

Summary and Selected Highlights of the 2017 AG

for the Evangelical Christianity SIG

by Larry D. Paarmann and Diane Powell

September 30, 2017

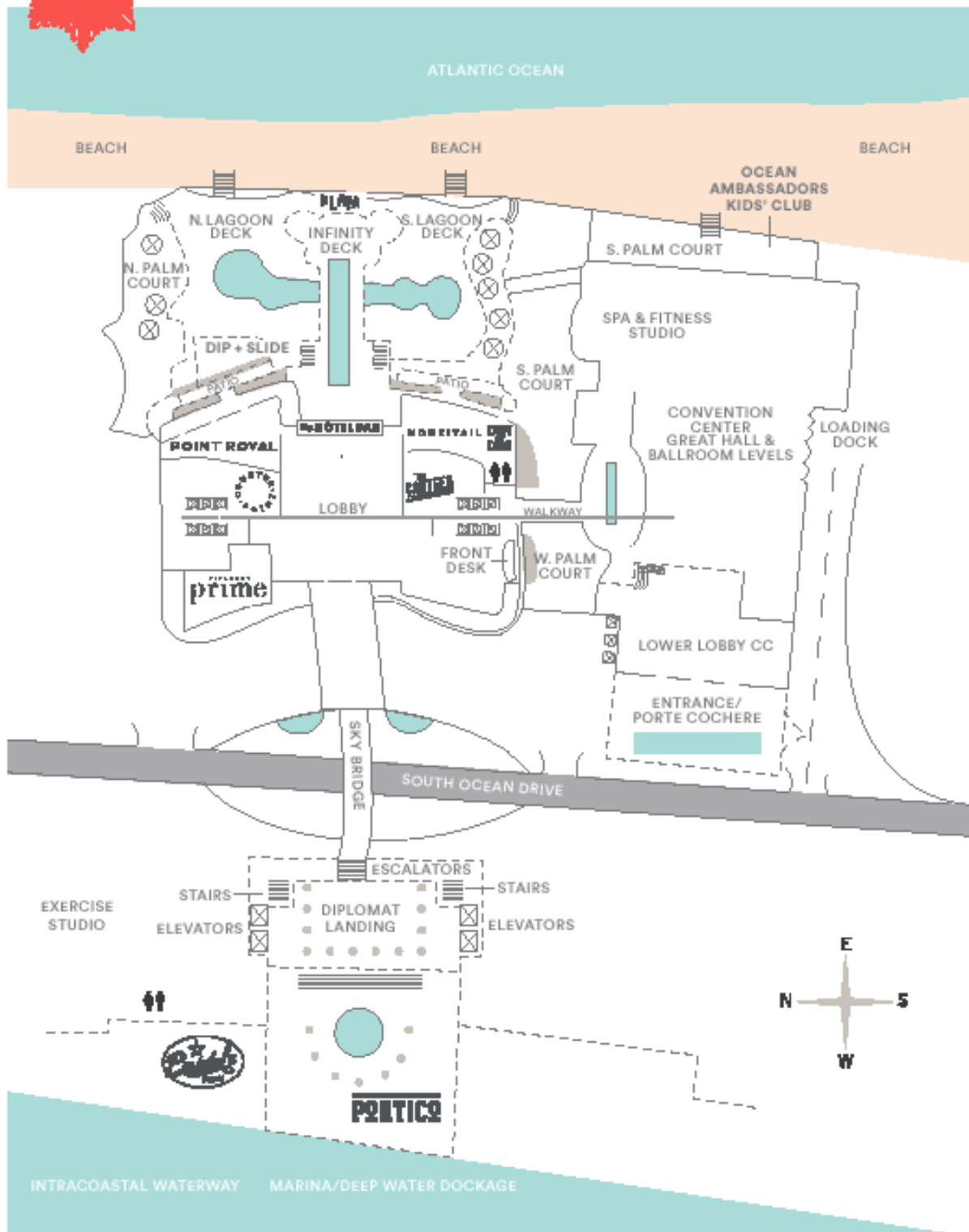


The Hilton Diplomat Hotel & Convention Center, Hollywood, FL

The 2017 AG met in Hollywood, FL, July 5 – 9, 2017. The AG was hosted by the Hilton Diplomat Hotel & Convention Center, a very spacious and attractive facility, located between the Atlantic Ocean and the Intercoastal Waterway – water on both sides, just north of Miami. The AG was well attended, yet the attendance was significantly lower than last year. The attendance with a little less than 1,500.



The Atlantic Side of the Hotel



Map of the Hotel Complex



Another View of the Hotel on the Atlantic Side



A Closer View of the Pools on the Atlantic Side



The Atlantic Shore immediately east of the Hotel



Immediately west of the Hotel on the Intracoastal Waterway



Another View of the Intracoastal Waterway immediately west of the Hotel



There are several Restaurants in the Hotel, such as Point Royal and Bristol's Burgers



Inside Views



Inside the Convention Center



A Typical AG Presentation Room

The AG Presentations

There were about 200 speakers for the over 310 meetings of various types (not all presentations, some Mensa organizational, debates, games, meet & greets, etc.). At times there were as many as 11 things taking place at the same time. Obviously, what is summarized below is highly selective and no doubt somewhat biased.

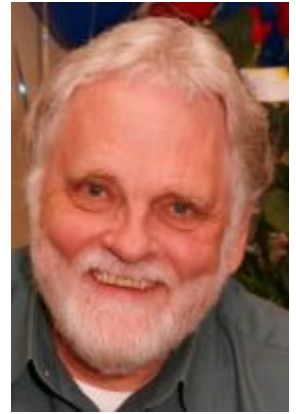
The presentations summarized below were selected because they were of interest to the authors of this report, and were attended by at least one of them. Printed below is the verbatim abstract from the printed program for each event, the verbatim biographical sketch for the speaker, and then followed by comments.

