



**The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida
Chapter
The Florida Anthropological Society**

Volume 14 Number 2
President: Beth Read

February - 1989
Editor: Pat Cervi

February General Meeting

The February General Meeting will be held Friday, February 17th at 7:30 p.m. in Simpson Park which is located at 55 S.W. 17th Road, Miami. (The Park is just off South Miami Avenue, close to the I-95 exit. Call 856-6801 for directions.)

Ray Stewart, President of the Institute of Maya Studies will present a slide program which features an overview of the Mayan cultures in Meso-America including the Yucatan Peninsula, Guatemala, Copán, and Palenque. In addition, he will provide us with current information on archaeological activities in these and neighboring areas.

This promises to be an interesting program.



February Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, February 17, 1989
1489 S. Miami Avenue
6:00 p.m.

Our regular February Board of Directors Meeting will be held at Beth Read's office, immediately prior to the February General Meeting at Simpson Park. All board members are urged to attend. Interested members at large are invited and welcomed.

Items of Interest

Crane Hammock

The second dig at Crane Hammock in Marathon is scheduled for **February 25-26, 1989**. We will meet at 9:30 a.m. at Crane Hammock across the street from the K-Mart on Route 1.

The Keys Land Trust is making arrangements for free accommodations on Pigeon Key for those who wish to stay over and work both days.

Indian Key

On **February 12th**, the Sierra Club is cooperating in clearing the town site on Indian Key.

The club welcomes anyone who would like to assist with that project. For details contact Irving Eyster 1-664-9504.

*See
You at Our
February Meeting!*

**Former A.S.S.F. Members
Happy in Montana**

The following is a quote from a Christmas note from **Daryl and Wes Ries**, long-time members of A.S.S.F. now living in Montana.

"We are still here and like it. It has snowed some but it disappears in a few days because the temperature rises. This town has a mild (relatively speaking) climate. We were winter camping once in 10 degree and snowing weather. We really did enjoy it. We also did some cross-country skiing while we were camping. The only thing we really miss is our friends. We fondly remember all the good things we did in Florida, but we are enjoying all the new things we are doing in our new setting.

If you are ever in the neighborhood be sure to look us up.

We just bought a new house and are busy moving again! Our new address is:

Daryl and Wes Ries
3205 8th Avenue N.
Great Falls, MT 59401

Stanley and Mary Kiem

Notice to Members

Items for Publication

Please be sure and include your name on any items you write and send to our newsletter for publication. We want to give you the credit you deserve!

Dues

Annual dues are now payable at \$12 for individual membership and \$15 for family membership. Remember, a paid membership is a prerequisite for voting privileges.

.....
ASSF Board Members
.....

President, Beth Read
Vice President, John Ayer
Treasurer, John Carruthers
Secretary, Vivian Peters
Directors:
Bob Carr
Debra Goldman
Seth Lefkow
Jim Lord
Barbara Tansey

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 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

Digging the Hammock

Historians seek clues to early Keys settlers

FLORIDA KEYS - Prospective donors and high school students saw some of the history of Marathon's Crane Point Hammock uncovered Dec. 10-11.

Bottle fragments, pieces of heavy pottery, tool fragments, broken china, remnants of clay pipes, intact medicine bottles and even an old pocketknife were unearthed by archaeological digs at four excavation sites on the 63-acre property.

Located in the heart of Marathon, the largely undisturbed hammock is prized by naturalists and historians.

The discoveries will be used to trace the history of the site and its earliest inhabitants, said project director Irving Eyster, a well-known local historian who now lives on Lower Matecumbe.

"I think these people may have been some of the first Bahamian settlers," said Mr. Eyster, assessing artifacts unearthed at the site of a dry-wall foundation deemed to be that of a small house or storage building built in the late 1800s.

"There is evidence of some of the earliest settlements here, possibly several settlers," he said.

Students from Marathon High School, who will get credit for taking trowels in hand to excavate for buried historical treasures, joined volunteers from throughout South Florida in conducting the digs.

It's always a rare privilege to do the initial excavation on a new site that's never been explored before," said **Beth Read**, president of the Archaeological Society of Southern Florida.

"The things we've found will tell how people lived here," said Ms. Read, also the secretary of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy. "They lived so very well for their time, and even imported things from Europe."

Using the recovered artifacts, the living history of the property will be told in museums and interpretive exhibits to be established by the Florida Keys Land Trust.

"We've had consultants in

already to work on the museum and exhibits," said trust Executive Director Chuck Olson, Ph.D. "We're shooting to open the museum April 1."

While the archaeological digs were underway, Dr. Olson offered tours to show off significant features of the property.

"There have been some substantial donations as a result of this two-day event," he said.

The land trust, with just a few fund-raising days to go, hopes to close on the property Dec. 19.

If state funds appropriated by the Monroe County Land Authority arrive in time, "It's a done deal," said Dr. Olson.

He noted the trust must continue its fund-raising efforts to pay back loans.

The Keynote - Wednesday/December 14, 1988



**1489 South Miami Avenue
Miami, Florida 33131**

ED



MS. PAT CERVI
1205 MAIRPOSA #403
CORAL GABLES , FL 33146