



The PROFILE

September 2006

Jim Nonus to Discuss Research on Champ d' Asile and Lallemand

Jim Nonus, President of the Laffite Society, will give a presentation on “digging in the papers” for information on Champ d' Asile and Lallemand at the September 8 meeting. Mr. Nonus is a fifth generation Galvestonian, BOI, Born on the Island. At a very early age his head was filled with pirate dreams, and visits to the old Maison Rouge site on 14th and Water Street were never enough. In the late 1960's while working at UTMB medical branch in the East end he had the chance to pass the site daily. He started collecting every book on the Laffites he could find and made many trips to New Orleans in search of the Laffite saga.

In 1995, Jim Nonus, Dale Olson, and a hand full of people founded the Laffite Society. In July of this year he decided it was time to serve as President and was elected to that position. His love of the topic has led him to such places as the island of Grand Terre where he worked his way through the

marshes to shell mounds and the area where Lafitte was established before coming to Galveston.

Mr. Nonus is currently working on a romantic non-historical musical about Laffite as he continues to search for period newspapers, maps and publications about the Laffites.

As always, the September 8 meeting will be held in Anderson Hall on the quadrangle of the University of St. Thomas, at 7:30pm. For a detailed map, visit the HAS web site at www.houstonarcheology.org.

October 13, 2006 PROGRAM: To be announced. Anyone wishing to deliver a presentation at a future meeting should contact Michael Bailey at mbailey@beamans.com.

The **Annual Business Meeting** will be conducted at the September 8 meeting, including election of officers and Board members.

Theft of Caddo Ceramic Vessels

The Arkansas Archeological Survey and Southern Arkansas University report the theft of 26 prehistoric Caddo Indian pottery vessels from the Arkansas Archeological Survey's Research Station collections at Southern Arkansas University. The pottery vessels are all from the Cedar Grove site located on the Red River in Lafayette County, Arkansas. The vessels belong to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and are federal property. Photographs and complete documentation of each pottery vessel exist so they will be very difficult to sell on the open market.

The vessels are from Indian graves subject to the provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, a federal law. If the vessels were transported across state lines they will be subject to the federal Archeological Resource Protection Act. Hence, the thieves can be prosecuted under two separate federal laws as well as state law. For a list and photographs of the stolen pottery vessels see:

http://www.projectpast.org/sau/SAUCedarGroveMissingList_v3.pdf --Arkansas Archeological Survey

Many Thanks

This month I'd like to recognize and thank everyone for their service to HAS this past year. I won't have room to mention every single person who has helped, but you know who you are, and I want each of you to know that I do appreciate all you have done and are doing.

Beth Aucoin, along with husband **Pat Aucoin**, is one of the hardest-working people I know. Beth has served as a Texas Historical Commission steward for several years as well as our TAS Region 5 representative. She is the immediate past president of HAS, Chairman of the HAS Outreach committee, assistant HAS Lab Director, coordinator of the Powell Site report, and active in excavation projects all around this area. Beth and Pat have created a wonderful "traveling" exhibit of HAS and TAS projects, along with interactive activities and a mock "dig" for the kids, which has been a hit at the Father of Texas Festival and the San Jacinto Day Festival. I put "traveling" in quotes because it's a lot of work to put up, operate and take down this exhibit, and I thank the Aucoins and all the other volunteers who came out to help us make it a success.

Wanda Carter, assisted by husband HAS Director **Richard Carter** and HAS Secretary **Tom Nuckols**, has brought us a whole new dimension in refreshments in the five years she has had this responsibility. In addition, she has made many improvements to the process and the equipment.

Profile Editor **Sara Guillote** has provided us with 11 interesting, colorful newsletters, in spite of people like me, who turn in their articles at the last minute. Many thanks to Sara, and thanks to so many other volunteers who keep our Society moving along: **Dick Gregg, Melissa May, Muriel Walker, Phyllis Bradley, Roy Whitney, Bill Haskell, Sheldon Kindall, Bob Shelby, Pablo Castro, and Don Keyes**, to mention but a few.

Most of our officers and directors are handling responsibilities in addition to their Board positions. Director **Diane Baird** is also the HAS Librarian, and she has done a fine job of maintaining the Library this year. Director **Richard Carter** is also the Webmaster for our HAS web site (www.houstonarcheology.org), and last year he chaired the committee that revised our Constitution and Rules. Secretary **Tom Nuckols** is our unofficial Boy Scout coordinator as well as resident military/firearms expert for the Powell Site report. Treasurer **Karen Acker** is also our Membership Chairman and printing/ mailing person for the HAS *Profile*. VP **Michael Bailey** has given us a lively year of interesting lecturers and programs, and his plans for the next few months look great.

