NEWSLETTER

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of the FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 9965, Naples, Florida, 33941

Arthur R. Lee, editor **OCTOBER, 1989** **Volume V, Number 6**

SWFAS TO HOST ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

MEETING WILL BE SOCIETY'S FIRST IN SOUTHWESTERN FLORIDA

The 1990 annual conference of the Florida Anthropological Society will be held in Naples April 27-29, the board of directors voted at its quarterly meeting in Gainesville Sept 23.

The board earlier had queried the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society as to the possibility of its hosting the meeting, and President Keith Waterhouse had made tentative arrangements for necessary facilities.

The plenary sessions will take place in the conference room of The Conservancy, 1450 Merrihue Drive, Naples, and board meetings and sessions of other organizations which usually meet at the same time will be held there and in Conservancy class rooms. The Holiday Inn, 1100 9th Street North, is reserving a block of rooms at $40 double; it has a restaurant. It has not yet been decided where the annual banquet will be held.

The customary format for the conference includes meetings of the FAS board and the Florida Archaeological Council Friday afternoon (April 27) and a reception that evening. Saturdays are devoted to the reading of papers, and the banquet is held Saturday night. Sunday mornings there frequently are workshops; one on preservation of archaeological sites has been suggested for this meeting.

Collier county museum director Ron Jamro has invited participants to breakfast there Sunday morning, and this will provide an opportunity to look over the Craighead laboratory.

A visit to the mounds at Pineland has been suggested for those taking a northern route home on Sunday, and for those eastward bound John Ber-

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October meeting

ARCHAEOLOGIST TO TALK OF CITY WHERE CHRIST MAY HAVE WALKED

Six years of excavations at Sepphoris, a Roman metropolis about 75 miles north of Jerusalem, will be described to a SWFAS audience Oct. 18 by Dr. James F. Strange, professor of religious studies at the University of South Florida, Tampa.

The occasion will be the Society's monthly meeting in the Community room of the First Federal Savings and Loan of Ft.Myers, 3201 Tamiami Trail North, Naples, starting at 7:30 p.m.

The archaeological site had been a hilltop urban center with colonnaded streets, a Roman garrison and a theater. It is located about six miles from where Jesus grew up; no specific mention is made of it in the New Testament.

Dr.Strange is dean of the College of Arts and Letters at the University of South Florida, Tampa, and chairman of the executive committee of the Florida Institute for Liberal Arts and Sciences.

He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Yale University and a Ph.D from Drew University. He studied archaeology at the W.F. Albright Institute for Archaeological Research in Jerusalem. He has written three books and numerous articles about biblical archaeology, and is chairman of the Committee for Computer Archaeology of the American Schools of Oriental Research.

His visit is courtesy of the Florida Endowment for the Humanities. It was arranged by Education Committee Chairman Dr. Paul Benedict.

WELCOME TO SWFAS!

The Society has welcomed John A. Soldavini and Don Beard, both of Naples. Soldavini, an Egyptologist, has addressed SWFAS; he has taken a life membership. Beard has already become a regular at the lab.

President, Dr. Keith Waterhouse; first vice president, Charlie Strader; second vice president, Linda S. Robinson; recording secretary, Barbara Logie; corresponding secretary, Lynn Lee; treasurer, Jack Thompson; trustees, Walt Buschelman, Wayne House, Art Lee, Joe Long, Eleanore Young, Mary Ruth Winchell, Anne Waterhouse; committees: John Beriault, field; Dorothy Thompson, public relations; Isabelle Felsberg, hospitality; education, Dr. Paul Benedict; laboratory, Buschelman, Art Lee.

SWFAS ASKS HEARING ON ORDINANCE QUESTION

A hearing before the Board of Collier County Commissioners on protection of historic and archaeological resources has been requested by SWFAS President Dr. Keith Waterhouse.

A letter addressed to County Manager Neil Dorrill has nominated a date of Oct. 24 for the hearing. It points out that a draft ordinance was recently rejected by the County Planning Commission and that plans for a second attempt would also apparently fall short of providing the comprehensive ordinance which the Society considers necessary.

Dr. Waterhouse explained that it is unlikely that a satisfactory ordinance will be drafted without explicit instructions from the County Commission, since it would involve a policy decision.

