

East Central Region
Florida Public Archaeology
Network

Quarterly Report
April - June, 2012

Rachel K. Wentz, PhD, RPA
Kevin Gidusko, BA



Executive Summary

The activities for the last quarter are as follows:

Type of Activity/Event	# of Events/Presentations/Activities	Attendees #
Public Presentations	24	1077
Public Events	4	324
Professional Presentations (conferences, etc)	3	600
Professional Events attended (conferences, etc)	3	0
Adult Training/Workshops	0	0
School/Youth Programs/Workshops	12	220
Radio/TV Presentations/Interviews	1	
Volunteer Programs	1	1
Meetings attended – Government, Schools, Administration	6	211
Printed Articles – Magazine, Newspaper	0	
Printed Media produced – Brochures, Booklets, Guides, Maps	0	0
Electronic Media produced– Blog, Podcasts, Mass Emails	6	1810
Major Publications – Book, Chapter, Journal Article	0	
TOTAL	47	4,243

Public Outreach

Public Lectures

- Seminole County History Museum – 10
- Paleopathology Association meeting – 200
- SAA meeting – Wentz – 65
- SAA meeting – Harding – 65
- Ft Pierce Library – 70
- Mico Library – 30
- “In the Dirt” lecture – 36
- Orange County Regional History Center – 65
- North Brevard Genealogy Club – 45
- First United Method Church, Orlando – 40
- House of Refuge – 24
- Brevard Museum of History and Science – 40
- CFAS Lecture – 57
- Amelia Island Museum of History – 40
- Summer “Dirt” lecture - 40
- **Total Attendees = 1,077**

Youth Event/Presentation

- Erna Nixon Park Summer Camp – 35
- Oakland Nature Preserve Summer Camp – 20
- OCHS Summer Camp – 20
- Ocoee Elementary – 80
- Hickory Tree Elementary – 80
- St Marks Elementary – 40
- **Total Participants = 275**

Aiding/Advising Local Governments

Orange County

- Kevin serves as President - CFAS
- ONP Lab Analysis
- Planning teacher training partnering with Oakland Nature Preserve
- Scheduled to present to Orlando Historic Preservation Board – FPAN overview
- Scheduled to present to the County Commission in July

Brevard County

- Brevard County Historical Commission – Dr. Wentz serves on board
- Crypt course scheduled for September

Martin County

- Will be attending Historic Preservation Board meeting in July
- Email distribution of new lecture series, teacher training, archaeology camps, and in-class activities for schools

Seminole County

- Met with Seminole County Historical Society – FPAN overview
- Met with Seminole County Historic Preservation Board – FPAN overview

- Regular visits with local schools to introduce archaeology to classrooms
- Email distribution of new lecture series, teacher training, archaeology camps, and in-class activities for schools
- Scheduled to present to County Commission in July

Osceola County

- Scheduled to present introduction to county commissioners in July
- Regular visits with local schools to bring archaeology to classrooms
- Email distribution of new lecture series, teacher training, archaeology camps, and in-class activities for schools

Indian River County

- Presented before Indian River County Commissioners – FPAN overview
- Met with IRC engineers to address issue of archaeological site impact during sidewalk construction
- Email distribution of new lecture series, teacher training, archaeology camps, and in-class activities for schools

Okeechobee County

- Scheduled teacher training, reading programs, and fall lecture series with Okeechobee County Public Library
- Scheduled to present to county commissioners in July – FPAN overview
- Email distribution of new lecture series, teacher training, archaeology camps, and in-class activities for schools

St Lucie County

- Presented before St Lucie county commissioners – FPAN overview
- Email distribution of new lecture series, teacher training, archaeology camps, and in-class activities for schools

To emphasize our commitment to local government assistance, I will be going before each of my eight county’s commissions during July. I will also be meeting with Historic Preservation Boards in Seminole, Orange, and Martin County.

Following my meeting with the Indian River County Commission, I met with their traffic engineers who are working on a sidewalk project that is impacting a mound along the Indian River Lagoon. After visiting the site and reviewing blueprints of the project, I contacted Laura Kammerer and was able to obtain the status of the review, which had been held up while being reviewed by the Seminole Tribal authorities. They will keep me informed as to the project’s progress.

Adult Education/Training

Along with local government assistance, one area we are concentrating on is educational and training programs. We will be offering our first CRPT course in September, which will be held at the historic Rossetter House Museum in Melbourne. The house has a small family cemetery adjacent to it, which will be the perfect setting to conduct the hands-on aspects of the course. Sarah Miller will be coming down to lead the course. We will then offer the course in the Stuart area and have already been scouting the area for appropriate cemeteries.

Teacher Training

We have several teacher training courses scheduled. Our first will be held in July at the Oakland Nature Preserve. We have partnered with ONP on numerous events/activities and they are interested in offering teacher training on a regular basis. Our second training will be held in August at the Okeechobee Public Library. We are very excited about this training, since Okeechobee has been our most challenging county in which to work. We have also partnered with Erna Nixon Park in Melbourne for future teacher trainings and are working out the schedule for those sessions.

Friends of Lake Apopka Digitization Project

The Friends of Lake Apopka is an organization begun in the early 1990s by concerned local citizens who sought to protect and restore Lake Apopka. One of Florida's largest lakes, Lake Apopka has deteriorated terribly over the last century due to canalization and intensive agricultural usage along the shore that caused large-scale pollution of the lake. In their goal to educate the public about the dangers of such large-scale ecological disasters FOLA has collected thousands of documents, newspapers, reports, etc. concerning the lake. Collaborating with volunteers from Valencia College, Central Florida Anthropological Society, the Oakland Nature Preserve, and FPAN's East Central Region, an on-going project was initiated to create a system to digitize the many collected documents and make them available to the public via a searchable online database. The database will be going live to the public within the next month. You can take a sneak peak at: <http://www.fola.org/archive/>

Lab Work with Educational Component

Twice a month Kevin will hold lab hours for volunteers and the public to learn about the less-visible side of archaeology. Lab research and concepts will be discussed to show how artifacts turn from objects to information. Kevin will lead short research activities and attendees will even help catalog an assemblage from a pre-columbian site on the St. Johns River. We have purchased some basic lab materials, such as scales, and hope to offer volunteer lab work on a regular basis.

Historic Cemetery Project

Kevin is continuing the project Gregg Harding began – working with Patty, our volunteer to record historic cemeteries in Brevard County. They have been conducting field assessments, writing up reports, and adding them to the Florida Master Site File. Kevin hopes to include additional volunteers from UCF in the project and eventually expand it outside of Brevard County.

Future Programming

Our fall “In the Dirt” lecture series will kick off in September and we have an excellent lineup in store. Pete Sinelli from UCF will present his research on Caribbean archaeology in September. In October, Sandra Wheeler, also from UCF will discuss her latest bioarchaeological fieldwork. In November, our own Annette Snapp will give a lecture on the Calussa and the series will end in December with Nathan Lawres presenting his master’s thesis research on warfare among the Seminole. It should make for a great series.