



CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter SINCE 1977 November 2021

PAST ZOOM LECTURE

FALL '21
Lecture Series

Thursday, November 18th @ 7 PM

Five Millenia of Environmental Changes in the Coastal Southeast United States

Katharine Napora, Ph.D

LEARN MORE



Dr. Napora will present insights into over 5000 years of coastal paleoenvironmental changes based on analyses of ancient buried bald cypress trees recovered from the Georgia Coast. Information from tree rings and chemical analyses, supported by other lines of environmental proxy data, reveals changes in rainfall, sea-level, hurricane frequency, and ecological stability in antiquity. This information about the ancient environment provides a long-term comparative framework for understanding cultural changes in the Southeast U.S. through time.

About | Dr. Napora

Katharine is an environmental archaeologist specializing in climate change and coastal societies in the ancient past. Her work combines information from tree rings, shell middens, radiocarbon dating and modeling, and chemical analyses to better understand how people experienced and interacted with their environments. She has worked in Georgia, Florida, Ireland, Switzerland, Greece, and the Southwest U.S. Katharine is particularly interested in advancing archaeological science methodologies, developing collaborative, interdisciplinary projects, and using information about the ancient past to improve sustainability, resilience, and social justice in the 21st century.

Did You Miss It?

That's Ok!, The CGCAS Facebook page will have the recording posted by the end of the week.

facebook

Ancient Man's Best Friend

Member Article

By: Jaime Rogers

Tens of thousands of years ago, humans and wolves formed a partnership that ultimately benefitted one another. Due to this newfound relationship, the physical nature of wolves changed – their skulls, teeth, and paws shrank, and their ears flopped. They became more docile, less fearful, and more capable of reading human expressions while transitioning to the dogs we know today.

A new study, published in Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences by Feuerborn and colleagues, studies the genetics and ancestry of 49 ancient Siberian dogs and relate these changes to thousands of years of Eurasian-wide trade and human migrations. Dogs have been vital to humans in the Siberian Arctic for over 9,500 years – for sledding, hunting, herding reindeer, and more. Due to the remote nature of the region, archaeologists once thought the human-dog relationship in this region was completely isolated from the rest of the world, but recent archaeological evidence suggests the contrary. This study demonstrates that dogs were genetically similar until about 2,000 years ago when substantial admixture in genes was observed. Specifically, dogs from sites in northwest Siberia demonstrated significant genetic differences from those who lived at the site previously. In other words, these dogs were not direct descendants of the same Siberian dogs. Also present at these sites were non-local materials, evidence of ironworking, and, later, reindeer pastoralism. These archaeological finds of social change paired with the genetic evidence of the dogs suggested to archaeologists that people participated in trade with distant communities. Trade that involved dogs, material culture, and knowledge. Dogs don't stray far from humans and can be used to understand migrations and trade.



The remains of a 2,000 year-old dog from Ust'-Polui in Russia.

Interested in Writing an Article?

CGCAS is now encouraging the submission of member-authored articles for upcoming newsletters.

For more information, contact Colin Lambert @ lambertc1@usf.edu

The dogs in this study, which ranged from 11,000 year-old bone fragments to fur hoods used by Arctic explorers in the 20th century, shed light on how humans and dogs traveled across Siberia and allowed for the transmission of new ideas, technologies, and four-legged companions.

Holiday Party 2ND Update

Please join us for our annual holiday party!

In accordance with CDC guidelines, the holiday party will require members to be masked and social distance. Similar to last year, the party will be held in the backyard of the AWAIRES building.

Please plan on bringing your own lunch to eat as well as a gift for the white-elephant exchange.

We look forward to seeing you there

- CGCAS Board

Sunday, December 12th @ 12:00 PM

1500 Weedon Dr. NE. St. Petersburg, FL 33702



Membership Renewal

Thank you for all that you do to make this group possible (and thank you for your continued support!) We have already had a large percentage of our membership renew for 2022, so if you haven't had a change to renew yet you are not too late. Your dollars go towards bringing top archaeological researchers from throughout Florida and the Southeast to speak in our area. CGCAS would not be possible without your continued support.

Due to COVID-19, dues can be paid either by mailing them to Heather @ 1500 Weedon Dr. NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702 or conveniently online through our PayPal portal. Again, your dues are what make our monthly speaker series possible, Thank you for your continued support of CGCAS!



RENEW HERE

NOTICE

CGCAS's mailing address has been changed to:

1500 Weedon Dr NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Our P.O. Box is no longer in active so, please do not send anything to our prior address.

UPCOMING SPEAKERS / WINTER '21 & '22

Dec 16th | Elizabeth Southard, M.A.

Feasting and Fishes: An Investigation into Seasonal Patterns, Labor Organization, and Monumental Architecture from Florida's Crystal River Site and Roberts Island Shell Mound Complex

Jan 20th | Anna Guengerich, Ph.D.

Last Cities of the Cloud Forest: 21st-century archaeology in the Eastern Andes

The Society

The Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society (CGCAS) is an association of amateur and professional archaeologist 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 Kassie Kemp @ kkemp@mail.usf.edu for more information.

Dues:

- Individual: \$25
- Student: \$12
- Family: \$30



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Membership Newsletter

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