



Thursday, November 17th, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.
“Rising in the East: The Changing Epicenter of Texas Archeology”
Dr. Jason Barrett



TxDOT Archeologist and HAS member Dr. Jason W. Barrett, will present the Thursday, November 17, program for the Houston Archeological Society on the recent upsurge in archeology in east and southeast Texas and particularly in the greater Houston area. He will also discuss the important role that the Houston Archeological Society has played in that growth. The meeting will begin 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.

“In many ways, the archeological renaissance of the region began with TxDOT’s excavation of the Dimond Knoll site in 2012, located along the western margin of the Grand Parkway. More recently, TxDOT has begun excavations in downtown Houston at the site of Frost Town, exploring the archeological remains of one of the city’s oldest neighborhoods,” said Barrett.

Since partnering with TxDOT in the public outreach for the Dimond Knoll project, the Houston Archeological Society (HAS) has seen its membership rise from 39 members to over 215 members, experiencing continuous yearly growth. “Over the past four years, the HAS has established itself as a society comprised of regional knowledge experts who are always willing to contribute enthusiastic manpower and responsible stewardship”, said Barrett.

“This talk will explore the critical elements that have contributed to their success over this period and discuss their many recent contributions to heritage research throughout the region.”

Dr. Jason Barrett, a Rhode Island native, has lived in Texas since 1995. He received his doctoral degree from Texas A & M University in 2004. He has participated in archeological projects in New England, Texas, Mexico, Belize, Guatemala and American Samoa and recently served as principal investigator for the Texas Archeological Society’s 2014 – 2016 Field Schools at the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch in Columbus, Texas. Dr. Barrett has authored over 30 peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters and technical research reports and has taught multiple courses in archeology and cultural anthropology at Texas A & M University, Baylor University, Rice University and Blinn College. He has been an archeologist with the Texas Department of Transportation’s Environmental Affairs Division since 2005. Barrett serves as the field project advisor for the Houston Archeological Society

For a campus map, go to www.stthom.edu and look for the Interactive Map, Building 20, Anderson Hall. Street parking is available as well as paid parking at Moran Center Garage at the corner of West Alabama and Graustark. For more information about this program, please contact lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message

HAS Members and Friends!

There are days I have to pinch myself when I open my emails in the morning and find another message from Bob Sewell, our membership chairman, containing new membership applications. Would you believe that as of today we are over 220 members when approximately four years ago we numbered less than 50! We can attribute this growth to several factors but #1 on that list is the amazing people we have in this Society. Here's what a visitor from the Waco area said about the folks from HAS after she worked with us over a weekend in October at the Cotton Field site:

"What I love about this group... No matter who you are... No matter where you come from... You are part of a team. Everyone matters. Everyone treats one another as equals. Laughter and smiles fill the area. Love being a part of this group. Can't wait to see them again soon."

When I thanked one of the other participants that weekend at Cotton Field for driving all the way down from Sherman (WAY north of Dallas) to work with us, she gazed at me with a quizzical look on her face and said

"You don't have to thank me - It's a privilege to be here to dig up this important part of Texas history!"

And another guest, a graduate student at Texas A & M University who is also in the US Army National Guard even sent me his weekend drill schedule so we would not arrange work weekends that conflict!!!!

As the largest and certainly the most active regional archeological society in Texas, we are proud of our accomplishments, too! Not only do we have several field and research projects going on at any one time, but we also publish about those projects! Dub Crook, the editor of our HAS Journals and Reports just sent me these impressive statistics:

In the last three years, the HAS has published 4 issues of our major publication, The Journal plus 3 Special Reports (Vol. 3 Powell Site, Timber Fawn Clovis Site, Moses Austin Bryan Reminiscences). There have been a total of 36 papers in these publications which cover the entire spread of Texas archeology (4 - Paleoindian, 4 - Archaic, 14 - Late Prehistoric, 8 - Historic, 6 - History). And this year's journal, which will be dedicated to work from Rice University, is exactly what the goal of The Journal is all about - giving young scholars the chance to have their first archeology papers published in a peer-reviewed journal (and ALL articles are peer reviewed).

This month, Dr. Jason W. Barrett, TxDOT archeologist, will present the program at our monthly meeting on November 17th highlighting how the epicenter of Texas archeology is moving from central Texas to southeast Texas, and particularly to the greater Houston area, and the role the Houston Archeological Society has played in that phenomenon. As a very active member of HAS, he will also discuss his observations as to why the Houston Archeological has been so successful in growing as an organization while most regional archeological societies around the State are dwindling. We hope you'll be there for this important program! If you have any questions, please email me back at lindagorski@cs.com. Once again, I look forward to digging up Texas history with you – one trowel full at a time – in the coming months!

