



FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY *NEWSLETTER*

Jeffrey T. Moates, Editor

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FAS Awards & Grants: a Refresher

Do you have a special FAS member or chapter in mind for an award this year? As the Florida summer wraps us all in a nice, humid blanket of sticky heat, y'all might be thinking of a good candidate for one of the FAS Awards. Below is a quick refresher of each award and when nominations are due to the FAS Board:

Ripley P. Bullen Award—nominations due by December 15. This award is designed to recognize professional archaeologists who foster the good spirit of ol' Rip.

William C. Lazarus Award—nominations due by December 15. This award is designed to recognize an FAS member who exemplifies the likes of Colonel Lazarus in regards to his accomplishments and contributions to FAS and the wider community.

Arthur R. Lee Chapter Award—nominations are made by the Awards Committee. But, gentle nudges to the committee may be provided before January 15.

For more information on these awards as well as other grants and research \$\$ go to the awards tab on our [website](https://fasweb.org/fas-awards/)—or, do the hunt-and-peck, maybe the copy-and-paste with the web address below.

<https://fasweb.org/fas-awards/>



**CGCAS and
Pinellas County
really cut the
mustard!**

Have a look inside
to check out what
CGC and some of
the other FAS
chapters have been
doing this summer.

SWFAS Launches Online Archive

swflarchaeology.org

Four years ago, the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society (SWFAS) Board of Directors took advantage of the discounted rate for website production negotiated by FAS with Laura Dean. The initial goal was to highlight upcoming programs and to publish and store SWFAS newsletters. Requests to receive the newsletter exceeded our paid memberships and this provided a cost effective means of maintaining contacts with other FAS chapters,
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Junkanoo Rush (Photo by Uzi Baram)

Back to Angola for Time Sifters

by Uzi Baram

Like many organizations across Florida, Time Sifters Archaeology Society takes a well-earned summer break. One July event deserves attention for FAS members: The **2nd Annual Back to Angola Festival**. An estimated 200 people came to Reflections of Manatee, Inc. in Bradenton to celebrate a heritage of early 19th-century freedom-seeking people, with some of their descendants who came from the Bahamas for the event. The festival, with its scholar's panel, music, and food, was organized by Oak Tree Community Outreach, Inc. headed by Daphney Towns. Ms. Towns has picked up the baton that started with Vickie Oldham and *Looking for Angola* 15 years ago.

When *Looking for Angola* began, Time Sifters was there. When I led archaeological excavations at the Manatee Mineral Spring, Time Sifter volunteers were there. When I needed volunteers to catalogue the recovered belongings from the early 19th century maroons of Angola on the Manatee River, Time Sifters was there. And, when it came time to celebrate the heritage of freedom on the south bank of the Manatee River, Time Sifters members came to the site of ancestral liberty for people described by Rosalyn Howard as the Black Seminoles of the Bahamas. *cont. p.6*



Daphney Towns, Festival Organizer and Uzi Baram
(Photograph by Sherry Robinson Svekis)

State Approves Purchase of Fish Island in St. Augustine

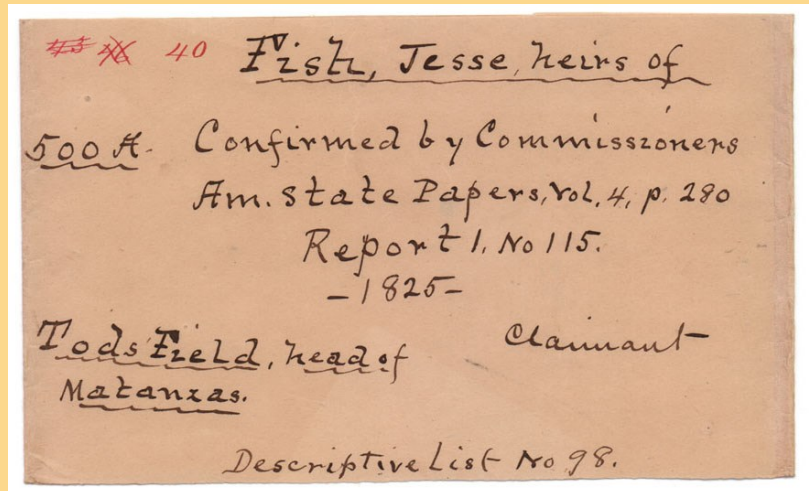
In a victory for archaeology and preservation, the state of Florida approved the purchase of Fish Island, located nearby St. Augustine on the Matanzas River. FAS submitted a letter of support for this effort. We applaud the hard work by all those involved!

