



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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

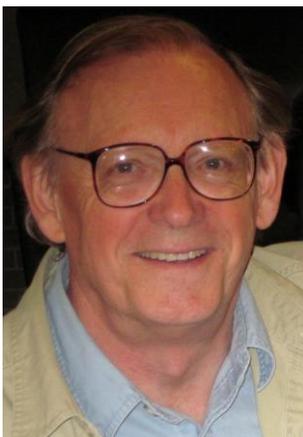
The Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society meets the second Tuesday of the month (except June through August) at 7:00 PM, at the North Port Community United Church of Christ located at 3450 S. Biscayne Blvd. Meetings are free and open to the public. Come one come all!

Happy New Year 2016!

Thank you all for helping to make 2015 such a successful year!

**POTTERS OF LA CHAMBA, COLUMBIA TOPIC OF OUR
JANUARY 12 MEETING**

Dr. Laurence Kruckman will be the speaker at our January 12 meeting of the WMS/LSSAS. Dr. Kruckman is an anthropologist who has studied human nature for over 40 years. His early anthropology field research took him to peasant villages in South America and Micronesia where he became interested in social change and its impact on health. In the process, he met women potters in La Chamba, Colombia, and over many years has documented their technology, including their unique ceramic process and the impact of cash economies on their social system. His research on potters of La Chamba will be the focus of his talk in a presentation titled "Women in Clay: Potters of La Chamba." *[Cont'd La Chamba on page 2]*



Dr. Laurence Kruckman

**COPPER ALLOY VESSELS IN ROMAN BRITAIN TOPIC
OF FEBRUARY MEETING**

Dr. Jason Lundock, Curatorial Assistant with the Appleton Museum of Art, Ocala, Florida, will be our speaker at the February 9 meeting of the WMS/LSSAS. He will present on his research on British Provinces under Roman rule.

By examining patterns in depositional practice, as well as the geographic and site distribution of copper alloy vessels in Roman Britain, this research offers an analysis of the varying and divergent practices of material culture in the British provinces under Roman rule.

His research also seeks to offer a useful classification system for the study and discussion of copper alloy vessels by adapting familiar typology, as well as introducing new vocabulary.



Curatorial Assistant Dr. Jason Lundock
(© Courtesy of the Portable Antiquities Scheme)

Analysis is given to patterns in the deposition of vessel forms during the Roman period in Britain, as well as addressing their spatial relation to other objects and their use of decoration. Insight is also offered into the functional application of these objects and how changing culture practice led to the shifting of use from smaller vessel forms in the early Roman period to larger vessel forms by Late Antiquity. Additionally, the discussion offered in this research serves as a case study in the application of small-finds research to the larger theoretical debates concerning Rome and its provinces.

La Chamba (Cont'd from page 1)

Over the years, Dr. Kruckman continued to remain in contact with villagers, curated a traveling museum exhibit on their work, and assisted them in reaching a broader world market for their artwork. His university research and publications focused on medical anthropology, especially human birth and postpartum issues. He was awarded a National Institute of Health postdoctoral fellowship in epidemiology and public health at the University of Illinois Medical Center. He has earned many academic awards for his teaching and research, and lives near Madison, Wisconsin.

Bring in the New Year with another great presentation and welcome Dr. Laurence Kruckman to the January meeting!

PHILLIPPI ESTATE PARK TOPIC OF DECEMBER 8 MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

At our December 8th meeting, Dr. Uzi Baram, Professor at New College in Sarasota, presented "A River Runs through Sarasota: Archaeological insights into Phillippi Creek." Phillippi Creek is seven miles long and spans diagonally across Sarasota County. Starting near Cattleman Road, it flows past the Celery Fields through Pinecraft to Riverview High School and ends at Phillippi Estate Park. The park offers trails, a riverfront dock, archaeological sites, the Edson Keith Mansion, and the soon-to-open-to-the-public Keith Farmhouse. Historic artifacts, prehistoric shell tools, and broken pottery have been found under the surface.

An 1880 map shows the mouth of the river in an area of mangroves, which was later dredged to create the Intracoastal Waterway. In 1929, J. E. Moore found fossils and human remains in the area, and he followed up in 1936. Newspapers later wrote of his discoveries. Moore thought the area was tens of thousands of years old, and he supposedly sent bones from the site to the American Museum of Natural History. However, the bones either were not sent, were lost, or perhaps scholars did not believe him because of the early age he attributed to the bones, and the fact that he was a realtor, not an archaeologist, made them skeptical of his finds.

