# **Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society**

A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society www.cgcas.org



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May-June 2010



Editor: David Burns

# It's Picnic Time! Saturday June 26th

at Lake Seminole Park 10015 Park Boulevard, Largo, FL Shelter 12 12-4 PM



It is picnic time again and this year it will be held at Lake Seminole Park in Pinellas County on Saturday June 26th. There will be a board meeting from 11-12 and then the festivities will begin after that. CGCAS will supply the meat, drinks and buns. Bring family and friends and enjoy the hiking trails, the museum, and the playground for the kids. We will also have a raffle for prizes. Please bring a covered dish to share. The park features a two mile multi use trail through the woods and around a small lake. The wide paved trail is ideal for hiking, rollerblading, biking, running or for those walking and bird watching. There is a return path provided at the one mile point for folks not wanting to complete the entire trail. The trail runs one way only with designated lanes sorted by speed from walkers to bikers. Motorized vehicles are not allowed. There are several large play grounds for kids of various ages, a ball field and a volleyball court. It will be a fun afternoon. Due to the distance, people may want to carpool to get there. See you there!

#### **CGCAS Picnic 2010**

This year's picnic will be held at Lake Seminole Park on June 26<sup>th</sup>. CGCAS will provide hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks. Please join us and bring your favorite pot luck dish to share.

There will be games, trivia, raffle prizes, "brief" presentations, and much more.



Lake Seminole Park is located on Park Boulevard or SR-694 in Seminole. One way to get there is to take I-275 and get off at exit 28 onto SR-694 (Gandy Blvd.) and head west. The road becomes CR-694 after 4.5 miles but continue another 3 miles to the park on the right. Look for Shelter 12 and you will have found the picnic.

#### As seen on TV



A video by CGCAS member Lou Claudio, Ancient Pinellas, features CGCAS, FPAN, and many member-friends, will be getting into the Pinellas County Schools curriculum next season. An initial run of 50 DVD copies has been made by Linda Whitley, Supervisor of Social Studies, for distribution to teachers. Bringing archaeology to the general public, especially kids, was his primary goal. Here's a link to the online version of this excellent video: http://www.pinellascounty.org/tv/wmv/parkpreserves/ancient pinellas.wmv and here's a link to the PCC-TV on-air http://www.pinellascounty.org/tv/tvschedule.pdf. PCC-TV is available on Pinellas cable (Bright House 622, Knology 18, Verizon 44).

## Saying Goodbye is Hard to Do



Jan Luth

CGCAS and the community are losing two of our esteemed members. Jan Luth has accepted a position as President of Exploration Place in Wichita Kansas. She will assume her new duties on July 1. Jan has served as director of the Heritage Village Museum in Largo as well as being vice president for programs at the Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI) in Tampa. Since 2008 she has done consulting work for the Great Explorations Children's Museum in St Petersburg.

Terry Powell, Jan's husband, an archaeologist who runs a nature center, will join her. We all know Terry for his expertise in replicating and demonstrating Native American technology. He has been an integral part of many of our Archaeology Day programs and other special events for many years. Now his new change is to learn about Midwest archaeology. He is planning on retiring and staying behind for awhile taking care of loose ends before joining Jan in Kansas. They also plan on expanding their small business Tools from the Earth, which reproduces prehistoric artifacts.

Both of them will be missed but as Terry said "We are only an email or phone call away". Good luck to both on this new adventure.





Terry Powell

#### Slate of Officers for 2010-2011

The Nominating Committee has prepared the following slate of officers for 2010-2011:

Karin Lovik President:

Robert Austin Vice President

Linda Allred, Secretary

Cheryl Shaughnessy, Treasurer

*Directors*: Sheila Stewart, Bart McLeod, Cindy Martin, Chris Hardy, Marcie Connors, Jeff Moates. Elections will be held at the annual picnic in June.

Allison Harvey was on the slate but she has been accepted at the University of New Mexico and will be starting Graduate school there in the fall. Bart McLeod will return to the board to fill her position. We wish her and her husband the best in this move and I am sure we will be hearing more from and about her in the future. She will be missed.

#### Mark Your Calendar

Here is a summary of events that are coming up for CGCAS member participation:

6/26 – CGCAS Picnic, Lake Seminole, 11 AM board meeting, 12 noon picnic

7/31 – Weeki Wachee Kayak Trip 10 AM-3 PM

On this Saturday kayak trip you will have the great opportunity to paddle 2 ½ hours downstream at Weeki Wachee Springs State Park. A State Park van will meet you at Roger's Park for the ride back to your cars.

