

# CALUSA NEWS

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA PROJECT RANDELL RESEARCH CENTER FLORIDA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY NUMBER 10 • NOVEMBER 2001



## Teaching Pavilion to be Built at Pineland

Stans Foundation Grant Paves Way for New Development Phase

#### by William Marquardt

THE STANS FOUNDATION has taken the lead in helping the Randell Research Center develop its teaching and research facilities. A grant of \$105,000 from the Stans Foundation, plus \$25,000 from the Maple Hill Foundation, \$10,000 from Michael Hansinger, and \$1,000 from Bill Marquardt added up to \$141,000. This was matched by the State of Florida, for a total building fund of \$282,000. Construction begins in winter, 2002.

Our teaching pavilion will provide a covered, open-air learning space for up to 50 people, with storage space for teaching and research equipment, public rest rooms, a parking area, water, and electricity. In the pavilion, we will be able to teach formal classes, give public programs, demonstrate artifact replication, show videos, and even have receptions and musical entertainment. A walking trail will also be constructed. Attractive signs along the trail will explain various aspects of Pineland's 2000-year human past.

The pavilion will be a major step forward for the Randell Center. Up to now, there has been no place for visiting school children to go in case of inclement weather except back to their bus. Nor have we been able to offer our guests a cool drink of water or a comfortable place to watch a video or a lecture. We have had a chemical toilet on site for three years, but our new facility will provide more pleasant and convenient, handicap-accessible rest rooms.

In March, 2001, archaeological test excavations began in the areas of the site to be impacted by our planned construcFLOOR PLAN

Top: Architect's preliminary concept drawing of open-air teaching pavilion for the RRC. (Drawing by Jeff Mudgett.)

Bottom: Plan view of pavilion, activity area, and restrooms. (Drawing by Jeff Mudgett.)

tion. The testing project was continued by our second annual summer archaeological field school, in cooperation with Florida Gulf Coast University, and extended through fall, 2001 with the help of a grant from the Wentworth Foundation. New information from this research will add more pieces to the puzzle of the Pineland Site Complex and help us interpret the site for our visitors. \*

## **Randell Research Center Becomes Reality**

PINELAND

A Three-Year Perspective from the Site Archaeologist

#### by Corbett Torrence

OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS, the Randell Research Center at Pineland has moved steadily closer to its goal of becoming a permanent research and education facility. It has been a great privilege for me to have represented the RRC as site archaeologist. Here are some of the highlights.

First, some background. In 1994, following several seasons of research and education at Pineland by the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH), Donald and Patricia Randell donated 53 acres of the Pineland Site Complex to the University of Florida Foundation (UFF) to establish a permanent center for research and education. This gracious gift includes the central portion of the site, encompassing the Brown's Mound complex, the Randell Mound Complex, Old Mound, Batty's Mound, the Citrus Ridge, a section of the Pine Island Canal, and most of the pasture with which many of us are familiar. In the Randells' honor, the land was named the Randell Research Center (RRC).

plan was formed to establish the RRC on a firm financial footing. The UFF would sell the gift property to the State through the Conservation and Recreational Lands (CARL) program, and the State would appoint the FLMNH as manager of the property. The proceeds from the sale, along with additional gifts and grants, would make up an endowment to help pay for education and research at the site on a continuing basis. The endowment goal was initially set at \$1,200,000.

Unfortunately, Colonel Randell died in July, 1995. Patricia Randell and son Ricky continue to reside in the home, but the cattle were sold and the gifted property began to revert to its feral state. Delays in the state purchase process meant that the vegetation continued to grow.

In the fall of 1997, I needed to support myself in southwest Florida in order to complete my dissertation field research. Bill Marquardt needed someone to help maintain the site. I figured I could screen-in the

ISLAND small hut at the top of Browns mound for use as a residence, but food-money and sanitation would be a problem. Bill and I struck a deal that if I worked to improve the site one day a week and conducted regular site tours at Pineland, Bill would find the money for a chemical toilet, and donations during the

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tours would pay some of my expenses. Then, beginning in spring, 1998, for reduced rent in exchange for grounds work, I was able to stay in Daryl Baumgartner's beautiful 1911 Victorian house on top of the nearby Adams Mound (recently sold to Sharon Kurgis). A timely research project on Buck Key undertaken for Mariner Properties helped make ends meet, and a grant from the John E. and Aliese Price Foundation provided another important funding boost. Bud House

Topographic map of the Pineland Site Complex by Corbett Torrence.

helped organize a small but dedicated work crew, whose core members included Bud and Shirley House, Don Taggart, and Fred Tyers. Foot by foot, one Brazilian pepper at a time, we began clearing and reclaiming Pineland's pastures. A few months later Charlie Dugan and Joe Gluckman joined the team. Before long they had cleared substantial forests of pepper trees, and the brush piles were building up. Bob Repenning from the Department of Environmental Protection volunteered a wood chipper and a crew of workers under the direction of Andy Goodwyne. Soon the pepper piles were turned into mulch. Clearing off the heavy vegetation and removal of several fences enabled Butch Snearley of B& D Mowing to reclaim the south pasture.



Department of Environmental Protection crew pitches in at the Randell Research Center. (Photo by Corbett Torrence.)

Meanwhile, the tours were bringing in visitors, many of whom remembered the Year of the Indian project's great success in the 1990s (see *Calusa News* nos. 8 and 9). With the help of Anna Stober and word-ofmouth recommendations, site visitation increased. Anna spearheaded a fund-raising campaign to help with operating expenses. Within a few months, tour proceeds and contributions were sufficient to support a half-time position for a site manager/ archaeologist, a position I gladly accepted.

