



Thursday, December 14th, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.
“Celebrate the Holidays with the Houston Archeological Society
A Review of 2017 Activities”
– Linda Gorski

Please join us for the Houston Archeological Society’s final meeting of the year on Thursday, December 14th at 7:00 p.m. in Room 009, Doherty Library, at St. Thomas University. The meeting will also include a special holiday themed snack buffet for members and guests. Please bring a holiday snack to share! As always, our meetings are free of charge and open to the public.

Linda Gorski, HAS President, will present a review of the many projects that the Society has been involved in during 2017 including archeological surveys, excavations and other activities in and around the Houston area. The presentation will include overviews of fieldwork at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, HAS participation in International Archeology Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Public Archeology Dig at Kleb Woods Nature Preserve, and our continuing participation with TxDOT and Prewitt and Associates at the Frost Town Project in downtown Houston. She will also report on HAS lab activities, education and public outreach programs, and awards that the Society has received in 2017. Photos of many HAS members will be highlighted in this presentation so come and see yourself on the big screen!



Linda Gorski is serving her fifth term as president of the Houston Archeological Society. She is also a Texas Historical Commission Archeological Steward representing Harris County. Gorski is a published co-author of several books with HAS vice president Louis Aulbach including *Camp Logan, Houston, Texas, 1917-1919*, which is a detailed account of the activities of the military regiments that trained at Camp Logan during World War I. Their latest publications are entitled *Along the Aurelian Wall* and *Campus Martius and Its Ancient Monuments*. These volumes are the first two in a series of self-guided walking tours to archeological sites in Rome, Italy.

For a campus map of the University of St. Thomas, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 22, Doherty Library. Street parking is available as well as paid parking in Moran Center Garage (\$5) at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact Linda Gorski, at lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message – Linda Gorski

Happy Holidays, Y'all!

It has been another terrific year for the Houston Archeological Society! We have accomplished so much this year and we owe those accomplishments to **YOU** - the 207 terrific members of HAS. Thanks to all of you we enjoy an incredible reputation for excellence in archeology across the State of Texas.

I hope you will be at the December 14th meeting when I will present a program highlighting what **YOU** have done this year! Come see yourselves on the big screen at Doherty Library 009 at the University of St. Thomas.

We are certain that 2018 will be another record-breaking year for HAS. We have several exciting projects lined up including continuing excavations at Kleb Woods Nature Preserve in Tomball where we will be digging for foundation features of early structures on the site which was originally settled by German immigrant in the 1840s. We also expect to resume our project at the Frost Town site in downtown Houston with TxDOT and Prewitt and Associates where we continue to recover remarkable artifacts from the earliest days of Houston. We will also sponsor the Texas Archeological Society's Archeology 101 Academy March 9 – 11 at San Felipe State Historic Site. As you can see, it's going to be another busy year!

We hope you will renew your membership in the Houston Archeological Society and maybe even give a membership as a gift to someone you know will enjoy digging up Texas history with us – one trowel full at a time. You can download a membership form here <http://www.txhas.org/PDF/HAS%20Membership%20Form.pdf>

Our membership is the best deal in town:

- \$25 Individual membership
- \$30 Family Membership
- \$35+ Contributing membership
- \$15 Student membership

Remember that benefits of your membership include the unique opportunity to dig with us at archeological sites in the area, work with us at our labs where we process artifacts from those sites, and your FREE copies of our current academic publications including HAS Reports and Journals. Please join us!!!!

As all of us head out to visit family and friends in December, I wish you a safe and happy holiday and can't wait to work with you again in 2018. It's going to be another great year – please join us for the ride!

Minutes

Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting

November 16th, 2017

Welcome New Members and Guests (Linda Gorski, President)

Treasurer's Report (Bob Sewell): Bob reported amounts in the HAS checking and savings accounts. If any member is interested in more information about HAS finances, please see Bob.

Membership (Bob Sewell): As of tonight, HAS membership totals 207! Bob reported that the Budget will be discussed at the January meeting. Bob also reminded us that a MEMBERSHIP DRIVE is now underway! Please renew your membership before January 1st, 2018.

New Business:

New Meeting Location (Linda Gorski): Linda reported that we are meeting in our new meeting location in the Doherty Library since the MD Anderson Hall will be under renovation for this entire school year. We will be meeting in DOHERTY 009 for the time being.

Publications (Louis Aulbach): Louis announced that several recent HAS publications, including the Kellum Noble Report, the Kyle Report and Journal 137, were to be handed out at the meeting.

Lab Report (Linda Gorski): Labs at Rice are curtailed for the time being. Watch emails for updates on Labs at Linda's.

Projects:

Frost Town: The Frost Town Project is on hold since the Elysian Viaduct has not been demolished yet. Jason Barrett has indicated that the Project may resume in early 2018.

Kleb Woods Public Archeology Project (P.I. Ashley Jones): The Kleb Woods Public Archeology project, under PI Ashley Jones, had a terrific turnout on November 4. Twenty members and a good number of visitors participated in the day's activities. The next date for Kleb Woods will be December 2. Watch for more information.

TAS Archeological Academies for 2018: The TAS Archeology Academies for 2018 have been announced, and in March, 2018, the Archeology 101 academy will be here in Houston! Check the TAS website for registration forms and other information. These academies will fill up fast so register early.

December Meeting Program: Linda Gorski will present the HAS Program for December, an overview of the past year in photos! Come see yourself on the big screen! This is our annual holiday party so everyone bring a goodie to share.

Tonight's Program: Historian and author Dan Worrall presented on his book entitled *Pleasant Bend: Upper Buffalo Bayou and the San Felipe Trail in the Nineteenth Century*.

