

# Archeological Society of Virginia Massanutten Chapter

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December 2008



# POINTS



## Annual December Christmas Dinner Meeting and Auction

*Submitted by Cindy Schroer*

Hey everyone, it is time to get ready for the December Dinner and Auction. Dinner will be on Wednesday, December 3 and will start at 6 pm. The Dinner part is easy - it's potluck. Bring your favorite dish (or the easiest) to share with the group for dinner. Plates, utensils, cups, napkins, drinks, will be supplied. Feel free to bring your spouse or a friend. The short business meeting should take place around 7:00 with the auction to follow. Here's how the auction works. Anyone who wants to bring items to donate to the auction (you can regift, make something, bake something, or just go out and buy something you think the group might like - there's no price range but we try to keep it simple). The items are spread out on tables with a paper cup near each one. If you want to participate, you buy tickets for \$1 each, sign your name on the back and place the tickets in the cups near the item you want. You can put as many tickets in the cup as you want. After everyone is through doing their "silent bidding", we draw one ticket from each cup and that person is the winner of the item. It's always a lot of fun and if you're lucky you'll go home with an item or two.

### Inside this issue:

<i>Annual December Christmas Dinner Meeting</i>	1
<i>Remembering Howard MacCord</i>	1, 4
<i>2009 State &amp; Chapter Dues</i>	2
<i>State of Officers for 2009</i>	2
<i>Certification Program Opportunities</i>	3
<i>MCASV December Meeting Agenda</i>	3
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4

## Remembering Howard MacCord 10/23/1915-11/3/2008

*Submitted by Carole Nash*

I spent Howard's 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday with he and Betsy on a warm October afternoon in 2007 in Pendleton County, West Virginia. We were visiting a farm overlooking the South Branch of the Potomac River, where the discovery of over 30 stone piles on a high bluff prompted the land-owners, Bill and Helen Blackwell, to seek out Howard. Several years earlier I had mentioned to him a similar set of features located about two miles upriver from our destination in 2007. As usual, he remembered this conversation and invited me to go along.

*Continued on Page 4*

*Photo by Carole Nash*



Bill Blackwell and Howard MacCord, Thistle-down Farm, Brandywine, West Virginia, October 2007.

## 2009 State and Chapter Dues

*Submitted by Tom Mizell*

As 2009 is fast approaching, 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, 2009. 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. The form has typically been available on the ASV website as well. You may submit the **form with payment** directly to William A. Thompson, Jr. Treasurer ASV. Mr. Thompson'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. Thompson 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 soon. Attached with the minutes is the new Chapter Membership Application. Please fill out and bring to the next meeting or when you pay dues.

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

Regular Membership Dues	\$25.00
Senior (65 and older)	\$20.00
Student	\$15.00
Life	\$350.00
Sustaining	\$50.00
Additional family members	\$ 2.00 (please provide their names)

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

Treasurer, ASV  
536 Summit Ridge Drive  
Chesapeake, VA 23322

The Massanutten Chapter ASV appreciates your attention to this matter and we look forward to your participation in the life of our Chapter in 2009!

## 2009 Slate of Officers

*Submitted by Janice Biller and Linda Waggy*

*President: Cindy Schroer*

*Vice President: Carole Nash*

*Secretary: Kay Veith*

*Treasurer: Tom Mizell*

*Newsletter Editors: Jeff Good & Laura Roder*

*Nominations from the floor are welcome during the election.*

## Certification Program Opportunities

*Submitted by Carole Nash*

The following is information on upcoming certification opportunities:

**Historic and Prehistoric Lab Work**: Artifact processing and analysis from several 19th century historic home sites and prehistoric base camps. M, W, F schedule -- set your time! Contact Carole (432-6864 or nashcl@jmu.edu) for parking information and directions to her new JMU lab space.

### **\*\*2008 Field School and Volunteer Opportunities\*\***

There are a number of opportunities available throughout the state for Certification members and Chapter volunteers. Check out the MCASV website at [www.mcasv.org](http://www.mcasv.org) for a full listing of the programs, their websites, and contact information.

### **Department of Historic Resources (DHR) Volunteer Program**

The DHR Fall Field School has ended for the Fall 2008 season, but volunteer days can be arranged during the week for anyone interested. Prehistoric and historic artifact processing, cataloguing, data entry, documentary research, and outreach activities are some examples of what work is available. Please contact Chief Curator Dee DeRoche at [dee.deroche@dhr.virginia.gov](mailto:dee.deroche@dhr.virginia.gov) or (804) 367-2323 x134 for an application and to set up day(s) to volunteer if you are interested.

## MCASV December 2008 Meeting Agenda

*The annual Christmas Dinner will take place at Bridgewater Town Hall on December 3, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Silent Auction festivities will follow. The following business items will be discussed as time allows:*

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| I. Call to Order          | VI. Newsletter Editor's Report     |
| II. Welcome to Guests     | VII. New Business                  |
| III. Election of Officers | VIII. Certification Program Report |
| IV. Secretary's Report    | IX. Morris Pottery Kiln            |
| V. Treasurer's Report     | X. Announcements                   |
|                           | XI. Adjournment                    |

## Upcoming Events

- Dec. 3, 2008 MCASV Christmas Dinner, Election of Officers, and Silent Auction  
Bridgewater Town Hall, 6:00 p.m.
- Jan. 7, 2009 MCASV Monthly Meeting, Bridgewater Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.  
Program: TBA
- Feb. 4, 2009 MCASV Monthly Meeting, Bridgewater Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.  
Program: TBA
- Mar. 4, 2009 MCASV Monthly Meeting, Bridgewater Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.  
Program: TBA

## Remembering Howard MacCord 10/23/1915-11/3/2008

*Continued from Page 1*

Howard and Betsy arrived with a full itinerary, as he had asked Bill to locate artifact collections from the local area. This was going to be a multiple-day trip for them - the first time Howard had been in the South Branch Valley in a long while. Always prepared, he had been in contact with Bob Wall who visited the site months before. Howard had re-read the literature on stone burial mounds, remembering minute details and bringing them up in conversation. After lunch and birthday cake, we lit out for the bluff in my truck. The terrain was very rough but he enjoyed riding 'shotgun' in a 4-wheel drive on the way to the site (although at one sharp turn he muttered, 'slow and steady takes the day').

Frankly, I was concerned about my own balance, much less Howard's. I was holding my breath as we found our way among the features - but he insisted on looking at every single one. While he and I sparred through the afternoon over their meaning - he, convinced we were in the midst of a Middle Woodland cemetery, and me, convinced that these were historic features from timbering days - he came up with several testable hypotheses and a plan for a large-scale mapping project. I am happy to say that one of my students completed this work during April. We have no resolution, of course, but I am satisfied that with this site visit, Howard opened another door to a new set of questions that will remain with me for a long time. Howard remained vital because he never stopped engaging others in archaeology - whether it be colleagues, landowners, or the interested public. In their travels around the region, Howard and Betsy personified archaeology as a way of life. There was never any such thing as retirement - and I'm sure that's exactly how he planned it.

Massanutten Chapter of the  
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*We're on the web*  
*www.mcasv.org*

## We Need Your Help in Contributing Articles!

Your article could be here!

Please help by contributing articles each month.

The deadline for any information to be included in the newsletter will be the TWENTIETH of each month. Please have articles sent to Laura and Jeff by this time.

Your article could be here! Please email the Newsletter Editors at roderla@aol.com (Laura Roder) and atlatlist@comcast.net (Jeff Good) if you are submitting an article to the MCASV Newsletter.

