



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



Volume 27, Issue 4

Newsletter of the Society

April 2001

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Lisa Weier

Movie Time

Join us for an evening of movie madness when our next meeting focuses on "The Mystery of the Miami Circle," a video episode of "Horizon," produced by the BBC.



This particular show focuses on the Miami Circle and was aired in Great Britain January, 2001. Bob Carr, John Ricisak, Ted Riggs, Michael Baumann (the developer), Jerald Milanich, Gary Beiter and Randolph Widmer were interviewed for this episode, as well as many others

involved in researching the Circle. To read more about Horizon and for a transcript of the show on-line go to: www.bbc.co.uk/science/horizon/arcant.shtml.

Note: Please bring a desert! Any sweet of choice will be appreciated to share with everyone.

Please join us on Thursday, April 12th, 7:30 p.m., at Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Avenue, Miami. You may call Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 for directions.

Elections

It's time again for ASSF annual Elections. Enclosed members will find a ballot form with bios on everyone running for an office or up for re-election this year. Please mail in your form to the above listed address (Atlantic Radio & Telephone), or pick-up and complete a ballot at the next meeting where they will be tallied and the results announced.

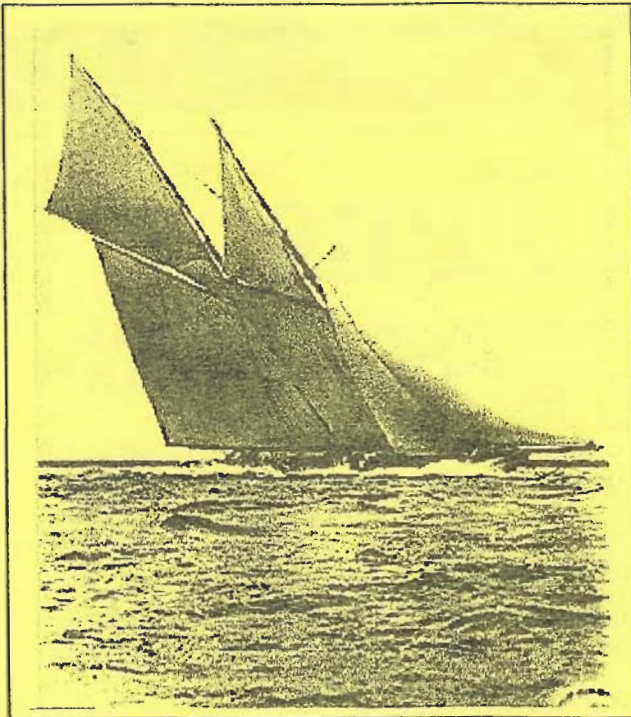


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Half Moon

formally the *Germania*



Half Moon (formally the *Germania*)

Diver, amateur photographer and Biscayne National Park volunteer Terry Helmers, along with the Division of Historic Preservation and Friends of the Halfmoon, have recently established the Half Moon (formerly known as the *Germania*) as an underwater archaeological preserve. A dual ceremony was held on Key Biscayne on April 6th, and also incorporated the founding of the Crandon Park Biscayne Nature Center – where information on the Halfmoon will be available to the public.

The wreck of the *Half Moon* recently was nominated to become a Preserve by Miami diver Terry Helmers. Located off Key Biscayne near Miami, the wreck of the *Half Moon* lies in shallow water on a sandy bottom.

Historical research suggests that this sail-powered yacht was known as *Germania* when built in Germany in 1908 for the Count Bohlen und Halbach. The two-masted, 366-ton steel schooner-yacht was extremely fast and raced at Cowes, England and Kiel, Germany.

Siezed as a prize of war in 1914 while at Cowes for the annual regatta, the yacht was taken to New York and subsequently made her way to Miami where she was renamed *Half Moon* and used as a floating saloon until sunk in the early 1930s. A team from the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research, in partnership with the University of Miami and the Metro-Dade County Division of Historic Preservation, will investigate the site, prepare a site plan, and complete historical documentation. A formal proposal to create the Preserve was submitted to the public for review and to solicit input on establishing the new preserve.

Be sure to check out the web site at: <http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/bar/uap/halfmoon.html>. There you will find out about the history of the ship, a link to a location map, site plan, and a transcript of the proposal to establish the shipwreck *Half Moon* as a State Underwater Archaeological Preserve.

