



**WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**

Vol. 22, No. 2 March/April 2011

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

**NOTE new meeting day, place and time beginning January 2011!:** The Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society meets the second Tuesday of the month at the North Port United Community Church of Christ at 7:00 PM located at 3450 Biscayne Blvd. Meetings are free and open to the public

**NATIVE PLANTS TOPIC OF MARCH 8 MEETING**

On Tuesday, March 8, Dr. Michele Williams will present "Weeds and Seeds: A History of Dining in Southern Florida." Dr. Williams will examine various plants utilized by early Floridians, as well as some of the "meatier" issues of early diet in South Florida. Learn how the wealth of natural resources in southern Florida has made it a unique dining experience for over 10,000 years. (See Plants, page 2)

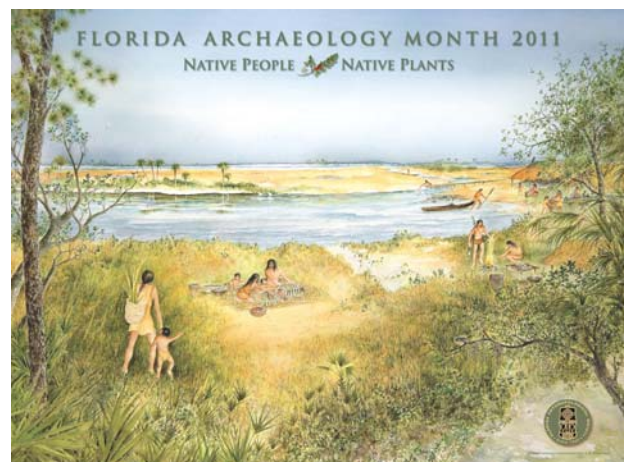


Dr. Michele Williams in the field

**MARCH IS FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH!**

"Native Peoples, Native Plants" is the theme for the year's Florida Archaeology Month. And the theme just happens to coincide with our March 8 topic by Dr. Michele Williams. What a coincidence!

"Each year in 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."



For more information on FAM, archaeology and state wide events visit:  
<http://www.flheritage.com/archaeology/education/month/about.cfm> and [www.fasweb.org](http://www.fasweb.org)

The FAM double-sided poster and bookmarks will be available at the March and April meetings. A native scene fronts the poster and lots of informative text on native plant use is on the back.

There are a couple of local events planned that our members are invited to attend:

**March 12, 2011:** TimeSifters Archaeology Festival at New College Public Archaeology Lab, 5800 Bay, Shore Road, Sarasota, 10:00 to 1:00 PM. Archaeology programs, children events, tour New College Public Archaeology Lab, free lunch and more!

**March 12, 2011:** Calusa Heritage Day at Randell Research Center, 13810 Waterfront Drive, Pineland, FL. This popular event focuses on regional archaeology, history, and ecology. Visit [www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC/EventDetails.asp?id=38&archived](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/RRC/EventDetails.asp?id=38&archived)

**March 26, 2011:** WMS/LSSAS field trip to the Mound House on Ft. Myers Beach. Join us on a field trip to the bay fronting Mound House on Ft. Myers Beach; We will meet at the North Port Library at 8:15. "Archaeological deposits at the Mound House – also known as the Estero Island Site – date back over 2,000 years. Numerous radiocarbon dates from across the mound layers indicate that people moved to Fort Myers Beach and began living at Mound House around 100 B.C. while the majority of elevated mound areas were constructed between A.D. 300 and 600. As a large village site, the archaeological deposits at Mound House contain abundant evidence of Calusa lifeways including the features such as ash pits and postmolds, and objects used in their daily lives including pottery, shell and bone tools, and ornamental items." Visit: [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org).

**Check out our FAM exhibit** at the NP Library by Judith Ribarick, Judi and John Crescenzo.

### PLANTS (cont. from page 1)

Did you ever wonder what the Florida Indians ate hundreds, even thousands of years ago? How do we know what we know about the diet of these earlier Florida peoples? How did the food they ate affect their health? These are just a few of the questions that will be addressed during the March presentation.

