



The PROFILE

December 2007

Brazoria County Plantation Survey Progress

The December 14th HAS meeting will feature Johnney Pollan discussing the progress of the Brazoria County Antebellum Plantation Survey (BCAPS). Mr. Pollan, Curator of Archaeology at the Brazosport Museum of Natural Science is presently working with the Brazosport Archeological Society and the Texas Historical Commission to survey the fifty plus antebellum plantations that once operated in Brazoria County. This survey includes the location of any physical remains of each plantation, a search for historical documents on each plantation and their owners, and the registration of each site as a Texas archaeological site.

Johnney Pollan, a San Antonio native, holds a BS Degree in Engineering Science from Trinity University and worked for the Dow Chemical Company for more than 31 years. His interest in archeology began as a youth when his cousin, famed San Antonio stoneware potter Harding Black,

would tell stories of the Witte Museum's digs in the lower Pecos River in the late 1930's. A member of the Texas Archeological Society since 1981, Pollan is a charter member of the Southern Texas Archeological Association and co-founder of the Brazosport Archeological Society. He is a Texas State Archeological Steward for Brazoria County. He has participated in several significant archaeological digs in Texas including LaSalle's ship, *La Belle*, in Lavaca Bay and one of the premier Paleo-Indian sites in the United States, the Gault site, north of Austin.

The December meeting will be held at our usual location in Anderson Hall on the Academic Mall of the University of St. Thomas, at 7:30 p.m. For a detailed map, visit our website at www.houstonarcheology.org. Parking: use the Moran Center Parking Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark (\$2 fee), or park in Faculty Parking Lot S at Montrose and Branard after 7:00 p.m. (no charge).

January Program: To be announced. Anyone wishing to deliver a future presentation should contact Michael Bailey at m Bailey@beamans.com

HAS Library News: The library will be **closed** on Friday, December 14.

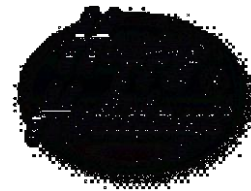
LABORATORY SCHEDULE: Dec. 17 (only one time this month). 7-9 pm in Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University. Check the HAS website, www.houstonarcheology.org, for a map.



Waldeck Plantation House

The Prez Sez

Welcome to busy December. I'm not politically correct so..... Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, etc.



I hope that everyone will be at our December meeting. Besides the good speaker, it is a time for the members to really have time to socialize, get to know each other better. One of my plans is to do more extra stuff, like the Lucy exhibit, for all that are interested. We can voice our ideas about things to do if we feel more comfortable around each other.

Speaking of Lucy.....I think it was a big success. Forty-eight (check Minutes) people were there on Friday night and twenty-nine people were at the exhibit. I hope everyone got as much out of it as I did.

Just to keep you up on progress. I have received notice that we are penned in for Anderson Hall through May. The rest of the year will be decided early summer. I am trying to set up a meeting with the President of UST to really find out about the library. I would like to give a full report at this month's meeting.

Now for some news I'd rather not be reporting. Richard Carter's mother has died in the last week. Please give the Carters your sympathy when you see them. Also, Dick Gregg has recently had surgery. He is now at Methodist rehab (since there is no one at home to care for him). I talked to him and he seems in good spirits. His phone number is 713-363-7503 and his room # is 503 (but not in the main hospital).

Special notice: Since the library is still in chaos, WE WILL NOT HAVE THE LIBRARY OPEN THIS MONTH.

See you on the 14th! Everyone remember to bring goodies!

Diane

Houston Archeological Society Meeting Minutes, November 9, 2007

HAS President Diane Baird called the meeting to order at 7:30P.M with 48 people in attendance.

Announcements

- Richard Carter still needs volunteers for the Lithics Academy on January 26-27, 2008.
- Volunteers are needed to help with the coffee and snack set-up at the meetings.
- An Excavation Director is needed to look for possible digs that HAS can participate in.
- The trip to see the Lucy exhibit at the HMNS was discussed.
- Robert Shelby was nominated by the Southeast Texas Archeological Society for outstanding archeological research.
- Thanks to Kathleen Barry for the coffee and to Pat and Beth Aucoin for the snacks.

Program

- Vice President Michael Bailey introduced the speaker Dirk Van Tuerenhout from the Houston Museum of Natural Science who spoke on Ethiopia as the Cradle of Mankind.