SWFAS, he noted, is not comfortable in its present adversarial position from which it argues against draft ordinances considered inadequate. The hearing would provide an opportunity to explain the current situation to the Board, the benefits to be gained from protecting cultural resources adequately and exploiting them rationally for the public benefit, and means of doing so.

"There is no question here of a basic difference of goals -- these are adequately stated in the Growth Management Plan," the letter stated. "The problems arise in determining how they shall be met.

"Major considerations are ensuring that these resources receive adequate protection; that the public be afforded an opportunity to enjoy and profit from them; that this be done in such a manner as to avoid undue delay and expense to land owners and developers and to assure the latter access to available benfits; that procedures be compatible with the system the county has erected to cope with the current flood of land-use actions; and that administrative costs to the county be manageable."

It is expected that SWFAS will be told within a week whether or not its request for a hearing will be granted.

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iault has offered to lead a tour of archaeological sites on Marco Island.

Selection of papers to be presented and the editing of abstracts will be handled by an FAS committee, but registration, liaison with the Conservancy, provisioning of coffee breaks, the reception, banquet, introduction and timing of presenters, printing, and readying the lab for visitors, will devolve upon SWFAS members.

Space will be provided on the perimeter of the conference room for the book dealers' customary displays.

LET 'EM KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING

You can have the *Newsletter* sent to a family member or friend by mailing Jack Thompson $10 with the recipient's name and address.

CONCENTRATED AGENDA SET FOR SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

Tampa -- Seventeen different symposia have been scheduled for the Southeastern Archaeological Conference in Tampa Nov. 8 to 11.

Symposia subjects include Mississippian Studies, Middle Tennessee Regional Archaeology, Geographic Information Systems, The Lower Mississippi Survey, Euro- and Afro-American Studies, Spanish-Aboriginal Contact Period, Kentucky's Green River, Woodland Studies, Etowah Site, Archaic and Woodland Studies, A Public Archaeology Project in Pensacola, Method and Interpretation, Terrestrial and Underwater Paleo-Indian and Archaic Sites, and North Carolina Archaeology.

Of special interest to SWFAS members will be Advances in South Florida Archaeology, chaired by Dr. William Marquardt, and Florida Archaeology, chaired by N. Borremans. A number of the other sessions will include Florida papers.

Sessions will take place in the Harbor Island Hotel. Advance registrations should be addressed to Nancy White, Department of Anthropology, University of South Florida, Tampa, 33620, and accompanied by a check for $26 made payable to SEAC 89. She will need your name, a mention of SWFAS, address and telephone number.

TWO ARTICLES BY SWFAS MEMBER FEATURED IN CURRENT FAS JOURNAL

Two articles and a cover drawing in the current issue of The Florida Anthropologist, quarterly journal of the Florida Anthropological Society, are by SWFAS member George M. Luer.

One article "Calusa Canals in Southwestern Florida: Routes of Tribute and Exchange" is a major work, covering 42 pages and the result of a decade and more of field work. While it describes in considerable detail a 4.2 kilometer canal traversing Pine Island, it also links six others into a presumed network used by canoes of the late prehistoric period to transport tribute and trade goods within the Pine Island Sound, Lake Okeechobee, and Ten Thousand Islands area.

Canals mentioned by Luer, other than the one across Pine Island, are one traversing Cape Coral, 6.5 to 15.5 km.; Ortona, 3.7 km.; Naples, 2.4 km.; and Snake Bight, 2.4 to 3.2 km. Bed widths of most were 6 to 9 meters, though that crossing present-day Old Naples varied from 2.5 to 4 meters.

The second article describes a Seminole burial site on Indian Field, in Lee county, significant because artifactual evidence of Seminole occupation on the southwestern Florida coast is scarce and can provide clues to the process of that tribe's adaptation to a new environment.

The illustration on the cover of the Journal, drawn by Luer, shows a long, straight section of a canal and dramatizes the immense amount of labor that went into the construction of the network.

We've Got Digging to Do

MUSEUM'S SOUTHWEST PROJECT SHAPING UP FOR FALL MONTHS

Members of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society and other volunteers from the area are signing up with representatives of the Florida Museum of Natural History for digs at Horr's and Useppa Islands.

One crew, headed by Mike Russo, has set up headquarters at Goodland, from where they make a daily boat trip to Horr's Island, located in Barfield bay south of Marco Island. Initial survey work started early in October, with eight University of Florida students and a number of volunteers participating. Russo had scheduled major excavation to begin at mid-month and continue into December.

