



THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 10 Number 9 Newsletter OCTOBER 1985

President: Wes Coleman Editor: Beth Read

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Monday, October 7, 7:30 p.m.

The regular Board of Directors meeting will be held on Monday, October 7th at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Wes Coleman, 10 N.W. 124th Avenue, Miami. All voting members are welcome to attend.

REGULAR OCTOBER MEETING

Friday, October 18, 8:00 p.m.

The regular meeting will be held at the Audubon House, 5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami. Member Emily Dieterich will recount the struggle to preserve the Arch Creek Site and discuss its present use and future possibilities.

HELP WANTED

It's that time of year again! The Harvest Fair, November 23 and 24, gives our Society the chance to get publicity and some new members. It's important to us and we like to do it well. For those of you who are not too active during the year, this is a chance to contribute some time and talent and to meet other members of ASSF.

WE NEED HELP with small work parties who will paint, patch, assemble, decorate, etc. Work parties are always fun; remember the old saying, "They also serve who only stand around and give advice".

WE NEED ITEMS to display. Pieces from personal collections which are loaned to the Society will be returned immediately after the fair and are kept in a locked display case. So dig out some of that precious junk and let us show the world what lies beneath their feet.

WE NEED MEMBERS to "man the booth" during the hours the fair is open. This is "the fun part". This is where you get to sit at the booth, look very knowledgeable, and answer all the silly (and not-so-silly) questions. A couple of hours can really be a big help to those members who usually spend all day, both days, at the booth.

Now that you know what we need, what can you give us? Your brain and your body will do for starters; you can keep your wallet. For more details and information call Seth Lefkow at 361-8253 or Jim Lord at 552-8495.

Seth Lefkow

T-SHIRTS

A new order of T-shirts has just arrived in a rainbow of colors, kelly green, royal blue and burgandy. The T-shirts are a great way to acquaint the public with our society and the work we do, and are equally great for excavation days. To place your order call Jeanie McGuire at 284-4692 or 662-1950. The shirts will also be on sale at our booth at The Harvest Fair on November 23 and 24.

LAKE LUCERNE STADIUM SITE

Jack Earne is presently working for Joe Robbie as staff archaeologist at the North Dade site of the proposed new football stadium. The archaeological site is known in archaeological circles as DA-411 and is located on the SE corner at approximately NW 199 Street and 19th Avenue. An archaeological zone of approximately 7 acres has been set aside for preservation. This area is presently enclosed with a chain link fence to prevent encroachment by heavy equipment. Jack's responsibility is to monitor the earth moving activity near the preserved acreage for any archaeological materials which might be uncovered, indicating that other sites are located in the area. This monitoring of the outer perimeter of the site was required as a condition for allowing Mr. Robbie to proceed with pre-construction ground preparation for the proposed football stadium. Jack Earne has been active in local archaeological groups for many years and served as field director for the Dade and Broward archaeological Societies on the 1972 Arch Creek excavation.

HOLIDAY DINNER MEETING

Our traditional holiday dinner meeting promises to be a special treat this year. Arrangements have been made for us to gather at Anderson's Corner on Friday, December 13th. This building is one of the oldest buildings in South Dade County and is on the National Register of Historic Structures. The building has been beautifully restored and is operating as a restaurant at the corner of Silver Palm Drive and S.W. 157th Avenue. So get together with your family and friends and join us in anticipation and celebration of the holidays: We will have a separate dining room on the second floor.

The day: Friday, December 13th

The time: 7:00 p.m.

The place: Anderson's Corner, 15700 S.W. 232 Street

The food: (Delicious;) we will have our choice of three entrees:
chicken or two kinds of fish.

The price: \$18.75 per person, includes entree, dessert, beverage, tax and tips. (wine and alcoholic beverages extra)

Call Jeanie McGuire at 662-1950 or 284-4692 and let her know how many will be in your party.

