



*Historical Happenings provides information on the USFWS Cultural Resources Management program. Information comes from sources such as the Regional Historic Preservation Officers, websites, new sources, as well as other cultural resource management professionals.*

*Issues are also available on the USFWS Cultural Resources website <http://historicpreservation.fws.gov>. Submissions are encouraged and can be made via email. Please contact Eugene Marino at [Eugene\\_Marino@fws.gov](mailto:Eugene_Marino@fws.gov) for submission guidelines*

## FWS Regional News:

### Headquarters

New CR Course to launch in October! A recently tested on line course is being finalized and will launch in mid-October. For more information contact Eugene Marino [eugene\\_marino@fws.gov](mailto:eugene_marino@fws.gov) To register go to DOI Learn

FY12 Cultural Resources Annual Report available! For a pdf of the report please visit [http://www.fws.gov/historicpreservation/publications/pdfs/FWS-018\\_Cultural\\_Resources\\_Program\\_Annual\\_Report\\_FY12-FINAL.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/historicpreservation/publications/pdfs/FWS-018_Cultural_Resources_Program_Annual_Report_FY12-FINAL.pdf)

### Region 1

Klamath Marsh holds WWII history. Check out an interesting article on this unique find here [http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130813/NEWS0107/308130346/1009/NEWS01&nav\\_category=NEWS01](http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130813/NEWS0107/308130346/1009/NEWS01&nav_category=NEWS01)

### Region 5

*Prepared by Austin Burkhard*

Since Hurricane Sandy struck the Eastern Shore last fall, shipwreck timbers and 150 year old artifacts (shoes, bottles, etc.) have been washing ashore on Chincoteague Island. These unusual findings prompted Lou Hinds, the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge Manager to hire an FWS archeological summer intern. Austin Burkhard, a sophomore double major in Maritime Studies and Anthropology at the University of West Florida, was hired to investigate the

findings. A major focus of the internship was directed towards the shipwreck timbers. It was decided that the shipwreck timbers, which vary in size up to seven feet, should be tagged.

A volunteer wreck tagging program was developed that would allow for the tracking of the wreckages' degradation and their movement over time. Austin contacted other shipwreck tagging programs, as well as other archaeologists regarding the program design. It appeared the weakest part of the current programs was the tag design. The tags that other programs used appeared to be degrading over time in the harsh UV and oceanic environments. This prompted Austin to contact his Marine Biology Department at the University of West Florida. A new Plexiglas tag was designed for the Chincoteague Wreck Tagging Program that was based upon tag designs from marine mammal tagging programs (figure 1).

In order to successfully track the tagged wreckages' degradation and movement over time, the wreckage must be well documented. Volunteers use the provided protocol, which gives instructions on how to properly affix the tags to the wreckage, and the Volunteer Reporting Form and Instruction Sheet, to record the initial data for a wreckage timber. If a tagged timber is later found, volunteers and the public can access Reporting Forms, via the QR code or URL located on the tag. This link allows the volunteers and the public to answer basic, but vital, questions that will allow archaeologists to compare the new data to the data originally provided with the Volunteer Reporting Forms.



Figure 1 Tag developed for the wreck tagging project

## Other Agency News

DOI—Steve Flory, Staff Curator with the Department of the Interior Museum Program, prepared an article for preserving cultural resources from fire. Read the article here <http://www.nps.gov/fire/structural-fire/>

### NPS Structural Fire Program Has Tips for Protecting Cultural Resources from Fire

The NPS Structural Fire Program’s “Prevention 52” educates and empowers all NPS employees to help prevent structural fires. The August web-feature focuses on protecting cultural resources in buildings. Here are their tips for ensuring that museum collections and building museum contents are considered during planning:

#### ***Schedule a walk-through with your local fire department annually.***

NPS policy mandates that every park advise local fire personnel "...of the locations and characteristics of cultural resources that could be threatened by fire and of any priorities for protecting them." The best way to carry out this important requirement is to invite your local emergency responders over for a visit.

