

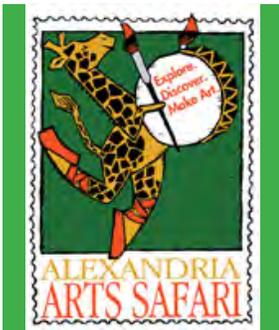
Alexandria Archaeology

VOLUNTEER NEWS

Published by the Friends of Alexandria Archaeology



Vol. XXV1 No. 4



Art Safari Nets Record Crowds

Volunteers Anna Lynch, Margarete Holubar, and Cat Sumner had their hands full on Saturday, October 10, during the annual TFAC's Arts Safari. The afternoon event, always a crowd pleaser, brought record numbers of visitors to the Museum for the Potter's Art activity. The crowds were such that Anna wasn't even able to keep an accurate count, but by day's end she had recorded **635** people – an all-time record, and 175 more than the previous year.



City Archaeologist Dr. Pamela Cressey toasts the 20th anniversary of the Archaeological Protection Ordinance. The Council adopted the Code in November of 1989, ensuring the protection of the City's archaeological resources.

Let's Raise Our Glasses to the Alexandria Archaeology Code and Its 20th Anniversary-- Huzzah, Huzzah, Huzzah!

In November 1989, the Alexandria City Council passed the first city archaeology code

in America. It quickly became a model for local archaeological preservation and amenities planning. In the mid-1980s, the Archaeological Commission started discussing the need for a private-public partnership to save information that was being lost to development. With the technical assistance of development attorneys, the legal expertise of Ignacio Pessoa in the City Attorney's Office, and support of the Chamber of Commerce, *Code continued on page 3*

SITE AX 172 1707 DUKE STREET

Excavated in 2007, Site Was Bruin Slave Jail 1844-1861

by Marya Fitzgerald

One of the historic sites we are most asked about is the Bruin Slave Jail. It still stands at 1707 Duke Street, a brick colonial towered over by a multistory building under construction behind it. Built about 1820, the house contained the most successful and well-known slave-trading operation in ante-bellum Alexandria. Between 1844 and 1861 the property belonged to Joseph Bruin, who used it as the headquarters for his slave-trading business.



Bruin Slave Jail Site, partitioned brick water-filtration cistern

Bruin purchased thousands of slaves in Virginia, Maryland, and the District and shipped them to New Orleans to be sold. He became notorious when he bought several slaves who had

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Friends of Alexandria Archaeology: FOAA in Focus

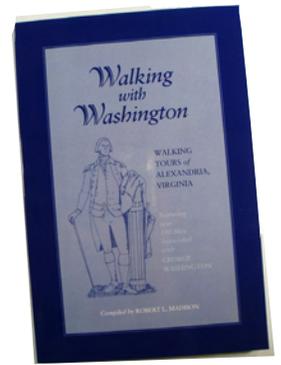
Follow the Money!!

FOAA Presented a \$2,000 donation to Alexandria Archaeology during the 32nd Volunteer Appreciation Party and Holiday Celebration on November 14.



FOAA co-president Marya Fitzgerald (left) and FOAA treasurer Kathy Scheibelhoffer (right) present Barbara Magid with the FOAA Annual Gift, a check for \$2,000, as Fran Bromberg looks on approvingly.

Walking with Washington Books Donated



Once again historian and long-time FOAA member Robert Madison has generously donated copies of his book, *Walking with Washington*, for sale in the Museum. The 122-page guidebook, published in 2003 by Gateway Press, includes walking tours of Alexandria and features more than 100 sites associated with George Washington.

The book is available in the Museum for \$12. FOAA thanks Bob for his continued generosity.

SUPPORT ARCHAEOLOGY IN ALEXANDRIA --- JOIN FOAA TODAY!



Alexandria Archaeology Volunteer News

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Alexandria, VA 22314
703-838-4399*
www.AlexandriaArchaeology.org

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FRIENDS OF ALEXANDRIA ARCHAEOLOGY is a volunteer, not-for-profit organization supporting archaeology in the City of Alexandria. Annual membership dues, running from July 1 to June 30, may be sent to:

FOAA
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Alexandria, VA 22320

Individual - \$20 Family/Groups - \$25 Sponsor - \$50 Benefactor - \$100 Corporate - \$500

2009-2010 FOAA Board of Directors

Marya Fitzgerald and Margarete Holubar, co-presidents; Joan Amico, vice-president; Kathy Scheibelhoffer, treasurer; Catherine Sumner, secretary; Dave Cavanaugh, AAC representative; Laura Heaton, past president; Hoosey Hughes, newsletter

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the Code was designed to create a working relationship between the City archaeologists and consulting cultural resource management firms and the applicants to the development process.

