

Archeological Society of Virginia

Massanutten Chapter

Volume 36, Issue 1

Celebrating 36 Years!

January 2015



POINTS



Christmas Pot-Luck and Silent Auction—A Great Success

Submitted by Jeffrey F. Good

Thanks to all who attended the MCASV Annual Christmas-Pot Luck and Silent Auction! We raised \$706.00 during our silent auction. Items included homemade potato chips, deer jerky, honey, walnuts, fudge and numerous other goodies. There was also a great selection of hand crafted items including jewelry, Atlatls and darts. COSMIC SMOKE-N-BBQ LLC provided pulled pork sandwiches, chicken drumsticks, sliced sirloin, cole slaw, ice tea, and lemonade for the meal. Thanks to everyone who helped make this event possible!

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Newsletter Changes

Submitted by Jeffrey F. Good

I want to thank John Eckman for his help as Points Editor in 2014. His creative skills helped keep the newsletter going another twelve months. Due to John's new full time working obligations he has decided to step down as editor. Glenn Huffman has accepted the position as our new editor. The 2015 Points will only be as informative as our members make it. If you have an article pertaining to archeology please submit it. Please help us keep the newsletter going!

2015 MCASV Officers

Submitted by Jeffrey F. Good

At the December 2014 Christmas Dinner we elected our officers for 2015.

President: Cindy Schroer

"Points" Newsletter Staff

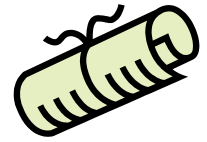
Vice President: Carole Nash

Publisher: Jeff Good

Secretary: Kay Veith

Editor: Glenn Huffman

Treasurer: Tom Mizell



The archaeology staff at Mount Vernon is offering two on-going opportunities for students looking for laboratory and field survey hours.

1. Historic Laboratory Hours (Labeling Artifacts)

Mount Vernon, in partnership with Dovetail Cultural Resource Group, is lending a hand to the City of Fredericksburg to process ceramics excavated from the Marshall-Bell Kiln Site, dating to the early 1830s and excavated in 2006/7. Specifically, there will be lots of labeling to do. This crucial piece of the lab work puzzle will enable identification and analysis of the ceramic fragments including vessel form, function, decoration, manufacturing techniques, and clay sourcing. We can't move sherds around a table until they are officially embedded with their context information! While you're busy marking, you will also learn a lot about the ceramics.

Application: You will be registered as a Mount Vernon volunteer on your first day.

Where: Archaeology Lab, George Washington's Mount Vernon (directions will be provided when you make arrangements with Eleanor)

When: Wednesdays through 2/25/15, 8am to 4pm.

Certification Requirements: This project will count for historic lab work hours.

II. African American Cemetery Survey

Archaeologists at Mount Vernon are currently conducting a survey of the African American cemetery (44FX116) located near George Washington's new tomb. Archaeologically speaking, the best way to commemorate the lives of the individuals who lived and labored at Mount Vernon, free and enslaved, is by thoroughly documenting the sacred area known as the African American Cemetery. The primary goal of this two-year archaeological project is to create a map that shows exactly where individuals are interred on the ridge by George Washington's tomb. Over 50 anomalies, or buried soil disturbances, were found in a limited geophysical study of the cemetery in 1985. However, these anomalies were never "ground-truthed." In other words, no subsequent digging occurred to determine if the disturbances were in fact burials or tree planting holes, modern utilities, or features associated with Native American activities. In fact, archaeology done in the past 20 years to mitigate effects of activities such as erecting a new fence, planting trees, fixing the memorial archway, and attending to drainage issues has indicated an additional 8 possible grave shafts not found in the 1985 survey. The tops of the grave shafts in these instances appear just below the surface, and this is where excavations will cease. No individual remains will be excavated. Our sampling strategy will consist of randomly selected 5 x 5 foot units. There is also a large Native American component to the site. There will also be a public interpretation component.

For either of these opportunities:

Contact: Eleanor Breen, Deputy Director for Archaeology, George Washington's Mount Vernon, ebreen@mountvernon.org, 703.799.6831

2015 State and Chapter Dues

Submitted by Tom Mizell

As 2015 has quickly arrived, we are gently reminded that “Dues for ASV are now due.” Please check your records and start the New Year with a smile and show of support for both ASV and your local chapter. Annual Membership Renewal Dues are due **January 31, 2015**. Prompt remittance ensures that members continue to receive the Quarterly Bulletin and Newsletter. Other benefits include major discounts on all Society publications and participation in Society supervised archeological activities in the field.

There is a **Membership Renewal Form** that is included in the most recent ASV mailing and available on the ASV website. You may submit the **form with payment** directly to Carl Fischer, ASV Treasurer. Mr. Fischer’s address is provided at the end of this article. A second option is for you to submit both the Massanutten Chapter and State dues to me. I will be glad to forward the State dues to Mr. Fischer for you. If you opt for this alternative please provide the completed **Membership Renewal Form** and the funds to me at your earliest convenience. I will have a stock of the forms available at meetings. The **MCASV Chapter Membership Application** will also be available at the meetings.

Chapter Dues are \$5.00 and State dues vary as shown below:

Regular Membership Dues	\$35.00
Senior (65 and older)	\$25.00
Student	\$15.00
Life	\$450.00
Sustaining	\$65.00
Additional family members	\$3.00 (please provide their names)

You may take care of this on-line through PayPal:

<http://www.asv-archeology.org/Org/OrgMembers.html>

For those opting to submit directly to Mr. Fischer (ASV Treasurer) his mailing address follows:

ASV Treasurer
Carl Fischer
1685 Sweet Hall Road
West Point, VA 23181

Email: flyfischn@aol.com
804-843-9194

The Massanutten Chapter ASV appreciates your attention to this matter and we look forward to your participation in the life of our Chapter in 2015!

MCASV E-Archive Project Begins with January 2015 Meeting

Do you have photos or other documentation of MCASV projects or events? It's time to gather these and create an archive of the many activities that have enriched our time together.

Please bring whatever you have—newspaper clippings, photos, slides—to the January 2015 meeting, and we'll scan them for our electronic archive. This is also an opportunity to reminisce, energize, and plan for 2015 activities.



January Birthdays

January 1	Linda Purvis
January 13	Richard Robinson
January 18	Hank Deyerle
January 19	George Lott
January 22	Vickie Mongold
January 23	Greg Adamson



Please complete the MCASV Membership Application and submit to the MCASV Treasurer, so we have your birthdates for the newsletter

Submissions encouraged!
Deadline for the next issue is December 20th.
Please contact us with any comments, articles, tips, or concerns.

Publisher: Jeff Good
atlatlist@comcast.net

Editor: Glenn Huffman
glensen@hotmail.com

Upcoming Events

- January 7th, 7pm, regular Chapter Meeting. Bring material for E-archive project (see above). Also in Arey Hall, at the Bridgewater Municipal building.
- February 4th, 7pm, regular Chapter Meeting.
- March 4th, 7pm, regular Chapter Meeting.
- April 1st, 7pm, regular Chapter Meeting.
- May 6th, 7pm, regular Chapter Meeting.