
CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
JANUARY, 2015



36 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2015, 7:00 PM

AT

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



Erin Kimmerle, Ph.D.
University of South Florida

Forensic Anthropology & Archaeology: Lessons from the Field

This talk will focus on the latest trends and themes in forensic anthropology with an emphasis on field work and archaeology. From mass graves in the Balkans to exhumations of John Does in cold case homicides, the tools and methods of archaeology are often invaluable in crime scene processing today. The Dozier Reform School in North Florida is a prime example of the use of forensics, anthropology and archaeology in a humanitarian effort to identify and repatriate children who died in State Custody.

These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting <http://goo.gl/IHzm76>. You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ONGOING EXCAVATIONS AT WEEDON ISLAND

By: Christina Perry Sampson



Let's do this!

I will be continuing excavations for my dissertation research at Weedon Island this February and March. Test excavations went really well last May-June in terms of identifying cultural features, and I'm looking forward to opening up some larger blocks and trenches this season. As before, I will be working on weekends and at least four weekdays. I will likely also incorporate some days for volunteers to help with lab work if there is an interest in that.

I'd like to get an updated idea of who might want to come out and help with this season. **If you are interested in volunteering in February/March, please email me at cper@umich.edu with a rough idea of your availability and I will add you to my new volunteer email list.** It's always helpful for me to have few people who are available on a fairly regular basis (a few days each week). For students and others looking for more experience in the field, the more often you can come out the better, because you get an idea of how things progress and can work continuously on a particular area.

However I definitely also appreciate help from those of you who are available on a less predictable schedule or less frequently, so don't let that stop you from getting in touch and coming out to enjoy some archaeology!

ARCHAEOLOGY LAB WORK OPPORTUNITIES AT WEEDON ISLAND

By: Kassie Kemp, Florida Public Archaeology Network

Ever wonder what archaeologists do with all that stuff they dig up at archaeological sites once the fieldwork is finished? At the FPAN Volunteer Lab, you can come find out for yourself! You will learn all about how artifacts and other materials from archaeological sites are processed in the laboratory, and will get the chance to sort through, identify, and wash artifacts from real archaeological sites. Some of the material we will use for this lab comes courtesy of Dr. John Arthur of USF St. Pete. He and his students have been conducting a research project out at the Weedon Island Archaeological Site and are allowing us to use their material for this special opportunity to show the public an important step in archaeological research.

FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK

Volunteer Lab



Why is lab work so important you might ask? If we as archaeologists do not know what artifacts we might have at a site, we won't know how to research them. We can learn different information from studying each kind of artifact but the ways we study shells are very different from the ways we study stone tools or pottery. That means it's essential to sort through all of the artifacts you have in the lab so that you know what you have and what kinds of analyses you will need to do. All of the work that is done in the lab is what gets us to the most important

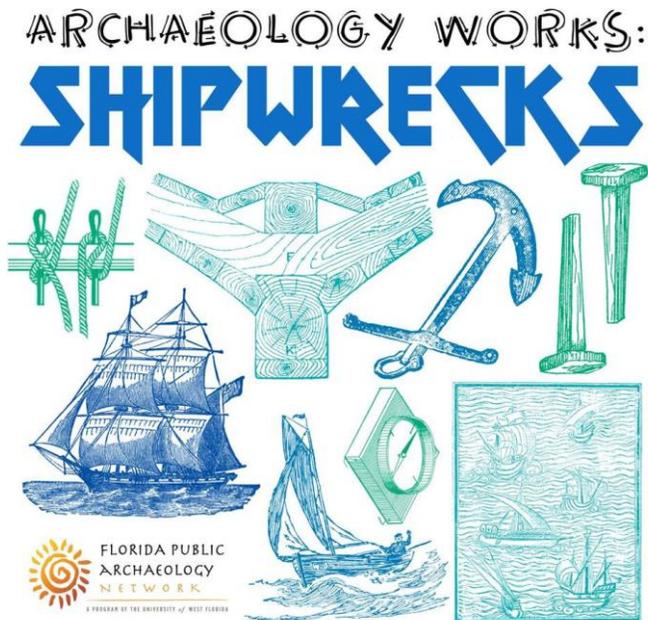
part of archaeology: understanding the people that made all of these things we are studying.

If you would like to come and learn about the past residents of Florida, our next lab day will be held on January 23rd from 10 am to 12 pm at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center. This event is free and all ages are welcome to participate or observe, but children 12 and under should be accompanied by an adult. Registration is requested but not required. For more information or to sign up go to: <http://goo.gl/yjhXQ7>

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGY EVENTS

Archaeology Works: Shipwrecks

Saturday, January 24, 2015 from 10:00 – Noon



Archaeologists don't just look for sites on land, sometimes they look beneath the waves for clues. When a ship sinks it becomes a sort of time capsule that archaeologists can use to answer important questions about past technologies and ways of life. Learn to identify different parts of a ship, as well as how archaeologists study their contents to learn about people in the past.

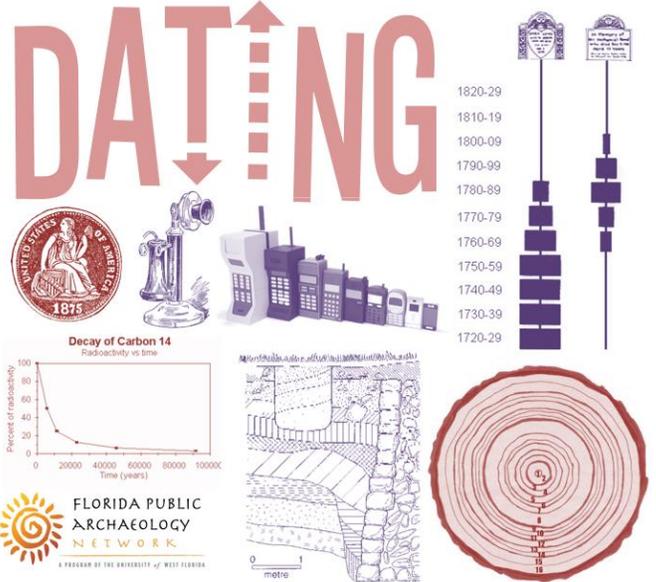
WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
1800 Weedon Dr NE
St. Petersburg, 33702

To register or for more information:
<http://goo.gl/erYB1c>

Archaeology Works: Dating

Saturday, February 7, 2015 from 10:00 – Noon

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS:



Archaeologists find lots of clues to the past, but how do they figure out how old all those dusty artifacts are? From looking at how artifact styles change through time to running high tech tests on them to get a better date, archaeologists have many different dating techniques at their disposal. Learn about a few of these different dating methods, then try them out and see if you can get a date!

WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
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St. Petersburg, 33702

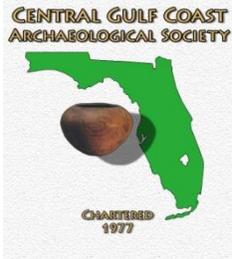
To register or for more information:
<http://goo.gl/dEIT9m>

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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	\$20.00
Student	\$10.00
Family	\$25.00

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