A lithic (stone tool) scatter from the Archaic Period prove the earliest inhabitants at Phillippi Creek fished, gathered, hunted, and created seasonal settlements in the area for thousands of years. Evidence shows that hunting and gathering took place 3,000 years ago, and its inhabitants made and used stone tools. Wooden and other organic materials, however, did not survive over the years.



Dr. Uzi Baram with our world-famous tee-shirt, with Phillippi Estate Park Manager Priscilla Brown and Park Naturalist Roxanne Williamson

During the Manasota Period (2500–1300 BP), the Prodie Shell Midden at Phillippi Creek was formed by the discard of food remains such as shell and bones. In 1979, archaeologists George Luer and Marion Almy noted sites along the Sarasota Bay, providing evidence of hunting, gathering, and fishing, and named the culture Manasota; extending through Manatee and Sarasota counties.

Undecorated, sand-tempered pottery and shell tools proved that people were not moving around as much as in earlier periods, but were settling in to areas. Many shell and bone tools and a few stone tools were found in Sarasota Bay. Construction of middens closer to the coast was evidence of lifestyle adaptations relying more on productive estuaries. People traveled by canoe, fished, gathered, and engaged in trade. Yellow Bluffs (current location of the Bay Club) and Paulson Point (current location of Indian Mound Park in Englewood) were the larger sites on the coast and may have been used for manufacturing and feasting. The main sites were on the coast with campsites inland. After the Manasota Period, evidence of occupation waned. Anthropologist John Worth's research shows that Spanish explorers passed through the area, so perhaps the people from the Sarasota Bay area were living inland when the Spanish arrived.

From the 1770s to 1840s, Cuban fishing ranchos were established on Phillippi Creek. Havana was a major world city, and the Catholic settlers wanted fish. Cubans started coming to the Florida coast to set up small camps called ranchos, where they salted and dried fish. In the early 1800s, Spanish Indians were the Native Americans who were later converted to Catholicism. Escaped slaves also joined them and lived in freedom. They traded profitably with inland black Seminoles, maroons, and Seminoles.

Between 1847 and 1856, A. H. Johns, a federal surgeon, cleared the grounds of Felipe Bermudez—the modern site of Phillippi Creek. In 2001, historian Ann Shank noted that 1850 census reports list Bermudez as a 45 year old born in Spain. Felipe probably set up his rancho in 1830 north of Phillippi

Estate Park. In 1838, he was mentioned in records with William Bunce, who had a rancho on Tampa Bay. In 1841, Phillippi Bermudez joined Miguel Gerrero and Manuel Olivella at Manatee Spring on the south side of the Manatee River. The Bermudez name was last mentioned in the archives in 1858, when his third wife Polly went on the Trail of Tears with the Seminoles—but without her husband (Matthews 1983: 247; Almy 2003: 135).

During the second Seminole War, John Winslett's affidavit of December 2, 1833, mentioned a settlement of Indians and escaped slaves. The area was considered a frightening frontier region, and there were many murders on the Pea (Peace) River in 1849. Captain John Casey, an Indian agent who was trusted by the Seminoles, saw that Felipe Bermudez's white flag made of heron feathers on a stick at the rancho was a peace offering. A meeting was held, including Captain Casey, John Gibbons, Sampson/Simon (a black who probably interpreted the flag), Sam Jones (with the Seminoles), and Billy Bowlegs, a prominent Seminole leader. It took a great deal of trust for this group to talk. As a result, Bowlegs located the murderous renegades, and Casey allowed the Seminoles to kill them. Bowlegs brought back one live murderer and the scalps of three other murderers in 1849, thus keeping the peace. The peace treaty may have occurred along the coast near Phillippi Estate Park.

In 1883, W. J. Drumright, a farmer and beekeeper, bought 40 acres of land with a stable, grounds, and a grove. In 1910, George W. Matheny, dredged the creek to create the first commercial development, and in 1911, Mable Linn of Chicago bought and developed lots there. The Edson Keith Neo-Italian Revival-style mansion opened in 1916. Honore and Potter Palmer, sons of Bertha Palmer, lived across the street. Keith's house became a permanent home with servant quarters and out buildings. Wide lawns, plants, vegetables, hay, a citrus grove, chickens, cows, and sheep made the site self-sufficient.

