Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS)
OUR 45th YEAR
May 2025 Newsletter

https://swflarchaeology.org/

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *By John F. Furey M.A., RPA,* jffurey@charter.net

The 77th FAS Annual Meeting will be held this month in Gainesville from May 9-11 at the University of Florida. Make sure that you have your reservations all set, and we hope to see you there. If not, have a wonderful summer, and we will see you at our local programs in the fall.

Were you able to attend any of the Calusa Coast 2025: The Art of the Calusa events last month? Southwest Florida was the home of the Calusa and we celebrate their traditional craftwork this year. Their masterfully carved and painting cultural belongings are known from the Cushing 1895-1896 excavation at the famous Key Marco site on Marco Island from the painted masks found there. Some of these are currently on display, along with the famous Marco Cat, at the Marco Island Historical Museum.

Here in Florida, we tend to think that rising sea levels and hurricanes, and hurricane storm surges impact only our coastal sites, however, a recent East Coast study by Victor Thompson et al. concluded that 4,200 coastal sites are at serious risk for flooding from a CAT 5 hurricane. They also found that by the year 2100 up to 5,000 sites could be threatened by even weak storms. The Late Archaic shell ring sites and especially sites in coastal Georgia and the Low Country in South Carolina are especially at risk.

Florida Public Archaeology Network (FPAN) has developed a 7-hour on-line program to train members of the public to become Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS) to assess the condition of archaeological sites near where you live after storms. To become a scout, you must first complete the training course and then site visits can be scheduled with FPAN for further on-site training. If interested, please see the information on the program below.

Recent earthquake activity on the island of Santorini has caused a widespread evacuation of the island residents and tourists and reminds us that the tectonic activity of the volcano is not dormant. Arriving on a cruise ship, one anchors in the immense four-mile-wide volcanic caldera that blew away a large piece of the island 3,500 years ago during the late Bronze Age. The sheer cliffs that surround the caldera are over 1,000 feet high. The tsunami from this explosion is believed to have been a major cause of the collapse of the Minoan Civilization on the island of Crete, and recent excavations in Turkey at Tepecik Hoyugu and Baglararasi, as well as at a site in Egypt, have uncovered evidence of the unique ash layer that was from the Santorini eruption. This same ash layer provides a unique marker for dating sites throughout the Levant, northern Egypt, and Anatolia. Assessing the breadth of the destructive ash layer caused by the volcanic eruption will now be investigated for dating at many other sites.

RECENT RESEARCH

ANCIENT MAYAN BEEKEEPING ARTIFACTS AND HONEY PRODUCTION

Archaeologists from Mexico's National Institute of Archaeology and History announced the discovery of beekeeping artifacts at a site in Quintana Roo on the Yucatan Peninsula. The artifacts discovered indicates that beekeeping and the consumption of honey is an ancient practice in the Yucatan that is still practiced today. Bees were kept in hollow logs called a jobon, and the opening to harvest the honey was plugged with cut limestone pieces called panuchos. It is the presence of these panuchos that indicated ancient Mayan beekeeping practices. The bee that they

cultivated is the bees *Melipona beecheii*, which is still cultivated by indigenous people today. Source: Amber Morgan, *AllThatsinteresting.com*.

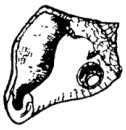
ARCHAEOLOGISTS DISCOVER A KEY TOOL THAT HELPED EARLY AMERICANS SURVIVE THE ICE AGE: THE SEWING NEEDLE

Artifacts discovered at a 13,000-year-old mammoth kill site at the La Prele site in Wyoming revealed several bone needles. Sewn skins and leather have always been proposed for ice age people and needles were a requirement to make fitted clothing. For the first time, the needles were tested for their protein to determine the source of the bone. The unexpected results were that the needles were made from the bones of red foxes, mountain lions, lynx, the now-extinct American cheetah, and hares or rabbits. Fitted sewn clothing is estimated to have been used for about 50,000 years. Source *PLOS ONE*.

IN MEMORIUM: JANET A. GOODING

We recently were informed of the passing of Janet Gooding on March 17, 2025 in Scottsdale, Arizona. Janet was a SWFAS member since March of 1994, was an avid archaeological fieldworker, former Board of Directors member, and a devoted member of the "lab rats" at the SWFAS Frank C. Craighead Archaeological Laboratory at the Collier County Museum at Government Center. Working in the lab with the artifacts that SWFAS excavated was her real love. Jan unselfishly donated both her time and funds to support archaeological field work and increase archaeological knowledge in Southwest Florida. People enjoyed working with Jan and her upbeat personality endeared her to her all. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her and her family.

