



THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 10 Number 10 Newsletter NOVEMBER 1985

President: Wes Coleman Editor: Beth Read

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Monday, November 4, 1985, 7:30 p.m.

The regular Board of Directors Meeting will be held on Monday, November 4th at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Jeanie McGuire, 4365 S.W. 78 Street, Apt. B, South Miami. All voting members are welcome to attend.

REGULAR NOVEMBER MEETING

Friday, November 15, 1985, 8:00 p.m.

The regular November Meeting will be held at the Audubon House, 5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami. The guest speaker will be Willard Steele, avocational military historian. Mr. Steele will speak on the 1836 Dade Massacre and the death of Francis Langhorn Dade. Although this event occurred upstate it is memorialized in our local county name.

THE HARVEST

Don't forget the Harvest Fair on November 23 and 24. The fair will be at the Fair Grounds, Tamiami Park, Coral Way and S.W. 112 Avenue. ASSF will have a booth to publicize our organization. Help is needed for the work party to construct the booth and to represent ASSF during the two days of the fair. The committee also would appreciate items from your personal collections for display. For details call Seth Lefkow, 861-8253 or Jim Lord, 552-8495.

MEMBER ACTIVITY

Member Emily Perry Dieterich traveled to Naples recently for the September meeting of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society. Emily discussed applied archaeology, resource management, the procedures and benefits of placing an archaeological site on the national registry and the role of local ordinances in the effort to preserve archaeological sites.

HOLIDAY DINNER MEETING

The holidays are rapidly approaching so be sure to mark your calendar for our traditional holiday dinner meeting. The committee has chosen an especially appropriate location: Anderson's Corner, a historic building in South Dade which has been restored and presently houses a restaurant serving delicious food. A separate dining room on the second floor has been reserved for ASSF so there will be plenty of room for members, family and friends.

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.

NOTES FROM THE FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING,
SEPTEMBER 14th, 1985

The Everglades Chapter has been dropped from FAS due to a non-active status. However there are new groups; Brooksville, St. Augustine, and Sarasota are asking about membership.

The Amateur Award is still unnamed, but there have been nominations for the award. There have been no nominations for the Bullen Award. Marion Almy (Past President of FAS) has been appointed to the Florida Historic Preservation Council. This is a four year appointment to the board which determines who is awarded state and federal grants for survey and excavation. Marion will represent FAS and FAC.

The next meeting of the FAS board will be December 7, 1985 in WinterPark.

Jeanie McGuire

FOR DEDICATED DIGGERS

For those members and friends who are impatiently awaiting the opening of our next scheduled excavation, here are some excavation opportunities with other groups working on this end of the Florida peninsula:

Any one interested in paleontology will enjoy working with Ray Williams at the Leisey Shell Pits. For information call (813) 974-2138.

The Broward County Archaeological Society is working each weekend at Deep Fork and would appreciate help. Call Gypsy Graves (1-525-8778), Art Marler (1-989-2276) or Cal Austin (1-525-8960) for information and directions.

CHARLES DEERING ESTATE

The first public function held at the newly acquired Deering Estate was by invitation of Louise Hill, head of the Coalition to Save the Deering Estate. About 200 guests were given access to the main grounds around the estate building which were heavily boarded and closed. Picnic lunch and refreshments were served after a brief welcome by Louise and remarks by Marjorie Stoneman Douglas. After lunch Bob Carr spoke of the archaeological significance of the estate grounds. The hardwood and mangrove areas were "off limits" to all guests, but Finlay Matheson showed me the kitchen midden located about 500 yards from the house. Without effort he picked up from the surface of the soil, two pieces of Glades Tooled pottery, circa 1350-1513 A.D., and a piece of turtle shell. Members of the Society present were Emily Dieterich, Bob Carr and John Carruthers. At the conclusion of the meeting, membership was extended to Shannon Glenn and Ruth Ersoff. We welcome these new members and look forward to seeing them at the next Regular Meeting.

John Carruthers II

WRECKERS VS. ARCHAEOLOGISTS: NEW LEGISLATION

A battle is currently raging between treasure salvor Mel Fisher and Rep. Charles Bennett, a Florida Democrat and historian. Both have proposed bills attempting to answer the question, "Who owns sunken treasure?"

The provisions of Bennett's bill grant the federal government title to historic wrecks, grants states broad powers over private salvors in shipwreck excavation operations, and overrides past rulings of U.S. admiralty courts. Mel Fisher has drafted his own bill which guarantees commercial salvors ownership of any treasure in the sunken ships they find and excavate. Fisher proposes a compromise clause which grants the government a "donation" of up to 20 percent of artifacts found in wrecks. Fisher's bill also directs the National Park Service to work with private salvors in excavation operation.

The House Merchant Marine Oceanography Subcommittee is trying to resolve this long-standing dispute and will hold hearings this month on both bills.

Emily Perry Dieterich

MADDEN'S HAMMOCK SITE

The Conservation and Recreation Lands Committee (CARL) met in Tallahassee during October to pare down the current list of CARL proposals. I'm happy to report that the archaeological site known as Madden's Hammock has been advanced to the full review phase; this is the first step a project must go through prior to being considered for the acquisition list. At this point, public input can have a great impact on the future purchase of this property.

Madden's Hammock is one of the last major aboriginal sites in Dade County. Archaeological investigations have revealed a long and apparently uninterrupted occupation of the area, evidence of contact and trade between the Spanish and Tequesta Indians and, in later times, evidence of occupation by Seminole Indians.

The site is located in a beautiful hardwood hammock composed of live oaks gumbo limbos, paradise trees, wax myrtles, and red bay trees. A healthy understory is present as well as spanish moss and epiphytic orchids.

I urge ASSF members to send a letter of support for acquisition of this site. I have addresses of the CARL members and a letter which includes historic information on the significance of the site. Please call me and I'll send you copies of both (545-4230, days). The CARL committee meets again the third week of November.

Emily Perry Dieterich

ASTEROID THEORY

Dr. Ed Petuch, guest speaker at last January's ASSF meeting, was recently featured in a Miami Herald news article titled, "Did asteroid start South Florida?" (10/27/85). Dr. Petuch is proposing a theory that a giant asteroid smashed into the ocean floor 38 million years ago and laid the present-day foundation for south Florida and the Everglades. Dr. Petuch, a Florida International University professor of Geology, has been working on his theory for several years, searching limestone quarries and collecting fossil shells and corals. He will present his ideas to the American Geological Society's national convention this month in Orlando.

Emily Perry Dieterich

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:

- November 4: Regular Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m., Jeanie McGuire's home, 4365 S.W. 78 Street, Apt. B., South Miami.
- November 15: Regular November Meeting, 8:00 p.m., Audubon House, 5530 Sunset Drive, South Miami.
- November 23-24: The Harvest Fair, Fair Grounds, Tamiami Park, Coral Way and 112 Avenue, Miami.
- December 2: Regular December Board Meeting
- December 11: Miami Shores Candlelight Open House Tour
- December 13: Holiday Dinner Meeting, Anderson's Corner, Silver Palm Drive and S.W. 157 Avenue. Call Jeanie McGuire at 662-1950 or 284-4692.



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