



Thursday, April 19th, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.

“Excavations at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site: What one Ceramic Sherd can tell us” – Steve Davis

HAS Member Steve Davis will present the program at the Thursday, April 19th meeting of the Houston Archeological Society highlighting his participation in archeological excavations at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. His talk will focus on his ongoing efforts to clean, sort, identify and research the artifacts recovered, especially one particular artifact which will be the topic of his program. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the basement of Doherty Library Room 009 on the campus of the University of St. Thomas. The meeting is free of charge and open to the public.

In 2014 the Texas Historical Commission (THC) began a systematic investigation focused on Block 566 in the historic township of San Felipe de Austin, the “birthplace of Texas”, established in 1823. Excavations there were an adjunct activity of the Texas Archeological Society’s (TAS) annual field school in 2014, 2015, and 2016 in nearby Columbus, Texas. Additional work was conducted in November 2015 as part of the Stephen F. Austin birthday celebration. Further work was commissioned by the THC during 5 ten-day contract sessions performed by Coastal Environmental Inc. Volunteers from the Texas Archeology Stewards Network (TASN) and Houston Archeological Society (HAS) were utilized on all work at Block 566. During the excavations thousands of period artifacts were recovered. During the third contract session in the spring of 2017 a distinctive “flow-blue” white body earthenware ceramic sherd with a sea shell pattern was discovered. This presentation details the research, yet ongoing, into this artifact with the stated goal to determine who may have brought such a distinctive ceramic artifact to a pioneer outpost on the frontier of Texas. The researcher will conclude the talk with who brought the ceramic object, when it arrived in San Felipe and the known facts supporting his postulation. As this research is not yet published or vetted by experts, your comments, questions and suggestions regarding further research are welcomed.



Steve Davis is a native-born Texan who is proud to trace his lineage back to San Felipe. He is a recently retired business owner who has designed and built industrial, heavy commercial and high technology facilities throughout the U.S.A. and several locations overseas. He attended the University of Texas-Austin and began his career in northeast Texas before returning to Austin. Since 1983 Steve has focused his time on a variety of volunteer efforts including archeology. He has invested significant man-hours on world-class archeological projects such as the Gault Site and the Ancient Southwest Texas Project among many others. He feels privileged to include the San Felipe de Austin Historical Site among the great projects he has worked on. In 2013, Steve set up the 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, *Journal of Texas Archeology and History.org*, to support and promote the study of archeology and history in a six-state region the JTAH calls the “Texas Borderlands”. The organization annually publishes a journal of peer-reviewed original research and engages in public outreach and education. You may learn more about the JTAH and their efforts to “preserve, protect and promote archeology and history in the “Texas Borderlands”” at their website, www.JTAH.org.

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 at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the Houston Archeological Society, please contact Linda Gorski, at lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message – Linda Gorski

HAS Members and Friends –

As most of you know, the Houston Archeological Society (HAS) acted as the local arrangements committee for the recent Archeology 101 Academy conducted by the Texas Archeological Society (TAS). Not only did we have a terrific core of volunteers on the site, but many of our new HAS members participated in the Academy. And, if the feedback we've received is any indication, it was a huge success.

This academy was held March 9 – 11 at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, located in the town of San Felipe Texas, just east of Sealy. The Archeology 101 Academy is held every other year for new archeological volunteers and provides background information on the archeology of the State of Texas and how to identify archeological sites, both pre-European and historic in nature. Instructions are provided for accurate site recording that allows archeologists to assess the importance and significance of a site or sites, and contribute to the synthesis of the state's cultural heritage. Attendees even had an opportunity to participate in a real archeological dig on Sunday at San Felipe, one of the most historical sites in the State of Texas!!!! The instructor for the Academy was Dr. Jon Lohse, professional archeologist with MAC/CEI in Houston who has received many accolades for the three day class. On hand to assist Jon were members of the TAS Academy committee, Ken Lawrence and Jimmy Barrera and San Felipe de Austin site manager, Bryan McAuley.

