



# The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



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Newsletter of the Society

September 2002

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Pat Cervi

## *The Miami Beach Hotels of Carl Fisher*

Originally from Ft. Myers, Florida, Larry Wiggins migrated to the east coast of Florida in order to study at the University of Miami. After graduating in 1978 with a degree in accounting, he became controller for the South Dade News Leader and the Palmetto Bay Leader where he still works today.

Larry's family came to Florida from Georgia ten-generations ago, where they were farmers and raised cattle. The wide-open spaces in Florida beckoned as the perfect place to free range their branded cattle.

It was during a Wiggins' family reunion in Ft. Myers that Larry discovered many old family photos from the surrounding area. Out of his interest in these old photos, sprang an on-going avocation in both history and genealogy.

Larry transferred his interest in history in general, to the history of Miami, where he became a post card collector. The finest quality post cards show Carl Fisher's hotels in Miami Beach. As a promoter extraordinaire, Fisher was able to afford the best so the views of his five hotels are truly outstanding.

Fisher's earliest hotel was built on South Beach in 1916. The last one was built in 1926. All five buildings were constructed of hollow tile and concrete block. Tan, buff or off-white, these colors would not compete with the multi-hued hotels we have become accustomed to on South Beach today. Unfortunately, none of the five buildings have survived.

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup> to see Larry Wiggins' slide presentation from the post cards of Carl Fisher's hotels. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at Atlantic Radio and Telephone, 2495 N.W. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Call Barbara Tansey, president, at 305-633-9636 for directions.

### **ASSF Membership Dues Reminder...**

It's never too late to pay  
your annual dues for 2002!

#### **UPCOMING ASSF SPEAKERS**

**October – Laura Howard, Maya Arch. Natural History**

**November – Bob Carr, The Miami Circle Update**

**December – Holiday Dinner**





**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. 35<sup>th</sup> 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 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33142

**FIRST CLASS**



Address

PLACE STAMP  
HERE

**NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., 2495 N.W. 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue

**SPEAKER:** Larry Wiggins, historian and genealogist.

**OFFICERS:** Barbara Tansey, President; Jim South, Vice President; Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Pat Cervi, Secretary.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Gary Beiter, Bob Carr, George Cummings, Darrell Cunningham, Stanley Kiem, Seth Lefkow, Jim Lord, Beth Read and Lisa Weier.

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Pat Cervi may be reached at (305) 667-4449, or at [pcervi@msn.com](mailto:pcervi@msn.com) for questions, comments, submissions or (oops!) corrections.

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