



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 23, No. 2 March/April 2012

A 501(c)3 Corporation and Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society

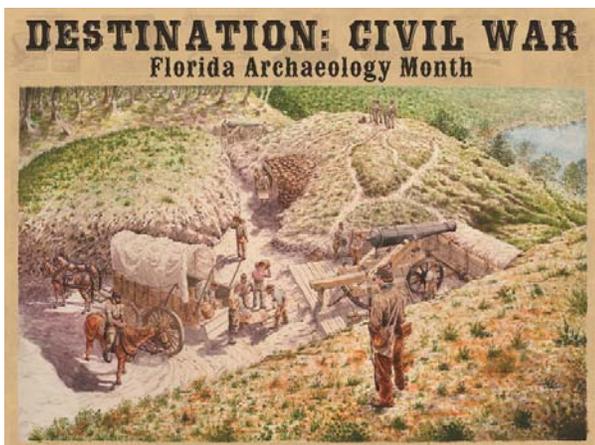
The Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society meets the second Tuesday of the month (except June-August) at 7:00 PM, at the North Port United Community Church of Christ located at 3450 Biscayne Blvd. Meetings are free and open to the public.

FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH IS HERE!

March is Florida Archaeology Month and this year's theme is the Civil War. The double-sided FAM poster has a depiction of a Civil War earthen fort on one side and a historic map of Florida on the reverse side, with educational information on Florida's role in the war. Most folks don't know about Florida's role in the Civil War (1861-1865). Well, I guarantee you will know much more after our March 13 meeting, reading the informational material to be provided at the meeting, seeing our NLP exhibit, and attending our March 11 field trip to Gamble Plantation State Park (see page 8, FAM Field Trips).

MARCH 13 MEETING PRESENTATION ON THE CIVIL WAR SHIPWRECK USS *NARCISSUS*

We are pleased to welcome Mike Terrell, Dive Safety Officer with the Florida Aquarium and Underwater Archaeologist on the Tampa Bay *Narcissus* project. He will present "USS *Narcissus*: Then and Now" at our March 13 meeting. With a grant from the state, Florida Aquarium researchers are taking a look at what is on the bottom of Tampa Bay. Aquarium Underwater Archaeology Team Leaders Casey Coy and Mike Terrell are working with the project's principal investigator and marine archaeologist Dr. Billy Rae Morris to find out what lies beneath Tampa Bay.



Mike Terrell to speak on USS *Narcissus*



FAM 2012 poster reverse side

"People will be shocked to find out what's under the water," said Morris. "We know there are several Civil War era shipwrecks in the waters around Tampa, so we'll be looking for those first." One of their exciting finds is the USS *Narcissus*.

The USS *Narcissus* was a steam tug brought into Union service during the Civil War. She was used during the battle of Mobile Bay and eventually as a troop transport towards the end of the war. On January 4, 1866, the *Narcissus* ran aground on Egmont Shoals at the mouth of Tampa Bay, destroying the vessel and killing all hands on board. Now, the remains of the ship have become an artificial reef which has been nominated to become Florida's 12th underwater archaeological preserve.

The Florida Aquarium has been working on several projects in Tampa Bay over the last several years and the *Narcissus* project is their most recent. Mike Terrell had been with the Florida Aquarium through the Aquarium's Tampa Bay projects and is also the Dive Safety Officer at the Florida Aquarium.

Mike obtained his undergraduate degree in Underwater Archaeology from Indiana University. He has been teaching scuba since 1998 and has been working as an occupational scientific diver since 2002. He has worked on archaeology projects in the Dominican Republic, Florida Keys, Tampa Bay, and Little Salt Spring.

This program will fit right in with Florida Archaeology Month's theme, so come and join us, and pick up your FAM poster, bookmarks, and Civil War Heritage Trail booklet (see next page for details). Another meeting you won't want to miss!

