



Dr. Jason W. Barrett, whose research interests include lithic use wear analysis and the political ecology of the ancient Maya, will be the speaker at our meeting at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 21<sup>ST</sup>.

Dr. Barrett (photos below and right) will discuss the distribution and exploitation of lithic resources in northwestern Belize, and how they relate directly to the development and perpetuation of political and economic relationships within and between sites. The stability of these relationships may have been challenged and altered when the integrity of elite finance mechanisms was undermined.

Availability of tool-quality lithic resources among the ancient Maya was of fundamental importance to their



mode of subsistence. Tool-stone quantity and quality varied considerably across the lowlands, with some areas being significantly more endowed than others. Dr. Barrett argues

in this talk that access rights to high-quality lithic outcrops in northwestern Belize were initially restricted by specific kin groups based on first occupancy endowments and landscape investments. Political elites converted this basal inequity into material and political claims, providing a mechanism that was legitimized and stable across generations. However, lithic raw materials are non-renewable, and perpetual sustainability was ultimately unattainable.

By the ninth century, tool production in upper northwestern Belize proved fundamentally unsustainable, compromising the economic viability of sites. Population levels in northwestern Belize spiked in the late eighth century, seemingly influenced by an influx of refugees from war-torn areas in the central lowlands. This caused a greater demand for lithic resources at a time when local resources were already under strain, and the availability of long distance imports was in

marked decline due to the effect of escalating warfare on the security and regularity of both riverine and land-based trade networks. Northwestern Belize site data from this period indicates that resource conservation strategies were increasingly employed as tool-stone source areas became exhausted. The Maya largely abandoned this region by the end of the tenth century.

Dr. Barrett left his native Rhode Island for Texas in 1995 to begin graduate studies in archaeology at Texas A&M University, where he earned both his master's and doctorate degrees. He has participated in archaeological projects in Texas, New England, Mexico, Belize, and American Samoa. He has taught anthropology at Texas A&M, Baylor, and Blinn College. Since 2005 he has worked as a regulatory archaeologist at TxDOT. He and his wife Jennifer have lived in Houston since 2012.



For a campus map, go to [www.stthom.edu](http://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. Teachers can receive one hour of CPE credit for attending this lecture.

### Lab Schedule for March and April

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](http://www.rice.edu/maps) for a map of the campus and parking.

--Beth Aucoin



## President's Message

Last month in my President's message I gave you a short "State of the Society" overview. This month I'd like to show you where we are going with our programs for the coming months. We have some amazing folks scheduled to speak on some important topics, including our March speaker, Dr. Jason Barrett, who will speak on Mayan stone tool technology. Please make sure the following dates are on your calendar!

**Thursday, April 18, 2013 -- Douglas Mangum, Principal Investigator, Historian, GIS Manager at Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. "Canister and Grape: Artillery related artifacts from the San Jacinto Battleground."** Over the last 10 years of archeological investigations in and around the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. has recovered more than 1400 artifacts associated with the battle. Of these, 21 have been identified as being directly related to the canister munitions used by the artillery of both sides during the fighting. These artifacts and analysis of their locations, combined with historical research, have suggested answers to some questions regarding the artillery at the Battle of San Jacinto. Douglas G. Mangum graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in archeology and received a M.A. in History from the University of Houston-Clear Lake. He worked for the U. S. Forest Service before joining the staff at Moore, where he manages the fieldwork the firm has conducted in and around the San Jacinto Battleground.

**Thursday, May 16, 2013 -- Wilson "Dub" Crook, "Recent Work at the Gault Site and the Peopling of the Americas."** Wilson W. "Dub" Crook, long-time member of the Houston Archeological Society, will speak on "The Peopling of the Americas: Is Clovis First Finally Dead?" Dub will be speaking on the latest research and work on the Pre-Clovis occupation at the Gault site as well as giving a summary of the older-than-Clovis data that has now been found throughout North America.

Mr. Crook holds both a Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Methodist University and a Master of Science degree from the University of Michigan in the field of mineralogy and rare-earth crystal chemistry. He is a Fellow of the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory in Austin, a Fellow of the Leakey Foundation and Vice President of the Gault School of Archeological Research. He was recently appointed as an Adjunct Faculty Member of the Department of Anthropology at Texas State University.

