

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



A Chapter of the FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Post Office Box 9965, Naples, FL 33941

Arthur R. Lee, editor

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JOURNALIST TO GET CRAIGHEAD

Lollar of News-Press First Media Honoree

Kevin Lollar, environmental reporter for the Fort Myers News-Press, has been named to receive the 1994 Frank C. Craighead, Sr., award, John Beriault, SWFAS president, has announced.

The award will be conferred at SWFAS' November meeting, Wednesday the 16th. The event will include a reception at the Fort Myers Historical Museum starting at 6:30 and the ceremony and speech at 7:30 in the auditorium of the adjacent Ft. Myers library, followed by coffee at the Museum.

Speaker will be Barbara A. Purdy, Ph. D., professor emeritus of anthropology and curator in archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History

Lollar is the first journalist to receive the honor; other recipients have been land owners, professional and avocational archaeologists, medical doctor, civic worker, and land developer.

This will be the sixth time the award will have been conferred. It was established to honor those whose efforts have furthered SWFAS' goals of increasing knowledge of the area's prehistory, disseminating that information, and protecting its evidences. Eligible are educators, public officials, landowners and developers, avocational and professional archaeologists, and the media. It is named for a pioneer student of the Everglades and takes the form of a calligraphic scroll. Past recipients are:

Col. Don and Pat Randell, who have saved two major village sites, the most recent by the grant of more than 50 acres



Named to receive the 1994 Craighead Award is Kevin Lollar, above, whose writings have brought factual information about the Calusa and their predecessors — and archaeology — to a large Southwest Florida audience.

SAVE NOW FOR SALE; THE MONEY'S NEEDED

Treasurer Jack Thompson is eyeing the first part of March for SWFAS' annual garage sale — and he wants it to be a doozie.

Need for revenue is acute — the lab's comparative collection has outgrown its cabinet and there are three sites clamoring for C-14 dates, which cost \$260 each.

Last year's sale brought about \$1,000, the largest amount ever, and he hopes to at least duplicate that sum. Quantity of good, saleable, merchandise is the answer, and he hopes that you will start

DR. PURDY TO SPEAK AT AWARD MEETING

One of the newer techniques in archaeology — wet site excavation — will be described to SWFAS' Craighead Award audience Wednesday, Nov. 16, by Barbara A. Purdy, Ph. D., professor emeritus of Anthropology and curator in Archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History. The awards ceremony and talk will take place in the auditorium of the Lee county library starting at 7:30 p.m.

The evening's festivities will start at 6:30 p.m. with a reception at the Ft. Myers Historical Museum, at which substantial refreshments will be served. The auditorium is adjacent to the museum. Coffee at the museum will follow Dr. Purdy's speech.

The archaeologist's enthusiasm for wet site exploration stems from years of experience in the field which resulted in recent publication of a book on the subject. A previous book, *Florida's Prehistoric Stone Technology*, won two awards; it was one of more than 50 articles, books and reviews she has written and she has two books currently in press or preparation.

Because they preserve organic materials destroyed in other conditions, wet sites provide information about changes in environments and cultures through the millennia, Dr. Purdy points out.

She has taught courses ranging from World Prehistory to Florida Archaeology, has been principal investigator of more than 20 projects in the state of Florida and others in Washington, Idaho, and

See PURDY on Page Two

SWFAS DIRECTORATE

President John Beriault, first vice president P.W. Qualls, second vice president Linda S. Robinson, treasurer Jack Thompson, secretary Jo Ann Grey, membership secretary Lynn Lee. Directors are Walt and Mary Buschelman, Chuck Hostetler, Valerie Flanigan, Sue M. Long, Kimberly Polen, Ray Seguin, Annette Snapp, Reed Toomey, Steve Tutko, and Dottie Thompson.

Sharpen Your Plant Savvy

SWFAS members can learn indigenous plants by taking guided tours offered Sunday, Nov. 27, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at four sites by the Naples chapter of the Florida Native Plant Society.

The sites are Big Cypress elementary school, 3250 Golden Gate Boulevard West; Sea Gate elementary school, 650 Sea Gate Drive; the Kenney/Singler residence, 980 11th Street North; and the Patterson residence, 1209 Ridge Street.

