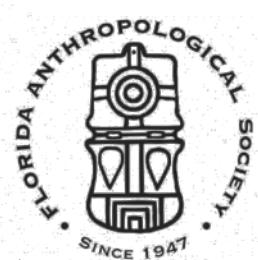
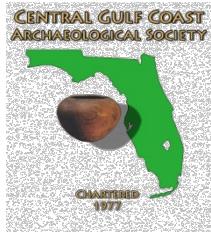


CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
MAY/JUNE, 2014

36 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

MEET OUR NEW BOARD FOR 2014 - 2015

At our annual picnic this past May, CGCAS members approved our new Officers and Board of Directors. Congratulations to Dawn Hayes, our new President! Dawn recently received her PhD in Applied Anthropology from the University of South Florida and has been a long-time CGCAS member. The rest of the Board is as follows:

President:	Dawn Hayes
Vice President:	Becky O'Sullivan
Secretary:	Linda Allred
Treasurer:	Cheryl Shaughnessy
Directors:	Bob Austin Dave Burns Marcie Connors Jeff Moates Chris Hardy

Amelia Dall is a new member of CGCAS and she has graciously offered to take over the job of Webmaster for our website. If you have questions or suggestions about the website please contact Amelia at dall.amelia@gmail.com.

If you would like to get involved in the CGCAS Board, or would like to sit in on a meeting, our meetings are held at 6:30pm on the second Thursday of every month at:

Panera Bread
2285 Ulmerton Rd
Clearwater, FL 33762

ARCHAEOLOGY MERIT BADGE CLINIC A SUCCESS AT WEEDON ISLAND

On Sunday, April 27th CGCAS members got together to put on an Archaeology Merit Badge event for a local Boy Scout Troop 46 at the Weedon Island Preserve. We started out the day talking about the basics of archaeology: What do archaeologists do? What is an artifact? What is a site? Then the scouts got to look at some "artifacts" (pictures of everyday garbage typical of a family today) from a modern archaeological site and see what they could figure out about the people who threw them away. Later they got to do some experimental archaeology and test the effectiveness of the atlatl (a prehistoric spear thrower) against just throwing a spear with their arm. Most said this was their favorite part!



Scouts discuss what a collection of garbage from a modern "site" says about the people who threw it away.

After lunch, the scouts got to trek out to the AWIARE excavation site at the Weedon Island Preserve to see some archaeology in action. Bob Austin gave them the grand tour of the site and answered their questions about how archaeologists excavate and how we interpret what we find. Special thanks to Bob and the folks from AWIARE for letting us bring them out!

Archaeology Merit Badge clinics are a great fundraiser for CGCAS, and also a great opportunity to share our passion for archaeology with kids and teens. We plan on doing another event out at Weedon Island sometime in August so if you are interested in helping out please contact Becky O'Sullivan at rosulliv@usf.edu. More information and dates will be in the next newsletter.



Bob Austin gives the scouts a tour of the site, they enjoyed seeing some archaeology in action!

FUN TIMES AT THE CGCAS ANNUAL PICNIC!



Lou, Dave, and Phyllis talk over the latest information on the Weedon Island canoe.

Sunday, May 18th CGCAS member came together for our annual picnic at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor. After a short board meeting where we voted on our new slate of officers and board members we dug in to all the delicious food that everyone brought. It was great to see a bunch of familiar faces, along with some new people.

After lunch, we broke out the atlatls and prepared ourselves for an epic archaeology quiz concocted by Jeff Moates. For those of you who couldn't make it check out some of the questions below. See how many you know and I'll put the correct answers in the next newsletter. Good luck!

1. In 1923 **this archaeologist** from the Smithsonian excavated at Weedon Island.
2. **This local archaeologist** took part in their very first archaeological survey at Upper Tampa Bay Park.
3. USF archaeologists conducted excavations at **this site** in 1973 and recovered materials that were later dated to approximately 4,000 years ago.
4. Name **this site** located at the mouth of one of Hillsborough County's rivers that can be visited today as a park. Hint: Giant owned a fish camp on the south side of the river.
5. Name **3 of the 4** locally designated sites that are located in City of St Petersburg parks.
6. George Luer and Marion Almy identified and named **this regional prehistoric culture group** that lived during the Woodland time period and had practices and traits reflective of the Weedon Island culture.
7. What is Tampa Bay's **largest remaining flat top mound**?
8. In order to be useful for making stone tools, a rock must have **this kind of fracture**.
9. What is the general name for material like sand, limestone, or plant fibers that is mixed into clay to help it stay together during the firing process?
10. In **this type of environment**, like what was found at the Key Marco site, archaeologists are more likely to find organic materials like wood, fiber, or cloth.
11. Name three types of **gastropods or bivalves** that are often found in middens in Florida.
12. What is the earliest type of prehistoric pottery found in Florida?