Michele Williams, Ph.D., RPA, is the Director for the Southeastern Region of Florida Public Archaeology Network at Florida Atlantic University. She has participated in excavations throughout the southeastern United States for the past 20 years. Her specialty within archaeology is ethnobotany, the use of plants by prehistoric Native Americans. This program promises to be another very interesting presentation you don't want to miss.

Want to learn more about the field of ethnobotany before the meeting? Visit <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/uw152>.

"Ethnobotany was probably first coined as a term in 1895 by one of Florida's early botanists, John Harshberger, and describes the study of the interaction between people, plants, and culture (Harshberger 1895). There are many components to ethnobotany, including food, fibre, medicine, shelter, fishing and hunting, religion, mythology, magic, and others." Sound interesting? Come to the March 8 meeting and learn more!

### APRIL 12 MEETING TO BE ANNOUNCED

The speaker for our April 12 meeting will be announced in the local newspapers, on our website [www.wmslssas.org](http://www.wmslssas.org), and will be sent to our members with an email address. As usual, it will be an interesting presentation I am sure, so please mark your calendar!

### FEBRUARY MEETING ON HISTORY OF BOCA GRANDE

By Judi and John Crescenzo

On February 8, 2011, Chuck Blanchard and Bob Edic presented "Picturing the Three Communities of Gasparilla Island 1890–1960 with Rare Eyewitness Commentary by Those Who Lived the Lives." In 1995, Blanchard published the book, *New Words, Old Songs*, which covers prehistory, and Edic published *Fisherfolk of Charlotte County*, which deals with the fishing cultures of the area. In 2005, they published a collaborative book titled *Boca Grande: Lives of an Island*. In 2010, Blanchard and Edic and Kimberly Kyle authored another book, *One Island, Three Hometowns, Picturing the Three Communities of Gasparilla Island 1890–1960 with Rare Eyewitness Commentary by Those Who Lived the Lives*. The book combines Archaeology, oral history, and archival images of past lives in Gasparilla and Charlotte Harbor. Their joint presentation explained efforts leading to the publication of their latest book.



Secretary Hilda Boron presents Chuck Blanchard and Bob Edic with our world famous tee-shirt

Edic moved to Boca Grande 25–30 years ago and began collecting oral histories and photographs while employed at the Boca Grande Lighthouse Museum. At that time, mounds were being bulldozed and raided by treasure hunters; most archaeological research was being conducted at accessible islands such as Useppa instead of Big Mound Key, which was more remote. Edic obtained grants to support his efforts and the Boca Grande Historical Society was formed.

Blanchard met Edic in about 1982 while working freelance for the Smithsonian. At that time, Edic represented the Florida Museum of Natural History. He introduced Blanchard to his mentor, local archaeologist George Luer. Blanchard and Edic worked together on the "Year of the Indian," an educational program in Lee County from 1989 to 1994. During Year I of the Indian, they arranged for the arrival of school children at the Pineland archaeology site, and the program became so popular that they had to use a lottery system to determine who would participate next. Teachers were instructed about local archaeology before reaching out to the students. Within three years, 5,000 students had been taught the correct history of Florida's early people.

By 1999, with the help of grants, Edic had obtained the equipment necessary to organize a database of his findings. Archival photographs included images of the Gasparilla fishing village, trains, and the port, all of which no longer exist. These images were helpful in awakening detailed memories from the locals when compiling an oral history of the area.

While Edic was compiling histories and photographs, Blanchard was hired by Charlotte Harbor to preside over the state parks because he knew where human skeletal remains were buried within the harbor. He was later hired to edit Connections magazine, which documented oral histories. Their latest book, *One Island, Three Hometowns*, is a culmination of these efforts over the years. It contains a collection of unique and intriguing oral histories from local residents and over 400 photographs of the Gasparilla and Charlotte Harbor area.

Blanchard expressed the hope that WMS/LSS Archaeological Society and the city of North Port will begin collecting local historic photographs and oral histories, including commentary about early explorations at the springs. He stressed the urgency of such a project, which will become impossible when the oldest members of the community pass on.

Blanchard and Edic provided copies of their books for those interested and we procured a copy of *One Island*,

Three Hometowns for the WMS/LSSAS Library, so check it out!

