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February 2009

Franklin Adams at SWFAS on Feb. 18 in Bonita Springs

Learn about the lifeways of the ancient (and not-so-ancient) residents of the Everglades/Big Cypress/Ten Thousand Islands area when Franklin Adams speaks to SWFAS on February 18 at 7:30 p.m. in Bonita Springs.

He will be showing some slides as he talks about the early Indian mounds/middens, how they might have been constructed and why. Who used these mounds over time and why?

He'll also talk about some of the early settlers and where and how they made a living. And as a lifelong resident of South Florida, he'll share some of his own personal experiences

Born and raised in Miami, Adams has been a long-time advocate for the Everglades. He helped fight the Dade County Port Authority's Big Cypress Jetport, lobbied for the establishment of the Big Cypress National Preserve and having the Big Cypress watershed declared an Area of Critical State Concern by the Florida legislature. He has worked for the restoration of water flows to Everglades National Park as well as restoration of the Kissimmee-Okeechobee-Everglades system.

Now a charter boat captain, fishing guide and eco-tour



Franklin Adams

operator, he worked as a land surveyor after serving in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 841st Engineer Battalion. His varied career also included jobs with Hertz Corporation and as President of Jerry's Carpet, Inc.

Adams has served on the boards of numerous environmental organizations, including Friends of the Everglades, the Big Cypress Nature Center, the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, the Izaak Walton League of America, Florida Conservation

Foundation; he was a conservation representative of the Florida Governor's Big Cypress Swamp Advisory Committee. He was a founding member of SWFAS and of the Florida Native Plant Society. He has received many awards, including the Everglades Coalition's George M Barley Award as Conservationist of the Year; recognition by the State of Florida House of Representatives for serving on the State Water Task Force, a group that met for two years and led to the passage of the Water Quality Assurance Act of 1983; National Wildlife Federation Conservation Achievement Award; Izaak Walton League of America Hall of Fame Award for his Big Cypress/Everglades work.

Shellwork Landscapes in the Ten Thousand Islands -- November 2008

By John G. Beriault

Archaeologist Margo Schwadron of the Southeast Archaeological Center came to give us an excellent talk on her recent work in the Ten Thousand Islands. Margo has done extensive work on the large and very complicated shell mound islands that extend at 3-5 mile intervals down the coastline of the Ten Thousand Islands. These large sites can range in size up to 60-80 acres and generally feature mounds, likely plazas, radiating linear ditches, causeways, breakwaters, and other intentionally constructed features.

Some of the larger sites she has examined include Dismal Key,

Continued on page 2

Early Maritime Travel/Habitation on Old Tampa Bay -- January 2009

By Karen Nelson

Phyllis E. Kolianos from the Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center spoke at the January 21 SWFAS meeting.

Tampa Bay is the largest estuary in Florida, fed by four rivers. The Weedon Island culture flourished there from 200 - 1,000 A.D., followed by the Safety Harbor culture, beginning around 1,000 A.D. through European contact. Little research has been done on Weedon Island, the cultural type site, since the 1920s.

Continued on page 4

Upcoming Programs of Interest

- 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.
- March 31 -- **Dr. William Marquardt** of the Florida Museum of Natural History talks about collections and the preservation policies for a museum at the Marco Island Historical Society. Talks are at 7 p.m. at Mackle Park, 1361 Andalusia Curt on Marco Island. Contact Betsy Perdichizzi for more info (betsyperd@naples.net).
- April 1 -- **Dr. William Marquardt** will also 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

Schwadron -- from Page 1

Fakahatchee Key, Russell Key and Sandfly Key. Many of the smaller neighboring sites Margo has also examined are ring-shaped shellworks and other subsidiary sites in proximity to the larger sites.

Margo has determined that nearly all the large sites are accreted from initially simple Archaic period shellworks that were ring-shaped constructions. Her work has involved controlled surface collection throughout the large sites; the strategic excavation of test units to obtain diagnostic material and radiocarbon dates; and the creation of not-to-scale maps of both large and small sites. The maps are created using many GPS readings and visual determinations.

Margo has acquired over one hundred radiocarbon dates, an impressive series that details the demographic changes found throughout the region of the northern Ten Thousand Islands over a three-thousand year span. Additionally, she has taken the two-dimensional maps and used state-of-the-art computer software to create three-dimensional images.

