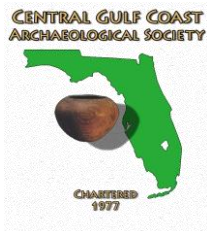

Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society

A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society

www.cgcas.org



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February, 2013

36 Years of Promoting Florida's Rich Heritage



Editor: Becky O'Sullivan

Thursday February 21, 2013, 7:00 PM

at

Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center

1800 Weedon Dr. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702



Mike Terrell

The Florida Aquarium

The Scottish Chief and the Battle of Ballast Point

The Battle of Ballast Point was the only significant battle in the Civil War to take place in the Tampa Bay area. At the heart of that skirmish was one of Tampa's early mayors, James McKay, and his vessel the *Scottish Chief*, which he used to run the Union naval blockade to continue trading with Cuba and Europe and get supplies for the Confederate effort during the war. Sunk during the Battle of Ballast Point, the *Scottish Chief* was preserved on the bottom of the Hillsborough River for over 100 years. Initially discovered by local recreational divers, the *Scottish Chief* is now a major element in the Florida Aquarium's Tampa Bay Historical Shipwreck Survey. Scientific Divers from the aquarium have been working on the wreck site for over two years, uncovering information about this significant part of Tampa's past.

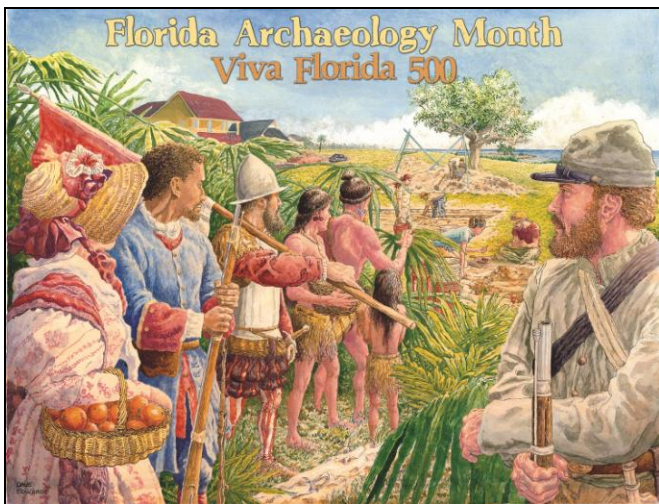
These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting www.pinellascountyextension.org, clicking the "Online Registration" button, and then choosing the "Weedon Island" tab. You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.

Winter Spring 2013 Archaeology Lecture Series

The lectures are presented on the third Thursday of the month at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center, 1800 Weedon Island Drive NE, St. Petersburg, Florida. Presented below is the upcoming Winter Spring 2013 speaker for March. Mark your calendar and we look forward to seeing you there.

March 21, 2013, Ryan Harke, Florida Public Archaeology Network, West Central Region, *Stable Isotope Analysis of *Busycon sinistrum* to Determine Fort Walton-Period Seasonality at St. Joseph Bay, Northwest Florida.*

Archaeology Month is Almost Here!



Front view of the 2013 poster, artwork by Dave Edwards.

March is almost here, and that means Florida Archaeology Month is right around the corner. In celebration of the 500 year anniversary of Ponce de Leon's arrival in Florida, this year's theme is **Viva Florida 500: Examining the Last 500 Years of Florida's Cultural Diversity through Archaeology.**

This year's poster features original artwork by artist Dave Edwards on the front, and a timeline of Florida history from 1513 to present along with representative archaeological sites from each time period on the reverse side. One cool aspect of this poster is that it is meant to fit together with future FAM posters as part of a larger timeline. Over the next few years, archaeology month themes will go chronologically from the Paleo-Indian period onward. Each poster will have a portion of the larger timeline on the back, along with

representative sites from that time period, that then fits together with past and future posters. The end result will be one big timeline of Florida archaeology from Paleo-Indian times till the present, complete with information on archaeological sites from throughout the state.



Back view of the Florida Archaeology Month 2013 poster.

To kick off FAM 2013, come out to the Weedon Island Cultural and Natural History Center for their **Viva Tampa Bay: Florida Archaeology Day** on Saturday, March 2nd from 10:00am to 3:00pm. There will be reenactments, atlatl throwing, pottery making, artifact collections on display, and other fun and educational archaeology related activities throughout the day. Elizabeth Neily will demonstrate what life was like for a woman in Spanish Florida at 11:00am and reenactors from the De Soto National Memorial will also be on hand. For more information, or to register for special tours during the event, check out the Weedon Island events page (link on page 1).

Other events to look forward to this March:

- **3/9: Maritime Heritage of Tarpon Springs (Lecture)** by Jeff Moates, 4:00pm at the Tarpon Springs Heritage Museum.
- **3/16: Archaeology Fest**, 10:00 am to 1:00pm at the New College Public Archaeology Lab, Sarasota.
- **3/30: Five Centuries of Florida History**, 10:00 am to 3:00pm at the De Soto National Memorial, Bradenton.

For more info and events: www.flarchmonth.com

Sad News from Little Salt Spring



From the surface it might not look it, but important clues to Florida's past remain below the surface.

The University of Miami's Rosensteil School of Marine & Atmospheric Science has announced that they are shutting down the archaeological research facility at Little Salt Spring in southern Sarasota County due to a lack of funding. With the arrival of a new Dean at the Rosensteil School, it was decided that the \$100,000 it takes a year to maintain the site and facility would be better spent elsewhere.