The City staff review all the site plans, plot plans and subdivisions—more than 250 reviews this year. The Code has produced more than 100 reports from the private resource-management firms. The developers have donated tens of thousands of artifacts to the City. Many of these reports and images of the artifacts are on the Office of Historic Alexandria website.

While most of the sites no longer survive, the information recovered from the excavations and historical research stretches from today's West End to the original West End, to Old Town, Eisenhower Valley, and Seminary. Topics include: American Indian sites with evidence of toolmaking dating back thousands of years at Stonegate in the West End to early houses at Jones Point on the Potomac River; waterfront history: the earliest wharves and businesses—even a boat tied to a wharf—basket, tools, and barges; plantations, Civil War encampments, battery, and Crimean ovens; an African American church, slave jail and Civil War hospital; businesses and manufacturing places for brewing, glassmaking, sugar refining, baking and milling; and cemeteries—Silver Leaf Society, Bloxham, Quaker, and Freedmen's—all of which have been identified and protected rather than lost.

Yet the Alexandria model for archaeological preservation goes beyond the standard “find, dig and write” about a site. The City Council, Archaeological Commission, several City departments and developers working with information from the Code (in conjunction in some cases with federal and state regulations) have created and enhanced open space while preserving the past—Tide Lock Park, Ford's Landing, Stonegate Preserve, Jones Point Interpretive Trail (2011), Carlyle Park, Gerald Ford Park, Witter Fields Athletic Complex (2010), African American Heritage Park and the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial (2011).

The City receives requests from around the nation and world about the archaeology code and its results. Many cities have developed their own programs. The Virginia Department of Historic Resources and the Council of Virginia Archaeologists stayed in touch with Alexandria throughout the last legislative session when the first statewide legislation was adopted that now enables local jurisdictions to adopt archaeology codes. The City of Alexandria was consistently presented as the pioneer

and leader in local archaeological preservation and public education. Just as Alexandria became a leader in architectural preservation by establishing the third American historic district in 1946, so it continued its leadership role 43 years later with the first city archaeology code. Now, 20 years later, Alexandria is still a leader with the use of GIS, geomorphological testing, public summaries, public accessibility to information on the web, and the protection of sites for significant spaces such as the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery Memorial.

The Code was passed by City Council because Alexandrians wanted to discover, study, and preserve their past at a time of rapid development and change. If the code had not been here for the last 20 years, all of this information would have been lost forever. Some of these public spaces would not have been created, nor be as meaningful. Alexandrians continue to use their past for enjoyment, civic pride, and identity, to brand the city as distinct from all others, to attract tourists, residents, and businesses that seek a special quality of neighborhood, continuity, and cultural value. This active endeavor of saving and enhancing the archaeological past is one of the elements that is the heart of Alexandria.

So, a toast to the partnership that keeps Alexandria's preservation in action—the Mayor and City Council, developers, consulting archaeologists, City staff, residents, volunteers, and students!

20 Years Of Preservation

An Interview with Steve Shephard, Assistant Director, Alexandria Archaeology Museum

This fall, the Alexandria Archaeological Protection Code turns 20 years old! In honor of this momentous anniversary, we asked staff archaeologist Steve Shephard, who will complete 30 years as archaeologist with the City in January, for his take on the significance of the Code.

The Code is set up so that most documentary studies and excavations are conducted by professional archaeology companies. The developers contract with a company and pay for the archaeological services, whereas on smaller private homeowner development projects (which are not covered by the Code), the city archaeologists conduct the work and this is done free of charge. Hiring outside archaeology professionals ensures a timely

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Youthful Talent



Sarah Barker

When Alexandria Archaeology was given the chance to paint on the wall in the lobby of the Torpedo Factory Art Center (TFAC), our secretary, Jennifer Barker, immediately thought of her daughter, Sarah. She is a senior at Falls Church High School. She has been creating artwork ever since she could hold a crayon.

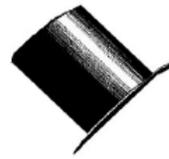
The TFAC made a grid around the walls by the elevator and asked all studios, including #327, to paint a square. All the paintings have something

to do with numbers. The TFAC was nice enough to let us have two squares. When Sarah came in, she patiently listened to all of Ruth Reeder's suggestions, then said, "I have an idea of what to paint." Next time you visit, see if you can find Alexandria Archaeology's squares. Here is a hint, "Dig Deep to find that we are one."

