



The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



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Newsletter of the Society

February 2004

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Mary Ellen Gray

Salt Traders of the Ancient Maya: Recent Excavations at Chunchucmil, Yucatan, Mexico

Dr. Traci Ardren, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Miami, was Co-Director of the Pakbeh Regional Economy Project from 1998-2002. She will discuss her excavations of residential structures, and the administrative patios where she hypothesizes salt trading was conducted. The Classic Maya city of Chunchucmil is located very near the western Gulf coast of the Yucatan peninsula, north of the modern city of Campeche.

Join us to hear Dr. Traci Ardren speak on Thursday, February 12, 2004, 7:30 p.m., at Atlantic Radio & Telephone office building, 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue. Please contact Barbara Tansey at (305) 633-9636 if you need directions.

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2004 Archaeology Fair

This year's Archaeology Fair will be held at the Deering Estate at Culter, address: 16701 S. W. 72nd Avenue, Miami, on Sunday, March 28th, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Please plan on attending and offering your assistance answering question at our tables and displays. On the Web: <http://www.deeringestate.com/park/>

Deering Estate Background: Deering offers natural area tours throughout the Park's protected habitats. The 440-acre property encompasses globally endangered pine rockland habitat, among the largest blocks of this ecosystems remaining in the United States, as well as coastal tropical hardwood rockland hammocks, mangrove forests, salt marshes, a coastal dune island and the submerged resources of Biscayne Bay.

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2004 Archaeology Fair

The Deering Estate at Cutler is not only unique in natural beauty; it also includes historical buildings dating from 1896 to 1922, important archaeological sites that date human presence on this land to 10,000 years ago and animals back 100,000 years, and a Native American burial mound dating from around the year 1600.



ASSF Member Adventures

submitted by Beth Read

Members Beth and Gordon Read and Stanley Kiem, along with Aaron Read, traveled to Indonesia in late November and early December. Beth recounts their fascinating trip.

We visited Bali for 10 days, exploring the island with a car and driver. Stanley, who had visited Bali on four previous trips, was our tour director and horticulturalist. He was great, identifying the tropical plants and fruits we encountered. Stanley, who had urged us to make this trip, characterized the culture of Bali as one of the most unique he had encountered in his many travels. This description proved true. The people were welcoming, beautiful and interesting. Their distinctive music, dramatic presentations, and everyday religious practices (Hindu), with offerings and celebrations, processions, were a joy to observe and participate in. One of our first purchases was a sarong so we could enter the temples, which are everywhere.

The topography is volcanic, complete with calderas and lakes and terraced rice fields on the slopes; mountains, beaches, artistic crafts and paintings, tropical flowers, and green, green. The acres of mature coconut palms made us very nostalgic for the days when mature coconuts graced our own vistas here in south Florida.

Leaving Bali we flew to Cambodia to see Angkor. The ruins at Angkor are spectacular, roughly contemporaneous with the Maya civilization. An international consortium oversees the restoration work and it was gratifying to observe the cooperation between nations on the projects that are ongoing.

The temples were erected by people practicing a form of Hinduism, although the present state religion in Cambodia is Buddhist. So the trip to Angkor was an interesting extension of our Bali trip, from a currently practicing Hindu society to the ruins of an ancient one.

The temples at Angkor are beautiful with numerous unique features and lovely carving and stonework. Wished we had more time to explore, because the people in Cambodia were as hospitable as in Bali. Since we were in the midst of the "killing fields", we saw evidence of the fighting on some of the temples, but found it encouraging that life does pick up and go on."

News From the Desk Of...

Gary Beiter - volunteers are currently needed at the Deering Estate, until October 4th, for help with fieldwork.



Of Interest

Chito's Island, named after Seminole leader "Chitto" Tustenuggee, and now called The Snake Warrior's Island Natural Area, has been opened to the public. Located at 3601 S.W. 62nd Ave. in Miramar, the 53 acre wetland area recently had the ribbon cutting ceremony and is open from 8 to 6 p.m., and until 7:30 p.m. from April - October.

Archaeologists saved the land from becoming a shopping center in 1992 when they unearthed several significant finds, including a 500-1,000 yr. old leg bone of a Tequesta Indian, tools used by Seminoles to repair canoes in the 1840's and U.S. Army musket balls from the 1850's. The land was an island camp for Tustenuggee and is the oldest documented Seminole settlement in the eastern Everglades. The state purchased the land, and Broward County's Parks and Recreation Division has restored it as much as possible to its original form. There is a walkway from which to view some of the 220,000 aquatic plants and 90 different kinds of birds.

AIAsouthFL, Inc. presents, "Chrisopher Amer, State Underwater Archaeologist for South Carolina, on March 11, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. at the Broward County Library in Ft. Lauderdale, 110 S. Andrews Ave. The topic will be, "South Carolina's Navel Wreck Survey.



FLORIDA PIONEER MUSEUM ≡LECTURE SERIES≡

Lectures will be held in Homestead's Historic District, at the Old Town Hall Museum, 41 N. Krome Avenue. Scheduled Dates (7:30 pm): February 11th, Jim Klupper will discuss the early Spanish history of S Florida; March 10th presentation on the history of Roads in S Florida. Lectures are free, open to the public, preceded by a short business mtg at 7:00 pm. Call 305-253-0063 for a schedule.

Membership Dues Reminder...

Just a reminder, your dues are **NOW due**. Please either mail in your renewal check or pay Brian Conesa at the next meeting. If your address label on this newsletter is not white, your name will be dropped from our membership list unless dues are promptly paid.

JOIN FAS

ASSF members are strongly encouraged to join the Florida Anthropological Society, or renew their membership if currently a member. The membership form is on the back of this newsletter. We are required to have a percentage of the ASSF members in the FAS, as required by our bylaws.

ASSF monthly meetings... are held the second Thursday of each month at Atlantic Radio & Telephone, 2495 NW 35th Ave, 7:30 pm. Call Barbara at 305-633-9636 for directions.

If you have a speaker you'd like to refer please contact Beth Read at W4YIH@earthlink.net or Pat Cervi at pcerv@msn.com

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:

- 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.
- 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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Address

NEXT MEETING: Thursday
 at 2495 N.W. 35th Avenue

SPEAKER: Dr. Traci Ardren

OFFICERS: Barbara Tansey, President; ...
 Vice President; Brian Conesa, Treasurer; Pat Cer...
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ASSF web page: <http://assf.tripod.com>



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