For more info and events on FAM go to <http://flpublicarchaeology.org/FAM/>

FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH EXHIBIT AT NPL

Visit the North Port Public Library to see the Civil War theme exhibit designed and set up by WMS/LSSAS members Judi Crescenzo, Lorraine Hawkins, and Judith Ribarick. The double-sided case features Civil War period photographs, books, clothing, artifact reproductions, and more. Included are authentic flags of the Union and Confederacy, provided by Lorraine Hawkins. Period clothing is on loan by S. Jaret West, North Port resident and Civil War reenactor



Judi Crescenzo, Lorraine Hawkins and Judith Ribarick Set up the Civil War exhibit at the North Port Library



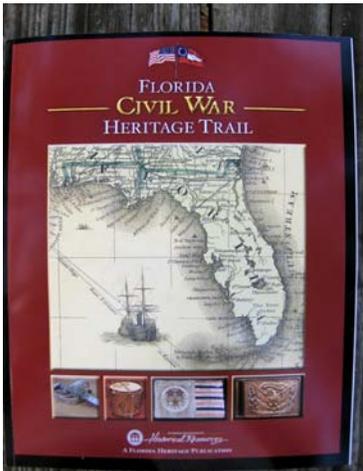
One side of the double-sided case set up for FAM at NPL



Side two of the double-sided case set up for FAM at NPL

FLORIDA CIVIL WAR HERITAGE TRAIL

Thanks to the Florida Association of Museums and the Florida Division of Historical Resources, we can provide to our members and guests at our March 13 meeting their latest publication, Florida Civil War Heritage Trail, an



absolutely spectacular 80-page booklet on Florida's role in the Civil War, which includes a historic timeline, maps, photographs, illustrations, specific stories on regional events, historic places throughout the state, and historic Civil War period sites in Florida that can be visited. Thanks Judi for acquiring!

FAUNAL ANALYST DR. ARLENE FRADKIN TO SPEAK APRIL 10 ON HISTORIC NEW SMYRNA (1766-1776)

Archaeologist and faunal analyst Arlene Fradkin, Associate Professor at Florida Atlantic University will be the speaker at our April 10 meeting. Her topic, "Britain's Ambitious Florida Venture: Turnbull's Smyrna Settlement (1766-1777)."



Dr. Arlene Fradkin

Established by Dr. Andrew Turnbull, a Scottish physician and entrepreneur, the Smyrnéa settlement was an agricultural enterprise that existed from 1766 to 1777 during the British occupation of Florida. Turnbull recruited approximately 1,100 indentured servants from the Mediterranean island of Minorca along with an additional 300 from Greece, Italy, Corsica, and Turkey. Within the Smyrnéa settlement, the developing cohesion of these various Mediterranean groups over time eventually led to the emergence of a distinctive "Minorcan" cultural community on the Florida frontier. Although common geographic origin, intermarriage, and common religion were major factors contributing to this melding of cultures, the sharing of anxieties and hardships, especially chronic food shortages, also was a significantly strong unifying force. Analysis of the zooarchaeological assemblage from the Turnbull Colonist's House site, the first residence to be discovered, indicates that British food supplies were insufficient and that the colonists took the initiative in obtaining additional protein by fishing and hunting locally available wild food resources (From Fradkin's abstract).

This is just the beginning of an intriguing story told through historic documentation and archaeology. Come to the April 10 meeting and learn more!

WET SITE ARCHEOLOGY DISCUSSED AT FEBRUARY 14 MEETING

Judi and John Crescenzo

We welcomed Dr. Robin Brown at our February 14, 2012, Valentine's Day meeting for a presentation on the

"Incredible Preservation of Florida's Wet Sites," including sites at Windover, Warm Mineral Springs, Little Salt Spring,



Dr. Robin Brown, holding a reproduction of a ceremonial shark's tooth atlatl and club, accepts our world famous WMS/LSSAS t-shirt from Vice President Judith Ribarick.

Marco Island, and the Aucilla River, with a discussion on the Vero mammoth. Each of these sites contains preserved artifacts in remarkable condition from which we can learn about the lives of early people in Florida.

