



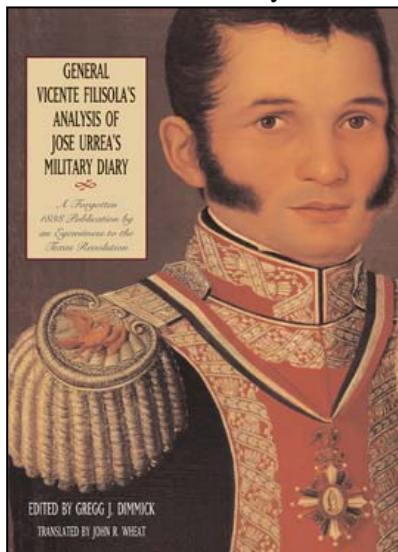
The PROFILE



December, 2008

Gregg Dimmick to Speak on His Newest Texas Revolution Book

This month's speaker, Gregg J. Dimmick, will talk about his newest publication entitled, *General Vicente Filisola's Analysis of Jose Urrea's Military Diary, A Forgotten 1838 Publication by an Eyewitness to the Texas Revolution*. Edited by Gregg Dimmick and translated by John Wheat, this book is the



first English translation of General Filisola's eyewitness account of the Texas Revolution.

General Filisola was second in command of the Mexican army in Texas during the Revolution. After the defeat of Gen. Antonio López de Santa Anna by Sam Houston's Texans at San Ja-

cinto, Filisola became commander-in-chief of the 4,000 Mexican soldiers that remained in Texas. The Mexican army eventually retreated to Matamoros, Mexico, and Filisola became the scapegoat for all that went wrong in the campaign in Texas. His chief accuser in this disastrous action was Gen. Jose Cosme Urrea, commander of one of the Mexican divisions in the campaign.

In 1838 Urrea published a book he entitled *The Military Diary of General Jose Urrea*. Filisola published his ultra critical analysis of Urrea's diary that same year. Totally focusing on the actions of the Mexican army, and especially Urrea's division, Filisola critiques Urrea's every move, from his advance into Texas until the disastrous and humiliating trip back to Matamoros in May and June 1836.

The true jewels of this work are the multiple details that Filisola gives in making his verbose case

against General Urrea—from descriptions of Goliad, Victoria, and Madam Powell's house to interesting comments on the Deleons, Phillip Dimmitt, and José María Carbajal.

Dr. Dimmick is a pediatrician with the South Texas Medical Clinics in Wharton, Texas. He did his undergraduate work at Texas A&M University and received his M.D. in 1977 from the University of Nebraska Medical School. He was born and reared in Wyoming. He has worked closely with the Houston Archeological Society in the research for the book, *Sea of Mud*, and has coauthored two HAS monographs, on the Mexican Army's retreat in the 1836 campaign.

(This article excerpted from General Vicente Filisola's Analysis of Jose Urrea's Military Diary, Texas A&M University Press, 2007).

For those interested, the book will be available for sale at the meeting, and Dr. Dimmick will be able to autograph books after the presentation.

Our meeting is on Friday, December 12, in Anderson Hall on the Academic Mall of the University of St. Thomas, at 7:30 p.m. Parking: Use the Moran Center Parking Garage at the corner of W. Alabama and Graustark, or park in Faculty Lot S at Montrose and Branard after 7:00 pm. For a detailed map, visit our website at www.houstonarcheology.org, or e-mail HASEvents@aol.com.

Holiday Social: For the December meeting everyone is invited to bring goodies--snacks, hors d'ouvres, sweets, etc.—for a social get-together after the program.

Last Lab for 2008: The final lab for 2008 will be held on Monday, Dec. 15 in Room 103, Sewell Hall, Rice University, 7-9 p.m. We'll continue cataloging the Menard-Morris House artifacts; several interesting artifacts have been noted during our cataloging efforts. Work also continues on articles for Part 3 of the Elizabeth Powell site report. Visit our web site, www.houstonarcheology.org for a map.

The Prez Sez:



Hello everyone! Hope everyone is no longer comatose from all the turkey, etc. that has been eaten. It seems to me that Christmas will be here in a day or two!! Hope everyone who wanted to, got to take advantage of the bargains. And if you've already finished your shopping, I don't even want to hear about it.

A reminder! Membership is due in January. Please take care of this business as soon as possible. I bet Karen would even be willing to sign you up in December.

Our December meeting is fast approaching, and I wanted to remind long-time members and new members about our December tradition. We will have our usual meeting and then feast and visit over the goodies that everyone brings. There will be sweets, dips, sandwiches, veggies and anything else you can think of. It's a good time to visit with friends and make new ones.

Visitors (new and those of you that are thinking about joining), please feel free to come see HAS in December!

