April 16th 2015 Meeting Program
“Unlocking Mysteries at the San Jacinto Battleground: Archives, Archeology, and the Fair Sex”
By Jan DeVault

In honor of the 179th anniversary of the Battle of San Jacinto, the Houston Archeological Society’s April meeting will feature a program by Jan DeVault, Director of the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy. The meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall at the University of St. Thomas and is free of charge and open to the public.

DeVault’s presentation will explore recent archeological projects at San Jacinto and will discuss how the use of archival material has guided the ongoing archeology at the San Jacinto Battleground. DeVault’s talk will also touch on efforts to preserve the Battleground which were originally led by a group of 19th century Houston women.

Jan DeVault has worked most of her professional life in the oil and gas industry and has served on the board of two publicly traded oil and gas companies. She earned a degree in history from the University of Texas-Arlington. A fifth generation Texan, she is the past president of the San Jacinto Chapter, Daughters of the Republic of Texas and authored The Ladies and the Battlefield, a book about the early preservation effort of women at the San Jacinto Battlefield.

She is a long-time member of the Texas State Historical Association and current member of the Harris County Historical Commission. She was appointed by Governor George W. Bush to a six-year term on the San Jacinto Historical Advisory Board and reappointed by Governor Rick Perry. She is currently President of the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy.

Attendees at this meeting will also get a special preview of artifacts recovered by the Golden family in the 1960s from the mudflats near the historic 1820 – 1880 San Jacinto town-ship. The artifacts will be part of an exhibit prepared by members of the HAS for the 2015 San Jacinto Symposium which will be held on Saturday, April 18.

For more information about the Symposium see https://www.friendsofsanjacinto.com/articles/official-commemoration-battle-san-jacinto-april-21-2010

For a campus map of St. Thomas University, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking ($2) in Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program or about the HAS, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.
President’s Message
HAS Members and Friends –

How many of you have ever attended a Texas Archeological Society Field School? If you have, you know what it’s like to spend a terrific week digging in the field with a bunch of folks who share your interest in history and archeology. If you have not … you just don’t know what you are missing!

The 2015 TAS Field School will once again be held at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas, from June 13 – 20, 2015. The kids program will be held at the Tait House in Columbus. Best news for HAS members – Columbus is really close to home!!! Most recent TAS field schools have been held in remote parts of West Texas or in the Panhandle. This is a unique opportunity for us here in southeast Texas NOT to have to travel hundreds of miles to enjoy the experience of field school.

HAS member Dr. Jason W. Barrett will again be the PI for field school. Jason recently wrote an article for the TAS Spring newsletter and here’s how he describes the sites we will be surveying and excavating at the upcoming field school:

This 2015 Texas Archeological Society Field School focuses on iconic elements of Texas history, which are surprisingly easy to find in Colorado County as it turns out. It also occurred to me that each of the sites we plan to explore this year represents a sort of crossroads in the state’s deep history. At Cotton Field we will observe the lifeway transitions that followed the ultimate abandonment of atlatl-propelled weaponry once the bow and arrow was introduced and widely adopted. Our survey team will search for the lost Mexican Army camps and river crossing that bracketed the Mexican Army’s defeat at the Battle of San Jacinto, where a new independent Republic of Texas was born. At the Bluff site, teams will investigate the pioneering enterprise of settling the new Texas frontier, where people left behind all that was familiar to forge new destinies (actually, they seem to have brought a lot with them, which is quite fortunate for us). More than representing a time period, this year’s sites provide windows into periods of transition; they represent history at the crossroads. The Youth area will once again focus on the grounds surrounding the historic Tait House, located in downtown Columbus under the shade of century-old oaks. Construction of the antebellum homes dates to the period 1856-1858 and it has been owned and maintained by members of the Tait family ever since.

You can find more information about the 2015 field school including registration forms, maps, camping and lodging information, and rules and regulations for Field School on the TAS website at http://www.txarch.org/Activities/fschool/fs2015/

Look forward to seeing you there!!! Any questions please email me back at lindagorski@cs.com. And thanks for your support of HAS!

Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society
Minutes
Houston Archeological Society Membership Meeting
March 19th, 2015

- Introduction (Linda Gorski)
  - President Linda Gorski called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and guests. There were a total of 29 members and 7 guests signed in.

