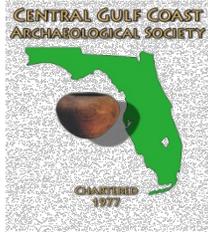


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# CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
WWW.CGCAS.ORG



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
APRIL, 2013

*36 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE*

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

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## RECENT RESEARCH AT MURPHY'S MOUNDS (8PI44)

*By: Phyllis Kolianos M.A., RPA*



*CGCAS members excavating on a hot July day, 2012.*

Murphy's Mounds is an extensive site on the south bank of the Anclote River in northern Pinellas County first recognized by Frank Hamilton Cushing while he was in Tarpon Springs and delayed on his trip to Key Marco. Cushing called the site, "a vast camp of ages." Over ten years ago, CGCAS members had the opportunity to assist in some preliminary research there at a vacant lot prior to new construction. The 1 x 2m unit yielded many artifacts from the black dirt midden dating to the late Weeden Island period. A radiocarbon date from a pit feature at the bottom of the unit yielded a 2 Sigma calibrated intercept age of AD 980.

This was confirmed by the pottery analysis of the large variety of late Weeden Island sherds.

Recent new opportunities from cooperative home owners are allowing additional research to be conducted at various areas at the site which may extend almost 300 meters along the river bank. In July 2012, CGCAS members opened another 1 x 2 unit in a lot adjacent to the first investigation and had similar results with a 2 Sigma calibrated intercept age of AD 880 from a pit feature and a variety of late Weeden Island pottery.

New research questions include defining the parameters of the site and whether there are other cultural components. The Safford Burial Mound (8Pi3) in Tarpon Springs contained a long-range continuity of use from a large early Deptford component, through late Weeden Island, and into the Safety Harbor period. Homeowners have often remarked on artifact finds while putting in sea walls and also isolated finds along the shore after storm events. It is possible that an earlier component to this site has been inundated by rising sea level.



*A beautiful Pinellas Point recovered by Chris Hardy!*

This initial research helps confirm other recently compiled data on late Weeden Island sites in the Central Peninsula Gulf Coast Region of a later timeframe for the end of Weeden Island prior to the onset of the Safety Harbor cultural period.



Cindy Martin and Dave Burns starting a 1 x 1 in April 2013.

**YOU'RE INVITED!  
CGCAS ANNUAL PICNIC**

**WHEN: Sunday, May 5, 2013  
Picnic starts at 1:00**

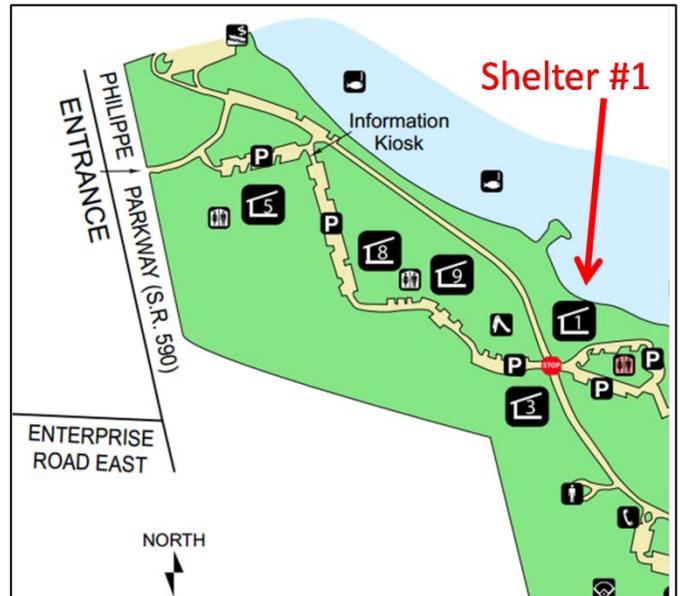
**WHERE: Philippe Park  
2525 Philippe Parkway  
Safety Harbor, FL 34695  
SHELTER #1**

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> please join us for the annual CGCAS picnic! This year we will be changing it up a bit, and our picnic feast will be held at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor. It's a beautiful park, with huge oak trees and fantastic views of the bay, and there is a great archaeological site there to boot. Friends and family are welcome, the more the merrier!

