



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 29, No. 2, March/April 2018

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, July and August) at 7:00 pm, North Port Community United Church of Christ, located at 3450 S. Biscayne Blvd. March dinner will be held prior to the meeting at the Family Table Restaurant, 14132 Tamiami Trail, North Port, at 5:00 PM. Meetings are free and open to the public.

**ZOOARCHAEOLOGY OF CANAVERAL NAT'L SEASHORE
INDIAN MOUNDS TOPIC OF MARCH 13 MEETING**

Florida Museum of Natural History Senior Biologist and Archaeologist Irvy Quitmyer will be the speaker at the March 13 meeting. His topic will be "The Zooarchaeology of Castle Windy and Turtle Mound, Canaveral National Seashore, Florida."

Zooarchaeology is an emerging scientific discipline that seeks to document the interaction of humans in the natural world through the study of the zoology and ecology of archaeological sites. Irvy's research focuses on the zooarchaeology of maritime people through the study of animal remains found in places like Castle Windy and Turtle Mound at Canaveral National Seashore. He is among the first of such researchers to recognize that such places represent archives of ancient human ecology and environment. Irvy has authored or coauthored over 75 peer-reviewed scientific articles during the 40 years of his research career. (See Turtle Mound, page 2.)



Irvy Quitmyer at the Museum of Natural History, Gainesville.

**"HERITAGE AT RISK" IS THE THEME FOR MARCH
2018 FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!**



This year's theme for Florida Archaeology Month is "Heritage at Risk." The double-sided poster features the Castillo de San Marcos, located in St. Augustine, that is at risk from weather and climate. Designed by the Spanish engineer Ignacio Daza, construction began in 1672, and the fort is the oldest masonry fort in the continental United States. Today it is a major tourist attraction.

The back of the poster describes some of the sites at risk, from the shifting shores around Egmont Key at the mouth of Tampa Bay, to coastal lighthouses, shell mounds, shipwrecks, and drowned terrestrial sites, as well as sites with components that have survived sea-level rise and now lie offshore.



Thousands of archaeological sites and historic properties line our coast and bays and are threatened by coastal erosion and rising seas. A three-foot rise in sea level will result in impacts to some 16,015 cultural resources, including archaeological sites buildings, bridges, and cemeteries. A six-foot rise will impact up to 34,786 sites and properties, not to mention the loss of roads, houses, condominiums, and businesses, and the toll on the lives of hundreds of thousands of people.

Every hurricane and storm can take a serious toll on these fragile archaeological sites and historic resources. Artifact collecting on private property and county, state and federal lands and coastal waters, rivers, and bay bottoms also are a major threat. When artifacts are removed from a site without proper documentation, the research value and information about the site and the people who lived there are forever lost. Development also poses a serious threat to archaeological sites and historic properties, resulting in the bulldozing of sites and the demolition of significant historic structures.

Sarasota County was one of the first counties in Florida to incorporate a historic-preservation component in its Comprehensive Plan, which includes a Historic Preservation Ordinance, Chapter 66, Article III, Historic and Archaeological Resource Protection, with a full-time County Archaeologist who administers the ordinance. Development projects in the unincorporated portions of Sarasota County are reviewed by the County Archaeologist and Historic Specialist for potential adverse effects to archaeological sites and historic resources. In the case of significant sites, this can require documentation and/or mitigation. In many cases, significant sites can be protected by placing them in conservation easements or green space, or mitigating adverse effects through excavation, research, and documentation. Tax incentives can be applied to historic properties to encourage rehabilitation and use of historic structures that adds to the quality of life in a community.

But how to preserve and protect our coastal heritage sites is a challenge. Archaeologists, preservationists, and local communities are increasingly coming together to protect and preserve these places using high-tech tools as well as other time-tested methods. Future presentations will address some of these threatened sites, potential consequences of our rising seas, and methods of documentation and preservation.

Florida Archaeology Month is coordinated by the Florida Anthropological Society and supported by the Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. Additional sponsors for 2018 include the Florida Archaeological Council, Florida Public Archaeology Network, University of South Florida, Digital Heritage & Humanities Collections, National Park Service, and Seminole Tribe Historic Preservation Office.

TURTLE MOUND (continued from Page 1)

Some additional information ask Irv about for accuracy, from: http://www.lostworlds.org/canaveral_seashore.html

"Turtle Mound is the highest shell midden in Florida and third highest in the nation. The two-acre site contains over 35,000 cubic yards of oyster shell, extends more than six hundred feet along the Indian River shoreline, and stands about fifty feet tall. (In prehistoric times, it was at least seventy-five feet high.) Visible for miles offshore, the mound has been used as a navigational landmark since the early days of Spanish exploration.