**ASSF would like to congratulate
Gary Beiter on his appointment as Dade
County Archaeologist!**

Although at the time of this writing the paperwork is still being processed, here is some background on Gary for those who may not be familiar with his work in S. Florida.

Gary received a BS in Biology from Cortland College SUNY, a BS in Geology from FAU, and a Master of Arts in Anthropology from FAU. His specialties include eastern US prehistoric and contact period.

Most recently, Gary was the Cultural Resource Manager of the Graves Museum and Field Supervisor of a 4 week survey of the Brickell Point Site.

The current issue of the Florida Anthropological Society Journal, Vol 54, #1 of March 2001, includes a contribution by Gary entitled, "Salvage and Excavation of Bamboo Mound (8DA94), Dade County, Florida: A Multi-component Site.

In this detailed report Gary outlines the background of the site and concludes "much of the original surface had been redeposited by bulldozing of the original midden into spoil piles." However, "although much information was lost, the data obtained and questions and hypotheses considered in this study could be used to guide future investigations... In a region where a cultural-historical framework and diagnostic artifacts have been ascertained, some information can be gained from disturbed sites."

Screen like a Banshee!

Please come out and help screen artifact-rich dirt rescued from the Bamboo Site, located at the Everglades Outpost just outside of Florida City. Although we've been screening for sometime, there is plenty left to sift. Any help is appreciated and no experience is necessary!

Address: 35601 S.W. 192 Ave. Call 305-247-8000 for directions.

FAS 2001 Annual Meeting

The next Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting will be held:

Where: St. Augustine

When: Friday, May 11th through

Sunday May 13th, Radisson Ponce de Leon Conference Resort, (904) 824-2821.

Cost: Early registration (until April 1st) \$25. \$30 thereafter.

The Friday night reception will be hosted at the St. Augustine Lighthouse.

An additional option on Friday, May 11th, is the **Florida Underwater Archaeology Conference**, held in conjunction the FAS Meeting. Cost: \$35 before April 1, \$40 thereafter. Call James Cusick (352) 392-9075, ext. 306, for more information.

At the request of author Lynn Mckee (Daughter of the Fifth Moon), **Broward Science teachers** will be learning about S. Florida archaeology and earning credit at the **Everglades Outpost**. Join us on Saturday, April 21st, at 8:00 a.m. 'til...? The Outpost is located at 35601 S.W. 192 Avenue (on the road leading to Everglades National Park). Barbara Tansey would like to invite society members to join Gary Beiter and be on hand to help with screening and artifact identification.

It is suggested that everyone bring a lunch.



Florida Anthropological Society
FAS membership application/renewal form

YES, I want to join FAS. I enclose \$ _____

- INDIVIDUAL, \$25
- FAMILY, \$30
- INSTITUTIONAL, \$25
- SUSTAINING, \$40 OR MORE
- PATRON, \$100
- LIFE, \$500

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

ZIP CODE _____

PHONE (W) _____ (H) _____

Mail to: FAS Membership
Terry Simpsons, CGCAS
P.O. Box 82255
Tampa, Florida 33682

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN FLORIDA
ASSF membership application/renewal form

I have read and will abide by the Objectives and Code of Ethics of ASSF listed below, and I wish to apply for membership.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____

Phone (w) _____ (h) _____

- CHECK ONE:** New Member Renewal
CHECK ONE: Individual (\$20) Family (\$25)

Mail to: Barbara Tansey
ASSF Membership
2495 N.W. 35th Avenue
Miami, FL 33142

ASSF 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.

ASSF 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 benefit.

RETURN ADDRESS:

The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida
Barbara Tansey, President
2495 NW 35th Avenue
Miami, Florida 33142

FIRST CLASS



PLACE STAMP
HERE



NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 12th, 7:30 p.m.,
Atlantic Radio Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Avenue.

OFFICERS:

Barbara Tansey, President; Jim Lord, Vice President;
Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Lisa Weier, Secretary

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Lisa Weier can be reached at (305) 807-8102, or
bigpicture14@e.coolworks.com, for questions,
comments, submissions or (oops!) corrections.

Mailing Address

JAMES S. LORD
2800 S.W. 104 CT.
Miami, FL. 33165