Margo Schwadron is one of the first of a new generation of archaeologists to penetrate one of the Last Frontiers of the United States, a remote forbidding area filled with heat, biting

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 February SWFAS meeting in Bonita Springs. All interested are welcome to attend -- this is the first meeting of the committee. If you would like to help, please let Theresa Schober know at the February meeting.

RRC's Calusa Heritage Day - Feb. 21

The Randell Research Center's fourth annual Calusa Heritage Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 21, 2009. The event focuses on regional archaeology, history, and ecology. Art, music, and replicative technologies, as avenues to learning/education about Pineland's heritage, are included. Activities for children and adults alike will be provided, and food and beverages will be available. Admission is \$5 per person; children under 12 are admitted free. All proceeds will benefit the education and research programs of the Calusa Heritage Trail, Randell Research Center.

The day-long event (10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) will take place at the Pineland archaeological site complex (13810 Waterfront Drive, Pineland) and will be centered around the Pavilion/Classroom and Calusa Heritage Trail. Visitors can expect a variety of activity, exhibit, and information stations located in these areas in a festival format as well as site tours.

The featured speaker this year is Donna Ruhl, who will give a lecture on "Paddling through the Clues: Direct and Indirect Evidence of Florida's Ancient Dugout Canoes." An archaeobotanist with the Florida Museum of Natural History, she has been actively involved with the excavation of many dugout canoes for the past ten years including the investigation of more than 100 ancient dugout canoes discovered in Newnan's Lake, some dating as much as 5,000 years old, as well as the recent find of the first Florida Gulf coast dugout. She will speak in the classroom at the Calusa Heritage Trail, Randell Research Center, at 2:00 p.m.

insects, thorny plants, tangled vegetation -- and bring cutting-edged technology to bear against the mysteries to found there.

SWFAS Annual December Picnic – Roberts Ranch, December 13th

Approximately twenty members of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society enjoyed the hospitality of the Collier County Museum at the Roberts Ranch on a cool but sunny Saturday in early December. The Ranch is the family home of the pioneering Roberts family in eastern Immokalee, adjacent to State Road 29. The site includes the Roberts Family house, outbuildings, and an historic church which has been relocated to its present location.

Members enjoyed a tour of the ranch given by Lee Mitchell, the manager of the facility. This tour included the downstairs portion of the house which is being restored to the circa 1920s appearance. Outbuildings that survive on the property include the cookhouse, tannery equipment sheds, well. The church is a frame structure dating to the early 1900s.

After the tour, the members ate their bag lunches on the sunny side of the church out of the wind, which was still "crisp" by mid-day. I especially want to thank Lee Mitchell for his kindness and his expertise making early events in Immokalee come to life! Thank you, Jean Belknap and others who coordinated this very pleasant event!

In Memory of Shirley House

By John G. Beriault

It is with great sadness I heard Shirley House has left us. This last year has seen the passing of many important SWFAS members. I'm afraid a new chapter of our ongoing story is being written simply because many of the doers and active participants in our group have passed away.

Shirley House was special because she was such a very nice lady. She and Bud were always there helping, and Shirley could usually be found at the sifter tirelessly screening away.

Shirley was a great cook who made some of the best chili I ever ate. She was also a vegetarian, and gave one of the best and most succinct answers for not eating meat, "Because it has a face!" while smiling one of those beautiful Shirley House smiles.

Shirley was cheerful, always happy, a counterpoint to Bud who, when he wanted to shift her would give a gruff "Come on, Shirley." Shirley could take pleasure in the smallest things. She was happy and nostalgic about a vintage graphitype machine I had in my garage, as she ran one for a number of years and Bud would have to swing by during his telephone service repair and fix it when it jammed.

Shirley liked antiques. She liked people. She liked our group, and it was sad when just a few years ago she became too fragile to travel to meetings.

Memorial Celebration

Shirley's family has planned a celebration to be held on Tuesday, February 24, beginning at 4 p.m. and lasting as long as whenever. It will be held at Fritts Park, Beach Daisy Lane (off of Stringfellow Rd) in Bokeelia on Pine Island. Daisy Lane is the road right before the Pink Citrus Trailer Park. There will be signs showing the way. Bring a dish to pass and share in the memories.

From the News-Press obituary:

Shirley F. House, 86, of St. James City passed away Sunday, January 4, 2009... She was a founding member of the Museum of the Islands on Pine Island, an active member and fund-raiser for the Calusa Land Trust, a Friend of the Randell Research Center of Pineland and a member the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society... Memorial Contributions may be made to Calusa Land and Trust, P.O. Box 216, Bokeelia, FL 33922; Randell Research Center, P.O. Box 608, Pine Island, FL 33922; Museum of the Island Society, P.O. Box 305 St. James City, FL 33956.

