



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 31, No. 2, March/April 2020

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. Dinner prior to March 10 meeting will be at Alvaro's Restaurant, 14512 Tamiami Trail, North Port at 5:00 pm. Dinner prior to the April 15 meeting will be at the Family Table 14131 Tamiami TR. North Port, at 5:00 pm. Meetings are free and open to the public.
Celebrating Our 30th Anniversary Year!

FINDING OVERTOWN – SARASOTA'S FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Lindsay Ogles, Collections Curator with Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources will be the Speaker at the March 10 meeting of the WMS/LSSAS. Her topic, "Finding Overtown." She graciously volunteered to speak after our original March speaker had to reschedule his visit.

Few newcomers to Sarasota County would know that the Rosemary District in Sarasota was once known as Overtown and part of the original plat of the Town of Sarasota in 1885. Beginning in the 1890's African Americans settled there. It was north just north of downtown Sarasota and known as "Black Bottom," later to be change to Overtown in the mid-1920s. It was a vibrant community with a rich history to many of its residents and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic District in 2003. It became officially named the Rosemary District in honor of the Rosemary Cemetery, established in 1886 and a historic marker was first dedicated there in 1985.

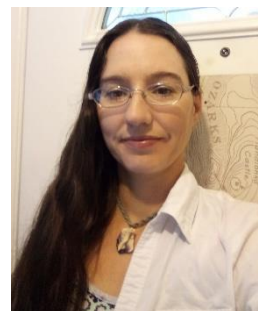


March 10 speaker Lindsay Ogles

SHELL TOOL ANALYSIS FROM SNAKE ISLAND TOPIC OF APRIL 14 MEETING

New College of Florida undergraduate student and WMS/LSSAS member Michelle Calhoun will be the speaker at our April 14 meeting. Her topic, "A Preliminary Analysis of Columella Tools and Gastropod Hammers from Snake Island, Sarasota County, Florida (8So2336).

Snake Island is a small island situated near the Venice Inlet in Sarasota County, Florida and is owned by the West Coast Inland Navigation District (WCIND). It was used as a spoil site for dredged material in two episodes, the first in 1907 during initial dredging to facilitate navigation between Sarasota and Venice, and in 1965 during the construction of the by-pass canal and Intracoastal Waterway improvements and realignment. It has an interesting history of land use as a recreation spot for boaters. It once had a small boat-building shop in the 1920's, owned by the Elisha Turner family, who lived on a house boat docked on the island.



April 14 speaker Michelle Calhoun

In 1994, on a recreational kayak visit, a shell midden was identified and recorded with material actively eroding from the southwest shore of the island, exposing dietary marine and estuarine shell, faunal remains with a predominance of sea turtle bones, Pinellas plain and sand tempered plain ceramics, and a variety of shell tools, all in an exceptional state of preservation (Koski FMSF 1994). Koski conducted a salvage collection project intermittently from 1994 to 2012 and worked on two projects; one, during a Section 1135 Feasibility Study for the Sarasota Bay Restoration Study that included Snake Island for the Army Corp of Engineers (ACOE) as field director with New South Associates; and Archaeological Monitoring for the Snake Island Stabilization Project for the WCIND with LG2 Environmental Solutions (Koski et. al, 2001, 2016).

Diagnostic ceramic artifacts indicated a Safety Harbor period occupation, around CE 1,200 – 1,400 (AD), but initial occupation was likely several hundred years earlier in the late Manasota/Weeden Island periods. While the majority of shell tools eroding from the midden were type C and D gastropod hammers centered along the southwest shore, columella hammers were most plentiful and more widely distributed along the entire north and west shores where the erosion was most severe, suggesting a different origin. Archaeologist George Luer indicated that columella hammers were more indicative of the Archaic period, and type C and D hammers more indicative of the Safety Harbor period sites, something testing and radiocarbon dating substantiated.

It was found that the midden lay beneath the spoil and layer of mangrove mud. This occurrence has the potential to lend insight into the effects of sea level rise on archaeological sites and conditions that facilitate site preservation.

