



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida

Chapter The Florida Anthropological Society

Volume 14 Number 8
President: Beth Read

August - 1989
Editor: Pat Cervi

August General Meeting

The August General Meeting will be held Friday, August 18th 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.)

Katherine L. Rogers will speak to us about archaeology from half way around the world: the Hawaiian mountains, valleys, and rivers. Kathy holds a B.A. degree in Anthropology from the American University in Washington, D.C., and for several years, worked with the B.P. Bishop Museum in Honolulu.

She has taught archaeological field and laboratory techniques, including design and set-up of a mock dig. As co-author of "Preliminary Historical and Archaeological Investigations of Hana Ranch Lands, Hana, Maui Hawaiian Islands," Kathy researched the legendary and traditional history of that district. She also analyzed and interpreted the historic artifacts for the pending publication of "Archaeological Investigation at Site of Old Royal Hawaiian Hotel."

Closer to home, Kathy served as field director for the Indian Beach archaeological survey in Sarasota, Florida, searching for and locating Fort Armistead. In Dade County, she participated in the Guy Bailey Site excavation. Both excavations were recently completed under the aegis of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy.

Board of Directors

President - Beth Read
Vice President - John Ayer
Secretary - Vivian Peters
Treasurer - John Carruthers II

Directors

Bob Carr Jim Lord
Caridad Planas
Barbara Tansey
Sonja Noah Seth Lefkow
Pat Cervi

August Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, August 18, 1989
1489 S. Miami Avenue
6:00 p.m.

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

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

Items of Interest

Since **Sherry Mathieu** has tendered her resignation as hospitality chairperson, **Barbara Tansey** has accepted the responsibility effective the August meeting.

Sherry's homemade lemon delights were happily devoured by those of us who attended the July meeting. Thank you, Sherry for a job well done.

John Carruthers, publicity chairperson, secured space to announce our **A.S.S.F.** meetings in the New Times, the Miami Herald Neighbors magazines, Miami Community Newspapers and WTVJ, Channel 4.

This increased publicity, produced two interesting visitors at our July meeting: Jerzy Babel, Ph.D., senior custodian, State Archaeological Museum, Warsaw; and Wesley Kwasniak, architect, planner and general contractor, Miami.

Dr. Babel offered to show us his slide program at a later date.

Please begin thinking about the **Harvest Festival** in November at the Youth Fairgrounds.

Continued on page 4.

PUT THAT BACK!

BY R. TODD ERKEL

Considering the epidemic looting of key archaeological sites in the US and throughout the world, it seems many people - to make a profit or just to take home a souvenir - confuse history books with shop-by-mail catalogues.

Pitt professor Jeremy Sabloff, recently elected president of the Society of American Archaeology, thinks education is the key to curbing this piecemeal destruction of our archaeological and historical past.

"Everyone likes to talk about stronger enforcement, and looting on federal lands is



now a felony," Sabloff says. "But you have only to look at the drug trade to see that all the laws and patrols money can buy will not solve such a problem. Without public education, the problem will continue. Public education works well with young people. The time to change attitudes is in the grade schools."

A poster from *Raiders of the Lost Ark* hangs on the wall in Sabloff's Forbes Quad office, a reminder of the public's fascination with archaeology, both real and imagined. "It's nice that Hollywood finds archaeology so romantic, but you need only walk into a fourth-or fifth

Continued on page 3.

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

Continued from page 2

grade classroom to see that kids are just as fascinated by the real thing," Sabloff says.

"I'm always tickled by the enthusiasm they have for archaeology. I think that, more than most disciplines, archaeology attracts a huge public interest. People identify with the work more than they do that of an economist or a sociologist."

Sabloff believes archaeology in the classroom will not only deepen appreciation for ancient sites, but also help to adjust our skewed reading of history. "It seems that American history always starts with the first European contact," he says. "We somehow ignore this incredibly rich heritage that precedes it. A kid in grade school shouldn't learn that American history starts in 1492, or

the 1700s. It starts long before that."

One of Sabloff's favorite books is titled *Columbus Came Late* (by Gregory Mason, 1931). "What we never tell our kids is that by the time Columbus arrived, there had been more than 10,000 years of cultural development in North, Central, and South America. It's important for us to appreciate what the native Americans accomplished before the Europeans arrived.

"I think, for example, that kids would want to know how the ancestors of the Pueblo Indians functioned in the American Southwest, in what now looks like desert wasteland. Some people say it's harder to get people interested because they'll think it's not *their* past. But it

is the heritage of this country."

An example of the growing use of the archaeological record, according to Sabloff, is the re-examination of the early nineteenth-century American south. "We know a great deal more about the lives of slaves thanks to archaeology," he says. "Too much written history considered details of their lives unimportant; nobody noted things such as the access they had to tools and utensils.

"As in the case of the Mayas, this information might cause us to reconsider the history of plantations," he adds. "We might concern ourselves less with how the wealthy land owners lived and better understand why and how the culture developed."

Pitt Magazine, July 1989

T-shirts T-shirts T-shirts

A.S.S.F. T-shirts
will be on sale for
\$10.00 at every meet-
ing.

The shirts come
in red, light blue, silver
and pink with a black
logo.

Hats will be avail-
able at a later date.

Join Us For

Conch Chowder and Beer

August 7, 1989

7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Save Our Lighthouse

Bill Baggs State Park

\$35 per couple \$20 per person

Sponsored by Dade Heritage Trust
305/358-9572 - Your \$35 entitles you
to charter membership in the Friends
of the Lighthouse Committee.

Continued from page 1.

Volunteers are needed to man our booth. This project is lots of fun, so plan to donate some of your time to the Harvest Festival. More about this project in subsequent newsletters.

The Historical Society needs volunteers to inventory, document, and pack archaeological artifacts from the Wilma Williams' collection.

Interested members may contact Dan Marcus, assistant curator of object collection, at 375-1492. The hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Welcome to new member **Susi Erdman** from Boca Raton. Susi's interests include reading, running and ceramics.



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