This is a potluck picnic so bring your favorite dish to share. If you'd like to BBQ, a grill is on site, but remember to bring your own

charcoal(I heard a rumor that Jeff Moates might be grilling some tasty treats though...) CGCAS will be providing the picnic paper products, soft drinks, and water.

Immediately before the picnic, starting at noon, the CGCAS board will be getting together for their monthly meeting. If you'd like to be more involved with CGCAS, please come on out to the board meeting prior to the picnic. We will be looking for new board members and officers for the coming fiscal year, and newcomers are always welcome!



Board meeting and picnic will be held in Shelter #1 at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor.



View of the Safety Harbor mound at Philippe Park.

As I mentioned above, not only is Philippe Park beautiful, it is also home to an important archaeological site. The Safety Harbor Site was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1964,

and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1966. The site is made up of a large temple mound, one smaller burial mound and two shell middens. The temple mound is located right next to the water and provides a beautiful view of Tampa Bay from the top. After lunch, Vance Perkey of Pinellas County Parks and Recreation, will treat us to a guided tour of the site.

This should be a great picnic and tour, so hope to see you all there!



View of the back side of the Safety Harbor mound at Philippe Park.

## JUNIOR ARCHAEOLOGIST SUMMER CAMP AT WEEDON ISLAND

Registration is now open for two Junior Archaeologist Summer Camps scheduled for this summer at the Weedon Island Preserve. The Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education (AWIARE), the Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN), and CGCAS will be teaming up again this year to put on the camps. Last year's camps were a huge hit with the kids, and we are hoping for another successful summer!

The goal of the camp is to teach kids about what it's really like to be an archaeologist. As much as possible, they get to experience hands-on activities that help them to think like an archaeologist and learn about the past. During the last day of camp they even get to participate in a real archaeological excavation at the Weedon Island Preserve. That's where you come in! We'll be needing volunteers to help with the excavation and to show the kids how to dig like a real

archaeologist. It's a lot of fun working with the kids as they get their first experience of archaeology!



CGCAS members and Junior Archaeologist campers out in the field at the Weedon Island Preserve.

### *Junior Archaeologist Summer Camp*

*Where:* Weedon Island Preserve

*When:* June 24 – 28, 2013 and July 22 – 26, 2013  
from 9am – 4pm

*Ages:* Children ages 7-11

*Registration:* \$150 per camper/week (limited to 20 per week)

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Before-camp care is available from 7:45 am to 9:00 am for an additional fee (\$50.00) each week.

To download a registration form go to:

<http://awiare.org/?p=585>

For more information contact Becky at:

Email: [rosulliv@usf.edu](mailto:rosulliv@usf.edu)

Phone: 813-396-2325

### CGCAS WEBSITE

If you've gone to the CGCAS website lately you might have noticed something new is in the works. Our website ([www.CGCAS.org](http://www.CGCAS.org)) is being revamped to include more information and features that will be useful to our members in the future. Big thanks to our President, Chris Hunt for working on it! Keep checking back to see all the new changes, and please let us know if you see any problems or have any suggestions for how our site could be even better.

## EVENTS IN APRIL

### **De Soto Landing**

*Date:* Saturday, April 20

*Time:* 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

*Location:* De Soto National Memorial

*Address:* 8300 De Soto Memorial Hwy, Bradenton

*Description:* Be here as Conquistador Hernando De Soto comes ashore and claims Florida. Stay all day as we provide talks and demonstrations about De Soto's expedition and its lasting impact on the Native American people of the Southeast.

### **People and the Environment Hike**

*Date:* Wednesday, April 24

*Time:* 2:00 pm

*Location:* Weedon Island Preserve

*Address:* 1800 Weedon Drive NE St. Petersburg

*Description:* Join staff from the Florida Public Archaeology Network on a Weedon hike to learn and discuss ways native peoples utilized nature's raw materials from the uplands to the wetlands and coastal environment. To register go to:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/5754485822/eorg>

