

**Houston
Archeological
Society**



www.houstonarcheology.org

The PROFILE

MAY 2004

Texas Archeological Society-www.txarch.org

MAY MEETING:

Friday, May 14, 2004, 7:30 p.m. **Walter Kingsborough, Zone Archaeologist, Sam Houston Forest Ranger District. Archeologist, "Stratified Holocene Deposits at Storm Site, 41WA218, Walker County, Texas."**

Anyone wishing to present should contact Muriel Walker at [281-392-7504](tel:281-392-7504).

LABORATORY SCHEDULE:

Monday, May 17, 7:00 p.m., Rice University Archeology Lab, Sewall Hall, Room 103.

HAS LIBRARY: - Library hours are 6:00 p.m. to 7:20 p.m. on Friday, May 14. For more information, contact David Pettus at txgeol@earthlink.net.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

I want to thank the following individuals for their assistance at the recent San Jacinto Day Festival & Battle Reenactment: Pat Aucoin, new member Ken Bane, who brought a young neighbor with him, Richard and Wanda Carter, Bill Csayni (flint knapper extraordinaire), Fred Kelly, Don Keyes, and Sheldon Kindall. Not only did they help with pre-festival preparation and setup, they endured pouring rain while putting up several plastic tarps to protect displays and exhibits from being ruined. All of you were absolutely AWESOME; I truly appreciate everything you did to make our participation such a success.

In spite of the decreased crowds due to the terrible weather, and the fact that the reenactment had to be cancelled, several hundred kids enjoyed digging and screening for artifacts. One upside to the lower attendance was that we were able to spend additional time talking with parents, teachers, scout leaders, and kids about the exhibits and artifacts on display. As always, everyone enjoyed drilling holes in dried gourds using stone tools. My thanks to Leland Patterson who keeps me supplied with both the gourds and the stone drills, as well as other stone tools and points.

On several occasions, members have heard mention of lab work or report preparation for The Powell Site; some members, however, may not know for whom the site is named or the significance of the site. Elizabeth Powell, a widow with

two male and two female children, arrived in Texas from Louisiana in November 1828. 1830 census records list her as the 64th registrant of "families introduced by the Citizen Empresario Estevan (Stephen) F. Austin by virtue...of the Colonization Law of the state of Coahuila and Texas dated 25 March 1825." (White 1999:3,12) The same document indicates that she became a law-abiding citizen on December 12, 1828. On two occasions during the 1836 Campaign for Independence, troops of the Mexican Army rendezvoused at Mrs. Powell's Tavern. Advancing troops, under the command of General Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana, met at Mrs. Powell's Tavern (land) on their way to San Jacinto. On April 26, 1836, orders sent by General Santa Ana instructed surviving Mexican Army troops to begin their retreat from Mrs. Powell's Tavern.

During 1999, members of HAS began investigations and excavations at the Elizabeth Powell site. Fieldwork at the site was completed in 2000; lab work on the artifacts was completed in 2002 and initial analysis of the artifacts recovered was begun. In-depth artifact analysis and report writing is currently underway. Last month, members revisited the site; additional information was recorded and two test units were put in. Additional site work will be undertaken as soon as the weather permits. An exhibit of fieldwork and artifact photos will be on display at the May meeting. This exhibit was part of the HAS display at the recent San Jacinto Day Festival. *White, Gifford E. 1999, 1830 Citizens of Texas: A Genealogy of Anglo-American and Mexican Citizens Taken from Census and Other Records. Eakin Press, Austin.*

Beth Aucoin, President

☺ ATTENTION MEMBERS ☺

Please examine your mailing label. Following your name, you will find a letter and either a "3" or an "04". If you are in the "3" category, this means you have NOT paid your dues for this year and will not receive a Profile after this mailing. Send your dues to HAS, P O Box 6751, Houston, TX, 77265-6751.

HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES, April 9, 2004

Beth Aucoin, HAS president, opened the March meeting at 7:32 p.m., welcomed the guests and new members, then detailed the meeting's agenda.

Announcements:

- HAS fieldwork will again focus on the Powell site. A survey will determine what additional work is needed.
- Documentation on previous work is lacking.
- HAS will participate at the San Jacinto Day Festival. Will need volunteers to help.
- Hornbuckle site report is being reviewed. RC dating indicates occupation sequence from 570 BC to AD 1400, with stratigraphic mixing.
- HAS Report #8 is available for \$10; Report #13 and the *Mar de Lodo* reports are also available.
- David Pettus, in addition to his library duties, is now the HAS Archivist.
- PBS will air a Scientific American special on the Gault site.
- TAS Field School is in June. There will be NO on-site registration.
- There will be **no** HAS meeting, nor Profile in June because of Field School.

Muriel Walker introduced Dr. Gregg Dimmick, M.D., who presented "El Mar de Lodo: Tracking the Mexican Army Through the Sea of Mud." The business meeting began after the refreshment break at 9:20 p.m. The minutes of the March meeting were approved; Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$14,993.57 in all accounts. Bill Haskell reported three copies of HAS Report #8 were sold. Fred Kelly has finished reworking the HAS brochure; the Journal should be ready for mailing in a couple of weeks.

No progress has been made on the 2003 financial audit.

The meeting adjourned at 9:29 p.m.

Submitted by Richard Carter, Secretary, richardandwanda@sbcglobal.net



A Texas State Historical Marker dedication is scheduled on May 29, 2004, for Captain Benjamin I. Harper at Chalk Cemetery in Walker County, Texas. Captain Harper fought in the Battle of Conception, the Siege of Bexar and the Battle of San Jacinto. His name is inscribed on the San Jacinto Battleground Monument. HAS member, Sheldon Kindall is justifiably proud of his great-great-grandfather.

Jean Epperson,

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