I am so proud of all the HAS members who participated!!! Our core group of volunteers included Debbie Eller, who also acted as coordinator of the academy for TAS, Sharon Menegaz, Beth Kennedy, Sandy Rogers, Bob Sewell, Dr. Liz Coon-Nguyen, Louis Aulbach and yours truly. Additionally, our five crew chiefs on Sunday who directed the students in their excavations are also HAS members including Dr. Sarah Chesney, the new on-site archeologist at San Felipe, Ashley Jones, professional archeologist



with RabaKistner, Eleanor Stoddart, professional archeologist with MAC/CEI, Dr. Liz Coon-Nguyen, HAS board member and medical doctor who also has her undergraduate degree in archeology from Yale, and Don Keyes, a member of the Texas Historical Commission's Archeological Stewards network. HAS members who attended the class include Randy Pace, Frank Kozar, Wade Boeker, Christine and Patricia Salvo, Curt, Ellen and Katie Brooks, Cynthia Cuffey, Bruce Gilmore, and Linda Evasiuk,

Thanks go out to all these folks who made this Academy such a huge success!!! And welcome to all our newly trained archeologists who will be digging up Texas history with us – one trowel full at a time!

MINUTES

Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting

March 22, 2018

Welcome New Members and Guests: **Louis Aulbach, Vice President**, filling in for Linda Gorski, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

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.

Audit Committee (Louis Aulbach): Charlie Aulbach, member of the Audit Committee, reported spending many hours auditing the books for 2017, and found no problems. One thing the Committee suggested was changing the audit checklist by updating and adapting it to current technology. The Committee commends Bob Sewell for doing a great job keeping the Society books!

Membership (Bob Sewell): So far, our membership in 2018 is 179. Our **MEMBERSHIP DRIVE** is now underway! The membership year runs January – December with a three month grace period. Please renew your membership before the end of March. After that date your name will be removed from our email list of active members.

New Business:

Publications (Dub Crook and Louis Aulbach): Louis distributed Journal 138, "Special Issue Dedicated to Etruscan and Roman Archeology," after tonight's meeting to all members who are paid up. Next month's publication will be HAS Special Report #30, "Dalmanutha, Rossland and Sunny Slopes Farms: Three New Fauresmith Industry Sites in the Eastern Cape Province, Republic of South Africa," by Dub Crook. Tim Perttula's report on East Texas ceramics will be out in May.

Lab Report (Louis Aulbach): Watch for more information! We will be cleaning Frost Town artifacts soon.

Projects:

Frost Town (Dr. Jason Barrett): Frost Town is in full swing again. Archeologist Doug Boyd has set aside several piles of dirt for HAS to screen. The first screening day of 2018 was last Saturday; 15 folks showed up and recovered numerous exciting artifacts. More house foundations have been found, and that cistern fill needs to be screened. The next work day is this coming Saturday, March 24.

Kleb Woods Public Archeology Project (Ashley Jones): Our next date at Kleb Woods is March 24, but only a very small crew is needed, as we will conduct GPR and metal detecting surveys. In particular, we will scan the lawn behind the main house for features, using GPR to see what we can find. See Ashley if you're interested.

Archeology Academies (Louis Aulbach): The TAS Archeology 101 Academy was a rip roaring success at San Felipe. The HAS team outdid themselves and received great reviews! The new museum is set to open at the end of April!

Post burn surveys at North Padre Island (Liz Coon-Nguyen): Linda Gorski sent information out about this earlier this week. If you are interested in this project please see "Dr. Liz" after the meeting. We may be doing a three-day weekend.

TAS Field School 2018 (Louis Aulbach): Field school will again be held at Camp Woods on the Nueces River. Many HAS members are going. HAS will award two scholarships to students over the age of 18 to attend. Applications are on the table outside. Also, one attendee from Clear Lake wants to carpool. See Linda for more information.

