



**West Central Regional Center  
Quarterly Report – January-March 2010**

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Executive Summary

In the third quarter (January-March) of 2010-11 fiscal year, West Central Regional Center (WCRC) staff participated in 23 various outreach events/presentations and attended 11 meetings with regional partners in the preservation, education, and government sectors.

Quarter highlights for WCRC staff include: attendance and participation in a workshop titled *Teaching with Collections* put on by the Smithsonian Inst. The workshop took place at the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Museum; participation in the recovery of a 1,100 year old dugout canoe; continued assistance with Manatee County Historical Resources Department and County Commissioner on establishing a specific historic preservation ordinance; lastly, coordination and participation in FL Archaeology Month events – especially our own *Ybor City B.C. (before cigars) and A.D. (after the don)* Archaeology in the Park event at the Ybor City Museum State Park.

At the end of February and the first day of March, WCRC director assisted in the recovery of a dugout canoe with *Friends of Weedon Island* and the Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society volunteers. The canoe is currently in conservation treatments under the close watch of Pinellas County employees at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center. The *Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeology, Research, and Education* (AWIARE), and the *Friends of Weedon Island* sponsored the recovery project.

**Florida Archaeology Month:** WCRC staff participated in Florida Archaeology Month seven events. In particular, staff coordinated the Archaeology in the Park event that took place on March 26<sup>th</sup> at the Ybor City Museum State Park. This is part of an effort that will continue to be a focus for WCRC. Ybor City is a National Historic Landmark District known for the cigar industry related historic structures that have been preserved and continue to be celebrated. But, archaeology in Ybor City has a long way to catch up. We hope that through efforts like this event, we can work to highlight the history beneath the urban streets of Ybor.

Type of Activity/Event	# of Events/Presentations/Activities	Attendees #
Public Presentations	5	172
Public Events	8	1287
Professional Presentations (conferences, etc)	1(SHA)	30
Professional Events attended (conferences, etc)	1 (SHA)	-
Adult Training/Workshops	1 (attended Teaching w/ Collections)	-
School/Youth Programs/Workshops	5	1405
Radio/TV Presentations/Interviews	-	-
Volunteer Programs	2 – (FL Archaeo Month Events at Ybor City Museum State Park and Desoto Co. Pioneer Fest)	13vols/56hrs
Meetings attended – Government, Schools, Admin	11	-
Printed Articles – Magazine, Newspaper	-	-
Printed Media produced – Brochures, Booklets, Guides, Maps	-	-
Electronic Media produced– Blog, Podcasts, Mass Emails	Blog(4)/Twitter(54)/Facebook(59) posts on intermittent basis	-
Major Publications – Book, Chapter, Journal Article	none	-
FMSF submissions/updates	HG909	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>2101</b>

## Public Outreach

### Info Booths/Edu Activities

- Crowley Museum and Nature Center Southwest Florida Heritage Festival;  
*Sarasota, 500 counted*

- Looking for Angola Symposium, New College of Florida; *Sarasota, attended*
- Lake Manatee Heritage Days; *Manatee, 150 counted*
- Archaeology Day at Weedon Island Preserve; *Pinellas, 230 attendees*
- Archaeology Fest with Timesifters at New College; *Sarasota, 125 counted*
- Pioneer Day Desoto County Historical Society; *Desoto, 157 counted*
- Archaeology in the Park, “Ybor City B.C. and A.D. (before cigars and after the don;” *Hillsborough, 125 attended*

#### Public Lectures/Presentations/Tours

- Tampa Bay History Center; *Hillsborough, 45 attended*
- Clearwater Audubon Society; *Pinellas, 62 attended*
- Tampa Bay History Center; *Hillsborough, 20 attended*
- St. Pete Exchange Club; *Pinellas, 15 attended*
- Historic Resources Review Board; *Hillsborough, 10 attended*
- History and Preservation Coalition of Sarasota; *Sarasota, 20 attended*

#### Workshops/Training

- Teaching with Collections, Smithsonian Inst.; *staff attended*

#### Youth Event/Presentation

- St. John Greek Orthodox; *Hillsborough, 20 attended Pinellas*
- Archaeology Merit Badge at the Museum of Science and Industry; *Hillsborough, 20 attended*
- Sebring High School; *Highlands, 840 counted*
- Pioneer Festival Learning About Florida History Day; *Desoto, 500 counted*
- Alonso High School; *Hillsborough, 25 attended*

### Assisting/Advising Local Governments

#### Hillsborough County

- Cont. meetings with county staff and HRRB for update of county inventory to include recorded archaeological sites on public lands.

#### Pinellas County

- Cont. assistance with City of St. Petersburg Parks Dept on archaeological issues – at Maximo Park and other parks where archaeological remains present questions on best management procedures.
- Cont. assistance to City of St. Petersburg Historic Preservation staff with review of Certificates of Appropriateness in regards to proposed ground disturbing activities where landmarked archaeological sites are present.

#### Highlands County

- Cont. assistance with county planner staffed to Historic Preservation Commission; working with HPC to review details of plans for documentation of archaeological remains within Highlands Hammock State Park.

#### Sarasota County

- Ongoing collaboration with History and Preservation Coalition of Sarasota County with development of *Explore Sarasota's Past* tourism travel map.

#### Manatee County

- Cont. assistance with review and endorsement of Historic Preservation Ordinance
  - Moving forward with plans to begin meetings with county planners and commissioners to discuss potential for review and adoption of specific historic preservation ordinance.

#### Assisting DHR

##### Local contact for DHR, BAR – (also FL State Parks, FL DEP)

- Provide advice and liaison for Florida Master Site File submissions; delivered donated archaeological material to State Collections
- Distribute brochure and poster materials regarding Best Management Practices; State Underwater Archaeological Preserves; and DHR publications.
- Respond to requests for assistance with management duties to document, protect, preserve cultural resources within state park lands – Ybor City Museum State Park; Highlands Hammock State Park; state owned lands within Weedon Island Preserve
- Reburial of human remains in Highlands County, assistance to Highlands County Sheriff's Office – HG909

#### Other

- Director serves as a Board Member of Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society – attend monthly meetings and participate in Board activities and decisions.
- Staff serves as Board Members of Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education – attend quarterly meetings and participate in Board activities and decisions.