The Windover site near Titusville in Brevard County is a mortuary pond from the Early-to-Middle Archaic period made up of 7,000-year-old muck from the Early Archaic period. The muck where the burials were discovered is anaerobic and gelatinous, so it contains no oxygen and protects the bones and artifacts. A karst layer under the muck produces acid, which inhibits the growth of bacteria and gives this ideal preservation media a neutral pH.

In the early 1980s, developers were clearing the site for a residential development, and human bones were discovered. FSU archaeologist Glen Doran and a team of archaeologists and students were called in to investigate. They first drained the pond so it could be excavated. Discoveries include a skull showing trauma on the right side, which would have ruptured the temporal artery and caused a quick death. Another skull shows a serious skull fracture that became infected and caused death. The skeleton of a 14-year-old boy with spina bifida and holes in his tibia proves that early people cared for him from birth. MRIs of skulls with human brain tissue, like those found at Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring, show that although the brains have shrunken, they retain a clear anatomy. One DNA study by the Max Planck Institute in Germany suggests that early people at Windover have no descendants among Native American people. Five different weaving styles were found at Windover and preserved

though the use of a freeze dryer and polymer-vaporization system.

The two cenotes, Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring, where evidence of late Pleistocene remains have been found, are also important wet sites. Retired Air Force Colonel Bill Royal first explored both sites and contacted archaeologists and geologists to investigate. Some of the first to dive with him in the springs were University of Florida archaeologist John Goggin, marine biologist Eugenie Clark, and others. Carl Clausen dove into Warm Mineral Springs in 1971 as Florida's first State Underwater Archaeologist; he then turned his attention to Little Salt Spring. In 1975, Clausen discovered the giant tortoise with a mulberry wood stake driven into it at on the 27 m ledge at LSS. The stake was dated to 12,030 radio carbon years before present (RCYBP). Sonny Cockrell, the second State Underwater Archaeologist, followed Clausen at Warm Mineral Springs and worked there in the early to mid-1970s. He recovered the 10,200 RCYBP Paleoindian burial, as well as a giant sloth and saber cat, and worked through the mid-to-late '80s and early '90s with an annual appropriation from the state, administered through Manatee Community College and Florida State University. Currently no archaeological research is being conducted at WMS, but Dr. John Gifford and Steve Koski of the University of Miami are continuing efforts at Little Salt.

Key Marco was explored in the 19th century by archaeologist Frank Hamilton Cushing. His team dug a trench and bailed out the water to drain the site. Discoveries include a deer head and an 800-year-old rope made from sabal palm. Fish bones were found in shell mounds. It was learned that early nets had the same design and mesh size as modern mullet gill nets.

The Marco site revealed additional artifacts used by the Calusa 700–800 years ago. In 1896, painted masks made of gumbo limbo and mahogany were found. Black-and-white photos were taken upon discovery and an artist completed paintings of the masks. The masks have since deteriorated because preservation methods at that time were lacking. Future work at this site is not possible because Marco has been completely developed.

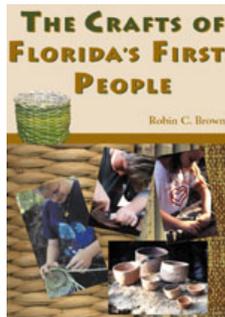
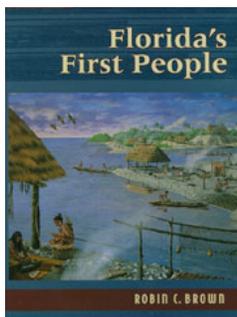
Over the past 40–45 years, the Aucilla River site in northern Florida has revealed early Pleistocene remains. The team worked from a raft in the river to discover a mastodon tusk with chopped vegetation around it. The size of the chopped vegetation was matched to the size of mastodon teeth. Through a study of epithelial cells, the diet of mastodons was also determined.

