



Thursday, September 19th, 2019, at 6:30 p.m.
“The Early Archeology and Paleoanthropology of China”
Wilson “Dub” Crook

The September meeting of the Houston Archeological Society will be held on **Thursday, September 19, 2019 at 7 p.m.** at the **Trini Mendenhall Community Center** located at **1414 Wirt Road** in West Houston. Long-time HAS member, **Wilson W. "Dub" Crook**, will give a presentation on **“The Early Archeology and Paleoanthropology of China”**.

Beginning in the 1920s and 1930s, China has been the location of a number of major discoveries of some of the oldest hominid sites outside of Africa. This includes the discovery of the famous “Peking Man” and “Lantian Man” fossils. More recently, joint teams from China and the United States have been exploring new sites west of Beijing in the Nihewan Basin which date from 1.0-1.6 million years old. A new site near Lantian in central China has been tentatively dated at 2.1 million years old. If the date is confirmed, it will mark the oldest site anywhere in the world outside of Africa and completely alter the long-held “Out of Africa” theory of the spread of humans across the world.



Recently, Dub was invited to spend a month in China as part of a group of visiting researchers from the Leakey Foundation. During this trip, the group was allowed unprecedented access to not only all of the early man sites in China, but to the collections of fossils and lithic tools curated at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology (IVPP) in Beijing. In his presentation, Dub will show the highlights of the group’s visit to Zhoukoudian Cave (home of Peking Man), the Nihewan Basin, and Lantian, as well as give the incredible story of what happened to the original Peking Man fossils.

Mr. Crook is a Life Member (Fellow) of the Houston Archeological Society, a Life Member of the Dallas Archeological Society, a member of the Texas Archeological Society, a member of the Center for the Study of the First Americans, a Life Member of the Gault School of Archeological Research, a Research Fellow with the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory in Austin, and a Fellow of the Leakey Foundation. He is also an Archeological Steward for the State of Texas. He is the author of 140 papers in the field of archeology and has recently published his third book titled *The Archeology and History of Paul’s Missionary Cities* which is available on Amazon.

The September meeting is also the annual meeting of the society and elections of new officers and Board members will be held. Our monthly “Show and Tell” display will begin at 6:30 and our snacks this month will include a **“Happy 60th Birthday HAS”** cake since the first meeting of the society was held in 1959. Please join us! If you have any questions about this meeting, please contact HAS President, Linda Gorski, at lindagorski@cs.com.



President's Message – Linda Gorski

Did you know that the Houston Archeological Society is celebrating its 60th Birthday in 2019! The first meeting of the society was held in December, 1959, and the first year's membership was 36. In 2019 we are celebrating not just a 60th birthday, but also our highest membership total ever with 232 members. Thanks to all of you for making HAS the largest avocational archeological society in Texas!

As most of you know, the stated purpose of the society in 1959 is basically the same as it is today: "To foster enthusiastic interest and active participation in the discovery, documentation and preservation of cultural resources (historic and prehistoric) of the City of Houston, the Houston Metropolitan area, and the Upper Texas Gulf Coast". In addition to our purpose, we also publish a set of guidelines in the form of a pledge that each member signs when he or she joins HAS. When you signed your membership application, you also signed a pledge to accept

certain ethical guidelines that promote proper scientific archeological procedures and to abide by Local, State and Federal antiquities codes.

With a new membership year coming up, we've rewritten our Pledge and it will appear on all our membership forms and on our website. We'll also be putting this pledge up on the wall at Trini Mendenhall Center before each meeting to remind members of what membership in HAS means. If you have any questions about the Houston Archeological Society or our pledge, please email me at lindagorski@cs.com

The Houston Archeological Society Pledge

The Houston Archeological Society (HAS) promotes knowledge and preservation of Texas Archeology. The Society encourages:

- Proper scientific archeological exploration and research.
- The preservation, analysis, and conservation of archeological materials and sites.
- The interpretation, timely publication, and sharing of the data obtained from excavations.

