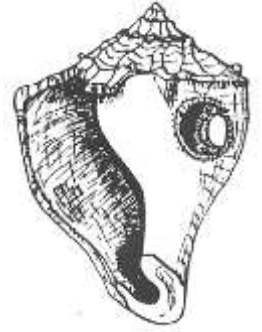


SWFAS

NEWSLETTER

THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



JOHN G. BERIAULT, ACTING EDITOR

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 6

JUNE, 2002



Repast and Preparation. This is a circa 1840s engraving purportedly showing "Florida" Indians eating and serving up food. Looks like the inspiration was White's earlier work on the Virginia Indians. Nicely done though...

Corbett Torrence Gives "Off-The-Shelf" Presentation to SWFAS

The people of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society know from past experience not to miss a talk by Corbett McP Torrence when the

opportunity presents itself. He can make even a talk on matrilineal kinship sound fascinating! So, quite a crowd (considering it was nearly the start of summer) was present at FGCU to hear Corbett at the May Meeting. As usual, we were not disappointed. Corbett discussed his recent fieldwork at Pineland and gave wonderful insight into the patterning and positioning of aboriginal structures, possibly residential areas. His

presentation revealed that much of the work and thinking by himself and other researchers such as Dolph Widmer is running on parallel and likely converging paths as to the use of redeposited materials and the deliberate positioning of certain site elements such as shell and sand benches or shelves, the patterning of post molds, the disposal of midden materials. Corbett's spirited delivery is always a joy (I think he likes what he does). I'd be willing to come hear him read the phone book before an audience – and I can say that about few others!

Inside this Newsletter

- 1 We have Moved! Florida Gulf Coast University is the new site of our General Meetings**
- 4 Pecuniary Evidence... Got Money? Part Four. Read Dr. Robert Gore...**
- 9 Apologies to Dr. Gore... I goofed!**

THE DATE BOOK

June 12thth SWFAS Board Meeting – Hampton Inn, Bonita Springs, 7:00 PM

June 19thth SWFAS General Meeting – 7:30 PM, Rm. 109, Griffin Hall, Florida Gulf Coast University

About SWFAS

The directorate: President Betsy Perdichizzi, first vice president Tom Franchino, second vice president Corbett Torrence, membership secretary Charlie Strader, treasurer Charlie Strader, recording secretary Jo Ann Grey, directors Steve Tutko, Sue Long, Dottie Thompson, Jo Ann Grey, Don Taggart, Jack Thompson,, John Beriault, Charlie Strader, Theresa (Torrence) Schober, and Dr Susan Stans.

The committees: Field: Beriault, 434-0624; Hospitality: position open; Membership: Charlie Strader, 941-992-6133; Publicity: Dottie Thompson, 597-2269; Sales: position open; Finances, Jack Thompson 597-2269, 774-8517; Lab: (774-8517), Art Lee, 261-4939, Walt Buschelman, 775-9734, Jack Thompson, 597-2269.

To Join: Address your check to the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society, P.O. Box 9965, Naples, FL 34101. Dues are: Individual \$20, Individual Sustaining \$50.00, Family \$35, Student \$15.

Any questions, comments, contributions to the Newsletter: John G. Beriault, acting editor, P.O. Box 9074, Naples, FL 34101-9074 or Email to: JGBeriault@aol.com.

JACK THOMPSON RECEIVES HIGHEST FLORIDA AVOCATIONAL HONORS FROM FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Those of us lucky enough to be present at this year's FAS meeting held in St. Petersburg, and specifically at the Saturday night banquet held poolside at the Hilton Hotel saw a touching and very nicely-done (not to mention much-deserved) award made to our very-own Jack Thompson by Arthur Lee on behalf of FAS. The award was the William C. Lazarus Award given only once a year to an avocational archaeologist for his or her outstanding contributions to Florida Archaeology. I asked Art if he would give me a summation of the event:

John,
As you requested, herewith the summation of my remarks and how it came about:

I had asked that if the FAS board were to give their retiring president, Jack Thompson, the Lazarus award, the most prestigious available to non-professional archaeologists, to let me, as

past president of FAS, present it. The board did give me that honor and agreed to keep Jack in ignorance. The tricky part was keeping it secret at the banquet at which it was to be awarded, since Lynn and I were seated at the same table as Jack and Dorothy. I stuffed the plaque in a brief case and covered with a sweater, explaining that I was afraid that it would turn cool, this being a pool-side event.

