



North Central Region Quarterly Report

October/November/December 2013

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Quarterly Highlight:

This quarter the North Central Regional office had the opportunity to partner with various like-minded organizations in the Tallahassee area, including the FSU Anthropology Department and student organization, PAST, SEAC/NPS, BAR and the Florida Department of State, to help plan the Annual Hale G. Smith Pig Roast. This event has long since been an FSU Anthropology Department tradition, however, this year it was decided that it would be opened up to the entire community and used as a venue for public outreach and education. It was held at the Governor Martin House, location of the DeSoto Encampment archaeological site. We used the pig roast and the DeSoto Encampment, where pig remains were recovered, as inspiration for our theme. We invited several Spanish reenactors and a theater company to perform a historically-based Spanish play. Tickets were sold to the public to help to cover the cost of catering and we decided to make this a pet-friendly event in order to help boost attendance. Local organizations, including FPAN, were invited to set up educational booths. There was a mock dig that was directed by BAR staff and planned with the assistance of FPAN staff to ensure that it emphasized the science of archaeological excavation as opposed to just finding “cool things”. There was also an atlatl demonstration, coil pottery making and firing demonstrations, and other similarly related hands-on activities for both children and adults.

Progress on Work Plan Objectives:

- Continue to support the Florida Division of Historical Resources and the Bureau of Archaeological Research by providing the public with DHR and BAR publications at festivals and other events.
- Continue to use social media to promote FPAN events and make the public aware of relevant issues and information in the news.
- Presented programs at various locations throughout the region and provided hands-on educational opportunities to the public at events throughout the region.

- Unfortunately, due to inclement weather, although North Central staff was registered for the Society for Historical Archaeology Conference in Quebec, staff was unable to make it.
- Continue to utilize student volunteers from the FSU Anthropology Department.
- Working on contacting all of the Tourism Development Councils and Chambers of Commerce within the North Central Region in order to discuss further opportunities to partner with other organizations to boost archaeotourism to destinations within the region.
- Continue to plan and coordinate with outreach staff to ensure that FPAN has a presence at relevant state-wide educator conferences in 2014



FPAN booth at the Hale G. Smith Community Pig Roast at the DeSoto Encampment Site.



Pig Roast attendees enjoying a theatrical performance while eating their meal.