Check Your Check Stubs -- for Jack

Did you write a check to SWFAS for \$19 at the August meeting in payment for a book?

If so, Treasurer Jack Thompson wants to hear from you (his telephone number is 597-2269; his address is 576 Retreat Drive No. 202, Naples, 33963.).

Thompson deposited it and another check, by mail, where it was lost and as a result the checks were not processed. He would appreciate your help in getting his accounts straightened out.

AWARD from Page One

at Pineland to the University of Florida for the establishment of a research center;

Dr. Robin C. and Jan Brown, the moving spirits behind Lee county's successful Year of the Indian project; he is the author of the just-published *Florida's First People*;

Dr. William H. Marquardt, whose Southwest Florida project of the University of Florida has increased enormously knowledge of the area's past;

Arthur Lee of SWFAS, who has worked for legislation protective of archaeological sites; and

Bonita Bay Properties, which has protected archaeological sites on its lands and arranged salvage of others.

Former recipients have been sent special invitations to the reception and award

MARCO ISLAND SITE YIELDS TOOLS, POTTERY; WAS IT A WORKSHOP?

The Annual Dues Race -- BELKNAP BY A MONTH

Jean Belknap is taking no chance of losing out on the first-to-pay-dues contest. She ponied up her \$15 for 1995 on Oct. 20, reports Treasurer Jack Thompson, 'way ahead of the pack.

Last year she tied with Jack Horner for the honor, both of them easily beating out Jack Gaddy, who for years held the title.

Last year some members rounded off their checks to even numbers like \$100 to add to the Society's working funds.

SWFAS is incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, making such gifts eligible for notation on tax returns.

Dues are payable as of January 1, except for those who have joined since Sept. 1, who won't have to pay again until the first of 1996.

Rates are \$15 for individuals, \$25 for families and contributors, \$10 for students, and the sky's the limit for big time operators.

Thompson takes his money bag to all meetings, and there's always room for checks in P. O. Box 9965, Naples, FL 33941.

PURDY from Page One Arizona.

she has served on many university, college and department committees, has reviewed articles and proposals for many granting organizations and journals, and has presented papers at national and international meetings throughout the United States and in Mexico, Canada, England, Switzerland and Germany.

She has won a number of teaching honors, and was recipient of grant awards from institutions ranging from the American Philosophical Society to the St. Johns River Water Management District. She is a member of many professional societies.

Mitchell Hope, Art and Lynn Lee, Sue and Jim Long, Rudy Magyari, Kim Marhoffer, Maureen Murray, P.W. Qualls, Linda Sandridge, Ray Seguin, Annette Snapp, Todd Stanfield, Charlie and Gail Strader, Don Taggart, Jack Thompson,

Analysis of artifacts from the Satin Leaf site on south Marco Island, 8CR766, is well underway and a preliminary report has been recorded with the master historic site file in Tallahassee, supplementing preliminary information previously provided.

Aided by additional volunteers, the crew at the Craighead lab the first week of November finished washing the food shell, bone, and shell tools from the five test pits and a score of shovel tests dug to salvage information before the site is bulldozed away to make way for a parking garage. About five feet of the entire ridge on which the site was located is being removed.

The site is located on a development called Vintage Bay; permission to do the salvage work was given by the developer and the project manager, Corey Cabral, was present for much of the excavation the weekend of Oct. 15-16.

Archaeologists Brent Weisman and Christine Newman, in the area for other work, inspected the site Oct. 19 and Dr. Weisman arranged to have a half-dozen soil samples taken from the north wall of Test Pit 2 analyzed by Gary Ellis of Ellis Archaeology, who is donating his services. Dr. Ellis spoke at a recent SWFAS meeting.

The site has been tentatively dated as late Archaic on the basis of chamfered rim sherds and an unhafted Busycon hammer. Because there was not a great deal of midden material — food shell and bone — it tentatively is not being considered as a major residential area. Rather, because of several large whelk which apparently had been used as anvils and the presence of a considerable number of shell scrapers, it is being regarded as a possible work place.

Analysis of the food shell and bone is continuing at the lab.

