Heritage Monitoring Scouts Program

By: Jeff Moates. Director FPAN Central/West Regional Centers

High water in Florida is an important issue, and will be for some time. Global sea levels are certainly on the upswing, and one doesn’t need to be a scientist to notice. Nearly 3,000 archaeological resources along Florida’s coasts, rivers, and tributaries will be affected by a 1-meter sea level rise. Some of these resources will become completely submerged or possibly washed away for good.

As a response, FPAN has developed a plan to support the on-going documentation and monitoring of archaeological sites. Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS) is a public program built to encourage participation in the identification of sea level rise impacts to Florida archaeology. HMS maximizes the skills of volunteers interested in Florida’s past to assess and record effects to archaeological resources.

Over the last year, we worked with Florida Coastal Office staff to delineate the archaeological resources in 2 of Florida’s 41 Aquatic Preserves. Through this pilot program, we were able to assist aquatic managers in tasks related to resource monitoring and also figure out some of the kinks in the development of the HMS program. We shared our findings with FPAN staff statewide and worked collectively to further develop the initiative.

With Phase 1 completed, FPAN is ready to launch the HMS program statewide. We continue to work closely with Florida Coastal Office staff located in Crystal River, while also making preparations to offer HMS training events in the coming months in both the Central and West Central Regions. Please keep an eye on our Events Page and announcements on our Facebook pages for event dates and times. Site monitoring is the best step forward we can take to help state land and aquatic managers protect and preserve Florida’s archaeological sites. Heritage Monitoring Scouts is how you can take part in this important process.

Jamie Letendre of FCO and FPAN staffer, Brittany Vojnovic, check out erosion at coast site near Crystal River.
The Aftermath Of Hurricane Hermine
By: Nigel Rudolph

The summer of 2016 wound down with a final hurrah as Hurricane Hermine made landfall just east of St. Marks as a category one storm. Though just barely a hurricane, its effects were severe along the Nature Coast. Crystal River took quite a hit from wind but flooding was cause of most of the damage.

As many of you know, the FPAN Central Region office is in the Crystal River Preserve State Park Visitor’s Center, which is directly on the Crystal River, as is the Crystal River Archaeological State Park. Unfortunately, both locations flooded due to 4 - 5 foot storm surge. At the visitor’s center, we had about an inch and a half throughout the building, including FPAN’s office. The situation might have been much worse if it was not for strategically placed sandbags that most likely prevented more water from coming in the building. Very quickly, FPAN and state park staff began ripping out carpets and removing waterlogged furniture from the visitor’s center.

I visited the Crystal River Archaeological Site the day following the storm and there was still more than a foot of water throughout the entire park. Several large oaks had fallen on Mound J, Mound C, the “Circular Embankment” burial feature surrounding the main burial complex, and within the cleared “Plaza” in front of Mound H. Fortunately the tree falls did little damage to site features, and Park Service personnel were able to assess the situation and quickly opened the park again to visitors. About two inches of water did get into the Museum but caused little damage. The museum remained closed for several days following the storm while large fans helped to dry up remaining moisture.

Though with the visitor’s center is still in a bit of disarray as we wait for decisions to be made on replacement flooring, both the state park and FPAN staff have resumed business as usual. Eco-Heritage Boat Tours have resumed three times a week leaving from the Preserve Visitor’s Center and the monthly Moon Over the Mounds nighttime guided tours have started back up at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park. Please keep up with all park and FPAN related events within the region at www.FPAN.us/crc.

History Bike Gainesville V - Haunted Hogtown
By: Nigel Rudolph

History Bike Gainesville is back after a long summer hiatus. Weather is far better for bike riding now, and we took advantage of the cooler temperatures and my favorite autumn holiday. HBG V, Haunted Hogtown, was a Halloween themed history tour around Gainesville. Starting once again from First Magnitude Brewing Company, HBG riders ventured out to some of Gainesville’s most famous haunts and discussed the folklore of the town’s past. Many of these folktales are better known than others, but all touch on how oral histories and human activity have painted the local history and affected our present outlook on our community. Our cultural environment reflects the history in which it resides. Past actions and human experience can create a virtual, cultural landscape that is not always visible to archaeologists without the tangible, material culture we count on. continued on Page 3
Tidally United!
By: Nigel Rudolph

Tidally United: Cultural Resources Shoreline Monitoring and Public Engagement Summit, was held at Flagler College in St. Augustine in August. Issues related to sea level rise have been a concern and researched for decades. However, research focusing on the impacts of sea level rise on coastal cultural resources here in Florida has not been extensively studied. With the exception of a few archaeologists, the focused objective of monitoring cultural resources found along Florida’s nearly 1700 rivers and nearly 1200 miles of coastline for effects related to rising sea levels has not been on the forefront.

