Dr. C. Wayne Smith to Speak on “Three Dimensional Imaging and Archaeology” at October Meeting

Stereoscopic photography is more practical today than at any time since its conception. The ability of the three-dimensional technique to bring out minor variations in texture makes it invaluable in the recording of stratigraphic sections of archeological features. This program will be presented by Dr. C. Wayne Smith, director of the Archaeological Preservation Research Laboratory (APRL) and the Wilder 3-D Imaging Laboratory. Both laboratories are part of the Texas A&M University Department of Anthropology.

Dr. Smith, an associate professor at Texas A&M, holds the INA Faculty Fellowship. Working as a conservator, he specializes in the preservation of organic artifacts using silicone oils, resins, and other polymers. *Archaeological Conservation Using Polymers*, his most recent work published by Texas A&M University Press, discusses practical applications for the stabilization of organic artifacts. Since 1981, he has participated in survey and shipwreck assessment in the Great Lakes and participated as a student and research assistant in excavations at Port Royal, Jamaica. Working in conjunction with Donny L. Hamilton of Texas A&M University and Dow Corning Corporation of Midland, Michigan, he has developed and patented new conservation strategies and industrial applications. He also participates in numerous joint international research projects.

APRL is currently involved in the conservation of selected artifacts from La Salle Shipwreck Project, forensic anthropology, Egyptian mummy tissues studies, and the conservation of a wide range of artifacts from many of the ongoing excavations from Texas A&M University and the Institute of Nautical Archaeology.

Dr. Smith’s interests include historical archaeology, artifact conservation, artifact photography, Caribbean archaeology and Caribbean culture studies, topics in visual anthropology and digital imaging.

Join us at 7:00 pm Thursday, October 20, in Anderson Hall (Room 103) on the Academic Mall at the University of St. Thomas, to learn about this fascinating technology.

Lab Schedule for October

There will be only one lab this month, due to Halloween: Monday, Oct. 17th at the usual time and place: 7:00-9:00 pm, Room 103, Sewall Hall, Rice University. Work continues documenting two private collections from Pine Gully, a prehistoric coastal shell midden site. Closest parking is Founder's Court/Visitor Parking and requires a credit card. For a map, see [www.rice.edu/maps](http://www.rice.edu/maps).

Compass Bank Reps to Attend Meeting

Representatives of BBVA Compass Bank will be on hand at the October meeting for a short (10-15 minute) presentation on the benefits of the Compass For Your Cause program.
President’s Message

This Month’s Meeting Reminder

Date: October 20, 2011
Place: UST Anderson Hall, Rm. 103
Time: 7:00 pm.-9:30 pm

As you probably suspected, I am thrilled to serve as President of the Houston Archaeological Society. In fact, I believe this opportunity will be a lot of fun—provided, of course, I can count on each of you for assistance, ensuring the success of the Society.

First, let me thank Charlie Gordy for his continued guidance and support since my acceptance of the presidential nomination. In addition, I wanted to mention how much I appreciate Lucia Bonno, Juan Reyes and Michael Bailey in meeting me at the BBVA Compass Bank on Saturday, October 1, 2011. BBVA Business Relationship Manager, Eric Merchant, was wonderful in helping us to update HAS bank records.

Although it is going to take time for me to get to know each of you personally, I wanted to provide you with a summary of my background to help you get to know me. Currently, I am a graduate student at the University of St. Thomas and have a dual undergraduate degree in Anthropology and Geography from the University of Texas at Austin. As a professional archaeologist, I have worked primarily in two areas of these disciplines, which includes archival and historic research and Cultural Resources Management (CRM). Most of my work has been within North America, but I have also worked in Belize, Costa Rica, England, and Mexico. My favorite locations are Alaska (2-years), Texas/Louisiana (8-years), Belize and Idaho (5-months) and England (3-months). If my two daughters had not given me the ultimatum—either return to the lower 48 from Alaska or we are going to abdicate our position as your daughters—I would still be in Alaska! Kidnapping my two grandsons, Damon (11) and Trey (6) was not an option and, therefore, I reluctantly returned to Houston. My employer is myself; I have a small research company, IV Archival, Research & Trowel (IVART), whereby, I provide historic preservation and CRM services throughout the southeast.

In addition, owing to the recent changes in board members, improvements to the website and approaching holidays I anticipate a slow surge forward. Hopefully, by January we will have an array of activities planned for the year 2012 to meet the needs of current members, as well as those of the future. This is an exciting time and I hope everyone will offer suggestions and be willing to earnestly participate in future events.

Special thanks to Linda Gorski for her gift of information at the 2011 TAS Field School.

--Karen Belvin

Bernardo Work Plans/Schedule

The work dates of October 22-23 are confirmed. There will be a public tour of the site on Saturday, October 22, for Texas Archeology Month. There are no weekday dates planned. We will begin work each day at 8:00 am and end at 5:00 pm. Our objective is to continue excavation in the area where we hope to find the household slave cabins. In addition, we will investigate a magnetometer anomaly near the rear of the main house. Recovered artifacts will be catalogued; however no lab work is planned on site.

We will need about 12 volunteers for each day. If you desire to participate in this work, please contact Charlie Gordy (chasgordy@yahoo.com) and confirm which day(s) you plan to work ASAP.

