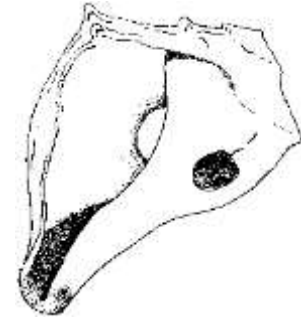


Southwest Florida Archaeological Society Newsletter



BETSY MCCARTHY, EDITOR

Vol. 21 No. 12

DECEMBER 2005

DECEMBER FIELD TRIP TO CHADWICK MOUND ON CAPTIVA

Our Saturday, December 17 field trip this year will visit a shell mound on Captiva Island. Located within the South Seas Plantation Resort, we will meet at 10 AM in the parking lot to the right of the security gate to board a trolley or van to the site.

Bring a picnic lunch and be prepared for touring an 18-foot vegetated shell mound (i.e., closed-toed shoes; pants; maybe hats & bug spray).

See the back page for travel instructions.

SWFAS 2006 ELECTIONS

The nominations for officers and trustees for 2006 are:

Nominating committee: SWFAS Board members.

General membership to vote at January's monthly meeting, which serves as SWFAS annual business meeting. Nominations from the floor can still be accepted until the vote.

Officers:

President: Corbett Torrence

1st VP: Theresa Schober

2nd VP: Tom Franchino

Recording Secretary: Jo Ann Grey

Treasurer: Charlie Strader

Membership: Charlie Strader

Trustees:

New – first year of 3 year term:

Jack Thompson

Betsy Perdichizzi

Bud House

Liz Clement

John Worth

Victoria Rans



South Seas Resort Security Gate

Staying – second year of 3 year term:

Rebecca Austin

Karen Nelson

Staying – last year of 3 year term:

John Beriault

ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS

Several archaeological tours are being offered in December.

Tuesday, Dec. 20th – Mound Key Winter Solstice Kayak Tour - Home of the Calusa Civilization Capital for over 1000 Years – 10 am – Learn about the textiles they made and how well they lived in harmony with their surroundings, see the canals and central water court that they dug and, of course, the magnificent mounds that they built for their chief and other nobility.. Learn how our natives felt about this very important changing of the season. A real local history lesson. 4 hours - \$50 per person.

Thursday, Dec. 22nd – Archaeological Kayak Tour – 10am – Leaves from Pineland. Learn about the Calusa Civilization by visiting Josslyn Island, inhabited by the Calusa for about 800 years. See the mounds and unusual plants. 4 hours - \$50. per person. Sponsored by the Randell Research Center at Pineland on Pine Island. A portion of the proceeds helps support the Research Center. Visit their website at: <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/anthro/sflarc/pineland.htm>.

Useppa Island Kayak Tour – If you're interested let me know and I'll add your name to the list . **GAEA**

Guides, 239-694-5513. This very special tour visits this unusual private island in Pine Island Sound. We tour their museum, which shows about 10,000 years of human habitation on the Useppa. We will also eat lunch at their lovely bay side café. This will be an all day tour. Don't miss our, get on the list now! \$50 per person plus the cost of lunch.

Connie

GAEA guides

Fort Myers, FL 33905

239-694-5513 or toll free 866-256-6388.

TICKETS FOR TUT

The museum of Art in Fort Lauderdale will open the TUTANKHAMUN Exhibition on December 15, 2005

The Marco Island Historical Society has purchased group discount tickets for Monday, February 6, 2006. The price, including the audio guide is \$27.50. Regular admission without the audio guide is \$38.00. A few group tickets are still available.

If you are interested, call Hildegard Nickel at 239-642-74688 or e-mail nickelar@comcast.net

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

To all SWFAS members: Thank you for the opportunity to edit your newsletter. At the present time I am unable to continue the job due to personal obligations.

A special thank-you to Jack and Dottie Thompson and Jack Harvey. They were always "life savers".

