



August 20th 2015 Meeting Program

“Testing the Atlantic Ice Hypothesis: Comparing Solutrean and Clovis Blade Technology” – Dr. Tom Williams

Dr. Tom Williams, a researcher with the Prehistory Research Project (formerly the Gault Project) at Texas State University will present a program on Solutrean and Clovis Blade Technology at the August 20th, 2015 meeting of the Houston Archeological Society. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. in MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas. The meeting is free of charge and open to the public.

The traditional model of Clovis as being the first culture in North America has been challenged since the discovery of numerous sites older than Clovis, including Monte Verde, Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Cactus Hill. Despite this, Clovis still represents a benchmark by which archaeologists explore the earliest human migrations into North America.

The origins of Clovis technology and the nature and timing of the first populations to reach the Western Hemisphere has become one of the most contentious issues in American archaeology. Many scholars consider that all colonizing migrations followed a route out of Asia and across Beringia into North America. However, none of the technologies present in the far northeast of Asia or Beringia exhibit the manufacturing processes that were used in Clovis.



To address this enigma, Stanford and Bradley proposed a radical alternative for the origins of Clovis. They argue that a small pioneering group of Solutreans crossed the Atlantic ice sheets of the LGM and reached the shores of North America. The basis for this argument stems from technological similarities between Clovis and the Solutrean, as well as from climatic, oceanographic, and ethnographic data. Biface manufacture is at the center of their technological analysis, specifically comparing the reduction sequences of the distinctive Solutrean laurel leaf points and comparing them to Clovis points. This presentation focuses on the assumption of Stanford and Bradley that the blade manufacturing technologies of Clovis and Solutrean were “virtually identical”. Specifically focusing on Clovis in Texas, this presentation will explore the manufacture of Clovis blades across Texas and how this has contributed to the debate concerning the first Americans.

Dr. Tom Williams has a BA and MA in Archaeology from the University of Reading (UK) and a Ph.D. from the University of Exeter (UK). Tom has worked on a numerous projects, from the excavation of a Roman town, to geotechnical coring and geochemical analysis of knappable materials. He is also a flint knapper and has had the opportunity to study this in the UK, USA, France, and Denmark. Tom completed his Ph.D. assessing the Clovis-Solutrean connection and analyzing the blade technologies from North America and Europe during the Last Glacial Maximum.

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 Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message

HAS Members and Friends –

86th Annual Texas Archeological Society Meeting, October 23 – 25 in HOUSTON

The 86th Annual TAS meeting is coming to Houston this year and HAS is one of the regional sponsors, along with BAS and FBAS. The meeting will be held at the OMNI Resort and Hotel at I-10 and Eldridge Parkway on October 23 – 25. This meeting is a really big deal folks, and we are going to need help on so many fronts over the next couple of months to make it a huge success. We really need you to mark this event on your calendar and plan to participate!

The Local Arrangements Committee, made up of representatives from all three regional societies, has been meeting for several months and we've laid the groundwork for the meeting which includes workshops, seminars and meetings focusing on archeology in Texas all afternoon Friday and all day Saturday, a fabulous Public Forum on Friday evening followed by a public artifact identification, a Book Fair, silent auction and raffle, the annual Banquet on Saturday night, and lots of visiting in between with 350 – 400 of the finest avocational and professional archeologists in the State of Texas. You can find more information about the annual meeting on the TAS website at <http://www.txarch.org/Activities/AnnualMeeting/am2015/>

Several HAS members have stepped up to the plate to tackle the big jobs but now we need YOU to volunteer during the meeting to help folks like Bob Sewell with registration, to assist in monitoring the workshop rooms with Jay Roussel and FBAS, to assist Louis Aulbach and Steve Davis with the Book Fair and author signings, to give Sue Gross and BAS a hand with the Silent Auction and Raffle, to help Larry Golden “wrangle” equipment, and generally to be on the ground to welcome visitors to our city, especially all day Saturday, October 24. Plus we know you will want to attend some of the workshops and presentations which are always incredibly informative.



We can use your help in other ways, too. As I said, we expect at least 350 – 400 people from across the state to attend this event and all of them will get a bag of goodies from our area. Do you deal with a business or a museum or a bank or a store that could provide approximately 400 pencils, pens, rulers, brochures or other items advertising their businesses? We'd love to stuff them in our welcome bags.