- Treasurers Report (Tom Nuckols)
  - Checking Account: $7184.66  Savings Account: $11955.68

- Membership
  - Our membership drive for 2015 began on November 1. Applications are online or in the lobby. 111 application forms have been received covering 149 members. If you joined in the fourth quarter of 2014 you are good for 2015. All renewing members receive a bumper sticker.

- Vote on Changes to HAS Membership Categories
  - Louis Aulbach presented the proposed changes to the membership categories to introduce a new category of “Institutional”. Following a discussion with the membership a motion was proposed (Tom Williams, 2nd – Mike Woods) to delay the vote until the April meeting in order for the Board to address the issues raised regarding what constitutes an “Institution” and replacement of named persons in the institution. The motion was passed by the membership.

- Appointment of Audit Committee
  - An Audit Committee has been appointed to review the 2014 accounts. They are Louis Frey, Larry Golden and John Lumb

- Projects (Linda Gorski)
  - Kellum Noble House Screening Project – Screening at Kellum Noble House has been completed, although one very last day may be scheduled. So far Beth Aucoin and her team have processed approx. 10,300 artifacts. HAS has been asked to give a lecture at the Heritage Society on August 26 about the project.
  - Paleontology Dig – Ken Thies had scheduled an orientation at the site for this coming weekend but it was cancelled due to poor conditions at the site due to recent rain. Sign-up sheet in the back.
  - TAS Archeology 101 Academy – March 27– 29, 2015, Columbus, Texas. Several HAS members have signed up for this class. Dr. Jason Barrett will be the PI for the fieldwork session. HAS volunteers will help with the fieldwork part and some will serve as crew chiefs.
  - San Jacinto Screening Project – As soon as the rain stops and the site dries out we will begin screening again.
  - Elysian Viaduct/ Frosttown Project - Still in permit phase. Dr. Barrett reported that access to the site has been obtains for 2 parcels of land. Permits for full access should be obtained by 3/31/2015. Some disturbance at the site has already been noted.
  - Preliminary Fieldwork for 2015 Field School - will begin in April as soon as the ranch dries out.
  - TAS Field School - June 13 – 20, 2015 at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas.
  - TAS Annual Meeting – 23-25 October, 2015 in Houston. HAS will be a regional sponsor. Sue Gross suegbobs@comcast.com will be handling the silent auction. The Local Arrangements Committee held its initial meeting last week.
  - San Jacinto Symposium – April 17-18, 2015. HAS is putting together an artifact display for this event.

- Program for April, 2015. Jan DeVault will explore recent archeological projects at San Jacinto and will discuss how the use of archival material has guided the ongoing archeology at the San Jacinto Battleground. DeVault’s talk will also touch on efforts to preserve the Battleground which were originally led by a group of 19th century Houston women

- Dr. Allan Skinner presented a program on unusual archeological features in Texas, including the discovery in a North Texas pasture of an airplane-shaped “watering trough” made of concrete that was an airplane silhouette practice target used in the training of US Air Service pilots and gunners during World War I.

After the meeting members and guests gathered for a social with refreshments brought by many of our members.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16th, 2015.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society
Larry Golden Collection: Notes on Munitions
By Tom Nuckols

I am currently in the process of analyzing the approximately 53 munitions artifacts that comprise the former Town of San Jacinto, Larry Golden Collection. 24 of these artifacts consist of the badly corroded brass cups from shot shells (shot gun shells). Although the paper hulls once attached to the cups have disintegrated, some of the cups still retain their internal cardboard base wads.

One shot shell in particular, has this head stamp\(^1\): No 12 U.S. ROMAX. Translated, this means a Romax brand 12 gauge shot shell manufactured by the United States Cartridge Company (USC) of Lowell, MA. Former Union Army General Benjamin F. Butler and a group of associates founded USC; incorporation was on June 14, 1869. Ajax, Climax and Romax were three brands of shot shells sold to the public by USC. The company advertised the three brands as the “Black Shells”, because their paper hulls were painted black (instead of Winchester’s red or Remington’s green, etc.). The Romax trademark was first used in commerce on April 25, 1911. So far, research has failed to ascertain the trademark dates for Ajax and Climax shot shells. Romax shot shells were loaded with black (gun) powder. Ajax and Climax shot shells were loaded with smokeless (gun) powder. By the early 1920s, “Black Shells” ceased to appear in USC advertising.

