Celebrate the Holidays with the Houston Archeological Society,
Thursday, December 17th, 2015, at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for the Houston Archeological Society’s final meeting of the year on Thursday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall, at St. Thomas University. The meeting is free of charge and open to the public. The meeting will also include a special holiday themed snack buffet for members and guests. Please bring a holiday snack to share!

Louis Aulbach, HAS Vice President, will present review of the many projects that the society has been involved in during 2015 including archeological surveys, excavations and other activities in and around the Houston area. The presentation will include the completion of the massive Kellum Noble House Screening Project in downtown Houston, surveys and fieldwork at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, the screening project at San Jacinto, fieldwork at the Cotton Field site at the Tait Ranch in Columbus, Texas, HAS participation in International Archeology Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and HAS sponsorship of the 86th Annual Texas Archeological Society meeting which was held here in Houston October 23 – 25, 2015. Photos of many HAS members will be highlighted in this presentation so come and see yourself on the big screen!

Louis Aulbach, a native Houstonian, is a graduate of St. Thomas High School, Rice University and the University of Chicago. Aulbach is the author of five best selling river guides to the rivers of West Texas, including three guides to the Rio Grande, a guide to the Pecos River and a guide to the Devils River. His publication called The Fresno Rim is a hiking guide to the Big Bend Ranch State Park in West Texas. His publication, entitled Buffalo Bayou, an echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings, is a guide to Buffalo Bayou in Houston, which delves extensively into the local history along the city's most famous stream. Another recent publication, Camp Logan, Houston, Texas, 1917-1919, co-authored with HAS President, Linda Gorski, is a detailed account of the activities of the military regiments that trained at Camp Logan during World War I. His latest publication, also co-authored with Linda Gorski, is entitled Along the Aurelian Wall. This volume is the first in a series of self-guided walking tours to archeological sites in Rome, Italy. See the book review on page 8.

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 ($5) 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

Happy Holidays HAS Members and Friends!

For the fourth year in a row I’m delighted to wish you a Happy Holiday!!! 2015 has been an extraordinarily successful year for the Houston Archeological Society, and we owe it all to YOU, our members – all 195 of you! If you haven’t already seen the wonderful article about HAS written by Jeff Durst in the Texas Historical Commissions newsletter, The Medallion, go to http://www.thc.state.tx.us/medallion and click on “current issue”. What a terrific salute to a terrific group of avocational and professional archeologists, all of whom belong to HAS!

We may be called the HOUSTON Archeological Society, but we have members in many cities in Texas including San Antonio, Austin, Brenham, Beaumont, LaGrange, Van Ormy, Huntsville, Smithville, Dallas, Magnolia, Willis and all the suburbs surrounding Houston. We even have members in several states such as Washington DC, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Colorado. We are blessed with many active members who join us for our monthly meetings, our field projects and our many public outreach programs.

I hope that 2016 will be another record-breaking year for HAS and hope for your support by renewing your membership in our wonderful organization. Consider giving a membership to someone you know will enjoy digging up Texas history with us – one trowel full at a time. A membership form can be found at www.txhas.org/PDF/HAS%20Membership%20Form.pdf.

Also, please be sure to attend the December 17th HAS holiday meeting when our Vice President, Louis Aulbach, will present a program highlighting all our activities in 2015. Remember to bring a snack to share!

As all of us head out to visit family and friends in December, I wish you a safe and happy holiday and can’t wait to work with you again in 2016. It’s going to be another great year – please join us for the ride!

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

Welcome everyone - Linda Gorski
Linda welcomed new members and guests. A total of 53 members and guests were signed in.

Treasurer’s Report - Tom Nuckols
Checking Account - $7886.25
Savings Account – $11936.65

Membership - Bob Sewell
We have 193 members. Membership forms at back. All new and renewing members get a bumper sticker and a copy of the newest HAS Report and Journal.

New Business
- **Publications Schedule** – Dub Crook. The next HAS Journal #135 is in progress with 6 out of 8 articles completed. Even though it will be published as a 2015 Journal it may not be available until January 2016. Also, two special reports are being produced; Timber Fawn site and Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan
- **86th Annual TAS Meeting** – Linda Gorski. This was huge success with a record number of registrants and visitors (398), and $6500 was raised at Silent Auction. Final accounts are still being prepared.
- **Lab Report** – Dr. Gus Costa. There will be one Lab in November on 30th. Dr. Andrew Laurence, Forensic Palynologist for the DHS will present a program on the uses of plant microfossils in archeological research. His forensic work has been showcased in the media by the Boston Globe and the Atlantic.
- **Article in the THC Medallion** – Dub Crook. An article was published in the latest issue of the THC Medallion highlighting the success of the Houston Archeological Society.
- **Programs for 2016**. The program schedule for 2016 is being put together. If you have any suggestions for programs then please contact Linda Gorski at lindagorski@cs.com.