Intelligent Design and Natural Law

Abstract It is the contention of this presentation that Intelligent Design theory adheres to natural law, and therefore is scientific according to the historical definition of the term, whereas Darwinian Evolution, as applied by most beginning with Darwin himself, is not scientific. Darwinian Evolution is inherently philosophical, even religious, due to its commitment to an unsubstantiated belief that all things are possible through natural means. No matter what biology encounters, it developed by natural means to achieve what it is today. The lack of a generally accepted theory of evolution contradicts this,

as does the lack of evidence in the fossil record, as does biological structures that are irreducibly complex, as does the complex information content of DNA, and as does common sense. Intelligent Design theory accepts and applies known natural laws, which Darwinism does not, and therefore Intelligent Design should be recognized as science, whereas Darwinism should not.

Biographical Sketch Larry D. Paarmann is the LocSec for the Kansas Sunflower Local Group of American Mensa. He is also the Coordinator of the Evangelical Christianity SIG. He is retired from a career in electrical engineering, having taught at three universities and also having industrial experience. For more information, contact Larry at LDPaarmann@cox.net, or visit evansig.org.



Comments A full copy of the paper upon which the slides are based is available, along with the slides, at evansig.org, so comments here are not necessary, as far as the content of the presentation is concerned. There were about 30 or 40 people present, although no actual count was made. The presentation itself was delayed because the room was not setup when we arrived: some mix-up somewhere, but otherwise I thought the presentation went well. We had a comments and questions period at the end. Because of the nature of the talk, I was expecting some opposition, but none happened.

Evangelical Christianity SIG Meet & Greet

Abstract This is a time for current members of the SIG to meet and greet and get acquainted, and for prospective members to see what we are about. Everyone is welcome.

Comments We had maybe 15 people present at our informal Meet & Greet. A few were already members of the SIG, a few others were not members but have since joined, and a few were just interested observers. We went around the room and shared a little about ourselves; everyone was open and shared readily. It was a good time just meeting and greeting. It was simulating and rewarding, and our hour and 15 minutes allotted was soon gone.

An Immigrant's Journey into the Cosmos

Abstract Dr. Nebil Misconi will discuss his recent book, *An Immigrant's Journey Into The Cosmos*. A summary of the political upheavals in Baghdad, Iraq and the Middle East as he was growing up will be presented. He will describe his TV experience in Baghdad with one hair-raising moment. He chronicles his unique journey into astronomy in the U.S. and his solar system research in Interplanetary Dust Dynamics, comets and asteroids. His laser-particle levitation experiment will be explained in an attempt to simulate IDD in space, and his involvement in the 1980s "Star War" program as a spin-off research. Later on, he also conducted the first rocket launch in Mexico's history to observe the total solar eclipse,

and another NASA launch from the Wallops Island Facility. Dr. Misconi will also describe his idea of destroying comets or asteroids that may destroy our civilization. He had interesting dialogues with astronaut Buzz Aldrin and other famous astronomers and astrophysicists.

Biographical Sketch Nebil Y. Misconi, Professor Emeritus, University of Central Florida, was born in Baghdad, Iraq, the first male astronomer in Iraq. He researched interplanetary dust dynamics, comets, and asteroids at the University of Florida, Florida Institute of Technology, and University of Central Florida. He launched Mexico's first rocket in history and another at NASA Wallops. He did spin-offs research on "Star Wars" and taught at Kennedy Space Center.

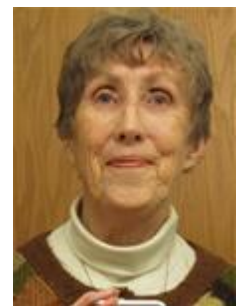


Comments A youtube lecture on this same topic, although not the one he gave at the AG, is at the following URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UW2hf12Bclc> This youtube talk was given on June 6, 2016. His book, *An Immigrant's Journey into the Cosmos*, is available on Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/Immigrants-Journey-into-Cosmos-Memoir/dp/1491753323/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1506128743&sr=1-1 His presentation was interesting, but it was mostly his describing his life growing up in Baghdad, immigrating to the USA, and then pursuing his career in astronomy.

Hitler, Satan and Me: A Love Story

Abstract This presentation is an account of evil at work. Setting the stage with a look at Hitler's indoctrination of German boys, Anderson takes us through 25 years of marriage to a former Hitler Youth and the subtle aftermath of their divorce. She lays open the increasing combat with demonic forces. Pranks, physical injuries and attempts to kill her target her as she remains determined to shine light on this lurking, invisible evil force. With anecdotes from her Fringe Festival play of the same name and her memoir, "Standing in Deep Water: Overcoming the Infectious Legacy of the Hitler Youth," she takes us through her dark valley to ultimate victory. Those who have a father or grandfather who belonged to Hitler Youth will learn about their own heritage and its consequences. Those who believe in the devil will discover how to recognize and counter his subtle slithering in their lives.

Biographical Sketch Kristin Anderson is a speech and psychology major who eventually earned her M. Ed. in counseling. Her work-life, however, was minimal as she remained a stay-at-home mom while married to her former Hitler Youth husband. A sense of call in her late 40s led her into ordained ministry in the Lutheran church, where she became an interim specialist serving congregations in conflict. Now retired and living in Roseville, Minnesota, she loves to travel and delights in swimming across the Columbia River each September.



