

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 7, Number 4

NEWSLETTER

May, 1983

President: Jeanie McGuire

Editor: Beth Read

Meeting Notice

Friday, May 20, 1983, 8:00 p.m.

The May regular meeting of the membership will be held at the Audubon House in South Miami, 5530 Sunset Drive, on Friday evening, May 20th at 8:00 p.m. A Board Meeting has been scheduled for 7:00 p.m. at the same location. Jim McLellan will present his slides of Mel Fisher's Key West Exhibit of artifacts salvaged from the Atocha, a Spanish treasure ship sunk in a storm off the Florida coast in 1622. Also, Bob Carr will help us organize ourselves as "Site Monitors" of known archaeological sites in an effort to keep ahead of the bulldozer in prime areas of Dade County.

New Officers

The following members were elected as new officers for the 1983-84 term at the April meeting:

President: Jeanie McGuire

1st Vice President: Robert (Bob) Carr

2nd Vice President: Diane Thilmont

Secretary: Wilma Sakal

Treasurer: Larry Hochen

Trustees: Jean Cozza

Tom Lux

Dennis Wiedman

Continuing Trustees:

Joan Fonte

Joan Haas

Judi Trimble

Faye Hochen

Seth Lefkow

From the President:

As your new president I look forward to the year ahead. We have an exciting future with a new board of directors, a new newsletter editor, Beth Read, a new circulation manager, Mae Van Bezoooyen, and a field director, Jim McLellan.

We are sorry that Larry Hochen, treasurer, and Faye Hochen, trustee, have resigned from their board position. They have been a great asset to the board in our business matters. We are pleased, however, to know they will continue as active members. Our new board will appoint two members to these positions.

We do need a program chairperson and activities chairperson. If you can help in these areas, please let me know. (662-1950)

Jeanie

Future Plans

\*Our new field director, Jim McLellan is actively arranging for a site our society can excavate. We should have details by the May meeting.

\*A new ASSF brochure and membership application are in the planning stage

\*A suggestion has been made to the Board that the Society initiate a program which would enable us to publish, catalog, and distribute for a fee both old and new research papers and descriptive reports of artifactual findings by members and others in the community as a method of preserving these records and making them available to other researchers. If you have any thoughts, pro or con, on this suggestion please contact any member of the Board

### New Members

We welcome Emily Perry and Maria Caldwell as new members of the Society. Watch for them and introduce yourself to them at our next meeting.

### Tribute

Three Cheers to our immediate past president, Sue Goldman. She has done a beautiful job as our leader during the past year as we have gone through a transition period. Thanks to her firm yet gentle manner we are a strong and active group. Her annual report is included with this issue of the Newsletter.

### FAS Meeting in Tallahassee, April 8-9

Several of our members attended the annual meeting of the FAS in Tallahassee last month and we have the following report and observations from Jo Southard:

"The facilities were super--and we were all made to feel welcome. We visited the lab at the Archives and were able to see some of the restoration and preservation being done on artifacts, metal and wooden. There were guns from the lake at Lake City, circa 1850, the wooden totem from Hontoon Island and dugout canoes and a cannon. Frank Gilson and James Levy were our gracious hosts. In the lobby of the R. A. Gray Building were some display cases containing a shell bead necklace from the Lake Jackson site--a very heavy and beautiful piece made from the conch shell, each bead being about 2½ centimeters across. The copper breastplates from the same site are also displayed there. Calvin's reproduction of the breastplate was a work of art.

A reception was held Friday night in the Old Capitol which has been restored and is warm and lovely. Many interesting papers were given on Saturday. Patsy West gave a paper on the role of the woman in the Seminole society. The banquet was held at the Hilton on Saturday evening. We enjoyed our dinner and speaker Dr. Bruce Smith of the Smithsonian. Calvin Jones was the well deserved recipient of the Ripley Bullen award.

We attended a workshop on Sunday morning about reaching the public for help on preserving sites. There was also a slide presentation with text and pictured from each Chapter. Our reaction and feelings: the information from our Chapter didn't do us justice. How about appointing an official photographer?"

### Workshops; Classes; Films; Etc.

On Sunday, May 15, there will be a workshop at Arch Creek Park, 1855 N.E. 135 St., North Miami, from 1:00-3:00 p.m.: Underground at Arch Creek Bring any artifacts, photos or articles about archaeology in general or on or about Arch Creek specifically. (Phone: 944-6111) Also at Arch Creek Park on May 26 at 7:30 p.m. a film: "American Wetlands."

A class co-sponsored by Fairchild Gardens and the Historical Association will be held at the Gardens on Saturday, June 4, from 10:00-12:00 noon on "Pioneer Plants", plants of economic importance to the early settlers. The class will be taught by Dr. Thelma Peters.

### From the Editor

As new editor of the Newsletter, following in the footsteps of our past editors means I have very large shoes to fill. My thanks to all who contributed to the edition this month. With your help and cooperation we can keep the information flowing between our members and other groups throughout the state. Suggestions and contributions are always welcome and are actively solicited.

