

Archaeology Digs



Inaugural SSEAS class practicing recording skills in pool and on SS Copenhagen, a Florida Underwater Archaeological Preserve

New Underwater Stewardship Program!

The Florida Public Archaeology Network is happy to announce its newest underwater stewardship program named SSEAS (Submerged Sites Education & Archaeological Stewardship). This program is intended to train sport divers in the methods of non-disturbance archaeological recording and then give these trained divers a mission. The mission will focus on investigating sites in NOAA's Automated Wreck and Obstruction Information System (AWOIS - www.nauticalcharts.noaa.gov/hsd/awois.html) with the goal of identifying possible historic shipwrecks and other submerged cultural sites.

SSEAS divers will be trained to recognize historic shipwrecks and cultural sites, to record the site using photography and hand-drawn site plans, and to fill out Florida Master Site File recording forms. The SSEAS program consists of taking the Orientation to Underwater Archaeology for Sport Divers training course. This course includes classroom, confined water, and open water instruction. Upon completion, participants will receive an FPAN Certificate of Training; a NAUI or PADI Specialty Certification may be possible as well. Once training is complete, SSEAS divers are able to perform all necessary tasks and are encouraged to begin investigating AWOIS sites.

Trained divers will also be asked to monitor nearby Florida Underwater Archaeological Preserves (www.museumsinthesea.com) and other known submerged sites. SSEAS divers may also participate in the Nautical Archaeological Society's Big Anchor Project (www.biganchorproject.com) to identify isolated anchors on land and under water. Preserve site monitoring and Big Anchor Project participation are encouraged but not necessary to participate in SSEAS.

For more information, please contact Dr. Della Scott-Ireton at FPAN's Northwest Region (dscottireton@uwf.edu or 850-595-0050 x102).

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Meet Mike Thomin, Museum Manager!



Mike Thomin, Museum Manager

Michael Thomin is the new manager for the Destination Archaeology! Resource Center and joined the FPAN team in March of 2011. Mike graduated with a Bachelor's degree from the University of West Florida in 2006 where he studied history and international studies. As the son of a military officer Mike moved across the country and overseas several times before relocating to his adopted home state of Florida.

For the past four years Mike worked for the museum division of the City of Fort Walton Beach as the Museum Program Coordinator and CRA

Marketing Coordinator at Heritage Park and Cultural Center. In this role Mike developed educational and public programming, events, and exhibits to enhance awareness about the historic and archaeological resources of Northwest Florida. Mike is interested in military history, Atlantic World studies, and southeastern Native Americans.

With FPAN, Mike is focusing on developing and marketing a variety of educational programs associated with the permanent and traveling exhibits in the resource center.

Upcoming Events

All of our events are also online!
[Event List](#)

August 10th: 8:30am-3:30pm, *Archaeology in the Classroom* teacher workshop, registration required, FPAN Coordinating Center, Downtown Pensacola.

August 27th: 9:00am-11:00am, Tour de Fort: Let's Move Outside, Bicycling tour of Fort Pickens areas, registration required, Fort Pickens.

September 5th: FPAN & UWF closed for Labor Day Holiday.

September 10th: 12:00pm-5:00pm, Archaeology Day, Panhandle Pioneer Settlement, Blountstown.

September 13th: 7:00pm-8:00pm, Pensacola Archaeological Society monthly meeting and lecture, Bowden Bld., Downtown Pensacola.



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Destination: Civil War

In commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the Civil War in Florida, FPAN has developed a web-based guide to public places in Florida that tell the story of the Civil War and the movement to preserve its lessons. Many are significant archaeological sites. All are worthy of a visit and respectful reflection. Included are battlefields, fortifications, plantations, arsenals, the state capitol, cemetery plots, monuments, shipwrecks, and museum exhibits.

This is a multi-year project of our Executive Director Dr. William Lees who has been collecting information on Civil War sites in Florida since moving to the state in 2005. He previously compiled a similar resource for his home state of Oklahoma.