APRIL PROGRAM:

HAS member Steve Davis will present an excellent program highlighting archeology at San Felipe through the discovery of a distinctive "flow-blue" white body earthenware ceramic sherd with a sea shell pattern that was discovered in 2017. This presentation details the research, yet ongoing, into this artifact, with the stated goal to determine who may have brought such a distinctive ceramic artifact to a pioneer outpost on the frontier of Texas. The researcher will conclude the talk with who brought the ceramic object, when it arrived in San Felipe, and the known facts supporting his postulation. As this research is not yet published or vetted by experts, your comments, questions and suggestions regarding further research are welcomed.

MARCH PROGRAM

HAS member and professional archeologist Dan Warren presented a program on "The Steam Yacht Anona: History, Archaeology, and Looting of a Deepwater Shipwreck". Once a luxury yacht for millionaires, *Anona* ended its days as a potato freighter, when it foundered in 1944. This talk outlined the history of this unique ship as it went from post yacht to potato freighter and discussed the wreck's archaeology, including the evidence of looting.

Beth Kennedy, Secretary

THE SAW MEDALLIONS OF HAND SAWS

Saw medallions or label screws are one of a number (2 - 4) of screw and nut combinations that hold the saw blade in the handle. The medallions range in size from 2 – 2.5 mm in diameter, with the shaft length depending on the wood handle thickness. Hand saw manufacturing began in America in the 1730's with the marked medallions being added during the 1850's.

The medallions were discarded when the saw handle would break or the medallion shaft would shear from use, thus finding their way into our archeological context. The medallions when found can easily be confused with a suspender or overall type button when little of the shaft remains.

Online references from tool collector sites and local industrial histories as well as patent dates help to identify and date these medallions. However it seems the majority of the patent dates located on the medallion are for the nut and shaft combination, with the saw dates and/or models typically being engraved into the saw blade.

Three of the pictured medallions were recovered from the town site of San Jacinto with the others being from antique shops.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 5



Figure 3



Figure 4

THE SAW MEDALLIONS OF HAND SAWS (Cont.)

Figure 1 – San Jacinto town site. Marked RICHARDSON BROS. NEWARK N.J., a Maltese cross with “R” in the center and letters B, E, S and T on the four arms of the cross was registered on April 30, 1878.

Figure 2 – San Jacinto town site. Marked WARRANTED SUPERIOR with an open winged eagle with shield. This medallion is thought to have been used by several different manufacturers on their lesser quality saws; Disston used this medallion as a replacement medallion when ordered and dates to the early 1900’s.

Figure 3 – Antique shop. Marked * H.DISSTON & SONS *PHILAD’A* with scales in the center and dates to the late 1870’s.

Figure 4 – San Jacinto town site. Marked SPEAR & JACKSON SHEFFIELD with a crown in the center with the letters S and J either side. Spear and Jackson was the largest English saw maker and this medallion dates to the 1870’s – 1880’s.

Figure 5 – Antique shop. Marked HARVEY W. PEACE BROOKLYN N.Y. with a forearm bearing a hammer in the center as well as a PAT. DEC 31 1867. This patent date was for the type of nut used on the medallion. This medallion dates to the 1870’s – 1880’s.

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A New Look at Transferware

There is a terrific article about transferware by Mary Furlow Minkoff, PhD, Curator of Archaeological Collections, at the James Madison’s Montpelier in Virginia. We find so many transferware sherds at our digs here in Texas, too, so this article is especially relevant to our research.

Here’s an extract of the article...

“Of all the ceramics we find at Montpelier, transferprint vessels with their elaborate designs, variety and frequency in the archaeological record are the best suited for this type of research. Here, I explore how a careful examination of the patterns on transferprint vessels can give a window into the enslaved buyer’s motivation for purchase beyond the basic constraints of financial position and product availability.” Mary Furlow Minkoff, PhD.