Projects
- **Cotton Field Site** – HAS members were excavating on Saturday and Sunday, November 14 and 15 at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch, Columbus, Texas. The next visit will be December 5-6, 2015.
- **Paleo Dig** - Suspended until after hunting season.

Program for November - Dr. Charles Stewart, Chair, Art History Program, UST presented “The Archaeological Ghosts of Gothic Famagusta”.

Program for December – Louis Aulbach, HAS Vice President will present a round-up of the Society’s activities during 2015.

Dub Crook presented Linda Gorski with a gift for all her hard work during the year.

The next HAS meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 17th, 2015.

Bob Sewell, Secretary Houston Archeological Society
SAN JACINTO TOWNSITE

ISAAC SUTTLES JUG

An intact barnacle clad jug was recovered from the mud flats that were once the town of San Jacinto. The salt glaze jug is clearly stamped “I. SUTTLES / LAVERNIA. / TEX.”.

Isaac Suttles was from a family of Irish potters living in Ohio. After the Civil War, Isaac moved to Texas, making his first appearance on the Seguin, Texas, census in 1870. Isaac worked as a potter with the freed slaves Hyrum, James and Wallace Wilson along with Marion Durham, and John Chandler also a freed slave. Isaac worked at the Wilson site for approximately 3 years before leaving and starting his own pottery near Lavernia, Texas. He was responsible for influencing the Wilsons to change from an “Edgefield” style of potting to the more durable “Mid-West” style with the use of salt glaze and body styles. Isaac potted mainly utilitarian wares such as jars, jugs, crocks, churns and bowls. Occasionally he was known to decorate some pieces with blue slip. Isaac potted to the early 1880s. In 1884 Suttles was found shot to death in Abilene, Texas. At that time his wife was unable to pay to have his body returned to Lavernia. His burial location is unknown.

- Larry Golden
NOTES ON MUNITIONS – LEATHER SHOT POUCH
By Tom Nuckols

In 1824 Stephen F. Austin founded the town of San Felipe de Austin. The town served as the unofficial capital of Austin’s colony.

Sometime in 1829-1830, Joseph White built the Farmer’s Hotel on Town Lot 566 in San Felipe. While semi-finished, this building served as the town hall. After 1833 the building served as a dwelling for Joseph Urban, but was large enough that the Urban family took in boarders. Urban described the building in 1836 as being 32 feet square with a brick cellar 6’ deep.

To keep it from falling into the hands of the advancing Mexican army during the Texas Revolution, on March 30, 1836, a small Texas army force led by Moseley Baker burned San Felipe de Austin, including the Farmer’s Hotel.

In November 2015, a group of Texas Historical Commission (THC) Archeological Stewards and a select group of volunteers conducted excavations at what is thought to be the site of the Farmer’s Hotel. The Stewards were supervised by THC Region 4 Archaeologist Jeff Durst.

Stewards Steve Salyer and I were assigned to excavate a 1x1 meter unit within an area that was thought to be the Hotel’s cellar. We were looking for brick cellar walls or possibly a cellar floor.

At a depth of approximately 50 centimeters, Steve and I began encountering lead shot amongst brick rubble and other artifacts. The shot was about 0.05” diameter, the modern equivalent to shot size #12. The shot was oxidized, making it easy to spot; akin to tiny snowballs lying in the tan colored sandy soil.

Along with the shot, I found four items lying in close proximity to each other: a brass tube, a brass button shaped object with rusty metal adhering to it and a thin rectangular shaped brass plate and a brass ring. I interpreted the shot and the brass items to be the remains of a leather shot pouch similar to a depiction in one of my gun books that was sold by the Enterprise Gun Works.

A leather shot pouch (approximately 8.5’ Long x 3” Wide) was a container for shot (approximately 5# maximum capacity). It was an accessory carried by a hunter using a muzzle-loading shotgun. A shot pouch was usually designed with metal clasps for hanging on a belt or strap to wear around a person’s neck like a powder horn. The pouch had a pushbutton open/close spout that dispensed a measured amount.
of shot; equivalent to that contained within a modern 12 gauge shot gun shell. The brass dispensing tube is at the top. On the right side of the tube is the brass buttoned metal double valve actuator. Attached to the actuator are two brass rectangular shaped valves. They are situated in the slots at the bottom and top of the dispensing tube. Below the dispenser is a brass ring, the attachment point for the leather pouch. Shot pouches of this style were sold by James Bown & Son for their business, the Enterprise Gun Works. Enterprise was established in 1848 and located at 136 & 138 Wood Street, Pittsburg, PA. The Enterprise catalog description for this shot pouch is: No. 4008, Lb. 21/2, Description: Dead Game, Brass Irish Charger, Each $0.50.

I began carefully troweling the pit floor recovering the shot in situ. This became a one man operation, so Steve began excavating elsewhere. I excavated several more levels in the pit and continued finding shot. I didn’t finish excavating my pit to the desired depth due to the project’s time allotment and my slow progress. The pit was backfilled, and will probably be re-opened and completed next year.

1Moore, Michael Rugeley
2014  “Regulation Double Log Cabin”. The Built Environment of Colonial San Felipe de Austin. Self-Published.
2Saterlee, L.D. (compiler)

HAS Laboratory

Please note that there will be NO lab activities in December. Dr. Gus Costa is currently working with Rice University to establish dates for January 2016.
Cotton Field Site Work Continues December 5 and 6, 2015

As most of you know, we are continuing archeological excavations at the Cotton Field site at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas, that began during TAS Field Schools in 2014 and 2015. You can find more information on our website at [http://www.txhas.org/cottonfield_bulletins.html](http://www.txhas.org/cottonfield_bulletins.html).

It was an outstanding weekend – great weather, great crew, plus we recovered some great artifacts. Our next work weekend at Cotton Field is Saturday and Sunday, December 5 and 6, and we hope you can join us.

The Cotton Field site, located in Colorado County, offers ideal conditions for studying the Late Prehistoric period, spanning both the Austin phase (ca. 700AD -1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150AD -1500AD) in Texas. Thanks to our landowners, Rita Tait Jackson and Ed Jackson, we are continuing our excavations under the direction of HAS member and Field School PI, Dr. Jason W. Barrett.

If you plan to join us on Saturday or Sunday or both days in December, please email me back at lindagorski@cs.com so I can add you to our Cotton Field contact list and send you directions to the site as well as other important information including cancellation notices in case of severe weather. You must be a member of the Houston Archeological Society or one of the other regional archeological societies or the Texas Archeological Society to participate. If you are not yet a member of the Houston Archeological Society, please see our website at [www.txhas.org](http://www.txhas.org) and click on “Membership”.

Beth Kennedy recovered this nice Scalorn from the screen.

This was the scene early Sunday morning. Note how our units are getting deeper!

Scalorn points are found all over Texas but it’s always nice to recover one from YOUR unit!

Our wonderful landowners, Ed and Rita Tait Jackson.
HAS MEMBERS PUBLISH BOOK ON ARCHEOLOGY IN ROME

Looking for that perfect holiday gift for the international traveler in your life? HAS President Linda Gorski and Vice President Louis Aulbach have just published their latest guidebook entitled Along the Aurelian Wall: Rome in Ruins – Self Guided Walks.

“Most travelers who visit Rome as tourists have a limited amount of time to see the sites. And most of us do the “Caesar shuffle” – see the Colosseum and the Roman Forum and you have seen it all. This guide is the result of our desire to focus on a specific class of sites to see, namely the archeological sites of ancient Rome. And by ancient Rome we mean the Rome from the city’s founding in 753 BC to the end of the Roman Empire in 476 AD. That’s over twelve hundred years of cultural history to cover,” said Aulbach.

“What we found lacking in the usual guidebooks to Rome is a resource that leads one exclusively to the archeological ruins and sites,” he said. This guidebook takes the approach of self-guided walks through various neighborhoods of the city center. Along the route of each walk, the remnants of the story of Rome are identified and explained. A detailed map is provided so that one is able to follow the routes through the often confusing streets and roads of Rome.

Lewis and Clark Expedition to be topic of January 2016 Friends of Archeology Program

The Friends of Archeology invite members of the Houston Archeological Society to a special meeting on Sunday, January 10, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at MD Anderson Hall, University of St. Thomas. The program will be presented by Dr. Scotty Moore, Program Coordinator for Anthropology at Houston Community College and is entitled “It’s the Pits! The Search for Lewis & Clark’s Lost Fort.”

Between 1804 and 1806 the Corps of Discovery, led by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, followed the instructions of President Jefferson to explore the newly obtained Louisiana Purchase and potentially find a water route to the Pacific. Along the way, the Corps would construct, occupy, and then abandon a series of forts and camps. In the more than 200 years since this historic expedition, every single camp and fort has been successfully found and identified, except for one: Fort Clatsop. Built on the Oregon coast by weary explorers, the fort was only lived in for 4 months before being abandoned...and lost to history.