Charlie Dugan noted that our new entrance, located across from the American Bible College on Waterfront Drive, was difficult to recognize. He offered to pay for "a real sign worthy of the site." Charlie's gift resulted in a sign built by Lee Designs of Fort Myers, constructed and installed for half price. Thanks also go to Merald Clark for his creative artistic abilities on the sign.

In July, 1998, Bill Keegan, chair of the Florida Museum of Natural History's research and collections division, committed \$34,000 over three years toward support of the RRC site archaeologist. Sara and Kevin McAuley invited the RRC to use their beautiful house in St. James City to house the RRC office and site archaeologist. Our regular volunteer maintenance crew grew to include Gordon and Dianna Willman, Gloria and Andy Andrews, Bill and Norma Pretsch, and many other periodic volunteers. Barbara Renneke and Greg Leblanc of Captiva Kayaks donated their time and kayaks for a series of fund-raiser tours to Mound Key. And in August, 1998, John Cauthen of Forestry Resources, Inc. contributed three days of heavy equipment to remove Australian pines and other large exotics from various portions of the site. The trees were mulched, and six eighteenwheeler trucks were needed to haul the chips away.

In October, 1998 the RRC opened again with renewed vigor. Local Pine Island support continued to grow. In November, across the sound on Useppa's southeastern shell ridge, Karen Walker began exploring evidence of a possible sea-level rise during the ninth century A.D. Funded by Gar and Sanae Beckstead, the Maple Hill Foundation, and the Pender Memorial Fund, the project employed the help of the RRC's site archaeologist, and Useppa Islanders and visitors looked

into their past once again.

In the spring of 1999, with the help of

Cindy Bear of Lee County's Environmental

Education program, Arden Arrington and I

began offering elementary school tours at

regularly scheduled tours included lectures,

the Pineland site on Tuesdays. Other

educational activities in addition to the

special programs for archaeological and

later, throughout the U.S. and Canada.

of State under the direction of Bill

Everglades by Wall to Wall Productions. It

aired nationally in the U.K. that spring and,

ing work on a grant funded by the Division

of Historic Resources, Florida Department

Marquardt to evaluate some 40 state-owned,

coastal sites in Lee and Charlotte counties.

The project was supported by volunteer

help, including several members of the

Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological

Society. Focused primarily on Charlotte

Harbor, Rob's project brought the RRC

The "Red Dog" — the old red Ford truck

that had become an icon of the Southwest

Florida Project — finally died. Thanks to the

experience to many southwest Florida

residents and visitors.

Also in 1999, Rob Patton began supervis-

historical societies, and the filming of



The RRC's new sign at the gate on Waterfront Drive, installed in 1999. (Photo courtesy Time Sifters Archaeology Society.)

Dwight and Susan Siprelle, Paul and Warren Miller, and Gordon and Chessie Crosby, we were able to purchase a 1968 Ford diesel tractor complete with bucket, mower, drag box, and rake. A special thanks goes to Debbie Gruelle and Brent Fouts for keeping our tractor running smoothly. While the tractor has contributed greatly to our on-site maintenance activities, we still need a road-worthy truck or van to transport field crews and supplies.

Thanks to the efforts of Kat Epple and Sally Maitland, a Calusa Festival was held at Royal Palm Square in Fort Myers the weekend of February 26-27, 1999. Kat and several others provided music, Bill Marquardt and I gave talks, and Stuart Brown and Dick Workman joined us at the information table and sold publications and t-shirts. A silent auction of donated art work brought in over \$700 for the RRC.

Anna Stober organized a writers' workshop hosted by Randy Wayne White, which took place March 6-7, 1999 on his front porch at Pineland. Randy donated his time and talents, and Gloria Andrews and Amy Bennett helped out with logistics and publicity. The response was enthusiastic, and all the proceeds of the workshop (\$2000) were donated to the RRC.

A fun and prosperous time was held at the annual fishing tournament sponsored by the Waterfront Restaurant. Fish turned in for weighing were filleted and fried by restaurant staff and served to participants with potato salad, beans, and corn bread. After dinner, locals told fishing stories that would have made Pinocchio proud, and cash prizes for the biggest fish were awarded. Thanks to the efforts of J.D. and Kristin Hollway and Richard Krieg and all the folks at the Waterfront Restaurant, a gift of over \$3,200 was presented to the RRC.

The RRC had a table at Pine Island's summer Mangomania festival, and approxi-

### h renewed vigor. Local Pine Island support rescue crew of Peter and Sally Bergsten, Volunteer Opportunities at Pineland

IF YOU HAVE SOME TIME TO DONATE, we have jobs for you. Archaeological excavations and laboratory work are only some of the activities undertaken at Pineland by volunteers working directly with professional archaeologists. We also need help with education programs, office work, site improvement, and site tours. If you are interested, call 941-283-2062 or write to the Randell Research Center at PO Box 608, Pineland, FL 33945, and tell us what you can do to help.\* mately 1,800 visitors stopped by.

In September, 1999, we printed a new brochure for the RRC, including a map showing how to get there. Weekly school tours and guided tours for the general public resumed. A major highlight of fall, 1999 was the development by architect Jeff Mudgett and our site committee of a conceptual plan for a teaching pavilion and educational walking trails. Jeff is donating his professional time to the planning, as are engineer Tim Keene and environmental consultant Dick Workman.

