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CALENDAR

GENERAL MEETING

Saturday

September 17, 2011

12:30 pm at

Riverside Nature Center

SAVE THE DATE!

HCAA'S

ARCHEOLOGICAL

CELEBRATION IN 2011

IS SET FOR OCTOBER 8

AT RIVERSIDE NATURE

CENTER



FOCUS ON JUNIOR ARCHEOLOGISTS

Interview with Fredrik Hiebert



Archaeologist and National Geography Explorer

Kids, have you ever wondered what it's like to travel to a distant land and dig for treasure, sort of like Indiana Jones? Read an interview with a real-life archaeologist to find out his favorite discovery and how he became an archaeologist.

Q: What were you like as a kid?

Hiebert: I wasn't actually interested in archaeology. I think most people think that you're almost born to be an archaeologist. And I like to think that anybody who's played in a sandbox is a future archaeologist. My own interests were different. I went to school. I thought I was going to be an artist. And I was trained to draw. I love drawing. I drew anything. I drew nature, I drew objects... and because of this, I was able to get my first job working on an archaeological excavation drawing artifacts, and I guess

that's where the [archaeology] bug bit me. And I became really interested in the story behind the artifacts. So slowly I became more interested in the artifacts than I was in doing the drawings, but I have to admit, I still do all the drawings on my own digs.

Q: What's a normal day like for you?

Hiebert: I hate to say that archaeologists don't really have a normal day. We have a really interesting perspective in that we're really interested in ancient times and how we can bring ancient times back to life. I like to think that many of the people who I actually have the most interesting conversations with are other archaeologists who might live in different continents or even have lived at a different time period. I'll read a book by an archaeologist who isn't even alive today and I will have kind of a conversation with that person. It's a different way of thinking about the world. And when I write, which I try and do every day, I try and write so that people 10 years, 15 years, 50 years from now will still be interested in what I'm writing about today. Anything we can do to help bring the past alive is what archaeologists are really interested in doing.

Continued on p. 7



Fort Clark and the Rio Grande Frontier

The desolate and dusty brush country of south Texas guards a rugged history, where early Spanish-Colonial *ranchos*, presidios, and missions on the Rio Grande were the first European outposts in what historically had been Indian domain. Later U.S. military posts such as Fort Clark at Brackettville, Fort Inge at Uvalde, and Fort Duncan at Eagle Pass were staging points for military expeditions throughout the nineteenth century. Recurrent Indian raids across the Rio Grande and other hostilities along the border kept Fort Clark in operation for almost 100 years. Under the leadership of legendary officers such as John L. Bullis and William "Pecos Bill" Shafter, soldiers posted there helped guard the "lower road" from San Antonio to El Paso, protected farmsteads and ranchos along the "Nueces Strip," and pursued Apaches and Kickapoos into the mountains of Mexico.

Long after the horse soldiers' time had passed, Fort Clark was still a cavalry post. Wheeling in dusty drills and negotiating narrow canyon trails, the troopers of the 5th Cavalry maintained the army's historical presence on the Rio Grande. They were an anachronism between two world wars.

They also were heirs to a romantic tradition. The regiment had originally been organized in 1855 as the 2nd Cavalry and led by Albert Sidney Johnston and Robert E. Lee. By 1938, regimental commander George S. Patton Jr. stood at the end of a line of officers distinguished by their dash and daring. Patton died in France in 1945, one of the most renowned field generals of the 20th Century. Fort Clark was abandoned early the next year, a costly relic of American frontier warfare. Credits: **Steve Dial**, contributing editor for *Texas Beyond History*

Impact of the recent Texas Legislative sessions on Texas Historical Commission

Mark Wolfe, THC Executive Director issued a recap of the legislative session and a summary of changes facing the Texas Historical Commission. The operating budget was cut by about 50%, and they lost 47 staff positions representing over 20% of their staff. Every division was affected, some more than others depending on how the legislature chose to distribute funding. The Archeology, History Programs and Community Heritage Development Divisions each lost about 1/3 of their staffs. The staff reduction in the Division of Architecture (which oversees the courthouse grants program among other duties) was closer to 20% because additional bond funds were appropriated for grants from that program. The Marketing and Communication Division, originally targeted for elimination, survived with about half of its staff. Historic Sites staff was reduced by a little less than 20% statewide. Although the agency will continue to operate most of its programs, there will be some structural changes which hopefully their customers won't notice.