### **School of the Tocobaga**

*Date:* Saturday, April 27

*Time:* 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

*Location:* Sacred Lands

*Address:* 1700 Park St. North, St. Petersburg

*Description:* The Tocobaga were the American Indians living along Florida's Central Gulf Coast when the first Europeans arrived after 1492. At the time of discovery, they had lived for thousands of years on one of the most productive estuaries on Earth. Today their culture is extinct. However, evidence seems to indicate, they had developed a sustainable economy within this environment. Can we do it again? Creative arts with primitive technologist Bill Hicks, resourceful thinking with musician Abasi Ote, ritual and ceremony with artist Hermann Trappman, native foods cooking with Artist Elizabeth Neily. To register, or for more info:

<http://www.floridafrontier.com>

### **Crystal River Boat Bash**

*Date:* Saturday, April 27

*Time:* 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

*Location:* Crystal River Preserve State Park

*Address:* 3266 N Sailboat Ave, Crystal River

*Description:* Come out and learn about Florida's vanishing maritime heritage. Events will include a display of historic and wooden boats, boat-building and black powder demonstrations, kids' activities, historic re-enactors and exhibitors, live music and food. There is a \$1.00 recommended donation per adult (kids are free) for the event to support the Crystal River Boat Builders.

## 2013 FAS ANNUAL MEETING IN ST. AUGUSTINE

Mark your calendar, May 10-11 is the annual meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society, held this year in St. Augustine.

A number of special events are planned, so make sure to sign up early to secure your spot. On Friday, join a Trolley Tour with Distinguished Research Curator of Archaeology Dr. Kathleen Deagan and City of St. Augustine Archaeologist Carl Halbirt. The tour will take you around town and drop you off at the Friday evening reception.

The Friday evening reception will be held at the Fountain of Youth, the location of Pedro Menendez's 1565 settlement and more than 50 years of archaeological excavations.

Flagler College's Hotel Ponce de Leon, a designated National Historic Landmark, will be the setting for the paper presentations on Saturday. During the long lunch break, historic downtown tours will be offered (see [Registration Form](#)). Each will give participants a glimpse of St. Augustine that few visitors get a chance to see. Box lunches will be available for those wishing to take advantage of the tours.

The Saturday evening banquet, with Dr. Deagan as the keynote speaker, will be held in the Ponce de Leon Dining Room at Flagler College. Prepared by Chef David Bearl, AAC, the buffet menu will be similar to that enjoyed by the hotel's guests on opening night in 1888.

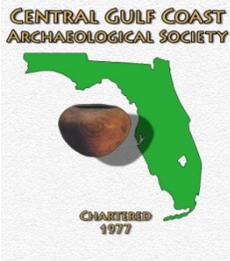
On Sunday, an early morning boat ride aboard the Victory III around Matanzas Bay and a late morning tour of the Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program (LAMP) facilities at the St. Augustine Lighthouse are offered.

### CGCAS OFFICERS\DIRECTORS

President	Chris Hunt	315 NLauber Way, Tampa, FL33609	(813)784-4289
Vice Pres.	Dawn Hayes	P.O. Box 292636, Tampa, FL33687	(813)748-6612
Secretary	Linda Allred	5251 42 <sup>nd</sup> Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33709	(727)526-7885
Treasurer	Cheryl Shaughnessy	6100 62 <sup>nd</sup> Ave N, Lot 63, Pinellas Park, FL 33781	(727)742-6758
Directors	Marcie Connors	19327 Wind Dancer St, Lutz, FL33558	(813)920-4198
	Jeff Moates	7924 24 <sup>th</sup> Ave W, Bradenton, FL 34209	(813)396-2325
	Becky O'Sullivan	328 S. Edison Ave, Tampa, FL 33624	(813)909-3034
	Bob Austin	P.O. Box 2818, Riverview, FL 33568	(813)677-2280
	Chris Hardy	11924 Cypress Crest Cir, Tampa, FL33626	(813)920-2353
Membership	Cheryl Shaughnessy	6100 62 <sup>nd</sup> Ave N, Lot 63, Pinellas Park, FL 33781	(727)742-6758
Web Master	Chris Hunt	315 NLauber Way, Tampa FL 33609	(813)784-4289
Newsletter	Becky O'Sullivan	E-mail: rosulliv@usf.edu	
Editorial Assistants		Bob Austin, Dave Burns	

## THE SOCIETY

The CentralGulfCoast 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, FL33780

	Dues
Individual	\$20.00
Student	\$10.00
Family	\$25.00
Life	\$150.00