



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida

Chapter The Florida Anthropological Society

Volume 14 Number 5
President: Beth Read

May-1989
Editor: Pat Cervi

May General Meeting

The May General Meeting will be held Friday, May 19 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.)

We are pleased to present as our speaker, Dr. Walter Van Hamme, one eminently qualified in a subject somewhat different from those directly related to archaeology - "Why the Dinosaurs Really Disappeared." Dr. Van Hamme will unravel some of the cosmic mysteries of the prehistoric past. Based on geological theories of the cosmic causes of catastrophes preceding mass extinctions on Earth (about 65 million years ago), he will explain the possible mechanisms for periodic enhanced comet showers or asteroid collisions that might have triggered a sudden, total imbalance on our planet Earth.

Dr. Van Hamme now serves as assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Florida International University. He was born and educated in Belgium, received his doctorate at the University of Ghent, served as research assistant to the National Foundation for Scientific Research of Belgium, research scientist at the University of Florida in Gainesville, and was assistant professor at the University of South Carolina before his present position at F.I.U.

He is recipient of the Fulbright-Hays Scholarship for Research at the University of Florida, a member of the International Astronomers Union, the American Astronomical Society, and the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. He has authored more than 50 scientific books and articles, including those on the stellar systems and the evolution of stars. Dr. Van Hamme's presentation will utilize slides and graphs.

Charles Deering Estate

Re-User Plan

by John Carruthers II

On April 12, 1989, the Metropolitan Dade County Historic Preservation Board met to consider adding to the present uses at the Charles Deering Estate bed and breakfast accommodations, with full restaurant and liquor bar facilities

The Society spent many hours at many meetings to urge the acquisition of the 358 acres of this estate. They include valuable hardwood, untouched archaeological sites, the proposed town of Cutler and

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May Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, May 19, 1989
1489 S. Miami Avenue
6:00 p.m.

Our regular May Board of Directors Meeting will be held at **Beth Read's** office, immediately prior to the May General Meeting at Simpson Park.

All board members are urged to attend. Interested members at large are invited and welcomed.

Items of Interest

We welcome our new board members **Pat Cervi, Jim Lord, Sonja Noah** and **Caridad Planas**.

Welcome also to new members **Jean F. De St. Croix, Chuck Kellenberger** and **Ann Martinez**. We are happy to have **Steve Poznanski** return after several years absence.

Congratulations to **John Ayer** for his article on the Cape Florida Lighthouse which was printed in the souvenir program for Dade Heritage Day.

The Southeastern Archaeological Conference will be held in Tampa, FL on November 8-11 at the Harbor Island Hotel. For information contact Nancy White, Department of Anthropology, University of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620.

The Miami River North Fork clean-up, which was scheduled for May, has been indefinitely postponed.

Our newly painted club banner, 3 by 15 feet, made its debut at the April meeting thanks to **Barbara Tansey, Bob Freer,** and **John Ayer**.

Massacre Re-Enactment

by Seth Lefkow

A re-enactment of the Indian Key Massacre, in which Dr. Perrine and others lost their lives, took place on Saturday and Sunday, April ~~22~~²³, 1989 on Indian Key near mile marker 79.

Among the participants who portrayed Seminole Indians, settlers and sailors of the period were **Wes Coleman** and **Seth Lefkow**, pictured on the right.

During this two-day affair, participants cooked their meals in cast-iron pots, slept in tents and used muzzle-loading rifles and pistols of the period. A total of six re-enactments were presented in which the Indians successfully fought off the sailors in their long boat.

Boats of the Park Service and a boat on loan from Holiday Isle ferried on-lookers to the key. On Saturday, over 3,000 folks enjoyed the festivities.



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

Newly found dinosaur once roamed Texas

Reuters News Service

FORT WORTH - A high school biology teacher and his seven-year-old son have found the fossilized remains of three dinosaurs which represent a newly discovered species.

The find has opened a new branch of the tenontosaurus family, a scientist said.

"We knew there was a dinosaur of the tenontosaurus group, but now we have a whole new species," said Louis Jacobs, a Southern Methodist University paleontologist. "These animals

represent a new kind of creature."

The 1-ton, 20-foot-long tenontosaurus was a herbivore that scientists say lived 110 million years ago. The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History announced the discovery on Wednesday.

The find was made by Ted Williams and his son Thad last August as they searched for fossils along a creek bed west of Fort Worth.

Williams said he and his son were looking at rocks when Thad found a dinosaur jawbone.

"I thought it was something important, but I thought it was a mammoth or something," Williams said.

He called officials at the Fort Worth museum, who at first were reluctant to go to the creek bed.

"We get so many calls from people who find everything from fossils to cow bones," said museum spokesperson Karen Turner. "We took Mr. Williams seriously because he is a biology teacher."

The Miami Herald/Saturday, December 17, 1988

The Miami Herald/Monday Dec. 5, 1988

Find may link two dinosaur theories

SAN FRANCISCO - (UPI) - Sediment from a dinosaur graveyard in India has yielded a key piece in the puzzle of why the giant reptiles disappeared from Earth about 66 million years ago.

The findings pinpoint the site of an apparent meteorite crash that might have led to the massive extinction and present the first evidence tying together several theories of how dinosaurs met their end.

Though it provides no final answers, the study may douse some of the sizzling

debate among scientists about what caused the reptiles' demise, said Asish Basu, a professor of geological sciences at the University of Rochester in New York.

The discovery points to a link between the school of thought painting a scenario of sudden catastrophe and the one of cumulative change.

By analyzing sandstone from Jabalpur in central India, Basu uncovered the first physical evidence that a meteorite may have struck a 400,000-square-mile basalt plateau created by lava flows called the Deccan Trap.

"I believe the impact of the meteorite triggered extensive volcanic activity at the time of the mass extinction," Basu said.

"I think we have found a key clue that implicates the impact and the volcanic activity, which took place over thousands of years. The volcanic activity must have produced some climate changes, which also could account for the demise."

Basu studied sediment containing a "shocked" quartz. Such fractured quartz is found in craters left by meteorites.

The sandstone came from the K-T layer that marks the end of the Cretaceous and the beginning of the Tertiary geologic periods, 65 million to 67 million years ago.

"We found the quartz immediately beneath the lowermost solidified layer of lava, indicating a meteor struck the site just before the volcanic eruption," Basu said.

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~~sites, the proposed town of Cutler and~~ the home of Charles Deering, former chairman of the board of International Harvester. The property was acquired by the State of Florida on August 9, 1985. Bill Bird, Director of Park and Recreation Department of Dade County said, "... (T)he Deering Estate offers a unique challenge in that the botanical, environmental, historical and archaeological features are unsurpassed." Dade County operates the estate under a management contract with the State and seeks to put the property on a more profitable footing.

The existing stone house (the residence) and Richmond Inn are in a generally deteriorated condition. Preventive maintenance continues pending acquisition of funds for

New Slate Takes Office For 1989-90

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Secretary - Vivian Peters
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Bob Carr Jim Lord
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Sonja Noah Seth Lefkow
Pat Cervi

serious restoration. No funds are available from Dade County at this time. Restoration of the stone house is estimated at \$1,100,000.

Notwithstanding recent reports that Bird has rejected the plan for commercial use of the buildings, the Historic Preservation Board has requested the organization of a coalition to make recommendations to the Board toward future use of the Estate. The A.S.S.F. is a part of this

coalition.

The Cutler Fossil Site is not on this property, but remains in private hands. That site was fully explored and back filled. The artifacts are being examined at the University of Florida.

The Deering Estate belongs to the public. Its use and any changes in use are of serious concern to the Society. We want your views and comments.



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