Here's a summary of what to expect:

Visionaries in Preservation (VIP) will be dormant for at least the next two years, possibly longer.

Main Street will not be entertaining new applications until at least 2012 (for designation in 2013).

The Texas Preservation Trust Fund, small museum grant support and Texas Trails partnership grants programs

have been eliminated.

The THC's annual conference has been cancelled for the foreseeable future. THC hopes to partner with Preservation Texas in providing preservationists with other educational opportunities.

THC award programs will be suspended until further notice.

Archeology Division reorganization will result in combining the field archeology program (originally proposed for elimination) and review and compliance positions into a new terrestrial archeology program.

The Medallion magazine will be reduced from a bi-monthly to a quarterly publication.

Current positions remain in place until August 31, 2011. Cuts and reorganizations will be effective September 1, 2011.

The budget as approved does include \$20 million in bonds for the courthouse grant program, \$500,000 for an archive project at the Museum of the Pacific War (NMPW) in Fredericksburg, an additional \$200,000 per year to support work and operations at the NMPW, one new full time position and additional funding for the Holocaust and Genocide Commission (administratively attached to the THC), and \$500,000 for a new Vietnam Veterans Memorial on the capitol grounds (with THC acting as the agency holding and disbursing those funds much as they have for other such memorials in the past).

Two Interesting Speakers scheduled on September 17, at the HCAA General Meeting

Bryant Saner and Steve Stoutamire will be the joint speakers and the title of their talk will be *Indians & Archeology of the Hill Country*. It will cover historic and prehistoric Indians of the Hill Country and will also include information about sites, tools, flint, and the time periods. There will be tools and other items for those in attendance to pick up and hold.



BRYANT SANER, JR. grew up in Kerr County and developed an interest in archeology at an early age. He is active in recording, documenting, teaching and preserving archeology in the Texas Hill Country. Saner has published articles in *La Tierra*, *Ancient Echoes*, *The Steward* and was contributing author on several *Archeological Survey Reports* published by the Center for Archaeological Research. He served a four year term as a Steward with the Texas Archeological Stewards Network and is an active member of the Texas Archeological Society, Southern Texas Archaeological Association, Hill Country Archeological Association and the Kerr County Historical Commission. He was employed by the Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Texas at San Antonio from 2001 to 2009 as a field and lab archeologist.

PAUL STEPHEN STOUTAMIRE grew up on a farm near the town of Quincy, in the Florida panhandle and graduated from Quincy High School in 1968. After receiving a basketball scholarship to North Florida Junior College, he received AA in 1970, BA (Anthropology) from Florida State University, 1972 and MS (Geology) from Texas Tech University, 1975. He enjoyed an extensive career as an oil and gas exploration geologist in the Permian Basin of West Texas/New Mexico and Arkoma Basin of Arkansas. Employed initially as an exploration geologist, he went on to become a manager of a mid-continent division. He concluded his tenure in the

Upcoming Events:

September 17, 2011 HCAA General Meeting

Oct 8, 2011 HCAA Archeology Celebration

Oct 15, 2011 STAA Quarterly Meeting

Oct 27- Oct 30, 2011 TAS Annual Meeting

oil field as a regional manager of West Africa, and he retired in 2007. Organizations recent past and present include American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and their Visiting Geologist Lecture Program, Qualified as a Certified Petroleum Geologist, Houston Geological Society, Society of Exploration Geophysicists, Hill Country Geoscientists Association, Hill Country Archeological Association (president 2010 and 2011). Interests include archeology, geology, paleontology, ranching, hunting, fishing and reading.

Fun Facts:

Baker Cave is a rockshelter located in the Lower Pecos region of southwest Texas of the south central United States, with occupations dated between 9,000-6800 years before the present. This site was used as an early test of the flotation method of recovery by Robert F. Heizer and Thomas R. Hester. This method produced evidence of a wide range of diet including small game, snakes, walnuts and pecans.

