NEWSLETTER

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A Chapter of the FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 9965, Naples, Florida 33941

Arthur R. Lee, editor | JANUARY, 1992 | Volume VII, Number 9

BIG MOUND KEY TRIP IN OFFING

Forty SWFAS members may have a rare opportunity to visit Big Mound Key on the north end of Charlotte Harbor.

President Bud House has made tentative arrangements with the Florida Department of Natural Resources for that number of members to examine the site, one of the most celebrated of Southwest Florida's mounds.

Severely damaged by vandals in the past, it now is closely guarded and trespassing is a felony.

As planned, participants will be taken from Four Winds Marina at Pineland on the Tropic Star as close to the key as the shallow waters will permit. From there they will be ferried to the island via either mullet-- or air-boat by Craig Blocker of the Department of Natural Resources.

Sunday, March 1 has been selected for the trip because of favoring tides.

House will bring to the January meeting application forms to be filled out by those planning to make the trip. The forms must be submitted well in advance of the trip and no one can go without having made advance application.

Costs, including the Tropic Star fare, will be about $15 per person. A maximum of 40 can be accomodated.

Bob Edic plans to take to the January meeting a contour model he has made of the spider-shaped island and a video tape shot there.

House says that President George Luer of the Florida Anthropological Society, who has studied the island over a period of years, will accompany the SWFAS group.

The trip will involve wading through mangrove swamps as well as walking in uneven dry areas with brush, and there are rattlesnakes there.

ALL'S READY FOR THE GARAGE SALE

The application for the city permit has been filed, permission from the savings and loan for use of its parking lot has been granted, John Beriault has made the signs; all, in other words, is ready for the annual SWFAS garage sale.

The date will be Saturday, Feb. 8, the hours 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the place will be the First Federal Savings and Loan of Ft. Myers, 3201 Tamiami Trail North, Naples.

Heavy donations of good, saleable articles are hoped for by Treasurer Jack Thompson to replenish his coffers, which took a beating last year.

One major contribution is a large satellite communication dish, offered by Col. Don and Pat Randell.

Other members of the committee are Mary Buschelman, Jean Belknap, Charlie Strader, and Lynn Lee.

RING -- NG -- NG -- NG (AS IN CASH REGISTER) IN THE NEW YEAR!

Most of those who attended the December meeting/picnic stopped at Treasurer Jack Thompson's teller's window, but not everyone was there.

So -- if you missed the fun, Thompson will be at the January meeting, money box open, to receive your 1992 dues.

In case you've forgotten, the tab is $15 for individuals, $25 for families, $10 for students. Twenty five will make you a "contributor" and for $100 or $150 Thompson won't bother you for the rest of your days.

In view of last year's unusual drain on the money box, Thompson is hoping for a lot of "contributors".

Of course, if you joined after Sept. 1, you have no worries until 1993.

January meeting

DOING ARCHAEOLOGY VIA CANOE: BLANCHARD

Doing archaeology over the prow of a canoe will be described to SWFAS members at their Jan. 15 meeting at the Bonita Springs Recreation Center starting at 7:30 p.m.

Speaker will be Charles E. Blanchard, who spent many seasons locating, investigating and describing archaeological resources of the Charlotte harbor area.

Blanchard is an educator who has served as consultant to public school systems in Connecticut, Massachusetts, California and Nevada. He has worked as a survey archaeologist for the U.S. Forest Service, and the University of Connecticut.

In the past two years he has headed the education segment of Lee county's Year of The Indian project, affiliated with the University of Florida's Southwest Florida Project. He has published a number of articles dealing with education in archaeology.

With Blanchard in the presentation will be Robert F. Edic, who has been an affiliate of the Florida Museum of Natural History in Gainesville for many years. For the Year of The Indian project he has compiled a number of oral histories.

Edic is an anthropology graduate of the State University of New York at New Paltz.