All of us that knew Shirley will miss her, and we won't forget her, a sweet person and great friend...

Trail Speaker Series:

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 February meeting.

- 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, 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"

Kolianos -- from Page 1

Kolianos spoke about two recent projects: the Gateway tract and the recently found 1,100-year-old open water canoe.

Gateway Tract

Grants to fund work on the Gateway tract were received in 2004-2005. This shell midden, to the north of the Preserve, is about 200 feet long, 70 feet wide, mostly four-to-five feet high (six feet in some places) and located about 20-30 feet back from the bay. It is in very shallow water

and only accessible by boat. The midden was so thickly covered by Brazilian pepper that Pinellas County crews had to clear some off for access before work could begin. For three days, about 35 volunteers a day (coordinated through FPAN) helped with the project.

Some areas had been heavily looted; four major looter holes provided an opportunity to obtain some good profiles and do some screening as the sides were cleaned. Human bones -- a finger and upper vertebra -- were found in one looter hole. The bones were taken to USF and after

Continued on page 4

Kolianos -- from Page 3

consultation with State Archaeologist Ryan Wheeler, they were reinterred on the mound.

AMS dates of 540-690 AD were found at 67 cm below the surface and the mound showed a great deal of continuity over time. After finishing their work, they lined the looter holes with sandbags and raked the looter spoil into the holes, smoothing out and restoring the surface of the mound.

The Canoe

In 2005, a local resident, Harry Koran, saw a canoe gunwale (the upper edge of the side) in the shoreline sand and came to the Preserve, saying he had found a canoe.

It was located on old Tampa Bay, on an intertidal site and it's the first canoe found in Florida in intertidal waters. It was near the shoreline midden site (Gateway tract), and it took a couple of years to figure out how to work on the canoe. Archaeologists who worked on the project included Donna Ruhl, Bob Austin and FPAN's Richard Estabrook.

Project goals for the pre-excitation included *not* excavating the canoe; preparing a map, measurements and drawings; obtaining a wood sample,

identifying it and getting Carbon-14 dating; photographing and videotaping the work.

The main problem was figuring out how to keep the tide out. December was chosen for the work since tides are the lowest then, and there was a four-to-five hour window for the excavation. Trenches were dug and a coffer dam was built around the canoe with sandbags wrapped in vinyl sheeting.

They began uncovering the canoe, digging a series of smaller trenches between the canoe and the larger trenches to drain the water off.

One end had an overhanging bow; the other end was broken and there wasn't enough time to try to find it. The canoe was over 40 feet, making it the longest found in Florida. Kolianos noted that 45' seems to be the average length for the open-water canoes that are still used in the Hawaiian islands and Guatemala. She said most Florida canoes are 15-18 inches wide, but they're not 40 feet long.

They took measurements every 50 cm and tried to measure the girth. However, the gunwales were badly deteriorated, so only a narrow center bottom portion of the canoe could be measured. They found possible thwart; some of the Newnan's



Dr. Robert Austin was among those helping during the pre-excitation dig.

Lake canoes had thwarts. It isn't known if these would have been used to provide stability, or possibly been used as seats. The burn areas and gouge marks that were part of the canoe's production could be clearly seen.

As they were taking measurements, they found a pole and assumed that it was recent and had been used by someone who had tried to pry the canoe free. They weren't going to date it but had read about poles associated with

Continued on page 6

Digital Archaeology: Databases

By Jack Harvey

Bob Cratchit was a database manager for Ebenezer Scrooge. The miserly old money man needed, nay, demanded precise counting of the paltry sums owing by his clients. Bob, wrapped in a warmish white comforter, sat on a high stool and added up Scrooge's wealth with ink pot and quill. Flipping through ledgers, he foretold who owed money, how much, and when due. There was no doubt whatever about that. Likewise we can be assured that computer database technology arose to sum money in giant corporate counting-houses.

Early electronic computers preceded the database concept, however. First we had specialized programs such as Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable

and General Ledger. But gradually we realized these different functions had much in common and the idea arose of using common software for all. One 1968 package was IMS (Information Management System) from IBM. It was several more years before a DBMS (Data Base Management System) became commonly accepted as a general way to organize all kinds of data, from Scrooge's money to airline flights, drivers licenses, library catalogs, stock markets, and yes, museum collections.

