



# ST. AUGUSTINE ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

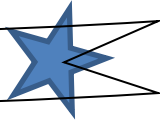


P.O. Box 1301 St. Augustine, FL 32085  
A CHAPTER OF THE FLORIDA ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER

November 2023

### Upcoming Programs



### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



#### Annual Holiday Party

**Tuesday, Dec 12**  
**6:00 pm**  
**At the Lighthouse**

This is a Members Only event. SAAA provides beer, wine, water, and soft drinks as well as turkey and ham. Members are requested to bring a side dish—vegetable, appetizer, or dessert (now is the time for that favorite casserole or try out a new one!). A sign-up will be posted on the SAAA website – [www.staugarch.org](http://www.staugarch.org)

### Upcoming Programs

**November 7, 2023**

**“Losing the Toe: A Journey  
Through Toco, Florida”**  
**Presented by Wendy Puckett,**  
**Archaeologist at LG2 Environmental  
Solutions, Inc.**  
**Flagler College, Tiffany Room**

January 2, 2024 – Annual Meeting (vote for new officers) Speaker TBA

My how fast 2023 is flying by! Please join us Tuesday, December 12th for our annual holiday party. We will gather under the lighted oaks at the St. Augustine Lighthouse and Maritime Museum to mingle with old friends and new faces. The event is free to current members (but you can renew on site).

In January, we will hold our annual business meeting and officer elections. The 2024 slate of officers is presented below. For 2024, Andrea White, Suzanne Dixon, and Nick McAuliffe agreed to continue their role in their respective positions. Katherine Sims, having fulfilled her three-year term as Director at Large, has now been nominated to the role of Vice President. This left one open Director position and Bob Maerz accepted the nomination for the 2024-2026 term. Leaving the board in 2024 is Kelcie Lloyd (Vice President) and Robyn Mooney (Corresponding Secretary). Please join me in thanking both of them and wishing them well on the next chapter in their lives. As we move into the new year, look forward to some exciting activities and speakers in 2024.

Wishing you all a thankful holiday season,  
*Andrea White*

**SPECIAL NOTICE ABOUT PARKING --Starting Nov 6th, parking on the street and in City-owned lots are no longer free after 5pm. This includes the lots behind (south) of the Lightner Museum. As a reminder, St, Johns County residents receive significant parking discounts (50 cents per hour and \$3 at the parking garage). Visit [citystaug.com/498/parking](http://citystaug.com/498/parking) for more details.**

# REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Officers and board members who have agreed to continue in their positions for the upcoming year are as follows:

Recording Secretary - Suzanne Dixon

Treasurer - Nick McAuliffe

Directors at Large –

David Kasriel- term ends at end of 2024

Courtney Crum- term ends at end of 2024

Donna McCarthy-Jensen- term ends at end of 2025

Allison Simpson – term ends at end of 2025

Program Chair – Chris Newman

Ex Officio Member – Don Roberts - Past President

Ex Officio Member - Linda Chandler - Newsletter editor

The nominating committee is proposing the following new officers:

Andrea White – President (one- year term)

Katherine Sims – Vice President (one-year term)

Vacant - Corresponding Secretary (one-year term)

Bob Maerz - Director at Large (term ending end of 2026)

The proposed Officers have presented their short biographies as follows:

## **Andrea White – President**

Andrea White is the City Archaeologist for St. Augustine and specializes in urban and historical archaeology with over 25 years of experience in the field.

She began her career in St. Augustine working with the City’s Archaeology Program under Carl Halbirt and with other local organizations. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Florida and Master of Arts degree in Anthropology, specializing in historical archaeology from the College of William and Mary

in Williamsburg, Virginia. She holds a doctorate from the Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University.

## **Katherine Sims – Vice President**

Katherine received her Master’s Degree in Historical Archaeology from the University of West Florida and currently works for the City of St. Augustine Archaeology Program. As the Research and Collections Archaeologist, Katherine organizes and maintains artifact and documentary collections, manages lab operations, and assists with field excavations. Her research interests include Spanish colonial history, plantation archaeology, public outreach, and applications in Geographic Information Systems.

## **Bob Maerz – Director at Large**

Bob and his wife Jeanne began visiting St. Augustine over 15 years ago drawn by its rich history and the many opportunities to explore and learn more about the area. In 2018, after many trips, they decided to move to St. Augustine where he has been volunteering with the City’s Archaeology Program both in the lab and in the field.

Prior to retirement, Bob enjoyed a long career in healthcare including 25 years in Healthcare Management Consulting and 10 years of clinical practice at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

Bob’s interest in archaeology began many years ago with undergraduate studies in Physical Anthropology and his participation in several archaeological digs in Israel and Egypt. He has also volunteered for numerous research/restorative activities with the Yellow Springs Historical Society in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, focused on Revolutionary War sites.

**Voting for officers will be at the January Meeting. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted.**

# Eugene Lyon Education Fund- Announcement for Applications, 2024 Project Award

By David Kasriel

The St. Augustine Archaeological Association (SAAA) established the Eugene Lyon Education Fund (ELEF) to support the needs of students as they pursue their studies in anthropology and related fields. The Fund, established in 2021, was named in honor of the late Dr. Eugene Lyon, a distinguished scholar whose groundbreaking research helped shape our understanding of early Spanish Colonial America. The grants are raised through SAAA seed money and donations from individual SAAA members.