SWFAS DUES REMINDER 2025



SWFAS dues for 2025 are due. Your support of archaeology, history, preservation, and education in Southwest Florida is critical. Our sole source of income is your dues and your gifts, and SWFAS is a 501(c)(3) registered Florida non-profit organization. Thanks to everyone that has already renewed their 2025 tax deductible membership. If you have not done so, we have two ways, you can renew online electronically with a credit card at https://swflarchaeology.org. On the Home page, go to " Select Member Level" and then " Add to Cart." Or send a check to: Charlie Strader, SWFAS Treasurer, 27655 Kent Road, Bonita Springs, FL 34135.

WHAT IS THE HMS FLORIDA PROGRAM?

Heritage Monitoring Scouts (HMS Florida) is a public engagement program created by the Florida Public Archaeology Network focused on tracking changes to cultural sites at risk, particularly those impacted by climate change in the form of erosion and sea level rise. FPAN staff train members of the public to identify, document, and monitor cultural sites including historical cemeteries, structures, and archaeological sites and their conditions. The training includes locating appropriate sites, identifying cultural materials, like artifacts, and assessing site conditions based on possible threats. Trainees learn to photograph and describe sites, threats, and materials without disturbing these special places. They also receive training to use the HMS Florida Monitoring Database, an interactive, map-based website, to submit all this information to be securely curated and used by FPAN staff and other professionals to help make smart decisions about these cultural resources. Once trained, members of the public are official "HMS Florida Scouts". Scouts can continue monitoring sites using the HMS Florida Monitoring Database with FPAN staff during organized visits, in small groups, or on their own. For questions and/or interest, please contact Sarah Ayres-Rigsby at FPAN at sayersrigsby@fau.edu or go to https://www.fpan.us/training-courses/hms-florida/.

ARTICLES

NEANDERTHALS AND EARLY HUMANS STARTED BURYING THEIR DEAD AT THE SAME TIME

About 120,000 years ago both Homo sapiens and Neanderthals began doing something that they had never done before: burying their dead. Professor Ella Been and Dr. Omry Barzilai have been studying this phenomenon in the Levant and opine on the causes for this behavior. See below.

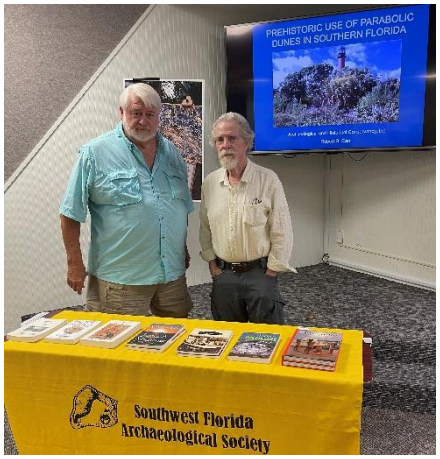
GIANT SLOTHS AND MASTODONS LIVED WITH HUMANS FOR MILLENNIA IN THE AMERICAS, NEW DISCOVERIES

Evidence from South America from giant sloth bones indicate that the "Pleistocene Overkill Theory" does not hold considering recent evidence from giant sloth bones. New discoveries suggest that humans existed alongside these animals for at least 10,000 years without making them go extinct. This evidence from the Santa Elana site is about 27,000 years old, pushing back an earlier timeline of the arrival of humans in the Americas. See below.

OLDEST BONE SPEAR POINT IN THE AMERICAS IS 13,000 YEARS OLD: THE MANIS SITE

A team of researchers from Texas A&M have identified a bone point stuck in a mammoth's rib at the Manis site. It is older than Clovis and the oldest bone point that proves that the first Americans used bone weapons. See below.