Hinds Cave is a dry rockshelter located in the Still Canyon of southwestern Texas, about 1.3 kilometers north of its confluence with the Pecos River. The large cave (37 meters high by 24.5 meters deep, with a ceiling of 4-5 meters above the existing ground surface) was excavated in the mid-1970s by Texas A&M, led by Harry J. Shafer and Vaughn M. Bryant.

Hinds Cave has archaeological evidence of occupation from about 9280 years BP to 1820 years BP. The site includes excellent preservation of organic material, including several buried living floors and over 300 human coprolites (fossil feces).

Would You Believe a Mammoth Bone Home???

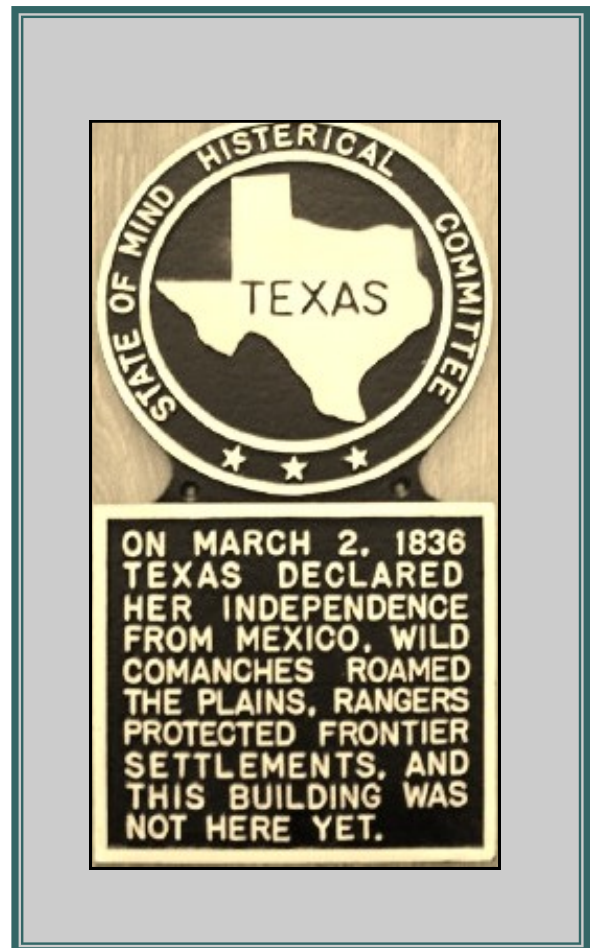
You know, an archeologist is a detective, looking for clues to what happened in a place, and when it happened? The wonderful artifacts they find, especially the "arrow heads", are some of the best clues as to "when" people lived and hunted around Kerrville. Where do they find these clues? On the surface of the ground and under the ground, which is why they dig for these artifact "treasures". Well really they dig for clues, that is artifacts that represent ancient peoples, and what those people did here before we came to Kerrville.



Look at this photo of an ancient home in the Ukraine that was probably covered with hides, and where a family may have lived 12,000 years ago when herds of wooly mammoths walked the earth!!! The structure is made of mammoth bones! Can you imagine living at that home? What would you eat? Bet mammoth steaks were common at dinner! Where would sleep? What would you do during the day--hunt, prepare food, learn new skills like making a flint spear point, or weaving a basket? Bet making warm cloths would be important. Think these people wore Mammoth fur coats

or robes, like American Indians wore buffalo robes? (see more at <http://blyd.livejournal.com/20460.html>). A really good place to learn about prehistoric peoples of Texas is Texas Beyond History, <http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/>. Check it out!

John Benedict



KIDS! Learn about:

Stratigraphy - Layers of Time in the Earth

Enter the following URL address to bring up web site where you can use your computer to learn about stratigraphy and follow along with the investigation at the Richard Beene Site.