RANGER' REPORT YIELDS SITE

A "mound" reported by a Collier County Park ranger at Barefoot Beach preserve proved to be an old spoil pile, but investigation of the area by Walt Buschelman and Art Lee turned up a sizeable scatter of food shell. The ranger's report was forwarded by his headquarters.to SWFAS via the county museum

SWFAS DIRECTORATE

President, Wayne House; first vice president, Eleanore Young; second vice president, Gary Susdorf; treasurer, Jack Thompson; secretary, Sylvia Ansay; membership secretary, Lynn Lee; trustees: John Beriault, Walt Buschelman, Art Lee, Joe Long, Linda Robinson, Gloria Sajgo, Ray Seguin, Charlie Strader, Dr. Keith Waterhouse; committees: field, Beriault; public relations, Dorothy Thompson; education, Dr. Paul Benedict; hospitality, Isabelle Felsberg; yard sale, Barbara Logie; refreshments, Valerie Flanigan; lab, Walt Buschelman, Art Lee.

PRESERVATION BOARD SETS INDIVIDUAL TASKS

Members of the Collier County Historic Preservation Board Jan. 6 undertook individual assignments for preparation of a series of procedures and forms that will be needed to carry out its work.

The procedures will cover such activities as the designation of historic or archaeological districts, and obtaining waivers to building codes.

That action followed a report by Planner Eric Young of progress within the county bureaucracy of a draft call for bids for the creation of a map of archaeologically-sensitive areas. Such a map must be approved by the Board of County Commissioners before regulatory provisions of a protective ordinance can come into play.

Young estimated that the archaeologist selected for the task should be at work by March.

Wording of the call for bids was approved by the board at a Dec. 9 meeting. It was essentially the version issued by a board committee, modified by Young to meet county governmenal requirements. From the board it went to county budget and procurement offices for their input.

Member Barbara Cowley, who had analyzed the Collier ordinance, reported that it meets most of the requirements for recognition by the state as a certified local government. Such recognition is necessary to qualify for a special category of funding available for historic preservation projects.

The board is studying means of remedying those lacks.

Meanwhile, the county advertised for a replacement for member Kay W. Hepp, who resigned her three-year term for health reasons.

PEOPLE: genes & tongues

BOTH HELP TRACE ORIGINS, MOVES

Chapter 14 of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection* states that if the pattern of human evolution were known, the evolution of languages could be similarly learned.

Anthropologists now are satisfied that humans originated in Africa, and one school (see the *SWFAS Newsletter* Vol. VII, Nos. 1 and 6) would trace all existing individuals back to an African woman who lived some 200,000 years ago, this by analysis of mitochondrial DNA.

Parallel work has been going on in the field of linguistics, with scholars relating existing and even extinct tongues back to early beginnings.

This two-track exploration has been brought together recently by an early investigator, Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza, who with colleagues of the universities of Parma and Turin, has carried on a 12-year study of genetic information that has accumulated over the past half-century.

He also has started a collaborative second study of molecular data within the cell nucleus between his laboratory in Stanford Univesity and Yale University

Writing in the November *The Scientific American,* Cavalli-Sforza points to work done with the Rh blood antigen. Rh negative genes are frequent in Europe, infrequent in Africa and West Asia, and "virtually absent" in East Asia and aboriginal populations of America and Australia.

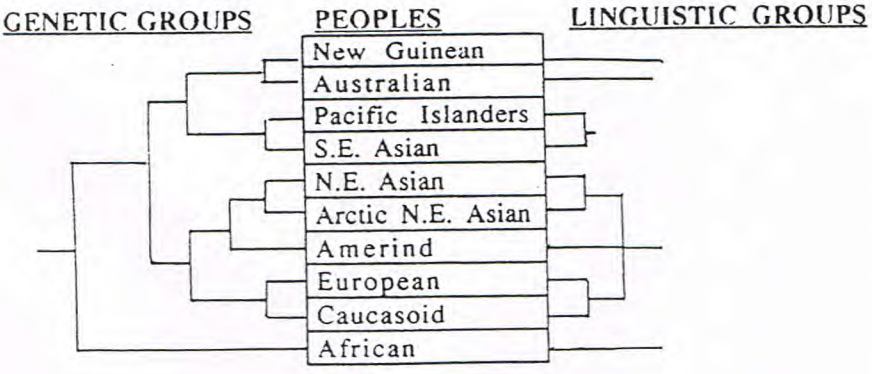
The investigators have thus been able to establish degrees of relatedness among peoples, and further to find evidences of waves of migration.

