



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 24, No. 2 March/April 2013

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 Community United Church of Christ located at 3450 Biscayne Blvd. Meetings are free and open to the public.

BIOARCHAEOLOGY OF FLORIDA ARCHAIC POPULATIONS TOPIC OF MARCH MEETING

Bioarchaeologist Maranda Almy Kles will be the speaker at the March 12 meeting of the WMS/LSSAS.

Her topic, "Interpreting the biological variation of Florida's Archaic populations — Where do Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring fit?"

Biological-distance analysis can provide valuable insight into the migration and interaction of populations within a region. There are several Archaic burial sites in Florida, such as Warm Mineral Springs, Windover Pond, Little Salt Spring, Republic Groves, (Cont. p. 2. Bio. Arch.)



Maranda Almy Kles

UNDERWATER CAVE AND SPRING EXPLORATION TOPIC OF APRIL 9 MEETING

Notable local cave diver and explorer extraordinaire Curt Bowen, publisher of *Advance Diver* magazine, will be the speaker at the April 9 meeting of the WMS/LSSAS.

Curt has explored thousands of springs, sinkholes and caves in the last 25 years in North, Central and South America with his team of courageous explorers, and has video- and photo-documented his finds and experiences in an underwater world seldom seen by the general public or open-water divers.



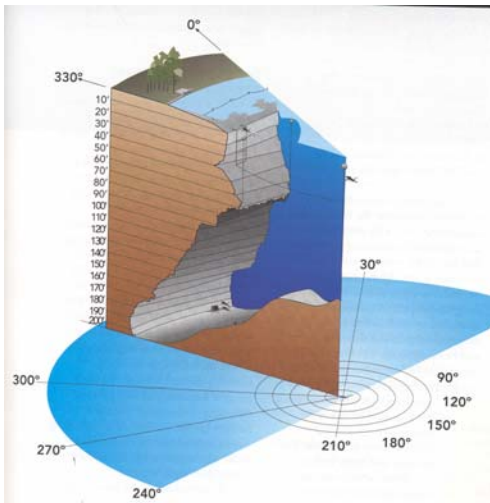
Cave Diver Curt Bowen at Phantom Cave in west Texas

The astonishing discoveries have captured the attention of many television networks, including National Geographic, The Discovery Channel, and Animal Planet.

It is a highly technical and potentially dangerous field that few attempt to enter, and those who do, do so with considerable risk. Being thousands of feet in a cave with only one way out and a limited supply of air is what they do, in the name of exploration and science.

In 1996, Curt was the Team Coordinator and Cartographer for the Warm Mineral Springs Survey Project. Taking more than two years to complete, they methodically mapped the depths of Warm Mineral Springs, including the geothermal cave at 220 feet below the surface—the very cave originally explored by the late Bill Royal in the late 1950s—where millions of gallons of water enter daily through a fissure at the back of the cave at 95° F.

Join us as Curt and his ADM team present the best of the best of their fascinating discoveries in high-definition video and stunning photography.



Profile of WMS at 330° to 0°

BIO ARCH (cont. from p.1)

Bay West, and Gauthier, which show similar mortuary practices, suggesting a shared ideology and probable cultural/social relationship. However, the biological relationships of these people are poorly understood. This presentation will highlight some of the analysis and interpretation of the biological variation and biological distances of these Archaic populations to better understand how these populations related to each other, focusing on the relationships of the Warm Mineral Springs and Little

Salt Spring populations.

Her academic focus is forensics and bioarchaeology, and her current research examines the biological and cultural relationships in the Native American populations that inhabited pre-contact Florida.

Ms. Almy-Kles is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Florida. She was born and raised in the Sarasota area. She worked as a Death Investigator for a medical examiner's office and currently teaches undergraduate courses in biological and forensic anthropology at UF.

This will prove to be another exciting presentation you won't want to miss, combining Florida prehistoric Archaic populations in comparison with remains found at Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring.

JANUARY 27 ANCIENT WATERS CELEBRATION TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

By Jodi Johnson and Steve Koski

The Ancient Waters Celebration was held on January 27th under the big top at Warm Mineral Springs and was a wonderful success. The event was the Third Annual Social of the Historic Preservation Coalition of Sarasota County, hosted by the WMS/LSS Archaeological Society, Friends of LSS, and the management at Warm Mineral Springs. The Coalition is made up of 23 local public not-for-profit organizations and government agencies in Sarasota County which are committed to historic preservation.

The event also served as a fundraiser for the WMS/LSSAS and FLSS, and 75% of all proceeds were dedicated to help fund the analysis of the archaeological faunal and botanical specimens from Little Salt Spring. The three-hour-long afternoon celebration took place overlooking Warm Mineral Springs and was a sold-out event with 112 attendees, who included Sarasota County Commissioner Christine Robinson, several members of the History and Preservation Coalition, several members of the Sarasota Historical Commission, as well as many other guests. Hors d'oeuvres were donated and served by Publix and a lovely dinner was served by the Evergreen Café. Guests gathered under a large party tent to enjoy the guitar music of Jud Carpen to the backdrop of two small cases of displayed artifacts found at Little Salt Spring and a wealth of silent-auction items generously donated by the community.