Our commitment includes:

- Members of HAS must abide by all terms and conditions of this Pledge and all Federal, State and Local antiquities codes.
- As a member of HAS, I understand and acknowledge that the organization adheres to and strictly abides by the code of conduct as set out in local, State and Federal statutes, and will not involve itself with any individual or group not following all ethical and/or legal practices.
- HAS does not condone the disregard of proper archeological research techniques or the willful destruction of or distortion of archeological data.
- HAS does not approve of the practice or financial gain associated with the buying and selling of artifacts.

Houston Archeological Society

Monthly Meeting

August 15, 2019

Welcome New Members and Guests to our meeting location at Trini Mendenhall Community Center (Linda Gorski, President).

Treasurer's Report (Bob Sewell): Bob reported amounts in the HAS checking and savings accounts. If any member is interested in more information about HAS finances, please see Bob.

Membership (Bob Sewell): We have 225 so far in 2019.

Bob still has hats for sale to HAS members for \$10.00 each.

New Business:

Nominating Committee Report (Sharon Menegaz, Frank Kozar, Geoff Mills): Geoff announced that there are four positions up for re-election this year: president, vice president, treasurer and secretary. Also, we have three Directors-at-Large, with one position expiring this year. Current officers holding those positions will run again for re-election: Linda Gorski, President; Larry Golden, Vice President; Bob Sewell, Treasurer, Beth Kennedy, Secretary, and Dub Crook, Director at Large. Elections will be held in September and members will have the opportunity to make nominations from the floor. Continuity on the Board is especially important this year because of the annual conference being held in Houston next year.

Publications (Louis Aulbach): Journal #141 will be out in September. Any member who has not picked up #140, may do so tonight

Monthly Show and Tell (Larry Golden): Tonight Larry is displaying his collection of artifacts from the lost Townsite of San Jacinto collected in the 1960's by Larry and his family. It is an incredible historical record and includes artifacts from the Runaway Scrape. Larry deserves a round of applause.

Projects and Events:

San Felipe de Austin (Bob Sewell): Shovel testing is complete for now. We will continue analyzing artifacts at San Felipe, and dates will be announced after Sarah returns later this month. Eleanor Stoddart announced the August 29 "windup reception" at San Felipe de Austin for the "Sea of Mud" exhibit. Gregg Dimmick will be there.

Kleb Woods Nature Center (Linda Gorski): We will again participate in "Diggin Old Stuff Day" on November 3, and we expect a huge turnout like we have had in the past. More information will be forthcoming.

Levi Jordan Presentation (Linda Gorski): On August 20, Ashley Jones will give a presentation on Levi Jordan at the FBAS meeting. Jay Roussel, President of FBAS will anchor the program

Houston Maritime Museum (Linda Gorski): Amy Borgens, State of Texas Marine Archeologist, will lead a workshop on September 29, on Houston during WWI. Louis and Linda will participate with a presentation on Camp Logan.

Houston Museum of Natural Science Museum (Linda Gorski): Paleoethnobotanist Leslie Bush will present a program entitled "Deep Rooted: Texas Native Plants from the Pleistocene to Present" at HMNS on October 1 from 6:30 to 9:30. Tickets are available online. Leslie is a state-wide expert on plants!

September program: This is our Annual General Meeting! The new Board will be voted on. Dub Crook will present an important program on "The Early Archeology and Paleoanthropology of China."

August Program: Tonight's program features Cecil Jones's presentation on "Recent Developments in Conserving and Restoring Historic Properties Near the San Jacinto Battleground Historic Site," including the Almonte Surrender Site and the San Jacinto Townsite. Cecil Jones has been an HAS member for several years and is president of the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy. After Cecil's talk, Linda presented a check to the San Jacinto Battleground Conservancy as a donation from HAS.

- Beth Kennedy, Secretary

Notes on Munitions – The Toy Cap Pistol

by Tom Nuckols

This article is in response to a question that I am asked frequently: “Can you tell me the history about the toy cap gun?” I would like to answer that question by talking about the research I did for Archaeologist Maryanne Marek.

