



CENTRAL GULF COAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

SINCE 1977

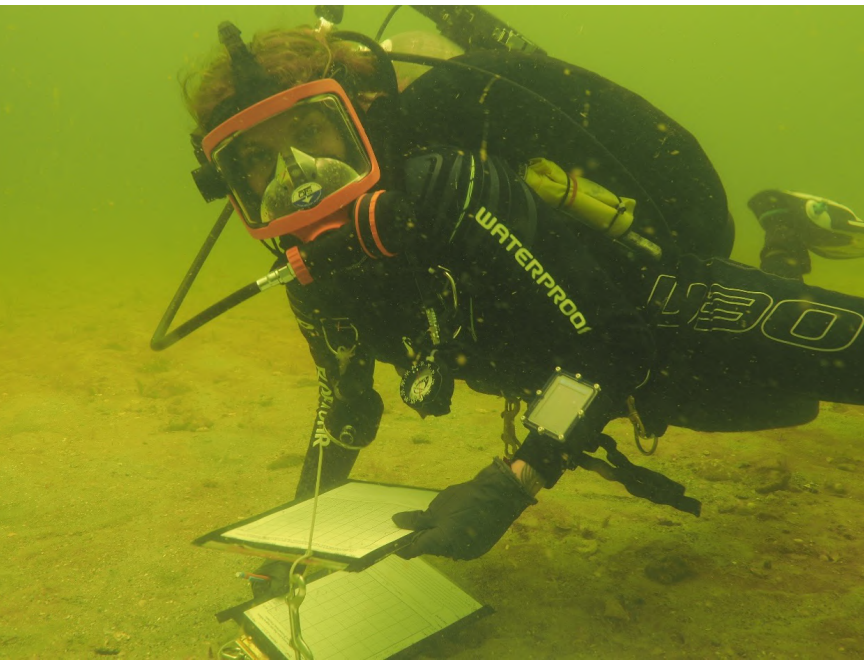
April 2023

Upcoming Speaker April 13th @ 7 pm

[REGISTER HERE!](#)



TRACING MARINE TRANSGRESSION AT MANASOTA KEY OFFSHORE (8SO7030) USING *CRASSOSTREA VIRGINICA*



Melissa Price is an Underwater Archaeologist and Diving Safety Officer at the Florida Bureau of Archaeological Research. She is a PhD candidate and Affiliated Fellow at Leiden University in the Netherlands. Her work focuses on submerged precontact sites in the Gulf of Mexico.

We hope you can attend Melissa's talk, which is our **last lecture of the Spring 2023 series**. As a reminder, our lectures are held from January to April and September to December. However, we still have plenty of fun planned before September.

Check out our upcoming events below!

Manasota Key Offshore (MKO; 8SO7030) is a Florida Archaic period mortuary pond (7214 ± 30 cal BP) consisting of worked wooden stakes and human remains preserved in peat. It was initially located inland of the current coastline prior to Holocene sea level rise but is now located in the Gulf of Mexico offshore of Sarasota County, Florida. Discovery of a precontact site containing delicate organics and surviving marine transgression is unprecedented in the field of archaeology and raises the possibility that similar sites may be preserved on the continental shelves. This presentation discusses how oysters (*Crassostrea virginica*) that were attached to cultural and human skeletal material were used to investigate marine transgression at MKO. Morphometric analysis, sclerochronology, stable isotope analysis, and radiocarbon dating were used to rebuild the paleoenvironment at the time the oysters formed, determine when and for how long the MKO pond was exposed to brackish or marine environments conducive to the growth of oysters, and examine site formation processes as the pond was transgressed.

THANKS FOR CELEBRATING FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH WITH US!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for any of the [FAM](#) events this year! Shout out to all the volunteers and organizations that helped make this year special, including AWIARE, FPAN, Tampa Bay History Center, USF, Weedon Island, and Ecomersion.



ELECTIONS ARE APPROACHING

Are you interested in joining our board? Let us know! We will have 2-3 positions open to members. Email us if you are interested or have any questions. Thanks!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Historic Spanish Point Field Trip

April 29th

Join us at 9:30 am for a guided tour of the beautiful Spanish Point grounds with histories extending over 5,000 years! The cost will be \$12 per person (a special rate for CGCAS). The deadline to register is 4/21.

Pints of Science

May 10th

Join New World Brewery for their quarterly Pints of Science. This event will feature talks from Tampa Bay Estuary Program director Ed Sherwood, USF professor in applied behavioral analysis Kimberly Croslan, and CGCAS president Jaime Rogers, who will discuss his research in Upper Tampa Bay.

FAS Conference

May 12 – 14th

The 75th annual Florida Anthropological Society conference will be in St. Augustine this year. This is a great place to learn about all the recent archaeological work in Florida.

Tocobaga Monument Visit

May 20th

Join us at 10 am to visit the spectacular bronze Tocobaga Memorial sculpture on Indian Shores (19601 Gulf Blvd). CGCAS member Roger Block will provide insights into the historical accuracy and representation of the Tocobaga. Don't forget to bring a beach chair!

CGCAS Annual Picnic

June 4th

Please save the date for our annual picnic! This year, we are returning to John S. Taylor Park in Largo. The picnic will start at noon and be a potluck. CGCAS will provide the drinks. More details soon!

ARCHAEOLOGY IN THE NEWS



[Artist rediscovers mysterious recipe for ancient "Maya Blue" dye](#)



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OTHER REMINDERS

We are sorry to report that we do not have a recording of the March lecture due to technical issues. As a reminder, you can watch our past lectures on our YouTube page.

Final call for dues! We hope you renew for 2023 and thank you for your continued support! If you need clarification on your membership status, please email us.

What are culturally modified trees?

Check out this short (18 min) video about [culturally modified trees](#) to learn about their importance to First Nations, uses in the past and present, and how scientists on the Pacific Northwest Coast identify, document, and help protect them.



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 are professional archaeologists, but we also have avocational and hobbyist members who enjoy learning the history of the peoples who preceded us here in Florida.

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.

Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society

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CENTRAL GULF COAST
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
— SINCE 1977 —

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