### LITTLE SALT SPRING TOPIC OF JANUARY MEETING

Judi and John Crescenzo

On January 11, 2011, Dr. John Gifford, Director of Research at Little Salt Spring and Associate Professor of Marine Archaeology, Division of Marine Affairs, University of Miami/Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, presented an update on LSS and research on the 27m ledge covering the period from 1976–2010. Over the past five years, interest in the spring has accelerated.

Because of the recent purchase of Warm Mineral Springs by Sarasota County and the city of North Port, research will lead to additional comparisons between WMS and Little Salt Spring. Dr. Gifford pointed out that North Port is the only place in the world to have two significant springs in such close proximity.

Most research has been conducted on the 27m ledge or cavern because archaeological explorations are more expensive at deeper levels. In 1990, cores were taken from the bottom with the help of National Geographic, and the U.S. Geological Survey has completed the analysis of the study of one of the cores; a publication is in preparation.

In June 2004, excavations in the basin of the spring in Operation 9, a 2x 2 meter unit 6 m below the surface of the spring, uncovered a deer-antler artifact with the roots and points cut off. Twenty-eight parallel notches were present on the antler, which was dated at 10,300 calendar years BP, and suggest the earliest example of humans counting time in the Western Hemisphere.



Dr. John Gifford accepts our world famous Tee shirt from president Dr. George Haag

About 15,000 years ago, melting glaciers caused fluctuations in the water level. Because of sea level



changes at that time, Little Salt Spring was located 120 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and Florida was twice its current size. Forests and animals were different from today; the Everglades and Lake Okeechobee did not yet exist. About 20,000 years ago, there was a post-glacial sea-level rise due to ice flowing into the oceans, and much of Florida was flooded. The spring sinkholes were formed by cave roof collapses. When glaciers melted, the water table rose and fresh water filled the sinkholes. Today, Little Salt Spring is 15 feet above sea level. About 12,000 years ago, the water was near the 27m ledge. Animals that fell in could have climbed onto the ledge or would have sunk to the bottom. It is also possible that people could have fallen in or rappelled to the ledge on ropes from above. The current research on the 27 m ledge is evaluating the level of human presence.

Consequently, the oldest material is likely in the deepest areas of the spring. Pleistocene vertebrae of extinct animals and wooden artifacts in direct association with animals have been uncovered. In 1975, giant tortoise fragments were discovered with a meter-long pointed wooden stake, apparently wedged between the plastron and carapace. Underneath the tortoise was another sharpened wooden stake. Problems in dating the stakes arose when the first stake was dated at 13,000 Cal years BP, while the second stake (under the tortoise) dated at 10,000 Cal years BP. The tortoise was reconstructed and classified as a *Geochelone crassicutata*. It was probably drawn to water seepage from the spring and may have fallen into the water. Early people could have then lowered themselves to the ledge. To date, four giant tortoises have been found on the 27m ledge. In 2008, a National Geographic grant enabled divers to return to same location on the ledge. Dating of additional pieces of tortoise was not possible because the water chemistry had altered the shell. However, a 1-inch piece of charcoal cabbage palm was dated at 14,350 Cal years BP, placing it in the pre-Clovis period. While the charcoal fragment was not an artifact or proof of human presence on the ledge, the find demonstrates that the ledge was exposed during that early time period.

Dr. Gifford supplemented his talk with a video clip of a dive to the 27 m ledge taken by team member Casey Coy with the Florida Aquarium in July of 2009. The video showed the recently exposed remains of one or more giant tortoise. The video also captured Steve Koski uncovering another 50 cm pointed wooden stake. Further explorations in this area are anticipated in July of 2011 with continued assistance from the Florida Aquarium in Tampa.

## LSS NEWS

SHK

January 14, 2011, concluded another exciting two-week field session at Little Salt Spring with six students from Dr. Gifford's Techniques in Underwater Archaeology Class. Students arrived January 3 for an intensive 12 days of underwater research in Operation 14, a 2x2 m unit located on the northern mid-slope of the basin 8.3 to 8.8 m below in the 13 m basin. The first day of the dive session involved setting up operations, instruction in underwater excavation techniques and lab procedures, with an afternoon in-water orientation; including uncovering the unit of the plastic placed over it from last January's session, setting up the injections dredge, and installing the hose used to vacuum the excavated sands to uncover wood, stone, bone, limestone rubble mixed with relict marine shell, etc.



