



WMS/LSS ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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

The Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Spring Archaeological Society meets the second Tuesday of the month (except June, 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 September's meeting will be held at Alvaro's Family Restaurant, 14512 Tamiami Tr., North Port, at 5:00 PM. Meetings are free and open to the public.

FINDING LUCY, OUR 3.5-MILLION-YEAR-OLD ANCESTOR TOPIC AT OUR SEPTEMBER 10 MEETING WITH SPEAKER GENE DOLE

The 1972 and 1973 International Afar Research Expeditions were ground breaking in what they discovered: evidence of some of our earliest ancestors. Join us on Sept. 10 for a presentation by Gene Dole, who will discuss his personal involvement in the "Lucy" expeditions, the formation of the first truly multi-national paleontological research team, the geological back-ground of the site, getting to the site, camp life, how the fossils were discovered, and the people of the Ethiopian Afar. In addition, Gene will discuss dating the site's bio stratigraphy and radiometry, the excavation of numerous hominid fossils including the world-famous Lucy, what early human ancestors were found, and their impact on the field of paleoanthropology. Photos of Afar people, fossils, the excavation process, and the controversies around various interpretations of the finds will also be discussed. Mr. Dole received a B.A. in Anthropology in 1974 from Case Western Reserve Univ. (CWRU) and went on to earn an MBA in Marketing from Cleveland State Univ. (1987). [P. 2]



September 10 speaker Gene Dole

EARLY SPANISH CONTACT IN THE NEW WORLD TOPIC OF OCTOBER 8 MEETING

On October 8, we will welcome Florida Museum of Natural History curator and professor Dr. Charles Cobb, who will present a program on one of his research projects titled "The Remains of the Fray: Native American Re-Purposing of Spanish Expedition Objects." He will discuss an unusually large assemblage of 16th-century metal artifacts recently recovered in northern Mississippi. These likely derive from a major battle between Spanish conquistador Hernando de Soto and Native Americans in 1541. Their number, variety, and degree of refashioning have no parallels from contemporary sites in the Southeast.

Charles Cobb is the James E. Lockwood, Jr. Professor of Historical Archaeology. His primary interests lie in the archaeology of the colonial era in the southeastern United States. This work has focused on how Native American societies contested and accommodated the arrival of Europeans, particularly in frontier zones. His projects have included studies



October 8 Speaker Dr. Charles Cobb

of the establishment of 17th- and 18th-century Indian towns on the Savannah River, the French and Chickasaw wars in northern Mississippi, and his recent research on the archaeology of the Hernando de Soto expedition. He is also involved in developing an online database and website of Spanish mission archaeology. This will be another meeting you don't want to miss.

LUCY (cont'd from page 1)

During his studies in anthropology, Mr. Dole had the fortunate opportunity to work as a graduate assistant at CWRU from 1972–1975 and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History from 1973–1975. During his research appointment, he organized the purchase of all supplies for two archaeology expeditions to the Afar region of Ethiopia; prepared and cast all hominids collected; collected and analyzed elephants to produce initial site dates; designed, budgeted, and purchased equipment for a research laboratory; and taught undergraduate anthropology classes as a graduate-student assistant before launching a 38-year career as a medical group-practice administrator.

Come to the September meeting and learn about some international research that help shaped our concepts of human evolution.

2019 WMS/LSSAS SPEAKER LINEUP

Thanks to Speaker Chair Kathy Gerace, we have speakers through 2019 and into 2020! Coming up in November and December:

November 12, 2019: Anna R. Dixon, University of S. Florida St. Petersburg, Dept. of Anthropology, will present “Marks of Identity: The Ethnobotany of Tattooing.”

December 10, 2019: Rick Kilby, Springs Eternal Project, and author of *Finding the Fountain of Youth*, will present “The Magical Springs of Old Florida.”

More information on our remaining 2019 speakers and winter 2020 speakers will be in our November/December WMS/LSSAS Newsletter.