In the years 2002 thru 2006, Marek conducted archaeological excavations at the historic site of San Felipe de Austin (41AU2). Marek’s work was conducted on private property in two places, east and south of the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. The property east of the Historic Site has since been acquired by the State of Texas where a new museum is located. The museum has visitor amenities including a welcome/orientation center, exhibits, map plaza, outdoor interpretation, and educational programs focused on the site’s history and archeology.

During Marek’s excavations 141 munitions artifacts were excavated. Of these, 103 post-date the Colonial occupation (c. 1824-1836) of San Felipe de Austin. One of these post-dated munitions artifacts recovered from Town Lot 50 (A late 19th century farmstead formerly stood on this lot) is the cast iron hammer from a toy cap pistol.

After Marek’s excavations were completed, she assigned me the task of analyzing the munitions for her artifact analysis report. What follows is my portion of the report (Marek 2011b) concerning the cast iron hammer and the history toy cap pistols:

In 1870, manufacturers began adapting toy guns to fire paper caps. The intent was to make them as realistic as possible. The paper caps were based on the Maynard Tape Primer. By 1880 the cast-iron cap pistol had become the most popular type of toy gun. Cast-iron continued to be the most popular material used to make these toy pistols until the demands of World War II cut off the supply. During the war, manufacturers began using whatever materials were available; paper, wood, steel, tin, lead, rubber, zinc, glass, wax and molded sawdust mixed with glue.

After the war, cast-iron cap pistols continued to be made, but the cost became prohibitive and manufacturers turned to less expensive metals such as steel and die-cast zinc. By 1950, toy pistols were made of die-cast materials and plastic. The use of these materials continues today.

The period from 1870 to 1900 is regarded as the “golden age” of the toy gun, especially the cap pistol.



Figure 153. Cast iron cap pistol hammer.

References

Marek, Marianne

2011b Historical and Archaeological Investigations at San Felipe de Austin (41AU2): 2002-2006. Volume II: Artifact Analysis. Prepared for the Texas Historical Commission, Austin, Texas.

McLeod, Gerald E.

2018 Day Trips: San Felipe de Austin Historic Site. <https://www.austinchronicle.com/columns/2018-09-21/day-trips-san-felipe-de-austin-historic-site/>. Accessed August 2019.

HAS Members to participate in WWI Workshop at Houston Maritime Museum, September 29, 2019

HAS members Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski will be part of a team discussing Houston in WWI at the Houston Maritime Museum on Sunday, September 29, 2019. The program will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will feature a talk by Aulbach and Gorski who will discuss their research into Camp Logan, a WWI training camp located in the area that is now Memorial Park, which resulted in the publication of their book **Camp Logan Houston Texas 1917-1919** <https://www.amazon.com/Camp-Logan-Houston-Texas-1917-1919/dp/1497448646/>. Texas Historical Commission Marine Archeologist, Amy Borgens, will speak on WWI Shipwreck Archeology and Lila Rakoczy, THC's Military Historian, will present a program on Texas Shipbuilding during WWI. Local archeologist Mike Quennoz from the Houston CRM firm Gray and Pape will be on hand to answer questions about recent archeological developments at WWI Camp Logan and Robbie Morin will display his collection of artifacts and ephemera from Camp Logan. There will be an open house from 3 – 5 p.m. when the public is invited to view the displays, talk to the participants and bring their own WWI stories, photos, letters or documents for identification by the experts. For more information about this event, contact the Houston Maritime Museum or lindagorski@cs.com.

WWI Talks and Public Open House
at Houston Maritime Museum, Sunday, Sept. 29th

1-3 pm presentations (\$5 admission, free for veterans and students)
3-5 pm open house (free admission)

World War I talks and artifacts 2311 Canal St., Houston, (713) 225-1688 bring stories & photos to share after the talks

Houston Maritime Museum
presents

HOUSTON & THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE AT WAR!
WWI Edition

CAMP LOGAN: A WORLD WAR I TRAINING CAMP IN HOUSTON
Louis Aulbach and Linda Gorski
Houston Archeological Society

After the United States entered World War I in April, 1917, the federal government established about forty-five emergency training camps across the country to train the soldiers for the American Expeditionary Force that was to be sent to France. One of those camps was a training base for U. S. Army soldiers in Houston, Texas called Camp Logan. The initial units assigned to included the activated National Guard of the State of Illinois. Our presentation provides a detailed account of the establishment of the camp and the aspects of the training of the first wave of soldiers passing through Camp Logan.

