October Program Features Flem Rogers on Confederate Arms

Flem Rogers, a nationally recognized gun historian and popular lecturer at HAS, will present a program on Thursday, October 21, on “How the Confederacy Armed Itself.” In this talk, Mr. Rogers will examine how the Confederate States of America acquired and armed its military. The lecture will be highlighted by an exhibit of arms on loan for the presentation.

Different time and location: This meeting will start at 7:30 pm on October 21. The location is the Doherty Library (Bldg 22); room 009 (basement) on the campus of the University Of St. Thomas. A campus map can be found at www.stthom.org.

Flem Rogers is the owner/operator of Flem Rogers Photography. He has a long history of working with period weapons, specializing in pre-cartridge materials. Mr. Rogers (right, in 1836 period costume) shows his devotion to history by working with several historic groups in his home in Brazoria County, and by using living history as a means of educating and entertaining those who have an interest in weapons of the past. He is a member of the American Society of Arms Collectors.

October is Texas History Month

Our special program this month is being held in conjunction with Texas History Month, along with programs and events all over Texas. Our meeting has been publicized in advance by the Texas Historical Commission, and we are expecting guests who may not have attended our meetings before. Please be sure to meet and greet all the newcomers and help them to feel at home with us!

October-December Lab Nights

Lab will be held on Oct. 25, Nov. 15 & 29, and Dec. 13 (only date in December). All labs meet from 7:00-9:00 pm in Room 103, Sewell Hall, Rice University. Our current project is documenting two collections from a prehistoric coastal-margin shell midden site. Reminder: A credit card is necessary to access the parking lot near Sewall Hall. For a map, check www.houstonarcheology.org.

More Bernardo Work Days Scheduled for October

I have received confirmation that TWO MORE weekend work dates on site at Bernardo are scheduled for October 16-17 and 30-31, 2010. We will meet at 8:00 am each day near the caretaker’s house. Please park along the ranch road and not at the dig site. Our normal work day will be 8:00-5:00 each day. Sandwich fixin’s for lunch will be provided for both Saturday and Sunday.

The objective of our field work will be to continue locating evidence of the other out-buildings around the main plantation house. We may possibly begin preliminary testing of the slave quarters located at Lake Bernardo. On October 16th, a Texas Archeology Month tour of the site will be given.

We need about 18-20 volunteers each day. If you desire to participate in this work, please contact me at chasgordy@yahoo.com to confirm which day or days you desire to work.

--Charlie Gordy, Volunteer Work Coordinator
President's Message

**IMPORTANT: October Meeting** – This month’s meeting will begin at 7:30 pm and will be located in the UST Doherty Library (Bldg 22); room 009 which is in the basement (has elevator access). HAS will be hosting a Texas Archeological Month program and we expect good attendance from the general public.

The month of October is not only special in recognizing Texas Archeology Month and the Texas Historical Commission, but it is also a special month for the Houston Archeology Society for a couple of reasons. First, our society has elected new officers to our board of directors to begin a new year of leadership for the Houston Archeology Society. In that regards I wish to welcome the newest officers of the board, Michael Johnston as Treasurer and Linda Gorski as Director. I look forward to their input and contribution to HAS. At the same time, I am happy to continue as your president serving with the rest of the board members which have given me much support over the past year. As outgoing board member, we thank Muriel Walker for her tireless efforts, not only this past year, but for the many years in the past which she has served HAS in many capacities. Finally, I would like to thank Ed Masten, our outgoing Treasurer.

Secondly, the month of October is important to HAS, for on October 10, 1966, we were granted our charter of incorporation by the State of Texas. The names of our incorporators were William L. Fullen (still a member to this day); Alan R. Duke; Shirley Thompson; William Caskey; and Donald R. Lewis. Although we were incorporated in 1966, HAS was really started as an unincorporated organization, with the first meeting being held on April 10, 1959, in the Roy Cullen Building of the University of Houston. Thirteen members attended that first meeting. Lucky for us, “thirteen” was not an unlucky number. I found it interesting that dues were set at $6.00 per year. In 2009 dollars, that would be equal to $43.67. As HAS president, I find it a privilege to serve in the footsteps of such dedicated people and a pleasure to be part of perpetuating the same purpose for which they organized almost 52 years ago.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER**, Coria Connelly. --Charlie Gordy, President

Minutes of the HAS Meeting September 16, 2010

Meeting called to order by Michael Bailey who welcomed members and visitors.

Michael introduced the speaker, Dirk van Tuerenhout, Curator of Anthropology at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, who spoke on "Secrets of the Silk Road". Afterwards Mr. van Tuerenhout answered questions from members regarding this subject.

Next month’s speaker will be Flem Rogers, who will present a talk on guns of the Confederacy.

Ed Masten gave the Treasurer’s report: Beginning balance April 1, 2010 $4,637.10; Total Income $5,046.10; Total Expenses $95.64; Total Operating Funds as of June 30, 2010, $4,950.46; Savings Endowment $9,438.23; Interest income $2.35; Ending Balance June 20, 2010 $9,440.58; Total Funds of 14,391.04.

