
Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society

A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

February 2007



Editor: David Burns

February meeting

February 15, 2007

Thursday

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm

Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center



Jerald T. Milanich, Ph.D.
Curator in Archeology
Florida Museum of Natural History

“Weedon or Weeden? Why Archaeologists Can’t Spell and other Tales of Weedon Island”

Local residents of the Greater Tampa Bay region always ask: Why isn’t the archaeological culture known as Weeden Island spelled the same way as the Weedon Island Preserve? Isn’t the culture named for the Island? What is the matter with archaeologists anyway? Can’t they spell? In his talk Dr. Jerald T. Milanich, curator in archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History, will untangle the somewhat tortuous tale of research into the Weeden Island culture (or is it Weedon Island?), an account that begins two centuries ago and extends to the present day. Even Osceola, the famed Seminole leader is involved, though he deserves no blame for the lexicographical liberties of archaeologists.

This event is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is requested. Recommended for adults – program suitable for children 12 and older. Call (727)453-6500 for more information and to register.

Condolences

We wish to extend our deepest condolences to Sheila Stewart and her family on the recent passing of her beloved mother. Beulah “Bea”

Watts was a teacher and homemaker. She enjoyed reading and gardening. She is survived by two sons, two daughters, a sister, eleven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

Dues are Due

Beginning January 2007, the dues for CGCAS will be collected for the coming year. Each January will be the time to renew your membership for the next year. We thank those of you who have already paid and extend an invitation to the rest of you to make your due payment also. **Roger Block** is the Membership Secretary and you can send your renewals to him at 785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706.

Next Board Meeting

The board now normally meets on the 3rd Thursday at the St. Dunstan's Church, 126th Ave. N. in Largo. This month, however, we will meet on Thursday February 15th at 5:00 pm at the Weedon Island Center prior to Dr. Milanich's presentation. Everyone is invited to attend.

Bayshore Homes Project

The next phase of the Bayshore Homes project will begin on Saturday, February 17 and Sunday February 18 when CGCAS and **Dr. Bob Austin** will start excavating a test unit in a portion of the Bayshore Homes midden. Four test units are planned in various locations within the Parque Narvaez neighborhood and testing will continue through the spring. The materials will be processed at the Weedon Island Natural and Cultural History Center. Volunteers are welcome. Those interested in participating in the field work or in sorting and washing artifacts in the lab should contact Bob Austin at 813-677-2280 or email him at bob@searchinc.com.

Archaeology Month 2007 Events

This year's CGCAS Archeology Month event will be held on Saturday March 24th at the Science Center. All the same events are planned again for this year. Roger Block is handling the planning and assigning volunteers to help throughout the day. Admission is free and is open

to the public. Further information will be presented in the next newsletter.

The Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center will host a Florida Archaeology Month special event on March 10, 2007. This will be an all day event lasting from 10 am to 4 pm. The following schedule is planned. Visit "Turtle Woman", Wynne Tatman from 10 am to 4 pm as she artfully reenacts many native traditions in a living history presentation. Craft demonstrations will take place from 10am to 1 pm. **Claude Vanorder** will be flint knapping; **Terry Powell** will demonstrate shell tool primitive technology as well as and dugout canoe construction; **Robin Brown** will do some basket weaving; **Loren Blakeley** is going to make pottery; the native flute will be played by **Phil Penne**; **Yona Galohisdi** will tell Native American stories; and the Weedon Island staff will demonstrate atlatl throwing.

At 1:00 pm **Dr. Robin Brown**, a noted author, will present "Gulf Coast Cuisine-The Wonderful Bounty of the Estuaries".

Pre-contact Florida Indians living along Florida's Gulf Coast found themselves in an environment teeming with edible animal protein. Dr. Brown will describe how aboriginal Floridians acquired the diverse foods found in the Gulf. He will also provide a fascinating discussion about techniques employed by today's archaeologists as they study the diets of Florida's first peoples. Dr. Brown is the author of several popular books on Native American cultures including *Florida's First People* and *The Crafts of Florida's First People*.

Florida Archaeology Month 2007 posters, "Florida's Waterways...Paddling Through the Past" will be available.

2007 Annual Meeting

The 59th Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Kissimmee Valley Archaeological & Historical Society (KVAHC). It will be held in Avon Park May 11-13. Papers will be presented at the South Florida Community College Center. Anne Reynolds is Chairman and can be reached at 80 Bear Point Lane, Lake Placid, FL 33852, or at anne@htn.net. Her phone number is (863) 465-3637. The registration form is available at fasweb.org and also by visiting the KVAHC web

site www.kvahc.net. This site also has other information about the upcoming meeting.

2008 Annual Meeting

The 60th FAS Annual Meeting is being hosted by CGCAS. Plans are underway for this meeting. The meeting is being held from May 3-5, 2008. The location for the talks and meetings will be the Italian Club in Ybor City. Much work and planning is still to be done and there is a great need for members to serve on committees. The main committees are registration, vendors, introducers and sponsors.

You can contact Shanna Driewga at sdriewga@yahoo.com if you would be willing to serve on any of the above committees.

Weedon Island Exhibits

The Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center is still showing the exhibit titled "Corridor to the Past" a traveling exhibit from the Museum of Florida History, Division of Historical Resources that displays important archaeological discoveries east of Tampa Bay which occurred just prior to the construction of Interstate 75. This exhibit will be presented until February 11th.

