



THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA

CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 11 Number 11 Newsletter NOVEMBER 1986

President: SUE GOLDMAN EDITOR: DEBRA GOLDMAN

BOARD MEETING

6:00 P.M., FRIDAY, NOV. 21

THE NOVEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AT 6:00 P.M. AT SUE GOLDMAN'S HOUSE, 7730 S.W. 52ND COURT, SOUTH MIAMI. ALL BOARD MEMBERS ARE URGED TO ATTEND.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

8:00 P.M., FRIDAY, NOV. 21

DR. PAUL GEORGE, AN ADJUNCT FACULTY MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI KNOWN FOR HIS COURSES ON THE HISTORY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA AND THE CIVIL WAR, WILL BE SPEAKING ABOUT THE HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF SEVERAL ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES IN DADE COUNTY. DR. GEORGE IS A NATIVE MIAMIAN AND AN EXUBERANT SPEAKER. DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE AUDUBON HOUSE, 5530 SUNSET DRIVE, SOUTH MIAMI ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21 AT 8:00 P.M.

THE ANCIENT ONES

LINDA PIERSON, CURATOR OF NATURAL HISTORY AT THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE, GAVE A TERRIFIC TALK AT OUR LAST MEETING ON THE EARLY ANASAZI CULTURE. HER EXPERIENCE IN MONTEZUMA CANYON IN SOUTHERN UTAH FOCUSED ON THE "BASKET MAKER II" CULTURE, DATED 217 - 400 A.D. LINDA SHOWED THE PIT HOUSES OF THE BASKET MAKERS PLUS PICTURES OF WELL-PRESERVED MUMMIES HEAVILY ADORNED WITH FEATHERS AND BEADS. THE LATER PUEBLO CULTURE ESTABLISHED THE APARTMENT COMPLEXES FOUND IN THE SOUTHWEST.

THE HOPI ARE BELIEVED TO BE DIRECT DESCENDANTS OF THE ANASAZI.

THANK YOU, LINDA. HOPE TO SEE YOU AT FUTURE MEETINGS.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EXHIBIT: WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO MAN THE JOINT A.S.S.F. AND A.H.C. (ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONSERVANCY) BOOTH AT THE HARVEST. THE HARVEST WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 & 23, FROM 10:00A.M. TO 6:00P.M. PLEASE CALL NORMA AT 687-0935 TO SIGN UP.

HOLIDAY: WE ARE WELCOMING SUGGESTIONS FOR OUR ANNUAL DECEMBER DINNER. PLEASE CALL SUE GOLDMAN AT 661-2073 WITH YOUR IDEAS.

SCREENING, SORTING, BARBEQUE!!!

WES COLEMAN HAS PILES. OF DIRT, THAT IS. THEY'RE WAITING IN HIS BACKYARD. TONS OF IT WAITING TO BE SCREENED, WASHED AND SORTED. JOIN US ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9 FOR GREAT HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE AND A LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA . . . A BARBEQUE! EVERYONE BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH AND MEET AT 10 NW 124TH AVENUE AT 10:00A.M. CALL WES AT 226-6788 FOR DIRECTIONS.

NOTE: THIS WILL BE THE LAST SORTING DAY UNTIL DECEMBER.

SETH LEFKOW

CHOKOLOSKEE ISLAND EXCAVATION

ON OCTOBER 11 & 12, A GROUP OF OVER FORTY VOLUNTEERS FROM THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ASSISTED BY A.S.S.F. MEMBERS AND OTHERS FROM GROUPS AS FAR NORTH AS TAMPA COMBINED EFFORTS IN A SALVAGE DIG ON CHOKOLOSKEE ISLAND.

THE EXCAVATION WAS DIRECTED BY JOHN BERIAULT, PRESIDENT OF S.W.F.A.S. ANYONE WHO HAS WORKED UNDER JOHN'S DIRECTION BEFORE KNOWS WHAT AN EXCITING EXPERIENCE ENSUES. JOHN'S MASTER ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS COMBINED WITH HIS VAST KNOWLEDGE OF ARCHEOLOGY PROVIDE FOR A BEAUTIFULLY ORCHESTRATED SYMPHONY. EVEN THE SEASONED AVOCATIONAL ARCHEOLOGIST COMES AWAY WITH ENRICHED TALENT, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL.