Diane Baird presented the slate of nominees for the HAS Board. New officers are: Linda Gorski, Board Director for a 3-year term, and Michael Johnston as Treasurer. Incumbent nominees are: Charlie Gordy, President; Michael Bailey, Vice President; and Secretary, Phyllis Bradley. Directors Lucia Bonno and Kevin Bradley will continue on the Board until their terms are completed. Michael Bailey asked for any nominees from the floor. There were no other nominees. Motion was made to accept the recommended nominees by acclamation. Motion was seconded and received unanimous approval from members.

Beth Aucoin explained that Directors at Large have a three-year overlapping term, and two of the Directors, Lucia Bonno and Kevin Bradley, have not served all their terms.

Meeting adjourned. (Refreshments provided by Mary LeBlanc, Jack Farrell, and Phyllis Bradley.) --Phyllis Bradley, Secretary

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**The Profile** 2
BERNARDO Progress Report for October 1-2, 2010

We had exceptional weather for the weekend and were able to open eight units. Turnout numbered about 30 volunteers on each day. The Houston Archaeology Society was well represented on both days. About five students from Houston Community College and Cy Fair College were present. Jib Ahmad brought out six Boy Scouts to work on their archaeology merit badges.

Surveying was conducted by Jib Ahmad. He supplied a Trimble R-8 RTK GPS instrument and precisely located the units we've opened so far. He will undertake to convert the current arbitrary grid to actual geographic coordinates so that we can overlay the site grid on map layers in our GIS.

Excavations were conducted at the fireplace hearth associated with the Mother's Room (southwest main house) and at the proposed locations for the kitchen structure and the bachelor's hall.

The southern end of the fireplace hearth has been completely exposed. The structure is very similar to the brick hearth previously exposed. Artifacts included a metal "key" which may have served as a winding device, a well-preserved bone or antler handle (left), and the basal half of a Lang dart point (right). A flake and a few pieces of chert debitage were also noted. Window and bottle glass, ceramics and nail fragments were recovered.

The kitchen units revealed a layer of brick rubble at the base of level one which extended across the north end of the first unit Jorge opened. The rubble continued across the unit to the north in the bottom of level one/top of level two. My working hypothesis is that this rubble is associated with the kitchen hearth and brick oven. Artifacts included ceramics, glass, a metal spike and a small lead shot.

The location proposed as the bachelor's hall revealed hard-packed clay at the base of level one, extending grid east-west. There may be a junction with the path running north-south as well. Artifacts recovered included munitions (a Union Arms .22 cal cartridge and two .36 cal balls) a glass vessel base with a deformed pontil scar, and bottle glass.

I have growing confidence that we've found the location of the kitchen. The artifacts we've recovered along with the location and amount of rubble suggest that we have the right location. The evidence for the location of the bachelor's hall is ambiguous at best, and we will continue to excavate a line of units from east to west in an attempt to detect evidence for drip-lines, piers and wall trenches. We will attempt to follow the hard-packed clay features as time permits.

-- Robert Marcom, M.A., RPA

Name(s):_____________________________________________________________________________________________________
Address:_____________________________________________________________________________________________________
Telephone:_________________________(home)_____________________(work) e-mail:___________________________________

Type of membership:  ___New    ___Renewal      Please circle one:  Student ($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.
☐ I DO ☐ DO NOT authorize HAS to invite me by e-mail to join the HAS Facebook page as a “friend”.

Signature(s):_______________________________________________________________________Date:______________________

Early Bird Membership Renewal: cut out and mail in now!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL Houston Archeological Society, P. O. Box 130631, Houston, TX 77219-0631

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

The Profile
Upcoming Archaeology Events

Sunday, October 17 at 5:00 pm: Archeologist Michael Strutt to speak on “Texas Parks Archaeology” at a meeting of the Friends of Archaeology. NOTE different meeting location: Clayton Library Carriage House, 5300 Caroline. For more information call 713-681-2852 and leave name & number for return call.

Wednesday, October 20, 6:30 pm: AIA-Houston presents “Voyages of Monsoons and Gold: The Indian Ocean Trade, A Maritime Silk Route.” Location: The Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Drive. For more information, see the web site at http://aia-houston.com, or contact Becky Lao at beckylao@att.net or 713.364.6344.

Thursday, November 4, 7:00 – 8:00 pm: Dr. William J. Neidinger will present a free public lecture: “TFAHR Excavations in Macedonia: Bylazora 2010.” Dr. Neidinger will discuss the history of the Paionians and Macedonians and tell the story of TFAHR’s three seasons excavating the legendary site of Bylazora. Location: St. Martin’s Episcopal Church, 717 Sage Road. For more information, visit www.tfahr.org/110410lect.html.


Please submit articles for publication to Profile Editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net. Submit articles no later than October 28 for the November 2010 issue.