Sheldon Kindall and Jean Epperson will Present Champ d'Asile

The October 12th HAS meeting will feature HAS members Sheldon Kindall and Jean Epperson, who will present a progress report on the search for Champ d'Asile—the short-lived French fort established near the Trinity River by Napoleon’s officers. The idealistic French colony near the mouth of the Trinity River lasted only about six months in 1818. While its purpose has never been clearly established—was it a refuge for former Bonapartists?—it attracted the attention of the press in Paris. A number of engravings, lithographs, song sheets, and books were produced romanticizing the French veterans who had tried to establish a colony in Champ d’Asile.

Long-time HAS member Jean Epperson is also affiliated with the Liberty County Historical Commission, and is the author of the book Historical Vignettes of Galveston Bay. Her publisher writes, “Ms. Epperson is a wonderful researcher and is very knowledgeable about the early events in this area.” Sheldon Kindall is a veteran Texas Archeological Steward, and member of TAS, HAS, FBAS and BAS. Both Jean and Sheldon are also members of the Jean Laffite Society of Galveston.

The October meeting will be held at our usual location in Anderson Hall on the Academic Mall of the University of St. Thomas, at 7:30 p.m. For a detailed map, visit our website at www.houstonarcheology.org. Parking: use the Moran Center Parking Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark ($2 fee), or park in Faculty Parking Lot S at Montrose and Branard after 7:00 p.m. (no charge).

November Program: “Ethiopia as Cradle of Mankind” by Dirk Von Tuerenhout. Anyone wishing to deliver a future presentation should contact Michael Bailey at mbailey@beamans.com

HAS Library News: The library will be open on Friday, October 12th from 6:30pm-7:20pm, 3907 Yoakum Blvd.

LABORATORY SCHEDULE: Oct. 15 & 29; Nov. 12 & 26; and Dec. 17 (1 night only). 7-9 pm in Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University. Check the HAS website, www.houstonarcheology.org, for a map.

Houston Archeological Society Elects New Slate of Officers

At the September HAS Meeting, a new slate of officers was elected by the membership. The new officers are: President – Diane Baird, Vice-President – Michael Bailey, Secretary – Kathleen Barry, Treasurer – Ed Masten, Director (3 years) – Muriel Walker, Director (2 years) – Phyllis Bradley, and Director (1 year) – Lucia Bonno. New President Diane Baird said, “We are excited to roll up our sleeves and get to work on a great year for HAS.” Thank you to the outgoing officers for their time and enthusiasm in serving the Houston Archeological Society.
I had planned to relate how I became involved in archeology and HAS, but events of the last two weeks have altered my plans. Some of you may have not heard that Father Bader died two weeks ago after a long battle with cancer. He fought cancer with bravery, never losing his sense of humor. He will be missed. He always supported our organization and that too will be missed.

That brings up a delicate question - What about HAS? I don't want to come across as putting this above Father Bader's death but, I really don't know how this is going to affect us.

Please know that I am trying to get in touch with everyone who is somebody at St. Thomas to see what our options are. Right now, nothing can be certain. I will work with the HAS board, St. Thomas and Friends of Archeology to ascertain what is ahead for us in the near future. Hopefully, there will be no immediate change in where we meet or where the library is located.

We are changing our board meetings to the same Friday evening as the general meeting so we may have to meet more often until everything is settled.

Hopefully this will not be necessary, but keep in mind that we might, sometime in the future, have to find a new place for our meetings and/or library. If you know of any possibilities, please let me know.

Other business.......This will be the first meeting that we will not be set up for our food that volunteers bring and there will be no coffee, hot water, etc. Wanda (Thanks!) has seen that people will bring goodies for awhile. Someone please sign up for this. Maybe 2-3 people can share the duty.

Be assured that we will be here, except hopefully there will be more of us, and Michael will continue to supply excellent speakers.

Something I am working on.......We hope to get a group together to go see the Lucy Exhibit at the Museum of Natural Science on a Saturday. With 20+ participants, tickets will be $10.00. Maybe we can lunch afterwards. Everyone can invite a non-member, enhancing our chances to increase our membership.

See you at the meeting!  

-Diane Baird, HAS President

Houston Archeological Society Meeting Minutes, September 14, 2007

Linda Swift, HAS President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, with 30 people in attendance.

Announcements:
- Richard Carter discussed the upcoming Lithics Academy. In January he will need volunteers.
- The TAS meeting will be in October in San Antonio. Several HAS members will attend.
- Refreshments were provided by Wanda Carter, Joe and Muriel Mueller, and Sara Guillote.
- Betty Ann Hall is in need of a ride to the meetings; she lives near 59 and Gessner.
- The speaker tonight is Wilson W. “Dub” Crook, speaking about NE Texas Archeology.

Business Meeting
- Diane Baird needs a volunteer to cover the library from 6:30 to 7:15 pm before meetings.
- The slate of new officers was approved by a vote of acclimation. President: Diane Baird, Vice-President: Michael Bailey, Treasurer Ed Masten, Secretary: Kathleen Barry, Director: Muriel Walker, Board Members: Lucia Bonne and Phyllis Bradley.

The Meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.  

Submitted by Kathleen Barry, Secretary

2008 HOUSTON TAS LITHICS ACADEMY

Finding a stone tool on a dig always generates excitement. The style of the artifact can be very helpful in setting a time frame for the site. And, the tool itself can speak volumes about manufacturing techniques, usage, and cultural information, all of which can be determined by detailed analysis of the artifact. The Lithics Academy of the Texas Archeological Society, to be held Jan. 26 & 27, 2008 at the University of St. Thomas, will provide hands-on experience in recognizing and interpreting the information the tool provides. Registration is yet to open, but forms will be available at HAS meetings once registration begins.  

