



**Thursday, December 13th, 2018, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**“Celebrate the Holidays with a Look Back at 2018**  
**With the Houston Archeological Society” - Linda Gorski**

Please join us for the Houston Archeological Society’s final meeting of the year on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road in Houston. The meeting is free of charge and open to the public. The meeting will also include a special holiday themed snack buffet for members and guests. Please bring a holiday snack to share! Please note: This is the second Thursday of the month, not our normal third Thursday.

Linda Gorski, HAS President, will present the annual “Year in Review”, highlighting the many projects that the Society has been involved in during 2018 including archeological surveys, excavations and other activities in and around the Houston area. The presentation will include overviews of HAS participation in International Archeology Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, the Public Archeology Dig at Kleb Woods Nature Preserve, Archeology 101 at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, and our 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, publications, and awards that the Society has received in 2018. 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 sixth 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*, *Campus Martius and Its Ancient Monuments* and *the Public Lands of Ostia Antica*. These volumes are the first three in a series of self-guided walking tours to ancient archeological sites in Rome, Italy.

Parking at the Trini Mendenhall Center is free of charge. Overflow parking is in the grocery store parking lot across Wirt Road from the Community Center or along the residential street adjoining the Community Center. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact Linda Gorski, at [lindagorski@cs.com](mailto:lindagorski@cs.com).

**WISHING YOU HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE WHOLE HAS TEAM!!!!**



## President's Message – Linda Gorski

I am delighted to announce that the Houston Archeological Society was well represented at the 2018 Texas Archeological Society meeting in San Antonio held October 25 – 28. The HAS team included Bob Sewell, Frank Kozar, Ashley Jones, Sharon and Steve Menegaz, Linda Gorski, Rita and Ed Jackson, Bennett and Jenni Kimball, Larry and Christine Golden, Dr. Erin Phillips, Beth Kennedy, Geoff Mills, Sandy Rogers, Tom Nuckols, Dr. Gus Costa, Dub Crook, Dr. Liz Coon-Nguyen, Dr. Heather Backo, Doug Boyd, Karen Fustes, Steve Davis, Tim Perttula, Dr. Jason Barrett, Adela Franco, and Dr. Sarah Chesney. If I've left anyone off this list, mea culpa. It was great spending time with y'all!

I'm also proud to announce that three of our HAS members have taken on major roles in the Texas Archeological Society for the coming year. Dr. Jason Barrett, TxDOT archeologist and our PI on the Dimond Knoll, Cotton Field and Frost Town projects is the new president of TAS. Jason also serves in an advisory committee capacity on the HAS Board of Directors and is a professional archeologist with TxDOT. Give Jason a big high five the next time you see him and offer to help him in any way you can in the coming year.

Dr. Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen, a member of the HAS Board, has taken on the role as editor of Texas Archeology, the newsletter of the TAS. And yours truly, Linda Gorski, will be the new nominating committee chairman for TAS. The nominating committee also includes HAS member Sandy Rogers. The appointments were announced at the 2018 Annual Texas Archeological Society meeting held in San Antonio in October 2018.



Several HAS members also presented scientific papers at the meeting including Dub Crook who gave a talk on *"The Harvey Biface and the Perkin Pike: Two Unique Lithic Artifacts from Southeast Texas"*. Steve Davis gave a presentation on his new *"North American Gunflint Database: A New Tool for the Historic Archeologist"*. Dr. Tim Perttula participated in the Titans of Texas Archeology Symposium which highlighted some of the most esteemed and renowned Texas archeology elders, including Tim himself! Dr. Gus Costa, HAS member and professional archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting/Coastal Environments, Inc. gave a paper on *"Alligator Gut Gravels and Prehistoric Lithic Economy in Southeast Texas"*. HAS Lab Director and professional archeologist with Coastal Environments, Inc., Dr. Erin Phillips, co-presented a paper entitled *"New Pottery Types and Varieties for the Upper Texas Coastal Region"*. HAS member Doug Boyd, with Prewitt and Associates in Austin, presented a paper entitled *"Material Culture and Ethnic Identity at Frost Town: German, African American and Mexican Heritage in a Small Urban Community in Houston, Texas"*, highlighting HAS activities at the Frost Town site over the past two years. And Dr. Jason Barrett presented a paper entitled *"Searching for Ancient Long-Distance Trade Trails in Southeast Texas"* which he will present again at the HAS meeting in May 2019. Do we have a brilliant and talented membership or what????

