



Vol. 27 No. 4

April 2011

April 16 Field Trip: “Where is the Fort in Fort Myers?”

There will be no April SWFAS meeting in Bonita Springs. Instead, on Saturday, April 16, Lee Hutchinson of Archaeological Consultants, Inc. (ACI) will talk about historical Fort Myers in “Where is the Fort in Fort Myers?”

The group will meet at the Southwest Florida Museum of History for an 11 a.m presentation by Hutchinson. We’ll head out at noon for lunch at The Oasis Restaurant and at 1:30, regroup for a walking tour.

Hutchinson will talk about her archaeological research in downtown Fort Myers and then take tourgoers to the site of

the U.S. military cemetery, once associated with Fort Myers and Fort Harvie, both Seminole War forts. She will share excavation photos, maps, artifacts and stories about the discovery and removal of burials by ACI in 1992.

The Southwest Florida Museum of History is located at 2300 Peck Street in downtown Fort Myers. For more information contact Matthew Schuld at 239/590-1476 or mschuld@fgcu.edu.

The event is free.

Digital Archaeology: Owing Data

By Jack Harvey

Socrates didn’t own patents or copyrights. These are fairly recent additions to the list of things we can own. It may be a coincidence that they appeared about the same time that humans stopped being property, but both events might be tied to Gutenberg’s development of the printing press and the rise of science.

Johannes Gutenberg got his press going about 1439 and all hell broke loose. The government and church initially welcomed the press because it made dissemination of laws, regulations and bibles far quicker and cheaper. But it also expedited articles of dissent and criticism of authority. Hence authorities quickly required printers to be licensed, strictly controlling what they could distribute. The French crown burned a printer at the stake in 1546. Part of the storming of the Bastille was freeing about 800 authors, printers and book dealers imprisoned there.

It’s hard to silence people who buy ink by the barrel, however, and ideas flourished. Authors and printers were able to profit from the right to own their work. In 1710, the British Parliament passed “An Act for the Encouragement of Learning...” which began the development of modern copyright law.

Patents began about the same time but with much less uproar. Science, spurred by printed data, hatched new technology.

Authorities generally recognized the value of useful new inventions and encouraged them by granting exclusive profit rights to inventors. At first arbitrarily granted by monarchs, patents became formalized in 1474 in Venice, Italy. But the system was often abused by monarchs who granted them in return for cash. The British Statute of Monopolies in 1624 corrected much of this abuse, starting modern patent law.

Both copyrights and patents are, effectively, limited monopolies in valuable data, broadly defined as *information given*. The duration of the monopoly varies greatly. Patents may last about one generation; copyrights for the life of the author plus some years. Both are property that the owner can sell or otherwise profit from. In some cases, the profit is only professional reputation, such as honors (or tenure) granted an archaeologist. Publish or perish. (You were wondering when I would tie this kite down.)

Gutenberg reduced the cost of publishing data to a fraction of the hand-lettered manuscript copies his press replaced. But it didn’t go to zero, and that’s important. The paper and ink still had to be bought and the pressmen paid. Princes and Prelates still had to select what to print and distribute to the masses, so only the most important data were published. And the masses had to learn to read, so it took generations

Continued on Page 2

FAS 63rd Annual Meeting in Orlando May 6 - 8: "Past is Prologue"

The Central Florida Anthropological Society will host the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society in Orlando, May 6-8, 2011. Papers and posters on all topics pertaining to Florida anthropology and archaeology are invited for presentation during the general session on Saturday, May 7 at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater.

Early registration forms must be submitted by April 1, 2011. Come experience and enjoy a part of Orlando that is centered on art, culture, history and science.

Accommodations for FAS 2011 will be at the Comfort Suites Downtown Orlando 2416 N. Orange Ave. Orlando, FL 32804, which is about 3/4 of a mile from the Orlando Shakespeare Theater. The special room rate is \$89 per night. Reservations should be made directly with the hotel at 1-877-228-4007 or (local) 407-228-4007. In order to receive the special conference room rate, reservations must be made prior to April 6, 2011 and you must ask for the "Florida Anthropological Society group rate" to guarantee the rate of \$89 per night plus tax.

