



FLORIDA PUBLIC
ARCHAEOLOGY
NETWORK

WWW.FLPUBLICARCHAEOLOGY.ORG

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

Highlight of the Quarter

This quarter I have focused on coordinating the new Site Stewardship program. It will be a joint program between FPAN and the Florida Park Service and I have been consulting with Triel Lindstrom, Archaeologist for FPS. Our immediate goals are to bring together representatives of interested parties: park manager for Lake Jackson Mounds (which will serve as the first test site), a representative of the Panhandle Archaeological Society of Tallahassee (the local FAS chapter), and a representative from DHR (who are developing a new certification program for volunteers at archaeological sites) to form a special session at the 2013 Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting to flesh out the details of the program. We hope to have the program up and running by this summer.

Progress on Work Plan Objectives

- We had a very successful “In the Dirt” series, with over 300 in attendance.
- In an effort to improve our presence in Okeechobee County, I held a special lecture series at the Okeechobee Library, providing monthly lectures throughout the fall.
- Kevin and his dedicated corps of volunteers continued the Brevard Historic Cemeteries Recording Project, recording historic cemeteries in Brevard County, which will then be added to the Florida Master Site File.
- We held two CRPT courses, one in Orange County, one in Martin County. Both were well attended and provided positive feedback. We will continue to provide the course throughout our region this spring.
- Kevin coordinated with the University of Central Florida’s Public History Department to secure an intern for the new year. The intern will develop an electronic database of all Native American historic documents within the FHS Archives.
- Molly Thomas, one of the volunteers who have been working with Kevin on the historic cemeteries project, worked with a local historic church, St. Luke’s on Merritt Island, to digitize their death and birth records. She also provided information on unmarked graves within their historic cemetery and will present her findings at the 2013 FAS conference.
- Kevin and I presented papers at the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Baton Rouge, LA.



Local Stuart historian Dr. Thompson discusses the history of the local African-American cemetery with CRPT course attendees in November.



Volunteers from CFAS, UCF, and FAU assist FPAN on a Phase I survey of the Oakland Nature Preserve, which sits on the south shores of Lake Apopka in west Orange County.