



CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter — SINCE 1977 — February 2022

PAST ZOOM LECTURE

Spring '22

Lecture Series

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

Jacob Holland-Lulewicz, Ph.D.



Recent re-dating of the Cold Springs site in northern Georgia has led to the identification of the earliest known council houses in the ancestral Muskogean homeland by at least AD 500. This is roughly 500 years earlier than previously identified council houses in this region. These large round structures and their arrangement around a plaza along with two platform mounds also seem to represent the earliest manifestation of the traditional square-ground form. Both council houses and square grounds continue to serve as important institutions within the Muscogee communities of Oklahoma today. We argue that the archaeological record of the American Southeast provides a case to examine the emergence of democratic institutions, and to highlight the distinctive ways in which such long-lived institutions were, and continue to be, expressed by Native Americans. Unexpectedly, the 1,500-year continuous history of the use of council houses represents one of the oldest and most enduring democratic institutions in world history.

About | Jacob Holland-Lulewicz

Jacob Holland-Lulewicz is currently a lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis. He received his Ph.D. in 2018 from the University of Georgia. His research across the southeastern and Midwestern U.S. focuses primarily on the archaeology of governance, politics, and social networks.

Did You Miss It?

That's Ok!, The CGCAS

Facebook page will be posting the recording of

facebook

Past Lectures | Available on YouTube

UPCOMING EVENT

Silver River Knap-In

February 19-20 | 9 AM—4PM

Admission: \$8 (Kids Free!)

The Silver River Knap-In and Prehistoric Arts Festival is the largest event of its kind in the southeast and takes place on the third weekend of each February. Flint Knapping is the art of recreating ancient stone tools like spear points and arrow heads. Artisans from across the country attend this unique event to demonstrate making stone tools, pottery, traditional bows and arrows, hide tanning, shell carving, fire making and more. Hands-on activities include archery, tomahawk and spear throwing ranges.

Activities Include:

- Stone Tool Making
- Bow and Arrow Making
- Pottery Making ... and more!



Silver Springs State Park | Ocala, FL

In 2019, CGCAS conducted a survey and excavation at the Craver Store/Masonic Lodge site in Palm Harbor and analysis of artifacts from the site was recently completed with a report currently in preparation. James C. Craver opened a general store and post office at this location in 1878 and after his death in 1920 the store was gifted to the Sutherland Lodge of the Free and Accepted Masons. Lodge No. 174 held its meetings in the old store until the building was sold to a private individual in 2018. Excavation of a large refuse and burn pit behind the lodge building produced over 5000 artifacts, mostly metal and glass.

One of the more interesting items was a hand-operated, lever-type seal which was likely used by the Masons on its paperwork. The seal was very rusty when recovered and it was necessary to remove the corrosion using electrolysis. Electrolysis is the passing of a direct electric current through an electrolyte producing a chemical reaction that removes rust on the surface of the artifact. It is very simple to set up a small electrolysis system and there are several good web sites and You Tube videos explaining how to do it. We used a plastic tub, a four-sided "box" made of sheet metal, a piece of half-inch PVC with six steel bolts, unshielded wire, and washing soda. This last item is added to the water in the tub and serves as the electrolyte through which the current is passed. Once the rust is removed (which took about 4 days for our seal) the artifact is soaked in a tannic acid solution and then in hot wax to seal the object and prevent oxidation. Before and after images of the seal show the dramatic change in appearance the results from this procedure. Michael Winter, who owned the property at the time of the survey, plans to donate the seal to the Palm Harbor Museum.



Member Article

By: Bob Austin

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

2500 Year Old Ship Graveyard

Researchers with the University of Southampton's Center for Maritime Archaeology recently uncovered what was noted to be a "ship graveyard" within the Black Sea. The original purpose of the research project was to study the changes in water levels that the Black Sea had on ancient populations. This latent discovery was found incidentally to the main objective.

Upon discovery of the vessels, the aforementioned researchers partnered with the Bulgarian Institute of Archaeology along with the Bulgarian Centre for Underwater Archaeology in an effort to continue studying the over (60) sixty shipwrecks.

The wrecks, spanning over (2) two-millennia, were examined using underwater drones equipped with multiple cameras. The photographs taken by the drones were compiled using Photogrammetry software to construct digitized 3D models for further research and dissemination.

The original researchers at the University of Southampton investigated the question of how these shipwrecks were able to be preserved in the condition over multiple millennia. Preliminary research suggests that below 500-feet, the waters of the Black Sea become anoxic therefore not conducive to sea life that would normally feed on the wood of the ships.

The ships located thus were found with the original rigging and iconography in near perfect condition. The project plans to bring in ancient naval historians to further compare the archaeological findings with the written text of the era.

Additional information on the topic will be published through the team's website which is linked directly to the right.

Member Article

By: Colin Lambert

Research Team



ORIGINAL PIECE

Preserved Stern of Ottoman Ship

2022 CGCAS Bulletin

Would you like to contribute to the 2022 CGCAS Bulletin?

If the answer is yes, great! If you have an original article, and you wish to have it featured in the 2022 CGCAS Bulletin, contact Bob Austin:

roc_doc@verizon.net

Additionally, if you have any questions about the process, please reach out!

Items to Note

Upcoming Election / Open Positions

CGCAS will have (2) two vacancies on the board of directors that will be available for members to seek election for. Additionally, CGCAS is seeking a candidate for the Treasurer position.

If interested, please contact CGCAS President, Jaime Rogers, via e-mail for information regarding the positions.

Membership Attending Meetings

As a reminder, CGCAS welcomes all members to participate in our monthly board meetings, which take place at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of the month over Zoom

If interested, please contact CGCAS President, Jaime Rogers, via e-mail for a link to the Zoom call.

E-Mail: jaimerogers@usf.edu

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

Mar 17th | Bob Sinibaldi, Ph.D.

Ice Age Florida: In Story and Art

Apr 21st | Juliana Waters

Black Cemeteries Matter: Erasure of historic Black Cemeteries in Polk County, Florida

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 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



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Membership
Newsletter

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