

Northwest and North Central Regions Quarterly Report

October/November/December 2019

Barbara Clark, RPA, Director
Nicole Grinnan, RPA, Public Archaeologist
Tristan Harrenstein, RPA, Public Archaeologist
Rachel Hines, Public Archaeology Assistant
Jeffery Robinson, Public Archaeology Assistant
Megan Ashbrook, Public Archaeology Assistant
Caroline Peacock, Milton High School Special Project Assistant

During the last few months of 2019, Public Archaeology Assistants focused on attending several important heritage-related events throughout the Northwest Region, including Walton County's Explore the Outdoors Festival and Washington County's Pioneer Day at Rocky Bayou State Park. In October, Assistants participated in the National Association for Interpretation's Certified Interpretive Guide (CIG) training at the FPAN Coordinating Center. Upon completion, participants from FPAN and other organizations earn new status as Certified Interpretive Guides. The Coordinating Center continues to be one of the Association's favorite venues for this type of training! In November, Destination Archaeology Resource Center Assistant Courtney Boren worked with FPAN Northwest Region staff to hosting a Heritage Monitoring Scouts meet-up at a shell midden on Santa Rosa Island, the focus of her UWF thesis research. Public Archaeologist Nicole Grinnan took leave during these months to welcome her first child and the newest member of the FPAN family.

This quarter Public Archaeologist Tristan Harrenstein focused on finalizing our Disasters and Museum Preparedness (DaMP) workshop to help local museums, historical societies, and archives prepare for, reduce, and even prevent the negative effects of disasters large and small. This program was inspired by the book club the North Central Regional Center hosted this past summer, where attendees walked away with a draft disaster management plan for their facility. We closed out the quarter with several potential workshops lined up for the new year. Tristan has also persistently worked with other FPAN and UWF staff to assist the Panhandle Historic Preservation Alliance and has actively been attending meetings and providing them with guidance. Beyond that, we continued with our typical festivals, had representation at the First Floridians conference in Monticello, and held a GOPHR workshop for the Wakulla County Historical Commission. Regional Director Barbara Clark was able to travel to communities in Georgia several times to present on historical cemeteries and on climate change's impacts on cultural resources. Barbara was also featured on WCTV in October for an educational feature on historic cemeteries. The North Central Regional Center staff also met with Florida Park Service staff at Maclay Gardens State Park, our new host, to discuss ways to partner on programs and events. Our first joint program was a presentation to their volunteers during their monthly meeting.

Staff and interns from the North Central, Northwest and Destination Archaeology Resource Center collaborated and produced a video for the SHA video competition as well. This video was a spoof on the popular television show, *The Office*, and highlighted the importance of archaeological context.

Northwest Region's Progress on Work Plan Objectives:

- Nicole currently in talks with Gulf Islands National Seashore to extend the HMS program into the National Park Service.
- Nicole coordinating with California State Parks' Denise Jaffke to develop diver training/outreach programs in California.
- Rachael Hines is working with teachers from Santa Rosa County to develop a local historic cemeteries curriculum as part of her University of West Florida/FPAN thesis project.
- Caroline Peacock continuing partnership with Milton High School at the Scott Site.
- Nicole continues her doctoral pursuit at the University of Birmingham, U.K.
- Nicole appointed to the American Academy of Underwater Sciences Board of Directors.
- Nicole continues to serve as a Director on the Society for Historical Archaeology Board.
- Nicole continues to be a Director on the St. Michael's Cemetery Foundation Board.
- Nicole continues to serve as Membership Secretary to the Florida Archaeological Council Board of Directors.
- Nicole continues to serve as Assistant Dive Safety Officer (DSO) for the University of West Florida.

North Central Region's Progress on Work Plan Objectives:

- Tristan continues to make contact with local museums, historical societies and local governments to promote both GOPHR and DaMP.
- Tristan was nominated for Vice President of the Panhandle Historic Preservation Alliance.
- The North Central Regional Center is completely moved into their new office located at Maclay Gardens State Park.
- Barbara graduated from UWF in December with her Masters in Public Administration, with a certificate in Nonprofit Management.
- Barbara continues to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Register of Professional Archaeologists.
- Barbara continues to serve as the Chair of the Tallahassee Trust for Historic Preservation.
- Barbara continues to be a Director on the Florida Archaeological Council board.
- The North Central Regional Center has reached an agreement with FSU and will have an intern, Caitlin Delmas, for nine hours a week in the Spring Semester.



Courtney Boren (right), a UWF graduate student and FPAN Destination Archaeology Resource Center Assistant, works with one of our local Heritage Monitoring Scouts to document climate change impacts to her thesis site on Santa Rosa Island.



Tristan Harrenstein talks to attendees of the First Floridians Conference in Monticello, FL. He has developed several short vignettes for festivals and information tables that highlight key concepts in archaeology, including the importance of context.