



FLORIDA PUBLIC  
ARCHAEOLOGY  
NETWORK

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

### **Highlight of the Quarter**

This quarter, our focus has been on joint programming with our host, The Florida Historical Society. We have participated in several large-scale events, such as the Ft. Christmas Living History Days (February), the Sam's House Pioneer Festival (February), the Eau Gallie Founder's Day Festival (February), and the Discover Florida Lecture Series (March) – where we co-hosted Ken Sassaman. FHS is sponsoring the upcoming Florida Marine Sciences Festival at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute; Ben Dibiase, the FHS Education Specialist/Archivist has presented at the Central Florida Anthropological Society monthly meeting; and Kevin and Ben have served as judges for the Florida History Fair. Our joint programs have provided excellent outreach opportunities within our region and emphasized the importance of history and prehistory within our state.

### **Progress on Work Plan Objectives**

- We are excited about co-hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Florida Maritime Science Festival at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in June. This event is being sponsored by DHR and FHS and will feature three lectures throughout the day to teach the public about the exciting underwater research being conducted around our state. Jeff Moates and Dr. Roger Smith will be presenting lectures on underwater archaeology. Dr. Shirley Pomponi (HBOI) will present a lecture on the latest underwater science being conducted at Harbor Branch.
- We had an excellent “In the Dirt” series this spring, with lecturers from UCF, UF, FPAN, and the Florida Geological Survey and over 200 in attendance.
- Kevin has secured a summer intern to continue the Brevard Historic Cemeteries Recording Project, recording historic cemeteries in Brevard County, which will then be added to the Florida Master Site File. Kevin also oversaw our University of Central Florida's Public History Department intern this past semester. Stephanie Witt developed a searchable electronic database of all Native American historic documents within the FHS Archives.
- Kevin and I presented papers at the Society for Applied Anthropology in Denver, CO in March.
- We will be providing Eagle Scout training at Oakland Nature Preserve to provide rehab for the nearby African-American cemetery.



Kevin instructs students at the Ft. Christmas Living History event.



Dr. Ken Sassaman presents a lecture on his latest research. FHS filmed the event for posting on the web.