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**June 2013** No meeting, to allow HAS members to attend the TAS Field School in Hondo, Texas. If you'd like to register for field school, you can download a form at <http://www.txarch.org/pdf/fieldschool/fs2013Registration.pdf>

**Thursday, July 18, 2013** HAS members who attended TAS Field School will present a PowerPoint presentation on recent discoveries at the Eagle Bluff site in Hondo, Texas, including continuing excavations at the amazing Toyah complex that was uncovered in 2010 and 2011 excavations. For more information about this site see <http://www.txarch.org/Activities/fschool/fs2013/index.php>

**Thursday, August 15, 2013 -- Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski, "Endangered Archeological Sites Along Buffalo Bayou."** Buffalo Bayou, the waterway on which the City of Houston was founded, contains historic ruins and sites along its 60+ miles of banks and adjacent lands. This presentation will discuss many of these sites which are prime subjects for historical archeology, but which are also in danger of being lost to development. Louis Aulbach is the author of the book *Buffalo Bayou: An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings*. He is a graduate of Rice University and received his MBA from the University of Chicago. Linda Gorski is the 2012 - 2013 president of the Houston Archeological Society.

We look forward to seeing you at these programs. I am currently working to schedule talks on Roman British archeology and a tour through Rock Art Sites in the Lower Pecos Region of Texas for the fall. If you have other ideas for future speakers and programs, please email me at [lindagorski@cs.com](mailto:lindagorski@cs.com). --Linda Gorski



## HAS Screening Project in High Gear

As most of you know, Houston Archeological Society members are currently screening dirt from the Diamond Knoll Site. Not only are we finding many artifacts including points, pottery and lithic debitage, we are also



learning on-site about these artifacts from our PI, Dr. Jason Barrett, whose field of research is lithic technology.

Thanks to Beth Aucoin, we have also put together a field lab kit to clean and sort the artifacts we find on site. This project will be ongoing for several months and all HAS members are wel-



come to join us. We usually screen on Fridays and Saturdays but occasionally, due to scheduling conflicts, we shuffle those dates. For more information or to get on my roster of screeners, please email me at [lindagorski@cs.com](mailto:lindagorski@cs.com) and you will be notified weekly about our screening dates. --Linda Gorski

## Beth Aucoin Receives Stewardship Award from THC

Jeff Durst of the Texas Historical Commission came to the February meeting and presented longtime HAS member Beth Aucoin with the THC's Jim Word Award in recognition of her 10 years' outstanding service as a THC Steward. Beth has served in many capacities with HAS, including President; she is currently the assistant Lab Supervisor and co-editor of the soon-to-be-published Powell Report Part 3. She holds a degree in anthropology from the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

The Jim Word Award is named after James Havens "Jim" Word (1918-1999), considered by many to be the leading 20<sup>th</sup> century avocational archaeologist in Texas. Word was instrumental in the passage of the Texas Antiquities Law, which protects archaeological and historical sites on public land.

Well-deserved, Beth!



## Registration Deadline Approaching for Archeobotany Academy

Only a few seats are remaining for *Archeobotany*, the next TAS academy, to be held April 6-7 in Kerrville. The deadline for registration is March 22, so if you want to go, get busy!

Archeobotany will feature Dr. Leslie Bush chairing the sessions by Dr. Kevin Hanselka (ethnobotany), Paul Waller (plant dyes), Doug Boyd (earth ovens), Dr. Karen Clary (grocery store botany), Neal Stilley (fire making), and Mike Quigg (emerging technologies, including residue analysis). Dr. Matt Turner will sign copies of his book, *Remarkable Plants of Texas*. Hands-on activities will include an earth oven, nut processing, dye baths and a plant walk. A set of readings will be sent to registered participants in advance of the Academy.

Classes will take place from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday, April 6, and from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm on Sunday, April 7, at the beautiful Riverside Nature Center, 150 Francisco Lemos St., Kerrville TX 78028

To register online, visit [www.txarch.org/activities](http://www.txarch.org/activities). Do it now!

**A Word to the Wise:** If you have not paid your HAS dues by the end of March, this will be your last newsletter. Don't miss a single issue! Use the handy membership form on page 3 and re-up!