The article can be found on the Montpelier website at the following link.

<https://mailchi.mp/montpelier/montpelier-archaeology-fenceline-results-1333769>

First Aid Corner: Snakebites! by Liz Coon-Nguyen

First aid recommendations for snake bites have changed over recent years, and it is important to be aware as some of those old ways actually do more harm than good!

Snakebites are typically provoked by human behaviors, and using caution while in the field can minimize risk of provoking a snake. Never put a foot or hand down where you cannot see! Consider wearing thick protective clothing or snake leggings. If a snake does cross your path, move slowly back and away.

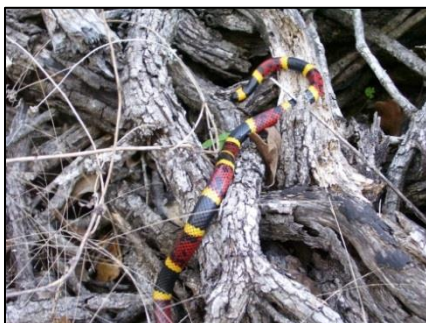
If the snake is non-venomous, then the bite wound can be treated like any other cut or puncture wound.

There are 4 venomous snakes in the US – copperheads, coral snakes, cottonmouths, and rattlesnakes. A bite from a venomous snake can be fatal, however 70% of all snakebites are by nonvenomous species and 50% of bites by venomous species are “dry bites”.

In the event of a bite, most important is to note the type of snake. Medical personnel need this information in order to administer the correct anti snake venom. Do not waste time trying to capture the snake. Immediately seek medical attention. Remove any jewelry or clothing from the affected area. Avoid vigorous cleaning or washing of the area. Cover with a loose dry bandage and keep the area of the bite below the level of the heart. Keep the limb still and immobile. Avoid any activity that would hasten the absorption and systemic spread of the venom - keep the victim calm. Avoid caffeine or alcohol. Have the victim lie down if able. Do not apply tourniquets, incise the puncture wounds or attempt to suck out the venom. These old recommendations have been shown to be ineffective and harmful.



Copperhead



Coral Snake



Cottonmouth, aka Water Moccasin



Diamondback Rattlesnake

Photos courtesy Texas Parks and Wildlife Department © 2006

Sources:

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2700615/>

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/resources/texas-junior-naturalists/snakes-alive/venomous-texas-snakes>

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid-snake-bites/basics/art-20056681>

<https://www.webmd.com/first-aid/snakebite-treatment>

Notes on Munitions: A 56-50 Spencer Rimfire Cartridge by Tom Nuckols

I do not actively collect cartridges. However, if I am out and about, and I find one for sale that is unusual or rare, I will buy it. I also have cartridges that friends have given me over the years. So, starting this month, I am going to do a series of articles about cartridges in my collection. This first article is about a 56-50 Spencer rimfire cartridge that I bought at the First Monday Trade Days in Canton, Texas years ago.

The cartridge case of 56-50 Spencer rimfire is made of copper. The lead bullet is a pointed nose type and is secured to the case by a turned case crimp (a turning-in of the case mouth into the bullet). Located 5/16" below the case mouth and 90° apart are four stab crimps (indentations made in the case as an additional way to hold the bullet in the case). The base of the cartridge is headstamped "J.G." for Joseph Goldmark.



The 56-50 cartridge was designed by the Springfield Armory in late 1861, and it was used in various models of the Spencer repeating carbines from 1865 to 1867 (Flayderman 1998: 513). Barnes (2006: 486) states that the 56-50 cartridge was loaded with a 350-grain bullet and 45 grains of black gun powder. The 56 in 56-50 refers to the case's base diameter of 0.56", and the 50 indicates a 50-caliber bullet.