On January 10, 1861, Florida seceded from the Union and was soon involved in a Civil War that changed forever our nation and its people. Though far from the main theaters of war, Florida saw conflict, suffering, and loss within its borders and on distant battlefields where native sons were sent to fight. Florida's economy was at first crippled by an effective naval blockade, and soon transformed to support the Confederate war effort by supplying critical staples such as salt and beef.

In addition to photos and information on these sites available on our web site, you can also link to [Google Maps](#) or download the [Google Earth](#) file that shows the location of these places. The FPAN web resource and the Google resources can be accessed on computer, tablet, or smart phone to help you find the sites and to help plan your next trip in Florida.

We consider this Civil War web resource to be a work in progress and will be adding sites and information as it comes to our attention through additional research and through suggestions. If you know of publicly accessible places that are not included, or if you have additional information on any of the many sites that are included, please contact us at CivilWar@fpublicarchaeology.org.

Archaeology Lab Volunteer Program



Volunteers in the FPAN Lab

Looking for something new to do this fall? Come experience history and volunteer in the FPAN archaeology lab!

FPAN is seeking enthusiastic volunteers of all ages to help rough sort artifacts recovered from local archaeological sites. Volunteers work inside our air-conditioned lab with small screens, trays, brushes, magnets and other lab tools to clean and sort artifacts. Once artifacts have been cleaned, they are sorted into groups of like

materials (i.e. brick, glass, shell, ceramics, stone, etc.). No experience is needed, and all volunteers are given a brief orientation by a professional archaeologist their first day. The volunteer program is perfect for students who need volunteer hours for scholarships, individuals and groups interested in a unique way to experience local history and archaeology, as well as anyone who has dreamed of getting their hands dirty participating in real archaeological work.

The FPAN fall lab schedule is Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The lab is located inside the FPAN Coordinating Center at 207 E. Main St. in downtown Pensacola, next to The Fish House. All ages are encouraged to participate; however, anyone under 17 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. Contact Irina at isorset@uwf.edu or 850-595-0050 x103 to volunteer and arrange a day and time.



Upcoming Events Cont.

All of our events are also online!

[Event List](#)

September 15th-17th: Heritage Awareness Diving Seminar (HADS), registration required, St. Petersburg.

October 1st, 8th, 22nd, 29th: 11:00am-12:00pm, "Secrets of Santa Rosa" 2011 Lecture Series, Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site, Milton. (More details coming soon!)

October 11th: 7:00pm-8:00pm, Pensacola Archaeological Society monthly meeting and lecture, Bowden Bld., Downtown Pensacola.

October 15th: 10:00am-2:00pm, Arcadia Mill Fall Open House, highlights include showcasing new facilities and site tours, light refreshments will be served, Milton.

November 2nd-6th: Southeastern Archaeological Conference, annual meeting, Jacksonville.

November 2nd-6th: Diving Equipment Marketing Association (DEMA) annual show, Orlando.

Tour de Fort: Let's Move Outside!

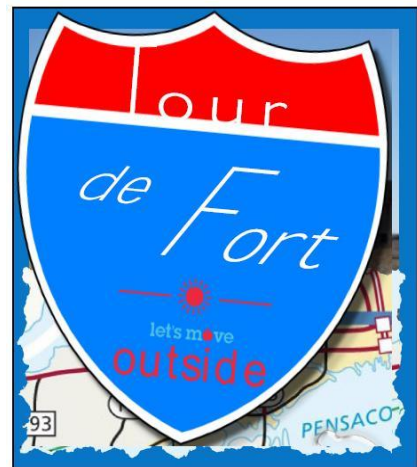
Join us Saturday, August 27th for a bicycling tour at Gulf Islands National Seashore as part of the *Let's Move Outside!* initiative. Participants will rendezvous at Fort Pickens Museum at 9 am where a park ranger and archaeologist from FPAN will meet the group at the auditorium for a talk followed by a tour and bike ride of the Florida National Scenic Trail (~4 miles).

