
Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society

A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November-December 2006



Editor: David Burns

December Meeting



May you all have a great holiday season and a prosperous New Year

Saturday December 16, 2006

Christmas Party

At the home of Roger and Jean Block

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

The CGCAS Christmas Party will be held at the home of Roger and Jean Block on Saturday December 16th, from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 p.m. A brief board meeting will take place at 2:00 p.m. Again this year, it will be a Dog Party. Bring an unwanted item from home. If we wrap or bag the item, we can make this like a Chinese gift exchange.

The party will be potluck, and CGCAS will supply the drinks/spirits. This promises to be a fun time and hope you can make it.

The Block's live at 785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL. One way to get to their house is to take exit 23B on I-275. Go West on 5th Ave to 66th St. Turn left and take this to Central Ave. or SR150 where you will turn right or west. Follow this across the Treasure Island Causeway to Gulf Blvd. Turn right on Gulf Blvd and go to 116th Ave. Turn right and follow it to 785 Capri Blvd.

New Dues Payment Schedule

Beginning in January 2007, the dues for CGCAS will be collected for the coming year. Each January will be the time to renew your membership for the next year. For those of you who have paid for part of next year already, your dues will be pro-rated until 2008. Please send your payment to the Membership Secretary **Elaine Bardsley**, at 4525 Cove Circle #802, Madeira Beach FL 33708.

New Board Meeting Location

The CGCAS board has recently begun to meet at a new location. We are now meeting on the 3rd Thursday at the St. Dunstan's Church, 126th Ave. N. in Largo. We meet at 6:30 pm and everyone is invited to attend. Due to the Christmas party in December, the next board meeting will be on January 18, 2007.

2007 Annual Meeting

The 59th Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Kissimmee Valley Archaeological & Historical Society (KVAHC). It will be held in Avon Park May 11-13. Papers will be presented at the South Florida Community College Center. Anne Reynolds is Chairman and can be reached at 80 Bear Point Lane, Lake Placid, FL 33852, or at anne@htn.net. Her phone number is (863) 465-3637. Further information will be in the next issue of the newsletter.

New Topper Website

A new Website devoted to the Topper Site in Allendale County, South Carolina that could potentially rewrite North American prehistory, has been launched at <http://www.toppersite.net>. It features information, videos, and other interesting items about this site being excavated by Dr. Al Goodyear. Check it out.

Mark Your Calendar

On Thursday December 14th, 2006 from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm, **Phyllis Kolanos** will present a program at the Weedon Island Center entitled:

“Early Florida Archaeologist, Frank Hamilton Cushing”.

During the presentation you will follow in the footsteps of Frank Hamilton Cushing as he explores the Gulf Coast of Florida over 100 years ago. The amazing discoveries of Cushing from Tarpon Springs to Marco Island remain among Florida's premiere archaeological achievements as he pioneered many techniques used by archaeologists today. Phyllis will present her research and award winning books, *The Florida Journals of Frank Hamilton Cushing* and *The Lost Manuscripts of Frank Hamilton Cushing*, co-edited by **Dr. Brent Weisman** of the University of South Florida.

This lecture is free to the public, however, pre-registration is requested. Contact the Center at (727) 453-6500 to register.

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**Dr. Al Goodyear** returns to the area on Saturday January 13, 2007 to give a presentation on the Topper Site in Allendale County, South Carolina. His lecture will be held at the Science Center of Pinellas County. Times and details will be forthcoming. See the article about the Topper website mentioned above.

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On Thursday January 18, 2007 **Dr. Kenneth Sassaman**, with the Department of Anthropology at the University of Florida will present a program at Weedon Island. The program will begin at 6:30 pm and pre-registration is requested.

Dr. Sassaman is an archaeologist with specialties in the Archaic Period of the American Southeast, technological change, and community patterning. He has spent most of the last 12 years conducting field research in the middle Savannah River valley of Georgia and South Carolina, and directing attention to the St. Johns region of northeast Florida. With David G. Anderson, he co-edited “Archaeology of the Mid-Holocene Southeast” published by the University Press of Florida in 1996.

