



# NOVEMBER - 2023

PRESERVATION ♦ EDUCATION ♦ RESEARCH ♦ INSPIRE

Dear Member:

This month we continue our series on Florida history with Dr. Maranda Almy Kles who will tell us about **the Cuban Fishing Ranchos in Sarasota and SW Florida**. Please come join us at the Selby Library at 6:00 pm on the 15th. The lectures are free to the public.

On page 3 we are proud to announce **the 2024 Cornelia Futor Memorial Student Research Grant**.

Also we have figured out all the bugs for the recording of the lectures and the last two lectures are both on the webpage and the YouTube channel, for those who were unable to attend in person. Enjoy.

Darwin "Smitty" Smith, President  
hmsbeagle22@gmail.com



*November 15 - at 6:00 PM at the Selby Library in downtown Sarasota*

## ***Guns, Rum, and Peace flags: Cuban Fishing Ranchos in Sarasota and Southwest Florida***

***Dr. Maranda Almy Kles,  
Bioarchaeologist,  
Vice President, Archaeological Consultants Inc.***



Sarasota has always been a political hot bed! In the late 1700s and early 1800s **Cuban fisherman** made the Southwest Coast of Florida their home, including Sarasota, Bradenton, and Tampa Bay. They caught fish, salted them, and sent them to Havana for market. The fisherman also married and raised families here. While the fisherman were often ignored they became the center of attention for better and worse when Florida joined the United States. The fishermen were often targeted for smuggling rum or guns or evading taxes. But they also played key roles in avoiding a war and later helping the US military fight a war. During this talk we will explore who the fishermen were, where they lived, and what they did, not only day to day, but on a few key days that ultimately made it into the history books!

Maranda Almy Kles is a bioarchaeologist and forensic anthropologist. She previously worked for the National Park Service and several archaeology firms, she also taught anthropology as a college professor. Today she is the Vice President of



Archaeological Consultants, a cultural resource management firm based here in Sarasota.

## Notes from a Time Sifter

# The Story of Squanto is laced with mythology.

By Evelyn Mangie, Time Sifters Board Member

*Squanto (Tisquantum)* was the friendly American Indian who helped the Pilgrims survive in Plymouth Colony in the early 17th century. The story of *Squanto* is laced with mythology, but he was real, and the Mayflower Pilgrims benefitted from his help tremendously. His life was complicated and amazing.

He was born in Patuxet ca 1580, a member of the Patuxet Wampanoag Indians, a large confederation of at least 24 Algonquian-speaking tribes living throughout what is now Massachusetts and Rhode Island. We know nothing of his life until 1614, when he and 19 other

Wampanoags were captured by an English sea captain who took them to Malaga, Spain. Several of the captives were sold into slavery, but Squanto was rescued by some Catholic friars who released him. He was able to get on a ship to England and managed to make his way to London where he worked in the stables of John Slany, the treasurer of *The Newfoundland Company* which had a charter from King James for fishing rights in Newfoundland. Slany saw Squanto as an asset because he could now speak English, making him invaluable for trading with the American Indians.

Slany sent Squanto to work in the English colony at Newfoundland in 1616 but the Native American Indians there were unfriendly, so Squanto went back to England again. In 1618, Squanto was sent to work as an interpreter for English explorer, Captain Thomas Dermer, who took him to New England on a trading mission.



Photos: Pinterest; the story books; Wikipedia; Painting by Charles Lucy; History.com.



his own tribe had been annihilated. He was now an orphan, alone in his own home.

In November of 1620, *the Mayflower* arrived in Cape Cod harbor and the Pilgrims entered the deserted Patuxet village. In March, they were greeted by Samoset, another indigenous survivor of the plague who spoke only broken English but offered to introduce the Pilgrims to Squanto. Squanto befriended them and helped them build their village over the ruins of Patuxet. The English named their new village Plimouth, after the town in England from where they sailed.

Squanto was extremely helpful to the Pilgrims. He showed them how to fertilize native crops, where to fish, and where to hunt beavers.

He served as an interpreter and *helped to get a treaty signed by the settlers and the local Indians* that allowed the colonists to build their settlement without having to guard against attack. William Bradford, Governor of Plymouth,

wrote that Squanto was "a special instrument sent of God for their good beyond their expectation." Their settlement thrived with Squanto's help, and they celebrated in September of 1621 when they brought in the bountiful harvest that would provide enough to keep them through the coming cold New England winter.

Governor Bradford wrote that the settlers "entertained and feasted" for three days in celebration of the successful harvest, and that

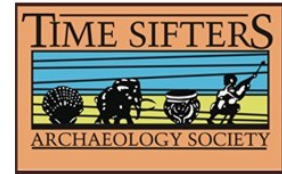


That allowed Squanto to finally go home, but when he got back to his Patuxet village, he discovered only skeletons on the ground, evidence of the terrible epidemic that had ravaged the area in 1616 killing two-thirds of the entire Wampanoag nation. It must have been devastating to find his family and friends gone, and it was made worse when Squanto was taken prisoner by the leader of a neighboring Wampanoag village, Massasoit (Ousamequin). There, Squanto found a few relatives who had survived the plague, but

**Continued on page 4 ...**

# Time Sifters Presents

## Cornelia Futor Memorial Student Research Grant



*Time Sifters Archaeology Society* is pleased to announce ...

