Highlight of the Quarter: Orange County Historic Cemetery Recording Project (OCHCRP)

Currently, a project is underway in Orange County to begin recording as many historic cemeteries as possible. Cemeteries are being recorded by volunteers marker by marker, and Historical Cemetery forms will be submitted to the FMSF. The goal of the project is to make the information available to local college students and other researchers who wish to conduct historic cemetery research in the East Central region, as well as the rest of Florida. One volunteer will be using the information gathered on marker material type to examine commodity flow and choice in these historic cemeteries. A Facebook page for the project was started by Kevin Gidusko, who has supervised all aspects of this project, during the quarter.

Progress on Work Plan Objectives

Education and Outreach
- Finished Archaeology of Okeechobee lecture series in Okeechobee IRSC campus
- Supported Florida Archaeology month with Pine Island kayak trip, participating in Florida Living History Festival, and Battle of Okeechobee reenactment school day
- Participated in the XFDig450 up in St. Augustine
- Provided a talk for Divers Direct in Orlando
- Offered GPR assistance with West Central’s Rosewood project
- Delivered programs to schools in Ocoee, Okeechobee, Sanford, and Cocoa
- Served as judge for Florida History Fair
- Hosted three CFAS meetings and assisted in finding new venue for lectures

Assisting Local Governments
- Attended Brevard Historical Commission meetings
- Supervised volunteers for the Orange County Historic Cemetery Recording Project
- Met with Sons of Union Veterans and Wekiva State Park managers to discuss lost cemetery and future memorial

Administrative
- Finished office set up for Merritt Island office, grand opening with reception will be in May