Comments Although it might be easy to be sympathetic to the trials that Anderson went through, she seemed to me to be blaming others, especially Satan and Hitler, a little too much. She blames Hitler for the evil in her former husband. She blames her former husband for all her problems. This may even be true, but, of course, we in the audience were only hearing one side of it. But her intent was to give her audience insight as to how to overcome evil in one's life. She had a handout, which is available at the following URL:

http://s23.a2zinc.net/clients/Mensa/AG17/Custom/Handout/Speaker562_Session1992_1.pdf She has a book, *Standing in Deep Water: Overcoming the Infectious Legacy of the Hitler Youth*, which is very briefly described on Google Books:

https://books.google.com/books/about/Standing_in_Deep_Water.html?id=eo7JjwEACAAJ

The Auschwitz Album and an Auschwitz Survivor's Testimony

Abstract This presentation deals with: 1) The Auschwitz Album, the only surviving visual evidence of the process leading to the mass murder at Auschwitz-Birkenau. It's a unique document that portrays the story of the passengers of one deportation transport that arrived at Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, on May 26, 1944. This album introduces the use of photographs as historical documents that, together with additional sources such as letters and testimonies, help create a comprehensive view of a certain historical event, and to put a human face on it's victims. 2) Testimony and Q&A with Auschwitz survivor Julius Eisenstein.

Biographical Sketch Julius Eisenstein was born in the Polish town of Tomaszow Mazowiuiecki and was 20 years old when Germany invaded in 1939. The Jews of Tomaszow were stripped of all their property and possessions and herded into a walled off ghetto. Cutoff from the outside world, and with no means to support themselves, the population slowly succumbed to starvation, disease, and frequent violent "aktionen" by Germans. In May, 1943 Julius became a slave for the Nazis at Blizin labor camp and until April, 1945, he was in four additional camps including Auschwitz, Sachsenhausen, Oranienburg and finally liberated with his brother from Dachau on April 30, 1945. His parents, two younger sisters were murdered at Treblinka death camp. Julius came to New York in 1950 and found success in the bakery industry.



Comments Eisenstein was born in 1919, and is one of the few living survivors of Auschwitz. The some 193 pictures in the Auschwitz Album may be viewed online at

http://www.yadvashem.org/yv/en/exhibitions/album_auschwitz/index.asp

Muon Monitoring

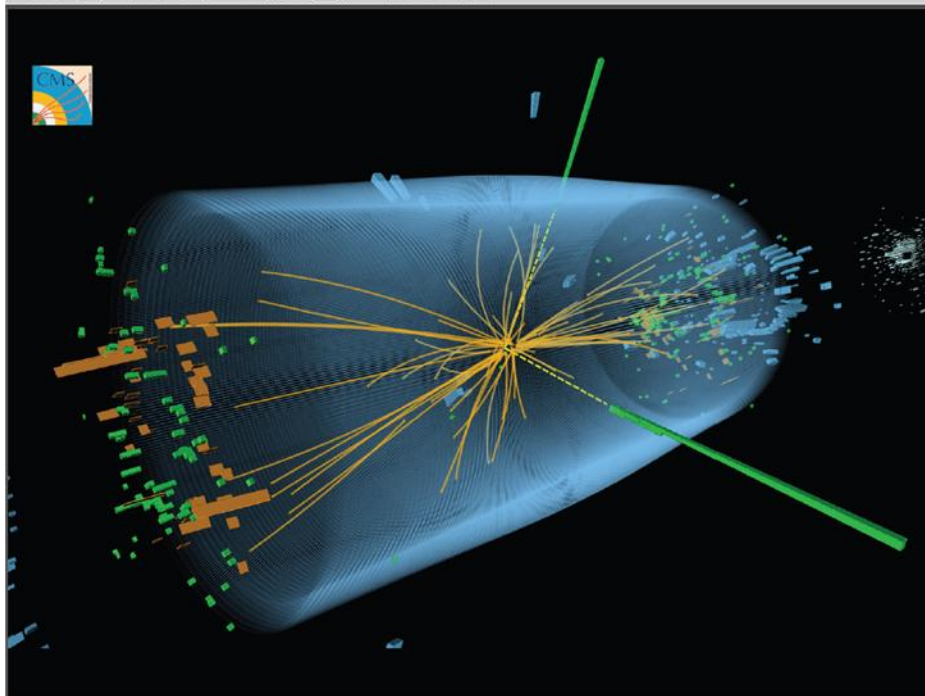
Abstract The current Standard Model of Fundamental Particles has been able to describe in a single mathematical pattern all visible matter (4 percent of the mass of the universe). It thus states that this matter consists of six electron-like leptons and six quarks making known nuclei and atoms and many unstable particles created in high-energy particle collisions. The remaining 96 percent of the Universe is made from a still mysterious set of “dark matter” and “dark energy.” The muon, an unstable lepton particle, is effectively a massy version of the electron. Muons are present in the secondary cosmic ray showers in the atmosphere, and are one of the few particles to reach in large numbers a sea level environment. They decay into three other leptons: an electron and two neutrinos, which in our experiment escape undetected. The speaker will explain her experiment, which registers the arrival and stopping of a muon as a voltage pulse, and how it could be used in applications for modern-day society.

Biographical Sketch Cioli Barazandeh received her associate’s and bachelor’s of science in space studies from American Military University at the ages of 12 and 13, consecutively. She began graduate coursework at the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT) before completion of her bachelor’s. She is currently an FIT graduate student focusing on space systems. She is also concurrently a master’s student at Purdue University engaged in the study of aeronautical and astronautical engineering funded by a full scholarship through the School of Engineering. She hopes to achieve her MS from Purdue in December 2018 and finish her MS at FIT (by May 2018), while possibly working on the research component of a doctorate. As the President of the Society of Physics Students, Annandale chapter, at Northern Virginia Community College, she currently studies with Professor Walerian Majewski and physics students, focusing on projects revolving around magnetism and particle physics.



Comments As I watched the speaker’s presentation, I wasn’t sure if she was giving the worst talk I had ever witnessed or if she was a genius, or perhaps it could have been both. She looked and acted like a little girl perhaps at a party. I hadn’t read her biographical sketch yet. She was bouncing around, jumping off of the stage, acting like she was having a great time, and all the while speaking softly and mostly unintelligibly while coaches near the front were giving her instructions. To say the least, she didn’t take it seriously. I see that she has given the talk before, and at this point it is difficult to say if it is real or not. She is a member of Mensa.

