



East Central Region
Quarterly Report – January/February/March 2017
Sarah Miller, Director; Robbie Boggs, Office Manager
Kevin Gidusko, Public Archaeology Coordinator
Caitlin Sawyer, Outreach Assistant

Outreach: Heritage Fort Christmas Living History Days

In January, the EC team was once again at the annual Fort Christmas Living History Days in Orange County. Each year, thousands of elementary and middle-school students converge at the Fort Christmas historical park for a day of Florida history. Twenty living history displays, situated throughout the park, take students back in time from the pre-contact Native Americans to pirates, to cracker cowmen. FPAN staff are on hand to tie the lessons learned into a neat bow, discussing the ways archaeology teaches us how we know what we know about the past.



Image 1. EC Public Archaeology Coordinator, Kevin Gidusko, discusses how we know what we know about the past with students at the Fort Christmas Living History Days.

Outreach: Archaeology Works-Bioarchaeology

In March, Kevin Gidusko and Caitlin Sawyer from the ECR led a hands-on workshop showcasing bioarchaeology for attendees of the Fielden Lifelong Learning Institute at Indian River State College (IRSC). Attendees learned about the how bioarchaeologists learn about past lifeways by examining human osteological material. Caitlin, who has a background in bioarchaeology, led the group in creating a bio-profile from a set of (plastic) bones.



Image 2. EC Outreach Assistant, Caitlin Sawyer, leads a discussion about bioarchaeological analysis with attendees of the Fielden Lifelong Learning Center at Indian River State College.

Progress on Strategic Plan Objectives

- Goal 1: Thinking Like a Network by Delivery of Standardized Programs
 - HMS Florida database development moving forward. Working with WCR to implement.
 - Continued use of Archaeology Works templates (bioarchaeology) for outreach in the ECR.
- Goal 2: Improve promotion of FPAN to professionals inside and outside of Florida focused on transference of knowledge

- Presented on HMS Florida at the Indian River Lagoon Symposium, an annual event at FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute which largely caters to marine biology.
- Presented on HMS, climate change, and archaeology to Space Coast Science Educators Alliance.
- Goal 3: Provide for the Long-Term Viability of the Network
 - Attended Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference. Kevin Gidusko is currently serving as PEIC chair for SHA.
 - Moved into new office location for ECR in Sanford, Seminole County. Location is already hosting volunteers assisting in 3D modeling efforts.
 - Working on developing opportunities for new partnerships in the greater Sanford area.