



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



Volume 28, Issue 3

Newsletter of the Society

March 2002

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Lisa Weier

Archaeology Day and BBQ at the Everglades Outpost

Join us for a day of food and fun as we share a covered dish and learn about archaeology. Come out to the Everglades Outpost and help screen artifact-rich dirt on Saturday, March 2nd, from 10-3:00 p.m.

This special material was rescued from the Bamboo Archaeological Site and redeposited at the Everglades Outpost, close to Florida City.



Although the soil has been disturbed, it is littered with Indian trade beads and artifacts, including pieces of pottery and bone. No experience is necessary and everyone is welcome to participate. Everyone will need to bring a covered dish to share at the BBQ.

Directions: Take US1 South from Miami and turn right on Palm Drive; or, take the turnpike South to the end and make a right onto Palm Drive. Take Palm to the "Robert is Here" fruit stand (192 Avenue) and make a left. The Everglades Outpost will be on your left a few blocks down (look for the alligator sign).

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

March Speaker Review

Arthur Dundelman is our March speaker and he will be presenting on the "Form or Meaning in Pre-Columbian Art" from a curator's point of view. Arthur is the curator of the Jay I. Kislak Foundation Collection and will be covering the religious and social significance of Pre-Columbian art. Read the whole story on page 2 of this newsletter.

Archaeology Fair

Don't miss this year's Archaeology Fair at the Miami Circle. The Fair takes place Saturday, March 23, from 10-3:00 p.m at the Miami Circle in downtown Miami.

Join Gary Beiter, Dade County Archaeologist, and Bob Carr, Executive Director of the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, for tours of the Miami Circle and nearby Brickell Park. The Circle is located behind the Sheraton Biscayne Bay Hotel on Brickell Avenue. The hotel address is 495 Brickell Avenue. Call 373-6000 for directions.

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Form or Meaning in Pre-Columbian Art? - A Curator's View

Arthur Dunkelman will discuss the religious and social significance of masterworks of Pre-Columbian art from the Jay I. Kislak Foundation Collection. Beyond their beauty and craftsmanship, objects were often intended to link the present time to a glorious historical or mythological past.

The curatorial issue is: how should an object be presented - purely in aesthetic terms, as a work of art, or to attempt to explain its meaning (iconography) and use as a ritual and/or status object within the society that created it? During the last decade the latter point of view has prevailed. With this deepening understanding and respect for "Non-Western" cultures, the term "Primitive Art" has fallen out of favor.

The Jay I. Kislak Foundation was established in 1984 and is a private nonprofit cultural institution engaged in the collection, conservation, research and interpretation of rare books, manuscripts, maps and indigenous art and cultural artifacts of the Americas. The Foundation's collection is a repository rich in primary research materials on the history of Florida, the Caribbean and Mesoamerica, with special emphasis on the region's native cultures, their contact with Europeans and the colonial period to about 1820.

Foundation holdings include rare books and manuscripts, and books linked to historic figures from the great age of discovery including Christopher Columbus and Hernando Cortés among many. The collection also includes important books and documents from the American Colonial period - George Washington's 1762 farm diary, penned at his Mount Vernon estate on the blank pages of a Virginia Almanac and original documents of John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams.

The Kislak collection is particularly rich in Floridiana, holding books, manuscript documents, maps and letters related to the earliest period of Florida, beginning with Rene de Laudonniere's "L'Histoire Notable de la Florida" (1586) that recounts the fate of the first French settlement, to later works by the renowned naturalists James Audubon, Mark Catesby and John Bartram.

The Kislak collection reflects more than 25 centuries of pre-Columbian cultures, primarily in Mesoamerica, the northern center of high civilization centered in Mexico and Guatemala.

More than half the collection is comprised of objects created by the Maya, perhaps the most sophisticated indigenous civilization, who flourished from A.D. 200 to 1250. More than three hundred pre-Columbian objects are displayed in the Kislak Foundation gallery in Miami Lakes.

Jay I. Kislak Foundation is open to visitors free of charge by appointment, 7900 Miami Lakes Drive, Miami Lakes FL 33016, 305.364.4208.

Visit our website: kislakfoundation.org

Mark your calendars to hear Arthur speak on Thursday, March 8th, 7:30 p.m., Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue. Call Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 for directions.

54th FAS Annual Meeting 2002
hosted by: **Central Gulf Coast**
Archaeological Society Tampa Bay, Florida

EARLY REGISTRATION until April 1, 2002 at \$35.00 per person, after that it will be \$45.00.
Make checks payable to "CGCAS/FAS" and mail to:
Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society
7701 22nd Ave., N, St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Date: May 3 - 5, 2002
Accommodations: Hilton Hotel (727) 894-5000.
Price: \$99.00 single/double (Mention FAS)
Contact: Dave Burns daveburns@prodigy.net or (813) 968-7910

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society will be held in conjunction with the Second Annual Meeting of the **Florida Underwater Archaeology Conference** on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday May 3, 4, and 5 at the Hilton Hotel, St. Petersburg, FL. Friday, May 3rd will also be the Florida Archaeological Council's Stewards of Heritage Awards at the Science Center of Pinellas County.

Of Note

Two public service projects are planned this year for archaeological investigations in the Florida Keys, including an archaeological survey of the Ten Thousand Islands.



The Miami Circle, Work and New Discoveries will be highlighted in the next issue of Archaeology and American Archaeology magazines. The dolphin skull found in the Circle has recently been radiocarbon dated to CA 1590AD.

New address for the:
Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, Inc.
4800 SW 64th Avenue, Suite 107
Davie, FL. 33314
954-792-9776 Fax 954-792-9954

It's Election Time Again

In April we will be holding annual Board Elections.



Please review the enclosed candidate information in preparation to vote via mail or in person at the April meeting.

Upcoming Fieldtrip

Watch for an upcoming fieldtrip this (date TBD) to the **Lowe Art Museum** in Coral Gables, on the University of Miami Campus. ASSF members are invited to receive a private tour of current exhibits. The cost for our group will be \$5 per person.



Monthly meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month (with the exceptions of July, August and December), at Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Ave., 7:30 pm, phone 305-633-9636.

UPCOMING ASSF SPEAKERS:

- April.....Mario Ferrente, (and Elections)
- May.....Dr. Pat Wickman
- June.....Howard Kleinberg, Old Miami
- July/August...Summer Break – no meetings

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



ASSF
Membership
Dues
Reminder...

Don't forget to pay your annual dues for 2002!

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



PLACE STAMP
HERE

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 8th, 7:30 p.m.,
2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

Address

SPEAKER: Arthur Dunkleman, Kislak Collection

OFFICERS:

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Bob Carr, George Cummings, Darrell Cunningham,
Seth Lefkow, Beth Read, Jim South, Stanley Keim,
Gary Beiter

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Lisa Weier can be reached at (305) 807-8102, or
bigpicture24@e.coolworks.com, for questions,
comments, submissions or (oops!) corrections.

ASSF web page: <http://assf.tripod.com>