ON THE FIRST MORNING A 2x3 METER PIT WAS DESIGNED AND THE DIG BEGUN. THIS WAS PLACED ON ONE OF THE HIGHTES SPOTS OF THE ISLAND AND CONSEQUENTLY HAD MORE TOP SOIL THAN THE PIT THAT WAS DUG LAST YEAR IN ANOTHER AREA OF THE ISLAND. EVENTUALLY, THE SHELL AMOUNT INCREASED UNTIL WE WERE BRINGING UP ENTIRELY OYSTER SHELL, WHICH CONTINUED INTERSPERSED WITH ASH AND SOME FINE BONE LAYERS UNTIL THE END OF THE SECOND DAY. WE DUG 21 LEVELS OF 10 CM. EACH.

WHILE THE REPORT WILL BE PREPARED BY JOHN AFTER INTENSE STUDY OF THE MATERIALS SALVAGED WE CAN REPORT ON SOME OF THE FINDS. THERE WERE THE USUAL SHELL TOOLS, SOME BONE WHICH WAS MOSTLY FISH, AND POTTERY. MANY FINE PIECES OF INCISED POTTERY WERE UNCOVERED, INCLUDING GLADES PLAIN, KEY LARGO, FORT DRUM, SURFSIDE AND OTHERS.

HOPEFULLY, THERE WILL BE TIME FOR MORE PLANNED SALVAGE DIGS BEFORE THIS AREA IS LOST TO DEVELOPERS. JOHN WILL LET US KNOW OF FUTURE EVENTS. EACH OPPORTUNITY WE HAVE TO WORK ON THIS PROJECT WITH S.W.F.A.S. WILL PROVIDE US AN EXCELLENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE AND HELP TO WRITE THE HISTORY OF THIS IMPORTANT PIECE OF SOUTH FLORIDA.

DARYL & WES RIES

1986 SOUTHEASTERN ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

THE 1986 S.E.A.C. WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 5-8, 1986 IN NASHVILLE, TN AT THE RADISSON PLAZA HOTEL. INCLUDED IN THE PROGRAM IS THE S.E.A.C. FILM FESTIVAL WHICH WILL RUN OLDER ARCHEOLOGICAL DOCUMENTARY FOOTAGE PLUS RECENT FILMS AND VIDEOS. CHRISTINE NEWMAN, PROJECT DIRECTOR OF THE CHEETUM SITE, WILL BE PRESENTING A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON HER FINDINGS.

THE CONFERENCE IS BEING SPONSORED BY THE TENNESSEE DIVISION OF ARCHAEOLOGY. CONTACT CARL KUTTRUFF AT (615)741-1588 FOR INFORMATION.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WET SITE ARCHAEOLOGY

THE CONFERENCE ON WET SITE ARCHEOLOGY WILL BE HELD DECEMBER 12-14, 1986 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA IN GAINESVILLE. TOPICS INCLUDE SURVEY AND TESTING, EXCAVATION AND SAMPLING, PROCESSING AND RECORDING, PRESERVATION, AND CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE. A FIELD TRIP IS PLANNED TO VISIT AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WET SITE. CONTACT BARBARA A. PURDY, DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, GAINESVILLE, FL 32611.

ETHNOBIOLOGY CONFERENCE

THE 10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOCIETY OF ETHNOBIOLOGY WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 5-8, 1987 AT THE FLORIDA STATE MUSEUM, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA. PAPERS ARE INVITED ON THE FOLLOWING AND RELATED TOPICS: CULTURAL ECOLOGY, PLANT AND ANIMAL DOMESTICATION, ETHNOZOOLOGY, ZOOARCHEOLOGY, ETHNOBOTANY, ARCHEOBOTANY, PALYNOLOGY, ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY, HUMAN DIET AND NUTRITION, FOLK TAXONOMY. CONTACT ELIZABETH S. WING, FLORIDA STATE MUSEUM, FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, (904)392-1721.