Marcie, Cheryl, and Dave give new member Kassie Kemp the lowdown on CGCAS.



We had beautiful weather for our picnic at Philippe Park in Safety Harbor. Thanks to everyone who came out!



Lou has fun using an atlatl as part of our picnic festivities. We also had a great archaeology quiz game!

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR FIELDWORK AT WEEDON ISLAND

University of Michigan PhD candidate Christina Sampson started field work at Weedon Island for her dissertation research the first week of May. Field work will continue until the last week of June. She will be excavating an area just south of the looters' trench and USF excavations. Volunteers are needed! If you are interested in

helping out, please contact Christina directly at cperry23@gmail.com to make arrangements.



WEEDON ISLAND'S PREHISTORIC CANOE TAKES BIG STEP TOWARDS PUBLIC DISPLAY

By: Lou Claudio



On Sunday, May 4, a team from the Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education (AWIARE) extracted all sections of an ancient Native American dugout canoe from a tank of preservative in which the canoe had been soaking for the past 3 years. Carved from a single pine tree over a thousand years ago, it is the only salt-water marine canoe found in Florida, and - at over 40 feet in length - had to be cut into sections to be safely removed, transported, and placed in the preservative tank. The archaeological artifact, which has been carbon-dated to about AD900 - AD1000, will now air-dry for approximately 6 months and then be reassembled for public display at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center –tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2015.

Excavated in 2011 from the Tampa Bay shoreline of Pinellas County's Weedon Island Preserve, the canoe was placed in a specially built tank holding a solution of polyethylene glycol (PEG), which is a wax-like substance that penetrates the wood. The waxy PEG replaces the areas of the canoe's structure that were waterlogged and will harden during the drying process, preventing the wood from cracking and deteriorating.



The nearly 3,200 acre Weedon Island Preserve has shown evidence of indigenous occupation dating back thousands of years and is State of Florida property managed by Pinellas County Government. AWIARE, a non-profit consortium of scientific and academic entities – in partnership with Pinellas County - has assumed oversight of archaeology operations at Weedon Island and is dedicated to promote and facilitate archaeological research, scientific exploration, and public education focusing on the Weedon Island Preserve and adjacent Gulf Coast. For information: <http://www.awiare.org>

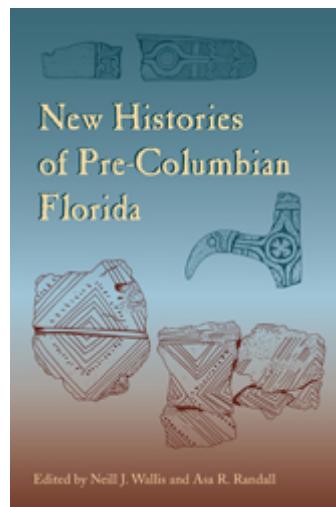
Videos about the canoe are available at Pinellas County's YouTube channel – www.youtube.com/c/pcctv1 in the “Pinellas County History” playlist.

**SUMMER READ:
NEW HISTORIES OF PRE-COLUMBIAN
FLORIDA, EDITED BY NEILL J. WALLIS
AND ASA R. RANDALL**

“New Histories of Pre-Columbian Florida represents the next wave of southeastern

archaeology. Contributors use new data to challenge well-worn models of environmental determinism and localized social contact. Indeed, this volume makes a case for considerable interaction and exchange among Native Floridians and the greater southeastern United States as seen by the variety of objects of distant origin and mound-building traditions that incorporated extraregional concepts. Themes of monumentality, human alterations of landscapes, the natural environment, ritual and mortuary practices, and coastal adaptations demonstrate the diversity, empirical richness, and broader anthropological significance of Florida’s aboriginal past.”

CGCAS members Bob Austin, Jeff Mitchem, and AWIARE board member Brent Weisman coauthored “Radiocarbon Dates and the Late Prehistory of Tampa Bay”, which includes data from Pinellas County sites such as Weedon Island, Bayshore Homes, Yat Kitischee, and the Anderson Mound. AWIARE Board member Tom Pluckhahn and coauthor Victor Thompson contributed “Monumentality Beyond Scale: The Elaboration of Mounded Architecture at Crystal River” based on recent work at this important Gulf coast site with Weedon Island connections.



