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# CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

CENTRAL GULF COAST  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
MAY, 2013

*36 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE*



EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

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## FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING RECAP



*Dr. Kathleen Deagan gives the keynote address at the FAS banquet.*

This year's FAS Meeting was a great success, with many interesting papers to hear and tours of historic St. Augustine to enjoy. CGCAS was also well represented, with several members including Phyllis Kolianos, Chris Hunt, and Jeff Moates, presenting papers on their research from throughout Florida. On Saturday night, everyone came together for the banquet and keynote address by Dr. Kathleen Deagan on her work over the years in St. Augustine.

After dinner it was time for awards, USF St. Pete student Kendal Jackson received the

prestigious FAS Dorothy Moore Student Grant to support his work at Weedon Island on subsistence and the caloric value of different food sources that the area's early residents would have relied on. Congratulations, Kendal!

Also of interest, the next two locations for the annual FAS Meeting were decided upon. In 2014, the Warm Mineral Springs/Little Salt Springs Archaeological Society FAS Chapter will host the meeting in North Port, just to our south in Sarasota County. In 2015, the Time Sifters Archaeological Society will host the meeting right in our backyard in Bradenton. Hopefully the shorter travel time will mean that even more CGCAS members will be in attendance at these upcoming FAS meetings.

## CGCAS ANNUAL PICNIC

On Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> CGCAS members came together for our annual picnic which was held this year at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor.





CGCAS members chow down on the delicious dishes brought to the picnic.

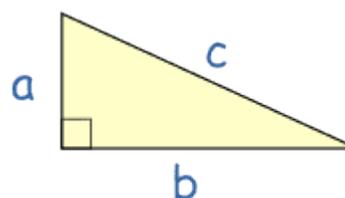


The tour took us to the top of the mound. Not only was the view, and breeze, great but the history of the site was also interesting to learn more about.

## AN INEXPENSIVE TEMPLATE FOR SETTING UP UNITS

By: Dave Burns

A useful equation that is used by almost all field archaeologists when setting up a test unit is the Pythagorean Theorem. This theorem deals with the relationship of the sides (a & b) and hypotenuse (c) of a right angled triangle, or one which contains an angle of 90°. The Pythagorean equation states that the square of the hypotenuse is equal to the sum of the square of the sides or:  $a^2+b^2=c^2$ . Solving for c:



$$a^2+b^2=c^2$$

$$1^2+1^2=c^2$$

$$2=c^2$$

$$\sqrt{2}=c$$

$$1.414=c$$

Setting up a 1 meter by 1 meter unit the archaeologist will use metric tape measures or folding rulers that are laid out along two sides of the unit to be excavated, i.e. a & b. To obtain a right angle, the length of c needs to be determined



Vance Perkey of Pinellas County Parks and Recreation gave the group a great tour of the Safety Harbor site.

We had a great turn-out despite the slight chill in the air, but by the time lunch was served it had turned into a beautiful day to hang out at an archaeological site. Prior to lunch, the CGCAS board met and then members were able to vote on the slate of Officers and Directors for the coming year. All of the board members were reelected, for a listing of their names see the final page of the newsletter. After eating some delicious potluck dishes we were then treated to a presentation on the Safety Harbor site by Vance Perkey of Pinellas County Parks and Recreation. Vance did a wonderful job explaining the history and archaeology of the site, and led us on a tour up to the top of the mound so we could enjoy the view!

as above. The tapes are moved until the distance between the ends are 1.414 (1.4) meters apart. This process will then be repeated to determine the other two sides of the unit. With experience, this whole process can be done in a matter of minutes.

Here is a quick and easy template that will eliminate the above steps and quickly lay out a unit. The materials you will need to make this template are inexpensive and available at a hardware store such as Home Depot:

- *Two 10 foot lengths of 1" PVC tubing (\$1.97 each)*
- *Four 90° 1" joints (\$.66 each)*
- *Metric tape measure or ruler*

Once you have obtained the PVC pipe, cut four 100cm (1 meter) lengths. You will only be able to get 3 from a single 10 foot section of pipe. It may be possible to purchase a smaller length at the store. Once cut, simply connect the four pieces with the 4 joints as seen below. Do not glue the unit together as it may be more convenient to disassemble for storage and transport in the field.