In 1988, excavations began at Phillippi Creek, uncovering stone tools representing the remains of the earliest Archaic inhabitants, shell middens and artifacts along the shore representing the Manasota people, and historic remnants of the later 19th-century and early 20th-century occupants located along the shore. The estate sold in 1942 to Mae Hansen Prodie and her husband Charlie, a Walgreen executive. Mae was credited with the concept of the Barbie wardrobe. In the 1950s, the Phillippi Plantation included a restaurant, and in 1986, Phillippi Estate became a Sarasota County park. Additional archaeological excavations were conducted in 1988, and in 1991, the park was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

On January 4 and 5, 2016, Dr. Baram will conduct limited archaeological excavations at Phillippi Estate Park in a collaborative effort with New College, the Florida Public Archaeology Network, and Sarasota County Historical Resources; the public is welcome to participate and observe. The information gathered in the January research will be used to complement previous studies and culminate in the development of 12 interpretive kiosks to be displayed throughout the property, educating the public on the prehistory and history of Phillippi Creek and Park.

The Phillippi Farmhouse Market operates each Wednesday as an ongoing fund-raiser to aid in restoration of the Edson Keith Farmhouse. In November 2016, Sarasota County will celebrate the centennial of the construction of the Edson Keith Mansion with an Open House and opening of the restored Farmhouse and exhibits. More information will be available as it is gathered.

We would like to thank Dr. Baram for his outstanding and informative presentation and for sharing his vast knowledge.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES AT CRYSTAL RIVER TOPIC OF NOVEMBER 10 MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

On November 10, 2015, Kendal Jackson, a graduate student in Applied Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of South Florida, presented "Reconstructing Social Responses to Climate Change at the Crystal River Site." The focus of Jackson's presentation was his recent research at the Crystal River Site during the Woodland period (1000 BC – AD 1000).

Jackson explained how villages managed local ecosystems and changes in sea level, which drove prehistoric social transformations that were tied to the economy. In the 1980s, archaeologists in Southwest Florida used reconstructions to situate coastal settlements. Randolph Widmer's *Evolution of the Calusa* developed a hierarchy. In 2011, Thompson and Worth created a graph showing social responses to sea-level changes in the Tampa area. While some sites were abandoned during low sea level, others saw continuous occupation.

The Crystal River site was constantly occupied over time, despite environmental and sea-level changes. Jackson focused on CR Site 8C11 in Citrus County, which is near the mouth of the river. Features include shell and earth mound architecture on a huge scale, with plazas, stele, and large burial mounds. In 1903, archaeologist C. B. Moore drew a map that is very accurate when compared to modern maps. Moore placed Crystal River in the Hopewell Interaction Sphere, which extended to the Midwest. He spent 2–3 weeks in the region, excavating over 403 burials. Among the artifacts were quartz crystals that had been worked into forms. The crystals were



Archaeologist Kendall Jackson is presented our world-famous tee-shirt by former board member Judi Crescenzo.

brought in from north-central Georgia or other more distant sites. Also found were objects of copper, not native to Florida, which were crafted into cymbals and gorgets.

Archaeologist Rippley Bullen's map of Crystal River (1950s to 1960) noted impressive ceramics incised with intricate designs of birds, hands, and symbols, including iconography that did not appear elsewhere until much later.

The Crystal River Early Villages Archaeological Project (CREVAP) used modern technology and conservative sampling methods, such as subsurface ground-penetrating radar, trench excavations, and modern mapping. Excavation of the mounds was avoided. Hydraulic coring of site features explored the plaza, midden, and mounds. Vibration coring of the marsh area was completed at locations on the perimeter of the site.

Crystal River's occupation occurred in four phases, which line up with midden stratigraphy. In Phase 1 (AD 65–265), Mound G2 was the main burial complex. This very early site had a warm climate and sea level that was slightly higher than today. Phase 2 (AD 221–554) showed an expanded population. During this time, known as the Roman warm period, the plaza mound complex was established. The climate was warm and rainy, with a moderate sea level. Mound H, an early pyramidal platform mound, was constructed. In Phase 3 (AD 478–809), a 30-foot tall, pyramid-shaped Mound A was built near the river. Archaeology revealed that the climate was cooler, sea level dropped, and there was less rain; it also showed that people were moving away. Even with the climate deteriorating and people leaving, massive Mound A was built. Roberts Island is a more low-lying area. The Roberts Island report, Phase 4 (AD 722–1068), shows the Crystal River Site as a hub of activity.



Kendall Jackson discussed his pollen studies at Crystal River at our November meeting.

Little occurred there after AD 800, however, even though sea level was up and warmth returned.

Environmental Archaeology at Crystal River and the Gulf Coast has usually reconstructed settlements, but not plant communities. Jackson's research fills in this gap through palynology, a study of pollen. Questions posed by Jackson were: 1) Did Crystal River inhabitants experience dramatic climate change or was it stable? 2) How does timing of shifts correspond to social developments at Crystal River? 3) What were the ecological impacts? 4) What was the role of anthropogenic

management of the local environment?

