October Events: Touring Joara and Volunteer Lab night

On Saturday, October 23, Exploring Joara Foundation is hosting 'Touring Joara,' a sports car and European car tour and poker run. The cars will tour by historic locations around Burke County, including Bellevue Plantation, Swan Ponds Plantation, Christa's Country Store, Camp Lake James, and Fort San Juan/Joara/the Berry site, before rallying in the afternoon at Catawba Meadows Park. Stop by to see the cars at Catawba Meadows Park or at the Berry site around noon--many of the participants will also parade through downtown in the late afternoon, where the City of Morganton is hosting an oyster roast.

If you have a European or sports car and would like to register to drive in 'Touring Joara,' there are still some spots left (the registration form is available at our website; access by clicking the poster at left).

We also need volunteers at Bellevue Plantation, Swan Ponds, and the Berry site to help direct the cars, talk to folks, and answer questions as the cars come through. At the Berry site, we need people to help with parking, setting up and breaking down 3 or 4 small tents, and to pass out brochures. The Berry site location will have barbeque provided by Hurshey's. At each stop participants in the tour will receive a playing card, and turn in their five-card poker hand at the end of the tour to compete for prizes. If you have a couple of hours between 8:00 and 2:00 on Saturday to volunteer, please give us a call at (828) 439-2463--it's a nice time of year to be outside.

We are excited about this unique event!

Exploring Joara is also hosting a volunteer lab night at the Wall Center in Morganton--if you would like to help us wash and
Proposed Archaeology Museum and Interpretive Center at Catawba Meadows Park

We are excited to announce that the City Council of Morganton recently accepted Exploring Joara Foundation’s proposal to develop a regional archaeology interpretive center at Catawba Meadows Park in Morganton.

The interpretive center will include two major components:

a. a Museum with office space,

b. and an outdoor exhibit area with at least two replicated sixteenth century Native American buildings, a Native American garden, a shelter for public presentations and various interpretive signs and kiosks.

We will be working with the city staff to develop the final details; as planning progresses we expect there will be many ways for volunteers to become involved.