According to archaeologist John A. Gifford, who has worked at the site since 1992, less than 5 percent of what lies in the spring has been recovered. Little Salt Spring is important not only because of the age of the artifacts recovered there, many dating from 7,000 to 12,000 years ago, but also due to their amazing level of preservation.

Pineland Fieldtrip Rescheduled, but Check out Calusa Heritage Day on March 9th

The fieldtrip originally scheduled for February 16th has been cancelled, but check back in the next newsletter for a new date. Even though it won't be a private tour, you can still check out the Randell Research Center and the Pineland archaeological site on **March 9th** from 10:00am to 4:00pm as part of **Calusa Heritage Day 2013**.

Site tours will be offered hourly, and archaeologists Dr. Jerald Milanich, Dr. Bill Marquardt, and Steve Koski will give talks throughout the day. Crafts and activities will be available for kids to participate in, and FPAN Southwest will be there with atlatls for you to test out your prehistoric hunting skills. It should be a fantastic event!

Calusa Heritage Day 2013 **Saturday, March 9** **10 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

Archaeologists
Children's Area
Artists
Authors
Food
Boat Tour
Site Tours
Speaker's Tent
Atlatl Throwing
Calusa Tastings
Native Plants
Postal Station



Keynote Lecture
Dr. Jerald Milanich
"Ponce de León's 1513 Voyage to Florida"

\$5 per person, Children and RRC Members Free
Randell Research Center, Calusa Heritage Trail
13810 Waterfront Drive, Pineland

For additional information: <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/rrc/>
239-283-2062 or 283-2157

New "Archaeology of Pineland" Book for Sale (at a Discount!)

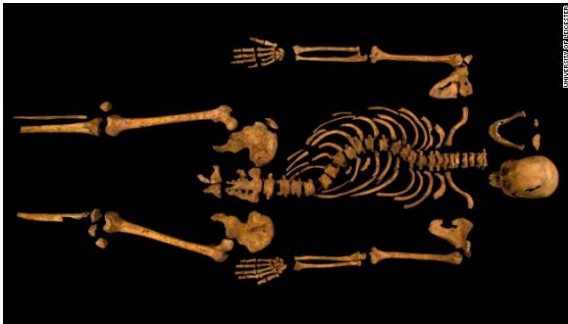
Overview from the publisher: "By the 1500s the Calusa Indians controlled all of southern Florida. Their archaeological sites dot the southwestern Florida Gulf coast, yet little has been known about them until recently. This book focuses on the site complex at Pineland, location of the second largest of the Calusa towns. It encompassed more than 100 acres, and was the beginning point of the remarkable Pine Island Canal. The research at Pineland is the first extensive study of any principal Calusa town and of the bountiful but dynamic environment that sustained these remarkable Native Floridians."

It's a massive book (994 pages) with excellent articles on all aspects of this important site. It even includes a chapter by somebody named Robert Austin... Normally priced at \$125, if you use the discount code **APM13** at the University Press of Florida website (www.UPF.com) you can get it for only \$50! The offer ends July 31. If you are at all interested in southwest Florida archaeology, you should consider grabbing this book at this great price.

Dues are Due

Dues can be paid through Paypal or by mailing a check to Cheryl Shaughnessy, the Membership Secretary at PO Box 1563, Pinellas Park, FL 33780. The dues categories are found on the last page of the newsletter.

King Richard III Found Under Parking Lot



Remains recovered by University of Leicester archaeologists.

Archaeologists in England have located the remains of the last Plantagenet king under a parking lot in the city of Leicester. Richard III was killed at the Battle of Bosworth Field in 1485 and buried near the field of battle, but modern scholars were unsure of where his final resting place was located. An excavation led by archaeologists at the University of Leicester sought to locate King Richard's remains and learn more about this polarizing historical figure. Archaeologists uncovered a skeleton then tested its mitochondrial DNA against that of a direct descendant of Richard III and got a match.

Another clue that helped archaeologists determine the remains were that of the much maligned king was some of the features of the bones themselves. Multiple cut marks and injuries found on the bones were consistent with a person killed in battle. The spine was also severely curved by scoliosis. Richard III was often described as deformed or a hunchback, especially by Shakespeare in his play *Richard III* :

*Deform'd, unfinish'd, sent before my time
Into this breathing world, scarce half made up,
And that so lamely and unfashionable
That dogs bark at me as I halt by them; ...
(Act 1, Scene 1)*

A facial reconstruction of the skull also resulted in a strong resemblance to known paintings of the king. Even without the DNA evidence, when taken together all these clues led archaeologists to conclude that they had found the remains of Richard III. It's not everyday that archaeologists stumble upon the remains of British royalty, and the publicity of this find has really put archaeology in the spotlight!

Meet the New Editor



After 15 years as Editor of this publication, Dave Burns is taking a break from the newsletter biz. I think I can speak for everyone when I extend a big "thank you" to Dave for all his hard work on the newsletter. It can be difficult to put out something new every month, and I know we all appreciate the time and effort he has put into it.

I just wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Editor of the CGCAS newsletter. I currently work as the Outreach Coordinator at the West Central Regional Center of the Florida Public Archaeology Network at USF and also sit on the Tampa Historic Preservation Commission. I'm also a CGCAS Director and FAS member. Oh, and there's nothing I love more than getting dirty and doing some archaeology! If you have ideas for what you'd like to see in the newsletter, please let me know. I'm definitely open to suggestions and I really want to make sure that this newsletter stays interesting and useful to its readers.

Email me at rosulliv@usf.edu if you have an article or idea you'd like included in the next newsletter. Your input is welcome and very much appreciated!

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The Society

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.



Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society

P.O. Box 1563
Pinellas Park, FL

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
Life	\$150.00