www.txhas.org

Thursday, March 9th, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. "Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan" Beth Aucoin

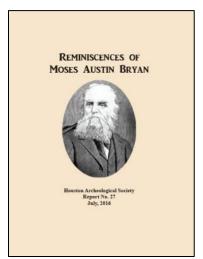
HAS Member Elizabeth K. (Beth) Aucoin will present the monthly program for the Houston Archeological Society on Thursday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall, University of St. Thomas. (Please note that the program is a week earlier than our normal third Thursday of the month). Her program will highlight the Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan, written in his own hand in 1889 at the age of 72. His reminiscences provide a unique glimpse of different stages of his life before, during, and after the Texas Revolution. Aucoin has recently published these Reminiscences in HAS Report No. 27, copies of which will be available at the meeting.

While *Reminiscences* details certain aspects of Moses Austin Bryan's life, it also provides insight into the trials and tribulations of establishing a new colony, then insuring its independence. "We all know of the heroic efforts of the Texians at the battle of the Alamo, the massacre at Goliad, and the battle for independence at the battle at San Jacinto. It is Bryan's personal insight in the telling of his



Beth Aucoin with J. P. Bryan, descendent of Moses Austin Bryan

relationship as Stephen F. Austin's personal secretary, his travels with his uncle from Texas to Mexico, and his personal involvement at San Jacinto that gives us a personal glimpse of what life was like in early Texas. We are indebted to Moses Austin Bryan for his foresight in putting pen to paper and recording for future generations his impressions and observations of what life was like in early Texas," said Aucoin.



Aucoin received a BS degree in Anthropology from the University of Houston-Clear Lake in 1999 where she was chosen the outstanding baccalaureate in the Anthropology program. Beth's first exposure to archeology occurred in 1996 when she attended a sixweek program titled "Archeology in Texas" being taught by past HAS President Joan Few. In 1999, Beth also joined the Houston Archeological Society, serving as president in 2003 - 2004. Beth has also served as a member of the Texas Historical Commission's Texas Archeological Stewardship Network since 2003. Prior to her chosen volunteer career in archeology, she lived in California, Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Colorado, always returning to her roots in Texas.

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 in Moran Center Garage 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

Late last year the Houston Archeological Society was asked by the Texas Historical Commission and The Heritage Society in downtown Houston to analyze a collection of artifacts that had been dredged out of Buffalo Bayou in 1968. Many of these artifacts dated to the Civil War era when three barges and blockade runners full of munitions as well as stocks of munitions from armories in Houston were scuttled into the Bayou at the foot of Milam Street following the surrender of the Confederacy in 1865 to deprive the approaching Union forces of the equipment. The artifacts had been stored in boxes at the Heritage Society since 1986 but were of such historical significance that HAS jumped at the chance to analyze the collection.

As we began the project, I contacted several folks in HAS who I knew had expertise in munitions and other Civil War related items as well as those who were knowledgeable about other classes of artifacts we were likely to recover including bottles, buttons and ceramics. In November and December 2016 and January 2017 we examined thousands of artifacts that were recovered during the dredge operation. We analyzed each individual item, identified it, researched it, documented it on a

spreadsheet, bagged, tagged and photographed each item. It was a huge task and I can't tell you how hard the team including Bob Sewell, Louis Aulbach, Charlie Gordy, Randy Pace, Beth Aucoin, John Rich, Beth Kennedy, Larry Golden, and Tom Nuckols worked. Professional archeologists Dr. Jason Barrett, Dr. Roger Moore, Douglas Mangum, and Jeff Durst even spent some time lending their expertise to the project!







The collection has now been returned to The Heritage Society but the story does not end there! One of our HAS members, Joshua Farrar, is a student at Texas A & M University, pursuing his master's degree in Nautical Archeology. In the coming months, he is going to conserve and further analyze the Civil War munitions in The Heritage Society collection and document his findings for his master's degree thesis!!! We cannot wait to see his thesis on this remarkable collection of artifacts.

The purpose of this President's Message is this If you have expertise or an interest in a particular historical or archeological subject or a particular type of artifact (lithics, pottery, glass, ceramics, munitions, etc.) please email me at lindagorski@cs.com and let me know so that we can take advantage of your knowledge the next time we are asked to analyze one of these collections. We look forward to adding you to our growing list of "experts".



Bob Sewell, Linda Gorski, Ginger Berni (The Heritage Society) and Joshua Farrar

Minutes Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting February 16th, 2017

Welcome New Members and Guests – Linda Gorski, President

Treasurer's Report: Bob Sewell reported amounts currently in the HAS checking and savings accounts. For more information on this, please contact Bob.