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**Dr. Jerald T. Milanich**, will present a program on Thursday February 15, 2007 at the Weedon Island Center at 6:30 pm. His talk will be titled “Weedon or Weeden? And Why Can't Archeologist Spell and Other Tales of Weedon

Island Research". Again, pre-registration is requested.

Dr. Milanich is an American anthropologist and archeologist, specializing in Native American culture in Florida. He is Curator in Archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History at the University of Florida in Gainesville; Adjunct Professor, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida; and Adjunct Professor, Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida. Milanich holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Florida.

Dr. Milanich's research interests include Eastern United States archaeology; precolumbian Southeastern U.S. native peoples; Colonial period native American-European/Anglo relations in the America. He is the author of the widely used book "Archaeology of Precolumbian Florida".

In 2005, Milanich won the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Archaeological Council.

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Dr. Robin Brown will be at the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center on March 10, 2007. This will be an all day event lasting from 10 am to 4 pm. Details will be announced in a later newsletter. Dr. Brown is the author of "Florida's First People" and "Crafts of Florida's First People".

This will be during Florida Archaeology Month 2007 and will be an excellent chance to meet the author of these popular books on Florida's past.

News From Across the State

The Museum of History and the Southeast Volusia Historical Society, with funding by a Special Category grant from DHR, has just opened an outstanding permanent exhibit in the museum on a large British 18th Century plantation that was in this area. Granted lands for this huge plantation, consisting of more than 40,000 acres, were managed by Dr. Andrew Turnbull, part owner. Indentured colonists from Europe and the Mediterranean area composed most of the workforce with black slaves also included. The story of this short-lived plantation, called the Smyrna Settlement by the British, is fascinating. Lasting for only a total of eleven years, from 1766-

1777, archaeology has only within the past ten years began to reveal some of the life styles of these people. Historical documentation had been scant until 2003 when a repository of documents from this period was found in Scotland. These documents plus archaeological findings have really brought this time period to life. Many of the artifacts recovered during surveys and testing in this area are on display in the exhibit.

Other exhibits in the museum are from various timelines, beginning with prehistory thru current days.

The museum is located at 120 Sams Ave. , downtown New Smyrna Beach , It is open on Tuesdays thru Saturdays, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. It will be closed for Thanksgiving and Christmas days.

In Print

First Floridians and Last Mastodons: The Page-Ladson Site in the Aucilla River 2006, Edited by S. David Webb; published by Springer; 588pp, ISBN-10 1-4020-4325-2; \$199.00. This book presents the multidisciplinary results of an extensive underwater excavation in north Florida, which yields the most complete results of interactions between early paleoindians and Late Pleistocene megafauna.

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*Deep Ancestry: Inside the Genographic Project*, 2006, by Spencer Wells; published by National Geographic; 248pp.; ISBN-10:0-7922-6215-8; \$24.00. The DNA in each of us encodes a fascinating encapsulated history of our species and its travels over the ages. Dedicated to the uncovering the secrets of deep ancestry, the Genographic Project is an ambitious scientific venture of unparalleled scope and profound implication.

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Twilight of the Mammoths: Ice Age Extinctions and the Rewilding of America , 2005, by Paul S. Martin; published by University of California Press; 250pp, ISBN 0-520-23141-4; \$29.95. Martin, a paleoecologist, presents his widely discussed and debated "overkill" hypothesis to explain the mysterious megafaunal extinctions. He has written a book for a wide audience that shows why he has come to believe that the earliest Americans literally hunted these animals to death.

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 th Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33701	(727)553-4960
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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.

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 begins in the month of dues receipt. Contact Membership Secretary, CGCAS, P.O. Box 340705, Tampa, FL 33694.

	Dues
Regular	\$20.00
Student	10.00
Family	25.00
Life	150.00



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