Excavation of the test pits followed probing the site with a dozen shovel tests Sept. 24, all but three of which produced cultural material, and its discovery earlier by SWFAS President and field director John G. Beriault and Art Lee.

Participants included Jean Belknap, Beriault, Sheila M. DeSanto, Barbara B. Dobbs, Val Flanigan, Jo Ann Grey,

THE DATE BOOK

Craighead lab hours are 9-12 Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-4 Saturdays. In Collier County Museum grounds, Airport road and U.S. 41, east Naples.

* Wednesday, November 9, meeting of Board of Directors at the Charlie and Gail Strader residence, 27655 Kent road, Bonita Springs, 7 p.m. Members welcome.

* Nov. 9-12, Southeastern and Midwest Archaeological Conferences, Lexington, KY. SEAC/MAC Committee, 101 American Bldg., U of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0100.

* Wednesday, Nov. 16, monthly meeting and conferring of Craighead award at Ft. Myers Historical Museum, 2300 Peck Street, Ft. Myers. Reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by award ceremony and lecture. Charge \$5.

* Wednesday, Dec. 14, meeting of Board of Directors at home of Charlie and Gail Strader, 27655 Kent road, Bonita Springs, 7 p.m. Members welcome.

For information: On membership, Lynn Lee at 261-4939; finances, Jack Thompson, 597-2269; field activities, John Beriault, 261-0082, 434-0624; program, Sue M. Long, 262-8371; lab, Walt Buschelman, 775-9734, Art Lee, 261-4939, lab, 774-8517.

Video on Calusa Shot at Museum

A video, to be called *The Domain of the Calusa*, should be available for viewing in 1995, reports Dr. William H. Marquardt of the Florida Museum of Natural History at Gainesville.

He and a half dozen others put in three long days the week of Oct. 16 preparing for and shooting scenes in the museum with Stuart Brown, Ilene Safron and Arden Arrington.

The video will include a lot of footage taken at Pineland in 1992. The next stage will be combining the video with the script, which will be narrated by Peter

Exploration of Remaining Collier Sites Told by State Archaeologist

"It is remarkable that so little remains of what once was the awe of the world."

Thus Brent R. Weisman, Ph.D., director of the C.A.R.L. Archaeological Survey, summarized the state of Collier county's archaeological legacy at SWFAS' October meeting. (C.A.R.L. are the initials of the state organization which purchases environmentally-endangered lands.)

Like beads on a string he tolled off the names of some of the major sites which have been bulldozed for use as road-fill or because they were an impediment to construction: Key Marco, Chokoloskee, Horr's Island, Goodland, Gordon Pass, Bay West.

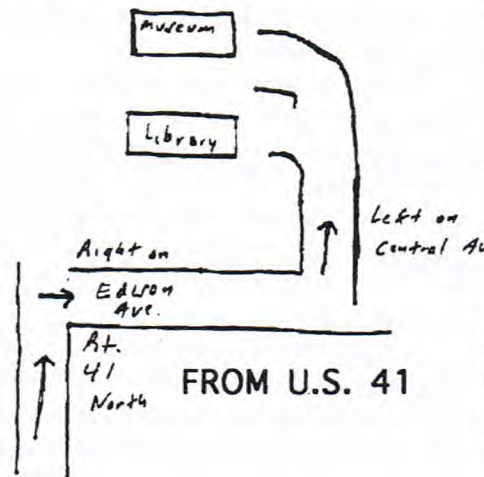
In his present work, Weisman is inventorying and evaluating sites on state lands, none of which, he notes, has been purchased solely to preserve its archaeological holdings. These are, for the most

part, smaller sites, located on higher ground in the interior, which lend themselves to speculation as to their origin — whether they be relics of places from which food was extracted for use by the larger coastal communities or whether they were occupied by separate peoples; whether they were seasonal in nature, or used at periods different from the coastal settlements.