After Jack had finished presenting awards and was about to close proceedings, the incoming president, Sheila Stewart, asked me to make some closing remarks.

I praised the accomplishments of FAS and other awardees, and told the audience that I thought the spirit of the organization was exemplified by the works of an individual I have known. I noted that that person had been on the board of a state archaeological society, president of a similar society in a major U.S. city, and trustee of an archaeological museum of national stature -- all of this in two different states. In a third state, I recited, he for the better part of 20 years was on the directorate of a major regional archaeological society including terms as president and years in other responsible offices; that he had served two three-year terms on a county historic preservation board including its

chairmanship; had been active in field work and co-authored published technical reports; and that for much of that period he had worked the equivalent of one whole working day a week in an archaeological laboratory. Also during that period he had for twelve years been on the board of a state anthropological society, the last two as its president. And that the individual was Jack Thompson. Then I dug the plaque out from under the sweater and handed it to Jack, who was in tears. As were many of us.

Calusa Canal Parcel Contracted by Calusa Land Trust

The Calusa Land Trust has contracted for the purchase of yet another portion of the old Calusa Canal that traversed Pine Island when white men first arrived. This is the third purchase by the Trust of parcels where remnants of the canal can still be seen.

The parcel is located in Bokeelia on Meadow Lane just off Harbor Drive and lies between the two previously purchased parcels. Visitors are welcome and should take the second right off Harbor Drive and look for the Calusa Land Trust signs marking the canal. The parcel costs \$15,000 and the contact gives the Archeology Committee of the Trust one year to raise the funds to make the purchase.

All three parcels were purchased as a result of archaeological studies conducted by George Luer and Dr. Ryan Wheeler from 1981 through 1997, the results of which were published in *The Florida Anthropologist*, September 1997, Vol. 50 No. 3. The studies indicated that the Calusa Canal had been dug by the inhabitants of Pineland about a thousand years ago and extended from the Pineland about 2 1/2 miles across Pine Island, through Indian Field Island, to Matlacha Pass. The canal was an engineering marvel. Since the center of the island is over eleven feet above sea level, it was necessary for the Calusa to construct elaborate gates and storage systems to store water and control its levels at various sections of the canal.

The Archeological Committee of the Calusa Land Trust operates as a self-supporting element of the Trust—environmental funds are not used to support its activities. The Committee therefore conducts its own fundraising activities separate from the usual Trust fundraisers. The Committee strongly urges Archeological Enthusiasts to visit the Calusa Canal site and to contribute to our fundraising campaign.

PAGE THREE

The Archeological Committee gratefully acknowledges the assistance of The Archeological Conservancy, which has purchased the property and will hold it interest free on behalf of the Trust for one year in order to give the Trust the necessary time to raise the purchase funds.

Donations for the purchase of the new canal lot should be mailed to the Calusa Land Trust, P.O. Box 216, Bokeelia, FL 33922 (mark the checks "Canal"). Any donation of \$25.00, or more, qualifies for a beautiful, free Calusa Canal t-shirt (specify M, L, XL). Any questions, or comments, should be directed to Wayne (Bud) House at 239-283-3493.

HELP WANTED

Dottie Thompson has been handling the mailing of our meeting notices to 9 newspapers each month since 1981. This involves getting a title and brief description of the talk and a brief bio from the speaker. The newspapers will only look at short notices and each have specific deadlines for receipt of the notice. Mailing is early each month. She will help you get started. She feels the time has come to retire.

Please call Betsy Perdichizzi at 239-394-6917.

WHEN DID IT HAPPEN? A PRIMER ON PECUNIARY EVIDENCE. IV.