Meanwhile organization work is continuing for a dig at Useppa Island in Pine Island sound, which will follow about the same October-December time frame. An orientation meeting for volunteers was scheduled Oct. 14 at the Planetarium in Fort Myers by Corbett Torrence, assistant field director.

The combined projects are under the direction of Dr. William Marquardt of the Museum; he will spend the bulk of his time at Useppa.

Horr's Island covers 243 acres and Ronto Developments-Marco and Royal Marco Developments plan to place about 300 homesites and 200 boat slips on about half its extent. The developers are sponsoring the Museum's work.

It has been partially explored in the past by archaeologists interested in its unusual combination of aboriginal sites whose dates spread from the European contact period to encompass some of the oldest in Southwest Florida. A burial site on one portion of the island has been heavily looted by grave robbers who in at least one instance resorted to hydraulic mining methods.

SWFAS has offered the use of the Craighead lab facilities for the Horr's Island work.

Useppa Island has been explored intermittently by Museum personnel since 1979. The highest spot in Lee county, it has been occupied since 3700 B.C., giving its earth an invaluable record which is zealously guarded by Garfield Beckstead, whose 100-homesite development has rigid restrictions to prevent unauthorized digging. SWFAS and the Useppa Island Historical Society have aided in the Museum's work there.

Rounding out the archaeological calendar, digging is scheduled to resume at Pineland in the spring, ending April 30. And somewhere in between these activities SWFAS plans to fit in the exploration of an occupation site on Marco Island.

THE FINE SCREEN

Lab stalwart **Jean Belknap** is back on the job, full of energy and stories of her adventures camping around the west, from south to north, during the summer.

HERE'S HOW TO VOLUNTEER

For Useppa: Write Dr. William Marquardt at P.O.Box 640, Bokeelia, FL 33922, or telephone 332-5824 after 8 p.m. A boat will leave Pineland each morning; the number of volunteers will be limited by its capacity of 10.

For Horr's Island: Telephone Ashley J. Swift at 642-8663 evenings, or write to her at 110 Peartree Avenue, Goodland, FL 33933. Here, also, there's a daily boat ride.

NOTICES ADVISE OF DEADLINE FOR CRAIGHEAD AWARD NOMINATIONS

Notices are appearing on bulletin boards throughout Southwest Florida announcing the Dec. 31 deadline for nominations for the 1990 Craighead award.

The award, the most prestigious of its kind in the area, is conferred upon the individual or organization which has done the most to promote SWFAS goals of developing information about the region's past, educating in it, and preserving its evidences. Last year it was presented to Col. and Mrs. Donald H. Randell of Pineland, who have preserved large mound areas, promoted public understanding of their history, and have financially aided archaeological exploration.

The Newsletter of the Florida Anthropological Society has announced the deadline, and notices have been sent to news media. Dr. Paul Benedict, education committee chairman, has mailed notices to schools.

Nominations, which need follow no particular format, can be mailed to the Craighead Awards Committee, P.O.Box 9965, Naples, 33941.

ELSEWHERE IN FLORIDA

Ft.Lauderdale -- The Broward County Archaeological Society is developing a study collection of Florida ceramics. Contributions are solicited. Address is 203 S.W.1st. Avenue, Ft.Lauderdale, 33301.

The Society is missing no bets in drumming up money to pay for a new home for its museum. Oct. 27 the Little Theater of Oakland Park will produce a benefit performance of The Sound of Music, and the Society has begun a program of salvaging aluminum.

Miami -- The Institute of Maya Studies will host conference on the Maya December 1 and 2, chaired by Arthur Dunkelman. Cost is $35. Address is Museum of Science 3280 North Miami Avenue, Miami, 33129.

MORE SCREENINGS

Your editor was puzzled the other day to receive an envelope with a Leningrad, USSR, postmark. Inside was a letter to him from Professor Henry de Lumley of the French National Museum of Natural History and a note from Dr. V.J. Lionbin of an archaeological institute in Leningrad explaining that the de Lumley letter had inadvertently been put in an envelope for Russia.

POLISH ARCHAEOLOGIST SEES BIRTH OF EUROPE IN EXTENSIVE FLINT MINE

The mine described by Dr. Jerzy T. Babel to the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society at its September meeting was not the stereotyped side-hill opening onto a long tunnel. It resembled, rather, a prairie dog town with shafts scattered over a 40-hectar area, each having tunnels as little as one meter high.

