WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 30, No. 1, January/February 2019

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. General meetings are held at the North Port Community United Church, located at 3450 S. Biscayne Blvd. The January dinner prior to the meeting will be held at Beef O' Brady's, 1037 Sumter Blvd., at 5:00 PM. Meetings are free and open to the public**.**

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

Thank you all for making 2018 a spectacular year for us!

FORENSIC ANTHROPOLOGIST DR. HEATHER WALSH –HANEY TO SPEAK AT OUR JANUARY 8 MEETING

On January 8, 2019, we welcome Forensic Anthropologist Dr. Heather Walsh-Haney for a presentation titled "The Science and Art of Reading Bones." She is an Associate Professor at Florida Gulf Coast University who studied at the University of Florida under Dr. William Maples, a renowned forensic anthropologist. He created a remarkable forensic collection and, upon his death, his widow asked Dr. Walsh-Haney to take over the collection. It is now housed at FGCU under her auspices. Dr. Walsh-Haney works closely with the local medical examiners in 11 jurisdictions and handles between 80–100 cases per year. Additionally, she teaches the University of Tennessee National Forensic Academy's surface-scattered and buried-body courses. While she is a forensic anthropologist and also studies human remains from archaeological sites, she is in *[Cont'd p. 2]*

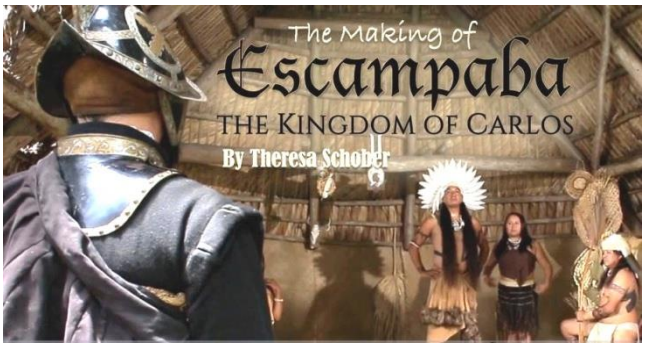
January 8 speaker Heather Walsh-Haney

THE MAKING OF ESCAMPABA: THE KINGDOM OF CARLOS TOPIC OF FEBRUARY 12 MEETING

We welcome back anthropologist, archaeologist, author, and now film producer Theresa Schober to our February 12 meeting for another intriguing presentation on Mound Key and the Calusa.

Remnants of elevated mounds and ridges, sculpted canals and water courts remain a visible yet subtle reminder of the once thriving Calusa chiefdom that controlled the southern third of the Florida peninsula by the 16th century. Mound Key — the Calusa principal village, located in Estero Bay in Lee County Florida — remains the first specific location documented in the voyage of Juan Ponce de León in 1513 that named La Florida and was one of the first charted destinations of Pedro Menéndez de Avilés after founding St. Augustine in the fall of 1565. This early southwest Florida history is explored in a new documentary film.

February 12 speaker Theresa Schober



Executive Producer Theresa Schober will recount key aspects of this history in a presentation on how we represent the past through film and will show some clips from the recently completed project.

Ms. Schober holds a master's degree in anthropology from the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. In addition to conducting archaeological projects over her 20-year career in south Florida, she specializes in collaborative planning and development of historic sites into interactive museum and park facilities. She serves as an advisory-board member to the Florida Council for History Education and is past president of the Florida Anthropological Society. She is currently the Manager of the Immokalee Pioneer Museum in Collier County, where we are planning a field trip in February. Stay tuned. This is a presentation you will want to attend.

FORENSICS *(Cont'd from p. 1)*

the Department of Justice Studies at FGCU and not in the Anthropology Department. It is within that Department that she has created the Buckingham Environmental Forensics Facility — an FGCU outdoor forensics facility that provides opportunities for research, education, and training concerning clandestine graves. In addition, she has helped to coordinate Forensic Field for the Pasco County Sheriff's Office and Florida's Forensic Institute for Research, Security, and Tactics.

