

Southwest Region- Quarterly Report January to March 2015

Michele Williams, Ph.D., RPA, Director Melissa Timo, MA, RPA, Outreach Coordinator Regan Doherty, Outreach Assistant

Highlights:

The highlight of this quarter was the Southwest region's co-hosting of the "For Over 150 Years: Remembering African American Contributions to Ft. Myers" event. This event took place via collaboration with the Lee County Black History Society and other local cultural organizations. Over 200 residents and visitors came to see the 2nd Infantry Regiment of the United States Colored Troops reenactment of camp life and enjoy esteemed speakers such as Dr. William Lees. Ms. Timo was interviewed by several local and state-wide news outlets in the weeks prior to the event. Staff from the Southeast region assisted with the planning and execution of this event.

Public Outreach

- Delivered 15 lectures at local educational and historical venues; nearly 500 people attended. This is double the number of lectures and attendees this same quarter in 2014.
- Presented two youth activities for 170 participants at regional libraries in Lee and Hendry Counties.
- Staffed FPAN information booths at Everglades National Park's Calusa Days, Collier County Museum's Old Florida Festival, Picayune Strand State Park's Festival in the Woods, and Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary's World Wetlands Days. Staffing of these events was made possible by collaboration between the SE and SW-FPAN offices. Over 3,200 people were introduced to FPAN and its mission at these five events.

Assistance to Local Governments

- Provided docent trainings at Delnore Wiggins State Park, Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary, Everglades National Park – SW Region and Mound House. We reached over 100 docents and staff at these trainings.
- Completed a mini-CPRT with the Collier County Public Works department. This department is in charge of maintaining several historically sensitive cemeteries across the county.
- Met with Collier County Museum, Koreshan State Historic Site, and Museum of the Everglades staff to discuss archaeology events, and programming.

Support of DHR

- Provided a total of 11 Florida Archaeology Month events and activities.
- Ensured that Florida Archaeology Month posters were distributed to appropriate venues and partners throughout south Florida.

Support of Host Institution

- Offered expertise and assistance to FGCU Anthropology and Museum Studies programs to establish appropriate lab procedures and processes
- Gave lectures for Introduction to Archaeology class at FGCU

Administrative Duties

- Ms. Timo hired Regan Doherty as the SW-FPAN Outreach Assistant
- Participated in staff meetings at SW and SE FPAN offices



Visitors, reenactors, and staff enjoy a spirited tug-of-war at the "For Over 150 Years: Remembering African American Contributions to Ft. Myers" event