BIO-ARCHAEOLOGY OF MEDIEVAL MONASTICISM TOPIC OF MAY 14 MEETING

By Judy and John Crescenzo

On May 14, 2019, Xenia Kyriakou, Greek-Cypriot forensic anthropologist and bio-archaeologist, presented “Bioarchaeology of Monasticism: The Unruly Nuns of Cypress.” Ms. Kyriakou earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Malta and continued studies at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. She is currently working toward her Ph.D. at the University of Poland. Ms. Kyriakou's presentation described her findings during skeletal analyses of human remains at the St. Theodore nunnery on Cyprus, which existed within the socio-cultural context of Medieval monasticism.

Medieval skeletons show that middle to low classes lived in poverty. There were gender divisions, children worked, and there was a close human-animal relationship. Work was mainly agricultural and in or around the house. Studies of bones reveal high mortality and morbidity. Rickets, anemia, enamel hypoplasia of the teeth, and scurvy indicate malnutrition.

According to history books on the subject, Cistercians lived obedient, simple lives of daily toil in the fields, following strict rules of St. Benedict. They drank no alcohol and ate a strict diet of coarse bread, vegetables, herbs, and beans. Sugar was consumed only at special events. However, bones of Cistercians prove they were hypocrites. Although they followed strict rules in public, they were gluttons in private, consuming meat, capons, geese, and wine, beer and mead in silver jugs adorned with gold and silver.

In the 12th–13th centuries AD, Gerald of Wales called them hypocrites when he discovered feasts held behind the building near the ocean, where music and good living were enjoyed. Bones of men, women, and children show a high quality of life and a diet high in protein and carbohydrates, leading to diabetes and obesity. Chemical analyses of the bones provide an isotopic signature. Both pathology and isotopes prove these people ate large amounts of food. In one burial, a male skeleton had his arms out to the sides because he was too obese to put his arms by his sides, as was the norm.



WMS/LSSAS president Steve Koski presents forensic anthropologist Xenia Paula Kyriakou our world-famous tee-shirt. Now it really is world famous!

The term “nun” was not used until the end of the 11th century. Women were considered helpers in times of need and could not have control or permanent residences. Families of wealth and political power began to push for nuns and built a monastery dedicated to Maria of Ibelin, the first abbess of St. Theodore's and daughter of Countess Alice of Montbelaird. Nuns and monks were separated and were supposed to lead simple, godly, quiet lives.

Kyriakou's study was intended to contextualize osteological studies at the convent and reconstruct health patterns. There were more burials at times of disease and war. Bones show signs of leprosy, proving that rules to place lepers outside the monastery were ignored. Studies reveal blunt-force trauma to the head, broken fingers, fractures, and intentional infliction of repeated physical harm, such as beatings. The nuns had cliques, fought for control, and did not follow rules. They had parties, and nuns would disappear for a while. Monks stayed behind and babies were found on the doorstep. After 100 years of letters of

protest from the community, the Pope dissolved the monastery around 1549.

Our thanks go to Xenia for sharing her research and stories about life of Medieval monasticism; not our typical presentation, but truly a fascinating story combining historic documentation, religious doctrine, and bio-archaeology.

2019 ANNUAL FAS MEETING AND CONFERENCE HELD AT CRYSTAL RIVER MAY 10–12

This year's FAS conference held at The Plantation at Crystal River was another informative, fun, and memorable event. Several WMS/LSSAS members attended.

The meeting was hosted by the Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society, Florida Public Archaeology Network – West Central Region, and Florida Public Archaeology Network – Central Region.

Registration and board meetings with FAS, FAC, FPAN, and FTIH were held Friday afternoon. The meeting officially kicked off with the Friday-evening reception at Crystal River State Park with a welcoming ceremony, brick-oven pizza, and local brew.

Three consecutive paper sessions were held Saturday at the Plantation, with a poster-session room with various vendors.

The Saturday-night banquet, also held at the Plantation, offered a gourmet meal; keynote speaker Ms. Ginessa Mahar, Ph.D. candidate of the University of Florida, presented on her graduate studies research with a paper titled "With a Little Help from Our Friends: Investigating Florida's Ancient Fisheries."