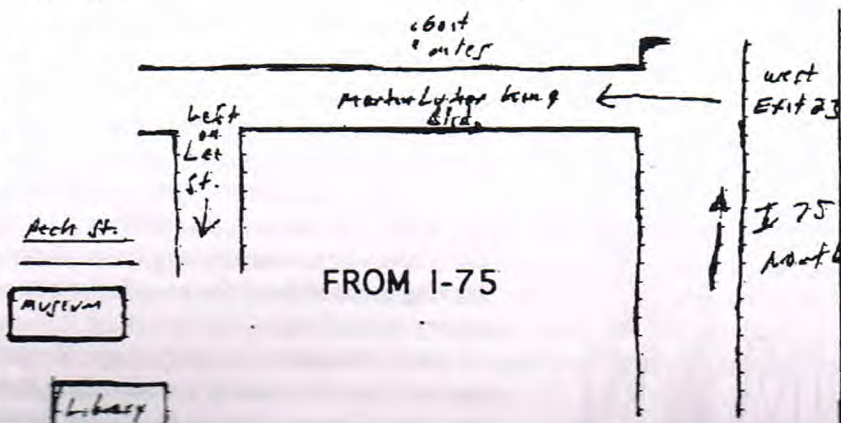
One of the techniques he is using in an attempt to more closely identify these sites is analysis of food remains. Although not dramatically different in location, he told his audience, when measured by evidences of food values consumed two sites studied were quite dissimilar, one having relied on deer, the other on turtle as dietary mainstays.

Such observations he hopes will provide clues to the nature of the inland sites.

Here's How to Get to the Nov. 16 Doings



Steve Tutko, in charge of logistics, has drawn these maps to help you find your way to the Ft. Myers Historical Museum and nearby county library for a.) the 6:30 reception at the museum, b.) the 7:30 awards ceremony and talk at the library, and c.) the coffee at the museum after.

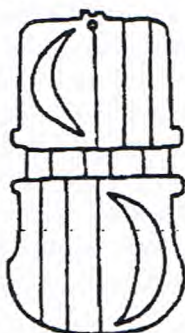




Those TABLETS --

They were ceremonial in nature, but their origins and purposes disappeared with those who used them.

Wooden tablets: Key Marco; 200 by 75 mm.



From Collier county burial with European artifacts. Metal, 61x32 mm.



Found in Lee county shell mound; metal; 66 by 38 mm.

Collier county, from shell midden with burials, European artifacts; metal; 73x35 mm.



Below: From Lee county mound in burial context; metal; 64x33 mm.



Of the puzzles the Calusa and related tribes left behind none has engendered more conjecture than the ceremonial tablets found in south central and southwest Florida. These artifacts were recently called to SWFAS' attention in a talk by Dr. Jerry Milanich of the Florida Museum of Natural History, who commented that the design of one used as a logo by the Florida Anthropological Society could have represented a spider, which figures in some Native American lore.

The surviving known examples in various types of metal number 44; eight are of stone, and four tablets and eight plaques are of wood (plaques are larger than the tablets, and differ in design).

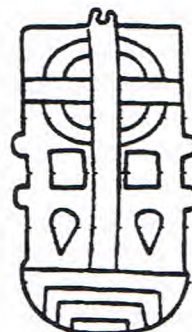
Dates of the artifacts are a problem. David Allerton, George W. Luer, and Robert S. Carr, who spent a year researching an article for No. 1, Volume 37 of *The Florida Anthropologist*, note that metal tablets probably were made after contact with the Spanish; for the rest, dates ranging from A.D. 800 to A.D. 1600 are discussed.

Design motifs are varied: one series, more or less geometric, includes the cross-and-circle resembling a Mississippian form; there are also a tear drop design, concentric arcs and ovals, triangles, and nested half-rectangles. Others are considered zoomorphic, including the Key Marco crested woodpecker, alligator, and duck. The authors thought little of the spider relationship but believed that the crescents on some might be the lunar cycle.

A major obstacle to tablet research is the lack of context, most tablets having been taken by non-archaeological methods, leaving them without the associations necessary to analysis.

As to interpretation, the passage of time has not dimmed Cushing's observations that the plaques and tablets he found were "symbolical" and "ceremonial."

From Collier county burial mound. 45 mm by 23 mm. Metal



Collier county. 58x33 mm.

Lee county, with beads in burial; 25x17.5 mm.



Also Lee county; metal; 26x17 mm.

With bundle burial in Lee county; metal; 61x26 mm.



Below: With grave goods; Lee county; 28x19 mm.

