

Llano Uplift Archeological Society

NEWSLETTER

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May 7, 2007

Message from the President Michael Williams

Hello to All,

Well, April has come and gone. The rains are still with us and the lakes are filling up. Spring is definitely here. I want to thank Kay Clarke for a very interesting and informative talk last month. We hope to have her back real soon.

The Society for American Archaeology's (SAA) annual meeting was



Michael Williams

held in Austin this April. There were a great variety of papers given about archeology all over the world. It was my first visit to the SAA meeting

and I found it to be very informative and interesting. I did stay in the book/resource room maybe a little too much but thankfully didn't spend too much money. Andy Malof had a poster presentation on LCRA and the Nightengale Center. That poster should be available at the Center for all to enjoy. I was glad to see a few of the LUAS members in attendance as

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well.

I will be meeting with the representative I'm dealing with on the T-shirts this month. I'm looking at a different texture and color due to the fact (con't)

Brett Cruse to Speak at May 9 Meeting—7:00 PM, Nightengale Archaeological Center

A Most Desperate Fight: Lieutenant Henry J. Farnsworth and the Battle of Round Timber Creek, November 6, 1874

On November 6, 1874, Lieutenant Henry J. Farnsworth led 28 troopers of H Company, Eighth U.S. Cavalry on a scouting patrol along the North Fork of the Red River in search of hostile Indians. At about 1:30 in the afternoon the patrol came upon what appeared to be an abandoned Indian village. Upon entering the village, the patrol was ambushed by some 100 Cheyenne warriors under the leadership of Chief Grey Beard. For the next five

hours the patrol fought a running engagement with the Indians that covered a distance of some six miles through the rugged breaks of the North Fork of Red River. It was only when the patrol finally reached the High Plains that they were able to escape the Indians under the cover of darkness. During the engagement the patrol lost all of their supplies and pack mules, six horses were killed, several of the troopers were wounded, and two troopers were killed.

During April and May, 2003, the Texas Historical Commission and volunteers from the local area successfully located and investigated the battle site, which we refer to as the Battle of

Round Timber Creek. Prior to the investigations the precise location of the battle site was not known. This battle site is one of several battle sites that were investigated during the THC's Red River War Battle Sites Project. The presentation will discuss the events of the battle and the results of the archeological investigations.

Brett Cruse is a native of Turkey, Texas, a small farming and ranching community in the Texas Panhandle. Brett received a B.S. in sociology/anthropology from West Texas State University and an M.A. in anthropology from Texas A&M University. After working on various archeological



field projects in the south, southwest, and eastern U.S., he joined the staff of the Texas Historical Commission in 1995 where he serves as the Regional Archeologist for the Plains and Mountains/Pecos Regions. He is also the Project Director of the Red River War Battle Sites Project. Brett, his wife Maria, and sons Zachary and Samuel make their home in Round Rock.

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



Field Trips

The April field trip to Loyal Valley was attended by Pat Hatten, Doris Howard, Chuck Hixson, Tom Seiter, and Chelsea Seiter-Weatherford. Landowner David Connally provided lunch, and no rattlesnakes or mountain lions were encountered. The major find of the day was a well preserved mortar feature containing two mortar holes connected by a shallow groove. This appears to be an unusual feature. Shovel testing revealed an extensive buried lithic scatter around the site. Much work remains to be done on the ranch. Look for field trip pictures soon on texasluas.org.

On May 12, we will survey at Gloster Bend Park, located near the community of Travis Peak. LCRA has been producing an inventory of sites on the 1,000 acre tract. A number of upland camp sites have been documented that appear to date to the Early Archaic period. There are also a number of old house sites on the property, some of which have portions of standing chimneys and intact cisterns. One such site appears to date to original Anglo settlement of the area in the 1850s. What we will do is try to find two wells that have been reported on the property, but have so far eluded discovery. The first was seen by Bruce Nightengale, but has not been relocated. Mr. Vernon Hollingsworth, who grew up on the property in the 1920s, reports another well is present, and may be located near a still undiscovered house site. If time permits, we will explore other landforms on the property to help better define historic and prehistoric settlement in the area. We will meet at the CRA Marble Falls office on Hwy 281, next to the Pizza Hut, at 9:00 a.m., the caravan or carpool to the park, which is about 20 minutes away. For more information, contact Chuck Hixson at (325) 423-0379, or at chixson@gmail.com. Be sure to bring lunch and plenty of water. It's starting to get warm and humid, so you will want to be sure and stay hydrated.

Special Notices

Calendar

*(send calendar updates and notices to
Newsletter Editor Andy Malof
amalof@lcra.org)*

Second and fourth Saturdays 2-5pm

Public tours at the Nightengale Center

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

www.txarch.org

July 24 and 25—Window on the Past Archaeology Workshop, the Nightengale Archeological Center

October 26-28—TAS Annual Mtg.

(President's message, from P. 1)

that the design on past t-shirts faded. I hope to have a sample to let everyone see before making any decisions. Also, we will only be purchasing adult sizes this time as the youth shirts are double the cost.

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.

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 Archeological Center is a major responsibility of LUAS.