Membership: Bob Sewell reports 140 members so far in 2017! The high for 2016 was 229. Membership forms are in the back. All new members get a bumper sticker and a copy of the newest HAS Report and Journal. We will assume that all former members who have not renewed their memberships by the end of March are not going to renew, and all emails and other notifications will stop.

New Business:

- **Audit Committee** John Lumb, Geoff Mills, and Charlie Aulbach will meet on February 22 to conduct the audit. (Louis Frey had to withdraw from the committee due to knee surgery). They will report next month. Thanks to this great team!
- Lab report We plan to return to the popular workshop format for labs. HAS members and local archeologists will share their expertise on particular subjects. Dr. Gus has announced that labs will be held on the 4th Monday of the month. Upcoming lab dates are February 27, March 27, April 24, and May 29, although we may have to change this date due to Memorial Day. On February 27, brought back by popular demand, Larry Golden will give his popular workshop on determining the age of bottles.

High Viz vests - \$5.00 while supplies last; we still have large and extra-large.

Projects:

- **Katy ISD Archeological Project** This took place February 9 14. 650 gifted and talented students went through this intense archeological program, and Linda offered a special thanks to those who helped: Bob Sewell, Sharon Menegaz, Dr. Gus Costa, and Eleanor Stoddart. This event was a great public outreach effort!
- First Annual Conservation, Ecology and Environmental Career Forum was held at the HCC West Loop Campus. In career fair format, it involved students from Rice, HCC, U of H, St. Thomas, as well as other universities. Thanks to Bob Sewell, Louis Aulbach and Tom Nuckols for being there! We received great feedback from students!
- Science Teachers Association for Area 5 will hold a science mini-conference on February 18, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Memorial High School in Port Arthur. Sharon Menegaz, Bob Sewell, Debbie Eller, Ron and Brenda Jackson (from Beaumont), and Linda will give a presentation along with a display of artifacts and information from local sites.
- Coastal Prairie Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists will hold an "Introduction to Archeology" spring workshop for its members at Brazos Bend State Park on March 25. Sharon Menegaz, Bob Sewell, and Beth Kennedy will be the leads on this conference. If you would like to help, let Linda know.
- **Kleb Woods Public Archeology project** Ashley Jones will be our PI. She is currently getting permits for the project, which will probably start with GPR/magnetometer surveys of the site in late February, 2017.
- Frost Town Phase 1 is over, and we will hear lots tonight about both Phase 1 and Phase 2 in the presentation given by Doug Boyd. Dr. Jason reports that demolition has not yet begun, and there is no date as to when the bridge will come down. He will keep everyone updated.
- San Jacinto Symposium To be held April 8 at the Monument Inn; Larry Golden, representing HAS, will be there with family exhibits and displays.

Program for March – HAS member Beth Aucoin will present on the unpublished papers of Moses Austin Bryan, which she discovered and documented in HAS Special Report #27.

Program for February – Doug Boyd, with Prewitt and Associates in Austin, gave a program and update on the spectacular Frost Town project we've been working on since July of 2016. Doug reviewed the history of the project as well as recovered artifacts.

-Beth Kennedy, Secretary, Houston Archeological Society

Frost Town Phase 1 Completed – Thanks to YOU! By Linda Gorski

If you missed archeologist Doug Boyd's program at the Houston Archeological Society's February 16 monthly meeting, you missed one of the best presentations on historical archeology we've had to date. Boyd is an archeologist with Prewitt and Associates, Inc. in Austin and is the Principal Investigator (PI) on the Frost Town project in downtown Houston, just a few blocks north of Minute Maid Park. The project included surveys and excavations by Prewitt and Associates and TxDOT in an area that will be impacted by the scheduled demolition of the Elysian Viaduct. As most of you know, the Houston Archeological Society has been heavily involved in this project since July 2016, screening piles of dirt from the site and recovering thousands of artifacts that are currently being analyzed at Prewitt's lab in Austin.

Boyd's team completed Phase 1 of the project in late 2016 but HAS continued screening piles of dirt at the site until the end of January when the viaduct was scheduled to come down. In his presentation, Boyd highlighted the number of hours that were donated to the project by members of HAS. The totals are pretty impressive!

Total HAS Volunteer Hours, July - December 2016 = 1139.65 OR 142.46 Person Days (This is the full time, 8-hour person day equivalent).

So proud of the HAS Team!!!! HAS will continue screening dirt in Phase 2 of the project which is scheduled to begin as soon as the viaduct is demolished and the debris cleared. In the meantime, here are a few photos of HAS members working at the site on the last few days of the project.

Thanks to everyone who helped!!!!

















HAS Public Outreach Team Busy in February!!