Michelle became interested in the shell tool collection during an internship and Independent Study Project (ISP) for her New College professor Dr. Uzi Baram. The intern position and Independent Study Projects were done at Sarasota County Historical Resources (SCHR) through 2019 and continued into 2020, working with Sarasota County archaeologist Steve Koski, where the Snake Island specimens are curated. Her first project was to update the NAPGRA inventory in the SCHR collections for submittal to the Florida Division of Historical Resources and the National Park Service. During the fall 2019 semester, she decided that the collection would be appropriate for her Method and Theory in Archaeology class at NCF.

She spent months working on the collection and collaborating on hypotheses with Koski regarding use, hafting methods, breakage patterns, and overall variability; recording, updating the field specimen log, taking measurements, photographing, and illustrating a sample of the more than 200 shell artifacts. Quite an impressive undertaking.

Her paper will present the state of her analysis which will be a precursor to a paper presentation at the 2020 FAS Annual conference in Naples, followed by a co-authored publication in the *Florida Anthropologist*.

OVERTOWN (cont. from page 1)

It became officially named the Rosemary District in honor of the Rosemary Cemetery, established in 1886 and a historic marker was first dedicated there in 1985. It was a segregated community and through time Overtown was lost to expanding downtown Sarasota and most of its residents relocated to Newtown. While a few of its original historic structures relate to the Overtown community remain, most were demolished and lost to time.

So, what was Overtown like when it was a active African American community. Many of the older residents who once lived there have been interviewed for their oral histories, and there are newspaper articles and photographs, and a few historic buildings that were spared from demolition; but Lindsay wanted to do more.

She set out to use historical techniques and 3D modeling software to reconstruct the now demolished community of Overtown. By combining traditional sources with modern technology, her presentation will address how these techniques are currently being used and how historians and archaeologists can work together to uncover and protect cemeteries and communities alike. She ties black cemeteries through the ways this same concept is being used in Zion Cemetery in Tampa. And then plans to end the presentation by showing the models of what we can learn by even the simplest version of this kind of project.

EVERGLADES'S ARCHAEOLOGY TOPIC OF FEBRUARY MEETING

By Judi and John Crescenzo

On February 11, 2020, Florida Gulf Coast University Assistant Professor William Locascio presented "Middens in the Muck: A Late Archaic Tree Island Site in the Northern Everglades." Locascio earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh in 2010, where he studied the Pre-Columbian societies of Panama. Since his move to Florida, he has focused on the Everglades and conducted a field school at the Wedgworth Midden to educate and train students in archaeological methods, the collection of information for comparison to other tree island sites, and understanding how Late Archaic people adapted to life in the Everglades.

The Wedgworth Midden is located 5-6 miles from Belle Glade in the middle of sugar cane fields. Locascio thanked the Wedgworths, who own the property and were helpful in his efforts. The area had been a tree island that provided habitat for animals and people, making it important to the ecology. Humans were attracted to tree islands because they were elevated and generally dry from the surrounding watery landscape, had diversity of biota, were locations of prehistoric settlements, and had natural buffers for protection in periods of conflict. Food was available on those sites, and travel by canoe was easy.



February speaker Bill Locascio receives our World famous tee shirt from Steve Koski.

The natural flow of the northern Everglades was drastically altered in the 20th century by massive drainage projects to exploit the rich muck for agriculture, primarily the sugar industry that destroyed or altered most of the archaeological sites. Aerial photos from 1938 show tree islands. Lack of development is clear, but roads and canals show massive land drainage. Photogrammetry has also detected subtle differences in elevation, revealing that Wedgworth was a tree island no longer visible on the landscape.

In 2016, Locascio was directed to the site by Palm Beach archaeologist Christian Davenport (our December 2018 speaker) and explored the site with his students and located clusters of units amidst a gravel road adjacent to one of the canals surrounded by agricultural fields. Gravel roads built in the 1920s actually helped to preserve the site, by placing fill from the canal dredging over it. The stratigraphy was perfect for teaching, with its distinct colored bands and dark layers of Everglades muck, which revealed aspects of a site atypical of the surrounding disturbed landscape. Lighter layers were composed of crushed shell and artifacts, showing periods of occupation and abandonment. Orange layers indicated capped sites that were undisturbed and lower layers that were untouched.