SWFAS APRIL 16, 2025 PRESENTATION: SACRED GEOGRAPHY: THE PREHISTORIC USE OF PARABOLIC DUNES IN SOUTH FLORIDA



Archaeologist Bob Carr treated SWFAS attendees to an excellent presentation at the Collier County Museum in Naples with a new interpretation of the identification and use of aeolian parabolic dunes by prehistoric people in Florida. These sand dunes were formed by the prevailing winds at sites near the coast and formed, over time, into a 'rainbow shape' with the apex of the dune being the highest point in this generally flat terrain. An example is the site of the Jupiter Lighthouse. Built on a high spot next to the Atlantic Ocean, the location was always thought to be an ancient site. Testing proved the underlaying strata to be sand and devoid of any cultural material. At other sites, burial mounds were constructed at the apex of the dune providing an even higher site. Height and shape were evidently a component of their belief system, and Carr has identified four sites that appear to be parabolic dune sites that were utilized by early Florida populations. He has submitted a paper on this to The Florida Anthropologist. Bob named four sites, including two on the East Coast and two on the West Coast: 8PB35 Jupiter Lighthouse Site, 8PB30 The Riviera Site, 8LL717 / 716 Bonita, 8CR54 Sand Hill Site.

SWFAS PRESENTATION SCHEDULE 2025

MAY 2025	**Newsletter**
MAY 9-11, 2025, GAINESVILLE	**Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) 77th Annual Meeting** **University of Florida** **Conference Hotel, Hilton Hotel and Conference Center** **For information see https://fasweb.org/**
JUNE-AUGUST 2025	**Summer Sabbatical No Newsletters/Presentations**
SEPTEMBER 2025	**Newsletter**
OCTOBER 2025	**Newsletter**
NOVEMBER 2025	**Newsletter**
NOVEMBER 19, 2025, 7:00 PM, NAPLES, COLLIER COUNTY MUSEUM AT GOVERNMENT CENTER	**Jacob Winge, Civic Leader and Local History Advocate** Topic: TBA
DECEMBER 2025	**Newsletter**
DECEMBER 2025	**Field Trip - TBA**

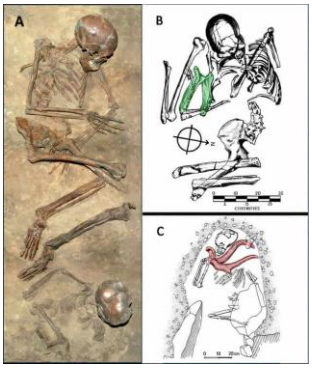
ARTICLES

NEANDERTHALS AND EARLY HUMANS STARTED BURYING THEIR DEAD AT THE SAME TIME — AND IT MAY BE MORE ABOUT COMPETITION THAN HONORING THE DEAD

By: Tibi Pulu

November 4, 2024

From ZME Science at https://www.zmescience.com/science/anthropology/why-neanderthals-and-humans-bury-dead-same-time/



Credit: L'Anthropologie.

Some 120,000 years ago, in the dry, rugged hills of the Levant, something extraordinary began to happen. Deep inside caves, or at their rocky mouths, both Neanderthals and early Homo sapiens started doing something neither had done before as far as we can tell from the archaeological record. They began to bury their dead. This was a leap toward a world filled with meaning and ritual. For archaeologists like Professor Ella Been and Dr. Omry Barzilai, who have spent years studying these burial sites, this moment represents a kind of forgotten revolution. "The innovation of burial actually began in the Levant," says Barzilai, an archaeologist at the University of Haifa. As they sift through the bones and ancient artifacts, these scientists are piecing together the early mysteries of death — and life. This act, which might seem simple to us today, marked the dawn of a complex cultural shift in both species. Here's the kicker though: this new research reveals that this innovation might have been more than just a way to honor the dead. It could have been tied to competition, territory, and survival.

A Shared, Yet Divided World

The Levant, a region that encompasses modern-day Israel, Lebanon, Syria, and the Palestinian territories, was a cultural crossroads during the Middle Paleolithic. For tens of thousands of years, Homo sapiens and Neanderthals lived here side by side. They moved through the landscape, hunting, gathering, and perhaps sometimes encountering one another in ways we can only imagine (besides them having sex; current human DNA proves that happened). But what the latest research from Been and Barzilai shows is that they may have shared more than just the land. They may have shared the beginnings of a culture of burial.

In their study, published in L'Anthropologie, the researchers combed through the remains of 32 ancient gravesites scattered across the Levant from around 120,000 years ago. Seventeen of these belonged to Neanderthals, and fifteen to Homo sapiens. What they found was striking: both species buried their dead — men, women, children, even infants. They even laid the bodies to rest with grave goods, from animal bones to shells, objects that may have carried deep meaning for the living.

Yet there were nuances. Neanderthals preferred burials deep in caves. And they often laid their dead in a variety of positions — sometimes curled up in a fetal pose, other times stretched out or semi-flexed. Their burials sometimes involved simple markers: stones placed near the body or even beneath the head, perhaps to serve as a kind of rudimentary pillow.