Several of our members are donating items to the silent auction and raffle, including HAS member Tom Nuckols (pictured left) who is making some incredible items out of wood (including table decorations!) and HAS member Mary Needham (pictured right) who has made the most beautiful TAS stained glass window. HAS member Larry Golden is going through his treasure trove and is donating numerous items of historical interest that are sure to pique the interest of meeting attendees. Do you have something you could donate?



We will be posting lots more information about the upcoming TAS Annual meeting on the HAS website shortly and highlighting especially contributions to the meeting by HAS members. But, in the meantime, please register for the event either online or by mail at <http://www.txarch.org/Activities/AnnualMeeting/am2015/> and click on the registration tab. If you have any questions, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com.

Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society

Minutes

Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting

July 16th, 2015

Welcome everyone (Louis Aulbach)

Welcome New Members and guests. 38 members and guests were signed in.

Treasurers Report (Tom Nuckols)

Checking Account: \$8780.91 Savings Account: \$11950.63

Membership (Bob Sewell)

Number of members renewed/joined for 2015 is 173. Membership forms at back. All new and renewing members get a bumper sticker and a copy of the newest HAS Report and Journal.

New Business

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has been appointed. It consists of Sharon Menegaz, Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen, and Margaret Coon. They will be developing the proposed list of nominations for the Board of Directors.

Lab Report

Tom Nuckols gave a terrific presentation on 7/13 on analysis of munitions. On 7/27 Dr. Gus Costa will conduct a mini-workshop on bison osteology. New boxes have been purchased and collections are being re-organized.

Projects

2015 TAS Field School – June 13 – 20, 2015. Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch Columbus Texas – work was conducted at the Cottonfield and Bluff sites. Kids field school was at Tait House in Columbus. A crew from THC Stewards/HAS worked at San Felipe. Unfortunately, field school was shortened by TS Bill. However, Cottonfield site has been left open for further work over the next year.

Cypress Top Historic Park ‘Old Fashioned Picnic’- Saturday, July 11th, 2015. Six HAS members participated.

Science Teachers from across the State of Texas – Monday, July 13, 2015. Sharon Menegaz organized an 8 hour workshop. She was assisted by Kathleen Hughes, Don Keyes, Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski. It was an enormous success with HAS getting excellent reviews.

Kellum Noble House screening project – HAS has been asked to give a lecture at the Heritage Society on August 26 about the project. More info to follow.

Paleontology Dig – Ken Theis will lead a crew to the site on July 18, 2015.

Elysian Viaduct/Frosttown Project – Project is underway. Doug Boyd (Prewitt and Associates) gave an update.

TAS Annual Meeting – October 23 – 25 Houston – HAS will be regional sponsor and we will need lots of help. Anyone who would like to submit items for the Silent Auction should contact Sue Gross suegbobs@comcast.com.

HAS Journal – Journal #134 is now available. Dub Crook described this journal as a ‘*Collector’s Item*’ due to it containing an historical account of the HAS. Dub made a call for articles to be submitted for the next journal by November 2015. Also, THC is producing an article about HAS.

Program for July - Dr. Jason Barrett and Tom Nuckols gave a program on work at 2015 TAS Field School.

Program for August, 2015

Dr. Tom Williams will discuss Comparisons between Solutrean and Clovis Blade Technology

After the meeting members and guests gathered for a social with refreshments brought by many of our members.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 20th, 2015.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society

Notes on Munitions - .22 Caliber Short

By Tom Nuckols

The Kellum-Noble House (41HR425) Emergency Salvage Archeology Screening Project (fall 2014/winter 2015) recovered five munitions artifacts; two lead spherical muzzle-loading bullets, a lead percussion revolver bullet, a lead rimfire or center-fire cartridge bullet and a .22 Short rimfire cartridge case. The .22 Short rimfire cartridge case is discussed below.

Item: #29 (recovered 1-16-2015).

Provenience: Room #3.

Artifact: .22 caliber Short cartridge case.

Case material: Brass or copper (difficult to discern due to corrosion).

Head stamp: U

Firearms signature: A single circular firing pin imprint, indicating that this cartridge was fired in a rifle.



