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# CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
SEPTEMBER, 2016



*39 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE*

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

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***THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2016, 7:00 PM***

AT

WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY CENTER  
1800 WEEDON DR. NE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33702



***Julia Duggins, M.A.***  
***Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research***

## *Florida's Dugout Canoes*

Florida is home to the largest density of prehistoric watercraft in the world. Archaeologists have been puzzled by Florida's dense canoe clusters, such as the 100 dugouts found at Newnan's Lake near Gainesville. Hypotheses to explain the general concentration of canoes in Florida's North-central Highlands have been proposed but not fully accepted. Ms. Duggins presents a new model, which simultaneously explains the large numbers of canoes at Newnan's and in the North-central Highlands. The canoe caching model relies on spatial patterns and ethnohistoric documents as evidence that groups cached canoes at the ends of waterways for later use. If it proves to be valid through testing, the model has the potential to help archaeologists locate and protect ancient canoes.

*These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting <http://goo.gl/Rb3aMD>. You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR  
UPCOMING LECTURES!



**Thursday, October 20, 2016, 7-8 PM**

**Mounded Rituals: The Long History of Palmetto Mound (8LV2), Levy County, Florida**

*Mark Donop, Ph.D. candidate, University of Florida*

The long-lived Palmetto Mound on Hog Island is an important burial mound north of Cedar Key in Levy County, Florida. Recent research indicates that the site and the island were dedicated to mortuary activity at least as early as 2400 BP as part of a network of small, evenly-spaced mortuary sites along the coast. Palmetto Mound was gradually enlarged and elaborated upon until intense ritual activity accompanied the construction of the monumental Shell Mound (8LV42) to the west between 1550-1350 BP. This phase ended abruptly and was followed by a dramatic shift in ritual practices from 1300-1000 BP that included dense deposits of bundled human burials, elaborate Weeden Island mortuary pottery and rare effigies, and exotic materials. Activity at the burial mound waned during the Mississippian Period (ca. 1000-1500 BP) and was eventually discontinued.

**Thursday, November 17, 2016, 7-8 PM**

**Prehistoric Use of Everglades Tree Islands: A (Rare) Case from the Northern Everglades**

*William Locascio, Ph.D., Florida Gulf Coast University*

Tree islands were important locations of historic and prehistoric settlements. Archaeological data from the southern Everglades provides a model for prehistoric use of tree islands where they served primarily as locations for resource procurement

camp, but occasionally supported large villages, suggesting a settlement system adapted to the unique wetlands environment. Recent excavation of the Wedgworth Midden (8PB16175) in western Palm Beach County offered a rare opportunity to investigate a tree island site from the northern Everglades. This talk reports on the results of those excavations and discusses the patterns that have emerged so far. Questions are addressed regarding when the island was occupied, which among the many resources were most important to the past occupants of the island, and the nature of interactions the past occupants had with surrounding groups.

**Thursday, December 15, 2016, 7-8 PM**

**The Pollen Record at Crystal River: Reconstructing Environmental Change, Site History, and Ancient Plant Use**

*Kendall Jackson, MA candidate, University of South Florida*

The forager communities living in the Crystal River/Salt River drainage of Florida's Big Bend Gulf Coast during the Woodland Period (1000 BC – AD 1050) are well known among southeastern archaeologists for their elaborate shell mound architecture, maritime lifeways, and participation in wide-ranging exchange networks. What remains uncertain are the local environmental conditions involved in the development and history of the Crystal River Site as a village and civic-ceremonial center. By combining the analysis of ancient pollen grains preserved within archaeological soils with an extensive radiocarbon dating program, it is possible to shed light on how local communities experienced and interacted with broad environmental fluctuations during the first millennium AD.

**CGCAS FIELD TRIP — FLORIDA'S  
HISTORIC SUGAR MILLS**

Mark your calendar because November 11-13 we are planning a sweet field trip to explore some of the historic sugar mills along Florida's east coast. The tentative plan is to stay in the Flagler Beach area Friday night; then visit several sugar mills including Bulow Plantation, Dummett Mill, and Dunlawton Mill on Saturday; then visit our final sugar mill on

Sunday in De Leon Springs (this one happens to double as a pancake restaurant so breakfast will also be part of the fun!)



