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Quarterly Report

1 September to 31 December 2011

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
31 January 2012

Executive Summary

The September to December quarter at the Central Regional Center (CRC) included participation in many of our favorite events – Ocali Country Days, the heritage kayak tours, and the Crystal River Preserve State Park’s annual Halloween celebration. The cooler weather is also perfect for outdoor outreach. The Crystal River Archaeological State Park’s *Moon Over the Mounds* and *Sifting for Technology* programs have a full schedule this fall. The Historic Cemetery Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) program continues to be very popular with local historic groups and societies and extremely successful for community outreach. We returned to Rookery Bay Preserve near Naples, Florida to partner with the Southwest Regional Center to complete the GPR study of the Kirkland Cemetery and investigate the possible location of the Bolger Family Cemetery.

The second fiscal quarter also saw the hire of two new park rangers at the Crystal River Preserve State Park. Catherine Wunderlich and Ronnie Hartley joined the staff that will oversee the outreach programs at the Crystal River Archaeological Site Park. Both are experienced rangers and interpreters. Catherine came from the Lake Jackson Mounds Archaeological State Park and Ronnie came over from the Hillsborough River State Park. Jason and Rich have both been working to help the new ranger’s while they get up to speed on the public archaeology outreach and education component of the site.

The second quarter events at the CRC saw steady demand for CRC-sponsored, co-hosted, and participatory events within our nine-county service area. Twenty-six events were held or attended: 16 public presentation/events were held, two local government assistance efforts were programmed, and ten adult/youth training workshops were offered. The Center was able to reach over 4,000 people during this period.

Type of Activity	Number of Events	Number of Attendees
Public presentation	6	300
Public event	10	3111
Professional presentation	0	-
Professional event – conferences	2	425
Adult training/workshops	3	56
Youth training/workshops	7	111
Radio/TV presentation/interview	1	-
Volunteer programs	1	3
Local government assistance	2	29
Meetings – government/school	8	71
Printed article – magazine/newspaper/journal	0	-
Electronic media – blog/podcast	80	-
Major Publication – Book, Chapter, Article	1	-
TOTAL	121	4106

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Rich Estabrook continues to push forward with the CRC’s local government outreach and assistance to the Florida Division of Historical Resources (DHR). The Citrus County Historic Resources Advisory Board (HRAB) continues to work on revising their historic resources preservation ordinance concerning the application for Certified Local Government (CLG) status by the County. HRAB Chairman David Noble, board member Sophia Diaz-Fonseca, and the other members of HRAB are reviewing the final wording on the new ordinance. A draft of the historic preservation ordinance is also under review by County staff.

Rich continues to work with County staff and members of the Sumter County Historical Society (SCHS) concerning preservation issues in the Sumter County region. With the updates for the County’s Comprehensive Plan revisions and the final reports for the GPR investigations for the Wildwood, Center Hill, and Royal Memorial cemeteries completed, attention turned to two historic structures near downtown Bushnell. One of these buildings, the Bushnell Hardware Store, was purchased, and torn-down by its new owner. The Eaddy House (120 South Main Street), a two-story masonry vernacular residence remains. The City of Bushnell asked the owner to demolish them. The CRC coordinated with the owner of the buildings and Bob Jones from FDHR to evaluate the National Register of Historic Places eligibility of this building. The CRC is working with the owners, the City of Bushnell City Commission, and FHDR to find a way to preserve this important part of the City’s history.

The Historic Cemetery Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) outreach program has been very popular with local historic groups and societies and extremely successful as a community outreach program. A draft of the FPAN GPR Outreach Handbook and Field Guide has been completed and is under review and field-testing. This program will allow any of the FPAN Centers to collect and process GPR data with minimal instruction and support during a historic cemetery outreach project.

Jason Moser attended the Florida Social Studies Teachers Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida. In addition to networking with teachers at the conference, Jason also attended multiple presentations at the conference to evaluate the current “best practices” that are employed by Florida social studies teachers. This was undertaken to develop a better understanding of the places where FPAN can offer assistance to provide services and

training to teachers within the Central Region. Jason also evaluated some of the classroom technology vendors to determine potential venues to reach students through new technology.

Throughout the fall Jason has continued to complete outreach activities with the Crystal River Boat Builders (CRBB) and with the Florida Park Service. Jason continued the development outreach materials to assist the CRBB to provide information about the construction of the 36-ft. long sailing scow at Crystal River Preserver State Park. This has included information about the maritime history associated with the historic boat design and about how people can support this effort. Jason has also continued to photographically document the construction of this Civil War-era replica, and he was on several occasions even able to participate in the construction. Throughout this process Jason has continued to update the boat builders' activities through postings on social media sites.

Other outreach activities during the quarter have included assisting Beverly Elliot (FPAN Central's new Outreach Assistant) in finishing her installation of custom artifact drawers for the *Sifting for Technology* Outreach Cart. During the fall FPAN Central deployed the *Sifting for Technology* Outreach Cart to the Crystal River Archaeological State Park and the Florida Maritime Outreach Cart to the Homosassa State Wildlife Park in Homosassa, Florida. This park is one of the most widely visited State Parks in Florida and should greatly expand FPAN's exposure throughout the state.

Beverly Elliott, the CRC's chief volunteer, became the Center's new Outreach Assistant. Bev works part-time in the mornings and helps with our outreach program on the weekends. She brings her considerable experience working with students and public involvement to our program. Bev also helps with the laboratory work from the *Sifting for Technology* program and our on-going curation efforts.