SABOTEURS, STRIKES, AND SURVEILLANCE: TEXAS SHIPBUILDING DURING THE GREAT WAR
Lila Rakoczy, Texas Historical Commission

At the start of the war, the federal government's attention turned toward two things: mobilizing men and materiel for the war effort and shoring up public support in the process. Both presented considerable challenges. One area where these concerns overlapped was the wartime production of ships in southeast Texas. The newly created Bureau of Investigation, the forerunner of the FBI, and other government agencies exercised considerable power as they surveilled and policed civilians connected to the Texas shipbuilding industry. This talk challenges the narrative of a popular war and a united country by highlighting the labor activism, suspicion, racial tensions, and curtailment of civil liberties that was rife during the period.

WORLD WAR I SHIPWRECK ARCHEOLOGY: ABANDONMENT OF THE U.S. SHIPPING BOARD VESSELS IN EAST TEXAS
Amy Borgens, Texas Historical Commission

As a means to effect allied shipping losses during War War I, the U.S. Shipping Board (USSB) commissioned the Emergency Fleet Corporation to manufacture a wooden fleet of merchant vessels, as an extension of the Merchant Marine. Shipyards in Orange, Beaumont, and Houston were tasked with the construction of these ships, relying heavily on local east Texas pine resources. At the armistice, however, many of these vessels were incomplete or could not be repaired or sold; they were left to rot in Texas waterways. More than thirty of these shipwrecks rest under the murky waters of the Sabine and Neches Rivers and constitute one of the largest examples of World War I USSB abandonments in the United States.

CAMP LOGAN ARTIFACTS AT THE HOUSTON MARITIME MUSEUM
Robbie Morin will host and discuss a collection of Camp Logan artifacts at the conclusion of the talks.

CAMP LOGAN ARCHEOLOGIST TO VISIT MUSEUM
Mike Quennoz of the archeological firm Gray & Pape will be at the Houston Maritime Museum on Sunday, September 29, 2019 to answer questions about the archeology of Camp Logan.

TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Real places telling real stories

HOUSTON MARITIME MUSEUM
2311 Canal St.
Houston, TX
77003

JOIN HOUSTON ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Dr. Leslie Bush, Paleoethnobotanist, to appear at Houston Museum of Natural Science

Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

This is an early “Save the Date” notification for a program co-sponsored by HAS that you **MUST** put on your calendars. Many of us know Dr. Leslie Bush, the wonderful paleoethnobotanist (an archeologist who specializes in identifying bits of plants preserved on archeological sites) who is at all our TAS Field Schools and knows more about native Texas plants than almost anyone! HAS is one of the sponsoring organizations that have come together to bring Dr. Bush to Houston on Tuesday, October 1 at 6:30 p.m. to present a program at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston. Her topic will be **“Deep Rooted: Native Plants from the Pleistocene to the Present Day with Dr. Leslie Bush”** Texas plants we enjoy today have been used for food, medicine and crafts since the Paleo-Indians. Using written accounts, Native American oral traditions, and archaeological investigations, Dr. Bush will reveal why five plants in particular have been critical to survival in Texas since 13,000 BC.



This event is co-sponsored by Fort Bend Archeological Society, Houston Archeological Society and The Nature Conservancy, and the Houston Museum of Natural Science. Members of the sponsoring organizations (that means all HAS members!) receive reduced member price via coupon code at the museum box office or 713.639.4629. (Coupon is not available online.) Tickets can be purchased at <http://store.hmns.org/DateSelection.aspx?item=4442>.