Manufacturer: The Remington Arms Co., Inc. (1816 to present), the Union Metallic Cartridge Company (founded 1867) or the Remington-Union Metallic Cartridge Co., Inc. (Remington-UMC). On March 8, 1887, the Union Metallic Cartridge Company registered the “U” trademark (US #14,134) citing in its application that it had been in constant use since October, 1885. In 1911, Remington Arms and the Union Metallic Cartridge Company merged forming Remington-UMC. (Defunct 1970?) The two companies operated separately until incorporation in 1916. After the merger, rimfire cartridge cases continued to be head-stamped “U” as a tribute to the former Union Metallic Cartridge Company. The “U” head-stamp was replaced by the script “Rem” head-stamp in the early 1980s. All three companies used brass or copper as a rimfire cartridge case material.

.22 Short history: Daniel Baird Wesson (1825–1906) was a United States firearms designer. He was the co-founder of Smith & Wesson and responsible for helping develop several influential firearm designs over the course of his life. In 1857, Wesson designed a rimfire cartridge based on Nicholas Flobert’s, circa 1845 BB cap. Wesson’s design called for a conical shaped bullet in a lengthened case that held a charge of black gun powder. The new cartridge was called the No.1 or 22/100’s pistol cartridge. It was renamed .22 Short with the introduction of the .22 Long in 1871. It is the oldest rimfire cartridge in constant manufacture in the United States. Companies began making rifles chambered for the .22 Short circa 1901.

REFERENCE

Barber, John L.

1987 *The Rimfire Cartridge in the United States & Canada, 1857-1984*, Armory Publications, Tacoma, WA.

Erratum

In last month’s article I incorrectly identified artifact #’s 5 & 6 (.44-40 caliber cartridge cases) as rimmed straight. They are actually rimmed bottleneck.

THE FROZEN CHARLOTTE DOLLS OF SAN JACINTO

SAN JACINTO TOWN SITE

These tiny doll parts recovered from the town site of San Jacinto belong to a group of dolls referred to as “Frozen Charlotte dolls” or bathing dolls. A male version of the doll is called “Frozen Charlie.”

Frozen Charlotte dolls are rigid standing (rare in other positions) dolls having no moveable parts. They range in size from less than 1 inch to 15-½ inches and were produced in china, bisque or porcelain, typically being glazed. These dolls were produced in many locations in Germany. Some of the larger factories were in the central German state of Thuringia. The dolls were manufactured from 1850 to the early 1900’s. Typically, they have no maker’s marks, other than the occasional mold number or the back marked “Germany.”



Frozen Charlotte dolls came with many different molded hair styles. Some dolls had with hats and bows, and the dolls were also available in black. In the early Victorian times, these dolls were hidden in a birthday cake or a Christmas pudding.

In archeological sites, these dolls are usually found broken. Complete dolls are generally limited to “attic” finds.

The most unusual part of the “Frozen Charlotte” and “Frozen Charlie” saga is how they acquired their name. In 1843, Seba Smith, a journalist published the poem “A Corpse Going To A Ball” in *The Rover*, a Maine newspaper. The poem was based on an 1840 article about a woman who froze to death on a sleigh ride to a ball. The poem was converted to ballad and named “Young Charlotte.” Charlotte was a vain young lady, dressed in her best, waiting to be picked up by Charles for the sleigh ride to the ball. Charlotte refused her mother’s request to cover up because she wanted everyone to see her dressed in her best dress. Upon arriving at the ball, Charles jumped from the sleigh and reached out to take Charlotte’s hand. There was no movement. Charles, again, reached out to her and called her name. Still, there was no movement. Charlotte had frozen to death on the sleigh ride. Charles later died of a broken heart. Their names live on in these dolls, “Frozen Charlotte” and “Frozen Charlie.”

Larry Golden

Update on Excavations at the Cotton Field Site, Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas

As most of you know, the TAS Field School in Columbus, Texas, in June was shortened due to heavy rains from Tropical Storm Bill. However, Dr. Jason Barrett, the field school PI, was able to work with our wonderful landowners, Rita and Ed Jackson, to leave the Cotton Field site open for further excavation by members of HAS and other regional archeological societies.

The Cotton Field site, located in Colorado County, offers the ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 700AD-1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150AD-1500AD) in Texas.

