

Archaeology Digs

FPAN Springs into Archaeology Month

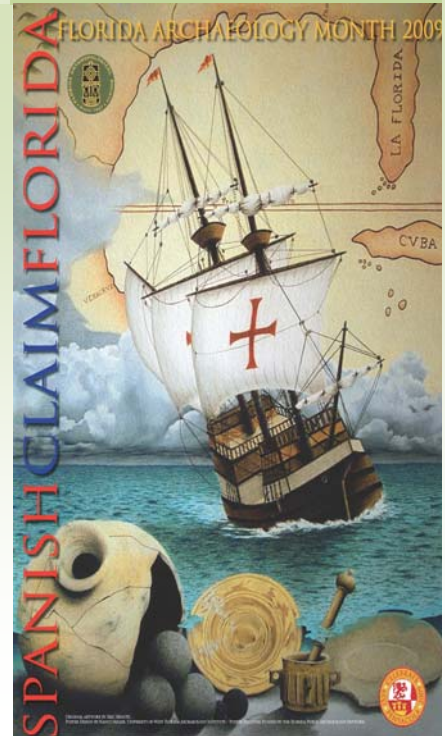
This year, FPAN's Northwest Regional Center is wasting no time getting Florida Archaeology Month (FAM) started. On **Saturday, February 28th** (10:00 am-2:00 pm) FPAN's Northwest Regional Center will hold its second annual Florida Archaeology Month Kick-Off Celebration. This year's Kick-Off will feature exhibits from local museums and heritage organizations, including the Bearheart Native Paths Mobile Museum and our very own *Destination Archaeology!* Resource Center. We will also have hands-on activities for children and adults including sorting artifacts from local excavations in our archaeology lab, atlatl spear throwing, archaeological crafts, and a mock excavation. We also invite the public to bring artifacts from their personal collections to be identified by professional archaeologists.

Throughout March, FAM events will be held across the region. In association with the FAM poster theme, "Spanish Claim Florida!" FPAN staff will deliver a lecture of the same name at several locations around the region. This lecture focuses on the sites, shipwrecks, and people involved in the 16th-century Spanish claim of Florida.

In addition, FPAN will host several Archaeology Days! and will participate in special events throughout the region. Archaeology Days!, where we invite the public to bring artifacts from their personal collections to be identified by professional archaeologists, will be held in Panama City (March 14th) and Port St. Joe (March 21st). Special events include the Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site Open House (March 7th) and Falling Waters State Park's Legends & Lore Festival (March 27th-28th).

Please see page 2 for complete details about FPAN Northwest Regional Center's Florida Archaeology Month events or visit our website www.flpublicarchaeology.org.

Florida Archaeology Month is March 2009!



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Up Coming Events in March

March 6th, 9:00-11:00 am Archaeology Open House and 11:00 am Lecture, "Spanish Claim Florida!" Northwest Florida State College, Niceville

March 7th, 10:00 am-4:00 pm, Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site Open House, Milton

March 10th, 7:00 pm, Pensacola Archaeological Society Monthly Meeting & Lecture, "The French Connection," J. Earle Bowden Building, Pensacola

March 13th, 6:00 pm, Lecture, "Spanish Claim Florida!", Bay County Library, Panama City

March 14th, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Archaeology Day!, Bay County Library, Panama City

March 18th, 3:00 pm, Washington County Library Children's Program, Chipley

March 21st, 10:00 am-2:00 pm, Archaeology Day!, Constitution Convention Museum State Park, Port St. Joe

March 25th, 9:00 am-12:00 pm, *Destination Archaeology!* Mother's Morning Out, Florida Public Archaeology Network, Pensacola, for registration and information please visit www.flpublicarchaeology.org

March 27th -28th, Legends & Lore Heritage Day, Falling Waters State Park, Chipley

Letter from *Destination Archaeology!* Resource Center Manager, Monica Beck

If you haven't already been by to see FPAN's newest addition, the Destination Archaeology Resource Center, now is the time! The Destination Archaeology Resource Center had its Grand Opening last October. After months of exhibit development, we opened by showcasing the newly installed permanent exhibit, called "A Roadtrip Through Florida Archaeology." Organized and presented within the eight FPAN regions, this exhibit focuses on publicly accessible archaeological and historical sites, including shipwrecks around the state.

We are in the process of developing a marketing plan to get the word out that we are open and interested in sharing information about the wealth of archaeological and historical sites in Florida. Through this process, we have realized that the Destination Archaeology Resource Center is truly a unique place and we are excited about developing programs and services for the entire Florida Public Archaeology Network.

UWF Students Show Off Artifacts

Kimberly Blair, *Pensacola News Journal*, www.pnj.com

This article first appeared in the February 20th issue of the Pensacola News Journal

Before leaving the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum, the royals inspected artifacts recovered from one of Don Tristan de Luna's ships that sank in Pensacola Bay. Four graduate students and several faculty members from the University of West Florida Archaeology Institute were thrilled to brief the royal couple.

"I was amazed at how interested they were in archaeology," said Jack Shidner, 27, who showed King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia of Spain a copper cauldron*.

"The queen was very interested in the king on this coin," said Colleen Reese, 24, pointing out a small Spanish coin with the likeness of King Henry IV. The coin, dated 1471, is among dozens of artifacts excavated from the Emanuel Point I shipwreck by the Archaeology Institute between 1992-95 and 1997-98.**

The shipwreck is one of two discovered in Pensacola Bay. Seven of the 11 original Luna ships, filled with most of the colonists' supplies, were destroyed by a hurricane just weeks after arriving on the shores of Pensacola Bay in August 1559.