NOTE: THE ABOVE NOTICES WERE TAKEN FROM THE S.F.A.C. NEWSLETTER.

Woven cloth dates back 7,000 years

From Herald Wire Services

TITUSVILLE — A piece of rough fabric probably woven from vegetation in about 5000 B.C. has been unearthed at the Windover Farms archaeological dig and already is revising long-held scientific beliefs about early American cultures.

The cloth is the oldest recovered in the southeastern United States and because of its design and weave it provides further understanding of the aboriginal Indian culture, archaeologists said.

"It is a particularly amazing discovery to us because of the level of sophistication it reveals in these people. It is something we did not expect to find in the hunters and gatherers," said Dr. Dave Dickel, a Florida State University archaeologist and co-director of the dig.

The weave in the fabric is "very complex," said Dr. Glen Doran, also of FSU. "The amount of time invested in something like this by people who we have always supposed spent all their time gathering food tells us a lot," Doran said. Instead of the entire tribe of Indians foraging for food every waking moment, some obviously specialized in craftsmanship such as weaving, he said.

That idea is contrary to what scientists previously believed about the day-to-day life of the people of Florida 7,000 to 8,000 years ago, Doran said.

The scientists believe the 16-by-16-inch piece of cloth is draped over a set of bones and that another section of cloth is beneath the bones, but those sections have not been uncovered. The extremely delicate material will be removed from the peat in a laboratory.

ECOLOGY CLUB EXPLORES KEYS HISTORY

By Bob Epstein - Outdoor Editor

On Saturday, September 20th, 30 Coral Shores High School students members of the *Mother Earth Ecology Club* met at the Windley Key Quarry site for a day of clean-up and removal of debris. Much of the old lumber and iron harkened back to the days of the Flagler Railroad, when the site was used as a quarry. Pat Wells of the Department of Natural Resources Florida Park Service, was busy at work with a chain saw, clearing the site for up-coming

state meeting of the Isaac Walton League on October 4th and 5th. The group will share with representatives of the State Department of Natural Resources a learning field trip at the site.

According to Irving Eyster, Chairman of the State Board of Preservation, the quarry site, rich in archeological history will now be permanently preserved as a State Park. (The site was recently spotted by its owner-developer for a condominium site.) The property is now in the process of acquisition by the State of Florida.

Bill Sculthorpe of the Isaac Walton League told of how "the railroad excavated the quarry for fill and cut blocks of the oolite (old coral) for bridge abutments. Then, after the railroad, the rock was cut and used in the old Courthouse and Federal Building in Dade County, and more stone was shipped for coral stone building material throughout the state. The walls of the quarry are now the only analogue of what is on and in the living reef of Pennekamp Underwater State Park, the only substantial living reef in the continental U.S. that still survives.

Mr. Eyster said that "this site is an extension of the Pennekamp reef, and was alive over 100,000 years ago, and with the exception of Elkhorn and Staghorn coral, all the other corals on the existing live reef can be found at the Windley Key site in fossilized form. The Miami University has used the site to study coral formation and structure. Pat Wells exclaimed that community interest has been very good, and he is personally proud of these Coral Shores students for their willing efforts to help clean-up the site, and be of help in it's restoration.

An amphitheatre and Visitors Center is planned along with nature walks that will be open to the public in the future.

Mr. Eyster was ecstatic and with good reason over the impending completed acquisition for the benefit of the public. He stated, "the site is a veritable treasure house of knowledge of the Florida Keys past and the fascinating world of the reef!"

The cloth was found last week and the slow excavation began. Experts from the University of Pittsburgh were flown in last weekend to look at it before the area with the cloth was removed, encased in plastic and shipped to Pittsburgh for further study.

The cloth is almost the same color as the dark brown peat in which it is buried.