This exhibit is free and open to the public. For more information, please call (727)-453-6500.

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The exhibits that were on display at Weedon Island have been removed and work is underway to put the newly designed exhibits in place. These new exhibits will enhance the visitors knowledge of Weedon Island's environment and cultural past. How the environment influenced man there and vice versa will be stressed. These new exhibits promise to be very popular. The new exhibits are scheduled to open in mid September.

While these exhibits are under construction, new temporary displays will be found throughout the building. Artwork and other special exhibits will continue to be scheduled.

## **Mark Your Calendar**

Dr. Milanich is an American anthropologist and archeologist, specializing in Native American culture in Florida. He is Curator in Archaeology at the Florida Museum of Natural History at the University of Florida in Gainesville; Adjunct Professor, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Florida; and Adjunct Professor, Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida. Milanich holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Florida.

Dr. Milanich's research interests include Eastern United States archaeology; precolumbian Southeastern U.S. native peoples; Colonial period native American-European/Anglo relations in the America. He is the author of the widely used book "Archaeology of Precolumbian Florida". Other recent books written by Dr. Milanich include: "Frolicking Bears, Wet Vultures, and Other Oddities" (2005); "Florida's Lost Tribes-Through the Eyes of an Artist" (2004); "Laboring in the Fields of the Lord: Spanish Missions and Southeastern Indians" (1999); "Famous Florida Sites-Mt. Royal and Crystal River" (1999); and, "Florida's Indians From Ancient Times to the Present" (1998).

In 2005, Milanich won the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Florida Archaeological Council.

## **Museum Lecture Series**

The AH-TAH-THI-KI Museum will present the 2007 Distinguished Lecture Series featuring prominent figures in the areas of Native American Art, Anthropology, History and Culture. *See the enclosed flier for future lectures.*

## **Field Trip Opportunities**

We would like to plan some field trips in the future to augment the speaker series. Field trips to such places as Little Salt Springs/Warm Mineral Spring, Crystal River, and South Florida Museum etc. are possible examples. If any of you have suggestions of where we could go, please let me know so we can start planning some interesting excursions.

### CGCAS Officers\Directors

|                     |                |                                                                          |               |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| President           | Shanna Drwiega | 917 W. Woodland Ave, Tampa, FL 33603                                     | (813)383-9182 |
| Vice Pres           | John Arthur    | USF St. Pete, 140 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave. S., St. Petersburg, FL 33701      | (727)553-4960 |
| Secretary           | Cindy Martin   | 3412 Forest Bridge Cir. Brandon, FL 33511                                | (813)654-4828 |
| Treasurer           | Marcie Connors | 19327 Wind Dancer St., Lutz, FL 33558                                    | (813)920-4198 |
| Directors           | Roger Block    | 785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706                               | (727)367-8381 |
|                     | Sergio Giraldi | 14130 Rosemary Lane # 4309, Largo, FL 33774                              | (727)517-2280 |
|                     | Jay Hardman    | 1513 Oakadia Dr. E., Clearwater, FL 33764                                | (727)535-3344 |
|                     | Chris Hardy    | 1668 Nantucket Court, Palm Harbor, FL 34683                              | (727)733-3636 |
| Membership          | Roger Block    | 785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706                               | (727)367-8381 |
| Newsletter          | David Burns    | 15128 Springview St, Tampa, FL 33624                                     | (813)968-7910 |
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| Editorial Assistant | Dorrine Burns  |                                                                          |               |

## The Society

Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society (CGCAS) is an association of amateur and professional archaeologists and concerned citizens dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of Florida's great cultural heritage. CGCAS is a chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) and is a state chartered non-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible.

Membership is open to anyone with a sincere interest in the cultural past of Florida and who is dedicated to the understanding and preservation of that heritage

Amateurs, professionals and concerned citizens are welcomed as members. Membership is yearly and begins in the month of dues receipt. Contact Membership Secretary, 785 Capri Blvd., Treasure Island, FL 33706

|         | Dues    |
|---------|---------|
| Regular | \$20.00 |
| Student | 10.00   |
| Family  | 25.00   |
| Life    | 150.00  |



**Central Gulf Coast  
Archaeological Society**  
P.O. Box 340705,  
Tampa, FL 33694.

## Membership



## 2007 Distinguished Lecture Series

*The Museum is pleased to present the 2007 Distinguished Lecture Series featuring prominent figures in the areas of Native American Art, Anthropology, History and Culture.*

*Events will be held at the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino and are free to the general public. Space must be reserved on a first come first serve basis and is limited to 200 persons.*

*January 25, 2007  
7-9pm*

**Archaeology and  
Native Tribes:  
Building a Bridge?**



**David Hurst Thomas**

*February 22, 2007  
7-9:30pm*

**National Museum of the  
American Indian:  
A Resource for Tribes**



**W. Richard West Jr.**

*February 22, 2007  
7-9:30pm*

**National Museum of the  
American Indian:  
A Resource for Tribes**



**Ben Nighthorse Campbell**

*March 15, 2007  
7-9pm*

**Sacred Places:  
Historic Preservation  
of Our Lands**



**Peter Nabokov**

*April 20, 2007  
7-9pm*

**Tribal Historic  
Preservation Offices:  
An Issue of Sovereignty**



**Bambi Kraus**

**Before each lecture, there will be a Museum members only reception from 6-7pm.**

**To reserve your space today, please contact Sara Whitehead at 863.902.1113 Ext. 211.**