Beth Read

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF  
THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA  
1982-83

The Archaeological Society of the Museum of Science, in May, 1982, moved its meeting place to the Historical Museum of Southern Florida. This move altered a long standing relationship with the Museum of Science and it seemed appropriate to change the name of the association. Several names were suggested by the members. After considerable discussion and a vote of the membership in regular session, a new name was chosen in September, 1982: The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida.

The name change mandated a change in the Articles of Incorporation and a revision of the By-laws of the association. Joan Haas, Joan Fonti, Irving Eyster and Faye Hochen, with the able assistance of our attorney member, Beth Read, reviewed the documents and proposed changes that they felt met the needs of the group. As required by the existing by-laws, these changes were published to the membership in February and voted on and passed the following month by the voting members of the Board of Directors at the regular Board meeting.

Activities of the Society throughout the year were many and varied. Jeanie McGuire arranged for several fascinating guest speakers on a number of new and interesting topics: forensic anthropology as practiced by the Dade County Medical Examiner's office; an explanation and exploration of psychic archaeology in the discovery of sites; several lectures on Southwestern Florida archaeological sites; and Member Dennis Wiedman's fine description of Seminole Indian material culture.

In November, the Society set up and tended a booth at the Harvest Fair. Wilma Sakal, Judi Trimble, Jo Southard and Joan Fonti displayed artifacts, books, photographs and diagrams which depicted the activities of the Society. This very public project attracted several new members and others in the community who became involved with the activities of the Society.

The December meeting was a holiday dinner meeting held at the historic old Hotel Saint Michel in the heart of the old village of Coral Gables. After dinner the group was given a tour of the beautifully restored rooms. The Saint Michel is an excellent example of the preservation of historic buildings within a working commercial context.

In concert with the new emphasis on the "preservation ethic" in the fields of archaeology and anthropology, several of our members participated in site testing and salvage. This new emphasis embraced by anthropologists and historians all over the world concentrates study on those sites rapidly being destroyed. Those sites which are not presently threatened are preserved for later study and, hopefully, for improved methods of interpretation, testing and preservation. Dade County preservationists have accepted this "preservation ethic" and it seemed appropriate for our group to cooperate with them, in keeping with the stated objectives of the Society. Bob Carr, Dade County Archaeologist and our second vice president, suggested several sites for the Society to study. As a result, members often were involved in both field studies and laboratory work associated with endangered sites within Dade County.

When foundations for a swimming pool were dug on what was to have been the preserved section of the Granada Site (Da8-11), arrangements were made to have the excavated material transported to the home of Wes Coleman in western Dade County. Society members, with the kind indulgence of Dee and Wes Coleman, were given opportunities to learn the techniques of washing and sorting artifacts from the soil transported to the Coleman back yard.

Members worked on the Arch Creek mill site under Irving Eyster's professional guidance. Members also worked on the Ferguson mill site, the Kendall-Miller Road site, and the Santa Maria and Brickell Point sites, among others.

We ended our year as guests of the Audubon House, the historic Thomas homestead in South Miami, while awaiting the completion of the new Historical Museum of the Historical Association of Southern Florida in the New World Center of the Cultural Arts downtown. I would like to express publicly the deep appreciation of the Society for the kind reception we had as guests of the Historical Association during our months without a home. We owe a large debt of gratitude to Jo and Joe Southard for their willingness to open and close the Historical Museum for our meetings. Without their very responsible attitude, we could not have been guests there.

I also want to express, on behalf of the Society, deep appreciation to Irving and Jean Eyster and to Larry and Faye Hochen for their hard work over the years as editors of the newsletter and as secretary and treasurer for the Society.

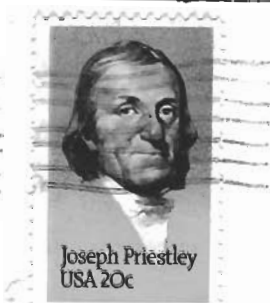
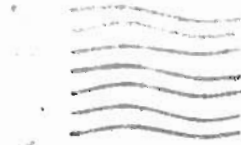
This past year has been a year of examination and building which we hope has laid a continuing foundation for a very productive year ahead. There are those whose quiet and steady support often goes unrecognized in an organization. You know who you are and I believe, sincerely, that you are the mortar holding us together. Thank you.

Sue Goldman  
Immediate Past President



THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF  
SOUTHERN FLORIDA

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Emily Perry  
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Dates to Remember

- May 15: Sunday, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Workshop: Underground at Arch Creek Arch Creek Park, 1855 N.E. 135 St., North Miami.
- May 26: Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Film: "American Wetlands." , Arch Creek Park
- May 20: Regular May Meeting, Friday, 8:00 p.m., Audubon House, 5530 Sunse Drive, South Miami. Board Meeting: 7:00 p.m.
- June 4: Saturday, 10:00-12:00 noon, Class: "Pioneer Plants", Fairchild Gardens,
- June 4-5: FAS Board Meeting, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida.  
Everyone is welcome.
- Nov. 4-6: 50th Anniversary meeting of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation.
- Jan. 5-7/84: Annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeologists and the Conference on Underwater Archaeology, Williamsburg, Va.