Members of the HAS Public Outreach team were busy in February putting on displays and exhibits and working directly with students to promote awareness of archeology in the Houston area.

Louis Aulbach, Bob Sewell and Tom Nuckols manned an information exhibit at the First Annual Conservation, Ecology, and Environmental Science Career Forum, co-hosted by the University of Saint Thomas, Houston Community College, and the Coastal Prairie Partnership. This forum exposed more than 100 college students and recent graduates from 11 regional institutions to jobs, internships and volunteer opportunities in environmental related fields. Dr. Cassidy Johnson, one of the event organizers has already asked us to participate again next year!





HAS members Bob Sewell, Sharon Menegaz, Linda Gorski, Ron and Brenda Jackson and Debbie Eller took the HAS show on the road (literally!) to participate in an Area 5 Mini-CAST Conference in Port Arthur on Saturday, February 18. Entitled "Science on the Right Side of Texas", the conference drew science and history teachers from as far away as Klein ISD and the Archdiocese of Houston! The HAS team presented a program on archeology highlighting some of the projects in which HAS has been involved recently. Menegaz presented teachers with lesson plans they can apply in the classroom to teach archeology and the team also had a large display of artifacts both from the Houston area and from East Texas. Once again, we received many accolades and have been asked to return next year!





Finally, HAS members Bob Sewell, Linda Gorski, Sharon Menegaz, Dr. Gus Costa and Eleanor Stoddart went above and beyond speaking to over 650 students in the Gifted and Talented Program in Katy ISD. Dr. Gus demonstrated flintknapping skills and taught the students how to throw a spear with an atlatl and Eleanor Stoddart worked with the students digging, screening and analyzing artifacts. Event organizer Linda Kubena is also an HAS member and did an amazing job keeping the kids moving through several stations including pottery making, pebble painting, and archery. Way to go team!!!







We need you for the Public Outreach team!!! The joy in the kids (and adults) eyes when they are able to touch and feel real artifacts and learn about archeology through our stories is incredibly rewarding! If you are interested in helping us spread the word about archeology in the Houston area, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com.

THE ANDY KYLE ARCHEOLOGICAL COLLECTION

Wilson W. Crook, III

The Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center is currently in the process of renovating its entire museum display. A major part of their future exhibits will be the prehistory of Southeast Texas utilizing the extensive Andy Kyle Artifact Collection. This priceless collection of Indian artifacts was a gift to the museum by the late Mr. Andy Kyle, long-time resident of Liberty County and avid avocational archeologist.

The collection comprises over 10,000 artifacts from 93 archeological sites from seven counties in southeast Texas. These include 36 sites in Liberty County, 21 sites in Polk County, 13 sites in Jasper County, 8 in Sabine County, 7 in Tyler County, 5 in Hardin County and 3 in Angelina County. Sites present in the collection represent an area that is essentially between the Trinity and Sabine Rivers. As such, they contain artifacts not only characteristic of Texas archeology but also represent influences from Louisiana as well.



Recently, the Library engaged members of the Houston Archeological Society (HAS) to go through the Kyle Collection and identify and select diagnostic artifacts to be used in the new, interactive exhibit. During this process, HAS members Wilson "Dub" Crook (pictured above), Linda Gorski, Bob Sewell and Louis Aulbach have made a number of discoveries which will help in the understanding of Southeast Texas archeology. In general, many of the sites collected by Mr. Kyle have long occupation sequences, ranging from the Paleo-Indian period (13,500 years Before Present) to the Late Prehistoric period (500 years BP or ca. 1500 A.D.). Five major archeological occupational periods are represented in the collection. These include:

•	Paleo-Indian	13,500	-	7,000	BP
•	Early Archaic	7,000	-	5,000	BP
•	Middle Archaic	5,000	-	3,500	BP
•	Late to Transitional Archaic	3,500	-	1,400	BP
•	Late Prehistoric	1,400	-	500	BP

The majority of the Andy Kyle Archeological Collection comes from the Middle and Late Archaic periods when the aboriginal inhabitants of the region were becoming more sedentary and living for longer periods of time in specific campsites. Prior to this time, the inhabitants of the southeast Texas region were more nomadic hunter-gatherers, moving from campsite to campsite based on the seasons and food and water availability.

One of the more spectacular finds by the HAS volunteers has been the broken bases of two Clovis projectile points (see photo below). The two points come from the Wood Springs site (41LB15), which is located only 0.4 of a mile to the south and east of the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center. These two points mark the first reported occurrence of Clovis people in Liberty County and push the date for the first occupation of the area back to somewhere around 13,000 years ago. Two small fragments of a tooth from either a mammoth or a mastodon were also found in the collections from the Wood Springs site and could represent the animal the Clovis hunters stalked and killed.



