

Archaeology Plus - Dr Jan Sigvartsen

INSTRUCTOR

Jan Sigvartsen PhD
Leanne Sigvartsen MCouns

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Tarragindi.org

AGE

8-18

FORMAT

IN-PERSON

HOURS

19 hours (makeup
classes available)

CLASS OVERVIEW AND GOALS

In this program, you will participate in a much-needed community project to preserve and restore the Long Lake Cemetery, where many of Berrien County's earliest settlers are buried. You will learn the histories of some of these people and how to trace your own genealogy. You will learn specialist skills in archaeological restoration and preservation of monuments that are nearly 200 years old, under the supervision of a *Secretary of the Interior qualified Archaeologist*, Dr Jan Sigvartsen PhD. Long Lake Cemetery is three miles from Downtown Berrien Springs towards Niles on Old US 31.

As you restore the cemetery, you will also learn about the early history of Berrien County and its fascinating early settlers and the lives they lived. Students will learn how to research their own home's history, how to research their own ancestors, and early settler life in Berrien Springs in the early 1800s. This project will also teach students how to obtain VA headstones or plaques for veterans, particularly War of 1812 and Civil War veterans, who are buried in the Long Lake Cemetery. External funding is presently being sought to ensure the children buried in the children's section have the dignity of a headstone.

One of our research questions will be, is this historic cemetery the oldest cemetery in Berrien County? Are the people buried there in the early years all related to each other, and was this originally a family cemetery? Or, was this a convenient community cemetery close to the prehistoric Native American Trail (which is now Old US 31) and Long Lake, where the first permanent European settlers of Berrien County originally settled?

A parent, grandparent, or guardian is welcome to accompany you. Friends or siblings must be registered for this class with the parent partnership to participate. This program is for two and a half hours per week for eight weeks.

Dr Jan Sigvartsen also operates Berrien Springs Parent Partnership and Niles Virtual School classes:

1. Archaeology Dig – Tarragindi
2. Archaeology Dig – Old Jailhouse
3. Archaeology Plus – Long Lake Cemetery Restoration Project
4. Historic Photography
5. Historic Court Trials
6. Board Gaming Eurogames

ARTIFACTS AND SAFETY

Archaeology is a lot of fun and very rewarding, especially when you make a significant contribution to your community by restoring and preserving an important historic site. However, it is not without risks, even though they occur very rarely. We will take all precautions to ensure your safety, but consistent with archaeological projects, all participants will be required to sign a waiver.

Please remember that the Long Lake Cemetery is owned by Berrien Township who have given Dr Jan Sigvartsen special permission to oversee this restoration work. Dr Jan exceeds the [Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeologists as stipulated in the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR Part 61](#). Please do not try to undertake restoration work outside of class hours or when your supervisors are not there. Please respect the neighbors' right to privacy and peace by not entering their properties and only parking in the designated areas.

CLASS TIMES

- Monday, 4pm - 6.30pm
- Friday, 1pm – 3.30pm

Except

- Week 1, Orientation Program – January 6 or 8, from 6pm – 8pm

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Long-sleeved shirt and long pants suitable for being outdoors in mid-April to May
- Sturdy boots with a thick sole

WE SUPPLY

- All safety equipment and monument supports
- Artifact cleaning supplies

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1, January 6 <u>or</u> 8	ORIENTATION – OLD COURTHOUSE
Berrien Springs History Center – 313 N Cass St, Berrien Springs January 6 - 6-8 pm <u>or</u> January 8 – 6-8 pm	All students undertaking Dr Jan Sigvartsen's six Parent Partnership classes this semester are required to attend the orientation program. There are two scheduled orientation times – you only have to attend <u>one</u> of these scheduled orientations (not both).
WEEK 2, January 12 or 16	HISTORY CENTER TOUR – at your selected class time
Berrien Springs History Center – 313 N Cass St, Berrien Springs	This week we will take a tour through the Berrien Springs History Center and learn about the fascinating and multicultural history of Berrien Springs.
WEEK 3, April 20 or 24	ROSE HILL CEMETERY TOUR
Rose Hill Cemetery at the end of Rose Hill Road, Berrien Springs	This is a special tour of the Rose Hill Cemetery in Berrien Springs to learn about the fascinating symbology used on monuments and what they can often mean for archaeologists/historians.
Week 4, April 27 or May 1	TARRAGINDI ARCHAEOLOGY DIG SITE – at your selected class time
Dig Site - 6161 Pheasant Court Berrien Springs	We will meet at the Tarragindi site, and then head over to the cemetery together. Restoration project introduction and commencement. "Meet" prominent settlers in the cemetery.
WEEK 5, May 4 or 8	LONG LAKE CEMETERY – at your selected class time
Next to 11087 Old US 31, Berrien Springs	Tutorial on how to research your own home's previous owners. Work on the restoration project.
Week 6, May 11 or 15	LONG LAKE CEMETERY – at your selected class time
Next to 11087 Old US 31, Berrien Springs	Tutorial on how to research your family tree. Work on the restoration project.
WEEK 7 May 18 or 22	LONG LAKE CEMETERY – at your selected class time

Next to 11087 Old US 31, Berrien Springs	Tutorial on how to apply for VA monuments. Work on the restoration project.
WEEK 8 May 25 or 29	LONG LAKE CEMETERY – at your selected class time
Next to 11087 Old US 31, Berrien Springs	Work on the restoration project.

YOUR PROJECT

You can research the history of the Long Lake community, the first permanent community in Berrien County (or was it?). You may also like to investigate the lives of one of Berrien County's fascinating early settlers or their families. You may like to answer the question: why did 37-year-old Serepta Simpson and her 15-year-old daughter, Louisa, pass away in the same month in 1863? Who was the first person to live on the land your home is on?

ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTORS

Dr Jan Sigvartsen PhD (Dr Jan) has taught Archaeology and Ancient Religion classes at Andrews University, Michigan, and the Theologische Hochschule Friedensau, Germany, where he was also the PhD Programs Coordinator and Associate Director of the Institute of Biblical Studies and Archaeology. He has participated in archaeological digs in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the United States, has traveled extensively to historic sites globally, and has lived in Israel, Norway, England, Germany, Australia, and the United States. His area of academic research specialty is ancient afterlife and resurrection beliefs. Dr Sigvartsen exceeds the [Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for Archaeologists as stipulated in the Code of Federal Regulations, 36 CFR Part 61.](#)

Leanne Sigvartsen (Ms Leanne) originally trained as a psychologist in Australia and spent many years as a counselor and academic advisor for teens and young adults. She currently works with the Chicago-based *Center for Collaborative Study for Trauma, Health Equity, and Neurobiology* as their Research Project Director. She is a triple citizen of the United States, Australia, and Malta, and has lived in the United States, Australia, and Germany. She is committed to creating memorable and unique childhood experiences (like Archaeology digs and local historic programming) that allow young people to connect to their local community's history. This is to allow them to become proud of being from Berrien County and its fascinating early settler and indigenous history – a history they are now a part of. She wants to see young people succeed, be happy, and grow into thriving adults - especially those who have experienced trauma and adverse childhood experiences.
