

March, 2016
Volume 30, Issue 2

Benchmark



Tarrant County Archeological Society

President's Message

I think Spring 2016 started back in January this year, let's just hope that Summer isn't waiting in line to push it's way into April!

Spring always make me want to traverse Texas on road trips to see the beautiful wildflower displays, sample some famous BBQ joints and of course, learn something new about Archeology.

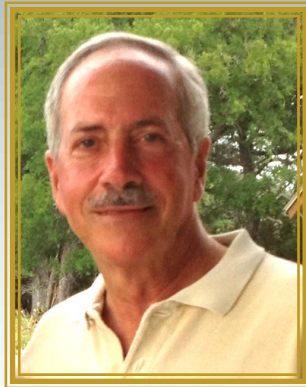
If you feel the same, head out in March for one of the following events scheduled in the coming weeks. You're bound to add to your knowledge of Archeology/Anthropology and take in some awe inspiring views .

TAS Academy – Geoarcheology March 19-20th
Kingsland, Texas

Cotton Field Site Excavation – March 19-20th & April 2-3rd
Tait-Huffmeyer Ranch
Columbus, Texas

58th Caddo Conference and 23rd Annual East Texas Archeological Conference
March 31 – April 2, 2016
Nacogdoches, Texas.

Want to stick closer to home, but still keep those



Chris Meis, President

brain cells active? There are several really interesting events planned that will get you out with like-minded colleagues.

The Termini Lecture series at UTA is March 3rd at 7:00pm. (Wine & cheese reception at 6:00 pm) The lecture is free and Dr. Owsley with The Smithsonian Institution will be speaking on "Forensic Investigation of the 17th – Century Chesapeake".

TCAS is hosting our speaker Mary S. Black on Thursday, 3/10/16. Mary will be talking about her novel, ***Peyote Fire: Shaman of the Canyons***. You will want to hear her interesting insights into the Archaic period in the Lower Pecos region.

Join your TCAS members on March 13th for the Cemetery Scavenger Hunt related to our Johnson Plantation Cemetery Project. We'll meet at the Arlington Cemetery at 1:00 pm. More details are found on Page 3 of this newsletter.

Don't forget to encourage high

school or college students you know to apply for the TCAS Scholarship which pays registration fees and meals to the annual Texas Archeological Society Field School. The application can be found on-line at our website (www.tarrantarch.org) and the deadline is April 1, 2016.

Thanks to our generous members who spend their time and money to bring refreshments for our monthly meetings. Our thanks in advance to Gen Freix, Charlene & Lloyd Erwin and Royce Baker for March's refreshments. We also appreciate Mike Shannon for lugging the coffee supplies and arriving early to make coffee !

Hope to see you at this month's meeting on the 10th.

Speakers

April 14: Dr. Reid Ferring will discuss his ongoing work in the Republic of Georgia.

May 12: Dr. Julie Hoggarth will provide an update on her work in Belize.

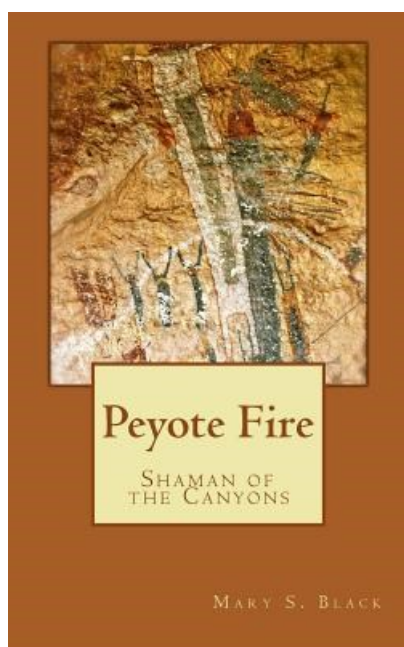
June: No monthly meeting

Thanks for being a TCAS member and supporter!

March Speaker: Mary S. Black

Plan now to join us as TCAS welcomes author Mary S. Black as the speaker for the March 10th meeting.

Mary S. Black will speak about her novel of the Archaic Lower Pecos, ***Peyote Fire: Shaman of the Canyons***, now available on Amazon.



She will discuss how she imaged Deer Cloud, her fictional character who was the artist of the White Shaman panel in her book. We've all wondered about the people of the past whenever we pick up a newly uncovered dart point or see a smudge of faded paint on a shelter wall. What was their daily life really like? What did they eat? How did they talk, and what did they talk about? Did they tell jokes? How did ritual fit into their lives? Mary will discuss how she researched and thought about these things, and how she eventually created Deer Cloud and other characters as full human beings, loving, killing, nurturing, dreaming, and leading their people.