To reiterate from last month: Suppose that one of each of the following coins were recovered from the "cleared field camp site"

DENOMINATION:	COMPOSITION:	DATE:	OBVERSE:	REVERSE:
1. 'HALF CENT'	Copper	Worn	Liberty capped	Wreath
2. 'HALF CENT'	Copper	1835	Liberty, classic head	Wreath
3. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1793	Liberty, flowing hair	Linked chain
4. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1815	Liberty, flowing hair ?	Wreath
5. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1837	Liberty, tilted matron head	Wreath
6. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	183?	Liberty, level head	Wreath
7. 'HALF DIME'	Silver	Worn	Liberty, seated surrounded by stars	Wreath
8. '5 C[ents]'	Silver	1837	Liberty, capped	Eagle on branch
9. '10 C[ents]'	Silver	1836	Liberty, capped	Eagle on branch
10. 'ONE DIME'	Silver	1838	Liberty, seated	Stars on rim
11. 'QUAR. DOL.'	Silver	18?? --	Liberty, seated surrounded by stars	Eagle & shield
12. 'HALF DOL.'	Silver	183?	Liberty, flowing hair	Eagle & shield with arrows
13. '50 C.[ents]'	Silver	1837	Liberty, capped	Eagle & shield with arrows

COIN NUMBER and "SITE ASSESSMENT":

1. Dates of minting for capped Liberty half cents (1793-1797), suggest that the coin was 40 or more years old and may have been carried as a "medicine coin" by one of the warriors, or perhaps as some form of jewelry by one of the women. [+]
2. "Classic Head" Liberty half cents were minted between 1809-1857. The coin's date indicates that it was minted two years before the battle and may have been carried by one of the Indians. Perhaps it was buried with the individual for spiritual reasons. However, because this form of the half cent was minted until 1857 the possibility that it was introduced at some later time cannot be ruled out. [+?]
3. The large cent with a linked chain on the reverse was minted only between 1793-1795. A second type of large cent identical in all particulars to this coin replaced the chain on the reverse with a wreath. This version was minted until 1857. Thus, the "chained" version, already defunct insofar as its typology, still could have been present at the time of the Battle. [+?]
4. The fact that the images are badly worn has no bearing on the validity of the coin because it is counterfeit; no Half Cents were minted in 1815. Nonetheless, if the date is accurate some warrior (or soldier?) unknowingly carried a counterfeit medicine token (or god luck charm?) into battle. [+?]
5. The clarity of the date and the images on front and back indicate that this coin may well have been present at the Battle of Lake Okeechobee. [+]
6. The "level-head Liberty" or "Coronet-type Matron head" large cent was first put into circulation in 1839, supplanting the earlier "Coronet" or "tilted matron head" version, which nonetheless was minted until 1839. But the date clearly indicates that neither coin could have been present at the Battle. [-]
7. The "seated Liberty" half dime was minted from 1837-1873, thus making it a potential candidate for being present at the Battle. Unfortunately, the encircling stars were not added until the 1838 minting, thereby precluding this coin's presence at the Battle. [-]
8. The 5 Cents (Silver) coin in the "capped bust of Liberty" version was minted between 1829-1837. It was replaced by the "seated Liberty" version noted above. Even so, the clear date makes this coin a candidate for being at the Battle. [+]
9. The "capped Liberty" 10 cents (Silver) coin was minted from 1809-1837, thus it could well have been present in its final year of minting at the Battle of Lake Okeechobee. [+]

10. The "seated Liberty" dime was first minted in 1837 and ran until 1891. Although the date of first minting suggests that it could have been present at the Battle, the encircling stars, just as with its half dime counterpart (No. 7), were not added until 1838. Close--but no cigar. [-]
11. The silver "seated Liberty" quarter was first minted in 1838 so that no matter what the worn date might have been it was impossible for it to be present at the Okeechobee battle. [-]
12. The "capped Liberty, flowing hair" coin, with the words "Half Dol." underneath the eagle, shield and clutched arrows device was minted only between 1838-1839 and therefore could not have been present at the Okeechobee battleground. [-]
13. On the other hand, the "capped Liberty, flowing hair" coin with the denomination of "50 C." under the clutched arrows device, and dated 1837, makes this version a good candidate for being around at the Battle of Lake Okeechobee. The "capped Liberty" 50 cent piece, minted from 1809-1837, was then briefly supplanted by the "Half Dol." version noted above [+]

