

TxDOT/HAS Dimond Knoll Screening Project – Aug 17, 2013
Bulletin #20

We had another terrific day at the Dimond Knoll screening site on Saturday, August 17. Thirty four members and staff from the Houston Museum of Natural Science joined us along with Texas State Archeologist Pat Mercado-Allinger, THC regional archeologist Jeff Durst, TxDOT Archeologist Chris Ringstaff, and Dr. Roger Moore who was the Project Archeologist at the Dimond Knoll excavation (41HR796). After a quick orientation by Dr. Jason Barrett, everyone hit the screens and worked harder than I've ever seen folks work! We had nine screens set up, more than ever before, and we recovered some amazing artifacts! Our new HMNS friends ROCKED!



Dr. Jason Barrett gives the crowd an orientation before we start screening. We had over 50 people at our screening site Saturday!



Dr. Roger Moore, Jeff Durst and Pat Mercado-Allinger admire a point knapped by TxDOT archeologist Chris Ringstaff, right. Chris demonstrated flint-knapping and atlatl skills all day!



Pat Mercado-Allinger, Texas State Archeologist works at the screens with visitors from HMNS.



Just a handful of the artifacts recovered on Saturday including points, pottery, tools, bone, and several "mystery artifacts" which have tentatively been identified as some type of slag. Now the real mystery is – how did it get there???



Dr. Jason Barrett and Amy Potts, Director of Adult Education at HMNS, second from right, screened dirt all day with HAS members and HMNS guests.



Jack the donkey is up to his old tricks with a visitor from HMNS. We asked him to behave, but

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While our visitors were having lunch we washed the artifacts recovered during the morning screening session so everyone could examine them. Here HAS member Kathleen Hughes explains the recovered artifacts to guests.



Chris Ringstaff throwing the atlatl. Guests were amazed at his distance and accuracy!