Despite numerous attempts to find it over the last 200 years, evidence of the fort proved elusive to even the most seasoned archaeologists. Could a team of graduate students hope to succeed where others had failed? Archaeologist Scotty Moore presents the history of archaeological investigations into the location of Lewis and Clark’s last fort, why it’s been so hard to find, and how an unconventional approach to understanding the past might have given us the key to solving a 200-year old mystery: what happened to Fort Clatsop?

Scotty Moore is currently the Program Coordinator for Anthropology at Houston Community College. Scotty earned a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Washington and has been studying the history and culture of societies throughout the world over the last 16 years. He has participated and supervised anthropological projects on five continents and throughout the United States and in locales as diverse as the Egyptian desert and the jungles of Belize. In 2007, he was chosen to host one of Discovery Channel’s first HD programs: Bone Detectives. Over the course of 23 episodes and 12 countries, Scotty took viewers on a CSI-like exploration of ancient societies, murder victims, and unexplained deaths. Since that time, Scotty has continued to travel, learn about cultures, and explore the world. He has also taught at Arizona State University and the University of Washington.

Beverages will be served at 4:30 before the lecture. Come early to enjoy additional visiting time. Reception and refreshments will follow the lecture. Free Drawing for coffee table art books will follow lecture. The books have been donated by a member of “Friends”. Feel free to invite friends and family members to enjoy the afternoon. For more information, contact Friends of Archeology President, Loretta Pisegna, at lorettapisegna@att.net
January 21, 2016 – Wilson W. “Dub” Crook - **Kingwood’s First Inhabitants: The Timber Fawn Clovis Site (41HR1165).** In November, 2014, HAS member Lenore Psencik was walking through new house construction in the Rivergrove sub-division of Kingwood when she noticed a complete Clovis blade sticking out of a fresh spoil dump. Her discovery led to a salvage archeological effort by HAS members which ultimately recovered a total of 24 diagnostic Clovis artifacts, including the bases of two Clovis points and parts of eight blades. The discovery marks the first Clovis occupation in Harris County (other than isolated finds of points). XRF analysis shows that many of the chert artifacts originated in the Edwards Plateau region near the famous Gault site, thus showing the possibility that Timber Fawn and Gault are related.

February 18, 2016 - Brad Jones – **Gifts for the Indians: French and Spanish Trade Goods on the Texas Coast in the 1680s.** Brad Jones, archeologist with the Texas Historical Commissions Archeology Division will present a program highlighting La Salle’s 1684 expedition to establish a French settlement on the Mississippi River which unexpectedly resulted in one of the first prolonged engagements between Native American and European peoples in the Texas Gulf region.

March 17, 2016 - Eleanor Stoddart - **Cultural Resource Subsurface Survey and Archeological Monitoring of the Proposed Nau Center for Texas Cultural Heritage, Houston, Harris County, Texas.** In early 2015, Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. conducted cultural resource subsurface survey field investigations and archeological construction monitoring of the proposed Nau Center for Texas Cultural Heritage. The focus of the investigations was on Blocks 119 and 161 in downtown Houston. Over 12 features (including cisterns, brick pavements and trash pits) and 2100 artifacts including glass, ceramics, architectural and personal items as well as faunal remains were recovered from Block 161. Eleanor Stoddart, a professional archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting, Inc. will discuss how these artifacts and features shed light on some of the moderately wealthy early inhabitants of Houston during a time when Houston was undergoing rapid economic and cultural development changes.

April 21, 2016 - TBA

May 19, 2016 - Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski - **Rome in Ruins – Archeological Sites along the Aurelian Wall.** HAS President Linda Gorski and HAS Vice President Louis Aulbach will present a program highlighting portions of their newest book, *Along the Aurelian Wall – Rome in Ruins – A Self-Guided Walk.* Most travelers who visit Rome as tourists have a limited amount of time to see the sites. They do the “Caesar shuffle” – see the Colosseum and the Roman Forum -- and think they have seen it all. This talk will highlight the archeological sites of ancient Rome, from the city’s founding in 753 BC to the end of the Roman Empire in 476 AD, over 1200 years of cultural history. The program will feature photos of many of these ancient sites which are off the beaten tourist track.

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](http://www.txhas.org) or email lindagorski@cs.com. You can also join our Facebook page at [https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/123659814324626/)
Note: Please submit articles for publication to The Profile Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than December 24th for the January 2016 issue.

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

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