



Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS) March 2016 Newsletter

MARCH IS FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

PRESIDENTS CORNER

We had an excellent meeting in January at the Southwest Florida Museum of History in Fort Myers and had a great attendance of over sixty people. Many signed up for future newsletters for information on our speakers and indicated an interest in the archaeology of SW Florida. Steve Koski provided us with a personal insight into the underwater archaeology of Little Salt Spring and Warm Mineral Springs in Sarasota, Florida where he is the Interim County Archaeologist. Additionally, we got to answer many questions from the audience concerning the Calusa and other groups of prehistoric Florida natives. Please join us at our next meeting.

FEBRUARY EVENT

Dr. Jerald T. Milanich at Captiva - Dr. Jerald T. Milanich spoke on February 17 at the Captiva Civic Association about photographs from his book (co-authored with Nina Root), "Enchantments: Julian Dimock's Photographs of Southwest Florida," (2013). A selection of photographs from the book were on exhibit on Captiva at the Captiva Civic Association from January 7 through February 17, 2016.



Dimock and his father, A.J. Dimock, retired from Wall Street (under a bit of a legal cloud) and spent several seasons in Southwest Florida in the early 1900s. They explored and photographed the land and the waterways, the fishing and, especially, the people: outcasts and settlers, refugees and outlaws, moonshiners and Seminole Indians in the Everglades.

On Captiva, Milanich spoke about the Dimocks' time working from a base in Punta Rassa, where a hotel hosted fishing enthusiasts. They eventually invested in a small boat to give them mobility and used it to explore the Southwest Florida coast and the early settlers. Then then set out twice to cross the Everglades from west to east. They failed to see another soul on the first trip but they made it across two other times documenting trading posts, homesteads, Seminole family settlements and Seminoles canoeing the River of Grass.

The photographs, made with a large format camera on glass plates, were donated by Dimock to the American Museum of Natural History. Dr. Milanich and Nina J. Root from the Museum have published two books based on the Dimock photos, "Enchantments" and "Hidden Seminoles: Julian Dimock's Historic Florida Photographs," (2011). Photographs from both books have toured southwest Florida in two separate exhibitions. The "Enchantments" exhibit, co-curated by Theresa Schober and Dr. Milanich, just closed on Captiva, at the Captiva Civic Association.



Jerald Milanich presentation at the Captiva Civic Center. Photo by David Rohn, *Santiva Chronicle*.

Dr. Milanich provided a wonderfully engaging narrative as he told the stories behind the photos. Dr. Milanich is Professor Emeritus at University of Florida and an American Academy of Arts and Sciences inductee, and the author of over 20 books. *(byline written by Karen Nelson)*

MARCH MEETING



Wednesday March 16, 2016 will be held at 7:00 o'clock at the Collier County Museum in Naples, Florida. Underwater archaeologist Steve Koski will talk about the Snake Island site in Sarasota County. Snake Island is a significant late Manasota/Weeden Island to Safety Harbor Period site (ca. AD700-1500) eroding from the shore of an intracoastal island in Sarasota County. Once connected to the mainland, the cultural deposits of Snake Island were inundated by rapidly rising sea levels in the 1500s before being isolated as a dredge island during construction of the Intercoastal Waterway in the early twentieth century. A twenty- year story in the making, Steve Koski weaves together the site's discovery, long term observations, research and interpretation.

Steve Koski is an archaeologist specializing in underwater prehistoric sites. He received his BA in Anthropology/Archaeology from the University of Massachusetts, Boston and completed graduate studies in an MA program at Arizona State University. His research interests include the prehistory of Florida, coastal adaptations, and settlement and subsistence strategies through time. Well known for his work as an underwater archeologist at Warm Mineral Springs and on-site manager and research associate at Little Salt Spring, Steve is currently interim Sarasota County archaeologist and continues to serve as Site Manager at Little Salt Spring as the 112-acre property is conveyed to Sarasota County under their Environmentally Sensitive Lands Program.

