



Prehistoric Site at Eagle Bluff is July Program Topic

Several members of the Houston Archeological Society, led by Kathleen Hughes, will present a PowerPoint presentation and discuss their experiences at the recently completed 2013 Texas Archeological Society Field School at the Eagle Bluff Site (41ME147) near Hondo, Texas. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 18, in Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas.

This year marks the third TAS field school to be held at the Eagle Bluff Site since 2010. Each session has extracted new data on the archeology of the Southwestern Edwards Plateau. Many historic and prehistoric sites have been located during these field schools at Eagle Bluff. According to Principal Investigator Tom Hester, the time frame currently places the Native American occupation at 6500 years ago up to the early 1700s. "One of the great surprises in the investigations at Eagle Bluff has been the discovery of a distinct, well-preserved Toyah component," said Hester.

Other features excavated during the field schools are earth ovens, burned rock features, hearths, and campsites. Approximately 300 professional and avocational archeologists participate in these field schools, which are held the third week in June each year.

Hughes and her team of presenters will give a background of the Eagle Bluff site and will highlight artifacts recovered during the 2013 excavations, including a stone gorget, an incised shell pendant, many stone tools, and dart and arrow points.

Kathleen Hughes, an avocational archeologist, is a science and history teacher at Rosehill Academy in Cypress, Texas and lives in the Cypress area. She is also a member of the Texas Archeological Society and has attended TAS Field Schools since 2001. She received her degree from Texas A & M University.

For a campus map of St. Thomas University, 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



HAS Member Kathleen Hughes, a Texas A & M graduate, will lead a team of presenters discussing the 2013 TAS Field School at the Eagle Bluff Site in Hondo, Texas.

Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. Teachers can receive one hour of CPE credit for attending this lecture.

Lab Schedule for July

Two lab nights, July 15th and 29th, are scheduled for July. We'll meet at the usual time and place, Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University from 7:00-9:00 p.m. We'll continue processing artifacts from two collections from a coastal-margin shell-midden site. 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

Greetings HAS members and friends!

Hope everyone is having a terrific summer! As you know, HAS usually takes June off – no general membership meeting, no Profile – but that does not mean that HAS members haven't been incredibly busy digging in the dirt!

HAS was well represented at this year's TAS Field school at the Eagle Bluff Site in Hondo June 15 - 22, including Kathleen Hughes, Sharon Menegaz, Robert Killian, Brenda and Ron Jackson, Don Keyes, Sandy Rogers, Sue Gross, Tom Williams and Linda Gorski and Louis Aulbach (who were unfortunately only able to stay for a day due to prior commitments). Kathleen Hughes will lead a team presentation on the results of the 2013 Field School at our next General Membership meeting on July 18. See the article on the front page of this Profile for more information.

The Dimond Knoll Screening Project is also going great guns. Our faithful crews have screened virtually every Friday and Saturday since February and have finished screening about half the dirt that comprises the project. The artifacts recovered have been nothing short of remarkable. Most of you have been receiving my weekly photo albums and reports from the site (if you are not receiving these reports let me know and I'll put you on the list – lindagorski@cs.com). Our project received lots of interest at the TAS meeting in Hondo and the project banner that Tom Williams put together was prominently hung right in the food pavilion. An article by our project PI, Dr. Jason Barrett, will be featured in the summer issue of *Texas Archeology: The Newsletter of the Texas Archeological Society*, just published. We'll try to get reprints for everyone. Also, Dr. Scott Pletka from Austin, Supervisor of the Archeological Studies Branch for TxDOT, visited the site in early June and was most impressed with the artifacts recovered and the enthusiasm of HAS members and other volunteers on the project. Way to go team!!!!

Beth Aucoin, Tracy Connell and Charlie Gordy participated in a shovel testing survey at 41GV170 at Galveston Island State Park. According to a note I got from Beth, "the weather was hot, hot, hot and humid." I can only imagine! See related article and Beth and Tracy's photos in this Profile.