<http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/beene/digging/index.php>

Other kid sites can be found at:

<http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/kids/index.html>

Junior Archeologists Can Follow the Investigation of the Richard Beene Site Online at Texas Beyond History

Since the 1930s, the construction of dams and reservoirs on Texas rivers has resulted in the discovery, excavation, and the inundation of hundreds of archeological sites. During the early 1980s, salvage archeology conducted at the proposed Applewhite



Reservoir just south of San Antonio seemed to follow this trend. Archeological survey work and test excavations carried out in advance of reservoir construction identified dozens of sites that attested to 10,000 years of human occupation. In 1989, archeologists began full scale excavations at a buried site near where the dam was to be built. Meanwhile, bulldozers removed nearly 16 million cubic feet (450,000 cubic meters) of dirt for the planned spillway trench and, in doing so, exposed remains of an Indian encampment occupied almost 8,000 years ago and buried 18 feet below surface (6 meters). This site, which became known as the **Richard Beene Site**, contained deeply layered archeological deposits that preserved a record of human occupation during the late Pleistocene and throughout the Holocene epoch at the northern edge of the South Texas Plains.

For nearly 10,000 years, small groups of hunters and gatherers camped near the Medina River at the Beene site. These people hunted deer, rabbits, and other game in the riparian and savannah areas near the site, gathered a variety of wild roots found in the area, and took fish and mussels from the river to supplement their diet. Evidence of this activity can be seen archeologically

through the numerous stone tools, hearths, ovens, and animal remains found at the site.

The site was named after Richard Beene, an engineering inspector for the dam-design firm who discovered an important deeply buried layer in the footprint of the dam and alerted archeologists in time to prevent its destruction by heavy machinery. Archeologists from Texas A&M University (TAMU) conducted excavations here at the in late 1990 and early 1991 in the midst of the ongoing construction of the reservoir spillway. Though the initial archeological deposits were dated to about 5800 B.C., the continuing archeological excavations in the spillway trench uncovered additional areas of the site that required the site's boundaries to be expanded downward a number of times. In the end, the site was found to include components dating back to the 9th millennium B.C.

The Richard Beene site yielded over 80,000 artifacts, some of which were buried under 45 feet (14 meters) of overbank (i.e., flood) sediment. In all, 20 distinct archeological layers were excavated at the site yielding over 40 radiocarbon ages. This makes Richard Beene one of only a handful of sites on the entire U.S. Gulf Coastal Plain to yield a nearly complete record of occupation spanning the last 10,000 years. **Credits:** This exhibit was written by Dr. Alston V. Thoms and TBH editorial assistant Jeff Taff. Portions were adapted from the final technical report on the Richard Beene investigations by Thoms and Rolfe Mandel. Heather Smith prepared the exhibit for the web. TBH editors Susan Dial and Carol Schlenk created the interactive learning module, "Dig through Layers of Time" with web developer Josh Leong. *Texas Beyond History*

DID YOU KNOW:

Every year as many as 5,000 archeological sites are lost in Texas due to vandalism, construction projects, and uninformed collecting. Current laws for the protection of sites and artifacts are limited to public land. When vandalism is noted on public land, officials should be called. On private land, the owner can do whatever he/she wants.

ARCHEOLOGY FAIR

Saturday, October 8, 2011

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM



Sponsored by

SPEAKER

11:00 Joe Herring
"Historic Kerrville"

1:00 Dr. Clark Wernecke
"Pre-Clovis and the Peopling of the Americas"

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Saturday, October 8, 2011

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM



Riverside Nature Center

150 Lemos St. Kerrville, Texas

Sponsored by The Hill Country Archeological Association
(Visit our Website HCArcheology.org)

SPEAKERS

11:00 Joe Herring, General Manager Herring Printing Company
"Historic Kerrville"

1:00 Dr. Clark Wernecke, Dir Gault School of Archeological Research
"Pre-Clovis and the Peopling of the Americas"

Activities and Exhibits

Historic Woodworking
Indian Paint Making
Flint Knapping
Mano & Metate
Bow & Arrow
Earth Oven
Indian Music & Dancers
Face Painting
Artifac Interpretation
Tomahawk Throw

.... and Lots More for Children & Adults
Free Admission Free Parking Food Vendors



JOE HERRING
GUEST SPEAKER
AT 11:00 AM

**HISTORIC
KERRVILLE**

**PRE-CLOVIS
AND THE
PEOPLING OF
THE AMERICAS**



DR. CLARK WERNECKE
GUEST SPEAKER
AT 1:00 PM

OCTOBER 8, 2011



Some Resources for Junior Archeologist

La Salle Odyssey Project

The following museums are members of the La Salle Odyssey Project, a cooperative venture of seven Texas Gulf Coast museums. Each museum tells a segment of the story of French explorers in Texas, captained by Rene-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle, in their own unique way.

[Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, Corpus Christi, Texas:](#) Presents both the beginning and end of the La Salle Story

[Texana Museum, Edna, Texas](#) : Meet the native Texans who watched the French come ashore

[Matagorda County Museum, Bay City, Texas:](#) Discover the events that led to the recovery of the *Belle*, La Salle's ill fated ship.

[La Petite Belle, Palacios, Texas:](#) The homeport of *La Petite Belle*. Built at half-scale, she is a fully functional seagoing vessel.

[Calhoun County Museum, Port Lavaca, Texas:](#) Odyssey travelers will learn about French colonial Texas.

[Texas Maritime Museum, Rockport, Texas:](#) Sailing to the New World in the 17th Century was a marvelous, but dangerous adventure.

[Museum of the Coastal Bend, Victoria, Texas](#) : Presents the story of the first French settlement on Texas soil, Fort Saint Louis. MCB is the main site of artifacts from the Fort St. Louis archaeological excavation.

Continued from p. 1

Q: Can you tell us about the mat?

Hiebert: People often ask me what's my favorite story? What's my favorite find that I've made in archaeology? And this goes back some 20 years ago when I was a student and I was excavating a trade site on the coast of Egypt. This is the Red Sea coast, it's one of the most barren coasts in the whole world. Nothing grows there, there's no water, there's no trees... it's kind of amazing that people had ever even built a town there. The reason people had built a town at this particular site was that it's a great trading place. It's a place where ships would come in. But it's so dry that everything's preserved.

So when we excavated there, we found the house of a merchant who had been on the coast waiting for ships to come in. He had warehouses, and there were remains of many of the things that came in and left through the warehouses of his house. So when we excavated there, we found the house of a merchant who had been on the coast waiting for ships to come in. He had warehouses, and there were remains of many of the things that came in and left through the warehouses of his house.

Well, we were excavating this house, and we finished the excavation, and there was a reed mat in front of the house that was still preserved. This was about a 700-year-old reed mat. And we were done with our excavations, and I had taken drawings. I had done drawings of the house, and we had photographed it, and I thought "Gee, it's a shame to leave this reed mat here on the ground." So I pulled it up, and then we made a really interesting discovery. Underneath the mat was the house key the merchant had left 700 years ago and he had hid his key underneath the door mat, thinking he would return one day. And here we found it. And it even had his name written on it.

Excerpts from National Geographic

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/stories/peopleplaces/fredrik-hiebert-interview/>



HILL COUNTRY
ARCHEOLOGY
ASSOCIATION

HCAA BOARD WILL
MEET SATURDAY
MORNING, **SEPTEMBER 17, 2011** AT
10:00 A.M. AT RIVER-
SIDE NATURE CEN-
TER.

MEMBERS ARE WEL-
COME TO ATTEND.

HCAA
P.O. Box 290393
KERRVILLE, TX
78029-0393

Help yourself and the HCAA while you shop for new and used books on all aspects of archeology. When you go to our HCAA web site, <http://www.hcarcheology.org>, you will find a link to Amazon.com to help you browse for and purchase books.

The link is:

[Archeology Books Available Here](http://www.hcarcheology.org)

A REMINDER

The HCAA is thankful that many landowners allow us to survey their property for archeological sites. We should constantly remind ourselves:

All artifacts found on their property belong to the landowner. HCAA members keep no artifacts.

If an archeological site is identified on the landowner's property, the location of the ranch should remain confidential.

We visit a property only with the owner's permission.

We do not hold a land-owner liable for injuries which occur while on their property.

We encourage and enjoy the participation of the landowner in our activities.

The HCAA offers its archeological activities as a community service.

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED