



Quarterly Report

1 October to 31 December 2010

Central Regional Center

Florida Public Archaeology Network

University of South Florida
Department of Anthropology
in cooperation with the
Crystal River Preserve State Park
3266 Sailboat Avenue
Crystal River, Florida 34428

26 February 2011

Executive Summary

The October to December quarter saw the Central Regional Center's (CRC) firmly into our fall programming. With local schools back in session, the Crystal River Archaeological State Park's *Sifting for Technology* and *Moon Over the Mounds* programs are always a local favorite. We were able to partner with the Alachua County Library System, the Hernando County High School, and the USF Anthropology Department's Forensics Lab to provide a variety of programming to students. Building on our successful Boy Scout merit badge program, we have begun development of a series of programs with the Girl Scouts of Central Florida to bring archaeology and historic preservation programs to their members. We were also able to assist the local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office conduct a portion of their Rapid Carbon Assessment program designed to determine level of carbon across the county.

The Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) outreach program has been very popular with local historic groups and societies and extremely successful as a community outreach program. We have completed FMSF forms for five cemeteries and conducted preliminary GPR studies at three historically African-American cemeteries in the communities of Royal, Coleman, and Wildwood.

The second quarter events at the CRC saw a steady demand for CRC-sponsored events within our nine-county service area. Forty-six events were held or attended: 18 public presentation/events were held, five local government assistance efforts were programmed, and 10 adult/youth training/workshops were offered. The Center was able to reach over 5839 people during this period.

Type of Activity	Number of Events	Number of Attendees
Public presentation	7	500
Public event	11	4693
Professional presentation	-	-
Professional event – conferences	-	-
Adult training/workshops	2	12
Youth training/workshops	8	414
Radio/TV presentation/interview	-	-
Volunteer programs	-	-
Local government assistance	5	67
Meetings – government/school	8	153
Printed article – magazine/newspaper/journal	3	-
Electronic media – blog/podcast	50	-
Major Publication – Book, Chapter, Article	1	-
TOTAL	95	5839

The October to December quarter saw the Central Regional Center's (CRC) firmly into our fall programming. With local schools back in session, the Crystal River Archaeological State Park's *Sifting for Technology* and *Moon Over the Mounds* programs are always a local favorite. We were able to partner with the Alachua County Library System, the Hernando County High School, and the USF Anthropology Department's Forensics Lab to provide a variety of programming to students. Building on our successful Boy Scout merit badge program, we have begun development of a series of programs with the Girl Scouts of Central Florida to bring archaeology and historic preservation programs to their members. We were also able to assist the local USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service office conduct a portion of their Rapid Carbon Assessment program designed to determine level of carbon across the county.

Our work effort during this quarter continued our efforts with the Crystal River Historical Resources Advisory Board (HRAB), the Hernando Preservation Society (Hernando PAST), the Sumter County Historical Society, additional work with the GPR at various historic cemeteries around central Florida, and our other government and public outreach efforts.

Rich Estabrook continues to push forward with the CRC's local government outreach and assistance to the Florida Division of Historical Resources (DHR). The response to the Citrus County HRAB's CLG Workshop was very strong. In the interest of bringing other stakeholders to the table, plans were made to present the finding of the workshop to the Citrus County Citizens Advisory Board and Tourist Development Council. Citrus County has historic preservation elements within its statutes and regulations, but HRAB and County staff were unsure about some of the various benefits and costs involved in the CLG program. Our goal is to build consensus among the various stakeholder groups in the County before bring a proposal to pursue CLG status in front of the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners.

Rich continues to work with County staff with the Alachua Forever program concerning looting issues at the Sweetwater Hammock site and the development of the Turkey Creek Preserve. Various historic features, including a cattle loading and processing area, exist within the property. CRC staff assisted Alachua Forever record and document some of these features and discussed plans for their preservation and public interpretation.

The Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) outreach program has been very popular with local historic groups and societies and extremely successful as a community outreach program. Jana Futch is now processing the collected data with the latest version of GPR Slice 7.0. Because of the interest generated last year around the African-American cemetery in Panasoffkee, we have partnered with a several cemetery associations in Sumter County to help record and document their cemeteries and the towns that supported them. We have completed FMSF forms for five cemeteries and conducted preliminary GPR studies at three historically African-American cemeteries in the communities of Royal, Coleman, and Wildwood.

During the past quarter Jason Moser has settled into the Outreach Coordinator position. He has familiarized himself with the CRC resources and the service area. He is making progress in familiarizing himself with the significant archaeological and historical sites within the region. He has begun working to build CRCs online presence and following to expand the outreach program through virtual media. As part of this effort Jason attended the Social Media workshop hosted by the Northeast Center where he also met several other FPAN staff members. Throughout the quarter Jason has attended large outreach events such as Ocali Days at Silver Spring State Park, Hernando County Heritage Days at Hernando High, the Crystal River Wildlife Refuge Appreciation Day Crystal River, and CRCs mortuary photography Halloween event. These events have let Jason interact with the public across a broad cross section of CRC service area. Jason has participated in a number of education outreach events including a Shipwreck on a Tarp, outreach event at the Hawthorne Library, Alachua County and through the *Sifting for Technology* program at Crystal River Archaeological State Park.

Jason continues to work pursue his interest on the maritime archaeology and history of the region by working with the Crystal River Boat Builders (CRBB). Among his efforts Jason has begun some research that has identified a fairly robust boatbuilding industry along the Nature Coast. Jason has found evidence for boatyards in many of the small bays and river between St. Petersburg and Cedar Key in the late nineteenth century. Once further developed this information may help the CRBB to develop historically accurate replicas of other boats built in the region. One of Jason's several ongoing projects has been to develop a training program to integrate current FPAN outreach activities and develop several new programs for the Girl Scouts of West Central Florida (GSWCF). When fully implemented this outreach program for the GSWCF will reach up to 25,000 girls per year. Jason is also working to coordinate Archaeology Month Events, the CRBB Annual Boat Bash, and the Crystal River Preserve Eco-adventure summer camp.

Activity Highlights

Sumter County African-American Cemetery Documentation

Work on the Panasoffkee Cemetery in Sumter County last year identified a major deficiency in cemetery research—none of the African-American cemeteries in Sumter County have been recorded. The CRC held a FMSF Cemetery form workshop with the Sumter County Historical Society which generated considerable interest in recording all of the historic cemeteries within the County. The CRC has been working with Beverly Steele and Cliff Hughes with the community of Royal, Carmen Small with the Coleman community and Jean Simmons with the community of Wildwood. Cemeteries in each of these communities were visited and the boundaries were determined with the Center's GPS equipment.



Beverly Steele and Jana Futch collecting GPR data at the Royal Cemetery in Sumter County.

Many of the historic Black cemeteries do not have markers at each of the grave sites and cemetery plats and inventories are incomplete or missing. GPR investigations were conducted at three cemeteries: Wildwood, Hillcrest, and Royal. Each investigation identified several unmarked graves and identified areas within each of the cemeteries that previously been thought to be devoid of graves. The Center is working with the decedent communities to record the histories of these cemeteries and identify the pre-1950 burial locations for people in these communities.

Mortuary Photography at the Crystal River Preserve State Park

Halloween is celebrated in a big way here at the Preserve! The Crystal River Preserve State Park puts on an event that includes a haunted house, a ghoulish Ranger tram ride, and much, much more. The Center has held its very popular Mortuary Photography event over the four-day run of the Parks' Halloween event. Park guests are invited to have their pictures taken as it would have been done in the 1880s... on a porch...in a coffin. Guests are treated to a short presentation on the historic uses of mortuary photography and then get to try it out themselves. They can climb into a specially-constructed "coffin", hold the flowers, and have their pictures taken. Each guest gets an FPAN brochure along with their picture! We now have people coming back for their

third year in a row. Your mortuary picture makes a great Facebook® photo gallery update!



Rich Estabrook completes a Florida Master Site File form for the Turkey Creek Preserve Cattle Weigh Scale in Alachua County.

