



AWIARE

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Be an advocate of AWIARE and become part of a living time capsule.
From an individual donation to a corporate endowment, each gift connects people to nature, to history, and to Weedon Island's legacy.

There are many ways to contribute. Cash donations made directly to AWIARE go into our operating account and fund day-to-day activities and events. Contributions to The AWIARE Endowment Fund underwrite large-scale projects, fund student grants and internships, and help ensure our long-term success. Endowment gifts are made through The Pinellas Community Foundation and can include cash, estate plans, stocks, life insurance, or retirement account distributions. As a 501c3 corporation, all gifts to AWIARE or to the AWIARE Endowment Fund are fully tax deductible. Visit our website, www.awiare.org for more information on how to become an AWIARE Advocate.

THANKS TO THESE GENEROUS DONORS WHO CONTRIBUTED DURING 2023

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Your generous support ensures AWIARE's mission to explore, study, and educate about Tampa Bay's past continues into the future.



JUNIOR ARCHAEOLOGY SUMMER CAMP 2024

AWIARE plans exciting new archaeology summer camps at Weedon Island Preserve designed for children 7-11 years old who are interested in exploring the past. Camps are conducted by professional archaeologists and allow kids to experience archaeology first-hand through activities, experiments, hikes, and an excavation.



The summer camp is designed for children with an interest in prehistory and history as well as learning how early people interacted with their environment. Campers learn about the importance of archaeology and gain an understanding about early natural resources that were necessary for life in the Tampa Bay region. Highlights of the camps include guest experts, tour of an archaeological site, hands-on archaeology, lab analysis, pottery making, atlatl adventure, and earning the certificate of Tommy the Tortoise, Junior Archaeologist.

We hope you will consider joining us this summer!

Dates: July 1-3, 2024 (9a - 3p)

Ages: Children 7 - 11

Registration: \$175 per camper/week

Registration is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information, email us at: awiare1@gmail.com or visit us at www.AWIARE.org



SPOTLIGHT ON AWIARE INTERNS

January begins a new academic semester and we are fortunate to have two more outstanding interns working in our lab.

Amber Barrett is an anthropology major at the University of South Florida's St. Petersburg campus. Amber first became interested in anthropology after taking a course at St. Petersburg College. Her interest in archaeology was spurred by taking a course on Native American prehistory at USF. "I'm not quite sure what I want to do after I graduate yet. I'm very interested in Pompeii, and hope to make it there someday, whether it be in the field or just travelling." Amber currently works as a barista at Starbucks and loves playing with her 10-year-old black lab, Rafe. Her hobbies include reading comic books, listening to music, and collecting vinyl records. In addition to her internship, Amber is participating in John Arthur's field school at Weedon Island this semester.



Amber Barrett, Intern

Elizabeth Lewis is a junior in anthropology at USF, St. Pete who has been volunteering at AWIARE since 2021. Liz grew up in Blakely, Georgia, just a few minutes from the famous Kolomoki Mounds State Park where the Weedon Island culture is believed to have originated. "My dad and grandpa both worked in construction," says Liz, "mostly excavating ponds for cattle farmers, and they'd bring me back points or 'arrowheads' that they found. Since kindergarten, I've known that I wanted to become an archaeologist." As a kid she collected pieces of half-buried garbage, or 'treasures,' that she would bring home to wash in a plastic toy kitchen. "I've learned that much of archaeology is combing through ancient garbage, or middens, instead of modern trash." This summer she'll be attending a field school in the Zuunkhangai region of Mongolia through Western Kentucky University. "I hope to join more digs across the Central Asian Steppe as I advance in my education and learn more about the history and nomadic cultures of the region."



Liz Lewis, Intern

THE ORIGINS OF TAMPA BAY

March 23, 2024 - 2:00 - 3:30pm

Learn about Tampa Bay's origins from the recent studies of an archaeological panel in the fields of paleoenvironment, Indigenous ecology, and history. Archaeologists on the panel discussion are Dr. Tom Pluckhahn and Dr. Kendal Jackson, board members of AWIARE and Ph.D. candidate Jamie Rogers, President of Central Gulf Coast Archaeological Society. This special addition of Florida Conversations is happening at 2 pm at Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center. To register, visit www.TampaBayHistoryCenter.org.

VOLUNTEER FAREWELL

Jim Goodburn, a longtime Pinellas County volunteer and ardent supporter of AWIARE, has recently moved to North Carolina. Jim for many years has cleared brush, Brazilian pepper, poison ivy, and fallen limbs from archaeological project areas and paths. This past year Jim and helpers cleared a large open area that connected the active archaeological sites of USFSP and AWIARE projects giving an impressive view of the entire expanse of the site at 8PI1 – 5 – 6-B. We wish Jim much happiness in his new locale, but he will be sorely missed.

John Arthur, President of AWIARE, presents Jim Goodburn an honorary trowel engraved "Thank you for your years of support and dedication to AWIARE."



John Arthur, Jim Goodburn

BECOMING AWIARE

The Alliance for Weedon Island Archaeological Research and Education is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has as its goals to promote and facilitate long-term archaeological research, scientific exploration and public education at the Weedon Island Preserve and the adjacent gulf coast regions. Our Officers and Advisory Board include professional archaeologists and interested lay persons.

If you are interested in making a donation, please visit us at: www.awiare.org or click [HERE](#).

Email: awiare1@gmail.com

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