Artifacts uncovered included wood that appears to have been thinned and worked at one end. It was preserved in the muck and was dated at 3,000 years old. However, it's unknown if this wood was old or new at the time it was worked. A sample of carbonized wood from each strata provided a date for the entire strata, and the sequence further validated these dates. Carbon 14 dating provided a range of dates, which is 95% certain.

Postholes in the ground may indicate that there was once a permanent structure, so perhaps people lived here for months at a time. The stratigraphy revealed that weather events such as rain or hurricanes interrupted life there, and people moved elsewhere but later returned. People knew what they were doing at Wedgworth, and a social fabric existed there. Life becomes routine in places where people feel socially and culturally secure, which is why they came back to the island. After 800 years of occupation, all activity ended about 850 BC.

Columella (conch) artifacts were uncovered, indicating a connection to the coast. A Late Archaic point from Georgia, a wooden pestle or club, and a drilled alligator tooth pendant are

among other artifacts. St. John's pottery was found in larger proportions than expected, along with the more common Sand-tempered Plain. Belle Glade Plain pottery was also discovered, showing that it existed earlier than expected. No Orange-fiber tempered pottery was found. Faunal remains show that people ate bowfin and alligator gar. They also feasted on other fish, amphibians, birds, mammals, reptiles, and shellfish. Numerous snake remains were found in every part of the midden, which suggests that people may have also eaten snakes.

The density of faunal material at tree island sites in the Everglades is a testimony to their extensive utilization and productivity of the environment. This also suggests long-term stays or many intermittent stays over the centuries on the tree island, as do burials that would not exist at temporary sites. Occupation occurs during transition from drier to wetter conditions, and pottery suggests a second home on the coast. The climate varied from wet and dry in extreme ways at this time. Most activity at Wedgworth occurred between 1500 BC – 800 BC, when it was dry enough to live there but wet enough to provide food. A large ditch requiring communal action was constructed in 800 BC in the Fort Center area on the west coast of Lake Okeechobee. Perhaps people left tree islands as they evolved into egalitarian societies, which makes sense because societal development would be easier if people were not living on separate islands.

The earliest activity at Wedgworth shows temporary settlements that became more fixed by the Late Archaic period. Tree islands provided a favorable climate for occupation in the northern Everglades. The end of activity coincides with social and environmental changes in the region.

RETHINKING CALUSA TOPIC OF JANUARY MEETING

Judi and John Crescenzo

On January 14, 2020, historian and author Ted Ehmann presented "People of the Great Circle—Prehistoric Mound Builders in South Florida," The title of his new book. Ehmann, who earned an MA in education from the College of NJ, is the founder and president of the Charlotte Harbor Anthropological Society. Ted believes his book fills a void because although the Hopewell and Mississippi mound cultures have been studied and written about for 25 years, the Calusa mounds in Charlotte Harbor are not mentioned in any books he read from 1896 to the present. Therefore, he indicated that he has no preconceived ideas about the Calusa.

Ted retired to Florida in 2016 from New Jersey and moved to Charlotte Harbor, immersing himself in the literature. He has come up with some theories, some previously proposed in the literature, others not, that he discusses in his book regarding the Calusa and South Florida and we look forward to Florida scholarly reviews.

Watson Brake in Louisiana is the oldest known mound complex, built around 3400 BC by hunter-gatherers. The complex does not contain burials or mounds for ceremonies and houses, so it must have had a symbolic or religious purpose.



Board member Rik Jimison presents January speaker Ted Ehmann with our world famous tee-shirt.

Horr's Island (Key Marco) in Collier County has the oldest burial mound, constructed in 1400 BC by Archaic Indians. In 1994, anthropologist and archaeologist Jerry Milanich stated that the lives of Pre-columbian Native American Indians of southern Florida occurring after 500 BC were not too different from those of northern Florida agricultural societies. However, in 2014, Victor Thompson, Professor of Archaeology from the University of KY, and Thomas Pluckhahn, Professor of Anthropology at the University of South Florida, pointed out that the southern Florida region had the most extensive hunter-gatherer society. How could each of these scenarios be correct? Thompson and Pluckhahn also never mentioned the huge Calusa complex around Lake Okeechobee, and it was theorized that Belle Glade people built those ceremonial centers. However, the Belle Glade lived in small communities on isolated hammocks, so why would they have built huge ceremonial complexes?