Minutes

Houston Archeological Society Monthly Meeting

October 20th, 2016

Linda Gorski, President: Welcome New Members and guests.

Treasurer's Report – Bob Sewell

Bob reported the account balances to the membership. Bob informed the meeting that the HAS Board has decided not to publish account balances in the newsletter due to the large number of people having access to our newsletter via the web. Any member wanting information about this should contact Bob at treasurer@txhas.org.

Membership: Bob Sewell reported that HAS membership is now 216. HAS is now the largest archeology society in state. Membership forms are at back. All new members get copies of latest Journals and Reports. Join this month, and membership includes rest of 2016 and all of 2017.

New Business:

International Archeology Day: Held October 15 at HMNS; day was big success with great response from the public. Thanks to all 16 volunteers, who also toured the museum.

Lab at Rice University: Linda announced October 27 lab cancelled due to TAS Annual Conference; no more labs for rest of 2016 due to busy schedules; Claudia Penati will give another technical drawing class in future.

HAS Journals and Reports: Dub Crook gave status update: 2 special reports published 2016 (*Report #26 – Timber Fawn: A Clovis Site in Harris County, Texas*, and *Report #27 – Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan*) and the upcoming special issue dedicated to Rice University to be published by end of 2016. Dub commented on the high volume of publishing undertaken by HAS, especially since 2014.

HAS Merchandise – Larry Golden has some sample T-shirts made up with HAS logos (\$15.00) and High Viz vests with HAS logo (\$5.00). See Linda after meeting.

Projects:

Frost Town/Elysian Viaduct Project: Next work day: 10/21 at 7:30 AM. No work Saturday due to Kleb Woods event. No work at all next Friday (October 28) due to TAS meeting. Jason updated members on progress and phases of work conducted.

Kleb Woods Public Archeology Project: Saturday, 10/22; need volunteers to help educate public about archeology.

87th Annual TAS Meeting: To be held in Nacogdoches at Stephen F. Austin State University 10/28-10/30. Dr. Jason Barrett will be Friday night Public Forum speaker and will highlight Texas archeology shift to east thanks to 3 years of TAS Field School in Columbus and HAS leading way on so many projects.

Cotton Field Project: Next workdays are Saturday and Sunday, 11/5 – 11/6. Dr. Jason Barrett discussed importance of the site, artifacts and features that have been found. December is last month for excavation.

Paleo Dig: Ken Thies has sprayed the poison ivy at site and will be working there this Saturday. John Rich described fossils found, including 2 mammoth tusks, bones and/or teeth from bison, mastodon, mammoth. One significant find is a toxodon tooth, previously never found this far north.

Program for October: Dr. Erin Phillips, HAS member and professional archeologist with Moore Archeological Consulting in Houston, presented on the archeology of Moundville, Alabama, the second largest site in the United States of the classic Middle Mississippian era (after Cahokia in Illinois).

Next meeting will be 17th November, 2016

Beth Kennedy, Secretary, Houston Archeological Society

HAS Public Archeology Project at Kleb Woods Nature Preserve

We could not have been more proud of HAS members than on Saturday, October 22 when we held a public archeology program at the Kleb Woods Nature Preserve in Tomball during the annual “Diggin’ Old Stuff” event. We had so many volunteers come out - including Frank Kozar who has been an HAS member for about a week and young Nathan Palmer, an Eagle Scout who took over teaching archeology to the Cub Scout pack that attended! Professional archeologist and HAS member Ashley Jones of Raba Kistner Archeological was our PI on the project. Ashley ensured that everything was done exactly like a real archeology dig with a datum and carefully laid out units, paperwork, proper collection of artifacts and recording the data - even cleaning the artifacts in a field lab! Thanks to Sharon Menegaz for working with the folks at Kleb Woods to put on this public archeology project.

The good news is we are in the process of getting all the paperwork and permits in place to do a multi-year public archeology at Kleb Woods, searching for foundation features of early buildings on the site. Stay tuned for more details. If you’d like to read more about the history of Kleb Woods, check out the website at <https://www.visithoustontexas.com/listings/kleb-woods-nature-preserve/20137/>



Sharon Menegaz running the booth



The HAS Crew



Left: Andrea Russell and team running the lab



Nathan Palmer teaches Cub Scouts



Ashley Jones and young visitors at the screen

International Archeology Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science

If you missed the Third Annual International Archeology Day event on October 15 at HMNS, you missed a great time! At least fifteen HAS members volunteered to man the HAS booth and several other HAS members manned other booths at the event. One of our members, Gail Peterkin, was the event organizer and she did a fantastic job!