Preliminary Schedule

Friday, May 6: FAS, FAC, FPAN and Trail of Florida's Indian Heritage board meetings will be scheduled for Friday morning and afternoon at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater 812 E. Rollins St., Orlando, FL 32803. On Friday afternoon, Jason Wenzel will facilitate a workshop and forum: "Archaeology of the Recent Past" which will focus on issues, methods and opportunities pertaining to the study of the late historic through modern period. The Friday evening reception will also be held at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater. A shuttle will be provided for the reception to and from the conference hotel.

Saturday, May 7: Papers and posters will be presented Saturday morning and afternoon at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater. The deadline for abstracts and poster proposals is February 12, 2011. Vendors with books and other wares will be available. The FAS Annual Business Meeting and FAS New Board Meeting will follow the paper sessions on Saturday. The Saturday night banquet will be held at the Taproom of the Historic Dubsdread Golf Course in the College Park Community 849 West Par Street Orlando, Florida 32804. Please sign up for the banquet in advance, before the end of the early registration period (April 1, 2011). A shuttle will be provided for the banquet to and from the conference hotel.

Sunday, May 8: A field trip to Oakland, a small historic town about 10 miles west of Orlando, and the south Lake Apopka area will be offered. Stops will include a nature walk and visitation to the new cultural history and

environmental education center of the Oakland Nature Preserve 747 Machete Trail, Oakland, FL 34787, and a stroll along historic Tubb Street which is home to some of Oakland's 19th century structures where recent historical archaeological investigations have taken place. Bussing for the tour to and from the conference hotel will be offered at \$15 per person or you may provide transportation on your own as the sites are within 1 mile of Florida Turnpike Exit 272. Please sign up for the tour in advance, before the end of the early registration period (April 1, 2011).

Florida Anthropological Society Student Paper Competition

Undergraduate and graduate students currently enrolled in degree granting collegiate programs are encouraged to compete for a prize. The student must submit a paper of original research that contributes to our understanding of Florida's cultural history. Contestants must submit three (3) copies of their paper and make an oral presentation at the FAS meeting. The oral presentations must be drawn from the written paper. The written paper cannot exceed 2500 words and must be typed and double-spaced. Postmark deadline for student papers is Monday, March 15, 2011.

Student papers and oral presentations will be judged on writing quality, overall presentation, quality of arguments and supporting data, and contribution to our understanding of Florida's cultural past and/or present. Prizes will be awarded at the ceremony during the Saturday evening banquet.

A three-person committee will judge the papers using the following criteria:

I. Written Presentation

Organization of paper: Must be clearly written in a coherent, logical and organized format
Development of ideas/thoroughness of research: Must demonstrate substantive knowledge of topic
Significance of research / contribution to the field

II. Oral Presentation

Organization of presentation: Must present ideas in an organized and coherent format
Communication skills: Must articulate and express ideas clearly and intelligibly
Appropriate and effective use of technology, if appropriate.

All students entering the competition must complete and submit the Call for Papers and Registration forms by February 12, 2011 accompanied by a check for the \$25 registration fee payable to CFAS (with a copy of a valid student ID).

Contact: Jason Wenzel Phone: (407) 758-3904

Digital Archaeology -- from Page 1

for the full effect of Gutenberg's invention to be felt.

Entrepreneurial publishers used author reputation and skilled opinion to select material for books. Charles Darwin

negotiated with a publisher to print and sell "The Origin of Species", receiving two-thirds of the net proceeds after costs. 1,170 copies were sold for 15 shillings each.