Our first work weekend following field school was held July 25 and 26 and despite the intense heat we had a huge turnout both days! New HAS member Adela Franco recovered the prizes of the day as she was screening dirt from one of the units – two beautiful points!



At least one thermal feature and several bison and deer bones were also recovered. And longtime HAS member Tom Williams treated the crew to a hot dog lunch both days!!! What a team!



Our next work weekend at the site will be coming up August 22 and 23. If you did NOT receive a "Save the Date" email from me on Tuesday, July 29th, you are NOT on my list to receive information about this project. If you want to receive regular bulletins and emails about future work dates for the Cotton Field site email me back at lindagorski@cs.com so I can add you to my list. We'll also be adding a photo album to our HAS webpage at www.txhas.org so you can follow progress at the Cotton Field site – even if you can't be there in person!

The Heritage Society presents 'Preserving a Landmark: Archeology at the Kellum-Noble House'



Building Arts Lecture Series

presents

Preserving a Landmark: Archeology at the Kellum-Noble House by Linda Gorski, Houston Archeological Society

Wednesday, August 26, 2015,

The Heritage Society Tea Room

7 p.m.

Free for members, \$5 for non-members

R.S.V.P. (acceptances only)

713-655-1912 or eardoin@heritagesociety.org

During foundation work at the 1847 Kellum-Noble House, preliminary excavation inside the building uncovered broken pieces of plates and other household items. At the request of the Texas Historical Commission, the Houston Archeological Society (HAS) mobilized and set up a project to recover artifacts from much of the soil removed from below the house. Under the direction of president Linda Gorski and vice-president Louis Aulbach, HAS recovered more than 10,200 individual pieces, from fragments of glass and ceramics including Texian Campaign Ware, to rare German marbles and coins dating from 1845. Also recovered were many beautiful buttons made of shell, ceramic, wood, and bone and an intact slate pencil and ink bottle. With guidance from HAS member and Texas Archeological Steward Beth Aucoin, HAS members are preparing these items to be archived under the State of Texas. For this Building Arts Lecture, Linda Gorski will discuss the salvage archeology project and show photographs highlighting the recovered items that have enhanced our understanding of the historic Kellum-Noble House.

*The Heritage Society is funded in part by a grant from the City of Houston through
Houston Arts Alliance.*

Houston Maritime Museum: 'Texas Lighthouses: Gulf Coast Lighthouse Styles'



HOUSTON MARITIME MUSEUM

HISTORY LECTURE

WHO:

Richard Hall, Ph.D.

WHAT:

Texas Lighthouses:
Gulf Coast Lighthouse
Styles

WHEN:

Tuesday, August 11
7:00-8:00 PM

WHERE:

Houston Maritime
Museum, 2204 Dorrington
Houston, Texas 77030

HOW:

The Houston Maritime
Museum offers a free
history lecture each month.

INFO:

For more information,
contact Lucia Cerritos at
713.666.1910.

Free admission and
refreshments.

HoustonMaritimeMuseum.org



Richard S. Hall, Ph.D., award-winning author/artist/illustrator, native Texan, graduate of The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School at Dallas, and Texas A&M University, will be discussing the variety of lighthouse and lightship designs, from coastal lights to major beacons, that once graced the Gulf Coast.

Over the past 40 years, Dr. Hall conducted extensive research in the National Archives, Texas and Louisiana State Archives, USCG HQ in Washington, and countless local sources along the Texas Coast. He is considered by many to be one of the leading experts on Texas lighthouses.

For anyone interested in these vanishing aids to maritime navigation, this is a must attend event. After the presentation Dr. Hall will be open to questions and comments. A selection of Dr. Hall's exquisite and detailed original drawings and watercolor illustrations of these wonderful old structures will be on display during the presentation. Dr. Hall's IPPY award-winning book, "Lighthouses, Lightships, and Beacons of Texas: A Comprehensive Field Guide", will be available for purchase and signing. Also available will be selected signed limited edition black and white digital prints of lighthouses found in his book.



HAS Laboratory: Workshops and Artifact Cataloging

As most of you know from reading last months HAS newsletter, Dr. Gus Costa, HAS member and adjunct professor at Rice University, has recently taken over as HAS lab director. Dr. Gus is working with Rice and HAS to organize, inventory and clean the lab space so that it can better serve our two communities. He has also introduced a mini-workshop program to provide additional training to HAS members.