My New Year's wish is that we jump up in the saddle and get HAS going. If you are one of the members that have fallen off in attendance and enthusiasm, use this new beginning to reinvent yourself.

New members, there can be a lot of fun opportunities for HAS members. With new blood, I hope we can begin to do fun and exciting projects.

Please plan to come to this month's meeting and share the holiday cheer with your cohorts. We will have a good time!

-- Diane Baird, HAS President

January, February Programs Announced

VP Michael Bailey advises us that January's speaker is Sam Whitley of Houston, TX who will be speaking on his research of early Texas (Colonial Period) household items. (Powell Site researchers take note!) February's speaker is Frederic B. Pearl from Texas A&M Galveston, who will be speaking on his research into the archeology and cultures of Oceania .

Houston Archeological Society Meeting Minutes, November 14, 2008

Diane Baird, HAS President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

32 people were in attendance, including Morgan Rauch, a new member.

Announcements/Business:

Beth Aucoin spoke about the following:

- Only one lab session in November and December (Nov.17 and Dec. 15) due to holiday schedules.
- Thanks to Richard and Wanda Carter for helping Beth with the awards.

The Southeast Texas Research Award was given to Sandra and Johnney Pollan for all the research and activities they have been involved in, particularly their research and analysis of buttons found at the Powell site. The HAS Merit Award will be presented in December.

Thanks to Muriel Walker, Bill Haskell, and Lucia Bono for refreshments.

Everyone is encouraged to bring goodies for the Christmas meeting in December.

Program:

V.P. Michael Bailey introduced the speaker, Mary LeBlanc, who spoke about the Atakapa-Ishak Indians of S.W. Louisiana and S.E. Texas as well as the little-known mounds in the area that are in danger of erosion and/or development.

--- Submitted by Kathleen Barry

2008 HAS Research Award Presented to Sandra and Johnney Pollan

Sandra and Johnney Pollan were awarded the HAS Southeast Texas Archeological Research Award at the November meeting. The Pollans did an outstanding job researching the buttons from the Elizabeth Powell site in Fort Bend County and presented their findings in Part 2 of the report. Their other efforts (too numerous to mention here) include background research of Old Velasco and research and analysis of 19th Century Transfer-Printed Ceramics from Brazoria County and the Townsite of Old Velasco, also in Brazoria County. The Pollans are also active in the Brazoria County Plantation Sur-



Beth Aucoin (left) presents 2008 Research Award to Sandra and Johnney Pollan at the November meeting.

vey as well as serving as Stewards of the Texas Historical Commission.

Previous recipients of the research award include Bob Shelby, Bill McClure, Richey Ebersole, Joe Hudgins, Lawrence Aten, Alan Duke, Lee Patterson, Grant Hall, Sheldon Kindall, Dee Ann Story, Richard Gregg, Etta Palmer, and Harry Shafer.

The January Profile will highlight another 2008 award winner (scheduled for the December meeting) and recognize previous Merit and Special Award honorees.

--Beth Aucoin

Registration Forms for TAS Academy Sessions Available at Meeting

Registration forms will be available at the December meeting for upcoming sessions of the *Texas Archeology Academy*. Sessions include:

Archeology 101: Recognizing and Documenting Archeological Sites, January 30 and 31, 2009, in the historic Williamson County Courthouse, and on Feb. 1 at the **Gault Site**.

The Big Bend: Archeology, Culture and History, a Regional Academy, at Study Butte in Brewster County on Feb. 20, 21 and 22, 2009.

Historical Archeology: In Pursuit of the Past, March 7 and 8, 2009 in Lake Jackson at the Bra

zosport Center for the Arts and Sciences, plus a field trip of the Lake Jackson Plantation, site of the TAS 1994-95 Field Schools.

Registration Fees are \$95 for TAS members and \$95 plus TAS membership dues for non-members. Fees include a CD manual, lunch and snacks during the class sessions. Pick up a registration form at the HAS December meeting, or register online or by mail. See www.txarch.org, Texas Archeology Academy or call 1-800-377-7240 for more information.

Archeology. . . Life in the Past Lane

Friends of Archaeology upcoming programs:

- **December 7th**, Sunday, 5 pm, UST Anderson Hall Auditorium, "**Silk Road Excursion**" Jack Ferrall; reception in Foyer.
- **January, 2009**, a 14-day trip to Egypt including Nile cruise to archeological sites. For information, call Nancy Jircik at 713-524-3719.

Archaeological Institute of America-Houston has cancelled all of its programs for December, 2008.

Details about rescheduled dates will be sent to members as soon as speakers are re-confirmed.

The 16th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference will be held on Saturday, January 31, 2009 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at the Ornelas Activity Center, 3402 Old Omen Road, across Spur 248 from the University of Texas at Tyler. Admission is \$10 at the door. For more info contact **Mark Walters**, mwalters@wildblue.net