HAS members Linda Gorski and Sharon Menegaz and professional archeologist Ashley Jones with Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc., participated in the Poster Session at the TAS annual meeting with a poster entitled *"Engaging a Community in History and Archeology: A Public Outreach Program Program at Kleb Woods Nature Center in Tomball, Texas"*. See photo and article elsewhere in the newsletter.

As many of you may have heard, the Houston Archeological Society will again host the annual Texas Archeological Society meeting on **October 22 – 25, 2020**. Mark your calendars now! We've already started planning for this huge annual event and will need all hands on deck to welcome our fellow avocational and professional archeologists from across the State of Texas.

**Houston Archeological Society  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
November 15, 2018**

**Welcome New Members and Guests to our new meeting location at Trini Mendenhall Community Center (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.

**Budget (Linda Gorski):** The HAS Board will begin preparing the budget to be submitted to the membership in January. Also, the CTA money (\$700) awarded to HAS was used to purchase equipment especially for children's programs to use at Kleb Woods and International Archeology Day. Thanks to Cyndy Cuffey for facilitating this grant and for putting together a wonderful packet for Sharon Menegaz's award!

**Membership (Bob Sewell):** Membership so far in 2018 is 226. Memberships for 2019 are now being accepted. Anyone who has joined HAS since August is good for 2019. Membership renewal is coming up in January.

**New Business:**

**Linda Swift (Linda Gorski):** As many of you know, Linda Swift, who in the past held various positions in HAS, passed away in October. A memorial service will be held in her honor this coming Saturday, November 17, at 1:00 PM in Cypress. Please see Linda Gorski, who will say a few words at the service, for more details.

**Publications (Dub Crook and Louis Aulbach):** Tonight, members may pick up Journal #139, on general archeology topics, from Louis. Anyone who becomes a member tonight will also receive the new journal. Next year there will be two more journal issues, one of those, due to the popularity of the first Roman archeology journal, being our second journal consisting of Roman archeology topics. Also, one of our Special Reports will include a collection of articles by Tom Nuckols, our HAS munitions expert.

**Monthly Show and Tell (Linda Gorski and Larry Golden):** Tonight's Show and Tell includes a collection of artifacts from the mudflats near the forgotten townsite of San Jacinto, at the junction of Buffalo Bayou and the San Jacinto River. Many of these artifacts probably date to the Runaway Scrape. If you have a collection you'd like to display at our meeting, please let Larry know.

**Amazon Smile: (Linda Gorski):** Everyone should watch for HAS to turn up as a recipient of donations from Amazon Smile. If you're buying Christmas gifts, make HAS your non-profit of choice! Bob will put a link on the first page of our website, and will also send out the link in an email.

**Projects:**

**International Archeology Day (Linda Gorski):** This was held on October 20<sup>th</sup> at HMNS, and was a huge success! Thanks to everyone who volunteered to help.

**TAS Annual Meeting (Linda Gorski):** The meeting was held in San Antonio on October 25-28. HAS was well-represented, and our poster presentation on the public archeology program at Kleb Woods was very well received!

**Kleb Woods Public Archeology Project/Diggin' Old Stuff Day (Ashley Jones, PI):** This was held on November 3. We had 20 volunteers and lots of kids! We worked in five units, with screening and a field lab. We found prehistoric artifacts, and came down on a feature and look forward to further investigations! The next work at Kleb Woods is scheduled for January 23, 2019.

**December Program:** Linda Gorski will present a program highlighting the Society's activities for 2018. This will be our holiday meeting, so everyone please bring a snack and take goodies home!

**November Program:** Tonight's speaker was Merle Hudgins, wife of Joe Hudgins, founding member of the Ft. Bend County Archeological Society, who talked about her new book entitled *War Between the States Changed Texas Forever*, and discussed interesting topics from southeast Texas.