Business Meeting

- _Reminder that HAS renewals are due in January. A form will be in the newsletter.
- The Yates Site needs volunteers.
- 2 labs will be held in Nov. and 1 in December cleaning artifacts from the Barnhill site.
- Ed Masten gave the treasurer's report.
- In February we may receive information about a possible future pre-historic dig in the Kemah area.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

-submitted by Kathleen Barry, Secretary

Archeology. . . Life in the Past Lane

The **2008 East Texas Archeological Conference** will be held on Saturday, February 16, 2008 from 8:30AM to 4:00PM at the Robert M. Muntz Library (Room 401) at the University of Texas at Tyler. The conference brings together avocational and professional archeologists as well as the general public to discuss recent archeological discoveries and research in East Texas. If you are interested in presenting a paper or poster, or for more information contact Tom Middlebrook, TMdlbrk@aol.com, cell 936-556-0854.

The **Baylor University Center for Spatial Research (CSR)** is sponsoring the following workshops aimed at professional education and development for archaeologists. Dr. Shane J. Prochnow will instruct both workshops in the Baylor Sciences Building at Waco, Texas. **Introduction to Archaeological Geology**, January 26, 2008 and **GIS for Archaeology**, February 23-24, 2008. For cost and registration information please contact [Shane J. Prochnow@baylor.edu](mailto:Shane_J_Prochnow@baylor.edu), 254-710-2224.

Dallas Historical Society Missing Invaluable Pieces of History

The Dallas Historical Society learned this week that 21 objects are missing from its permanent collection. The items were discovered missing from the Hall of State in Fair Park. Here are some of the missing items:

- Brass dress spurs, a paperweight and a candlestick holder belonging to Mexican President Santa Anna. The items were recovered after the Battle of San Jacinto, which marked the beginning of Texas' independence from Mexico in 1836.
- A silver Mexican Medal of Honor from 1836, known as the Santa Anna Cross. It has an eagle holding a cross with six red enamel radiants and reads, "Al Valor Acreditado en Texas" and "Al Merito 1836."
- Pair of collar insignia, five stars for Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, worn during Japan's surrender during World War II aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay on Sept. 2, 1945."
- A Beeman family Bible. The Beemans were among the first settlers in Dallas; the city's founder, John Neely Bryan, married into the family. The Bible contains a family history.
- Other items include a 1912 Dallas Opera ticket and several photos from the early 1900s.

The historical society is offering a \$10,000 reward for anyone with information that leads to a safe return of all the missing items. Anyone with information can call 1-877-373-TIPS." For complete story see www.dallasnews.com and search Dallas Historical Society for complete information. Accessed and excerpted 12/3/2007 -Beth Aucoin

Ancient Roman Technology – Glass Making



Glass making originated in the Middle East around 2000 BC, with the making of beads, seals, and ornaments. By 1500 BC, very fine glass was being made in Egypt, and the Phoenicians in Lebanon then became the greatest glass makers. Even during Greek times, windows were shuttered with wood and translucent materials such as oiled cloth, sheepskin and mica. By 100 BC, the Phoenicians were drawn into the Roman Empire and glass blowing was invented. Roman craftsmen developed new techniques for making glass and their technology spread throughout the empire and even to China. Glass was widely used for such things as windows, pipes, vases, perfume bottles, drinking vessels, cut-glass jewelry and ornate enameling. To make a glass window, glass was blown into a large bulb and then drawn to a large sausage shape. The sausage was shaped into a cylinder and was then split lengthwise with a red-hot iron. The split cylinder was reheated on a flat bed and drawn flat with pincers to produce window glass. Glass was colored by adding metallic compounds and mineral oxides. During the Middle Ages in Europe the use of glass declined and the techniques were largely forgotten until they were re-discovered in the 7th century. –Fred Kelly, *Roman Cage Cup, 4th Century AD*

2008 HAS Membership Renewals are Due in January

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Houston Archeological Society, P. O. Box 6751, Houston, TX 77265-6751

Please complete this form and mail it, with your check for the correct amount, to the above address.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ (home) _____ (work)

email: _____

Type of membership: New Renewal Please circle one: Student (\$10/year) Single (\$20/year)
Family (\$25/year) Contributing (\$30+/year)

ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE: "I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques."

Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

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

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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

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The Profile

Houston Archeological Society

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