



February Program: The Honor and Legacy of the Buffalo Soldiers

Paul J. Matthews, Founder and Chairman of the Board of the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum in Houston, will be the speaker for the Thursday, February 21ST, meeting of the Houston Archeological Society. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Anderson Hall at St. Thomas University and is free of charge and open to the public.

Captain Matthews' program will open with a 14-minute video entitled "The African American Military Experience." Matthews will then present a program entitled The History of the Buffalo Soldiers from 1866 through 1944.

Matthews has been researching military history and collecting military artifacts and memorabilia for over 30 years prior to founding of the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum. "This is the only museum in the United States that chronicles the entire African American military experience from the Revolutionary War to the Persian Gulf War," said Matthews. "The primary objectives of the museum are to preserve, promote, and perpetuate the honor and legacy of the brave men and women who fought, bled, and died in defense of America."

Currently, more than 60% of the museum's collection and exhibits have been donated from his private collection. As a 25-year member of the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association, Matthews is a former president of the Greater Houston Chapter and historian and public relations officer for the national association.

"The Buffalo Soldiers National Museum has recently moved from its original location on Southmore Boulevard to the former Houston Light Guard Armory at the corner of Caroline and Alabama," said Linda Gorski, HAS president. "The Armory is a fantastic structure, built in 1925 by noted Houston architect Albert C. Finn. The renovations to adapt the Armory to use as a museum are remarkable and provide a perfect showcase for the collections that Captain Matthews has amassed." See the museum's

website at www.buffalosoldiersmuseum.com/cms/ for more information.

P.J. Matthews (right) received a B.S. in biology from Prairie View A & M University. He served two years active duty and four years reserve duty in the United States Army, wherein he received a Bronze Star Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and a Combat Medical Badge in the Republic of Vietnam. Prior to founding the museum, Matthews worked for 30 years as a Hospital Representative, Executive Business Manager and Director of Military Affairs for Merck & Co., Inc., managing the military division that yielded over \$800 million in annual revenue. Matthews is married with one son and two grandsons.



For a campus map, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking (\$2) in Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark.

Lab Schedule for February and March

One lab night scheduled on **February 11th only**, as Rice will be closed later in the month for Spring Break. Lab nights for March will be held on **March 11th and March 25th. Lab nights for April are pending** as students will be utilizing the lab for projects, exams, etc. We'll keep you informed.

All sessions meet from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., Room 103 Sewall Hall, Rice University. The Founders Court/Visitor Parking Lot across from Sewall Hall costs \$3.50 per hour and requires a credit or debit card for access. Visit www.rice.edu/maps for a map of the campus and parking.

--Beth Aucoin



President's Message

My message this month will update Houston Archeological Society members on what's happening in HAS right now – sort of a “State of the Society” message. When you read this I hope it will inspire you to get involved in one of the many projects we have underway.

Biggest news this month is that our webmaster, Bob Sewell, has completely reworked our website to something much more user friendly and more representative of what HAS is all about. Check it out at www.txhas.org. The new website will save HAS over \$1,100 a year and will give us the opportunity to make changes to the site immediately without having to go through a third party. Kudos to Bob for a job incredibly well done!

Other accomplishments include (but are not limited to ☺):

- ✓ Louis Aulbach, Linda Swift and Beth Aucoin have completed the rewrite of the Constitution and Standing Rules for the first time since 2005. By now all of you should have received a copy of amended Constitution and Standing Rules. Please be prepared to vote on the amended documents at the February 21st meeting.
- ✓ Our membership has increased dramatically since we hit a low point of 39 sometime last year and we can now boast of over 100 members! Thanks to all of you for renewing your membership or becoming a new member! Several folks including Diane Baird, Linda Swift, and Juan Reyes have been working on this membership drive and they deserve a big round of applause! It's not too late to renew your membership for this year – see application in this newsletter.
- ✓ We have gotten terrific feedback on our recent programs as witnessed by the amazing number of people we've had at our meetings recently. Thanks for your support in coming to our programs! Our programs are completely locked in through August. Remember, they are free and open to the public, so bring your friends!
- ✓ Several HAS members participated in a metal detecting project at San Felipe de Austin with archeologist Marianne Marek in January. Marianne was totally impressed with the expertise of the HAS members who showed up and the fact that we mobilized these folks on about 48 hours notice! More work is planned in the future and HAS is on the top of her list of volunteers.
- ✓ We started our big screening project on Saturday, February 2, and over 50 members have already signed up to participate! We are undertaking this project with archeologists from TxDOT, and they are also impressed by the response from HAS members. If you want to participate in a project that is in Harris County (no long drives involved) and from which you are likely to learn a whole lot about lithics, this is the project for you. If you have not already signed up for this project email me at lindagorski@cs.com.
- ✓ Louis Aulbach and I led our second hike through the foundation features of 1917 Camp Logan in Memorial Park on January 27. Fifteen folks including several HAS members and future members showed up, and I think they learned a lot about this lost chapter in Houston's history and the archeological importance of the remaining features. We will be leading these hikes on a regular basis so if you're interested in joining us next time email me at lindagorski@cs.com
- ✓ Our shirt project is more successful than I ever imagined, and lots of us are now sporting the HAS logo when we go out in public. Give Charlie Gordy a high five the next time you see him for coming up with this idea. If you'd like to have a shirt with an HAS logo, email me and we'll set you right up!
- ✓ Members of HAS have been involved in several outreach projects recently, including presenting a program for teachers at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and awareness programs for other local schools and groups. Beth and Pat Aucoin recently met with a student at Thompson Intermediate School in Pasadena to help him identify artifacts he had found on the beach. See Beth's article in this newsletter.