In the 1920s, USC introduced the shot shell brands Ajax Heavies, Climax Heavies and Defiance Heavies. Climax Heavies and Defiance Heavies were manufactured with red painted paper hulls. USC was reincorporated in 1905. A 50% interest was sold to the National Lead Company in 1909. National Lead Co., sold all of USC’s machinery and equipment to the Winchester Repeating Arms Company in 1926. In 1931, Western Cartridge Company bought Winchester and continued to market USC ammunition until 1936.

In 1940 USC won a substantial federal government contract to build and operate a St. Louis, MO, ordinance plant to make and store munitions during World War II. Notice in the photograph, the head stamp includes two periods (No 12. U.S. Romax). These two periods are variant\(^2\) indicators. Also notice the small circle in the center of the cup with the concavity. That is the primer\(^3\). The concavity was caused by the firing pin of a shotgun.

This is the first in a series of articles on munitions by Tom Nuckols that will appear in future newsletters.

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\(^1\) Headstamp – The marking impressed upon the base of the cartridge by the manufacturer. It can indicate who made the cartridge, the caliber, when it was made, the brand, a decoration, or as much information as space allows and the manufacturer decides to put there. The headstamp consists of letters, numerals or symbols, or combinations of any or all of these arranged in some manner on the base of a cartridge.

\(^2\) Variant – A loading variation(s) in the components that make up a particular caliber of a center-fire cartridge or gauge in a shot shell (also a center-fire cartridge). These include bullet style or weight, shot or buckshot size, powder charge or type (black or smokeless), primer size, etc. Variants allow the manufacturer to identify his product. Variants are expressed in different ways via the headstamp; the size of letters or numbers, punctuation; periods, the number or placement of periods and hyphens. As far as this author can determine only center-fire cartridge variants manufactured by the Winchester Repeating Firearms Company are documented in Daniel L. Shuey’s book, *W.R.A. Co., Headstamped Cartridges and their Variations, Volume 1*, 1999, WCF Publications, Rockford, IL.

\(^3\) Primer – The small cup fitted in the pocket of the base of a center-fire cartridge case. The primer contains a sensitive explosive compound which, when struck by a guns firing pin ignites the gun powder contained within the cartridge case.
The Emergency Salvage Archeology project undertaken by the Houston Archeological Society at the Kellum Noble House at the Heritage Society in Sam Houston Park may be winding down, but the lab work on the artifacts recovered is just beginning!

According to Beth Aucoin, HAS members recovered over 10,300 artifacts during the screening project. Beth and her lab team including Charlie Gordy and Tracy Connell have processed, cleaned, bagged and catalogued every artifact. “We are now in the process of photographing artifacts and doing more research on the collection,” said Aucoin.

Tracy Connell, Charlie Gordy and Beth Aucoin have counted, bagged and catalogued all of the 10,300 artifacts recovered during the Kellum Noble project at Beth’s house. The project started before Christmas and the tree is still up since Beth can’t get to it to take it down 😊

Tracy Connell has set up her professional photo studio in Beth Aucoin’s home to photograph artifacts from the Kellum Noble house.
Aucoin is also bringing artifacts from the Kellum Noble project to the HAS lab at Rice University twice a month for examination by other society members. “We are now in the process of cross-mending some of the ceramics which means we are piecing them together like a puzzle,” said Aucoin. Emily Ardoin (right), Curator of Buildings at the Heritage Society and the coordinator of the restoration project at the Kellum Noble House, has joined HAS members at the lab and last month was successful in cross-mending a stemmed glass.

Members of the Houston Archeological Society have been asked to present the distinguished Building Arts Lecture at the Heritage Society on Thursday, August 26 at 6:30 p.m. highlighting artifacts recovered from the tons of dirt that was removed from the foundation of the Kellum Noble House during restoration efforts. For more information contact Linda Gorski at lindagorski@cs.com
### Houston Maritime Museum History Lecture

**WHO:** Marks Hinton

**WHAT:** Houston’s Port and Ship Channel History as told by Street Names

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 14
7:00-8:00 PM

**WHERE:** Houston Maritime Museum
2204 Dorrington
Houston, TX 77030

**HOW:** The Houston Maritime Museum offers a free history lecture each month

**INFO:** Contact Lucia Cerritos at 713.666.1910 or lcerritos@houstonmaritime.org
Free admission and refreshments
HoustonMaritimeMuseum.org

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**Houston’s Port and Ship Channel History as Told by Street Names**

How do street names tell the history of a city? After whom is Brady’s Landing and Barbour’s Cut named? Why was German Street changed to Canal and from where did the name Pasadena come? And why were elephants used to construct Spencer Highway? Houston historian Marks Hinton will share the history of the Houston Ship Channel and Port of Houston by exploring the history of street and location names. In this talk, Hinton will discuss our leaders and heroes, share myths and legends, and describe the humor and tragedies that are part of Houston’s history.

