



Dirk Van Tuerenhout to Speak on "Discovering the Civil War"

Our next meeting is Thursday, January 19 at 7:00 pm in Anderson Hall, Room 103, on the Academic Mall at the University of St. Thomas. The program will be presented by Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout, Curator of Anthropology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. His topic is on the current museum exhibit, "Discovering the Civil War."

This exhibit draws upon letters, diaries, photos, petitions, and patents from The National Archives to paint a picture of life as it was from the years immediately preceding the war through Reconstruction, which ended in 1877.

Dr. Tuerenhout writes, "I plan on reviewing the exhibit and taking people through the various components that make up the entire show:

1. Discovering the Civil War, as organized by the National Archives
2. The John L Nau collection of Civil War artifacts
3. The story of the USS Westfield."

The exhibit from the National Archives is divided into 12 areas that combine great original treasures, touch screen interactives and social media tools, to illustrate the breadth of the conflict and to ask, "How do we know what happened?" Each area is anchored by an original document, and all the records become powerful tools that let visitors consider and ask questions about evidence, listen to a wide variety of voices, and make up their own minds about the struggle that tore apart these United States.

Houstonian John L. Nau, III, has amassed one of the largest private collections of Civil War historical artifacts in the country. For the first time ever,

an array of these documents, letters, photos, weapons, military accoutrements, equipment, and uniforms will be on display, giving visitors a vivid glimpse into the world of the courageous soldiers willing to sacrifice their lives. This section of the exhibition is organized by the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Nau Civil War Collection.

The third portion of the exhibit is dedicated to the battle for control over the port of Galveston and, in particular, the role played by the USS Westfield. Scuttled in 1862, and dynamited in 1906, the ship was rediscovered in 2005 and excavated in the following years.

Visitors will learn where the ship was built, the brief role it played in the West Gulf Blockading Squadron, and how it met its demise in the waters around Galveston. The Naval History and Heritage Command Underwater Archaeology Branch provided some of the items recently retrieved from the wreck site with the help of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Galveston District and ably restored by the Center for Maritime Archaeology and Conservation at Texas A&M University.

Dr. Van Tuerenhout (above) is responsible for the museum's collections and exhibits dealing with human culture. He graduated with M.A. degrees in Anthropology and Art History from Katholieke Universiteit in Belgium, and received his Ph.D. in anthropology from Tulane University. As a scholar and educator, Dr. Van Tuerenhout enjoys using the museum's exhibits as a platform for outreach, to share insights in cultures that are on display.

Be sure to be with us on January 19th. This is going to be a great program!





President's Message

Meeting Reminder

Place: University of St. Thomas (UST)

Where: Anderson Hall; Room 103

Time: 7:00-9:30 P.M.

Happy New Year to everyone! Thank you for all the support provided during my recovery. I very much appreciate each of those who stepped in to keep things up and running in my absence.

I am sure everyone is wondering about the status of our new website. A draft website is currently being constructed for the board to review for final changes pre-initiation. Unfortunately, it is taking a little longer than expected as I have not received as much input from the members as I had expected. There is still time to get your favorite photos, short anecdotes outlining your personal experiences or event descriptions from past projects. Please, please email me all that you have to offer before February 1, 2012. The information can be added to the final website just before it goes public.

We hope to be working not only on our own project this year, but also with neighboring historic and/or archaeological organizations. There are multiple projects that will require volunteers--seasoned and unseasoned--as the weather allows and I hope everyone will be available to jump in with both feet to participate.

Hope to see you at the upcoming meeting.

-- Karen Belvin, President

HAS Meeting Minutes for December 15, 2011

Meeting was called to order by Director at Large, Linda Gorski.

Vice President, Michael Bailey introduced the speaker of the evening, HAS member, Dub Crook.

Dub Crook spoke on the Brushy Creek Clovis site in Hunt County, Texas. He also brought some artifacts which he displayed after the meeting.

Refreshments for the evening were provided by the general membership. Members who brought refreshments were Lenore Psencik, Richard Gregg, Muriel Walker, Beth and Pat Aucoin, Mary LeBlanc, Lucia Bonno, Linda Gorski and Linda Swift.

-- Mary LeBlanc, Secretary

It's Membership Renewal Time!

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 (\$10/year) Single (\$20/year)
Family (\$25/year) Contributing (\$30+/year)

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.

I DO I DO NOT authorize HAS to invite me by e-mail to join the HAS Facebook page as a "friend."

Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

Lab Schedule for January

Labs will be Monday, Jan. 16th & 30th, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm, Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University. We will continue documenting two collections from a prehistoric shell midden site. Visit www.rice.edu/maps to locate Founder's Court/Visitor Parking (requires a credit card). Happy New Year and thanks to all who participated during 2011.

-- Beth Aucoin

Two Great TAS Archeology Workshops Coming Up

The Texas Archeological Society will sponsor the Texas Archeology Academy titled "**Lithics: Reading Stone Artifacts**," **February 4-5, 2012**, in Uvalde, Texas. This workshop will provide hands-on experience in the recognition of stone artifacts, their manufacture, and how they contribute to our understanding of ancient people. Classes will be held at Quality Inn in Uvalde, 920 E. Main, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each day. **Registration deadline for this workshop is January 22, 2012.**

"**Ceramics: The Stories Found in Pottery**" will be held at Texas A&M University in College Station March 3 and 4, 2012. This academy will impart the importance of archeological ceramics in terms of technology, chronology, dating, trade, subsistence, and cultural identity. **Registration deadline for this workshop is February 22, 2012.**

Lectures and hands-on exercises for both workshops will be provided by Dr. Harry Shafer. The registration fee for **each** workshop is for two days instruction: TAS member \$95; non members, including individual membership \$155; non member including family membership \$165; student non-member including membership \$135. That includes lunches (2) and a manual on CD. A certificate of participation will be awarded to attendees. CPE credit will be available for teachers as approved by the Texas SBEC.

For online information and registration: <http://www.txarch.org/Activities/academy/aa2012/index.php>. For more information call 800-377-7240.

Friends of Archaeology to Host John Buxton of "Antiques Roadshow"

John A. Buxton, ISA CAPP, will speak at the Friends of Archaeology meeting at 5:00 pm, Sunday, February 5, 2012 in Anderson Hall on the campus of St. Thomas University. Buxton, a frequent appraiser on "Antiques Roadshow," will speak on "Appraising Archaeological material – Public and Private."

According to Buxton, "appraising archaeological material both publically on Antiques Roadshow and privately for estate or charitable donation purposes offer very different and unique challenges. The world of archaeology is changing rapidly both with the technology of the internet and scientific advances in authentication. Ultimately the question is how far do we need to go to meet the standards of due diligence of today and of the future? What was acceptable twenty years ago is certainly not acceptable now. What will the standards be twenty years from now in 2032. It might be wise to consider these issues as we plan for the future regardless of your perspective on collecting, researching, or repatriating."

For additional information, contact Jeannette Siciliano at 713-838-2583 or jnetteb@aol.com.

New Book Available on History of Bernardo Plantation

I'd like to encourage those of you who are interested in the early history of Texas to take a look at Jim Woodruff's new book: ***Bernardo: Crossroads, Social Center and Agricultural Showcase of Early Texas*** [Paperback]. Jim is our project historian, and I think he's done a terrific job of capturing the Bernardo Plantation and placing it in historical context.

Available from Amazon: http://www.amazon.com/dp/1467909696/ref=cm_sw_r_fa_esp_QwRzC.1FAK8AV.

-- Robert Marcom, Co-Principal Investigator, Bernardo Plantation Archaeology Project

East Texas Archeological Conference is February 11

The 19th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference will be held in Tyler from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Saturday, February 11, 2012, at the Ornelas Activity Center, 3402 Old Omen Rd., across Spur 248 from the University of Texas at Tyler. Registration begins at 8:30 am and admission is \$10 at the door.

In addition to a slate of great speakers, there will be a hands-on demonstration of "TAS-Method Flotation" by Leslie L. Bush, Ph.D., R.P.A, Macrobotanical Analysis. If you are interested, please bring 3- liter soil samples for processing.

To present a paper, submit an abstract and a paper title to Dr. Timothy K. Perttula: tkp4747@aol.com. For more information on conference arrangements, contact Dr. Thomas Guderjan: guderjan@yahoo.com.

"Jihad and Holy War: The Crusades" Class Starts January 30

Dr. William J. Neidinger of the Texas Foundation for Archaeological and Historical Research will offer a new adult education series, "Jihad and Holy War: The Crusades," starting January 30, 2012.

DATES: 6 Monday Evenings, January 30 - March 5, 2012; TIME: 7:00 - 8:30 pm; LOCATION: St. Agnes Academy, 9000 Bellaire Blvd, Houston TX 77036. For additional information and to register for "The Crusades," visit <http://www.tfahr.org/Crusades.html>.

**Please submit articles for publication to *Profile* Editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net.
Submit articles no later than February 2 for the February 2012 issue.**

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

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