

Time Sifters

April 2013



A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society

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NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 6:00 PM
Selby Library, Downtown Sarasota

Dr. Evelyn Mangie, Time Sifters Board of Directors Archaeology in Israel



“I have had many careers in my life, wife, mommy, Cub Scout leader and, after my children grew up, archaeologist. During that part of my life, I was fortunate to be part of archaeological excavation teams at two sites in Israel, at Ashkelon and at Sepphoris. Ashkelon is an ancient Canaanite city, the home of biblical Samson and Delilah. Sepphoris was the Galilean capital city of King Herod. It was extremely exciting to help uncover such interesting history, hard physical labor but also lots of fun. My talk will be on my experiences there.”

About Evelyn Mangie:

Dr. Evelyn Mangie was born and raised in Ohio, and has been a permanent resident of Sarasota since 1995. She attended Youngstown State University but left after her freshman year to be married. She went back to Youngstown University 20 years later, finished her undergrad in Anthropology, got a graduate assistantship for Master's degree in History; then a teaching assistantship at University of Akron for a Ph.D. in History. Evelyn also studied in Greece at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens; in Italy in the Classical Studies Program affiliated with Kent State University in Rome, Pompeii and Herculaneum; in Egypt under supervision of John Carroll University; and in Israel with the Oriental Institute of Chicago. She has taught in Ohio at University of Akron, Hiram College, and Youngstown State University, and in Florida at the University of South Florida and Edison State College (still teaching there). Her archaeological excavations in Israel were at Ashkelon on the Mediterranean coast and at Sepphoris in the Galilee.

Notes from a Time Sifter



Photo credit: Göbekli Tepe, V.J. Musi, National Geographic



Photo credit: Nabta Playa, A. Burnham



We are all familiar with the mysterious Stonehenge in England but there are other monumental megaliths in the world also. All of them seem to have been built in their Neolithic period, the period when humans moved from a hunter-gatherer economy to an agricultural economy and began to build permanent structures. The Neolithic period in the middle-east began about twelve thousand years ago, and some of the earliest structures were built in what is now southern Turkey. At Göbekli Tepe (left top) just north of the Syrian border, archaeologists found what they believe is the world's oldest man-made structure. On the tell, there are more than ten circular stone structures ranging from 30 to 90 feet in diameter. Massive limestone pillars (each about 13 feet high) are set in the circles at equal distances from each other facing four other pillars. Another site, Nabta Playa (left middle), is in the Nubian Desert about 500 miles south of Cairo and dates to about 4800 b.c.e., the Neolithic period there. There are hundreds of other sites in Norway, Ireland, Portugal, Malta, Yemen, Easter Island and even North America. Many have stones placed in circles similar to Stonehenge, but one in Brittany, France, has ten thousand massive stones averaging 52 feet tall standing in perfectly straight lines.

The early date of the structures at Göbekli Tepe, and the fact that there were no potsherds or other evidence of farming there, led archaeologists to believe that these circles predate agriculture and that the structures were sanctuaries rather than evidence of a permanent settlement. Could the need for communal religious rituals have been the spark that ignited the Neolithic Revolution? And if this is true of Göbekli Tepe, can it also apply to Stonehenge and the other monumental megaliths? And how were pre-Neolithic people able to move such massive stones? A 1915 anthropological study of Indonesian tribes may give a clue on the movement of megaliths (left bottom) but archaeologists will have to keep on digging for other answers.

For more on Göbekli Tepe, see World Archaeology #53.

