

# Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS) January 2019 Newsletter

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER by John Furey, M.A., RPA



At the January 16, 2019 meeting and presentation at the IMAG, the new slate of officers and the board listed below were elected to serve the organization for the upcoming year. We look forward to another great year supporting archaeology in Southwest Florida.

This February SWFAS recognizes National Black History Month with a presentation by Jarrett Eady titled "Onward and Upward: The History of the African-American Community in Fort Myers, Florida 1867-1969". Mr. Eady is the Chairman of the Black History Society of Fort Myers, Florida, a 4th generation resident of Fort Myers and a well known local educator.

I recently ran across an interesting article on the use of 3-D printers in archaeology to reconstruct ancient collapsed buildings (see <a href="http://populararchaeology.com/article/3d-printer">http://populararchaeology.com/article/3d-printer</a>). In most cases the stone blocks are much too large and heavy to manipulate by hand, so they number the blocks and then scan the block into a 3-D program. Once scanned, they can move the blocks around in the computer to find the correct "fit" in the reconstruction of the structure. Once done, they can use the computed reconstruction to create a model of the building to show possible configurations of what the site was like. New technology such as 3-D printers and Lidar (see below) are advancing archaeology in many new ways.

If you haven't sent in your 2019 SWFAS dues please take a few minutes to remit them now. Remember that Pay Pal is available to you.

#### FEBRUARY PRESENTATION

February 20, 2019

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Mr. Jarrett Eady Onward and Upward: The History of the African-American Community in Fort Myers, Florida 1867-1969

# iMAG History & Science Center, 2000 Cranford Avenue, Fort Myers



Learn about the history and experiences of the African-American Community here in Ft. Myers, Florida from the post-Civil War period of 1867 to 1969. The emancipation of slavery after the Civil War was supposed to change things for African-Americans, however, over time Florida re-imposed segregation. In 1885, 20 years after the war, Florida passed a law banning integrated schools. A year later a \$150 fine and imprisonment was added to the law. In 1887 the county was named after a Confederate general. The first black school was not built until 1926, and Dunbar High School in Ft. Myers was built for all 'colored students in Southwest Florida'. In 1949 the first 'colored beach' in Ft. Myers was opened and named for Ralph Bunche, the first African American to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950. Throughout this period the local African -American Community, based in the Dunbar section of Fort Myers, persevered and continued to developed economically and educationally.

Jarrett Eady is a local African-American educator who will bring alive the history of this struggle through the generations here in Fort Myers.

Jarrett Eady is a 4th generation resident of Fort Myers. He entered the Garnet and Gold halls of the Florida State University where he majored in Political Science with minors in History, Urban Regional Planning, and Black Studies. While at FSU, he served as Student Body President, a member of the Florida State University Board of Trustees, and a member of the Florida Board of Governors. Mr. Eady serves on various southwest Florida boards including the Fort Myers Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Board. He is Chairman of the Lee County Black History Society, President of the National Pan-Hellenic Council of SW Florida, and Chairman of the SW Florida Alpha Educational and Leadership Foundation Board of Directors. He is the Director of Diversity and Inclusion and the Director of the Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) Program for the School District of Lee County.

#### TO GO TO THE IMAG:



FROM THE SOUTH: Take the 75 fwy North toward Ft. Myers, then take the FL-82 exit, EXIT 138, toward ML King Jr Blvd/Ft Myers/Immokalee. Turn left onto FL-82/State Road 82. Continue to follow FL-82. Go 3.60 miles, then turn left onto Cranford Ave. Go 0.09 miles, and the Imaginarium is on the right.

FROM THE NORTH: Take I-75 South toward Fort Myers. Take the FL-82 exit, EXIT 138, toward Ft Myers/ML King Jr Blvd/Immokalee. Merge onto Dr Martin Luther King Blvd/FL-82 toward Ft Myers/Edison/Ford Estates/Imaginarium. Go 3.46 miles, then turn left onto Cranford Ave. Go 0.09 miles, and the Imaginarium is on the right.