“As of 2013, the State of Florida identified 16,015 historical resources to be impacted by a 1-meter rise in sea level and numbers reaching 34,786 given a 2-meter rise scenario. Of these, 2,908 resources are archaeological sites (3,985 in the 2-meter scenario). Additionally, 630 historic cemeteries are estimated to be at risk from storm surge.” FPAN colleague Sarah Miller writes.

Presented by Florida Public Archaeology Network’s Northeast Regional Center, Tidally United brought together more than a dozen archaeologists, geologists, historians, and other scientists to discuss the threats and methods to combat the effects of sea level rise on coastal archaeological sites. In many cases, the opportunity to engage and protect specific coastal sites from sea level rise is a lost cause at this point; yet, discussing how to best document and manage threatened sites was also a point of discussion during the symposium. As discussed in this and past newsletters, this is the aim of the inter-agency partnership between Florida Public Archaeology Network, Central Region and Florida Coastal Office (FCO).

Please go to http://fpan.us/projects/HMSflorida.php for more information on FPAN’s HMS Program and how you can volunteer to help keep eyes on our important, coastal archaeological sites.

History Bike Gainesville V - Haunted Hogtown continued

The silly folktales, ghost stories, and rumors, as well as the more somber local stories, have a place in our neighborhood experience and how as citizens we reflect on the community in which we live. For more information on History Bike Gainesville V, upcoming rides and events, please go to https://www.facebook.com/historybikegainesville/
The Spirit Of Crystal River: by Mike Petellat

By: Nigel Rudolph

I have always been of the opinion that “historic fiction”, as literary framework, can be a smart and safe way to expose folks to important history. As interesting as a historical textbook can be, blending an imaginative narrative with tales of real events helps to jazz up history that can often be hard to digest. Mike Petellat’s (retired Crystal River State Park, park ranger) new book, The Spirit of Crystal River, does just that. Congratulations to Mike on his debut novel!

“On April 19, 1861, President Lincoln proclaimed a blockade of Southern states that had seceded from the Union. The stage was set for men to use stealth to get wares to Cuba and supplies to the sons of the South. Down in Crystal River, Florida, people do all they can to stay alive, and the businessmen do all they can to make money...Two businessmen need to transport goods by ship, Captain Jim Blackworth is called. He has a new scow called The Spirit, and he knows his way around the dangerous Florida coast.” From The Spirit of Crystal River by Michel Petellat.

What’s In A Name?

By: Brittany Vojnovic. Outreach Assistant, FPAN Central Region

Halloween - All Hallow’s Eve

The word Halloween or Hallowe’en dates to about 1745 and is of Christian origin. The word "Hallowe'en" means "hallowed evening" or "holy evening". It comes from a Scottish term for All Hallows' Eve (the evening before All Hallows' Day). In Scots, the word "eve" is even, and this is contracted to e'en or een. Over time, (All) Hallow(s) E(v)en evolved into Hallowe'en.

Although the phrase "All Hallows" is found in Old English (ealra hālgena mæssedæg, all saints mass-day), "All Hallows' Eve" is itself not seen until 1556.

It is widely believed that many Halloween traditions originated from Celtic harvest festivals, which may have pagan roots, particularly the Gaelic festival Samhain, and that this festival was Christianized as Halloween. Some academics, however, support the view that Halloween began independently as a solely Christian holiday.

While the Halloween we celebrate comes from European harvest traditions, Native Americans also marked the harvest time of year. Many oral histories point to natural and astronomical indications that it was time to gather food and prepare for colder weather. In Florida, seasonal food would include Seminole pumpkins, acorns, tubers, and more.

Seminole Pumpkin Soup

INGREDIENTS
- 16 oz Seminole Pumpkin
- 1 large can chicken stock
- 2 TB butter
- 1 large onion (chopped)
- 2 cloves garlic (chopped)
- 8 oz mushrooms (chopped)
- 2 carrots (chopped)
- 2 celery stalks (chopped)
- 1 bay leaf
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1-cup sour cream
- 4 slices bacon fried and broken into bits

PREPARATION
- Roast pumpkin. Cut in half and place cut side down on baking sheet and cook 350 degrees in oven for 30 min. or until tender. Spoon out of shell.
- In a skillet, sauté primary ingredients. Bring to a boil then simmer uncovered for fifteen to twenty minutes. Blend until smooth. Top with sour cream, scallions and bacon bits and serve.

Digging Up Dishes!
Recipes from the Past

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