

Llano Uplift Archeological Society

NEWSLETTER

Volume 15, Issue 1

January 1, 2007

Message from the President Michael Williams

Happy New Year to all, and I hope your holidays have gone well.

Our Next meeting is coming up January 10, at which time elections for 2007 officers will be held.

The Nominees are:

President—Michael Williams

Vice President—Open

Treasurer—Tina Prikryl

Secretary/Newsletter Editor—Andy Malof



Write-in candidates and nominations from the floor will be welcome.

Membership Reminder

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

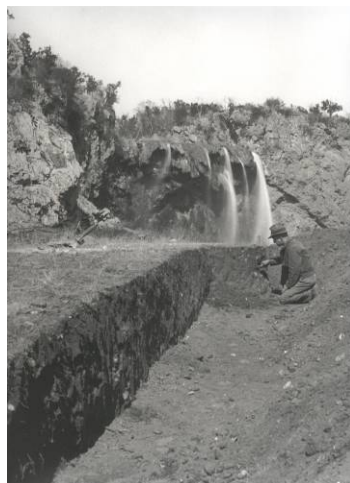
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LCRA Archeologists to Speak at January 10 Meeting—7:00 PM, Nightengale Archaeological Center (business meeting to follow)

Chuck Hixson will speak on the prehistoric archaeology of the Lake Buchanan area including the 1930s-era archaeological excavations conducted at the Fall Creek sites by the University of Texas before the river basin was inundated by Lake Buchanan. He will also discuss recent investigations of other Native American campsites and activity areas along the shoreline of Lake Buchanan.

Dan Prikryl will describe the early pioneer settlement of the Lake Bu-



1930's work at the Fall Creek Site

chanan area. Topics such as the old Saltworks operated by the Cowan family, early communities including Bluffton and Tow, and colorful characters such as Oscar (Ok) Chestnut will be included. He will also discuss the construction of Buchanan Dam and the impact it had on the people who lived in the lake area.



Stagecoach crossing near the old town of Bluffton

Field Trip Updates Chuck Hixson

Field trip to the Soika-Quinn Site (41BT407)

On December 13, LUAS members Pat Hatten, David Houston, Doris Howard, Al Priest, Lisa Weatherford, Chelsea Wetherford-Seiter, and myself shovel tested the Soika-Quinn Site (41BT407) on the east shore of Lake Buchanan. The site is usually underwater but has become exposed due to the low lake level. The weather was unseasonably warm that day and the constant breeze coming off the lake was welcomed. The testing was done to gather information that will be used in nominating the site for State Archeologi-

cal Landmark (SAL) status.

The testing showed the cultural deposits of the exposed part of the site to be shallow and disturbed by wave action. As the testing moved closer to the shoreline, the deposits became deeper and this suggests that

the areas still underwater may contain intact cultural material. In any case, the very fact that the site is being looted makes it eligible as SAL to insure maximum legal protection.

A number of projectile points were found on the surface, most by Pat and Chelsea. The stylistic types include (in chronological order) Angostura, Martindale, Peder-nales, Castroville, Darl, and Perdiz. Cross-dating these styles with similar



Artifacts from 41BT407

ones found in dateable contexts indicates the site was visited during parts of the Early Archaic (7000 BC to 6000 BC and 5000 BC to 4000 BC), the Late Archaic (1500 BC to AD 700) and the Late Prehistoric (AD 700 to 1650). Because of the absence of certain other point types, it appears that the site was avoided during extremely dry periods, which peaked at 5500 BC at 3000 BC, times perhaps when the adjacent creek ceased flowing.

January Field Trip

Lake Buchanan continues to drop, exposing many previously inundated sites both historic and prehistoric. The old town of Bluffton is now above water, actually two Blufftons since the first burned down in 1883 and was relocated a half mile to the north. Bluffton was once the most prosperous town in the county with a hotel, saloons, and other businesses until bypassed by the railroad in the late 1890s. The town was moved to its present location six miles to the west when Lake

Buchanan was created in the late 1930s. LUAS plans to make a field trip to the two earlier Blufftons on Saturday, January 20 to record building foundations and make an artifact inventory. Details such as time and rendezvous point will be decided on at the January 10 meeting. If you can't make the meeting, call me at 325 423-0370 or email me at charles.hixson@gmail.com.

Lab Update

The most recent Lab was held on November 11. Artifacts from the Lindenmuth Site, 41LL414, recorded by LUAS in 1995 were processed. A 1 x 1 m test unit and three or four shovel tests were excavated over a period of a few months, demonstrating that this is an important upland campsite, explained by a nearby spring. A mano, metate, and core were found

in close association within the test unit. During lab we found at least

three bifaces and other flake tools within the debitage assemblage. There is plenty more to analyze and catalog.

Next Lab will be held January 13 from 2:00—5:00 P.M. during the twice-monthly open house at the NAC.



Doris Howard labels artifacts at November lab

Upcoming Activities

- **January 10**—LUAS Meeting
7:00 P. M.
Officer Elections
- **January 13**—Lab and Open House
- **January 20**—Field Trip to Bluffton
- **January 27**—Open House



Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report

Tina Prikryl

Membership renewals are starting to come in. Be sure to get yours in so you can have the benefits of an entire's year membership.

Secretary's Report

Andy Malof

There are no minutes for the last meeting, since no business was held, other than eating cookies, dips and chips, and visiting about things archeological and not.

As always, comments, corrections, suggestions and contributions are welcomed for both the newsletter and the website.



LUAS members visit at the December Holiday Party

Committee Reports

Public Tours Committee

Pat Hatten

Tours are scheduled for January 13 and January 27 from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. Come by if you have chance!

Speakers Committee and Steward's Report

Doris Howard

Word is starting to get around about our monthly speaker series. Come hear Chuck and Dan this month. Dan Potter of the Texas Historical Commission is scheduled for February.

Don't forget, as your regional Archeology Steward, I'm the point of contact between the professional and

the interested public. Give me a call or email if you have any questions about the archeological resources you have an interest in.

325-247-2440

dcatz@moment.net

Llano Uplift
Archeological Society

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List of Officers

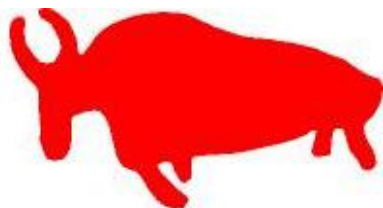
President: (acting) Michael Williams

puuc@austin.rr.com

Treasurer: (acting) Tina Prikryl

cprikryl@austin.rr.com

Secretary: (acting) Andy Malof
amalof@lcra.org



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.

Committees

(Actual and Proposed)

Field Trip Committee—Chuck Hixson, Chair

Speakers Committee—Doris Howard, Chair

Public Tours Committee—Pat Hatten, Chair

Nominations Committee—Open

Membership Committee—Open

Fundraising Committee—Open

Public Outreach Committee—Open

Scholarship Committee—Open

Special Notices

Distribution Notice

If you have not received a newsletter in a while, you may have been inadvertently left off the distribution list, or your membership may have lapsed. We hope the changes in the newsletter will give you more information about LUAS, and that you will choose to join us at any or all of our activities. At present we are looking for fresh ideas and new ways to educate people about the prehistory of our area. If you are interested in learning more or participating in any of LUAS's activities, please contact any LUAS Officer or Chair, or just show up at the next meeting!

www.texasluas.org
now online!

Visit LUAS's new website to keep updated on activities, including meetings, speakers, field trips, lab and more!