

North Central Region Quarterly Report – October/November/December 2012 Barbara A. Hines, Outreach Coordinator

## **Highlight of the Quarter**

This December we were able to offer a guided tour of Tallahassee's historic Old City Cemetery. This cemetery, now located downtown, was established in 1829 during Florida's Territorial Period. This cemetery is the final resting place for many individuals that helped to shape local and state history. The tour was advertised in the local newspaper, FPAN social media and in the guarterly electronic newsletter. We had a total of 37 people attend the tour, including individuals who traveled from Jacksonville, Florida and Alabama to attend. We were fortunate enough to have found a wonderful and very knowledgeable tour guide, Mr. Erik T. Robinson, Archivist with the Florida Supreme Court Library. He had worked with other historians and archaeologists in the 1990s to document and restore the cemetery and has given similar tours before. Attendees were taken to most of the significant landmarks and graves within the cemetery. They were provided with a packet of information about cemeteries, including a bibliography for further reading about historic cemeteries and a listing of common symbols and their meanings. After the tour of the Old City Cemetery Mr. Robinson graciously gave some interested participants a brief tour of the historic Episcopal Cemetery located nearby. Mr. Robinson and I spoke to the participants briefly about proper cemetery etiquette and the importance of preserving these outdoor museums. I have received a lot of positive feedback and we are hoping to do this tour again in the future. After the tour I posted a photographic tour of the cemetery to our Facebook page for those who could not attend. It includes photos of all the monuments mentioned during the tour with a description explaining their significance.

## **Progress on Work Plan Objectives**

- Implement archaeology-related programs and curricula in area schools: Classroom visits to area schools
- Assist with the FPAN booth at the FCSS Teacher Conference: informational booth and teacher training at Florida Council for the Social Studies Conference in Orlando
- Provide volunteer opportunities: FPAN Volunteer, Jessica Engel, an Anthropology student at Florida State University continues to work on FPAN NC projects
- Continue to make and follow up with contacts throughout the North Central Region: quarterly newsletter produced on time; Facebook, Twitter and blog continue to be updated on a regular basis
- Outreach to local civic organizations: Given several lectures to local clubs, civic groups and libraries

- Work to make more connections in eastern part of region: Have scheduled lectures at Madison County Public Library, White Springs Public Library and Columbia County Public Library for both Viva Florida 500 and Florida Archaeology Month events
- Increase the number and effective use of archaeoturism destinations in Florida: Have worked with the Apalachicola Maritime Museum to expand and improve their youth events and activities, they have had the ArchaeoCart on display for about two months.
- Continue to participate in professional organizations: Barbara Hines has been elected as the new Vice President for the local FAS chapter, the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee (PAST)



The group gathers around this headstone as tour guide, Erik Robinson explains its significance. This headstone is made of zinc, or "white bronze", which was a popular material for headstones around the turn of the century. It is the only headstone in the cemetery made of this material.