



THE DATUM POINT

January 2020

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

Chapter Website – www.nvcasv.org



FROM THE CHAPTER PRESIDENT

PATRICK O'NEILL

Happy New Year! These are the new (old) NVC Officers for 2020!

Patrick O'Neill ó President
Yvonne French ó Vice President
Barbara Leven ó Treasurer
Nancy Ehlke ó Recording Secretary
John Kelsey ó Corresponding Secretary
Chris Havlicek ó Webmaster
Ann Wood ó Certification Liaison
Patrick O'Neill ó Datum Point Editor

You received an email from our ASV President Forrest Morgan about getting a budget through the Virginia State Legislature for the State Underwater Archaeologist. I hope you will send a letter to the people President Morgan listed in the letter. Time is not on our side, so do it NOW!!!!!! Thank you for your efforts!

I have two projects in the wings that I did not get started in 2019, and a third to continue work on in 2020:

- 1) Freeman Store in Vienna
- 2) East End Cemetery in Vienna
- 3) Bull Run Mountain cemeteries and log house

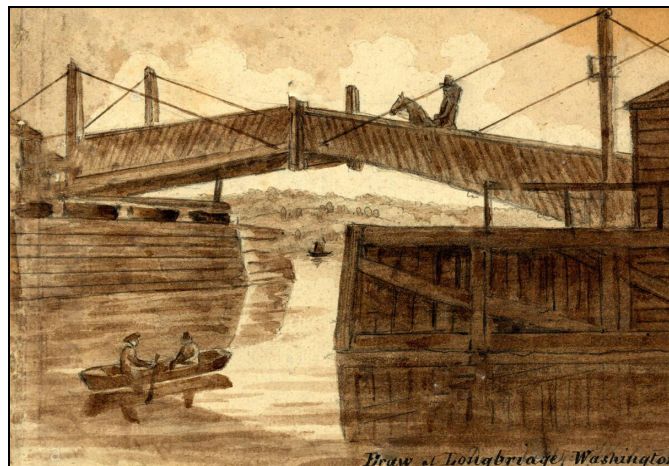
Stay tune for when these projects will happen!

**Join Chapter members at Anthony's Restaurant at 6 pm before the meeting!
Located at 3000 Annandale Rd, Falls Church, VA 22042 - (703) 532-0100**

**Chapter Meeting 7:30pm
Weds January 8, 2020**

LONG BRIDGE OVER THE POTOMAC

By Patrick O'Neill



Since just before the War of 1812, a bridge has spanned the Potomac River where the railroad bridge now spans next to the 14th Street Bridge. This talk will present the illustrious 200+ year history of that crossing, including Jackson City, once called the Monte Carlo of the South!

Patrick O'Neill is a historian and archaeologist and has lived in Fairfax County for over 20 years. He is past President of the Archeological Society of Virginia (ASV), and current ASV Membership Secretary. His is the current President and newsletter editor of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the ASV.

CART

Fairfax County Archaeological Research Team

During the month of November, archaeology volunteer Richard Eilers received the Special Recognition Elly Doyle Award for his contributions to the Fairfax County Park Authority Archaeology and Collections Branch. Richard was accompanied by family and friends to the 2019 Elly Doyle Park Service Awards ceremony where he received this honor. Richard has volunteered with the Archaeology and Collections Branch since January 2011, dedicating more than 450 hours of his time to processing and recovering thousands of archaeological artifacts both in the field and lab. With a true passion for archaeology, Richard successfully completed the ASV archaeological technician program and works on projects such as sorting artifacts, recovering small finds, and storing artifacts in archival bags with the proper information. His activities will help ensure that our history is recorded. We thank Richard greatly for his time and devotion to preserving our county's past!



CART volunteers Steve (left) and Richard (right)

In the field, excavations have continued at Riverbend Park in Great Falls and the Mount Air Historic Site in Lorton. Both projects require

archaeologists to systematically dig shovel test pits (STPs) on an established grid mapping each park. Riverbend is known to have a deep history and prehistory, with Native American occupations dating back thousands of years. Artifacts recovered from Riverbend thus far include debitage, fire cracked rock, prehistoric ceramic sherds along with historic nails, window glass, and fishing weights. The field crew has excavated more than 70% of the planned STPs at Mount Air and continue to recover primarily historic artifacts associated to the 18th-20th century occupation of the Mt. Air house that stood on the property until a fire tragically burned it down in 1992.

In the lab, staff and volunteers continue artifact processing, cataloging, and data entry pertaining to the artifacts recovered from Riverbend and Mount Air. Volunteer, Denise has been mending vessels from Patriot Park North (Lincoln Lewis Vanoy) which requires her to examine thousands of ceramic sherds. Thanks to her keen eye and skillful piecework, she has identified and begun mending 15 different vessels!



Vessel mended by Denise

For current volunteers, please note upcoming hours are limited. Please contact the staff before coming to volunteer to be sure there is work available for the day you wish to volunteer.

2019 NVC/ASV CHAPTER OFFICERS

President	Patrick O'Neill	PATRICKLONEILL@VERIZON.NET 703-244-6275
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Certification Liaison	Ann Wood	annpwood@gmail.com

Other Public Archaeological Programs in Northern Virginia/DC

Fairfax Co. Archaeology (FCPA)	Dr. Elizabeth Crowell	elizabeth.crowell@fairfaxcounty.gov 703-534-3881
Mount Vernon	Joe Downer	JDowner@mountvernon.org 703.799.6831
Gunston Hall	Dave Shonyo	archaeology@gunstonhall.org 703-550-0441
Alexandria Museum	Dr. Eleanor Breen	Eleanor.Breen@alexandriava.gov 703-838-4399
DC City Archaeologist	Dr. Ruth Troccoli	Ruth.Troccoli@dc.gov 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 can join our parent organization, the Archeological Society of Virginia at www.virginiaarcheology.org/

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

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!!!