*Bulow Plantation Ruins Historic State Park*

Field trips are always free to members, but if you are not a member they are \$25 for adults or \$12 for students. This includes membership in CGCAS so you can go on future fieldtrips for free. I hope you can join us for this fun trip! More information to come in the next newsletter.



## FRANK BUSHNELL RECEIVES LAZARUS AWARD

At the 2016 Florida Anthropological Society Annual Meeting in Jupiter, FL, longtime CGCAS member Frank Bushnell received the prestigious

William C. Lazarus award for his contributions to archaeology, preservation, and education as well as to FAS and the wider community. Below are a few excerpts from letters in support of his nomination from fellow CGCAS members:

“He was a favorite teacher at both Boca Ciega High and St. Petersburg Junior College, where he taught biological sciences, botany, anatomy, and even a course in archaeology! Here he influenced the future careers of students Al Goodyear, Walter Askew, Bob Austin, and future FAS President Loren Blakeley. Frank also established friendships with such legends as Montague Tallant, Walter Fuller, [and] Adelaide and Ripley Bullen...[Frank] explored area archaeological sites as well as other sites throughout Florida...Frank wrote up many articles for the Florida Anthropologist, recording and documenting his findings. These articles are still reviewed and quoted in archaeological research papers, including important observations made at the remarkable Tick Island site before much of its midden and mounds were dredged for fill. Frank’s curiosity continues to keep him actively seeking avenues to be involved in archaeology here.”

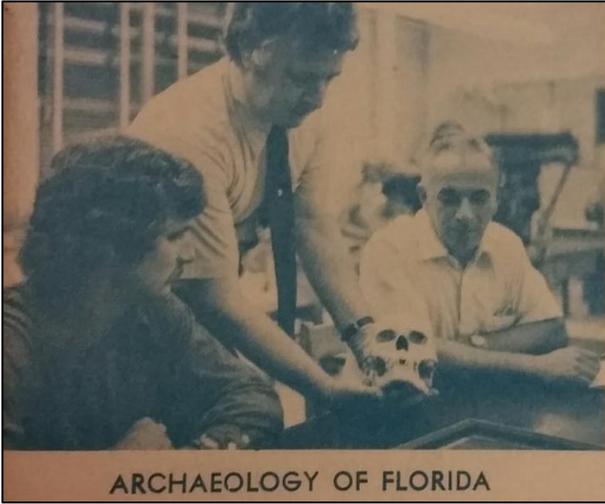
~ Linda Allred, CGCAS Secretary

“Frank has been a leader in the field and he inspired and motivated my late husband, Walter Askew, a previous recipient of the Lazarus Award, to choose archaeology as his field of study. As a young teenager Walter took classes on archaeology given by Frank Bushnell at the Science Center in St. Petersburg and there developed a life-long passion for Florida archaeology. My husband was only one of several people with whom I have been acquainted who were inspired early in life by Frank and went on to careers in the field.”

~ Mary Askew

“Personally, I was a student of Frank’s Archaeology class in 1974 at St. Petersburg Junior College (SPJC). As my instructor, he enhanced my knowledge of Florida’s prehistory...Frank has been a continual contributor to the Florida archaeological community for the past fifty plus years which includes many publications, particularly in the Florida Anthropologist. This award is long overdue.”

~ Loren Blakeley, Former CGCAS President



*Frank Bushnell (center) with students Loren Blakeley (left) and Warren Chamberlain (right) from the cover of the 1974 St Petersburg Junior College course catalog.*

“I also took his adult education course in Florida Archaeology that he taught at SPJC during the early 1970s. This was my first formal exposure to the prehistory of the state and its rich archaeological resources. Frank conveyed the excitement of discovery while also providing fact-based interpretations of Florida’s past...Frank authored or co-authored articles detailing his pioneering work at some of Florida’s most important sites – Tick Island, Maximo Point, and the Narvaez Mound among them. Trained as a biologist, Frank brought a much-needed scientific approach to avocational archaeology.”

