levinthal discussed how historic records were used to try to locate Ben Ross's house. Ben Ross was Harriet Tubman's father. Every 25 feet, 1,000 STPs were dug, but only one site that documented the mid-19th century was found.



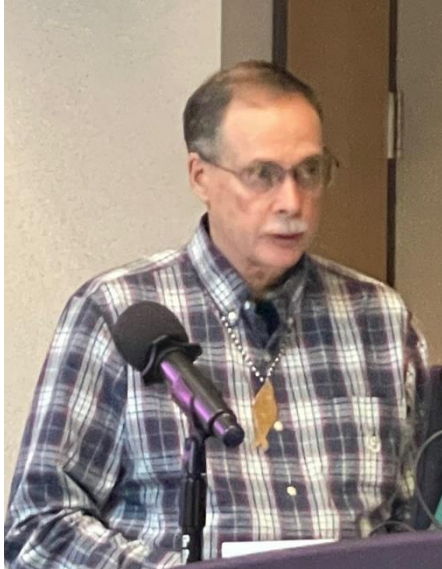
Flooding and swampy areas present difficulties of working in and around the Fish and Wildlife Service's Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge.



Aaron Levinthal is an archaeologist with over 26 years of professional experience in archaeological and historical research, and public outreach.

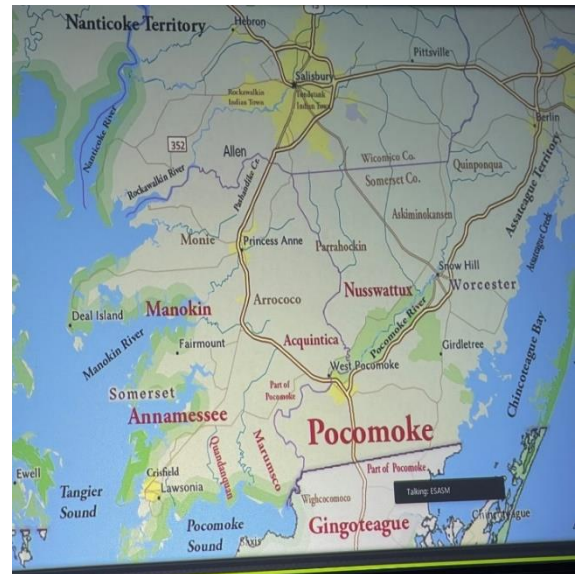
Frederic M. Stiner Memorial Address

Norris "Buddy" Howard, Jr., lineal descendant of a Pocomoke Person, Council Member and Tradition Bearer for the Pocomoke Indian Nation, Inc., spoke on behalf of his Tribal Community, the Pocomoke Indian Nation. He related the Indigenous History of the Pocomoke Paramountcy which included the Annemessee, Quindocqua, Morumscio, Gingoteague, and Mananoakin Tribes.

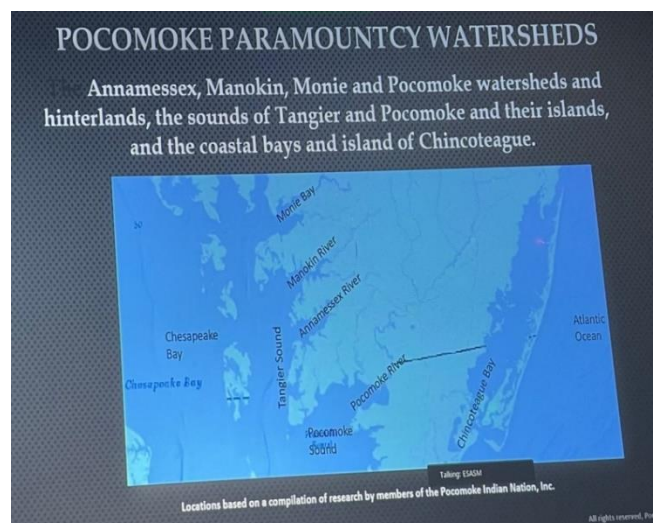


Historical documents, including accounts by early European explorers and colonizers along with multiple historic maps were presented to show trade

routes, areas of occupation, and dwellings. Experimental archeology, forced migration, and assimilation were discussed.