The intense efforts to perfect these software systems in order to manage basic data were intended for giant mainframe computers costing millions of dollars. And the software costs were similarly gigantic. Large corporations found themselves with permanent departments employing scores

Tool Type	Test Unit				Totals
	1	2	3	4	
Anvil			1	1	2
Bivalve Knife Scraper		3	3	2	8
Columella Hammer, Single Ended	10	9	10	11	40
Columella Hammer/Pounder			1	1	2
Dipper/Vessel		1			1
Gastropod Cutting-edge Tool A				2	2
Gastropod Hammer A	1	4	3	4	12
Gastropod Hammer B	2	3	3	2	10
Gastropod Hammer F			1		1
Gastropod Hammer G			2	1	3
Gastropod Hammer I	1	2	1		4
Net Weight	2	1	1	5	9
Pendent				1	1
Point			1		1
Spoon/Scoop		1	1		2
Totals:	16	22	27	32	97

Part of a simple archaeological database. Each row describes a tool. Each column has a specific attribute for each tool, such as Tool Type or Weight.

of experts devoted to the care and feeding of the giant computers.

Meanwhile enthusiasts found ways

Geology -- from left

to build tiny computers in their garages and invented nerdy games like Pong, Space War, Pac-Man and Star Trek to play on them. As personal computers from Commodore, IBM and Apple sold by the thousands, real moneymakers appeared: VisiCalc and Lotus 1-2-3. These tiny computer tools greatly aided a common business problem: calculating the cost and scheduling of a project using a spreadsheet. Thus the tiny computers suddenly became much more than curious geek toys and actually useful in small business offices, suddenly selling by the tens of thousands.

As tiny computer spreadsheet programs matured, we found they could also do one of the most successful of various giant mainframe data management methods, the “relational database.” This scheme organized data into columns of descriptions or attributes and rows of individual objects described by those attributes, ideally fitting the spreadsheet arrangement of rows and columns. So an archaeological relational database might have a row for each artifact. Each artifact would be described by attributes (in columns) such as kind, type, species, provenience, weight, color, and storage location. Each row of descriptive attributes for an object is a “relationship,” hence the name.

The simple database example shown here is how part of an archaeological database of tools might look. This isn't a useful table to publish in a *Florida Anthropologist* article. It's just a raw listing of some of what was found in an archaeological dig. (The full archaeological database would of course

Artifact ID Number	Provenience		Tool Type	Species	Weight Grams
	Test Unit	Level			
3729	4	3	Gastropod Hammer B	Horse Conch	59.4
3730	4	13	Gastropod Hammer A	Lightning Whelk	68.8
3731	3	4	Net Weight	Ponderous Ark	9.5
3732	1	6	Gastropod Hammer, Unhalted	Lightning Whelk	46.0
3734	4	5	Spoon/Scoop	Lightning Whelk	87.2
3735	2	10	Bivalve Knife Scraper	Atlantic Surf Clam	10.0
3736	2	11	Gastropod Hammer/Pounder	Lightning Whelk	92.7
3737	3	13	Gastropod Hammer A	Lightning Whelk	56.0
3738	3	7	Gastropod Hammer, Unhalted	Lightning Whelk	105.4
3739	1	3	Gastropod Hammer, Indeterminate	Lightning Whelk	199.8
3740	3	14	Columella Hammer, Single Ended	Lightning Whelk	35.0
3741	2	1	Gastropod Hammer, Unhalted	Horse Conch	89.9
3742	2	10	Gastropod Hammer B	Horse Conch	57.9

Tool Type Counts by Test Unit. A useful summary of the tools database, showing where they were found.

include all tools found.) By storing the raw data in an organized way, its entry and maintenance can be standardized and controlled. However, this is only half of relational database technology.

The other half is report generation – automatic creation of significant and useful summary reports from all the raw data. An added advantage is that data updates and corrections appear in the summaries automatically.

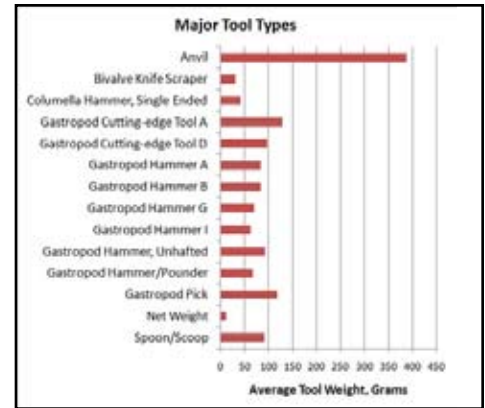
1970 mainframe database technology produced several methods for defining or specifying the practical summary reports that make a database useful. One that eventually predominated was Structured Query Language or SQL (often pronounced Squirrel) and most modern database systems use this advanced computer programming language. Microsoft's Access relational database system for personal computers includes SQL, as do most other competitive packages.

