Dub Crook to Speak on Brushy Creek Clovis Site

HAS’s own Wilson W. (“Dub”) Crook will discuss the work in progress at the Brushy Creek Clovis site at the January 12 meeting. As the Manager for Global Gas Regulatory & Legislative Issues for the ExxonMobil Gas & Power Marketing Company, he is responsible for coordinating all of ExxonMobil’s regulatory and legislative activities in natural gas worldwide. Mr. Crook has traveled extensively, starting his adventures as a child. Dub writes, “My father was Wilson W. Crook Jr., ("Bill" Crook) who was Past President and fellow of the Texas Archeological Society. I naturally grew up being dragged all around the world to archeological sites as he was a confident of Helmut de Terra, Louis Leakey, Thor Heyerdahl and others.” Mr. Crook has published 22 papers in archeology, mainly focusing on the Upper Trinity River watershed but also sites in West Texas, New Mexico, Nevada, California and Virginia. He has also worked in the rift valley of East Africa, in South America (Bolivia, Argentina, Peru) and in Kazakhstan. He has been a member of the Dallas Archeological Society on and off for 34 years, a member of the TAS for 30 years, a member of the Center for the Study of the First Americans, The archeological association of Virginia and the HAS. Mr. Crook and his long-time archeological field partner, Mr. Mark D. Hughston discovered the Brushy Creek Clovis site in Hunt County, TX (41HU74) in 2004. The site to date has produced one Clovis point, a large Clovis perform, a number of apparent Clovis blades and other tools. Mr. Crook will review the latest thinking in terms of what Clovis sites are producing across Texas, discuss the Brushy Creek finds, and review the work that remains to be done at this site.

The January 12 meeting will be held at our usual location in Anderson Hall on the quadrangle of the University of St. Thomas, at 7:30pm. For a detailed map, visit the HAS web site at www.houstonarcheology.org.

February, 2007 Program: Lower Colorado River Authority archeologist Andrew Malof will discuss subsistence and social structure in prehistoric central Texas. Anyone wishing to deliver a future presentation should contact Michael Bailey at mbailey@beamans.com

Discover Texas Archeology
Want to learn more about Texas archeology? Join fellow inquirers at one of the TAS Archeology Academies in 2007. Feb. 3-4 in San Antonio for LITHICS; Mar. 3-4 in Nacogdoches for CERAMICS; and Mar.30-Apr.1 near Comstock for ROCK ART. Visit www.txarch.org - Pam Wheat

December Minutes: There was no business meeting at the December HAS meeting.

Reminder! 2007 HAS membership renewals are due in January.

LABORATORY SCHEDULE: January Labs: Monday, January 15 and Monday, January 29, 7-9 pm. Sewall Hall, Room 103, Rice University.

HAS LIBRARY: Open on Friday, January 12 from 6:30pm to 7:20pm, 3907 Yoakum Blvd.
As we turn over another page of the calendar and start a new year, I think about all the generations that have gone before me and how the years must have raced by for them just as they do for me. Several years ago a yearning to know more about my family’s past led me to take up genealogy, with a focus on one branch of the family whose history has been lost.

According to family legend, my paternal grandfather, John Flannagan, who was born in Hull, England, was orphaned at the age of 5, and his maternal aunts placed him and his older brother James in a Catholic orphanage in London. For some reason, they changed the boys’ last name to Leonard, which was their mother’s maiden name. At about the age of 12, John, along with James, boarded a ship and went to Canada. My dad has always maintained they were stowaways, but my aunt said they were sent over by the orphanage to work for a French farmer in Quebec. She thought her father had mentioned the names of his parents—John Flannagan and Mary Anne Leonard Flannagan, and she thought the name of the orphanage was St. Mary’s.

This and a birth year of 1881-1884, was all I had to go on, but about 5 years ago I started doing the research to fill in the gaps in our family’s history. At that time there was a lot less genealogical information on the Internet than there is now, but I did learn that from 1850 to 1920 about 100,000 children from Catholic and Protestant orphanages in the UK were sent to Canada and Australia to work as indentured farm laborers and servants. It was thought that fresh air and gainful employment would do them good. However, since the orphanages were paid by the head for each child sent, there is evidence that some abuse took place. It is said that sometimes urchin children were snatched off the street, brought to an orphanage, and told their parents had died.

Long story short, in 2003 my aunt and my cousin and I were able to go to London and Hull to do more research, and we actually visited the church in which my grandfather was baptized. The priest there found and copied his baptismal record for us, and we learned that my grandfather had celebrated the wrong birth date all his life. We were able to obtain his parents’ marriage certificate as well. We learned that his father dropped out of the picture somehow, and the family was living in the Hull poorhouse when little John was 5 years old. There is no record of his mother dying that year, but for whatever reason the two boys were put on the train and sent to St. Mary’s orphanage in London, and they were enrolled there with their new last name of Leonard. There is no evidence of any aunts participating in the process. Through further research, I have located St. Mary’s Orphanage. I know the name of the ship they took to Canada and its sailing date from Liverpool. I know they were in a party of children escorted by a priest who was affiliated with the orphanage. From this, I have to conclude that they were two of the 100,000 so-called British Home Children who were shipped out to Canada and Australia. It’s an interesting story—at least to me and my family. (I hope I haven’t bored you with this story!)

