



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



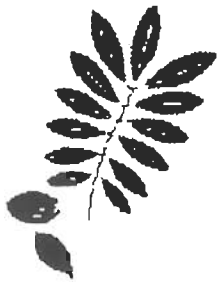
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Newsletter of the Society

January 2003

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Mary Ellen Gray



Native Plant Use

Dr. Bradley Bennett, ethnobotanist, from Florida International University, will deliver a lively intellectual presentation this Thursday, focusing on indigenous plants and their usage by the native people.

Dr. Bennett is with the Department of Biological Sciences and the Director of CNET.

Please mark you calendars to hear Dr. Bradley Bennett speak this Thursday, January 9th, 7:30 p.m., at the Atlantic Radio & Telephone office building.

Meeting Location Address:
2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

Please contact Barbara Tansey at
(305) 633-9636 for directions.

Hope to see you there!

International Book Fair 2003

Photo: *students and families examine artifacts at the ASSF display table.*



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GREYNOLDS PARK ARTIFACTS

By Mary Ellen Gray



Dr. Curtis McKinney, an ASSF member, who participated in the recent surveying at Greynolds Park, made some interesting discoveries. The planned parking lot at the city park required an impact survey. Dade County archaeologist Gary Bieter was contacted to conduct this study. Curtis participated as a volunteer. To figure the extent of the site fifty to sixty shovel tests were done, and five 1' x 1' pits - with two pits in the shell mound itself- were surveyed. It was found to be a stratified site. What was unusual was the distinct zonation. The middle section had few artifacts, but the layer below had bones and large pottery pieces. The pottery below and above the shell mound indicates that several seasons were spent at this site. Found were large rim shards, in fact almost 3/4ths of one rim. The artifacts currently reside at a washing site located at the Graves Museum in Dania.

Another discovery was that one of the larger solution holes was pulling items into it. This slow movement of material downward was natural.

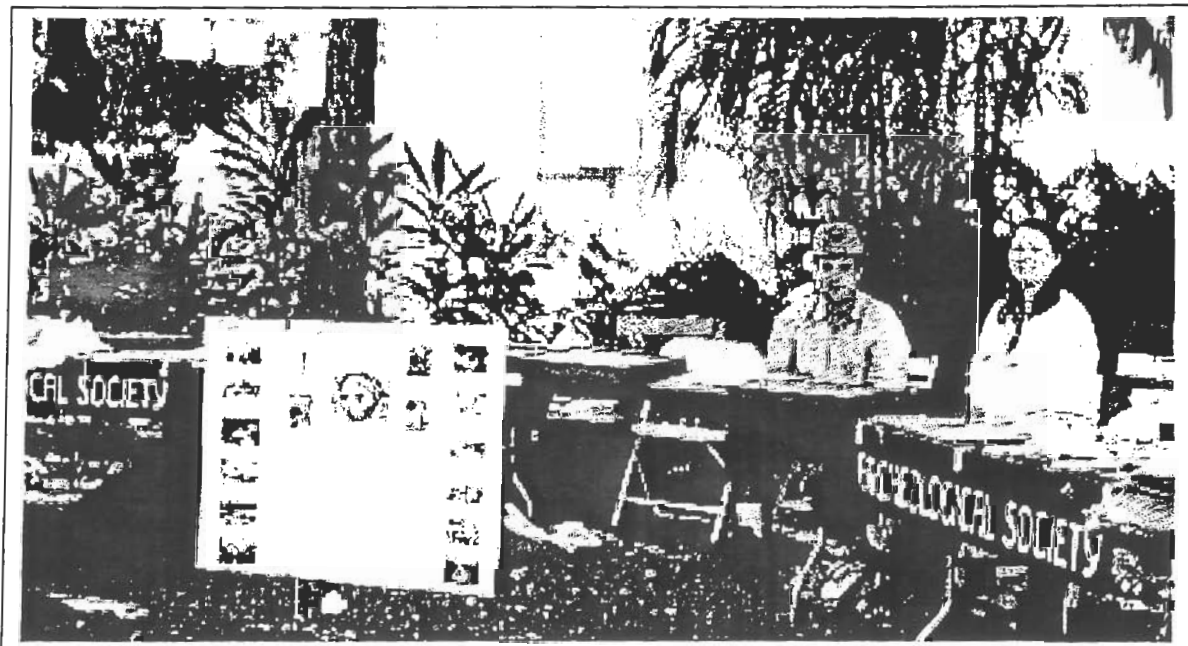
In conclusion, this survey caused a design change in the parking lot, reducing its size by fifty percent. When asked what aspect of the project was the most important and gratifying, Dr. McKinney replied, "Part of the site remained intact and we were able to preserve it."

