



HOMESTEAD HIGHLIGHTS

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JULY 2008

On Exhibit

The 2008 exhibition of the Bull Mountain Arts Cooperative is now open throughout the month of July. This year's exhibit showcases the work of some, but not all, of Bull Mountain's current members. The co-op has always tried to be inclusive of all types of creative endeavors, ranging from paintings to photography, including jewelry, wood-working, fiber arts, stained glass, and more.



"Entwined Curves"
by Charlotte Gardner

CONTACT US:

Reynolds Homestead
463 Homestead Lane
Critz, Virginia 24082

(276) 694-7181
(276) 694-7183 fax
martinlm@vt.edu

Archaeology at the Homestead

Students in a Radford University archaeological field class spent four days at the Homestead conducting an electromagnetic survey of portions of the property surrounding the house, cemeteries, rock spring, and outbuildings. The survey team was led by Dr. Cliff Boyd, professor of anthropology and co-director of the RU Forensic Science Institute, and the electromagnetic testing segment was guided by RU physics professor Dr. Rhett Herman.

Using sensitive geophysical equipment (ground-penetrating radar), 10 undergraduate and graduate students participated in the project. The purpose of the study was to determine the location of buildings, structures, and other artifacts that might have existed during the mid-19th century when the Hardin Reynolds family was living here and actively growing and manufacturing tobacco.

Students and professors were busy

with their exploration using ohm mapping and magnetic devices, but they took time to be interviewed by reporters from Channel 10 TV news, as well as the Martinsville *Bulletin* and the *Stuart Enterprise*. The archaeological investigation of the Reynolds Homestead property was a teaching/learning orientation for the students who are preparing for an upcoming project at Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands to search for remains of Marines who went MIA in 1942.

The long range planning committee of the Homestead Advisory Board determined that the survey was necessary before moving forward with any future projects, such as building a handicap ramp into the

historic home, reconstructing the tobacco barn, enhancing the slave cemetery, or expanding the family cemetery.



Josh Van De Rite uses the ground penetrating radar to survey the property.

Understanding the past will help us craft a plan for future expansion. Stay tuned for specifics about new developments!

Last Chance to Register!

Jim McIntosh returns for his annual summer water color class—a 3-day workshop starting with the basics of watercolor for beginners, then moving to more advanced techniques, including tricks to executing good paintings. The class will be offered July 15-17, Tuesday through Thursday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. each day. The fee is \$75 which includes 140# paper. Bring a bag lunch each day.

The 51st Virginia Infantry Company D will be hosting a **Living History**

Civil War Camp at the Reynolds Homestead on July 18-20. This camp will take students back to the 1860s to live as they would have in the Confederate Army. They will arise with reveille and go to bed with taps—and in between there will be drills, history and learning about the roles within the company. Students should bring a sleeping bag and a change of comfortable clothes. Camp begins on Friday at 6:00 p.m. and runs through Sunday at 10:00 a.m. with a demonstration for parents.

Thank You!

The Homestead staff would like to thank all of you who helped make our first annual book sale fundraiser a success. We raised nearly \$700 for supplies for summer camps!

This is a really unique opportunity for children ages 8 to 14 to learn about the past. \$50 for the first child and \$40 for an additional sibling.

Learning-Discovery-Engagement

A Message from Director Kay Dunkley

Virginia Tech is internationally known for educating students and conducting research. In addition, VT makes a concerted effort to “reach out” to serve the community. The Reynolds Homestead VA Tech Continuing Education Center is proud to be one of the seven Commonwealth Campuses that falls under the *Outreach* and International Affairs department of VT. We are committed to making a difference in the lives of citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia; more specifically, to provide educational and cultural opportunities to

the residents of Patrick, Henry, and surrounding counties.

The following statistics illustrate the outreach efforts of this center. During the fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008, we served over 5,000 students through school programs; more than 2,000 people via cultural programs such as concerts and performances; 455 persons took classes and workshops; and over 1,500 individuals toured the historic home.

It is our belief that our programs and activities should stimulate and create learning, discovery, and engagement, and we vow to “put knowledge into work.” But we are always looking for new ways to connect with our community. Feel free to share your thoughts and ideas with us by sending an e-mail to kdunkley@vt.edu or martinlm@vt.edu. We can be more effective if we understand your desires.

Partnerships

During the past academic year, staff members have interacted with the following community organizations: Patrick County Chamber of Commerce, Stuart Rotary Club, Virginia Museum of Natural History, Patrick County Educational Foundation, Patrick and Henry public school systems, Piedmont Arts Association, Patrick Henry Community College, Virginia Department of

Transportation, Embarq, Henry County Board of Supervisors, Reynolda House, the June Bug Center of Floyd, the Jacksonville Center for the Arts in Floyd, Primland Resort, Eastern Microfilm/EMI Imaging, the Spencer-Penn Centre, Fairy Stone State Park, Philpott Lake Lake, Piedmont Community Services, Patrick County Extension Services, the VA Dept. of Forestry, and the PC Community Food Bank.



Students from Hardin Reynolds enjoy a drama class at the Homestead.

Music by the Lake



The next Homestead at Fairy Stone Park concert will feature West Virginia native and recording artist **David LaFleur** at the amphitheater at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 11.

David is a roots-acoustic singer-

songwriter with a rich tenor voice and a mastery of the guitar, dobro, mandolin and dulcimer.

