

North Central Region Quarterly Report- October/November/December 2010 Barbara A. Hines, RPA, Outreach Coordinator

This quarter has been a very busy one for the North Central Region. I have been regularly visiting classrooms and educational centers throughout the region. I have made an effort to involve more adults in the North Central Regional activities as well. In October I attended NAI training in Pensacola and I am now a NAI Certified Interpretive Guide. This will enable me to better interpret Florida's past in my public outreach activities. FPAN's North Central Region has also joined the Panhandle Historic Preservation Alliance, of which our Northwest Region has been a long-standing member as well. Our major outreach activity this quarter has been the public archaeology excavation project at the Orman House in Apalachicola, Florida.

FPAN, with the assistance of the Friends of Franklin County State Parks, the Florida Park Service and numerous public participants, has been conducting limited exploratory excavations at the Orman House, in the vicinity of the structure known as the Servant's Quarters. To date, work has been conducted over three weekends under the supervision of FPAN/University of West Florida staff. We have had a total of 31 volunteers participate in the excavation, with a total of 256 contributed hours to the project. University of West Florida and FPAN staff members have contributed a total of 189 hours to this project. A number of other people have visited the site and received information about FPAN, this project and signed up for the North Central Newsletter. This project is on-going, and will continue to provide opportunities for public participation well into 2011.

The desired outcome of this project is to provide information about whether a slave dwelling once stood at the site now occupied by the Servant's Quarters, and if this structure is, in fact, of sufficient age to be the remnants of one of the four historically documented slave dwellings that were known to have once existed on the Orman property. So far, artifacts have been the main findings in the eleven excavation units that have been conducted to date. The majority of the artifacts have been found within the first 30 centimeters. No analysis has been conducted on the orcupation of the Servant's Quarters. Some artifacts do date to the antebellum period, but further analysis

is needed. The artifacts are being housed at the FPAN lab in Pensacola at the Coordinating Center, and volunteers there will be assisting with the artifact analysis.

Volunteers at the Orman House project have had various opportunities to assist with the excavation in many different capacities. They have had the opportunity to learn about and conduct field excavations, screen for artifacts, and assist with field documentation of the units and artifacts. Many of the volunteers learned about this opportunity through the media-either the newspaper or their local news broadcast. We have had various news reporters visit and report on the site and the project since we have started in November. WFSU-TV filmed an entire segment about the Orman House excavation that was featured on the local PBS show, *Dimensions.* The segment can be viewed at <u>www.wfsu.org/dimensions</u>.

Another public event that was well attended was the Public Archaeology Day at the Wakulla County Historical Society Museum and Archives, which took place in October. This event was featured in our newsletter. Over 46 private citizens visited, many bringing their own personal collections to be identified. Members of the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee and FPAN staff and volunteers were on hand to help identify these objects. The event also served as an open house for the museum to showcase some of their new and upcoming exhibits.

North Central also had several exciting opportunities to assist the Division of Historical Resources this quarter. With the assistance of the staff at the DOS Collections Facility, I designed the lobby exhibit in the R.A. Gray building. The exhibit is of historic soda bottles and the history of the soda industry in Florida. The exhibit contains several bottles that once contained regional flavors that could only be found in Florida.

Another exciting opportunity arose when a dugout canoe was reported by a private citizen over the Thanksgiving break. The dugout canoe was found in Lake Munson, which is located southwest of downtown Tallahassee. The lake was being temporarily drained to help mitigate some environmental concerns, which led to the discovery of the dugout canoe on the lake bottom. I had the opportunity to assist DHR staff and other volunteers in the recovery of the dugout canoe. We carefully removed it from the lake bottom and transported it to the conservation laboratory at the R.A. Gray building in Tallahassee.

We also concluded our Kids Dig Archaeology! series at the LeRoy Collins Public Library in Tallahassee and expanded it to include the public library in Dixie County. We are currently working with a local kayak rental company and Certified Green Guides (ecotourism guides) to develop archaeoheritage tours of several rivers within the North Central Region. I have secured partnerships with several summer camps within the region for this coming summer. I also joined Amber Grafft-Weiss and Cassandra Rae Harper at the FAME Conference in Orlando to promote FPAN to media educators in the state. In conclusion, the last quarter of 2010 was very successful, and the public response and support for FPAN activities and events has been outstanding. I have increased the number of attendees to North Central events by about 87% from our previous quarter. The number of people that follow us via social media (Facebook and

Twitter) has also increased since last quarter, as has the number of individuals receiving our quarterly newsletter.