Graduate student Kendra Kennedy, 28, was one of the first UWF archaeology students to dive on the Emanuel Point I site.***"It's really an honor to be able to show them the tangible connection that Pensacola had with Spain," she said. "These are objects and artifacts their Spanish ancestors handled and worked with."

Scott Sorset, 25, said the royals shook everyone's hands. But he was more excited about the spotlight the royal visit shines on UWF's underwater archaeology program."It's nice to share with the rest of the world what we're doing," he said.

John Bratten, director of the UWF Maritime Studies Program, said he hopes the royal visit paves the way for exchange programs with students and faculty from Spain.

Meanwhile, he said efforts are being made to share relics from the second Luna ship with the public. "We're talking about a display at the Florida Public Archaeology Network, on Main Street near The Fish House for the anniversary of Luna's landing in August," he said.

(Article Corrections: * Jake Shidner **The coin recovered from the first Emanuel Point wreck dates to 1474. The excavations of the first Emanuel Point wreck conducted in 1992-95 were conducted by the Bureau of Archaeological Research (BAR). ***Kendra Kennedy was one of the first UWF students to dive on the Emanuel Point II site.)



Milton High Students Keep “Digging” Archaeology

Although there is still a chill in the air, spring semester for Milton High School’s (MHS) Anthropology/Archaeology students has already begun. A new group of 26 students is enrolled in the spring semester class and they are eager to pick up where their predecessors left off.

Back out at the Scott Site, which has now been identified as the Bahan Brickyard (1829-1840), MHS students are working hard to expose more of the brick features identified last semester. The original excavation block was expanded and ground was broken on two new units. Excavation and documentation of three of the units opened last semester continues.

As the MHS students continue to conduct archaeological research, the FPAN staff has begun to research more information about the Bahan family. After media coverage this project received last semester, property owners Diane and Rick Scott were contacted by Joe Bahan, an out-of-state descendent of the Milton Bahans. Mr. Bahan has been very helpful in sharing information about his family’s history to help us gain a better understanding of the site and the people who once owned it.

FPAN staff has also begun presenting information about the MHS Anthropology/Archaeology class and the early findings at the Scott Site to public and academic audiences. In February, Outreach Coordinator Mary Furlong presented the lecture, “Excavating the Scott Site: A Community Research & Educational Program,” to the Santa Rosa County Genealogical Society. At the Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting in April, Mary will also be presenting the paper, “Saved by the Bell: Conducting Archaeological Research in High School” about the work being done at the Scott Site.



Upcoming Events in April/May

April 3rd-4th, Festival on the Green, University of West Florida, Pensacola

April 6th-9th, Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar (HADS), Banana Bay Resort, Marathon

April 11th, ARCHAEOLOGY DAY!, Fort Walton Beach Heritage Park & Cultural Center

April 14th, 7:00 pm, Pensacola Archaeological Society Meeting & Lecture, “The Rise and Fall of Pensacola’s Spanish Mission Systems and the Road to Vera Cruz,” J. Earle Bowden Building, 120 E. Church St., Pensacola

April 15th, 12:00 pm, Lecture “Archaeology of the Civil War & 19th Century Florida,” Fort Walton Beach Heritage Park & Cultural Center

April 18th, 8:30 am-3:30 pm, Celebrate Pensacola’s 450th Anniversary Teacher Workshop, Historic Pensacola Village, Pensacola

April 18th, 10:00 am-6:00 pm, Earth Day Festival, Topsail Hill Preserve State Park, Santa Rosa Beach

April 22nd-25th, Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

May 8th-9th, Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Pensacola

May 12th, Pensacola Archaeological Society Meeting & Lecture, “Barkley House Excavation (built 1832) J. Earle Bowden Building, 120 E. Church St., Pensacola

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FPAN's Partners across the Region: Northwest Florida Water Management District

This winter, FPAN's Northwest Regional Center has developed a new and exciting partnership with the Northwest Florida Water Management District (NFWFMD). NFWFMD stretches from Jefferson County to Escambia County, encompassing FPAN's Northwest Region. Since its establishment in 1972, NFWFMD works to protect and manage water resources for the welfare of the people and the environment. Through its protection of Northwest Florida's natural resources, the NFWFMD has also become a protector of the cultural, historical, and archaeological resources on their properties.

Recently FPAN's Northwest Regional Center has been working with NFWFMD to advise on the maintenance, documentation, and archaeology of a historic African-American cemetery currently on NFWFMD property. The cemetery and surrounding areas will soon be transferred to the descendants of the families buried at the site. JROTC students from near-by Bay County High School have been working in the cemetery to help the NFWFMD and the descendants clear debris and restore the site. The students have also conducted research on the cemetery and have learned quite a lot about the cemetery's history.

In April, FPAN, with the assistance of NFWFMD, will conduct a cemetery workshop for the descendants and JROTC students working in the cemetery. During the workshop we will instruct them on proper ways of cleaning and maintaining grave markers and of documenting the site.

FPAN hopes to continue this new partnership with NFWFMD through future trainings, workshops, and preservation activities.



*Don't Forget
Florida Heritage Month is March 15th-April 15th
2009!*