South Florida Pre-Columbian, Hopewell, and Mississippian mounds are connected. In 200 BC, at Poverty Point, LA, the Tunica people built complexes similar to those of the Calusa in Florida. Did the Calusa evolve from the Tunica? This would explain why the Calusa built mounds of shell in Estero Bay. Big Mound Key in southwest FL is a miniature version of the structures of the Tunica.

The 1896 Pepper-Hearst Expedition to Marco Island, led by anthropologist Frank H. Cushing, gave the world a glimpse of prehistoric culture in southwest Florida, revealing mounds, canals, water courts, carved wood, bone, shell, and metal artifacts that still had paint on them because they were preserved by peat. Artist Wells Moses Sawyer's journals, letters, and watercolors from the expedition recorded each artifact. The carved wooden deer was not only painted, but its ears moved mechanically by the dancer who wore it as a headpiece. The Calusa also created mechanical masks of a crocodile, crane, and wolf.

While in New Mexico from 1944-1950, John M. Goggin, the father of South Florida Archaeology, published information on Belle Glade pottery and stated that all of South Florida was one cultural region. This was based on findings of widespread Glade pottery bowls, which were thick and not adorned. Was there really a distinct Manasota culture? Defined regions and timelines fail to connect to regions outside of Florida. However, studies of

geographical areas and dates were not done after Goggin, and more information is needed.

In the 1960s, Florida archaeologist William Sears showed the bias and predispositions of archaeology in south Florida when he predetermined the archaeological outcomes at Fort Center in Glades County. Great Circle drawings by Sears provided the only information on South Florida archaeology. In his book, Sears called the Great Circle a retention ditch, even though there were wooden carvings and ponds at the base of the mounds to reflect the human soul.

Human adaptation can be explained by cultural synthesis. Over time, early people in Florida had to live and work with other native cultures. This is no different than what happened in Europe's Middle Ages, when Medieval/Christian culture moved into an area of pagan hunter-gatherers and the two cultures synthesized.

Likewise, the Calusa met the Mayaimi from Lake Okeechobee, who were resource poor but had strong religious beliefs. The Calusa were enterprising and technological, and when they joined forces with the Mayaimi, great mounds were built. Something must have occurred for such immense sites the size of football fields to be created by hunter-gatherers.

Ehmann offered signed copies of his book *People of the Great Circle, Prehistoric Mound Builders in South Florida* for sale at our meeting. The book is also available at bookstores, and a copy can be borrowed from the WMS/LSSAS Library. For more information on Ehmann's *Forgotten Florida History* book series, visit www.tedehmannhistories.net.

We appreciate Ted's engaging perspective and thank him for sharing his research!

WMS/LSSAS ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT OUR MARCH 10 MEETING

The WMS/LSSAS will hold its annual meeting prior to the general meeting March 10, 2020. Nominations will be held and nominees will be voted into office. The slate of nominees include: Officers; President, Kathy Gerace (two year term); Vice President, Steve Koski, two year term; Secretary, Sandy Heacock (interim); Treasurer, Kate Cattran (continued one year term); Membership Secretary, Linda Massey, (continuing one year term); Incoming Board member, Thalia St. Lewis (first of three year term); Bill Goetz, (first of three year term); continuing to serve, Linda Elligott, Teddy Ehmann, Betty Nugent, and Joan San Lwin. We thank outgoing director Rik Jimison for his service on the board these past three years!

THE WMS/LSSAS CELEBRATES ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY!

By Steve Koski

WMS/LSSAS History, Part 1, A Society is Born.

2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the WMS/LSSAS. The Society was incorporated as the Warm Mineral Spring Archaeological Society in November of 1990. It was formed by the director of the Warm Mineral Springs Research Project, Sonny Cockrell, and volunteers from the Manasota Key Site (8So1292). Sonny directed the excavations at the Manasota Key site with more than 200 volunteers, who intermittently worked at the site, and about 30 dedicated individuals who worked every

day from December 1988 – May of 1989. The first meeting was held at Glenallen Elementary School with more than 300 attending.

