



THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA
CHAPTER

THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 13 Number 2 Newsletter February 1988

President: W.S. Steele Editor: Debra S. Goldman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February's Board of Directors meeting will be held on Friday, February 19, 1988 at 6:00 p.m. at Beth Read's office, 1489 South Miami Avenue. All board members please be prompt.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

This month's guest speaker will be Amy Felmley, field director of the Stadium Site excavation presently underway at the Joe Robbie Stadium. Previous monitoring and excavations by Garrow & Assoc. of Georgia and the Archaeological & Historical Conservancy in 1986 revealed both a Tequesta and Seminole component of the site. Amy will discuss the present excavation and project design. ASSF members will have the opportunity to work on the site on February 20 (see below).

Amy has 5 years experience in contract archaeology on sites in Connecticut, New York, and Arizona.

The meeting will be at the Audubon House, 5580 Sunset Drive, South Miami at 8:00 p.m. See you there!

STADIUM SITE EXCAVATION

Excavations by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy are presently underway at the Stadium Site (Da 411) located near the Joe Robbie Stadium. Two trenches bisecting the midden have produced sand tempered pottery, an early St. John's pottery type, drilled shark's teeth, shell celts and hundreds of faunal bone fragments.

On Saturday, February 6, new members Jim Steinberg and Wayne Countryman joined veterans Barbara Tansey, Dave Freer, Jim Masson and Field Director Amy Felmley for a windy day of excavating ... troweling and screening materials from the south trench.

Amy has agreed to open the dig to ASSF members once again on Saturday, February 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please bring your trowel, tape measure, dust pan, brushes and lunch for a long-awaited day of excavating. There will be some tools available on site for those who don't have their own. Amy will give her famous crash course in archaeological methods and techniques before we begin.

The site is located off NW 27th Avenue (University) near the Dade/Broward county line. Take the turnpike extension north to the Miramar exit (Calder Race Track). Go south for approx. 2 miles to 199th Street. Turn left. Site is one mile on your right. You can also take the Palmetto to NW 27th Avenue. Go north to 199th Street. Turn right. See you there!

Note: This property is scheduled for development in the coming months.

SECOND SEMINOLE WAR NOTES

The failure of General Thomas Sydney Jesup's negotiations (the Ft. Dade Treaty) in 1837 led to the largest scale military campaign of the Second Seminole War. Jesup divided his command of nine-thousand men into several armies which scoured the main waterways of the state in search of the Indians. There being few good roads, these rivers were the highways into the nearly unknown interior.

Pressure from these military movements forced the Indians south away from the major frontier settlements. As a result, one-half of the Florida Indian nation, two thousand men, women and children, gathered on the north shore of Lake Okeechobee where, on December 25, 1837, the largest battle of the war was fought. In that battle, Col. Zachary Taylor and his army of eight hundred men clashed with three hundred eighty warriors led by Sam Jones, Coacoochee, Alligator and Helleck-Tustenuggee. The army's casualties in this battle, 138, are amongst the highest ever suffered by the U.S. Army in all of the American Indian Wars. Despite this fact, the Army held the field and the Indians continued their movement south.

Over the next few months, Sam Jones would have to fight four more battles with the military. In one, the Battle of Loxahatchee, General Jesup himself led the attack on the Indians. Jesup had a close brush with death when an Indian shot his glasses off his face.

The final battle of Jesup's South Florida campaign was fought in Dade County on April 24, 1838. Although only a skirmish, it is a significant event because of the fact that one hundred one dragoons and artillerymen under the command of Lt. Colonel William Selby Harney were able to disperse Jones' people after only a token resistance. Only two months earlier Jones had sent a like number of sailors under the command of Lt. Levin M. Powell fleeing for their lives when they stumbled upon his camp. The Dade County skirmish clearly indicated the devastating effect the recent series of battles had on the Indians. The ancestors of the Seminoles, the mighty Creek Nation, had, less than a century before, been reported to have six thousand armed warriors. The mightiest nations of Europe treated with the Creeks as allies not fiefs. The last vestige of that power died on the trail from the battlefield at Okeechobee to the battlefield near Cutler Ridge.

150th Anniversary dates to remember over the next few months include:

- January 24 - The Battle of Loxahatchee
- January 30 - The death of Osceola
- February 19- The establishing of Ft. Dallas
- March 5 - The establishing of Ft. Lauderdale
- April 24 - The Harney-Jones Skirmish

W.S. Steele

Note: A re-enactment of the Harney-Jones Skirmish is presently in the planning stages. Please contact Wes Coleman at 226-6788 if you are interested in participating in this History Fair and Re-enactment to take place at the Deering Estate in April. More information will follow in future newsletters.

FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

The 40th Annual F.A.S. meeting will be hosted this year by the Central Florida Anthropological Society in Orlando. Registration is on Friday, May 6 and Saturday May 7. Papers will be given until 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 8. The location is the Ramada Inn, Altamonte Springs, I-4 and SR 436. Two A.S.S.F. members may be giving papers at this year's meeting! More information to follow...

EGYPTOLOGY & ASIAN CIVILIZATIONS

The Egyptology and Asian Civilizations Society of Miami meets on the first Friday of the month at 8:00 p.m. at the Museum of Science. Contact Helen at 642-3494 for more information.

NEW MEMBERS!!!

Welcome to our new members Bonnie Daniels, Adam Lawrence, Dave Porfiri, Jim Steinberg, Barbara Rooney and Sherry Mathieu. Looking forward to seeing you on February 19 and/or 20.

OLD MEMBERS!!!

1988 membership dues are due!! Many of you have not sent in your checks. Please do so as soon as possible. Thanks.

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: _____ Signature: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

Renewal___ New Member___ \$12.00 Individual___ \$15.00 Family___

Mail check or money order to: The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida

Due: JANUARY 1988

c/o Beth Read
1485 South Miami Avenue
Miami, FL 33131

DATES

February 19 Board of Directors Meeting, Beth Read's Office, 6 p.m.
February 19 Membership Meeting
February 20 Stadium Site Dig, 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
March 18 March Membership Meeting
April History Fair & Re-enactment of Harney-Jones Skirmish
May 6,7,8 F.A.S. Annual Meeting



John Carruthers
5740 Twin Lakes Dr.
South Miami, Fl. 33157