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Marks Hinton, a native Houstonian, is the author of “Houston’s Historic Streets: The Stories Behind the Street Names”. Hinton is a retired investment banker and a founding member of the Friends of the Texas Room (the Texana Collection of the Harris County Historical Society). He served on the Orange Show Center for Visionary Art Eyeopener Tour Committee for more than twenty five years, developing and leading many of the most popular outings.
Donation by Chevron to fund San Jacinto Exhibit

The Houston Archeological Society recently received a $500 donation from Chevron in recognition of their employee Mike Lemen’s volunteer efforts to HAS. Under it’s "Chevron Humankind” project, employees and retirees can request a $500 grant for either individual or company-sponsored projects after volunteering 20 hours or a $1000 grant after volunteering 40 hours with a single nonprofit.

HAS member Mike Lemen volunteered over 20 hours in 2014 for two HAS projects - the Emergency Salvage Archeology project at the Kellum Noble House in Houston and the San Jacinto Screening Project, thus qualifying for the $500 donation.

Mike has asked that a portion of the Chevron donation be applied to HAS work at San Jacinto in honor of his great-great grandfather, William Washington Hawkins, who fought at the Battle of San Jacinto.

To honor Mike’s request, HAS is putting together an important exhibit of artifacts recovered in the mudflats near San Jacinto in the 1960s by the Golden family of Pasadena. This exhibit will be previewed at the April 16, 2015 HAS monthly meeting and will be a highlight of the 2015 San Jacinto Symposium which will be held April 18, 2015 in Houston. These artifacts date to the earliest days of the San Jacinto town-site (1820s) through the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836 and up to the demise of the town-site in the 1880s. The collection includes hundreds of buttons, munitions, ceramics, marbles, bottles, metal-ware and other items dating from the 19th century.

For more information about the San Jacinto Symposium see https://www.friendsofsanjacinto.com/articles/official-commemoration-battle-san-jacinto-april-21-2010

Thanks to Chevron and to Mike Lemen for this very generous donation! If your company sponsors a similar program we hope you will name HAS as your volunteer organization!

Submissions for the HAS Journal

Any individuals wishing to ask questions about, or submit papers for the HAS Journal should contact Dub Crook at dubcrook@kingwoodcable.com
Texas Archeology Academy: Archeology 101, Columbus, Texas, 27-29 March, 2015

The Houston Archeological Society was well-represented – both by students and support staff – at the TAS Archeology 101 Academy in Columbus, Texas March 27 – 29. The weekend was just totally awesome! Pam Wheat-Stranahan, Sue Gross and Rita Tait and Ed Jackson did a magnificent job organizing the event which was held in Columbus, Texas.

Dr. Jon Lohse in the classroom and Dr. Jason Barrett in the field (both HAS members!) were terrific instructors and Chris Meis, Eric Oksanen, Tom Williams, Tom Nuckols, Gus Costa and Kathleen Hughes were A-1 Crew Chiefs during fieldwork on Sunday. I was so proud of the HAS Support Team including Bob Sewell, John Rich, Louis Aulbach, Debbie Eller, Steve and Sharon Menegaz, Tracy Connell and Beth Aucoin (if I've forgotten anyone, mea culpa).

Several HAS members were students in the Archeology 101 Class including Scott Brown, Cecil Jones, Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen and her sister Margaret Coon, Larry and Christine Golden, John Lumb, and Betsy Wittenmeyer. One of the students (who shall remain nameless) had such a great time he said he wanted to quit his day job and dig full time 😊

The weather was absolutely gorgeous for the field work on Sunday and the Archeology 101 students recovered some amazing artifacts from the units at the Tait House including several buttons, ceramic and glass sherds, all sorts of metal objects, a spoon, marbles, cast iron stove parts and more. Beth Aucoin and Sharon Menegaz ran the field lab and cleaned, sorted and bagged artifacts all day. Tracy Connell took hundreds of photos but here are a few from my camera.

