

The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida  
Chapter  
The Florida Anthropological Society

Volume 13 Number 10  
President: Beth Read

October 1988  
Editor:

*Board of Directors Meeting:*



Thursday, October 20, 1988  
1489 S. Miami Avenue  
6:00 p.m.

The October Board Meeting will be held on the regularly scheduled date, at the regularly scheduled time and place.

All board members are urged to attend as a number of important issues must be discussed. All interested members are also invited.

Since the General Meeting session is scheduled on a different day this month, dinner



*Dates to Remember*

**10-20-88** Thursday, October Board Meeting, 6:00 p.m., 1489 S. Miami Avenue  
**10-23-88** Sunday, October Covered Dish Picnic Meeting, 1:30 p.m. Cape Florida State Park, Key Biscayne  
**Each Weekend:** Indian Key Restoration Project, Indian Key, Islamorada, Florida

will be served on the house.

Casual attire will be appropriate.

*October General Meeting*

The October General Meeting will be a covered dish picnic meeting at Cape Florida State Park. We plan to meet near the lighthouse. A tour of the lighthouse's archaeological and historical site will be included in the afternoon activities.

Members, of course, are urged to bring swimsuits, bicycles and fishing gear if they would like to take advantage of the other facilities available within the park.

The park is situated at the end of the road (Crandon Boulevard on Key Biscayne and is reached from the mainland via Rickenbacher Causeway. (U.S. #1 and S.W. 26th Road)

The Causeway toll is \$1.00 and the entrance fee for the park is \$1.00 per automobile and driver plus a nominal additional charge for each passenger.

All members and friends are urged to join us for an enjoyable afternoon together at one of the most significant sections in Dade County.

**PICNIC FOOD**

Food for the covered dish picnic can be from any of the following categories:

Main dish, salads, desserts, drinks.

Plates, cups and eating utensils will be provided.

**Welcome New Members**

A hearty welcome is extended to new member - **Ernesto Despaigne**  
We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

**Welcome Home**

Member **Sonja Noah** has returned from her People to People Archaeological trip to China. She has agreed to report on her experiences at our November General Meeting.

*See  
You at Our  
October Meeting!*

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*September Meeting*

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Members and friends were treated to an interesting talk and slide program presented by Dr. John Gifford on September 22nd at Simpson Park. Dr. Gifford discussed the Little Salt Springs site and other early sites throughout the United States, along with methods which are used to date the sites and various theories about the first appearances of man in the Americas.

Our thanks again to **Mary Kiem** for her generous donation of a chert scraper to A.S.S.F. The scraper, from Arkansas, was raffled at our September Meeting and raised \$26.00 for A.S.S.F.

Thanks again, Mary!

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*A New Book of Interest*

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A new book on the Calusa Indians has recently been published by the University of Alabama Press. Entitled **The Evolution of the Calusa**, the volume is authored by Randolph J. Widmer, and attempts to sample all the archaeological, environmental and geological data from Southwest Florida to provide a cultural adaptation model which can be used for future research.

For more information, contact The University of Alabama Press, Box 2877, Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 35487-2877 (205/348-5180) The price is \$18.95.

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**Archaeological Society of Southern Florida - Membership Application/Renewal Form**

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**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 site for the unscientific collecting of artifacts.
2. All artifacts and material recovered from society projects are the property of the society.

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$12.00 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$15.00 Family \_\_\_\_\_

Mail check or money order to: The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida, 1489 S. Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida 33131

# Pineland was once holy ground

By **GEORGE LANE JR.**  
Tribune Staff Writer

**PINELAND** — Long before Florida was a state, even before the first Spanish explorers arrived, people were living on Pine Island Sound at Pineland.

Pineland is the site of a major pre-Columbian religious center. According to a marker that gives a brief history of the area, it's thought to be one of the larger villages of the Calusa Indian civilization.

## Florida Glimpses

Calusa tribes dominated the southwest coast of Florida for thousands of years until the coming of the Spanish explorers.

The Pineland mounds, on northwestern Pine Island in Lee County, form a complex of pyramids and other hills that are believed to possess religious significances to the Calusas. A large canal excavated by the Indians connects the site with Matlacha on the eastern shore of Pine Island.

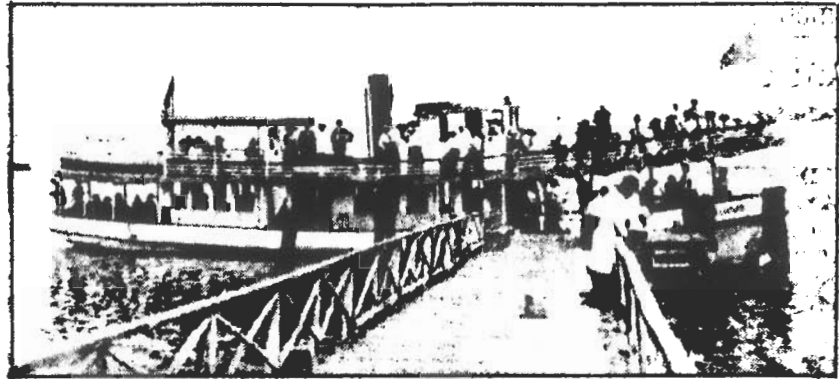
In 1895, archaeologist Frank Cushing traveled to Southwest Florida to investigate and explore the remains of the Calusa civilization.

He visited Pineland — then known as Battley's Landing, and other important coastal sites — including: Demorey's Key (Demere Key), Useppa Island, Johnson's Key (Mound Key) and Key Marco (Marco Island).

