



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 25, No. 4, September/October 2014

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 through 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.

FAS ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TOPIC OF SEPTEMBER 9 MEETING

Archaeologist Steve Koski will be the speaker at the September 9 meeting of the Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society. Steve will present a photo summary of the May 9–11, 2014, Annual Meeting and Conference of the Florida Anthropological Society, hosted by the WMS/LSSAS, a chapter of FAS. The FAS Annual Meeting and Conference was held at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center in Punta Gorda, overlooking the beautiful and scenic Peace River. The event included a Friday-night welcoming reception and Stewards of Heritage Awards at the Wyvern Hotel Rooftop, all-day presentations on Florida archaeology and anthropology on Saturday, followed by a banquet and FAS awards. [Cont'd, FAS p. 2]



Steve Koski at the FAS Annual Meeting Banquet

EUGENIE CLARK VIDEO INTERVIEW ON EARLY DIVES AT WMS AND LSS TOPIC OF OCTOBER 14 MEETING

A special video showing of the 2013 interview with Dr. Eugenie Clark, “The Shark Lady,” on her early dives at Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring with the late Col. Bill Royal in the late 1950s will be presented at the October 14 meeting. The exceptional interview was produced by Curt Bowen of *Advanced Diver Magazine*, assisted by the “Shark Brothers,” Sean and Brooks Paxton of Think Out Loud Productions.

The video was shown at the April 23, 2014, Friends of Little Salt Spring membership meeting and again at the FAS Annual Meeting and Conference in Punta Gorda, with more than 100 persons in attendance. It was a big hit.

Dr. Clark was one of the first scientists to dive with the late Col. Bill Royal, beginning in 1958. [Cont'd, WMS p. 2]



Dr. Eugenie Clark — “The Shark Lady”

WMS [Cont'd from p. 1]

They found human remains on the 45-foot ledge and co-authored the first professional paper on the WMS discoveries published in *American Antiquity* in 1960, entitled "Natural Preservation of Human Brain, Warm Mineral Springs, Florida." Dr. Clark is a marine zoologist whose esteemed career spans more than 60 years. She was the founder of Cape Haze Marine Laboratory and built Mote Marine Laboratory in Sarasota County in 1955; she is Director Emeritus and still maintains a staff office there.

If you missed seeing the video at the April FLSS meeting or the May FAS meeting, you have another opportunity at the October 14 WMS/LSSAS meeting. The 30-minute video is really a must-see production.

FAS ANNUAL MEETING [Cont'd from p. 1]

Dr. John Gifford was the keynote speaker at the banquet and he gave a presentation on 20 years of research at Little Salt Spring, which was very well received. On Sunday, field trips were taken to Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring after a Charlotte Harbor boat ride narrated by archaeologists Theresa Schober and George Luer. It was tremendously successful and the biggest event sponsored by the WMS/LSSAS to date. Come to the meeting and find out what FAS is, what it means to be a chapter, and what an annual meeting is all about. The 2015 FAS Annual Meeting and Conference will be in Sarasota so, hopefully, more members can participate next year with less work to do. More information on the meeting and photographs will be available in the November/December WMS/LSSAS Newsletter. But if you want to see all the events, awards, and field trips, you'll have to come to the September 9 meeting.

THREE WMS/LSSAS MEMBERS RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION AT MAY FAS MEETING

FAS President Jeff Moates and WMS/LSSAS President Steve Koski presented Certificates of Appreciation to three members: Past President George Haag, Secretary Hilda Boron, and Membership Secretary Linda Massy. Koski read the nomination for the Certificates, citing years of dedicated service, and Moates presented the certificates. Hilda Boron accepted Linda and George's certificates in their absence and Linda was presented her certificate at our May meeting. George was President from 2004–2013, Hilda Boron has been Secretary since 1995, and Linda Massey has been Membership Secretary since 1992!