The whole crew at TAS Archeology 101 enjoyed a beautiful day at the Tait House in Columbus

Thanks to all of you who represented HAS so well at this very important Texas Archeological Society Academy!!! The next TAS Academy will be held on May 2 – 3 in Nacogdoches, Texas. This Academy will focus on historical archeology. The deadline for registration is April 14, 2015.

For more information and registration forms see http://www.txarch.org/Activities/academy/aa2015/index.php

An expanded version of this article with more photos of the weekend’s outdoor activities can be found on the HAS website at www.txhas.org/PDF/TAS_101_2015.pdf

Linda Gorski, President Houston Archeological Society
The FRIENDS of ARCHÆOLOGY

Annual Dinner
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED (Limited Seating)

Saturday, April 25, 2015
Ahern Room, University of St. Thomas
5:00 p.m. Social - 5:45 p.m. Seating for Dinner

Honoring Friend and Founder Fr. Ed Bader, C.S.B.,
and recognizing the continuing support of dedicated FRIENDS Members.

Featured Speaker: Dr. Louis Markos
Professor in English & Scholar in Residence at Houston Baptist University
where he holds the Robert H. Ray Chair in Humanities

Topic
Aeneas to Augustus: The Rise and Fall of the Roman Republic

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PLEASE SELECT ONE MAIN COURSE PER PERSON FROM THE MENU
+ PRINT THE NAMES OF PERSONS ATTENDING.
& MAIL WITH YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION & CHECK FOR $35 PER PERSON TO:
Naomi Joyner, 499 N. Post Oak Ln., Houston Texas 77024  713-681-8920

Reservations must be received by April 17th and will be confirmed by email (or telephone).
Donations welcome to support the Friends Speakers Fund for this event and upcoming programs.

Mail this portion back with your check as your reservation
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MENU  MAIN COURSE SELECTION

CHICKEN CORDON BLEU  LONDON BROIL  VEGETARIAN Plate

INCLUSIVE: Classical Caesar Salad to Start, Entré w. Roasted Roman Rosemary Potatoes,
Haricot Vert Almondine; followed by Crème Brulee – a silky sinful delight! + Tea, Coffee, Wines .
BON APETITE!

PLEASE PRINT NAMES OF ATTENDEES & Main Course Selection (B, L, V)

YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS or TELEPHONE #

Need more information? Contact Kathleen Solcher, 713-266-9516 or kathleen@solcher.com
May 21 – Wilson W. “Dub” Crook will complete his trilogy of programs on archeological excavations on the East Fork of the Trinity River with Mano a Mano: East Fork Ground Stone Tools. Crook will demonstrate the type of information that can be gained from an analysis of ground stone tools. Manos and metates are consistent components of the artifact assemblage of most Late Prehistoric sites. They are typically associated with grinding grain, such as maize, to make flour. However, a great deal more information can be obtained by analyzing these oft overlooked stone tools.

June – No meeting – members will be attending 2015 TAS Field School at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas.

July 16 – Dr. Jason W. Barrett - Report on the 2015 TAS Field School at the Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas. Dr. Barrett, will lead a program highlighting excavations and artifacts recovered at the Cottonfield and Bluff Sites at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch and at the Tait House in Columbus. He will also report on the results of surveys to locate the Atascosito Crossing during field school.

August 20 – Dr. Tom Williams researcher at the Prehistory Research Project (formerly the Gault Project) at Texas State University will present a program entitled Testing the Atlantic Ice Hypothesis: Comparing Solutrean and Clovis Blade Technology. This presentation focuses on the assumption of scholars that the blade manufacturing technologies of Clovis and Solutrean were “virtually identical”. Specifically focusing on Clovis in Texas, this presentation will explore the manufacture of Clovis blades across Texas and how this has contributed to the debate concerning the first Americans.

September 17 - ArchAerial Team – How Drones are used in Archeological Applications. Drones, or unmanned aerial systems (UAS), are used in archaeology for small-scale and large-scale survey, documentation, and volumetric measuring of trenches and structures. UAS can be used to quickly and easily gather various types of data that can assist in finding new sites and measuring excavation progress throughout the dig season.

