

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 8 Number 1

NEWSLETTER

January

1984

President: Jeanie McGuire

Editor: Beth Read

MEETING NOTICE

Friday, January 20, 8:00 p.m.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be held in the board room of the Historical Association of Southern Florida, 3280 South Miami Avenue. Our guest speaker will be Dr. Dennis Wiedman, an anthropologist associated with Florida International University and the University of Miami. Dennis is also an active member of our society. He will present us with his research on the Development of Seminole Indian Patchwork. He has a good slide presentation which includes photographs from actual museum collections through out the United States. Please join us.

BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, January 10, 7:30 p.m.

The January Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Dr. Jackson's Office, 190 S.E. 12 Terr., Miami. Please bring a covered dish and share dinner with us.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year! I've enjoyed the holidays and hope that you and your families have had a happy celebration. Our Holiday Dinner Meeting at Sorrento's was a delightful success. We had a great turn out of members, the atmosphere was lovely and the food was very delicious. Thank you to Seth Lefkow for the excellent job of "hosting".

I am looking forward to a great 1984 as we continue to work on Dal41 and open the new tree island, Dal058, in the next weeks.

Jeanie McGuire

FIELD NOTES

We now have the trench in on the North/South base line on Dal41. The side walls expose the stratigraphy down to the bedrock. The trench reveals that under the layer of concretion (which stopped us on the surface) is a layer of organic soil about nine inches deep right on top of the bedrock. Some fragmented artifacts have been found in this lower area.

We have completed the mapping of the side walls. We may want to put in some more work to recover a larger sampling for carbon dating.

This has been a creative excavation and all of you have been part of a quality scientific research program the results of which, by the way, will now have to be written and published. We still need your weekly help, either on the site or at Wes Coleman's for screening and sorting. If you have not been involved, you can turn over a new leaf in 1984 and "DIG IT"!

Coming excavation dates: Saturday, January 7, 9:00 a.m.,
Sunday, January 15, 12:30 p.m., Saturday, January 21, 9:00 a.m.,

Sunday, January 29 at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 a.m., and Sunday February 12, at 12:30 a.m. Any questions, please call Jeanie at 662-1950.

HELP FOR WHEN WE ARE IN A HOLE

Wes Coleman sends along his guidelines for working a site or for approaching any problems:

A GUIDE TO PRODUCTIVE THINKING

GETTING STARTED ON A PROBLEM

1. Take time to reflect on a problem before you begin work.
2. Decide exactly what the problem is that you are trying to solve.
3. Get all the facts on the problem clearly in mind.
4. Work on the problem in a planful way.
5. Keep an open mind. Don't jump to conclusions about the answer to a problem.

THINKING OF IDEAS

1. Think of many ideas for solving a problem. Don't stop with just a few.
2. Try to think of unusual ideas.
3. As a way of getting ideas, pick out all the important objects and persons in the problem and think carefully about each one.
4. Think of several general possibilities for a solution and then figure out any particular ideas for each possibility.
5. As you search for ideas, let your mind freely explore things around you. Almost anything can suggest ideas for a solution.

Thank you, Wes, for sharing the above with us.

TRAVEL TO THE YUCATAN PENINSULA

The Southwest Archaeology Society (Naples, Florida) is planning an archaeological trip to the Yucatan Peninsula to visit Mayan ruins off the "beaten tourist path".

The trip is scheduled for 10 days, from May 25 - June 3, 1984. The cost is estimated at \$700.00 which includes airfare, ground transportation and accomodations.

If you would like to go on this unique adventure, please call Jeanie (662-1950) or John Beriault (1-318-0295).

A.S.S.F. EXPLORES FLORIDA!

"SEE IT THEN" with members and friends

We have been unable to secure permission to have a look at Fort Center, so must cancel that exciting trip for now. We are working on an alternate adventure. Please watch for more details in the February Newsletter. Estero Bay Mound is still in the running for mid-March.

Judi Trimble sends the following interesting news about recent archaeological finds in the middle east:

"Archeologist: Moses got message in Negev, not Sinai

BRESCIA, Italy - "An Italian archeologist says he believes Moses

received the Ten Commandments on Mount Har Karkom, in Israel's central Negev Desert, not on the peak in the southern Sinai peninsula now known as Mount Sinai.

Professor Emmanuel Anati, director of the Camuno Center For Pre-historic Studies in Brescia, told a news conference yesterday the path to Har Karkom is marked by several stone pillars and remains of a building, consistent with Exodus 24:4, which says Moses 'built an alter under the hill and 12 pillars according to the 12 Tribes of Israel.'"

Anati also said he identified a cleft in the rock which could be the place where Moses found refuge when, according to Exodus 33:22-23, God told him, 'I will put Thee in a cleft of the rock and will cover Thee with My hand while I pass by.'

He also said Har Karkom's geographical position is on the route taken by the Israelites during the 40 years they wandered in the desert after the exodus from Egypt. But he said the present Mount Sinai, 145 miles southwest of Har Karkom, is not on the route, and there is no archeological evidence identifying it as Moses' mountain.

Plateau-crowned Har Karkom is southwest of the town of Mizpe Ramon, about 18 miles east of the Egyptian border, and is in an Israeli military zone.

Anati said several alternative hypotheses about the true site of Mount Sinai flourished in the last century.

'Mount Sinai was searched for to the north and south of the peninsula and even outside it, but there is no clear archeological documentation to show the presence of ancient religious activity for any of the mountains believed to be Mount Sinai,' he said.

'Har Karkom is different because of its richness of evidence of religious activity,' he said. 'It was a sacred mountain of great importance in the Bronze Age.'

However, 'one great difficulty remains,' he said. 'The evidence in that mountain goes way back before the time when the Exodus took place according to the Bible.'"

Associated Press
Miami News, July 5, 1983



The above is a string for your finger - don't forget! As of January 1, 1984 everyone's dues are due. \$12.00 single, \$15.00 family.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Mail check or money order to: The Archaeological Society of
Southern Florida
3280 South Miami Avenue
Miami, Florida 33129

Please check: Renewal _____ New Member _____
\$12.00: Individual _____ \$15.00: Family _____

Due: January 1, 1984

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Dates to Remember

January 5-6: Annual meeting of the Society for Historical Archaeologists and the conference on Underwater Archaeology, Williamsburg, Va.
January 10: Regular Board Meeting, 190 S.E. 12 Terr., Miami, 7:30 p.m.
January 20: Regular January Meeting, Historical Association of Southern Florida, 3280 South Miami Avenue, Miami, at 8:00 p.m.
March/84: Field trip to Estero Bay.
May 25 - June 3: Southwest Archaeological Society trip to the Yucatan.

Excavation Dates: Saturday, January 7, 9:00 a.m., Sunday, January 15, 12:30 p.m., Saturday, January 21, 9:00 a.m., Sunday, January 29 at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, February 4 at 9:00 a.m., and Sunday, February 12, at 12:30 p.m.

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