MIAMI INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR 2003

This year ASSF participated at the annual Miami International Book Fair held at MDCC Wolfson campus on November 22-24. The fair was well attended and throngs of curious students studied the archaeology exhibit on Friday, "Student's Day," asking countless questions of Beth Read and Barbara Tansey.

While on subsequent days Lisa Weier, Brian Conesa, Mary Ellen Gray, Beth, and Barbara fielded questions from families and individuals interested in acquiring more information while they examined the display.

Photo: Brian Conesa and Lisa Weier providing information on Saturday.



MIAMI CIRCLE AS A MEDIEVAL TRADING HUB?

Beth Read, a member of our society, attended the Dec. 8th symposium at the First Presbyterian Church of Miami. Presented by the Working Group for Pre-Modern Histories and Cultures at F.I.U., the talks focused on crossroad cities around the world. The opening speaker, Mary Lou Pfeiffer (FIU) set the circle in a world-wide context. John Worth (UF) discussed the native people of Southeastern U.S., while Randolph Widmer (Univ. of Houston) spoke of the actual Miami Circle dig and presented from an archaeological standpoint.

Subsequent speakers referenced Song Quanzhou, a Chinese port city, a West African city in the Niger River Valley, and the circles in Britain as well as Ireland's "timber" circles.

Beth found the presentations to be thought provoking. She felt that Jeffrey Meyer (UNC) wanted to show the symbolism of circles as the "center of power." He cited parallels between the designs of Washington D.C. and Jerusalem. Beth stated, "This symposium was definitely worth attending. The Florida Humanities Council and FIU did a fine job of organizing."

2003 Archaeology Fair

March is Archaeology Month, and once again we will be holding the annual Archaeology Fair. Look for the scheduled date and location in our next newsletter. Volunteers are needed, please call Barbara at 305-633-9636.

Please mark the date on your calendar and we hope to see you there.

A special "*Thank You*" to Pat Cervi for organizing the ASSF Holiday Dinner at Steak & Ale. Your time and effort helped to make an enjoyable evening for all in attendance.

PIONEER MUSEUM TO OPEN

Florida Pioneer Museum members and Florida City have been working hard to restore the museum from the devastation of hurricane Andrew. The museum is due to open sometime soon. They are in need of volunteers for many tasks. For information please call Terry or Bob Naumann at 305-242-0144.

BOOK REVIEW

The University Press of Florida has generously presented the A.S.S.F. with the opportunity to review some of their recently published selections. Available now for your perusal are: Windover by Glen H. Doran, Journey with Florida's Indians by Kelley G. Weitzel, Pioneer in Space and Time, John Mann Goggin and The Development of Florida Archaeology, by Brent Richards Weisman. These books featuring archaeology and history include detailed illustrations. If you would like to read one of these selections and author a review or article, please contact Barbara Tansey.



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

UPCOMING ASSF SPEAKERS:

January.....	Dr. Bradley Bennet
February.....	TBD
March.....	TBD
April.....	TBD
May.....	TBD

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 pcerv@msn.com to submit suggestions.

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: Stacy Hopper
1603 Watrous Drive
Titusville, Florida 32780

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
2495 N.W. 35th Ave.
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



Address

PLACE STAMP



NEXT MEETING: Thursday, January 9th, 7:30 pm,
at 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

SPEAKER: Dr. Bradley Bennett

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

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

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

Mary Ellen Gray. Also Lisa Weier can be reached at
(305) 807-8102, or bigpicture24@e.coolworks.com
ASSF web page: <http://assf.tripod.com>