



Vol. 25 No. 1

January 2009

## Phyllis Kolianos at SWFAS on January 21 in Bonita Springs *Early Maritime Travel and Coastal Habitation on Old Tampa Bay*

Phyllis E. Kolianos, Environmental Education Coordinator of the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center will talk about “Early Maritime Travel and Coastal Habitation on Old Tampa Bay,” at the January 21, 2009 SWFAS meeting in Bonita Springs at 7:30 p.m.

The vast natural resources of Old Tampa Bay, part of



Above: Phyllis Kolianos. Right: 1,100-year-old Gulf Coast open-water canoe



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## Fort Center Tour on January 10

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will celebrate the opening of a new interpretive trail at the historical Fort Center at Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area on Saturday, January 10.

Visitors will have the opportunity to learn about the colorful and fascinating people and animals that have lived along picturesque Fisheating Creek through the centuries.

Biologists and archaeologists (including SWFAS President

Theresa Schober) will take visitors on an interpretive hayride to discover the history of the area. Participants will have the opportunity to learn about edible plants and the mysteries of the swallowtail kite. Identifying animal tracks and practicing archery skills will all be a part of the day. Interesting hands-on exhibits and intriguing presentations will provide a fun and educational experience for the whole family.

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## SWFAS 2009 Nominations for Officers and Trustees

The General membership will be asked to vote at the January's monthly meeting, which serves as the SWFAS annual business meeting.

Nominations from the floor can still be accepted until vote.

### OFFICERS:

President: Theresa Schober

1st VP: Tom Franchino

2nd VP: James Oswald

Recording Secretary: JoAnn Grey

Treasurer: Charlie Strader

Mbr. Sec: Charlie Strader

### TRUSTEES:

*Returning to the Board for a new three-year term:*

Liz Clement

Jack Thompson

*First year of 3 year term:*

- Annette Snapp

*Second year of 3 year term:*

- Rebecca Austin

- Alison Elgart

*Last year of 3 year term:*

- John Beriault

- Jean Belknap

- Betsy McCarthy

## Upcoming Programs of Interest

- Sunday, January 11 -- **Little Salt Spring** is holding their annual Open House from 11 a.m. - 1p.m.

### Marco Island Historical Society

- January 13, 2009 -- De Vere Burt will speak to us about the history of Audubon Birds and show his beautiful artwork.
- March 31 -- Bill Marquardt of the Florida Museum of Natural History talks about collections and the preservation policies for a museum.

Talks are at 7 p.m. at Mackle Park, 1361 Andalusia Curt on Marco Island. Contact Betsy Perdichizzi for more info (betsyperd@naples.net).

- Saturday, January 24, 2009 -- **2nd Annual Alachua Stone Age Fair** in Alachua, at the Alachua Woman's Club, 14565 South Main Street. Modeled after the Loveland, Colorado Stone Age Fair, the show will feature outstanding private and public artifact and fossil collections. No commercial buying or selling of prehistoric artifacts or fossils will be allowed. 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Speakers will be:
  - Dr. Barbara Purdy, Professor Emeritus of the University of Florida
  - Scott Mitchell, Director of the Silver River Museum
  - Dr. Richard Estabrook, FPAN
  - Thomas Perterra, Avocational Archaeology and Paleontology Council.
- February 6 - 8, 2009 -- **2nd Annual Stone Age and Primitive Arts Festival** at Ochlockonee River State Park in Sopchoppy. There will be demonstrations of flint knapping, projectile point fashioning, deer hide brain tanning, bone, wood and antler carving, plus you can observe bow-and-arrow construction, basket weaving and early pottery. Contact Linda Trice, P.S.S., 850/962-2771 or Linda.trice@dep.state.fl.us. Admission \$3 per vehicle.

## Help Needed to Plan FAS 2010

SWFAS will be hosting the FAS Annual Meeting in May 2010. There will be a meeting of those interested in working on the planning following the January SWFAS meeting in Bonita Springs.

Anyone interested in participating is welcome to attend -- this is the first meeting of the committee. If you would like to help, please let Theresa Schober know at the January meeting.

## *Reminder:* **SWFAS Membership Renews in January!**

### Upcoming Programs -- from left

- April 1 -- **Dr. William Marquardt** will be speaking at the Bailey-Matthews Shell Museum on Sanibel at 2 p.m. on "Calusa Mounds and Middens: A Long-term View." His talk will focus on the nature, function and diversity of shell mounds in southwest Florida from 6,000 years ago to the time of European contact. The Shell Museum is at 3075 Sanibel-Captiva Road; phone 239/395-2233. [www.shellmuseum.org](http://www.shellmuseum.org)

### Upcoming SWFAS Programs

- February 18th – Franklin P. Adams
- March 21st – Trail Speaker Event at the Collier County Museum

### SWFAS December Field Trip

For the December outing to Roberts Ranch in Immokalee, the weather was good and there was a lot to see -- more than many SWFAS members had expected!

Lee Mitchell was a great host and the Collier County Museum has done a fine job.



## Kolianos -- from Page 1

the largest open water estuary in Florida, enabled the development of "fairly large precolumbian populations." Recent research by Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center in partnership with other professionals and volunteers has led to new information about early occupation sites and subsistence, and an exciting investigation into a discovery of the first open-water Gulf coast dugout canoe. This talk will focus first on the Shoreline Midden (8Pi11569) public archaeology restoration project and then reveal the unique find of the Shoreline Canoe (8Pi11624), a 1,100 year old, pine dugout canoe documented to be more than 40 feet long.

The canoe -- which is the longest prehistoric canoe ever found in Florida -- was found buried in the sand along the Weedon Island shoreline by a local resident.