Slides of her talk at the American Physical Society, Washington DC, January 28, 2017, are located at <https://absuploads.aps.org/presentation.cfm?pid=12611> These slides appear to be essentially the same as she presented at the AG.

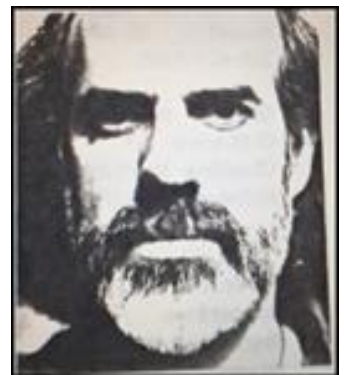


Annihilation of a proton by an antiproton immediately decays into two protons (green traces)

Non-Dualism: Fact or Fiction

Abstract There seems to be one common core that lies at the heart of most of the world’s great religions and spiritual philosophies. Often called the “perennial truth,” this ancient cross-cultural belief holds that all perceived separation is illusory and that, instead, everything that you’re experiencing (including the belief in a separated “you”), is, quintessentially, really the same one, unbroken, seamless and all-pervasive Consciousness. Obviously, the implications of what non-dualism is pointing at are far beyond staggering. After all, how can you live in a dream world where you’re always questioning the very nature of reality, itself? Who really are you, anyway? So, if you’re ready to venture down this cosmic rabbit hole, then come and discover what astounding Truth lies within your own heart-of-hearts.

Biographical Sketch Chuck Hillig is a modern spiritual teacher, author and consultant. Before he retired to Virginia in 2006, Chuck worked for over 30 years as a state-licensed psychotherapist in California. He’s the author of five easy-to-understand books on non-dualism, and his writings and interviews have been translated and published in ten languages.
www.chuckhillig.com or chuckhillig@yahoo.com



Comments This was an unusual session; not really a presentation. He had no microphone, and no video slide presentation. He sat on a stool in the center aisle and just talked without notes. He informed us that his presentation had no content. He said “he is not attached” to what he is saying. “Take what you want, and leave the rest.” He said maybe “what I say is true, and maybe not.” Reality is unfathomable. He posed questions, such as “What is reality?” “What is truth?” He welcomed comments from those in attendance. One young man said he had an awakening, that he is but part of the one great one-ness. He said that this was very calming, a yielding to the universe.

This is part of the New Age movement, and an embracing of Eastern religions such as Hinduism and Buddhism. This has gained much ground in the US over the past few decades. Peter Jones has made a study of this, and has published several books on it, such as *The Other Worldview*, *One or Two*, *Capturing the Pagan Mind*, and *Pagans in the Pews*. What Hillig calls non-dualism would be called monism by others. This is the religious idea that the universe and god (I’ll use lower case “g” because it doesn’t refer to the God of the Bible) are the same, we are all part of god and god is us. It does not, as Hillig stated, have any content, as monism is anti-intellectual, but rather one must suppress thoughts. That is why meditation and monosyllabic chants are important, to empty one’s mind.

Flying the Son Tay P.O.W. Rescue Raid in North Vietnam

Abstract This is a first-hand account of the raid on Son Tay, North Vietnam. This operation, conducted jointly by Air Force, Navy and Army Special Operations Forces, was mounted to rescue 63 U.S. prisoners of war, being held in the shadows of Hanoi. Major William “Bill” Guenon, USAF (Ret.), the operation’s lead C-130E pilot, will provide an eyewitness, A-to-Z rundown of the Son Tay raid from takeoff through return landing. His commentary will cover the raid’s planning, execution, surprise glitches they had to overcome along the way and why it eventually led to a major reorganization of the U.S. intelligence community. For more information please see: SecretandDangerous.com

Biographical Sketch Major William “Bill” Guenon USAF (Ret) was born and raised near Gettysburg, PA. His aviation career covers many facets of the transportation industry for both military and civil applications, on a global basis. In the Air Force he served as a command pilot and senior air traffic controller. Afterwards he worked for a major international defense contractor. Bill finished 3rd in the Great Atlantic Air Race, run from New York to London. Today he can be found mingling at air shows, aviation museums, or speaking on the Son Tay raid.



Comments This presentation was of a high-risk raid during the Vietnam War to rescue 63 U.S. prisoners of war, held in a prison camp in North Vietnam. Because it was high-risk, it involved a lot of planning and a lot of personnel and equipment. There were some 56 Green Berets and 116 aircraft,

including 5 F-105s. The raid took place November 21, 1970. The raid used a lot of diversionary tactics, such as a simulated battle, fire cracker simulated ammunition, planes flying off the east coast, etc. The raid, very fortunately, was a success. Guenon has a book published in 2003 on the subject, titled *Secret and Dangerous: Night of the Son Tay POW Raid*: https://www.amazon.com/Secret-Dangerous-Night-Son-Raid/dp/0972358900/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1506378890&sr=1-1



Archaeology of Florida

Abstract Join the Florida Public Archaeology Network on a whirlwind tour of 12,000 years in Florida, from the earliest residents through the Cold War. In this presentation, we will learn about Florida's fascinating archaeology and investigate archaeological sites, from Tequesta sites in Miami to Spanish exploration in Pensacola. Florida has been a fabulous place to live for 12,000 years — come and find out why! (For more information, see: fpan.us)

Biographical Sketch Sara Ayers-Rigsby specializes in cultural resources management and historic preservation. Her research interests include public outreach and archaeology, archaeological compliance legislation, and industrial archaeology in Florida. She loves visiting state parks, historical sites, and house museums in south Florida and is always thrilled to talk to others about them!



