

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



BETSY MCCARTHY, EDITOR Vol.20 no. 1 Jan. 2004

MOUND HOUSE NEWS

Theresa Schober sent some news about the Mound House (Estero Island Site).

The proposed project is “ to remove the swimming pool that was excavated into the shell mound in 1958. The proposed project will remove three walls of the pool, leaving the wall closest to the house in place, and cap over the area to produce a walk-in shell mound exhibit. The entrance of the exhibit will be flush with the shell mound slope and visible only from the western view of the property. Upon entering the exhibit, visitors will see approximately eight vertical feet of shell mound strata along two walls. This project will take two years to complete and will involve two major excavation periods. In the spring of 2005, we will excavate the base of the pool area to create the room and height for the exhibit and in the spring of 2006, we will hand decorate the exhibit walls to stabilize them for the final display. Both excavations will involve volunteers. The Florida Historical Commission scores the proposals based on merit, project design, and threat and our proposal was ranked second out of

95 projects presented! If sufficient state general revenue is earmarked for historic preservation in 2004, we should be starting this project in July and it will certainly keep us busy.

In the near future, we will also be screening some material on the property. As part of an electrical upgrade, we are currently placing utilities underground to the Mound House garage. This involves excavating a trench along the back access road up to the garage and an additional trench from the garage to the back of the house. The trench will be done by backhoe, but we are going to screen all the sediments recovered as well as map the stratigraphy in the trench. We will be screening on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays beginning January 16th and are expecting the project to take two or three weeks. If you would be interested in helping out, please give us a call at the Mound House (765-0865).

While the electrical upgrade is being conducted, we are keeping the Mound House closed to the public but are looking forward to a grand reopening at some point in the spring. There are a number of new things to see inside the house – including beaded board ceilings and

walls upstairs that date back to the 1920s. We are also going to be putting a kayak landing in the fill area on the northern portion of the property this spring and hosting an inaugural tour of the back bay.”

FLORIDA PREMIER: WALKING ON TURTLE ISLAND

Don't miss out on one of the most unique theatre experiences ever to come to our area. Native American playwright and actor Robert Greygrass will bring his acclaimed one man show, WALKING ON TURTLE ISLAND to Theatre Conspiracy at the Foulds theatre beginning Jan. 8th. Group rates are available.

Turtle Island is a poignant and humorous accounting of the Native American experience. This original two act play has been toured all over the US including Hawaii. The play is broken into four separate stories. Two contemporary and two of a more historical nature. As a whole, WALKING ON TURTLE ISLAND features 21 characters and a spirit narrator. It depicts the relocations, the warfare of drugs and alcohol, and the honesty of the lives of the native American people.

Robert Greygrass, a Native American of Lakota and Cherokee descent, has been recognized nationally by tribal elders for his unique Native American storytelling in the true Lakota tradition.

WALKING ON TURTLE ISLAND will be presented in the round on a specially designed platform stage created by Artistic Director Bill Taylor.

Performances are located at the Foulds Theatre at the Alliance of the Arts at 10091 McGregor Blvd, with the entrance on Royal Palm Square Blvd. WALKING ON TURTLE ISLAND runs from January 8th through the 24th with performances at 8 pm on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays with a 2 pm matinee on Sundays. Tickets are \$16. or \$7. for students. For more information or to reserve tickets, please call 936-3239.

ABOUT SWFAS-

The Directorate:

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1st VP – Corbett Torrence

2nd VP – Theresa Schober

Recording Secretary – JoAnn Grey

Treasurer – Charlie Strader

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Last year of 3 year term:

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Dr. Susan Stans

Second year of 3 year term:

Jack Thompson, Sue Long, Betsy Perdicizzi, Bud House, Liz Clement, John Worth

First year of 3 year term:

John Beriault, Charlie Strater

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 Governmental Relations – vacant at present
 Newsletter –John Beriault – Chair until Oct. 2003, Nicolas & Linda Penniman (262-7292), Ray Russell (mailing) (566-8465), Betsy McCarthy-incoming chair
 University Liason – Theresa Schober – Chair

To Join:

Address your check to: the Southwest Florida Archaeology Society, PO Box 9965, Naples, FL 34101.

Dues are: Individual-\$20.Sustaining-\$50. Family-\$35. Student-\$15.

Questions, comment, or contributions to the newsletter: Betsy McCarthy, 909-8 Augusta Blvd, Naples, FL 34113 or e-mail popismom@hotmail.com.