Dynamic Borders: May is Georgia Archaeology Month

Every year in May the state of Georgia celebrates and promotes preservation and stewardship of its hidden archaeological heritage. This statewide archaeology awareness has grown over the years since its creation in 1994. The Society for Georgia Archaeology (SGA) serves as the primary sponsor of Georgia Archaeology Month. Cosponsors include state agencies, private firms, and non-profit and professional organizations.

The SGA theme for Georgia Archaeology Month 2016 is Dynamic Borders: The Archaeology of Cumberland Island. On Thursday, May 12 Georgia’s Governor will officially proclaimed May as Georgia Archaeology Month in a celebration of the signing of the proclamation (see Page 3 for more information). Every year the Archaeology Month theme is the focus of the SGA’s Spring Meeting, which will be on May 20–21 in St. Mary’s and Cumberland (see Page 3 for more information). Along with these other events SGA Chapters and other organizations partake in activities ranging from lectures and presentations, to Artifact Identification Days to bring awareness to Archaeology Month.

As a chapter of SGA, Gwinnett Archaeological Research Society (GARS) along with Fort Daniel Foundation (FDF) will be experiencing Archaeology Month by promoting public archaeology at Fort Daniel on Saturday, May 14 beginning at 10AM. The theme for Open House is Dynamic Borders: The Creek Indian War and Settler Incursions continued on Page 2
Around Hog Mountain. This theme has been adapted from the SGA Dynamic Borders idea. Visitors at Fort Daniel’s Open House will have the opportunity to learn about the dynamic and often hostile relationship between the pioneers of the area and the local Creek nation that contributed to the 1813 Creek Red Stick War (See GAB IV.7 pp. 2, 4).

Local Boy Scouts working on the Archaeology merit badge (as pictured below) will also be participating. Hands-on activities will include assisting in archaeological excavations under the supervision of professional archaeologists, participating in laboratory demonstrations, and viewing exhibits from previous research. A special dig unit and pottery reconstruction will be offered for younger children. This is the perfect chance for participants to learn about the exciting process of archaeology and gain firsthand experience and to attain a primer history on the 1813 Creek Red Stick War and Fort Daniel’s role.

This program is part of the FDF’s mission to teach the value of our cultural heritage through training and mentoring students, providing public archaeology opportunities, and maintaining a field laboratory and field museum. These are the foundational elements of a public archaeology program. Over the years FDF has received great support from the local community and has received several local, state, and national awards for its preservation efforts.

Along with GARS other SGA chapters and organizations are participating in Archaeology Month. Some of these events are:

⇒ New South Associates Archaeology Day on Saturday, May 7 from 10AM to 2PM. Make prehistoric pots, craft a basket, hear a storyteller, learn about stone tools, and throw an atlatl. Free to the public! New South is located at 6150 E Ponce de Leon Avenue, Stone Mountain.

⇒ Archaeology and Artifact ID Day at Etowah Indian Mounds Historic Site (813 Indian Mound Road SE, Cartersville). Celebrate Archaeology Month by bringing in your artifacts to be identified by professionals. Discover what archaeologists do and how they learn from artifacts. There will be various activities throughout the day. Program Fee: $2–6.

⇒ We ‘Dig’ History—You Can Too! Meet the Archaeologist at Rome Area History Museum (305 Broad Street, Rome). Visit the museum to meet archaeologist Dave Davis. Learn about the adventures of an archaeologist as well as the methods behind a dig. Bring your own artifacts for identification or analyze the treasures inside the museum through an archaeologist’s eyes. Discover the history of early Native Americans in northwest Georgia as you tour the museum. Free to the public!

⇒ Ocmulgee Archaeological Society’s Indian Artifact ID Day at Fort Hawkins (Emery Hwy, Macon). OAS will be identifying local Georgia Native American artifacts for the general public. Free to the public!

For other Archaeology Month activities please visit the SGA Web site.

Public outreach is a critical link in encouraging awareness of archaeology and a sense of stewardship for our state’s archaeological sites. For this reason the month of May in Georgia celebrates preserving its history through archaeology. ■
SGA wishes to invite you to join in celebrating Georgia Archaeology Month by attending the official proclamation photo op with Governor Deal. The Georgia Archaeology Month Proclamation Signing/Photo Op will be held on Thursday, May 12 at 10:30 AM in the Governor’s Office of the Georgia State Capitol. Please meet at the Capitol on the first floor outside the Governor’s office before 10 AM. (All adults must show a photo ID upon entering the building.) Aside from metered parking around the Capitol, visitors also have the option to park in several lots near the Capitol. For more information on parking and directions, as well as accessibility and security, visit the following: http://gov.georgia.gov/faq or http://www.libs.uga.edu/capitomuseum/tours/faq.html. If you are interested in attending, please email Delana Gilmore by Monday, May 9, so that she can give a head count and let them know who to be looking for prior to the photo.