We will meet at 10:00am at Weeki Wache Springs Water Park on HWY 19 and SR-50. Kayaking Adventures is located on the southwest corner of the parking lot.

A single kayak or canoe can be rented for the day for \$30.00. A tandem kayak is \$35.00. These prices include life vest, paddles, and return trip. If you bring your own kayak/canoe you will pay only a \$15.00 launch/return trip fee.

The spring is a cool 74 degree with spring-fed waters of the Weeki Wachee River. Lunch and libations are available at the end of the paddling at Roger's Park. However, you may want to plan on bringing water along as you leisurely paddle down river.

If you plan on joining us, please contact Linda Allred at 727-526-7885 or <a href="mailto:lallred@mybluelight.com">lallred@mybluelight.com</a> BEFORE July 15<sup>th</sup> so enough canoes and kayaks can be reserved. Linda will speak more on this at the picnic on June 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Driftwood Survey**: CGCAS will be assisting FPAN in a survey of this historic area in St. Petersburg. Dr. Brent Weisman is conducting a Field School there as well. Once the initial survey and excavation is completed, there will an opportunity to continue doing shovel tests and other investigations in the area. The following dates are available for CGCAS member to take part in the project:

Thursdays, 6/10, 6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15 Saturdays, 6/5, 6/12, 7/3, 7/10, 7/17 Further information will be sent by emails.

Boy Scouts Merit Badge at Weedon Island CGCAS members can assist in teaching archaeology skills to Boy Scouts on the following Saturdays:

Weedon Island 6/19.

Brooker Creek 7/24.

# Rancho Regattas

The Florida Public Archeology Network (FPAN) is presenting the Rancho Regattas which will explore the history and lives of Florida's fishing past. There is one event remaining on June 19<sup>th</sup> at Indian Mound Park or Lemon Bay Park, sponsored by the Friends of Lemon Bay Park.

## **Boy Scout Program at Weedon Island**



On June 19 Weedon Island and CGCAS will hold a hands-on opportunity to earn the Scout Archaeology Merit Badge through a workshop. The morning workshop is packed full of activities to satisfy most of the merit badge requirements. Activities include "Sifting through the Past,"

exploring a modern trash heap, creating pottery, and learning about area archeological sites. A portion of the cost for this program will go to CGCAS.

The same workshop will also be presented at Brooker Creek Preserve on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

# Genetic Studies show Neanderthals Interbred with Modern Humans

A recent article in *Science* Magazine, May 2010, supports the previously controversial theory that interbreeding occurred between these different species.

Modern human gene sequence contains between 1-4% Neanderthal genes. The common gene sequences could be explained by the specie's descent from the same ancestor. However, conclusions were based on genetic variations among modern humans, depending upon place of origin. The study found that modern humans in sub-Saharan Africa have less commonality with Neanderthals than do modern humans elsewhere. On the other hand, there was little difference among non-Africans, as far as commonality with Neanderthals, regardless of whether the humans were from Europe or East Asia.

The authors conclude that interbreeding between humans and Neanderthals occurred after humans had begun to emerge from Africa, but before variation occurred among non-African human populations.

The article contains other information about the divergence between the species, and the genes that are unique to humans which might help explain the reasons that modern humans displaced Neanderthals.

# **Atlatl Throwing is now a College Sport**

The May 30, 2010 issue of Parade Magazine had an article about an Atlatl team that was formed at Franklin Pierce University. The unusual college team, made up of mostly anthropology majors, was started in 2004 by Bob Goodby, an anthropology professor at the University. He decided to find an event his students could enter and the Hurling Ravens were formed.

The team travels to a handful of tournaments each year. The only other college team that has taken part is from the University of Vermont.

Yes, there is even the World Atlatl Association.

#### **FAS Membership**

The Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) is open to persons interested in anthropology, archaeology, preservation of cultural resources and community education. Membership is made up of both professional and avocational archaeologists. Benefits of membership include the journal *The Florida Anthropologist*, the *FAS Newsletter* and participation in the annual meeting in May. More information and membership forms can be found on the web site <a href="https://www.fasweb.org">www.fasweb.org</a> or by writing to the Membership Secretary at P.O. Box 13191, Pensacola, FL 32591. Dues are: Student - \$15; Regular and Institutional - \$30; Family - \$35; Sustaining - \$100; Patron - \$1000; Benefactor - \$2500 or more.

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Editorial Assistants		Dorrine Burns and Bob Austin					

# **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 33780-1563

# **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 Karin Lovik, 1225 Jeffords St., Apt 225A, Clearwater, FL.

Dues	
Regular	\$20.00
Student	10.00
Family	25.00
Life	150.00