#### ***Assess the safety of your facility with your emergency responders.***

Ask your emergency responders to assess the safety of your facility and make suggestions for any needed improvements. Acquaint them with the building’s layout, complete or update their pre-incident plan, and note any hazards or special considerations. Point out your highest priority items and ask how best to protect them during a fire. Show the firefighters everything; that way they can address all potential issues.

#### ***Help your responders access important areas in an emergency.***

Ask responders if they have any suggestions to make it easier to access or move around the structure in an emergency. Point out the locations of all hazardous materials, such as natural history specimens preserved in alcohol. The information will assist the department in creating a pre-incident plan for your building.

#### ***Arrange for training for your own staff.***

When you invite the fire department to the park, ask to conduct fire extinguisher training for park staff while they are onsite. Ask questions when the firefighters visit; don't be shy when you can learn from the experts.

#### ***Incorporate structural fire safety into park routines.***

- Make sure that all rooms and cabinets housing hazardous materials are identified with required signage.
- Use reflective high visibility tape to mark storage cabinets that house priority items to be evacuated in an emergency.
- Take five minutes at the end of each day to do a quick safety check. Are all aisles and exits clear? Is rubbish properly disposed of? Are sensitive and/or fragile museum objects that you've been working with put away?
- Find out what fixed fire protection systems are in place, if they are complete, and annually inspected, tested and maintained.

#### ***Involve park staff at all levels in structural fire safety.***

The involvement of park management is critical for success as it demonstrates the importance of fire safety at the park. Involve the building and utilities management staff, Park Structural Fire Coordinator, Chief of Cultural Resources, Superintendent, and Chief Ranger in the entire process - from planning to inspection to facility tour.

### **NPS—New Webinars Posted on NPS Archeology Program Website**

Recordings of archeology webinars held in May 2013 have been posted on the NPS Archeology Program website. New webinars are Research at Fort Vancouver NHS, with presentations by Robert Cromwell, Doug Wilson, and Beth Horton; Research in Parks, with presentations by Karen Mudar, Stanley Bond, and Pei Lin Yu; The Northwest College Field School at Bighorn Canyon NRA presented by Chris Finley; and Recent Excavations at Harpers Ferry NHP

presented by Darlene Hassler Godwin and Justin Ebersole. The last two webinars were presented by the 2013 Cotter Award winners. Mudar gave an overview of NPS guidance soon to be released about coordinating cultural resource management and fire-related activities, Bond discussed petroglyph research in Hawaii, and Yu shared insights for recognition of children's activities in the archeological record. Beginning in September, the NPS Archeology Program will offer the 2013 webinar series, focused on advances in geophysical technologies for locating and documenting archeological resources.

To view the webinars, go to <http://www.nps.gov/archeology/tools/webinars.htm>

## Legislative News

The Society for American Archaeology's monthly governmental update has been restructured to contain three sections: (1) domestic issues, reported by the Governmental Affairs Committee (GAC); (2) international issues, reported by the International Governmental Affairs Committee (IGAC); and (3) a section devoted to analysis and opinion by the SAA president or his/her designee.

SAA president Jeffrey Altschul reports that earlier this year, House Majority Leader Rep. Eric Cantor (R-VA) argued that Federal funding for social science research should be curtailed, with the funds diverted to support medical research. Cantor's speeches were followed by Senator Tom Coburn's (R-OK) amendment to the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, which prohibited NSF from funding political science research unless a project promoted the national security or economic interests of the U.S. More recently, Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman of the House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, requested information on five specific grants in the social sciences, including access to the scientific/technical reviews, so that the committee could evaluate whether NSF was adhering to the agency's intellectual merit guidelines. Archeology grants were not included, although grants in anthropology were among those chosen to be reviewed.

NSF's budget has been cut 5 percent by the sequester. Much of the cut will be felt in future awards. In the NSF Archeology Program, it is expected that the number of awards will be reduced to between 80 and 90 percent of those made the previous year. Every attempt is being made to maintain the Doctoral Research Improvement Grant Program so that there will not be a decrease in these awards. The cuts, then, will fall heavily on senior grants. The Archeology Program has chosen not to reduce each grant 10 or 20 percent, but to reduce the number of total grants awarded.