October 15 – Dr. Jon C. Lohse, A Precise Chronology of Middle to Late Holocene Bison Exploitation in the Far Southern Great Plains Recent studies of the presence of bison in parts of Texas during prehistoric times has produced a fairly precise, reliable chronology for this animal. This study has involved directly dating bison remains, rather than dating them through their association with other materials, using techniques that help ensure the reliability of dates based on bone collagen. So far, about 65 samples have been dated. As a top-ranked food resource, bison would have been very important for hunter-gatherers across the area. Lohse’s recent article on the subject can be found at http://jtah.org/2014/12/04/a-precise-chronology-of-middle-to-late-holocene-bison-exploitation-in-the-far-southern-great-plains/

November 19 – Dr. Charles A. Stewart – The Archaeological Ghosts of Gothic Famagusta In this presentation, Dr. Stewart, will describe the growth of Famagusta, which remains one of the best preserved “Gothic cities” in the world. He will specifically share his archaeological investigations of the cathedral called “Saint-George of the Greeks” and how it was transformed from a humble Byzantine church to a grand French-style Gothic Cathedral.

December 17 – HAS president Linda Gorski will present an overview of HAS activities in 2015 with a focus on the enormously successful emergency salvage archeology project at the Kellum Noble House as well as ongoing work at San Jacinto, San Felipe de Austin and other sites in southeast Texas.

All Houston Archeological Society meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS visit our website at www.txhas.org or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/
Lab Dates for April 2015

There will only be one lab in April on Monday, the 13th from 7-9 p.m., Room 103 Sewell Hall, Rice University where we will continue working on the Kellum-Noble House artifacts. If you like puzzles, we are currently trying to cobble together vessels and plates from the respective pieces glass, ceramics or porcelain found during the excavation. All HAS current members are welcome to attend lab nights.

Whether you participate on-site, in the lab or via membership in the society—know that your ongoing involvement helps record and conserve pieces of Houston’s history!

We hope to see you Monday evening, from 7-9 p.m., Room 103 (lower level), Sewall Hall, Rice University. Founders Court/Visitor Parking is directly across from Sewall Hall and requires a credit or debit card for access. (Cost is about $3.50/hour.) Visit www.rice.edu/maps for a map of the campus and the parking area. Any member wishing to be included on the lab e-mail list should contact Melissa May @ smay10@comcast.net.

Melissa May
Lab Director

Fort Bend Archeological Society Meeting 21st April, 2015

Dr. Jason Barrett, Principal Investigator of TAS Field School will discuss prehistoric activity that occurred in Colorado County, some of the discoveries and research complete to date, and the goals of this year’s Field School. The meeting will be on Tuesday, April 21 at 7pm at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy, 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond (across from the Justice Center).

Please submit articles for publication to The Profile Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than April 30th for the May 2015 issue.

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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

Linda Gorski, President, president@txhas.org
Louis Aulbach, Vice President, vpresident@txhas.org
Tom Nuckols, Treasurer, treasurer@txhas.org
Bob Sewell, Secretary, secretary@txhas.org
Kathleen Hughes, Director-at-Large, dal_b@txhas.org
Don Keyes, Director-at-Large, dal_c@txhas.org
Mike Woods Director-at-Large, dal_a@txhas.org

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Don Keyes, Region V Director, keyes_don@hotmail.com

AREA TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ARCHEOLOGY STEWARDS

Elizabeth & Pat Aucoin, ekpi.aucooin@prodigy.net
Louis Aulbach, lta1@att.net
Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251
Richard L. Gregg, rlgregg7@att.net
Marilyn & Walter Horton, mh3839@gmail.com
Joe D. Hudgins, mioso@jdhudgins.com
Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com
Brenda Jackson, brendajacks1@yahoo.com

Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com
Sheldon Kindall, kindall1@peoplepc.com
Bev Mendenhall, bmend2@yahoo.com
Tom Nuckols, tlnuckols58@att.net
Sandra & Johnny Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net
Sandra E. Rogers (Sandy), rojourne@att.net
Gary Ryman, gkeyman@gmail.com
Steve Salyer, salyer4@hotmail.com
Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com

The Profile
Houston Archeological Society
PO Box 130631
Houston, TX 77219-0631
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