



INKSHERDS

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Delaware
September 2007

Published quarterly

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MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues for 2007 should be submitted now to ensure the receipt of future *Inksherds* and the *Bulletin*. Dues are as follows: Sustaining (\$50.00), Contributing (\$30.00), Family (\$15.00), Library (\$15.00), Individual (\$10.00), and Junior (\$8.00). Mail to the Archaeological Society of Delaware, P.O. Box 12483, Wilmington, DE 19850-2483. Please remember to put the year for which the dues apply on your check!

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CHAPTER NEWS

Sussex Chapter – The Sussex Chapter now runs an online discussion group. Check out <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/asdsussex/> to sign up!

The last meeting was held September 13 at the Zwaanendael Museum in Lewes. Peter Bon presented and discussed artifacts excavated from Avery's Rest. The next meeting is scheduled for November 8.

Congratulations to Sussex Chapter member Jill Showell who just completed the 8-week archaeology field school at Monticello, Virginia. Jill got to meet Dr. William Kelso during a special tour of the Jamestown archaeological site.

Avery's Rest

An article on Avery's Rest was published in the *Cape Gazette*, along with a picture of the well casing that was removed in one piece from the well. Click on the following links to read articles about the site: <http://www.delawareonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20070818/NEWS/708180333/1006/NEWS>, and <http://www.thedailytimesonline.com:80/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=20070923/LIFESTYLE/709230328>

Other articles have appeared recently in *Beach Life* and the *News Journal*, along with a TV newscast on WHYY. Delaware Secretary of State Harriet Windsor visited the site in August, and a descendant of John Avery also recently visited the site.

For information on Capt. John Avery, visit <http://community-2.webtv.net/coranglais53/averyofdelaware/> to read an online biography.

Site work will continue until November 1. If you would like to assist in the excavation, please let Dan or John Bansch know.

Maritime Chapter – Chapter members recently worked a wreck, the schooner-barge *Charlotte*, built Elkton MD 1905, foundered 8 Jan 1942, at the Potomac mouth; she is built like a "ram" schooner and possibly rigged, but mainly was intended to be towed. Her beam is narrow enough for the old C&D locks.

Another dive site is Jennifer's wreck, off of Indian River Inlet. The wreck site lies in 75 feet + and is around 165 feet long with a sand ocean floor.

Future dive dates are: September 23rd, October 28th, and November 25th.

The research vessel called the "Roper" is coming from the Potomac River in Maryland to do a side-scan survey of the Lewes harbor area from Sept. 29th thru Oct. 7th.

People's Chapter - Ian Burrows of Hunter Research spoke at the meeting September 11. His topic was the archaeological survey of the McClement's property in Dover.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

New Castle County Chapter - Meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Greenbank Mill, 500 Greenbank Rd., Wilmington, DE. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m.

The People's Chapter (Kent County) - Meets on the second Tuesdays of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Delaware Archaeology Museum, 316 South Governors Avenue, Dover. Call the Museum, 302-739-3260.

Sussex County Chapter - Meets every other month on the 2nd Thursday at 7pm at the Zwaanendael Museum, starting in January.

Most regular meetings will be joint meetings with the Maritime Chapter, in order to share training, guest speakers, and mutual projects.

Maritime Chapter – See above.

DELAWARE ARCHAEOLOGY

A workshop on 17th century artifacts was conducted September 6 at the Tudor Park collection facility in Dover. Artifacts recovered from the recent excavation of some late 17th century sites in the Rehoboth Bay area were on hand for perusal. It is suspected that the Delaware River Valley early colonial occupations have a different signature from those of the Chesapeake Region and that it should be defined. A possible symposium in May 2008 may contribute to this goal.

The Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs maintains a 6-page printed listing titled "Delaware's Archaeological Network," which lists Delaware archaeological web sites and other general archaeology web sites. This listing is also available online at www.delaware.gov under "agencies," then "Historical and Cultural Affairs."

Dan Griffith presented a great lecture on prehistoric Delaware and a ceramic workshop at the Zwaanendael Museum September 22. It was well attended by 30 people. Upcoming workshops include a lithic workshop by David Clarke and a lab workshop by Chuck Fithian.