My name is Sheridan Gribbon and I am a senior at St. Stephen's and St. Agnes School. For my senior year I needed to finish forty hours of community service before I graduate. I decided to volunteer at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum because the items that are found here are important in my understanding of the history of the community around me, since I do live only two minutes outside of Old Town. I learn something new each time I come here to volunteer and I become more amazed each time by how much important history Old Town has been a part of. Also I truly enjoy working with kids and since so many kids seem to enjoy this Museum I am able to teach them about the history of Alexandria through the artifacts found in this Museum. The Alexandria Archaeology Museum is a great place to learn about the history of Old Town, and I truly enjoy the opportunity I have been given to volunteer here.



Sheridan Gribbon



HATS OFF!!!!

To Anna Lynch, who on October

17 presented an illustrated lecture on the early sugar trade and baking industry in ante-bellum Alexandria to an animated group of historians from the Culinary Historians of Washington. As Katherine Livingston, the president of the culinarians, wrote, "Some of us already knew something about the history of sugar refining and baking in a general way, but it was gratifying to see how thoroughly the subjects have been researched so close to home and have the results so well presented to us. We all learned things we hadn't known, and you really brought old Alexandria to life for us."



Anna Lynch addressing the CHow group

"It is a privilege to be able to bring students here. Anna Lynch is a wonderful presenter; she really challenges the students." Teacher, Holton-Arms School

To our Oral History Volunteers who have recently completed interviews or transcripts: Bessie Tillar, Logan Wiley, Paula Whitacre, Lucy Abbott, and Karen Harris.



To dough-ornament makers, pictured above from right to left, Lois Amber, Katy Cannady, Samantha Bodwell, Marya Fitzgerald, and Anna Lynch (not pictured), who rolled out and cut shapes for the December 5 Ornament Decorating Workshop. And a very special thanks to Marya for two days of baking!

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been captured after attempting to escape aboard the schooner *Pearl* in 1848.

In 1861 the property was seized by the Federal troops who occupied Alexandria at the outset of the Civil War. Later, the slave jail became the Fairfax County courthouse (1863-4). Because of its historical importance, the Bruin house will be preserved. Following the requirements of the City archaeology code, Columbia Equity Trust, Inc., employed archaeologists from the Louis Berger Group to investigate the site in 2007 and 2008. The excavation unearthed many artifacts and features from the slave-jail period.



When the Berger excavations started, some of the lot was covered by modern buildings; the rest was a gravel parking lot, with no trace of the historic yard. Shovel tests showed that the historic ground surface was luckily still present, buried beneath the gravel and one to three feet of fill. After demolition of the buildings, removal of the fill revealed a very dark-gray layer that archaeologists hoped was the yard of the old slave jail. Two dozen test units were dug in the topsoil to retrieve a sampling of the artifacts from the yard. This sampling of more than 2,000 artifacts included nails from buildings that had once stood in the yard, sherds of pottery and glass, and even a prehistoric stone tool. The next phase of excavation revealed foundations, trash pits, and other features that confirmed the discovery of the jail yard. All features were then mapped and excavated by hand.

Directly behind the house, archaeologists found postholes, piles of brick rubble, and middens full of oyster shell, animal bones, and artifacts from the 1850s. They concluded that these materials were evidence of a barracks and kitchen for slaves held on the property.

Since the main house was frequently not adequate to contain the number of slaves that Joseph Bruin kept at the site, a separate building would have been needed.

The animal bones from a large, shallow pit behind the barracks showed what kind of meals were fed to the slaves. Most of the bones were head and foot bones from cattle and sheep. The West End of Alexandria was the location of numerous stockyards and butcher shops, so slaves were conveniently fed the scraps from these local shops. Since the bones were not burned, they had probably been used to make stews, a traditional way of preparing animal feet and heads.

Also exposed during the excavations was a brick cistern. Although the cistern had lost its domed top, it was otherwise nearly intact. Probably built in the 1820s, it was in use till the 1930s, when it was filled with coal ash and other trash. The cistern was originally attached to a laundry, of which we have an insurance sketch from 1853.



The new sculpture of the Edmondson sisters by Erik Blome, for the 1707 Duke Street development.

Above left, the slave manifest from May 2, 1848 listing the Edmondson sisters: (Original document at http://www.alexandria.lib.va.us/lhsc_online_exhibits/doc/archived/apr_2004/doc.html)

This is more than an ordinary cistern, however. Among the slaves captured after the aborted escape on the *Pearl* were two sisters, Emily and Mary Edmondson. These women worked in Bruin's laundry during their confinement at the jail, so they must have drawn water from this cistern. The Edmondsons had free relatives in the North who worked with abolitionists to buy their freedom, after Bruin threatened to sell them into prostitution in New Orleans. Saving these "Christian girls" from that fate inspired a frenzy of sermonizing and fund raising in the North. After their freedom was secured, Emily and Mary joined the abolitionist cause.