~ Bob Austin, CGCAS Board Member

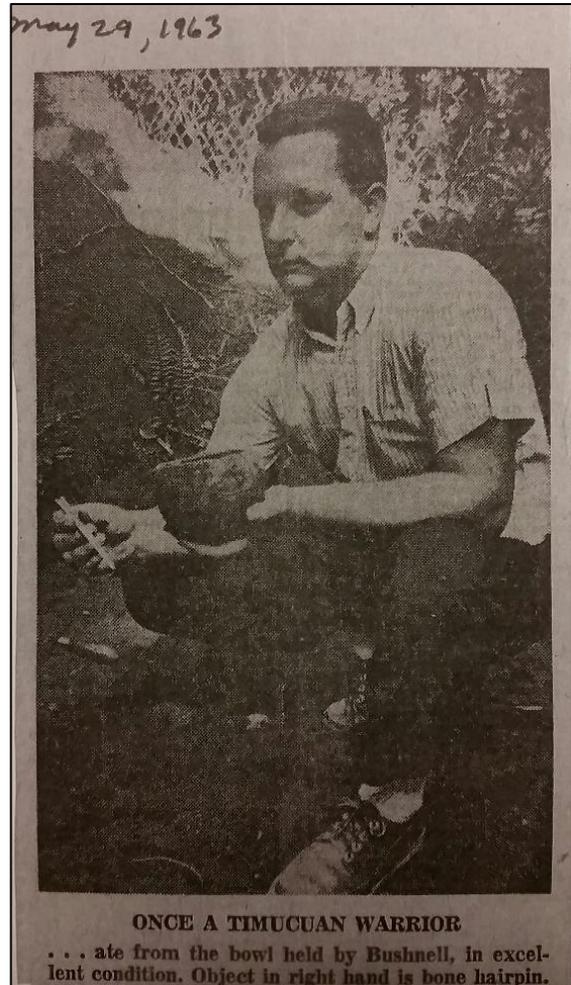
“Frank Bushnell is a unique person in Florida archaeology spanning a career which included Ripley P. Bullen and Lyman O. Warren. He is a scientist trained in biology and took an environmental approach to his work in local archaeology. I can speak personally about his beneficial effect on me and my eventual career in Paleoamerican archaeology. As such I believe he is deserving of the Lazarus Award.”

~ Al Goodyear, University of South Carolina

“It was a direct result of Frank’s influence and teachings that I studied and produced a 320-page book titled *Indian Mounds You Can Visit* that describes 165 mounds, mostly shell middens, along Florida’s west coast...This book would never have been written without Frank Bushnell’s teachings and

influence. I know of no avocational archaeologist who has contributed as much to the advancement of archaeology as Frank Bushnell. I shall forever be indebted to his influence and his teachings.”

~ I. Mac Perry



*Newspaper clipping from 1963 showing Frank with artifacts excavated from the Narvaez site.*

“For more than fifty years, Frank Bushnell contributed valuable knowledge and expertise that benefited archaeologists during excavation of sites and interpretation of data. His investigations at the Tick Island site on the St. Johns River are an important example...Avocational archaeologists, like Frank Bushnell, unselfishly donate time and skills that professional archaeologists do not possess. It is appropriate that FAS recognizes the benefits derived from these individuals by bestowing the Lazarus Award. For 2016, I recommend Frank Bushnell.”

~ Barbara Purdy, University of Florida

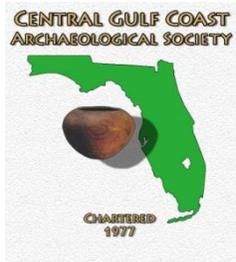


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## THE SOCIETY

The Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society (CGCAS) is an association of amateur and professional archaeologists and concerned citizens dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Florida's great cultural heritage. CGCAS is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) and is a state chartered non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.



## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone with a sincere interest in the cultural past of Florida and who is dedicated to the understanding and preservation of that heritage.

Amateurs, professionals and concerned citizens are welcomed as members. Membership is yearly and all dues are payable in January. Contact Cheryl Shaughnessy at P.O. Box 1563 Pinellas Park, FL 33780

### Dues

|            |         |
|------------|---------|
| Individual | \$25.00 |
| Student    | \$12.00 |
| Family     | \$30.00 |

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