



# CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter — SINCE 1977 — January 2022

## UPCOMING ZOOM LECTURE

Spring '22

Lecture Series

Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7PM

**Lost Cities of the Cloud Forest:  
21<sup>st</sup>-century Archaeology in the Eastern Andes**

**Anna Guengerich, Ph.D.**



Located between the Andes Mountains range and the tropical forests of the Amazon Basin, the Eastern Andes were long assumed to be too rugged, too rainy, and too dense with vegetation to support the development of large, culturally complex human populations. But with recent discoveries of the large scale of populations in the ancient Amazon—including the impacts they had on shaping the supposedly “natural” rainforests of this region—archaeologists have begun to reconsider their assumptions about the high-altitude cloud forests of the Eastern Andes.

This talk will explore some of the findings from ten years of research into how human societies flourished in this challenging environment for at least two thousand years, and what this might tell us about current efforts of land management in one of the world's global biodiversity hotspots.

About | Anna Guengerich

Anna Guengerich is an assistant professor in the Department of Anthropology at Eckerd College. She has conducted archaeological fieldwork in Peru and Bolivia since 2007 and has directed the Tambillo Archaeological Project since 2010. Her research focuses on household architecture and human impacts on high-altitude forest environments in South America, and she also is interested in the use of comics, graphic novels, and other visual media in archaeology.



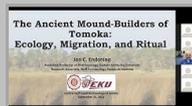
ZOOM HOW-TO

REGISTER HERE



Dec '21  
Southard

Nov '21  
Napora



Sep '21  
Endonino

Past Lectures | Available on YouTube



## UPCOMING EVENT

### Digging into Weedon: A History of Human Habitats

Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup> @ 10 AM

In this webinar, we'll talk with Kendal Jackson, a Ph.D. candidate in Applied Anthropology at the University of South Florida, on recent geoarchaeological and paleoenvironmental research to help us understand the 20-thousand-year history of human-environment interaction and landscape transformation at Weedon Island Preserve. Kendal's research focuses on several key periods of ecological change that reorganized the nature and distribution of terrestrial and tidal habitats. Many such reorganizations unfolded in the ancient past, affecting the ancestral Indigenous communities that managed the land prior to colonial-era dispossession. However, dramatic ecological shifts have also taken place much more recently, revealing that the modern Weedon Island seascape is anything but timeless.

Long-time CGCAS member, Kendal Jackson, will be presenting an virtual webinar through the Weedon Island Preserve website. Registration is free and open to the public through the below link.

MORE  
INFO



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# Granite Stone Axe/Hammer from the Archaic Era



This great example of a stone axe head from the Archaic period (5,500 - 2,500 BP) was found in northern Ohio in 1960 when my wife's father converted his farmland into a golf course. The axe head weighs 3.5 lbs and is 5.5 inches long and 3.5 inches wide. This impressive artifact was given to me a few months ago.

This image is another example of a stone axe/hammer from the Internet that is approximately the same size as the one that was given to me.

**Member Article**  
**By: Roger Block**



These tools would then be used to break up animal bones, or for pounding in posts or any other job needing a hammer or destructive tool. It probably is too heavy to be used as a weapon for self defense but could be used for breaking into a stockade or door to a cave. My family donated this superb stone axe head to me and it is currently on display at the Seminole Historical Society Museum located in Seminole City Park.



The Ohio axe head shown in my hand to the left looks to be similar to the axe head from the Internet. These impressive stone artifacts would have been formed by rubbing the groove and ends with other hard stones to shape it into an axe/hammer form. Then the axe head would be mounted onto a strong wooden handle as shown below.

## Top 10 Discoveries of 2021

To celebrate the New Year, the latest issue of Archaeology magazine published by the Archaeological Institute of America had a Top 10 archaeological discoveries of 2021. Which do you find the most interesting?

Click the image below to view what discoveries were chosen...