The Houston Museum of Natural Science

5555 Hermann Park Drive

Houston, TX 77030-1799



Celebrate International Archeology Day with HAS at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, October 19, 2019

Members of the Houston Archeological Society will be among many avocational and professional archeologists participating in the Saturday, October 19th, 2019 International Archeology Day at the Houston Museum of Natural Science. This will be the fifth year that we have taken part in this fantastic public event. We have reserved at least five tables for our HAS displays and hands on activities. Please join us either as an exhibitor or a participant. Here's the scoop

Archaeologists and related professionals are invited to participate in the Fourth Annual International Archaeology Day festivities at the Houston Museum of Natural Science on Saturday, October 19, 2019 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Once again, the event will feature displays outdoors and in the Grand Hall (accessible to the public free of charge) and in Glassell Hall, the Hall of Human Evolution, the Hall of Ancient Egypt, and the Hall of the Americas (accessible with museum admission; only museum-based displays will be placed inside the ticketed area).

Tables are available for CRM firms, academic departments, and all professional and avocational archaeological organizations that wish to set up booths, displays, or demonstrations. IAD is great opportunity to showcase archaeology and your research—and to engage, inform, and educate the general public about archaeology and related disciplines. The event was well attended over the past years, and visitors left excited about the many facets of archaeology—both local and farther afield. A few popular activities in the past years included artifact identification, mapping, flintknapping, drone demonstrations, underwater archaeology, forensic anthropology, artifact displays, and museum touch carts and hall tours. The sky's the limit—literally!

The museum will supply tables, table coverings, and chairs. They will be set up and ready to go early Saturday morning. Please let us know about how many tables and chairs you will need, and if you require access to an outlet for audiovisual equipment. We will make sure tables and booths are placed accordingly. In addition, the Volunteer Guild of the Houston Museum of Natural Science will provide a hospitality room downstairs in the Volunteer Library, equipped with coffee, water, and light snacks. If you'd like to exhibit at IAD, please email to [Dr. Dirk Van Tuerenhout at Dirk@hmns.org](mailto:Dirk.VanTuerenhout@hmns.org).

HAS MEMBERS – we hope you'll volunteer to help at the Houston Archeological Society exhibit that day and tell visitors what it's like to Dig Up Texas History, One Trowel Full at a Time! Please email lindagorski@cs.com for more information.

Archeo Corner: Sanborn Insurance Maps, A Tool for Historical Archeology by Louis F. Aulbach

As members of the Houston Archeological Society, we frequently have the opportunity to work on historical sites in our hometown. Archeological investigations in an urban environment often require the use of specialized research tools to aid in the understanding of the historical background of the site being investigated.

One such tool that is available to us is the collection of historical maps known as the Sanborn Insurance Maps. These maps, produced by the Sanborn Map Company from the late 19th century to the mid-20th century, were originally created to allow fire insurance companies to assess their liability in urbanized areas of the United States. Sanborn was not the first company to create maps for fire insurance purposes but over time it became the largest and most successful company in the U.S. ultimately producing maps for approximately 12,000 cities for 140 years (1867-2007). The company was founded by Daniel Alfred Sanborn who was a surveyor from Somerville, Massachusetts. The home office was in New York, but regional offices were later opened in Atlanta, Chicago, and San Francisco. The maps provide a wealth of information, including the building outline, its size and shape, details on construction materials, and building use. They also depict pipelines, railroads, wells, water mains, dumps, and other features that may be significant to archeological investigations.

The main purpose of the Sanborn maps was to accurately portray the composition of a town in terms of its potential for the risk of fire so that insurance companies could decide whether or not to provide coverage. These maps are very detailed lithographs, produced in color, drawn to a standard scale of 50 feet to 1 inch (1:1600), and printed on sheets of high quality paper measuring 21 x 25 inches in size.

Sanborn maps for Houston are available online from several local sources, including the Houston Public Library¹. The maps for Houston are produced primarily for the years 1885, 1890, 1896, 1907, 1924, and 1950.

By comparing the Sanborn maps for a specific location over the six time periods, it is possible to see the structural changes that occurred over a period of several decades. The information on the maps contains important insights for the analysis of the findings from the archeological excavations.