This program is held in conjunction with Florida Archaeology Month and is jointly sponsored by the museum and the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS). A short SWFAS meeting will precede the presentation, beginning at 6:30pm. The Collier County Museum is located in the government complex at 3331 Tamiami Trail East, Naples FL 34112. The meeting is free and open to the public and we welcome all with an interest in archaeology and the prehistory of Florida.

APRIL MEETING

Wednesday April 20, 2016 To be announced.

MAY MEETING

There is no SWFAS May meeting as the annual Florida Anthropological statewide meeting will be held in Jupiter, Florida from May 19 – 22.

Meetings will resume in the Fall.

See you there.

MEET YOUR SWFAS OFFICERS

Meet the President!

John F. Furey is a 1970 graduate of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst with a B.A. in Anthropology and Geology and a 1972 graduate of Florida Atlantic University (FAU) in Boca Raton, FL with a M.A. in Anthropology and Geology. At FAU John studied under the late Dr. William H. Sears as his graduate research assistant and worked extensively in the laboratory on the Fort Center material Sears had excavated. Additionally, in 1979 he earned an MBA from Anna Maria College, Paxton, MA.



John's graduate work at FAU consisted of the excavation of the Boca Weir site in Highland Beach, FL that was the basis of his master's thesis; "The Spanish River Complex: Settlement Patterning in the Eastern Okeechobee Subarea of Florida". This was the first major site report from that area of Florida and indicated a population movement from the Belle Glade area of Lake Okeechobee to the coast. The site was occupied from about 500 AD to the contact period with the Spanish in the 1600's. He

also conducted archaeological surveys in the Boca Raton area and performed salvage excavations at the Boca Raton Inlet Site.

He has been a long time member of the Florida Anthropological Society and in 1977 published "An Analysis of Shark Tooth Tools From The Boca Weir Site In South Florida." A total of 175 shark teeth that had been used as tools by the Florida natives were excavated and analyzed. Except for Ft. Center with 197 teeth, no other site on the East Coast has produced as many shark tooth tools. How the teeth were used and hafted provided insights into native tool use in Florida.

A native of Massachusetts, John worked for Riley Stoker Corporation for 23 years managing the aftermarket business and, later, marketing. In 1995 he and his son formed Fiberlink, Inc. to provide fiber optic splicing and testing in the Northeast part of the country and managed the business until it was sold in 2014. Since 1990 he and his wife Linda, a retired registered nurse, have long vacationed in the Ft. Myers area and now reside most of the year in Cape Coral. They have a son John III in Massachusetts and a daughter Jennifer in Rome, Italy and have five grandchildren.

John has served as a member of the Board of Directors of SWFAS for the past two years. We are delighted to welcome him as President.

LOCAL POINTS OF INTEREST

RANDELL RESEARCH CENTER – PINE ISLAND, FL 33922

One of our local, but little recognized, archaeological gems is the Randell Research Center on Pine Island, FL. A short drive from Ft. Myers, you can see and walk on a Calusa village site that is over 1500 years old and see the huge shell mounds and sand burial mounds that they left behind. These mounds overlook the waters of Pine



Island Sound and include a prehistoric canal that the natives dug to cross the island by canoe. The site is owned by the state and includes historic structures representing Florida's early pioneer history. The site is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and as a designated County Historical Resource. The Florida Museum of Natural History has undertaken archaeological and ecological field research here

since 1988. Because of its wetlands, Pineland's waterlogged deposits preserve artifacts not found in dry sites including botanical remains not found anywhere else in North America. Pineland also provides a key to understanding larger global issues such as sea level fluctuations and climate change. Visitors to the site can tour the Calusa Heritage Trail, a 0.7 mile interpretive walkway that leads visitors through the mounds, canals and other features of the site.

