

North Central Region Quarterly Report: April/May/June 2011 Barbara A. Hines, RPA, Outreach Coordinator

This quarter the North Central Region has offered a variety of both adult and children's educational programming and outreach activities. In March we had participated in a variety of Florida Archaeology Month events, but it seems as though FAM was a catalyst for increased awareness of the FPAN North Central Office, and I continued to see a growing interest in outreach activities even after March. This quarter I have presented several lectures to civic organizations, had booths at several festivals and started our long anticipated archaeotourism kayak tours. Additionally, I also attended the annual Florida Anthropological Society meeting in Orlando.

Among the festivals the North Central Region attended this quarter was the Magnolia School Earth Day Festival. At this festival North Central was able to team up with the Southeastern Archaeological Center/National Park Service for a joint booth. We handed out information from both organizations, had a hands-on activity for children and of course, gave away both FPAN and National Park Service swag. Another festival we attended was the Sharks and Chablis annual fundraiser for the Gulf Specimen Marine Lab in Wakulla County. At this festival I teamed up with Franklin Price, DHR Underwater Archaeologist. DHR graciously allowed us to bring a case of artifacts from various shipwrecks off the coast of Florida to use as an outreach tool. Additionally, we also gave away Shipwreck Preserve brochures and posters, as well as other information about Florida archaeology and historic preservation.

Since the beginning of last quarter I have been planning kayak tours in this region that would highlight the archaeology of this area. I have teamed up with a local kayak rental equipment business, TNT Hidea-Way to assist me with this project. In May we were able to offer our first tour of the Wakulla River. TNT Hide-a-Way deals with liability and equipment rentals and I act as a guest tour guide, along with one of their Certified Green Guides. The tours have been going very well, and we are hoping to soon expand to offering tours of other rivers in the region as well.

In May, at the annual FAS meeting, I presented a paper about my kayak tours and the economic benefit of archaeoheritage tourism. I also was invited to participate in a workshop and panel discussion on the "Archaeology of Florida's Recent Past". We discussed the achievements and challenges of working in historic archaeology. Topics ranged from the study of historic hotels, cemeteries and turpentine stills, to homeless camps and systems of garbage disposal.

I have also continued to work on the goals and objectives to which I was assigned. The Archaeotourism Task Force held an impromptu lunch meeting at the annual FAS meeting where we discussed a variety of ways to move forward with our goal to develop and implement a strategy to promote archaeological heritage tourism in Florida. We have also held multiple conference call meetings to discuss our strategy. Additionally, I have been working on my goal of creating an informational packet that will

allow us to better assist groups and individuals in completing National Register nominations. I will also be working with DHR to find examples of good nomination applications to assist us with this objective. Della Scott-Ireton and I have working on the agenda for the upcoming DHR/FPAN annual meeting. We have had to make some modifications due to staff changes within DHR, but expect to have the agenda finalized soon.

One very unique opportunity presented itself this quarter. I was asked to assist with the excavation of the cistern at The Grove in May. The Grove is a Tallahassee plantation that was established by Richard Keith Call in the 1830s. In 1942, The Grove passed to Mary Call Darby Collins and became the home of the late Governor LeRoy Collins and his wife, Mary, the great-granddaughter of Call. In 2009 the Division of Historical Resources began the process of restoring The Grove. The goal of this restoration is to have the historic property used as a museum with themes and activities that will capture the essence of the family's history and life at The Grove in a compelling and engaging way for the public. In keeping with the family tradition of resourcefulness and innovation, DHR and the renovation team is attempting to restore The Grove in such a way that they are able to achieve LEED Gold Certification by the United States Green Building Council. The cistern excavation was necessary because debris had been discarded there by the occupants, and it needed to be cleared out so that it could be utilized as part of the green building effort. We recovered many interesting and unique artifacts that will be displayed at the museum when it opens. I have written a more in depth history of the property in the North Central blog, "Shovel Bytes".

The summer, so far, has been busy with summer camps and planning future events for the fall and winter months. This summer we have scheduled, in cooperation with other educational organizations, three archaeology themed, week-long summer camps. In June we completed two of those summer camps. Both were in conjunction with the 21st Century Learning Community Program in Liberty County. This is an afterschool program that I visit monthly at both Tolar School and Hosford School. During the summer they conduct day camps, and I was asked if I would assist them with an archaeology themed camp at each school. The camps were a success, and I am hoping to build on that experience and relationship for the upcoming school year and next summer. In July I will be conducting a summer camp with the local Girl Scout council as well.