I want to extend a special thank-you to outgoing Director **Fred Kelly**. Fred came onto the Board with a fresh viewpoint and new ideas, and he took on the job of Publicity Director, a function we didn't have before. He has been able to get HAS recognition and meeting notices in many places where they previously didn't know about us. Fred has been an effective and active member of the Board, and I truly appreciate all his contributions for the past three years.

Life happens, and most of our work has been carried out while people were struggling with job losses and changes, caring for elderly parents (for some reason, it's been a big year for dealing with aging parents), deaths in families, deaths within HAS, severe illnesses and surgeries, moving to new houses, and a myriad of family crises. Thanks to all of you for your perseverance in spite of it all, making this a very good year for HAS.

The Month of September

September is the ninth month of the year according to the Gregorian calendar, which is used in almost the entire world today. Derived from the Latin "*septem*", or "seven", September was the seventh month of the old Roman calendar, counted from March, which commenced the year previous to the addition of January and February by king Numa Pompilius in 713 B.C. The emperor Caligula renamed September "Germanicus", but the change did not survive his death. For the ancient Romans, September was the time to harvest crops



Caligula

and face the loss of the growing season and losses in their personal lives.

On September 2, 1752, the British ended their use of the Julian calendar, switching instead to the Gregorian calendar, resulting in a major adjustment as Wednesday, September 2, was followed by Thursday, September 14. The correction resulted in rioting by people who felt cheated and demanded the missing eleven days back. – *Fred Kelly and Sara Guillote*

HAS LIBRARY: Open on Friday, September 11, from 6:30pm to 7:20pm, 3907 Yoakum Blvd.

LABORATORY SCHEDULE: September Labs: Mondays, September 11 & 25 7-9 PM, Rice University, Sewall Hall, Room 103. **October Labs:** Mondays, October 9 and 23.

August 11 Meeting Minutes: Linda Swift, HAS President, announced there will be no business meeting. The program featured Matt Taylor, director of the Texas Dental Anthropology Project, speaking on dental pathology as a cultural marker.

Mark Your Calendars!

The Father of Texas celebration will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 3rd and 4th, 9am-5pm at the San Felipe Archeology Project Site. Volunteer sign-up sheets will be available at this month's meeting. –*Beth Aucoin*

HAS Merit Award

An HAS Merit Award will be presented at the October 13th HAS meeting. –*Lee Patterson*

Recommended Reading: *Stealing History: Tomb Raiders, Smugglers, and the Looting of the Ancient World*, by Roger Atwood is a compelling book that explores looting and the antiquities trade, from professional grave-robbers in Sipan to the galleries and collections of the art world's elite. This book is an indictment of the looters, smugglers, collectors and museums that are devouring the world's archeological sites. –*Sara Guillote*

2006-2007 HAS Board Elections

The 2006-2007 HAS board elections will be held at the September 8th Annual Business Meeting, following the presentation. The nominees for the 2006-2007 HAS Board are as follows:

President	<i>Linda Swift</i>	Director-at-Large	<i>Diane Baird</i>
Vice President	<i>Michael Bailey</i>	Director-at-Large	<i>Richard Carter</i>
Treasurer	<i>Karen Acker</i>	Director-at-Large	<i>Kathleen Barry</i>
Secretary	<i>Tom Nuckols</i>		

Further nominations will be accepted from the floor. Please plan on attending this important business meeting.

Archaeology for the Public Website Now Active

Archaeology for the Public, a project of the Public Education Committee of the Society for American Archaeology is now live at www.saa.org/public.

These pages contain useful resources for your next outreach activity, public session, archaeology month event, and college course. They are designed for members of the public who want to know more

about archaeology...as well as for archaeologists, archeological educators, and archaeological interpreters who work with the public.

To learn more... visit the website and read about the project, the SAA press release, and the "For Archaeologists" information flier.

--*Carol McDavid*

77th Annual Texas Archeological Society Meeting

The annual meeting of the **Texas Archeological Society** will be held Friday, October 20 thru Sunday, October 22 at the San Angelo Inn and Convention Center, 441 Rio Concho, San Angelo. This year's Friday evening Public Forum features **Mr. Doug Boyd**, vice President of Prewitt and Associates, Inc. in Austin. His topic will be "**Tales of the Dead: Archeology of Forgotten Historic Cemeteries.**"

Saturday's banquet speaker will be **Mr. Elmer Kelton** who has authored over 40 novels, plus non fiction books spanning more than 50 years.

Registration forms and a limited number of the most recent TAS Newsletter will be available at this month's meeting.

Conference information may be found at www.txarch.org. –*Beth Aucoin and Pam Wheat*

Please submit articles for publication to Sara Guillote, sguillote@hotmail.com
Submit articles no later than September 30 for the October issue.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ARCHEOLOGY IN THIS AREA, CONTACT THE FOLLOWING:

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The Profile

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