A third major finding of the group was a correlation between gene and language distribution. The author cites the Basques of Southwest France, who have the world's highest highest frequency for the Rh-negative gene, and whose language differs widely from that of its neighbors.

The group in 1988 published a genetic tree of the world's 42 population groups, together with their linguistic groupings. It shows a close match between the two, but the students do recognize that anomolies can occur when a people renounce their native language in favor of another, or when a genetic line becomes blurred by interbreeding.

And for African origins: The studies indicate that the genetic distance between Africans and others is about twice that between Australians and Asians whose distance, in turn, is more than twice that between Europeans and Asians.

Similar distancing was found in comparison of language groups.



Correlation between genetic and linguistic differences is roughly demonstrated by the above trees. The left shows the approximate placement of peoples with relationship to one another, but length of the lines does not demonstrate magnitude of their differences. Similarly, the tree at right shows corresponding differences among languages but is too simplified to illustrate relationships.

DATEBOOK

The Craighead lab (located at the Collier county museum, corner of U.S. 41 and Airport road in east Naples) is open Tuesdays and Thursdays starting at 9 a.m., Saturdays at 2 p.m. You can help.

* Wednesday, Jan. 15, monthly meeting at the Bonita Springs Recreation Center, 7:30 p.m.

* Sunday, Jan. 26, opening of *Window to Past* at Spanish Point for Timesifters, SWFAS.

* Tuesday, Feb. 4 reception for Dr. Keith Waterhouse at Ft. Myers Museum of History, 4:30-6:30 p.m.

* Tuesday, Feb. 11, starting at 6:30 p.m., Board of Directors meeting at Ernie's Restaurant, corner of U.S. Highway 41 and Bonita Beach road in Bonita Springs.

For information: On membership, Lynn Lee, 261-4939; finances, Jack Thompson at 261-3440, 597-2269; field activities, John Beriault, 261-0082, 434-0624; lab, newsletter, Art Lee, 261-4939, 774-8517 (lab).

THE FINE SCREEN

Congratulations have been the order of the day for **Mike Weinberg,** who has succesfully defended his thesis for a masters degree in geology from Florida State University at Tallahassee.

The past summer season was a busman's holiday for **Bob Edic,** who spent it doing archaeological surveying at his and **Linda's** alternate home in New York state.

What to get **Charlie** for Christmas was solved for **Gail Strader** when she overhead him enthuse over atlatls at the December picnic at their home. She ordered a spear thrower right after the event.

WELCOME TO SWFAS!

The Society has welcomed to membership Paul R. Potthoff of Naples; his interests are history, archaeology and European travel.

THIS IS PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

The Tegestas and the Kahoosas

From Broward Comes a Tale Of Love, War, and Peace

A rise in the ground proved to be a mound of stones, capped by a turtle shell and encircled by vertebrae of a rattlesnake. Beneath were the skull of a skeleton and a columella pendant.

The find was at the Margate-Blount site where the Broward County Archaeological Society had done salvage work for years. And from it Lynn Armistead McKee, an eight-year member of the Society, has created a novel of pre-contact South Florida.

Main characters are Teeka, a member of the peaceful "Tegesta" tribe; Kaho, chief of the warlike "Kahoosa"; and Auro, Tegesta shaman.

For love of Teeka, Auro compromises his status as a spiritual leader by making a Faustian deal with evil spirits.

