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# Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society

A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

October 2007

Editor: David Burns



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## October Meeting

### Mound House Exhibits Archaeology: The Anatomy of a Shell Mound

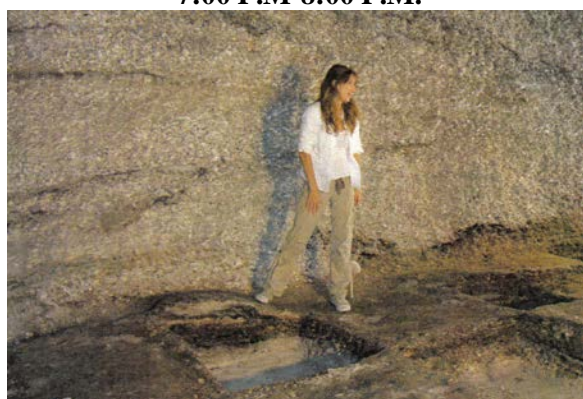
*by*

*Theresa Schober, MA*

**Thursday, October 18, 2007**

**Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center**

**7:00 P.M-8:00 P.M.**



The Mound House is a cultural and environmental learning center situated on a Calusa shell mound on Fort Myers Beach, Florida. Construction of a swimming pool into the mound in 1958 provided the opportunity to develop an archaeological exhibit revealing a vertically complete cross-section of the mound extending over 60 horizontal feet. This talk will summarize the archaeological methodologies employed and results of investigations that yield significant insights into mound construction techniques and use. Data from a number of excavations in southwest Florida reveal spatial and temporal patterns evident of increasing social hierarchy through time. The exhibit within the mound is anticipated to open in October of 2008.

Theresa Schober has conducted archaeological research in southwest Florida for the past nine years and is currently the Director of the Mound House - a three-acre archaeological and historical site on Fort Myers Beach.

This event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is appreciated. Call (727)453-6500 to register.

## Bayshore Homes Project

We have finished excavating Test Unit 3. We extended the unit by excavating another 1X2 unit to the south. We had uncovered a possible pit or low area filled with midden material and hoped to determine the areal extent of this feature. On the last day of testing the discovery of a 1930's era bottle seems to indicate that we had found an old looter's pit. However further work is still to be done. A column sample was taken on the south wall of the first 1X2 and it will be analyzed in coming weeks.

On Saturday September 22<sup>nd</sup>, reporter Steve Kornacki with the Tampa Tribune and photographer Greg Fight visited the site. Their article appeared in the Sunday edition of the Tribune the next day. CGCAS and the Bayshore Homes project got important publicity from this article while informing the reader about our group and the area's history.

The last test unit of this project will be started in early November. At that time the crew may be split again with some working in the lab at Weedon Island on the column sample while others will be in the field.

Since there will be sorting to be done from Column Sample 3 and work to be done on TU 4, there is still time to join us in this exciting and important project. Thanks to all the CGCAS members who have taken part so far. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Bob Austin at 813-677-2280 or email him at [bob@searchinc.com](mailto:bob@searchinc.com) if you want to help.

## FAS 2008 Committees

The planning for the 2008 FAS Annual Meeting in Tampa continues. This meeting is only 7 months away and is coming up fast. The chairs of the committees are meeting to make sure all is on track to make this another memorable meeting.

The committees still need help and your assistance and ideas will be greatly appreciated. Thanks to those who have already signed up and for the rest of you, please consider volunteering on one of these committees.