The second annual Calusa Festival on February 26, 2000 was yet another expression of genuine local support. Thanks to Kat Epple and Sally Maitland, folks enjoyed art and crafts at Royal Palm Square. A silent auction of donated art work again contributed to the RRC.

A highlight of 2000 came when the Florida chapter of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) chose the RRC as the focus of its state-wide fundraising program. Through the sale of buttons, the CAR contributed \$1,500 to the RRC. The buttons, based on a drawing by Merald Clark, feature the RRC's motto: "As We Learn, We Teach." A limited number are still available through the RRC at a cost of \$10 each. Special thanks go to Mary Elisa Merril and Mrs. Randy E. Merril for organizing the events. On March 15-17, forty-four CAR group members came to Pineland and were hosted by Theresa Schober and me for two days of



Visitors to the RRC's booth at Mangomania had the opportunity to make their own cordage and necklaces. Here Corbett Torrence ties on a finished shell necklace made by an unidentified visitor. (Photo by Bill Marquardt.)



Top: The Children of the American Revolution sold these colorful buttons state-wide to make money for the Randell Research Center at Pineland.



Right: Forty-four members of the Children of the American Revolution visited the Pineland site in March, 2000.

activities. After touring the Pineland site, the crew set to work clearing brush from the north face of the Brown's mound. Twenty truckloads of brush later, we retired to the Sandy Hook Restaurant for a Causa feast. The gang stayed in the Bridgewater in Matlacha, which they deemed "really cool." The following day we paddled out to Josslyn Island and good times were had by all.

In April, 2000, Bill and Norma Pretsch donated a 20-x-20-foot tent to the Randell Research Center. We made immediate use of it at the May-June field school conducted at the Pineland site in cooperation with Florida Gulf Coast University.

In May, the Florida Anthropological Society meetings were held in Fort Myers. Several people connected with the RRC and Florida Museum gave presentations on south Florida topics (e.g., Bud House, Darcie MacMahon, Merald Clark, Bill Marquardt, Karen Walker, Irv Quitmyer, Rob Patton, Lee Newsom, Corbett Torrence). As part of the FAS weekend, we hosted 45 people for tours of the Pineland site the day after the meeting. Tours of Mound Key were given by Arden Arrington.

May and June were occupied by the first archaeological field school ever conducted at Pineland. Students from FSU and FGCU took the course, then several of the FGCU students took a laboratory analysis course in the fall to analyze and report on the findings.

In July, we again set up a table at the Mangomania festival and enjoyed a brisk business of visitors to our displays.

In the fall of 2000, we resumed weekly school tours in cooperation with Lee County's Environmental Education program and once again offered guided tours of the site for the public every Saturday morning. In December, Randy White began rebuilding our dock at his expense, for which we are sincerely grateful.

he most exciting news in early 2001 was that in January Lee County purchased the 8½-acre "Jessy-Chris" property at Pineland. The University of Florida has leased it from the County on behalf of the Florida Museum of Natural History's Randell Research Center. The home on the property will become the main administrative offices and meeting rooms for the RRC, and in early 2001 it served as the residence of your site archaeologist.

It has been an interesting 3 years for all of us working toward establishing a permanent research and education center at Pineland. Thanks to both private and public funding and to many thousands of volunteer hours and gifts of in-kind services, our programs continue to grow and to reach more and more people. Several projects are profiled in this issue of Calusa News, and you will also find an invitation to become a charter member of our new support organization, "Friends of the Randell Research Center." Members will receive a regular newsletter that will keep them up to date on the latest findings and opportunities for participation, and their contributions will go directly toward programs and site improvements at Pineland. I am proud to be a part of the Randell Research Center at Pineland, and I hope you will join us and become a part of this great experience. \*

## Useppa's Southeastern Shell Ridge: A Key to Past Climate

Useppa Islanders Fund New Research

#### by Karen Walker and Bill Marquardt

IN THE FALL OF 1998, Karen Walker and her Randell Center colleague Corbett Torrence cleared away some overgrown Brazilian pepper trees and began excavating on the crest of Useppa Island's southeastern ridge. The work was funded by Garfield and Sanae The shells largely represent a high-salinity shore-line habitat with a secondary representation of back-bay oyster bars. The Indians were collecting edible molluscs in these environments — presumably nearby, since live shellfish are heavy. Bones of fish, found in



Corbett Torrence explains shell tools made by Calusa Indian people at an "open house" on Useppa Island, fall 1998. (Photo by Karen Walker.)

Beckstead, the Michael Pender Memorial Fund, and the Maple Hill Foundation. Island owner and project co-sponsor Gar Beckstead joined them as an excavator, as did several other Useppa Island members and visitors.

Karen expected ninth-century shells to appear within the first few inches because two previous explorations of the ridge, one by Jerald Milanich in 1979 and another by Bill Marquardt in 1989, had found exactly that. Instead, more than 6 inches of sandy dirt had been placed there. The mystery was solved when Gar discovered not one but three plastic golf tees in the dirt, one of which appears to be made of a very early plastic. They had discovered the second tee of Barron Collier's 9-hole golf course, which opened for play in 1916!