Besides the 56-50, there were three other Spencer rimfire cartridges used in Spencer rifles and carbines: the 56-46 (introduced 1866, and obsolete c. 1919), the 56-52 (introduced 1866, obsolete c. 1920), and the 56-56. The 56-56 is considered the original Spencer rifle cartridge, and it was patented on March 6, 1860. Both the rifles and the cartridges were used by the Union Army during the American Civil War. The cartridge became obsolete c. 1920 (Barnes 2006: 486-487).

The basic information about Joseph Goldmark and the Spencer rimfire cartridges that he manufactured is below:

Joseph Goldmark

Brooklyn, NY

Business structure: Proprietorship of Joseph Goldmark

Rimfire Production Years: 1864 to 1866

Rimfire Production Range: 56-50 & 56-56 Spencer & .58 Musket

Headstamps: Impressed "J.G." or "J.G." on 56-50 Spencer,

"J.G." on 56/56 Spencer and .58 Musket.

Some 56-56 Spencer cartridges were unheadstamped.

(cont.)

Notes on Munitions: A 56-50 Spencer Rimfire Cartridge (Cont.)

Although Goldmark's first name is often erroneously given as Jacob, or sometimes as Julius, Goldmark's proper baptismal name was Joseph, as attested in the pages of both the Brooklyn and the New York City directories from 1859 to 1881. He was primarily a manufacturer of percussion caps, operating his business under the name of J. Goldmark & Co. from 1859 to 1862, and simply as J. Goldmark thereafter.

From 1865 until his death in 1881, Goldmark was described as a manufacturer of percussion caps and fixed (meaning metallic) ammunition. That may be so, but there is no evidence today that he made rimfire ammunition after his last delivery of 56-50 Spencer rounds to the United States government on December 31, 1866. It is possible, however, that he accepted contracts for Spencer ammunition from France for use in the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, and later for export to Central and South America from which the only headstamped round of 56-56 Spencer came. Until further data shows otherwise, the year end of 1866 remains the tentative date of his last rimfire cartridge production (Barber: 1987: 33).

REFERENCES

Barber, John L.

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

Barnes, Frank C.

2006 *Cartridges of the World*. 11th Edition. Gun Digest Books, Iola, WI.

Flayderman, Norm

1998 *Flayderman's Guide to Antique American Firearms and Their Values*. 7th Edition. Krause Publications, Iola, WI.

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HAS to Award Two Scholarships to 2018 TAS Field School at Camp Wood

Heads up college students over the age of 18! The Houston Archeological Society is awarding two field school scholarships to attend the annual Texas Archeological Society Field School scheduled for June 9 - 16 at on the Nueces River in West Texas. The Texas Archeological Society's (TAS) annual summer Field School will return for a second year to the beautiful Nueces Canyon in Camp Wood and Barksdale. There, we will continue our work assisting Dr. Tamra Walter and her students from Texas Tech University with their research on the archeology of Mission San Lorenzo de la Cruz. Once again, we are being welcomed into the communities of Camp Wood and Barksdale and hosted by the Nueces Canyon Mission Restoration Organization. This is the same venue as last year and it was an absolutely amazing location and a terrific field school. Many HAS members have already registered for this year's field school so you'll see lots of friendly faces! You can find complete information about the 2018 TAS Field School on the TAS website at <https://txarch.org/civicrm-event/188>

The HAS Field School Scholarship will cover the registration fee for attendance at the 2018 TAS Field School, breakfast and dinner each day and membership in the Texas Archeological Society for one year. Total scholarship amount will be up to \$250. Deadline for application is April 30, 2018. If you or someone you know would like to apply for this scholarship, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com and I'll send you forms and more information.

- Linda Gorski

HAS Returns to Frost Town

By Linda Gorski

We are BAAACK!!! TxDOT and Prewitt and Associates have resumed archeological investigations at the Frost Town Site near the McKee Street Bridge in downtown Houston and HAS is again screening cultural fill from the various occupations from the site. This project, in one of the most historic areas of the City of Houston, was undertaken due to the destruction of the Elysian Viaduct and ahead of the construction of a new roadway.