*Program Committee:* Chair, Dr. Bob Austin  
([bob@searchinc.com](mailto:bob@searchinc.com))

*Local Arrangements Committee:* Co-Chairs,  
Marcie Connors ([tjconnors@verizon.net](mailto:tjconnors@verizon.net));  
Shanna Drwiega ([sdrwiega@yahoo.com](mailto:sdrwiega@yahoo.com))

*Registration Committee:* Chair, Chris Hardy  
([kastoagirl@yahoo.com](mailto:kastoagirl@yahoo.com))

*Public Relations Committee:* Chair, Linda Allred  
([lallred@mybluelight.com](mailto:lallred@mybluelight.com))



## CGCAS Yard Sale

We are planning a yard sale for Saturday October 27<sup>th</sup> at the home of Shanna and Jack Drwiega in Tampa. They live at 917 W. Woodlawn Ave. and the directions to their home are below. The sale will be open from 8 am to 1 pm. So, help us out by donating any items you no longer need or want and we will appreciate your help in building up our reserves for the FAS 2008 Annual meeting and other projects. For you inexperienced yard salers, things like furniture, tools, baby clothes, toys, books, computer stuff, etc. are some of the items most popular.

Bob Austin will be the point of contact for coordination and pickup of donated items. If you need Bob's assistance, contact him at [bob@searchinc.com](mailto:bob@searchinc.com) or by phone at (813) 205-9847. If you have large or special items, try and let us know ahead of time.

Help will be needed at this yard sale both the night before and the day of the sale. Donated items will be priced by Shanna's mother the night before. Saturday volunteers need to bring tables and chairs to put items on. Also, unsold items not reclaimed by their owners, will be donated to charity. Please plan on taking part in this CGCAS event.

*Directions: From St. Petersburg, take I-275 north and exit on Armenia Ave. Go north to Columbus Ave. then turn right or east. Take this road across the Hillsborough River and turn left (north) onto Poplar St. then to Woodlawn Ave. and turn left or west, to their house. From northern Hillsborough County, take I-275 south to Dr. Martin Luther King (Exit 46). Go west and then turn left or south onto Poplar St. If you get lost call Shanna at 813-383-9182.*

## Archaeological Volunteer Opportunities Web Page

The Bureau of Archaeological Research has developed a new web page for those seeking archaeological volunteer opportunities in Florida. If you have a project and are in need of volunteers, please send your information to Andrea White at [apwhite@dos.state.fl.us](mailto:apwhite@dos.state.fl.us) and she can post your request at. This web page can be viewed at <http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/archaeology/education/volOpps.cfm>.

## Programs for the Coming Year

Rich Estabrook, Director of the West Florida FPN Center, gave an excellent talk on September 27<sup>th</sup> that was well attended by CGCAS members and students from Dr. John Arthur's archaeology class. Below is a list of the speakers and their topics. More details will be announced in future newsletters. All will be on Thursday and will be held at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center at 7 pm.

**Theresa Schober, MA** 10/18/2007 *Mound House Exhibits Archaeology: The Anatomy of a Shell Mound*

**Lizabeth Carlson, PhD** 11/15/2007 *Stains, Rains and Backhoes: Large Scale Excavations at Two Pre-Columbian Village Sites on the Tanamá River in Northwest Puerto Rico*

**Jeff Du Vernay, MA** 12/20/2007 *The Yon Mound in Northwest Florida*

**Margo Schwadron, MA** 1/17/2008 *Everglades*

**Jeff Moates, MA** 2/21/2008 *Maritime archaeology*

**James Davidson, PhD** 3/20/2008 *Kingsley Plantation*

**Christian Davenport, MA** 4/17/2008, *Preliminary Results of an Archaeological Survey of Lake Okeechobee*

### A Florida Native American Heritage Trail Booklet Web Site

As mentioned last month, the Florida Native American Heritage Trail released a new 36-page guidebook as an addition to the Florida Heritage Trail series. Visit the web site for this guidebook at [http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/milesmedia/fl\\_nativ\\_eamerican/](http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/milesmedia/fl_nativ_eamerican/). This site presents the guidebook in a format in which it can be opened and read as normal book as you turn the pages. Check it out.

The Trails of Florida's Indian Heritage, Inc. (formerly Trail of the Lost Tribes), a non-profit organization promoting awareness and preservation of Florida's ancient cultures, produced the Florida Native American Heritage Trail booklet with a grant for the Division of Historical Resources.