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

For simplicity we have emphasized the coins' presence at a hypothetical Indian burial site. The most glaring uncertainty then in this exercise is how the later-date coins appeared at the site. Other "unanswered questions" would include whether the coins were owned or carried only by the Indians, or were looted or stripped from dead soldiers, perhaps by the squaws after the battle. This possibility is based on actual Indian customs and Zachary Taylor's detailed accounts of the action and its aftermath. There is, for example, no mention as to whether the dozen or so Indian corpses not retrieved by their compatriots were ever buried by Zachary Taylor's men. In terms of this exercise it can be projected that the Indian women would have returned to do so and then set aside the contents of their loved one's battle pouches.

There is one other intriguing "possibility" based on actual fact. The bodies of all of the dead U.S. military and militia combatants were recovered--except one. This unnamed individual was reported "missing in action." Whether he gave his life somewhere in the hammock and was never recovered, or deserted just before or during the fray, or was captured and then later executed by the Indians before, during, or after the Battle, remains unknown. . .



FLOWING HAIR



DRAPED BUST
FLOWING HAIR



CAP ON POLE



CAPPED



CLASSIC HEAD



MATRON HEAD



MATRON HEAD



CAPPED HEAD



SEATED LIBERTY

OBVERSE ("HEADS") OF COINS IN CIRCULATION
AT THE TIME OF THE BATTLE OF LAKE OKEECHOBEE



"SCRAWNEY" EAGLE



SPREAD EAGLE WITH SHIELD



3/4 EAGLE ON BRANCH



3/4 SPREAD-WING EAGLE



UPRIGHT WREATH



CLOSED WREATH

REVERSE ("TAILS") OF COINS IN
CIRCULATION AT THE TIME OF THE LAKE OKEECHOBEE
BATTLE

The Editor's Apologies to Dr. Robert Gore – and to You, the readers...

Being your acting editor over the last four, or so, years has been an experience, an education, and sometimes even, a revelation, as in this instance... Desktop publishing is a wonderful thing, particularly for small organizations like ours, and for yoights like myself who pretend to be editors of their newsletters. Word, and programs like it, allow above-mentioned yoights to put out what is usually "acceptable" products, whose admirable goal is to inform and unite the membership. Most programs provide something generically called a "spell-checker". This is a program that will TRY to catch typographic errors, bad grammar, misspellings, etc. *Usually* this device does a good job... but not always...

Your acting yoight was in a hurry last month, and relied too heavily on the spell-checker to edit (which is the job of an editor). In consequence, the figures supplied by my friend and long-suffering contributor, Dr. Robert Gore, were, to put it in a word, "messed up". Tables are neither the forte of either the spell-checker OR the acting editor. Below I present the scanned version of the tables provided by Dr. Gore with my apologies to both himself and to you...

THE EXERCISE:

Suppose that one each of the following coins were recovered from the cleared field:

DENOMINATION:	COMPOSITION:	DATE:	OBVERSE:	REVERSE:
1. 'HALF CENT'	Copper	Worn	Liberty capped	Wreath
2. 'HALF CENT'	Copper	1835	Liberty, classic head	Wreath
3. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1793	Liberty, flowing hair	Linked chain
4. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1815	Liberty, badly worn; flowing hair?	Wreath
5. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1837	Liberty, tilted matron head	Wreath
6. 'ONE CENT'	Copper	1837	Liberty, level head	Wreath
7. 'HALF DIME'	Silver	Worn	Liberty, seated surrounded by stars	Wreath
8. '5 C[ents]'	Silver	1837	Liberty, capped	Eagle on branch
9. '10 C[ents]'	Silver	1836	Liberty, capped	Eagle on branch
10. 'ONE DIME'	Silver	1838	Liberty, seated	Stars on rim
11. 'QUAR. DOL.'	Silver	1877 Worn	Liberty, seated surrounded by stars	Eagle & shield
12. 'HALF DOL.'	Silver	1837	Liberty, capped, flowing hair	Eagle & shield with arrows
13. '50 C.[ents]'	Silver	1837	Liberty, capped	Eagle & shield with arrows

.....