-Suzanne Patrick
Rev. Edward A. Bader, CSB

With great sadness we note the death of Fr. Ed Bader on Sunday, September 16, 2007. He was a stalwart supporter of the archaeological community in Houston and also nationally and internationally.

Born May 23, 1934 to Edward Joseph Bader and Anita Marie Krause in Detroit, MI, he graduated from Catholic Central High School then entered the novitiate of the Basilian Fathers in Rochester, NY in 1952 and made profession of vows on August 15, 1953. He earned a B.A. in history from Assumption University in Windsor, Ontario and an M.A. from the University of Michigan. After theological studies at St. Michael's College in Toronto he was ordained to the priesthood on December 15, 1963. He also studied at Cambridge, England and Athens, Greece, and at excavations on Santorini. For the past 27 years he has been a member of the faculty of the University of St. Thomas in Houston.

In addition to teaching archaeology at St. Thomas, Fr. Bader was curator of art exhibits and managed a collection of art works and archaeological objects. He founded the Friends of Archaeology, a community outreach group, which for 17 years has sponsored lectures, exhibits and travel programs.

Fr. Bader was keenly interested in the Houston Archaeology Society and encouraged all its activities. He was instrumental in arranging meeting facilities and making library space available for the HAS at St. Thomas University. The local chapter of the AIA was another important concern for Fr. Bader and where he established The Bader Lecture in honor of his parents.

The Friends of Archaeology has set up a "Fr. Edward Bader Memorial Fund", to which HAS has already made a donation. If you wish to contribute please make checks payable to The Friends of Archaeology Memorial and mail to:

The Friends of Archaeology
C/o Dr. William Tuttle, President
909 Hickorywood Lane
Houston, TX 77024-2801

Fr. Bader will be remembered for his many spiritual, academic and cultural contributions but also for his sense of humor, caring nature, deep concern for his community and friends, and dedication to his work. -- Jeanette Siciliano

Archeology...Life in the Past Lane

The Texas Archeological Society’s 78th Annual Meeting will be held in San Antonio, Texas, October 26-28, 2007. For information visit www.txarch.org

The Annual Awards of the Houston Archeological Society will be presented at the October meeting.

Baylor University GIS for Archaeology Workshop: The Baylor University Center for Spatial Research will be offering a weekend workshop on GIS for Archaeology in December 2007. For information visit our website at http://www.baylor.edu/csr/index.php?id=4677 This is an outstanding education opportunity for anybody in archaeology who is a little behind on emerging GIS technology. –Shane Prochnow

Thanks to the Texas Preservation Trust Fund and LCRA, the 5th annual Archeology Fair is scheduled for October 13 at the Nightingale Archaeological Center in Kingsland, 1-5 pm, free. For more information visit www.texasluas.org. –Andy, LUAS NL Editor

Gods, Priests, and Warrior Kings: The Sumerian World of Gilgamesh. Dr. Gill Stein-The Oriental Institute and Dr. Jim Hollis-Jung Center, October 25, 2007, the Rothko Chapel. AIA Houston will host their 40th Anniversary Celebration with a reception at 6:30pm and presentation at 7:00pm.

New TFAHR Publication Available on TFAHR projects abroad and in the USA. The publication contains articles about our 2006 and 2007 excavations in the Republic of Macedonia; the TFAHR Photo Archive; and the Tell Ubivis Project, TFAHR's unique program for bringing archaeology into the classroom. This publication is now available online at http://www.tfahr.org/public.html.
Women of the Cherokee Nation

On a recent trip to North Carolina, I visited the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Their reservation is located at the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains. The Cherokee society is a matriarchy, each of seven clans headed by a woman. Marriage is only allowed between members of different clans, and the husband takes on the last name of his wife as do their children. Kinship is traced through the mother’s family. Women have an equal voice in the affairs of the tribe and are allowed to participate in tribal ceremonies. Women still carry on the traditions and crafts of their ancestors. Bead making, basketry and pottery making are passed on from mother to daughter. I found the Cherokee women to be motivated and friendly, and it was interesting to learn about their culture.

-Muriel Walker

Please submit articles for publication to Sara Guillote, sguillote@hotmail.com
Submit articles no later than October 26th for the November issue.

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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

Diane Baird, President, diba1995@att.net
Michael Bailey, Vice President, mbailey@beamans.com
Ed Masten, Treasurer, clee@hcpl.net
Kathleen Barry, Secretary, kate_barry@sbcglobal.net

Muriel Walker, Director-at-Large, murielwalker02@comcast.net
Phyllis Bradley, Director-at-Large, pebradley@worldnet.att.net
Lucia Bonno, Director-at-Large, 713-961-0455

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION STEWARDS

Elizabeth & Pat Aucoin, ekpi.aucoin@prodigy.net
Sheldon Kindall, kindall1@peoplepc.com
Bev Mendenhall, bmend2@yahoo.com
R. L. Gregg, rgregg@worldnet.att.net
Marilyn & Walter Horton, wmb@houston.rr.com

Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com
Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251
J. D. Hudgins, manso@jdhudgins.com
Sandra & Johnny Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net
Sandra Rogers, sojourne@consolidated.net

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Pat Mercado-Allinger, pat.Mercado-allinger@thc.state.tx.us
Jeff Durst, jeff.durst@thc.state.tx.us

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sue Gross, Region V Director, suegbobs@houston.rr.com

Carolyn Spock, President, cspock@mail.utexas.edu

The Profile
Houston Archeological Society
P O Box 6751
Houston, TX 77265-6751

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