Beneath the modern-era dirt were shells, fish bones, and several broken pieces of British-made and Cuban-made dishware dating to the first half of the nineteenth century, the era when the Cuban fisherman José Caldez and others operated a mullet fishery on Useppa Island. Finally, beneath the Caldez layer appeared the dense, almost dirtfree shell layers that Karen sought. great numbers among the shells, indicate a fishing emphasis on the bay areas of Pine Island Sound but numerous shark vertebrae also suggest a nearby opening to the Gulf. A majority of the pottery sherds mixed in with the shells and bones were of the "Belle Glade" variety, a pattern suggesting a human habitation

human habitation sometime between A.D. 800 and 1200.

Indeed, the shells radiocarbon dated to about A.D. 850-900.

Surf clam shells formed a solid layer across the 1-x-1.5-m excavation pit. At a deeper point was found a layer of sea urchin shells and spines representing hundreds of urchins. In addition to the many shell layers, we documented several layers that represent surfaces where houses and cooking areas existed. These were characterized by a greater quantity of rich black dirt with lesser amounts of shell fragments, but also including animal



A woman prepares to drive to the second green, about 1918. She is standing on what archaeologists call the southeastern midden ridge of Useppa Island, where excavations directed by Karen Walker would take place 80 years later.

bones, charcoal from cooking fires, broken pottery, and associated post molds.

Karen's analysis of the large sample of shells is now complete. The ninth-century deposit included a very high percentage of fighting conchs, surf clams, and tulip mussels shellfish that live in large numbers within Cayo Costa's beach/surf zone today. In addition, crested oysters, pen shells, sea urchins, stone crabs, and other high-salinity animals are well represented. Common ovsters are present too, along with their predators lightning whelks, tulip shells, and others. This assemblage is unusual when compared to Indian shells from earlier and later time periods on Useppa. The earlier and later assemblages are different in that they consist primarily of bay oyster-bar assemblages. No beach/surf zone animals appear.

Karen interprets this difference to mean that about 1200 years ago, an inlet existed in the middle of Cayo Costa where today there is no opening. Such an inlet would have allowed Useppans immediate access to the inlet and the beach, and thus to the conchs, surf clams, tulip mussels, and other high-salinity shellfish she found. The 9th, 10th, and 11th centuries A.D. are known by scientists to have been a period of climatic warming. If the warming trend was global in scale — a still debated issue — some regions such as Florida may have experienced a rise in sea level and more frequent and larger storms. Either or both forces together could result in the breaching and general erosion of a barrier island such as Cayo Costa.

Useppa's change in shellfish may signal a 9th-century shift in the environmental setting — a local manifestation of a global warming trend. Making the leap from local environmental change to the global scale requires study of samples from multiple sites in other locations and of other time periods. Useppa is clearly an important component in this research arena and it is contributing to a better understanding of environmental fluctuations over the past 5,000 years. This provides a human-scale historical context for understanding today's global warming trend. \*



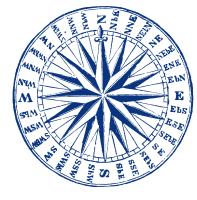


Bob Coughter (left) and Rob Patton at work on the Charlotte Harbor Mounds Survey, Phase 2 project. (Photo by Lindsey Williams.)

## Around the Harbor in Sixty Days

Rob Patton's Study Combines Research, Site Management, and Education Goals

by *Corbett Torrence* and *Bill Marquardt* 



IN THE SPRING OF 1999, Rob Patton, assisted by Bob Coughter, initiated a bold expedition to test coastal archaeological sites owned by the state of Florida. With funding from the Florida Department of State's Bureau of Historic Preservation (BHP) and logistical support provided by the Randell Research Center (RRC), the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC), and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the two put together a corps of volunteers and plotted a strategy accounting for tides, water-crossings, and a myriad of other details. One of their goals: to extract radiocarbon samples in order to date as many sites as possible.

The La Niña spring was clear and mild, and March never flexed its stormy muscle. Assisted by volunteers, many from the Warm Mineral Springs Archaeological Society, the Patton-Coughter duo investigated a total of 38 sites and obtained 26 radiocarbon dates.

The research was designed to educate local residents, provide management information to DEP, and facilitate Rob's dissertation research on the rise of political complexity in southwest Florida. The education came in the form of a teacher workshop on archaeology, the environment, and historical preservation. Hosted by CHEC, the workshop included a lesson plan for teachers and a guided tour of a nearby archaeological site. After teacher testing, the lesson plan was distributed free to workshop participants and to every fifth-grade teacher in Charlotte County.

The research project focused on the Alligator Creek area south of Punta Gorda and specifically the Acline Mound and its associated villages. By analyzing diagnostic tools and processing radiocarbon samples taken near the surface, but clearly within intact strata, Rob was able to establish a general chronology of when sites may have been last occupied.

The dates range from 1900 B.C. to 1200 A.D., but it appears that a small regional chiefdom emerged in the Alligator Creek area around 800 to 900 A.D. The Acline Mound likely served as the local political center. Rob thinks that the people of Acline may have been under the leadership of a "cosmopolitan paramount chief at Big Mound Key." In addition, his dates suggest that between 800 and 900 A.D. important social changes were occurring in Charlotte Harbor, concurring with George Luer's idea that political complexity in southwest Florida emerged first along the northern portions of the region and may have in part been in response to political influences from more northern peoples. \*

## **The Architectural Design of Mounds**

Form and Function, Space and Style

#### by Corbett Torrence

HAVING GENERATED MAPS FOR 24 MOUND SITES and compared them with 21 others sketched by George Luer and Lauren Archibald in 1988, I now firmly believe that ancient Indian mounds in southwest Florida were constructed in accordance with specific architectural patterns. Architecture has always been of interest to archaeologists. For example, egalitarian societies typically live in houses that are generally uniform in shape and size, while cultures that are socially stratified have houses that are different sizes reflecting individual wealth. Architecture and archaeology have a lot more in common than one might think.