One abolitionist who had worked to free them was Harriet Beecher Stowe. She later said that she had used Joseph

Bruin as one of the models for the wicked slave owners in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. The office building currently under construction will be named for the Edmondson sisters, and the plaza that was once a slave yard will showcase a statue of the two women.

**This article is a condensation and revision of a site summary report, which is available in its entirety at <http://oha.alexandriava.gov/archaeology/pdfs/BruinResearchStandardResolution.pdf>*



POINTS OF INTEREST

Art Meets Archaeology

Artist Renee van der Stelt's installation at the Target Gallery, "Projections: Line on Land," which runs through November 29, contains work inspired by archaeology in Alexandria: *Freedmen's Cemetery: Projected Lines of Disrupted Graves with 20th Century Office Building, Gas Station, Oil Tank, and Utility Lines* is constructed of paper, screen, and thread and measures 22 by 30 inches. The drawing is a visual estimation of forgotten and destroyed graves on land west of South Washington Street and south of Church Street in Alexandria. In 1864, the property was designated a cemetery by the federal government for freed slaves and contrabands. The pin-pricked graves show an estimation of the burial layout in 1869. The rectangular forms represent the recently destroyed office building, gas station, and utility lines (still evident on GoogleEarth satellite views). Renee reports that the piece has been sold and will remain in the area.



Preservation: Code's Priority

Interview continued from page 3

completion of archaeological requirements so that development can proceed on schedule.

The prime value of having the Code in place, Steve says, is the obvious one: Important information about Alexandria's past and its place in American history is saved, which would otherwise be lost. He emphasizes that a critical fact to understand and remember is that each site is a "non-renewable resource." The Code mandates the retrieval, through documentary study and excavation, of the valuable information from sites before they are destroyed by development or, alternatively, the preservation of the site underground. This careful recording of sites and the recovery of artifacts from them provides us with irreplaceable information about the past.

The second value of the Code is less obvious, Steve says: Over the years the Code has caused citizens, visitors, City staff and officials, and even developers, to recognize the value of Alexandria's history and understand that it is worth exploring and saving. The fact that the Alexandria City Council in 1989 passed this ordinance establishing the Code is quite a recognition by the City of the importance of preservation in itself.

The Alexandria Code is likely the strongest and one of the earliest local archaeological codes in the country. In addition, by promoting preservation in this historic city, Alexandria Archaeology has encouraged tourism and the quality of life for the residents, both economic boons to this community. People appreciate the visible, preserved presence of the past in Alexandria's streets and buildings and value the fact that the knowledge from the City's cultural resources is being saved. This is instrumental in maintaining Alexandria as a historical destination.

The impact of the Code goes further. Since the Code mandates that developers complete any necessary documentary and archaeological investigations before they begin work, the owners of the new building or project can use historical information from excavation or research to enhance interest in their property. If an interpretive sign is installed explaining the historical importance of the site, people who work or have business there feel connected to their City's past.

The process of archaeological review also has affected other departments of the City government. Preservation philosophy has been introduced to other areas of administration like planning, engineering, architectural decision-making, park maintenance, infrastructure improvements,



Advancing Social Justice in Times of Crisis

A conference at American University provided a venue for highlighting the ways that history and archaeology can give voice to those who have endured suffering and injustices in the past. Fran Bromberg's paper focused on the Contrabands and Freedmen's Cemetery site. With archaeological work demonstrating that graves were still extant, a gas station and office building on the property were torn down, setting the stage for reclaiming the burial ground as a sacred site. Dave Cavanaugh and Tom Fulton participated in a session that addressed how community involvement has played an integral role in shaping the future of interpretation at Fort Ward Park to ensure that it will include not only Civil War history but also the story of the African Americans who lived on the property just after the war (and had to leave when the park was created by the City in the 1960s). Both projects have led to an increased recognition, remembrance, and appreciation of the contributions by African Americans in the development of the City.

and street naming, as well as sign and monument design.

Steve explained how establishment of the Code has changed the workload focus for the archaeology staff.

Enforcing the Code requires an intensive process of repeated reviews for each site. The management of investigations of projects needing archaeological work has turned staff members who started out working in the field into managers of the review process.

The number of times each project is reviewed has multiplied and the format for the comments has become more complicated through the years, with no increase in the preservation-review staff. Steve thinks that the bureaucratization of the archaeological review procedures, resulting from changes in the overall review process designed by other City departments to improve the process, will continue to expand.

