



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



Volume 28, Issue 1

Newsletter of the Society

January 2002

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Lisa Weier

Art of the Florida Seminole and Miccosukee Indians, Presenter Dorothy Downs, President, Tribal Arts

Join Dorothy Downs for a slide presentation on the art of Dade County's most colorful natives, the Seminole and Miccosukee Indians. Examples of patchwork will be on display and the history of the people and their unique art form will be discussed.



Dorothy Downs is an art historian who has curated exhibitions of Florida Seminole, Miccosukee and other Native American art at several South Florida art institutions. She has taught Native American art history in the Department of Art and Art History at the University of Miami and is a founder and president of the Tribal Art Society of the Lowe Art Museum at the university. Downs has been a lecturer on "Florida Indian Patchwork" for the Speakers' Bureau of the Florida Humanities Council. The author of Art of the Florida Seminole and Miccosukee Indians, she has written articles for Native Peoples Magazine, American Indian Art Magazine, Piecework, and Florida Anthropologist.

Downs has written and produced the PBS television documentary, "Patterns of Power," about the Seminole and Miccosukee women who sew patchwork clothing. Dorothy shows how artistic expression reflects and inspires history.

Please join us to hear Dot on Thursday, January 10th, 7:30 p.m., Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue. Call Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 for directions.

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S. Florida Military Museum and Memorial

<http://town.surfside.fl.us/special3.html>

The town of Surfside is supporting a proposed project to create the South Florida Military Museum and Memorial at NAS Richmond Heights, near Miami Metrozoo. The project, which would create a museum, memorial monument, and nature conservation area at the site of the historic World War II Navy blimp base is moving ever closer to implementation. Down the road ASSF may be able to assist with this project, and the restored base could be a site for some of our future monthly meetings to be held.

The project will include a monument and memorial to the victims of 9/11/01, and a salute to the heroes of that disastrous day and its aftermath. With the support of many great Americans, the project aims to become a great new asset for America and for South Florida in particular.

The project incorporates vital elements of historic preservation, education, environmental conservation, public service and, of course, a significant tribute to all those who have served in the armed forces of the United States.

Everyone who would like to directly support the project, through volunteering, donations to the 501(c)(3) organization, or otherwise, is welcome to join in this worthwhile effort; contact Christine Rupp at the Friends of the S. Florida Military Museum and Memorial at NAS Richmond for more information.

Islamorada Historian is Honored

Excerpted from the Key Largo Free Press, Dec. 12, 2001

Considered "Islamorada's Historian," by many, Irving Eyster was honored last month by the Islamorada Mayor and Chamber of Commerce for his many years of service by proclaiming December 12th (Irving's birthday) as "Irving Eyster Day."

Eyster has lived on Lower Matecumbe since 1952 with his wife, Jeane. Over the years he has both been a member of and founded many organizations. His historical slide presentations are very popular.

30 years ago he began documenting Islamorada's past after he was asked to give a history lecture. When the lecture was advertised around town, people thought it was a joke, believing there was no history there. Irving thought that if people who have lived their whole lives in Islamorada don't know anything about their history - he'd better tell them.

Irving is currently president of the Matecumbe Historical Board and Trust, and served 12 years on the board of the Islamorada Chamber of Commerce before resigning this year. He is past secretary of the Institute of Maya Studies, member of both FAC and FAS, helped to organize the Arch. and Historical Conservancy in 1979, and is a member of many historical preservation societies and trusts.

Irving's schedule is always full, and feels he just can't "take it easy." He hopes to write more books on the history of the Keys and open a historical museum in Islamorada.

We're Looking for a Few Good... Board Members

ASSF is also looking for someone who would like to be our FAS (Florida Anthropology Society) Representative. You must be able to travel to FAS meetings 4 times a year. The meetings are usually held in Winter Park. This is an opportunity to meet archaeologists and anthropologists from around the state. Please contact Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 if you are interested.

March is Archaeology Month

We need volunteers to sign-up for the Archaeology Month Committee this year.

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The **ASSF Christmas Dinner** drew 24 members and friends together for a gathering at the historic Redland Hotel.

The hotel was originally built in 1904 as a supply store and was later converted into a hotel. After burning down in 1913, a new hotel was rebuilt on the same spot in 1917.

The Redland Hotel has seen numerous modifications and owners, and was closed down in 1995 for 250 building code violations.

Finally Rex and Kathy Oleson renovated the hotel to what it is today, keeping true to its historic spirit.

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.

The Archaeological And Historical Conservancy has been working long and hard to save the **Okeechobee Battlefield** in the city of Okeechobee.

The city would like for this to be a park and hold a yearly re-enactment, which would help their economic situation.

Don't miss the **Miami International Map Fair**, presented by the Historical Museum of Southern Florida. February 1-3, call Marcia Kanner at 305-375-1492 for more information and to register.

LIST of UPCOMING ASSF SPEAKERS:

January.....Dorothy Downs, Tribal Arts
February.....Rick Ferrer
March.....Arthur Dunkleman, Curator,
Kislak Collection
April.....Potluck Dinner, Elections
May.....Dr. Pat Wickman
June.....Howard Kleinberg, Old
Miami

If you have a potential speaker you'd like to refer to ASSF, please contact Beth Reed at W4YIH@earthlink.net or Pat Cervi at pcerv@msn.com to submit your suggestion.

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
 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



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NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 10th, 7:30 p.m.,
 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

Address

SPEAKER: Dot Downs, President, Tribal Arts

OFFICERS:
 Barbara Tansey, President; Jim Lord, Vice President;
 Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Pat Cervi, Secretary

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 comments, submissions or (oops!) corrections. ASSF
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