*Beth Kennedy, Secretary*

## The Crystal Ice Works emerges from the subsurface!

by Louis F. Aulbach

Those who pursue historical archeology rely on a broad knowledge of their subject area's historical past. Buildings and other structures from the historical past are long gone, but often their remnants lie in the layers of fill dirt that has been deposited over them in more recent times. These ruins can be exposed during the preparations for new construction. A couple of weeks ago, the grading for the new hike and bike path on the north side of Buffalo Bayou near the McKee Street bridge exposed a portion of a red brick structure at the site of the former Crystal Ice Works, a late 19th century industrial site adjacent to the Texas and New Orleans rail yard on the north bank of the bayou.

A local archeological crew under the direction of HAS member Dr. Gus Costa of Coastal Environments, Inc./Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. was sent to the site. HAS members Bennett Kimbell and Tom Nuckols, meticulously excavated the feature and revealed the details of the structure that appears to be the foundations of the dual boilers of the ice plant that date from about 1890, as noted on the historic Sanborn insurance map of that location.

The site had been identified by Dr. Jason Barrett, the TxDOT archeologist and HAS member, from the historical records during the planning stages of the route for the trail. The quick response by our local archeological team to excavate and document the brick foundations has provided a small, but significant verification of the historical record. Great job, HAS members Jason Barrett, Gus Costa and the CEI/MAC crew!



*Caption: Bennett Kimbell (left), Tom Nuckols (center) and Dr. Brian Clark (right) at the Crystal Ice Works site. Photo: Larry Golden*

## Early Man Sites in China

In October, HAS Board member Dub Crook spent several weeks in China visiting all of the major early hominid sites as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Leakey Foundation. Dub, who also serves as a Fellow on the Leakey Foundation, was invited to join Dr. Steve Kuhn of the University of Arizona and several other members of the Foundation to visit China and tour both the archeological sites and the museums and research laboratories of the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP). The group was joined by Dr. Wang Shejiang and Dr. Li Feng of the IVPP who assisted in explaining the most recent research being conducted in China.

The first site visited was the Nihewan Basin, which is about 120 miles west of Beijing and is known as the “Olduvai Gorge” of China because of its similar highly dissected terrain of Pleistocene sediments. The major difference is that instead of alluvial deposits, the Nihewan Basin, and in fact much of northern and central China, are on a plateau that is filled with loess. Loess is a very fine-grained sediment that is the result of glacial action literally scraping rocks to powder and then that powder being redeposited by aeolian (wind) action once the glaciers have retreated. In the Nihewan Basin, the Pleistocene age loess deposits can be several hundred feet thick.

Early Pleistocene sites in the Nihewan Basin range from about 1.1 to 1.7 million years old. The Leakey team visited the Shigou site, which consists of a large number of Pleistocene mammal fossils including horses which show clear signs of having been butchered by *Homo erectus*. Crude artifacts (choppers and flakes) are associated with the bones and the site has been dated to about 1.3 million years old (see photos below).



The group next visited Zhoukoudian (pronounced “cho-koo-dee-en”), the famous cave site where the discovery of “Peking Man” was made in the 1920s. A new museum has opened adjacent to the site which houses many of the fossil mammals found in Zhoukoudian cave as well as hundreds of artifacts (again mainly worked flakes of quartz and quartzite). Following the visit to the cave site, the group was allowed unprecedented access to the “Vault Room” at the IVPP where the actual fossils of Peking Man are stored. This was one of the first occasions westerners were allowed to see the skullcaps and other bones of *Homo erectus* recovered from the site after World War II. All the original fossils of Peking Man discovered between 1929 and 1937 were mysteriously lost

during the Japanese invasion of China in 1941 and their whereabouts remains one of the greatest mysteries of paleoanthropology.



*Two Homo erectus skullcaps from Zhoukoudian cave (ca. 400-780 thousand years old).*



*Large flake tool recovered from Zhoukoudian.*

The last place visited by the group was the Lantian Man site, the location of a 1.63 million year old skull of *Homo erectus*. Lantian is located near Xi'an in central China about 1,000 miles southwest of Beijing. The group visited the site of the hominid discovery as well as the Shaanxi Provincial Museum which houses many of the original stone tools. They were also allowed to visit the laboratory of Dr. Wang Shejiang, which housed not only tools from the Lantian site but most of the newly discovered Acheulean tools (hand axes, picks, cleavers) from the same region. It was long believed that there were no Acheulean hand axes in China, but Dr. Wang laid out on his work table over a hundred artifacts that clearly showed that the entire suite of Acheulean tools have now been found.