January 2011 LSS Underwater Archaeology class. Pictured from left to right (standing) are Ryan McMinds, Robert Moore, Katie Ondrasik, Julia Lampe, Brendan McDermott, Justin Martens; with Dr. John Gifford and Steve Koski (front).

During the January field season, specimens from one 8–10 cm level were exposed. Once exposed, the elevation of each specimen was recorded with the line level, illustrated, labeled, photographed, and video documented prior to removal. Items were then removed and sediment samples of the associated matrix taken and brought to the lab for processing. In the lab, each item is photographed, measured, described, and entered into the database in preparation for analysis. The database is a log of every item recovered and includes a database image for instant examination and item image for closer examination if desired. Many of the shell, limestone and wood represent

paleoenvironmental data. Artifacts of many classes are present in the matrix as well, representing evidence of human activities and diet at a time of lower spring levels.

Several bone elements of deer, alligator, and small mammal were recovered and two wood artifacts drew considerable excitement. These were portions of circumscribed wood shafts or handles. Approximately the diameter of a wooden spoon found in most kitchens, these artifacts had parallel lines inscribed along a portion of the shaft, one with alternating zig-zag lines between parallel line on the end. Exceptional preservation for the estimated 9,000 rcy B.P artifact. A similar artifact was found in the same two-meter unit in January of 2010, so that makes three from the same area. All were broken on one end, but one extended beyond the break into the next level, so we hope to uncover the "business" end in March 2011, the next time the unit will be open for excavation of another level. This may seem like slow process, one 10 cm level in 12 days, perhaps two 10 cm levels in one year, and you would be right. But archaeology is a slow process, especially in an underwater environment and one so significant.



The students had a great time learning about what it takes to excavate an underwater National Register site soon to be nominated as a National Historic Landmark.

The next field session will run from March 12 to 19, with University of Miami archaeologists and Florida Aquarium science divers. Plans are to excavate another 10 cm level in the basin 8.5 m below the surface at Operation 14. In July 2011, a three-week field season is currently being planned for continued excavations on the 27 m ledge, with University of Miami archaeologists and students, science divers from the Florida Aquarium and a graduate student in Paleontology from Penn State University. Excavation will continue in three 1x1 m units where one or more extinct tortoises have been exposed. Research is

addressing human presence and utilization of the 27 m ledge when water level was lower 11,000 to 14,000 years ago. Did anyone intentionally rappel to the ledge or fall in and become trapped, as been suggested by previous research? These are the controversial and exciting issues currently being addressed.

## NORTH PORT HIGH STUDENTS ASSIST WITH LSS ENTRANCE SIGN

SHK

A collaborative effort between the Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society and North Port High School resulted in the construction and installation of a new entrance sign at Little Salt Spring to replace the one that deteriorated off the posts. The 10,000 year old wooden artifacts in the basin of the spring are in better shape than the old sign. The project was a combined effort between Ms. Tiffany Jennings's Graphic Design II class and Mr. Bill Mousseau's Construction Technology II class. Material costs were reimbursed by the WMS/LSSAS.



Pictured from left to right are WMS/LSSAS President George Haag, North Port High Students Justin Tape, Brenlyn Walters, Daniel Heilman, construction teacher Bill Mousseau, Matthew Mclellan, Dominic Dimina and Steve Koski. Not in photo but present to assist were Alex Sloboda, Cody Mcewen, Alan Church, graphic-design teacher Tiffany Jennings, and graphic design students Luke Hogue and Brad Shelton.

During a 2010 WMS/LSSAS board meeting, an agenda item came up on how we could help efforts at LSS. We annually provide modest donations, limited volunteer services, small research funds, and supplies to assist with research and property management. There are so many needs at the research facility. While the University of Miami provides considerable support at the property with taxes, repairs, maintenance, capital fundraising, etc., research funding and funding for some nonessentials are limited.



The University is also on a \$1 million fundraising campaign for the construction of a research/education center at LSS. The center would facilitate continued research and provide a conservation lab, hurricane-safe curation room and exhibit space, dive locker, offices, and a classroom for university and local students so we can not only continue student-supported research, but conduct educational programs for local students as well. A considerable capital undertaking indeed.