TABLE 6

COINS POTENTIALLY IN CIRCULATION IN FLORIDA
DURING THE SECOND SEMINOLE INDIAN WAR

5. SILVER Half Dollars or 50 cents

TYPE	COMPOSITION	MINT DATES*	NOTES
Half Dollar	90% silver, 10% copper	1794-1795	Flowing hair Liberty facing right; "scrawny eagle" and wreath on reverse; no denomination
Half Dollar	As above	1796-1807	Flowing hair, draped bust, facing right; spread eagle with shield on reverse; denomination absent
"50 C.(ents)"	As above	1807-1837	Capped bust, facing right; eagle with shield on branch on reverse; denomination under branch
"HALF DOL."	As above	1838-1839	As above; denomination on reverse under eagle and branch
"HALF DOL."	As above	1839	Seated Liberty; eagle with shield, clutching arrows; denomination below
"HALF DOL."	As above	1839-1845	As above; drapery added

* Minted coins included recuts, restrikes, and inverted dates in certain years.

TABLE 7

COINS POTENTIALLY IN CIRCULATION IN FLORIDA
DURING THE SECOND SEMINOLE INDIAN WAR

6. SILVER Dollars

TYPE	COMPOSITION	MINT DATES*	NOTES
Dollar	90% silver, 10% copper	1794-1795	Flowing hair Liberty; "scrawny eagle" and wreath on reverse; no denomination
Dollar	As above	1795-1798	Flowing hair Liberty with draped bust; eagle as above
Dollar	As above	1798-1839*	Liberty as above; large spread eagle with shield on reverse; denomination absent
"ONE DOL."	As above	1840-1873	Seated Liberty; eagle and shield on branch on reverse; denomination underneath

* Many coins struck in the 1830s were backdated to 1804 by the United States Mint.

TABLE 8
COINS POTENTIALLY IN CIRCULATION IN FLORIDA
DURING THE SECOND SEMINOLE INDIAN WAR

7. GOLD Pieces

TYPE	COMPOSITION	MINT DATES	NOTES
\$2.50 piece	90% gold, 10% copper	1796-1807	Capped Liberty bust facing right*; spread eagle with shield on reverse; no denomination
"2 1/2 D."	As above	1808-1820	Capped Liberty bust facing left; eagle grasping arrows and olive branches on reverse; denomination underneath.
"2 1/2 D."	As above	1821-1834	Capped head Liberty facing left; eagle and denomination on reverse as above
"2 1/2 D."	As above	1834-1839	Classic head Liberty facing left; eagle and denomination on reverse as above
"2 1/2 D."	As above	1840-1907	Liberty head facing left is Coronet style; eagle and denomination as above

* Encircling stars present or absent in 1796.

TABLE 9
COINS POTENTIALLY IN CIRCULATION IN FLORIDA
DURING THE SECOND SEMINOLE INDIAN WAR

8. GOLD Pieces (concluded)

TYPE	COMPOSITION	MINT DATES*	NOTES
\$5.00 piece	90% gold 10% copper	1795-1798	Capped Liberty bust facing right; small ("scrawny") eagle on wreath on reverse; no denomination
\$5.00 piece	As above	1795-1807	As above; but spread eagle on reverse
"5 D."	As above	1807-1812	Capped small Liberty head facing left; eagle with shield on reverse; denomination underneath

"5 D."	As above	1813-1834	As above but with large Liberty head
"5 D."	As above	1834-1838	Classic Liberty head facing left; eagle grasping arrows and olive branch on reverse; denomination beneath
"FIVE D."	As above	1839-1908	Coronet-type Liberty head facing left; eagle as above; denomination under branch
\$10.00 Piece	As above,	1795-1797	Capped Liberty faces right; "scrawny eagle" in wreath on reverse; no denomination
\$10.00 Piece	As above	1797-1804	As above, but eagle spread, bearing shield, holding arrows and olive branches; denomination absent
"TEN D."	As above	1838-1907	Coronet-type Liberty facing left; large eagle rampant, grasping arrows and olive branches; denomination beneath

 * Size of letter and date fonts varied in different years.