As most of you know, HAS has been screening dirt at this site, one of the earliest settlements in the City of Houston, since the project kicked off in 2016. Starting in late 1839 and continuing through the 1840's, Germans began settling in the Frost Town area. By the late 1840's, there were about seventy-five German families and single men living in and near Frost Town. German colonists, passing through Houston and headed for the interior of Texas, often found friends and relatives in Frost Town and, instead of continuing on, chose to remain in the settlement near Houston. Over the years the Frost Town area also became home to the Hispanic and African American communities in Houston. And we are recovering artifacts from every occupation period!!!! We returned to Frost Town on Saturday, March 17 and March 24. Here are just a few photos of our team on the site and some of the artifact recovered. Watch for emails from Bob Sewell announcing future work days at the Frost Town site and for labs to process the artifacts recovered at the Frost Town site. *(Photos courtesy of Larry Golden and Bob Sewell).*



HAS Crew screening dirt at the Frost Town Site March 17. We had four screens in operation!



One of the artifacts recovered on March 17 was this interesting old fishing lure.



This small sherd of glass is from a Phenix dairy bottle. According to a company history that our ace researcher, Larry Golden, found online, Phenix dairy was founded by Morris Calvin Oldham in 1914 and was purchased by Foremost in 1952. It was the first dairy in Houston to pasteurize milk properly, produce homogenized milk and buttermilk, deliver refrigerated milk directly to the refrigerator and make day-time deliveries!!!!

If you took any photos of artifacts or activities at Frost Town, please send them to me at lindagorski@cs.com for our records.



The dirt HAS is screening came from the cistern that was uncovered during archeological excavations. The cistern was associated with the "Klee House", the home of longtime residents of Frost Town.



We love learning the history of the Houston area through the artifacts we recover! This Todd Drydocks Badge was recovered on March 24. The Todd Shipyards obtained their Galveston site in 1934, built ships there throughout WWII and closed in 1990. More research required on this interesting item!!!

Friends of Archeology Announcement

Charles Stewart will present

Title: Ireland's Role in Europe in the so-called Dark Ages

Jones Hall, UST

Sunday April 15th, 2018 at 5pm

In the absence of texts, archaeology has shed light on past cultures and tribal societies. This is especially true of early medieval Ireland and Britain where historical texts are few. Twenty years ago Thomas Cahill published a book titled *How the Irish Saved Civilization*, arguing that we cannot understand the development of Europe without first recognizing the role of Celtic Christianity. This book would remain on the *New York Times Bestseller* list for two years and, with that kind of success, there came a flood of critics who attacked its sensationalism and historical claims. Unfortunately most scholars today remember the criticism and forget the actual archaeological and historic evidence. In this presentation, Dr. Charles Stewart, will provide fresh perspective on this issue and explain how archaeology and art history has shed light on Ireland's role in Europe in the so-called Dark Ages.

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HAS Publications Schedule 2018

The following publications will be made available to members on record at the Monthly Meetings shown.

March 2018 (Distribution already started): Journal #138 – Special Issue Dedicated to Etruscan and Roman Archeology.

April 2018: Report #30 – Dalmanutha, Rosslands and Sunny Slopes Farms: Three New Fauresmith Industry Sites in the Eastern Cape Province, Republic of South Africa. This is a special paper on the three Fauresmith Industry sites that Dub Crook has been working on in South Africa.

May 2018: Report #31 – The Strawberry Hill Site (41SJ160) Ceramic Vessel Sherd Assemblage, San Jacinto County, Texas and Comparisons to other Mossy Grove Culture Ceramic Assemblages. This is a report by Tim Perttula on the Strawberry Hill Site ceramics and other sites from Southeast Texas.

