



# THE DATUM POINT

December 2020

Newsletter of the  
NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAPTER (NVC) OF THE  
ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

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



## FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

**PATRICK O'NEILL**

At this December meeting, elections will be held for chapter officers. Yvonne French and Nancy Ehlike are stepping down after several years of service, and we thank them for all they have done for the chapter as well as the ASV! If anyone wishes to join the NVC Officers, join tomorrow night and nominate yourself from the floor!

At the time of this writing, this is the slate for 2021:

**Patrick O'Neill – President**  
**open – Vice President**  
**Barbara Leven – Treasurer**  
**open – Recording Secretary**  
**John Kelsey – Corresponding Secretary**  
**Chris Havlicek – Webmaster**  
**Ann Wood – Certification Liaison**  
**Patrick O'Neill – Datum Point Editor**

Nominations from the floor can be made for any of these positions, but the floor candidate must be at the meeting to be nominated or let me know prior to the meeting if you cannot attend.

Got any ideas for great speakers for Chapter meetings or for field trips?! Contact me!

Mike Barber was elected ASV President and I was elected the Vice-President of the ASV for 2021 and 2022. NVC member (and past NVC President) Diane Schug-O'Neill was elected as one of the ASV Board of Directors after a run-off election, along with Nancy Rubin. Diane and I both look forward to represent Northern Virginia at the State level!

**Zoom Chapter Meeting,  
Elections  
and  
Project Discussions  
7 pm  
Weds December 9, 2020**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89219783780>

## CART

**Fairfax County Archaeological Research Team**

As the holiday season approaches CART is taking time to wrap up multiple projects worked on throughout the year. There is not much field work to speak of right now but the team is hard at work researching and writing up previous excavations and preparing for future projects. Our Lab director and assistant lab director continue to work incredibly hard processing and cataloging the massive number of artifacts brought into the lab this year. Their work is vital to the completion of reports and understanding the broader view of these projects.

This month in acknowledgement of Veterans Day, CART posted a brief history of the military companies of the 304<sup>th</sup> Engineering Brigade 79<sup>th</sup>

Division that made camp on the ground of Mt. Air in 1918 while they built a railroad spur connecting Accotink Station to Camp Humphreys (today's Fort Belvoir). The camp was nicknamed "Camp Merry Widow" in honor of the widow Mrs. George Kernan who owned the property. For more information please take a look at the more in-depth article recently published to the CART blog <https://cartarchaeology.wordpress.com/2020/11/11/remembering-camp-merry-widow/>



Recently the Fairfax County artiFACTS page featured a number of artifacts discovered and researched by the Archaeology and Collections Branch staff. These highlights are another way we can connect with the public about the archaeological work we are doing throughout the county. There are many interesting and informative posts on that page from other departments that can offer insight into the many aspects of conservation and the management of artifact collections. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/artifacts/projectile-point-ancient-history-mount-air>.

We hope everyone has a happy and safe holiday season, our volunteer program is currently suspended, and our offices remain closed until further notice. If you would like to be notified when we can again accept volunteer assistance, please email [cartarchlab@live.com](mailto:cartarchlab@live.com).

### Soldiers at Camp Merry Widow in 1918



## 2020 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Patrick O'Neill	<a href="mailto:PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET">PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET</a> 703-244-6275
<b>Vice-President</b>	Yvonne French	<a href="mailto:yvonne.french2@gmail.com">yvonne.french2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Barbara Leven	<a href="mailto:levenbarbara2@gmail.com">levenbarbara2@gmail.com</a>
<b>Corresponding Sec</b>	John Kelsey	<a href="mailto:jkelsey@cox.net">jkelsey@cox.net</a>
<b>Recording Sec</b>	Nancy Ehlke	<a href="mailto:rce2@cox.net">rce2@cox.net</a> 703-978-6724
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<b>Certification Liaison</b>	Ann Wood	<a href="mailto:annpwood@gmail.com">annpwood@gmail.com</a>

### Other Public Archaeological Programs in Northern Virginia/DC

<b>Fairfax Co. Archaeology (FCPA)</b>	Dr. Elizabeth Crowell	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov">elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov</a> 703-534-3881
<b>Mount Vernon</b>	Joe Downer	<a href="mailto:JDowner@mountvernon.org">JDowner@mountvernon.org</a> 703.799.6831
<b>Gunston Hall</b>	Dave Shonyo	<a href="mailto:archaeology@gunstonhall.org">archaeology@gunstonhall.org</a> 703-550-0441
<b>Alexandria Museum</b>	Dr. Eleanor Breen	<a href="mailto:Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov">Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov</a> 703-838-4399
<b>DC City Archaeologist</b>	Dr. Ruth Troccoli	<a href="mailto:Ruth.Troccoli@dc.gov">Ruth.Troccoli@dc.gov</a> 202-442-8836

### NVC/ASV MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Family (\$17)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Return to:**

**Barbara Leven, Treasurer, NVC/ASV**

**9518 Liberty Tree Lane**

**Vienna VA 22182**

**Chapter members must join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia at [www.virginiaarcheology.org/](http://www.virginiaarcheology.org/)**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!**