During the 2010 meeting, board member John Crescenzo mentioned the condition of the sign, which was previously estimated at \$1,200 to \$1,900 to replace. Approaching a local wood-working club was considered, as well as the North Port High School wood-working class. Board member Mary Williams volunteered to contact North Port High and spoke with construction teacher Bill Mousseau. Steve Koski called Bill, met him at the High School, and he agreed to take on the sign as a class project with his construction class and graphics class.

Students worked on the sign over the fall/winter term. Many of the students were from the extracurricular FBA club (Future Builders of America) and two students were from the graphic design class. The result is a beautiful wood-backed vinyl sign which was installed by the students Monday, February 28 (actual cost for materials, \$75).

Following the installation of the sign, Steve Koski took the students for a walk down the driveway and path through the mesic bayhead hammock to see the spring and they walked out to the center on the floating walkway. There, a brief discussion was held on the archaeology of LSS and the natural surroundings on the 11-acre property. They thought it was pretty cool.

We would like to thank North Port High School, NPH teachers Bill Mousseau and Tiffany Jennings and all the students who assisted. What a great job!

### **ANNUAL YARD SALE HUGE SUCCESS!**

Well, thanks go to all who donated and helped with the yard sale. We had our best year ever; \$1,625.65 was the grand total! There were too many involved to thank each of you individually and I would not like to inadvertently leave anyone out, but you know who you are. THANK YOU! We really got some great donations this year, which resulted in our overwhelming success. Considerably exciting when you consider all the work that went into collecting, storing, pricing, loading, delivering, setting up, unloading, spending six hours on the sale, loading leftovers, and delivering to Patriot Storage on Toledo Blade for the North Port Library's upcoming yard sale.

It was quite an effort and, again, thanks be to all

involved in making this year's sale our best ever!

### **EMERSON POINT ON MANATEE RIVER OUR NOVEMBER FIELD-TRIP DESTINATION**

Judi and John Crescenzo (group photo)

Our first exciting field trip of the season was held on November 27 at Emerson Point, located on Sned Island where the Manatee River, Terra Ceia Bay, and Tampa Bay meet. Although the day initially threatened to be a washout, by the time the tour began, the skies had cleared. Steve Koski treated a group of members and guests to a glimpse into the past as they climbed Portavant Temple Mound, the largest ceremonial Indian mound in the region, and meandered among the surrounding undulating middens.



WMS/LSSAS members and guests on top of the Portavant Mound at Emerson Point (photo by tripod)

Today the mound and middens are covered by dense foliage, but between 800–1500 AD when this was an active community, the shell mounds would have been white. Vegetation was under control at that time, with the thatched homes of chiefs and leaders on top of the mound and a plaza below. It is unknown why villagers regularly built ritual structures, burned them down, added a layer of earth, and then put new buildings on top, but this process caused the mounds to grow in size and elevation. Some of the mounds appear to be formed into shapes, but the reason for this also remains a mystery.

This area was attractive to Indians because of the abundance of food supplied by the water, such as fish, turtles, and shellfish. Archaeological remains have shown that the land was also a resource for edible plant material and game such as bobcats, foxes, and gopher tortoises. Because stone was not readily available in the region, natives used local shell and bone to make tools. Large conchs with wooden handles were used as hammers to open shellfish. Shell tools were also created to cut and

carve wood, make ornaments, and drill beads. Slivers of deer bone were used as shuttles to weave fishing nets from plant fibers; clay was dug to form pots and bottles, which were hardened in fires.