IF YOU GO:

Follow Pine Island Road (Hwy 78) west through Matlacha to its end at Stringfellow Road. Turn right and go 3.1 miles to the intersection of Pineland Road. Turn left and go 1.2 miles (past RRC headquarters next to Pineland Post Office) to the end of Pineland Road at Waterfront Drive. Continue just past Tarpon Lodge to RRC sign and gate on right. Parking is available inside the main gate at the Randell Research Center at 13810 Waterfront Drive. Public restrooms and picnic facilities are also available. The Calusa Heritage Trail is open daily for self-guided visits from sunup to sundown and the restrooms, gift and book shop are open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Guided tours are offered to the public during peak season (January-April) on Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Groups may also schedule tours by calling the RRC at 239-283-2157. Requested donations for visitors to the Calusa Heritage Trail are \$7 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$4 for children. Income from donations and memberships make it possible for the RRC to maintain this important archaeological site. A local tip is to have lunch or dinner at the Tarpon Lodge before leaving. See www.flmnh.ufl.edu/rrc/ for additional information.

COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM



Free to the public, this museum is located at the County Government center in Naples. It offers newly created exhibits and galleries that capture the full panorama of local history. It includes a main exhibit gallery, a traveling exhibit room, lecture hall, native gardens, restored Naples cottages, a Seminole village, Calusa Indian camp and the Craighead Archaeology Lab.



The **Craighead Archaeology Lab** is sponsored by SWFAS. It hosts weekly archaeological sessions by the SWFAS “Lab Rats” on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. until noon.

The museum and lab are located at:
3331 Tamiami Trl E
Naples, FL 34112
(239) 252-8476



“Lab Rats” from left top: Janet Gooding, Betsy McCarthy, Marilyn Mayo, Liz Clement, Jack Harvey

Museum hours are Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Closed National and County Holidays)

IF YOU GO:

Take the I-75 toward Naples, then exit at County Hwy-886 exit, EXIT 105, toward Naples. Go about 1 mile and turn left onto Livingston Rd/County Hwy-881. Go 1.4 miles and turn right onto Radio Rd/ County Hwy-856. Then go 1 mile and turn left onto Airport-Pulling Rd S/County Hwy-31. Go about .5 miles and turn left onto Tamiami Trl E/US-41 N. 3331 TAMIAMI TRL E is on the left. It is the large government center complex. Follow the signs for the museum to the rear of the complex. The museum includes picnic areas and public restrooms. All exhibits are free to the public.

Other Collier County Museums include the Immokalee Pioneer Museum at Roberts Ranch, Marco Island Historical Museum, Museum of the Everglades and the Naples Depot Museum. Locations and more information about all of these museums can be found at museums@colliergov.net . All the museums are free to the public.

ATTACHMENTS

The following two pages include the following attachments:

- Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS) Membership and Dues Sheet
- Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) Application

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY (SWFAS)

I want to help The Southwest Florida Archaeology Society preserve and interpret our prehistoric heritage.

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

City/Town _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Check One

Individual (\$20) _____ Sustaining Individual (\$50) _____

Family (\$35) _____ Student (\$15) _____

Life (\$500) _____

Skills, training, interests: _____

I hereby agree to abide by the rules and bylaws of the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society. I further release from any and all liability due to accident and injury to myself, dependents and any property owners cooperating with the society.

Signature: _____ Date _____

Please make your check out to SWFAS and mail to:

SWFAS
PO BOX 9965
NAPLES, FL 34101

REV. 01262016



Join the Florida Anthropological Society

Florida Anthropological Society membership categories and rates:

Student:	\$15 (with a copy of a current student ID)
Regular:	\$30
Family:	\$35
Institutional:	\$30
Sustaining:	\$100
Patron:	\$1000
Benefactor:	\$2500

- Student membership is open to graduate, undergraduate, and high school students. A photocopy of your current student ID must accompany payment
 - Add \$25 for foreign addresses
 - Membership forms also are available at www.fasweb.org/membership.htm
 - The Society publishes the journal *The Florida Anthropologist* and newsletters, normally quarterly and sponsors and annual meeting hosted by a local chapter.
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Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

FAS Chapter:

_____ I agree to abide by the Code of Ethics of the Florida Anthropological Society

Mail to:

Florida Anthropological Society

c/o Pat Balanzategui P.O. Box 1135

St. Augustine, FL 32085