The event opened with a welcome and thank-you by Steve Koski and WMS General Manager Gene Vaccaro, followed by recognition of the many volunteers who helped



Ready to open the gates; fifteen tables set for the occasion.

(too many to list) and the sponsors who helped make the event such a spectacular success. Koski gave a brief opening presentation on the significance and research history of WMS, followed by Keynote speaker Dr. John Gifford on "Archaeological Mysteries of Little Salt Spring," outlining his 20-plus years of research at the site. The presentation included video footage of dives into both springs, while explaining the past, present, and possible future endeavors at the sites. Gifford's presentation was video documented by Curt Bowen and can be seen on Friends of LSS's Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfLittleSaltSpring>.

The event also served to commemorate University of Miami's Director of Research at LSS, Dr. John Gifford, who was honored for his outstanding research contributions to Florida archaeology through research at LSS. After his presentation, he was awarded a Certificate of Accomplishment, Achievement and Distinction "In recognition of his life-long unselfish commitment and dedication in the quest to understand our distant past through scientific exploration and archaeological research at Little Salt Spring." He was then presented with a beautiful replica of the green stone pendent made by Friends of LSS Secretary Bill Goetz, the original found at LSS in 2005. Mr. Goetz also made a green stone pendant for the raffle along with Roger Hostetler's reproduction of the Newnan point.

The Ancient Waters Celebration was the first major fundraising event put together by the Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society and Friends of Little Salt Spring and raised more than \$3,000. Through its overwhelming success we will be able to assist in funding the analysis of archaeological specimens recovered from LSS for co-authored publication, as well as ensuring future endeavors by both groups to work together collaboratively on research projects and in the preservation of our rich cultural heritage.



Hand crafted replica by Bill Goetz of the green stone pendent found at LSS in 2005 and raffled at the AW event.



Hand crafted replica of an antler handle stone knife manufactured by Roger Hostetler for the silent auction.

We would like to thank our raffle donors, Bill Goetz and Roger Hostetler; silent-auction donor, photographer Curt Bowen, *Advanced Diver Magazine*, for LSS light painting; artist Judi Cresenzo for her Mary's Chapel at Historic Spanish Point painting; artist Allain Hale for his Myakkahatchee Creek Bottom painting; Historic Spanish Point for *Journey to Centennial Sarasota* by Janet Snyder Matthews; lithic technologist Roger Hostetler for a reproduction of a bone-handle stone knife; New College student and WMS/LSSAS member Jodi Johnson for *Legions of the Seminoles* by Betty Mae Jumper; archeologist Steve Koski for two Safety Harbor Pottery Vessel prints by artist Theodore Morris and a Calusa print by artist Dean Quigley; diver Gary Rowe for the 4.1" shark tooth found off Manasota Beach; sculptor Jim Sears for his heron-bust wood carving; sculptor Chris Bowersox for his wood-turtle wood carving; author Clarissa Thomasson for the set of her three-historic-novels series; Stephanie Kendrick health consultant with Restorative Medical Center for certificate for nutrition consultation session; Warm Mineral Springs Management for annual pass to WMS and individual passes with each event ticket; and archaeologist Rachael Wentz for *Life and Death at Windover*. And thanks

to our sponsors! Platinum Sponsors: Publix Super Market and Venice Print Center for program printing. Gold Sponsors: Anchor Stitches Embroidery, 941-743-4770; J&B Upholstery, North Port, 941-423-2382; ROI Media, publishers of *North Port Magazine*, 941-257-4352; Turbine Weld, Jet Engine Repair, Venice, 941-485-5115; Warm Mineral Springs Motel, 941-426-4029; and Chef Ted Weinberger of the Evergreen Café at Warm Mineral Springs. AND an extra-special thanks to the Ancient Waters Planning Committee for pulling it all off!

WMS/LSSAS ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the WMS/LSSAS Society will be held at our March 12 general meeting. A brief "State of the Society Address" will be given, and the slate of nominations will be read and 2013 officers and directors will be voted into office. The slate reads President, George Haag, reelect; Vice President, Jodi Johnson; Secretary, Hilda Boron, re-elect; Membership Secretary, Linda Massey, reelect; Treasurer, Kate Cattran, reelect; Board members: John Crescenzo; Judi Crescenzo; Tena Docter; Robert Dunay; Lorraine Hawkins; Steve Koski; and Wilburn Cockrell, Honorary. We want to thank outgoing Vice President Judith Ribarick and board members Bob Strayer and Mary Williams for their years of dedicated service and participation. Hope to continue to see you at our meetings and events!