It all started in December of 1988. Sonny Cockrell, director of the FSU, WMSARP; Steve Koski, a graduate student from Arizona State University; and Skip Wood, a full-time Sarasota County Deputy Sheriff and part-time underwater archaeologist were working at Warm Mineral Springs. One afternoon, while Skip was working patrol in Englewood, he was called to a construction site on Manasota Key where human remains were found at a residential construction site. Skip investigated and determined that the remains were Native American.

The house lot had been completely cleared and footer pilings driven into the ground. When trenches were being dug between the pilings for the foundation, the graves were discovered. The day after the discovery, Wood called Sonny, and he and Koski went to investigate. Because of the disturbed and exposed burials, the state allowed us to remove those exposed, (Burial 1), inspect the trenches and back-dirt piles for disarticulated remains (there were many), and investigate the possibility of other internments. During the examination, another, then another, then another burial was discovered. The project turned into a four month excavation and the removal of 66 interments (see The Florida Anthropologist Luer, Koski, and Norman 2019).

Other archaeologists, George Luer and Bill Burger were involved, as was local avocational archaeologist Michael Hope. Several archaeologists from the state visited, such as osteologist Dave Dickel, the late Calvin Jones, and conservator James Levy, all with the Florida Division of Historical.

Dickel summarized the findings in the 1991 report "Descriptive Analysis of the Skeletal Collection from the Prehistoric Manasota Key Cemetery, Sarasota County, Florida (8So1292)." Over 300 volunteers were involved, but a core group of thirty or more came every day, including WMS/LSSAS membership secretary Linda Massey. Some of the volunteers had never even been on an archaeological site before, others had volunteered on other sites. By the end of the project, those regular volunteers were doing exceptional work on a professional level.

During the field project, we had several social gatherings of the core volunteers. During one, someone mentioned forming an archaeological society where we could continue to meet. Sonny, as director of the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Research Project proposed they start an organization called the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Society. Members could assist in the work at WMS and work at the Manasota Key Site lab doing analysis of the non-human material; faunal, shell, and artifacts, and have monthly meetings with speakers on archaeology and historic preservation.

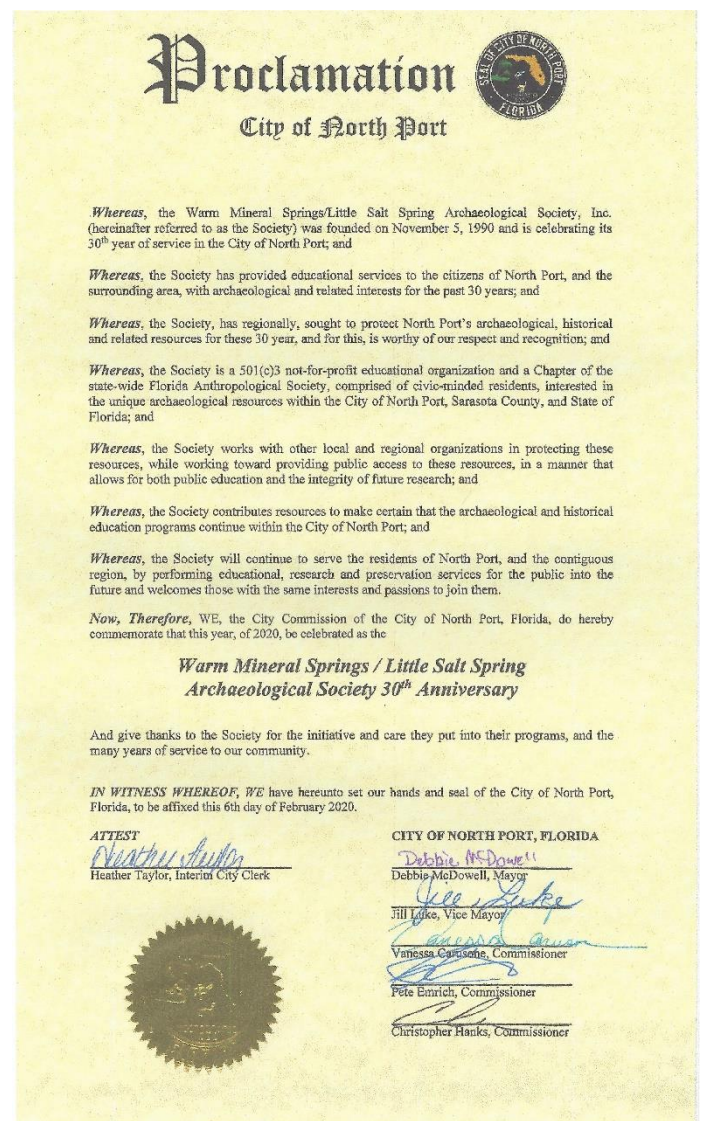
We had an organizational meeting, drafted by-laws, formed a Board of Directors and Officers and had our first meeting November 1990. A society was born.

