
CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER, 2015



38 YEARS OF PROMOTING FLORIDA'S RICH HERITAGE

EDITOR: BECKY O'SULLIVAN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2016, 7:00 PM

AT

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



Traci Ardren, Ph.D.
University of Miami

Results of Recent Archaeological Research at Upper Matecumbe Key—Evaluating Early Island Life

New excavations at a prehistoric living site on Upper Matecumbe Key provide rich archaeological data on what life was like for the earliest inhabitants of the Florida Keys. Unique challenges of life on the island chain were addressed in novel ways by this culture of coastal fisherfolk. We will discuss the similarities and differences between so-called Matecumbe inhabitants of the Keys, the better known Calusa of the west coast, and the contemporary people of the Everglades. Archaeological evidence is disappearing at a dangerous rate in the Keys due to development and climate change, but analysis of existing artifact collections as well as new excavation of preserved sites can provide extraordinary information about the earliest coastal inhabitants and their unique way of life.

These programs are free and open to the public. Please register at least 24 hours prior to this event by visiting <http://goo.gl/za3tKN>. You can also call 727-453-6500 to register.

TIME TO RENEW: A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

By Cheryl Shaughnessy

The end of the year is approaching which means it is time for 2016 dues. We have had some financial shortfalls the past few years and have only gotten by with donations generously given by some members. For this reason, there will be a small increase in dues starting January 2016.

- Student increased to \$12 from \$10
- Individual increased to \$25 from \$20
- Family increased to \$30 from \$25
- Life memberships are no longer offered, but all current Life members will remain as Life members.

No one likes an increase in dues, but we, the Board of Directors, hope the information below on CGCAS financials will show why this increase is necessary. The following is an outline of our 2015 financials.

INCOME:

8 Student members at \$10 each-----	\$80
32 Individual members at \$20 each-----	\$640
11 Family memberships at \$25 each-----	\$250
Donation-----	\$450
INCOME TOTAL-----	\$1,420

EXPENSES:

8 speaker honorariums and dinners-----	\$325
Donation to AWIARE for use of research station *See note below-----	\$500
Website-----	\$155
Fl Dept of State Annual filing-----	\$60
FAS Dues-----	\$30
Admin (check reorder, PO Box)-----	\$87
Holiday Party expenses-----	\$25
Shelter for annual picnic-----	\$25
Replace topsoil at Anderson's -----	\$282
EXPENSE TOTAL-----	\$1,489

**See note below

* Note on AWIARE donation: We previously used Barney's Storage facility to store our field gear, files and documents for an annual cost

of \$578. In the AWIARE Research Station we not only have a place for storage, we also have a room to do lab work. For use of the AWIARE Research Station, we donate \$500, which is less than we paid Barney's.

** Note on topsoil at Andersons: Between 1995 and 1997, CGCAS excavated two 2-x-2-m pits on Eric and Doris Anderson's property. One of the pits was backfilled and the second remained open for Eric to use in his site tours. Over the years, the walls began to cave in. CGCAS purchased topsoil to fill the pit and members volunteered to do the work. The price of the topsoil was \$282. Two members donated \$100 each (included in the \$450 donations) towards the topsoil.

Please note that without the \$450 donations, we would have had a large deficit. Based on 2015 membership numbers, the increase in dues will only bring in an additional \$231.

The increased dues are effective 01/01/16, but if your dues are received before 12/31/15, you can pay at the old dues rate. However, that being said, CGCAS needs extra income to operate, so we welcome any donations. The lecture series is a large part of our expenses and we want to continue to provide them for you.

Dues can be paid through PayPal on our website www.CGCAS.org, or by sending a check made out to CGCAS and sent to CGCAS, PO Box 1563, Pinellas Park, FL, 33780. If you are planning on attending the lecture this Thursday, 12/17, I will gladly accept payments.



The AWIARE research station at the Weedon Island Preserve.

CGCAS CELEBRATES AT OUR ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY



Enjoying some great food before we start the white elephant gift exchange.