Copies of the publication may be purchased online at [www.floridahistoryshop.com](http://www.floridahistoryshop.com). For more information visit [www.trailoffloridiasindianheritage.org](http://www.trailoffloridiasindianheritage.org)

### Exhibit Opening

"Tutankhamun – The Boy King" exhibit will be on display at the Bilvas Science & Technology Center at

1001 Boulevard of the Arts in Sarasota. The exhibit runs from October 6, 2007 through April 5, 2008.

Step back in time over 3,000 years as the mysteries of ancient Egypt are revealed in an extraordinary exhibit at G.WIZ (Gulfcoast Wonder & Imagination Zone), a hands-on science and technology center. Over 90 museum quality reproductions faithfully preserve the grandeur of Howard Carter's 1922 archaeological discovery.

Hours are Mon.-Fri 10 am to 5 pm; Sat. 10 am to 6 pm; and Sun - Noon to 6 pm. The Tut Exhibit is included in the regular G.WIZ admission price of \$9 for adults 19 to 64; \$8 for seniors 65 and older; \$6 for children 3 to 18; and, children under 3 are free. For further information call (941) 309-GWIZ(4949) or at [www.gwiz.org](http://www.gwiz.org).

### Weedon Island Center Events

The long awaited opening of the new Exhibit Gallery "Weedon Island Preserve – Connecting People and Place" is schedule for Saturday November 17, 2007 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The 6,000 square foot exhibit hall captures the essence of Weedon Island Preserve and the Tampa Bay estuary in an interactive experience for the whole family. Special demonstrations highlight various elements of the exhibit hall.

Local and regional artists will demonstrate Native American technology, and you will be able to see various animals from this area throughout the day. Plan on attending the opening celebration for this exciting new exhibit and to take part in this fun-filled day. This event is free and open to the public.



The Weedon Preserve Cultural and natural History Center presents "Voice of the Everglades: Marjory Stoneman Douglas" on Friday October 26, 2007 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. This event is free and open to the public. Call (727) 453-6500 to register.

Follow the life of the matriarch of Miami (portrayed by Betty Jean Steinhouser) as she begins her crusade to restore the Everglades. Since the 1947 publication of her book, *Everglades, River of Grass*, Marjory Stoneman Douglas realized that her focus must be on restoration, not conservation – "Conservation is now a dead word. You can't preserve what you haven't got."

Marjory Stoneman Douglas's book inspired a national effort to protect the Everglades. She received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1993.

**CGCAS Officers/Directors**

President	Shanna Drwiega	917 W. Woodland Ave, Tampa, FL 33603	(813)383-9182
Vice Pres	John Arthur	USF St. Pete, 140 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave. S. St. Petersburg, FL 33701	(727)553-4960
Secretary	Cindy Martin	3412 Forest Bridge Cir. Brandon, FL 33511	(813)654-4828
Treasurer	Marcie Connors	19327 Wind Dancer St., Lutz, FL 33558	(813)920-4198
Directors	Bart McLeod	2412 Butte Ave., New Port Richey, FL 34653	(727)815-8749
	Kelsey Gibbs	1275 Carlton Arms Cir., Bradenton, FL 34208	(941)915-7004
	Jay Hardman	1513 Oakadia Dr. E., Clearwater, FL 33764	(727)535-3344
	Chris Hardy	1668 Nantucket Court, Palm Harbor, FL 34683	(727)733-3636
Membership	Roger Block	785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706	(727)367-8381
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		e-mail: <a href="mailto:daveburns@prodigy.net">daveburns@prodigy.net</a>	
Editorial Assistant	Dorrine Burns		

**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 340705,  
Tampa, FL 33694.

**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 Roger Block, Membership Secretary, 785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706

	Dues
Regular	\$20.00
Student	10.00
Family	25.00
Life	150.00