Dr. James Adovasio of the University of Pittsburgh examined the fabric Saturday and said it appeared to be an article of clothing, perhaps similar to a serape or poncho. He said the weave appeared to be made by single-fiber strands running perpendicular to and intertwined in triple-stranded fibers. The fibers appeared to be pushed closely together, probably by a weaver who used a deer-bone awl in a primitive hand action similar to that of a loom.

The weave matches that of materials found at sites in the Midwest and Southeast, but most of those materials have been dated to about 1000 B.C. and were usually only about the size of a postage stamp.

CUTLER FOSSIL SITE

THE RECENT DISCOVERY OF A LARGE CRANIAL FRAGMENT BROUGHT A RETURN OF THE MEDIA TO THE FOSSIL PIT LAST WEEK. AP, UPI AND CHANNEL 10 NEWS PERSONNEL WERE OUT, INTERVIEWING THE CREW AND PHOTOGRAPHING THE FIND.

THE CRANIAL FRAGMENT, UNCOVERED BY DON MATTUCCI ON OCTOBER 28, 1986, WAS FOUND IN AN AREA CONTAINING ASHY SOIL AND NUMEROUS BURNED ROCKS. SEVERAL POSSIBLE LITHIC TOOLS WERE PREVIOUSLY UNCOVERED IN AN ADJACENT PIT.

LUCKILY, A TWO-WEEK EXTENSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE DANIELSONS, ENDING THE DIG IN MID-NOVEMBER.

CHOKOLOSKEE EXCAVATION CONTINUES

JOHN BERIAULT HAS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FURTHER EXCAVATIONS AT CHOKOLOSKEE ISLAND FOR NOVEMBER 22 & 23 AND DECEMBER 6 & 7. CALL HIM AT (813)261-0925 OR (813)261-0295 FOR INFORMATION.

SOUTHARD'S SOUTH

JO WRITES TO US FROM CHARLOTTESVILLE, LAMENTING THE LACK OF POTTERY IN VIRGINIA. HOW SOON SHE FORGETS THOSE GALLON BAGS FILLED WITH SAND TEMPERED PLAIN SHERDS!! SHE'S KEEPING IN CONTACT WITH ARCHEOLOGISTS IN THE AREA AND CHECKING OUT THE DEER AND BLACK BEARS ON SKYLINE DRIVE.

SHE MISSES US. NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE MISS YOU!



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
Miami, Florida 33130

DUE: MARY 1987

Please!
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SEND INFO TO: DEBRA GOLDMAN
625 ALHAMBRA CIRCLE
CORAL GABLES, FL
33134

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 5-8 SEAC CONFERENCE, NASHVILLE, TN, (615)741-1588
NOVEMBER 8 "REDISCOVERING THE 1930's" THE WPA AND THE FEDERAL WRITERS' PROJECT - A SYMPOSIUM, BROWARD COUNTY LIBRARY AUDITORIUM, 9:00AM - 5:00PM, (305)357-7404
NOVEMBER 9 SORTING BARBEQUE, 10:00AM, WES COLEMAN'S HOUSE, 226-6788
NOVEMBER 12 IN DEPTH STUDY OF UXMAL, MAYAN INSTITUTE, MUSEUM OF SCIENCE
NOVEMBER 21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, SUE GOLDMAN'S HOUSE, 6:00PM
NOVEMBER 21 MEMBERSHIP MEETING, AUDUBON HOUSE, 8:00PM
NOVEMBER 23-24 THE HARVEST, TAMiami PARK, 10:00AM - 6:00PM
NOVEMBER 23-24, CHOKOLOSKEE EXCAVATIONS. CALL JOHN BERIAULT AT (813)261-0082
DECEMBER 6-7 OR (813)261-0295.
DECEMBER 12-14 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WET SITE ARCHEOLOGY. CONTACT BARBARA PURDY, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, DEPT. OF ANTHROPOLOGY



101 West Flagler Street
Miami, Florida 33130



Emily Perry Dieterich
6230 Grant Court
Hollywood, FL 33024