Homo sapiens, our ancestors, were more uniform in their approach. They favored cave entrances or rock shelters, with their dead almost always positioned in a tight, fetal position. Their graves often featured a splash of red ocher — an ancient pigment that might have symbolized something about the person's identity or status. Shells, too, appeared in some Homo sapiens graves, likely carried from distant shores, perhaps to mark kinship or social ties.

Was This More Than a Burial?

But these burials may have been more than just a farewell to the dead. The Levant was a contested landscape — a place where resources were scarce and competition for survival was fierce. Caves, in particular, were precious. As the region's population grew, driven by shifting climates and expanding fauna, competition between Neanderthals and Homo sapiens likely intensified. This is where things get interesting. Barzilai and Been speculate that the act of burying the dead may have served a secondary purpose: marking territory. "A cave is an asset," Barzilai told National Geographic. In a world where both species were competing for space and resources, burying a body inside a cave might have been a way of claiming it—not just for the dead, but for those who would return season after season.

It's a provocative idea, one that turns the simple act of burial into a form of prehistoric land deed. As Graeme Barker, a Cambridge archaeologist who worked on the famous Shanidar Cave in Iraq, notes, "It's clearly a way of marking the landscape." The dead, in other words, could have been boundary markers in a high-stakes game of survival.

An Ancient Practice, A Sudden Silence

And yet, this ancient burial tradition was not to last. Around 50,000 years ago, Neanderthals disappeared from the Levant — one of the final acts in their slow extinction. Strangely, around the same time, human burials in the region also ceased. For thousands of years afterward, no one in the Levant buried their dead, as if the tradition had vanished along with the Neanderthals. It wasn't until the Natufian culture, some 15,000 years ago, that burials returned to the region. The Natufians, semi-sedentary hunter-gatherers, began burying their dead in new ways, creating a connection to the land that would set the stage for later agricultural societies.

Why did burials stop, and what might this say about the relationship between Neanderthals and Homo sapiens? "It's puzzling," Been admits. "Burials are a significant part of culture. Why they suddenly stopped is a question that remains."

The burials in the Levant, then, are not just a glimpse into the past. They are a reminder of the shared, yet distinct, paths that Homo sapiens and Neanderthals took. While both species buried their dead, the differences in their practices may reveal deeper insights into their minds, their rituals, and how they saw their place in the world.

As Been continues her research, now studying a baby Neanderthal from Israel's Amud Cave, the questions surrounding these ancient burials only grow. Why did two species that were so different, and yet so similar, start this practice at almost the same time? Were they influenced by each other, or was it simply a product of survival in the Levant's harsh landscape? For now, the answers lie in the dirt of the Levant's caves — buried, perhaps, but not forgotten.

GIANT SLOTHS AND MASTODONS LIVED WITH HUMANS FOR MILLENNIA IN THE AMERICAS, NEW DISCOVERIES SUGGEST

By: Christina Larsen

December 20, 2024

From Phys.Org at https://phys.org/news/2024-12-giant-sloths-mastodons-coexisted-humans.html

Credit: Júlia d'Oliveira via AP.

Sloths weren't always slow-moving, furry tree-dwellers. Their prehistoric ancestors were huge—up to 4 tons (3.6 metric tons)—and when startled, they brandished immense claws. For a long time, scientists believed the first humans to arrive in the Americas soon killed off these giant ground sloths through hunting, along with many other massive animals like mastodons, saber-toothed cats and dire wolves that once roamed North and South America. But new research from several sites is starting to suggest that people came to the Americas earlier—perhaps far earlier—than once thought. These findings hint at a remarkably different life for these early Americans, one in which they may have spent millennia sharing prehistoric savannas and wetlands with enormous beasts. "There was this idea that humans arrived and killed everything off very quickly—what's called 'Pleistocene overkill,'" said Daniel Odess, an archaeologist at White Sands National Park in New Mexico. But new discoveries suggest that "humans were existing alongside these animals for at least 10,000 years, without making them go extinct."

Some of the most tantalizing clues come from an archaeological site in central Brazil, called Santa Elina, where bones of giant ground sloths show signs of being manipulated by humans. Sloths like these once lived from Alaska to Argentina, and some species had bony structures on their backs, called osteoderms—a bit like the plates of modern armadillos—that may have been used to make decorations.