"Though smaller than Turtle Mound, Castle Windy still is one of the more prominent shell middens in the Indian River area. It extends some 300 feet along the shore of Mosquito Lagoon."

This will be Irv's third or fourth visit to speak to us over the last 20 years and we look forward to hearing about his latest research. It is sure to be an interesting presentation!



Reproduction of a bone-handle stone knife donated by Roger Hostetler to be raffled at our March 13 meeting.

APRIL AND MAY SPEAKERS

Our April 10 speaker will be announced in a special email prior to the meeting. Our May 8 speaker will be announced in the May/June Newsletter.

PALM BEACH COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY TOPIC OF FEBRUARY 2017 MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

On February 13th, anthropologist Dorothy Block presented "Paleo and Pastel: Anthropology and Archaeology of the Palm Beaches." Dorothy is the Executive Director of the Lawrence E. Will Museum of the Glades and Founding Chair of the Palm Beach County Archaeological Society. She also teaches Anthropology at Palm Beach State College. Her presentation covered research on Palm Beach County sites and focused on



February speaker Dorothy Block accepts our world famous tee-shirt from Steve Koski

the Belle Glade culture (c. 1000 BCE – 1700). “The Belle Glade site, 1.5 miles (2.4 km) west of the town of Belle Glade, gave its name to the culture. The cultural area is defined on the basis of a unique combination of mounds, earthworks and pottery.” “The Belle Glade culture is one of the least understood prehistoric cultures. The culture area is confined to the bounds of the Kissimmee River valley and Lake Okeechobee basin and terminates somewhere in the northern Everglades.”

An aerial map of Palm Beach County showed the contrast between the wealthy town of Palm Beach and Belle Glade, one of the poorest areas in the United States.

As an anthropologist, Block studies humans, living and past. Human culture is a system of organization that is universal in human societies. This system includes medical, mortuary, economics, kinship, arts, recreation, and military. The first humans entered the new world sometime after 20,000 years ago and the first are described in North America as Paleindians, the first evidence in Florida is around 14,000 years ago. During that time Florida was cooler, drier and almost twice as wide as today. Lake Okeechobee did not exist, nor did the Everglades. As global temperatures warmed and glaciers melted, sea levels rose, as did water tables. The Archaic Period (9,500-3,000 years ago) brought warmer, wetter weather, and barrier islands formed. Florida was a watery world, and Belle Glade became a “dynamic passageway” where people moved across the state. Consequently, by 500 BC sand-tempered plain and Belle Glade ceramics appeared across south Florida, centering around Lake Okeechobee, and radiating in all directions.

Today the Palm Beach coast is high and dry, educated, mostly white, and affluent. Many actresses and politicians live there. When a shovel test on President Trump’s Mar-a-Lago property was positive, he was cooperative with investigations. A lot of undeveloped land remains in Palm Beach, so many archaeological sites have yet to be discovered, but many along the coast have been destroyed by development.

The town of Belle Glade arose in a drained swamp area east of Lake Okeechobee. The demographics are much different than along the coast. Archaeological sites exist on the coast and around the lake and in the water. There are three

main complexes and six burial sites. The three types of sites are sand burials, shell middens, and black earth middens.

In the 1940s, a 3,000 year-old spear point (Late Archaic) was uncovered at the Riviera Complex in Palm Beach, along with fiber-tempered pottery and a living floor with postholes dating about 500 BC. The site now has a home on it. In 1966 at the Guest Mound Complex, which was partially removed to expand the Graham-Eckes School in 1944, a vulture pendant was uncovered. The property also includes the burial of 150 men, women, and children.

The Nebot site (1500-1700) was uncovered near where the family of President John F. Kennedy went to church. A female age 16-17 with poor teeth was uncovered. Burial 2 held the grave of a 39-40 year-old man with bad knees and arthritis. A bone and brass knife indicating interaction with the Spanish was also found there. The Waldron’s Site at Widener’s Curve contains a European-style burial discovered when a home was redesigned in the 1980s. The man smoked a pipe, was about 35 years old, and may have been from a shipwreck lost in 1690.

Other famous people living in the Palm Beach area include Rush Limbaugh and Bernie Madoff. John Lennon and Yoko Ono lived near the Pulitzer Site, where ground stone objects, sand-tempered ceramics, and a right whale bone were found. These items were radio-carbon dated at 1,000 AD. Fashion designer Lilly Pulitzer and author James Patterson also lived in this area. Shovel tests uncovered an oyster midden there.