So what has been learned through these discoveries?
1) Thread, cord, and rope were made from palm and yucca

for at least 7,000 years. 2) Florida had skilled weavers 7,000 years ago. 3) Bone, teeth and tools of adornment were crafted since people arrived in Florida. 4) Shark-teeth knives could carve ceremonial objects of wood, bone, and ivory. 5) Natural pigments were a durable means to decorate wooden masks. 6) Archaeobotany and zooarchaeology reveal the diet of hunter-gatherers and when agriculture began in Florida. 7) Studies of human brain-tissue DNA will provide new information on disease, kinship, and patterns of migration.

At the close of his presentation, Dr. Brown noted that James Kennedy, an amateur collector, recently found a bone with the incised image of a mammoth on it. Various tests at the University of Florida, including energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy, scanning electron microscopy, rare-earth element analysis, and studies by a forensic anthropologist have thus far authenticated the image. According to University of Florida archaeologist Barbara Purdy, if authentic, this image is "the oldest, most spectacular work of art in the Americas." It is estimated at about 12,000 years old.

Many thanks to Dr. Brown for sharing his knowledge at our Valentine's Day meeting!



Two of Dr. Brown's books; *Florida's First People* and *Crafts of Florida's First People*.

JANUARY 10 LSS PRESENTATION AND EXHIBIT AT SCF WELL RECEIVED MEETING

Judi and John Crescenzo

On January 10, 2012, Dr. Gifford, University of Miami Associate Professor and Director of Research at LSS, presented "Sunken Treasures of Little Salt Spring" at State College of Florida, South Venice/North Port Campus. The meeting was co-hosted by the University of Miami, State College of Florida, and the WMS/LSS Archaeological Society. A table-top exhibit of Little Salt Spring specimens and artifacts from the 27 m ledge and basin was also set up by Steve Koski with help from WMS/LSSAS members and UM students who were on site diving the first two weeks in January. The event was also presented at the Selby

Library in Sarasota the following evening. Over 100 persons attended each event and both were very well received. More than 75 persons signed up for site visits, which are currently being scheduled and conducted.

The presentation opened with a short video titled "LSS—Portal to America's Prehistoric Past," filmed by David Porfiri of Mind Flow Media in 2008 during the 27 m ledge work funded by National Geographic. The 27 m ledge research has continued for two-to-three weeks each summer, with science divers and financial support from the Florida Aquarium. New discoveries include bones of a 12,000-year-old giant tortoise and ground sloth in the same area where Clausen found the tortoise and 12,030-RCYBP-old stake. A charcoal fragment found associated with the bones dated to 12,300 RCYBP, demonstrating the antiquity of the deposits; however, no artifacts were identified in 2008. During 2009 research on the north side of the 27 m ledge, where two additional giant tortoises are being excavated, another apparent wood stake was identified and recovered less than a meter from one of the tortoises. It, too, was found to be made from red mulberry, but dated about 2,000 years later than the original found in 1975. Plans are to continue with another field session in July of 2012, pending funding. Significant discoveries at LSS will substantially contribute to our knowledge of Florida's first inhabitants.

After the video, Dr. Gifford presented a brief description of the area 12,000 years ago. When sea level was 300 feet lower and the spring was in the middle of Florida, the climate, plants, and animals were very different from today. At that time, the spring was an important source of fresh water for animals and humans. An old theory states that people walked to North America via ice-free corridors after the end of the last Ice Age.



WMS/LSSAS President Dr. George Haag thanks Dr. Gifford.

A more recent theory contends that there was a Pacific coastal route traveled by boat, so people could have lived in Florida prior to 12,000 years ago. A 15,000-year-old site recently discovered in central Texas lends credence to this new hypothesis. The first visitors to the Americas may also have had multiple entry points through the ice corridor, as well as along the coast on boats island hopping.



UM graduate students stationed the four table exhibit at Selby Library January 11, 2012.

The Paleoindian period in Florida was approximately 12,000–9,500 RCYBP, so items from that time period may remain undiscovered at the spring. People would have left the spring about 6,000 years ago because the sea level rose and fresh water would have been available elsewhere, making the site less attractive because of other resource-productive areas.