BLUEBERRY SITE IN HIGHLANDS COUNTY TOPIC OF FEBRUARY MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

On February 12, 2013, we welcomed back Dr. David Butler, who presented "Toward a Contextual Model for the Identification and Analysis of Bone Tools." His presentation was based on his ongoing research at the Blueberry site since his initial participation in 2005. The site is located on the Lake Wales Ridge on the shore of Lake Istokpoga in Highlands County, which Dr. Butler considers the South-Central Florida Region.

This 61-acre area is the site of a Belle Glade culture-period village with two earthen mounds and a sheet midden with intact features. It is the focal point of the Kissimmee Valley Archaeological and Historical Conservancy Public Archaeology Institute. Blueberry is not only centrally located, but also connects to various rivers leading north to Jacksonville and south to Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee River. Access to this centralized waterway system afforded early people a great deal of interaction



Dr. David Butler receives our world famous Tee-shirt from President Dr. George Haag

with others.

Bone tools are only one category of artifacts discovered at the site. Also uncovered were a metal tablet made of lead, which dates from a later period. Pinellas points and Belle Glade Plain pottery sherds with carbon residue prove that the site was in use long before and after the Europeans arrived. Evidence shows that older tools were still used at the Blueberry site when most native people were using European tools. The sheet midden was gradually built up by human activities over a long period of time, so the strata of the soil vary in chemistry and color. Archaeological efforts have shown that early people ate mostly aquatic species. The analysis of three hearths revealed 81% fish bones, with most of those being catfish. The site also contains the largest Belle Glade Plain assemblage of pottery in Florida.

Lithic artifacts have been found at the site, but they are not made of local stone. Because of the scarcity of local stone, inhabitants manufactured bone tools. Bone-tool analysis is similar to stone-tool analysis. Dr. Butler's research was based on three questions: What bone-tool types are represented in the Phase II assemblage? What is the correlation between environmental content and bone-tool use at the site? Is there a correlation between context and artifact categories, such as lithics and bone tools?

Tools produced were based on the environment and influenced behavior. Among the bone tools uncovered are pins, awls, pre-forms, points, point pre-forms, bi-points, fishhooks, splinter tools, and a flat weaving tool. A great deal of deer-bone debitage is also present. Bone-tool artifacts have revealed the various stages of completion.

Splinter tools made from split bones could have been used to gut or scale fish. Awl pre-forms have pointed ends, but sometimes one end had not yet been removed in construction of the tool. Awls were found in the hearths and could have been decorative hairpins or used to attach items to clothing. They could also have been used like chopsticks. Because caution must be used in deciding the possibilities for usage, all items have been weighed and identified for later clarification about usage.

Three carved-bone fish hooks were found. A bone pin with 45° angle on one end suggests it was used as a scraper. One flat, forked tool shows wear patterns that suggest it was a weaving tool. A carved bone point with a flute on one side and the natural shape of the bone interior on the other side looks like a Pinellas Point, which make up 80% of the points at the site. This item is actually a tool used to make a bone point, as it fits exactly with a bone point found nearby. At one time this may have been thought of as debitage, but it is a tool.

In conclusion, sourcing shows that raw material was acquired from the west-central and northwest central part of Florida. Dr. Butler's analysis indicates that lithic sources were distant, and bone tools were manufactured because bone was part of the local environment. Is this a random pattern? Does it exist at other interior Belle Glade sites or locations in similar environmental contexts in other regions? These questions require further investigation that will help to understand human-behavior patterns elsewhere.

In a most recent development, all artifacts and specimens recovered from the site over the years—over 12,000 items—have been donated to, and accepted by, the University of South Florida Museum of Natural History through negotiations between the owners of the site, Ann and Charles Reynolds, who have supported the research over the years, and the Museum. A great achievement in site stewardship, public archaeology, research and analysis, conservation, and curation.

As a follow-up to the presentation, members and guests have been invited to visit the Blueberry site **Saturday March 23, 2013**. We will meet at the North Port Public Library at 8:15 for an 8:30 departure. From Venice or Sarasota, go north on I-75 to SR 72 and east on SR 72 to SR 70 in Arcadia. From South County, go to Arcadia from I-75 south to Kings Highway to SR 72 to SR 70 to Arcadia, continue east on SR 70 to SR 27, go north on US 27 approx. four miles to CR 29, and we will rendezvous in the parking lot in the SE corner. There is a Sweet Bay supermarket there. A sign-up sheet and directions will be at the March 12 meeting. Thank you, Dr. Butler!

THE ANTHROPOLOGY OF AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES ON A ZANZIBAR ISLAND TOPIC OF JANUARY MEETING

Bu Judi and John Crescenzo

On January 8, 2013, Dr. Erin Dean, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at New College of Florida, presented "Gender, Genies and Genomes: Agricultural Expertise in Rural Zanzibar." She began her narrative by describing a spirit-possession ceremony in the Jongowe Village on the island of Tumbatu in Zanzibar, East Africa, where it is believed that sugarcane decorated with flowers attracts genies. During the ceremony, the men dance and drum, and women later join in. When the genie arrives, the dancers collapse, become violent, or stiffen and dance jerkily. An elder offers a tray covered with cloth to the genies and asks when the fields should be burned for planting.