For the architect, there is a functional limit to what can be done in any given space. If breaking shells to make a tool in one location results in a pile of sharp shell fragments, it is not likely going to be the location in which one sleeps. More obviously, you can't sleep in the fireplace while the fire is hot. Inevitably, we need different places to do different things.

The architect is interested in the *layout* and *design* of places. Which *space*, or non-space (*mass*) goes where, and how should it be shaped? The method or rationale by which places are connected is called architectural grammar, and the pattern represents an architectural *style*.

We see the rules of architectural grammar in our communities every day: in the layout of our neighborhoods and the location of various businesses. Inside our homes we see another set of grammatical rules: the front hall leading into or dividing the two great rooms; the living room on one side and the dining room on the other; the kitchen set off from the dining room. In modern homes, the design has changed such that the kitchen, dining room, and living room often now share the same central space (reflecting changes in gender-roles), but the overall grammar is the same. Our houses are very much about style: Tudor, bungalow, split level, or ranch. The shape of things must be both functional and aesthetic.

Applying these concepts to Indian mounds along the southwest Florida coast, the mounds fall into three major design categories. Each reflects a specific and almost non-overlapping size range (there is only one exception in the 45-site sample). The different size and design of sites, and their distribution, suggest a clearly hierarchical settlement pattern from hamlets to villages, and centers to capitals. The Calusa landscape is becoming more clear.

Of further significance is the similar layout and design of the larger sites. They demonstrate such similarity that the location of a burial mound at Galt Island was predicted and, subsequently, discovered! While the interpretation of what the various designs and layouts actually represent remains speculative and largely untested, the patterns themselves are evident, which should make for many years of interesting research. \* he method or rationale by which places are connected is called architectural grammar, and the pattern represents an architectural *style*.

Brown's Mound at the Pineland Site Complex, viewed from the north. Note people on top of mound at left, beyond palm tree. (Photo by Merald Clark.)



#### Randell Center Joins "Trail of the Lost Tribes"

The heritage of the Florida Gulf Coast's ancient mound builders will be interpreted for the public at several locations, including the Randell Research Center at Pineland. The brainchild of Karen Fraley and Marty Ardren of Around the Bend Nature Tours, the "Trail" is a marketing network to promote visitation at publicly accessible archaeological sites, museums, and other attractions related to precontact Gulf-coastal peoples, from Crystal River to Key Marco.

The Network of the Trail of the Lost Tribes is a partnership between public and private entities that provides consistent interpretation of the archaeology, anthropology, and natural history of Florida's Gulf Coast. The mission of the network is to promote awareness, responsible visitation, and protection of the remaining cultural sites of Florida's original people. Interpretation will engage all age levels and be based on current science.

The "Trail" network is still in the organization stage at this point, but it promises to bring interested visitors to archaeological sites and to promote the understanding of the past. In the first year, plans call for a brochure and a free speaker series open to the general public.

#### Local Heritage Inspires Symphonic Music

Philip Koplow composed a symphonic work called "Southwest Florida Impressions," which was given its world premiere performance by the Youth Symphony of Southwest Florida on May 2, 2000, at the Barbara B. Mann Center in Fort Myers. The four movements of the work are : "From the Gulf," "From the Edison Labs," "From the Calusa Mounds," and "From the Sanibel Light House." RRC site archaeologist Corbett Torrence took Mr. Koplow to Mound Key via kayak and explained Calusa life to him. Corbett attended the premiere, and he and the RRC were acknowledged during the performance.



#### Our First Archaeological Field School

There was much excitement in May and June, 2000, as 12 archaeology students from Florida Gulf Coast University and Florida State University prepared for work at the Pineland site. First, they had several days of lectures outlining archaeological site formation processes, archaeological sampling techniques, and artifact identification by Corbett Torrence. At Pineland, they gained hands-on experience and learned site mapping and survey, surface and subsurface collection techniques, and data recording from Corbett and bioarchaeologist Theresa Schober. Finally, they were put to work on top of the Randell Mound, documenting the layering of sediments that had been disturbed by construction activities in 1996 (see Calusa News No. 9, p. 3). Their findings suggest that the Randell Mound may have been the tallest mound at Pineland, perhaps even the tallest mound in all of southwest Florida.

In the fall, some of the students continued their work with Pineland materials by taking a laboratory analysis course. Each student took on a class project, ranging from ceramic and



Top: Field school students at Pineland sift for artifacts during Randell Mound excavations, summer, 2000. Clockwise from foreground: Loren Bischel, Kat Gray, archaeologist Theresa Schober, Ruth Witoshynsky, Dolores Graswald, Steve Giguere.

Bottom: Field school students Ragan Doherty (left, in pit) and Mat Newberry record the stratigraphy on the Randell Mound at Pineland, summer 2000.

shell tool analyses, to replication and testing of shell hammers to assess usewear patterns, to estimating the precolumbian density of whelk shells in Pine Island Sound. A second archaeological field school took place in May-June, 2001. Results will be reported in future newsletters.

