



# Common Ground

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## CFAR NEWS: Comments from the Executive Director

Having ended calendar year 1991, it is appropriate to take a backward look at the activities and accomplishments of **CFAR**. Until reflecting on this year's happenings, I had not realized how numerous they were. A list of those which come to mind would include our field season on the Pee Dee Archaeological Project, which, though plagued by rain and of short duration, was quite successful; the ongoing Wednesday night lab at Randolph Community College; the VIP Day held at Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site; the presentation of a three-part feature on **CFAR**'s activities by WFMY-TV 2 in Greensboro as part of its Project Education series on "The Good Morning Show"; assisting the Aluminum Company of America (ALCOA) in developing a permanent display illustrating the importance of the Hardaway Site as a National Historic Landmark; preliminary excavations at the Hunting Creek Site in Davie County in cooperation with Horizons Unlimited and the N.C. Office of State Archaeology, with attendant television and newspaper coverage of special education activities presented by **CFAR** for local school groups; construction and installation of major exhibit cases for Horizons Unlimited; presentation of numerous lectures and demonstrations of flintknapping and primitive weaponry to school children and Boy Scouts, mainly due to the untiring efforts of Mike Murrow and Robert Crutchfield; the publication of our first newsletter; and the addition of numerous new members.

An expression of appreciation is in order for all of our members who have helped in these endeavors, but who are too numerous to mention by name. I would eagerly solicit the participation of all members in some phase of our activities and projects planned for 1992 in order that it may be an even more successful and productive year for **CFAR**. If you have time that you could commit to working on an educational project in your locality, a skill that might be useful in design work, art, photography, carpentry, public relations, advertising, marketing, or some other such area, write me and we will attempt to put your talents to use.

William B. Haworth  
Executive Director



**CFAR** members Paul Brendle (center) and Tom Wall sort artifacts from mechanical sifter.

## Davie County Excavations Receive Enthusiastic Community Support

**CFAR** assisted and supported emergency excavations conducted in April and May at the Hunting Creek Site (31De155) by the Office of State Archaeology. The Hunting Creek Site was first called to official attention by **CFAR** member Paul Brendle, a retired school teacher from Iredell County. "I had always heard there were artifacts on the hill," Brendle said. "The old people around here say it hadn't been worked (farmed) in 45 to 50 years."

While fishing in nearby Hunting Creek, Brendle often would take a break and walk through the nearby fields searching for artifacts. "I've been collecting artifacts for 35 or 40 years," Brendle said. "I got started bird hunting and picking things up and putting them in my pocket. I've been at it ever since." On one such break Brendle discovered a groundhog hole, and on closer examination found that the groundhog had brought out numerous pieces of pottery, stone and bone. Brendle reported his discovery to the Office of State Archaeology who confirmed the presence of an intact and potentially significant prehistoric Late Woodland (A.D. 1200-1650) archaeological site.

Recently, the site area was cleared of brush and plowed for the first time in nearly 50 years. More artifacts were discovered. In fact, the gently sloping hillside was littered with pieces of pottery, flint chips, mussel shells, and numerous fragments of what would later be identified as human bone. "There haven't been many excavations in this area," Brendle said. "That's one reason we want to get some conducted." However,

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# Pee Dee Project Update

CFAR celebrated the sixth season of the Pee Dee Archaeological Project by hosting an exciting day of special activities for invited guests at Town Creek Indian Mound. Activities included: a welcoming ceremony by William Haworth and Larry Emerson of the CFAR Board of Directors; a slide presentation and guided tour conducted by Archie Smith, Site Manager; special commentaries from Joffre Coe and Stanley South; a light lunch hosted by the Friends of Town Creek, Inc.; primitive weapons demonstrations by Mike Murrow, Archie Smith and Mike Hill, a convoyed trip to the Teal Site in Anson County, and an on-site project update presented by Bill Oliver, Director of the Pee Dee Project.

A television crew from WFMY-TV 2 in Greensboro captured much of the excitement of the day as they were taping for a special feature on CFAR. According to those present, one of the most memorable moments came during a gathering of guests inside the temple structure high atop the earthen mound as Coe and South engaged in a reflective discussion of how the excavations had progressed over five decades and how the restoration had been planned.