The awards ceremony followed the keynote presentation. The prestigious Ripley Bullen Award was given to Theresa Schober for "furthering good relations among avocational and professional archaeologists"; a Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Lewis Tesar for "remarkable accomplishments in protecting and preserving Florida's Archaeological heritage."



Theresa Schober was the recipient of the prestigious Ripley Bullen Award at the 2019 FAS meeting. Pictured with FAS President Jason Wenzel and SWFAS (nominating Chapter) President John Furey.



2019 FAS Annual Conference reception, Crystal River Indian Mound. This could be the most tightly packed group of archaeologists in one place at the same time in Florida ever.

On Sunday, there were two pontoon-boat tours along the river, narrated by regional archaeologists Tom Pluckhahn (USF) and Gary Ellis (Gulf Archaeology Research Institute), one included a walking tour of two mounds. The weather was absolutely beautiful Sunday for the two pontoon-boat rides on Crystal River and all attendees had a great time. A six-page newsletter or 30 min presentation could be done with the photos Koski took of the three-day event, his thirty-third.

For more information on the 2019 conference and to see all the awards photos, go to fasweb.org and click on Awards.



Koski and Baram at their 2019 FAS Poster

New College of Florida professor Dr. Uzi Baram designed a poster on his collaboration with NCF Public Archaeology Lab, and Sarasota County Historical Resources, FPAN, and Sarasota

County Parks and Natural Resources on a Community Heritage Awareness and Management Program (CHAMP) project, a concept developed by Koski's predecessor at Historical Resources Ryan Murphy and Dr. Baram to help showcase Sarasota County's historical resources and involve students and the public in all aspects of archaeology, research, educational outreach, and historic preservation. The poster featured an overview of the multi-component, multi-collaborating research at Phillippi Estate Park that included, archaeological excavation, public participation and education, and "radical openness"; AND Uzi was kind enough to add Steve Koski as co-presenter for his participation on the project (what a guy).

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

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society will host the 2020 FAS Conference in Naples! Another opportunity for our members to attend an FAS Conference that is relatively close. 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. Plans are still underway and details will be announced in the November/December and March/April WMS/LSSAS Newsletters. It would be great to have a strong chapter attendance!

CHARLOTTE HARBOR ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The CHAS has announced its Fall speaker series. Thursday, September 19, 2019, archaeologist Eric Pendergast will present "Love Letters," the fascinating tale of his discovery of letters from the 1800's found in a glass jar at a construction site in downtown Tampa. They were letters between the Captain of the *Gopher* (the boat used by the C. B. Moore on his archaeological expeditions to Florida) and his mistress. What were they doing there, how were they found, and what did they say? Go to the meeting and find out! Mr. Pendergast presented his findings at the 2019 FAS conference in May to an astounded audience.

Thursday, October 10, 2019, the CHAS will host Edward Gonzalez-Tennant and discuss his book, *The Rosewood Massacre: An Archaeological History of Intersectional Violence*. This is the telling of a tragic tale that should not be lost to history,

The CHAS meets at 7:00 at the Wintergarden Presbyterian Church, 13805 Wintergarden Ave., Port Charlotte FL. For more information, call 732-740-5055. Visit their website at: <https://charlotteharboras.org/>.

WMS/LSSAS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIRD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY DAY OCTOBER 19

The Florida Public Archaeology Network and Charlotte County will host their third annual International Archaeology Day! This year's event will be held at the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library, 401 Shreve St., Punta Gorda, from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM.

The WMS/LSSAS will have three tables set up with a display with artifact replicas and information on Florida archaeology and the WMS/LSSAS. Numerous participants from various organizations will participate again with hands-on activities for children and adults, archaeology presentations, information on local sites, food trucks, and more! Punta Gorda is a great place to visit, so check it out!



Joan San Lwin, Steve Koski, and Kathy Gerace at IAD 2018

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