Belle Glade Archaeological culture is little understood and is one of the last frontiers of American archaeology. The Lawrence E. Will Museum of the Glades in Belle Glade was resurrected by archaeologists and anthropologists. After spending \$90,000 and near bankruptcy, the city agreed to take the museum and offered funding. Volunteers now help to keep it open.

The Belle Glade site complex consists of a mound, habitation area, tree islands, earthworks, and drained agricultural fields. The site is near Lake Okeechobee and Big Mound City in Palm Beach County (100 BC-300 AD). Archaeologists and college students have been training here. Wedgeworth Tree Island sites have been dated at 3,500 years old (topic of November 2017 meeting by Katarina Stroh). Many tree islands in the glades contain black dirt middens with dense concentrations of the remains of aquatic animals used as a food source. Shell and bone tools are common, some incised with designs.

In 1928, people from the Belle Glade area were not prepared for the hurricane that devastated the area. They had dug canals and used the muck to create embankments, thinking this area would become a boom town. Instead, the hurricane brought 29.5-foot high waves from Lake Okeechobee that destroyed the embankment and killed 3,000 people in one hour.

Thank you Dorothy, for bring the fascinating story of Palm Beach County to our group!

HERITAGE MONITORING SCOUTS TOPIC OF JANUARY 2018 MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

Jeff Moates, Director of the FPAN at West Central Region



Board member Rik Jemison presents Jeff Moates with our world-famous tee-shirt.

office USF, presented at the January 9, 2018. He explained how changes to archaeological sites can put them at risk, especially those affected by erosion and sea-level changes, and introduced the Heritage Monitor Scouts (HMS) program and how its goal is to protect these sites by keeping track of any changes.

Current models predict a six-foot rise in sea level in the next 80 years if trends continue. Such a rise would flood Pinellas Park and low areas of St. Petersburg. Areas in south Tampa and Ft. Lauderdale are already being flooded. Shipwrecks have been exposed in the St. Augustine area, and caskets have floated out of cemeteries in Baton Rouge, LA. A one-meter sea-level rise would affect 2,908 archaeological sites, and a two-meter sea-level rise would affect 34,786 sites.

Hurricanes are among many common threats. The midden at Shell Bluff Landing above St. Augustine was eroded and the historic Minorcan well was exposed by Hurricane Matthew. Shell Bluff Landing provides a case study on how to protect a site. Hurricane Hermine also hit Hog Island near Cedar Key, and the shell mound was leveled. Artifact collecting and illicit digging remains both a coastal and inland threat. Cratered holes and pits or spoil piles indicate the continued looting of sites. Natural threats can upturn a tree, but human activity can also destroy a midden and its history. Hermitage Monitor Scouts help by gathering data over time and tracking changes to archaeological sites and historic cemeteries. A several-hour course and field visit is required to get a certificate as a Monitor Scout. Once completed, the scout is assigned a site location to visit, photograph and document changes over time to gain an understanding of the sites changing conditions, but is not authorized to collect. Discoveries are reported to the FPAN coordinator or local archaeologist for further investigation. There are now over 300 scouts who have generated 800 site reports.

To apply to become a scout, go to the Florida Public Archaeology Website West Central Region. A scout must agree to general information and an ethics statement. An online form will be used to enter site data. Photos of the site can be emailed or sent by mobile device. FPAN provides specific locations of sites and ID numbers. A mission sheet from FPAN provides the site number, directions to the site, description of past threats, how the site is accessible, and a Google map location.

Scouts must be aware of private land and not enter without prior approval from FPAN. They record date and time of day for each site and give a description, noting if any artifacts are visible. Photos are taken and measurements of changes are documented, but items cannot be recovered. Contact numbers for FPAN and local archaeologists are provided in case of discoveries. It is the intent for Heritage Scout Monitors become local stewards of our rich heritage and assist in the recordation and preservation of our threatened cultural resources.

FEBRUARY 2018 SYMPOSIUM ON LITTLE SALT SPRING AT UM AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS

The Little Salt Spring Symposium held at the University of Miami February 24 was a great success. The event was organized by Dr. Traci Ardren, Chair of the Anthropology Department, and held at the Storer Auditorium from 9:30 am – 5:00 pm.



LSS Symposium speaker, DR. Andy Hemmings, Dr. Michael Waters, Dr. Lee Newsom, Dr. Jason O'Donoghue, Dr. Jessi Halligan.

