



“Ancient Ukraine-Golden Treasures and Lost Civilizations” is April Topic

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 19 at 7:00 pm in the Dougherty Library, room 009, at the University of St. Thomas. The program will be presented by Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout, Curator of Anthropology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. He will speak about the exhibit coming to the museum on May 27: “Ancient Ukraine - Golden Treasures and Lost Civilizations.”



Binocular-form Vessel

This exhibit covers 6,000 years of history and prehistory of various cultures that once inhabited the territory of modern Ukraine. Ancient trade routes crossed this part of the world for countless centuries. As a result, trade

items from many of the Old World’s civilizations have been found in Ukraine.

The exhibit starts with the Trypilian culture, dating back to 5,000 BC. Then between the 7th and 3rd centuries BC, the Scythians, known for their beautiful stylized animal-shaped ornaments, roamed what is now Ukraine.



Fibulae

The fertile soil of the region attracted Greek settlers as early as the 7th century BC. Greek presence lasted well into the Hellenistic period (around the 2nd century BC), represented by bronze sculpture, exquisite gold jewelry, extraordinary rhy-



Axe

tons (drinking cups partially in the shape of a ram), black-slip pottery, and amphorae.

Rome’s influence reached the Black Sea—and the shores of Ukraine—as early as the 1st century BC. Roman presence is reflected in art forms that blend traditions from both Greek and Roman worlds. Among the items on display are bright red and orange pottery, transparent glass, bronze and silver vessels, and jewelry incorporating precious stones, filigree, granulation, and inlays.



Cup

The treasures from the Byzantine Empire, the ancient Slavic state of Kyivan Rus’, and various steppe nomads, span the 5th through the 13th centuries AD. Utensils, relics, chalices, kolts, pendants, rings, bracelets, and necklaces provide an idea of the array of objects used by the inhabitants of medieval Ukraine.



Griffin Protome

Dr. Van Tuerenhout is responsible for the museum’s collections and exhibits dealing with human culture. He graduated with M.A. degrees in Anthropology and Art History from Katholieke Universiteit in Belgium, and received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Tulane University. As a scholar and educator, Dr. Van Tuerenhout enjoys using the museum’s exhibits as a platform for out-



Dirk van Tuerenhout

reach, to share insights about the cultures that are on display.



President's Message

REMINDER: THIS MONTHS MEETING will be *May 19, 2011; 7:00 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.* **PLEASE NOTE:** *We will be meeting at the UST Doherty Library (Bldg. 22); room 009 (Basement). An elevator is available.*

HAS FACEBOOK: Our Facebook page has been on line since fall 2010; however it takes time for the search engines to pick us up as a listing. When done, we should be listed as "*Houston Archeological Society / Facebook.*" However, until then, those of you who are not listed as friends to our page, for whatever the reason, can still access our page for viewing.

If you DO NOT have your own personal account with Facebook, you must Google: www.facebook-search.com. This will take you to the Facebook search page. You then enter **Houston Archeological Society** where it says "Facebook Search," then click *search*. This will take you to several listings with the HAS listing being the first. (NOTE: Do not get confused with Houston Archaeological / Facebook listing, as this is the Houston chapter of the AIA.) Click on the title **Houston Archeological Society/Facebook**, and it will send you directly to our Facebook page. I do recommend you establish your own Facebook account (it's free) and become a "friend" of the HAS page. The advantage of having your own Facebook page and becoming a HAS "friend" is that it is much easier to access the HAS page. Another good advantage is that when an event is posted on the HAS page or any comments written on the HAS "Wall," a notice will automatically be sent to your personal email address that a HAS event has been announced or a post has been made. From your own email, you can click on this automatic "notice" and go directly to the HAS page to read the whole post. To establish your own account, just Google "Facebook," and select the sign-up heading. HAS would like to invite you to become a "friend," but you have to request us to invite you. That is why on the HAS membership application you were asked to check the box indicating that you **do** or **do not** authorize HAS to invite you to join the HAS Facebook page as a "friend." If you failed to check anything, then we took that to mean **do not**.

If you DO have your own personal page with Facebook, it is even easier. Just go to your page, type in **Houston Archeological Society** in the Facebook search bar at the top of your page, then click on "search" and presto you're there. We have been promptly posting our page with the latest HAS information available, and you will find info there days and sometimes weeks before you will find it in the Profile or the HAS website. We are posting the latest meeting/program information, lab information, Bernardo Project information, the latest dig pictures, and everything you need to keep informed. So stay informed....get HAS on Facebook. If you have requested that HAS add you as a "friend" then you should be receiving automatic notices of HAS Facebook events.

HAS Facebook has added two more Facebook administrators. Nicole Trayford, our membership chairman, will be keeping us informed by posting membership information from time-to-time. In addition, Tracy Connell will be posting photos of events and field work activities.

DON'T FORGET: The 2011 TAS field school is just around the corner: June 11-18. This will be the second phase of the Eagle Bluff site in Medina County, Texas. All those that attended last year will attest it is a very interesting and exciting site. Go to www.txarch.org for more information and to register online.

--Charlie Gordy

May Lab Night: Lab will meet on May 16th only, since May 30th is Memorial Day. Meet at the usual time and place: 7:00-9:00 p.m., Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University. Credit card required for parking. Visit www.houstonarcheology.org for a map. There will be no labs in June.

--Beth Aucoin

No Meeting in June: As usual, there will be no HAS meeting in June. This hiatus is traditionally a time to allow members to attend the TAS Field School. In July, those who attended are invited to report on their experiences there and to show any pictures they may have taken.