Norris "Buddy" Howard, Jr. currently serves as a Commissioner on the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs.



Buddy Howard, Jr. was presented with an honorary membership to the Eastern Shore Chapter of the ASM by Julia Berg.



Thank you to the Eastern Shore Chapter for Hosting!!!



Mid-Potomac Chapter Participates in Montgomery Parks Harvest Festival

The Mid-Potomac chapter of ASM participated in Montgomery Parks Harvest Festival held at Montgomery Counties' Agricultural History Farm Park Oct. 5, 2024. 1,900 people enjoyed everything from sheep herding to dahlia growing to tin smithing and much more. Bread making took place in the kitchen of the Magruder-Bussard Farmstead. Families enjoyed storytelling, a variety of crafts and watching a team of folks construct a wickiup.





2025 Conference on Public Archaeology

Abstract submissions for the [2025 Conference on Public Archaeology](#) are now open! Hosted by [Archaeology in the Community](#), this meeting of public-minded archaeologists and cultural heritage professionals will take place August 8-9, 2025 in Washington, DC. This unique conference will skip traditional paper presentations in favor of discussions, hands-on activities, and networking opportunities. Submit your idea for a panel, roundtable, workshop, or poster before the deadline on February 10, 2025 and register for the conference between March and July. Read more in the [Submission Guidelines](#) (PDF). Let's shape the future of archaeology together! #PublicArchaeology2025

Eastern States Archeological Federation (ESAF)

Stephen Israel

ESAF 91st Annual Meeting, November 7-10, 2024, Newport, Rhode Island
esaf-archeology.org. This ESAF Annual Meeting is going to be a Hybrid format allowing both in-person and remote presentations and attendance.

Annual Meeting Registration will be through the ESAF Web Site:

<https://esaf-archeology.org/annual-meeting.html>

Registration by Paypal or by check with mail-in registration form available.

Contact Program Chair, Heather Rockwell

For general inquiries, contact Dr. Zac Singer, ESAF President

2024 Annual ESAF Banquet Keynote Speaker on Saturday evening:

Annual Banquet Keynote Speaker

Rebecca J. Bertrand, Newport Historical Society

Rebecca J. Bertrand stepped into the role of executive director of the Newport Historical Society in January 2023. She oversees the stewardship of some of Newport's most important historic properties, including the Colony House, the Great Friends Meeting House, the Brick Market and the oldest house in Newport, the Wanton-Lyman-Hazard House; the curation and maintenance of a robust collection of over 500 years' worth of artifacts, documents, and photographs; and a menu of public programs including the Museum of Newport History and other exhibits, tours, publications, and immersive learning experiences that bring history to life in the present.

Bertrand is a passionate nonprofit leader and spent seven years at newportFILM, a non-profit year-round documentary film series. Most recently, she was Executive Director of the New York Yacht Club Foundation for Historic Preservation, and previously served as Director of Development at the Newport Art Museum. She is on the board and leadership team of Preserve Rhode Island and supports the Rhode Island Humanities as a committee member and has served a grant panelist for Rhode Island State Council on the Arts.

Bertrand has deep roots in the Newport community: she is a graduate of Salve Regina University with a degree in Cultural and Historic Preservation. She is a past recipient of the Young Alumni of the Year Award and continues to support Salve as a proud alumna. Bertrand holds a M.A. from the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture at the University of Delaware with a certificate in Museum Studies.

Preservation for the Present: Reimagining Institutions as Instruments for Remembrance & Change

On the cusp of 2026, the semiquincentennial of the founding of the nation, the Newport Historical Society is embarking on a transformational journey. This keynote addresses how our institution is actively re-examining the narratives we present to the public. As a nonprofit organization founded in 1854 to preserve and interpret the history of Newport County, we are working to actively move beyond a singular historical viewpoint to acknowledge and explore the stories often silenced.