#### Hall of South Florida People and Environments to Open in 2002

At Powell Hall, the FLMNH's new exhibition/education center in Gainesville, we're building a 6000square-foot permanent exhibit about South Florida people and environments. This is the first time in the 83-year history of the state's natural history museum that there has been a permanent exhibit about South Florida. We began planning the exhibit in 1994 and construction began in October, 1997.

Exhibit galleries are devoted to a walk-through mangrove forest; a natural-habitats study center; a largerthan-life underwater walk-through exhibit; a gallery about southwest Florida's 6,000-year fishing heritage; an outdoor mound and village display; a palm-thatched building featuring the Calusa leader Carlos and his advisors; a gallery showcasing some of the most interesting objects in our collections from South Florida; and a gallery on South Florida Indian people today the Seminole and Miccosukee. We are now less than a year away from opening to the public, at which time all galleries will have been completed except the larger-than-life underwater walkthrough, for which we are still seeking support.

Major funding for this \$2.2-million exhibit has come from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Florida Department of State's Division of Historic Preservation, and the Florida Museum of Natural History. The natural-habitats study center is being sponsored by the Jessie Ball duPont Fund. Other sponsors include The New York Times (the big mural in the mangrove gallery), the Raymond Stober family (outdoor mound and village display), Anina Hills Glaize (Fishing Heritage gallery), and anonymous donors (the thatched building). We still need sponsors for several galleries, with naming opportunities ranging from \$35,000 to \$200,000. The entire Hall can be named for a gift of \$500,000. If you would like to become involved in helping fund this state-of-the-art permanent exhibit, please contact Susan Pharr at 352-846-2000, extension 211.



This ancient painting of an ivory-billed woodpecker will be on permanent exhibit in the Hall of South Florida People and Environments, to open to the public in fall, 2002. (Photo courtesy Florida Museum of Natural History.)

#### Emmy-award-winning Video Features Calusa Re-enactment

*Expedition Florida* — *From Exploration to Exhibition*, a half-hour film produced by the FLMNH, won a 2000 Regional Emmy Award from the Suncoast Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Produced with Wild Tracks



Productions as part of the museum's *Expedition Florida* project, the film won the Emmy in the "information-oriented programs" category. This exciting film takes viewers behind the scenes as teams of scientists, curators, and artists transform remarkable discoveries into museum exhibits.

The film features three permanent exhibits at the FLMNH's Powell Hall facility, including the Hall of South Florida. It was filmed at various sites beneath the Aucilla River; on location in Florida's largest underground cavern; and at a replicated Calusa Indian fish camp constructed for the film on a Southwest Florida mangrove beach. For the Calusa scenes, several Seminole and Miccosukee people acted as Calusa people (William Cypress, Samuel Tommie, Daniel Tommie, Jerica Sanders, and Vanessa Frank). Bill Marquardt, Corbett Torrence, Dorr Dennis, and Darcie MacMahon from the FLMNH served as advisors.

The video is distributed by IAPS Books. *From Exploration to Exhibition* may be purchased for \$19.95. Send your check or money order to: IAPS *Books*, PO Box 117800, Gainesville, Florida 32611-7800. Include appropriate Florida sales tax and please add \$2.00 for the first item, \$0.50 for each additional item for shipping/handling.

#### Useppa Book Published

The Archaeology of Useppa Island, edited by Bill Marquardt, has been published as Institute of Archaeology and Paleoenvironmental Studies, Mono-

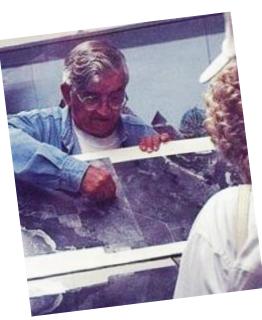


graph 3. The 270-

page book includes chapters on archaeology, history, and archaeobiology. Detailed reports of archaeological findings and rich historical accounts are illustrated with many drawings and photos.

As early as Late Paleo-Indian times, the place now known as Useppa has been visited by people. It became an island about 6,500 years ago, beginning a tradition of seasonal use by fishing people that would last for six millennia. Abandoned about 800 years ago, it was re-occupied in the eighteenth century by Spanish-Cuban fisherfolk who fished with Native Americans. This era came to an end in the 1830s when the U.S. asserted control and deported Indians to the West. Useppa played important roles in the Seminole Wars, the Civil War, and *Continued on page 13* 

## Snapshots



Zong-time volunteer RRC Bud House, left, shows an aerial photograph of traces of the Pine Island Canal. Bud has spearheaded efforts for study and preservation of the last remnants of the ancient canal. (Photograph courtesy Time Sifters Archaeology Society).

> Filthough greatly altered in modern times, the Pine Island Canal, below, is still clearly visible within the Pineland Site Complex. (Photograph courtesy Time Sifters Archaeology Society).



During a guided tour of the Pineland site, Corbett Torrence demonstrates how ancient southwest Florida people made cordage from plant fibers. (Photograph courtesy Time Sifters Archaeology Society).





An example, left, of the palmfiber cordage found perfectly preserved in Old Mound excavations at Pineland in 1992. (Photo by John Maseman.)



Gonservator Kate Singley, above, consolidates a wooden bowl from the Key Marco site in preparation for its being placed on exhibit in the Hall of South Florida People and Environments, opening in 2002.