The list of speakers included keynote speaker Dr. Michael Waters, Director of the Center for the Study of the First Americans, Texas A&M, who gave a presentation on the peopling of the New World; Dr. Lee Newsom, a paleobotanist from Flagler College, St Augustine, who discussed her 20-year involvement at Little Salt Spring; Dr. Andrew Hemmings, Lead Archaeologist for the Old Vero Ice Age Sites Committee, who discussed the significance of Little Salt Spring to early Native American studies; Dr. Jessi Halligan, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Florida State University, who shared aspects of her Paleindian research from the Aucilla River in North Florida; and Jason O'Donoghue, an archaeologist with the Florida Department of State, Bureau of Archaeological Research, who explained his research along the St. Johns River, the significance of Florida Springs, and importance of preserving these natural resources.

After the presentations, a panel discussion was held to discuss continued interest in research at the Little Salt Spring Archaeological and Ecological Preserve, the future potential for a research and education center, sustainable funding, and public outreach and education programs through local support and collaboration with the University of Miami.

Participants on the panel discussion included UM maritime archaeologist Dr. Fritz Hanselmann; Sara Ayers Rigsby, Director

of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, Southeast Florida Region; Lawry Reid, President of the Friends of Little Salt Spring; and Steve Koski, Sarasota County Archaeologist and former Research Associate, Little Salt Spring, University of Miami. Jeff Moates, Director of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, West Central Region, was the moderator for the panel discussion.



Panelists and speakers, Jeff Moates, Sara Ayres Rigsby, Andy Hemmings, Steve Koski, Michael Waters, Lee Newsom, Jason O'Donohugh, Jessi Halligan, and Traci Ardren. (not pictured, Fritz Hanselmann and Lawry Reid).

FLSS president Lawry Reid organized a trip to Miami, rented a cargo van, and brought 15 members and guests from the Friends of Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs/ Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society.

On Friday, Steve Koski arrived at the anthropology lab and assisted Dr. Ardren in showing some of the LSS artifacts to Andy Hemmings, Mike Waters, Jessi Halligan, and Sara Ayers Rigsby, who had never seen the artifacts before. Steve had recovered many of the artifacts during his more than 20-year involvement at the site under Dr. John Gifford, UM Associate Professor Emeritus, and Principal Investigator. Dr. Gifford could not attend due to his mother's ailing health.

Saturday morning four tables were set in the lobby of the auditorium with information on archaeology and LSS; one by FPAN, with information on LSS and the 2018 Florida Archaeology Month posters; another by the Friends of Little Salt Spring, with educational posters on Little Salt Spring and the LSS educational booklet designed by FPAN and used at educational venues; they also distributed the 2014 Florida Archaeology Month Poster with the night photograph of LSS by Curt Bowen. Vice President of the FLSS Bill Goetz displayed a case of beautiful reproductions of artifacts recovered from LSS, including a throwing stick, both greenstone pendants, the notched shell pendant, and the notched deer antler. Traci set up a table with two cases displaying spectacular Early and Middle Archaic artifacts from LSS collected during the Gifford's research years, 1992–2013. It was a long day, especially for those who made the six-hour round-trip drive on Saturday, but so interesting and informative. Many thanks to Traci, FPAN, FLSS, all the speakers and panelists, and all those who attended the event!



FLSS and WMS/LSSAS members attend the LSS conference

SILVER RIVER KNAP-IN AT SILVER SPRING MUSEUM GROUNDS IN FEBRUARY A GREAT EVENT

Several members of the MMS/LSSAS attended the Eighth Annual Silver River Knap-in, held at the Silver River Museum and Environmental Education Center February 17 and 18 in Ocala, Florida. The event is one of the largest of its kind in the state and the setting is beautiful.

Stone tool making, atlatl and axe throwing, archery practice, bone and shell carvers, Seminole storytelling, tram tours of Silver River State Park, archaeology talks, museum tours, and food and craft vendors are a few things the weekend offered.

If you're a knapper, piles of rock from all over the United States were available for purchase, as were finished reproductions of stone tools, baskets, pottery, and more. It was great fun.

FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN ST. PETERSBURG MAY 11–13

The Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education (AWIARE), and the University of South Florida St. Petersburg (USFSP) Anthropology Program, are the hosts for the 70th Annual Meeting. The meeting will take place on the beautiful harbor-side campus.

The conference hotel is the Hilton St. Petersburg Bay Front with a special rate of \$139 per night. For reservations call (727) 894-5000. The Friday night reception is at the Three Daughters Brewing Room, 222 22nd Street South, between 6:00-8:00pm. The reception will feature food from a local favorite, The Tavern, a variety of games, and the Florida Archaeological Council's "Stewards of Heritage" awards ceremony.