#### MARCH EVENT AT PIONEER MUSEUM



Mark your calendars for the Immokalee Cattle Drive & Jamboree. Interested in pioneer history and our state's agricultural heritage? The pioneer museum in Immokalee, one of five free history museums in Collier County, drives 200 head of cattle down main street and back home to Roberts Ranch on March 9, 2019. The cattle drive is followed by a festival focused on the many cultural traditions of Immokalee. Experience historical reenactors and traditional craft vendors, musical acts from country western to Mariachi, alligator wrestling, cowboy

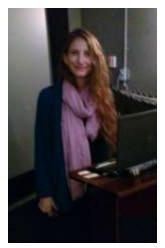
poetry, and so much more. More details are available at <u>https://colliermuseums.com/calendar-event/immokalee-cattle-</u> drive-jamboree-2019.

#### SWFAS 2019 PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

March 20, 2019 iMAG History & Science Center	Christian Davenport , Ft Myers	Down and Dirty: The Archaeology of Southeast Florida
April 17, 2019 Collier County Museum, Naples	Dr. William Locascio	Middens in the Muck: Evidence of Late Archaic Tree Island Communities in the Northern Everglades

May 2019 Crystal River, Florida Florida Anthropological Society 71st Annual Meeting

#### JANUARY PRESENTATION: THE MAKING OF ESCAMPABA, THE KINGDOM OF CARLOS



On Wednesday January 16, 2019 we were treated to a special presentation at the IMAG by Executive Producer Theresa Schober on the making of her new documentary film *Escampaba: The Kingdom of Carlos.* From two short video clips she shared, one can see that the finished documentary will cover Florida's history from the first European encounters with the Calusa on Mound Key to park service management of the site today. The coastal estuary environment of southwest Florida provided a surplus of food that allowed the Calusa to increase their population and enabled them to extract tribute from most of South Florida militarily. Theresa wanted this documentary to be as realistic as possible and was committed to using Native American actors. The native clothing and Spanish armor and dress depicted matches existing Florida artwork of that time period.

The documentary deals with the Spanish discovery of La Florida and Mound Key, the principal village of the Calusa in Estero Bay, and one of the first locations mentioned in

Spanish accounts. In 1565 Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded Saint Augustine and then visited Mound Key and King Carlos. Mound Key was where the first Catholic priest was stationed in North America and where the first masses were said. Theresa is in the process of editing the one -hour film to a 26 -minute format and this will be on television sometime later this year on WGCU. When this gets scheduled it will be advertised here in the SWFAS Newsletter. Congratulations to Theresa and kudus for a great presentation, thank you.

# ARTICLES

#### WHAT IS LIDAR?

#### By John Furey

We read about the use of Lidar finding ancient Egyptian cities under the sands in the Sahara Desert in North Africa by "looking through the sand" and its use to "see through the jungles" of Central and South America. The results of the use of Lidar is causing our current ideas on the size of these ancient cities and how these civilizations functioned through time to radically change.

Lidar stands for Light Detection and Ranging and is a form of a pulsed laser that can measure distances and generate precise, three-dimensional information about the shape of the earth and its surface characteristics. Similar to a police radar detector, Lidar measures the time a pulse (P Wave) was sent out and the time the wave returned to indicate the distance to an object and that determines its elevation or depth. Near- infrared lasers are used to scan topographic features while bathymetric lidar uses water-penetrating green light to measure seafloor and riverbed elevations. While the technology itself is not new, its innovative applications in archaeology and geology are new. With its use from airplanes and helicopters large amounts of territory can be scanned in a short period of time that was formerly expensive and time consuming to do on foot, and, lidar is more accurate.

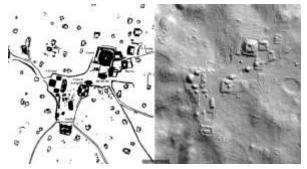
The article "Lidar and the Archaeology Revolution" especially caught my attention as lidar is being used to look through the tree cover in Massachusetts and picture the old roads and the stone walls. Being from Massachusetts and a deer hunter, I explored many large tracts of forest in Central Massachusetts while hunting. There are more extensive forests in New England today than in colonial times. Old photos from the 1800s show open fields and stone walls everywhere but few trees except along the stone walls. Stone walls mean that the area was cleared, plowed and farmed in colonial times and the New England glaciated ground produced rocks every year that had to be cleared. Over time the stone walls built were able to replace wooden fences that required constant repair to keep out the free ranging cattle. Today, stone walls line every rural road, and you will see stone walls, overgrown dirt cart roads, old wells and cellar holes deep in the woods, miles from any paved road that attest to the complete farming settlement of much of this marginal, glacial rock- strewn land. Today lidar is unveiling this history in New England much as it unveils the extent of Mayan settlements. Lidar is changing archaeology and history.

