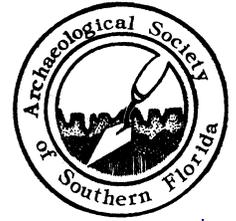




The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida



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2007

Newsletter of the Society

March

President: Barbara Tansey

Editor: Mary Ellen Gray

The Beginning of Archaeology in the New World

A Slide Presentation by Ray Stewart

People have lived in Florida for at least 13,000 years, a relatively short time compared to the millions of years of hominid history in Europe, Asia, and Africa. Come develop a more complete understanding of what came before us, what happened to those who walked the same ground, and sailed the same seas. Follow the explorers of 1840 who overcame disease, cutthroats, and nature, into the sweltering jungles of Mexico, to visually record and document the fabulous stone cities that stood buried beneath the jungle canopy for over a thousand years. Comparisons of what they saw and what we see today, after 100 years of archaeological excavation will be shown in this informative slide presentation.

Ray Stewart is retired after owning a marine distributorship in south Florida. As a past president and board member of The Institute of Maya Studies, he has been photographing archaeological sites and lecturing on Pre-Columbian cultures for the past 30 years to school groups and many organizations.

Please mark your calendars to hear Ray Stewart speak on Thursday, March 8th at 7 p.m. at the Deering Estate Auditorium, 16701 S.W. 7th Ave., Miami. For directions contact Barbara Tansey at 786.457.0918.

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ASSF 2007 PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

April 12 Claude Alix – The Lost Colonies of the Americas
May 10 Joan Gill Blank – James Deering and Cape Florida
June 14 Dr. Anne Stewart – Native Americans of Alaska
Sept. 13 OPEN
Oct. 11 OPEN
Nov. 8 Annette Fromm – Charles Deering Art Collector
Dec. 8 -No meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS

ARCHAEOLOGY FAIR ON SATURDAY, MARCH 17TH

The A.S.S.F. will host the annual Archaeology Fair at 35601 S.W. 192 Ave. just south of Homestead, in front of Everglades Outpost Wildlife Refuge, from 10:00am to 4:00pm. The Archaeology Fair is designed to encourage Floridians and visitors to learn more about the archaeology and history of the state and to preserve these important parts of Florida's rich cultural heritage. This year's theme is "Paddling Through the Past." The Historical Museum of South Florida will be represented along with Biscayne National Park, and many other organizations.

Help! Volunteers are needed on Sat., March 10th for fair preparation, and also on March 17th. We should be set up by 9:00 a.m. on the 17th, and will need your help during the day for "hands on activities," offering information at our display, and many other tasks. Help others "dig into the past," literally and figuratively. Please plan on attending. Sign up at the March 8th ASSF meeting, or call Barbara Tansey at 786.457.0918 to sign up, or for directions.

2007 FAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MAY 11-13TH

The 59th Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Kissimmee Valley Archaeological and Historical Society. It will be held in Avon Park. Papers will be presented at the South Florida Community College Center. The FAS Banquet will be held at the Sebring Civic Center on Sat., May 12th. There will be a free Sunday bus tour of the Blueberry Site with archaeologist David Butler. Blueberry is a site on the Lake Wales Ridge which was used by various cultures over thousands of years. Another free bus tour on Sunday will be to Lake Placid to tour the Town of Murals with the tour guide Harriet Potter. Registration forms available at our 3/8 meeting. Registration until April 10th - \$40.00, after April 10th, \$50.00.



FLORIDA TEEN STUMBLES UPON MAMMOTH TOOTH

Posted 2/21/2007 9:02 AM ET

SEMINOLE, Fla. (AP) — A 16-year-old high school student stumbled upon what archaeologists say could be the biggest fossil find in Pinellas County in nearly a century. A shiny black rock caught Sierra Sarti-Sweeney's eye as she was taking pictures last month in Boca Ciega Millennium Park.

"I looked down and saw a huge bone that could not be a rock. Most of it was exposed, but we dug and found that it was bigger and bigger. I thought, 'Oh my gosh, what are these? Are they people bones?'" she said.

The jaw and tooth weigh 65 pounds and are about a yard long. Sarti-Sweeney took the bones home and, after some online research with her older brother, determined the football-sized rock was actually the tooth of a long-extinct mammoth.

Paleontology and archaeology experts have confirmed the find, and recent digging at the site has turned up teeth and bones from a second mammoth, giant sloths, camels, turtles with shells up to 6-feet-long, saber-toothed cats and giant armadillos the size of Volkswagen Beetles.

Scientists believe the remains are between 10,000 and 100,000 years old.

"It's possible that it's an old river valley, (and) the animals got caught in the muck or the river washed all these animals down into one place at one time," he said. "We can get a better handle on it by analyzing the soil," said Richard Estabrook, director of USF's Florida Public Archaeology Network.

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Museum Lecture Series

The AH-TAH-THI-KI Museum will present the 2007 Distinguished Lecture Series featuring prominent figures in the areas of Native American Art, Anthropology, History, and Culture.

Events will be held at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino and are free to the public. Space must be reserved on a first come first serve basis and is limited to 200 people. To reserve your space please call Sara Whitehead at 864.902.1113 ext. 211.

3/15/07 Peter Nabokov "Sacred Places: Historic Preservation of Our Lands" 7-9p.m.

4/20/07 Bambi Kraus "Tribal Historic Preservation Offices: An Issue of Sovereignty" 7-0pm

Annual Dues Reminder –

It's the beginning of a new year – and time to renew your annual A.S.S.F.

membership. For your convenience, bring your payment to our next meeting, or mail a check to Barbara Tansey, fee amounts and address on the pg. 4 of newsletter.

Florida Anthropological Society
FAS membership application/renewal form

YES, I want to join **FAS**. I enclose \$ _____
 STUDENT, \$15 REGULAR, \$30 FAMILY, \$35
 INSTITUTIONAL, \$30 SUSTAINING, \$40
 PATRON, \$100 LIFE, \$500 BENEFACTOR, \$2,500

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP CODE _____
PHONE (W) _____ (H) _____

Mail to: Florida Anthropological Society
c/o Beth Sarney
5331 Lansdowne Way
Palmetto, Fl. 34221

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.

Address

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 8, 2007

Location: The Deering Estate, Auditorium

SPEAKER: Ray Stewart

OFFICERS: Barbara Tansey, President; Beth Read, 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 South, Mary Ellen Gray and Lisa Jacobson.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mary Ellen Gray can be reached at meg007@bellsouth.net

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