The demands on the preservation staff will be most pressing after Steve retires at the end of next year. It will take quite a while for new staff to learn the ropes and adequately perform the review tasks, while the loss of a knowledge base of 31 years is irreplaceable. Looking back on his years with Alexandria Archaeology, Steve says, "I feel proud to have been involved in the creation and administration of the Archaeology Code, because it protects the City's irreplaceable cultural resources -- resources that enhance Alexandria's civic identity."

He is also proud that Alexandria's example is known nationwide and that the staff has provided advice concerning the archaeological ordinance to various other jurisdictions, including nearby Northern Virginia counties, and to cities in California, Arizona, Oregon, Colorado, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, and various Midwestern and New England states.



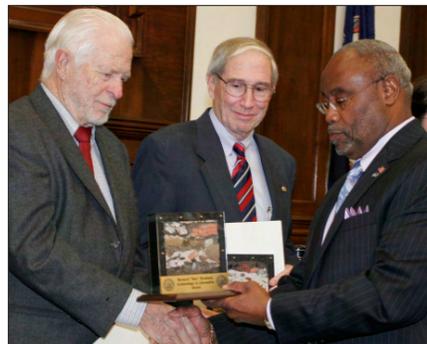
Steve at the Piercy Pottery Waster Site, 1999.

Steve concludes, "If the Code were abandoned or reduced in its effectiveness, the U.S. wouldn't have another city as archaeologically responsible as Alexandria. I hope this invaluable archaeological preservation work will continue in Alexandria for many years to come."

Archaeology License Plate a No-Go

We just heard from Maggie Johnson, Corresponding Secretary of the Northern Virginia Chapter of the Archaeological Society of Virginia. Unfortunately only 46 of the required 350 commitments to purchase Archaeology License Plates were received. As a result, the license plate effort is a no-go. She will apply again next year, will return the checks received, and thanks everyone for their support.

Alexandria Archaeological Commission Recognizes Brenman Awards Recipients



Joe Reeder receives his award from Mayor Euille, as Vivienne Mitchell's nephew, Jack Rowley, looks on.

1. Vivienne Mitchell - Community Involvement

As a founding member of the Alexandria Archaeological Commission (AAC) in 1975 and a long-time member of the Archaeological Society of Virginia, Vivienne Mitchell's name is synonymous with archaeology in Alexandria. She spent nearly 30 years

volunteering in the Alexandria Archaeology Laboratory and was a catalyst in the rediscovery of the Alexandria Canal Tide Lock. She was also instrumental in placing the large marker on South Pitt Street, recognizing the Alexandria Canal. Her knowledge, commitment, and love of the past have provided the foundation for the philosophy and goals of Alexandria Archaeology and the Alexandria Archaeological Commission for more than 40 years. Her award was accepted by her nephew, Jack Rowley.

2. Joe Reeder - Stewardship

Joe Reeder is the owner of 517 Prince Street. Before he conducted improvements on his property, he arranged for Alexandria Archaeology to visit the property and continually brought the City archaeologists into contact with his architect, builder, and other contractors to be sure that no archaeological information was lost.

Mr. Reeder has demonstrated the best practices of archaeological stewardship as the owner of a historic property.

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ORAL HISTORY UPDATE:

Alexandria's African American Experience

by Jen Hembree, Oral History Coordinator

This summer, Alexandria Legacies volunteers interviewed long-time members of Alexandria's African American community. Sarah Strother was interviewed by volunteer Paula Whitacre. Ms. Strother grew up on Wilkes Street and recalls family experiences of weekends with her father, playing along the riverbank, as well as her mother's cooking.

Volunteer Logan Wiley met with Frances Terrell, who is a descendant of the Wanzer family and those buried at Freedmen's Cemetery. Having lived in the Seminary area her entire life, Frances reflected on that neighborhood, as well as the effects of growing up in a segregated Alexandria.

Family Memories

Sarah Strother: I was born in Farmville, Virginia, which is Prince Edward County, and the family moved here when I was two years old. We moved to 525 Wilkes Street and that was across the street from Lyles Crouch School, the old Lyles Crouch School.... Yes [we had family on Wilkes Street], our aunt -- her name was Martha Custis -- and my uncle. They lived here. Later on, they moved out to Maryland and left us with the place. It [our home] was a frame house, but it had, let me see, three bedrooms upstairs, and a kitchen and a living room and a dining room. I think it was about six rooms in all - and a bathroom upstairs.