Available from University of Florida Press at: <http://upf.com/book.asp?id=WALLI001>

Or Amazon.com

http://www.amazon.com/Histories-Pre-Columbian-Florida-Natural-History/dp/0813049369/ref=sr_1_cc_1?s=aps&ie=UTF8&qid=1400716481&sr=1-1-catcorr&keywords>New+Histories+of+Pre-Columbian+Florida

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGY EVENTS

MURAL UNVEILING – “A Glimpse Through the Mangroves”

Thursday, June 19, 2014 from 7:00 – 9:00pm



A preview of the completed mural shows how the Weedon Island Preserve might have looked more than 1,000 years ago.

The public is invited to the unveiling of the commemorative painting at Weedon Island Preserve, "A Glimpse Through the Mangroves," by Carrie Jadus. This will be a special event, with invited officials and past and present Board members of the Friends of Weedon Island. The artist, Carrie Jadus, will be present, signing high-quality reproductions of the oil painting available for purchase.

Catered drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served. While this is a free event for FOWI members and supporters, pre-registration is required and the event will be capped. The public has the opportunity to become a part of Weedon Island's rich history by donating sponsorships of the mural. Sponsorships for the mural are appropriate for business and community groups, as well as individuals. They are also an excellent and thoughtful way to pay tribute to friends and loved ones through a commemorative or memorial donation. Donor and memorial recipient names will be recognized on a complementary display besides the painting and include high-quality reproductions of the oil painting.

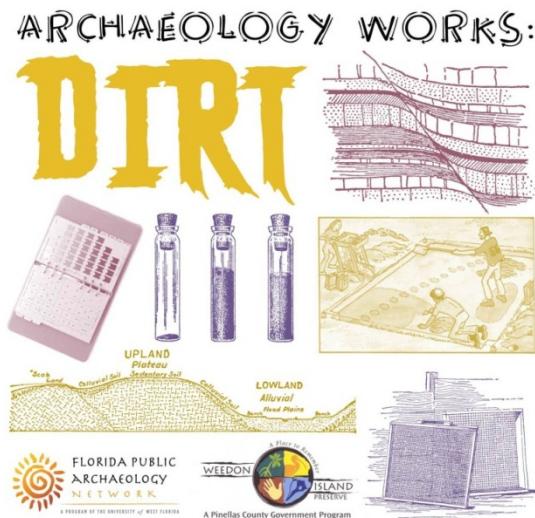
For more information on the mural go to:
<http://www.examiner.com/article/new-mural-by-carrie-jadus-unveiled-at-weedon-island-cultural-center>

To register for the event go to:
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/a-glimpse-through-the-mangroves-unveiling-of-commemorative-painting-at-weedon-island-preserve-tickets-11665573043>

WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
Cultural & Natural History Center
1800 Weedon Island Drive NE
St Petersburg, FL

WORKSHOP – Archaeology Works: Dirt

Saturday, June 28, 2014 from 10:00am – Noon



Archaeologists spend a lot of time in the dirt, but what can the soil tell us about people in the past? By studying the layers of soil in the ground and its composition we can learn more about how old a site might be or what activities occurred there. Learn how to get your hands dirty like an archaeologist and explore some of the techniques they use to study the history beneath your feet.

Recommended for all ages.

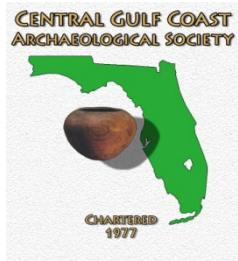
WHERE: Weedon Island Preserve
Cultural & Natural History Center
1800 Weedon Island Drive NE
St Petersburg, FL

For more information go to:
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/archaeology-works-dirt-tickets-10554080539?aff=eorg>

<u>CGCAS OFFICERS\DIRECTORS</u>		
President	Dawn Hayes	hayes.dawn@gmail.com
Vice Pres.	Becky O'Sullivan	rosulliv@usf.edu
Secretary	Linda Allred	all@tampabay.rr.com
Treasurer	Cheryl Shaughnessy	shaughnc@tampabay.rr.com
Directors	Marcie Connors	tjconnors@verizon.net
	Jeff Moates	jmoates@usf.edu
	Dave Burns	dbburns73@gmail.com
	Bob Austin	bob@searchinc.com
	Chris Hardy	kasotagirl@yahoo.com
Membership	Cheryl Shaughnessy	
Web Master	Amelia Dall	dall.amelia@gmail.com
Newsletter	Becky O'Sullivan	E-mail: rosulliv@usf.edu
Editorial Assistants		Bob Austin, Dave Burns

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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NEWSLETTER**
4202 E FOWLER AVE, NEC 116
TAMPA, FL 33620