



# FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY *NEWSLETTER*

Jeffrey T. Moates, Editor

SUMMER 2020 - NUMBER 238

## 72nd Annual Meeting & Conference



The Boards of the Florida Anthropological Society and the Southwest Florida Archaeological Society have decided to cancel the 2020 Annual Conference and Meeting.

When we first choose to reschedule in October, we were hopeful that COVID-19 would no longer pose a health threat. As the months have progressed, it is clear there is still too much uncertainty about what the pandemic situation may look like in the fall. We feel cancelling the conference is the best way forward.

Work to return the Conference and Meeting to Southwest Florida is already underway. We look forward to and hope to see everyone at the 2021 Annual Conference and Meeting in Sanford.

If you registered for the 2020 Conference, you may contact Charlie Strader to request a full refund. Charlie can be found scrolling through old emails at [swfas@explorationsinc.com](mailto:swfas@explorationsinc.com)

## See you in 2021



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## A Statement on Recent Events from the FAS Board

The Florida Anthropological Society wishes to express its condolences to the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, Trayvon Martin, and all the victims of injustice and police brutality in the United States of America.

Per our mission, “embracing and encouraging the study of Florida from the ancient times to the present” means examining the role anthropology has taken in shaping the landscape of this cultural moment. The study of culture is not neutral, and history is not static.

As established by the [American Anthropological Association’s 1998 statement on race](#), the field of anthropology was used in its earliest days as a colonial tool to legitimize fraudulent ideas about race. This history continues to inform the way that systemic oppression of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) is enforced in the US and elsewhere. Anthropologists provided the justification for the treatment of enslaved Africans, for the theft of Indigenous land and cultural traditions, and for institutional oppression to be written into law nationwide. The exhibit [Race: Are We So Different?](#), developed by the American Anthropological Association and the Science Museum of Minnesota, provides a timeline and short documentary detailing how these structures were founded.

Florida is no exception. Our state’s historical landscape is dotted with reminders of this oppression. In so many cities, Black cemeteries have been vandalized, disrespected, and erased from the face of the earth, to be rediscovered only through the unceasing efforts of Florida’s Black descendant communities and archaeologists armed with ground penetrating radar.

As much as anthropology and archaeology have been both the cause and the narrator of trauma and pain in America’s history, these fields can also serve as tools for revealing truths about the story of love, joy, resilience, and courage through time. Information from the past can act as a building block for a safer and more equitable future.

We recognize that anthropology is a majority-white discipline, and we have a responsibility to the communities we collaborate with and study. We stand in solidarity with Black people who have long been suffering at the hands of police brutality. We will work tirelessly to commit ourselves to anti-racism in order to center the needs of Black people moving forward.

“No hour is ever eternity, but it has its right to weep.” - Zora Neale Hurston

**BLACK LIVES MATTER**

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# ELECTIONS



Hey members! important ELECTIONS notice: stated in previous newsletter, the FAS By-Laws and Procedures, without face-to-face meetings, do not allow for all the wiggle room needed to seat our new Board. But, the mavericks on the FAS Board of Directors don't want to hold up the process any longer. They have authorized the 2020-2021 Slate of Officers for the Florida Anthropological Society be made available for a vote (actually, for an affirmation).

Please review the Slate of Officers on the next page. Follow the secure link provided below to affirm, or print out and send snail-mail style to FAS Prez, Emily Jane. Many thanks for your understandings.

## [FAS 2020-2021 Slate of Officers](#)



If mailing, send to:  
Emily Jane Murray  
FAS President  
142 Dory Rd.  
St. Augustine, FL 32086



**CLICK HERE  
TO VOTE**



**FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**2020-2021**  
**SLATE OF OFFICERS**

\*\*\*\*\**please affirm only*\*\*\*\*\*

\_\_\_\_ **Emily Jane Murray, *President*** - Emily Jane earned an M.A. degree in Anthropology from Brandeis University with an emphasis on Public Archaeology and a B.A. degree in Communications from Flagler College. She currently works as a Public Archaeology Coordinator for the Florida Public Archaeology Network's (FPAN) Northeast Region. She serves FAS as its current President and is a founding member of the Florida Chapter of the Association for Gravestone Studies.

\_\_\_\_ **Becky O'Sullivan, *First Vice President*** - Becky earned an M.A. degree in Applied Anthropology with a concentration in Cultural Resource Management and a B.A. degree in Anthropology from the University of South Florida. She currently works as a Public Archaeology Coordinator for the FPAN's West Central Region. She currently serves as a Vice President to FAS and on the Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society (CGCAS) board.