Excerpt from FL DEP press release July 25, 2019: The [Fish Island Site](#), known as “El Vergel,” was owned by Jesse Fish and his heirs from 1760 to the 1820s. The site is documented to have been one of Florida’s earliest commercial fruit plantations. The history and significance of the archaeological remains on Fish Island were formally recognized when the property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1971.

According to the press release linked above the property will be managed by the City of St. Augustine as a passive recreational park, with interpretive features describing the natural amenities and archaeological resources.

Link to Save Fish Island page benefitting North Florida Land Trust, Inc. and map of 65+ acres of Fish Island lands click [here](#).

Link to Florida Memory to see this image [here](#).



Earlier this summer, PAST members had the honor of recognizing Ed Green for his significant contributions and many years of dedicated service to Florida archaeology. Many Thanks, Ed!

Congrats, Ed Green!



Marie P., Fred G., and Jesse H. are happy to know and work with Ed.

CGCAS Tests Palm Harbor Masonic Lodge

This past June and July, CGCAS members braved the summer heat to get their hands dirty and uncover a slice of history in downtown Palm Harbor. Pinellas County Historic Preservation staff reached out to CGCAS for help with a small survey around the historic Palm Harbor Masonic Lodge building.

A new owner was planning to rehabilitate and restore the building, but thanks to the advice of county staff they were interested in letting some archaeologists test around the property for artifacts or features that might be disturbed during the work.

Over a bit more than a week, CGCAS members dodged high temperatures and afternoon rainstorms in order to survey the property. More than a dozen shovel tests and two 1 meter by 1 meter units later we had uncovered items from several different eras in the structure's history, including a large trash pit from the 1920s/30s.

This fall we will schedule lab days so members, as well as the public, can assist with washing and sorting our finds. All artifacts will go back to the property owner, who plans to create an exhibit in the newly rehabilitated building so that folks can learn about the unique history captured from the building's grounds.

We look forward to learning more about this historic spot, and hope to present on our findings at the next FAS annual meeting!

Becky O'Sullivan, CGCAS Board Member



Porcelain doll leg from a trash pit feature located during a CGCAS survey of the Old Masonic Lodge property in Palm Harbor.



CGCAS Board member Alan Bailey and archaeologist Phyllis Kolianos excavate a shovel test behind the Old Masonic Lodge in Palm Harbor.



In memorium
**Thomas Sherman
 Abood**
 1942-2019

Tommy (standing) with Dr. Jerry and Pat B.

“The dirt don’t lie”

– Tommy Abood, quoting Calvin Jones

Florida archaeology lost one of its strongest cheerleaders in April when Tommy Abood passed away in Jacksonville.

After concluding a successful career as a restaurant owner and chef, Tommy jumped, with both feet, into archaeology, living in the Panhandle and Jacksonville, but working wherever his new career would take him.

Like most archaeologists, he was happiest in the field, in the unit, trowel-in-hand. Organization was also very important to Tommy, evidenced by his many years serving on the FAS Board where he worked to promote and support new chapters around Florida.

He was also an active member of two FAS chapters, the St Augustine Archaeological Association and the Emerald Coast Archaeology Society.

In St Augustine, he organized an archaeology group foray from the Panhandle to visit and work with Carl Halbirt and he regularly worked as part of Kathy Deagan’s team at the Fountain of Youth Park and the Mission Nombre de Dios. Tommy was an outspoken fan of the work of Carl Halbirt and the St Augustine City Archaeology Program.