A section of the HAS display



Ashley Jones with visitors

Professional and avocational archaeologists from all over the greater Houston area marked the day at HMNS by highlighting exciting discoveries in local archaeology. The event also featured a family-friendly archaeology fair with interactive hands-on displays using real artifacts recovered from archeological sites, including stone tools, prehistoric pottery, and animal bone and shell, flint knapping demonstrations, and arts and crafts for kids focusing on the prehistoric era.

The HAS booth had by far the largest display with hands on activities for kids and a display of artifacts recovered from the abandoned townsite of San Jacinto by the Larry Golden Family of Pasadena. HAS member Jason Barrett manned the adjoining TXDOT Archeology booth with a terrific display of artifacts that have been recovered from the Frost Town Site in Houston. Thanks to Bob Sewell, Louis Aulbach, Tom Nuckols, Sharon Menegaz, Dr. Liz Coon-Nguyen and her kids Katherine and Julian, Mandy Jordan and her boys Westin and Wade, Ashley Jones, Natasha Hindocha, and Larry Golden for spending the day with us! HAS member Claudia Penati had her own display highlighting Etruscan archeology and several other HAS members including Dr. Erin Phillips and Eleanor Stoddart manned the Moore Archeological Society Booth. Thanks to everyone who participated in this important annual event!



Dr. Jason Barrett at the TxDOT display

Introducing Mary Thornhill - Descendant of Moses Austin Bryan

While researching the *Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan*, I spoke with and exchanged emails with Mary Thornhill but I had not had an opportunity to meet her. In October, Linda Swift and I had lunch with Mary. It was a pleasure to finally meet with the lady who had so graciously provided me with a copy of the Bryan account and with Linda Swift who then gave me that copy. I am forever indebted to those two ladies and to Moses Austin Bryan who put pen to paper and recorded his experiences in Texas before and during the Texas revolution.



Left to right: Beth Aucoin, Mary Thornhill and Linda Swift

- Beth Aucoin

San Felipe de Austin Museum Groundbreaking Ceremony



On Thursday 20th October, 2016, several members of HAS attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new museum that is to be built at San Felipe de Austin. HAS has been assisting the Texas Historical Commission with excavations at the site for many years and were invited as special guests to the event.

Update on Excavations at the Cotton Field Site in Columbus, Texas

As most of you know, in 2014, the Texas Archeological Society chose Columbus, Texas, as the site for the annual TAS Field School, initiating the first large-scale data recovery excavation ever to be undertaken in Colorado County. Field School was held in Columbus for three years, 2014 – 2016 and by far the most exciting discovery was the Cotton Field site (41CD155), an expansive site with remarkable stratigraphic integrity that features multiple, discrete, occupation episodes that span the Late Prehistoric period including both the Austin phase (ca. 700AD-1200AD) and the subsequent Toyah phase (1150AD-1500AD) in Texas.



Following each year's TAS Field School, members of the Houston Archeological Society continued excavations at the Cotton Field site once a month - for three years!!! Artifacts recovered and features that have been revealed at the site have been nothing short of remarkable. The latest weekend at Cotton Field, October 8 and 9, was no exception. Over 25 members of TAS, HAS and other regional societies excavated even more features including one huge rock feature that remains a mystery.

Our next weekend at Cotton Field is scheduled for November 5 and 6. We will meet at the front gate to the Tait Huffmeyer Ranch at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday and work until approximately 2:00 p.m. each day. If you've never been to the site before but would like to join us, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com and I'll send you all the details. Please note: This is one of the last weekends we are scheduled to work at the Cotton Field site. Dr. Jason W. Barrett, Principal Investigator at the site, is drawing the project to a close the weekend of December 10 - 11. Please come join us before you miss out on all the fun!

- Linda Gorski

Notes on Munitions: Three Winchester Center-fire Brass Cartridge Cases from Bernardo Plantation (41WL28)

By Tom Nuckols

This article is the 4th in a series that will discuss the munitions artifacts recovered during archaeological excavations at Bernardo Plantation (41WL28) near Hempstead, Texas, in 2009 and 2010. HAS participated in these excavations.

The .22 Caliber Winchester Center-fire Cartridge.