WMS/LSSAS IS HONORED WITH A PROCLAMATION FROM THE CITY OF NORTH PORT

On February 6, 2020, the City of North Port Commissioners honored the WMS/LSSAS by proclaiming,

"Now, therefore WE, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida do hereby commemorate that this year, of 2020, be celebrated as the Warm Mineral/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society 30th Anniversary. And give thanks to the Society for the initiative and care they put into their programs, and the many years of service to the community."

We thank the North Port Commissioners for this recognition and for all they have done in the city to protect their cultural and natural resources, recently working to get the Jack West buildings at Warm Mineral Springs listed on the National Register of Historic Places in November of 2019; quite an accomplishment and recognition in itself. Congratulations!





WMS/LSSAS Members accept the 30th Anniversary Proclamation from North Port City Commission February 6, 2020. Left to right are Elijah Goetz, Bill Goetz, Linda Massey, Barbara Sanchez, Rik Jimison, George Guy, Steve Koski, Vice Mayor Jill Luke, Mayor Debbie McDowell, Commissioner Vanessa Carusone, Commissioner Pete Emrich, Linda Elligott, Commissioner Chris Hanks, and Joan San Lwin.

MARCH 2020 IS FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!
From <http://www.fpan.us/FAM/>

This year, Florida Archaeology Month celebrates the historic places and people who made Florida what it is today, and presents African American cemeteries as places to learn about these important and inspiring stories. See the map at: <https://fpan.us/FAM/> to explore some of these extraordinary unique and culturally significant cemeteries in Florida.

Every March, statewide programs and events celebrating Florida Archaeology Month are designed to encourage Floridians and visitors to learn more about the archaeology and history of the state, and to preserve these important parts of Florida's rich cultural heritage. Plan to attend some of the many events throughout Florida during March 2020! Information about local events can also be found on the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) website at fasweb.org, and on local FAS chapter websites that can be accessed from the main FAS webpage.

The double-sided 2020 FAM poster will be available at the March 10 meeting!

FAS ANNOUNCES 2020 ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN NAPLES

Now is the time to register and make hotel reservations for the FAS Annual Conference to be held May 8 – 10! Details are now available on the FAS web site at fasweb.org. The Friday night reception will be at the Marco Island Museum and attendees will have an opportunity to see the Key Marco Cat, featured on the 2019 Florida Archaeology Month poster.

Advance registration rates are available through April 7, 2020 at \$50 for FAS members, \$60 for non-members. Students enjoy a fifty percent reduction in registration rate. After April 10, 2020, a late registration fee of \$15 applies to all categories.

FAS Membership, as well as FAS 2020 Conference registration and abstract submission access is available through the FAS website. Abstract submission deadline is Friday, March 20, 2020.

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society will host the 2020 FAS Conference in Naples! This is another opportunity for our members to attend an FAS Conference that is relatively close. The conference center is The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples. Located at 2600 Tiburon Drive, Naples, this is a luxury



2020 Florida Archaeology Month Poster (Front and back)
 Posters will be available at the March 10 meeting!



hotel and the SWFAS has secured a conference room rate of \$149.00 per night, guaranteed on reservations booked by April 7, 2020. The rate extends for three days before or after the conference so bring your families for a true Mother's Day getaway! Resort and parking fees are waived for FAS registrants. For reservations call 1.877.557.3092 or book online, <https://book.passkey.com/go/FLAnthropologicalSocietyAnnual>. Be sure to mention FAS for the proper room rate when booking by phone, otherwise you won't be able to afford it.