In Fort Walton, he worked hard to try to implement a copy of our archaeology ordinance and was a longtime supporter of the Indian Temple Mound Museum.

Tommy’s enthusiasm for archaeology included the archaeologists with whom he worked and he counted Calvin Jones, Louis Tesar, and Kathleen Deagan as mentors and a wealth of professionals and avocationalists as co-workers.

Tommy was always ready to laugh and equally ready to tell (or re-tell) a good story.

His family – both biological and archaeological – miss him immensely.

Nick McAuliffe, SAAA

Time Sifters and Junkanoo cont. from pg. 2

Professor Howard joined Vickie Oldham, project director for *Looking for Angola*, historian Dr. Canter Brown Jr., digital heritage specialist Dr. Edward Gonzalez-Tennant, Sheri Jackson of the *Network to Freedom*, Time Sifter's Vice President Sherry Robinson Svekis, and me in an hour and half long discussion of the history, archaeology, and meaning of Angola. The scholar's panel was sponsored by the *Florida Humanities Council*.

The insights from the scholars traced the research trajectory that resulted in the archaeological recovery of traces of Angola by the Manatee Mineral Spring. and the history that starts with Spanish Florida being a haven from enslavement in what became Georgia, Alabama, and the Carolinas through military clashes at the Apalachicola and Suwanee rivers and led to the Manatee River being a haven of liberty, until 1821 when a slave raid destroyed the community. But, as the festival showed, survivors found freedom on Andros Island and some of the descendants returned to a welcoming local community.

The scholarship matters but so does the joy from the music and food. *The Junkanoo Rush* was a highlight of the festival. The first festival in July 2018 was an incredible accomplishment; with this second annual Back to Angola festival, it is now a tradition.

Uzi Baram, Professor, New College of Florida



Scholars Panel, from left to right: Vicki Oldham, Canter Brown (hidden from view), Sheri Jackson, Rosalyn Howard, Ed G-T, and Sherry Svekis.
(Photo and scholarly perspective by Uzi Baram)

Continuing Legacies of Public Archaeology: a July 2019 Festival in Bradenton

- by Uzi Baram

The Back to Angola festival is more than its components. Recently I published a chapter in *Transforming Heritage Practice in the 21st Century*, with my view coming from the community archaeology in Bradenton and titled *Like Ripples Across a Pond: Catalyzing Heritage Programs Through Radical Openness*. Back to Angola is not mentioned (the festival had not happened when I submitted the manuscript) but the songs, poems, History Fair videos and websites by middle school students, and tours illustrate the point for robust public archaeology: the archaeologist does not need to be the primary source of information and insights into the heritage recovered from the ground.

As a chapter in a scholarly book, the argument is straight-forward: inviting community members to be part of the research process, from the first steps of organizing a research design through excavations and presentations, provides the commitment that encourages creative and innovative dissemination of the insights from research. More projects need to have that heritage basis to ensure support for excavating and conserving archaeological sites to meet the needs of communities as well as for the science of the past. As Bradenton and the rest of Florida grapple with the rising sea levels of our present, as coastal heritage will become inundated over the last decades, the community engagement is the route to ensure documentation of sites, preservation of artifacts, and memories will be handed down to the next generations.



SWFAS Online cont. from pg. 1

historical societies, museums, colleges and universities, and non-paying members who expressed an interest in our programs, presentation dates and locations.

It quickly became apparent that the website would be a perfect place to curate and make accessible SWFAS newsletters, a publication launched in 1980. Our goal then transitioned to finding and uploading all of this older content. This task was mainly handled by then Secretary Susan Harrington. Susan was a volunteer at the Craighead Archaeological Laboratory at the Collier County Museum in Naples, FL where many of these old Newsletters were stored. As we went through what we had, we found that there were many gaps in our records and, with the help and donation of old copies from several individuals, we were able to find and upload what was available back to 1983. The earliest issues had long since disappeared and, in many cases, were numbered less than 15 copies.