SEMINOLE CAMP LIFE TOPIC OF MAY 2014 MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

On May 13, 2014, Matthew Fenno, an Archaeologist with the Seminole Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), Archaeology Section, presented "Camp Life: Recording Historic Camps as Heritage." Mr. Fenno has a BA in anthropology from Florida Atlantic University and will begin work on his MA soon. He has been talking with the Seminoles to obtain a better picture of their camps. Knowledge of camps was previously available only through the work of Alexander Spoehr, a Seminole researcher in the 1940s.



Board member Tena Docter presents May speaker Matthew Fenno with our world famous tee-shirt

Tribes have their own Cultural Resource Ordinance, which is important to the Seminoles. A Tribal Register of Historic Places protects their cultural resources. Annual meetings and votes provide a voice to everyone. Each camp is important, but some are not old enough to be on the National Register. Seminole camps include Tom Smith, Jake Morgan, and Huff. There are no remaining relatives to talk about the Jake Morgan camp, so little is known about it.

The U.S. Census Indian rolls have recorded families on microfilm. However, errors were made in counting members, especially children who may have hid in the woods. Names were often spelt differently in census reports. Clay MacCauley wrote his own census, but it did not include a proper list of people, and details were missed. Kersey and Covington also did not provide full details in their notes and included opinions in their book.

Historic photographs show camp layouts in squares. There was usually a central meeting place where the land was cleared. A typical cooking and dining chickee were located in the middle. Four logs used for cooking were pointed in cardinal directions. This was a communal area with all other buildings surrounding it.

A 1957 aerial photo shows the John Josh Camp and Charlie Micco Village. Organization among the Seminoles is by clan families, not names. The clans are responsible for teaching children. The father provides for his family and can visit his wife's camp if she accompanies him. Even when family members found work outside of their camp in 1957, they returned for communal dining in the evening.

A family photo shows Susie Tiger, a matriarch who babysat all of the children from several camps. Also photographed was Tom Smith, whose camp today teaches children about the Seminole tribe. Spoehr wrote about the Jake Morgan Camp in 1939. However, no members of that camp remain, so it won't be included on the Tribal Register. Artifacts located there include a metal WWII military-uniform button, probably from a uniform given to tribal members in the past. An unknown copper object was found, and it may be part of a still. Nearby cows were

allowed to trample the camp, and some items may have been removed.

The John Jimmie Camp is located in the same area as the Jake Morgan camp, but descendants live nearby. The remaining house dates to 1910 and is the oldest in the camp area. John Jimmie farmed the land. When his camp was given a HUD trailer, they used it for storage because they preferred to live in open chickees.

Aerial photos of the Brighton Reserve from 1957 show a house and car, but the trailer has been removed. The Onnie Osceola home site is visible. Onnie has mentioned items lost there over the years, but she won't allow anyone to look for them. However, she agreed to a survey and digging in a few places.

THPO is working to add signs so tours can be held and tribes can talk to visitors. Older tribal members have drawn pictures of how camps once looked and explained where chickees once stood. Additional sites are being added to the Tribal Historic Preservation Office Register, and signs will identify and describe the camps. These efforts will preserve information about Seminole camps and teach visitors so the past is not lost.

We thank Matthew for such an interesting presentation on the Florida Seminole. We hope to plan a field trip to the Ah Tah Thi Ki Museum on the Big Cypress Seminole Reservation to learn more about the fascinating history of the Florida Seminole. Visit <http://www.ahthithiki.com/> for a preview of what you will see there.

QUIGLEY PAINTING ON LSS FINISHED AT LSS MAY 11, 2014

We had the extreme pleasure of having artist Dean Quigley visit LSS on May 11, 2014, during the FAS Annual Meeting field time. Dean has been working on an LSS painting for some time and put it down for a while and picked it back up to deliver it. The Friends of the North Port Library commissioned the painting for a possible mural in the children's library some time ago. It will be offered to them at a fall FNPL meeting. Hopefully, it will hang in the library in a prominent location or in another public venue of their choice. Dean has given the WMS/LSSAS and FLSS exclusive rights to use prints from the painting for our fundraisers to support research and education at LSS, for which we are most grateful.