The Saturday paper and poster presentations will take place at USFSP's University Student Center in Ballrooms 1-3. And the Saturday night banquet and FAS awards will be at USFSP's University Student Center in Ballrooms 1-3. Key note speaker at the banquet is Dr. Michael Francis, Hough Family Chair of Florida Studies and Professor of History at USFSP. His presentation "Not Even the Devil Could Read This": Rethinking Florida's Colonial History in the Digital Age"

Sunday tours will be conducted at four city parks within bustling St. Petersburg to some well-known and interesting archaeological sites or a guided tour at the Weedon Island Cultural and Natural History Center to view the Weedon Island canoe exhibit (both \$20).

For more information and registrations go to fasweb.org

FLORIDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN SARASOTA MAY 18-20

“Under the Big Top: History, Culture, and Architecture” is the theme for the 2018 Annual Meeting of the Florida Historical Society will be held at the Hyatt Regency, Sarasota. The Hyatt Regency is now accepting reservation at \$179 per night.

Details on registration and schedule will be provided in the May /June WMS/LSSAS Newsletter and on line when available at: <https://myfloridahistory.org/annualmeeting18>.

UPCOMING PRESENTATIONS SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF SARASOTA COUNTY HISTORY CENTER

The Friends of Sarasota County History Center have provided some exceptional presentations in their 2018 speaker series, sponsored by the Florida Humanities Council. The next presentations will be held in March and April.

March 22, 2018: Dr. Steve Noll will speak on “Florida Transportation History: Planes, Trains, Automobiles, and Steamboats too!” Tying transportation history to social history, the presentation moves from the Bellamy Road of the 1820s to the modern transportation issues facing the Sunshine State in the 21st century.

April 26, 2018: Bob Stone will offer a presentation titled “Florida Cattle Ranching: Five Centuries of Tradition.” Bob’s presentation will explore and celebrate the history and culture of the oldest cattle ranching state from the colonial period to the 21st century.

The meetings will be held at the Sarasota Garden Club, located at 1131 Blvd. of the Arts, Sarasota (next to the Chidsey Museum and Education Center). There is a \$5 charge (free to members of the FOSCHC).

THE 2018 WMS/LSSAS ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS TO BE HELD AT THE MARCH 13 MEETING

The election of officers and directors will be held prior to the speaker presentation at the March 13 meeting. The nominations are:

OFFICERS:

President (reelect, one year): Steve Koski; Vice President (elect, two years): Judith Ribarick; Secretary (reelect, one year): Hilda Boron; Treasurer (reelect, one year): Kate Cattran; Membership Secretary (reelect, one year): Linda Massey

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Betty Nugent (reelect); Kathy Gerace (elect, 3 year); Lorraine Hawkins (reelect, 3 years);

Officers still serving their three-year terms are Rita Bass, Rik Jemison, and Joan San Lwin; Carol Myers (honorary); George Hagg (past president, honorary).

We wish to thank all who served in 2017 for helping to make 2017 a great year of speakers and events. And thanks to all who still serve, and we welcome all those incoming officers and board members.

That’s all folks, out of room, to see more photos on the LSS Conference and Silver Spring Knapp-in got to wmslss.org.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO BY-LAWS AT 2018 ANNUAL MEETING

Article III. Membership

Section 4. Dues are payable at the time of application for membership in the Society and will be based on the calendar year. Dues paid in September to November and December will be for the next calendar year. Members approved shall receive all subsequent publications of the Society for the calendar year. They shall also receive a membership card, a copy of the By-Laws sent by email, and a paper copy if requested, and the Code of Ethics of the Society. Members must agree to uphold the Code of Ethics and abide by the rules of the By-Laws by signing their names to the effect. This signature shall be kept on file by the Society.

Section 5. Dues are payable at the start of the calendar year, and shall be considered in arrears if not paid within two (2) months of their renewal date. A member whose dues are in arrears shall not be eligible to vote at any meeting of the Society ~~and shall no longer be entitled to any of the other rights and privileges of membership.~~

2017 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Steve Koski, skoski1044@aol.com
VICE PRESIDENT Linda Elligott, lewildland@gmail.com
SECRETARY Hilda Boron (941)426-1719
TREASURER..... Kate Cattran, Roleencattran@aol.com
MEMBERSHIP..... Linda Massey, [Imassey628 @msn.com](mailto:Imassey628@msn.com)

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Rita Bass • Lorraine Hawkins • Rik Jimison • Carol Myers • Betty Nugent • Judith Ribarick • Joan San Lwin • George Haag (Honorary)

Newsletter Editor: Steve Koski, skoski1044@aol.com

Media Correspondent: Linda Massey, Imassey628@msn.com

Librarian: Lorraine Hawkins, landhawk@aol.com

Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society

P. O. Box 7797, North Port, Florida 34290

wmslss.org

