



“Endangered Historical and Archeological Sites along Buffalo Bayou” is August Meeting Topic

Local historians, writers and avocational archeologists Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski will present a program entitled “Endangered Historical and Archeological Sites along Buffalo Bayou” at our Thursday, August 15, meeting. The program will begin at 7:00 pm in M.D. Anderson Hall at St. Thomas University.

Buffalo Bayou, the waterway on which the City of Houston was founded, contains many historic ruins and archeological sites along its 60+ miles of banks and adjacent lands. Aulbach and Gorski will discuss several of these sites which are prime subjects for historical archeology, but which are also in danger of being lost to development.

“Although there are many historical sites along the bayou, many of them are on private property and probably will never be excavated to recover the historical past,” said Aulbach. “However, there are a good number of sites on public property that if properly surveyed and excavated have a chance to contribute to our understanding of local history.”

Aulbach and Gorski have spent the last 13 years researching sites along Buffalo Bayou for Aulbach’s recently published book *Buffalo Bayou: an Echo of*

Houston’s Wilderness Beginnings. Some of the sites they will discuss in this presentation include Camp Logan, a WWI Training Camp in Memorial Park; Shepherd’s Dam, which was built near the site of the present Shepherd Drive Bridge; Frost Town, settled in 1836 in a bend on the south bank of Buffalo Bayou approximately ½ mile downriver from the present site of Houston that would become Houston’s first residential suburb; and Harrisburg, once the capital of the Republic of Texas.

“We’ve hiked or paddled most of the Bayou from its headwaters in Katy,” said Gorski. “Our photos document the many historic ruins we’ve discovered along the Bayou and will be part of this PowerPoint presentation.”



Aulbach (left) and Gorski “cruising” on Buffalo Bayou

Louis Aulbach, a native Houstonian, is a graduate of Rice University and received his MBA from the University of Chicago. Aulbach is the vice president of the Houston Archeological Society. Linda Gorski is a writer and research consultant and is the president of the Houston Archeological Society.

For a campus map of St. Thomas University, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Teachers can receive one hour of CPE credit for attending this lecture.

Lab Schedule for August

Labs will be August 12 and 26. We’ll meet at the usual time and place, Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University from 7:00-9:00 pm. We’ll begin processing new artifacts from our coastal-

margin shell-midden site, including projectile points and possible tools (left). Closest parking to Sewall Hall is the Founders Court/Visitor lot across from Sewall. A credit or debit card is needed for access and costs \$3.50/hour. For a campus map, visit www.Rice.edu/maps. Hope to see you there.

--Beth Aucoin





President's Message

I've just been going through old Houston Archeological Society files tonight trying to find a document that one of our members requested. In going through these old records, I discovered a precious file that holds the very first pieces of correspondence ever produced for HAS, including the announcement of the very first meeting of folks interested in forming an archeological society in Houston.

The meeting was held on April 10, 1959, in the Ray Cullen building at the University of Houston. I can barely read the sign-in sheet for that meeting, as the ink has faded badly, but here are the attendees: Art Galloher, Danon Dunn, Hank Anderson, Kit Anderson, K.P. Harmier, J. D. Harmier, A. R. Duke, R. W. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Ring, Jr., Mrs. Joundon Atkinson, John J. Dieckman and Wayne B. Neyland. Not one of them had an email address, and all the phone numbers began with two letters (RE, OV, MO, OX, WA etc.) and were only seven digits long (two letters and five numbers). None of the addresses had zip codes.

A date for a second meeting was announced (May 8, 1959), and ten people are on that sign-in sheet. The first constitution for HAS was drafted and indicated that the proposed dues would be \$6.00 per year and that the chairman (not the president) could not authorize an expenditure of more than \$20 without approval from the Board. All the documents in these first organizational files are either handwritten or typed using carbon paper with thin onionskin paper as copies, or the copies have been mimeographed. I'll bet that half of our HAS members today have never seen carbon paper OR onionskin paper OR know what a mimeographed copy is :-). How times change!!! I always wonder how we did business back then without today's technology, but obviously, this group got it done and got it done well.

So here we are in 2013 – fifty-four years later – still going strong. We have new folks interested in archeology joining us every day, projects are continuing to keep us busy, and dedicated members are continuing to produce the newsletter, run the lab, improve the website, write the publications, keep the accounts, drive the membership train, and take on all the other tasks that are necessary to keep this organization running. I'd love to know if any of those founding members are still with us so we can add them to our mailing list. I'd love to show them that we are being good stewards of the organization they founded 54 years ago. If any of you are in touch with any of those folks mentioned above, please let me know.