And the beat goes on! Thanks so much to each and every one of you for your part in getting this year off to such an amazing start!

--Linda Gorski

Minutes of the HAS General Membership Meeting January 17, 2013

Linda Gorski called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, welcomed everyone and thanked our guests for coming. There were 42 attendees, including 23 members and 19 guests.

Linda Gorski referenced a number of e-mails recently sent to members reminding them of upcoming activities:

- San Felipe De Austin Project – This weekend Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Needing volunteers for metal detecting and screening activities.
- Screening Project – Have 40 people signed up. The Cypress area has received a significant amount of rain and will need to dry out a bit. Stay tuned.
- New HAS Logo for Shirts - You can bring your shirt to the next meeting to order the embroidery of the HAS logo for \$12.83. Charlie Gordy is handling this project.
- Camp Logan Hike – Scheduled January 27th.
- 2013 Membership renewals are now due.

Louis Aulbach, HAS Vice President and Chairman of the Constitution and Standing Rules committee, provided a report on changes and request to membership. Proposed changes have been e-mailed to members for review and comment. Members are requested to send comments to Louis by January 24, 2013. Final documents will be reissued via e-mail in time for the 20-day review period before membership vote at the February meeting.

Craig Mayer, an anthropologist/archeologist from Austin, presented tonight's program on "The Lesser Known Sites of the American Southwest." Sites included in his interesting presentation included: Blackwater Draw, Chaco Canyon, Aztec Site, Chimney Rock, Inscription Rock, Hovenweep, Pecos Pueblo, and the Butterfield Overland Mail Route.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. HAS members and guests then enjoyed snacks provided by Linda Gorski and socializing in the foyer of Anderson Hall. A big thank you to HAS member David Furlow who also brought the King Cake and other goodies!

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for February 21, 2013.

--Lenore Psencik, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Houston Archeological Society, P. O. Box 130631, Houston, TX 77219-0631

Please complete this form and mail it, with your check for the correct amount, to the above address.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ (home) _____ (work) e-mail: _____

Type of membership: ___New ___Renewal Please circle one: Student (\$15/year) Single (\$25/year)
Family (\$30/year) Contributing (\$35+/year)

Renewing Members: If any of the above information has changed in the past year please check here

ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE: I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques.

Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

HAS Participates in Metal Detecting Survey at San Felipe de Austin

San Felipe de Austin was the original colonial Capital of Texas. Located at the Brazos River crossing of the Atascosito Road that connected San Antonio to Louisiana, San Felipe de Austin became the second largest town



This crew of HAS metal detectorists and diggers assisted archeologist Marianne Marek in a survey of a field in San Felipe de Austin.

in colonial Texas. Members of the Houston Archeological Society worked with archeologist Marianne Marek several years ago excavating sites in and around the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. The archeological report on those excavations has recently been released.

Marianne asked HAS members to join her



Archeologist Marianne Marek was the director of the survey



A buckle found during the survey

again over the weekend of January 19 - 20 to conduct a metal detector survey at San Felipe in a field where Mexican General Santa Anna's army might have camped on the way to San Jacinto. Plans for the empty field include imminent construction of a large church so surveying the field before construction begins was imperative. HAS members including Louis Aulbach, Bob Sewell, Sandy Rogers, Tom Wil-

liams, Dick Gregg, Tracy Connell, Beth and Pat Aucoin, Charlie Gordy, Gary Ryman, Linda Gorski, and former HAS president Tom Nuckols spent the weekend detecting and digging in the field. Although no conclusive evidence

of the Mexican encampment was found, several interesting artifacts were uncovered.

Excavations and surveys at San Felipe are scheduled to continue later in the spring and HAS members will again be invited to participate. For more information about San Felipe de Austin see www.colonialcapitaloftexas.com/SanFelipeDeAustin.htm.

--Linda Gorski

Old Olivewood Cemetery to be Featured in Gallery Opening

The Heritage Society invites the public to the Opening Reception for a new gallery exhibit, "Olivewood Cemetery: Past, Present, and Future," with Lisa Mouton, Guest Curator. The event will be from 5:30 to 7:00 pm Wednesday, February 20, at The Heritage Society Museum Gallery, 1100 Bagby Street, Houston, Texas 77002.

