

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 7, Number 5

NEWSLETTER

June, 1983

President: Jeanie McGuire

Editor: Beth Read

Meeting Notice

Friday, June 17, 1983, 8:00 p.m.

The June regular meeting of the membership will be held at the Arch Creek Park Museum, 1855 N.E. 135th Street, North Miami, Telephone: 944-6111. The program will feature reports from members on excavations at the Arch Creek Site. Coffee, cookies and conversation following the meeting.

New Officers

The following board members were appointed at the May regular board meeting to fill the vacancies created by the resignations of Larry and Faye Hochen:

Treasurer: Tom Lux
Trustee: Jo Southard

The May Meeting

Our May meeting was held at the beautiful Audubon House in South Miami. Our field director, Jim McLellan, gave an interesting program on the Mel Fisher Key West Exhibit of artifacts from the Atocha. Bob Carr, Dade County Archaeologist and our First Vice President, presented a Dade County Site Map and individual Society members selected site areas to monitor in an effort to keep ahead of construction workers. Thank you very much Jim and Bob.

The May Board Meeting

A report by Wilma Sakal on the May Board Meeting: The Board was pleased with the May newsletter and extend their thanks to Beth Read and Mae Van Bezooeyen for their efforts in putting it together and mailing it to the membership. The Board has asked Beth to attend Board meetings as an ex-officio member to ensure a continuous flow of information to the membership through the Newsletter.

Larry Hochen, our former Treasurer, turned over the well-kept books to new Treasurer, Tom Lux. We want to thank Larry and his wife, Faye, for all they have given of themselves to keep the Society financially in good order.

Jim McClellan, our new field director was also asked to join the Board because of the need to keep field activities coordinated. In the future Board meetings will be held on the second Tuesday of the month, rather than on the regular meeting night, to give more time for planning. The regular membership meeting will continue to be the third Friday of the month. Until the Society has a permanent home, the Board has decided to alternate meetings in various parts of the county to make it easier for members to attend some meetings. The next meeting will be held in North Dade at Arch Creek Park.

From the President

We welcome Tom Lux as our new Treasurer. Tom was serving as a Trustee on our Board. Now his position has been filled by our Field Director, Jim McLellan. Jo Southard was appointed to fill the Trustee vacancy left by Fay Hochen.

Tom Lux is working on a new society brochure and membership application. Seth Lefkow is chairing the Harvest Fair Committee with Joan Haas, Joan Fonte and Judi Trimble as members. Judi Trimble is our Hostess and will be asking each of you to help with refreshments at our monthly meetings. Volunteer would make her job much easier.

A small group of excited and energetic "diggers" at the Coleman site are putting together some South Florida outings for our Society. More at the June meeting! We are thinking of using the zoomorphic bird effigy as our Society logo. Please let me know what you think of that or if you have any other suggestions for a logo for us.

If you would like to be more involved, we need a publicity chairperson, program chairperson, and someone to update our code of ethics. I am very pleased with all of the terrific help many of you have given me in the last month. Our Society is beginning to feel like a "unit" and the smiles look good on everyone.

Jeanie

From the Field Director

Our field director reports that we will continue to dig at the Coleman site on Sundays. Everyone is welcome to participate. Meeting place is the parking lot of the International Mall on S.W. 107th Avenue, just north of 836. Use the 107 Avenue exit; meeting time is 9:00 a.m. If you have questions, call Jim (821-3735).

For your Information

Those of you who have been laboring recently at the Coleman site have been shoveling and scratching about moving a large quantity of dirt, sand and rock stubbornly held down by a large number of pesky tree roots. You may be interested to know what past president Sue Goldman sees when she peers at the same materials from under her hat as a scientist:

The Coleman site is, geologically speaking, west of the Atlantic coastal ridge where the Miami Formation's oolitic facies begins to taper, showing the underlying Bryozoan facies. In the accumulation of overlying soil under a canopy of Celtis laevigata and shinus terebinthifolius excavators are finding...

Coming next month! A view from under the same hat of what is appearing in the screens.

Recent Discoveries

Member Wes Coleman has called our attention to two recent announcements of archaeological finds:

"Local legend has it that during Reconstruction, the management of a Lake City hotel refused to let a group of federal soldiers enter for dinner unless the guns were left outside. The troops stacked their rifles and went to dinner. According to the story, local men gathered up the guns and dumped them in Lake DeSoto." Recently two rifles dating from the 1800s were pulled from the bottom of the lake by county workers cleaning Lake DeSoto. This find would appear to authenticate to folk legend.

And from Texas:

"Two 10,000-year-old human skeletons buried with an array of artifacts along the Brazos River represent 'a national treasure' unequalled in the Western Hemisphere, a Baylor University archeologist said.. 'The burial artifacts interred with the two individuals 10,000 years ago provide science's first systematic view of Ice Age man's ideological or religious patterns,' said university archaeologist John W. Fox,..This could be among the few sites in North America showing a largely small-game subsistence economy at about 10,000 years ago. Previously, this was thought to only characterize the subsequent Archaic Age, beginning about 8,000 years ago.'...The discovery was made in 1970...and kept secret until archeologists finished their work. ...The press release was sent to some Texas newspapers by the Waco Independent School District's Association of Locally Involved Volunteers in Education....The excavation was led and sponsored by Albert J. Redder and the late Frank H. Watt of the Central Texas Archeological Society. Fox is president of the society."

The above report illustrates that exciting and significant things can happen when amateurs and professionals work closely together.

New Members

We are always looking for and welcome new members. If you are interested, or know of someone who is, write or call the Society at the Historical Association of South Florida, 3280 South Miami, Avenue, Miami, Fl. 33129; telephone 854-3289.

Workshops, Classes, Films, etc.

On Saturday, June 18, there will be a workshop at Arch Creek Park, 1855 N.E. 135 St., North Miami, from 2-4:00 p.m. Also at Arch Creek on Sunday, June 26, from 1-4:00 p.m. an archaeological tour of North Dade County led by Bob Carr. Both of the above carry a small fee and ask that you register in advance. A film at the same park on Thursday, June 23, at 8:00 p.m. discusses the fragile South Florida ecosystem. There is no fee and the title is "Threatened Paradise".

From the Editor

I want to thank everyone who contributed to this issue. Your interest and participation will help to keep the information flowing between all of our members and friends. All input is welcomed. My address and telephone number are : 784 Glenridge Rd., Key Biscayne; 361-2102.

Beth

374-5699

Dates to Remember

- June 14: Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Regular June Board Meeting;
5580 S.W. 78 Street, Apt. B., South Miami.
- June 17: Friday, 8:00 p.m., Regular June Meeting, Arch Creek
Park Museum, 1855 N.E. 135th Street, North Miami.
- June 18: Saturday, 2-4:00 p.m., Workshop, "Edible Wild Plants",
Arch Creek Park.
- June 23: Thursday, 8:00 p.m.; Film; "Threatened Paradise";
Arch Creek Park.
- June 26: Sunday, 1-4:00 p.m.; Tour; "North Dade Archaeological
Tour", reservations; Arch Creek Park.
- Nov. 4-6: 50th Anniversary meeting of the Eastern States Archaeo-
logical Federation.
- Jan. 5-7/84: Annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeolo-
gists and the Conference on Underwater Archaeology,
Williamsburg, Va.



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