



The PROFILE

Texas Archeological Society-www.txarch.org

April 2005

APRIL MEETING: David Sherman, "Ear Spool Site." Friday, April 8, 2005, 7:00 p.m. Meeting location, University of St. Thomas. May's speaker is Jerry Drake, Director, Archives & Records Texas General Land Office. His presentation will discuss the GLO's map digitalization program and its use for archeologists. Anyone wishing to present should contact Muriel Walker at 281-392-7504.

LABORATORY SCHEDULE:

Mondays, April 11 & 15, 7:00 p.m. Rice University Archeology Lab, Sewall Hall, Room 103.

HAS LIBRARY: Library closed Friday, April 8, because of Book Sale.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

Having just returned from a cruise in Hawaii, I have a brief slide show for you about the cultural history of the first Hawaiians.

Click. It's AD 700 (or so). See the Polynesians departing the Marquesas in their dual-hulled craft for a destination 2,000 miles to the northeast. With them are chickens, infant pigs, and plant materials to provide food in their new home. Oral tradition says the infant pigs were nursed by the human women to avoid bringing full-grown sows.

Click. Polynesians are coming ashore on the islands of the archipelago they call Hawai'i. Eventually one or two kings emerge on each island. Note the men do the cooking; women are not allowed to eat with the men, nor are they permitted to eat pork or certain other "mens' food".

Click. See English explorer Captain Cook landing in Hawaii in 1778. The Hawaiians greet him as a god, but eventually there is a skirmish, and Captain Cook is killed. The English sail away.

Click. It's 1800. A chief named Kamehameha (pronounced "ka-may-ha-may-ha") establishes dominance over the Big Island of Hawaii and then moving north over 10 years, conquers each island in horribly bloody battles. By the time he reaches the northernmost island of Kauai, the residents make a deal rather than fight. He becomes known as Kamehameha the Great, king of Hawaii. His descendants reign until the end of the 19th century.

Click. See the American missionaries arriving in 1820 and fanning out over the islands to convert the heathen Hawaiians and marginalize their language and culture. Life in Hawaii will never be the same, but that's another slide show.

Linda Swift, Linda.swift@centerpointenergy.com

MARK YOUR CALENDER!

- Roman Portraits, Little Archeology Gallery, 3907 Yoakum Blvd. Weekdays 12-6 p.m., until May 3.
- Texas Colonial Heritage Festival, April 9, 10 a.m. -5p.m., Stephen F. Austin State Park. Demos of life in the 1820s including gun displays, outdoor cooking and general everyday chores. 979-885-3516. Walk across FM1458 and see the San Felipe de Austin Archeological Project.
- Artifact Display of the Niles Weekly Register, April 11-29 at the Wells Fargo Plaza, 801 Travis, Lobby Level. This was a defining news publication of its day and similar to today's Wall Street Journal or the New York Times. The display focuses on events related to Texas Independence, centering on the Battle of San Jacinto.
- The 5th Battle of San Jacinto Symposium, April 16, 9:30 - 4:00, Hilton-University of Houston. For information call 281-496-1488 or sjba@usa.net.
- San Jacinto Day Festival & Battle Reenactment. Saturday, April 23, 2005, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Volunteers needed, contact Beth Aucoin, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net, or 281-480-6151, or www.sanjacinto-museum.org, 281-479-2421.**
- "Finding the First Americans", April 24, 2005, 7:00 p.m., Jones Auditorium, University of St Thomas, Dr. Michael Collins, University of Texas. Reception for the speaker follows the lecture.
- Texas Archeology Academy, April 23 & 24, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Victoria College Campus 2200 East Red River, Victoria, TX, fee \$85 TAS members or \$115 non-members. Deadline to register April 14. Contact Pam Wheat 800-377-7240, www.txarch.org.
- Exploring People & Their Worlds, Recent Archaeological Findings, Dr. Aidan O' Sullivan, University College, Cullen Hall, University St Thomas, April 28, 7:00 p.m.
- HAS mini field school, April 30. Info on next page.

HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES, March 11, 2005

Linda Swift, HAS President, called the March meeting to order at 7:39 p.m. There were 25 people in attendance.

Announcements:

- Linda thanked Fred Kelly for purchasing and setting up the new speaker system. She asked how many members were currently receiving the Profile via email. A few people stated that they had.
- Linda Carter and Muriel Walker provided refreshments.
- HAS will conduct a mini-field school on April 30.
- Volunteers are needed for the San Jacinto Festival on April 23.
- Lab on Monday, March 14.
- There may be a need for changes in the HAS Constitution By-Laws. One item in particular, is the poor attendance at the business meetings. Currently, 20% of the HAS membership is required to reach a quorum for the meeting. It may need to be changed to 10%.
- Beth Aucoin said that field work at San Felipe continues. Volunteers are needed.
- Tom Nuckols announced that the HAS will conduct a field school for the 8th grade class at Corpus Christi Catholic School on Saturday, May 7 at the Powell site. Volunteers are needed.

Muriel Walker introduced the night's guest speaker, Dr. Carol McDavid, for her presentation "Pragmatism, Politics, Descendants & Communities: Public Archeology Today".

Following the program, there was a refreshment break and the business meeting began with 23 people in attendance.