*Pieces of template prior to assembly.*

When the site for the proposed area for excavation is determined, assemble the template and lay it on the ground where you plan to excavate. Orient with north by using a compass. This allows for quick placement of the pegs on the inside corners. Once in place you can adjust the distances to verify that they are 1 meter apart. Place string around the pegs and you are ready to go. If a larger unit such as a 1 meter X 2 meter is required, simply move the template in the desired direction

and place over the corresponding pegs and mark the new side with pegs. Your unit perimeter is completed and ready to begin excavation.



*Placement of template.*



*The distance between the inside corners (peg to peg).*

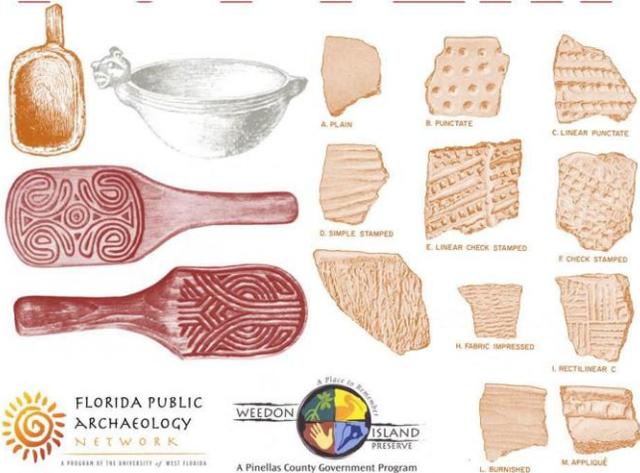
## POTTERY IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP AT WEEDON ISLAND

Pottery was a vital part of life in Florida for over 3,000 years, but it is also an important clue for archaeologists today. Learn to identify different prehistoric pottery types from around Florida and the ways archaeologists use them to learn about people in the past. USF grad student and prehistoric pottery expert extraordinaire Kassie Kemp will be on hand along with staff from the West Central office of the Florida Public Archaeology Network to teach you how to ID some common prehistoric pottery types from throughout Florida. A pottery making activity will also be provided for kids. This program is free and appropriate for all ages and levels. Follow the link below to register or for more information.

*To Register:*

<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/6243270791/eorg>

# ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: POTTERY



Where:

**Weedon Island Preserve**  
1800 Weedon Dr NE  
St. Petersburg, 33702

When: *Saturday, June 1, 2013 from*  
*10:00 AM to 12:00 PM*

SUMMER SITE TO SEE:  
CRYSTAL RIVER



*A view of excavations from the top of Mound A at the Crystal River site (image from the Crystal River Early Village Archaeological Project, CREVAP, Facebook page).*



*Whelk shell and ceramic pipe fragments uncovered during the field school (image from the CREVAP Facebook page).*

If you have the chance this summer, head on up to the Crystal River site in Crystal River, Citrus County to see some archaeologists in action as part of this year's field school at the site. USF archaeologist Dr. Thomas Pluckhahn and his students will continue to investigate "the extent and timing of public architecture (mainly mounds), feasting debris, and prestige goods at Crystal River and related sites" as part of a NSF grant funded project at the Crystal River Archaeological State Park. Public events like a series of "Lunch with an Archaeologist" talks and volunteer opportunities are also being offered. For more information on these events, or for interesting updates on what they are finding at this amazing site, check out their Facebook page or website (see links below). Fieldwork runs through late June.

[www.facebook.com/crystalriverarchaeology](http://www.facebook.com/crystalriverarchaeology)  
[www.crystalriverarchaeology.org/](http://www.crystalriverarchaeology.org/)

**Where:** *Crystal River Archaeological State Park*  
**Address:** *3400 N Museum Point, Crystal River*

## PINELAND FIELDTRIP

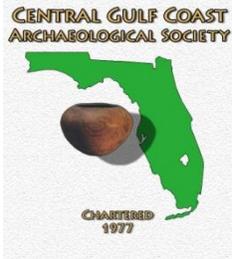
We had to put it off for a while, but a CGCAS fieldtrip to the Pineland site in Southwest Florida is in the works. October 12, 2013 at 1pm has been penciled onto the calendar but more information will be in upcoming newsletters. Should be a fun trip!

### CGCAS OFFICERS\DIRECTORS

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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.



**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