One CFAR member commented, "As I sat on the wooden bench inside the temple a brilliant beam of light came in through the opening in the thatched roof, dust swirled in the stream, and the words of first Coe, then South echoed across the hard-packed, earthen floor. Something very special was happening that day. Looking back, I know there was a presence within those walls that I had never before felt at Town Creek. I am not sure whether anyone else can understand it, but I think I felt what the Pee Dee must have



Special invited guests exit from the townhouse atop the earthen mound at Town Creek State Historic Site after hearing explanations from Joffre Coe and Stanley South of how the Pee Dee Indians lived at the site some 600 years ago.



Stanley South (left) and Joffre Coe reflect on their many years of association at Town Creek Indian Mound.

felt countless times in the past . . . for them the place, the time was special and that particular day it was for me, too."

## Horizons Unlimited Opens Archaeology Room

Horizons Unlimited Supplementary Educational Center will hold an Open House featuring the Grand Opening of their Archaeology Room on Sunday, April 26th from 2:00 until 5:00.

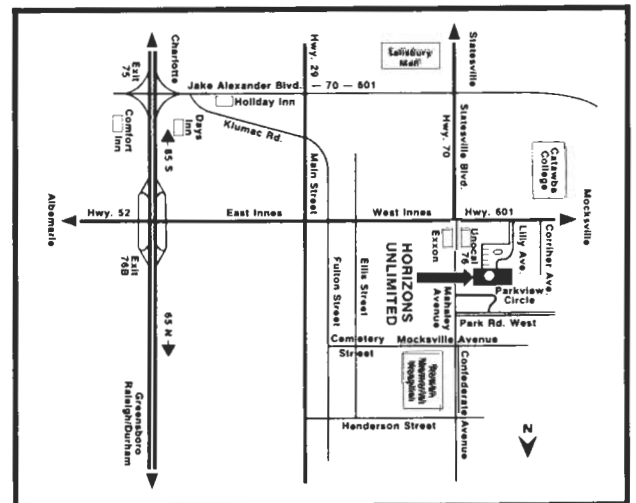
The public is invited to the Open House, but a special invitation is extended to CFAR members.

Horizons Unlimited is operated by the Rowan-Salisbury School System and is supported with public funds, foundation grants and private contributions. Its many exhibits include a roof-top observatory, giant aquariums, a planetarium and a rain forest aviary.

The Archaeology Room features an interpretive display developed by CFAR. During the Grand Opening there will be demonstrations of flintknapping and primitive weapons and tools technology by CFAR members.

Follow the map at right to Horizons Unlimited in Salisbury and spend a day exploring with family, friends and CFAR.

Call 704-636-3462 for more information.



# Teacher's Helper: Facts About Artifacts

Artifacts are objects that have been made or modified by humans. Archaeologists search for locations which contain artifacts. These locations, called sites, are then carefully investigated, the artifacts are recovered, and then studied in great detail. Much of what archaeologists find is made of stone because it is less resistant to deterioration. However, under the proper circumstances of preservation, materials such as bone, shell, wood and plant remains can be found.

When archaeologists are searching for artifacts, they often find only fragments of an artifact because it has been broken during the life history of the tool. Artifacts called arrowheads are particularly useful for archaeologists working in the Southeastern United States because the shape of the object and the way it was made can indicate the time period from which it originated. Not all of the artifacts identified as "arrowheads" were used with a bow and arrow. In fact, most were projectiles used with throwing spears or darts, which preceded the use of the bow and arrow in time.

Would your students like to learn more about arrowheads? How they were made? How they can be dated? If so, **CFAR** has resources for you to consider: prehistoric technology demonstrations and an abundant supply of professionally illustrated projectile point posters, carefully detail the artifact types and ages of artifacts in North Carolina. If you would like more information, contact **CFAR** at P.O. Box 109, High Point, NC 27261.

## Davie County ... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

before the dust had time to settle on the freshly plowed field, unscrupulous or misguided relic collectors also discovered the site. A number of "pot holes", a term employed by archaeologists to identify the irregularly-shaped, foxhole sized craters left by those seeking artifacts instead of knowledge about the past, were observed within a matter of days. The result was the destruction of a small portion of the site including several human burials.