Her presentation will include a comparison of how forensic anthropology is portrayed in popular culture, through television series such as *Bones*, and that of actual scientists in the field. She will explain what happens to bodies when buried and when left on the ground and how they differ, and how new plant growth and intrusive plant growth are factors in locating a buried body. In other cases, the disturbed soil will subside over time and can leave the ground bare of plant growth. The soil color and density can be another clue to the location of buried remains. The art and science of forensic anthropology has come a long way and it is the science of it that will lead to identification of the body and aid in the identification or exoneration of the perpetrator.

Dr. Walsh-Haney received her MA and PhD in Anthropology from the University of Florida, where she trained within the C. A. Pound Human Identification Laboratory for over a decade. She is the consulting forensic anthropologist for 11 Florida Medical Examiner Districts and has been the principal investigator for over 1,500 forensic-anthropology cases. As a member of the Department of Health and Human Services Disaster Mortuary Response Team (DMORT), she helped locate and/or identify human remains from Hurricanes Wilma and Katrina and assisted in the recovery of human remains at the World Trade Center following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Dr. Walsh-Haney's knowledge of human skeletal biology arose from her work with ancient skeletal remains from archaeological settings, including the sites of Bay West, Windover, Bird Island, and Gauthier, to name a few. This research experience provided her and her graduate students with the opportunity to assist the Bureau of Archaeological Research and the Seminole Tribe of Florida with the Manasota Key Offshore Site recovery and preparation for repatriation processes for the last two years.

Please join us for our first 2019 presentation; it will be a good one!

PALM BEACH COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY TOPIC OF DECEMBER 11 MEETING

by Judi and John Crescenzo

On December 11, 2018, Palm Beach County Archaeologist and Historic Preservation Officer Christian Davenport presented "Archaeology of Palm Beach County." Davenport earned a BA in anthropology from Franklin Pierce University in New Hampshire. His master's degree from the University of Tennessee–Knoxville focused on identifying human and animal remains from archaeology sites. Since 2005, he has been studying Palm Beach County sites.

Archaeologists do not all agree on the cultural areas of Palm Beach County, but Davenport divides the county into East Okeechobee, Everglades, Ten-Thousand Islands, Caloosahatchee, and Belle Glade areas. Sites include shell mounds and middens, platform sand mounds, large radiating earthwork complexes, and conical sand mounds.

The shell mound on the north end is depicted in an 1883 map. By 2011, archaeologists had uncovered trade beads, oyster shell, and a faceted glass Chevron bead that was probably left behind by an early explorer. The beads were not associated with burials but were found on top of a mound.

The Spanish River Complex located on the coast has sand mounds and middens from the Belle Glade Culture. Ceramics are usually found in the interior of the area, suggesting it may have been a trading spot. The Barnhill Platform and Highland Beach Mounds have post-hole areas and numerous skulls.

Christian Davenport accepts our world-famous t-shirt from Vice President Judith Ribarik at our December meeting.

Openings of the spinal cord are enlarged, indicating that the skulls were once displayed on top of spikes.

The 2007 drought in Palm Beach County caused Lake Okeechobee to fall from 20 to eight feet, which exposed a large lake bed. This allowed archaeologists about a week and a half to search before weeds grew over the exposed lake bottom. As the lake shrunk, more sites were exposed. There were previously only three known sites, but 33 new sites were recorded.

Site A produced massive amounts of prehistoric decorated pottery. A new kind of rim with the shoulder wrapped with cord was discovered. The site revealed more lithics than have been found in the entire county. A point was also uncovered, along with small cutting tools. A basalt pendant was discovered, but as there are no volcanoes nearby, this may have been a trade item. In contrast, Site B had shell tools but no lithics. Items included celts, hammers, bone points, clay pipe fragments, decorated pottery sherds, and shell pendants. An ornately carved shell gorget was also discovered, but it may have also been a trade object.

The Belle Glade Mound is a simple conical structure. In 1933, the WPA excavated this area, which is made up of layered muck and sand. Over 400 skeletons, now being analyzed by the Smithsonian, were found in one-third of the mound. Human skulls were made into bowls. Short, stout pendants, which are specific to Belle Glade, were also uncovered and may be symbol badges.

The Earthworks are made up of circular ditches, such as the Belle Glade II Circle site. Big Mound City, part of an earthwork complex, is a 116-acre radiating arm. It is very large, made up of sand and muck, and lies primarily around the Everglades. When first excavated, it was a 35-foot mound, but only 20 sherds were found. No trash was found here, so it was not a living site. Thirteen skeletons without heads were found in one mound, and 13 skulls were located in a separate mound. Hogs have been destroying the site, but no additional artifacts have been uncovered.

