



## Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS)

### September 2019 Newsletter (Rev. 1)

<http://swflarchaeology.org/>

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



Welcome back everyone to the SWFAS 2019 Fall /2020 Spring Schedule. To date we have arranged a great series of presentations in archaeology for you and an interesting December Field Trip. Please see the schedule below. Our 2020 Spring Schedule will be capped by our hosting of the 72nd Annual Florida Anthropological Society in May. This will be a fantastic opportunity for our local members to attend one of these events as they are usually held all over Florida and a different Archaeological Society hosts one every year. Remember, you can still attend the conference and the banquet and not be a FAS Member but you must register and pay the attendance fees. The dates are Fri-Sun May 8, 9 and 10th. A complete schedule of events will be released soon.

If anyone has visited a unique archaeological or historic site over the summer and have some photos and a write-up of your trip, please submit them to me and I can include it in our newsletter. We are always looking for interesting input from our members and readers for the Newsletter. For our December 2018 field trip, we visited 'The Cat' at the Marco Island Historical Society Museum (MIHSM). All local members and newsletter guests should make an effort to visit the MIHM and see 'The Cat' from the 1895 excavation on Marco Island. The museum has made many upgrades and has additional materials from the excavation on display. While entry is free, we urge you to make a generous donation to help offset the cost of bringing 'The Cat' home for a two-year visit and to support the museum.

The article this month is quite interesting. In Morocco, a new excavation by Jean-Jaques Hublin has linked the Middle Stone Age artifacts there with the animal fossils that were their diet. This establishes a date of 337,000-374,000 years old for the site. This is a special site and the linking of dates to their diet establishes a date for their tool kits and any cultural changes.

#### **NEW MOVIE AVAILABLE: THE WEDGEWORTH SITE AN ARCHAIC TREE ISLAND IN THE EVERGLADES**

At our April meeting in Naples, Dr William Locascio, an Assistant Professor at FGCU treated us to a short film by Jennifer Brown from *In To Nature Films*. The film was shot at the Wedgeworth Site, an archaic, Native American site in the Everglades that dates from 5,000 BC to 3,700 BC. The site is located on an ancient tree island in the middle of a modern-day sugarcane field. Dr. Locascio has graciously allowed us to post this film showing his excavations at the site for our SWFAS Newsletter readers. This represents another interesting item that we have added to our SWFAS On-Line video section.

#### **PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR 2019 DUES BY CHECK OR PAY PAL**

**Please remember that our sole source of income to provide these interesting archaeological and historical presentations is your dues.**

#### **SWFAS NEEDS A SECRETARY: A VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

We are still in need of a secretary to assist with the production of the SWFAS Newsletter. It involves the layout of the Newsletter and other computer related items. It involves no writing of the newsletter and articles as these are done by others. Please help! Contact John Furey at [jffurey@charter.net](mailto:jffurey@charter.net).

## **SWFAS 2019-2020 NEWSLETTER AND PRESENTATION SCHEDULE**

**2019 SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER ONLY**

**2019 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ONLY**

**2019 NOVEMBER 20, Wednesday, Collier Museum at Government Center, Naples, FL**  
**Austin Bell, Curator at the Marco Island Historical Museum speaking on Return of the Key Marco Cat**

**2019 DECEMBER 7, Saturday, FIELD TRIP- DESTINATION TO BE ANNOUNCED IN NOVEMBER**  
**You must reserve a place**

**2020 JANUARY 15, Wednesday, IMAG, Ft. Myers, FL**  
**Dr. Margo Schwadron, speaking on the archaeology of the 10,000 Islands, Florida**

**2020 FEBRUARY 19, Wednesday IMAG, Ft. Myers, FL BLACK HISTORY MONTH**  
**David Southall, The Black Seminoles: Caught Between Two Cultures**

**2020 MARCH 18, Wednesday, Ft, Myers, FL, IMAG – FLORIDA ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH**  
**Xenia Kyriakou, Florida Gulf Coast University, The Bioarchaeology of Monasticism: The Unruly Nuns of Cyprus**

**2020 APRIL 15, Wednesday, Collier Museum at Government Center, Naples, FL**  
**Robert Carr, Director, Archaeological and Historical Conservancy, speaking on the archaeological discovery of the aboriginal Naples Canal**

**2020 MAY, 8,9,10. Fri, Sat, Sun., The 72nd FAS ANNUAL MEETING: SWFAS is the host chapter**

## **CHEROKEE NATION WANTS A REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS BASED ON A 1835 200-YEAR-OLD TREATY WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

On August 22, 2019 the Cherokee Nation announced that it intends to appoint a delegate to the US House of Representatives and assert, for the first time, a provision of a 200-year-old treaty. A delegate to the House of Representatives was one way the federal government promised to compensate the Cherokee. The Cherokee were forced from their land in 1835 by the Treaty of New Echota and made to leave their homes in the Southeastern US and move to the Oklahoma Territory. Nearly 4,000 of them died of disease, starvation and exhaustion on the journey now known as the Trail of Tears. The Cherokee Tribe of Oklahoma is the largest recognized tribe and one of three federally recognized Cherokee Tribes. The big question is will the federal government honor the 1835 treaty or, much as in the past, ignore the federal treaty commitments to Native Americans. For more information on this please go to: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/08/25/politics/ Cherokee-nation-congressional-delegate-treaty/index.html>.

