January Program Features Roman and Medieval Sites

The January 11th HAS meeting will feature our own Fred W. Kelly Jr., who will show two video programs from an interesting BBC series called the “Time Team”. In this series, an archeological team representing several professional disciplines is sent to a site with only 3 days to determine whatever they can about the site. They use a variety of sophisticated geophysical technologies in addition to the archeological surveying and trenching that we are all familiar with. The first site is Greenwich Park, in the middle of London, where the researchers will be looking for evidence of ancient Roman Londinium. The second site is a 12th to 15th century medieval settlement under the present village of Plympton, Devonshire, near the town of Plymouth in England’s west country. This series has presented archeology in such an informative and entertaining manner that it has been a huge hit in England ever since its inception in 1997.

Fred Kelly is a retired international petroleum geologist; his last posting was as Manager of International Political Affairs for Marathon Oil Co. For 22 years he lived in various countries all over the world, and as an amateur archeologist he tried to visit archeological sites wherever he went. He has presented a program to us once before, on Roman ruins he photographed in North Africa.

Fred is the author of a book published in 2006, *Global Oil Finder, Autobiography of a Petroleum Geologist*. He is a past Director of HAS and an active member of both HAS and AIA-Houston. You also may have seen him and his Titanic dinner menu featured on PBS’s “Antiques Roadshow” and “Antiques Roadshow FYI.”

The January 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](http://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).

**February Program:** Leslie Bush will present “Assessing Seasonality from Plant Remains”.

Anyone wishing to deliver a future presentation should contact Michael Bailey at mbailey@beamans.com.

**HAS Library News:** The library will be closed on Friday, January 11th.

**LABORATORY SCHEDULE:** January 14 and 28 labs, 7-9 p.m.: Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University. Check the HAS website, [www.houstonarcheology.org](http://www.houstonarcheology.org), for a map.
The Prez Sez

Happy New Year everyone!

I hope this finds everyone healthy and happy. Did you get enough turkey and just what you wanted in the gift department? HAS will start the New Year with a bang. Let's get started.

First, the good news. What about that Pat Aucoin? He has donated $300 toward the printing of the Powell Report. Handsome, good sense of humor (but bad jokes) and generous. Thanks Pat. We appreciate your gift!

Second, the bad news. I have received notice (via a phone message) that UST has no room for our library. That, coupled with the news that they can only guarantee our use of Anderson Hall through May, puts us in a very bad spot. I personally cannot see us continue meeting there since we wouldn't have access to the library.

I've sent the board a few possible first moves to get us started on deciding what to do. I will wait for their OK. Nothing about this is cut and dried. And I am not the final word.

This may be the shock that really gets us started again. I, for one, am ready to face the future and see how HAS can grow.

This is the month of the TAS Lithics Academy. I hope that lots of our members will attend and/or assist Richard Carter in carrying out this weekend smoothly. We will get a report from him at the January meeting.

JANUARY IS THE MONTH THAT WE RENEW OUR MEMBERSHIP. I received my renewal form in the mail this week. Please try to get this "chore" done this month. Then let's all get inspired and make this society go, go, go.

See you at the meeting.

Diane
President, HAS

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Pick Up Your Copy of Powell Site Report, Part 2, at January Meeting

Yes! The long-anticipated Elizabeth Powell Site Report, Part 2, is printed and ready to be distributed free to the membership. Part 2 has interesting information about beads, buttons, coins, and nails recovered at the site, with detailed color illustrations (thanks to Pat Aucoin). In order to save postage, we will have each member’s copy available for pickup at the January meeting. Those not claimed will be mailed to the members, but at almost $2.00 each for postage, we hope you will come to the meeting and get your copy.

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Houston Archeological Society Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2007

HAS President Diane Baird called the meeting to order with 34 people in attendance. Sheldon Kindall introduced the speaker, Mr. Johnny Pollan of The Brazosport Archeological Society. He discussed some of the 60 Brazos County antebellum plantations that he and others are currently working on.