Also for love of Teeka, Kaho takes a less war-like view of the world, and the heroine manages a diplomatic tour de force to enable the tribes to prepare a united front against the Spanish, whose invasion is dimly foretold by tribal shamen.

The book is larded with details of interest to archaeologists: the preparation of coonti for bread, infusion of herbs, descriptions of the flora common to dig sites, sharks teeth and macrocallista knives.

Autographed copies are available at the Archaeological Museum, 203 S.W. First Avenue, Ft.Lauderdale, FL 33301. A copy is in the SWFAS library at the laboratory.

McKee, Lynn A.; *Woman of the Mists;* 343 pp.; Berkley Publishing Group, New York;1991; paper; $4.95.

With Other CHAPTERS OF FAS

Timesifters Archaeological Society of Sarasota has again received a merit award from the *Sarasota Herald Tribune.*

The **Broward County Archaeological Society** scheduled a special field school for a group of students from Northern Virginia Community College for early January.

Barbara Tansey's backyard is where material from demucking of a site off Ocheechobee road is being dumped for salvage by **The Archaeological Society of Southern Florida** at Miami.

SWFAS MEMBERS INVITED TO RECEPTION HONORING DR. KEITH WATERHOUSE

SWFAS members are invited to a reception Tuesday, Feb. 4, in honor of Dr. Keith Waterhouse, former Society president, on the occasion of his being awarded the 1991 Valentine Gold Medal for his contribution to urethral surgery.

The reception is being offered by Alan Pope of Punta Gorda and his daughter, Patricia Bartlett, a SWFAS member. Pope is a grandson of Dr. Ferdinand C. Valentine, who established and funded the award.

The reception will be held at the Fort Myers Historical Museum, 2300 Peck St., Ft. Myers, at the corner of Jackson and Peck streets, south of Martin Luther King boulevard. Hours will be from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

An invitation to attend is extended to all SWFAS members. For information, call 332-5955.

Dr. Waterhouse is to receive the award March 4 in New York, where he had been director of urology at Kings County Hospital, at which he spent his entire professional career.

During his tenure as president of the Academy, Dr. Waterhoue himself had presented the Valentine Award to the builder of the first artificial kidney machine, Dr. Wilhelm Kolff.

In this area, Dr. Waterhouse has served as president of the Friends of the Collier County Museum and SWFAS, of which he is a trustee.

SPANISH POINT OPENS WINDOW TO THE PAST

A Window to the Past, a unique cross-section of a prehistoric mound, is being opened to viewing at Spanish Point the last week of January.

During the past several months a cut made decades ago in a mound at the historic site has been stabilized and enclosed so its strata can be examined.

Members of SWFAS and Sarasota's Timesifters worked on the project.

Members of those two organizations may visit the site Sunday, Jan. 26, prior to its being opened to the public Monday Jan. 27. During the last week of January admission to Spanish Point will be reduced from $4 to $2.

The cut in the mound had been made originally to provide a parking place for a car. Spanish Point is located off U.S. 41 north of Osprey.

REGISTRATION UNDERWAY FOR FAS MEETING IN ST. AUGUSTINE

Reservations are now being accepted for the 44th annual meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society, to be held at St. Augustine March 27-29.

Check-in will start at 2:30 p.m. Friday March 27; the executive board will meet at 4:30 p.m. and a reception will be in the form of a cruise on the Victory II from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Papers will be read Saturday the 28th, and that afternoon the annual business meeting will be held. The banquet will start at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday March 29 there will be a historic walking tour, chapter workshops, and a meeting of the FAS executive board.

Registration fee is $15, or $18 at the door; the banquet is $20; the reception is free. For information call 1-800-321-9585 or write FAS Conference, Historic St. Augustine Preservation Board, P.O.Box 1987, St. Augustine, FL 32085. Call Art Lee at 261-4939 for an advance registration form, which is due Feb. 15. FAS membership is not needed to attend.

THE SUN BROKE OUT FOR DECEMBER PICNIC

The sun continued to shine on SWFAS for its Dec. 15 monthly meeting/picnic at Gail and Charlie Strader's home at Bonita Springs.