## HAS Patches Now Available

If you always wanted a shirt with the HAS logo embroidered on it, but didn't like the style of this year's shirt, there is good news! President Linda Gorski reports that patches with the HAS logo are now available at a cost of \$12.00 each. "I have ten in stock right now - five with a white background and five with a black background," she said. If she runs out of them, not to worry. "I can order the logos and they can mail them to me when I need more, so it's easy-peasy." If interested, see Linda at the March meeting.

## An Invitation to the 2013 Battle of San Jacinto Symposium

You are invited to the 13th annual San Jacinto Symposium: "**Wars, Treaties, and Boundaries---A Look at the Shape of Texas,**" on Saturday, April 13, at the University of Houston Hilton Hotel & Conference Center from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

A number of treaties and acts before and after the 1836 Battle of San Jacinto had a hand in drawing the boundaries of this uniquely shaped piece of real estate we call Texas. Four eminent scholars will discuss documents---from the Adams-Onis Treaty of 1819 to the Compromise of 1850.

Speakers include:

**Gene Allen Smith**, PhD, professor of history and director of the Center for Texas Studies at Texas Christian University;

**Jerry Thompson**, PhD, regents professor of history at Texas A&M International University in Laredo and recipient of the A&M System's 2010 Chancellor's Teaching Award;

**Mark J. Stegmaier**, PhD, professor of history at Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma; and,

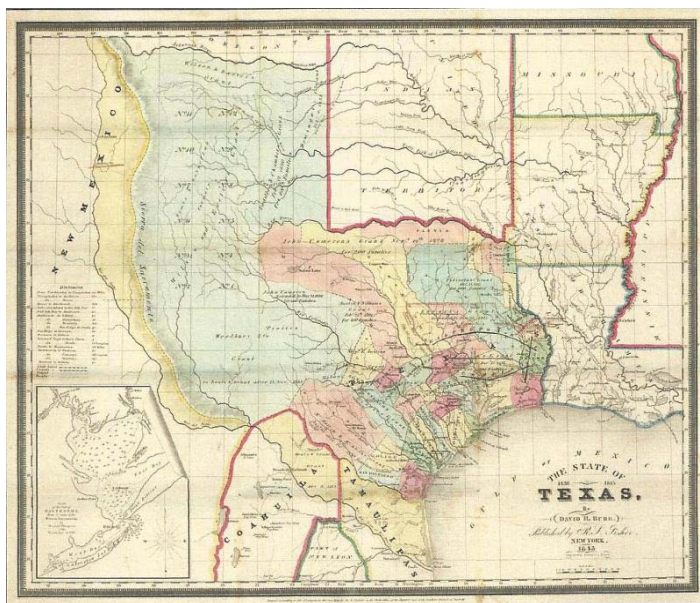
**Manuel Gonzales Oropeza**, PhD, professor and supervisor of the Graduate School of Law at the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and a judge of the Supreme Court for Elections in Mexico.

**James E. Crisp**, PhD, professor of history at North Carolina State University, returns as moderator.

The \$55 fee includes speakers, lunch, parking, exhibits, book dealers and fellowship with Texas history scholars and buffs. The event is presented by the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy, in cooperation with the Texas State Historical Association, the Center for the Study of the Southwest at Texas State University at San Marcos, and the Texas Map Society. The U of H Hilton Hotel and Conference Center is located on the University of Houston Campus, 4800 Calhoun Road. Please visit [www.sanjacintoconservancy.org](http://www.sanjacintoconservancy.org) for complete registration information, or call 713-237-8997.

### From a Recent E-Mail to HAS members from Linda Gorski:

"At [the February] general membership meeting HAS member Jack Farrell mentioned the upcoming (October 2013) First Americans conference in Santa Fe, NM. Jack said that when the conference was held in the past, it sold out very quickly. Here's a link to the conference website: <http://paleoamericanodyssey.com/> You will note that one of the organizers of this conference is the Center for the Study of the First Americans at Texas A & M University. For those of you who are TAS members, Beth Aucoin sent me a note this morning reminding me that the conference is also featured on page 14 of the latest TAS newsletter. Thanks for this info, Jack and Beth."



Please submit articles for publication to *Profile* Editor Linda Swift at [swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net](mailto:swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net).

Submit articles no later than April 4 for the April 2013 issue.

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

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