The following articles demonstrate some of the uses of Lidar.

# Lidar Archaeology Shines a Light on Hidden Sites

at <u>http://www.bbc.com/future/story/20120827-the-laser-archaeologists</u>

by Curt Hopkins 18 November 2014



Traditional hand drawn maps can be contrasted with a 2D LiDAR imageof Caracol in which terraces, topography and other archaeological remains are visible. (Copyright: A&D Chase)

For the best part of 25 years, archaeologists Arlen and Diane Chase slogged through the thick undergrowth in the west of Belize in search of an ancient city whose details had been lost to the passage of time and the decay of the jungle.

The going was tough, often requiring a machete to clear a path through the dense vines and creepers that blocked their way. Over time, their perseverance paid off as their hand-drawn maps began to reveal long-forgotten parts of the massive Mayan city of Caracol. But the more the pair found, the more they realized the extent of what remained uncovered. It would take several lifetimes, they figured, to reveal the true extent of Caracol.

Then, in 2008, they got talking to a biologist colleague at the University of Central Florida where they worked. For years, he had been using airborne laser sensors known as Lidar (Light Detection And Ranging) to map and study forests and other vegetation. He suggested they give it a go.

So, in 2009, the pair packed away their machetes and hiking boots and commissioned the National Center for Airborne Laser Mapping (NCALM) to fly a twin-engine plane backwards and forwards over the tree-tops firing pulses of laser light at the ground below. A few weeks later, the pair got their first look at the results. "I was completely astounded," says Arlen Chase. "We had not expected the clarity that we saw in the imagery." "I am pretty sure we uttered some expletives," Diane adds politely. In less than a week, the team collected more data than they had in a quarter of century of hacking their way through the jungle. Analysis revealed a host of previously undiscovered features, including several in areas that they had previously mapped on foot. It was a revelation.

Now, archaeologists around the world are beginning to embrace the same technique, flying aircraft over everything from Stonehenge to patches of scrub, in search of hidden treasures. The findings are already beginning to challenge conventional theories and change our view of the size and extent of ancient civilizations. But, while some say we are on the cusp of a new golden age of discovery, it is also beginning to throw up difficult questions about the disappearance of ancient civilizations.

#### Down under

Using technology in archaeological expeditions is nothing new. Techniques similar to those used in the offshore oil industry have been used for years by archaeologists on the ground to spot buried structures. Increasingly, archaeologists are using satellite photography with success, for example, increasing the number of structures in the Nile valley including 17 new pyramids. In August, two more were found using images from Google Earth. Radar has even been used, famously uncovering vast new areas of the vast Cambodian temple complex Angkor Wat.

But Lidar seems to offer several advantages. It is quick, relatively cheap and can be used to map large areas very quickly, particularly those covered in dense vegetation.

The technology has been used in a variety of ways over the last two decades, from gauging distances between cars in adaptive cruise control to mapping forest canopies and detecting the amount of aerosols in the atmosphere. But, no matter what the use, most modern Lidar systems are essentially the same. All shoot thousands of pulses of laser light and then use sensors to detect any reflections. By measuring the time it takes between sending out a pulse and measuring the light bouncing back, software can begin to build up a picture of the machine's surroundings. Using it in combination with GPS and other location technologies, it allows very accurate 3D maps to be built.

Crucially, some of the laser light is also able to penetrate vegetation. So, in the case of areas covered in a forest canopy, such as in Caracol, some of the pulses will hit the top of tree canopy, some the middle, others the forest floor. Software can then be used to remove the points above the ground, according to University of Alabama archaeologist Dr Sarah Parcak, who is not part of the Chase team but has used Lidar at other sites. This leaves a detailed "digital elevation" model of the hidden forest floor with the ability to pick out features as small as 20cm across. "It is an amazing tool," says Parcak. "You cannot use anything else in areas such as Central America to visualize Mayan ruins in a clear way. The measurements are exact enough that the Chases were able to overlay the new map onto the painstakingly, hand-created maps of their site with an unexpected level of exactitude. But what really astounded them was the amount of detail they had never seen before.