SAAA is making available up to \$500 to provide support for scholarly activity across all disciplines of archaeology, anthropology and history relating to St. Augustine or Northeast Florida. Applications will be accepted from students or from anyone involved in such research. These funds can be used to cover costs associated with research, archaeological fieldwork, or travel, or other expenses connected with presentations at professional meetings. The entire amount may be given to a single individual or divided among applicants at the discretion of the SAAA Eugene Lyon Educational Award Committee.

## **Application Deadline is February 1, 2024.**

Recipients of Project Awards will be expected to supply a copy of a paper or poster related to the funded project –and may be invited to give a presentation at a future meeting of SAAA. For further information contact [staugarch@gmail.com](mailto:staugarch@gmail.com) attention: Courtney Crum-ELEF

By helping fund activities such as research, field school and conference attendance, internships, paper presentations and publication, we hope to contribute to a new generation of archaeologists. Donations can be made on the SAAA website--

<https://www.staugarch.org/> We appreciate any donations to this fund and a special thank you for a recent generous donation from a new SAAA member, Elizabeth Bass.

## **Focus on a Previous Eugene Lyon Award Recipient**

Charlie Hall was one of the recipients of SAAA's inaugural Eugene Lyon Education Fund award in 2021. The award helped cover Ms Hall's expenses involved with attending and presenting a paper at the Florida Anthropological Society Conference in Coral Gables in 2022. Her senior thesis, developed under Dr. Lori Lee of Flagler College, was an oral history project focusing on the success of the Fort Mose Historical Society.



*Charlie Hall, a Flagler College student, giving her paper on her field experience at Fort Mose.*

## **SAAA Mission Statement**

The St. Augustine Archaeological Association promotes the discovery, interpretation, and protection of cultural heritage in the greater St. Augustine area by engaging our community in archaeological research, volunteerism, and education.

## Announcement of a Special Program

The Lincolnville Museum and Cultural Center announces a lecture and book signing presented by Dr. Thomas Graham on Thursday, November 2 at 6:30 pm in the Virginia Room in the Ringhaver Student Center at Flagler College. The title of his lecture is “Valiant Soldiers: St. Augustine’s Men of Color in the Age of Civil War and Reconstruction”.

The lecture is free, but you must register in advance at <https://members.staugh.com/event>

The lecture is also available via Zoom. Register for the Zoom program at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81746606379>

## Answers to Last Newsletter’s “Name that Ceramic”

#1



Abo Majolica

#2



White salt-glazed Stoneware  
(dot, diaper & basket)

#3



Green Bacin

#4



San Luis Polychrome

#5



Puebla Blue on White

#6



Annular Ware

## 19<sup>th</sup> Century Boat Discovered on the Bayfront

By Linda A. Chandler



It was a surprise in mid-October when the archaeological team from SEARCH (Southeastern Archaeological Research) led by Dr. James Delgado struck wood about 10 feet down near the Bridge of Lions but about 100 feet inland from the Bay.

SEARCH had been hired by the Florida Dept. of Transportation to monitor work as the DOT installed a new, large-capacity drainage pipe near the intersection of King Street and Avenida Menendez.

The wood turned out to be the remains of the hull of what had been a 25-28 foot sailing vessel likely from “a small single-masted, shallow-draft” sailboat used “to extract fish and shellfish from coastal waterways and directly offshore”, according to Delgado.

But how did it end up ten feet down and 100 feet from the water?! The surprising answer is that that area all used to be water, a boat basin, nearly up to the market



at the east end of the Plaza as shown in this detail from a 1764 map in

which the “Guard House” is the approximate location of the Market.



This area was still water as is shown in this photograph from just after the fire of October 1887.



Archaeological investigations by Carl Halbirt in 2000 discovered the west wall of the Basin now under the Ponce de León statue and Avenida Menendez. When the Basin was abandoned in 1895, the area was filled in, and a wooden bridge was constructed across Matanzas Bay which was itself replaced by the Bridge of Lions in 1927.

Perhaps the discovered boat had had a leak, was abandoned, and sank, eventually becoming covered in mud. Greg Evans, the FDOT district 2 secretary, said that the discovered vessel had been preserved well after sinking into the ground. “It was encapsulated in soil and mud, so there was no air contact for it to decay. It’s truly an incredible find,” Evans said.

Also discovered near the boat were some coins (one dated 1869), parts of two shoes (a left and a right, but not a pair), half of a coconut shell that might have been a cup or a bailer, and part of a kerosene lamp.

With the help of our own Sam Turner and Chuck Meide, the boat was disassembled plank by plank and removed with great care to keep each portion wet.

“The pieces will be observed in wet storage to stabilize as we determine future preservation effort. We will be working closely with archeologists and the City of St. Augustine to find a permanent home for this unique find,” said Ian Pawn, an archeologist at the Florida Department of Transportation.

Information for this article came from *USA Today*, *The Guardian*, *The New York Post*, and from the SAAA’s historical marker, “The Boat Basin”.