On the weekends -- well, Mother didn't work during the week, but she would go out and do housework on Saturdays -- and our father, who worked for the city, I think he did something about streets and roads.... He would babysit us on the weekends and my mother would tell him, "Don't give them any money." You know, because she didn't want him to give us money--spend, spend, spend. So, anyway, he would play with us for hours and then he'd get tired. And so he would give us 50 cents apiece and we would all go up to Murphy's on King Street, and we'd have piles of paper dolls and coloring



Sarah Strother

books. Every Saturday we would buy some more. My mother would say, "They have enough, you know!" But anyway, that was fun.... And on Easter, it's not there now, but where Hunting Towers is, it was just lawns, beautiful. You could walk right on out to the water if you wanted to. There were no barriers. And we would go play there...I think on Royal Street and Montgomery. There's a plaque up there. Have you seen it? It says something about Cross Canal -- that's what they used to call it. Anyway, we used to go there. There was a pier out there, and people used to fish. There were grown friends of ours and they used to take us to fish. They'd put them [the fish] in a basket and carry them home.

Sometimes we would have fish, and chicken would be mostly on Sundays. Fried. My mother was really good at making potato salad. She was excellent at sweet potato pies. We loved them. She also made the kind where you fry little small squares, sweet potatoes. We ate a lot of greens, turnip greens, mustard greens. They had markets. Not too many around here, but in Washington they had some big markets...It [the fish] was perch and, I think, bass, most of the time. They had fish markets around. You know they have one on Patrick and Pendleton, and they had another one someplace else. You could go in and get the fish. They also had down here, I'm not sure if it was on Union Street or Fairfax, they had a place that they sold big blocks of ice. The man would carry it around in a truck. You could get 50 pounds of ice to put in your icebox.

Segregated Alexandria

Frances Terrell: I grew up in the neighborhood that I currently live in. It was called Seminary and was like the suburbs of downtown Alexandria. We had a community neighborhood and the area where I am now -- most of the property here belonged to the Wanzers. It was passed down from slavery, and actually, I am a Wanzer. Then, my grandfather, Douglas Johnson, had most of the block -- about ¾ of the block down to Johnson Lane. It was

definitely rural here. You had Johnson Lane on this side and then it went to down to Woods Lane. That was a good block from King Street. All of the area around here from the Episcopal high school to the theological seminary to down by the Chinquapin Park was black folks. About 1961 or 1962, the city came around with urban renewal –we’ll get back to that. So it was a close-knit family around here; we had the Oakland Baptist Church, which is still there. That was built by my ancestors. It was just a close-knit neighborhood.

Segregated Alexandria was that... Over time, you have that issue and you go into the department store and they have counters like we had at J.C. Murphy on King Street, and we had J.C. Murphy up here in Bradlee and they had counters. Also, they had a Peoples Drug Store with a food counter and the white folks would sit there and eat, and we couldn’t do that. We could go into the store and stand in a certain area and order our food. They would give it to us, but we would have to leave and we couldn’t sit there. We had separate water fountains, separate bathroom facilities with labels –white and colored. When we got to the point of black is beautiful, Daddy would always say “colored.” I would say, “What color are we, Daddy? Are we red, orange, green?” But anyway, the bathrooms were marked, and the water fountains were marked white and colored. All of that took its toll. At the time, we went to the theater and we had a black theater, in Alexandria, called the Carver Theater. We lived in Seminary in our own little area. Right across the street from us on the other side of King Street was Fairlington. This was housing built for the military for whites, so naturally they had a white theater in Fairlington on Quaker Lane. We couldn’t go even though it was right across the street. We had some blacks who worked in the theater like my brother. Some of us would sneak in, but we had to go up to the balcony because we couldn’t let them see us. You know stuff like that was demeaning and it is demoralizing because it makes you feel like a second-class citizen. So that was the effect of segregation.

Integration opened all of these things up to us. Was it easy? No. We had to fight. I was part of the civil rights movement at Hampton Institute, and we integrated the counters and the theaters down there. It helped you move out of feeling that you were inferior to a degree. Even though the doors were open--cracked--they weren’t open all of the way. Even with Obama in the White House, we have work to do, but we are getting there.

Brenman continued from page 7

3. Elizabeth Henry Douglas - Oral History



Elizabeth Henry Douglas has witnessed the transformation of a once rural Seminary and Oakland Baptist Church community into a 21st-century urban area. She has generously shared her stories, recollections, and knowledge of members of the African American community, who can trace their history to the Civil War period.

In 1991, “Ms Lisabeth,” as she is known by many in the community, participated in the Alexandria Archaeology Museum oral history program. Her knowledge of the people and events forms the basis of the “African American Walking Tour” at Fort Ward, and she continues to help identify other potential archaeological sites at the Fort.