Jackson studied pollen because it is widely dispersed and representative. It is not prone to deterioration, but it is vulnerable to manipulation by humans and climate change. Through a study of pollen, vegetation changes can be viewed across space and time. Sand and salt water can change pollen, which is a problem in coastal research. Hickory nutshell preserves well and shows up if used. Pollen tells about plants with long tubers where no seeds can be found, such as coontie, arrowroot, and cattails. Small changes in elevation may alter an ecosystem. Rain, freezes, and proximity to salt water are also factors.

Working with information about site features of the midden, plaza, Mound H, and marsh cores, the pollen in each strata were studied in the lab. Soil sub-samples were completed by an earlier student. Concentrated pollen, spores, etc., were isolated by removing everything else. For example, when a floatation system suspended zinc steroid, lightweight pollen remained in suspension.

Pollen were viewed with a compound light microscope. In some cases, species could be identified, but in others only genes were found. Identification requires morphologic traits, size, and shape. Jackson used an atlas of pollen grains for comparison. A camera on the microscope took photos, which were stored on a computer. Some pollen identified included grass, cypress, water lily, red maple, red cedar, and magnolia. These were obtained from two cores taken in the marsh because good carbon dates were available for those areas. Plants confirmed known conditions, such as salinity. Numerous sponge spicules found on the top of a core indicated a sea-level change.

Jackson provided an example of Core 56 from the northeast marsh. Eight strata showed a period of warmth, wetness, and high sea level. In the lowest strata, red cedar, willow, mulberry, and cattails were found. The upper strata contained oaks, magnolia, and wax myrtle. The third and fourth phases had shallow standing water and estuarine fauna. Evidently, the water table near the village fluctuated. Additional analysis will provide more information on trees and clarify how early people manipulated their environment.

Most interesting research and findings, Kendall, and we greatly appreciate your sharing your data and information with us, and wish you the best of luck in your continued studies!

PHILLIPPI ESTATE PARK FIELD TRIP HELD DECEMBER 19, 2015

On a cool December 19 morning, approximately 25 members of the WMS/LSSAS and Time Sifters Archaeological Society made a visit to Phillippi Estate Park for a special tour of the Edson Keith Mansion and grounds. (See previous article for a prehistoric and historic overview of the 60-acre property owned by Sarasota County.)

Park Manager Priscilla Brown gave us a grand tour of all the rooms in the mansion and told the story of the previous occupants, the Keith family and later Prodie family. Following the tour of the mansion, we walked a short distance to the Keith Farmhouse, where they lived while the mansion was being built.



Phillippi Estate Park Manager Priscilla Brown welcomed us for a tour of the Edson Keith Mansion (photo by SHK).

We weren't able to peek into the farmhouse because it is under renovation. When complete, it will be furnished in a historic period setting with interpretive exhibits. It is scheduled to be open to the public for the centennial celebration of the Keiths' arrival in Sarasota County in November 2016.

Following the tour of the mansion and walk around the farmhouse, archaeologist Steve Koski provided a walk about the property where a portion of the Archaic shell scatter is located, next to the pier overlooking Phillippi Creek, then to the Prodie Midden site under grand oaks along the water. After the tour, we had lunch under the grand oaks on several picnic tables provided by donors.



Tour participants read the historic marker (photo SHK).

A most enjoyable day, and what a spectacular visit! We commend Sarasota County for their foresight in preserving such a splendid property and give a round of applause and thanks to Priscilla Brown for her grand tour of the Edson Keith Mansion. We look forward to another visit to see the farmhouse after the renovation. For more information on Phillippi Estate Park, visit: <https://www.scgov.net/PhillippiEstate/Pages/PhillippiEstate.aspx>

Archaeological Excavations at Phillippi Estate Park were conducted on January 4 and 5. The project is part of the newly developed Community Heritage Awareness and Management



The master bedroom of the Edson Keith Mansion (photo SHK).

Program (CHAMP), a collaboration between New College of Florida; Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources; Sarasota County Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources; and the Florida Public Archaeology Network. More information on the January findings with photos of the days events will be in the March/April WMS/LSSAS Newsletter.

HISTORY AND PRESERVATION COALITION TO HOLD ANNUAL EVENT TO SUPPORT FRIENDS OF LITTLE SALT SPRING JANUARY 25 AT 5:00 PM

Each year the History and Preservation Coalition of Sarasota holds an event to support one of their 17 organizational members. This year they have chosen Friends of Little Salt Spring to support by holding a "Dinner Social" prior to their annual meeting. The event will be held at the Jockey Club, located at 3050 Pan American Blvd., North Port, on the corner of Pan American and Appomattox Dr.