Learned non-profit societies had to decide which papers
Continued on Page 4

REGISTRATION FORM
63rd Annual Florida Anthropological Society Meeting
"Past is Prologue"
May 6-8, 2011
Orlando, Florida

Name (please type or print): _____
 Institution: _____
 Address _____

Work phone: _____ Home or cell phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

FAS member? Yes ___ No ___ Chapter _____

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1. Early Registration (until April 1, 2011) | ___ \$50 |
| (Student rate is \$25 with a valid student ID) | ___ \$25 |
| 2. Late/On-site Registration | ___ \$60 |
| (Student rate is \$35 with a valid student ID) | ___ \$35 |
| 3. FAS Reception | |
| Friday evening, May 6, 2011, Orlando Shakespeare Theater | ___ Free |
| 4. FAS Banquet | |
| Saturday evening, May 7, 2011, Historic Dubsdread Golf Course | ___ \$50 |
| 5. Workshop and Forum: Archaeology of the Recent Past | ___ Free |
| Friday afternoon, May 6, 2011 Time-TBA
Orlando Shakespeare Theater | |
| 6. Historic Oakland and Oakland Nature Preserve/Lake Apopka Tour (with bus) | ___ \$15 |
| Sunday, May 8, 9:00am-3:00pm
Transportation on your own* | ___ Free |
| 7. Donations to FAS 2011 Annual Meeting are most welcome. Thank you! | \$ _____ |
| <i>*If you wish to receive a receipt for a tax-deductible donation,
please submit a separate check to Florida Anthropological Society, Inc.</i> | |
| 8. Total Amount Enclosed | \$ _____ |

Early registration and payment due by April 1, 2010

Mail form with check payable to CFAS to:

Central Florida Anthropological Society
 Attn: FAS 2011 Conference
 P.O. Box 536005, Orlando, FL 32853-4637
 E-Mail questions to: jwenzel@ufl.edu

Digital Archaeology -- from Page 3

to publish in their journals. While the copyright often is owned or shared by the journal, the author benefited mostly from prestige. This is a feedback process: the author benefits from being published by a prestigious journal and the journal acquires its prestige by publishing important data.

Scholarly journals such as *The Florida Anthropologist* developed *peer review* by qualified referees selecting the ideas or data to fit the limited ink and paper. This introduced a significant time lag between writing and publishing, often a year or more. While peer review selected “all the news fit to print”, it also singled out “only the news that fit the page”. By eliminating chaff, this might also suppress some good ideas or data and certainly delayed their use by many other minds. Darwin dithered almost 20 years before Alfred Wallace’s letter forced him to publish *Origin of Species*.

Just as Gutenberg provided a giant reduction in cost and delay from the hand-lettered scroll and book ages for publishing ideas and data, the Internet provides another giant cost reduction from the Gutenberg era. Do we still need the peer review delay in selecting what to publish? Does ignoring the probably bad data justify hiding the possibly ground-breaking data when page count is not an issue?

Does science need authoritarian rule? Astronomer Carl

Sagan said, “Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence”, a rephrasing traced back to David Hume, an 18th century Scottish philosopher. Most of us would agree with Sagan, et. al., but who gets to define “extraordinary evidence”?

Darwin’s dilemma was that Alfred Wallace would get ownership of the extraordinary claims for speciation if Darwin failed to publish. Publish or perish. With essentially zero Internet publishing cost, what happens if scientists publish first allowing not just designated referee review of their work, but their entire scientific community? This is already happening in a limited way in some biology areas. By Internet publishing as soon as a scientist decides he has reproducible results, he establishes intellectual property “ownership” as early as possible, speeding his quest for tenure or a bigger grant. And perhaps more importantly the work of other scientists may go much quicker.

Of course, there will always be fraud and hokum but detecting and exposing it may be easier if many eyes examine it. Again, the speed of the Internet will aid that vital process. Although some might question the wisdom of trying to speed up archaeology, the Internet seems to make it possible. What do you think?

About SWFAS

The Directorate:

President - Annette Snapp
1st VP - Meghan Prendergast
2nd VP - Alison Elgart
Recording Secretary - Kathryn Betz
Treasurer - Charlie Strader
Membership Secretary - Charlie Strader

Trustees: Paul Backhouse, Matthew Betz,
Liz Clement, Tom Franchino, Jim Oswald,
Matthew Schuld, Betsy Perdichizzi, Theresa
Schober. Trustee Emeritus: John Beriault

SWFAS Committees:

Field - vacant
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).

April 2011 Newsletter

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society

P.O. Box 9965

Naples, FL 34101