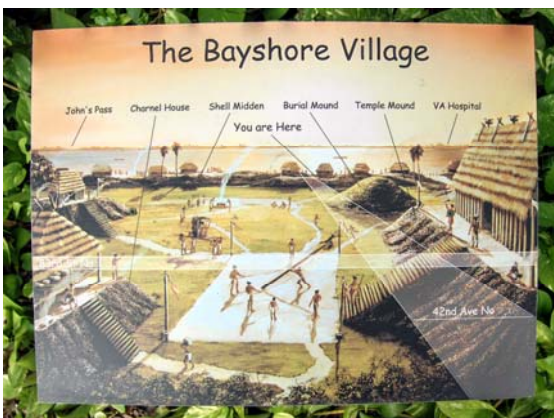
Although the tour focused on earlier peoples in the region, the group also learned about pioneer settlements after the 16th century when Europeans arrived. The explorers brought disease, war, and enslavement to the natives, who had already vanished by the mid-1700s, when Indians from Georgia and Alabama resettled Florida. The mound area was homesteaded in 1866 by the Griffith family, which is evidenced by the remains of a chimney. In 1894, Captain Portavant settled the mound property, leaving behind a cistern that had collected rain water. In 1910, Peter and Golden Marine purchased the land and planted rows of royal palms leading from the base of the mound to the shore, several of which remain visible today. The Freemans bought the property in 1924 and farmed the land into the 1950s. In 1991, the property was transferred to the State of Florida and Manatee County, and in 1996 three acres were added to western portion of the park.

After our tour of the mound area, we proceeded to the western tip of Snead Island for a picnic lunch by the water, followed by a walk along the shore trail among mangroves and other native vegetation. To end a perfect day, everyone met at the 60-foot observation tower for a scenic view of the island and distant glimpses of Egmont Key, St. Petersburg, the Skyway Bridge, and Tampa. A good time was had by all!

## GREAT TIME HAD BY ALL AT BAYSHORE VILLAGE SITE

Judi and John Crescenzo

On January 22, 2011, a group of 20 members and their guests met for an exciting day at Mac and Faye Perry's home atop a midden in Bayshore Village in St. Petersburg.



Our morning began with a tour of Mac's property, which has been converted into a Native American Village and also includes a recent open archaeological excavation unit.



Mac Perry at the Bayshore Village Site in his own front yard with WMS/LSSAS members and guests

The first stop was at a time line in the front yard, putting into perspective how long humans have existed. The group next moved to an active archaeological pit where Linda Alred, a member of the Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society, explained that the layers of quahog and oysters are an indication of changing sea levels, resource availability, and salinity. Artifacts uncovered include a few pieces of sand-tempered pottery radio-carbon dated at 200-400 AD. Additional items are still under analysis at the Weedon Island Cultural and Natural Resource Center lab. As we moved through his yard, Mac explained the various other stations that demonstrate daily life in a native village, including foods and their preparation, a charnel house with bundle burials, shaman practices, canoe-making, tool-making, hunting methods and weapon usage.

After a tour of the village, members were invited into the Perry home for a "9th Century Indian Village Lunch," which Mac, Faye and Linda had kindly prepared. Our menu included such enticing delights as clam and shrimp stuffing, wild rice, a fresh berry mix, field bean soup with deer scraps, a salad with pomegranate syrup and vinegar dressing, jicama slices, blueberry amaranth seed cakes, roast turkey, venison, and a choice of pomegranate or saw palmetto tea.

After experiencing a taste of the past, Mac provided sketches of how the mound villages would have looked when occupied. The group was guided to other local mounds, including those in the Bayshore neighborhood

(A.D. 200-1200), the Bay Pines Hospital Site (A.D. 500-1000) and the Narvaez/Anderson Site (A.D. 1200-1600). Members were also advised about the Maximo Point Site (A.D. 800-1400) located at the north end of the Skyway Bridge.

We'd like to extend sincere thanks to Mac, Faye, and Linda, our generous and gracious hosts, for their efforts in making this a very special and memorable event!

## LUCKY PRIZE WINNERS AT THE JANUARY 2011 MEETING

Two members were lucky winners at our January meeting when we raffled a shark tooth donated by local diver and WMS/LSSAS member Gary Rowe, found off Venice Beach, and two tickets to Historic Spanish Point in Osprey. At other meetings, we have raffled tickets to Selby Gardens in Sarasota and Warm Mineral Springs in North



January's raffle winners: new member Kathy Stysick (left) with a shark tooth donated by Gary Rowe (center) and board member Bob Dunay (right), with two tickets to Historic Spanish Point.

Port. You never know what we are going to raffle, but it's usually pretty cool; a little incentive to join the excitement. Monthly raffles are fun and help support our speakers' dinner, motel if they spend the night, and modest honorarium. Big thanks to Gary Rowe (center) for donating his find recovered off Venice Beach and to Hilda Boron for donating the two Historic Spanish Point tickets.