Previously, they had mapped around 3.5 sq km of agricultural terraces on the site. The Lidar revealed more than 150 sq km more. In addition, it revealed thousands of new buildings arranged around squares, 11 new waterways, more than 60 caves as well as clues that suggest there could be up to 1400 water reservoirs on the site. All in all, one fly-over had radically increased the size of the ancient capital. Overnight it changed archaeologists' perception of the site from a rarely-inhabited ceremonial center to a bustling city with a complex system of agriculture to support it.

Devastating conclusion

It is tempting put characterize this kind of revelation as a one-off success. But, Lidar's success is not confined to Caracol. Further north, a team from Colorado State University has also used the technique in the Patzcuaro Basin, a region in the west of Mexico. The area was the centre of the Purepecha Empire – contemporaries of the Mayan and Aztec civilizations that have never caught public attention. They can be thought of as the people who stopped the advance of the Aztecs into San Diego and were also famous for their intricate metal work.

In 2007, Colorado State University professor Chris Fisher began investigating the area. That year, he and his team found some impressive treasures including an imperial treasury building, where the leaders kept their stores of hummingbird and macaw feathers, the dominant currency. A year later, equipped with handheld GPS units his team spent three months on foot mapping the area in search of other treats. But, what they uncovered surprised even them.

At a spot in an ancient road that previous surveys had marked down as little more than a widening of the carriageway, the team began to uncover evidence of buildings. Lots of buildings. Over three months, the team of between 12 and 16 people unearthed evidence for more than 1,400 buildings. It seemed that the wide spot in the road was in reality a surprisingly large pre-Hispanic capital.

But it wasn't until last year that Fisher and his team would know just how big. Equipped with Lidar the team flew over that spot recording 3,000 buildings in half the time it had taken them with ground surveys. "When Lidar was first used at Angamuco we had no idea how large the area was that included buildings and structures, if it was even a city," team member Professor Steve Leisz told the BBC. Perhaps more surprisingly the team also found a ball court for a Meso American game called pok-ta-pok, and pyramids, including one that Fisher had walked within 10m of the previous year. "That was a complete surprise," said Leisz.

Finding new buildings and even cities is all very well and good - a new Machu Picchu or Chichen Itzas would be the crowning achievement of any archaeologists' career. But, it goes without saying, most buildings and land modifications are rarely so dramatic. What is really important is who was in these buildings and how many. The more buildings, roads, wells, agricultural terraces and residential complexes are found, the higher the number of people that lived there.

Population estimates of the Americas at the time of European contact have been steadily increasing over the past decades as archaeologists have slowly found new sites and dug over existing ones. That has gradually overturned the image of the Americas as a vast unexplored, unpopulated wilderness. But Lidar surveys are now beginning to dramatically change our view, says Fisher.

"Widespread Lidar surveys will reveal a Mesoamerican landscape that was more densely settled, and an environment that was more pervasively modified, then previously thought," said Fisher. Instead of a wilderness, here were two continents with vast populations, grand urban centres and widespread agriculture. But, perhaps more importantly, in revealing what life was like before the Conquistadors arrived in the 1500s, it also reveals the devastation that they wrought when they came into contact with native populations. "Before, a 40% die off seemed implausibly high," said Fisher, "now 80% seems more likely."

# 'Exciting times'

You may expect that dramatic findings and conclusions like this would mean the case for Lidar has been made. But not everyone is convinced by the laser revolution. Archaeologists like Rosemary Joyce, a professor of Mesoamerican archaeology at the University of California, Berkeley, and Russell Sheptak, a visiting scholar there, believe that the some of the proponent's claims do not stack up.