Some artifacts recovered from the spring to date include the tip of a projectile point (probably a Tallahassee point from 10,000 years ago), two deer vertebrae, part of a deer jaw, a carved wood tool shaped like a Lacrosse stick, many other wooden tools, two antler hammer, and a bone pin dropped in the spring about 9,000–10,000 years ago. An oak tool of unknown function, a bird bone bead, an incised deer antler atlatl, and a deer antler with 28 hatch marks (perhaps a primitive counting device or calendar) were also found. So far, the only other artifacts with 28 markings have been discovered in Europe. A greenstone pendant quarried in North Carolina indicates that there was trade among early people at the spring.

In the upper basin at the 40-foot area, wooden stakes dating 10,250–10,750 calendar years before present have been discovered. A 10,500-year-old pine stake was found at the 45-foot drop-off. Because sea level was lower at that time, forest animals may have fallen off a cliff into the spring.

The main area of the spring is a cavern, where Pleistocene vertebrate remains from the end of the last Ice Age have been discovered. The 27-meter ledge revealed bones from 15–20-foot-tall giant ground sloths that browsed like giraffes. A mastodon bone was also found in this location. In 1990, 200-foot-deep several cores were drilled, uncovering a bone from an extinct camel.

Dr. Gifford also shared another video of a recent dive to the 90-foot ledge. A synthetic mixture of gases was required so that research divers, Dr. Gifford and Steve Koski could remain underwater longer. Artificial lights and full-face masks, donated by the Florida Aquarium, enabled divers to communicate. Large blocks of stone had fallen into the spring 12,000 years ago and had to be moved. These efforts represent the most advanced pre-history underwater archaeology in the world.

At the close of the presentation, attendees were invited to view numerous artifacts from Little Salt Spring on display at the front of the room. Information about the University of Miami's plans to construct a research and education facility at the spring was also provided.

Thanks to all who helped for both events; students, members, and guests, you were a tremendous help!

2012 WMS/LSSAS ANNUAL MEETING

The slate of officers will be read and voted on at the opening of our March 13 meeting. Slate of 2012 officers and board members include: President, George Haag, reelect; Vice President, Judith Ribarick, reelect; Treasurer, Kate Cattran, reelect; Secretary, Hilda Boron, reelect; Membership Secretary, Linda Massey, reelect; Board members: Judi Crescenzo, John Crescenzo, Bob Duney, Lorraine Hawkins, Sandra Heacock, Steve Koski, Carol Myers, Bob Strayer, Mary Williams, and Wilburn Cockrell, honorary.

We want to thank Ann Hansen and Steve Jesecko for their many years of service as board members and Ann's role as raffle and tee-shirt-sales coordinator.

YARD SALE ANOTHER GREAT SUCCESS!

Another year, another successful yard sale! February 18 was a long day for all members who helped with this year's yard sale. \$1,480 dollars was raised for the Society, our second-best year yet! Thanks to all who collected, stored, priced, rented and drove the 26' U-Haul, loaded, unloaded, set up, sold, then helped pack. All items not sold by 12:30 were donated to the Lemon Bay High School Booster Club, which came with several members to help pack, load the U-Haul with our tables, and clean up, for which we are grateful.



Chaos was the theme for this year's yard sale (not really).

WMS/LSSAS AND TIME SIFTERS COLLABORATE ON AN EVENT AT VENICE BEACH

SHK

Our yard sale was not the only thing happening February 18. Venice also celebrated its 85th anniversary at Venice Beach. Food vendors, sharks tooth hunts, fossil booths and displays, paddle-board lessons, and other events were held on this beautiful day from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

After Steve dropped off the yard-sale stuff and unloaded the 26' U-Haul truck at 6:30 AM at the Warm Mineral Springs Motel, he headed off in his truck to Venice Beach, loaded with archaeological materials for their event. Even though it was February, it could really be considered an Archaeology Month event as Steve and crew passed out about a hundred 2012 Florida Archaeology Month posters that he picked up in Gainesville at the Florida Anthropological Society board meeting the weekend before, and gave out more than 100 of last year's FAM posters. Both were a huge hit! They also distributed about 75 WMS/LSSAS newsletters.

