



The PROFILE

September, 2009

This Month's Meeting is Thursday, September 17 at Niko Niko's

Our September meeting will be a departure from our usual meeting format, to celebrate the end of a very challenging year and the beginning of a new one that will be full of new and interesting explorations in archeology. We will meet on Thursday, September 17, at 6:00 pm at Niko Niko's restaurant, 2520 Montrose Blvd (see map). The object of this meeting is to have fun, eat good food, and enjoy each other's company. There will, however, be a short business meeting, to comply with our constitution and elect officers for 2009-2010.

Niko Niko's is a landmark in the Montrose area, serving Greek and American food at that location for the past 20+ years. Many of our members go there after the monthly meetings.

On their web site (www.nikonikos.com), the restaurant boasts, "Niko Niko's has appeared in PM Magazine and was featured in the Houston Business Journal. We've also been featured on Houston's Channel 11 news on numerous occasions. One recent Houston Voice review said Niko Niko's is exceptional. Marvin Zindler's Action 13 Blue Ribbon Award for Kitchen Cleanliness has been awarded to us 15 times."

In a 2005 review, Playboy magazine stated, "Niko Niko's Greek serves the best lamb shank, lemon

chicken soup and broiled trout in town. Or stick to the old standby, the gyro. All food is served on paper plates, ordering is done at the counter, and there



is often a line. But don't be turned off by these minor inconveniences. They're the hidden cost of the great food."

This promises to be a real great time, so we'll see you at Niko Niko's on the 17th!

Membership Votes to Change Meeting Location, Time, and Day

At the August HAS meeting the membership voted to make a permanent change in the monthly meeting location, time and day. The new location is the Carriage House at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, 5300 Caroline, Houston, TX 77004. The new meeting time is 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month. Mark your calendar for the rest of the year! (Note: this month is the exception. Our September meeting will be at 6:00 pm on September 17 at Nikko-Nikko's Restaurant, 2520 Montrose Blvd.)

Nominees Announced for 2009-10 Board

At the August meeting, the Nominating Committee announced their slate of nominees for 2009-2010: President: Charlie Gordy; VP: Michael Bailey; Secretary: Phyllis Bradley; Treasurer: Ed Masten; Director: Charles Snider. Two board members, Muriel Walker and Lucia Bonno, continue in their present on-going director positions. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the September 17th meeting. Members of the committee were Beth Aucoin, Sheldon Kindall, and Linda Swift.

The Prez Sez



This is it! My final column! I can't say that I'm not eager to turn over the reins to the next "prez." I am tired and ready to give up trying to juggle 50 balls at once. I didn't even know I could juggle. Hey, maybe I can't.

We've done a lot of changing in two years. We've lost very important people in our HAS lives, made some difficult choices. We have a new home and a major archaeological opportunity opening up to us. For those who think that our time is coming to an end I say ABSOLUTELY NOT. Our membership is growing, and we are also getting younger members ready to infuse new enthusiasm into our Society. (Not that new and less young members aren't appreciated for their "new" enthusiasm.)

I want to thank the Board for their very hard work over the past two years. It hasn't been easy or fun but we have done our best. Thanks also to the Library Search Committee who worked so hard to find a place for our library and a new meeting place. Thanks, also, to the general public that came up to bat for HAS, and people who answered my endless stream of questions - especially Linda Swift and Beth Aucoin. They are the past presidents that keep on giving!

I wish for the new president a term of peace and growth. Be good to the new president - the job is not without lumps and bumps. And please, if you have important information, give that information to the president. It's only fair to them and to the people who are used when they are no longer serving in office. It's much easier to get things done when the president has the complete picture of what is going on. Take care, everyone! I look forward to being with you and helping our group grow and prosper.

I'll see all of you who made reservations with me at Niko Nikos on the 17th. See ya at the meeting!

--Diane Baird, President

Minutes of HAS Meeting August 20, 2009

President Diane Baird called the meeting to order with 39 people in attendance. A quorum of the membership was present. Diane announced that the next meeting will be held at Niko Niko's restaurant, with relaxed fellowship and no formal program.

Vice-President Mike Bailey introduced the speaker from the Museum of Fine Arts-Houston, Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhou. His presentation was about The Terra Cotta Warriors from China. They date back to the first century under Emperor Qui Shi Huang's rule.

Business Meeting:

- Beth Aucoin said next lab will be August 31 at Rice University, room 103.
- Beth Aucoin announced the Nominating Committee's nominees for 2009-2010: President Charlie Gordy; Vice-Pres. Michael Bailey; Secretary, Phyllis Bradley; Treasurer Ed Masten; Director, Charles Snider. Muriel Walker has one year left as a director, and Lucia Bono has two years left.
- Diane thanked Linda Swift, Beth Aucoin, and Sheldon Kindall for being on the nominating committee.
- Charles Snider brought refreshments for tonight's meeting
- See Linda Swift if you are having trouble receiving the profile.
- Motion made by Linda Swift, seconded by Richard Carter, to permanently change the meeting location to the Clayton Library and to change the meeting time and date to 7:00 pm on the third Thursday of each month. Voting by show of hands was 24 in favor, 3 against, and 1 abstention.
- 2007 audit has been completed and the books approved.
- Charlie Gordy gave an update on the Bernardo Plantation project.
- Next month meeting will be at Niko, Niko's at 6:00 p.m. Let Diane Baird know by the 8th of September if you're coming.
- Motion to adjourn by Mike Bailey. Second by Bill Haskell. Motion carried.

