

COMING EVENTS

- Allyson Gardner will lead volunteer labs at the Wall Center from 6 to 8 pm this spring on the following dates. Allyson is a student at Warren Wilson College with three years of experience working at the Berry site. She assisted Caroline Ketron with the labs last fall. Can't make it at 6? That's okay! You are welcome to come anytime between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.
Jan 31, Feb 14, Feb 28, March 14, March 28, April 11, April 25, May 9, May 23
- Pottery Festival, Burke County Fairgrounds; 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - **May 21**
- Field School at Berry site - **June 6 - July 1**
- Annual Meeting, Western Piedmont Community College; 6:30 pm - **July 21**
- Annual Public Field Day at the Berry Site; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm - **June 25**

For more information regarding these and other EJF activities, see our homepage at ExploringJoara.org or call 439-2463.



16th-century Native American potsherd; Berry site. 2009 Berry site Field School



Allyson Gardner



Berry site Field School students from Western Piedmont Community College



EXPLORINGJOARA.ORG



WINTER 2011 NEWSLETTER

INTERPRETIVE CENTER AT CATAWBA MEADOWS

by David Moore

One of the most exciting accomplishments of 2010 concerns the Catawba Meadows archaeological site. Some of you have visited the site or volunteered with EJF this past summer to assist Tulane University graduate student, Merritt Eller, in her study of the site. We are extremely pleased to announce that the City of Morganton has now authorized the EJF to create a new Archaeological Interpretive Center at the Catawba Meadows Recreation Center, located on the Catawba River in Morganton. The Interpretive Center will include an outdoor exhibit area at the site of the current excavations. EJF will offer opportunities for volunteers to assist in the building of at least two replicated sixteenth century Native American buildings, a Native American garden, a shelter for public presentations and various interpretive signs and kiosks. The Interpretive Center will also feature an Archaeology Museum to interpret and exhibit local and regional archaeological sites and artifacts including materials from the Berry site. The Museum will include exhibit and meeting space, an office and gift shop.

JOIN EJF AND SUPPORT OUR MISSION

An important component of the Exploring Joara Foundation's (EJF) mission is to educate and engage the public in our archaeological work. Our educational mission is dependent on the financial support of our EJF members and donors.

Over 80 students participated in the 2010 Field School at the Berry site including college students, teachers, retirees and two pairs of mothers/daughters! During several Member Days, EJF members and volunteers practiced their archaeological skills at the site. During the Annual Field Day in June, over 700 people enjoyed site tours, kids' games and activities, artifact exhibits, and demonstrations. The laboratory and classroom in the Wall Center for Archaeological Research were in constant use during the summer and during several special volunteer lab nights in the fall. The Center also housed the archaeology crew and visiting school groups.

EJF was pleased to introduce more children to archaeology and the special story of Joara in 2010. Through special school programs, young people had the opportunity to get their hands dirty and hold history in their



Home School History Hunters

hands. Betsy Kempter, a mother with the Home School History Hunters, says "We had anticipated this moment for months: a chance to work side by side with professional archaeologists on a real dig Over the course of our three days in the field, we turned up scores of artifacts ... we could not believe how much we found!" As Michele Metzger, age 12, put it, "I thought that it was amazing that we had a chance to be out there and get to be a part of history. It was so fun to be out there with my friends and dig, sift, and just have fun!" For more information about EJF educational opportunities, contact David Moore at dmoore@warren-wilson.edu.

Please join EJF today and support our mission!

Are you a 2011 EJF member?

Please join and support public archaeology and the study of Native American and Spanish settlements in our region.

Join the Exploring Joara Foundation. Help us unearth the forgotten past.

Become a member by using the enclosed envelope or online at ExploringJoara.org.

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SUMMER 2010



Field school students participate in all aspects of archaeological excavations, and they learn how to identify artifacts found while digging and sifting.



Native American chipped stone arrowheads from the Berry site.



Native American pottery from the Berry site.



Visitors examine artifact displays at the annual Field Day at the Berry site.



Traditional crafts demonstrations at the annual Field Day at the Berry site.

Mark Butler



Activities for kids at the annual Field Day at the Berry site include blowguns, and the Native American game of chunky.



Volunteer Laurie Miller

2011 BERRY SITE FIELD SCHOOL

June 6-July 1, 2011
Morganton, NC

See ExploringJoara.org for more details



2ND ANNUAL JOARA POTTERY FESTIVAL MAY 21 - Burke County Fairground

In May 2010, EJF held the first Annual Joara Pottery Festival to highlight the region's Native American pottery traditions and showcase the continuum of this craft by potters working today. The 2nd Annual Joara Pottery Festival will be held on Saturday, May 21, 2011 at the Burke County Fairgrounds on Bost Road in Morganton, NC.

Opening the 2010 festival, Catawba Indian Potter Caroleen Sanders blessed the activities with the "fire of sage" ceremony. Over 30 potters from the Southeast displayed their work in the juried show. Festival visitors also enjoyed music and displays of native and Spanish pottery from the Berry site.

Sponsored by a grant from the Burke Arts Council and leading up to this year's festival, Native American potters and experts will travel to various Burke County schools and Western Piedmont Community College to teach Native American animal sculpture and coil pottery techniques. Catawba Indian Pottery and artifacts will be on display in the Burke Arts Council's Jail House Gallery.



Driving Joara

TOURING JOARA DRIVING TOUR 2010

On October 23, 2010, automotive enthusiasts from all over the Southeast participated in EJF's first annual Touring Joara, a European style driving tour through the mountains of Western North Carolina. The highlight of the tour was a stop at the Berry archaeological site which holds the remains of Fort San Juan, built by the Spanish in 1567, and the native town of Joara. EJF archaeologists were on hand to explain the importance of the site and its importance to American history. Participants visited other historical sites on the tour, including Henderson Mill (1806), Bellevue Plantation (1823), Cedar Grove Plantation (1825) and Swan Ponds (1848).

Driving through beautiful fall color on some of North Carolina's most scenic roads, participants went through 2,300 feet of elevation and over 400 years of history! The tour concluded with prizes and music at Catawba Meadows Park and then a parade through downtown Morganton. Look for more information about the second annual Touring Joara event in October 2011.



EJF Board Member Dick Beyers takes home a treasure from the pottery show.

ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

At the Annual Meeting in July, EJF members were treated to a fascinating slide show and discussion on Ötzi, the 5,300 year old well-preserved, natural mummy discovered in the Alps in 1991. Dr. Edward Hill of Winston Salem, who holds a M.D. degree from Wake Forest University and a Ph.D. in Neuroanthropology from the University of Vienna, was a member of the research team from Wake Forest that took part in the studies on Ötzi. Using his personal slides, Dr. Hill provided an insider's perspective on this famous and exciting discovery.



Ötzi

Benefits of EJF Membership:

Archaeological Field Work

Tours of the Berry Site

Exciting Speakers

Knowledge that you are saving history for the future!