NATIONAL PARK IN DELAWARE?

If you are interested in providing input into the possible creation of a National Park here in Delaware, two "scoping meetings" are planned:

Southern Delaware:

October 9th, 7:00 p.m. Carlisle Fire Hall, Milford DE

Northern Delaware:

October 10th, 6:30 p.m. Buena Vista Conference Center, New Castle, DE

Any questions can be directed to Latisha L. Omeruah, Project Manager, National Park Initiative, Office of U.S. Senator Thomas R Carper, (302) 573-6291.

REGIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Archeological Society of Maryland - The annual meeting is scheduled for Oct 13th in Annapolis. The speakers are posted on the Society's web site, www.marylandarcheology.org, as well as their newsletters "ASM INK."

On the following day, Oct 14th (11am - 4pm), ASM will sponsor an archeology display at the annual SwanFest, held at Swan Harbor Farm in Havre de Grace. A sample archeological unit, screening exercise and artifact identification display will be set up. The chapter has conducted several excavations on the Swan Harbor Farm property, in support of the Boy Scout Merit Badge program.

Archaeological Society of the Northern Chesapeake -

Recently, chapter members had an introduction to prehistoric pottery identification at Harford Glen, and visitors to the Maritime Museum of Havre de Grace listened to John Page Williams speak about John Smith's Chesapeake voyage of discovery, and the National Water Trail that follows his route. His heavily illustrated National Geographic book "Chesapeake - Exploring the Water Trail of Captain John Smith" is available at the Maritime Museum gift shop.

The chapter's earlier plan to host geologist Jeri Jones has been postponed until later in the Fall. In the meantime, if you have a unique earth sample to discuss with Jeri, he will have an exhibit at the 11th Annual Delta & Cardiff Heritage Festival, 9-4pm on Saturday, Oct 13th, at the Peach Bottom Recreation Center, Main Street, Delta, PA.

The 31st Annual Eastern Primitive Rendezvous at Muddy Run Park, Holtwood, PA, about midway between Delta and Lancaster, PA, is a "living history" encampment of this region between 1740 and 1840. Participants dress and live in period fashion for a week in the woods that includes such activities as

spinning, weaving, gun building, tin and blacksmithing, decorative quillwork, tomahawk throwing and flintlock rifle competition. The sutler (trader/merchant) area will be open to the public everyday Sept 22-30, from 9-4pm, and the entire encampment is open on Saturday and Sunday (Sept 22-23), 9-4pm. Senior Citizen Day will be Wed, Sept 26th, 9-2pm, for anyone over 55. This is a wonderful opportunity to take children or grandchildren, and step into the middle of an illustrated history book. For more information and directions, visit www.epr2007.net/index.html.

The next regular chapter meeting is scheduled for Oct 11th at the Perryville Town Hall.

North Carolina – (abstracted from article by Donald W. Patterson, news-record.com)

Archaeologists have returned to the site of what they believe is the Queen Anne's Revenge, the flagship of Blackbeard the pirate. The dive is scheduled over 12 weeks, making it the longest and most extensive since divers discovered the shipwreck off the North Carolina coast in 1996.

To date, archaeologists think they have recovered only about 20 percent of the ship's artifacts. Over the next three months, they hope to bring up another 30 percent, including another cannon, one of 25 found at the site in Beaufort Inlet.

Divers hope to find evidence that will conclusively link the shipwreck to the most fearsome and famous of pirates. Divers will move about 10,000 cubic feet of sand from around the stern of the ship, where the captain had his cabin and the officers had their quarters. That area has already produced thousands of lead shot, pewter plates, wine bottles and flecks of gold.

In coming days, weather permitting, divers could bring up an additional 100,000 artifacts. The largest of those will be the cannon, which is encrusted with pewter plates, gold dust and other treasures. Objects recovered will be taken to a conservation lab at East Carolina University.

The wreck site lies in 22 feet of water just 1.5 miles from Fort Macon State Park, which provides tourists a good view of the recovery boats anchored above the wreck site. The Queen Anne's Revenge ran aground in 1718.

To find out more, visit <http://www.garonline.org>.