Just northwest of downtown Houston, near a bend of the White Oak Bayou and in the shadow of the Katy Freeway, lies the city's first incorporated African American burial ground—Olivewood Cemetery. Years of overgrowth have made the cemetery virtually unknown to many who drive past it every day, but guarded therein are the remains of former slaves, veterans of the armed services, and many of Houston's prominent African American founders. Join the Heritage Society Museum Gallery as they explore the founding, growth and future plans for the preservation of this lost gem of Houston's past.



Admission is free. Free parking in The Heritage Society parking lot is limited. Paid parking is available in the Heritage Clay Street Garage. RSVP (acceptances only) to 713-655-1912 ext. 157.

Museum of the Coastal Bend Announces Upcoming Events

The Museum of the Coastal Bend, located in Victoria, Texas, opened a new exhibit February 12 entitled “Winning the West: Firearms in Texas’ Heritage,” with a lecture by Kurt House, noted firearms collector and Publications Chairman of the Colt Collectors Association. Other events at the museum include:

- Friday, Mar. 1 - Sunday, Mar. 3 **TAS ACADEMY: ARCHEOLOGY 101.**
- Thursday, March 7, 5:30 pm. **lecture, Eric Ray, MCB Curator: *Telling Stories with the Past.*** Using *Winning the West* as an example, this talk discusses the process of telling a story in an exhibit
- Thursday, March 28, 5:30 pm. **lecture, Amy Borgens, State Marine Archaeologist,** will discuss a 19th century shipwreck at Pass Cavallo, TX. She will discuss the process of identifying a wreck from its cargo, and will tell the fascinating story of a ship carrying guns to Victoria for the Texas Revolution, and the Mexican Navy ship that stood in its way. Some of the guns in *Winning the West* are from this shipwreck.
- Thursday, April 18, 6:30 pm. **lecture, Ed Byerly, Victoria College Professor of History,** will discuss the desegregation of Victoria's swimming pools.
- Thursday, May 16, 6:30 pm. **lecture, Jim Bruseth, Guest Curator for the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum,** and former head of the Texas Historical Commission's Archaeology Division. Dr. Bruseth will discuss the Fort St. Louis archaeological site.

The museum is located at [2200 E. Red River St, Victoria, TX](http://2200.E.Red.River.St.Victoria.TX). Contact information: 361-582-2511 or www.museumofthecoastalbend.org.

An Outreach Visit with a Student at Thompson Intermediate School

In late January, we had an opportunity to visit with Jakoby, a student in Mr. Toby Lavergne’s seventh-grade Texas History class at Thompson Intermediate School. Jakoby had found two projectile points on the beach and was very interested in learning more about them. His teacher contacted our president who asked that we respond to the query. An after-school meeting was arranged and we were able to pay a visit to the school.

Jakoby, his mom LaTanya Miles, and his teacher were involved while we spoke about local hunter-gathers—the Karankawas and the Atakapans, the resources they utilized on their migrations, their pottery, and the difference between arrow and dart points and how they were made, and the use of an *atlatl*.

The student helped search Turner & Hester’s *A Field Guide to Stone Artifacts of Texas Indians* in hopes of identifying his treasures while comparing the attributes of his points with those shown in the book. His two points were identified as a Neches River and a Palmillas dart point, but they were unifacial rather than bifacial. Perhaps the flintknapper hadn’t had an opportunity to complete his work; or, the points were complete enough for a specific purpose.

In effect, we were sitting around the campfire, rendering accounts of the lives of our ancestors. This involved working with what we knew from the archeological record and historical interpretations, and posing questions about what we didn’t know. It was especially gratifying that the student, at such a relatively young age, was participating in the discussion. That wonderful campfire-like visit ended with picture taking and smiles on all our faces.



--Beth & Pat Aucoin

Friends of Archeology Going on HMNS Maya Tour

The Friends of Archaeology group is sponsoring a tour of the new Houston Museum of Natural Science exhibit, **Maya 2012 – Prophecy Becomes History**, on Thursday, February 21. The tour will be guided by Curator and Friend Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout. Ticket prices: \$25 for nonmembers of HMNS, \$20 for non-member seniors/students, and \$5 for HMNS members. Participants should plan to arrive at 2:00 to purchase ticket then join group for tour, which will begin promptly at 2:30 pm. Tour will be followed by social gathering at Café Adobe, 2111 Westheimer near S. Shepherd. RSVP to Kathleen Solcher, 713-266-9516.

Brazoria County Historical Museum Remembers “the Forgotten Man”

On Thursday, March 7th at 6:30 pm the Brazoria County Historical Museum will present a lecture by Joe Allen “Doc” Rice titled *Francis Moore, Jr.: The Forgotten Man Who Invented Texas*. As owner and editor of the *Telegraph & Texas Register*, Moore’s newspaper served to build up Texas’ image for investors and immigrants with articles that highlighted its wealth of natural resources, geographic wonders, and the good character of its settlers. The museum is located at 100 East Cedar, Angleton, TX. For more information, call 979-864-1208 or visit www.bchm.org.

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

Submit articles no later than March 1 for the March 2013 issue.

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

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