It is traditional practice that women are farmers and men do the ceremonies, but these rituals have been challenged by modern technology. The area has been influenced by the Mideast and was once a sultan's quarters. The island can be reached by boat only, and electricity is new to the area. Fresh water is piped from the main island of Zanzibar, but because Muslims must bathe seven times a day, they must also catch water from rainfall. Structures are made from limestone, wattle and daub, with mud and thatch roofs. Houses surround the central square where ceremonies are performed.

The society is very gender-oriented, with men's and women's spaces and jobs. The men mainly fish, which takes them away from home for long periods of time; they return periodically to repair nets on the beach. Women stay in the village to farm, as crops provide most nutritional needs. Women also do some seine fishing near shore to provide protein. The larger fish caught by the men are sold for money to build houses.

There is an elaborate system of crop rotation, allowing for some fallow fields. Basically, six fields are farmed and left fallow alternately. Some fields are at a distance from the village. The plants fix nitrogen in the soil.

When male ritual experts hear the genies, they tell the women when to plant; the women accept this Muslim tradition, but they don't like male authority. A village agricultural agent, trained at a college, has clashed with the women on how and when to plant crops. He believes in the genies, but doesn't think they know what to plant in a field. Agricultural science considers only scientific data about



Dr. Dean receives our world famous tee shirt from President Dr. George Haag

planting, but the women follow tradition.

The women first burn the fields to bring nutrients into the soil and eliminate insects and snails; squash are then planted in the ashes. However, the agricultural agent believes this is a bad idea because burning removes vegetation and causes soil to leave. Farming is the women's domain, and because the agricultural agent is violating the women's space, they do not trust him.

In the 1960s Zanzibar Revolution, the village lost. Many people were killed, exiled or imprisoned, and those remaining remember this. The agent is from the current ruling party, and women politically favor the old government that was overthrown. The farms have become an expression of political resistance.

In 2009, it was rumored that a developer wanted to buy some property on the beach on the island. This land contains remains of a mosque, which was perhaps built by the first inhabitants of the island. It is also part of the traditional crop-rotation areas. To combat and claim the land, women began to plant there, which caused violent stone throwing between the women of two neighboring villages. In 2010, a unified government between the parties was attempted, and now women plant plots along the road to the beach so that no one can go there without being noticed. In this way, farming has become active resistance against the agents and politicians. Women continue to resist the technical; male elders summon genies, and women are told when to plant by the men. These traditional rituals come from mention of genies in the Qur'an and are a hybrid version of Muslim and African beliefs.

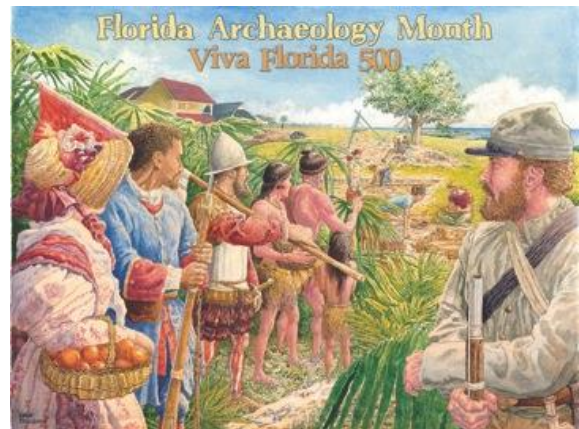
To save seeds during a conflict, women ate some of them and had to use money from the men's fishing efforts to buy new seeds. The village currently has 200 homes

with perhaps 400 residents. The mortality rate for children is very high. The beachfront property has not been sold, but this issue is in the courts because the government wants to buy the property for construction of a hotel.

Thanks go to Dr. Dean for her fascinating presentation!

MARCH IS FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH – VIVA FLORIDA 500!

The theme of Florida Archaeology Month 2013, Viva Florida, explores and commemorates the last 500 years of Florida history.



2013 FAM poster side one

Annually each March, Florida Archaeology Month celebrates our state's rich cultural heritage. Statewide programs offered throughout the month encourage exploration of our cultural heritage; visitation of our local archaeological sites, museums and historic properties; and participation in events to learn about the vast prehistory and history of our state. It is a heritage that spans more than 12,000 years, beginning with the arrival of the Paleoindian culture of the late Pleistocene when mammoths, mastodons, saber cats and other extinct creatures roamed our state; followed by the Archaic cultures of 10,000 to 2,500 that settled geographic areas of our state and developed into diverse regional cultures represented in the sites, features, and monuments found in the archaeological record and upon our landscape; extending into the historic period with the arrival of the first known Europeans to land on our shores with the fleet of Ponce de Leon in 1513; and with the historic developments of the following 500 years. For more information, visit <http://flpublicarchaeology.org/FAM/> and the Florida Division of Historical Resources at <http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/>. For additional information on Florida archaeology, visit the Florida



FPAN SW Central Region Director Jeff Moates and Associate Rebecca O' Sullivan delivered FAM posters to LSS for WMS/LSSAS; Sarasota County History Center Associate Leo Demski and Steve Koski accept the poster delivery.

