



# The PROFILE

February 2007

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## Andrew Malof will Discuss Subsistence in Prehistoric Central Texas

Andrew Malof, Lower Colorado River Authority archeologist, will give a presentation entitled *Feast or Famine: Evidence for Molluscan-Based Subsistence and Implications for Social Structure in Prehistoric Central Texas* at the February 9 meeting. Site 41BL116, located on the Lampasas River in western Bell County, has produced vast quantities of freshwater mussel and land snail remains. There can be little doubt that the mussels were gathered for human consumption. Many of the snails are likely the result of natural processes, but the thousands of large *Rabdotus* species snails suggest human agency. By comparing population structures between off-site, control assemblages and those found within the site, a significant difference suggestive of human gathering can be demonstrated. Once the food value of *Rabdotus* is determined, it becomes possible to determine why these snails may have been gathered for food. This in turn allows models of social organization to be developed and tested. The site is providing multiple lines of evidence that can be used to better understand patterns of mobility and seasonality, group size, and institutional organization.



Malof received his B. A. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1996 and his M. A. from the University of Texas at San Antonio in 2001. His

interests include hunter-gatherer adaptations, landscape studies, and modeling through GIS. He has been employed as an archaeologist at the Lower Colorado River Authority in Austin since 1996.

The February 9 meeting will be held at our usual location 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](http://www.houstonarcheology.org).

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**March, 2007 Program:** Rachel Feit will discuss recent excavations in Houston's 4<sup>th</sup> Ward. Anyone wishing to deliver a future presentation should contact Michael Bailey at [mbailey@beamans.com](mailto:mbailey@beamans.com)

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**Laboratory Schedule: February Labs:** Monday, February 12 and February 26, 7-9pm., Sewall Hall, Room 103, Rice University.

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**HAS Library:** Open February 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:30pm-7:20pm., 3907 Yoakum Blvd.

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## Texas Archeology Academies 2007

**Ceramics:** The Stories Found in Pottery, Nacogdoches March 3-4. Registration deadline February 17, 2007.

**Rock Art:** at the Shumla School, Comstock, March 30 - April 1. Registration deadline March 17, 2007.

Fees: TAS member 2006, \$85; Non-member (includes membership fee) \$125. Registration forms will be available at the meeting; on-line registration and additional information on [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org). - Beth Aucoin

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## Laptop and Projector Policy

Good news – our new laptop computer and portable projector are finally ready for use by the membership for HAS activities. Since we do have a substantial investment in this equipment, the Board has adopted a policy on how it is to be used. When you check out either or both of these items, you will be asked to sign a copy of the policy. It's a little bit of red tape, but I think you'll agree that it will help protect the equipment and its software from abuse, and it will help users to understand what their obligations are. Here are the main provisions:

- Only HAS members may check out this equipment for HAS events, projects and activities. Examples of appropriate use of this equipment are: creation of materials for HAS displays/booths; creation of PowerPoint slide shows for archaeological presentations, preparation of reports on HAS projects; and creation/maintenance of data bases such as membership information, mailing lists, artifacts being conserved, library inventory, etc.
- The equipment may be checked out for one month (the period of time between two HAS meetings).
- You, as the person checking out the equipment, must know how to operate the equipment as well as the computer software you will be using on it.
- No one may check out equipment for anyone else.
- Equipment will be kept by a Board-specified member (currently Karen Acker) between meetings, and you may check it out and return it to that person at the HAS meeting.
- Anyone with a record of overdue books (over three months) may not check out the equipment.
- You are responsible for any damage incurred to our equipment while checked out, and you must pay for any necessary repairs.
- You must abide by the copyright laws (and all other applicable laws) while using HAS equipment and software.
- Additional programs/software cannot be installed without permission from the HAS Board. Existing equipment and software may not be uninstalled or reconfigured without permission from the HAS Board.
- You may not connect HAS equipment with the Internet or install communications software/hardware.
- Existing passwords may not be changed; no new passwords may be added to the system except as approved by the HAS Board.

Many thanks to **Diane Baird** for drafting the first version of the policy and shepherding it through several revision cycles. If you have any questions or comments about this policy that I might be able to address, please e-mail me at [swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net).  
-- Linda Swift

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## New Texas Beyond History Exhibit McKinney Roughs: Archaic Campers on the Colorado River

At this site near Bastrop, archeologists worked ahead of (and in tandem with) construction of the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort and Spa to complete their investigations, zeroing in on a remarkably intact living surface created by Transitional Archaic foragers sometime around A.D. 1100-1150. As most of us know, finding well-preserved surfaces with little or no overprinting is a rare occurrence. In this case, the diagnostic time markers were Darl points, a rather late showing for this small transitional projectile (dart point? arrow point?) according to most cultural chronologies.

Written by **Steve Carpenter** with contributions from **Kevin Miller**, both of SWCA Environmental Consultants of Austin, the exhibit takes us through the evidence and draws on a variety of comparative models based on modern hunter-gatherer camps to

help illuminate their findings. TBH Editorial Assistant Heather Smith created several new features for the exhibit, including a rollover distributional map allowing viewers to examine what was found in several activity areas.

The Woodbine Development Corporation and Bastrop Resort Partners, L.P., sponsored the archeological investigations on behalf of **Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa**. This exhibit is a public-education component of those investigations as stipulated by the Lower Colorado River Authority, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Texas Historical Commission.