The painting is a representation of an interpretation based on archaeological evidence from 1975, when a tapered wood object was found between the plastron and carapace of an extinct giant tortoise. The object is believed to be an artifact dated to 12,030 radiocarbon years before present, or almost 14,000 calendar years ago. It was suspected that the tortoise was cooked in place and the stake that killed it, left behind. Recent research conducted from 2008–2011 by Dr. Gifford and associates has questioned some of the aspects of that interpretation, but the evidence of humans on the ledge has not been conclusively refuted.



Artist Dean Quigley puts the finished touches on his 27-m ledge painting at LSS May 11

More than 30 folk attended; most were registered for the conference and many were archaeologists. Steve Koski and John Gifford took them to both WMS and LSS, and it turned out to be the largest gathering of archaeologists to have ever visited the sites at one time. More details will be available at the September 9 meeting and a summary and additional photos will appear in the November/December newsletter.

COME CHECK OUT A BOOK FROM OUR WMS/LSSAS LIBRARY AT THE NEXT MEETING

Visit a selection of books from our library brought to our monthly meetings by WMS/LSSAS Librarian Lorraine Hawkins. It was Lorraine's idea to set up the library table at each meeting to make a selection of our books available to our members. She brings two carry-on containers with books and sets them up for review and check out. This is a considerable effort on Lorraine's part and a great addition to our meetings, so come take advantage of the opportunity. Members can check out a book at a meeting and return it the next month or renew for another month. A list of all books in the traveling library will be available to review and on request at the September 9 meeting. Many thanks go to Lorraine for all her efforts!



WMS/LSSAS Librarian Lorraine Hawkins

WILD FRONTIER EXHIBIT AT VENICE MUSEUM AT ARCHIVES

Be sure to check out the Wild Frontier exhibit at the Venice Museum and Archives currently running until January 21.



PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Well, I can only say, members and friends, when it comes to 2014, this is our year to shine. We knew we were doing well after the success of the January 2013 Ancient Waters Celebration event held at Warm Mineral Springs, when we raised \$3,500 for the analysis of faunal (animal bones in progress) from the 40-foot basin at Little Salt Spring. How could we top that? we thought. Then came 2014. In addition to our great monthly presentations, there was Florida Archaeology Month, the statewide event held in March to celebrate our rich cultural heritage, sponsored by the Florida Anthropological Society, Florida Department of State, and the Florida Public Archaeology Network. The FAM poster committee selected both WMS and LSS light photos by Curt Bowen to represent the 2014 theme, "Tracing Florida's First People: Paleoindians." Seventeen thousand copies of photos of our springs were printed and distributed throughout the state by the 17 FAS Chapters, the WMS/LSSAS being one of them. Many reached other states

and went out internationally. How cool is that? That's public outreach.

Both Sarasota County and the City of North Port presented a Proclamation declaring March 2014 Florida Archaeology Month. The WMS/LSSAS set up a small archaeology exhibit at the North Port Library centered around the FAS posters and WMS and LSS to commemorate and celebrate the event.

By mid-2013, we were already planning to host the annual meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society; a first for our group founded in 1990 by archaeologist Sonny Cockrell, Director of the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Research Project. Originally founded as the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Society, the Board added Little Salt Spring to represent our growing involvement at that site.

Thanks to all members, officers and board members, guests, and friends. We couldn't do it without you. What would be the point?

ADDITIONAL NOTE

This is an abbreviated newsletter that was done under the wire to make it out before the meeting so I know I missed important newsworthy items. I'll include those items and a series of FAS 2014 photos and summary of the Sept 9 presentation in the November/ December WMS/LSSAS Newsletter

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For a color pdf copy of the newsletter, go to www.wmslssas.org

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WARM MINERAL SPRINGS / LITTLE SALT SPRING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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