It measures 39-feet, 11-inches in length, but was probably upwards of 45 feet in total. The canoe features a raised bow that indicates that it was used on open water.

A pine pole, found under the canoe, also dates to about 1,100 years ago. It was perhaps used for paddling, poling or docking. Both canoe and pole are attributed to the late

Weeden Island Culture of the Florida Gulf Coast dwellers of the Manasota Period.

Kolianos was the principal archaeological investigator on the team. Only a pre-excavation dig was performed, along with thorough radiocarbon dating and wood sampling, which confirmed the wood as pine, a prevalent local timber after which the county of Pinellas is named. Numerous resources would be required in order to excavate and preserve the canoe.

Lasting some 800 years, the Weeden Island Culture evolved out of a segment of the Manasota Culture, an ancient population that settled along Florida's rich estuaries and central Gulf Coast 2,500 years ago. The society increased in population and eventually changed in social structure to become the Safety Harbor Culture that met the first Europeans to the area.

Phyllis Kolianos is co-editor with Brent Weisman of *The Florida Journals of Frank Hamilton Cushing* (2005) and *The Lost Florida Manuscript of Frank Hamilton Cushing* (2005), both by University Press of Florida.

## Fort Center -- from Page 1

Other speakers include Ken Meyers on the "Swallowtail Kits of Fisheating Creek" and Nancy Dale on the "Cow Hunters of Wild Florida."

The free event takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Fisheating Creek field office, which is north of Moore Haven just off County Road 78. Food and drink will be available for purchase.

For more information or to reserve your spot on an early morning birding tour, call Liz Sparks at 850-922-6160.

## Trail Speaker Series: Bringing Florida Archaeology to Life

### 2009 Trail of Florida's Indian Heritage Archaeology Speaker Series

Flyers with abstracts and more detailed location information for each talk will be available at the January SWFAS meeting.

- January 10, 2009 1:00-2:30PM (CST), Indian Temple Mound Museum, City of Fort Walton Beach. Dr. Kenneth E. Sassaman, Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of Florida on "Archaeological Insights on the Ancient Shell Works of the St. Johns River, Northeast Florida"
- February 21, 2009 1:00-2:30PM, Charlotte County Historical Center - Dr. John A. Gifford, Director, Little Salt Spring Archaeological Site, University of Miami Rosentiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science on "Little Salt Spring - A Unique Prehistoric Underwater Site"
- March 10, 2009 6:00-8:00PM, South Florida Museum,



Look for the second column in Jack Harvey's *Digital Archaeology* series in next month's newsletter.

Bradenton - Dr. Mary Glowacki, Archaeology Supervisor, Public Lands Archaeology, Bureau of Archaeological Research on "The Anhaica Apalache and the De Soto Expedition: What Are the Facts?"

- March 21, 2009 1:00-2:30PM, Collier County Historical Museum, Naples - Dr. Nancy M. White, Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of South Florida on "Adventures in Northwest Florida Jungle Archaeology"
- March 26, 2009 1:00-2:30PM, Museum of Florida Art and Culture, South Florida Community College, Avon Park - Christopher M. Still, Florida Heritage Artist
- April 18, 2009 2:00-4:30PM, Historical Museum of Southern Florida, Miami - Dr. James J. Miller on "Latest Research in the Bahamas" & Robert S. Carr on "The Bahamas Legacy: New Discoveries in the Northern Bahamas"

## Florida Anthropologist Goes Digital

*The Florida Anthropologist* (vols. 1-58; 1948-2005) has been locally digitized and incorporated into the UF Digital Collections for long term preservation and free public access. The journal is fully searchable and available at:

<http://www.uflib.ufl.edu/UFDC/UFDC.aspx?s=flant&b=UF00027829>

*The Florida Anthropologist* is the quarterly journal of the Florida Anthropological Society, and was first published in May 1948. The journal publishes on a wide variety of anthropological topics relative to Florida. One of its principle publishing interests is Pre-Columbian societies with articles also documenting colonial establishments and colonization of Florida, early modern Florida, etc. The contents of this collection were digitized with the permission of the Florida Anthropological Society, Inc. from original materials held by the Department of Special and Area Studies Collections at the University of Florida's George A. Smathers Libraries. Copyrighted material. All rights reserved by the Society.

- from UF Anthro updates by Ken Sassaman



### About SWFAS

#### The Directorate:

President - Theresa Schober  
 1st VP - Tom Franchino  
 2nd VP - James Oswald  
 Recording Secretary - Jo Ann Grey  
 Treasurer - Charlie Strader  
 Membership Secretary - Charlie Strader

#### Trustees:

Rebecca Austin, Jean Belknap, John Beriault, Liz Clement, Alison Elgart, Betsy McCarthy, Betsy Perdichizzi, Jack Thompson

#### SWFAS Committees:

Field - John Beriault  
 Lab - Jack Thompson  
 Hospitality - Jeanne Sanders  
 Newsletter - Karen Nelson

If you would like to join SWFAS, please address your check to: The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society; P.O. Box 9965; Naples, FL 34101  
 Dues are: Individual - \$20; Sustaining - \$50; Family - \$35; Student \$15

#### Learn more about SWFAS at:

<http://www.explorationsinc.com/swfl-archaeology/index.html>

Board meetings are usually held prior to the regular meeting on the third Wednesday of the month at the Bonita Springs Community Hall at 27381 Old U.S. 41 (by the banyan tree). All are welcome. Board meetings begin at 6 p.m. Regular meetings begin at 7:30 (with coffee served at 7).

## January 2009 Newsletter

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society  
 P.O. Box 9965  
 Naples, FL 34101