This project turned out to be the key to unlocking and making the real history of the chapter and its members available to all. I have been a SWFAS member for seven years and President for the last four years and didn't really know the history of SWFAS and the accomplishments of those that came before us. With the newsletter archive now online, I had the opportunity to read all these newsletters and learn what had been done. I quickly realized what gems we had in these old newsletters for history and that we had a compelling story to tell if the data could be organized and presented in a more useful way. SWFAS has been a real force in salvaging archaeological site data and in preservation in both Lee and Collier Counties.

From the newsletters we were able to develop the following lists:

- SWFAS Officers and Board Members from 1980 to present;
 - monthly Speakers Programs by name and title of the presentation;
 - SWFAS Field Trips by year, month, and destination, and;
- cont. next page

- FAS and SWFAS awards to our membership

Notably, SWFAS members have been recipients of 4 FAS Lazarus Awards, 3 Ripley P. Bullen Awards, 23 FAS Certificates of Appreciation, 17 SWFAS Golden Trowel Awards and in 2004, SWFAS received the FAS Arthur R. Lee Chapter Award.

An important part of SWFAS is the Craighead Archaeological Laboratory. Named for Dr. Frank C. Craighead Sr, a noted biologist and conservationist, the lab processes excavated archaeological materials. SWFAS has created an award in the name of Dr. Craighead that has been awarded to 14 individuals over the years. Awardees must stem from one of the following occupations: educators, professional and avocational archaeologists, landowners, developers or the media.

A "History of the Craighead Laboratory: February 1987 to October 1999" was written by Art Lee and it documents the great struggle SWFAS members experienced in establishing the laboratory. Originally written as a seven part monthly series, it has been compiled into one document available on the website for continuity and ease of reading.

The publication of the Newsletters Archive also brought to light a number of largely forgotten original essays that had been written by SWFAS

members and published in the SWFAS newsletter: Jack Harvey wrote 31, John Beriault wrote 18 and Dr. Robert Gore wrote 38. All of these have been organized in chronological order by author and if you click on an article you immediately open the newsletter it appears in. Many of these are quite humorous and serious at the same time. I urge you to read these!

Loading and storing this information online also ensures that the data is not lost. After Hurricane Irma barely missed Naples in 2017, we realized how vulnerable the paper data we store at the Craighead Lab actually is. Our ability to put this information on the website protects it and makes it accessible at the same time. We also recently created a Video Section and uploaded five videos that were not readily available. As we encounter additional information, that too will be added.

We at SWFAS urge other FAS Chapters to consider a similar approach to their historical data management and to make it available for research and protected online! Yes, it takes time, effort and dedication, however, if not us, who; if not now, when! The longer you delay, the more difficult it will be. If we can go back to 1980 so can you!

John Furey, SWFAS President

Florida Archaeology Month Survey

Click on the link or type it into your browser to help choose the next run of Florida Archaeology Month themes. In May at FAS, the FAM Committee met to discuss FAM operations and proposed several options for themes for the next couple of years. Please participate! We need your help to decide. THANK YOU!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VLJ7CFD>

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Information for Contributors

The FAS Newsletter is published quarterly: January, April, July, and October. Brief articles, chapter news, and other items of interest are welcome for submissions. Contact the editor, [Jeff Moates](#), for more information or to submit an article.

Address changes should be sent to FAS Membership Secretary, **Dorothy Block, P.O. Box 1135, St Augustine, FL 32085**

Find us online at:

www.FASweb.org
www.facebook.com/FloridaAnthropologicalSociety/



FAS Membership Information

The Florida Anthropological Society (FAS) is open to persons interested in anthropology, archaeology, preservation of cultural resources, and community education. FAS members receive the Society's journal, *Florida Anthropologist*, and the FAS Newsletter. Visit www.fasweb.org to learn more. Dues are:

- Student (with valid ID) — \$15
- Regular and Institutional — \$30
- Family — \$35
- Sustaining — \$100
- Patron — \$1,000
- Benefactor — \$2,500 or more