Erratum: On page 4 of the April issue of the *Profile*, the author of the article on the THC budget is Steve Davis, not Steve Black. Apologies to both gentlemen for the error.

Minutes of the Houston Archeology Society Meeting April 21, 2011

Charlie Gordy opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. by welcoming members and guests, and he thanked Ray and Meg Blackstone for providing the refreshments.

Michael Bailey introduced the speaker for tonight's presentation, Mr. David A. Furlow, who spoke on 'Warrior Queen Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni people of Eastern England, and Iron Age Swords'.

After a short break the business meeting was called to order by Charlie Gordy.

- Minutes of March 17 were approved as printed in the *Profile*.
- Michael Johnston gave the Treasurer's report. Beginning balance end of March: \$5,643, dues received \$150, spent \$111, ending balance of \$5,682.
- Charlie gave an update on the Bernardo project. Volunteers will be working April 30/31, possibly extending to May 14/15, and May 21/22.
- Mary LeBlanc announced a day trip to tour the Caddo site in Louisiana on May 11. Classes on replication of pottery and baskets will be held in November. Charlie will put details on our Facebook wall.
- We still have a need to coordinate with Richard Carter on updating the HAS website and to make arrangement for paying monthly fee to the host.
- Three members are needed to form the Audit Committee. Tom Williams and Ray Blackstone have volunteered. Need one additional volunteer to form the Committee.
- TAS field school will be held June 11-18.

Motion to adjourn made by Michael Bailey, seconded by Bill Haskell.

- Phyllis Bradley, Secretary

Steve Davis Reports on Funding of the Texas Historical Commission

Folks, there are ominous and credible reports coming down from Capitol Hill that the Governor is planning to have new language introduced to abolish the Texas Historical Commission when the HB1 and SB1 reach the Joint Conference Committee. This amendment is likely to be the same language as was introduced in HB2879 (recently withdrawn) that divides the duties up and distributes them out to the GLO, TPWD, and State Archives.

These reports are not mere rumor. I spoke with a Representative from the Central Texas area about what I was hearing. He confirmed that it is his understanding that this last-minute tactic is indeed in the planning stages and that the THC is indeed in great peril. Our best hope is to make them aware that such an action will be fought vigorously on the floor of both houses which would imperil the passage of their new bill - and would cause a special summer session.

The Joint Conference Committee has been seated and is at work to create an appropriations bill they hope can be passed in both houses. Our task at this point is to protect the budget improvements that have been won thus far. Our communications will be focused on the members of the Conference Committee and we will ask them to include all of the additional funding granted in EACH of the two bills, HB1 and SB1. Additionally, we will ask them to make sure new language to eliminate the THC does not find its way into the new joint bill that they produce. Following are members of the committee. Contact them now!

| | | | |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------|--|
| Representative | Jim Pitts (Co-Chair) | 512-463-0516 | jim.pitts@house.state.tx.us |
| Representative | Myra Crownover | 512-463-0582 | myra.crownover@house.state.tx.us |
| Representative | John Otto | 512-463-0570 | john.otto@house.state.tx.us |
| Representative | Sylvester Turner | 512-463-0554 | sylvester.turner@house.state.tx.us |
| Representative | John Zerwas | 512-463-0657 | john.zerwas@house.state.tx.us |
| Senator | Steve Ogden (Co-Chair) | 512-828-5224 | steve.ogden@senate.state.tx.us |
| Senator | Robert Duncan | 512-463-0128 | robert.duncan@senate.state.tx.us |
| Senator | Juan Hinojosa | 512-463-0120 | juan.hinojosa@senate.state.tx.us |
| Senator | Jane Nelson | 512-463-0112 | jane.nelson@senate.state.tx.us |
| Senator | Tommy Williams | 512-463-0104 | tommy.williams@senate.state.tx.us |

Bernardo Digs Scheduled May 14-15, 21-22; Last Chance to Volunteer

We could still use a few more volunteers at Bernardo Plantation these next couple of weekends (May 14-15; 21-22). The plan is to concentrate on locating the household slave quarters in the next pasture. In addition we will be placing one more trench in the Kitchen area. These will probably be our last weekends for awhile, so don't miss out. We will begin work each day at 8:00 am and end at 5:00 pm. Recovered artifacts will be catalogued; however no lab work is planned on site. To participate, contact Charlie Gordy, volunteer coordinator, at chasgordy@yahoo.com.

TAS Field School Coming up June 11-18

Texas Archeological Society's annual Field School will be held this year at a site near Hondo in Medina County June 11-18. Deadline for registration is May 31, so if you have not registered yet, get going! (If you want a Field School T-shirt, it must be ordered by May 20.) This is a great way to learn archeology by doing it, and a good family experience. Go to <http://www.txarch.org/forms/fieldschool/index.php> to register.

TAFHR to Resume Field Work in Macedonia

The Texas Foundation for Archaeological and Historical Research (TFAHR) is preparing for their 2011 season at Bylazora, Macedonia, June 6-July 29. According to their recent e-mail, "We are very excited about the upcoming season. We have a team of 33, of whom 17 are teachers, students, and volunteers from the United States. The rest of our international team is made up of participants from Australia, Spain, Poland, Scotland, England, France, China, and Serbia." To follow progress of the project, go to www.tfahr.org.

Please submit articles for publication to *Profile* Editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net.
Submit articles no later than July 7 for the July 2011 issue (no *Profile* in June).

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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

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|--|--|
| Charlie Gordy, President, chasgordy@yahoo.com | Lucia Bonno, Director-at-Large, 713-961-0455 |
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The Profile

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