SEPTEMBER TRIP TO EGYPT

Thanks to Gypsy Graves of neighboring Broward County we enjoyed a vicarious trip to Egypt at our September meeting as Gypsy recounted her adventures and misadventures during a recent excavating trip to Egypt. Gypsy and her co-workers have been granted permission by the Egyptian government to excavate a known but previously uninvestigated site. Her report, complete with pictures and word descriptions, incorporated views of the countryside, portraits of the local villagers and workers recruited to assist in the excavation, and views of the actual excavation. Of special interest was the demonstration of the use of state-of-the-art electronic devices which pinpointed the most promising areas for test pits. Thank you for an interesting evening, Gypsy, and good luck on the continuation of the "dig" next summer.

ARCH CREEK GETS LOCAL HISTORIC DESIGNATION

The Miami Herald

Sunday, February 24, 1985

"A prehistoric archaeological site that was probably first in use around 500 B.C. also has played a significant role in the history of modern southeast Florida.

It's Arch Creek, where Dade's earliest road once funneled people across a natural stone bridge and where a coontie mill served as the area's earliest known industry

Dade's Historic Preservation Board unanimously declared it the first historical/archaeological site in the county

The place was such a naturally beautiful spot that it was well-known to the 19th Century pioneers. Picnics by the natural bridge and the splendid hammock were frequent turn-of-the-century outings.

The woods there once were full of gumbo limbos, mulberries, mastics, rare Hercules club and wild persimmons (described in a wonderful typo in a 1980 plant inventory as "wild permission" and sadly was said to no longer exist)

As North Miami developed, the woods and wild whatever's disappeared.

After World War II, a trailer park anchored itself to the site for about five years. Then the Army Corps of Engineers proposed blowing up the bridge or rerouting the creek to drain the area. The Audubon Society and the Historical Association of South Florida, as well as local residents, intervened on the area's behalf.

In the 1970's, the Chrysler Corp., which owned it then, wanted to build a used car lot in the oak hammock

Finally, the state bought the 7.9 acres in 1972. That night, just after the environmentalists had breathed their first easy sigh in years, the 2,000-year-old limestone bridge collapsed in a heap

The county parks department, which leases the park from the state, has built a \$100,000 museum and interpretive center at Arch Creek. The work of restoring native plants has moved forward, and archaeological sites have been identified and radiocarbon tells us the place was used as long ago as 500 B.C. and up to 1300 A.D. An Indian midden and burial site still need investigation.

Georgia Tasker

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM

Objective:

To provide a formal means by which individuals and institutions interested in archaeological and anthropological studies in South Florida and related areas may come together for mutual benefits.

Code of Ethics:

1. Members of the society agree to promote archaeological site preservation and conservation, to excavate only endangered sites as part of a qualified research group, to not excavate archaeological sites for the unscientific collecting of artifacts.
2. All artifacts and material recovered from society projects are property of the society.

I hereby apply for membership in the Archaeological Society of Southern Florida:

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

Renewal___ New Member___ \$12.00 Individual___ \$15.00 Family___

Mail check or money order to: The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida
101 West Flagler Street

Due: January 1, 1985 Miami, Florida 33130

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- October 7: Regular October Board Meeting, Monday, Wes Coleman's home,
10 N.W. 124th Avenue, Miami, 7:30 p.m.
- October 18: Regular October Meeting, Friday, Audubon House, 5530 Sunset
Drive, South Miami, 8:00 p.m.
- November 4: Regular November Board Meeting, Jeanie McGuire's home,
4365 S.W. 78 Street, Apt. B, South Miami
- November 15: Regular November Membership Meeting, Audubon House, 5530 Sunset
Drive, South Miami
- November 23-24: The Harvest
- December 2: Regular December Board Meeting
- December 13: Holiday Dinner Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Andersons Corner, 15700 S.W.
232 Street, Miami.



Emily Perry Dieterich
6230 Grant Court
Hollywood, FL 33024

101 West Flagler Street
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