*The 2024 The Cornelia Futor Memorial Student Research Grant, providing up to \$2000 to eligible students to attend field school. This grant is open to students currently enrolled at a Florida university or college who have begun their junior year of undergraduate studies at the time of application, MA students, and Ph.D. students who are pursuing a major in anthropology with a focus on archaeology.*

The 2024 grant cycle is specifically funding participation in field schools that include training in excavation techniques. There will be more than one award made.

### *Key Dates*

- Request application from [ssvekis@gmail.com](mailto:ssvekis@gmail.com) by: **March 1, 2024.**
- Application submittal deadline: **March 15, 2024.**
- Award will be announced: **March 30, 2024.**

### *Grant Guidelines*

- All questions and applications must be sent to [ssvekis@gmail.com](mailto:ssvekis@gmail.com). Include **"Time Sifters Student Research Grant"** in the subject line.
- Grant request requires submission of an Application, which includes a statement of request, a brief bio, two photos, and a line-item budget. In addition, a **letter of support from an academic advisor** must be submitted along with the application. **We recommend you speak to your professor as soon as possible.**
- Upon conclusion of the funded project, a written report (500 words), at least two photos, and an expense report including receipts must be submitted within 60 days.

Time Sifters Archaeology Society - A Chapter of the Florida Anthropological Society - P. O. Box 5283, Sarasota, FL 34277

[www.timesifters.org/](http://www.timesifters.org/)

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# A Time Sifters Book Review

## Septimius Severus in Scotland

by Simon Elliott ... Greenhill Books

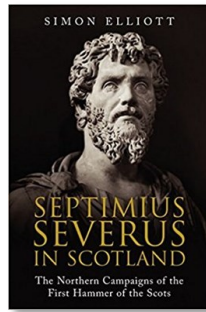
Since 1975 much new archaeological evidence has come to light about the immense undertaking of Septimius Severus' campaigns in Scotland, allowing for the first time the true story of this savage invasion to be told.

In the early 3rd century, Severus launched an immense shock and awe assault on Scotland that was so savage it resulted in 80 years of peace on Rome's most troublesome border. 50,000 troops, supported by the fleet, hacked their way through the Maeatae around the former Antonine Wall and into Caledonian territory up to the Moray Firth.

Severus was the first to reform the Roman military, and it is explained in the context of how he concentrated power around the imperial throne. There is also an in-depth look at the political, economic and social developments that occurred in the province.

This book is for all who have an interest in military and Roman history. Also those who are keen to learn more about Rome's military presence in Britain, and the great campaigns of which Severus's assault on Scotland is the best example.

Source: Goodreads.com



Time Sifters Members are invited to ...



NEW COLLEGE PUBLIC ARCHAEOLOGY LAB PRESENTS

**VIRTUALIZATION: A NEW FRONTIER IN ARCHAEOLOGY**  
A Hands-On Workshop in Digital Archaeology

**November 10th at 10:30 a.m. in the  
Public Archaeology Lab**

You will get to explore how 3D digital imaging techniques are used in the documentation, interpretation and global dissemination of endangered, inaccessible or neglected archaeological heritage.



**A Workshop with Davide Tanasi, Ph.D.**

Dr. Davide Tanasi, Professor and Director of the University of South Florida's Institute for Digital Exploration (IDEX), will give a guest lecture and conduct a hands-on workshop on digital archaeological methods.

In addition to his work at IDEX, Dr. Tanasi is also currently the principal investigator of the excavation project Melite Civitas Romana, at the Roman Domus of Rabat in Malta, an international and interdisciplinary long term excavation project for the study of the most important early Roman imperial mansion of the Maltese Archipelago, where he employs innovative analytical techniques for surveying (Ground Penetrating Radar) and documentation of the site (Terrestrial and Aerial LIDAR, Digital photogrammetry).

Dr. Uzi Baram, professor emeritus at NCF and Director of Public Archaeology at Selby Botanical Gardens, will be giving a brief presentation on current research at Historic Spanish Point!



Continued from page 2 ...

## Squanto ...



Photo: World History Encyclopedia

Massasoit and his warriors brought five deer for the feast. American Indians traditionally gave thanks throughout the year, but this was the first American

Thanksgiving. It included both English and Indians.

Squanto stayed with the settlers, seldom leaving Plymouth. He died there of a fever in November of 1622. He had become a Christian and asked Governor Bradford to pray that he could go to "God's Heaven." The Pilgrims buried him in an unmarked grave in an unknown place. The Mayflower Pilgrims probably would not have survived without him.

The town of Plymouth is still there, the "oldest town in

Massachusetts." *A living museum of Plimoth Patuxet was founded there in 1947.* It is a non-profit museum that is supported by contributions and is run by volunteers, many who speak, dress, and act like Pilgrim settlers. They offer activities that include interacting with visitors. The museum also engages in research and historical archaeological excavations. You can visit this replica of the village in Plymouth, Massachusetts from early April until late November. A replica of the Mayflower is moored in the harbor near the Plymouth Rock.

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