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CALENDAR

**Celebration
Planning
Meeting**

July 10, 2010
10:00 a.m.

Joint Meeting

With Kerr County
Historical Comm
and STAA

Dietert Center

July 17, 2010
12:30 p.m.

Field Work

Real County 7/18



CURIOUS DETAILS FROM THE PAST

Historical Archeologist Rachel Feit to Present Case Studies of 19th Century Sites on July 17

Rachel Feit, Austin archeologist, will bring her wealth of knowledge and experience in historical archeology to the joint meeting of HCAA, the South Texas Archeological Association, and Kerr County Historical Commission on July 17 at the Dietert Senior Center, 451 Guadalupe Street in Kerrville.

The groups have chosen a different location for this meeting, which is expected to attract 100 members of the three

societies. STAA will provide light snacks and beverages for guests, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

The meeting will commence at 1:00 p.m. with Ms. Feit's presentation. She has described her talk as using several of her recent projects as "case studies" to explore how the features and artifacts discovered through historical archeology can expose "curious details about the past."

Ms. Feit has found that historical archeology "opens a window on the quotidian aspects of everyday life that historical narratives often miss." Her talk will demonstrate how the data gained from excavating historical and urban sites from the 19th century can enhance and sometimes even contradict written records.

More about Rachel Feit on page 2.

PLANNING FOR OCTOBER 16 ARCHEOLOGICAL CELEBRATION BEGINS SATURDAY. JULY 10

HCAA President Steve Stoutamire will host the July 10, 2010 Kick-Off meeting to begin planning HCAA's annual "Rendezvous by the River" Archeological Celebration. The

meeting will be held at 225 Spanish Oak Drive in Kerrville starting at 10 a.m.

Each year since it was founded, HCAA has held an archeology

fair as part of the Texas Historical Commission's celebration of Texas Archeology Month in October. October 16 is the date of the 2010 event.

RACHEL FEIT KNOWS 19TH CENTURY AUSTIN

WHAT'S
NEW ON THE
INTERNET?

**HCAA has
its own
Website:**

[Check it out!](http://hcarcheology.org)

hcarcheology.org

In her fifteen years of archeological investigation in Texas, Rachel Feit has developed an expertise in historical and urban archeology of the 19th century. In her current position as Archeology Principal Investigator with Ecological Communications Corporation and a similar position previously with Hicks and Company, both

environmental services companies, Ms. Feit has learned a lot about Austin's past. She recently gave a talk entitled "The Boarding House Kitchen: What Artifacts Say About Ordinary Life in a Red Light District" at the SHA 2010 Conference on Historical and Underwater Archeology in Jacksonville, FL. Her subject was an area of Austin called Guy Town.

More about Guy Town is available on texasbeyonhistory.org in an article written by Ms. Feit.

Other notable investigations by Ms. Feit include Fort Anahuac (Houston), San Jacinto Battlefield, and the Susanna Dickinson House in Austin. She completed her undergraduate work at the U. of Chicago and received an M.A. in Anthropology from UT-Austin.

HONDO FIELD SCHOOL CHALLENGES HCAA MEMBERS

The annual archeology field school conducted by the Texas Archeological Society (TAS), was held in Hondo, Medina County, Texas, June 11-19, 2010. Twenty members of the HCAA attended this event.

Some HCAA participants excavated the prehistoric Eagle Bluff site at the Calvert Ranch near Tarpley on Hondo Creek. Others worked at an historic site in Castrovilla.

Still other members helped by surveying for new sites or doing laboratory work.

John Benedict, Paul Smith, Jose Contreras, Joe Luther, Bill Csayni, Bryant Saner, Edward Rendon, John and Judy Forister, Bill and Beth Stenstrom, Carlene Evans, and Mary Matthews joined the Woodward clan, Kay, Woody, Curtis, Thomas and Terry Farley, and new members Ivan

and Marilyn Oak of Hondo.

Kay reported that the hardtop surface was hard to penetrate, but the lower levels were workable and yielded discoveries of rock formations, hearths and some points.

Jose noted that despite the heat and humidity, HCAA's group learned a lot and enjoyed the experience enough to return in 2011.

*Jose Contreras
Kay Woodward*



HCAA member Thomas Woodward stands in his Hondo Field School unit, where he learned recording and excavating, eventually uncovering a hearth and 6 points while taking his unit down to 90 centimeters.

JOE LUTHER CREATES HCAA WEB PRESENCE

After many years of wishing, HCAA has joined the other archeological groups on the Internet. With the expertise and time donated by Joe Luther, hcarcheology.org became a reality in record time. John Benedict and Kay Woodward worked with Joe Luther to develop the content for the site. Bryant Saner has agreed to serve as the contact person listed on the site to answer questions about HCAA and archeology in general.

Don't wait to visit the site and appreciate the time and creative effort that produced this new asset for HCAA. You will find the site is a good place to look for information about upcoming HCAA meetings and events.

**HILL COUNTRY
ARCHEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION**

HCAA BOARD WILL
MEET SATURDAY
MORNING, JULY 17
AT 10:30 A.M. IN
THE DIETERT
SENIOR CENTER.
MEMBERS ARE
WELCOME TO
ATTEND.

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

KERR COUNTY RECORDED SITES TOP 700

Preservation efforts in Kerr County reached a significant milestone this year with the registration of the 701st archeological site. Many of the recorded sites in Kerr County are the result of the dedicated efforts of HCAA members and THC Stewards (often

the same persons) to persuade landowners to allow them to survey and record

sites, then complete all the steps to record them.

KERR WILDLIFE AREA CLEAN-UP

Eight HCAA members worked with Chris Lintz, Kerr Wildlife Management Area Archeologist, at the Hatfield Shelter Area on June 26 maintaining the site and locating four new sites.

A REMINDER

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

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.