The end of the year also saw the hire of two new park rangers at the Crystal River Preserve State Park. Catherine Wunderlich and Ronnie Hartley joined the staff that will oversee the outreach programs at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park. Both are experienced rangers and interpreters. Catherine came from the Lake Jackson Mounds Archaeological State Park and Ronnie came over from the Hillsborough River State Park. Jason and Rich have both been working to help the new rangers while they get up to speed on the public archaeology outreach and education component of the site.

Activity Highlights



The GPR crew at the possible Bolger Homestead Cemetery near Naples.

Return to the Kirkland Family and possible Bolger Family Cemeteries in Naples

The CRC, working with Annette Snapp, Director of the Southwest Regional Center, returned to continue our investigation of the historic Kirkland Family Cemetery which is located within the Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Naples, Florida. We also conducted a GPR study of a second area near the Bolger Homestead that was believed to be family cemetery. The re-investigation of Kirkland Family Cemetery focused on the southwest corner of the site where the previous GPR study had identified several large anomalies. Several additional subsurface features were identified during the study of this area. The entire cemetery now appears to have been investigated.

Work at the possible Bolger Homestead Cemetery was not quite so productive. Although preliminary scans of the area conducted last summer indicated the possible locations of perhaps anomalies that could have been graves, a thorough scan of the area was unable to identify individual graves or burials. Additional research into the exact location of the Bolger Homestead Cemetery and documentation of the homestead itself is scheduled for later this year.



The “Story-Teller” and a mortuary photography “participant.”

Halloween at the Crystal River Preserve State Park

Mortuary photograph was the theme again this year at a two-day Halloween Outreach event. The mock “coffin” was displayed with flowers and candles, and guests had their “final” photograph taken along with friends and loved ones. They also learned something about the late nineteenth century practice of mortuary photography. It’s a bit history, a bit creepy, and a whole lot of fun! More than one photograph made it onto someone’s Facebook page. Several families have come back year-after-year to complete their mortuary family portraits, held up, of course, with FPAN refrigerator magnets.

While a really fun activity, the mortuary photography outreach included a handout on the archaeological uses of the information derived from the study of mortuary behavior and, of course, an FPAN brochure.



Rich Estabrook examining artifacts brought in by a local resident for consideration.

Hernando Preservation Society's Artifact ID Day

The staff at the CRC and volunteers from the Crystal River Boat Builders (CRBB) provided technical support for the third annual Hernando Preservation Society's Artifact ID day. People from around Hernando County came out to have their materials identified and recorded. We saw everything from projectile points to pot sherds and bottles to metal hoe fragments. Information collected from the event provided leads on several new sites in the area. We also recovered several eighteenth-century British hoes and axe heads that had been recovered in the 1970s by a local metal detector enthusiast. The artifacts were originally recovered from a historic sugar plantation in what is now Volusia County and will be returned to the site.

Public Outreach

Public Lectures/Presentations/Tours

- *Florida Prehistory and the Crystal River Site* presentation to the Academia Hernando group in Weeki Wachee, Hernando County – 110 attendees
- *Continuing Research for the Duval Cemetery in Florida City* presented at the Floral City Heritage Association – 50 attendees
- *The Weedon Island Occupation at Crystal River* presentation in St Petersburg, Florida – 30 attendees
- *Moon Over the Mounds* presented at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park on 11/11 and 12/9 – 80 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 to demonstrate what they have learned to others.

Several presentations were made including a GPR training program conducted for the Alachua County Sheriff's Office in partnership with Dr. John Shultz of the University of Central Florida and the UF Animal Forensics Workshop in the Austin Cary State Forest:

- Bolger/Kirkland Cemetery GPR – 6 attendees
- Alachua County Sheriff Training – 5 attendees
- UF Animal Forensics Workshop – 25 attendees
- GPR demonstration for the CRYPT training – 25 attendees

Youth Events/Presentations

- *Sifting For Technology* outreach events at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park (3 days) - 44 attendees
- *Archaeo-Kayak Tour of Shell Island* for Pasco-Hernando Community College – 20 attendees
- *Atl-Atl Outreach* event at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park - 3 attendees
- *Merit Badge Training Troop 427* at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park – 9 attendees

Aiding/Advising Local Governments

Citrus County

- Attended the Citrus County HRABs meetings on September 7 and November 2.

Bushnell, Sumter County

- Evaluation of two historic buildings in the City of Bushnell in Citrus County and present at the Bushnell City Council Meeting.

Meetings/Outreach:

- AWIARE meeting in St. Petersburg on December 8.
- USF History Department meeting on December 1.
- Meeting to discuss historic resources in Bushnell on December 12.
- FPAN Board Meeting in Fort Lauderdale on December 15/16.

Action Items

There are several activities that the CRC will complete in the second quarter of 2011-12 fiscal year. These include:

Great Sites of Florida Lecture Series

The CRC is developing a Great Sites of Florida lecture series. These talks will use the images available from *Pictures of Record*, the Florida Museum of Natural History, and the Florida Division of Historical Resources. Behind the scenes information and pictures have also been provided by some of the site's original investigators. 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. The intent will be to entertain as well as inform. It would be ideal to have the archaeologist of record give these talks, but that is often not possible. Each talk will be fully annotated and can be presented from a prepared set of speaker's notes.

Local Government Outreach: Continued work with the Citrus County HRAB to update the County's historic preservation ordinance and prepare an application for CLG membership for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners. The CRC will continue to work with the Sumter County Historical Society and county officials to assist in the update of the historic resources portion of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

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 CRC-based projects or programs.