Comments There is, perhaps, more archeology in Florida than one might expect. There are numerous archeology sites. There were giant beavers during ancient times. The Seminole Indians left archeological sites. They constructed mounts. They left pottery shards and tools, etc. Crop agriculture in the New World may have originated in Florida.

Oil and Gas Foundations and Frac(k)ing: Environmental, Surface Use and Other Issues in Shale Plays

Abstract Oil and Gas Foundations and Frac(k)ing: Environmental, Surface Use and Other Issues in Shale Plays by Michael Jewell The horizontal shale boom that began in 2008 thrust domestic oil and gas production to a level never before anticipated. Apart from the shift in international markets, this paradigm raised important questions related to this new technology: What are the effects of hydraulic fracturing? What is the impact on surface use and encroachment to other developments? What are the implications for federal lands? Is this technology safe and clean? Are state and federal laws equipped to handle these drilling techniques? How do these fossil fuel technologies related to the ongoing green energy movement? This presentation will inform the attendee on the full range of thought of the above questions with an apolitical approach, while presenting thoughtful analysis and context from the unique position of a practicing oil and gas attorney who is also a public health practitioner.

Biographical Sketch Michael Jewell is an attorney who advises oil & gas and mining clients and is a Past Chair of the Natural Resources and Energy Law Section of the Colorado Bar. Michael served as Asst. Clinical Professor at the University of Colorado, where he taught courses in public health law. He regularly presents on topics pertaining to extraction and epidemiology to national and international audiences.

Comments This talk had a lot of information about who owns mineral rights, etc. If you own the land, you own whatever is under it. However, laws do regulate what you may do with, or how you may process what is under your land. For example, if you discover large oil reserves under your property does not necessarily mean you can put up an oil well rig over your land, if, for example, you live in a residential neighborhood. What you can and cannot do can involve many legal



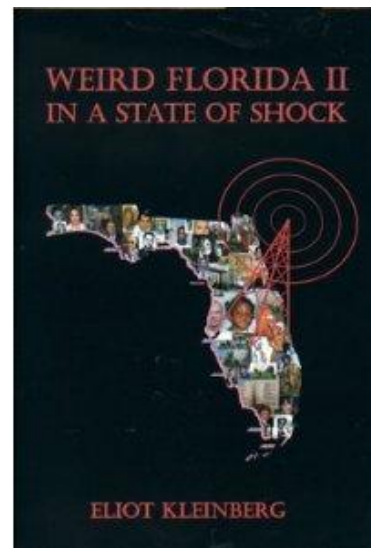
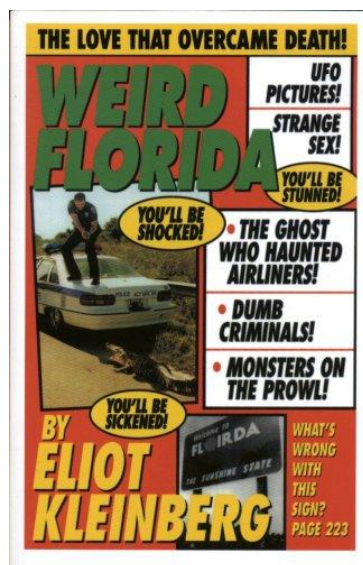
issues. That is where someone like Michael Jewell comes in. He serves as the Head of the Oil, Gas, and Minerals Practice Group for a law firm (BFW Attorneys) in Greenwood Village, CO. He focuses his practice on serving independent exploration and production clients throughout Colorado.

Weird Florida

Abstract From cows in the Intracoastal Waterway to haunted airliners to celebrity sex scandals – it all happens in Florida. Is there a weirder state? We say no, and challenge you to prove otherwise. Eliot’s comedic delivery and multimedia presentation leave audiences roaring.

Biographical Sketch Eliot Kleinberg is that rarest of Floridians: a native. Born in South Florida, he’s spent four decades as a journalist and author, most at the Palm Beach Post in West Palm Beach. In addition to covering local news for the Post, he also writes extensively about Florida and Floridiana. He has produced 10 books, all focusing on Florida. (See: <http://www.ekfla.com>)

Comments This Florida journalist clearly loves everything Florida. He has written ten books, including *Weird Florida I & II*:



Florida's Big Dig: The History of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Jacksonville to Miami, 1881-1935

Abstract Florida's Big Dig: The History of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, Jacksonville to Miami, 1881-1935 by William Crawford, Jr., Esq. Bill Crawford provides a detailed account of the development of Florida's Intracoastal Waterway. As early as 1636, canals began to replace the oxcart as the means of transporting goods in Colonial America. But the Constitution granted no power to fund inland waterways. In 1825, the completion of the Erie Canal ignited America's first canal renaissance. In 1881, Florida began building what would be the southernmost section of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway. A private company agreed to construct a small canal in exchange for public land and the right to charge tolls. The election of Theodore Roosevelt as president set off a second national renaissance of waterway construction. More than 30 waterway associations coalesced into national advocacy groups to lobby Congress for funding. Mr. Crawford will also cover how the sale of the private waterway became a federal, toll-free inland waterway and the source of funds for the first psychiatric hospital for children in the nation.

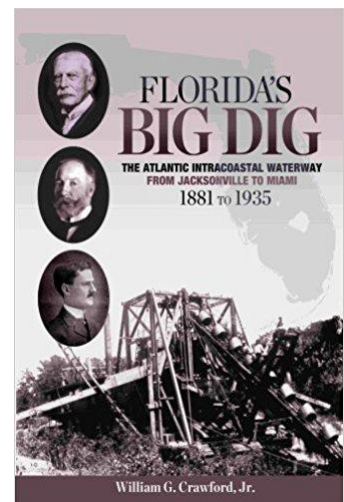
Biographical Sketch William Crawford, Jr., Esq. is a native of Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. Mr. Crawford is a lawyer, historian, and author of numerous articles on Florida's Intracoastal Waterway, and has written scores of others on Florida history, and is an expert on the waterway's history. He has appeared as an expert on the Waterway on the History Channel's Modern Marvels documentary and C-SPAN III's HistoryTV as Author of "Florida's Big Dig."