[www.texasbeyondhistory.net/mckinney/index.html](http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/mckinney/index.html)

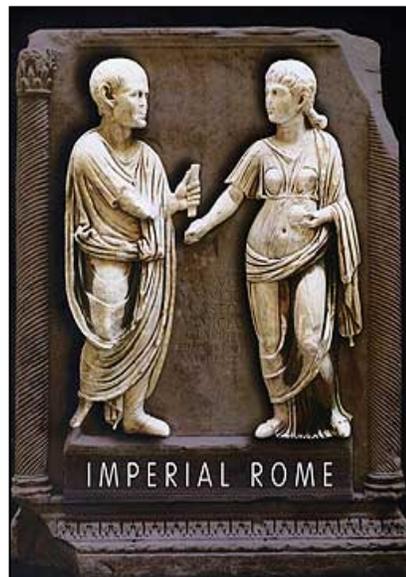
–Susan Dial, Co-Editor,

[www.TexasBeyondHistory.net](http://www.TexasBeyondHistory.net)

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## HMNS Presents Imperial Rome, Feb. 23-July 29, 2007

In this exhibit, the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS) gives a glimpse of Roman life from 27 BC to the middle of the third century AD. According to the museum the exhibit will include, "Hundreds of artifacts, including ancient ceramics, terracottas, portraits, reliefs, sarcophagi, urns, jewelry, and bronze and marble statues, that reveal the brilliance of Roman art and culture while showcasing the Roman influences still prevalent in modern society." Tickets for museum members are \$7, adults \$15, students/seniors \$9 and may be purchased online at [www.hmns.org](http://www.hmns.org).



The **14th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference** will be held from 9am to 4 pm Saturday, February 10, 2007 at the Robert R. Muntz Library located on the University of Texas at Tyler Campus. The public is invited, and admission is \$10 at the door. For more information contact Mark Walters at [walters@tyler.net](mailto:walters@tyler.net).

## HOUSTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2007

Linda Swift, HAS President called the January meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. There were 32 members and three visitors in attendance.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- HAS lab on January 15<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. Sycamore Grove Site artifacts will be catalogued.
- It is time to renew HAS membership dues.
- Texas Archaeological Academies: Lithics @ San Antonio, Feb. 3-4, Ceramics @ Nacogdoches, Mar. 3-4, Rock Art @ Del Rio/Comstock, Mar. 30-Apr. 1. Registration forms from [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org).
- HAS received a request from the Texas Forest Service to present a program on flint napping & pre-history in April, May, 07 @ the W. Goodrich Jones State Forest in Montgomery County. Audience is inner-city 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Mileage and overnight lodging provided. Linda asked for volunteers. There was no response.
- Pat & Beth Aucoin and Tom Nuckols will give a talk about Archaeology to elementary school students at Katy ISD in February.
- Wilson Crook was presented with the 25 year membership award from the Texas Archeological Society.
- Bob Shelby and the Carters were thanked for providing refreshments.

### BUSINESS MEETING

- After the program, there was a refreshment break followed by the business meeting with 17 people in attendance.
- The November meeting minutes were approved without corrections.
- Treasurer Karen Acker gave the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2006, financial report. 43 HAS memberships renewals have been received for 2007. There were 127 HAS members in 2006.
- Editor Dick Gregg stated that the new Journal should be ready at the end of January or beginning of February. Librarian Diane Baird requested that books checked out in 2006 be renewed for 2007. A Boy Scout troop in Katy needs someone to help them earn their merit badges in Archaeology. Diane asked for volunteers. There was no response.
- Beth Aucoin gave an update on the Powell Site report and discussed the April 2007, Texas Heritage Festival at the San Jacinto Battleground.
- Tom Nuckols gave an update on the search for Champ d' Asile and its continuation in February.
- The HISD 4<sup>th</sup> grade archaeological project hosted by the HAS and the Archaeological Institute of America is still in negotiation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

*Submitted by Tom Nuckols, Secretary*

## Upcoming Events

**San Jacinto Festival and Battlement Reenactment** on the grounds of the San Jacinto Museum in Houston/LaPorte. Saturday, April 21st, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 pm. Volunteers needed from 9 - 5. Sign-up sheets at the meetings in February, March, and April. Beth Aucoin, 281-480-6151 or [ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net](mailto:ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net).

**The Status Quo Challenged: Syria - The Source of Civilization?** Lecture by Dr. Joan Oates, Cambridge University. 7:00pm, Wednesday, February 21, 2007, Sewall Hall, Rice University. Presented by The Archaeological Institute of America, Houston Society, and the Humanities Research Center at Rice University, with generous assistance from the British Consulate. Admission is free. Please join AIA at 6:30pm for a pre-lecture reception. For more information contact Becky Lao, 281-497-7382.

**Battle of San Jacinto Symposium**, April 14. More details as they become available.

**TAS 2007 Field School will be held June 9-16 at Presidio San Saba, Menard, Texas.** Information and online registration are now available - [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org). **Touch the Past: Archaeology of the Upper Mississippi River Valley** The Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse will be offering a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Institute for K-12 school teachers, from July 9 through 27, 2007, featuring field trips to Wisconsin archaeological sites. More information can be found at: <http://www.uwlax.edu/mvac/neh.htm>. The deadline for applications is **March 1, 2007**. For additional information contact Bonnie Jancik at [janck.bonn@uwlax.edu](mailto:janck.bonn@uwlax.edu).

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Please submit articles for publication to Sara Guillote, [sguillote@hotmail.com](mailto:sguillote@hotmail.com)  
Submit articles no later than February 27<sup>th</sup> for the March issue.

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

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**TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION STEWARDS**

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### *The Profile*

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**Return Service Requested**