

FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL, INC.



FAC Newsletter No. 94 December 2015

<http://www.flarchcouncil.org/>

EDITOR'S CORNER

Greetings, FAC Members. I would like to announce our new Membership Secretary, Nicole Grinnan, and to thank Michele Williams for her service in this position. Welcome, Nicole. If members would like to contribute to upcoming publications, please send your information to my email address listed below. Please enjoy this edition of the FAC Newsletter and have a wonderful New Year.

Melissa Dye, M.A., RPA
FAC Newsletter Editor
SEARCH
melissa@searchinc.com

Remember – Send those current research items in whenever you finish an interesting project. Also, send me noteworthy dates or interesting anecdotes!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greetings from the FAC Membership Committee

By Nicole Grinnan

By the time you read this article Nicole will have already contacted you via email about the 2016 FAC Membership Drive. March 15th is deadline for dues, and Nicole will send out several more reminders before that date. As we have in previous years, we are curbing postal costs by running the membership drive via email. You also may download the 2016 FAC Membership/Renewal form at the FAC website.

Please check the FAC web site for accuracy of your contact information and current status based on our 2015 records. Send any changes in your contact information to Nicole (ngrinnan@uwf.edu).

Nicole Grinnan, M.A., RPA
Public Archaeology Coordinator, Northwest Region Florida Public Archaeology Network, University of West Florida
207 East Main Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

We have a total of 87 members in good standing for 2015; see the complete list below. If your name is not there and you paid your dues, please contact Nicole directly.

FAC MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING – 2015

First Name	Last name
Marion	Almy
Jim	Ambrosino
Michael	Arbuthnot
Traci	Ardren

Keith	Ashley
Paul	Backhouse
Uzi	Baram
Elizabeth	Benchley
Judith	Bense
Myles	Bland
Bill	Burger
Robert	Carr
Marsha	Chance
Barbara	Clark
Robert	Cochrane
McMillan	Davis
John	de Bry
Joan	Deming
Martin	Dickinson
Jeffrey	DuVernay
Melissa	Dye
Richard	Estabrook
Michael	Faught
	Fillman- Richards
Jeanne	Fischer
George	Gaber
Steven	Gaber
Christopher	Goodwin
Ramie	Gougeon
Nicole	Grinnan
Brent	Handley
Kenneth	Hardin
Greg	Hendryx
Kathleen	Hoffman
Beth	Horvath
Lee	Hutchinson
Stephen	James
Robert	Johnson
Paul	Jones
Maranda	Kles
Diane	Kloetzer

Phyllis	Kolianos
Steven	Koski
Elise	LeCompte
Bill	Lees
Maureen	Mahoney
William	Marquardt
James	Mathews
Pamela	Mathews
Karen	Mayo
Todd	McMakin
Jerald	Milanich
James	Miller
Sarah	Miller
Jeff	Mitchem
Jennifer	Melcher
L. Ross	Morrell
Chris	Newman
Lee	Newsom
Antoni	Paris
Bruce	Piatek
Thomas	Pluckhahn
Steven	RabbySmith
Storm	Richards
Donna	Ruhl
Kenneth	Sassaman
Ed	Schneider
Della	Scott-Ireton
Maria- Louise	Sidoroff
Greg	Smith
Annette	Snapp
Sheila	Steward
Dana	Ste. Claire
Anne	Stokes
Margo	Stringfield
Prentice	Thomas
Lyle	Torp

Neill	Wallis
April	Watson
Lucy	Wayne
Richard	Weinstein
Barry	Wharton
Ryan	Wheeler
Mathew	White
Nancy	White
Michele	Williams
John	Worth

The 2016 John W. Griffin Award

by Dr. Greg C. Smith

The Florida Archaeological Council (FAC) is making available \$1600.00 to be awarded to one or more archaeology graduate students (M. A. or Ph.D.) who are currently enrolled in a Florida university. The funds will assist students conducting archaeological research in Florida and can be used to cover costs associated with archaeological fieldwork and/or special analyses (e.g., radiocarbon dates, faunal or botanical analyses, soils analysis, etc.). In rare cases, funds may be made available for travel expenses associated with presenting a paper on the student's research at a professional meeting.

Students interested in applying for the grant should submit a letter not to exceed two pages that describes the project for which the funds are being requested; what research question(s) or problem(s) are being addressed; how the funds will be applied to these problems; what, if any, additional funds will be used to accomplish the research; and how the research will contribute to Florida archaeology. The applicant should include a budget indicating the amount requested and describing how the money will be spent along with a letter(s) of support from faculty.

Applications for the 2016 award are now being accepted and can be mailed to: Dr. Greg C. Smith, John Griffin Award, 415

Arrendondo Avenue, St. Augustine, FL 32080. Alternatively, a pdf file, including the support letter(s) and budget, can be sent to gcfsmith@hotmail.com. Deadline for applications is January 29, 2016.

The 2015 John W. Griffin Award Results

The 2015 Griffin Student Award was given to Ellen Lofaro, a University of Florida doctoral student, who received the award for her proposed research on comparative isotopic analyses from indigenous groups associated with 17th century Franciscan missions.