## ROOKERY BAY ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING CENTER: COME VISIT!

A fantastic local gem to visit for both adults and children is Rookery Bay at 300 Tower Road in Naples, FL 34113 on the road to Marco Island. Open Monday to Saturday 9am to 4pm, Rookery Bay is a great learning center for South Florida and the local mangrove environmental system. This month they are celebrating National Estuaries Day on Saturday September 28, 2019 with free admission, free boat rides and kayak instruction. Rookery Bay also studies the 10,000 Island Federal Reserve and has been instrumental in locating and researching the many archaeological sites there. We hope that you will visit and consider becoming a supporter. Everyone is always looking for a new place to visit and a place to bring our Winter guests to. Please go to [www.info@friendsofrookerybay.org](mailto:www.info@friendsofrookerybay.org) for more information and to become a supporter.

## ARTICLE

### **Homo sapiens 100,000 years earlier: Ancestors' diet of game revealed**

from Science Daily at <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2017/06/170607133246.htm>

New fossil finds from the Jebel Irhoud archaeological site in Morocco do more than push back the origins of our species by 100,000 years. They also reveal what was on the menu for our oldest-known Homo sapiens ancestors 300,000 years ago: Plenty of gazelle meat, with the occasional wildebeest, zebra and other game and perhaps the seasonal ostrich egg, says Teresa Steele, a paleoanthropologist at the University of California, Davis, who analyzed animal fossils at Jebel Irhoud. Steele, who studies how food sources and environmental change influenced human evolution and migration, was part of the international research team that began excavating at the site in 2004. She is the co-author of one of two papers featured on the cover of the June 8 issue of Nature: "Human origins: Moroccan remains push back date for the emergence of Homo sapiens." Jebel Irhoud has been well known since the 1960s for its human fossils and for its Middle Stone Age artifacts, but the geological age of those fossils was uncertain.

The new excavation project -- led by Jean-Jacques Hublin of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, and Abdelouahed Ben-Ncer of the National Institute for Archaeology and Heritage (INSAP) in Rabat, Morocco -- uncovered 16 new Homo sapiens fossils along with stone tools and animal bones. The remains comprise skulls, teeth, and long bones of at least 5 individuals. Thermoluminescence dating of heated flints yielded an age of approximately 300,000 years ago -- 100,000 years earlier than the previously oldest Homo sapiens fossils. Analysis of the animal fossils provided additional evidence to support the date. Dating of rodent remains suggested they were 337,000 to 374,000 years old.

Steele sifted through hundreds of fossil bones and shells, identifying 472 of them to species as well as recording cut marks and breaks indicating which ones had been food for humans. Most of the animal bones came from gazelles. Among the other remains, Steele also identified harte beasts, wildebeests, zebras, buffalo, porcupines, hares, tortoises, freshwater mollusks, snakes and ostrich egg shells. Small game was a small percentage of the remains. "It really seemed like people were fond of hunting," she said. Cuts and breaks on long bones indicate that humans broke them open, likely to eat the marrow, she said. Leopard, hyena and other predators' fossils were among the finds, but Steele found little evidence that the nonhuman predators had gnawed on the gazelle and other prey.

Steele said the findings support the idea that Middle Stone Age began just over 300,000 years ago, and that important changes in modern human biology and behavior were taking place across most of Africa then. "In my view, what it does is to continue to make it more feasible that North Africa had a role to play in the evolution of modern humans."

*Note: For references, please see website 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  
Second of 3-year term:  
Colin Andrews  
Tiffany Bannworth  
Third of 3-year term:  
Jan Gooding  
Amanda Townsend

***Find us on Facebook at Southwest Florida Archaeological Society!***

***Check out our website at <http://swflarchaeology.org/>***

## **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: [www.fasweb.org](http://www.fasweb.org). 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.



# 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) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Check One:**

Individual (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Sustaining Individual (\$50) \_\_\_\_\_ Family (\$35) \_\_\_\_\_

Student (\$5) \_\_\_\_\_ Life (\$500) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation to Support SWFAS Speakers and Programs \_\_\_\_\_

Skills, training, interests: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby agree to abide by the rules and bylaws of the Southwest 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:

Charlie Strader  
SWFAS Treasurer  
27655 Kent Road  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

REV. 12052017

# FAS Membership

Membership in the Society is open to all interested individuals who are willing to abide by the [Florida Anthropological Society Statement of Ethical Responsibilities](#), 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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Type: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

FAS Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to make a donation to:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dot Moore/FAS Student Grant Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Florida Archaeology Month Account

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ [Florida Anthropologist](#) Monograph Fund      \$ \_\_\_\_\_ [Florida Anthropologist](#) Endowment Fund

\_\_\_\_\_ I agree to abide by the Code of Ethics of the Florida Anthropological Society.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Send Membership Form and Dues Payment to:**  
Florida Anthropological Society  
c/o Pat Balanzategui  
P. O. Box 1135 - St. Augustine, FL 32085

**Membership dues can be paid with PayPal.**  
To submit your membership form electronically and pay with PayPal,  
go to the Membership form page on our website: [fasweb.org](#).

The Florida Anthropological Society, Inc. is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization. Tax ID#59-1084419.