The .22 caliber Winchester center-fire cartridge (22 WCF) containing a rimmed bottleneck case, was introduced in 1885 as one of the original cartridges for the Winchester Model 1885 single shot rifle. It was also used in the Remington No. 7 Rolling Block rifle beginning in 1904. The 22 WCF was a popular target, small game and varmint cartridge. The cartridge became obsolete circa 1936 (Barnes 2006: 108).



Photo: Courtesy of www.ammo-one.com

The Bernardo Plantation 22 WCF Cases

The firing pin imprints on the primers of all three of these cartridge cases appear similar, an indication that all three cartridges were probably fired in the same rifle.

Lot #218 & Lot #265

Headstamp: W.R.A. Co. .22 W.C.F.

This cartridge (case) was manufactured by the Winchester Repeating Arms Company of New Haven, Connecticut. The company was founded in 1866. 1981, it was sold to the U.S. Repeating Arms Company also of New Haven.

The headstamp decimal point before “22” identifies this cartridge as variant “B” in Shuey (1999: 110 – 111). Cartridges with this headstamp were manufactured circa 1885 – 1937. The cartridge contained an oval copper primer, a 45 grain lead flat nose bullet and loaded with either 13 grains of black gun powder or smokeless gun powder. Smokeless powder loading began circa 1896.

Lot #313

Headstamp: U.M.C. SH .22 C.F.

This cartridge (case) was manufactured by the Union Metallic Cartridge Company of Bridgeport, Connecticut. The company was founded in 1867 and merged with Remington Arms in 1912.

The headstamp “SH” means solid head, a type of case construction where the head is comparatively thick for reinforcement, to withstand the higher pressures of smokeless powder. T.G. Bennett of Winchester held Patent No. 224,765, covering solid head drawn cartridge cases. The patent was issued on February 24, 1880 (Shuey 1999: 19). Nearly all modern cartridges cases are made in this manner.

UMC’s products have not been documented historically. However, a 1910 UMC catalogue reproduction (Remington Arms Co. and the Union Metallic Cartridge Co.) lists the .22 Winchester Center-fire cartridge as being available loaded with 20 grains of black powder, a #1 primer and a 45 grain lead flat nose bullet.

REFERENCES

Barnes, Frank C.

2006 *Cartridges of the World*. 8th Edition. DBI Books, a Division of Kraus Publications, Iola, WI.

Remington Arms Co. and the Union Metallic Cartridge Co.

1962 *1910 Illustrated Catalog*. New York: M. Hartley Co., 1910. Reproduced by permission of Remington Arms Co., California, Jayco, 1962

Shuey, Daniel L.

1999 *W.R.A. Co., Headstamped Cartridges and Their Variations*, Volume 1. WCF Publications, Inc., Rockford, IL.

LIMESTONE MARBLES – Larry Golden

Limestone marbles are common in most Texas historical sites (with children) as they were the least inexpensive of the marbles. Imported from Germany in large quantities, production and exports to America peaked during the mid-1800's. This peak was short lived as technology to produce clay, china and glass marbles grew. The Saxony and Thuringen areas of Germany had the largest concentrations of marble mills. These labor intensive mills could produce up to 60,000 marbles per week. The



limestone was mined in large plates and then cut into approximately 1" cubes before being taken to the water driven mills, an average miner could cut several thousand cubes per week. Mills would then grind, polish and in later years dye them. Advertisements for these marbles being sold in bags of 1000 can be found as late as WWI. In 1927 there were three known mills remaining.

Identification of these excavated marbles can be difficult without magnification as they can resemble both undecorated or unglazed china and clay marbles. Paul Baumann's "COLLECTING ANTIQUE MARBLES" 1970 book and later revisions contain the most historical information on hand made marbles. Later revisions contain more color plates. It is also the most referenced marble book used in archeological reports.

Houston Archeological Society
Monthly Meeting Programs for 2016/2017
7:00pm Third Thursday of every month (except June)
M. D. Anderson Hall, St. Thomas University

Programs for 2016

December 15, 2016 - Linda Gorski, President, Houston Archeological Society, “**Overview of HAS Projects for 2016**”.

Programs for 2017

January 19, 2017 - Wilson “Dub” Crook, “**Difficulties in Sourcing Turquoise Using X-Ray Fluorescence**”.

February 16, 2017 - Douglas K. Boyd, RPA, Prewitt and Associates, Inc, “**Frost Town Archeological Project Update**”

March 15, 2017 - Beth Aucoin, “**Reminiscences of Moses Austin Bryan**”.

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/>

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Note: Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Submit articles no later than November 25th for the December 2016 issue.

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

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