\_\_\_\_ **George Luer, *Second Vice President*** - George has been an FAS member since 1973. He has worked as an archaeologist in various capacities, including for the Florida Park Service. He earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Anthropology from the University of Florida. George currently serves as Editor of *The Florida Anthropologist*. He is a former FAS President and recipient of the Lazarus and Bullen Awards.

\_\_\_\_ **Jon-Simon Suarez, *Recording Secretary*** - John-Simon earned M.A. and B.A. degrees in Anthropology from the University of Florida. He specializes in Zooarchaeology and the history of the pre-Columbian Southeast. He works in Cultural Resource Management with SEARCH, engaging in all aspects of archaeological research. He has worked in the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic, and West Indies. He serves as Recording Secretary for FAS. He has presented papers and posters at state and regional conferences.

\_\_\_\_ **Joanne Talley, *Treasurer*** - Joanne worked for 28 years at the Jupiter Island Club as a secretary to the members and Board of Directors. She was born and raised in Stuart and has lived in Hobe Sound since 1963. Since retiring, Joanne has worked as a volunteer with the Palm Beach County Archaeologist. She is a recipient of the Lazarus Award and has served as Treasurer of FAS since 2004.

\_\_\_\_ **Austin Bell, *Director*** - Austin earned an M.A. degree in Museum Studies and B.A. degrees in Anthropology and Classical Studies from the University of Florida. He is the Curator of Collections at the Marco Island Historical Society and Museum. In 2019, he was appointed a Consulting Scholar to the American Section at the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Born and raised in West Palm Beach, Florida, he has been an FAS member since 2010.

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# of interest

click on the hyperlinks in [brackets]

**[...ancient Floridians sought solace in Florida oyster feasts](#)**

More research news out of the Florida Museum of Natural History, this one from Crystal River. UF PhD Candidate, Trevor Duke, details past environments and material evidence of all the oysterin' that took place there.

— *Florida Museum, Research News*

**[...download Egmont Key - A Seminole Story](#)**

Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum of the Seminole Tribe of Florida offers a number of online and in-person resources. The physical location is currently closed but check out the link. The Egmont Key story shares the Seminole perspective of the island and resilience as Native Americans.

— *Ah-Tah-Thi-Ki Museum, Education*

The Florida Anthropological Society will raise membership fees in 2021, pending a final board vote at our next official board meeting. Your membership to the Society includes great benefits such as receiving a quarterly newsletter and the *Florida Anthropologist* Journal publication, a reduced registration fee to the Annual Meeting and Conference, and support for a variety of other initiatives spearheaded by the organization including Florida Archaeology Month. The new membership fees will support these efforts

**PROPOSED  
FEES INCREASE**



Membership Type	Current Rate	New Rate
Student	\$15	\$20
Regular	\$30	\$40
Family	\$35	\$50
Institutional	\$30	\$50
Sustaining	\$100	\$100

With rising costs of expenses like journal publication, postage, and storage rental fees (for back issues), the Society has been operating at a loss the past few years. While we have received some generous donations and income from the past years' Annual Meetings, these are not income revenues we can always depend on. The Board has worked to mitigate some of these costs in several ways. Our membership secretary has solicited donations as well as collected missing email addresses of members to receive newsletters digitally. We've worked to down size the back-issue collection by donating and selling issues (if you're interested in purchasing any, please contact Dorothy at [membership@fasweb.org](mailto:membership@fasweb.org)). And finally, we will start offering the option to receive a digital version of the Florida Anthropologist in lieu of a printed copy for those who are interested. This initiative will not only allow us to cut publication costs, but will also allow us to do more with our publications.

The current fee structure is over a decade old and no longer serves the Society financially. An average membership costs the organization around \$39 a year, while the current dues rate only brings in an average of \$26 per member annually. The Board has worked hard to calculate realistic rates for membership that will hopefully serve us for a decade more. The new rates would yield an average of \$35 per membership. Combined with other cost-cutting efforts, this should keep us in good financial shape for years to come. Thank you for your continued support of FAS.

## FAS Board of Directors

<b>President:</b>	Emily Jane Murray
<b>1st Vice President:</b>	George Luer
<b>2nd Vice President:</b>	Becky O'Sullivan
<b>Recording Secretary:</b>	Jon-Simon Suarez
<b>Membership Secretary:</b>	Dorothy Block
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joanne Talley
<b>Journal Editor:</b>	George Luer
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Jeff Moates
<b>Directors:</b>	Nigel Rudolph Jen Knutson Bob Gross Maranda Almy-Kles
<b>Immediate Past President:</b>	Jason Wenzel

### Information for Contributors

The FAS Newsletter is published quarterly: January, April, July, and October, or thereabouts. 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](http://www.FASweb.org)  
[www.facebook.com/FloridaAnthropologicalSociety/](https://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](http://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