If you have been involved in any archeological projects this summer we'd love to hear about them and publish your notes and photos in the Profile. You can forward them to me lindagorski@cs.com or to our Profile editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net,

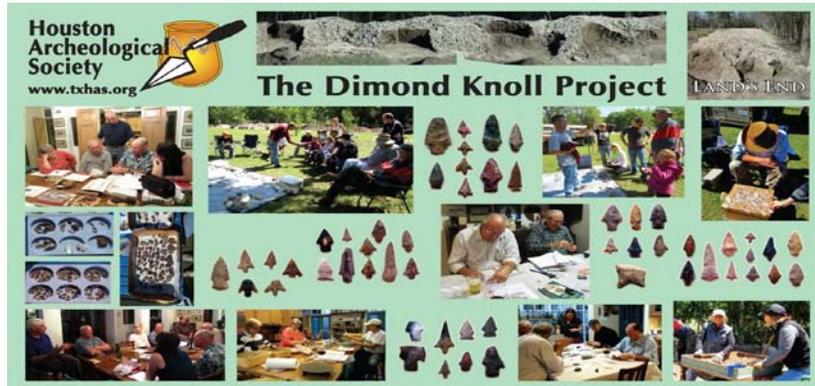
By the way, speaking of HAS projects, for those of you who worked with us at Bernardo Plantation and at San Jacinto Battleground over the past few years, many of the artifacts recovered from those sites are now on display at the Sam Houston Memorial Museum in Huntsville. HAS member and THC archeological steward Sandy Rogers is the Collections Registrar at the museum and gave Beth Aucoin, Lenore Psencik and me a tour when we were in Huntsville in early June. Very impressive!!!! While you are up there, be sure to visit the Texas Prison Museum too. Sandy is also the Curator of Collections at TPM (busy lady!!!!) and would be delighted to give you a tour of the collections there including Old Sparky, the original electric chair! For more information contact Sandy at SMM_SER@SHSU.EDU

I'll be out of town for the July 18th General Membership Meeting so please throw your support to Vice President Louis Aulbach who will be running the meeting! Look forward to seeing you at the screening site and at the August meeting!

--Linda Gorski, President

HAS SCREENING PROJECT UPDATE

Here's a photo update of our Dimond Knoll Project. As you know, we screen dirt almost every Friday and Saturday and all HAS members are invited to participate. We are recovering artifacts including stone tools, arrow and dart points, pottery, shell and animal bone. Email me at lindagorski@cs.com to get our weekly updates and screening schedules or for more information about the project.



This is the banner that HAS member Tom Williams made to hang at TAS Field School showing off the results of our Dimond Knoll Project. This banner prompted a lot of discussion about this terrific project.



Above left: Dr. Jason Barrett, left, is shown here being interviewed at the screening site by Rice University's Jess Walker, right, and Andy Fan, center, for STEMscopes, a comprehensive online curriculum that is being developed for students in K – 12. Interviews with professionals like Dr. Barrett will be used to expose students to a broad range of professions in science, technology, engineering and mathematics ... and archeology. Above right: The crew also photographed HAS members screening at the site and recorded their experiences as avocational archeologists.



Come Join Us!

-- Linda Gorski

Minutes of the HAS General Membership Meeting

Linda Gorski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all members and guests. There were 43 attendees; 4 guests were signed in.

Linda made the following announcements:

- Texas Archeological Society (TAS) Field School will be held in June at the Eagle Bluff site in Hondo, Texas.
- There will be no general HAS meeting in June due to many members attending the TAS Field School. The HAS July program will feature a report on the activities of the field school.
- Dirt Screening Project – Screening continues weekly on Fridays and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Over 80 people have now signed up to screen. Those interested in helping can contact Linda for directions and more information. Lab for the dirt screening project is currently held on Monday evenings at Linda's house.
- General HAS labs are held at Rice University, but there will be no labs held the rest of May or for the month of June; information on upcoming labs will be posted in the Profile.
- Nearly all of the 2012 HAS members have renewed their membership dues.
- Reminder, the HAS library books are currently being held at Linda Gorski's house. Members are welcome to use the materials, just make arrangements with Linda.

Wilson W. "Dub" Crook presented the evening's program, "The Peopling of the Americas: Is Clovis First Finally Dead?"

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. HAS members and guests then enjoyed snacks provided by Linda Gorski and Beth Aucoin.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2013.

--Lenore Psencik, Secretary

Good News!