Participants are responsible for their own transportation and park entrance fee. We will visit archaeological sites along the trail ride and learn about archaeology, history, and ecology. Bring plenty of water, healthy snacks, sunscreen, sunglasses, your bicycle & helmet!

Afterwards, participants can caravan to the Destination Archaeology! Resource Center for a tour of the museum exhibit "A Roadtrip Through Florida Archaeology" to learn about other sites to bike tour across the state.

This program is part of the national initiative *Let's Move Outside!* This initiative, administered by the Department of the Interior, was created to get kids to take advantage of America's great outdoors.

Destination Archaeology! is an official institution in the Let's Move Museums and Gardens initiative. Learn about other opportunities to participate here: www.imls.gov/about/letsmove.shtm



Archaeology Bicycling Tour of the Fort Pickens Areas
Call 850.595.0050 x107 to register!

Volunteer Lab Hours

Tuesdays and Thursdays
10:00am-4:00pm

FPAN Field Trips

We offer archaeology field trips at our Coordinating Center in Pensacola. See [Field Trip Information](#) for more details!

Contact Us

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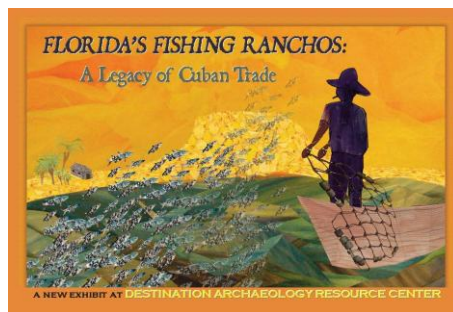
What's New at DARC? Combining the Digital with the Traditional

For those of you who didn't see the recent [article](#) in the June issue of the Pensacola-based *Independent Weekly* newspaper, the Destination Archaeology! Resource Center is offering its visitors something different. Let's start with the strange image below. This is a QR code, and those of you with a smartphone handy can actually scan it. What happens when you do this? In this case it will send you directly to FPAN's website. These are popping up in many museums across the country. This technology offers several other possibilities that museums can now take advantage of and we are jumping onboard.



Quick Response (QR) Code

In the next few weeks, our smartphone-wielding visitors will have the ability to scan QR codes placed throughout our *Roadtrip Through Florida Archaeology* exhibit. Each QR code will have an icon in the center that will inform the visitor before they scan it what awaits them. For example, an icon of a movie clapper board centered in the middle of one of the codes will let the visitor know that they will be directed to a video that helps to enhance the content near the display. Also, smartphone users can now download the SCVNGR app to experience a customized digital scavenger hunt based on our exhibit. By completing challenges in the exhibit using this app on your smartphone (Android or iPhone- sorry Blackberry!) you gain points. Earn enough points and you can win some FPAN promotional items. These are just a couple of ways we are creating new digital content in the museum to enhance our visitors experience.



Our new exhibit, "Florida's Fishing Ranchos"

At the same time, we continue to offer traditional museum experiences to our visitors that have long been a part of the standard programming that museum-goers have come to expect. This includes new exhibits that will feature research by faculty and graduate students at UWF. Using content developed by FPAN's West Central Region and UWF professor Dr. John Worth, we recently installed an exhibit titled *Florida's Fishing Ranchos: A Legacy of Cuban Trade*. This exhibit examines the rise and fall of the Cuban fishermen and their lives in Southwest Florida from the 17th to the 19th century. It features graphic text panels, artifacts, and a life-like mannequin that museums have traditionally used for purposes of interpretation. To keep it fresh we will rotate new exhibits in our temporary space frequently.

Special informal speaker-based programs called Archaeology Café are on the horizon, so be sure to check our Facebook page for updates!