Cistern excavation at The Grove, Tallahassee.

Hosford 21st Century Summer Camp.

According to Google Analytics our website has had 303 visitors, with an average of 2.78 pages viewed per visit. We have increased the number of fans on Facebook from 197 to 210 and the number of

followers on Twitter from 139 to 195. Also, the number of subscribers to our quarterly newsletter has gone up from 176 to 210. This quarter we have seen a decrease in visitation to our website from last quarter. I attribute this to the fact that most of our events have been youth program that are advertised primarily through other organizations. This quarter we did not have as many attendees to our events as last quarter, but that is most likely because last quarter included numbers from Florida Archaeology Month. I am hopeful that we can continue to increase our numbers, both relating to social media as well as attendees to FPAN North Central events.

Type of Activity/Event	# of Events/Presentations/Activities	# of Attendees
Public Presentations	1	48
Public Events	4	508
Professional Presentations		
(conferences, etc)	1 (paper and panel)	36
Professional Events attended		
(conferences, etc)		
Adult Training/Workshops		
School/Youth		
Programs/Workshops	5	256
Radio/TV		
Presentations/Interviews		
Volunteer Programs	1	1
Meetings attended-Government,		
Schools, Administration	4	15
Printed Articles-Magazine,		
Newspaper		
Printed Media produced-		
Brochures, Booklets, Guides,		
Maps		
Electronic Media produced- Blog,	1 mass emailing	210 subscribers
Podcasts, Mass Emails		
	FPAN Facebook	210 fans
	FPAN Twitter	195 followers
	"Shovel Bytes" Blog	5 posts
Major Publications- Book,		
Chapter, Journal Article		
TOTAL	16	864*

*Total number of attendees does not include number of followers on Twitter, fans on Facebook, newsletter subscribers or blog posts.

Public Outreach

Informational Booths:

- Magnolia School Earth Day Festival, Tallahassee (Leon) 187 attendees
- Carrabelle Riverfront Festival, Carrabelle (Franklin) 213 attendees
- Sharks and Chablis Gulf Specimen Marine Lab Fundraiser and Festival, Panacea (Wakulla) 103 attendees

Public Lectures/Presentation/Tours:

- Wakulla County Genealogical Society/Wakulla County Historical Society: *Historic Cemeteries as Cultural Resources*, Crawfordville (Wakulla) 48 attendees
- Wakulla River Archaeoheritage Tour, Crawfordville (Wakulla) 5 attendees

Youth Events/Presentations:

- Hosford 21st Century Program Visit (April), Hosford (Liberty) 23 attendees
- Tolar 21st Century Program Visit (April), Bristol (Liberty) 24 attendees
- Hosford 21st Century Program Visit (May), Hosford (Liberty)- 21 attendees
- Tolar 21st Century Program Visit (May), Bristol (Liberty) 23 attendees
- Hosford 21st Century Program Summer Day Camp, Hosford (Liberty) 35 attendees
- Tolar 21st Century Program Summer Day Camp, Bristol (Liberty) 130 attendees

Assisting DHR

- Distributed DHR literature to public when attending public events (see informational booths above).
- Continue to work on Goal 9, Objective 5. Creating manual that will allow FPAN staff to better assist DHR with nominations to the National Register of Historic Places.
- Continue to work with Della Scott-Ireton on agenda for September FPAN/DHR annual meeting.
- Assisted DHR/BAR staff with the excavation of the cistern at The Grove.

<u>Other</u>

- Attended the annual Florida Anthropological Society meeting in Orlando (presented a paper and participated as a discussant on a panel).
- Provided "Destination Archaeology" with brochures for Mission San Luis, Lake Jackson Mounds and the Museum of Florida History.
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- Assisted the Monticello Historical Society (Jefferson county) with preservation issues at their museum.
- Met with the Panhandle Pioneer Settlement (Calhoun) to discuss an upcoming program that will take place in September that the Panhandle Pioneer Settlement, the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee, FPAN Northwest and FPAN North Central will be hosting together as a joint effort.