An excellent example of the value of Sanborn maps to local archeology is the recent Frost Town project in which volunteers from the Houston Archeological Society participated. The Steiner home site in Block D of Frost Town² (see Figures below) was one location where extensive excavations were carried out with the aid of Sanborn maps to identify the structural changes of the site over time. The samples of the maps used are shown below.

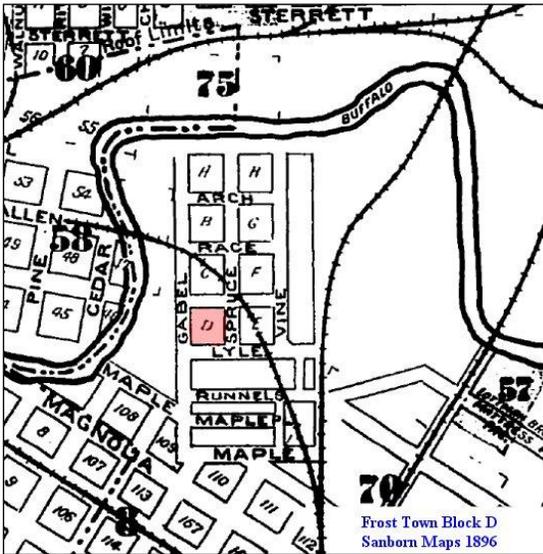


Figure 1. Frost Town, 1896.

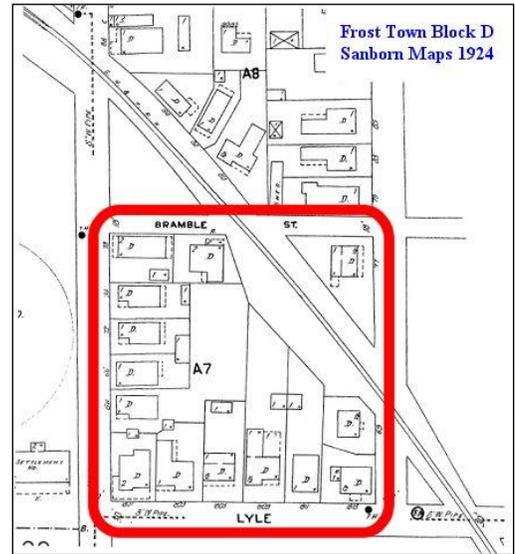


Figure 3. Frost Town, Block D in 1924.

In Figure 1, the Sanborn map of 1896 shows the eight blocks of the Frost Town subdivision; however, no details of the structures in Block D are given.

By 1924, some additions to the structures in Block D are recorded (Figure 3).

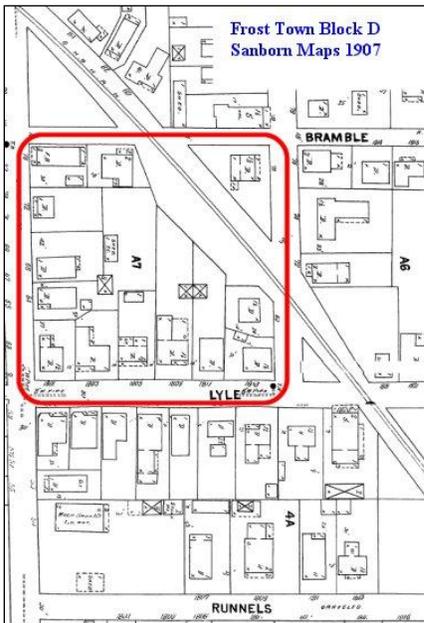


Figure 2. Frost Town, Block D in 1907.

By 1907, the Sanborn map (Figure 2) shows the buildings in Block D with a significant amount of detail.