Photo credit: Indonesian Study, 1915, Collection of the Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam at <http://collectie.tropenmuseum.nl>

On the Time Sifters website:

Pre-Viking tunic found by glacier as global warming aids archaeology

OUR WEBMASTER, JIM MECKLER, POSTS THE MOST INTERESTING ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



A pre-Viking woolen tunic found beside a thawing glacier in south Norway shows how global warming is proving something of a boon for archaeology, scientists said on Thursday. The greenish-brown, loose-fitting outer clothing – suitable for a person up to about 176 cms (5 ft 9 inches) tall – was found 2,000 meters (6,560 ft) above sea level on what may have been a Roman-era trade route in south Norway. Carbon dating showed it was made around 300 AD. “It’s worrying that glaciers are melting but it’s exciting for us archaeologists,” Lars Piloe, a Danish archaeologist who works on Norway’s glaciers, said at the first public showing of the tunic, which has been studied since it was found in 2011. An ornate walking stick, a Bronze age leather shoe, ancient bows, and arrow heads used to hunt reindeer are also among 1,600 finds in Norway’s southern mountains since thaws accelerated in 2006. For more of the story go to www.timesifters.org

Pictures from Archaeology Fest 2013



Notice the NEW Time Sifters T-Shirts! \$12 member price available at the meeting


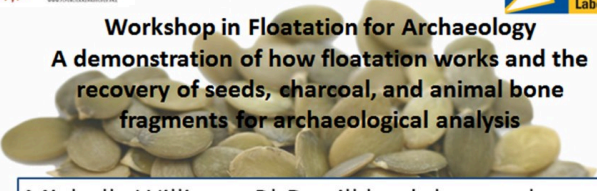
Open Workshop at the New College Public Archaeology Lab Friday, April 12th, 1:00pm

Workshop in Floatation for Archaeology
A demonstration of how floatation works and the recovery of seeds, charcoal, and animal bone fragments for archaeological analysis

Michelle Williams, PhD, will lead the one-hour hands-on workshop in floatation methodology

Friday, April 12th in NCPAL starting at 1 pm

For more information, and to RSVP, contact Baram@ncf.edu

Join us for a demonstration of the process of floatation for archaeology. We will be processing soil samples recovered during our recent excavations at the Manatee Mineral Spring site in Bradenton. Time Sifters members are invited to observe or participate as we recover botanical or other fragments for analysis. Participants will get wet! RSVP to Baram@ncf.edu

Sherry Svekis and Felicia Silpa continue the re-examination of the Gamble Plantation archaeological assemblage on Wednesdays from 10 am to 11 am in NCPAL. Any/all NCF student and Time Sifters members are welcomed. RSVP to ssvekis@gmail.com



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST!

Woven Wonders - A special night celebrating Maya Textiles - South Florida Museum Saturday, April 6, 4pm - 8pm

1/2 price admission, Weaving demos and activities, Bilingual Story Time, and Live star talk & special showing of *Ultimate Universe*.

65th Annual Florida Anthropological Society Meeting - May 10-11, 2013

The St. Augustine Archaeological Society is pleased to host the 65th Annual Meeting of the Florida Anthropological Society in St. Augustine, May 10-11, 2013 in connection with the statewide 500-year celebration of Florida's Spanish history. The theme Ponce to The Ponce has been chosen in recognition of Ponce de Leon's 1513 landing and the location of the meeting this year, the former Ponce de Leon Hotel, now home to Flagler College.

Further details about the events and a registration form will be available in the January FAS newsletter and online beginning in 2013 at www.FASWEB.org.

Membership

Individual:	\$20
Family:	\$30
Sustaining:	\$50
Student:	\$10

Pay online at:

TimeSifters.org

Or mail checks to:

Time Sifters, Inc.

PO Box 5283

Sarasota, FL. 34277

SPRING 2013 MEETING CALENDAR

April 17, 6pm: Dr. Evelyn Mangie, Archaeology in Israel *Selby*

May 15, 6pm: Maranda Almy Kles, M.A., M.S.: Bioarchaeology in Sarasota and Beyond *Selby*
Selby Library: downtown Sarasota, Central Ave and 2nd Street

Go to www.TimeSifters.org
for more information!

We're on the Web!

www.TimeSifters.org

Your renewal date is above; please remit if due.