There are many gaps yet to fill in about my grandfather’s life and how he came to the United States, so the research continues. If you have ever wondered about your own family history, I would highly recommend genealogical research. (I think of it as “archaeology without dirt.”) It will give you many hours of fascination, rewarded by a greater knowledge of your own roots. In HAS, we have several members who do genealogy, some as avid amateurs and some as professional consultants, so help is available if you want to get started. –Linda Swift

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**HOUSTON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 10, 2006**

Michael Bailey, HAS Vice President called the November meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with 35 people in attendance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- Sue Gross of the Brazosport Archeology Society has been named TAS Region V Director.
- Sheldon Kindall received a Texas Archeological Society 30 year membership award.
- The October meeting minutes were approved without corrections.
- Fieldwork in Liberty (search for Champ d’Asile) on November 11th.
- The HAS booth at the Father of Texas celebration in San Felipe, November 3rd & 4th was visited by approximately 400 school children.

After the program, there was a refreshment break followed by the business meeting with 15 people in attendance. The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

Submitted by Tom Nuckols, Secretary
San Felipe de Austin Update
The San Felipe project is currently low on funds, and excavations are closing down until after the first of the year when hopefully I will get some of the grant money I have been applying for.

We have been working on Lot 52, on which there was a Colonial structure that was "rented to Dr. Stewart". As is typical, we finally found something in the last unit we excavated. The unit contained portions of a trash pit and another feature which may have been a posthole.

At the top of the posthole feature James Smith and Sue Gross of the Brazosport Archeological Society uncovered an almost complete ironstone vase (see picture) with makers mark "E WALLY". Sue looked up the mark and it is attributed to "Edward Walley, circa 1845-1856, Villa Pottery, Cobridge, Staffordshire". –Marianne Marek

Upcoming Events
The East Texas Archeological Conference is scheduled for Saturday, February 10, 2007 at the Robert R. Muntz Library on the University of Texas at Tyler campus in Tyler, Texas. If you are interested in presenting a paper or a poster, or for more information contact Mark Walters at walters@tyler.net.

The Southern Texas Archeological Association will be holding its annual meeting on Saturday, January 13, 2007 at the University of the Incarnate Word International Conference Center in San Antonio. Speakers will be Dr. Michael Collins and Dr. Robert Ricklis. For more information visit www.staa.org.

Women in Archeology Internship Program
The Center for American Archeology, Kampsaville, Illinois, offers 3 internship positions for Summer 2007 (June 4-August 10). For full internship details and application instructions, please visit the CAA’s web site, www.caa-archeology.org, (follow ‘Opportunities’ link). The postmark deadline for receipt of applications is February 23, 2007. Limited scholarship support is available to women students who wish to enroll in the Adult Field School program.

The American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) will convene its 33rd annual conference in Billings, Montana June 29-July 2, 2007. For more information about ARARA, please visit www.arara.org.

HAS Loses Longtime Member Richey Ebersole
Longtime dedicated HAS member Charles Richey "Cap" Ebersole, born August 14, 1925, passed away on December 5, 2006. He was a 1943 graduate of Houston’s Lamar HS, attended A&M in the Fall of 1943, then attended the Navy’s V-12 Officer Training Program at Arkansas A&M from 1943 to 1945 and was commissioned in the US Marine Corps. After WWII, he attended UT at Austin and UT Law School, graduating in 1948. He was an Oil Scout for Continental Oil 1948-1951, then saw active duty in the Korean conflict from 1951 to 1953. He served as a Landman for General Crude from 1953 to 1965 and then practiced law as a Title Attorney for independent oil operators from 1965 until retirement. He had a second career as an avocational Archeologist, having served as president of the Houston Archeological Society and Steward of the Texas Historical Commission. As long as his health permitted, he actively supported HAS, seldom missing a meeting or an excavation project, and he frequently made his home available for HAS activities and socials. Among his many other volunteer activities, Richey served as an Election Judge for the Republicans in the early 1960’s, on the Draft Board in the late 1960’s, as an Election Worker in Harris County Pct 222, and was a founding member of Pct. 222 Democrats. His beloved wife, Eleanor Sibley Ebersole, died in 1992. He is survived by his children R.E. (Bob) Ebersole of Galveston, Priscilla Boston of Austin, Texas, and Medora Ebersole-Zimmerer of Madison, Wisconsin, sister Nancy Green of Albany, Texas, six grandchildren and nieces and nephews. Richey Ebersole loved life and people, and he will be greatly missed by his many friends in the Houston Archeological Society.
HAS Membership Renewal

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL  Houston Archeological Society, P. O. Box 6751, Houston, TX 77265-6751

Please complete this form and mail it, with your check for the correct amount, to the above address.

Name(s):__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address:__________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone:_____________________________(home)_________________________(work) e-mail:________________________________

Type of membership:  ___New    ____Renewal  Please circle one:  Stude nt ($10/year)  Single ($20/year)  Family ($25/year)  Contributing($30+/year)

ALL MEMBERS MUST SIGN THE FOLLOWING PLEDGE: “I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future federal, state or local statute concerning cultural resources, or engage in the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes, or engage in the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data, or disregard proper archeological field techniques.”

Signature(s):__________________________________________________________________________________Date:________________

Please submit articles for publication to Sara Guillote, sgillote@hotmail.com
Submit articles no later than January 31st for the February issue.

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

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