

TIME CAPSULE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FORT BEND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

An affiliate of the Fort Bend History Association

500 Houston Street / Richmond, TX 77469

281-342-6478 / FAX 281-342-2439

May 2019



General Meeting: May 21, 2019. 7PM

Speakers: Ron Ralph

Topic: The Archeology of Palo Duro Canyon State Park

Archeologist Ron Ralph will provide an overview of the Palo Duro Canyon as well as present the objectives of this year's field school (in which members are encouraged to participate). Palo Duro Canyon is America's second largest canyon and has been inhabited for 12,000 years. The Clovis and Folsom peoples first lived in the canyon and later the Apache, Comanche and Kiowa used the canyon's plentiful resources. The Canyon was the site of the decisive battle of the Red River War, and home to expansive ranches. In 1934, Palo Duro Canyon became a Texas State Park. Ron will make the case on why Palo Duro continues to draw people from all over the world.



Ron Ralph is among the leading cave archeologists in Texas. He began studying caves and archeology in California in 1963 and has worked extensively throughout the southwestern United States and much of northern Mexico. Ron consulted for 13 years before becoming an archeologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) for 21 years. He has taught nearly 30 archeological and speleological training courses and workshops, presented more than 30 papers at conferences and published more than 150 research reports. Since retiring from TPWD in 1997, he has returned to consulting work for archeological projects all around Texas.

Location: **Gus George Law Enforcement Academy** - 1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond, Texas.

Everyone is welcome - the program is free and open to the public.

Special Announcement of a New Collaboration

The Fort Bend Archeological Society has been working in the background on a collaboration with the Houston Archeological Society and The Nature Conservancy to bring paleo-ethnobotanist, Dr. Leslie Bush, to the Houston Museum of Natural Science for a special lecture. We now have a date: October 1st 2019!!! This lecture will be of interest to master naturalists, gardeners, anthropologists, and archeologists. Dr. Bush is an exceptional speaker, and has added so much to our understanding of early Texas. We are excited to be a part of this and especially grateful to our partners for including us. More information to follow.

Events

FBAS & HAS Meetings:

May 16 HAS General Meeting Dr. Jason Barrett, Trade Trails and Meeting Locations in SE Texas Prehistory

May 21 FBAS General Meeting: Ron Ralph – Are you ready for the 2019 Field School in Palo Duro Canyon State Park? Come to this meeting to learn all you need to know prior to making the trip to the canyon this summer.

JUNE – No meetings... See you at Field School!!!

July 16 FBAS General Meeting Emily Egan and Neil Melancon: A Deadly Encounter: The Living Sword Culture of Japan.

President's Note: I've known Neil for some time. He is not only deeply knowledgeable in Japanese Swords, he is a really gifted presenter. This is one you'll want to invite children and grandchildren to.

July 18 HAS General Meeting – Report out on the 2019 Field School

FIELD NOTES

Current Field Site

As you may have heard, the first anomaly has been explained, and is believed to be relatively modern, and we are now going deeper using 2 inch levels. At the time of this writing, we believe we may see remnants of a feature, but it is too early to tell at this time or to interpret the age or use of this potential feature. If you are interested, you need to either volunteer with Bob Crosser or come to our next meeting to learn.



A/C in the Tyree House

The Tyree House is getting a new air conditioner. We will share the details at our next meeting, but the expenses are being paid partly by the Fort Bend History Association, partly by FBAS, and partly by generous donations from individuals. This means that our lab work will be more enjoyable. It also means that this summer we will try to hold an educational seminar (probably in July or August). More information to follow, but this is really exciting. FBAS thanks the Fort Bend History Association and the generous donors who made this possible.

Minutes from April 16, 2019 Meeting

The Fort Bend Archeological Society met at the Gus George Academy in Richmond, TX. The meeting was called to order by President Jay Roussel at 7:00pm. In attendance were 20 members and 18 guests.

Minutes: Minutes from the March 19, 2019 meeting were circulated in the monthly newsletter sent by email and mail to all members. There were no additions or corrections; the minutes stand as approved.

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of April 1 = \$3,824.65. The treasurer's report was circulated in the newsletter. There were no additions or corrections. Treasurer's report stands as accepted.

Committee Report:

- Bob Crosser reported on the Lamar Homestead site, down 2ft trying to locate the footprint of Mirabeau Lamar's house. Continue to dig this Saturday, meet at the Tyree house or dig site. Photos of the excavation site were shown.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Jay Roussel announced that FBAS made front page news and was in the paper total 3 times
- FBAS donated a membership and a one-of-a-kind trowel hand carved by Brody Gussert to the 2019 Lone Star Stomp silent auction.
- Jay Roussel announced May's speaker will be Ron Ralph who will speak on the upcoming 2019 TAS Field School.
- No June Meeting, due to TAS Field School

David Rose introduced our guest speaker Dr. Greg Dimmick who gave a presentation on his book: "The Sea of Mud."

Meeting adjourned: 8:00pm

Minutes submitted by Dottie Allen

Treasurer's Report

Balance as of April 1, 2019 **\$3,824.65**

Check #	Date	Name	Details	Debit	Credit
Deposit	4/18/2019	Sue Prock	membership dues		20.00
Deposit	4/26/2019		membership dues		20.00
1935	5/8/2019	FBHA	postage for May	5.50	
1936	5/8/2019	Brody Gussert	carved trowel for speaker	40.00	
Balance as of May 8, 2019					\$3,819.15

Submitted by Claire Rogers, Treasurer



Fort Bend Archeological Society
c/o Fort Bend Museum
500 Houston Street
Richmond, TX 77469