

# *THE AMERICAN DREAM*

## *“Salvaging Spanish Sunken Treasure”*

### The Bob “Frogfoot” Weller Summer Seminar



June 18-21

2012



Conducted by

**Margaret “Lady Gold-Diver” Weller**

“When you consider that over 3,000 shipwrecks line the east coast of Florida alone, then the American Dream of Salvaging Spanish Sunken Treasure is within the realm of possibility. Florida is considered the epicenter of salvage activities, with the 1622 *Atocha* recovery west of Key West as the greatest treasure to date at \$400 million. The important fact is that there is still treasure left to be recovered.”

—Bob “Frogfoot” Weller, 2008.

Bob left us a tradition and a legacy ... his Sunken Treasure Seminars. His team of Friends and Guest Lecturers and I have made the decision to continue these sessions in his honor. Herewith is the Seminar Schedule, based on his most recent Series and tailored to the **2012** Season. The list of divers, scientists, beach hunters, historians and other professionals on page-3 are the Lecturers from which this year’s team will be selected, as our individual agendas permit.

**CLOSING DATE FOR 2012 SEMINAR REGISTRATION IS: 10 MAY 2012!** Interested persons have already contacted us by e-mail, letter, and telephone, and “down payment checks are pending.” This brochure is the first “official” notice of the **2012 Summer Seminars**, and I sincerely recommend that you notify me of your interest/intentions promptly, since these classes usually fill up quickly. I have ten “seats” (plus two spares) reserved for the four-day session.

**Tuition (revised) is \$1,000 for the 4 days, \$300 deposit at registration and balance due on arrival.** This will include your workbook and a copy of *Salvaging Spanish Sunken Treasure*. When you commit, I will send further details regarding the seminar and a list of local accommodations. Please contact me at::

**CROSSED ANCHORS SALVAGE**

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*Thank you, Margaret A. Weller*

**(TENTATIVE) SEMINAR SCHEDULE 2012**  
**(Programs subject to adjustments, Tours are fixed)**

Monday—18 June:

- 8:00—10:00 a.m.      “Introduction”. —**Margaret Weller** and **Keynote Speaker**
- 10:00—10:15          Coffee Break
- 10:15—12:15          “Locating & Recovering 1622 & 1715 Fleet Shipwrecks.” —**T.B.A.**
- 12:15—1:00 p.m.      Lunch Break
- 1:00—3:00              “Major Discoveries on the 1715 Fleet in 2011.” —**T.B.A.**
- 3:00—3:15              Refreshment Break
- 3:15—5:15              “Beach Treasure Hunting / 1733 Spanish Fleet.” —**T.B.A.**
- 5:30—6:30              “Salvage of a Manila Galleon” —**T.B.A.**
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Tuesday—19 June:

An Auto Tour of the 1715 Spanish Treasure Fleet Sites, Field Instruction by **Margaret Weller**.  
Lunch at Captain Hiram’s waterfront restaurant in Sebastian.  
Visits to the Fisher Treasure Museum in Sebastian and the McLarty State Treasure Museum in Wabasso.

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Wednesday—20 June:

- 8:00—10:00 a.m.      “Introduction to Search & Salvage Equipment.” —**Margaret Weller** and (**T.B.A.**).
- 10:00—10:15          Coffee Break
- 10:15—12:15          “Various Salvage Projects Completed.”—**T.B.A.**
- 12:15—1:00 p.m.      Lunch Break
- 1:00—3:00              “Gold and Silver Coins and Bars of the Spanish Fleets.” —**Ernie Richards**.
- 3:00—3:15              Refreshment Break
- 3:15—5:15              “Salvaging Spanish Sunken Treasure on a Budget.” —**T.B.A.**
- 5:30—6:30              “Graduation” and “One for the Road”
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Thursday—21 June:

Dive trip (Snorkel / Scuba) to Plantation Key, Florida. Established Charter Operation to provide dives on the 1733 Spanish Galleon *El Infante* and the 1733 Galleon *San Pedro*. Leave by auto from Weller’s Cove at 8:00 a.m., stopping for lunch at 12:00 noon in the Islamorada area. Board the charter boat for dive trip at 1:00 p.m., returning to the dock at approximately 5:00—6:00 p.m. Return to Lake Worth. End of Seminar.

## Featured Lecturers, Past, Present, and Potential

(\* Confirmed 10 March 2012

**Greg Bounds:** Salvage diver, beach hunter (1715 Fleet, Atocha/Margarita)

**Tracy Bowden:** Salvage diver (Dominican Republic)

**John Brandon:** Salvage diver, marine historian (Atocha/Margarita, 1715 Fleet)

**Brent Brisben:** Operations Manager, 1715 Fleet—Queen's Jewels, LLC, Sebastian, FL

(\***Mike Brown:** Salvage diver, finder of gold coins in 2010 (1715 Fleet)

**David Crooks:** Salvage diver, attorney, author (Atocha/Margarita)

(\***Gary Drayton:** Beach hunter (1715 Fleet, other)

**Taffi Fisher-Abt:** Salvage diver, Director of Mel Fisher Center, Sebastian (Atocha, 1715 Fleet)

(\***Carl Fismer:** Salvage diver (1715 Fleet, 1733 Fleet, Dom. Rep.)

**Mark Gordon:** President/COO, Odyssey Marine Exploration (S.S. Republic, 'Black Swan', HMS Victory, other)

(\***Doug Gossage:** Divemaster, salvage diver, wreck surveys, dive shop operator (1733 Fleet)

(\***Hank Haardt:** Salvage diver, wreck tour guide

**Jack Haskins:** Salvage diver, researcher (1715 Fleet, 1733 Fleet, Dom. Rep.)

**Dr. Eugene Lyon:** Historian, researcher, author (1715 Fleet, Atocha)

**Corey Malcom:** Marine Archaeologist (1733 Fleet, Atocha/Margarita, other)

(\***Bill Mathers:** Salvage diver, author / (\***Hank Parker:** Salvage diver (Manila Galleon)

(\***Bill Moore:** Salvage diver, conservator (Atocha/Margarita, 1715 Fleet)

(\***Ken Nehiley:** Salvage diver / (\***Joe Peters:** Salvage diver, "Salvage on a Budget" (1715 Fleet)

**John S. Potter, Jr.:** Salvage diver, author (Vigo Bay, Sp., Author)

(\***Ernie Richards:** Salvage diver, numismatist, writer (1715/33 Fleets, other)

(\***Bonnie Schubert:** Salvage diver, finder of gold bird statuette in 2010 (1715 Fleet)

**Jim Sinclair:** Archaeologist, conservator (Atocha/Margarita, Titanic, 1715 Fleet)

(\***Carl Ward:** Salvage diver (1715/33 Fleets)

**Burt Webber:** Salvage diver (Dom. Rep.)

**Bob Weller:** Salvage diver, author, host. Bob died 13 October 2008.

(\***Margaret Weller:** Salvage diver, host (1715/33 Fleets)

**Rob Weller:** Salvage diver, wreck tour guide, host (1715 Fleet)

(\***Brad Williamson:** Salvage diver, boat captain (1715 Fleet)