## FIELD TRIP SCHEDULED TO MOUND HOUSE ON FT. MYERS BEACH MARCH 26

On Saturday, March 26, members are invited on a field trip to The Mound House, located on Ft. Myers Beach at the

Estero site, a large shell mound and historic site owned by the town of Ft. Myers Beach. This is a trip we have been awaiting with enthusiasm for quite a while. Mound House Director Theresa Schober will host a tour of the site and the nearly completed shell mound exhibit. The shell-mound exhibit, partially funded by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources, was a former pool area that had been removed and excavated through 12 feet of shell to sterile sand. Once covered, the exhibit was built around the east and south profile walls. So, in essence, you are inside a shell mound and can observe the centuries of mound-building episodes and black-dirt living surfaces. Similar to the Window to the Past exhibit at Historic Spanish Point in Osprey, it is quite spectacular.

We will meet at the North Port Library at 8:15 AM for an 8:30 departure. Allow 1.5 hours travel time.

The Mound House is located at 289 Connecticut Street, Fort Myers Beach. Call 239-765-0865 or go online to [www.moundhouse.org](http://www.moundhouse.org).

Take I-75 south to Daniels Parkway exit and go west, following signs to beaches. Cross US 41 on Gladiolus Drive and take a left at Summerlin. Follow signs to Ft. Myers Beach. Once on the island, take a left, go approximately three miles to Connecticut Street, and take another left. The Mound House is at the end of the road. For more information, go to <http://www.moundhouse.org/>.

## HAVE YOU CHECKED OUT OUR LIBRARY?

Lorraine Hawkins, WMS/LSSAS Librarian

Edge of Wilderness, a settlement History of Manatee River and Sarasota Bay, by Janet Snyder Matthews. Check this book out if you are interested in the history of Florida in our area. Of course, being a Florida Cracker with relatives who were involved in this book (i.e., brick layers for Bradenton or, as my Grandfather [Baggage Master Atlantic Coastline Railroad] called it, Braden Town; relatives who gave Gamble Mansion—part of an underground railroad for the confederates—to the State of Florida), I have still-unanswered questions on my part, but this book brought some things to light for me.

This interesting book and others will be available for one-month check-out at our March 8 meeting. Check out a book at a meeting and return it at the next month's meeting. Also, we will have a list of all our books available to our members and you can request a book from the list to be brought to the next meeting or arrange to pick it up. We want to make the WMS/LSSAS library more accessible to our members. Come to the March meeting and check it out! Another incentive to join us.



## ANNUAL FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING MAY 6-8

Adapted from FAS newsletter

The Central Florida Anthropological Society is hosting the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society in Orlando, May 6-8, 2011. Come experience and enjoy a part of Orlando that is centered on art, culture, history and science.

Primary Accommodations for FAS 2011 will be at the Comfort Suites Downtown Orlando, 2416 N. Orange Ave., Orlando, FL 32804, which is approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from the meeting location at Orlando Shakespeare Theater. The special room rate is \$89 per night. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel at 1-877-228-4007 or (local) 407-228-4007. In order to receive the special conference room rate, reservations must be made prior to April 6, 2011, and you must ask for the "Florida Anthropological Society group rate" to guarantee the rate of \$89 per night plus tax. Shuttles will run back and forth between the hotel and the Friday-night reception and the Saturday-night banquet. There are a limited number of rooms available here, so please be sure to reserve your room ASAP. Secondary accommodations will be at the Crown Plaza Downtown Orlando, 304 West Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32801, which is about 2 miles from the Orlando Shakespeare Theater. The special room rate is \$100 per night plus tax. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel at 1-888-233-9527 or you can book online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FLAnthropological>. In order to receive the special conference room rate, reservations must be made prior to April 8, 2011, and you must ask for the "Florida Anthropological Society group rate" to guarantee the rate of \$100 per night plus tax. Please note that bussing will not be provided between this particular hotel and the reception or banquet.