MARCO ISLAND LECTURE SERIES

On January 24, 2006, John E. Worth, Curator of the Randell Research Center in Pineland, will present: *On the Trail of the lost Calusa Civilization*. For the last decade Dr.



Worth has been tracing the remaining descendants of Marco Island's legendary Calusa Indians. His landmark detective work has discovered the link between Cuba residents and the Calusa tribe. Dr. Worth is the Director of the University of Florida's Randell Research Center in Pineland, Florida.

NOVEMBER MEETING

Dr. Ryan Wheeler explained that dugout canoes can also be called log canoes and pre-historic versions were made from a single log. The interior of the logs was removed by fire charring and chipping with stone or shell tools. This work may have been done mostly at night because the charring process was much easier to observe in the dark.

Droughts reveal dugout canoes. Old canoes sink to the bottom of lakes and become covered with silt. During droughts, the lake level falls and the silt dries up. When this occurs, the outline of the canoe can be seen in the silt surface

Newnan Lake is a prime example of this phenomenon. Over 100 canoes have been identified on the lake.

Many of the canoes found were so badly decomposed that it was often difficult to tell where wood stopped

and silt started. For these, only the shapes and dimensions observed on site could be recorded.

Canoes present a serious storage problem for museum because they are so large. Farming out large canoes to libraries and similar organizations helps solve this storage problem.

Florida canoes have been found almost always on interior lakes along the backbone of the state. Very few canoes have been found in coastal areas. This may be simply because the likelihood of abandoned canoes being preserved was much higher on inland lakes than on coastal islands or waterways.

During historic times, the Seminoles used dugouts. These later canoes were sometimes made from two or more logs fastened together with iron nails or wooden dowels.

The ancient Indians were an aquatic culture, living near sea- or lakeshores and obtaining much of their food from the water. Water was also their principle means of transport and canoes had much the same place in their culture that cars and trucks do today. Like cars, they were discarded when worn out and large groups of old canoes (such as were found in Newnan Lake) could be analogous to today's junk car lots. There were even indications that some recycling was done in that old canoes were sometimes apparently used as work platforms or as racks for net drying and repair.

DIRECTIONS TO CHADWICK MOUND

From points north, I-75 Exit 131, take Daniels Parkway west 3 miles to Six Mile Cypress Parkway. Turn left and follow Six Mile Cypress 2.8 miles to Gladiolus Drive and US-41. Continue straight ahead. Follow directions at Gladiolus and US-41 below.

From points south, I-75 Exit 128, take Alico Road west 3.3 miles to US-41. Turn right onto US-41 and go north 3 miles to Gladiolus Drive. Turn left onto Gladiolus.

From Gladiolus and US-41, go 1.4 miles on Gladiolus to Summerlin Road. Follow Summerlin Road (C.R. 869) about 8 miles to the Sanibel Causeway Toll Plaza.

From the Sanibel Causeway Toll Plaza. go 17.0 miles to the South Seas Plantation Resort entrance.



Streets Near Resort Entrance

This is the main route through Sanibel and Captiva Islands. It starts as Periwinkle Way, then Palm Ridge Road, and finally Captiva Drive.

Look for the entrance marker shown below just before Captiva Drive ends.



Resort Entrance Marker

Turn right at the entrance marker and proceed to the parking lot to the right of the security gate.

ABOUT SWFAS

The Directorate:

President – Corbett Torrence

1st VP – Theresa Schober

2nd VP – Tom Franchino

Recording Secretary – Jo Ann Grey

Treasurer – Charlie Strader

Membership – Charlie Strader

SWFAS Committees:

Field – John Beriault

Lab – Jack Thompson

Hospitality – Jeanne Sanders

Education – Dr. John Worth

Finance – Charlie Strader

Publicity – Victoria Rans

To Join: Address your check to:

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society,

PO Box 9965,

Naples FL 34101.

Dues are:

Individual - \$20. Sustaining - \$50.

Family - \$35. Student - \$15.

Board meetings: 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM, Hampton Inn, Bonita Springs
All welcome