On Sunday, December 6th, CGCAS members got together to celebrate the season for our annual holiday party. This year the party was held at the AWIARE research station at Weedon Island, and it turned out to be a great venue. After a short board meeting, we got to the important work of eating some great food. The cookies that Chris Hardy brought were a particular stand out in my opinion! About 20 CGCAS members were in attendance, and it was nice to catch up with everyone.



Enjoying some great food with good friends out at the AWIARE research station.

Once the food was out of the way we could deal with the other important issue on the day's schedule: our white elephant gift exchange. After several rounds of present exchange we all left with an interesting new gift.



Dave chose first, he got an actual white elephant!



You never know what that wrapping paper might be hiding...



Thanks so much to everyone who came out!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Archaeology Lab

Friday, January 8, 2016 from 10am – Noon

FLORIDA PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY NETWORK

Volunteer Lab



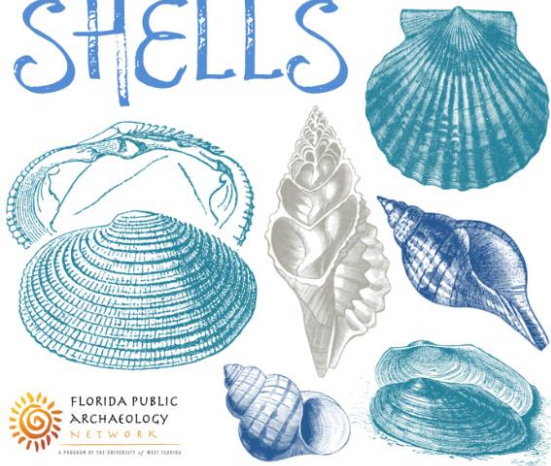
Learn all about how artifacts and other archaeological material get processed in the laboratory so that we can use them to learn about the past. You will get the chance to sort through, identify, and wash artifacts and other material from real archaeological sites! All ages are welcome to participate 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: Shells

Saturday, December 9, 2016 from 10am – Noon

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: SHELLS



Archaeologists study ancient shells to not only learn about the diets and tools of prehistoric Floridians, but also the environments they lived in. Learn to identify different shell types from around the Tampa Bay area and the ways archaeologists use them to learn about the past.

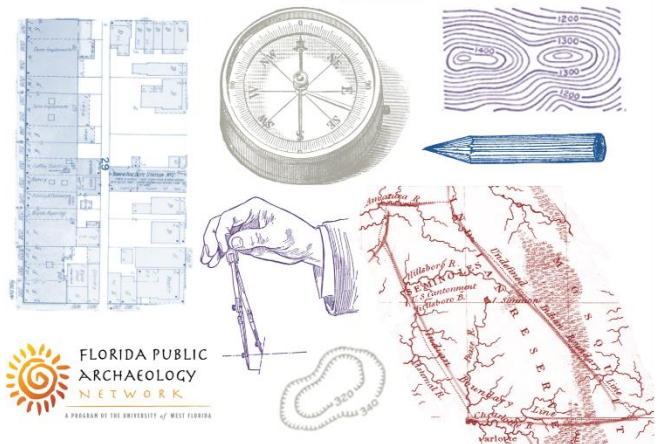
Recommended for all ages.

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

Archaeology Works: Maps

Saturday, February 27, 2016 from 10 – Noon

ARCHAEOLOGY WORKS: MAPS



Archaeologists use maps, both old and new, in every aspect of what they do. Maps can reveal the location of a long-lost building, show hidden features of a prehistoric landscape, or even create a record for future researchers. Join archaeologists from the Florida Public Archaeology Network as they reveal some map mysteries from throughout the Tampa Bay area, then learn some compass skills so you can make a map of your own!

Recommended for all ages.

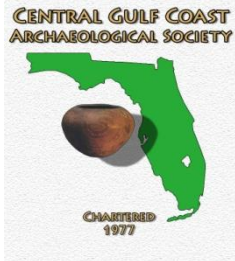
WHERE: Weedon Island Center
1800 Weedon Island Dr NE
St Petersburg, FL 33702

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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

**CENTRAL GULF COAST
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4202 E FOWLER AVE, NEC 116
TAMPA, FL 33620