Turkey Creek Cattle Scale Documentation

The CRC continues to work with the Alachua County Department of Environmental Protection (Alachua DEP) Alachua Forever program to record, protect and interpret the archaeological and historical sites within the properties they manage. One early question was a “What is this!?” inquiry concerning a roughly rectangular foundation that were discovered near an old cattle pen and loading ramp. A quick inspection and some probing through the sanding water and leaves identified this structure as the foundation/base for a mechanical 10-ton scale. As it was open and full of water, public access and animal safety issues were raised. The decision was made to document the structure, record it on the Florida Master Site File (FMSF), and fill it with culturally-sterile limerock until a cover and interpretive kiosk could be constructed.

First, all the water had to be pumped out. Then a group of volunteers from the local Sheriff Work Release program came out and cleaned the old leaves, mud, and trash out of the bottom. FPAN CRC staff assisted Kevin Ratkus, an environmental specialist with Alachua Forever, to complete a FMSF form. The results of the investigations, FMSF forms, and a brief report are still being completed.



The FPAN outreach table at the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Appreciation Day.

Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge Appreciation Day

On Saturday October 23rd, 2010, FPAN CRC attended the Crystal River National Wildlife Refuge appreciation day at Crystal River, Florida. The event was held outdoors on a beautiful Fall day at the Refuge headquarters. The CRC was one of about two dozen booths and displays that primarily focused on environmental outreach programs along the Nature Coast. The CRC outreach table was the only exhibitor devoted to historic preservation. The CRC display consisted of a poster on the history of the nearby Yulee sugar mill and plantation. Also on display were two artifact cases displaying a sample of the artifacts and faunal material that were recovered by school children in the *Sifting for Technology* education program at Crystal River Archaeology State Park. The event was well attended and FPAN interacted with approximately 100 individuals in a steady flow throughout the day. Visitors to the table included the general public, the local newspaper, and other exhibitors at the event. Overall, the feedback was generally positive with a few individuals that were very interested in becoming more involved in participating in archaeology projects. While at the event, the CRC also interacted with several Federal law enforcement officers and discussed the jurisdictions of various cultural resource protection laws. This discussion also culminated in a discussion of several instances of looting within the Refuge and another nearby jurisdiction.

Public Outreach

Public Lectures/Presentations/Tours

- *Moon Over the Mounds Tour* presented on October 22, November 19, and December 17 at the CRASP – 180 attendees (total)
- *Mortuary Photography* presented to the Crystal River Preserve State Park Halloween Event – 1500 attendees over four nights
- *The Archaeology of the Crystal River Site* presented to the Glen Lakes Civic Association – 120 attendees
- *The GPR of the Floral City Cemetery* presented to the Floral City Heritage Council – 50 attendees
- *Chert Has to Come From Somewhere: Prehistoric Lithic quarries and the fossils that identify them* presented to the Tampa Bay Fossil Club, Tampa – 125 attendees
- *Archaeology of the Woodlands People of Florida* presented to the Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park – 25 attendees

Workshops/Training

The CRC continues with a series of adult training workshops focused on Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and historic cemetery preservation. These programs also include volunteer programs that allow participants to practice some of the skills they have developed and demonstrate what they have learned to others.

Several presentations were made to historical societies community groups, including:

- Wildwood Cemetery in Sumter County – 10 attendees
- Royal Cemetery in Sumter County – 10 attendees
- Olive Street Cemetery in Brooksville, Hernando County – 5 attendees
- Samford Cemetery in Hillsborough County (with the West Central Regional FPAN Center)– 16 attendees

The Traditional Boat Building program was established at the CRPSP to help foster a growing appreciation for the area's maritime heritage. The program is run by the CRBB, a chapter of the Traditional Small Craft Association, a nationwide association of historic water craft builders and users. Work has been completed on the 9-ft dingy rowboat and work has started on a larger rowing skiff. Plans have been finalized and fund-raising is underway for a 1850s Scow to be built at the Park headquarters. The CRBB members meet every Wednesday and Saturday morning. These boats are being built with period tools, techniques, and materials within a specially-constructed demonstration exhibit across from the CRPSP and FPAN CRC offices.