Friday May 8: Friday morning business meetings for FPAN, FAC, and FAS begin at 8:00 AM, Registration 11:00 am – 5:00 PM and a Digital Heritage Workshop from 3:00 am to 4:00 pm. Friday evening, conference attendees will be treated to a Welcome Reception at the Marco Island Historical Museum hosted by the Collier County Museums and Marco Island Historical Society (bus transportation provided from the hotel). The reception will feature heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments, and exclusive access to the museum's galleries (included in the cost of registration). Artifacts excavated from Key Marco by Frank Hamilton Cushing, on loan from the Smithsonian Institution and University of Pennsylvania Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology, are currently on display. The present exhibition is only the third time the Key Marco cat has returned to Marco Island since Cushing's 1896 excavation. During the reception, the Florida Archaeological Council Stewards of Heritage Awards will be presented in the adjacent Rose History Auditorium. Shuttle service from The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort for conference attendees to the reception site is provided. Transportation costs are generously offset by a grant from the Collier County Tourist Development Council.

Saturday, March 9 is the day papers are presented from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, with registration from 7:30 am - noon. A continental breakfast is served in the vendor area on Saturday morning. Go to the faswb.org link for a schedule of sessions and the program will be posted when completed; vendors and book sales are part of the event

Saturday Awards Banquet will be held at the meeting venue at the Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, and include a cocktail reception, banquet dinner, FAS awards ceremony, and keynote speaker. Archaeologist and curator Dr. Ryan J. Wheeler will provide the Keynote presentation at the Awards Banquet. It will be a plated dinner created by the resorts' renowned chefs and an evening to remember. Dinner will be a Choice of Salad or Soup, Roasted Chicken Breast, Potato Croquette, Broccoli, Onion Wedge, and Peppercorn Sauce. (Vegetarian option available.) Includes coffee, tea, and dessert. The Banquet cost is \$50 per person.

Sunday, May 10, a field trip will include a Rookery Bay, Little Marco Island, and beyond boat tour, traveling down Henderson Creek and through Rookery Bay to Little Marco Island on the 40-foot pontoon boat Good Fortune II.

The Rookery Bay Estuarine Reserve covers over 100,000 acres of islands, waterways, mangroves and bays, was a major area of Native-American habitation and is similar to the 10,000 Islands. Located next to the Isle of Capri, Little Marco Island and Marco Island, this pristine bay teems with large numbers of wildlife on the land and in the Gulf waters that sustained the aboriginal

inhabitants who left their shell middens on many of these islands. Upon returning from the water excursion, it's a short distance walk to visit a shell mound and a historic settlers' cemetery. The tour departs from the Conservancy of Southwest Florida dock on Shell Island Road off of Collier Boulevard in Naples at 10:00 a.m. This tour is limited to 35 people. Cost is \$45 per person.

Go to www.fasweb.org for more information, click on Annual Meeting on the May 2020 Annual. So, if you plan to go, please register soon!

HPCSC TO HOLD THEIR ANNUAL PRESERVATION AWARDS LUNCHEON APRIL 25, 2020 IN VENICE

The Historic and Preservation Coalition of Sarasota County will hold their annual awards luncheon at the Venice Golf and Country Club April 25, 2020. The Coalition is a group who meet monthly with representatives from seventeen local preservation organizations in Sarasota County for the purpose of informing representative from each organization what they are doing for collaborative support.

The luncheon will recognize several individuals from Sarasota County who have made significant contributions in several award categories; including, Archaeological Conservancy, Lillian Burns Individual Achievement Award, Organizational Achievement, Historical Collections Preservation, Historic Structure Preservation, and Student Scholar Award. Not all categories are awarded every year and depend on nomination from the community.