Anthropological Society's website at <http://fasweb.org/>. There you will find information on local statewide FAS chapters like WMS/LSSAS. Free double-sided FAM posters will be available at the March meeting.

WMS/LSSAS YARD SALE HELD FEBRUARY 16

What a great day for the WMS/LSSAS annual yard sale!—a beautiful, partly cloudy day with comfortable temperatures and a light breeze. Members and Friends loaded the U-haul on Friday afternoon from two locations where items have been stored over the last few months, and Steve delivered the truck to the WMS Motel at 7:00 a.m. Saturday morning to awaiting Members and Friends, who unloaded everything and set items on 14 tables rented from the North Port Community United Church on Biscayne Blvd. By 7:45, folks were lining up to purchase items and at 1:00, the Lemon Bay High School Marching Band came with band members and parents with a trailer and helped pack, load, and remove all remaining items for their upcoming yard sale. They even loaded the tables back in the truck so they could be returned. By 2:00 p.m., no one could tell we had been there. Bless all who helped and the LHSMB! What a relief. Final total for all donations made for items: \$1,750 with about \$200 expenses!

We want to thank all those who donated items for the sale this year and other years, our crew of dedicated volunteers (too numerous to mention them all), the Warm Mineral Springs Motel, the North Port Community United Church, and the LB High School Marching Band for making this year's yard sale our best ever!



WMS/LSSAS volunteers at the yard sale

LITTLE SALT SLOUGH PRESERVE CLEANUP HELD FEBRUARY 23

By Steve Koski

On February 23, several members from the WWS/LSS Archaeological Society, the Friends of LSS, and People for Trees met at LSSlough Preserve to clean up abandoned refuse that had accumulated over the years. You've heard of Little Salt Spring, but you may not have heard of LSSlough Preserve, a five-to-seven-acre upland parcel with adjoining slough adjacent and to the northeast of Little Salt Spring. The 26-lot parcel, once slated for development, served as a resource procurement area and mortuary pond in the Middle Archaic period 6-8 thousand years ago. Through the local efforts of members of the WMS/LSS Archaeological Society of North Port, Time Sifters Archaeological Society of Sarasota, Sarasota County, and City of North Port, the land is now conserved and the archaeological resources protected.



WMS/LSSAS, FLSS, PFT, and Sarasota County at LS Slough

Members of the two societies met then-Sarasota County Commissioner John Thaxton to discuss their concerns about the development of this significant vacant and wooded property. He spearheaded the project and we brought it with a presentation before the County Commission, which agreed to pursue the acquisition of the property as a preserve and passive park. To date, Sarasota County has acquired 24 of 26 lots, with the assistance of the City of North Port in the acquisition of one of the lots. What a great local achievement in the protection of our finite significant cultural resources through cooperative collaborations between two local citizens' groups and county and city governments.

The WMS/LSSAS and FLSS have adopted the parcel and will conduct periodic cleanups and work with the County in planning, exotic-vegetation removal, and habitat restoration. Current plans are to keep the parcel vacant, with improvements for a possible passive park with primitive trails for nature walks and possible picnic area.

We want to thank Publix Super Market on Toledo Blade for providing lunch for all participants after the event. The Next LSSlough cleanup will be held Saturday, April 20, at 10:00 a.m. The focus will be the SW corner of the property where a colony of potato vines has established, so it will be a potato hunt. A free raffle ticket will be offered to all participants, with a drawing at 11:30 to win a beautiful reproduction of a Newnan-type chert projectile point made by Roger Hostetter, similar to those made by the Middle Archaic residents who lived at LSS 6 to 8 thousand years ago.

LOCAL FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH EVENTS IN MARCH – A BUSY MONTH

March 9, Eighth Annual Calusa Heritage Day at Randell Research Center at Pineland

In recognition of the first recorded encounter between Juan Ponce de León and the Calusa people in 1513—500 years ago—"First Contact" is the theme for this year's event, which takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Calusa Heritage Trail, 13810 Waterfront Drive, Pineland, located on scenic, historic Pine Island. Admission is free for RRC members and children under 12, and for all others, \$5.

The featured speaker this year is Dr. Jerald T. Milanich. His lecture will be entitled "The Calusa Indians amid Latitudes of Controversy: Charting Juan Ponce de León's 1513 Voyage to Florida" and will be held in the classroom at 3 p.m. Dr. Milanich will also present in the Speaker's Tent at 11 a.m. Dr. Bill Marquardt, Director of the

RRC, will speak at noon on "Calusa at Contact: Archaeological Understandings." His talk will highlight the interdisciplinary, archaeological studies at Pineland that have yielded information on the fishing and tool technology of the Calusa. Mr. Steve Koski, Archaeologist and Site Manager for the Little Salt Spring Archaeological and Ecological Preserve, will speak at 1 p.m. Little Salt Spring contains some of the oldest cultural remains in the United States and has produced the second-oldest artifact ever found in the southeast United States. His talk, "First Arrivals, Florida's Paleoindians: How We Know What We Know," will describe these finds and highlight their importance in our understanding of the first Floridians.

