

PENSACOLA
ARCHAEOLGOICAL
SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2020

TO SAY THESE ARE CRAZY TIMES IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT!

I will start the newsletter off with a sincere wish from everyone on the board that all of you are healthy and hope that continues. Wear those masks! Wash those hands!

The board met for the first time in a couple of months on July 7 and made plans for the future of PAS as well as tied up some loose ends.

One of those loose ends is the Bar-B-Q that we had to cancel. Barbara Wright, PAS President, will get in touch with those of you who have paid to discuss your options.

Chances are slim to none to expect face-to-face meetings for quite a while. We made plans to continue our lecture series on one of the media platforms to be determined. Stay tuned for more on that. Stay Safe. Jan Lloyd, editor

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT http://pasfl.org AND SEE US ON FACEBOOK.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

UWF and **FPAN ARCHAEOLOGY LABS**– are closed until further notice.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

The Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) conference in May was rescheduled for October 2020, but was ultimately cancelled. See the newsletter for refunds if you made advanced reservations.

Arcadia Mill Archaeological Site was closed from March 16-May 22. During that time the outdoor trails were visited by over 4000 people looking for a place to get outside safely. They are now open again only on Friday and Saturday. See their web site or FaceBook page.

Some of the museums in the Historic District are open for limited times. Check the websites for more details.

FPAN INFORMATION

The Florida Public Archaeology Network has canceled all public events until further notice. The office remains closed, but the staff remain at work and are available by email during business hours.

FPAN is continuing their "Zoom into Archaeology!" series during July. Enjoy from the comfort of your home!

Visit FPAN's newsletter online and website for more information.

LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS

Even during the pandemic UWF has managed a few special projects while using recommended social distancing guidelines, sanitizing equipment and masks.

Monitoring continues during utility upgrades throughout downtown Pensacola and UWF crews continue to see some amazing First Spanish, British and Second Spanish features such as trash pits and foundations. Plenty of 19th century features were also recorded.

UWF archaeologists have done 2 short testing and excavations jobs in the city right of way in the Luna settlement site area. One of these was in front of the old field house. The property sold and construction is beginning. Although much of the property was impacted when 2 houses were built 50 years ago, some 16th century material was recovered during the recent excavations in the right of way.

200th ANNIVERSARY- FLORIDA BECOMES A TERRITORY

July 1821 marked the beginning of Florida as a territory and some of the PAS lectures will focus on our Second Spanish Period and into that Territorial period. Through archaeology downtown, we have learned a lot about the people who lived in Pensacola during the last Spanish occupation here. You may be surprised to know many of them were NOT Spanish! Watch for the lecture schedule soon and learn to "ZOOM" if you have not already tried it!

HOW TO DO ARCHAEOLOGY DURING A PANDEMIC

UWF crews and archaeologists all over the world have had to change their ways to get the job done. Wearing masks, social distancing and sanitizing equipment have become a way of life in the field. There is a lot of using your own set of equipment and always having a supply of wipes or hand sanitizer in your pocket or pack. Work is underway always with the health and safety of the workers first. Wearing a mask outdoors when the heat index is over 100 degrees is not that much fun!

Students and faculty/ staff were sent off campus in March to work at home. Classes continued only on-line after spring break. Student lab workers researched special topics and produced PowerPoints that are a wonderful addition to our reference material in the lab. Summer was approaching, and we were really disappointed to miss out on another summer on the Luna settlement site, shipwrecks and more work at Naval Live Oaks. Field Schools 2020 were cancelled.

Lab work during the summer is usually slow because everyone is in the field, but not this summer! Well-trained lab workers were issued a Lab-At-Home lab kit and boxes of artifacts to process at home. The kitchen table became the lab table. They returned their collections every 2 weeks and got more. For an experiment, the results were fantastic! We processed many, many bags of artifacts.