In that area the senior custodian of the State Archaeological Museum at Warsaw was able to read, not only a source of stone for tools, but the disappearance of one culture and the birth of another.

Dr. Babel, who is on sabbatical leave from the Polish museum, has been working at the Historical Museum of Southern Florida in Miami.

Workings in the mine area have been dated to nearly 5,000 years ago. Explored by archaeologists intermittently for a number of years, it now has been equipped so visitors can get a first-hand glimpse of its operation.

The area was first occupied by hunter-gatherers, then pastoralists who had small garden plots, and finally the farmers who dominated the recent economy. Flint from the mines provided the tools needed by the various cultures, not the least important of which were the axes which replaced the forests which once covered the land with open fields, revolutionizing the area's ecology.

Graffiti on the mine walls are testament to a change in religious belief, along with the shift in economy, Dr. Babel pointed out, with the great mother of the first group giving way to the god of thunder of the agriculturalists. As poignant as the crude drawings, the archaeologists finds, are the intimate traces of the miners' work -- the grooves left by antler picks, the beds of removed flint nodules, the evidences of their having held chisels in their left hands and hammers in the right.

Over one long period the mine specialized in polished axes which were exported to localities as far removed as 600 kilometers. None of those recovered shows signs of wear, and they apparently had a ceremonial function. They must have been expensive, since fabrication of an entire axe would have required 100 hours of work.

Those miners were highly skilled, with duties divided among workers, and the mines themselves were carefully engineered: Fires were used to create air circulation.

And the rewards accruing were substantial. Nearby village sites have evidence of wealth and prestige, and in this interplay between skilled artisanship and exploitation of a natural resource Dr. Babel sees the development of the work ethic and the birth of present-day Europe.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE NAMED

President Keith Waterhouse, ex officio member, has appointed Lynn Lee as chair, and Wayne House and Paul Benedict as members, of the committee to nominate 1990 officers. It will make its report at the November meeting.

DATEBOOK

* Sorting, analyzing, at Craighead lab Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 10, Saturday afternoons at 2.

* Wednesday Oct. 18, monthly meeting in the Community room, First Federal Savings and Loan of Ft. Myers, 3201 Tamiami Trail N. Naples, 7:30 p.m.

* Tuesday, Nov. 7, board of directors (officers, trustees, committee heads and interested members) meeting at the home of Eleanore and Bud Young,4956 Esplanade St.,Bonita Springs, 6:30 p.m.

* Wednesday, Nov.15, monthly meeting in the Community room, First Federal Savings and Loan of Ft. Myers,3201 Tamiami Trail N., Naples, 7:30 p.m.

For information -- On membership, Lynn Lee at 261-4939; finance, Jack Thompson, 261-3440 and 597-2269; field activities, John Bernault, 261-0082; lab, newsletter, Art Lee, 261-4939; garage sale, Barbara Logie 597-4745.

AUTHOR OF BOOKS ON MARCO TO HOLD AUTOGRAPH PARTIES AT SANIBEL, NAPLES

Marion Gilliland, author of two books on the 1895-6 Cushing expedition to Marco Island, will hold autograph parties at Island Book Store in Sanibel Oct. 20 at 3 p.m. and at Collier County Museum the afternoon of Oct. 21, it is announced by Bobby Hughey of University Presses, Gainesville.

Mrs. Gilliland's *Material Culture of Key Marco* has been a fixture on the shelves of Southwest Florida archaeologists and buffs since its publication in 1975. Now she has followed it with *Key Marco's Buried Treasure* describing the personalities and events surrounding that historic expedition whose water-preserved artifacts gave a new insight into the people who had lived on the island before the Spaniards arrived.

The morning of Oct. 20 Mrs. Gilliland will speak at the Sanibel elementary school. She is also to give a talk at the Collier County Museum, as well as signing copies of her latest book.

WITH OTHER CHAPTERS

Sarasota -- Time Sifters Archaeological Society has received a Merit Award from the Sarasota Herald Tribune in recognition of its contributions to the community. The organization was one of 50 to be so honored.

Among accomplishments cited were initiative in publication of a folder describing the new law protecting burial sites, work at the Manasota Key site, talks to various local organizations, and contributions of books and periodicals to the Gulf Gate Library.

The award certificate was accepted by President Joseph Booth, who has spoken at a SWFAS meeting.