In the morning, George Guy and Steve set up a tent and two tables provided by the city of Venice for items and info, then set up three 1x1 m excavation units on the beach and dug two about 10 cm deep. They then set it up with a midden scatter, depressional hearth, shell and stone tools, and a large ceramic rim sherd to replicate an archaeological feature that might be encountered during an excavation. They then demonstrated the process of documentation by actually mapping the features on graph paper while folks asked questions on the process. Artifact reproductions, an atlatl and shafts, books, and other items were available for viewing. They also had several framed FAM posters from other years, as the Society has framed almost all the posters from previous years.



John Crescenzo (center) at Venice Beach February 18 (Other participants not pictured).

At noon, WMS/LSSAS members Sandra Heacock and John Crescenzo arrived, as did Time Sifters Archaeological



Sherry Svekis and George Guy at Venice Beach.

Society president Sherry Svekis. That relief gave Steve a chance to head back to North Port to pick up the U-Haul, unload the tables, and take the truck back to the rental place, where Lorraine Hawkins followed him, picked him up, and took him back to his truck so he could head back to Venice to pick up the event materials. Luckily, the volunteers had most of the material packed up and ready to take off the beach and load in the truck.

Venice Beach has some very significant archaeology as well. Steve's first visit to Florida was in 1985 as a graduate research assistant with his professor Dr. Reynold Ruppé



A reproduction of two 1x1 m units at Venice Beach for their 85th Anniversary celebration

from Arizona State University on a National Science Foundation funded project off Venice Beach. They conducted a remote-sensing survey from the shoreline out about three miles looking for drowned terrestrial sites. Dr. Ruppé worked at Venice Beach during the summers of 1973-75 after the late Col. Bill Royal showed him the near shore site in 1971, a surviving underwater remnant of a midden, while he was in the area working on the 10,200 RCYBP burial at Warm Mineral Springs with Sonny Cockrell.

Venice once had an 18' mound and midden less than a quarter mile north of the public beach where a freshwater spring once flowed that supported a village site. The midden extended more than 450 m south along Venice Beach from the mound and was backed by a marsh. The mound was destroyed and removed to build a motel sometime in the mid-20th century and the shoreline midden eroded as the shore regressed, leaving only an underwater remnant. The earliest evidence of visitation in the immediate area goes back 9,000 years with a find of a late Paleoindian Bolen point. Underwater pottery finds as old as 3,000 years had been recovered from the near shore.

Ruppé estimated the midden and mound was occupied sometime during the Perico Island Period c. 300 BC to AD 500 (now called Manasota Period). A radiocarbon date of $1,981 \pm 85$ RCYBP was recovered from the underwater component by Ruppé in 1974. Koski also did some limited mapping and underwater excavations at the site in 1986,

while on vacation from his work assisting Sonny Cockrell at Warm Mineral Springs. Koski dated one of 53 underwater wood stakes he found at $1,700 \pm 70$ RCYBP, and another date came from a charcoal feature at $2,940 \pm 80$. A decorated sherd recovered by a local diver indicated a Weeden Island component, c. AD 300 - AD 1,200 (Ruppé et. al, 1980, Bureau of Historic Sites and Properties, Bulletin No. 6; Koski 1988, Underwater Archaeology Proceedings from the Society For Historical Archaeology Conference, Reno, Nevada 1988).

