



PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

EDITOR JAN LLOYD 453-1660

jall888@earthlink.net

NOVEMBER 2006

NOVEMBER 14, TOYS OR SAINTS?

During excavations at Presidios San Miguel (2006) and Santa Rosa Pensacola (1964, 2002-2004), a number of figurines and parts of figurines of humans and animals were recovered. Those at Santa Rosa were found in the presence of religious artifacts such as rosary beads and candlesticks. Although numerous religious artifacts were recovered from the church at Presidio Santa Maria de Galve, no figurines were located. Graduate student at UWF, Mary Furlong, is writing her thesis after analyzing these artifacts. It has been suggested that the figurines might be children's toys or saints for alters at the church or in private homes. She is looking for the answers to these and other questions. Join us at 7 pm at Trinity Presbyterian Church, room 10, for the November membership meeting to hear about her research and discoveries.

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.

Archaeology Day was held on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Winn Dixie shopping center in Cantonment. Many local people stopped by to talk to the archaeologists, have artifacts identified and learn more about their local heritage. FPAN archaeologists, UWF archaeologists, PAS volunteers and UWF grad students identified and photographed artifacts brought to the site. Special thanks to PAS member, Larry Garrett, for all his help.

FPAN held its biannual board meeting here on Friday, Oct. 27. Center Directors from the Northeast, West Central, Southwest and Northwest Regions delivered presentations of their work and proposals for new regional centers were reviewed. After careful consideration and voting, the Southeast Regional Center will be hosted by Florida Atlantic University at their Davie campus and the East Central Regional Center will be hosted by Brevard County Community College at their Titusville campus. These centers will be up and running by the end of June 2007. Centers for the North Central and Central regions are still under discussion.

Work on the L & N Terminal, future home of FPAN, is progressing and should be completed by January. Hopefully PAS will be able to hold its January 2007 meeting there if work is completed as planned.

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 have one more month to work. VOLUNTEERS are needed in the building 13 lab to help rough sort artifacts from the Commanding Officers' Compound features excavated during the field school 2006. Volunteer hours are: Monday through Friday 9 AM til Noon and Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 1-4 PM. No Friday afternoon work this semester. Call Jan (lab 474-2087) for more specifics about the class or 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. The west half of the site was excavated during spring 2005 prior to construction of luxury beach houses and Bonnie Gums, CAS archaeologist, gave a presentation on the site at one of the PAS meetings. The rest of the site is slated to be destroyed by similar development. Volunteers are now invited to help with excavations on Saturdays. For more information contact Bonnie at 251-460-6562.

PAS T SHIRT PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE

During the months of November and 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, will attend the quarterly board meeting on Nov. 12 so there is no report yet. Kay has volunteered to be the FAS membership secretary as well as the PAS rep and the FAS membership mailing address is: PO Box 13191, Pensacola, FL 32591. It is time to pay your dues if you have not already done so this year. Renewal notices have not been sent out for a couple of years and many of us may have “expired” during that time. Notices will be sent out soon. Membership benefits include: quarterly journal (*The Florida Anthropologist*), opportunities to present and hear papers at the annual meeting and learn about archaeology throughout the state of Florida.

The 2007 FAS meeting will be held near Sebring on May 10-13 hosted by the Kissimmee Valley organization. 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 will offer to produce the 2009 Florida Archaeology Month poster for FAS.

TERRESTRIAL AND UNDERWATER UPDATES

Dr. John Bratten, Greg Cook and various students are continuing to investigate promising targets near the Emanuel Point shipwreck. These explorations will continue through the fall and spring funded by a Special Category grant from the state. More work is also planned at the Seminole side-wheel steamer shipwreck in Alabama.

Dr. Elizabeth Benchley announced plans for the ten week UWF field school next summer (2007). These plans, still in the early stages, include continued survey and testing of targets near the Emanuel Point shipwreck for the underwater students as well as more work on the Seminole wreck. The terrestrial field school will be split into two 5 week sections. The first site to be investigated will be an Archaic shell midden on Choctawhatchee Bay near Niceville and the second locations will be on Sapelo Island, Georgia. Dr. Victor Thompson, newest archaeologist in the UWF Department of Anthropology, studies many aspects of shell rings will direct the first investigations. He and Norma Harris, UWF Archaeology Institute archaeologist, will direct different aspects of the work on Sapelo Island. Both archaeologists have worked on Sapelo Island before and will explore prehistoric and historic sites there. More details will be printed as they are available.