"What I specifically reject," says Joyce, "is the claim that Lidar is both faster and cheaper than other archaeological methods, if we are interested in understanding sites, not just discovering them." To really understand a site, you need boots on the ground, they say. These are arguments that the Lidar community are familiar with, and have some sympathy with. Both the Chases and Fisher teams admit that cruising over the tree-tops in a plane does not totally supplant the need to get up close and personal with a site. Without their 29 years of experience at Caracol, the Chases admit they would not have been able to recognize what they were seeing through Lidar as quickly as they did. Instead, it is a tool that allows them to quickly zoom in on potential features of interest. It also allows sites to be mapped quickly, allowing them to be preserved from looters and development.

However, they take issue with arguments based on cost. Although they admit that Lidar can be expensive at face value – usually around \$350 per square kilometer - they maintain it is still cheaper than traditional digs. For example, the Chases calculate the cost of Lidar per square kilometer is vanishingly small in comparison with the cost of travel, living on site, hiring workers, provisioning the dig and the thousand other misfortunes that an expedition to the jungle can encounter. Fisher, however, puts it more bluntly: "I don't know how people can say it's not cost-effective," he says. "It saved us 10 years of research, for the cost of one season of excavation."

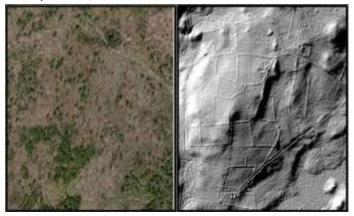
Over the next few years, as with all developments in computing, Fisher expects to see that cost continue to fall and its use to sky rocket. "Ten years from now, this is going to be like radiocarbon dating," says Fisher, referring to a standard technique now used by all archaeologists to date finds. "Lidar is going to be folded into your research program, a really basic thing you do to understand the questions you want to answer."

Already, the teams have their eye on other areas where it could be used. For example, Arlen Chase believes it could help us to better understand settlement patterns along the Amazon, which can now only be glimpsed in satellite imagery on tree-cleared landscapes. He also believes it will also allow us to understand ancient African migrations and cultures, also currently obscured by forests. Other targets include Sri Lanka, India and other sites around South-East Asia. They also believe it could begin to be used to find sites such as ancient harbours, currently covered by water.

"I suspect that, as we examine Lidar for different places, we're going to wind up finding things in different places that we would not have thought to try to find," says Leisz. Parcak puts it more prosaically. Technology, she says, is going to make us realize how little we know and how much left there is to explore. "It's the most exciting time in history to be an archaeologist," she says.

#### LiDAR and the Archaeology Revolution

at <u>https://www.gislounge.com/lidar-archaeology-revolution/</u> by Rebecca Maxwell January 14, 2014



LiDAR reveals the underlying history of a landscape. Image from Kate Johnson.

There is no doubt that remote sensing technology has created a dramatic shift in the past few years concerning how scientists and researchers gather and analyze information about the Earth. Remote sensing, the use of satellites or aircraft to gather data about objects from a distance, has an almost infinite number of applications. This kind of technology has been used to monitor the environment, map the oceans, explore the Polar Regions, and much more. Now, a form of remote sensing technology called LiDAR is being used to lead a revolution in archaeology transforming how scientists understand human activity of the past.

Changes in how archaeologists study the past are being

brought about by advances in LiDAR technology. LiDAR, which stands for Light Detection and Ranging, is a method of remote sensing that uses light to measure varying distances to the Earth. This light is in the form of a pulsated laser, and these pulses can be used to produce exact data about the characteristics of Earth's surface. LiDAR instruments are made up mainly of a laser, a special GPS receiver, and a scanner typically attached to an airplane or helicopter for use over a wide area.

One of the places that LiDAR is having a significant impact in is the archaeological study of New England. Today, New England is heavily forested, which makes it extremely difficult for archaeologists to get a better understanding of how the region looked in colonial times. During the 1700s, New England was covered with roads, farm walls, and homesteads, but after they were largely abandoned in the 1950s, the forests grew back. Through the use of LiDAR, however, archaeologists are now able to uncover more of this 'lost' New England of subsistence farming, something many people have no idea existed.

One of the principal researchers in this archaeology revolution of New England is Katharine Johnson from the University of Connecticut. Her research using LiDAR revealed a large amount of archaeological finds in both Connecticut and Massachusetts, areas that were critical for the earliest European settlers of North America. Johnson discovered sites that weren't in any historical records, and with GPS coordinates from LiDAR, she says that she can walk into the woods and find building foundations or stone walls that no one imagined would be there. This shift in archaeology has been benefited by improvements in LiDAR technology with 1-meter (3.2 foot) resolutions now available.