Thanks to Ms. Lisabeth, the heritage of the Seminary neighborhood’s African American community, which dates back almost 150 years, is more fully recognized today and will not be forgotten in the future.

4. The Louis Berger Group, Inc. - Professional

The firm of Louis Berger Group, Inc., is recognized for its historical study and archaeological investigations of the Bruin Slave site located at 1707 Duke Street in the original “West End” Alexandria. The archaeological investigations were prompted by Columbia Equity Trust’s development of a large parcel surrounding the slave-jail building. When the project began in 2007, archaeologists from the Louis Berger Group discovered areas that had been impacted by construction as well as undisturbed areas lying under fill.

The results of the investigation have produced important new insights into African American history, slavery, and ante-bellum life in the City of Alexandria.

The Louis Berger Group and its staff demonstrated the highest standards of archaeological investigation, including groundbreaking research on the ship manifests documenting the Edmonson family’s transportation by Joseph Bruin to New Orleans and their subsequent freedom.

5. Sarah Borgatti - Archaeology Advocate

Sarah Borgatti is president of the Virginia Society of the Children of the American Revolution, the oldest patriotic youth organization in the United States. One goal of C.A.R is to raise funds for historical preservation and increase knowledge of the history of the United States. As her state project, Sarah Borgatti chose to raise funds for the Friends of Alexandria Archaeology (FOAA) conservation. Due to Ms. Borgatti’s efforts, C.A.R. donated \$6,237 to FOAA to have a conservator professionally treat a unique archaeological artifact discovered in an Alexandria well—a wooden water pump—and other smaller artifacts. Also, for several years, Sarah has been a volunteer at the Shuter’s Hill and Freedmen’s Cemetery sites.

Sarah Borgatti’s enterprising energy and her desire to find and save sites exemplify the best in archaeological advocacy and volunteerism.

For more images visit the Alexandria Archaeology Facebook or <http://www.facebook.com/photo.php?pid=2989695&id=134587522548#/album.php?aid=121299&id=134587522548>

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!!

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**5,722
volunteer
hours
donated
for FY09**



From the top: Andrew Flora receives his certificate from Council members Del Pepper and Rob Krupicka; Education staff and volunteers: Terilee Edwards-Hewitt, Ruth Reeder, Suzanne Schaubel, Anna Lynch, Marya Fitzgerald, Hoosey Hughes, and Joan Amico; Lance Mallamo and Barbara Magid break a plate; Del Pepper, Rob Krupicka, and Volunteer of the Year Joan Amico; Joan cuts the cake; Del Pepper, Rob Krupicka, Jen Hembree, Scott Harlan, Cynthia Ford, and Jen Barker; Ruth Reeder, Anna Lynch, Steve Shephard, Del Pepper, Fran Bromberg, and Rob Krupicka; Fran Bromberg and Steve Shephard thank the field volunteers; Pam Cressey and Volunteer of the Year Dave Cavanaugh; Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey, recipients of the John S. Glaser Award; Marya Fitzgerald, Steve Shephard, and Fran Bromberg with the John S. Glaser Award.

At the 32nd annual volunteer party held in the Museum on November 14, City staff recognized many individuals for their outstanding contributions to the program from July 2008 to June 2009. The Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to both Joan Amico (787.5 hours) for the seventh consecutive year and Dave Cavanaugh (832 hrs.). FOAA copresident Marya Fitzgerald presented the John Glaser Award to both Brian Watson of Buggy's Pizza Restaurant and the Lindseys of The Creamery for their decade-long support. On hand to accept the award were Chuck and Lynn Lindsey. FOAA Treasurer, Kathy Scheibelhoffer, presented Barbara Magid with the FOAA Annual Gift of \$2,000.

Concilmembers Rob Krupicka and Del Pepper presented Certificates of Outstanding Contributions to: Dave Cavanaugh (832

hrs.), Joan Amico (787.5 hrs.), Marya Fitzgerald (396.75 hrs.), Anna Lynch (303 hrs.), Cynthia Ford (249.25 hrs.), Montie Kust (237.5 hrs.), Sandra Humphrey (200 hrs.), Natasha Davis (194.5 hrs.), Sara Revis (158 hrs.), Hsiung Kai-Pei (135 hrs.), Andrew Flora (132.5 hrs.) Gabriela Faundez (124 hrs.), Ted Pulliam (118 hrs.), and Eric Anderson (100.75 hrs.).