With **CFAR** help, Bill Oliver, archaeologist with the N.C. Office of State Archaeology, conducted work on the site. The initial work was intended to stabilize the site, assess the damage and evaluate for future research. Plans are now being made to begin work at Hunting Creek on March 2nd. Interested volunteers should contact Bill Oliver at the Office of State Archaeology, (919)733-7342.



School children from Davie and Iredell Counties watch as Bob Crutchfield illustrates flintknapping techniques at a media and public education day hosted by **CFAR** at the Hunting Creek Site. Besides his usual duties as a Captain with the Asheboro Police Department, Crutchfield is also a graduate of the Archaeological Technician program at Randolph Community College.

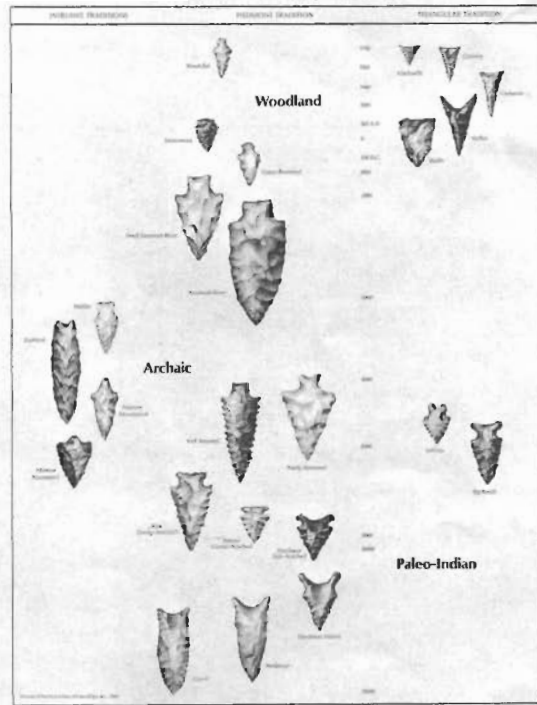
## T-Shirts and Posters from CFAR

T-shirts are now available for \$8.00 each. Please add \$2.90 for postage and handling (covers 1-3 shirts). There are two styles: 1 - **CFAR**, featuring our logo, and 2 - Pee Dee Archaeological Project logo. Sizes available are adult small, medium, large and extra large. A variety of colors are available, but we cannot promise a specific color. Please specify size and indicate preferred colors.

Projectile point posters are available for \$1.00 each.

Send your orders to **CFAR**, P.O. Box 109, High Point, NC 27261.

### Projectile Point Chronology of North Carolina



Projectile point poster.

# A Special Remembrance: Lanny D. Grubb 1941-1991

It was with deep sadness that **CFAR** learned of the untimely death of Lanny D. Grubb of Asheboro. Lanny was a charter **CFAR** member and a graduate of the first Archaeological Technician class from Randolph Community College. He was also a dedicated member of the Uwharrie Archaeological Society. Although he was a quiet and somewhat shy man, Lanny would be among the first to help a friend in need and he always looked forward to the excavations on the Pee Dee River. A thirty-two year employee of Black and Decker, Lanny enjoyed hunting, relic collecting and miniature steam engines. He is survived by his wife, Maxine; two sons, Alan and David; daughter, Donna; four sisters, two brothers and many friends who shared his interests. He is gone, but he will be long remembered by his friends in **CFAR**.



## CFAR Sponsors Underwater Archaeology

For many years archaeologist Joffre Coe had wondered if any of the refuse the Pee Dee Indians had thrown onto the banks of the Little River could be found beneath sediments deposited in a slow-moving, deeper area of the river near Town Creek. During the 1991 field season for the Pee Dee Project, **CFAR** arranged for divers and volunteers from the Underwater Archaeology Unit, N.C. Division of Archives and History to conduct investigations in areas of the Little and Pee Dee Rivers. The first area investigated was that near the Town Creek Mound. A feature story detailing these activities is planned for a future newsletter.



*Leslie Bright of the Underwater Archaeology Unit wades into the Little River near Town Creek Indian Mound.*