FAC Stewards of Heritage Award

The FAC Stewards of Heritage Awards (SOH) was established to recognize the role of the general public in preservation, education, and research of archaeological resources. When funding permits this event should be done every other year. FAC Stewards of Heritage recipients have demonstrated a strong devotion to preserving, learning, and teaching Florida's heritage locally as well as at the state and national levels. Guidelines for submitting a nomination will be posted on the FAC website. Nominations for the award will be submitted to the Stewards of Heritage Awards Committee Chair by February 1, 2016.

Nominee Eligibility:

1. The nominee(s) cannot be a member(s) or eligible for membership in the FAC.
2. The nominee(s) cannot be a professional archaeologist.
3. The nominee(s) have to have gone beyond the norm in fostering the preservation, education, or research of archaeological sites and not just be a general supporter.

FLORIDA ISSUES

The Board of the Florida Archaeological Council (FAC) is asking for your help in voicing our opposition to House Bill 803, “An act relating to historic and archaeological artifacts (see also Senate Bill 1054, “Historic and Archaeological Artifacts”). This bill follows on the heels of the equally misguided artifact amnesty feasibility study, which has thankfully been shelved, at least for the time being. This latest bill seeks to change the last line of Florida Statute 267.115 by requiring DHR to develop a program to grant permits to individuals for purpose of collecting artifacts from publicly owned lands. The individual would then be allowed to keep these artifacts and sell them for personal gain. HB 803 is currently under review by the House Economic Affairs Committee, a subcommittee of committees related to economic development and tourism.

FAC members may recall that the previous Isolated Finds program, initiated in 1996 and overturned nine years later, led to untold numbers of archaeological sites being damaged or destroyed. In the latest social media flurry around HB 803, it has been suggested that only a small percentage of permit-holders reported their finds as required – it is unclear whether those who did not make reports failed to find any artifacts, or merely failed to report their finds. If anyone has records or reports with actual numbers of permits issued versus permit requirements fulfilled, that would be extremely helpful in making our case against reviving the isolated finds permit program.

The commercially-oriented collectors backing the push for this bill are active in Tallahassee and way ahead of those of us opposed to its passing. Some legislators appear very sympathetic to their cause, believing government intervention in a private citizen’s actions on public lands somehow tramples civil liberties, or having heard scary stories about the would-be grandfather taking a hike with the kids who find an arrowhead and being at risk of arrest. This program is not intended to protect the casual collector who may not comprehend Florida’s current cultural

resource protection regulations. Rather, this program would only benefit individuals with the ability to pay a \$100 permit fee. This permit fee, even coupled with the proposed \$1000 penalty for non-compliance with the permit program, is far less than the licenses, fees, and taxes every legitimate business in Florida currently pays. For collectors selling artifacts for thousands of dollars online and at trade shows, \$100 is less than the prize one artifact might bring in. The Florida Fish and Wildlife’s “Operation Timucua” revealed that looters are plundering archaeological sites all over the Southeast and selling our shared cultural heritage for personal profit.

One last point: it is my opinion that we, the members of FAC, should be more proactive about these legislative attempts to compromise historic preservation policies and practices in Florida. We currently clearly are not. What may not be as well remembered from the previous chapter in the saga that is becoming isolated finds permitting in Florida is the advisory role played by the Florida Historical Commission to the Division of Historical Resources, as mandated in Florida statute 267.0612. While we should all urge the FHC to continue to be vocal in their opposition to legislation or policies which will clearly undermine preservation efforts in our state, we should help them by crafting policy proposals in line with our ethics and standards. Are there ways to develop a collector collaboration programs that have nothing to do with permits, legitimizing artifacts for sale, or the loss of archaeological data, but instead involve the public and citizen scientists in meaningful, rewarding archaeological research? Or should we work harder to highlight the efforts of organizations like FPAN, FAS, and FAS’s many local chapters in bridging this professional/collector divide? Would we be in a better position if we asked the Florida legislature to shelve HB 803 now because we have an alternative program in development or already in existence?

In the meantime, the FAC Board asks that you take a few moments to write to your elected officials in protest of this latest legislative assault on the archaeological and cultural resources of Florida. Educate your representatives, write letters to your local

papers, call in to your local talk radio shows, and share your opposition to HB803/SB1054 wherever and whenever you can. Have a Twitter account? Use this hashtag: [#OpposeHB803](#). Your letters and calls are important.

Ramie A. Gougeon, Ph.D., RPA
Vice President, Florida Archaeological Council

2016 FAC OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

- **President – Elizabeth Benchley**
- **Vice President – Ramie Gougeon**
- **Immediate Past President – Paul Jones**
- **Secretary – April Watson**
- **Treasurer – Myles Bland**
- ***Directors:***
 - **Michael Arbuthnot**
 - **Barbara Hines Clark**
 - **Lee Hutchinson**
 - **Diane Kloetzer**
 - **Tom Pluckhahn**
 - **Donna Ruhl**
- ***Other Board Members:***
 - **Mary Glowacki – Ex-Officio**
 - **Melissa Dye – Newsletter**
 - **Diane Kloetzer – Webmaster**
 - **Nicole Grinnan – Membership Secretary**

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