



PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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JANUARY 2007

LIFE IN THE ROUND: PREHISTORIC SHELL RINGS ON SAPELO ISLAND, GEORGIA JANUARY 9 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month Dr. Victor Thompson, newest archaeologist in the department of Anthropology at UWF, will present his current prehistoric shell ring research from Sapelo Island, Georgia. Around 4000 years ago Native Americans constructed great rings of shell along Georgia's coast and along the Gulf Coast. What purposes did these rings serve? Why does shell ring construction cease around 3000 years ago? Archeologists have long sought answers to these questions. Dr. Thompson's research explores the lives of the people who lived among these great rings and seeks answers to why and how these monumental piles of shell were constructed.

Join us at 7 PM on Jan. 9 at Trinity Presbyterian Church, room 10, for the January membership meeting. Bring a friend.

PAS POMPEII TRIP PLANNED FOR MARCH 2007

Join us in March for another great adventure to the Exploreum in Mobile. As part of our Archaeology Month activities, on a March 10 PAS members will 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. The sign up sheet will be available again at the January meeting with payment due by **February 1** so reservations can be paid by Feb. 10. We have 11 members signed up already. Don't miss this trip!

NEWS FROM FPAN PANHANDLE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGIST

Dr. Della Scott-Ireton, FPAN 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 is being completed and the staff expect to move in by mid-January. At the Dec. PAS membership meeting, Dr. Bill Lees invited PAS to hold its monthly membership meetings at the L& N Terminal beginning February 2007. Look for more information in the February newsletter.

Bill and Della (as well as many UWF faculty and graduate students) will attend the annual Society of Historical Archaeology Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia, during January where they will present papers on FPAN.

The quarterly FPAN Directors Meeting took place Dec. 12-15 in Tampa hosted by Rich Estabrook, Director, and Rae Harper, Outreach Coordinator, of the West Central Region office. Representatives of the Division of Historical Resources were on hand to discuss how FPAN can assist the Division with their training and education programs.

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.

***UNEARTHING PENSACOLA* BOOK SIGNING**

As many of you know, on Dec. 15 Dr. Judy Bense, Nancy Miller and Sandra Averhart hosted a book signing for their collaborative effort, *Unearthing Pensacola*, at the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum. *Unearthing Pensacola* is also the title of the popular radio spot heard each morning on WUWF radio. Bense and Averhart have presented this program for 8 years and these scripts were illustrated with pictures chosen by Miller to appeal to a wide audience in this coffee table book. Images were selected from local archaeological excavations and a variety of other sources to bring Pensacola's history to life. All proceeds from book sales will go to the UWF Foundation as a scholarship for archaeology students. Books are on sale at the Archaeology Institute, UWF Bookstore, Pensacola Historical Society Museum store, the Tivoli House in Historic Pensacola Village and other museums in the area.

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION UPDATE

*** UWF Archaeology Lab - VOLUNTEERS are needed in the building 13 lab to work on artifacts from the Commanding Officers' Compound beginning Monday, Jan. 8, 2007. Volunteer times for this semester are: Monday through Thursday 9 AM til Noon and 1-4 PM (No Friday work next semester). Call Jan (lab 474-2087) for more specifics about volunteering.

***The Center for Archaeological Studies at the University of South Alabama has volunteer opportunities available in the field and in the lab. Bonnie Gums, CAS archaeologist at USA, can be contacted for more information at 251-460-6562.

PAS T SHIRT

The current PAS t shirts will be available for \$5 each until the supply is gone. This is a great opportunity to 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 still available. Do you have any ideas for a 2007 t-shirt design?

TERRESTRIAL AND UNDERWATER UPDATES

The underwater team is continuing to investigate two promising targets that have been located near the Emanuel Point shipwreck as weather permit. These explorations will continue through the fall and spring funded by a Special Category grant from the state. The underwater team revisited the Seminole steamship wreck recently and with clearer water around the wreck, many very good images were taken for an photodocumentation project.

Work in the lab at building 13 is continuing and members are encouraged to help with the processing. Wonderful things have been recovered from the well, the well construction pit and the moat area as you heard last month at the membership meeting. The large size of artifact fragments will enable students to mend vessels and study the types of vessels used by the inhabitants of the fort.

Monitoring of utilities replacement work by UWF grad students continues downtown on Alcaniz, Intendencia and Florida Blanca Streets.

The Historic Preservation Program at UWF will offer a course in Historic Architecture this semester. The course will be taught on Saturdays at the Bowden building downtown by Pierre Oszuscik from the University of South Alabama. He is also writing a book about Gulf Coast colonial architecture. If you are interested in the course, contact UWF and look for the course under Art History.

COMING EVENTS

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

7 PM, Room 10, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Bayou Blvd

February 6 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, Archaeology Institute UWF

February 13 **PENSACOLA'S SPANISH COLONIAL PRESIDIOS**

Dr. Judy Bense

UWF, Director of the Division of Archaeology

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