In a lab at the University of Sao Paulo, researcher Mírian Pacheco holds in her palm a round, penny-sized sloth fossil. She notes that its surface is surprisingly smooth, the edges appear to have been deliberately polished, and there's a tiny hole near one edge. "We believe it was intentionally altered and used by ancient people as jewelry or adornment," she said. Three similar "pendant" fossils are visibly different from unworked osteoderms on a table—those are rough-surfaced and without any holes. These artifacts from Santa Elina are roughly 27,000 years old—more than 10,000 years before scientists once thought that humans arrived in the Americas. Originally researchers wondered if the craftsmen were working on already old fossils. But Pacheco's research strongly suggests that ancient people were carving "fresh bones" shortly after the animals died.

Her findings, together with other recent discoveries, could help rewrite the tale of when humans first arrived in the Americas—and the effect they had on the environment they found. "There's still a big debate," Pacheco said. Scientists know that the first humans emerged in Africa, then moved into Europe and Asia-Pacific, before finally making their way to the last continental frontier, the Americas. But questions remain about the final chapter of the human origins story.

Pacheco was taught in high school the theory that most archaeologists held throughout the 20th century. "What I learned in school was that Clovis was first," she said. Clovis is a site in New Mexico, where archaeologists in the 1920s and 1930s found distinctive projectile points and other artifacts dated to between 11,000 and 13,000 years ago. This date happens to coincide with the end of the last Ice Age, a time when an ice-free corridor likely emerged in North America—giving rise to an idea about how early humans moved into the continent after crossing the Bering land bridge from Asia. And because the fossil record shows the widespread decline of American megafauna starting around the same time—with North America losing 70% of its large mammals, and South America losing more than 80%—many researchers surmised that humans' arrival led to mass

extinctions. "It was a nice story for a while, when all the timing lined up," said paleoanthropologist Briana Pobiner at the Smithsonian Institution's Human Origins Program. "But it doesn't really work so well anymore."

In the past 30 years, new research methods—including ancient DNA analysis and new laboratory techniques—coupled with the examination of additional archaeological sites and inclusion of more diverse scholars across the Americas, have upended the old narrative and raised new questions, especially about timing. "Anything older than about 15,000 years still draws intense scrutiny," said Richard Fariña, a paleontologist at the University of the Republic in Montevideo, Uruguay. "But really compelling evidence from more and more older sites keeps coming to light."

In Sao Paulo and at the Federal University of Sao Carlos, Pacheco studies the chemical changes that occur when a bone becomes a fossil. This allows her team to analyze when the sloth osteoderms were likely modified. "We found that the osteoderms were carved before the fossilization process" in "fresh bones"—meaning anywhere from a few days to a few years after the sloths died, but not thousands of years later. Her team also tested and ruled out several natural processes, like erosion and animal gnawing. The research was published last year in the journal Proceedings of the *Royal Society B*.

One of her collaborators, paleontologist Thaís Pansani, recently based at the Smithsonian Institution, is analyzing whether similar-aged sloth bones found at Santa Elina were charred by human-made fires, which burn at different temperatures than natural wildfires. Her preliminary results suggest that the fresh sloth bones were present at human campsites—whether burned deliberately in cooking, or simply nearby, isn't clear. She is also testing and ruling out other possible causes for the black markings, such as natural chemical discoloration.

The first site widely accepted as older than Clovis was in Monte Verde, Chile. Buried beneath a peat bog, researchers discovered 14,500-year-old stone tools, pieces of preserved animal hides, and various edible and medicinal plants. "Monte Verde was a shock. You're here at the end of the world, with all this organic stuff preserved," said Vanderbilt University archaeologist Tom Dillehay, a longtime researcher at Monte Verde.

Other archaeological sites suggest even earlier dates for human presence in the Americas. Among the oldest sites is Arroyo del Vizcaíno in Uruguay, where researchers are studying apparent human-made "cut marks" on animal bones dated to around 30,000 years ago. At New Mexico's White Sands, researchers have uncovered human footprints dated to between 21,000 and 23,000 years ago, as well as similar-aged tracks of giant mammals. But some archaeologists say it's hard to imagine that humans would repeatedly traverse a site and leave no stone tools. "They've made a strong case, but there are still some things about that site that puzzle me," said David Meltzer, an archaeologist at Southern Methodist University. "Why would people leave footprints over a long period of time, but never any artifacts?" Odess at White Sands said that he expects and welcomes such challenges. "We didn't set out to find the oldest anything—we've really just followed the evidence where it leads," he said.

