

# TIME CAPSULE

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FORT BEND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

*An affiliate of the Fort Bend History Association*

*500 Houston Street / Richmond, TX 77469*

*281-342-6478 / FAX 281-342-2439*

*February 2020*



## February 18, 2020. 7PM

**Speakers:** Dr. Michelle Marlar

**Topic:** The Osiris Temple at Abydos:  
An offering which the king gives

Dr. Michelle Marlar will present her work in Egypt entitled: "The Osiris Temple: An offering which the king gives." Originally excavated in 1902, collections of limestone and sandstone were found at the site and provided evidence of a temple, however the temple site was not excavated until 2002 by Dr. Marlar and her team. The team began with small excavation units chosen due to predictions on where the architecture features would be based on how other temples were laid out, and they were surprised by what was found. Dr. Marlar's work sheds new light on early Egyptian culture.



Dr. Michelle Marlar is an Egyptologist who teaches at the Center of Excellence for Visual and Performing Arts at Houston Community College. She earned her bachelor's degree in Archaeology from Baylor University, a master's degree in Ancient Egyptian Art & Archaeology from Memphis State University, and a PhD in Ancient Egyptian Archaeology and Art History from the Institute of Fine Arts, New York University. Her area of expertise is the Osiris Temple Project located in Abydos, Egypt which involves the excavation of the ancient temple site as well as documentation and conservation of recovered artifacts. She has taught and lectured about various aspects of ancient Egyptian civilization and material culture at several schools and colleges in Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, and now Texas.

**Location:** Gus George Law Enforcement Academy  
1521 Eugene Heimann Circle, Richmond, Texas

*Everyone is welcome - the program is free and open to the public.*

# Meeting Minutes from the January Meeting

## FORT BEND ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Minutes from January 21, 2020

The Fort Bend Archeological Society met at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy, Richmond TX. In attendance were 12 members and 13 guests.

The meeting was called to order by Jay Roussel, President, at 6:55pm.

**Minutes** from December 17, 2019

No objections, minutes stand as approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance as of January 13, 2020 is **\$2,741.33**

No objections, Treasurer's Report stands accepted.

### Old Business:

- None

### New Business:

- President Jay Roussel welcome everyone to the meeting.
- Bruce Grethen gave an update for the ongoing work at the Lamar Site. Volunteers continue to investigate anomalies with excavations. The anomalies were detected by the society using various electronic devices.
- The Fort Bend Museum is preparing to do an expansion and renovation of the museum soon. During the construction, staff members will temporarily relocate their offices to the Tyree House next door. The Tyree House is used by FBAS as a lab and will need to consolidate to help make room for the museum staff. The Spana family spent several hours on January 19<sup>th</sup> to start consolidating many of the artifacts and artifact storage boxes.

### Announcements:

- The next meeting will be held on February 18. The title of speaker Dr. Michelle Marlar's presentation is "*The Osiris Temple at Abydos: An Offering Which the King Gives.*"

Vice president David Rose introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Juan Carlos Fernandez-Diaz – a Senior Researcher with the National Center for Airborne Laser Mapping (NCALM) of the University of Houston. Dr. Fernandez-Diaz gave an overview of the many archaeological projects that his team has undertaken in Mexico and Central America which have enabled a revolution in the way archaeologists identify and map culturally significant sites. This has been done by using remote sensing technologies such as LIDAR which uses laser pulses to penetrate even the thickest tree canopies to detect the slightest variances on the ground and then identify settlements that were lost to time long ago.

Meeting adjourned: 8:20 pm

Minutes submitted by: Paul Spana

## Treasurer's Report

<b>Balance as of January 13, 2020</b>					<b>\$2,741.33</b>
1953	2/12/2020	FBHA	postage for February	5.00	
1954	2/12/2020	Fort Bend Museum	book for speaker	24.57	
			honorarium for		
1955	2/12/2020	Ana Alicia Estrada	speaker	25.00	
		FBHA transfer for	Bob Crosser and Jay		
		Chevron donations and	Roussel vol hours &		
Deposit	2/13/2020	matching funds	match		+1055.20
<b>Balance as of February 13, 2020</b>					<b>\$3,741.96</b>

## Upcoming Meetings:

**March 17:** Dr. Tom Williams will present on the Gault Site in Texas.

**April 21:** Jason Barrett will present on the lithics collected near Smither's Lake in Fort Bend County, as well as Diamond Knoll.

**All meetings are held at the Gus George Law Enforcement Academy**

## From Houston Archeological Society:

HAS Friends -

The February 2020 Houston Archeological Society newsletter is hot off the press and you can access it here <https://www.txhas.org/PDF/newsletters/2020/2020%20February%20Profile.pdf> Our newsletter editor, Bob Sewell, has put together a bumper issue this time with some incredibly interesting articles including several on local archeology plus a fascinating, first hand historical account of the Orphan Train movement, a supervised welfare program that transported orphaned and homeless children from crowded Eastern cities of the United States to foster homes located largely in rural areas of the [Midwest](#). The orphan trains operated between 1854 and 1929, relocating about 200,000 orphaned, abandoned, abused, or homeless children. One of those Orphan Train children is now in her late 90s and lives in the Houston area and shares her story with us!

Page 1 of the newsletter, as always, announces our next program which will be held on Thursday, February 13 (a week earlier than our normal third Thursday) and will feature Dr. Sarah Chesney who will give a presentation entitled "Digging Colonial Texas: Past, Present, and Future - Archeology at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site" If you are at all interested in Texas history and archeology, you won't want to miss it!!!

If you have any questions about the Houston Archeological Society, please email me at [lindagorski@cs.com](mailto:lindagorski@cs.com).

Linda Gorski, President  
Houston Archeological Society | [www.txhas.org](http://www.txhas.org)



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