Greetings from your ACUA Graduate Student Liaisons! We hope that you all are having a great fall semester! We love hearing what students from all over the world are up to. In this edition, we have some fascinating articles on different approaches to working with underwater cultural resources in the USA and a short blurb about the ACUA student panel at the upcoming SHA conference in Boston 2020. Thank you to everyone that continues to share their stories and reading our student newsletter!

Remember, we are always looking to highlight student research and projects! Simply email grad-rep@acuaonline.org. We will be more than happy to share your photos and stories on the ACUA Facebook and Instagram. Hope to hear from you soon!
Over the last fifteen years, Diving With a Purpose (DWP) has exposed recreational scuba divers to the field of maritime archaeology and coral reef restoration. The organization, comprised mostly of citizen scientists with a keen interest in preserving marine cultural and natural heritage, has trained more than 300 divers and certified 46 instructors. But Diving With a Purpose serves as more than just a recreational activity for amateur divers. Each summer the organization maps shipwrecks for the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary to better assist NOAA in their conservation efforts and works with the Coral Restoration Foundation to outplant endangered coral on local reefs.

DWP has a particular interest in the protection, documentation and interpretation of African slave trade shipwrecks and the maritime history and culture of African Americans. Outside of the summer training program, DWP members have been instrumental in assisting with the documentation and commemoration of maritime sites related to African American history. DWP Lead Instructor – and former President of the National Association of Black Scuba Divers (NABS) – Kamau Sadiki has been involved in documenting the Clotilda slave shipwreck in Mobile, Alabama. Following up with that endeavor, members of DWP and NABS facilitated a Discover Scuba training for local youth in Africatown to expose them to the possibilities of diving.

DWP Lead Instructor Erik Denson has spearheaded efforts in Lake Huron to document and commemorate the plane crash of Tuskegee Airman, Lt. Frank Moody. Frank Moody was just one of many Tuskegee Airmen who trained over the Lake Michigan before deploying to Europe during World War II. While Moody tragically lost his life during the training, his story provides a more complete narrative of the Tuskegee Airmen and the histories that lie at the bottom of the lake. Additional DWP projects have received national attention with the completion of a National Geographic documentary (https://youtu.be/u2I_EugvRw8) and a recent Washington Post article on the Youth Diving With a Purpose (YDWP) program (https://wapo.st/2mAkEM1).

Recently, DWP has been actively recruiting and training young archaeologists in the practice of maritime archaeology and survey methodology. In the summer of 2019, Dr. Ayana Flewellen (postdoctoral fellow at UC Berkeley), joined the Board of Directors and while Justine Benanty (PhD student at Leiden University), became a Lead Instructor. 

DWP students working on coral restoration in Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Photo credit: Diving With a Purpose.
Additionally, archaeology graduate students Gabrielle Miller (PhD Student, University of Tulsa), Alex Chavez and Silvana Kreines (both MA students at University of Haifa), have consistently participated in the program.

In June 2020, Diving with a Purpose will return to the Florida Keys to map the “Hens and Chicken Wreck”. The week-long program will consist of several presentations on ship construction and shipwreck site formation. Participants will then practice the basics of underwater mapping on land before applying their skills underwater over three days of diving. Finally, the sketches will be revised and compiled onto a final site map.

Applications are now available for those interested in participating with DWP’s archaeology pro-

gram or coral restoration program in Key Largo, Florida. For younger dive enthusiasts, DWP also has a youth program targeting youth ages 16-23. For those in Islamorada, Florida, before the end of the year, be sure to stop by the History of Diving Museum for a complete exhibit on the history of Diving With a Purpose.

Special thanks to the current and former instructors of Diving With a Purpose as well as Brenda Altmeier and Matthew Lawrence from NOAA.

For more information on how to donate or participate visit https://divingwithapurpose.org/.

- Justin Dunnavant, Vanderbilt University justin.p.dunnavant@vanderbilt.edu
Savannah, Georgia, is a beautiful and historic city lying directly beside the busy Savannah River. From the mid-eighteenth century and into the nineteenth, Savannah grew exponentially. It became a large port city, situated only a few miles inland from the Atlantic Ocean.

The maritime culture that thrived during that growth has instilled itself in memories and customs still found in the city today. It can be seen in the landscapes left behind, like lighthouses, bridges, anchors, and canals. These are all objects that have direct connections to the maritime culture of Savannah. Other material culture includes the marinas that held the vessels, forts built to protect Savannah from naval attacks, plantations which relied upon the tide to flood their fields, and ballast stones taken from ships to construct buildings and roads in the city. Apart from physical objects, cognitive aspects that reflect how maritime culture impacted thought are also present. Items such as: engravings on headstones dedicated to those who passed at sea, names of creeks and rivers that were important to shipping or ship-making, and monuments and statues focused on honoring those connected to maritime life.

These maritime objects are important to understand Savannah’s background and history. While many of these objects and landmarks are interpreted to educate the public regarding their historical significance, they lack the context of the maritime cultural landscape they are a part of. However, properly interpreting these objects as part of a maritime cultural landscape presents a problem. The majority of these artifacts are immovable landmarks, owned by separate organizations and impossible to bring together into a single place.

While a physical location is impractical to bring together these objects, an online location is perfect. Listing these objects and their importance to the maritime cultural landscape online allows most people to have access to the information anywhere. With these advantages in mind, Dr. Kurt Knoerl and I undertook the task of compiling a list and beginning to create a website to contain it. The finished project took the form of an online interactive map built through the Esri Storymap builder. Completely accessible to the public, the map contains information gathered by students in Dr. Knoerl’s Spring 2019 Maritime Archeology class at Georgia Southern University. The map is simple to use and provides basic information regarding maritime related sites across Savannah. A list of all the sites gathered to date reside on the websites home tab. From there it is easy to sort through them using other tabs that sort by site type.
Some well-known objects listed on the map are the Tybee Lighthouse, Fort Pulaski, and the famous Waving Girl Statue that still greets ships that come into the Savannah port. Lesser known sites are the numerous anchors that are scattered across Savannah, tidal plantations that were once the life blood of Savannah’s antebellum economy, and gravesites linked to maritime culture at Bonaventure cemetery. Some objects listed are not interpreted where they stand, meaning that their history is slowly fading. Our project gives them new life and ties them to the larger view of Savannah’s history. Already, the Savannah Maritime Cultural Landscape Map has been recognized by the City of Savannah and placed on their website as research that benefits the city.

As we identify and research new landmarks that are important to the maritime culture found in Savannah, the map will continue to grow to include sites that otherwise would not be marked. For now, the Savannah Maritime Cultural Landscape Map serves as a guide to maritime objects in Savannah. The map is still in the early stages of development, but there are ideas for the future, like a walking tour to guide you through significant maritime objects in the popular downtown area. Hopefully in time the map can take on new forms and possibly give more information regarding the sites and objects that are an important part of Savannah’s maritime history.

Link to map: [http://www.themua.org/MaritimeSavannah](http://www.themua.org/MaritimeSavannah)
- Alyssa Saldivar, alyssazcs@gmail.com

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**UPCOMING Conferences**


**IKUWA7: 7th International Congress for Underwater Archaeology, 2-5 June 2020. Helsinki, Finland.**
Call for papers will be open 1 April 2019 - 28 August 2019. https://www.helsinki.fi/en/conferences/7th-international-congress-for-underwater-archaeology.