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## **PENSACOLA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

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OCTOBER 2007

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### **ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE OF PRE-CLOVIS MAN AT THE TOPPER SITE (38AL23), ALLENDALE COUNTY, SC**

Strong archaeological evidence of man appears deep below an intact Clovis occupation zone (12,000 years ago) at the Topper site in South Carolina. Radiocarbon dating has indicated this earlier occupation may have been over 50,000 years ago. The Pre-Clovis evidence at Topper has been reported by CNN, NOVA, a book (*Paleoamerican Origins: Beyond Clovis*) published by Center for the Study of the First Americans in 2005 and *Mammoth Trumpet* published by Texas A & M. Carey Geiger, currently president of the Southwest Chapter of the Alabama Archaeology Society and past president of the Mississippi Archaeological Association, will present this interesting program. He volunteers full time at the archaeology lab at the University of South Alabama and his special interest is stone tool analysis. He has volunteered at the Topper Site for the last four field seasons, including summer 2007 for 6 weeks. The research at the Topper Site is directed by Dr. Albert Goodyear from the University of South Carolina.

There are archaeologists who accept the Pre-Clovis evidence and there are others who do not. Come to this month's meeting and see the evidence on this controversial topic for yourself. Bring a friend or two!

### **NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT SHIPWRECK ANNOUNCEMENT OCT. 11**

At 10 am on Thursday, October 11, state and local government officials and archaeologists will host a press conference about a nationally significant shipwreck

in our area. The event will be held at the Visitor's Center on the Pensacola end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge near the intersection of Hwy 98 and 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue.

### **STUDENTS RECEIVE AWARDS FUND CHECKS OCT. 9**

The Student Awards Fund application deadline was Sept. 28 and on Oct. 2 the Board decided on two of the 5 applicants to receive the fall awards. Jim Greene will use his award to present a paper about architecture at the Pensacola presidios at the Society of Historical Archaeology meetings in Albuquerque during January 2008. Nicole Tumbleson will use her award to travel to Washington, D.C., to do research at the National Archives on the *USS Narcissus*, the topic of her thesis. This steam tugboat was used from 1864 to the end of the Civil War as a blockader, dispatch vessel, towboat and transporter of prisoners and captured vessels. She and all hands were lost after the war during a storm off the coast of Tampa on her way back to New York to be decommissioned and sold. Thanks to all the applicants for their interest and thanks for all the donations that make these awards possible.

### **NEWS FROM FPAN PANHANDLE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGIST**

Dr. Della Scott-Ireton, FPAN Public Archaeologist based at the FPAN Center here in Pensacola, Dr. Bill Lees, FPAN Director, and Mary Furlong, Outreach Coordinator, will contribute FPAN information monthly to the newsletter.

FPAN is excited to be into the fall season! In September, FPAN hosted both the Pensacola History and Archaeology Council (PHAC) and Panhandle Historic Preservation Alliance's (PHPA) monthly meetings. Mary was nominated to serve as PHPA's vice president, West Region. FPAN also participated in the Alger-Sullivan Historical Society's Heritage Celebration.

FPAN has several events planned throughout the fall. These include an Archaeology Day November 10<sup>th</sup> at Rocky Bayou State Park in Niceville. If you are interested in volunteering to chat with people, help identify artifacts and educate people about archaeology in our area, contact Mary. A lecture on Northwest Florida shipwrecks by Della will be held November 28 at the Indian Temple Mound Museum in Fort Walton Beach.

For the second year in a row, FPAN and new partners, Pensacola Historical Society and St. Michael's Interparochial School, were awarded a Save Our History

Grant from the History Channel. The students from St. Michael's will create a brochure and interactive kiosk to be housed in the Historical Society about Fort George. The official kick-off to the grant project will be held October 3, but the students have already begun learning about the history of Fort George and late 18<sup>th</sup> century Pensacola.

FPAN Archaeology Lab will now be open **WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY** from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm each week to rough sort materials from local excavations.

If you need to contact Della, Bill, Mary or Cheryl Phelps (Office/Grants Manager), the FPAN office is located in the old L & N Marine Terminal on Main Street, 595-0050.

### **TERRESTRIAL AND UNDERWATER UPDATES**

**\*\*Join the UWF archaeologists and state and local officials for the announcement of a nationally significant shipwreck Oct. 11 at 10 am at the Visitor's Center on the Pensacola end of the Pensacola Bay Bridge.**

The UWF underwater team continues to investigate and evaluate targets near the Emanuel Point shipwreck. Some volunteer opportunities for a few people at a time to visit on Wednesdays and help with screening will be possible because of smaller crews working this fall. If you are interested in volunteering or visiting the barge on site, contact Greg Cook at 474-3015. Leave a message for him if there is no answer. Announcements about specific dates and times for volunteers will be made at the October membership meeting and will appear in the next newsletter. For more information about ongoing work, visit the website: <http://uwf.edu/anthropology/schools/mfs07.cfm>

UWF archaeologists will be on hand downtown to monitor excavations through historically sensitive areas during October including utilities replacement under Alcaniz Street from Bayfront Parkway to Garden and Romana Streets.

In the lab, the students and PAS members of the lab methods class have completed their last test and are starting to process artifacts from the summer field school at Main and Reus as well as Sapelo Island, Georgia. After analysis is completed this semester, presentations about the results will be presented as PAS monthly meetings in the spring. Join us in the lab to help with rough sorting so we will be able to finish all the cataloging by December.