**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](mailto:lambertc1@usf.edu)

# TOP 10 DISCOVERIES OF 2021

 <b>Golden City</b> Luxor, Egypt	 <b>World's First Artists</b> Quesang Hot Spring, Tibet	 <b>Earliest Leatherworkers</b> Contrebandiers Cave, Morocco	 <b>The First Americans</b> White Sands, New Mexico	 <b>Oldest Animal Art</b> Northern Saudi Arabia
 <b>Bronze Age Map</b> Leuhan, France	 <b>Rare Boundary Marker</b> Rome, Italy	 <b>When the Vikings Crossed the Atlantic</b> Newfoundland, Canada	 <b>Crusader Mass Grave</b> Sidon, Lebanon	 <b>Slave Tag</b> Charleston, South Carolina

## Ancient Trade Networks

A recent study published in Nature investigates 50,000-year-old social networks in Africa by analyzing ostrich eggshell beads. Miller and Wang of the Max Planck Institute measured over 1,200 beads from 31 sites in eastern and southern Africa to examine spatial patterns in the thickness, diameter, and aperture diameter of eggshell beads. They found that eggshell beads from eastern sites remained consistent in shape for over 50,000 years. By contrast, beads from southern sites fluctuated in size and shape and include times when they are not manufactured at all. The available evidence suggests eggshell beads were produced in eastern Africa 10,000 years before those found to the south. Beads in both regions are consistent in style between 50 and 33 kya (thousand years ago), suggesting trade networks that extend about 1,800 miles. Then, the regional networks seem to break down. The authors point to significant climatic shifts, including intense drought and overall cooler temperatures. These shifts would have drastically altered the landscape and may have rendered previous social networks unsustainable. The authors note that research from other archaeological studies has suggested a limited population size, particularly in the south, which may have restricted their ability to mass-produce standardized beads. The bead production in east Africa remained consistent throughout environmental uncertainty. The authors point to the social networks themselves as a strategy to mitigate climate change because it would have sustained larger group sizes and more production. Towards the south, populations likely lived in smaller, disconnected groups, with less need for symbolic behavior, which other archaeological studies have supported. When climate becomes more favorable, eggshell beads become prevalent again in the south, but do not mirror those in the east suggesting isolated production networks. The authors indicate that these regional differences highlight the flexibility of human social behavior and illustrate variable strategies for coping with environmental challenges during the Late Pleistocene.



**ORIGINAL PIECE**

**Member Article**  
**By: Jaime Rogers**

# Upcoming Field Trips / January 2022

## Lake Kissimmee State Park & Historic Cow Camp Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 10 AM

Hours: 10 AM—4 PM / Admission Cost: \$5

## Bok Tower Sunday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 10 AM

Hours: 8 AM—6 PM / Admission Cost: \$16

CGCAS is planning (2) two upcoming field trips for early 2022 which include both Bok Tower as well as Lake Kissimmee State Park. If you are interested in attending either field trip, contact Alan Bailey through his e-mail: [shadowandwags@aol.com](mailto:shadowandwags@aol.com) to RSVP for the event.

Additionally, members should be made aware that the below attached hotels are available for booking within Lake Wales if you desire overnight lodging.



**Budget Inn**  
530 Scenic Highway S.  
Lake Wales, FL 33853  
(863) 589-5820

**Holiday Inn Exp.**  
2953 Ridge Way  
Lakes Wales, FL 33859  
(863) 949-4800

## 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 chance 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

## UPCOMING SPEAKERS / SPRING '22

Feb 17<sup>th</sup> | Jacob Holland-Lulewicz, Ph.D.

Mar 17<sup>th</sup> | Bob Sinibaldi, Ph.D.

*Muskogean Council Houses and Indigenous Democracy in the Southeastern U.S.*

*Title to be released soon.*

### The Society

We are a non-profit organization consisting of members from all walks of life, who are dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Florida's great cultural heritage. Many of our members have professional association with archaeology, but we also have avocational and hobbyist members who enjoy learning the history of the peoples who preceded us here in Florida and to study the artifacts they left behind.

### Membership

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in Florida's cultural past and who is dedicated to the understanding and preservation of that heritage. CGCAS conducts field trips to archaeological and historical sites, assists professional archaeologists in surveys and excavations, performs laboratory analysis, and prepares reports of its findings. A monthly newsletter keeps members up to date on the Society's activities.

### Dues:

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



### Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society Board

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**Membership Newsletter**

- Kassie Kemp
- Colin Lambert

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