There will be a catered dinner, followed by a feature presentation by archaeologist and former University of Miami Research Associate Steve Koski on recent excavation conducted in the basin at Little Salt Spring from 1992–2013, where substantial evidence had been found in an exceptional state of preservation, representing activities conducted during the Late Paleo/Early Archaic period 10,500–8,600 years ago. Much has been written about the site going back to its discovery and explorations beginning in 1958, followed by intermittent visitation in the 1960s to the first professional excavations in the 1970s and research, directed by Dr. John Gifford beginning in 1992.

FRIENDS OF LITTLE SALT SPRING TO HOLD THEIR ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 25 AT 7:00 PM

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Little Salt Spring will be held January 25, 2016, 7:00 PM, at the North Port Jockey Club Clubhouse at 3050 Pan American Blvd. (corner of Pan American Blvd. and Appomattox Dr.), North Port. Jeff Moates, Director of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, Central West Region, will be the speaker on "LSS, Community Involvement and Participation."

The FLSS Annual meeting will follow the Coalition Dinner held from 5:00 – 6:30 PM.

6th Annual History and Preservation

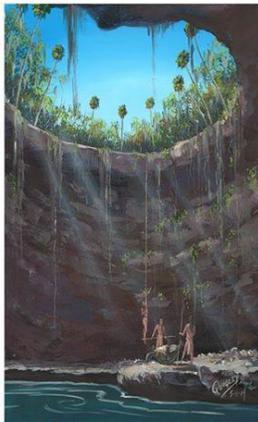
Coalition of Sarasota County Social



Come join us Monday, Jan. 25th at 5:00pm for our 6th Annual Social. The event will be a fundraiser for the Friends of Little Salt Spring and will be held at the Jockey Club Clubhouse in North Port. Our key note speaker is Little Salt Spring Site Manager and Sarasota County Archaeologist, Steve Koski. A catered meal will be served before the presentation. Call Betty Nugent at 475-2696 for tickets.



A replica of the larger greenstone pendant found at Little Salt Spring will be raffled and Publix has donated a wine basket for a door prize!



Hosted by the Friends of Little Salt Spring



THE MANASOTA BEACH CLUB CONTINUES THEIR JANUARY SPEAKER LUNCHEON SERIES

Three presentations remain for the MBC January Speaker Series. January 11, Earth Scientist Jono Miller, who serves on the Sensitive Land Oversight Committee, Sarasota County, will set the scene locally with his discussion, "Environmentally Sensitive Lands of Manasota Key." January 18, archaeologist Steve Koski will present "Little Salt Spring, a Late Pleistocene/ Early Holocene Oasis: Early Human Visitation in a Time of Environmental Change." And on January 25, Archaeologist Theresa Schober, President of the Florida Anthropological Society, will present "Mound Key: Where the New and Old Worlds Collide." Schober's new documentary on Mound Key will air on public television in February.

The beautiful Manasota Beach Club is located at 7660 Manasota Key Rd., Englewood. The splendid buffet lunch and talks will be held from 12 noon until 1:30. Due to limited seating, reservations are required. Please call (941)474-2614.

WMS/LSSAS ANNUAL YARD SALE FEBRUARY 27

Time approaches! Please start collecting items for our annual yard sale to be held Saturday, February 27, 2016, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The sale will be held next to the Warm Mineral Springs Motel, located at corner of Ortiz Blvd. and US 41. The WMS Motel is a local landmark in itself, a historic building designed by famous architect Jack West, a student of Frank Lloyd Wright. It's where all our monthly speakers and research associates stay who come from out of town. Please bring your items to the December 8, January 12, and February 9 meetings. To drop off items or for pick up of items (if you are unable to drop them off), please call Hilda Boron at 941-426-1719. Help make this our best sale ever. More information will be in the January/February 2016 Newsletter. Special thanks to Jill Luke and Patriot Storage of North Port or providing two storage units for gathered items. Thank you for your support!

The WMS/LSSAS Annual Meeting will be held February 9 prior to the general meeting. The 2016 slate of officers will be read and elections will be held. 2016 officers and board members will be announced in the March/April WMS/LSSAS Newsletter.

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For a color pdf copy of the newsletter (if mailed only), go to www.wmslssas.org.

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WARM MINERAL SPRINGS / LITTLE SALT SPRING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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