NOTE: If you have not participated during any work periods since August 2010, there are new release forms requiring your signature upon check-in. For up-to-date information, go to Houston Archeological Society on Facebook.

-- Charlie Gordy
HAS Meeting Minutes for September 15, University of St. Thomas

Meeting called to order by Charlie Gordy, who welcomed all members and visitors and reminded all of the sign-in sheets in the lobby.

Michael Bailey introduced the speaker for tonight, Mr. Douglas K. Boyd, a vice president of Prewitt and Associates, a cultural resources services firm in Austin. Mr. Boyd spoke on “Public Archeology at 19th Century African American Farmstead.”

A business meeting was held immediately after the program. Minutes of September 18 approved as printed in the Profile.

Treasurer’s report by Michael Johnston: As of August the HAS bank account started with a balance of $5,997.70, dues received $115, payment of $163.98 for printing of Profile, ending balance of $5,948.72.

Annual election of officers: Muriel Walker represented the Nominating Committee and announced the nominations. Linda Swift made motion to accept the slate by acclamation, Roy Whitney seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The 2011-2012 Board members will be President--Karen Belvin, Vice President--Michael Bailey, Secretary-Mary LeBlanc, Treasurer--Juan Reyes. For the Directors: Lucia Bonno to fill remaining one-year term for Kevin Bradley, Carol Roberts elected to new three-year term. Linda Gorski will continue her three-year term which has two years remaining. The new Officers and Board met immediately after the election to discuss changing the signatures at the bank, which will be done as soon as can be arranged.

Charlie announced that Bernardo field work was cancelled this month due to fire danger. Next scheduled work weekend is October 22-23. Muriel Walker made motion to adjourn, Michael Bailey seconded. Meeting adjourned.

AIA-Houston’s Reading Group to Focus on The Murder of Tutankhamen

The Archaeological Institute of America-Houston Chapter has announced the next book selection for their Insites Reading Group: The Murder of Tutankhamen by Bob Brier. Egyptologist Bob Brier specializes in paleopathology, the study of diseases in the ancient world. In essence, he performs high-tech autopsies on 3,000-year-old corpses. True crime buffs and historians alike will find much to like in Brier’s fast-paced recounting of his investigations. Purchase your book at Brazos Book Store and mention the Insites Reading Group to receive a 10% discount.

Next meeting of Insites will be Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 7:00 pm at Café Byblos, 6134 Richmond Ave, Houston, TX 77057, with discussion led by Dr. Dirk van Tuerenhout, Curator of Anthropology, Houston Museum of Natural Science. Space is limited. To reserve your seat, RSVP to 713-364-6344.

Mesoamerican Conference to be Held November 4-6

The second South Central Mesoamerican Conference (SCMC) will again be held in San Antonio on the campus of Trinity University November 4-6. The kickoff Friday evening lecture will be by Dr. David Freidel of Washington University (St. Louis) and will be followed by two days of presentations. Speakers include Grace Bascope, Kat Brown, Tom Guderjan, Seando Hinojosa, Colleen Hanratty, Brett Houk, Jennifer Mathews, Kathryn O’Rouke, Tim Preston, Jacinto Quirarte, Fred Valdez and Jason Yaeger. For more info, go to the SCMC website: http://www.southcentralmeso.org.

A Note from the Sam Houston Museum

Please remind your members that our new exhibit which opened in April, ”The Road to San Jacinto,” contains the most important finds from the San Jacinto battlefield. As an accredited state-held-in-trust repository, the Sam Houston Museum in Huntsville is allowed to display these exciting artifacts on loan from Texas Parks and Wildlife. Artifacts include the remains of canister bases fired from the Twin Sisters and many other military items. The exhibit also includes artifacts from Bernardo Plantation near Hempstead. The Museum is open Tuesday - Saturday 9:00 to 4:30 and Sunday noon to 4:30. There is a $4.00 admission fee. Contact Sandy for additional information at smm_ser@shsu.edu or 936-661-9882 cell.

--Sandra E. Rogers, Collections Registrar, Sam Houston Museum
Landscape Preservation: Advanced Tools for Managing Change is a seminar to be held in Austin November 8-9, 2011. This event is sponsored by the National Preservation Institute in cooperation with Preservation Texas, the Texas Historical Commission, and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

This advanced landscape preservation seminar will explore the sometimes conflicting issues that direct the process of change and decision-making for challenging landscapes. It will review the practice and discuss the implications of inventorying, evaluating, treating, and maintaining landscape resources, identify tools and techniques for managing change when difficult issues affect the process, and cover the philosophical foundations for making sound, educated decisions about the preservation and long-term management of historic and cultural landscapes. An agenda is available online at www.npi.org.

Instructor: Lucinda A. Brockway, program director for cultural resources, The Trustees of Reservations; formerly principal and owner, Past Designs, a landscape preservation and design firm specializing in preservation and management of historic landscapes; author of two books and several articles on historic landscapes.

The National Preservation Institute, a nonprofit organization founded in 1980, educates those involved in the management, preservation, and stewardship of our cultural heritage. Questions? Please contact us by phone at 703-765-0100, by e-mail at info@npi.org; or see the web site at www.npi.org.

Please submit articles for publication to Profile Editor Linda Swift at swiftlinda@sbcglobal.net.
Submit articles no later than November 1 for the November 2011 issue.