On Friday, May 6, group meetings will be held for Florida Public Archaeology Network, Florida's Trail of Indian Heritage, Florida Archaeological Council, and FAS. A workshop and panel discussion on Florida's Recent Past will also be held. A reception will be held at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

On Saturday, paper-presentation and poster sessions will be held at the Shakespeare Theater. Steve Koski will present another paper this year entitled "Early through Middle Archaic Design Elements on Artifacts from Little Salt Spring (8SO18), Sarasota County, Florida." A poster on LSS will also be presented in the poster session entitled "Vegetation Changes During the Last Deglacial and Early Holocene: A Record from Little Salt Spring Florida," by

USGS scientists Christopher Burnhardt, Debra Willard, and Bryan Landacre, and UM/RSMAS archaeologist Dr. John Gifford. There will be many other interesting papers and posters presented as well. Vendors with books and other wares will be present. The FAS Annual Business Meeting and FAS New Board Meeting will follow the paper sessions on Saturday. The Saturday-night banquet will be held at The Taproom at the Historic Dubsdread in the College Park Community, 849 West Par Street, Orlando.

These are always interesting, fun, and informative meetings. For further details and registration information go to: <http://www.fasweb.org>.

## SPEAKER SERIES AT NEW COLLEGE

"Dialogues with Florida's Past" is the theme of a three-lecture series addressing Florida's archaeological heritage in the context of contemporary issues. It is sponsored by Time Sifters Archaeological Society and New College Public Archaeology Laboratory (directed by our December 8 speaker, Dr. Uzi Baram). The series is funded in part by the Florida Humanities Council. The Series includes:

**March 16:** Craig Pittman, author and *St. Petersburg Times* reporter, and William Marquardt, Curator of the Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, will present "Lessons from the Environment."

**May 18:** John McCarthy, General Manager of Sarasota County Parks and Recreation, and Barbara Little, University of Maryland, will present "Archaeology and the Preservation of History."

These are sure to be interesting and members are encouraged to attend.

The presentations are being held at the Mildred Sainer Pavillion in the Caples Fine Arts Complex, 5313 Bay Shore Road, Sarasota, just south of the Ringling Museum of Art. Due to limited seating, reservations are highly recommended. Call 941.487.4888

## CHARTER MEMBER WINNIE REMEMBERED

SHK

You know, you meet a lot of great folks that come to our meetings (and through life in general). I have met many wonderful folks through the WMS/LSSAS. Some come to our meetings for the presentations, others for the field trips and events. Some find it's not for them, others stay involved for years and the list is long. One such person who stayed involved as long as she was able was Winnifred Ziehl, who passed away recently on December 20, 2010 at 91. I for one am saddened to hear of her passing, as I am sure all

her family and friends are as well; but I am also happy in knowing her.

Many of you may not remember Winnie, as she was called, as she has not been active for the last few years, but if you have been around for a while, I am sure you would remember her. Her local involvement goes back to the Manasota Key site dig of 1988/89, where the Society got its start from all the local volunteer involvement. She was a founding member of the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Society, as it was first called, founded by Sonny Cockrell with Manasota Key volunteers. She visited the site and volunteered on many occasions, then volunteered at the Manasota Key lab set up at the historic Green Street Church in Englewood and at Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Research Project. In those early years, through the 1990s and some of the following decade, she came to many of our meetings and field trips and participated on many of our workshops and events. For several years she was our cashier at our yard sale.

I'm not one to dwell on regrets, but I do wish I had kept up with her on occasion with a visit to the assisted living home in Venice. I have thought about that with a lot of our past members and could list many that we miss having around. But, you do the best you can I guess and life keeps us busy until it finally catches up.

Her family sent a kind donation to the Society in her memory, which was nice. We wish them well and want them to know we enjoyed knowing Winnie.

#### EDITOR'S COMMENT

After the news letter is completed I always notice there is something I missed, should have included, accidentally omitted, had to leave out because of space and formatting, etc., my apology.

I do want to thank all who contributed and helped with this issue of the newsletter; Judi and John Crescenzo, Lorraine Hawkins, Hilda Boron, and of course, my proof reader, Valerie Grey of Grey Matter Consulting. While Valerie does a great job of proof reading the newsletter (every issue since 1992) and catching most of my grammatical mistakes and confusing sentences, I, as editor am solely responsible for all errors, as I add text, photos, format, and generally mess with it after I get it back from Valerie. While I could mess with each issue forever, at some point I have to decide it's finished, close my eyes, and let it go.

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