Gwinnett Historical Society (GHS) will be meeting on Monday, May 16 at the Historic Courthouse in downtown Lawrenceville beginning at 7 PM. Guest speaker Valerie Craft will be speaking about DNA. For more information please visit the GHS Web site.

Celebrating History at the Gwinnett Environmental and Heritage Center (GEHC) will be on Saturday, May 21. Hands-on activities will highlight each of Gwinnett’s historic sites and feature activities like archaeology, writing with a quill feather, listening to stories, and participating in artwork. For information visit the GEHC Web site.

Military Timeline at the Atlanta History Center (AHC) will be on Saturday, May 28. Spend the day traveling the military timeline from the Revolutionary War to current conflicts. Meet veterans who share personal stories and memorabilia from wartime and living history interpreters that engage visitors of all ages. Also enjoy self-guided tours of Veterans Park using smartphones to access recordings of stories shared by those who served the United States Armed Forces. This program is free to members; included in the cost of general admission for nonmembers. For more information please visit the AHC Web site.

Lab Coats and Libations Cool Chemistry of Ice Cream will be on Friday, June 10 at GEHC. What does a history happy hour with a splash of science taste like? The evening will feature a short history lesson about Georgia’s agrarian past while participants get hands-on with history in the lab as they make (and taste) homemade ice cream. This program promises to be a fun, adult evening and will surely satisfy your taste buds. Don’t miss this opportunity to get your geek on while enjoying an ice cream infused adult beverage. This program is for ages 21 and older. There is a program fee of 15 and $10 for GEHC members. For information visit the GEHC Web site.

Juneteenth Celebration at the Atlanta History Center will be on June 18 and 19. This two-day family program focuses on the appreciation and commemoration of the end of slavery in the United States. Guests explore the themes of freedom and family history through activities, immersive museum theatre performances, and crafts. This is a free admission weekend at Atlanta History Center during hours of operation. For more information please visit the AHC Web site.

MEMBERSHIP FEES:
If you would like to join or renew your GARS membership, please contact John Hopkins; and for FDF membership please contact Betty Warbington.
GARS News

- Since many GARS members will be partaking in Archaeology Month activities, **there will NOT be a GARS meeting this month.** The next meeting will be in September. Keep an eye on the Facebook page and your email for news and activities that might interest you during the summer.

- On April 13, in recognition of Georgia’s signer of the Declaration of Independence Button Gwinnett, Georgia Gwinnett College (GGC) held an all-day program that featured several speakers: President Jamil Zainaldin, Georgia Humanities Council, whose presentation was entitled, “Sharing Stories that Move Us and Make Us: Helen Lewis and Clarence Jordan”; Archivist Shane Bell, National Archives of Atlanta (Morrow, Georgia) who spoke on “Collections and Opportunities” at the Archives, and GGC Provost Lois Richardson who presented the Georgia Gwinnett College Preservation 2016 Award to Dr. James D’Angelo in recognition of the Fort Daniel (pictured right).

  In his remarks Jim pointed out how much of the information we now have about the historical context of Fort Daniel—including details about its construction, the construction of Peachtree Road and Fort Peachtree, and the construction of and successful trip of a keel boat supply vessel, which came from a fortuitous discovery of documents at NARA that had recently been made available.

  In the afternoon session, there was a GGC Core Values Panel Presentation by the GGC Honors Program. Panel participants included the GGC Faculty member, Dr. Maria Lumpkin, Mayor Judy Jordan, Representative Pedro Marin, and Gwinnett County Commissioner Charlotte Nash.

Fort Daniel News

- **There will be no Archaeology Lab Days at Fort Daniel this month due to Archaeology Month activities.** You can still visit the Archaeology Lab at the Fort Daniel Open House on Saturday, May 14.

- On May 17 during a luncheon in Athens, The General John Baytop Scott Chapter of US Daughters of 1812 will present both the FDF and GARS with the Spirit of 1812 Medal, which is the highest honor the US Daughters of 1812 can give. If you are wishing to attend the luncheon with Jim D’Angelo and John Hopkins, please email John as soon as possible for details.