- The minutes from the March meeting were approved without corrections.
- Linda asked the audience how they liked the new speaker system. The response was positive. A committee needs to be formed to review the Constitution's by-laws and Standing Rules. Richard Carter will chair the committee.
- Treasurer Karen Acker reported that 49 people have not renewed their HAS membership.
- Dick Gregg has just received the last article for the Journal. It should be printed soon.
- Sheldon Kindall said that very few people in HAS have signed up for the April field school. He asked that every effort be made to promote the school because it is a way to gain new HAS members.
- Artifacts from the *Maison Rouge* site are being processed in the lab.
- Wanda Carter asked if HAS plans to excavate any prehistoric sites in the future. Linda stated that presently, we have too many other projects going on to consider anything else.
- Librarian Diane Baird will have a book sale at next month's meeting. The current library hours are 6 – 7:30 p.m. and may change to 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. because of poor attendance.
- Publicity Chairman Fred Kelly had the flyers for the April HAS field school printed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Submitted by Tom Nuckols, annesullivan@andreswkurth.com

HAS FIELD SCHOOL: The HAS will sponsor a one-day field school on the art and technique of excavation. This event is free to all HAS members. Non-HAS members are welcome but there will be a charge of \$12; this fee, however, will include membership in HAS for the remainder of the year. This includes meetings, our Archeological Library and Lab.

The school will be held on Saturday, April 30. It will consist of a half-day of classroom followed by excavation on one of the early Texas settler sites.

For more information, contact either Sheldon Kindall (281-326-2160, Kindall@mcleadusa.net) or Beth Aucoin (281-480-6151, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net)

ARCHEOLOGY WORKSHOP TO REVEAL STORIES FOUND IN LITHICS:

The Texas Archeological Society, The Victoria College, and the Museum of the Coastal Bend will present **Lithics: Reading Stone Artifacts**, a two-day workshop designed to provide the background and hands-on experience to recognize stone artifacts and how to interpret basic information. The Texas Archeology Academy workshop will be held at **The Victoria College, April 23-24, from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and the registration fee is \$115(non TAS), \$85(TAS member)**. The course will include a brief overview of stone tools, why stone artifacts are important, how they are produced and used, and how stone tools contribute to the archeological record. The Academy will begin with a review of rocks and how they were used. Stone tools were fashioned by two basic processes: chipping and grinding. Hands-on examples will show how to recognize these processes.

Participants will engage in exercises designed to record information about stone artifacts. These exercises will include sorting, classifying, measuring, and information recording as part of basic stone tool analysis. Advanced analysis will include understanding the process of making a stone tool from the cobble to finished product, functional uses of stone tools, formation of use-wear, recognizing breakage patterns, and tracing use-life of stone tools. The final part will focus on interpreting stone artifacts and patterns in the archeological record. Dr. Harry Shafer, professor emeritus of archeology at Texas A&M University, will lead the workshop. This session of the Texas Archeology Academy is open to anyone interested in archeology and does not require prior experience in lithics or archeology.

The registration fee is for two days instruction and includes a CD manual and lunch both days. Deadline for registration is April 14, 2005. A certificate of participation will be awarded to attendees. Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credit is available for teachers as approved by the Texas State Board of Education Certification (SBEC).

To register, visit www.txarch.org, About Archeology, Texas Archeology Academy or call Pam Wheat, TAS Executive Director, pwheat@vmlplus.com (800) 377-7240.

Abstract on April Presentation: The Ear Spool Site (41TT653) is a Late Caddoan Titus Phase farmstead in Titus County, Texas. The site dates roughly to the period from AD 1434 to 1599. The name "Ear Spool" was given by the archaeologists who discovered a single ear spool during NRHP eligibility testing. The Late Caddoan deposits at Ear Spool were confined to an area approximately 80 meters (m) east-west by 40 m north-south on a relatively level sandy ridge in an improved pasture. The site is about 1.5 kilometers north of the Big Cypress Creek/White Oak Creek watershed boundary.

Excavations at the Ear Spool site revealed that it resulted primarily from a domestic occupation during the Titus phase. The recovery of five dart points does however indicate sporadic occupation during the archaic period. The Titus phase materials are represented by two distinct ceramic components, lithic artifacts, the remains of four circular structures surrounding an open plaza area, and a wide variety of features. A large assemblage of formally consistent Maud arrow points and arrow point manufacturing failures suggests both that these items were made on site and that hunting was an important element to subsistence. One of the structures identified on site was a semi-subterranean circular structure with an extended entranceway and a prepared clay floor.

➤ Marianne Marek's mother died last week. Please keep Marianne and the family in your thoughts. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to Marianne at P O Box 476, Wallis, TX 77485-0476,

The Yates Museum: Professor David Bruner, U of H, holds field school and lab sessions every Saturday (8:30 a.m – 3:00 p.m.) at 1314 Andrews in Freedman's Town (founded by freed slaves in 1868. Confirm at davearch@houston.rr.com or call Dr. Carol McDavid 713-523-2640.

ATTENTION MEMBERSHIP: This month begins the *eProfile*. Every member who has supplied us with an email address will now receive the newsletter online and will not receive one in the mail. Make sure that I have your correct email address.

Mary Barbara Gold, mary.gold@humble.k12.tx.us

To submit articles to **The Profile**, contact Mary Barbara Gold, 3303 Big Spruce, Kingwood, TX 77339, 281-360-5226, or mary.gold@humble.k12.tx.us.

Submit articles no later than March 28, 2005, for the April edition.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON H.A.S., CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

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