



FLORIDA PUBLIC
ARCHAEOLOGY
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East Central Region
Dr. Rachel Wentz, Director
Kevin Gidusko, Outreach Coordinator

Highlight of the Quarter

With the kickoff of our fall “In the Dirt” lecture series, we wrap up five years of our most successful programming. The fall series draws from local talent: Erik Denson, an engineer and diver from NASA, provided the first lecture, discussing his work on the slave ship Guerrero; the rest of the series will be covered by myself, Kevin Gidusko, and Ben Dibiase (FHS Archivist/Educator).

Progress on Work Plan Objectives

- Kevin and I assisted Jon Endonino, from Eastern Kentucky University, on his fieldwork at Tomoka State Park. I oversaw the identification and analysis of human remains and we assisted in GPR surveying and artifact processing.
- We completed a successful summer “Dirt” series, which featured Jeff Moates and Robin Moore. Both lectures were well-attended and the presenters were interviewed by Dr. Ben Brotemarkle, who then featured their research on Florida Frontiers Radio Show.
- Ben Dibiase (FHS) and I have been part of a committee tasked with gathering contents for a Brevard County Time Capsule, which will be dedicated this fall. A copy of “Life and Death at Windover: Excavations of a 7,000-year-old Pond Cemetery” will be included in the capsule, to represent current archaeological research and Florida’s prehistory.
- Kevin attended the Project Archaeology training in August and is now well-versed in the curriculum, which will be incorporated into his teacher training and classroom visits over the next year.
- Kevin and I conducted our first Boy Scout Merit Badge clinic on archaeology in July. It was a great success, with over twenty scouts in attendance and was held at the Oakland Nature Preserve, which has become a great educational partner for the East Central Region.



Endonino, Wentz, and Gidusko in the field at Tomoka State Park.



Boy Scouts working on their archaeology projects.