The last two lab nights at Rice University have been extremely informative. On Monday, July 13th, HAS member Tom Nuckols conducted a mini-workshop on how to identify munitions from musket balls to cartridges. On August 27th Dr. Gus gave a presentation on bison and deer osteology to coincide with our excavations at the Cotton Field site at which we are recovering bison and deer bones. We plan to continue with the mini-workshops in lab with some educational program at least once a month.



Dr. Gus has been busy cataloging and repackaging the HAS collections and will need help in the future. We have purchased all new boxes to replace old ones. Rice Archaeology has purchased a very nice label maker which they are letting us use. As we work through the collections our goals are to inventory, modernize and reduce our footprint in the lab. At the next lab meeting on August 10th (7-9PM) we will be focusing on organizing and repackaging HAS collections. Watch for emails with more information.

The Rice lab is located in Room 103 (lower level) Sewall Hall, Rice University. The nearest parking lot is the Founders Court/Visitor Parking directly across from Sewall Hall. This lot requires a credit or debit card for access and the cost is \$3.50 per hour. There are other parking lots on the Rice University campus including one near the stadium that is less costly and offers a shuttle bus service to Sewall Hall. See www.rice.edu/maps for a map of campus parking areas.

HAS maintains a list of members who are interested in receiving special notices about labs at Rice University. For more information about labs or to put your name on the notification list, please contact Gus Costa at augustcosta@rice.edu

Houston Archeological Society
Monthly Meeting Programs for 2015
7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)
M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University

September 17 - ArchAerial Team – How Drones are used in Archeological Applications. Drones, or unmanned aerial systems (UAS), are used in archaeology for small-scale and large-scale survey, documentation, and volumetric measuring of trenches and structures. UAS can be used to quickly and easily gather various types of data that can assist in finding new sites and measuring excavation progress throughout the dig season.

October 15 – Dr. Jon C. Lohse, A Precise Chronology of Middle to Late Holocene Bison Exploitation in the Far Southern Great Plains Recent studies of the presence of bison in parts of Texas during prehistoric times has produced a fairly precise, reliable chronology for this animal. This study has involved directly dating bison remains, rather than dating them through their association with other materials, using techniques that help ensure the reliability of dates based on bone collagen. So far, about 65 samples have been dated. As a top-ranked food resource, bison would have been very important for hunter-gatherers across the area. Lohse's recent article on the subject can be found at <http://jtah.org/2014/12/04/a-precise-chronology-of-middle-to-late-holocene-bison-exploitation-in-the-far-southern-great-plains/>

November 19 – Dr. Charles A. Stewart – The Archaeological Ghosts of Gothic Famagusta. In this presentation, Dr. Stewart, will describe the growth of Famagusta, which remains one of the best preserved “Gothic cities” in the world. He will specifically share his archaeological investigations of the cathedral called “Saint-George of the Greeks” and how it was transformed from a humble Byzantine church to a grand French-style Gothic Cathedral.

December 17 – HAS president Linda Gorski will present an overview of HAS activities in 2015 with a focus on the enormously successful emergency salvage archeology project at the Kellum Noble House as well as ongoing work at San Jacinto, San Felipe de Austin and other sites in southeast Texas.

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS visit our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/>

****** Journal 134 Now Is Available ******

The Houston Archeological Society has made available the HAS 2015 Journal No. 134. You can pick up your copy at the next Monthly Meeting on 20th August, 2015.

This edition of the HAS Journal contains a history of the HAS organization, together with memories of present and past members' activities. Many organizations do not keep records of their history or it gets lost. With this Journal we have a record of our organization's history.

There are also articles by Dub Crook, Jack Farrell and Mark Hughston.

This publication is free to members of the Society. Members who have not already received their copy should make sure that they collect it at the next monthly meeting. If you wish to purchase additional copies then you can find it on amazon.com. You can find the appropriate links in the [Publications List](#) section of our website www.txhas.org

This Journal will become a 'Collector's Item', so make sure that you get your copy NOW!

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Note: Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than August 26th for the September 2015 issue.

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

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