Comments Florida native and historian, William G. Crawford, has attained quite a reputation for himself as an expert on Florida's Intracoastal Waterway – otherwise known as the "Big Dig," and has even been called to make appearances on the History Channel and on C-Span III's HistoryTV. Crawford has also written a book on his research which is available through Amazon.

Crawford, who is also a lawyer, provided his audience with an intriguing account of this piece of American history – complete with the political rivalry between Hamilton and Jefferson regarding the constitutionality of involving the federal government in such a project. The strict constructionists argued that the federal government should stay out of interstate commerce.

Canal building was begun initially by a private concern which had managed to receive a parcel of public land from the government along with the right to charge tolls. At one point in canal-building history more than 30 different national associations were lobbying Congress for public



funding. Eventually, this private waterway was sold back to the federal government and the tolls used to provide funding for the nation's first psychiatric hospital for children.

The Florida Intercoastal Waterway was built between 1881 and 1935 and required the dredging of miles and miles of inland waterways in order to render them passable by shipping traffic. Actually, by the time it was finished, much of the need for freight transport had been taken over by the developing railways and interstate highways. However, the Intracoastal Waterway played a critical role during the second World War and continues to be vital to recreation and boating in the area.

Data Visualization for Everyone: A Truthful Art

Abstract Never before has so much data been available to the public. From crime statistics to public school test scores, citizens have the ability to access mountains of data on issues that impact their lives. But having information isn't the same as being informed. How can citizens use data to identify trends or pinpoint new solutions? In the past two decades, visualization – the graphical display of information – has become a skill as important as literacy or numeracy, as it is arguably the most powerful tool to help us derive meaning from the enormous amounts of data produced daily. Join international expert Alberto Cairo to see this tool at work.

Biographical Sketch Alberto Cairo is the Knight Chair at the University of Miami, a consultant for technology companies, and the author of the books *The Functional Art* (2012) and *The Truthful Art* (2016).

Comments Cairo is considered an international expert on visualization—the graphical display of information. In fact, he has written two books on this topic and one particular reviewer referred to him as a “data scholar” and a “visualization wiz.” Both books, *The Functional Art* (2012) and *The Truthful Art* (2016) should prove particularly useful to anyone who has felt swamped with data and yet unable to determine what it actually means. As he demonstrates in his books, Cairo has been able to do this by first finding the pattern within the data. Only then can he interpret what it means and how to best convey it graphically. You can find Alberto Cairo at: www.thefunctionalart.com



Cairo points out that it is possible to present data graphically in such a way that its real significance is obscured. It has often been claimed that one picture is worth a thousand words – if you want to verify this, check out the Pew Research site, which by the way includes a plug for Cairo's book, *The Functional Art*: <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2014/12/29/our-favorite-pew-research-center-data-visualizations-from-2014/>

Infant-directed Singing: What Does It Sound Like and Why Is It Important?

Abstract Infant-directed (ID) singing is the unique way mothers sing to infants as part of caregiving. Due to its ubiquitous presence and historical background, ID singing is identified as a universal caregiving behavior, and thus may impart some advantage to infants, and possibly mothers as well. Through ID singing, mothers direct infant attention and modulate infant arousal, thus providing opportunity for infant self-regulation. This presentation will present descriptive research findings regarding infant response to ID singing, in both typical and clinical populations, including mothers with post-partum depression, and infants with Down syndrome. Additional data will be provided to identify the prominent acoustic parameters of ID singing for both clinical populations. Implications will be presented for using ID singing as therapeutic intervention to promote self-regulation.

Biographical Sketch Shannon de l'Etoile, Ph.D., is Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Professor of Music Therapy at the University of Miami, Frost School of Music. Dr. de l'Etoile is a board-certified music therapist and current member of the American Music Therapy Association (a.m.TA), and the SE Region of the a.m.TA. She is further recognized as a Fellow of the Robert F. Unkefer Academy of Neurologic Music Therapy.



Comments Shannon de l'Etoile describes her research into what is called “infant-directed (ID) singing.” In this case, “infant-directed” means that the child’s responses to the mother’s singing causes the mother to adjust the tempo and pitch of her song. Mothers around the world sing to their babies as a means of fostering their cognitive development. Mother’s song has a number of unique features; it has a higher starting pitch, increased gliding between pitch levels and sustained vowels as well as a variety of amplitude not usually heard in other singing. By watching the gaze of the child, its mother knows whether she has engaged his/or her attention. She then responds by adjusting these parameters.

In her research Dr. Shannon de l'Etoile investigated two different variables and video recorded the gaze and behaviors of the singing mom and listening child. Vocal data analysis of depressed mothers revealed a lower level of emotional expression with little change of tempo and more of a robotic feel to the music. Research also revealed that infants with Down syndrome had more difficulty than normal infants in modifying their attention. This finding was not surprising. Dr. de l'Etoile points out that the opportunity of the depressed moms to interact with their babies may furnish them with a therapeutic benefit and distraction from their negative emotions. The ID singing proved beneficial to both groups of infants in that it helped to promote a curious and calm state. You may learn more from Dr. de l'Etoile’s Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=804826356219952&id=124927584209836

Investing in Future Technologies

Abstract If you would like a peek into the future, join us for this discussion of emerging industries such as nano technology, robotics, stem cell research, the “Internet of Things,” 3D-printing and more. All of these technologies promise to radically transform our lives in similar ways. Some are already doing so. This discussion will look at each of these industries and how to invest within them.

Biographical Sketch Will Hepburn owns Hepburn Capital Management in Prescott, AZ. He is a professional money manager specializing in investments that Adapt to Changing Markets®. Will has managed two mutual funds, is a past-president of the National Association of Active Investment Managers and is a college instructor having taught classes on investing at Yavapai College in Prescott, AZ, since 1990.