### Books and Videos on Southwest Florida

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BOOKS	Year	Author	Price	Quantity
<i>Fisherfolk of Charlotte Harbor, Florida</i> (hardcover)	2001	Edic	\$35.00	
The Archaeology of Useppa Island (hardcover)	1999	Marquardt	\$35.00	
The Archaeology of Useppa Island (softcover)	1999	Marquardt	\$20.00	
New Words, Old Songs: Understanding the Lives of Ancient Peoples in Southwest Florida Through Archaeology (hardcover)	1995	Blanchard	\$24.95	
New Words, Old Songs: Understanding the Lives of Ancient Peoples in Southwest Florida Through Archaeology (softcover)	1995	Blanchard	\$14.95	
Sharks and Shark Products in Prehistoric South Florida (softcover)	1993	Kozuch	\$ 5.00	
<i>Culture and Environment in the Domain of the Calusa</i> (softcover)	1992	Marquardt	\$25.00	
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Good Questíons

This issue's good question comes to us via e-mail:

#### 2/10/2000

Can you please tell me the meaning or translation of the word "Calusa"? I have researched several sites and have been unable to find any reference. Thank you for your time.

Paula Stack

#### Answer:

Europeans attributed various names to the Calusa — Carlos, Calos, Caloosa, and Caluus. For example, Escalante Fontaneda wrote in 1575 that "Carlos in their language signifies a fierce people. They are so-called for being brave and skillful, as in truth they are."

The Indians may have called themselves by a different name. Many groups simply call themselves "The People" in their own language.

The word "Calusa" may also derive from words similar to the Mikasuki word "Calushathee" or the Creek word "Calushulke," meaning "reapers of the sea," or the Mikasuki word "Calachaalee," meaning "shell people."

Spaniards in 1566 called the Calusa leader "Carlos" (Spanish for "Charles"), but this may have been a mispronunciation of an Indian name. In 1562, Frenchman René de Laudonièrre wrote the name as "Calos." Spanish Jesuit missionary Juan Rogel wrote in 1567 that "Caalus, which the Spaniards mispronouncing the word called him Carlos ... is the greatest of the caciques [chiefs] that there is in all this coast of Florida."

Bie Margrat

## In Appreciation

IN ADDITION TO THE DONORS listed on the following pages, we would like to thank Tim Keene of Keene Engineering, Jeff Mudgett of Parker-Mudgett-Smith Architects, Dick Workman of Coastplan, Inc., Parke Lewis of Bender Associates, Inc., and Denis O'Connell of Meridian Surveying and Mapping for volunteering professional services to help with our Pineland development. Rick Joyce, Stuart Brown, and Corbett Torrence also put in much time on the site planning. We thank our Advisory Board for many hours of dedicated work supporting and improving the Randell Research Center. We thank the several volunteers who assisted in the Randell Mound excavations of January-April, 2000, including Mary Ann Scott and Denege Patterson, who helped catalogue and inventory materials in the lab, and Gloria Andrews, who helped schedule and phone volunteers. Debbie Randell typed up visitor signins for addition to our mailing list. At the University of Florida, Howie Ferguson of UF's Construction Management office has facilitated communication between UF and local planners. UF counsel Leslie Knight helped set up the master lease with Lee County for our headquarters building. Susan Pharr, Bruce DeLaney, Susan Goffman, and Leslie Bram of the UF Foundation have provided helpful advice and counsel on numerous occasions. Doug Jones and Bill Keegan of the Florida Museum of Natural History provided financial support and encouragement.

Stuart, Cotten, and Robin Brown are thanked for helping us install and test a well-point system at the Pineland site to assist in de-watering our excavations, and Randy Wayne White for allowing us to use his water and to run our pump from his home electric line. We also thank Randy for hosting a writers' workshop to benefit the RRC, for repairing our dock at his own expense, and for granting an archaeological and conservation easement on his Pineland property. Randy White and Sharon Kurgis provided low-cost housing for FGCU field-school students. FGCU provost Brad Bartel made available funds to help pay FGCU students who worked at the pavilion excavations beyond the end of the field school; FGCU also provided laboratory space for analysis of the Pineland artifacts. Chuck Hahn loaned us a diesel pump and arranged for its monitoring and servicing. Jack Himschoot provided free heavy-equipment services during the 2001 archaeological investigations. John and Maureen Casey, owners of the Gill House property, graciously hosted an RRC advisory board meeting at their home, and were most courteous and helpful during the lengthy process of sale of their house to Lee County. Tre Beeson of Missimer International helped evaluate a buried storage tank that temporarily delayed the sale. We thank Gina Poppell, postmistress of the Pineland post office, for her help with getting our mailing permit transferred to Pineland and for helping our volunteers learn to organize newsletters for bulk-rate mailing. We thank Cindy Bear, Arden Arrington, David Meo, and Theresa Schober for pitching in numerous times to help with our education and outreach programs.

We thank Anna Stober for her leadership of the fund-raising campaign in 1998 and 1999, Barbara Grieg for her help with web site design, Sara and Kevin McAuley for use of their St. James City house for our RRC office and residence during 1998-2000, Greg LeBlanc and Barbara Renneke for assistance with kayak tours to benefit the RRC, John Cauthen of Forestry Resources, Inc. for free removal of Australian pines from RRC property, and Bob Repenning and his DEP team for help with site clearing. Rob Wells allowed us to use his dock at the Tarpon Lodge for boat tours to the Pineland site, and the Tarpon Lodge grants the RRC a substantial discount for lodging of its guests. The Useppa Island Historical Society (Barbara Sumwalt, President) graciously hosted our

#### In Brief – continued from page 9

the early-20th-century Florida Land Boom era. It served briefly in 1960 as a training camp for Cuban expatriates, and in the 1960s and early 1970s as a fishing resort. The last quarter of the twentieth century saw the restoration of the island and its emergence as the Useppa Island Club.