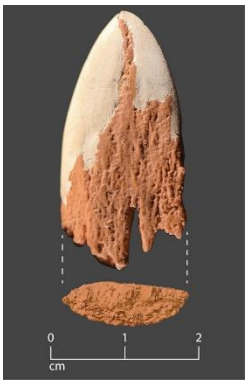
While the exact timing of humans' arrival in the Americas remains contested—and may never be known—it seems clear that if the first people arrived earlier than once thought, they didn't immediately decimate the giant beasts they encountered. And the White Sands footprints preserve a few moments of their early interactions. As Odess interprets them, one set of tracks shows "a giant ground sloth going along on four feet" when it encounters the footprints of a small human who's recently dashed by. The huge animal "stops and rears up on hind legs, shuffles around, then heads off in a different direction."

EVIDENCE OLDEST BONE SPEAR POINT IN THE AMERICAS IS 13,900 YEARS OLD

By Jan Bartek

February 3, 2023

From AncientPages at https://www.ancientpages.com/2023/02/03/evidence-oldest-bone-spear-point-in-the-americas-is-13900-years-old/



Credit: Center for the Study of the First Americans, Texas A&M University

A team of researchers led by a Texas A&M University professor has identified the Manis bone projectile point as the oldest weapon made of bone found in the Americas at 13,900 years. The team studied bone fragments embedded in a mastodon rib bone which was first discovered by Carl Gustafson, who conducted an excavation at the Manis site in Washington state from 1977 to 1979. Using a CT scan and 3D software, Waters and his team isolated all the bone fragments to show it was the tip of a weapon—a projectile made from the bone of Mastodon, prehistoric relatives of elephants. "We isolated the bone fragments, printed them out and assembled them," Dr. Michael Waters, distinguished professor of anthropology and director of Texas A&M's Center for the Study of First Americans said. "This clearly showed this was the tip of a bone projectile point. This is this the oldest bone projectile point in the Americas and represents the oldest direct evidence of mastodon hunting in the Americas."

Waters said at 13,900 years old, the Manis point is 900 years older than projectile points found to be associated with the Clovis people, whose stone tools he has also studied. Dating from 13,050 to 12,750 years ago, Clovis spear points have been found in Texas and several other sites across the country. "What is important about Manis is that it's the first and only bone tool that dates older than Clovis. At the other pre-Clovis site, only stone tools are found," Waters said. "This shows that the First Americans made and used bone weapons and likely other types of bone tools."

He said the only reason the Manis specimen was preserved is because the hunter missed, and the projectile got stuck in the mastodon's rib. "We show that the bone used to make the point appears to have come from the leg bone of another mastodon and was intentionally shaped into a projectile point form," Waters said. "The spear with the bone point was thrown at the mastodon. It penetrated the hide and tissue and eventually came into contact with the rib. The objective of the hunter was to get between the ribs and impair lung function, but the hunter missed and hit the rib."

Waters studied the rib bone previously, presenting findings in a 2011 paper published in Science, in which radiocarbon dating determined the bone's age and a genetic study of the bone fragments determined that they were mastodon. "In our new study, we set out to isolate the bone fragments using CT images and 3D software," he said. "We were able to create 3D images of each fragment and print them out at six times scale. Then we fit the pieces back together to show what the specimen looked like before it entered and splintered in the rib."

Not much is known about the people who used the Manis spear point other than they were some of the first Indigenous people to enter the Americas. Waters said the Manis site and others are giving archaeologists some insight. "It is looking like the first people that came to the Americas arrived by boat," he said. "They took a coastal route along the North Pacific and moved south. They eventually got past the ice sheets that covered Canada and made landfall in the Pacific Northwest.

"It is interesting to note that in Idaho there is the 16,000-year-old Coopers Ferry site, in Oregon is the 14,100-year-old site of Paisley Caves. And here, we report on the 13,900-year-old Manis site. So there appears to be a cluster of early sites in the Northwestern part of the United States that date from 16,000 to 14,000 years ago that predate Clovis. These sites likely represent the first people and their descendants that entered the Americas at the end of the last Ice Age."

SWFAS OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2025

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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. 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 Categories

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.* SELECT LEVEL BELOW.

___Student*	$20	___Institutional	$50
___Regular	$40	___Sustaining	$100
___Family	$45		

*Student membership is open to graduate, undergraduate and high school students. A photocopy of your student ID must accompany payment. ****Add $25 for foreign addresses.**

Member Name:_____

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