Type of Activity/Event	# of Events/Presentations/Activities	# of Attendees
Public Presentations	1	21
Public Events	2	184
Professional Presentations		
(conferences, etc)		
Professional Events attended		
(conferences, etc)	1 (NAI Training)	
Adult Training/Workshops		
School/Youth		474
Programs/Workshops	11	
Radio/TV	2 (WFSU-TV Dimensions, ABC 27 Local	
Presentations/Interviews	News)	
Volunteer Programs	1	31
Meetings attended-Government,		
Schools, Administration	11	
Printed Articles-Magazine,	2 (Wakulla News, Tallahassee	
Newspaper	Democrat)	
Printed Media produced-		
Brochures, Booklets, Guides, Maps		
Electronic Media produced- Blog,	3 mass emails	
Podcasts, Mass Emails	(including 1 newsletters this quarter- winter edition)	45 subscribers
	FPAN Facebook	161 fans
	FPAN Twitter	96 followers
	"Archaeology Gone Public" Blog	4 followers
Major Publications- Book,		
Chapter, Journal Article		
TOTAL	33	755*

*Total number of attendees does not include number of followers on Twitter or blog, nor does it include the number of fans on Facebook.

Public Outreach

Info Booths:

• Wakulla Public Archaeology Day, Crawfordville- 46 attendees (distributed over 7 DHR publications)

- Mighty Mullet Maritime Festival, Panacea- 138 attendees (distributed over 37 DHR publications)
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Public Lectures/Presentations/Tours:

• Native Plant Society: *Native American Uses of Native Plants in Florida*, Crawfordville- 21 attendees

Media Events:

- WFSU-TV *Dimensions*, featured Orman House excavation public archaeology project
- ABC 27, local news coverage of Orman House excavation public archaeology project

Youth Events/Presentations:

- LeRoy Collins Public Library, Tallahassee-Kids Dig Archaeology! (October)- 11 attendees
- LeRoy Collins Public Library, Tallahassee-Kids Dig Archaeology! (December)- 3 attendees
- Dixie County Public Library-Kids Dig Archaeology!- 7 attendees
- Roberts Elementary, Tallahassee- Intro to Archaeology and Cookie Excavation 34 students
- Woodville Elementary, Woodville- Florida Prehistory and Spanish Florida 69 students
- Gilchrist Elementary, Tallahassee- Atlatl Antics- 147 students
- Canopy Oaks Elementary, Tallahassee- Coil Pots and Flint Knapping Demonstration- 110 Students
- Fairview Middle School, Tallahassee- Atlatl Antics- 87 students
- Ghazvini Learning Center, Tallahassee- Atlatl Antics- 7 students

Assisting DHR

- Attended BAR Staff meetings when schedule allowed
- Distributed DHR literature to public when attending public events (see info booths above)
- Met with KC Smith, of the Museum of Florida History, to discuss what FPAN could do to assist with the *Forever Changed: La Florida*, 1513-1821 exhibit, which is scheduled to open in February 2012
- Created lobby exhibit for the R.A. Gray building
- Assisted with the recovery of the dugout canoe uncovered at Lake Munson when the lake was drained for environmental purposes

<u>Other</u>

- Continue to attend Wakulla County Historical Society meetings and am still an active board member
- Assisting the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee with the planning of the 2012 FAS Conference in Tallahassee
- Attend board and general meeting of the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee

- Continue to assist the Wakulla County Historical Society's Museum and Archives volunteers with the cataloging of their collections
- Assisted the Wakulla County Historical Society with the planning of a presentation to the City of St. Marks about Heritage Tourism in an effort to gain support for a local Heritage Village (Living History) Museum.
- Helped at the FPAN table at the FAME conference in Orlando to promote FPAN to media educators in Florida
- Attended NAI training successfully, am now a NAI Certified Interpreter and a member of the *National Association for Interpretation*
- Have met with the local Girl Scout Council and have agreed to a one week summer camp for 2011
- Have met with the FSU High Magnetic Laboratory, and have agreed to do a program for their Girls Science summer camp for 2011
- Have secured a spot for FPAN North Central at the annual Ochlocknee River State Park Primitive Arts Festival (Atlatl Antics will be a featured activity) and the Battle of Natural Bridge Reenactment, both of which will take place during Florida Archaeology Month.



Monica Beck, RPA, with the University of West Florida, assisting volunteers at the Orman House Public Archaeology Project in Apalachicola, Florida.



DHR staff, FPAN North Central Staff and volunteers assisted in the recovery of a dugout canoe from Lake Munson, Tallahassee.