## Training, Upcoming Events, Education, and News

### Historical Photographs Wanted!

The Society for History in the Federal Government (SHFG) is pleased to announce a new relationship with the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

(NARFE). SHFG will sponsor a section in NARFE's monthly newsletter entitled "The Way We Worked." The feature will highlight a historical photograph of federal government employees at work and we are asking our membership to supply the photographs. We are interested in historical photographs showing a variety of federal work throughout history.

The requirements are:

- high resolution scans (at least 300 dpi) <http://www.shfg.org/3>
- public domain
- includes a short caption describing the photo and (if possible) how that work is being done today
- photo credit

We will also include the name and agency of person who supplied the photograph.

Please email a scan of the photograph with caption and credit information to Jessie

Kratz: [jessie.kratz@gmail.com](mailto:jessie.kratz@gmail.com)

To read this and other Prevention 52 features, go to <http://www.nps.gov/fire/structural-fire/prevention52.cfm>

### Park NAGPRA Program Offers Training

The Park NAGPRA program, in cooperation with the Pacific West region NAGPRA program, is offering training about the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) at Kaloko-Honokohau NHP in Kailua-Kona, Hawaii. Park superintendents, resource managers, archeologists, curators, and other staff with NAGPRA duties are invited to attend. The training, scheduled for September 10-11, 2013, provides a comprehensive overview of NAGPRA, and prepares participants to respond to inadvertent discoveries and plan for intentional excavations as prescribed by the law. A portion of the training will focus on issues of special concern to Hawaii and the Pacific West region; an optional tour of the park is planned.

Topics include, but are not limited to, NAGPRA basics; collections (inventories and summaries); intentional excavations and inadvertent discoveries; culturally unidentifiable and unclaimed; tribal consultation; evaluating repatriation requests (claims); transferring control/custody; the Kennewick Man case; and reburial on park lands.

There are no fees or tuition for the training. To register, log in to [DOI Learn](#) and search for *NAGPRA in the Parks* (Course Code=NPS-CRS3401). The deadline for registration is August 21, 2013.

**Contact:** Mary S. Carroll, Park NAGPRA Program, (303) 969-2300

### **SAA Offers Seminar on Laser Scanning**

On September 17, 2013, at 11 a.m. EDT, SAA will launch its new online seminar series with a presentation by Dr. Rachel Opitz, RPA, on *Archaeological Applications of Airborne Laser Scanning*. Registration is on a first-come, first served basis and will remain open until all 25 seats are filled. The Group registration option enables one registered user to invite an unlimited number of participants to view the presentation from the same physical location. All participants will receive a certificate of completion from SAA. Individual price is \$99.00; Group price is \$135.00.

SAA online seminars are designed to provide continuing professional development opportunities to student and professional archaeologists and will be offered on a wide range of high-interest topics from September through May each year. Instructors are RPAs and top scholars in their field. All seminars are certified by RPA for Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits.

Additional online seminars will be announced soon, including a series of *free, member-only* seminars. Check SAAweb frequently for the latest offerings.

**Contact:** SAA at 202-559-5709  
or [onlineseminars@saa.org](mailto:onlineseminars@saa.org)

### **Archeological Resources Protection Training Program**—The Federal Law

Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) presents this thirty-seven hour class which provides training in all aspects of an archeological investigation and subsequent prosecution of the crimes. This premier class is taught by accomplished instructors that are nationally recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. The class cumulates in a twelve-hour archeological crime scene practical exercise where law enforcement officers and archeologist work as a team to investigate and document a crime scene. Attendees will gather and process physical evidence, write incident reports, executive summaries, search warrants, damage assessments, and provide testimony in a courtroom scenario.

This 37-hour course is taught by accomplished instructors who are nationally-recognized subject matter experts in the fields of law enforcement, archeology and law. Enrollment is limited to federal or state law enforcement officers, archeologists and prosecutors.

The next course is: TBA

### **Volunteers and Friends News**

Data from the FY12 Volunteer report notes that 56,133 volunteers contributed 2,155,300 hours to FWS. 26,304 of those hours focused on Cultural Resources activities.

There are a number of activities at the Cathlapotle plankhouse. For information on these events take a look at [www.plankhouse.org](http://www.plankhouse.org)