As had the Society's canoe trip the preceding month, the event slipped into a fine weather slot between cold and windy spells.

Two score enjoyed the event, some actively at an atlatl range presided over by P.W.Qualls and John Beriault, and with Leo Ruble's horseshoes, while others chatted up friends or admired exhibits displayed by Jean and Bob Belknap.

All relished the hamburgers and weiners of Bud House and Jack Gaddy, Shirley House's German potato salad, Qualls' strawberry ice cream, and other goodies.

Those who had wielded machetes to provide sight-lines were given a preview of the five-foot map of a complex archaeological feature at Bonita Bay development by its drafter, Beriault. It will be incorporated into a survey report being prepared by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy.

LITTLE SALT SPRING WORK TO START MARCH 1

Start of work on Little Salt Spring, planned for January, has been deferred until March 1, Dr. John A. Gifford of the University of Miami has advised *The Newsletter.*

While underwater work will be done by graduate student divers with special training, there will be cleaning, cataloguing, photography and preliminary treatment of artifacts for volunteers, working on a daily basis -- or for a longer period if they can provide their own lodging and meals.

To apply for volunteer work, write Dr. Gifford at the Rosensteil School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, Marine Affairs, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami FL 33149-1098.

ACCOMPLISHMENT MARKED SWFAS' 1991

Two major subjects held the attention of SWFAS members during 1991 -- finding a permanent meeting place, and passage of a protective ordinance for Collier county.

Members in January, reflecting the Society's growth northward, voted to make the Bonita Springs Recreation Center their usual meeting place.

After years of effort, August saw passage of an ordinance to protect Collier county's cultural resources.

Three SWFAS members hold seats on a seven-member Historic Preservation Board provided by the ordinance, and at year's end preliminary work had been done toward preparation of a map of archaeologically-sensitive areas.

The organization had historic considerations included in the Southwest Florida Land Preservation Trust's plan for Collier County greenspace preservation. A similar proposal was put before a Collier political action group.

Members junketed to Little Salt Spring, Mound Key, and cruised down the Turner river.

Workers at the Craighead lab at SWFAS' request were made volunteers of the Collier county museum to relieve the Society of a costly insurance policy a former arrangement had required.

The lab completed the bulk of analysis of Mulberry Midden and started on material from Chokoloskee. At a picnic/wash-in, members processed artifacts salvaged from a spoil pile on Galt island.

A re-survey of the northern part of Collier county was undertaken by the Archaeological and Historical Conservancy and SWFAS.

Field Director John Beriault's committee also surveyed several sites at the request of developers, and spent two months of Sundays preparing a plane-table map of an apparent archaic complex in the Bonita Bay development. Several new sites were registered with the state.

The Society's Craighead award went to Dr. William Marquardt of the Florida Museum of Natural History in recognition of his leadership of the University of Florida's Southwest Florida project which has been marked by use of volunteers.

EDISON COLLEGE SETS PERU SEMINAR FOR FEBRUARY 13

by Linda Ballou

An interesting perspective for those of us intrigued by Peruvian culture will be offered by a February seminar at Edison Community college at Fort Myers.

The three-hour session will be held Thursday, Feb. 13, from 1-3 p.m. as part of the school's continuing education program.

Entitled *Peru: From the Incan Civilization to Modern Times,* it will be taught by Chris Natziger who explored the foothills of the Andes as a child growing up on the outskirts of Lima.

Natziger returned to the States in the late 70's to pursue his education. He has a master's degree in political science with a focus on Latin America. The fee for the program is $1 ($3 for out-of-state residents). Pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Contact is Karen Stiner at 489-9235/9236.

KORESHAN CLASS JAN. 20

The next chance for volunteers to learn to be docents at the Koreshan State Historic Site will be Jan. 20 when the last of a series of training sessions will start. For information, call Director Valinda Subic at 992-0311.