Texas Historical Commission Announces Designation of Two New State Archeological Landmarks in Harris County

Mark Wolfe, Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission, recently announced the designation of two sites in Harris County as State Archeological Landmarks (SAL).

Camp Logan (41HR614) was a WWI Training Camp built in 1917 to house 44,000 trainees in the area that is now Memorial Park. Several foundation features of camp buildings exist in the wooded areas surrounding today's Memorial Park. Three areas of the Park have been designated SAL and more are expected to be designated in the future as archeological investigations in the Park continue.

Site 41HR796, also known as the Dimond Knoll site, is located along the north bank of Cypress Creek, 14 miles northwest of the Houston city limits. The overburden from this site is currently being screened by members of the Houston Archeological Society under the direction of Dr. Jason Barrett, regional archeologist with TxDOT and one of the Principal Investigators for the Dimond Knoll project.

State Antiquities Landmarks (SALs) are designated by the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and receive legal protection under the Antiquities Code of Texas (the Code). - See more at: <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/state-antiquities-landmarks#sthash.SWIIqbeY.dpuf>.

Excavations at 41GV170 – Galveston Island State Park

In early June HAS member (and former president) Charlie Gordy received a note from Ruth Mathews, Cultural Resources Coordinator, Region 4, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, asking HAS members to participate in a survey at 41GV170, a site on Galveston Island State Park. The scope of the work consisted of pedestrian surveys, shovel testing and opening of at least two excavation units.

HAS members Charlie Gordy, Tracy Connell and Beth Aucoin answered the call! Charlie served as volunteer work coordinator on the project.

According to Beth, the weather was hot, hot, hot, and humid. Here are her field notes:

“Tracy was on survey the first day (Monday) with Ruth Mathews and Toni Fischer. Shovel tests were negative. Prior to shovel tests, Ruth, Toni, and Charlie cleared



Pottery sherds recovered during shovel testing

the area of lots of brush, then Charlie and I excavated a unit down to 20cmbs; some small pieces of pottery were found. Tuesday, Charlie, Tracy, and I continued excavation. At 36cmbs Tracy found, in-situ, a nice burnished pottery sherd. Numerous sherds were found between 30-40cmbs, some of which were obviously grog tempered. We encountered sterile soil between 40-

50cmbs, so we closed and back-filled that unit. We were hoping to find lithics, pottery, bone, asphaltum, and pumice. However, we only

found pottery, and the pieces were small--no rims.

“On Thursday, after clearing another area, Tracy and I excavated another unit down to 30cmbs; nothing found, but the unit was left open so Ruth and Toni could take it down to 50cmbs. All of their shovel tests were negative.”

Beth and Tracy took some great photos of the project, included here.

Heritage Society Sponsors Glass Bottle Exhibit

Have you ever wondered what bitters are? Can you tell the difference between a figured flask and a cathedral-style pickle bottle? When did Coca-Cola open its first bottling plant in Houston? A new Houston Heritage Society exhibit titled *Bitters, Brews and Beyond* will answer all of these questions and more.



Before plastic containers came on the market, all types of household liquids were sold in glass bottles. During the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Houston was home to dozens of different soda bottlers, several breweries, and numerous dairies. Local drug stores and pharmacies dispensed medications, offered a variety of toiletry items, and sold over the counter medicinal products, including bitters, all in glass bottles.

Up until the mid-19th century, these bottles were actually hand-blown



Excavators Charlie Gordy, Ruth Mathews, Beth Aucoin, and Tracy Connell



Wow! Nice profile, guys!

just as they had been for centuries. Invention of the Owens Automatic Bottle Machine in 1903 dramatically changed the bottle-making process.

Bitters, Brews and Beyond will feature a collection of glass bottles ranging from soda, milk and beer bottles, to medicine bottles from Houston pharmacies, to flasks, sauce bottles, canning jars and more. Many of the bottles in this exhibit, both on loan and in the Heritage Society's Permanent Collection, were found as they were exposed during site preparation for building projects at downtown Houston locations. (35 of them are on loan from HAS President Linda Gorski.—Ed.)

The exhibit runs from July 2 through October 26, 2013, at the Houston Heritage Society, 1100 Bagby St., Houston, TX 77002. Also featured at the same time is a collection of memorabilia from Houston's bygone famous restaurants and watering holes.

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

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

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

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