## **CEMETERY PRESERVATION WORKSHOP OCT. 6**

The third workshop in this series is continuing to bring together the people responsible for managing our cemetery resources. Dean DeBolt, Director of Special Collections at the John C. Pace Library at UWF, will present a field guide to researching historic cemeteries and their populations. There is no charge to representatives of ALL local cemeteries and professionals who provide services to cemeteries. The workshop will be held from 9 am to noon at the FPAN Center.

### **COMING EVENTS**

Oct. 2 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, **Florida Public Archaeology Network Center**,  
Old L & N Marine Terminal, 207 E. Main Street. Members welcome.

OCT. 9 **2007 EXCAVATIONS AT THE TOPPER SITE:  
A CLOVIS AND PRE-CLOVIS SITE IN SOUTH CAROLINA**

**CAREY GEIGER**

President of the Southwest Chapter  
of the Alabama Archaeology Society, Mobile region  
7 PM, FPAN CENTER, 207 E. MAIN STREET

**OCT. 11-10 AM, PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT-NATIONALLY SIGNIFICANT SHIPWRECK  
VISITOR'S CENTER, PENSACOLA END OF PENSACOLA BAY BRIDGE  
PAS MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND, EVERYONE WELCOME**

Nov. 6 Board Meeting, 4:30 PM, **Florida Public Archaeology Network Center**,  
Old L & N Marine Terminal, 207 E. Main Street. Members welcome.

NOV. 13 THE IMPORTANCE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH TO THE ARCHAEOLOGIST  
Dr. John Worth  
Historical Archaeologist, University of West Florida

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

## FAS MEMBERSHIP

PAS is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society. FAS is open to persons interested in anthropology, archaeology, preservation of cultural resources and community education. FAS membership includes a very nice journal, *The Florida Anthropologist*, covering diverse archaeological and anthropological excavations and events in the state, and the *FAS Newsletter*. FAS members have the opportunity in May each year to attend the annual meeting held at a different location throughout the state each year. PAS will host the FAS annual meeting during May 2009 as we celebrate Pensacola's 450 Anniversary. Papers are presented on a wide range of topics, tours are available to local sites, and workshops are offered each year. At the business meeting, members have the opportunity to express ideas and vote on issues. Membership dues are as follows: \$35-Regular and Institutional, \$35 - Family, \$40 – Sustaining, \$15 – Student with a valid student id when applying, \$100 – Patron, \$500 – Life, \$2500 or more – Benefactor.

Send dues to Kay Gautier, FAS treasurer, PO Box 13191, Pensacola, FL 32591.

## VOLUNTEER INFORMATION UPDATE

All lab opportunities require **NO previous experience**. Join us when you can to see the artifacts from Pensacola's past that are being recovered during excavations in our area.

\*\*\***FPAN lab** - Volunteers are needed to help rough sort artifacts from the downtown projects. Lab work occurs from 9:30 to 3:30 ONLY on **WEDNESDAY** and **FRIDAY** at the **FPAN Center downtown**. For more info about the lab or to volunteer, call Mary Furlong at 595-5524 (Mon., Wed. and Fri.).

\*\*\* **UWF Archaeology Lab** - VOLUNTEERS are needed in the building 13 lab to work on artifacts from the field school excavations. The lab is open Monday and Wednesday (9-12), Tuesday and Thursday (9-12 and 1-4) for volunteers (No Friday work this semester.) through Nov. Call Jan (474-2087) for more info.

**\*\*\*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, can be contacted for more information at 251-460-6562.

## **ACTIVITIES COMING UP IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER**

### **2007 BOTTLE CREEK TOURS:**

Two boat tours are offered this fall to the Bottle Creek site, a Mississippian chiefdom, in the Mobile-Tensaw Delta. The tour is led by Dr. Greg Waselkov, USA professor, and the proceeds benefit Blakely State Park. Dates are Oct. 21 and Nov. 11 from 9:30 to 12:30. The cost is \$25. Contact Bonnie Gums for more info.

### **FORT MIMS EXCAVATIONS:**

The Center for Archaeological Studies will resume excavations at Fort Mims to follow the proposed path of the reconstructed fort. The activities will be on the following Saturdays – Oct. 13, Nov. 17&24, and Dec.15 & 22. These excavations are featured in the Fall 2007 *American Archaeology* magazine. For more information contact Bonnie Gums, 251-460-6562.

### **NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVAL AT MOUNDVILLE:**

Moundville Archaeological Park will be the site October 3-6 of the annual festival that offers activities to entertain and educate visitors about the rich cultural heritage of the southeastern Indians. This 320 acre site at Moundville has more than 20 preserved prehistoric mounds, a museum with some of the finest Mississippian artifacts and other activity areas. Visit the website for more information.

### **GULF SOUTH HISTORY AND HUMANITIES CONFERENCE:**

This conference in Mobile at the Riverview Plaza Hotel October 11-13 presents a variety of papers presented by historians, anthropologists, sociologists, historic preservationists and others from the Gulf Coast region. Topics include Gulf Coast archives, railroads, the Creek War, the Seminole War and the Caribbean, among many others. For more info, visit the Gulf South Historical Association website.

**BARTRAM TRAIL CONFERENCE:**

This conference honoring the naturalist William Bartram who traveled throughout the Southeast in the 1770s will be held at 5 Rivers Conference Center in Spanish Fort on Oct. 26-28. Dr. Greg Waselkov of USA will speak on Saturday morning about “The Colony of West Florida in Maps.” For more info go to the Bartram Trail website.