The Wood Springs site would not have been a permanent campsite but more likely a seasonal site that would have been periodically visited by bands of Clovis hunters following big game animals. The site has abundant water and would have made an ideal temporary campsite.

Both artifacts are made from high quality chert that is not native to the area. The Library has graciously given us permission to conduct future research on the two points using X-Ray Fluorescence technology to see if the chert used can be sourced to known outcrops in Texas. This may help determine if the Wood Springs site is related to other Clovis age sites in the state including the Timber Fawn site (41HR1165) which is located less than 30 miles to the west.

HAS Members Only Lab on March 27 at Rice University to Feature Workshop On Analyzing Munitions

Members of the Texas Historical Commission Archeological Stewards Network and many HAS members have participated with professional archeologists in archeological excavations at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site over the past several years. Needless to say, we have recovered thousands of artifacts that date back to the 1830s when the townsite of San Felipe de Austin was in full swing and before it was burned to the ground ahead of the approaching Mexican Army in 1836. Among the many artifacts recovered are munitions including musket balls, shot and cartridges.

HAS member and munitions expert Tom Nuckols will present the next workshop at the HAS lab at Rice University highlighting some of the historic munitions recovered at San Felipe. The lab will be held on Monday, March 27 from 7-9 p.m. at the Rice Lab in Sewell Hall, Rice University.

Tom is currently analyzing the munitions from the latest excavations at the San Felipe site for the THC. This lab will concentrate on several pieces of shot that were recovered last summer in a degraded shot pouch in one of the units. demonstrate will how shot Tom manufactured, and how it is analyzed. This will be an educational, hands-on workshop where participants will measure and analyze the munitions. They will then document the shot on provenience tags and learn how to write a munitions report.



If you plan to attend this lab, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com. We have a limited amount of space in the Rice Lab and do not want to overcrowd the room so please reserve your space early. Please remember that these labs are for HAS members only and are free of charge.

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.

TAS 2017 ARCHEOLOGY ACADEMIES 2017 TAS

Homepage: http://txarch.org/Activities/academy/aa2017/index.php
Registration fee \$100 plus TAS membership required
Scholarships
http://www.txarch.org/scholarships/index.php
http://www.txarch.org/scholarships/index.php

<u>Technology in Archeology - April 29-30, 2017 - in</u> <u>Fredericksburg</u> Registration deadline is April 14

Another new TAS Academy for 2017, we are very excited to offer for the first time Technology in Archeology in Fredericksburg! Participants will be introduced to exciting methods such as Structure from Motion (SfM) photogrammetry, geophysical survey methods, aerial drone recordation, and 3D scanning are also planned topics. This course will introduce these technologies in an archeological application within a state of the art classroom setting at the Hill Country University Center. Outdoor activities will include SfM, geophysical survey, and drone recordation at the nearby Fort Martin Scott. Instructors: Charles Koenig, Tiffany Osburn, Dr. Zac Selden, and Arlo McKee.

Fredericksburg offers incredible outdoor opportunities such as the nearby Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, shopping, historic sites, wineries, and much more. Lodging opportunities range from nice hotels, an incredible variety of bed and breakfasts, camping, RV parks, and more.

Scholarships are available, please apply! http://www.txarch.org/scholarships/index.php

DON'T FORGET MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS DUE

It's that time of the year again!! If you have not done so already, it is time to renew your HAS Membership for 2017. For just \$25 for an Individual, \$15 for a Student, or \$30 for a Family you can continue to be part of the most active Archeological Society in Texas. You can find a membership form on our website at http://www.txhas.org/PDF/HAS%20Membership%20Form.pdf

*** IMPORTANT NOTICE ***

The University of St. Thomas will be closed 16-17 March, 2017. Therefore the March HAS Membership Meeting has been rescheduled to

7:00pm on Thursday 9th March, 2017.

The topic of the meeting is "Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan" and will be presented by Beth Aucoin.

Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Programs for 2017 7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June) M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University

Programs for 2017

April 20, 2017 – Larry Golden and Linda Gorski, "Celebrating San Jacinto".

May 18, 2017 – Kimberly L.Faulk, MA, "Underwater Archeology on the Gulf Coast".

June – No meeting due to TAS Field School

July 20, 2017 – TAS 2017 Field School Wrap Up

August 17, 2017 - Dub Crook, "The Megalithic Archeology of Malta"

September 21, 2017 – Scotty Moore, "Search for the people of the Palm: Prehistoric Archaeology in the Ecuadorian Rain Forest"

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/

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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 March 27th for the April 2017 issue.

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

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