Does this mean that an archaeologist wanting to use a database on a PC needs to buy expensive software? Do we need to be programmers and speak Squirrel? No, most PCs include some kind of spreadsheet program, such as Excel or Works Spreadsheet. These usually don't provide SQL but instead offer mouse-actuated ways to create useful summary reports. Excel calls them PivotTables and you use the database column names (attributes) to define a specific summary report.

The table “Tool Type Counts by Test Unit” shown here is a summary report automatically produced from the database example using its Test Unit and Tool Type columns. This table shows the tool counts but weight totals could be shown too.

And the same simplistic example database can also produce tables of “Tool Types by Species” or Tool Types by Test Unit Level, showing counts or weights.

These spreadsheet programs can automatically produce bar charts (and many other graphical presentations) to characterize what was found. The bar



Bar Chart of Major Tool Types. The average weight of each type is shown graphically.

chart example here displays average weight, also computed automatically.

A realistic archaeology dig database might have several other relationships such as storage location, laboratory analysis page number, dates, etc. The same simple spreadsheet-based database software also supports going backward from summary table result cells to automatically locate the items contributing to a specific result, speeding additional study or error correction.

Summary tables often expose flaws in the original laboratory data or in keying into the computer. For example, a net weight might be identified as made from Lightning Whelk, an unlikely combination. The database software can quickly expose relevant page numbers and storage locations to resolve the question.

Students have long been the Bob Cratchits of archaeology and anthropology, searching through all the blurry laboratory analysis pages of dig material to total with pocket calculators the many sums needed for a publishable table. Now by using their basic computer skills to record the analyses in databases, they can produce needed results in a flash. Instead of becoming computer programmers, they can learn about PivotTables in “Excel 2007 for Dummies.”

Send suggestions for topics to: jakharve@earthlink.net

Just *a reminder from the Treasurer* that annual membership dues are due January 1st. So, if you have not yet paid yours, we hope you will renew soon and save us sending dues notices. Each membership is important!

Also, all members have the option to receive our newsletter via email as a PDF attachment. This has several benefits to members: you receive it sooner, the photos are in color, the newsletter is less likely to be misplaced as it can be stored in your computer and only printed out if desired. It also is a big benefit to our society as it saves money for printing and postage. All you need to do is let me know by calling me at 239-992-9660, or emailing me at SWFAS@ExplorationsInc.com. Try it - you may like it. If not, you can change back!

We also occasionally send out email notices and last-minute information to members. So, even if you do not want to receive newsletters via email, if you think we do not have your email address, please contact me.

Kolianos -- from Page 4

canoes, so had it dated and it matched the canoe at 1,100 years old. It could have been a paddle, or an outrigger, or perhaps it was used to roll the canoe on the beach or to rig a double-canoe. The pole fell apart once it was excavated.

There was no pottery associated with the canoe but it was close to the other site, which dated 540-690 AD while the canoe dated to approximately 890-900 AD.

Once the tide came back in, it breached the dam and they quickly covered up the canoe.

Kolianos summed up that the canoe was probably Gulf-related and possibly used in deep water; parts of Tampa Bay are 2-1/2 to 3 miles across. The extended bow would

have been good in breaking waves. This canoe provides solid evidence of open water seafaring by dugout, and it's the longest canoe found in Florida. It provides evidence of far-ranging travel and a transportation network that probably moved goods, ideas and people.

Someone in the audience asked about removing the canoe; Kolianos said the State Archaeologist has said that if it can't come out in one piece, he wants it left in place.

Kolianos said that Weedon Island recently founded a new nonprofit group, AWARE (Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research & Education), hoping to establish an archaeological research station at Weedon Island.

About SWFAS

The Directorate:

*President - Theresa Schober
1st VP - Tom Franchino
2nd VP - James Oswald
Recording Secretary - vacant
Treasurer - Charlie Strader
Membership Secretary - Charlie Strader*

Trustees:

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

SWFAS Committees:

*Field - John Beriault
Lab - Jack Thompson
Hospitality - volunteer welcome!
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).

February 2009 Newsletter

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