*Dub Crook (center) and Dr. Wang Shejiang (left) and Dr. Steve Kuhn (right) studying Acheulean tools from Lantian county, China.*

In addition to the early man sites, the Leakey group also visited the notable tourist spots of China including Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City, the Great Wall, and the Terracotta Warriors in Xi'an. Dub plans on giving HAS members a presentation on the early man sites in China later in 2019.

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## **Outreach at King Elementary School, Katy**

On 9th November, 2018, Dr. Sarah Chesney (THC Site Archeologist at the San Felipe de Austin Historic Site and HAS member) and Bob Sewell (HAS Treasurer) spent a day at the Robert King Elementary School in Katy participating in the school's Career Day. Sarah and Bob gave presentations to 6 groups of K thru 5 students (78 kids in all). Each presentation was followed by a show and tell session so that the students could see and touch examples of the type of artifacts, both prehistoric and historic, that archeologists find during their excavations. The kids showed great excitement and had been well prepared with some really good questions being asked.

## **Notes on Munitions**

### **The Model 1896 Krag–Jørgensen Rifle and Carbine**

By Tom Nuckols

On February 1, 1859, William Menger opened the Menger Hotel on Alamo Square in San Antonio, Texas. The hotel's popularity was immediate, and between the year of its founding and 1881, it was enlarged several times.

The year 1887 saw the installation of a new bar room inside the hotel that was a replica of the taproom in the House of Lords Club in London,

In May of 1898 at the Menger bar room, Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt began recruiting volunteers for the cavalry that he was appointed to command in a war that was then in progress and would last just a little over three months, the Spanish-American War. Roosevelt's recruitment occurred less than a month after President William McKinley signed a law that formed volunteer military regiments in the western United States and its territories. At the time, the regular United States army was too small to undertake a foreign military engagement. Roosevelt's Cavalry command would become known as the "Rough Riders" and it would participate in two important battles in Cuba.

In October 2018, I attended the 89th Texas Archeological Society annual meeting held in San Antonio at the Menger Hotel. Near the lobby of the hotel was a glass display case containing artifacts dedicated to Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders". Included in the display was a U. S. weapon used in the Spanish-American War, a Model 1896 Krag–Jørgensen carbine.

The display brought to my mind a Nuckols family genealogical scrapbook containing the photograph (see below) of my paternal Great Uncle, Oscar Calhoun Miller (1873-1937). Other than the scrapbook's caption "Oscar Calhoun Miller Served in the US Army. During the Spanish American War", I know very little about Oscar. In the photograph, Oscar is standing second from the right. He is holding a bayonet equipped Model 1896 Krag–Jørgensen rifle.



The U.S. Krag–Jørgensen Rifle and Carbine

In 1890, the U.S. Army realized that its standard issue, Model 1873 Trapdoor Springfield, .45-70 caliber, center-fire rifle and carbine were obsolete. In 1892, A competition was held comparing approximately 50 different rifle designs. The three finalists were all of foreign manufacture, the Lee (British), Mauser (German) and the Krag–Jørgensen. The Krag–Jørgensen was a bolt-action rifle designed by the Norwegians Ole Herman

Johannes Krag and Erik Jørgensen in 1886. It was adapted as a standard arm by the Danish military in 1889 and the Norwegian Army in 1894. In August 1892, the Krag–Jørgensen (Krag) rifle design was chosen, and it would be the U.S. Government's first small caliber bolt-action rifle. Approximately 500,000 Krag, .30 caliber rifles and carbines would be manufactured at the Springfield Armory in Massachusetts from 1894 to 1904. Although the Krag was replaced by the Model 1903 Springfield .30-06 caliber (.30 caliber Government cartridge of 1906) bolt-action rifle in 1906, it became and still is popular among civilian hunters and gun collectors