Lidar images of Big Mound City in Palm Beach County show elevations. A shell gorget or death mask was uncovered here in the 1920s, along with a dog or wolf jaw fragment. Pelican Lake in the Everglades was beautiful in the 1920s, but it was drained and farmed by the 1930s. The Everglades once had rivers, and archaeological sites were located along those rivers. During the 1960s, a cut through the site revealed St. John's dentate or punctate fiber-tempered pottery. A very rare decorated tetra-podal-foot St. John's pot was also uncovered.

The Wedgeworth Site is located in a sugarcane section of the Everglades, but permission was granted for archaeologists to excavate for several days. This was the first part of the Everglades to be excavated since 1933. A ditch revealed a stratigraphy of black muck, shell, muck, shell, etc. A St. John's incised pot with a lug handle was uncovered. Per Ann Cordell, a ceramic analyst with the University of Florida, it is a St. John's pot with early Orange period design element (Orange period ceramics are the earliest known in Florida and are fiber tempered). Also found were St. John's pinched, punctated, and incised pots. Lithics discovered here include a Jackson Point, Early Woodland and Levy points, and Mid-Archaic points. These indicate trade, as they were not local items. Conch and shell pendants were also found, as were apple snails in a circular pattern. Part of a sugarcane field contained St. John's pinched pottery, the most impressive since 1933. More lithics and an atlatl weight (banner stone) were also uncovered. A large amount of early St. John's pottery was discovered in the northern Everglades.

In summary, shells found were from south and east Florida, lithics from the northwest, pottery from the northeast, and burials from the Everglades. Although they were discovered together, they all came from other locations. Over the past 13 years, more than 100 new sites were recorded in Palm Beach County. As a result, new information on the Belle Glade Culture is being revealed. It was also learned that the St. John's component came to the Everglades sooner than previously thought.

Thanks to Mr. Davenport and Palm Beach County for sharing information on their rich prehistory!

December door-prize winner with a reproduction of a side-notched point made from opaline glass by Roger Hostetler (right).

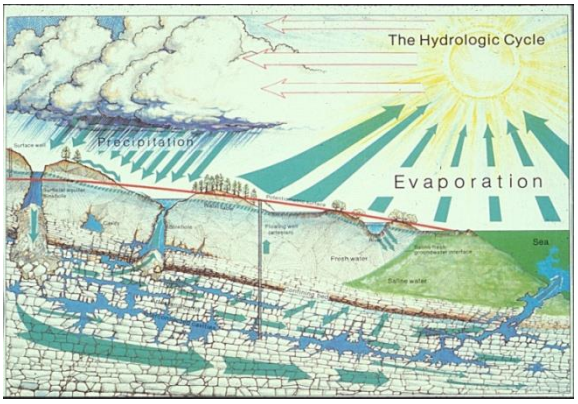
GEOLOGY OF WARM MINERAL SPRINGS AND LITTLE SALT SPRING TOPIC OF NOVEMBER 13 MEETING

Dr. Anthony Randazzo, Professor Emeritus of Geological Sciences at the University of Florida, presented an outstanding program titled "Geologic History and Significance of Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring" at the November 13 meeting.

Through his PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Randazzo took us through the geological history of Florida. You could say he wrote the book: *The Geology of Florida*, edited by Anthony Randazzo and Douglas S. Jones, 1997.

From the formation of the Florida peninsula more than 50 million years ago to dramatically changing sea levels, with lows creating twice the present landscape and highs creating two

thirds less, and the creation of sinkholes from the dissolution of limestone through the hydrological cycle and groundwater levels, his presentation covered it all.



The Hydrological Cycle (provided by Dr. Randazzo).

We learned that there are two types of sinkholes, cover-collapse sinkholes and cover-subsidence sinkholes. Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring are both cover-collapse sinkholes, with large dissolved cavities below the surface whose ceilings collapsed to form deep cavernous holes connected to the groundwater.

Vice President Kathy Gerace presents Dr. Randazzo our world-famous WMS/LSSAS t-shirt at out November meeting.