The Newport Historical Society is utilizing exhibitions, archival research, and digital tools to amplify previously underrepresented voices. This keynote conversation explores the power of these initiatives to foster a more inclusive understanding of Newport's past – a past that informs not only our sense of community's identity but also paves the way for a more just future. The address will explore the process behind multi-year efforts to center the experiences of Black and Indigenous people, including a preview of new and exciting work to come. We are making space for underrepresented voices through the growing Voices from the NHS Archives database, compelling exhibitions, and beyond. We invite you to join us for one such exhibition—A Name, A Voice, A Life: The Black Newporters of the 17th-19th Centuries—on view during the conference at the NHS Resource Center.

This address will explore the potential of historical institutions to serve as powerful instruments for remembrance, understanding, and positive change.

CAT 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

More workshops TBA.

At the ASM Annual Meeting I was recognized for graduating. This is the facial expression of every CAT Candidate I believe. Thank you everyone. This would not have been possible without the entire community. Thank you to Sheila George for taking photos and hosting a party for me at the lab.



Zac was my mentor in the CAT program. Even after graduating, I am worse than any toddler with the continual use of “why” and “how” until I am satisfied.

Thank you again to everyone

—Kim



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

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

Charles County for Lab and Field Work welcomes volunteers. Contact Esther Read at ReadE@charlescountymd.gov For more information, contact Carol Cowherd at 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

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

Montgomery County for Lab and Field Work welcomes volunteers. Contact Heather Bouslog at 301-563-7530 or Heather.Bouslog@montgomeryparks.org

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.

NEW! The Community College of Baltimore County is seeking a volunteer to identify a small collection made up of primarily projectile points recently donated to the college. The material is primarily from the East Coast. They are most interested in identifying by type. The collection is at the Catonsville campus (800 S. Rolling Rd) where a volunteer would be welcome to visit and work. Or they can arrange a virtual volunteer experience if a volunteer prefers to work from photos. Contact Dr. Nina Brown at nbrown2@ccbcmd.edu or 443-840-2909.

Call for December Newsletter:

Holiday Recipes (drinks, cookies, etc.) Folklore, trivia, memories. Anything fun to share—winter, December, or holiday related.

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

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 for more information.

Eastern Shore

Dates and events are on chapter's website [ASM Eastern Shore \(google.com\)](#) Facebook page Eastern Shore Maryland Archaeology and Instagram (@esmdarch). For more information, email esarcheology@gmail.com or jamrkin2@washcooll.edu

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

Open lab on Thursdays from noon to 4 pm at Washington College. Contact Julie Markin at jmarkin2@washcoll.edu. 2/1 through 5/2, except for 3/14 and 4/4.

Mid-Potomac

The chapter meets the third Thursday of the month from September through June. In-person meetings begin at 7pm. at Needwood Mansion for the business meeting followed by a presentation at around 7:30.

Pizza will be available before the in-person meeting starting at 6:30pm for \$5 per person. If virtual meetings are necessary, they will be via Zoom with the business meeting also starting at 7 p.m. and the presentation at 7:30.

For up-to-date information concerning meetings, please contact Don Housley at donhou704@earthlink.net

or 301-424-8526 or check the chapter website: www.asmmidpotomac.org, or send an email to: asmmidpotomac@gmail.com

Thursday, November 21, 2024: David Dove, archaeologist and landowner of the site will give a talk on the Great Houses and Kivas of the Mitchell Springs site near Cortez, Colorado. This chapter meeting and presentation will be via Zoom. If interested, please contact Don Housley at donhou704@earthlink.net for the necessary Zoom codes.

Monocacy

For information contact: 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

Western Maryland

Programs are held the fourth Friday of the month, at 7:30 pm. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 211 S. Lee Street in Cumberland, unless noted. Chapter email: 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.

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, for membership rates.

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