Artist Merald Clark of the Florida Museum of Natural History will speak at 2 p.m. about his studies of masks and figureheads of the Calusa.

There is so much going on that day there are too many events to list. For more information, call 239-283-2062, and for details of events go to:

<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/rrc/EventDetails.asp?Id=58&archived=False>.

This will be an on-your-own field trip, but members are encouraged to car pool. For those wishing to car pool, you can meet in the far parking lot at the North Port Library at 8:15 a.m. for an 8:30 departure. See you there!

March 16, Archaeology Fest at New College. Come to the third annual Archaeology Festival hosted by Time Sifters Archaeological Society and New College of Florida Public Archaeology Laboratory. There will be events, food (free hotdogs, lemonade and more), programs, tours of the archaeology lab, presenters, society tables and more. Special guest speaker will be Randall Daniels at 11:00 a.m., who will present "Carrier of Traditions for the Apalachicola: Voices From Native Florida." The WMS/LSSAS will be there with a set-up and so will Roger Hostetter, who will display some of his reproductions and demonstrate stone-tool production. Fun!

New College Public Archaeology Lab is located at 410 College Drive, Sarasota. From I-75 take University Parkway exit to US 41, go straight across US 41 to the end at Ringling Museum, go right, and less than a mile bear left at the curve and look to your left to the first driveway and park.

Saturday, March 23, Field Trip to Blueberry Site, Lake Placid, Florida. As a follow-up to our February meeting with Dr. Dave Butler, we plan to visit him working at the Blueberry site located on the eastern edge of the Lake Wales Ridge (see article on page 4. Members who would like to car pool to this field trip can meet at the North Port Library at 8:15 a.m. for an 8:30 departure to Lake

Placid. See the article on page 4&5 for directions. This will prove to be another exciting field trip.

Saturday March, 23, 2013. Also on March 23, for those who can't make it to the Blueberry site, a presentation sponsored by and at the North Port Public Library, Nello Juliano Room, 13800 Tamiami Trail, North Port: Storyteller Carrie-Sue Ayvar will regale the attendees with multicultural stories of historical and traditional Florida in a program titled "Stories of Florida – Con Sabor!" As part of the VIVA FLORIDA celebration, it will be bilingual. Free and for all ages. Pre-registration preferred, contact NP Library at 941-861-1300.

Wednesday, March 27, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by and at the North Port Library in the Juliano Room, 13800 Tamiami Trail, North Port: Underwater Archeologist and Director of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, West Central Florida Region, Jeff Moates will present "The Oldest Shipwrecks of the Florida Keys." This program is free and for all ages, but there will be a children's activity after the program. Pre-registration preferred, contact NP Library at 941-861-1300.

Saturday, March 30, Field Trip to De Soto National Memorial. The De Soto National Monument is a National Park comprised of approximately 26 acres in Manatee County, situated on a spit of land at the mouth of the Manatee River in Bradenton at its confluence with Tampa Bay, the park has over 3000 feet of shoreline. It commemorates the ill fated expedition of Hernando de Soto



Spanish Conquistadors fire at an Indian canoe at the Village of Uzita at De Soto National Memorial

expedition of 1539. There will be a special event of reenactors March 30 at the Indian Village of Uzita at the park. This will be our second trip to the De Soto National Memorial in the last few years and all who went then

enjoyed themselves. I know I did.

Those who want to car pool can meet at the North Port Library at 830 AM for an 8:45 departure. From I-75 take exit 220, SR 64/Manatee Ave and go west approx 12 miles to 75th St. Turn right on 75th and go north approx 2 miles which turns into Desoto Memorial Hwy, which ends at the park. The park is free to the public. For more information on the park and Hernando De Soto visit <http://www.nps.gov/deso/index.htm>.

Saturday, March 30, 1:30 – 3 p.m. Also on March 30, a program sponsored by and at the North Port Library in the Juliano Room, 13800 Tamiami Trail, North Port: "Genealogy Program: Exploring State Archives." Experienced genealogist Seth Gardner will give you pointers on how to find this important information.

STONE-TOOL MANUFACTURE DEMONSTRATION/WORKSHOP TO BE HELD APRIL 6

By Steve Koski

Have you ever wondered how stone tools were made?

On Saturday, April 6, the WMS/LSSAS will host stone-tool technologist Roger Hostetler for a demonstration/workshop on stone-tool manufacture (location to be announced). Roger learned his craft from observing the experts at "knapp-ins" like Claude Van Order, who has visited the WMS/LSSAS over the years for pottery and stone-tool manufacture demonstrations.