Business Meeting

- Diane Baird spoke about the situation at St. Thomas and the use of the library for HAS. Diane will speak with the President of St. Thomas about HAS being here through May.
- The Library needs to be within walking distance of the HAS meetings. Library will be closed in January
- No announcements about the Lithics Academy; Richard Carter was not present.
- Diane will work on getting food donations for the Academy in January.
- Bettyann Hall lives 3 blocks from 59 and Gessner she would appreciate a ride to the meetings.
- Mary is bringing snacks for January. Tommy volunteered to make coffee.
- Ed Masten, Treasurer, gave a financial report. We have $2,764.41 in our account. Expenditures were $396.89
- Linda Swift said the 2007 journal will be available in January, 2008.
- Board meeting next month before the January meeting at 5:30p.m.
- Please let Diane Baird know of anything relating to HAS

--submitted by Kathleen Barry, Secretary
Announcing a major new addition to Texas Beyond History, the virtual museum of Texas' cultural heritage created by the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory at the University of Texas at Austin in partnership with the Center for Big Bend Studies at Sul Ross State University and 15 other organizations. La Junta de los Ríos: Villagers of the Chihuahuan Desert Rivers is a 12-section online exhibit that tells the story of La Junta, a little-known settlement center on southeastern frontier of the American Southwest. The new exhibit focuses on the archeology of La Junta, although it summarizes the written history of the place as well.

The 2008 East Texas Archeological Conference will be held on Saturday, February 16, 2008 from 8:30AM to 4:00PM at the Robert M. Muntz Library (Room 401) at the University of Texas at Tyler. The conference brings together avocational and professional archeologists as well as the general public to discuss recent archeological discoveries and research in East Texas. If you are interested in presenting a paper or poster, or for more information contact Tom Middlebrook, TMdlbrk@aol.com, cell 936-556-0854.

The Baylor University Center for Spatial Research (CSR) is sponsoring the following workshops aimed at professional education and development for archaeologists. Dr. Shane J. Prochnow will instruct both workshops in the Baylor Sciences Building at Waco, Texas. Introduction to Archaeological Geology, January 26, 2008 and GIS for Archaeology, February 23-24, 2008. For cost and registration information please contact Shane_J_Prochnow@baylor.edu, 254-710-2224.

Deadline Looms Nigh for TAS Lithics Academy

That’s right! Time is quickly running out to register for the January 26 and 27th Lithics Academy on the St. Thomas campus. Participants will engage in exercises designed to record information about stone artifacts. These exercises will include sorting, classifying, measuring, and information recording as part of basic stone tool analysis. Advanced analysis will include understanding the process of making a stone tool from the cobble to finished product, functional uses of stone tools, formation of use-wear, recognizing breakage patterns, and tracing use-life of stone tools. The final part will focus on interpreting stone artifacts and patterns in the archeological record.

All registrations must be in by Jan. 16. You may sign up online at www.txarch.org. This is your only opportunity to attend the renowned TAS Lithics Academy this year. –Richard and Wanda Carter

Registration Fees: $95 (TAS Members), $135 (Non TAS Members) for the 2-Day workshop. Fees include 2 lunches, snacks, and CD workshop manual.

When: January 26 and 27, 2008, 9:00a.m.-5:00p.m

Where: St. Thomas University, Scanlan Hall

TAS Spring 2008 Archeology Academies

The Spring 2008 Archeology Academies are just around the corner! These weekend courses provide learning opportunities in archeology for those interested in more in-depth information on archeological goals and procedures. Lithics is first in Houston, January 26 and 27; Archeology 101 is next in Belton, February 8-10, with field work planned at the Gault site; the icing on the cake is the Rock Art Academy in Van Horn, February 29-March 2. For more information visit www.txarch.org.
2008 HAS Membership Renewals are Due in January

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

Name(s):______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address:______________________________________________________________________________________________________

Telephone:_____________________________(home)_________________________(work)

email:______________________________________

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 Linda Swift, swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net
Submit articles no later than January 30th for the February issue.

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

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HAS BOARD MEMBERS
Diane Baird, President, diba1995@att.net
Michael Bailey, Vice President, mbailey@beamans.com
Ed Masten, Treasurer, clee@hcp1.net
Kathleen Barry, Secretary, kate_bar42@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

Elizabeth & Pat Aucoin, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net
Bev Mendenhall, bmend2@yahoo.com
R. L. Gregg, rlgregg@worldnet.att.net
Marilyn & Walter Horton, wmh@houston.rr.com

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

Don Keys, keys_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

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Carolyn Spock, President, c.spock@mail.utexas.edu

The Profile

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

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