COMING EVENTS

November 7 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, Archaeology Institute UWF

NOV. 14 **TOYS OR SAINTS?**
FIGURINES FROM THE PENSACOLA PRESIDIOS
Mary Furlong, grad student at UWF

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

DEC. 12 **COMMANDING OFFICERS' COMPOUND**
2006 EXCAVATIONS
Dr. Elizabeth Benchley
Archaeology Institute Director

PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 13251
PENSACOLA, FL 32591

EXHIBITS OF INTEREST

If you are traveling north or south from Pensacola, there are several exhibits that might be of interest to you.

NORTH >A Town of the Creek Nation, 1790 – Birmingham Museum of Art, Ongoing Exhibit – This is an interactive, hands-on exhibit for families, children, educators and students to introduce them to the beautiful art and design of the Creek people of the southeast. Visitors will experience the art of the Creek people within the context of a Creek town and learn about the environment in which it was created. Hands-on activities include pottery making, bead design, mat making, music, symbol drawing and games. For more information, go to the Birmingham Museum of Art website. (www.artsbms.org)

>Alabama Folk Pottery, Sept. 30 2006- Jan. 7, 2007 – also at the Birmingham Museum of Art. This exhibit traces the evolution of the Alabama pottery tradition from the early historic period through the mid-twentieth century with more than 70 mid-19th and 20th century pieces. The exhibition follows the early potters as they migrated into the state and established pottery regions in Alabama, covers the importance of kinship in forming distinct pottery characteristics, and highlights the artistry and craftsmanship evident in the works.

In addition, the Birmingham Museum of Art has a wonderful permanent collection of 18th century ceramics such as creamware, pearlware, Chinese porcelain and white salt-glazed stoneware on display.

SOUTH >*Florida's Lost Tribes* by Theodore Morris, Oct. 14-Nov. 26, Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center. Florida's original inhabitants come alive through the original oil paintings by the artist, who bases his portraits on the latest archaeological and anthropological evidence. Reproductions are available through the Center's gift shop. The center is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, 10 am – 4 pm. Information – 727-453-6500

ARCHAEOLOGY FOR THE PUBLIC WEBSITE

Archaeology for the Public is a project of the Public Education Committee of the Society for American Archaeology. Archaeology for the Public is not live at www.saa.org/public This site is a useful resource for your next activity, public session, Archaeology Month event or college course. These web pages are designed for members of the public who want to know more about archaeology as well as for archaeologists, educators and interpreters who share archaeological information with the public. Check it out.

BOTTLE CREEK INDIAN MOUNDS TRIP

On Oct. 14, Dr. Greg Waselkov, director of USA's Center for Archaeological Studies, led an excursion on the *Delta Explorer* to Bottle Creek, a large prehistoric (AD 1200) mound center in the Mobile-Tensaw Rivers delta. All proceeds from the trip go to support Historic Blakeley State Park. About 50 people, including 5 PAS members, enjoyed the beautiful weather as we traveled upstream to and toured parts of the site. The site has been left in its natural state and seeing the mounds is sometimes not an easy task. The largest mound, Mound A, was once adjacent to the plaza of the town and is about 40 feet high with a ramp leading down into the plaza area. The whole group climbed to the top through a maze of vines and undergrowth to view the area from above. The nearby Mound B, a lower mortuary mound, was also visited and the borrow pit which was the source of some the dirt for the mound was seen as a wet weather pond in a thicket of palmetto. Treefalls often expose artifacts as the roots disturb the soil and we were able to see several shell tempered sherds mixed in with a large amount of clam shell in the dark black midden soil near Mound B. The weather was great and the tour was a treat. This trip, sponsored periodically, is well worth the journey to the boat landing near Stockton and supports a worthy cause.

PAS POMPEII TRIP PLANNED FOR MARCH 2007

The Exploreum in Mobile will offer another fantastic exhibit beginning January 12 and continuing through June 3, 2007. 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.

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. 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 November, December and January meetings with payment due by late January so reservations can be paid for. Join us for another great adventure at the Exploreum.