Youth Events/Presentations

- *Sifting For Technology* outreach event at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park - 50 attendees
- *Shipwreck on a Tarp* school outreach at the Hawthorne Branch of the Alachua Public Library – 10 attendees
- *Sifting For Technology* outreach event at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park - 40 attendees
- *Hernando High School Heritage Days* – 200 attendees
- *Mapping for Archaeological Forensics* – 30 attendees
- *Sifting For Technology* outreach event at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park - 9 attendees
- *FBI/MOSI Forensics GPR Training* – 40 attendees
- *Sifting For Technology* outreach event at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park - 35 attendees

Aiding/Advising Local Governments

Citrus County

- Attended the Citrus County HRABs meeting on November 3.
- Attended a meeting about the results of the CLG Workshop and the presentation to the Citrus County Citizens Advisory Board in January.

Hernando County

- Hernando Past meetings in Brooksville, Hernando County in October and November.
- City of Brooksville/Hernando County Museum meeting concerning the GPR investigation of the Olive Street Cemetery.
- Assist the USDA NRCS conduct a Rapid Carbon Assessment near the location of known archaeological resources within the Withlacoochee State Forest near Rital.

Sumter County

- GPR survey of the Royal Cemetery in Royal to determine the locations of historic graves within the cemetery.
- GPR survey of the Wildwood Cemetery in Wildwood to determine the locations of historic graves within the cemetery

Alachua County

- Presentation to the Alachua County Historical Commission about the role of FPAN in historic preservation in the central Florida region.

Hillsborough County

- Conduct GPR investigation of a double homicide in Lithia, Hillsborough County.

In-House Volunteer and Internship Programs

Beverly (Bev) Elliott, the CRC's chief volunteer, continues to work on several CRC projects including the *Sifting for Technology* curation project, the cleaning and analysis of the materials recovered from the Sweetwater Hammock site (8AL5516) and the analysis of materials from site 8PA596.

Bev has also been scanning documents and notes to assist in the CRASP's Florida Museum of Natural History artifact loan agreement.

Meetings/Outreach:

- Florida Anthropological Society Board Meeting in Jonesville, Florida on November 6.
- Florida Archaeology Month Conference call on November 18
- Meeting with the Girl Scout Council of West Central Florida in Wildwood on December 6.
- AWIARE Board meeting at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Environmental Center in St Petersburg on December 9.

Action Items

There are several activities that the CRC will complete in the third quarter of the 2010-2011 fiscal year. These include:

Great Sites of Florida Lecture Series

The CRC will develop a Great Sites of Florida lecture series. These talks will use the images available from *Pictures of Record*, the Florida Museum of Natural History, the Florida Division of Historical Resources, and others. Each talk will concentrate on the unique history of the archaeological work conducted at each site. It will also focus on the contribution that each site has made to our understanding of Florida's history and archaeology. The talks will be developed for a non-technical audience and will be

scripted in such a way as to minimize jargon and archaeological/environmental terms and phrases that often confuse, rather than clarify an issue. We would like to have the archaeologist of record give these talks, but when that is not possible, an FPAN staff person would be asked to present from a prepared set of speaker's notes. The intent will be to entertain as well as inform.

Local Government Outreach: Continued work with the Citrus County HRAB to make a presentation to the Citrus County Citizens Action Committee. The Sumter County Historical Society has contacted the Center about working with them on the development of a preservation ordinance for Sumter County.

Internship Opportunities: To continue to develop internship opportunities for Master's and Doctoral level students. In the future, this can be expanded to honors level undergraduates who are specifically interested in various aspects of Public Archaeology. The main differences between the doctoral, masters, and honors undergraduate offerings will be the scope and length of the projects. The projects offered to doctoral researchers will be longer in duration, wider in scope, and a good deal more flexible in topic. Master's projects will be more topic or task driven and can potentially serve to fulfill the internship option for the Department's applied program. The undergraduate honors offerings may be involved in parts or components within specific doctoral projects or specific aspects of other Center-based projects or programs.