Steve and Fran acknowledged the following field

volunteers (those with an * donated 20 or more hours): Amanda Asmus, Katie Baker, Mamie Belle*, Lois Berkowitz, Laura Buchanan*, Erin Carrington, Lisa Castellanos, Tanya Catignani, Mike Cianciosi, Matt Cipriani, Brad Cooper, Kevin Cravedi, Toni Davidson, Natasha Davis, Katie DeCecco, Mary Dundon, Daniella Dunn*, John Fair*, Lorin Farris, Gaby Faundez, Andrew Flora*, Laura Goodnow, Carolyn Harwood, Laura Heaton*, DeAnn Hughes*, Robert Ingraham, Amanda Itzko, Doreen Jagodnik, Amanda Johnson*, Colleen Johnson*, Whitney Kays, Ashley Koen*, Nate Lowrey*, Butch Mahaney, Tam Mihailovic, Megan O'Connell, Chris Outlaw*, Amanda Page, Laura Middaugh Rios, Shanna Roth*, Carol Rudolph, Suzanne Schaubel*, Mary Seidel, Brittany Smith, Ann Starkweather, Tati Suda, and Maria Trapp.

Barbara Magid and OHA Director Lance Mallamo smashed a plate for the Broken Plate Award in honor of Lab Ladies: Joan Amico, Marya Fitzgerald, Anna Lynch, Cynthia Ford, Montie Kust, Sandra Humphrey, Sara Revis, Sue Gagner, and Mary Jane Nugent.

Ruth Reeder and Terilee Edwards-Hewitt presented apples to education volunteers: Joan Amico, Laura Buchanan, Marya Fitzgerald, Hoosey Hughes, Anna Lynch, and Suzanne Schaubel.

Jen Hembree recognized the Oral History Project volunteers: Bobbie Cooke, Ivy Whitlatch, Karen Harris, Elizabeth Drembus, Laura Little, Stephen Carfora, Susan McGrath, Jo Short, Dave Cavanaugh, Katie Baker, Alice Reid, Logan Wiley, Paula Whitacre, Karen Kimball, Lucy Abbott, Bessie Tillar, and Gillian Chen.

Pam Cressey thanked the following research volunteers: Laura Buchanan, Tom Fulton, and Dave Cavanaugh (Fort Ward and Seminary communities), Lillie Finklea and Louise Massoud (Freedmen's Cemetery), Diane Riker and Ted Pulliam (waterfront), Anna Lynch and Kelsey Ryan (transcriptions).

She also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Archaeological Code and noted that Alexandria was the first city in the U.S. to pass such an ordinance, which has become a model for archaeological preservation. She commended the Alexandria Archaeological Commission for their action toward this initiative and their continued commitment to the process.



Let Them Eat Toast

Jen Barker accepts a toaster from Hoosey Hughes. The donated oven was immediately put to use and has been appreciated by staff and volunteers ever since, particularly at lunchtime!



Local activities and Exhibits

Don't stay home during the winter chill. Get out and take advantage of the unique opportunities available in and around DC within the next few months. Just take a look!!!

Alexandria Archaeology Museum

New Shuter's Hill Family Dig Day Exhibit!

The end of our dig season has come, and while we are sad to hang up our trowels, we are excited about some of the finds made this year by our young volunteers and their families during the Family Dig Days throughout the summer. Without their assistance, some very special artifacts might never have been found.

A new exhibit will open on December 12 at the Alexandria Archaeology Museum and will feature some unique items found by our Family Dig Day participants. Come by, see what was found, and try your hand at cross-mending or the Scavenger Hunt.

Check out Virginia's website, www.virginia.org/home.asp and Maryland's website at www.visitmaryland.org, for events and things to do during the holidays and the rest of the year!

National Geographic Museum Washington, DC

Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor exhibit, Nov. 19, 2009 - Mar. 31, 2010. Tickets on sale at www.nationalgeographic.com/terracottawarriors/

Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of the American Indian, Washington, DC

Foodways of the Americas Family Program, Nov. 27 - 29. Presented in honor of Native American Heritage Day, November 27, this program features the rich contributions of foods of the Americas to the world—from chilies to chocolate. See food demonstrations and artisans and participate in hands-on activities for families and young visitors.

Winter Storytelling Festival: Sharing Our Stories. Jan. 16 - 18. Join the fun as the museum celebrates traditional and contemporary storytelling with accomplished Native storytellers such as Gene Tagaban and others. Listen, watch, and learn how to tell stories not only with words but with music, song, and dance as well. This weekend includes hands-on activities for all ages.

For these and other great museum activities and exhibits visit the NMAI's site at <http://americanindian.si.edu/index.cfm> or the Smithsonian's site at <http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/students/> and click on 'At the Smithsonian'.