Over 25 years of experience with folk, blues and bluegrass music has given David the opportunity to open for such acts as Emmy Lou Harris, Tom Rush, and the Seldom Scene; and his original music has been featured on TV as well as National Public Radio. His songwriting has placed him among finalists in numerous songwriting contests across the country, and two years in a row, he was a featured performer at the Moun-

tain Stage NewSong Festival in West Virginia.

Superb musicianship and a masterful array of thoughtful, and sometimes hilarious songs, mixed with a dynamic stage presence and dry wit make LaFleur's performance one not to be missed.

The concert is free but park admission rates apply for attendees. In the event of rain, the concert will be moved to a nearby picnic shelter.

June Highlight: TimeTravelers Camp



Emily Gunter and Lauren Williams enjoy feeding the mule at the Blue Ridge Farm Museum.

“I really enjoyed the camp. I’ll be back next year.”

Dustin Hall

“What was your favorite place you saw this week?” Beth Ford asked the participants of the Reynolds Homestead Time Travelers Camp. Enthusiastic shouts: “The Tank Museum,” one 13-year-old boy responded. “The Farm Museum at Ferrum,” “the aging machine at the Natural History museum,” answered several of the younger girls.

For three days, twelve local children, ages 9-13, traveled “back in time” by touring six different area museums and parks, earning their Virginia TimeTravelers certificate signed by Governor Tim Kaine and a TimeTravelers t-shirt.

This unique program, sponsored by the Virginia Association of Museums, the Department of Education, and the Virginia Department of Tourism encourages children to explore the museums, parks, and historical sites across the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Within a 50-mile radius of the

Reynolds Homestead, the campers easily fulfilled the six required site visits: Fairy Stone State Park, The Farm Museum at Ferrum, the AAF



Tank Museum and the Science Center in Danville, the Reynolds Homestead in Critz, and the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville.

Some of the activities included a tree identification program and hike, exploration of an 1806 German-American farmstead,

a retrospective tour of the history of tanks and weaponry, a fairy stone hunt, a visit to a butterfly garden, dismembering owl pellets, and other great scientific and historic activities.

Staff and campers alike are excited to choose the sites for the next year’s camp. The Museum of the Middle Appalachians in Saltville? The Barter Theatre in Abingdon? The Virginia City Gem Mine & Museum in Wytheville? Every choice is a time traveling adventure – and right here in Virginia!



(L-R) Dustin Hall, Knick McKay, Billy Burnette and Dennis Vernon search for fairy stones.

Dessert and Coffee with.....

This new monthly program features remarkable people from our own community and beyond, who have interesting things to say about a variety of subjects.

The program for July, on Sunday the 13th at 3:00 p.m., features Meadows of Dan resident and former professor David Oliver exploring the

subject of torture, in a discussion called “**The Biology of Torture.**” The war in Iraq has brought this issue to the forefront of American citizens’ minds, and many have mixed feelings about when it is appropriate and how much is appropriate.

According to Oliver, “A common contemporary belief

is that torture exists to extract information from enemy prisoners to save lives. Human biology tells a different story.”

Come have dessert and coffee with David at 3:00 p.m. as he explores this fascinating subject which traces the history of torture and how it is bound into the biology of human beings. The event is free and open to the public.



July 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Independence Day!	5 Quilters Exchange 2:00
6	7 Art Camp 9-12 Drawing Class 2-5 Photo Club 6:30	8 Art Camp 9-12 Drawing Class 2-5	9 Art Camp 9-12 Drawing Class 2-5 Postcard Club 7:00	10 Art Camp 9-12 Drawing Class 2-5	11 Art Camp 9-12 Drawing Class 2-5 David LaFleur @ Fairy Stone 7:30	12
13 David Oliver 3:00	14	15 Beg. Watercolor 9-4 Great Books 6:30	16 Beg. Watercolor 9-4	17 Beg. Watercolor 9-4 Dinner & Movie 6:15/7:00	18 Civil War Camp Begins 6:00 p.m.	19 Civil War Camp
20 Civil War Camp Ends 10:00 a.m. Weavers 2:00	21 Decorative Painters 9:30	22	23	24	25 Kris Hale @ Fairy Stone 7:30	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Looking Ahead

In keeping with the Homestead's tradition of delivering quality art classes, we will be offering a **"Beginning Multi-Media"** class in September.

Andrea Morrison, popular Homestead artist and member of Bull Mountain Arts Co-op and the Mount Airy Art League, will be the instructor for the class which meets Tuesdays in September from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon beginning September 9 and continuing on the 16th, 23rd, and 30th.

Bring your own watercolors, acrylics, and/or pastels, and receive assistance from an artist with over twenty years of experience.

The cost of the course is \$60 and is open to artists (or aspiring artists) of any skill level. Call the Homestead to register early; class size is limited.

Frederick Moyer returns to the Reynolds Homestead on Sunday, September 14 at 3:00 p.m. for his bi-annual classical concert.

Moyer made his Carnegie Recital Hall debut in 1982, and he has appeared with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Boston Pops, the Philadelphia Orchestra, and toured extensively in Europe and Asia.

Moyer's music is a treat for anyone—even those who may not consider classical music one of their favorite genres. "One of the most enjoyable aspects of his concerts is Fred's ability to align his music to fit his audience," says Lisa Martin, Program Coordinator. "He doesn't play obscure pieces that a non-classical crowd might not enjoy, but chooses songs that any music lover would enjoy. Just watching his hands fly

across the keyboard is worth the price of admission!"



Tickets for the concert are currently on sale for \$10. Contact the Homestead to purchase.