



***Loudoun Archaeological Foundation
P. O. Box 2201
Leesburg, VA 20177***

**David T. Clark, PhD
Executive Director/Principal Investigator
Chair, Board of Directors**

**Joanna Costen
Board of Directors**

**Kathryn A. Miller
Board of Directors**

**Thomas R. Hyland
Board of Directors
Secretary/Treasurer**

**The E-Newsletter of the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation, Inc.
Vol. I, Issue 2, December 31, 2007**

This periodic newsletter is designed to introduce the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation (LAF) to those persons interested in local archaeology, as well as to the residents of the Greater Loudoun County community, and to keep that community knowledgeable about and updated on the programs and activities of the Foundation and the cultural and historic resources of Loudoun County.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Officers of the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation, I want to use this second and last 2007 issue of the Foundation's E-Newsletter to wish all of our volunteers and friends our appreciation for your hard work and many contributions – in money, time, goods, and services -- that have made the Foundation's first-year public archaeology program so widely successful, both in terms of public recognition, support and substantive accomplishment. We also want to extend our best wishes to each of you for a happy holiday season and a successful new year.

In just our first year, we were able to not only build a financial base for developing a professional public archaeological program for Loudoun County, but in addition to conduct twenty specific “dig days” at three separate sites in Loudoun County -- Claude Moore Park, Banshee Reeks Nature Preserve, and the Schafer Pottery and held two Mobile Archaeology Lab – Training (MALTS) days where adult volunteers and children participated in the washing, cleaning, and classify of artifacts recovered at those digs. The Foundation also participated in the Leesburg kick-off event for the 250th Anniversary of the establishment of Loudoun County, the Lucketts Fair, and a number of other local Loudoun community programs. Sterling and Lucketts Elementary Schools also became the first Loudoun County public schools to actively participate in the Foundation’s “Public School Archaeology Discovery Program.” During all these various activities, over two-hundred trained adult volunteers came out to conduct our dig activities while an estimated two-thousand children of all ages, and nearly as many adults, learned to screen soil for artifacts, and to collect, wash, clean, and classify those artifacts.

LAF’s research/educational program are professionally linked to a series of archaeological classes taught by Dr Clark and affiliated with the Historical Preservation Certificate Program, Humanities Department (Northern Virginia Community College-Loudoun Campus) and GIS Program (NVCC-Reston Campus).

These classes are also linked to an extensive archive research program at the Thomas Balch Library in Leesburg, Virginia. Much of this archival/archaeological research is geared toward developing sites celebrating the 250th anniversaries of Loudoun County and Leesburg.

A number of articles and photographs about the Foundation and its programs were carried in several editions of the *Washington Post*, *Loudoun Times-Mirror*, *Leesburg Today*, *Loudoun Easterner*, *Loudoun Times*, *Loudoun Connections* and other local, weekly newspapers, as well as being covered by WAGE radio. Additionally, the Foundation has been favorably mentioned in several archaeological journals and on archaeologically -oriented internet sites.

The donation of in-kind labor associated with the Foundation’s archaeological field investigation and related activities (archival research, laboratory work, etc.) during 2007 amounted to a total of 2259 hours, constituting more than 200 hours over the annual work hours of a typical individual’s work year; 1003 of those hours involved actual archaeological field investigation activities. Archaeological support activities (financial management, organizational development, legal assistance, public information, website development and maintenance, volunteer coordination, fundraising, etc.) constituted at least an additional 2000 hours of in-kind labor. Calculating the value of those hours on even a minimum wage basis (\$5.85 per hour) would contribute nearly \$25,000 to the Foundation’s 2007 work efforts. The value of other in-kind goods and services (office equipment and supplies, furniture, etc.) donated by the Foundation’s friends and supporters during 2007 totaled \$31,959.

We are currently planning the Foundation’s 2008 year public archaeology program with the intent of expanding the “School Public Archaeology Adventure Program” into a number of additional Loudoun County elementary schools. In addition, we hope to greatly expand the number of active dig days by scheduling digs during the Spring and Fall seasons, as well as

during the Summer season. We also hope to add several new archaeological sites for our 2008 dig program.

While the Foundation received a large number of items donated in 2007 for archaeological field and laboratory use, as well as equipment and supplies for office use (as noted above), we are looking toward the purchase of additional field investigation items this winter which will be required to support the Foundation's work efforts next year. However, if any readers of this newsletter are aware of any local, regional, or national individuals or organizations that might be willing to support the Foundation through financial contributions or in-kind donations of goods or services, please put us in contact with those individuals or organizations. Volume I, Issue 2 of the Foundation's E-Newsletter of June 20, 2007, which can be found on our website (www.loudounarchaeology.org) under the heading of Press Center, provides a comprehensive list of the most important items of equipment and supplies needed by the Foundation. Keep in mind that all contributions to the Loudoun Archaeological Foundation are eligible as charitable deductions for federal income tax purposes.

As always, we also welcome your ideas and suggestions for the Foundation's program activities.

Sincerely,
David T. Clark
Executive Director/
Principal Investigator