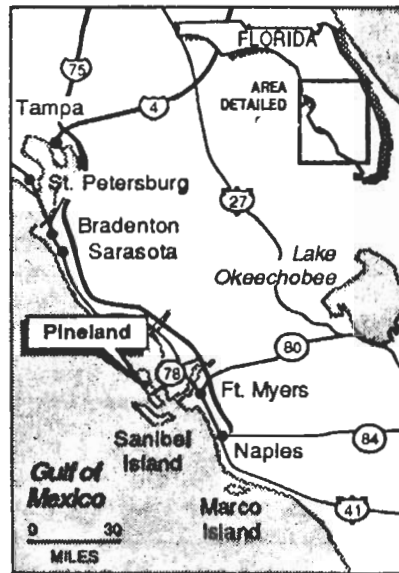
Cushing returned to Marco Island in 1896, unearthing artifacts and wood carvings that are the most important remnants of Calusa civilization discovered to date.

The mounds at Pineland and others like them often provided the early white settlers with a convenient source of road fill.

The mounds also provided high



The Steamer Gladys of the Kinzie Brothers Steamer Line served the Pine Island area until the early 1960s.



Tribune map

and dry building sites, as they did in the time of the Calusas, and tend to be preserved when used in this fashion.

Many historical homes and buildings, including the small frame Pineland post office, remain today as reminders of early white settlement here nearly 100 years ago.

Col. Donald H. Randell donated

a small marker and monument site on Pine Island Sound for public review.

Pineland postmaster Kay Hanson says, "This is a quaint, quiet community of close-knit folks. It gets pretty busy around here in the winter months, but the summers are slow and easy with lots of humidity and a few mosquitoes."

She acknowledges that "you've got to almost know where you're going to find us. Pineland is not on the main road."

But she adds, "I love it out here."

The Pineland post office, established Sept. 6, 1902, is the second-oldest in the Pine Island area.

Saint James City got the island's first post office Sept. 1, 1886. Neighboring Bokeelia got its post office in May 1906. It was 1953 before Matlacha's opened.

The Kinzie Brothers Steamer Line carried passengers, U.S. mail and freight to all of the islands out of Fort Myers and Punta Gorda. The company served the Pine Island area until the early 1960s.

Located on Pine Island off State Road 767, west of Cape Coral and Fort Myers, Pineland is 140 miles south of the Tampa Bay area.

# New park is a piece of history

## Partners put past on display in Weston

By GELAREH ASAYESH  
Herald Staff Writer

In the midst of Weston, one of Broward County's newest developments, unlikely partners have built an eclectic shrine to Florida's past. They've turned an ancient glades hammock into a county park where 5,000-year-old Indian remains share space with an herb garden, and sunflowers will soon grow near the crooked swamp cypress.

Peace Mound Park in Weston, an 8.2-acre speck on Broward's map of parks, wasn't even scheduled to be finished until 1989. But thanks to a cast of characters ranging from school children to local plant societies to Weston's developer, Arvida, there are trees and plants and chickee huts where there otherwise would have been a bare patch of land.

There is a lake and a bridge, an 11-foot canoe carved of cypress and transparent display cases holding Indian artifacts. A boardwalk carries visitors to the dark pit where archaeologists last year found charcoal from a fire built 5,100 years ago — the earliest known sign of Indian habitation in Florida's Everglades.



WALTER MICHOT / Miami Herald Staff

Roy Rogers rests his hands on a 150-year-old hackberry tree.

The park in gigantic Weston, a sprawling development on the fringe of the Everglades, was the idea of Arvida's Roy Rogers and was paid for with more than \$200,000 of the company's money.

It has been chosen as one of the top three parks in the country by the National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials, the only Florida park chosen this year. The organization has 1,000 members across the country.

Rogers, who has sat on Broward's Park Advisory Board since the group formed about seven years ago, also was one of three individuals honored for their roles on park advisory boards.

"There are few parks where I have seen involved so many aspects of the community," Larry Lietzke, director of

the county's parks division, said Sunday. "To me, it's an All-American story. And Roy was absolutely the catalyst."

Peace Mound, developed around the Taylor's Head Indian mound off Indian Trace Road in Weston, is one of the few parks in Broward where visitors can see an archaeological site preserved, Lietzke said. It was transformed from a wild hammock to what it is in a few short months, with plants and trees coming from private groups and from other county sites.

There are red mangroves from West Lake Park, ferns donated by the Broward Fern Society, a garden of oregano, mint and thyme and other herbs

planted by Arvida and even two rare Talipot palms from Fairchild Tropical Garden.

"The park looks like it's three or four years old at least," said Lietzke. "It's a park administrator's dream."

He said the county would not have been able to afford to do what Rogers has done at Peace Mound. "I can just see me putting out a bid proposal for a hand-carved canoe," Lietzke said.

Rogers heard of the award last week and will accept it at the organization's national meeting Aug. 7 in Anaheim, Calif.

"Over all the United States, to pick this tiny little speck here, makes me burst with pride," Rogers said Sunday. "The whole thing here shows what partnerships do in a positive way. I think developers will wish to emulate it."

Before the park is finished in August, Rogers plans to add a garden full of flamboyant heliconia plants, a patch of sunflowers and a historic display tracing man back 5,000 years. Cooking grills will be added near a giant chickee that is often used for special events. Plants will be marked with transparent bricks listing not only their names, but also their significance to the Tequesta and Seminole Indians who once used Peace Mound as a camping ground, he said.

Arvida wants school children to help develop the historic display, which would consist of footprints, each citing a major historic event.

The proposal goes before the Broward County School Board next month. Country Isles Elementary students already have designed a guide to native plants that Rogers hopes to have distributed at the park.

The county also plans to start offering walking tours through Peace Mound this summer — just as it does at Fern Forest Park, Lietzke said.