- FDF Vice President Catherine Long and Board of Directors Beverly Paff and Paul Willis have been at work putting together a Teacher Workshop Event (K–12 teachers) at Fort Daniel. The Fort Daniel Foundation and Gwinnett County’s District 1 Board of Education have just announced “Ft. Daniel: Resources in Our Own Backyard,” a hands-on training from staff at Fort Daniel, which will be held for two days this summer on June 6–7.

  Teachers will be involved in learning a brief history of the site; getting hands-on experience with archaeological techniques and excavation, and laboratory procedures; review of AKS and curriculum standards with proposed new standards; and writing lessons to incorporate into their classroom. Teachers can register through the Alvin Wilbanks Instructional Support Center now!

- Mark your calendar: **The next Frontier Faire Planning Meeting will be on Saturday, June 4 at 2:30pm in the Fort Daniel Meeting Room.**

Page 4 Gwinnett Archaeology Bulletin
The work of the Fort Daniel Reconstruction Feasibility Study is all but completed. Based on preliminary concept drawings done by architect Chad Smith and Jim D’Angelo, which were based on plans from the Fort Foster and Pritchett’s Fort (see GAB V.4 April 2016), noted hewn-log construction experts, Hearthstone Inc., submitted a detailed and very favorable cost estimate for construction and erection of the proposed fort.

Jim also met with Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners Chairman Charlotte Nash and City Manager Phil Hoskins to discuss the future of the Fort Daniel Historic and Archaeological Research Park (see concept art right) in light of both the fort reconstruction proposal and new developments regarding expansion of the Park through purchase of adjoining lots. One additional lot is in the process of closing; purchase of the final parcel is still under negotiation.

Chairman Nash outlined the park planning process that would be followed from here on once the third parcel is purchased—pointing out that Gwinnett County has been very consistent over the past 20+- years in the development of individual park master plans for properties acquired for Gwinnett County parks. At a point where the County desires to create a vision and plan for park property, they begin the master plan process. Typically, Gwinnett County Parks and Recreation staff initiate the process by selecting/contracting with a third party consultant to work with its staff and develop the plan.

A key component is public input. A kick-off public meeting is held to receive both written and verbal comments from County residents. They also form a citizens-steering committee from applications taken at the public meeting. The size of the committee varies, but generally, there are 15–25 citizens on this committee. They meet for several months (including touring County parks/facilities or, in some cases, they visit locations outside the County), and the end result is a recommended master plan for the park. They also use the same process for significant changes/renovations to existing parks.

The citizens-steering committee then presents their findings to the Gwinnett County Recreation Authority. The Recreation Authority is a nine-person advisory board to Parks and Recreation, and their members are appointed by the Board of Commissioners. The presentation to the Recreation Authority is also a public meeting, and residents can, again, provide their input. The Recreation Authority provides the final recommendation to the Board of Commissioners.

The Foundation Officers and Board of Directors will meet in May to discuss this and other business. It is expected that they will approve a final feasibility study report—including the Hearthstone report and Chad Alexander’s final draft of the concept drawings—to be submitted to the County for future reference.

“All good things come to those who wait.”
Though it is Archaeology Month in Georgia, nationally May is Preservation Month, and this year the National Trust of Historic Preservation is celebrating with three words that say it all: This. Place. Matters. Everyone has places that are important to them. Places they care about. Places that matter. This Place Matters is national campaign that encourages people to celebrate the places that are meaningful to them and to their communities.

This campaign isn’t just about photography. It’s about telling the stories of the places we can’t live without. Through This Place Matters, the National Trust hopes to encourage and inspire an ongoing dialogue about the importance of place and preservation in all of our lives.

The National Trust believes that Preservation Month is an excellent opportunity to shine a spotlight on all the special places that are important to you. To help celebrate the National Trust is sharing some tips and tricks so you can take your This Place Matters campaign to the next level this May. Follow the steps below to get started:

- Download your This Place Matters materials including signs, social media shareables, and a campaign toolkit.
- Take photos at the places that matter most to you.
- Share your photos online with the hashtag #ThisPlaceMatters.
- Stay tuned to @SavingPlaces on Instagram and Twitter as we spotlight our favorites.

You can tell others in your community which places matter most to you, and the National Trust will help to tell the world!