Roger Hostetler breaks rock at North Jetty Park

There will be a \$10 donation requested to cover costs, and those who wish to try their hand at stone-tool manufacture can do so for an additional donation of \$10 to cover the cost of the lithic material from Florida and other

locations in the SE United States. Safety glasses are required for knappers. There will be a sign-up sheet at the March meeting for those interested in attending. Call Hilda Boron at 426-1719 for reservations and location info.

ANNUAL FAS MEETING TO BE HELD IN ST. AUGUSTINE MAY 10–12

FAS January 2013 Newsletter

The St. Augustine Archaeological Association is hosting the FAS Annual Meeting on May 10–12, 2013.

The theme “Ponce to The Ponce” has been chosen in recognition of Ponce de León’s 1513 landing and “Viva Florida 500,” and the location of this year’s meeting in Henry Flagler’s former Ponce de Leon Hotel. The hotel opened 125 years ago and is now Flagler College.

The Friday evening reception will be held at the Fountain of Youth Park, the location of Pedro Menendez’s 1565 settlement and more than 50 years of archaeological excavations. Flagler College’s Hotel Ponce de Leon, a designated National Historic Landmark, will be the setting for the paper presentations on Saturday. During the long lunch break, historic downtown tours will be offered. Each will give participants a glimpse of St. Augustine that few visitors get a chance to see. Box lunches will be available for those wishing to take advantage of all the tours. The Saturday-evening banquet, with Dr. Deagan as the keynote speaker, will be held in the Ponce de Leon Dining Room at Flagler College. Prepared by Chef David Bearl, AAC, the buffet menu will be similar to that enjoyed by the hotel’s guests on opening night in 1888.

On Sunday, an early-morning boat ride aboard the *Victory III* around Matanzas Bay and a late-morning tour of the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP) facilities at the St. Augustine Lighthouse are offered.

For registration and hotel accommodations and schedule of events, visit FASweb.org and click on Annual Meeting.

RESEARCH CONTINUED AT LSS IN JANUARY 2013

By Steve Koski

Another exciting and productive research session was conducted from January 2 through 12 at LSS with Dr. Gifford’s Underwater Archaeology Techniques class. Many students have said that his is one of the most interesting classes they have taken at UM—understandably, when one considers that they are diving every day and excavating at one of the most significant sites for prehistoric underwater archaeology in the New World.

During the full-semester class and two-week field

session, students learn about archaeology and underwater archaeology techniques, and have the opportunity to excavate, map, video document, assist in the recovery of artifacts and specimens, process specimens in the lab for curation and preparation for analysis, and have a great time at the LSS research facility and ecological preserve. Check out the happy faces in the group photo! One student said he would remember this experience and this class for the rest of his life, and thanked Dr. Gifford and myself for providing such an exceptional opportunity.



January 2013 research students at LSS: pictured lower left, Dr. John Gifford and DSO Rick Gomez, upper left Ryan Lind, Josh Grubman, Marc Fruitena, Joseph Stevens, Lucus Coffield, Leah Colombo, Research Associate Steve Koski.

Another 10 cm was completed in Operation 14, a 2x2 m unit on the mid-slope of the basin at 8.4– 8.8 m below



UM/RSMAS students Marc Fruitena and Leah Colombo practice underwater mapping techniques at the excavation unit leaning module from Steve Koski while students Joe Stevenson, Josh Grubman, and Ryan Lind observe and wait their turn.

the surface. The water was exceptionally clear when they were here and you could actually see the unit and the students working from the surface dock. Pretty spectacular.

While each dive involving excavation was supervised by either Dr. Gifford or Koski, it was the students who did much of the excavation and mapping.

The material coming from this lower level of sand below the peat is not as productive as upper levels in previous sessions. But numerous wood and bone specimens were recovered, including a fragment of a *canis maxilla* (dog or coyote) and one beautiful deer-antler-handle artifact. We are now working in an Early Archaic component from about 8,600–9,400 radio carbon years BP, which is very exciting due to the paucity of Early Archaic sites in Florida. Based on the findings, this represents a component of exceptional integrity due to its rapid inundation after deposition and preservation, the remains sealed by aquatic peat under near anaerobic conditions .

On an unfortunate note, Dr. Gifford is retiring this year and the Underwater Archaeology Techniques class may not be taught again, unless he teaches as a professor emeritus.

Dr. Gifford will still assist in the coordination of analysis and co-authored publication of this phase of research at LSS. With his retirement, uncertainties are on the horizon as to what will happen to the site, the research, and the property and we are hopeful that continued good stewardship and management will be provided under the ownership of the University of Miami.



Dr. Gifford demonstrated underwater video techniques to students at the excavation unit leaning module as Leah Colombo and students look on.