Beth Kennedy, Secretary

What'zit? – Louis Aulbach

This item is made of metal and it has several letters cut out of it. Can you identify what this is? Do you know who or what it refers to you?



A clue can be seen in the "C" that is located in the center of the second line of letters. See it enlarged below.



The object is not a sign. It is a stencil with cut out letters. The thin wire handles on each side allowed the workman to hold the stencil against a crate or bale of cotton so that the name of the company shipping the item could be painted of the side.

The letters of the stencil tell us which company used this stencil that reads:

**C & BRO.
W. D. C & Co.
HOUSTON**

The first line is less certain than the other two lines, but it may stand for: **Cleveland and Brother**

The second line is most likely the name of this famous 19th century business: **W. D. Cleveland and Company**

And, of course, the last line is the city: **Houston**

After the Civil War, William Davis Cleveland returned to Houston and took over the grocery business from Alexander Sessums where he had worked prior to the war. Cleveland's business prospered in the post war period, and he augmented his wholesale grocery enterprise with business as a cotton factor, a commission merchant who brokered cotton from the farmers and, in turn, supplied the farmers with goods and equipment.

(Cont.)

By the end of the 19th century, the W. D. Cleveland and Company was the largest wholesale grocery company in Houston. Cleveland served as the president of the Houston Cotton Exchange, and he was the president of the Cleveland Compress and Warehouse Company.

The stencil appears to date to prior to 1898, the year that Cleveland brought his two sons into the business. At that time, the company name became W. D. Cleveland and Sons.

The stencil was manufactured by a local company owned by Joseph J. Kauffman, a local stencil cutter and rubber stamp manufacturer who operated in Houston from about 1877 until at least 1898. The stencil above is a fine example of his precision handiwork.

Joseph J. Kauffman operated his stencil and rubber stamp company at 1008 Preston Avenue until about 1912. Kauffman died prior to 1913. Kauffman is shown in the 1910 census, but only his widow Eva is listed in the City Directory for 1913.

W. D. Cleveland died in December, 1912. His sons continued to run the business until 1930 when it closed due to the depression. The W. D. Cleveland and Sons Wholesale Grocery Company was located on the north side of Commerce Avenue, between Main Street and Fannin Street.

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**Lecture - Rails Around Houston -
History of Our Railroad Town by
Douglas L. Weiskopf –**

Houston Museum of Natural Science,

December 6, 6:30 p.m.

Wortham Giant Screen Theater



(photo courtesy of the Hildegard Cox collection)

Several railroads were chartered by the Republic of Texas, and the first line built was the Buffalo Bayou, Brazos and Colorado, which began construction near the Port of Houston Turning Basin in 1851. The BBB&C line became the oldest segment of the first US transcontinental railroad under sole ownership. By the time Spindletop blew in 1901, Houston was such a transportation hub that it became the heart of the petrochemical industry.

For many years, the chamber of commerce proudly proclaimed that Houston was the place “where seventeen railroads meet the sea.” Historian Douglas L. Weiskopf will detail Houston's history by way of the railroad. Following Weiskopf's presentation, the "Trains Over Texas" exhibition will be introduced by Glen Rosenbaum and David Temple and all will be invited to experience the miniature grandeur. A book signing of "Rails Around Houston" will also be offered.

Members \$12, Tickets \$18. For ticket information call the HMNS ticket office at 713-639-4629 or go to <http://store.hmns.org/DateSelection.aspx?item=3785>

Excavations at Kleb Woods Nature Preserve

Members of the Houston Archeological Society hosted another public archeology day at Kleb Woods Nature Preserve in Tomball on Saturday, November 4. If you missed it, I hope these photos will encourage you to join us the next time! We had 20 HAS members on hand and a ton of parents and students from Rosehill Christian School. Thanks to HAS member [Sharon Menegaz](#), their teacher, for encouraging them to dig up Texas history with us! Thanks most of all to our incredible PI on the project, [Ashley Jones](#), a professional archeologist with Raba Kistner. She made the day a huge success! Thanks also to our Texas Historical Commission Regional Archeologist [Jeff Durst](#) for joining us from Austin and wielding a mean machete to help us clear our project area. We put in four units thanks to lots of helping hands. Kleb Woods was a family farm whose owners were descendants of early German immigrants who settled in Harris County in the 1840s. As part of our multi-year public archeology project we will be excavating areas identified as foundation features of early buildings on the site. And you and your kids can help us as we dig up Texas history at Kleb Woods - one trowel full at a time!!! **NEXT ARCHEOLOGY DAY AT KLEB WOODS – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 8 A.M. – 1 P.M.** Please email me at lindagorski@cs.com if you'd like to join us so I can send you a map to the site and other details.



Clearing the area before digging



The team lays out a unit



Jay Gavitt, Dave Ewell, Charlie Gordy and Vicki Huddleston screening



Jeff Durst wields a mean machete!



Tom Williams does the paperwork



Rosehill parents got involved too!



Our terrific PI, Ashley Jones



Rosehill kids working like real archeologists!!



HAS members instructing students

Houston Archeological Society
Monthly Meeting Programs for 2017/2018
7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)
Doherty Library, St. Thomas University

Programs for 2018

January 18, 2018 – Wilson “Dub” Crook “Excavations in South Africa”

February 15, 2018 – Brad Jones, “Social Life of Arrows”

March 15, 2018 – Dan Warren “Underwater Archeology in the Gulf from the Perspective of Damaged and Looted Sites”

April 19 2018 – To be announced

May 17, 2018 – Dr. Gus Costa - **Bannerstones of Texas**

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS then visited 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/>

Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than December 19th for the January 2018 issue.

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

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