Comments Hepburn currently functions as Chief Investment Officer of the firm he founded, Hepburn Capital Management in Prescott, AZ. His understanding of the technical factors and their financial significance has built him a reputation that is frequently sought after. For example, he has frequently been interviewed by magazines such as; Kiplingers, Fortune, and Forbes.

Hepburn has learned to analyze the financial sectors and has created a bio-tech index of his own. He focuses on emerging technologies such as; nano-tech, robotics, 3-D printing, and stem-cells. How many of us would know that a 3-D printer could print 85% of its own parts – and what does this mean to its value as a financial investment? He publishes a newsletter to share his expertise with those who need it; <https://hepburncapital.com/will-bio> Here is an example of what can be done with 3-D printing: <https://www.theverge.com/2016/7/21/12247370/police-fingerprint-3D-printing-unlock-phone-murder>

A Prehistory of Music

Abstract Using art, historical images, ethnographic films and archeological materials, Christopher Kilgore will present a compendium of evidence of early musical performance. Beginning at the dawn of the historical period and working backward, Kilgore will address the cultures of ancient Rome, Greece, China, Egypt, Sumer, Africa and Paleolithic Europe. Topics covered will include the development of music theory, vocal performance, the variety of early musical instruments and the origin of dance. Special attention will be given to the most recent scholarship, including unpublished materials.

Biographical Sketch Christopher Kilgore is a cognitive archaeologist, art historian, and raconteur. As a Mensan, he has spoken at numerous RGs and at the 2015 Louisville AG. Over the past 20 years, he has presented his original research at museums and universities in the United States, France,



Britain, Spain, and Belgium. He is a graduate student and Art History Writing Fellow at the University of Houston.

Comments Christopher Kilgore is a Mensan who has become known as a cognitive archaeologist. He is also a graduate student and Art History Writing Fellow at the University of Houston. A cognitive archaeologist is someone who has chosen to view artistic and historical pieces from the perspective of what they tell us about the knowledge and thinking of their creators. Kilgore's focus has been drawn repeatedly to materials which have been inadequately researched and are therefore not yet fully understood.

As a speaker he is sought after for his presentations on these intriguing subjects. He has spoken at numerous RGs and at the 2015 Louisville AG as well as at a number of museums and universities around the world. He presented 3 different sessions at the 2017 Annual Gathering in Hollywood, Florida. These were entitled; A Prehistory of Music, The First Astronomers: The Paleolithic Synthesis of Visual Art, Myth and Natural Science, and Understanding Surrealist Art.

At his session on Prehistoric Music, Kilgore presented slides depicting a variety of examples of early musical style and performance from cultures found in Paleolithic Europe, Africa, Egypt, and Ancient Greece and Rome. Some of the least known art objects appear to be simply polished portions of rock, which had been called lithophones, but what were they used for? Investigators had considered that their true intent might have been musical. They had analyzed the sounds produced from striking the rocks at various points. Later, these rocks were assembled into a xylophone type arrangement upon which researchers played the musical scales. Kilgore was involved in this investigation and presented the video which had been made. This video I found on youtube.com and it looks like what he showed us during the session. Unfortunately, the musical track can't be separated from the Spanish soundtrack but it's worth the listen! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qYIL--irW70> Also, see <http://www.friendsofarchaeology.com/>

Aguadilla, Puerto Rico 2013: An Unknown Flying Object Detected by Homeland Security

Abstract On April 25, 2013, at about 9:20 p.m. local time, an unknown object at low altitude flew directly across the Rafael Hernandez airport runway at Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, causing a delayed departure of a commercial aircraft. There was no squawking transponder signal to alert the aircraft tower, nor was there any communication with the tower to prevent a dangerous situation with departing and arriving aircraft. Fortunately an airborne U.S. Customs and Border Protection aircraft captured the object on infrared video. This presentation is a summary of an analytical evaluation of that video as well as witness statements and radar data of the incident. For more information see explorescu.org or contact Robert at robertmaxpowell@gmail.com.

Biographical Sketch Robert Powell is MUFON Director of Research. He has a BS in Chemistry and is a former collegiate debater. He has 28 years in engineering management in the semiconductor industry, and is a co-holder of four patents related to nanotechnology. Robert has been the Director of Research at MUFON (Mutual UFO Network) since 2007, and head of MUFON's Science Review Board. He lives in Austin, Texas.



Comments Robert Powell has served as Director of Research at MUFON since 2007 and has also served as head of MUFON's Science Review Board. His scientific background includes a BS in Chemistry as well as serving for 28 years in engineering management for the semiconductor industry. He is a co-holder of four patents related to nanotechnology.

An unknown airborne object was detected by Homeland Security crossing the runway at a low altitude at the Rafael Hernandez airport runway at Aguadilla, Puerto Rico in April of 2013. It was not in communication with the control tower and had interfered with the departure of a commercial aircraft. A U.S. Customs and Border Protection aircraft was able to capture the object on infrared video and to follow it for a short time. The craft was estimated to be 3-4 feet in size and traveling at speeds ranging from 40-110 mph. It was observed dipping in and out of the water which provided critical information regarding its probable power source.

A group of experts analyzed the infrared video and concluded that it was probably a military level drone. You may contact Robert Powell at; robertmaxpowell@gmail.com or <http://www.mufon.com/functional-directors.html>

Especially interesting was a statement made by Robert Powell regarding the reviewing of this video by other scientists. It seems that a group of American scientists declined this opportunity while a group of French citizens did want to see the video.