So far, we have been informed that the Friends of Little Salt Spring will be the recipient of the Organizational Award, accepting will be founding members, president Lawry Reid and secretary Linda Reid; our own board member Betty Nugent will receive the well-deserved Lillian Burns Individual Achievement Award for her life-long work in historic preservation and involvement with multiple organizations; and, Ringling College of Art and Design will receive the Historic Structure Preservation Award for their efforts to restore the historic Sarasota High School. More may be announced at the luncheon.

The lunch is always spectacular and the awards ceremony an engaging event that gives the historic preservation community a chance to recognize those who have made outstanding contributions.

Reservations are \$45 by mail and \$48 on line. Go to <http://historicpreservationsarasota.org/> for more information and sign up for the event! Let's show them how much we care by attending this event!

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY PANEL TO BE HELD IN NORTH PORT MARCH 25, 2020

The Shannon Staub Library in North Port will hold a Southwest Florida Archaeology Panel discussion with local archaeologists on March 25, 2020 from 5:30-7:30 PM. Participants come from a variety of occupations related to archaeology and historic preservation; academic research, education, cultural resource management, public outreach, and



SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY PANEL

Wednesday, March 25, 2020
from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
at the Shannon Staub Library

Registration recommended;
register online or at the Reference Desk

Panelists:

Steve Koski, County Archaeologist, Sarasota County
Maranda Kles, PhD, RPA, Vice President, Archaeological Consultants, Inc.
Jeff Moates, M.A., RPA, Florida Public Archaeology Network
Bill Locascio, PhD, RPA, Assistant Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University



a local government agency on historic preservation ordinances designed to identify and protect significant cultural resources.

The four panelist include: Dr. Maranda Kles, Vice President of Archaeological Consultants, Inc., a local cultural resource management firm in Sarasota, Florida; Dr. Bill Locascio, Assistant Professor, Florida Gulf Coast University; Mr. Jeff Moates, Director of the Florida Public Archaeology Network, West Central Region, University of South Florida; and, Mr. Steven Koski, Sarasota County Archaeologist with Libraries and Historical Resources. Each panelist, through their employment has a specific area of expertise, but all come from a varied and interesting background.

The interactive panel discussion will involve audience participation through an open question and answer period. Each panelist will be introduced and given an opportunity to discuss their role in their current position, and their background leading up to that position. What drives someone to become an archaeologist? What academic training is required? What types of jobs are available to archaeologists? Why does archaeology and historic preservation matter? These are just a few topics that will be discussed.

All members are encouraged to attend and we hope to have a good public turnout!

UPCOMING FIELD TRIP AND EVENT

March 14, 2020: Theresa Schober, Manager of Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch, is organizing another "Cattle Drive and Jamboree." What fun! The Jamboree kicks off with a cracker-style cattle drive down Main Street to the museum, where there will be music by headliner Ben Allen

Band and others, cowboy poetry, dancing horses, traditional foods (like fry bread), Seminole traditional crafts, alligator wrestling, and more. The Immokalee Museum at Roberts Ranch is located at 1215 Roberts Ave. West, Immokalee, Fla. Events run from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Several of our members attended last year and had a great time! A sign-up sheet will be available at our upcoming meetings for those who might want to car pool. Go to Colliermuseums.com for more info or call (239)252-2611.

Friday, March 20, 2020 Field Trip to the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville: This is our final push to get the enough seats filled on the bus for our field trip to Gainesville! We would like to get at least 40 for the trip that will include a guided tour of the museum by staff in two groups of 20. We hope to see Dr. Charles Cobb, our October speaker who discussed re-purposing of Spanish expedition objects, indicated he would meet us if available. It has been some years since we had a field trip to the Museum and we thank Betty Nugent for making the arrangements. The cost will be \$45 per participant and we hope to have 45 attendees. My understanding is that there is no entry fee to the museum, but there is a \$12 charge for the butterfly exhibit.

Options for lunch are the Ham Art Museum Café (adjacent building) open from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., and there is a picnic area outside the museum for those who want to brown bag it. Details on the time of departure and location will be announced.

March 10 is our last meeting before the tour. If you signed up, please have a check at our March meeting as prepaid reservations are required.

For museum information visit www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu

2019 WMS/LSSAS OFFICERS

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