Subsidence collapse sinkholes are where a process of raveling occurs and may take years or decades to be recognized. Raveling is the lateral or downward migration of unconsolidated material into a cavity in more deeply buried limestone.

We also learned that there are many factors involved in sinkhole formation, both natural and anthropomorphic (human influenced). Natural factors include the dissolving of limestone from slightly acidic groundwater to form cavities, combined with fluctuating water tables. Human-induced sinkholes result from over-pumping groundwater, changes in historical water drainage/retention patterns, and placement of structures, to name few.

Warm Mineral Springs and Little Salt Spring may have opened sometime between 15,000 and 20,000 years ago, but they took hundreds of thousands of years to form; a fascinating tale that can be told through the study of their stratigraphic composition. What makes WMS so special from a geological perspective is that it is a geothermal spring, warmed by the depth of the origin of the water, more than 3,000 feet below the surface. What makes both so special is the evidence they contain of some of Florida's earliest inhabitants.

Dr. Randazzo's impressive career summary (from Nov/Dec WMSLSSAS Newsletter): Dr. Randazzo is Professor Emeritus of Geological Sciences at the University of Florida, where he has worked since 1967. He has written more than 50 technical papers for professional scientific publications, as well as numerous formal research abstracts, reports, and special works for governmental agencies and private clients. Most noteworthy is his co-editorship of *The Geology of Florida*, a book published by the University Press of Florida (1997). He has received numerous research grants from federal and state agencies to investigate subjects related to hydrogeology, sedimentology, and the geology of Florida. Dr. Randazzo has more than 40 years' experience in professional evaluations of home sites, commercial properties, roadways, tunnels, bridges, and dams involving geological hazards.

He was named a Senior Fulbright Research Scholar in 1995 with the Hungarian Geological Survey. He was recognized as a College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Teacher of the Year in 1999–2000. In 2001, Dr. Randazzo was appointed an Astor Visiting Lecturer at the University of Oxford, England, where he lectured on environmental issues associated with water resources and sinkhole formation. He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of America.

Dr. Randazzo was appointed by both Governor Martinez and Governor Chiles to serve on Florida's State Licensing Board of Professional Geologists and is a Registered Professional Geologist in the State of Florida and the State of Georgia.

The presentation was most educational and enlightening, and we thank Dr. Randazzo and his wife for their visit!

Editor's note: The future of all Florida springs is also threatened and it is up to us to help protect them through public advocacy. While we can't control mother nature's effects on spring pollution, over-pumping of groundwater, deep-well injection, over-development, spring-shed starvation (reducing the source of water that feeds them), and other anthropogenic factors play a role in the health of our groundwater and springs. So, protect our groundwater, reduce pollution, limit or eliminate use of fertilizers, encourage xeric (drought-tolerant) and native landscaping, and stay educated.

The Randazzos, Kathy Gerace, and Steve Koski make a brief visit to LSS prior to the November presentation.

MANASOTA BEACH CLUB ANNOUNCES 2019 SPEAKER SERIES LUNCHEON

The 2019 Manasota Beach Club speaker/luncheon series is aimed at a general audience and will explore the view of historical archaeology and its related research as it applies to important Florida Gulf Coast issues. Serious problems challenge the coast including population growth, pollution, habitat loss, increased water levels, and climate change. Historical archaeology can provide a mirror to the past and a window to the future by providing historic and prehistoric baselines and rates of change, and offering more accurate forecasts that can assist other researchers in mitigating and managing Gulf Coast change effectively. The list of speakers and dates includes:

January 7. Ryan Duggins, PhD, Florida Division of Historical Resources: "Manasota Offshore Archaeological Excavations: An Update."

January 14. Uzi Baram, PhD, Professor of Anthropology and Director of New College Public Archaeology Lab, New College: "Sea Level Rise and the effect on Thousands of Archaeological and Historic Sites in Florida."

January 21. Kenneth Nash, Gulf Archaeology Research Institute (GARI): "Gulf Coast Climate Change and Prehistory: An Overview."

January 28. Steve Koski, Sarasota County Archaeologist: "Prehistoric Submerged Archaeological Sites in Sarasota County."

February 4. Kristen Kusek, PhD, Strategic Innovation Center, Earthwatch, and Gabe Vargo, PhD: "Red Tide Since 1528 — a History."

