

TxDOT/HAS Dimond Knoll Screening Project - January 4 - 11, 2014
Bulletin #34

Dr. Jason and I and the rest of the regular screening crew are convinced that the Dimond Knoll Project does not want to end! Remember that we were going to screen on January 4 and then the entire week, January 6 – 11 to finish the project??? Wrong. Freezing temperatures and then heavy rains at the site almost jeopardized our plans for the whole week. But our faithful crew braved the weather and here's our report!

January 4, 2014



We had a big crew out at the site on January 4. Here we are celebrating the end to Pile 6. ONE MORE PILE TO GO!



HAS VP Louis Aulbach, one of our most faithful screeners, recovered this beautiful San Patrice point on Saturday, January 4.



We've now found two San Patrice points during the screening project. These points date to approximately 7500 BC! Thanks to John Rich for this photo.

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Crews hard at work at screens. The folks arrive at 8 a.m. or before and we shovel and screen dirt for four or five hours! And we've been doing this since February 2, 2013!



Richard and Alex Neumann and Tom Williams hard at work.



Jeff Arthur, one of our newest screeners, recovered a point on his first day.



Here are just a few of the artifacts we recovered January 4 – 11 including bone fragments, teeth, lithic flakes, shell and the rock on the right which is likely red paint or ochre.

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Monday, January 6



Lisa Gray, a columnist with the Houston Chronicle came out on the coldest day of the year to interview Dr. Jason about the Dimond Knoll project for an article that will appear in a future Sunday Chronicle edition.



This is the terrific crew that braved 20 degree temps on Monday, January 6 to screen including four students from Rosehill Christian School along with their teacher, HAS member Sharon Menegaz.



Danny Perez, a Public Information Officer in the Houston Office of TXDOT, was also on hand for the interviews but seemed to enjoy getting his hands dirty too!



A little cold weather did not bother these students from Rosehill Christian School!

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Saturday, January 11



When we arrived at the site on Saturday, the weather was clear and beautiful but three days of rain had turned the pasture into a bog. Cancel screening because we couldn't get to Pile 11??? Heck no! Bob Sewell, shown above, had the bright idea to build a bridge to the pile with a stack of old pallets!!! And the work continued!



Our visiting Scouts not only helped us screen but also learned about some of the artifacts we've uncovered during the project.



After the guys built the bridge we used extra pallets for platforms on which to stand. Then we crammed five screens into a very small space. Would you believe that 30 people showed up to screen including HAS members, a scout troop, and several guests. Note the Chronicle photographer on top of the dirt pile taking photos for the upcoming article.

Folks – we aren't done yet!!!! We still have about two weekends to go to finish Pile 11 – the last pile of the Dimond Knoll project! Come join us! Email me at lindagorski@cs.com if you've never been to the site before.