Once again, I'm so proud to be President of the Houston Archeological Society and thank each and every one of you for your enthusiastic support. I hope to see you at our Dimond Knoll screening project (see update in this newsletter) and at our next general membership meeting on August 15. If you need to contact me I DO have an email address (lindagorski@cs.com) and my phone number has ten digits 713-557-1496. Look forward to hearing from you.

--Linda Gorski, President

2013-2014 Nominees Named

To Linda Gorski:

The Nominating Committee has completed the Slate of Nominees for the HAS 2013-2014 Board of Directors. All of the persons on the slate have been contacted and have agreed to serve if elected.

Slate of Nominees for the 2013-2014 HAS Board:

President - Linda Gorski

Vice President - Louis Aulbach

Treasurer - Robert Killian

Secretary - Lenore Psencik

Board Position - Don Keyes (has 2 more years left)

Board Position - Carol Roberts (has 1 more year left)

Board Position - Kathleen Hughes

Kind Regards, Lenore Psencik, Chairman

HAS SCREENING PROJECT UPDATE

We've had another great month of screening dirt from the Dimond Knoll Site including the weekend of July 26 and 27. On Friday a dozen science teachers who were attending a statewide conference at the Cypress Conference Center joined us for some hands-on instruction in archeology. We had a ball with them ... thanks to Kathleen Hughes and Sharon Menegaz for setting this up! That group helped us ALMOST finish the notorious Pile 1. We screen on Fridays and Saturdays from 8 – 1. If you want to join us, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com or call me at 713-557-1496, and I'll add you to our list. On August 17 we'll be joined by a group of Houston Museum of Natural Science members at the site, so I hope all you experienced screeners will join us. Check out all our weekly photo albums from the Dimond Knoll site on the HAS website at www.txhas.org. Go to the bottom of the page and click on "Dimond Knoll Bulletins." Thanks to Bob Sewell for the great work on our website!
--Linda Gorski



Science teachers from across the State of Texas really dug our screening project ☺



Lee Keyes, a science teacher from McAllen ISD, found the first point of the day.



Dr. Roger Moore, the Project Archeologist on the Dimond Knoll Project (41HR796), gave the teachers a fantastic overview of excavations at the site itself and the subsequent screening project.



Some of the points, tools, pottery, and even a tooth that were recovered this past weekend from Pile 1.



We even got Dr. Moore to screen with us for a bit!



Linda Gorski and Bob Sewell celebrate the almost end of enormous Pile 1. We saved this one small mound to screen Saturday when most of the regular team will be there. Come join us!!!!

Minutes of the HAS General Membership Meeting, July 18, 2013

President Linda Gorski was out of town. Louis Aulbach, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests. There were a total of 24 attendees, including 3 guests.

Louis made the following announcements:

- Treasurer's Report – Checking account balance is \$5,398.27; Savings Account balance is \$9,458.64
- Nominating Committee - President Linda Gorski has appointed the nominating committee for the 2013-2014 officers to include Lenore Psencik, John Rich and Bob Sewell.
- St. Thomas Meeting Room - The HAS meeting room reservation for Anderson Hall has been extended through 2013. We cannot be officially booked for 2014 until the academic calendar has been published later this year. Note: A new nursing program will begin holding classes in Anderson Hall starting in September. We will not be able to access the room for setup until 6:45 p.m. on our meeting days. Our meetings may start a little late; watch the Profile for more information.
- Dimond Knoll Screening Project – Over 95 people have signed up to screen, and we've been screening every weekend since the beginning of February. Some very interesting artifacts have been found including points, pottery, and lithic debitage. If you would like to join us, sign-up sheets are in the foyer. We screen on Fridays and Saturdays from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Weekly updates are sent to those on the list.
- HAS Membership – We have 100 members. For those of you who are not members but would like to join, there are membership forms at the table in the foyer, or forms are available on the website.
- Lab at Rice University – The next labs are scheduled for July 15th and July 26th. Labs are announced in the Profile.
- Next HAS Meeting – Thursday, August 15th. Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski will present a program entitled "Endangered Archaeological Sites along Buffalo Bayou."

Kathleen Hughes presented a very interesting program highlighting the 2013 TAS Field School activities at the prehistoric Eagle Bluff site near Hondo Texas, including a team of HAS members.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. HAS members and guests then enjoyed snacks provided by Lenore Psencik and Tracy Connell.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for August 15, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

--Lenore Psencik, Secretary

Forensic Sculptor Amanda Danning to Speak at FBAS

Amanda Danning, forensic sculptor, will be the speaker for the August 20th meeting of the Fort Bend Archeological Society. Ms. Danning has gained international recognition as a forensic sculptor. She has been commissioned by and worked with the Smithsonian Institution on several occasions. Her facial reconstructions of two members of the original Jamestown settlement are currently on display at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. in the "Written in Bone" Exhibit.