Reservations: Manasota Beach Club, 7660 Manasota Key Rd., Englewood, FL 34223, hosts the luncheon/lecture series talks on Mondays from noon until 2:00 pm. The "talk" and luncheon are $25 plus tax and gratuity; reservations are required due to limited seating. For additional info and reservations, contact Manasota Beach Club at 941-474-2614, or Dr. Laurence Kruckman, program organizer, at 724-422-8525.

SILVER RIVER KNAP–IN TO BE HELD FEBRUARY 16 – 17, 2019

The 9th Annual Silver River Knap-In, a stone-tool and prehistoric-arts festival, will be held February 16 and 17 at Silver Springs State Park in Ocala on the grounds of the Silver River Museum. It's one the largest gatherings of its kind in Florida and craftsman (and craftswomen) from all over Florida and the Southeast attend. In addition to stone tool-making demonstrations and displays, there will be bow and arrow making, tomahawk and spear throwing, a traditional archery range, pottery making, artifact-reproduction displays, bone and shell carvers, archaeology talks by experts, basketry and cordage making, a museum scavenger hunt, tram tours of Ocala state park, food and craft vendors, and more.

For those of you who might be interested in seeing how prehistoric tools are made and would like to purchase items, or get stone and materials to make your own items, this is the place

Notable Florida knappers Claude Van Order and Roger Hostetler display their newly made points at the 2017 Silver Spring Knap-in.

to be. Several members from the WMS/LSSAS attended last year and member Roger Hostetler has a station where he will be demonstrating his workmanship and displaying his crafts. While

It was great to see the Seminole Tribe represented by a tribal member discussing native crafts and canoe making at the 2018 Knap-in.

you're there, visit the Silver Springs Museum and see some of the spectacular displays.

For more information visit: www.SilverRiverMuseum.com or call (352) 236-5401.

ENGLEWOOD MUSEUM HAS NEW HOME!

On November 28, 2018, the re-opening of the Englewood Museum took place at its new home! Housed in the historic 1928 Lampp House in Englewood, SHORE (Southwest Historical Organization of Resources and Education) provides research assistance, heritage tours, and fundraising support for the town of Englewood, Florida. The house and new museum location is owned by WMS/LSSAS board member Betty Nugent, who offered it to the museum group for its use. They participate in local events and offer free tours of the historic home on the first Saturday of the month from November through March. Thanks to Betty and all involved in the Museum project! Sounds like a field trip is in order to support the great work SHORE is doing to help bring the history Englewood to light.

Call 941-460-1561 for tours and event information, and go to www.englewoodmuseum.org/.

The Englewood Museum and historic Lampp House.

NOVEMBER FIELD TRIP TO MANATEE VILLAGE ENJOYED BY ALL WHO ATTENDED

By Joan San Lwin

Our November 30 outing was to Manatee Village Historical Park, located at 1404 Manatee Ave East, Bradenton, FL (www.manateevillage.org). Thanks to Linda Massey's coordination efforts, we were able to have a guided tour of the park (guided tours are only provided with advanced reservations for a small fee). Everyone who attended had rave reviews.

Normally, the park is free and open to the public Monday through Friday and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month; 9 AM to 4 PM; closed Sundays.

The park takes up an entire city block in downtown Bradenton. The free guidebook provided lists the 16 different houses, buildings and areas within the park. A highlight was the renovated family home, the Stephens House, built by Will Stephens in 1912. It is a "Cracker Gothic" style settler's home built to take advantage of shade, insulation and air circulation, such as being elevated 2½ feet off the ground.

There is a re-created country store with merchandise of the times lining the counter, shelves and glass cases. There is the boat-works building displaying many of the original tools used for boat building. Other highlights included a church built in 1887 and the first courthouse in early Manatee County; the frame building was built in 1860. It is the oldest building in the park and the oldest remaining building built as a courthouse in the entire state of Florida. Our group picture was taken within the courthouse.

One of the many historical facts we learned was that Manatee County was established in 1855. It originally encompassed 5,000 square miles and contained what are now the counties of Manatee, Hardee, Highlands, Sarasota, DeSoto, Charlotte and Glades.

WMS/LSSAS members visited Manatee Historical Village in November.

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