

The Education Department has been busy. Jason Fratti, a history major at Florida Atlantic University, interned with me this past summer. Jason researched agricultural history in Palm Beach County for the development of a new trunk for the Traveling Educational Trunk Program. The new agricultural trunk is generously supported by a grant from Bank of America.

In preparation for the new school year, the Historical Society made two presentations in August during the teacher's pre-school week. At Seminole Ridge High School and the Kravis Center, I highlighted all the education programs the Historical Society and the Johnson History Museum offers.

For school year 2010-2011, the Historical Society distributed its History of Florida tabloid to over 7,850 fourth grade students at 65 elementary schools.

Our other tabloid, Palm Beach County History and Civics, went to approximately 14,000 seventh graders. The Palm Beach County Bar Association sponsored the

Civics tab this year.

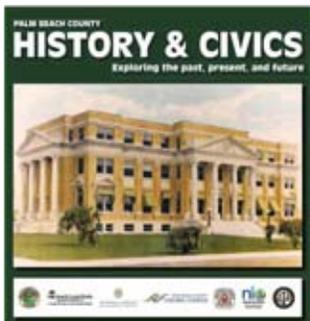
On October 9, we launched our first public program, the Scarecrow Festival. Thanks to the efforts and leadership of the volunteer Scarecrow Festival committee of Shelley Garcia, Janet Murphy, Christina Kramer, and Monique McCall, the event was a great beginning for the new season with over 425 parents and children attending the festival.

Our next public programming event, with a maritime theme, will be on January 23, 2011, on Peanut Island.

The Historical Society partnered with the Florida Public Archaeology Network to hold a teacher workshop entitled "Archaeology in an Hour." On October 16, 21 teachers attended the class held at the Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties. Dr. Michelle Williams and Sarah Nohe from FPAN led the discussion and activities about archaeology. Following that, I talked about the jewelry worn by ancient Floridians. The teachers then made olive shell necklaces and feather holders.

For the future, we are working on the agricultural trunk, a Holocaust trunk with the School District of Palm Beach County, an architectural tour of the 1916 county courthouse which will be added to the list of tours offered at the Johnson History Museum, and a self-paced docent-training course.

Richard A. Marconi is Curator of Education and has been on staff with the Historical Society since 2002. In 2001 he graduated *summa cum laude* from Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history. Marconi is co-author of Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series: *West Palm Beach 1893-1950* (2006) and *Palm Beach* (2009); co-author of *Palm Beach County at 100: Our History; Our Home* (*The Palm Beach Post*, 2009); and producer and co-writer of the Historical Society's documentary "Puddle Jumpers of Lantana: The History of the Civil Air Patrol's Coastal Patrol 3" (2007).



Above left: New cover of the Palm Beach County History and Civics tabloid; lower left: one of the scarecrows entered in the Scarecrow Contest; lower right: teachers excavate a chocolate chip cookie during the teacher workshop.