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## Colonoware Being Found

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# License Check Held On Cooper River

On Sunday, September 12, 1993, staff members of the Underwater Division of SCIAA conducted a sport diver license check on the Cooper

River.

Nineteen divers were encountered during the day. Fourteen of these were in one group diving with an instructor

and collecting under an instructional license. The others were in three groups.

Of these other divers only two divers held a current sport diver license, one had an expired license, and two had no licenses at all. The divers with no licenses we shot on the spot. The one with an expired licenses we hung back at the boat landing. (Just kidding). Actually, the names and addresses of those without current license were taken, application forms were handed out, and they were reminded that under the law their finds could be confiscated.

Section 54-7-800-D of the South Carolina Underwater Antiquities Act of 1991 states that "The insitute (SCIAA)

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## SCIAA Staff Attends Festival

by Robin Denson

On September 24 - 26, representatives from SCIAA's Underwater Division and members of the SDAMP attended the Charleston Maritime Festival which boasted an attendance of 8,000 to 10,000 persons.

The highlight of SCIAA's display was Billy Judd's working models of rice gates and barges which he so expertly manned and operated relentlessly over the tiring three day period. He was assisted by Christine Newell who also manned the display while Chris Amer, Mark Newell, and Bill Barr gave lectures on water craft and ferry landings from South Carolina. The hobby license program was represented through a tag-team lecture presented by Hamp Shuping, Darryl Boyd, and myself that looked at the history of the program, the development of project-based activities and illustrated some examples of projects being undertaken in South Carolina by sport divers. The high quality input and participation offered to SCIAA by Billy Judd, Hamp Shuping, and Darryl Boyd at the Charleston Maritime Festival went a long way towards making our presentations there so successful and rewarding for other members of the public.

## Colonoware Being Found

by Carl Naylor

Many divers have been finding a crude form of unglazed earthenware pottery known as colonoware. Just what the heck is colonoware, and who on earth made the stuff?

USC professor of anthropology Leland Ferguson, in *Studies in South Carolina Archaeology* (SCIAA 1989), notes that colonoware is a broad-based category of pottery, like "British ceramics," made during the eighteenth and early nineteenth century, mostly by Afro American slaves for their own use on plantations. Colonoware can be distinguished from other forms of prehistoric indian pottery by its smoothed or polished surface and general lack of any decoration.

Recently a type of colonoware has been identified that is believed to have been made by the Catawba Indians living in free indian villages rather than on plantations. This is based on the fact that the Catawba were known



### Colonoware Bowl

This colonoware bowl was found recently by diver Jimmy Moss (Photo by Jimmy Moss).

to have traveled to the coastal plain to sell pottery in the nineteenth century, and that this form is similar to pottery known to have been made by the Catawba. However, since this connections is somewhat tenuous, Professor Ferguson has suggested this type of colonoware be called "River Burnished" pottery.

The River Burnished differs from the slave-made colonoware in that it

is more regular and even in thickness, usually highly polished on the interior and exterior, burnished with a tool that leaves horizontal marks approximately an eighth-inch wide, and sometimes decorated with red painted lines or dots. Also, bowls often flare out at the top (see accompanying photo), and the lips of bowls are usually decorated with small facets or flat areas.