Update on Recent Archeological Excavations in East Texas

By Dub Crook

Recently, I spoke at the 25th East Texas Archeological Conference which was held on the campus of UT Tyler. There were a number of excellent papers given and I wanted to pass on my notes of three in particular. These were by Waldo Troell on the A. S. Mann site, Leslie Bush on plant remains at some sites on Highway 49 in Smith County (where Tyler is located), and Jeff Girard on the 14th century Caddo canoe discovered this past year.

A. S. Mann Site

Archeologists have now exposed 8 fire pits and 35 burials at the site and have recovered an amazing 12,000 pot sherds, 170 complete arrow points, 7 clay pipes, 2 celts, 1 obsidian points (and 19 pieces of obsidian debitage), 1 turquoise pendant and 1 conch shell pendant. The burials have yielded 180 complete vessels and typically have 8-10 per burial as opposed to the usual 1-2. Pottery types found to date include Bullard Brushed, Maydelle Incised, Killough Pinched, Poynor Engraved, and Patton Incised. Arrow points are all either Perdiz, Maud or Washita. These make it a Late Caddo site (Frankston Phase).

They have now found one Historic artifact, the front of a metal Spanish jewelry box which has the coat of arms on it of the Salazar family. Salazar was a member of the DeSoto expedition. The piece has been intentionally broken which was something the Caddo were known to do to pass around war trophies of great power and prestige. They will be doing more work on this artifact in the future and perhaps on the fate of Salazar.

Plant Remains from Sites along Highway 49, Smith County

Archeobotanist, Dr. Leslie Bush, discussed her flotation analysis at several sites which were located in the process of expanding Loop 49 around the western part of Tyler in Smith County. Of particular note, she found a part of a corn cob stem as well as 1 cupule (the part of the cob that holds the kernel) which dated to 773-902 AD and 760-893 AD. These are VERY early dates for corn in East Texas and show that cultivation may have started much earlier than previously supposed.

Other plant remains included one bean, maygrass seeds, walnut, hickory nuts, pecan and acorn shells. She also found yaupon, whose leaves were brewed to make "Black Tea" – a strong medicinal drink. She also recovered a piece of bois d'arc from a fire pit which is unusual as it is south of the original range of the tree. This means the Caddo were either moving bois d'arc apples south and planting them to grow bois d'arc trees or it was part of a bois d'arc bow that broke and was thrown into the fire.

14th Century Caddo Canoe

The 14th century Caddo Canoe that was discovered along the Red River in Louisiana in 2017 has now been completely rescued and transported intact to Texas A&M University. They have built a special retaining tank for the canoe and it is currently being bathed in a solution of polyethylene glycol to stabilize the wood. The canoe is huge, 10.22 meters long and 80 cm wide. The bow and the stern are almost identical in shape and are the heaviest part of the boat. The wood is believed to be cypress and dated to 1298-1413 AD with the most likely time period being between 1313-1358 AD.

The boat when found had only a minor covering of silt and many people who frequent that part of the Red River north of Shreveport say that it was not there before a big storm last year. Thus it must have been ripped up from somewhere upstream and deposited there in one piece. The photos of the canoe were remarkable and it has axe marks all over it as well as two fire marks inside where they likely set a fire to help soften the interior before hacking it out. Here's a link to an article about the discovery of this canoe https://www.ktbs.com/community/native-american-canoe-found-in-caddo-parish-is-years-old/article_73d2379e-7df5-11e7-818f-23ca79c4b97e.html

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

Programs for 2018

May 17, 2018 - Dr. Gus Costa - “Borderland Bannerstones of Texas”.

June - No Meeting due to TAS Field School

July 19, 2018 - Field School Update

August 16, 2018 - Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski - “Archeological Sites in Ostia Antica”

September 20, 2018 - Wilson “Dub” Crook - “Update on the Andy Kyle Program” / HAS Annual Meeting

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 April 25th for the May 2018 issue.

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

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