### Krag Ammunition

Krag rifles and carbines used a .30 caliber, rimmed bottleneck, center-fire cartridge known as the .30 Army. The brass cartridge consisted of a 220-grain, lead, cupro-nickel jacketed, round nose bullet and contained 40 grains of smokeless gun powder. Civilians incorrectly assumed that the Krag cartridge was originally loaded with black gun powder and began calling it the .30-40 Krag. The use of this black gun powder nomenclature also had an effect on the .30-30 cartridge. It was in the Winchester Repeating Arms Company's catalog No. 55, dated August 1895 that the .30 caliber Winchester's smokeless cartridge was first offered for sale to the public for use in their new Model 1894 lever action rifle and carbine. The cartridge was also known as the .30 Winchester Center Fire or .30 WCF. When Winchester's rival, Marlin Firearms Company chambered the cartridge for their Model 1893 lever action rifle, they designated it the .30-30. Although the added 30 stood for the cartridge's load of 30 grains of smokeless gun powder, it also stood for America's naming convention for black gun powder filled cartridges. It was also a technique that Marlin and companies that manufactured ammunition used to avoid putting the Winchester name on their products.

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## International Archeology Day at Houston Museum of Natural Science a Huge Success!

In 2011 the American Institute of Archeology established the third Saturday in October as International Archeology Day. For the past several years the Houston Archeological Society has celebrated the day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, sharing our love of archeology with the public. Thanks to a team of dedicated volunteers from HAS and several other professional and avocational archeological groups, IAD 2018 was a huge success!!!



The kids loved the activities offered by Ashley Jones, HAS Board member and professional archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting.



Kids love coprolites (petrified poop!)



HAS member Dr. Sarah Chesney is the new full-time archeologist at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site and was on hand at IAD to share activities with the kids and to promote upcoming archeological projects at her site.



Several Boy Scout troops joined us at IAD at HMNS.



Our hand-on bins of REAL artifacts from both prehistoric and historic sites are always a huge hit!



Dr. Jason Barrett, TxDOT archeologist, HAS member and new president of the Texas Archeological Society and with Laura Cruzada presented information on TxDOT archeological projects and activities.



HAS Board member Dr. Liz Coon-Nguyen explains artifacts to visitors to HMNS



Dr. Gus Costa, HAS member and professional archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting flintknapped this terrific stone tool, much to the delight of visitors to IAD.



The Soil Profile activity that Ashley Jones developed was a huge hit with both adults and kids!

## Houston Archeological Society Teams Up with Moore Archeological Consulting at the 2018 TAS Annual Meeting

The Houston Archeological Society and Moore Archeological Consulting teamed up to present a poster presentation at the 2018 Texas Archeological Society meeting in San Antonio featuring their public outreach project at Kleb Woods Nature Center. From left, HAS members Sharon Menegaz, Linda Gorski and Ashley Jones, who is also a professional archeologist at MAC, are shown manning the poster entitled Engaging a Community in History and Archeology: A Public Outreach Program at Kleb Woods Nature Center, Tomball, Texas. The Kleb Woods Nature Center was once a working farm, established by German Immigrants at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. Building from the research and preservation efforts of the staff at Kleb Woods and the Cypress Historical Society, HAS and MAC have created a public archaeology program designed to engage the community through the Kleb family history. Some of the HAS sponsored events are highlighted in this poster, including a GPR survey to locate foundation features of early buildings on the site and subsequent excavations and children's educational programs. The result of the public archaeology program is twofold. New residents to this part of the County are taking advantage of hands-on opportunities to learn about the history of the region, and the data gathered from these events is being used to educate the public and create lesson plans for teacher workshops across the state.



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### HAS Memberships for 2019 Are Now Due

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!!!!**

**Houston Archeological Society**  
**Monthly Meeting Programs for 2019**  
**7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)**  
**Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road**

**January 17, 2019 - Dub Crook - The Conquest of Canaan: Who Were Those Guys at Jericho?**

**February 21, 2019 - Dr. Tom Williams - Update on pre-Clovis artifacts recovered at the Gault Site.**

**March 21, 2019 - Elton Prewitt, Painted Pebbles of the Lower Pecos Canyonlands**

**April 18, 2019 - Jeffrey Girard, Discovery and Recovery of a 14<sup>th</sup> Century Dugout Canoe on the Red River**

**May 16, 2019 - Dr. Jason Barrett, Trade Trails and Meeting Locations in SE Texas Prehistory**

**June – No meeting due to TAS Field School**

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS then visit our website at [www.txhas.org](http://www.txhas.org) or email [lindagorski@cs.com](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@txhas.org). Please submit articles no later than December 24th for the January 2019 issue.

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

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