The book is available for \$35 (hard-cover) or \$20 (soft-cover) from IAPS Books, PO Box 117800, Gainesville FL 32611. Add sales tax for delivery in Florida, and \$2 for the first item, \$0.50 for each additional item for shipping/handling.

#### Pineland Monograph In the Works

Now that the Useppa book is done, all attention is focused in completing the next monograph, to be entitled *The Archaeology of Pineland: A Coastal Southwest Florida Site Complex, A.D. 50-1600.* To be Monograph 4 of the IAPS, it will focus on our excavations at the Pineland Site Complex between 1988 and 1995. Co-edited by Karen Walker and Bill Marquardt, it will include chapters on excavations and stratigraphy; topographic reconstructions; auger survey; archaeobotany; bioarchaeology; soils analysis; zooarchaeology; and artifacts of ceramics, stone, shell, cordage, and wood, including a study of the

advisory-board retreat in January, 2001, and provided a wonderful lunch for all attendees. The Suncoast Portable Toilet Company of Cape Coral gives us a discount on portable toilet rental. George and Dina Nelson contributed a boat, motor, boat trailer, and other equipment to the RRC. Jerry Wynn of Ace Hardware, Naples, contributed new excavation equipment to FGCU for use in our Pineland excavations. At no cost to the RRC, Chaos Productions, Inc. created a public service announcement to advertise our site tours on local television. Lee Designs of Fort Myers constructed and installed our road sign for half price. We thank Sally Maitland and Kat Epple for organizing and hosting two Calusa Festivals to help raise awareness of our programs; Bill and Norma Pretsch for donating a tent; the Waterfront Restaurant of St. James City for hosting a fishing tournament to benefit the RRC; the Children of the American Revolution for adopting the RRC as their state-wide fund-raising project for 2000. We thank all of our indefatigable site-improvement volunteers, but especially Bud and Shirley House, Don Taggart, Fred Tyers, Gordon and Dianna Willman, Gloria and Andy Andrews, and Bill and Norma Pretsch. Thank you, one and all. 🗱

Thomasson figurehead (see *Calusa News* no. 7, p. 2). Thirteen of the sixteen chapters are now complete, and we expect publication in 2002.

#### New Manager for South Florida Collections at Museum

The South Florida Collection at the Florida Museum of Natural History has a new Collections Manager. Scott Mitchell was hired in August, 1998 and has been working closely with Bill



Marquardt to help manage archaeological collections from South Florida. Scott was raised in Ft. Myers and is trained as an archaeologist. He received a B.A. in anthropology from the University of Florida in 1991 and an M.A. in Public Archaeology from the University of South Florida in 1996. Scott is responsible for maintaining the collections on a daily basis, integrating new material, and making the collections available to researchers and the public. Scott will provide updates on our collections curation work in future newsletters. \*



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#### **New Coordinator Hired**

As this issue of Calusa News goes to press, Dr. John E. Worth has been hired to manage research and public programs at the Randell Research Center. A native of Georgia, John completed his Ph.D. at the University of Florida in 1992, and has written three books and many articles on the Indians of Florida and Georgia. He has published more than a dozen articles for the general public, and has a decade of experience in public archaeology and education at the Fernbank Museum in Atlanta and Coosawattee Foundation. In the past year alone, more than 3,000 students participated in his field and classroom programs in northwest Georgia. In addition to being an active field archaeologist, John also is an expert in translating Spanish documents from the time of early contact with the Americas. His duties will involve managing and coordinating the development of the Center's public-education programs and facilities, which will include a teaching pavilion and walking trails. He will operate from a new RRC office and headquarters in the historic Gill house located next to the Pineland post office.

#### Archaeology Continues at Pineland

Although hampered by frequent rains, archaeological research at Pineland is proceeding this fall under the direction of Corbett Torrence and Theresa Schober. The work is taking place where the pavilion is to be situated, in order to investigate parts of the site that may be impacted by construction. Corbett and Theresa have accepted teaching jobs with Florida Gulf Coast University for the 2001-2002 academic year, and will wrap up the Pineland archaeological field work by December.

#### **The Last Calusa News**

This tenth issue of Calusa News is being mailed free to nearly 5,000 people. Another 2,000 will be given away to students, site visitors, and correspondents. With this issue, we retire the occasional newsletter known as "Calusa News." Since its beginning in January, 1987, it has brought the findings of our Southwest Florida Project to a wide audience. It has also served as a way to thank our volunteers and donors, without whom we could not have survived and prospered. I hasten to say that we are not getting out of the business of communicating our findings to all of you who care about southwest Florida's heritage and environment. Calusa News will be replaced by a more frequent and more regular newsletter that will be sent to members of our new support society, "Friends of the Randell Research Center."

#### An Invitation to Join Us

We cordially invite you to become a "Friend of the Randell Research Center." This group will actively promote archaeological and environmental research and education in southwest Florida through volunteer and financial support of the Randell Research Center. Support levels range from \$30 to \$1000 per year, and there is a special rate of \$15 for students. All supporters will receive a regular newsletter (at least two per year) as well as discounts on our publications and recognition in the newsletter. All funds raised by the Friends organization will be put to work locally in southwest Florida. **\*** 

Bier Manprata

### CALUSA NEWS

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