--Submitted by Kathleen Barry

Bernardo Plantation Report for August 17-21, 2009

First off, thanks and appreciation go out to all who contributed their time and efforts to our first full week of work done at Bernardo and Pleasant Hill. We had a very busy and productive week, not only on the ground, but on upcoming publicity and fund raising potential. The Associated Press had reporters in the field on the 19th and KTBU TV Channel 55 (incidentally owned by our wonderful land owner, Greg Brown) began their first filming on the 20th. The AP article came out in The Houston Chronicle on Sunday August 23, 2009, in Section B, page B2. All this publicity should give the project wide exposure.

Since our last update, we have signed on our new Co-Principal Investigators (PIs), those being Robert Marcom and Carol McDavid of Community Archaeology Research Institute, Inc.

The work for the week concentrated on four major areas, (1) the Bernardo main house and outbuildings; (2) the family cemetery; (3) the slave quarters at dry Lake Bernardo; and (4) the task of locating the Pleasant Hill main house, stables, and slave quarters.

Results of the magnetometer survey indicate the location of the main house, possible "bachelor quarters", possible domestic slave cabins, and the remnants of a road. At the Lake Bernardo slave quarters, the magnetometer located what appears to be partial slave cabins, however there is an indication that they continue under land which is now part of FM1887. The GPR was used at the cemetery, but dry soil conditions, gopher holes, and ant mounds made on-site interpretations difficult. One team spent the entire week trying to locate the Pleasant Hill complex.

Hand-held metal detectors were used to establish the presence of metal object concentrations which would indicate areas of high activity and occupation.

Some artifacts were collected, photographed, and bagged by Robert Marcom or Carol McDavid. Others were left in situ, recorded and covered back up. This approach led us first to determine the probable location of the Pleasant Hill stables, and, in all probability, the location of the main house. Due to the lack of time, no evidence of the associated slave quarters was found. Artifacts were recovered in each of the following artifact type groupings: Kitchen – stove parts, plate lifter, Dutch oven; Architecture – square nails, cast iron fence part; Furniture – Oil lamp burner, misc. unidentified brass fixture parts, and a circular medallion- shaped disc with a horse impressed on it; Activities – hoe blade, small hand forged hatchet, brass tack rivet, hitching ring, brass padlock, and misc. possible wagon parts.

Our next work dates are in pending the analysis and review of all that has been done to date. Hopefully it will be within the next several weeks and will include some weekend work for those who cannot spare the time otherwise. If anyone reading this has not already received volunteer requests or update reports from me, it probably means you're not on the list or your email address is in error. If you want on the contact list, please email me at chasgordy@yahoo.com and give me your information as well as inform me as to any special talents you have or work preferences.

–Charlie Gordy, Volunteer Coordinator

Father of Texas Celebration Scheduled for October 30-31

The annual Father of Texas Celebration will be held at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, Friday, Oct. 30th (Field Day for 250-300 4th grade area students) and Saturday, Oct. 31st (Festival Day). Volunteers are needed for this event, sponsored by the Texas Historical Commission and the Friends of

the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. If you would like to volunteer, or sponsor a group of volunteers, contact Amanda McVay (979-798-2202) or amanda.mcvay@thc.state.tx.us for more information. Flyers will be available at the Sept. 17th meeting.

TAS Annual Meeting Is October 23-25

The Texas Archeological Society's 80th Annual Meeting will be held on October 23-25, 2009 for the first time in Del Rio, Texas. All TAS members are invited to attend the meetings, and, for the third year, non-TAS members can attend the sessions and/or the banquet at a slightly higher fee than members. SHUMLA is this year's host, a number of tours are planned to

sites such as Panther Cave, Satan Canyon, Fate Bell Shelter, and White Shaman Shelter, with opportunities to visit many local attractions such as the Whitehead Museum, Val Verde winery, Amistad Dam and Lake, Fate Bell Shelter in Seminole Canyon State Historical Park, and the Judge Roy Bean Visitors Center in Langtry. For more information, go to www.txarch.org.

Free Public Lecture on Bylazora Excavations Announced

Dr. William J. Neidinger will present a free public lecture: "Bylazora: the Discovery and Excavation of the Legendary Fortress City of the Paionians," on Tuesday, October 27, 2009 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Location is St. Martin's Episcopal Church in the Galleria area. For more information and directions to St. Martin's, visit <http://www.tfahr.org/102709lect.html>.

The TFAHR 2009 Report on the Bylazora excavations will be distributed at this lecture. Guests are welcome.

Lab Schedule: Monday, Sept. 14th and 28th, 7-9 p.m., Room 103, Sewell Hall, Rice University. Visit www.houstonarcheology.org for a map. If you would like to be on the lab reminder e-mail list, contact Beth Aucoin, 281-480-6151 or ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net.

Please submit articles for publication to Profile Editor Linda Swift, swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net.
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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