Just prior to this incident Robert Powell had published a book [2012] which provided an historical look at phenomena such as this. It is told from the perspective of the government and reveals that they do indeed take such matters very seriously. https://www.amazon.com/Robert-Powell/e/B008L70QOE/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_2

Video of the UFO and subsequent discussions are available for those who are interested:
<http://www.explorescu.org/2013-aguadilla-puerto-rico->
<http://www.openminds.tv/robert-powell-and-morgan-beall-the-puerto-rico-ufo-video-august-19-2015/34693>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=be-KpDD4zco> [analyzed]

Word Power: English from Its Latin and Greek roots

Abstract English words are not something to be studied in isolation, but they are related in certain ways to the other languages of the world. We will examine the influence Latin and Greek exerted upon the development of English. Our task will be accomplished by a combination of: 1) Study of Latin and

Greek word elements 2) Exposure to lists of unfamiliar word 3) Practice recognizing word's meanings in context and 4) Listing new words encountered in reading. Hopefully the attendee will become interested in words as symbols which express a connection with a lively past and eventually benefit from a broadened vocabulary.

Biographical Sketch Jim Ancmon's career in research chemistry resulted in asbestos substitute material and culminated in nano composites. He took a 3-year sabbatical at seminary to immerse in faith examination and learned the love of languages. He moved into IT and assisted his employer with analysis of visitors to their web sites. As a Big Brother, Ancmon was able to assist his "little" with love of Latin that enabled him to soar ahead.



Comments Jim began his career as a research chemist and as a consequence was able to help create a substitute for asbestos known as nano composites. Some would be surprised to learn that any scientist would follow such scientific success with a 3-year sabbatical at seminary to explore his faith. As a result of doing so he became fascinated with the historical background of the English language. Much of our English language is derived from its roots in Greek and Roman culture and history. Informing yourself about this matter is as easy as taking a tour thru any dictionary. You will find one entry after another which provides detailed background on the origins of everyday common terms.

When language and reading are first learned it is a process of recognizing letters and how they sound as separate elements and together as words. Later, vocabulary learning likewise reflects a process of recognizing the components and how they may be combined to make different words.

The Greek language provided us with words such as phono and graph [sound + writing] to make phonograph, with the words, anthrop + ology [man + science] to make anthropology. Likewise, the Latin words credo [I believe] gave us the words creed and credible. Other Latin words are audire [to hear] which gave us the words audience, auditory and audio-gram and aqua [water] which gave us aquatic and aqueous.

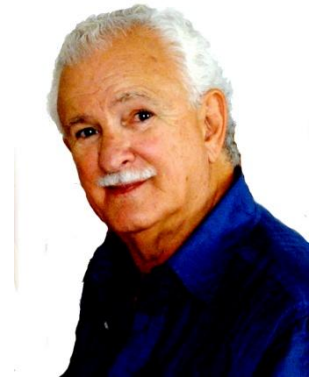
Should one want to pursue this interest, two especially interesting websites are listed here; <http://www.collaborativelearning.org/greekworddetective.pdf> , or <http://www.usu.edu/markdamen/wordpower/pp/slides/01historyofenglish.pdf>

As Ancmon developed a greater appreciation for his language and its history he came to realize that it offered real potential for the improvement of academic performance. He was able to pass this on to a young man he was mentoring in the Big Brothers program with clear academic improvement.

The Bay of Pigs: A Participant's Perspective

Abstract The Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba, was a failed military operation undertaken by the CIA – sponsored Brigade 2506 on April 17, 1961, at the height of the “Cold War.” Brigade 2506 was the armed wing of the exile Cuban community’s “Democratic Revolutionary Front,” and the invasion was intended to overthrow the communist government of Fidel Castro. Dr. Zayas-Bazán participated in the invasion as a frogman and was one of the first six men to land at Girón beach. On the third day of the operation he was wounded in his right knee and captured. Dr. Zayas-Bazán subsequently spent a year in a Cuban prison, before being ransomed by the U.S. government, along with 59 other wounded prisoners that needed urgent medical attention. He will share his personal experience in, and perspective of, the fateful Bay of Pigs debacle.

Biographical Sketch Eduardo Zayas-Bazán is a native of Camagüey, Cuba, and is Prof. Emeritus in Foreign Languages from East Tennessee State University. He has been active in, and honored by, the regional and national Associations of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese and Cuban-American Educators, as well as the exile Cuban community. He has co-authored, co-edited, and translated 18 books and written numerous journal articles.



Comments The Bay of Pigs invasion was a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) on April 17, 1961. John F. Kennedy was then President of the USA, and USA/Soviet Union relations were at the height of the Cold War. A counter-revolutionary military (made up of Cuban exiles who traveled to the United States after Castro’s takeover), trained and funded by the CIA, fronted the armed wing of the Democratic Revolutionary Front (DRF) and intended to overthrow the increasingly communist government of Fidel Castro. Launched from Guatemala and Nicaragua, the invading force was defeated within three days by the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, under the direct command of Castro.

Five infantry battalions and one paratrooper battalion, assembled in Guatemala before setting out for Cuba by boat on April 13, 1961. Two days later, on April 15th, eight CIA-supplied B-26 bombers attacked Cuban airfields and then returned to the US. On the night of April 16th, the main invasion landed at a beach named Playa Girón in the Bay of Pigs. It initially overwhelmed a local revolutionary militia. The Cuban Army’s counter-offensive was led by José Ramón Fernández, before Castro decided to take personal control of the operation. As the US involvement became apparent to the world, Kennedy decided against providing further air cover for the invasion. As a result, the operation only had half the forces the CIA had deemed necessary. The original plan devised during Eisenhower’s presidency had required both air and naval support. On April 20th, the invaders surrendered after only three days, with the majority being publicly interrogated and put into Cuban prisons.

For those that would like more information, Eduardo Zayas-Bazán has a 38-minute interview on Vimeo about the Bay of Pigs invasion: <https://vimeo.com/27278953> Also, Dr. Zayas-Bazán has a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/eduardo.zayasbazan.7>

