



PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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DECEMBER 2006

CHRISTMAS MEETING AND PARTY

DECEMBER 12, COMMANDING OFFICERS' COMPOUND

During summer field schools 2005 and 2006, University of West Florida students excavated an area behind the T. T. Wentworth Museum in downtown Pensacola. Artifacts recovered from this area have helped archaeologists associate trash pits, construction trenches, fort walls, wells and other features with Spanish and British occupations over the last 250 years. Dr. Elizabeth Benchley, director of the Archaeology Institute at UWF, worked at the site both years and will share results and interpretations of the excavations. Processing of the artifacts in the lab class during the fall semester this year has uncovered some interesting pieces. These include Chinese porcelain, creamware and pearlware table ware, many beads, buttons and straight pins, several types of bottle and wine glass fragments, fragments of carved bone items such as a fan and a needle case, building materials showing lathing marks, gunflints, all sizes of shot and many other items of interest. Bring your favorite Christmas goodie and join us at 7 PM on Dec. 12 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, room 10, for the December Christmas party and meeting.

NEWS FROM FPAN PANHANDLE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGIST

Dr. Della Scott-Ireton, Public Archaeologist based at the FPAN headquarters here in Pensacola, and Dr. Bill Lees, FPAN director, will contribute FPAN information monthly to the PAS newsletter.

Work on the L & N Terminal, future home of FPAN, is progressing and may be completed by January. PAS may be able to hold its January 2007 meeting

there if work is completed as planned. Watch for more info. The *Pensacola News-Journal* carried an article last week about the construction and progress.

If you need to contact Della or Bill or Cheryl Phelps (Office/Grants Manager), the FPAN office is temporarily located in the Old Christ Church School House, 212 Church Street, 595-0054.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION UPDATE

***The UWF Archaeological Lab Methods class members will present their findings from 1-4 pm on Tuesday, December 12 at the lab in Building 13.

VOLUNTEERS are needed in the building 13 lab to work on artifacts from the Commanding Officers' Compound through Dec. 13. The lab will be **closed** from Dec.13 until Jan. 3, 2007. Volunteer times for next semester are: Monday through Thursday 9 AM til Noon and afternoons from 1-4 PM. No Friday work next semester. Call Jan (lab 474-2087) for more specifics about volunteering.

***Center for Archaeological Studies at the University of South Alabama began excavating again at the Bayou St. John site (1BA21) in Orange Beach early October. Bonnie Gums, CAS archaeologist at USA, gave a presentation on the site at one of the PAS meetings. The rest of the site is slated to be destroyed by development. Volunteers are now invited to help with excavations on Saturdays, including Dec. 9. For more information contact Bonnie at 251-460-6562.

PAS T SHIRT PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE

During the month of December, PAS t shirts will be **on sale** for \$8 each or 2 for \$15. This is a great opportunity to buy Christmas presents as well as continue your support of the Student Awards Fund. At this point ALL receipts go directly to support to this fund. Many colors and sizes are available.

FAS REPORT

Kay Gautier, our representative at FAS, attended the quarterly board meeting on Nov. 12 in Winter Park, Florida. She was able to report 421 volunteer hours for Aug.- Sept. including lab work and FPAN's Archaeology Day in Cantonment. The next board meeting will be held during Feb. 2007 in Tallahassee. The Florida Archaeology Month 2007 posters will be distributed at that time (poster can be seen on line at www.gelhardt.com/proofs/bar/).

The 2007 FAS annual meeting will be held near Sebring on May 10-13 hosted by the Kissimmee Valley organization with Anne Reynolds as chair. Papers will be given at the SFCC University Center in Avon Park, FL. The reception will

be held at the Jacaranda Hotel and the banquet at the Sebring Civic Center on Lake Jackson. More information will follow as it is released so check the web site.

The Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society will host the 2008 meetings in the Tampa area. PAS will host the 2009 meeting here in Pensacola to commemorate Pensacola's 450th anniversary and PAS has offered to produce the 2009 Florida Archaeology Month poster for FAS. A committee has been appointed and plans are already underway for the events in Pensacola.

TERRESTRIAL AND UNDERWATER UPDATES

Greg Cook and various students are continuing to investigate promising targets near the Emanuel Point shipwreck as time and weather permit. These explorations will continue through the fall and spring funded by a Special Category grant from the state. During this past week, the group visited the Seminole side-wheel steamer shipwreck in Alabama again and found the visibility was 8-10 feet. Photographic documentation of the wreck should be possible during the winter when the water is clearer and will begin soon.

Dr. Elizabeth Benchley announced that work in the lab is continuing and encourages members to help with the processing.

PAS POMPEII TRIP PLANNED FOR MARCH 2007

Join us for another great adventure at the Exploreum. As part of our Archaeology Month activities, the PAS board members decided on a March 10 date for our group to travel to Mobile for the Pompeii exhibit. The exhibit runs January 12 through June 3, 2007. Cost of the trip will be \$20 and include all aspects of the exhibit as well as the IMAX presentation. Sign up sheets will be available at the December and January meetings with payment due by late January so reservations can be paid. We have 8 members signed up already. Don't miss this trip!

In partnership with the Soprintendenza Archeologica di Pompei, the Exploreum will present **A Day In Pompeii** and visitors can travel back in time to the ancient Roman city impacted by a volcanic eruption in AD 79. The debris and ash released from the volcano encased the city in a virtual time capsule making it one of the most complete and intact archaeological sites in the world. *Greece: Secrets of the Past* will be shown in the IMAX Dome and a reproduction of the volcanic blast in 1646 BC that buried the island of Santorini and devastated its population, much as Vesuvius did in Pompeii almost 1700 years later, will be presented.

COMING EVENTS

December 5 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, Archaeology Institute UWF

DEC. 12 **CHRISTMAS PARTY AND MEETING**
COMMANDING OFFICERS' COMPOUND
2006 EXCAVATIONS
Dr. Elizabeth Benchley
Archaeology Institute Director
7 PM, Room 10, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bayou Blvd.

January 2 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, Archaeology Institute UWF

JAN. 9 LIFE IN THE ROUND,
PREHISTORIC SHELL RINGS ON SAPELO ISLAND, GEORGIA
Dr. Victor Thompson
UWF Archaeologist

PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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BOOK SIGNING RECEPTION

FOR

“UNEARTHING PENSACOLA”

DEC. 15 – 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

at the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum

located in Historic Pensacola Village.

The event is free and open to the public.

“Unearthing Pensacola” is the first coffee table-style book on archaeology in Pensacola. It is written by Dr. Judy Bense, executive director of the Division of Anthropology and Archaeology, and designed by Nancy Miller. The book is based in part on the WUWF radio program “Unearthing Pensacola,” which began in 1998 to heighten awareness of the city’s celebration of the Tri-centennial of its first permanent colonial settlement and the UWF Archaeology Institute’s work at the site. Contract Resources, a long-time sponsor of the “Unearthing Pensacola” radio program, will sponsor the event.