

Llano Uplift Archeological Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 15, Issue 4

April 7, 2007

Message from the President Michael Williams

It's April and Spring is everywhere.

Charles Frederick gave us a wonderful talk on chert in Texas for our March meeting. Thank you, Charles, for coming all the way from Eden to speak with us. The turnout was good, and I hope to see more of you join us for the monthly meetings.

We held a business meeting before our guest speaker in which we discussed raising the membership in 2008, the purchase of more T-shirts and various other business. See the minutes



Michael Williams

from Andy for more details. (www.texasluas.org)

The Nightengale Open House/ Archeological Fair was held Saturday, March 24th. We had about 70 people from around the area show up. Everyone that I spoke with expressed how much they enjoyed

the tour and extra activities. I actually made a little on the bake sale - about \$21.00. I made chocolate chip cookies and brownies. Tina Prikryl made chocolate cookies w/peanut butter chips. Also, I would like to thank all of you who came out and volunteered to help make the fair a success.

The SAA (Society for American Archaeology) Conference will be held this month in Austin. Andy Malof will have a poster presentation on the Nightengale Center and LUAS information will be available for those who

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stop by. Hope to see some of you there.

Our speaker this month will be Kay Clark. See more information below.

Membership Reminder

LUAS membership dues cover the calendar year. You can help us keep our membership list up to date by sending in a new membership form with your dues.

Kay Clark to Speak at April 10 Meeting—7:00 PM, Nightengale Archaeological Center

Following a brief business meeting, we will hear from Kay Clark: "Life Ways of Ancient and Not So Old Settlers

(local sites and artifacts)" will be presented by Ms. Kay E. Clark, who holds a degree in archeology and an associate degree

in history. She is presently an avocational archeologist and the Williamson County Steward for the Texas Historical

Commission. She has participated in excavations around Liberty Hill, Bertram and Briggs since 1998.

Field Trip Update—Saturday, April 21

We will make a return visit to David Connally's ranch in Mason County outside of Loyal Valley. Four mortar hole sites were recorded last year on his property and David has recently run across a previously unknown fifth mortar hole site. We will record this new site in addition to surveying other areas that have potential for prehistoric campsites.

We will meet at 9:30 AM at the Llano Junior High School parking lot where Hwy 71 meets with Hwy 16. The school will be on your left as you are entering town on 71. Loyal Valley is about 30 minutes away and you can leave your car at the parking lot and carpool or you can take your vehicle in the caravan to Loyal Valley. The area around Loyal Valley is still in its wild state - at least compared to where we usually go on field trips - and David has the following precautions: "*we've found unmistakable evidence of a mountain lion on the ranch-large leg bones of a deer high in a mesquite. The good news, though, is that it was not near any of the mortar locations. However, it wouldn't hurt to remind everyone that rattlesnakes do present a real problem, particularly in rocky areas and at this time of year. Those who have them will want to wear boots and leggings.*" I will bring extra snake leggings (at least six pairs) but as long as everyone watches where they step and place their hands there shouldn't be any problems. (con't p.2)

Llano Uplift
Archeological Society

P.O. Box 302
Kingsland, Texas
78639

List of Officers

President: Michael Williams

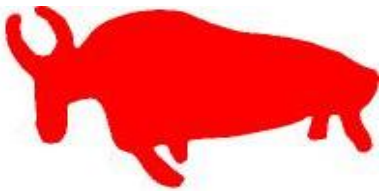
puuc@austin.rr.com

Treasurer: Tina Prikryl

cprikryl@austin.rr.com

Secretary: Andy Malof

amalof@lcra.org



March Field Trip

LUAS members recorded three archeological sites on the B-Square Ranch in southeastern Llano County. Our host, Betsey Bouchard, along with her sisters, led us to the first site which contained a burned rock midden ("mound") resting on a narrow embankment along the main creek through the property. The low mound was oval in plan and about 20 meters across at its widest point.

The second site on her brother's property contained the remains of a 19th century homestead. Recent land clearing had removed all traces of the house foundations but a stone well with a metal hand pump attached was still intact.

The third site was made up of flint chipping debris sparsely scattered across a prominent hill overlooking the burned rock midden. There was no evidence of camping activities such as burned rocks or food remains. In fact, no campsites were located during the field trip and it appears that whatever food was being cooked in the midden's oven was transported to a residential area a good distance away. To confirm or for more information contact me at (325) 423-0379 or chuck.hixson@gmail.com.

(see the website for photos and additional information on LUAS field trips)

Lab Update

Labs are tentatively scheduled for the second and fourth Saturday of each month, from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. and coincide with regularly scheduled public tours sessions. Due to turn out, they are now being based on a reservation system. If you are interested in attending, please contact Andy Malof at amalof@lcra.org or at (800) 776-5272 ext. 2753.

Special Notices

Calendar

Second and fourth Saturdays 2-5pm

Public tours at the Nightengale Center

April 12-14—Tx Historical Commission Annual Historic Preservation Conference, Lakeway, Tx
www.thc.state.tx.us

April 25-29—Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting,

Austin

www.saa.org

June 9-16—TAS Annual Field School Presidio San Saba, Menard County, Tx

www.txarch.org

October 26-28—TAS Annual Mtg, San Antonio, Tx

Treasurer's Report—Tina Prikryl

A CD for the Fred Breckwoldt Memorial Fund has been opened. We paid member dues to three societies and donated \$100.00 to Texas Beyond History.

Steward's News

Your local archeological steward is Doris Howard. If you have any questions about the archaeology of the area, she can be your first contact. Doris can be reached at (325) 247-2440

The Llano Uplift Archeological Society was organized by people interested in the protection, conservation and study of historic and prehistoric materials and sites in the Llano Uplift ("Central Mineral Region") area of the Texas Hill Country. Its primary goals include education of the membership, students and the public; and to support other groups, researchers and educators with similar interests. Stewardship of the Nightengale Archaeological Center is a major responsibility of LUAS.