



# THE DATUM POINT

Newsletter of the  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE  
ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

Chapter Website – [www.nvcasv.org](http://www.nvcasv.org)

February 2013

## FROM THE PRESIDENT – JACK HRANICKY

We made it through the ups and downs of January weather; hopefully, February's weather will be kind to us. Some of our worst (best) snows come in February. Anyway, it is time to start planning on field schools in archaeology.

I received notice of an organization that has a world-wide listing of schools. They are Institute for Field Research in California ([www.IFRglobal.org](http://www.IFRglobal.org)). They have programs all over the world. And, for Virginia, there will be field opportunities, and I will let everyone know as I find out about them.

I just finished a book entitled *The River Where America Began* by Bob Deans (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc, New York). His argument is that the James River was the beginning of the United States. Of course, a lot of early history occurred on the river...which, of course, led to the best nation on earth. It is well written and recommended reading for history buffs. Interestingly and for the 2007 publication date, he starts Virginia prehistory at 23,000 years ago; no idea how he arrived at that date, but I like it.

John Kelsey and I were going to attend January's ASV Board meeting, but it was postponed, and we will attend the re-scheduled meeting and report to the Chapter various topics that are discussed. Hope everyone can attend the Chapter meeting; we have a great speaker.

**Now** is the time to renew your ASV membership if you have not already done so!  
Go to:  
[asv-archeology.org/Org/OrgMembers.html](http://asv-archeology.org/Org/OrgMembers.html)

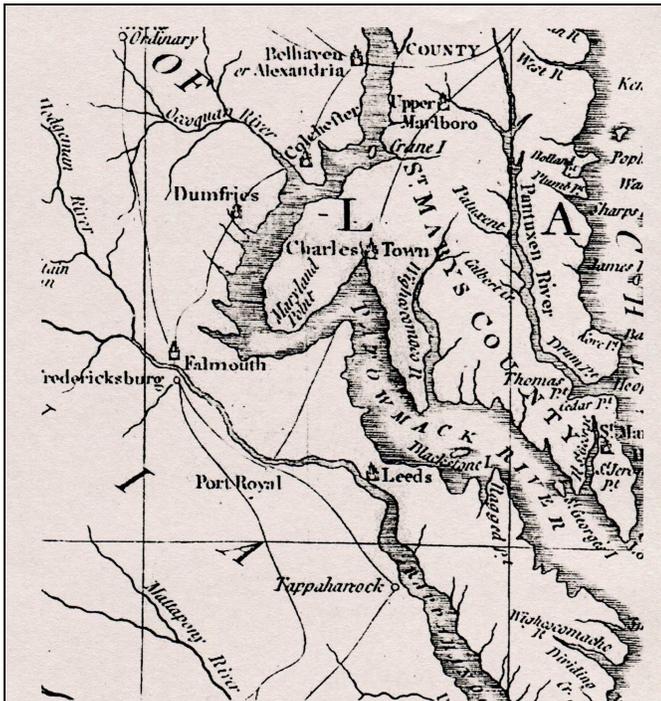
## Presentation on February 13th

## HELL HATH NO FURY ARCHAEOLOGISTS AND THE LOOTING OF THE IRAQ MUSEUM

**By Corine Wegener**

In 2003, the archaeological community united in outrage over the tragic looting of the Iraq Museum. Damage and looting of archaeological sites became apparent in Iraq, including preventable damage near Coalition bases. Archaeologists began to think about how they could contribute to the preservation of collections and archaeological sites during armed conflict. Wegener will talk about her experiences with archaeologists, both while in Iraq and developing cultural preservation training for the U.S. military and lobbying for U.S. ratification of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Corine Wegener is Preservation Specialist for Cultural Heritage in the Office of the Undersecretary for History, Art, and Culture at the Smithsonian Institution. She was Associate Curator of Decorative Arts, Textiles and Sculpture at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. In 2003, Wegener deployed to Baghdad as an Army Reservist, where she assisted the Iraq National Museum to recover from the looting after the U.S. invasion. In 2006, Wegener founded the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield, the U.S. branch of a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting of cultural property worldwide during armed conflict. Blue Shield is currently working to preserve cultural property after the earthquake in Haiti. Wegener received her bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha and M.A.s in Political Science and Art History from the University of Kansas.