FAM FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULE FOR MARCH

Saturday, March 10, 2012: the **Randell Research Center** will host their annual **Calusa Heritage Day**. This is always an exciting event for the public, held from **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, and includes the participation of numerous archaeologists, speaker programs, food, craft sales, atlatl throwing, site tours, boat tours, native plants, storytelling and more. This year's keynote speaker is Dr. Karen Walker on "Calusa Climate" at 3:00 PM. The Randell Research Center is located at 13810 Waterfront Drive, Pineland (Bokilia). Take Burnt Store Road in Punta Gorda and go south to Pine Island Road, take a right on Pine Island Road through Matlacha and right on Stringfellow Road, then go about five miles and take a left on Pineland road and go 1.6 miles, around the corner at the bayfront to the parking lot. The sponsor is requesting \$5.00 per person for the event, free for RRC members. For more information call 239-283-2062 or go to <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/rrc/>.

Saturday, March 11, 2012 (by Lorraine Hawkins): Field trip to the **Gamble Mansion Historic State Park**. Experience an authentic Civil War encampment at the Gamble Plantation Historic Park from **10:00 AM to 4:00 PM** at an annual event sponsored by the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Judah P. Benjamin Chapter, and the Florida Park Service.

Live Civil War era weapons, period costumes, uniforms and Civil War field equipment, as well as early craft demonstrations. There will be music, food, and free tours of the Gamble Mansion and the Patten Home.

Gamble Plantation Mansion was constructed prior to the "Civil War" on land claimed by Major Robert Gamble of Tallahassee to establish a sugar plantation. The original land accumulated almost 3,500 acres and was producing large amounts of sugar. However, fortune did not favor his efforts. Natural disasters and a fickle sugar market drove him into debt by 1856. He sold the plantation in 1859.

In the meantime, at the end of the Civil War (1865), the US Government ordered Confederate Cabinet Members arrested. Judah P. Benjamin, Confederate Secretary of

State, was a close advisor of Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Benjamin fled Richmond, Virginia, in April 1865. Posing as a Frenchman, he headed south with a bounty on his head. He made it through Georgia and finally reached the Gamble Plantation on the Manatee River, where he was welcomed by Capt. Archibald McNeil—also a wanted man because of activities as a “blockade runner” during the Civil War, taking food and supplies to Confederate troops. Benjamin stayed in the front upstairs bedroom of the Gamble Plantation where he could watch for approaching Union ships on the river. He was then smuggled to Sarasota, to Havana, Cuba, and on to England, where he was admitted as a barrister to the bar of London.

Back to the Gamble Plantation: the building in itself is worth seeing. The outside walls of the building are almost two feet thick. The building was set in a way to catch the trade winds of the area. The verandas wrap around the Mansion, which helps to keep it cool during the hottest months of Florida. It is the only surviving antebellum (built before the Civil War) mansion in South Florida.

In 1872, the land and mansion were sold by forced sale to Major George Patten for \$3000.00 (back taxes). The Pattens abandoned the mansion to avoid the high cost of maintenance of the aging and decaying house. Thus, we have the “modern house” the Pattens built on the land. By the 1930s, the vacant mansion was in a state of ruin. In 1925, the Judah P. Benjamin Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy purchased the property and deeded it to the State of Florida as a historic site. From I-75, take exit 224. Head west for 1 mile on U.S. Highway 301. The address is: Gamble Plantation Historic State Park, 3708 Patten Avenue, Ellenton, FL 34222; Phone (941) 723-4536.

March 17, 2012: Time Sifters and New College will host their third annual **Archaeology Fest** at New College Public Archaeology Lab. To get there, take I-75 north to University Parkway, go west toward Sarasota to US 41, cross 41 to Bay Shore, go right on Bay Shore about a mile around the corner, take a left into parking lot and to the Public Archaeology Lab. I am sure you will see signs and cars directing you where to go.

April 14 -15, 2012: This may be too late for an FAM event, but this field trip has a Civil War theme. The **Florida Railroad Museum**, 12210 83rd. St. East, Parrish will have a Civil War Re-enactment event from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Train rides will be at 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. Come early to visit the authentic Civil War period camp ground before boarding your train. The camp grounds open at 10 AM, and admission to the camp is free. Learn about the camp and

the soldiers who occupied them during this period of our country's history. After your tour through history, join us onboard the train for a battle between the Confederates and Union soldiers. Train ride is \$18 for adults and \$13 for children under 12 to ride the train. For more info go <http://www.frm.org/index1.php>. There will be a sign up sheet for those who may want to car pool, but his will be a go on your own field trip.