PENN STATE UNIVERSITY RESEARCHERS VISIT LSS FOR ADDITIONAL WATER-SAMPLING RESEARCH

By Steve Koski

On February 12, 2013, geomicrobiologists Dr. Jenn Macalady and Dr. Trinity Hamilton from Penn State University arrived at LSS, along with UM/RSMAS Dr. Kenny Broad, Director of the Leonard and Jane Abess Center for Ecosystem Science and Policy, RSMAS Dive Safety Officer Rick Gomez, and Assistant Robbie Robinson. This visit was to make two dives with Gomez, Koski, Broad and Robinson to collect cyanobacteria samples from the basin and walls of the spring from 40–50 feet for comparative studies to samples collected from LSS and Warm Mineral Springs last June.

Dr. Macalady studies microbes in extreme environments and she is particularly interested in LSS, as the water chemistry is similar to that of the ocean 1.5 billion years ago. She believes cyanobacteria similar to those found in Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs could provide the missing link in the story of Earth's evolution. She has been involved in collaborative efforts at LSS with PSU for the last few years (see September/October 2012 WMS/LSSAS Newsletter).

In LSS, profile casts were also taken with a YSI-sonde instrument to collect data on dissolved oxygen, temperature, pH, conductivity, salinity, and chlorophyll from the surface to the bottom as the instrument was slowly lowered and readings were taken every two seconds. Other sampling included PAR (photosynthetically active radiation) nutrients (NO₂, NO₃, NH₄⁺), dissolved H₂S, DIC concentrations, and d13C of DIC. Dr. Hamilton's objective is to understand what affects the outcome of competition between the two ancient groups of bacteria (cyanobacteria and green sulfur bacteria) that make up the red biofilm observed in both LSS and WMS. This is important because both are phototrophs, but only cyanobacteria can produce oxygen. This question has bearing on the Great Oxidation Event that occurred on Earth ~2.0 billion years ago. Pretty fascinating stuff.

For comparative analysis, limited sampling was conducted from a kayak at WMS with a YSI cast to the bottom of the spring early on the morning of February 14. Dr. Macalady will send a report to the City and County with the results of their data analysis when completed. They were certainly excited about all that was accomplished and appreciative that they could collect samples from LSS and WMS.

FRIENDS OF LITTLE SALT SPRING BRIEFS

The next board meeting of the FLSS will be held March 11 at the home of President and Recording Secretary Lawry and Linda Reed. For more information, contact Lawry Reed at viaspeech@gmail.com.

The next quarterly membership meeting of the FLSS will be held April 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Imagine School off Toledo Blade. The FLSS annual meeting will be at Imagine School at 2747 Sycamore St. Upper Campus: from I-75 take ext. 279 - Toledo Blade for North Port/Port Charlotte; at 2nd stop light turn left on to Panacea. If coming from US 41 or Price Blvd. toward I-75, take a take right off Toledo Blade on Panacea; take 1st right onto Sycamore St; turn right at 2nd drive entrance to Imagine School Upper Campus; turn left through metal gates; 2nd building on right is 2747 Sycamore St.

WMS/LSSAS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS STILL ON!

Special thanks to all 2012 WMS/LSSAS members and those who have renewed for 2013! We have had a great response. Last year's programs were great and our field trips and events were well received. We look forward to yet another year of interesting and educational programs, field trips and events. Off to fantastic start in 2013 with fundraising for the Society and LSS faunal and botanical analysis. But, we couldn't do it without your support. Dues are our main source of income and help pay for the publication and mailing of the newsletter, speaker accommodations and honorarium, memberships to preservation minded organizations such as the Florida

Anthropological Society (of which we are a Chapter), Florida Humanities Council, Randell Research Center, Historic Spanish Point, Friends of North Port Library, Crowley Natural and Cultural Center, and others.

So please renew your membership today so we may continue our educational, research, and historic preservation minded efforts. Thank you!

2012 OFFICERS

Newly elected 2013 Officers and Directors will be listed in the May/June WMS/LSSAS Newsletter after the March annual meeting

PRESIDENT...George Haag (georgehaag1@gmail.com)
 VICE PRESIDENT.....Judith Ribarick 941.426.7976
 SECRETARY.....Hilda Boron (941.426.1719)
 MEMBERSHIP.....Linda Massey (Imassey628@msn.com)
 TREASURER.....Kate Cattran (EENCAT@aol.com)

For a color pdf copy of the newsletter, send a request to the editor at the email address below! See them all at www.wmslssas.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Crescenzo • Judi Crescenzo • Robert Dunay
 Lorraine Hawkins • Sandra Heacock • Steve Koski •
 Carol Myers • Mary Williams • Wilburn Cockrell, Honorary

Newsletter Editor: Steve Koski (941)423-0835,
skoski@rsmas.miami.edu; Media Correspondent: Linda
 Massey, Imassey628@msn.com; Librarian, Lorraine
 Hawkins (941)743-6919, landhawk@aol.com

WARM MINERAL SPRINGS/LITTLE SALT SPRING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. 7797 North Port, Florida 34290

www.wmslssas.org

www.facebook.com/FriendsOfLittleSaltSpring