Beyond New England, the application of LiDAR in archaeology has been included other areas of the world. LiDAR has been used to help researchers uncover ancient Maya buildings, roads, and other features of this civilization and even create a three-dimensional map of a Maya settlement in Belize. LiDAR has also been employed in order to get high-resolution models of Renaissance palaces, like the Salone dei Cinquecento in Florence Italy. In England, LiDAR is being used to discover new sites in the plains of Stonehenge.

Overall, the future of LiDAR in archaeology is bright. Scientists and researchers are just now discovering what this technology can do to better our understanding of past civilizations once thought as lost. On the other hand, there are limits to its application. For example, LiDAR cannot tell archaeologists much about Native Americans in the U.S. because they didn't leave behind permanent structures. For those civilizations that did, though, LiDAR is becoming a significant research tool for archaeologists around the globe.

Note: For references, please see website identified above.

# SWFAS OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS FOR THE 2019 CALENDER YEAR

Officers President: John Furey First Vice-President: Jim Oswald Second Vice-President: Elizabeth Clement Secretary: Susan Harrington Treasurer: Charlie Strader Trustees First of 3-year term: Theresa Schober (Chapter Rep.) Mary Southall William Locascio Third of 3-year term: Jan Gooding Amanda Townsend Tiffany Bannworth

Find us on Facebook at Southwest Florida Archaeological Society!

Check out our new website at <a href="http://swflarchaeology.org/">http://swflarchaeology.org/</a>

# SWFAS AND FAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

We encourage those interested in Florida archaeology to become members of The Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) and The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS). Annual dues are due in January and membership applications to both organizations are attached. Membership in the FAS provides you with four annual volumes of *The Florida Anthropologist* and occasional newsletters on anthropological events in Florida in addition to the annual statewide meeting. More information on FAS can be found online at: <u>www.fasweb.org</u>. Membership in SWFAS offers you a local series of talks on archaeological and anthropological subjects that you can attend. The SWFAS monthly newsletter keeps you up to date on local events as well as other important archaeological topics. We urge you to support both with your membership. All of the SWFAS Lecture Series are open to the public at no charge.



Bonita Springs, FL 34135

# JOIN US! The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society

# http://swflarchaeology.org/

The Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS) was founded in 1980 as a not-for profit corporation to provide a meeting place for people interested in the area's past.

Our goals are to:

- Learn more of the area's history
- Create a place for sharing of this information
- Advocate for preservation of cultural resources

Its members include professional and amateur archaeologists and interested members of the general public. Members come from all walks of life and age groups. They share a lively curiosity, a respect for the people who preceded them here, and a feeling of responsibility for the conservation of the places and objects they left behind.

The Society holds monthly meetings between October and April, attracting speakers who are in the forefront of archaeological and historical research. Occasionally members join in trips to historical and archaeological sites.

A monthly newsletter, Facebook page, and website keep members abreast of our events and happenings.

The organization is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society, a statewide organization that publishes quarterly newsletters and a journal, *The Florida Anthropologist*, and holds an annual conference.

# I want to help The Southwest Florida Archaeology Society preserve and interpret Florida's heritage!

Name (please print)			
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City/Town	State	ZIP	
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Check One:			
Individual (\$20)	Sustaining Individual (\$50)	Family (\$35)	-
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Charlie Strader			
SWFAS Treasurer			
27655 Kent Road			

REV. 12052017

# FAS Membership

Membership in the Society is open to all interested individuals who are willing to abide by the <u>Florida</u> <u>Anthropological Society Statement of Ethical Responsibilities</u>, which can be found on our website: fasweb.org. Membership is for one year.



# MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Student*	\$15		
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 student ID must accompany payment

Add \$25.00 for foreign addresses

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	Send Membership Form and Florida Anthropologic c/o Pat Balanza P. O. Box 1135 - St. Augus	al Society tegui	to:	
	Membership dues can be p submit your membership form electro go to the Membership form page on	onically and pay	with PayPal,	

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