Saturday, April 21, 2012: We are planning a field trip to the **Crowley Museum and Nature Center** located at 16405 Myakka Road, Old Myakka City, FL. Hilda and George recently went for a Civil War reenactment and thought it would be an interesting field trip. This 190-acre preserve contains a three-mile nature trail that winds through five unique habitats: high and dry pine flatwoods, a shady oak hammock, and over-the-maple branch swamp. The trail leads you out to the edge of the expansive Tatum sawgrass marsh along the Myakka River and ends at the pioneer history area. The long boardwalk and observation tower are ideal for viewing native plants and wildlife, such as bald eagles and migratory birds. The trail's easy and pleasant walking conditions are suitable for people of all ages and abilities; closed-toe shoes are recommended.

Visitors can pick up a self-guide booklet for the trail to learn about the native flora and fauna found here. The pioneer area includes a pioneer history museum, pioneer cabin, blacksmith shop, working sugarcane mill, the restored Tatum House (one of the oldest examples of rural architecture in Sarasota County restored to its 1892 appearance), and the one-room Tatum Ridge Schoolhouse (dating to approximately 1906).

Head east on Fruitville Road to the end. Take a right on Myakka, bearing left on Hancock Road until you see the entrance sign for Crowley on the left. We will meet at the North Port Library at 8:45 AM for a 9:00 AM departure.

Saturday, March 24, 2012, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, a historic event will be held at the **Venice Train Depot** for their 85th anniversary. The event will feature new exhibits, a ribbon cutting at 10:00 AM, historic-group booths, the red caboose will be open, model-railroad display, food and fun.

FAS ANNUAL MEETING

The 64th Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society will be held May 11–13 in Tallahassee. This year's meeting will be hosted by the Panhandle Archaeological Society at Tallahassee (PAST). The theme for this year's event is “Forever Changed, La Florida” to spotlight and highlight the significance of Florida's Spanish colonial heritage, beginning with Ponce de Leon's 1513 landing and ending when Florida became a territory in 1821.

The meeting will be held at Mission San Luis, a Florida mission-period property owned by the state and now a National Historic Landmark. For more information on events, motel accommodations, and registration, go to www.fasweb.org.

A SAD LOSS WITH PASSING OF ACTIVE WMS/LSSAS MEMBER AND FORMER SOCIETY LIBRARIAN

It is with great sadness that I must announce the loss of an active member and former WMS/LSSAS Librarian Carolyn Ann Cox Rexroad Lehmann, who passed away in Berlin, Germany, October 25, 2011. Carolyn was a pleasant, helpful and active member who took over our library several years ago when Lucile Lewis could no longer participate, and she brought us into the 21st century by updating and digitizing our library list and helping to make our books more accessible to our members. She and her husband Dieter attended many of our meetings, events, and field trips, and always had kind and pleasant things to say and contribute to the Society.



Carolyn Lehman

Carolyn was also known for her many talents and insatiable interests, resulting in many achievements in the fields of natural history and archaeology. She loved to travel and was happy living for more than 25 years in

different locations overseas where her curious, tolerant, and sensitive personality gave her the opportunity to build many lasting friendships with people from all over the world.

Carolyn is survived by her husband of 37 years, Dieter Lehmann of Punta Gorda, and Kristin Loel Rexroad Bikos, her daughter from her first marriage to USAS Major and Vietnam casualty Loel Franklin Rexroad of Clarks, WV, and Kerstin's husband Michael Thomas Bikos, both in Babb Montana. Carolyn was cremated in Germany and her remains were brought to Florida, where, at her request, there were no services.

Thanks for all your contributions and friendship, Carolyn; we know you are missed by all those who knew you.

2011 OFFICERS

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