## Small Things Considered: *Historic Artifacts of Everyday Life*

An archaeology symposium surveying recent discoveries from excavation sites at McCarty's Accotink Quarter, Gunston Hall, Old Colchester, Washington's Ferry Farm, Mount Vernon and Washington, DC.

Saturday, February 16, 2013  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Gunston Hall

Hosted by Gunston Hall, FOFA (Friends of Fairfax County Archaeology and Cultural Resources), and the Fairfax County Cultural Resources Management and Protection Section.

**Registration:** \$40 individual until February 8, \$50 individual after, \$40 for FOFA members and Friends of Gunston Hall.

Registration includes morning refreshments and coffee, lunch, afternoon snacks, and a guided tour of the mansion.

Register online at [www.gunstonhall.org](http://www.gunstonhall.org), or by telephone 703-550-9220. Student scholarships available.

## OLD COLCHESTER

Greetings from CART! We have been very busy over the winter months, analyzing artifacts, feature and finishing the reports. Most of the reports for Old Colchester Park and Preserve (OCP) are in the final stages of editing. Alisa and Jon finished the report for the Finger Ridges, and Maddy completed the usually frustrating and slightly confusing landowner history of the Colchester lots. All of the features on 44FX0704 and 44FX3197 have been analyzed, and the majority of the features date the bustling time of Colchester (1750's - 1830s).

## *A lost button, a dropped ring.....*

## "Small Things Considered: Historic Artifacts of Everyday Life"

An archaeology symposium surveying recent discoveries from excavation sites at McCarty's Accotink Quarter, Gunston Hall, Old Colchester, Washington's Ferry Farm, Mount Vernon and Washington, D.C.

Featuring presentations by Dave Shonyo, Jerry Foster, Laura Galke, Ruth Troccoli, Christopher Sperling, Eleanor Breen, Boyd Sipe and Laurie Burgess.

To be held at Gunston Hall on Saturday, February 16, 2013, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Features from 44FX0704 identify two structures. A large brick chimney base is evidence of the first and a subfloor pit marks the location of a second. Both structures appear to have been occupied as early as the mid-eighteenth century and were abandoned by the fourth quarter of that century. At Site 44FX3197, many of the features date to the eighteenth century and aid our understanding of the bustling trade and commerce at Colchester.

We have started in the field again at the OCPP!! The cold weather has kept us inside some days; but, hopefully just cool winter weather will be in the forecast for the rest of February. Currently we are excavating at Enyedi House, a recent addition of land to the OCPP. This historic home was moved to its current location around the turn of the twentieth century.

Artifacts spanning a wide date range have been recovered, some indicative of past house occupants some considerably older. To date we have recovered everything from colonial ceramics like coarse earthenware tin glaze, porcelain, milk glass fragments to plastic toy pieces from the 1960's.

The lab at JLC is back in action too. We are still wrapping up the trails of last year's project; however we are already beginning to process this year's artifacts. We are definitely looking forward to a great year in the lab. The artifacts from around the Enyedi House are already being washed and processed. Volunteers are welcome to join us in the field or lab Wednesday through Friday and some Saturdays. Please email if you are interesting in lending a hand.

## **NEWS STORIES**

### **KING RICHARD THE III REMAINS**

[http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/national\\_world&id=8979698](http://abclocal.go.com/wabc/story?section=news/national_world&id=8979698)



### **HALF-MILLION-YEAR-OLD HUMAN JAWBONE FOUND IN SERBIAN CAVE**

[http://www.nbcnews.com/id/50724252/ns/technology\\_and\\_science-science/](http://www.nbcnews.com/id/50724252/ns/technology_and_science-science/)



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Alexandria Museum	Francine Bromberg	<a href="mailto:Francine.bromberg@alexandriava.gov">Francine.bromberg@alexandriava.gov</a> 703-838-4399 (information)

## NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Please send *Datum Point* via e-mail

Individual (\$15) \_\_\_\_\_

Student (\$5) \_\_\_\_\_

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Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

Isabella Pease, Treasurer, NVC/ASV  
8304 Graceway Drive  
Lorton, VA 22079

**Chapter members should join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia at [asv-archeology.org](http://asv-archeology.org)**

The Chapter meets at 7:30p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of each month at the James Lee Center, 2855-A Annandale Road, Falls Church, VA.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!**

### *THE DATUM POINT*

**Northern Virginia Chapter  
Archeological Society of Virginia  
2855 Annandale Rd.  
Falls Church, VA 22042**

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