
CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER, 2015



38 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015, 7:00 PM

AT

WEEDON ISLAND PRESERVE CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY CENTER
1800 WEEDON DR. NE, ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33702



***Scott M. Fitzpatrick, Ph.D.
University of Oregon***

How Oceanographic Effects Influenced the Prehistoric Colonization of Islands: A Caribbean-Pacific Comparison

For many island societies worldwide, the acquisition and exchange of prized resources was fundamental to developing and maintaining social, political, and economic relationships. The patchiness of resources such as stone, clay, tempering agents, shell, and animals often led to differential access, which then helped to fuel the rise of social complexity. This presentation by Scott M. Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. considers questions of resource acquisition and population movements as mediated by oceanographic and wind conditions. Comparing results from archaeological and other lines of evidence in the Caribbean and Pacific Islands highlights the role of seafaring capabilities as a critical factor in structuring colonization, population dispersals, and inter-island and island-mainland interaction.

These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting <http://goo.gl/PqcvgD>. You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.

2016 FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

By Ashley Hampton

Mark your calendar! The Palm Beach County Archaeological Society (PBCAS) is proud to host the 68th Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society. The meeting will be held May 19th – May 22nd, 2016 at the luxurious new Wyndham Grand hotel in Jupiter. This hotel offers exquisite boutique style accommodations, breathtaking waterfront views, and amenities tailor-made to highlight guest's experience with elegance and style. The hotel rate for conference attendees is \$139 and includes breakfast.



A view of the Jupiter Inlet Lighthouse.

The Jupiter inlet locality is celebrated for its rich cultural heritage, symbolized by the iconic Jupiter Lighthouse. The Lighthouse is a National Register Historic site set upon a massive pre-Columbian shell midden and is where PBCAS will host a gourmet banquet under the stars. In addition to an exceptional dining experience, the banquet event will include tours of the Jupiter Lighthouse and museum! The welcoming reception will be held in the historic Dubois Family Home located atop one of the largest surviving shell middens on the Atlantic seaboard. Tours of the house will be ongoing while guests imbibe cocktails and hors d' oeuvres. Both the lighthouse and the Dubois archaeological sites were featured in the Florida Anthropologist, Volume 55:3-4. To book your hotel room, please call at (561) 273-6600 and request the group name Florida Anthropological Society. More information about the Reception and Sunday Tours will be forthcoming!

CGCAS MEMBERS RETURN TO THE ANDERSON SITE

On Saturday, November 14th, CGCAS members returned to the Anderson site in St Petersburg, FL to backfill an excavation unit that was opened in 1995 to gain more information about this interesting prehistoric site. CGCAS members Bob Austin, Marcie and Tom Connors, Dave Burns, Chris Hardy, Linda Allred, and property owner Erik Anderson all worked for several hours but got the unit filled.



Bob, Dave, Marcie, and Tom watch as the fill dirt is delivered to the site.

Chris had the fantastic idea to create a time capsule containing a flash drive in it with a PDF of Bob's report which documented the excavation of the unit, some pictures from the original excavation, and a few pennies with this years' date and those of the excavation.



Chris shows off the time capsule before it goes in the old unit.



Dave, about to throw the time capsule into the old unit at the Anderson site.

The time capsule was placed at the bottom of the unit before backfilling so that it might be uncovered one day by some future archaeologist. Hopefully they will be smart enough to see they are digging in a spot that has already been excavated!



A nice rim sherd found by eagle-eyed Linda near the site.

Thank you so much to Erik for being such a gracious host, and for allowing us out to investigate such an amazing prehistoric site!



Bob and Chris leveling and tamping the fill as it is being deposited into the unit.

SAVE THE DATE: CGCAS CHRISTMAS PARTY!



WHAT: CGCAS Annual Christmas Party
WHEN: Sunday, December 6th
WHERE: AWAIRE, 1500 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702

BRING: Covered dish to share AND if you wish to participate in the gift exchange, bring a white elephant

REMINDER: Also a good time to remit your annual dues

UPCOMING FIELDWORK OPPORTUNITY AT WEEDON ISLAND

University of Michigan PhD student Christina Sampson will be back this November for her final field season at the Weedon Island site and

she is looking for volunteers to help out. Christina will be back in the area on November 21 and will be working at Weedon Island until about December 15.



If you are interested in helping out with some fieldwork and getting your hands dirty please email Christina directly at cper@umich.edu.

NEW RATES FOR DUES IN 2016

Just another reminder that starting on December 15th of 2015 our annual dues will be changing slightly. Student dues will now be \$12, individuals will be \$25, and families will be \$30. Dues haven't increased in about 15 years, and in order to keep bringing you great speakers, events, field trips, a website, and newsletter the Board found that a slight increase is necessary. It is only because of your support that we are able to have this speaker series, and your generous contributions are always appreciated.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Archaeology Lab

Friday, December 11, 2015 from 10am – Noon

Learn all about how artifacts and other archaeological material get processed in the laboratory so that we can use them to learn about the past. You will get the chance to sort through, identify, and wash artifacts and other material from real archaeological sites! All ages are welcome to participate or observe, children 12 and under should be accompanied by an adult.

WHERE: Weedon Island Center
1800 Weedon Island Dr NE
St Petersburg, FL 33702

Archaeology Works: Fishing

Saturday, December 12, 2015 from 10am – Noon

People have been fishing Florida's rivers, lakes, and coastal waters for thousands of years, but how did they catch their meals without the modern gear we use today? Especially along the Gulf Coast, archaeologists have found tantalizing clues about how Florida's first residents fished these waters. Learn how archaeologists study artifacts linked to fishing like dugout canoes, ancient fishing hooks, and nets then see a thousand year old dugout canoe found at the Weedon Island Preserve for yourself. Recommended for all ages.

WHERE: Weedon Island Center
1800 Weedon Island Dr NE
St Petersburg, FL 33702

Water World: Canoes, Canals, and the Meaning of Water in Ancient Florida

Thursday, December 17, 2015 from 7 – 8pm

Dugout canoes hewn from massive logs of pine and cypress, canoe canals designed and dug by hand, and indigenous canoe trails and routes along Florida's coast and through the interior marshes and swamps provide some clues about the significance of water in the ancient world. Archaeologists, however, have been slow to embrace the centrality of water in ancient Florida, where it served as a conduit for communication and exchange and as a source of food, but also as an organizing principle that underlies aspects of social, political, and religious spheres. Archaeologists have avoided getting their feet wet when searching for sites, despite knowing that archaeological wet sites produce artifacts and ecological data rarely found at dry land sites. By focusing our attention on the low and wet spots we can reveal a previously hidden "water world," a negative image of our own, which privileges elevations and high places. Finding analogies for water in other traditional cultures, and examining Florida's canoes and canoe canals, provides an exciting glimpse into the lives of Florida's ancient inhabitants--giving us a rare look into their watery world. Program presented by Ryan J. Wheeler, Ph.D.

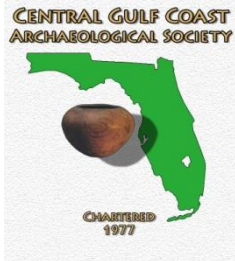
WHERE: Weedon Island Center
1800 Weedon Island Dr NE
St Petersburg, FL 33702

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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.



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	\$24.00
Student	\$12.00
Family	\$30.00

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TAMPA, FL 33620