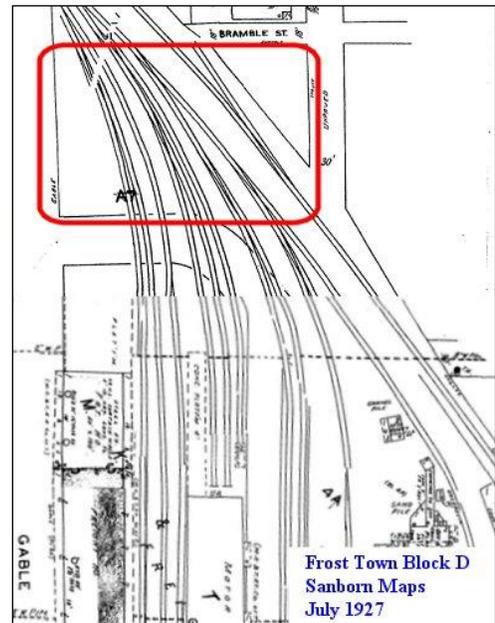


Figure 4. Frost Town, Block D in 1927.

The Sanborn map of July, 1927 (Figure 4), records the complete transformation of Block D from a residential neighborhood into an industrial site, namely, the tracks of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad Terminal.

References

1. Houston Public Library (<http://houstonlibrary.org/research/resources-by-category/234>).
2. Louis F. Aulbach. *Buffalo Bayou, An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings*, p. 438-440, (<https://www.amazon.com/Buffalo-Bayou-Houstons-wilderness-beginnings/dp/1468101994/>).

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HAS EMBROIDERED HATS

The fourth shipment of HAS embroidered hats has arrived and will be available to HAS members for a small donation of \$10 at the next monthly meeting. If you are interested in purchasing one of them then please contact Bob Sewell robert-sewell@att.net.

Archeological Society Monthly Meeting Programs for 2019 6:30pm Third Thursday of every month (except June) Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Road

October 17, 2019 – Dan M. Worrall, **Hunting Bison While Fleeing Sea-Level Rise: A Map-Based Synthesis of Southeast Texas Prehistory.**

November 21, 2019 – Joshua Farrar – **Dumped and Forgotten – Civil War Artifacts recovered from Buffalo Bayou at Milam Street Bridge**

December 2019 – Linda Gorski - **Overview of HAS Activities for the year 2019**

All **Houston Archeological Society** meetings are free of charge and open to the public. For more information about HAS then 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/>

Please submit articles for publication to *The Profile* Editor Bob Sewell at newsletter@txhas.org. Please submit articles for the October issue no later than 26th September.

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

HAS BOARD MEMBERS

Linda Gorski, President, president@txhas.org
Larry Golden, Vice President, vpresident@txhas.org
Bob Sewell, Treasurer, treasurer@txhas.org
Beth Kennedy, Secretary, secretary@txhas.org

Wilson "Dub" Crook, Director-at-Large, dal_b@txhas.org
Ashley Jones, Director-at-Large, dal_c@txhas.org
Liz Coon-Nguyen, Director-at-Large, dal_a@txhas.org

TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Sandra E. Rogers, Region V Director, sojourne@att.net

AREA TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ARCHEOLOGY STEWARDS

Elizabeth Aucoin, ekpj.aucoin@prodigy.net
Louis Aulbach, lfa1@att.net
Wilson "Dub" Crook, dubcrook@kingwoodcable.com
Bob Crosser, 281-341-5251
Debbie Eller, debjajul@yahoo.com
Charlie Gordy, chasgordy@yahoo.com
Linda Gorski, lindagorski@cs.com
Bruce Grethen, bruce999@gmail.com
Sue Gross, suegbobs@comcast.net
Joe D. Hudgins, manso@jdhudgins.com
Kathleen Hughes, hughes.kathleen@yahoo.com
Brenda Jackson, brendajacks1@yahoo.com

Ron Jackson, ronj845@gmail.com
Don Keyes, keyes_don@hotmail.com
Sheldon Kindall, kindall1@peoplepc.com
Sharon Menegaz, smenegaz@rcseagles.org
Clint Lacy, clacy13@comcast.net
Tom Nuckols, tnuckols58@att.net
Sandra & Johnny Pollan, pollanone@sbcglobal.net
Sandra E. Rogers (Sandy), sojourne@att.net
Gary Ryman, ekryman@gmail.com
Steve Salyer, salyer4@hotmail.com
Bob Sewell, robert-sewell@att.net
Paul Spana, pcspana@comcast.net