With over 20 years of professional experience and an advanced degree in sculpture, Amanda has extensive experience in the museum industry, and she speaks on the stories written in the bones to schools, civic groups, and for fundraisers. She lives with her husband in Columbus, Texas. Check out her website at: www.amandadanning.com.



Amanda Danning speaking at Buffalo Soldiers Museum

The Fort Bend Archeological Society meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 20th at 7:00 pm in the assembly hall of the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy at 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle in Richmond. The public is invited.

Make Plans Now!

TAS 84th Annual Meeting is in Del Rio October 25 – 27, 2013

How many of you belong to the Texas Archeological Society? TAS is a statewide organization that sponsors the annual Field School in June which so many of us have attended in the past. However, did you know that TAS also has an annual meeting that is open to all avocational archeologists in the State?

This year's meeting will be held in Del Rio, Texas, on October 25 – 27 and offers something most TAS annual meetings that are held in other parts of the state do not – the opportunity to tour several world-class rock art sites in the Lower Pecos canyonlands. Guided tours of the following sites will be offered on Friday, October 25 and on Sunday, October 27:

- Fate Bell/Seminole Canyon
- White Shaman
- Meyer's Springs
- Painted Shelter
- Lewis Canyon Petroglyph site



Meyer's Springs rock art site

I've been fortunate enough to tour all these sites and can tell you that they are spectacular. Dr. Jean Clottes, former head of the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations, commented that "The rock art of the Lower Pecos is second to none in the world" – and we have it right here in Texas!



White Shaman rock art site

In addition to these tours, there will be presentations, workshops, and symposia on a variety of archeological topics. There is also a silent auction featuring items and books donated by people from across the state. I have picked up a number of excellent books and archeological journals and reports at previous silent auctions.

For more information about this annual meeting, including meeting and hotel registration forms and descriptions of each rock art site tour, see the Summer 2013 TAS newsletter at <http://www.txarch.org/pdf/publications/2013-03SummerLR.pdf>

I'll see you there!

--Linda Gorski

...And a Word from THC about TAS Field School and More

You might want to check out the THC website blog (www.thc.state.tx.us/blog/digging-school) that recaps THC staff participation in this year's TAS field school. While it does focus on staff involvement, it was intentionally written in a way that highlights the TAS (with a link to the website) and different facets of the field school—"cross promotion"—in communications parlance.

While you are visiting the THC website, check out the latest additions to the THC Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TexasHistoricalCommission>). There is a nice posting about the Awards of Merit that were presented to Rachel Feit, Willa Trask and Woody Frossard (Tarrant Regional Water District). The awardees worked together to ensure that the human remains from 25 African American graves from a cemetery (41NV716) inundated by Richland/Chambers Reservoir and exposed by drought were carefully and respectfully disinterred, studied and reinterred in a perpetual care cemetery. The report of investigations, conducted under Texas Antiquities Permit #6104, provides outstanding information on a rural post-bellum African American cemetery in Navarro County, Texas.

--Patricia A. Mercado-Allinger, Texas Historical Commission

Aug. 17-18 Ceremonies Planned for 200th Anniversary of Medina Battle

The Texas Historical Commission is inviting the public to attend a two-day ceremony August 17-18, commemorating the 200th anniversary of the bloodiest battle in Texas history. The Battle of Medina occurred on August 18, 1813, between the Royal Spanish Army and the Republican Army of the North, when some 800-1,300 men died in this all-but-forgotten battle, which historians have named the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition.

There will be an all-day seminar at the Church of Christ located at 1003 North Main Street in Pleasanton, Texas beginning at 10:00 am on Saturday, August 17. Several award-winning authors, archaeologists, and historians will be featured speakers. That same evening, there will be a memorial ceremony at 6:00 pm under the large oak trees on Old Applewhite Road. At 10:00 am Sunday morning, August 18, there will be a second memorial ceremony on the actual 200th anniversary of the battle, again under the large oak trees on Old Applewhite Road.

Taking place at the same time as the American War of 1812, this battle involved several countries in this hemisphere that were at war during this turbulent period. The Battle of Medina was between approximately 1,800 men in the Royal Spanish Army and approximately 1,400 men in the Republican Army of the North, which included Spaniards, Tejanos, Native Americans, and men from the USA. In fact, five men who fought in the American Revolution were involved in some way in the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition.

Contact Tom Green at TBGreen3@gmail.com or 713-340-1965 for additional information and directions.

**Please submit articles for publication to *Profile* Editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net.
Submit articles no later than September 5 for the September 2013 issue.**

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

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