Mary holds a doctorate in Human Development and Psychology from Harvard University and a bachelor's in Humanities from the University of Texas at San Antonio. She has had the good fortune to follow archaeologists like her husband Steve around for 30 years, listening to their discussions as they hiked the canyons of the Lower Pecos. After retiring from the University of Texas at Austin, she is currently writing and taking care of the youngest members of her family.

Welcome to our newest members and guests

Welcome to Hanna Keller, the newest TCAS member. And welcome back to Evan Maier, who has rejoined TCAS after a brief absence.

Guests at the February meeting included David Horne, Jennifer Dietz, Stephanie Dolenz, Christopher Lopez, Aaron Hodges, and Ray Walker. We know that there are many other ways you could have spent your time and we are delighted that you chose to spend it with us.

TCAS Event: Headstone Hunt in Arlington on March 13th

By **Catrina Whitley**

Headstone Scavenger Hunt
 Sunday, March 13 1:00- 3:00 pm
 Meet at the Arlington Cemetery
 801 Mary St.
 Arlington, Texas 76010

Our second stop is the Johnson
 Station Cemetery
 3300 Cooper Street
 Arlington, Texas

We will first search the Arlington
 Cemetery for headstones of indi-
 viduals thought to be in the Johnson

Plantation Cemetery. We need to rule out they are not buried somewhere else in Arlington!!! We will also look for individuals with the same names to see if they are related. When done, we will move on to the Johnson Station Cemetery.

The scavenger hunt includes prizes such as Starbucks gift cards, books on slavery in Texas, and books on the history of Arlington, Texas, and more.

We need photographs to include in the publication! So, bring your cameras.

Come join the FUN!!

Preservation of graves is an ongoing challenge

Dr. Catrina Whitley, an archeologist, and Austin cemetery historian Dale Flatt are both engaged in a fight to honor the dead. Catrina, TCAS VP of Projects, is the project leader for the Middleton Tate Johnson Plantation Cemetery Project, which is centered around a forgotten cemetery in Arlington, Texas. Many TCAS members, including Chris Barry and Sharon Beck, have worked to help confirm the names and grave placements for those buried there. Catrina has the support of the Arlington Historical Society, the current title holder of the cemetery. The Headstone Scavenger Hunt, on March 13th, is another part of this effort.

Dale Flatt has taken on the task of forcing the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services to provide a detailed map of the graves of the 135 people who are buried in the cemetery at the Austin State Supported Center. According to a recent article in the *Dallas Morning News*, Flatt wants to have the site declared an historical site, " ... in case the state tries to sell the 95 acres housing the center, land valued at upward of \$25 million."

Flatt's request generated legal action: the Agency refused his request and in May , 2015 the state attorney general sided with Flatt. The Agency then sued the attorney general in state district court in Travis County. According to the article, a hearing is scheduled for March 31st. The complete article is available at <http://www.dallasnews.com/news/state/headlines/20160221-resting-places-unknown-for-100-at-cemetery.ece>

Of course, Arlington and Austin are not unique in this area. Choosing to focus on this project in Arlington, however, is a noble challenge — and one TCAS is proud to accept.

Texas Archeological Society 2016 Academies

Recognizing and Evaluating the Archeological Potential of the Landscape:
An Introduction to Geoaicheology

When: March 19-20 Registration Deadline is 03/04/2016

Where: Nightengale Archaeological Center, 1010 Circle Drive,
Kingsland, TX 78639

Lithics: Reading Stone Artifacts

When: April 30-May 1st Registration Deadline is 04/14/2016

Where: Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum, 2503 4th
Avenue, Canyon TX 79015 and Palo Duro Canyon S.P.

<http://www.txarch.org/Activities/academy/aa2016/index.php>

TAS 2016 Field School Scholarships Available from TCAS

Now is the time to submit applications for the TCAS Memorial Fund Scholarship. Scholarships pay for fees and meals for attendance at the 2016 TAS Field School in Columbus, Texas. Eligibility requirements and the application form are on the TCAS website.

Submission deadline is April 1st.



Kroger Community Rewards

Register your Kroger Plus Card online by clicking on the link below. Then by searching for Tarrant County

Archeological Society or entering our NPO number (21007), you can link your Kroger Plus Card to TCAS. Every time you shop at Kroger and swipe your card, TCAS will receive a rebate based on your purchase. You will need to relink your card each year on or after August 1. www.krogercommunityrewards.com

TCAS Dues

Thanks to all of you who have paid! Your continued support is appreciated. If you have not yet paid, the Membership Form is on the last page of this newsletter. See Lloyd Erwin at the meeting on March 10th or you may mail the form and your check to the TCAS Post Office Box (address on form.) **THANK YOU!**

Tarrant County Archeological Society (TCAS)
Preserving the Past for the Future

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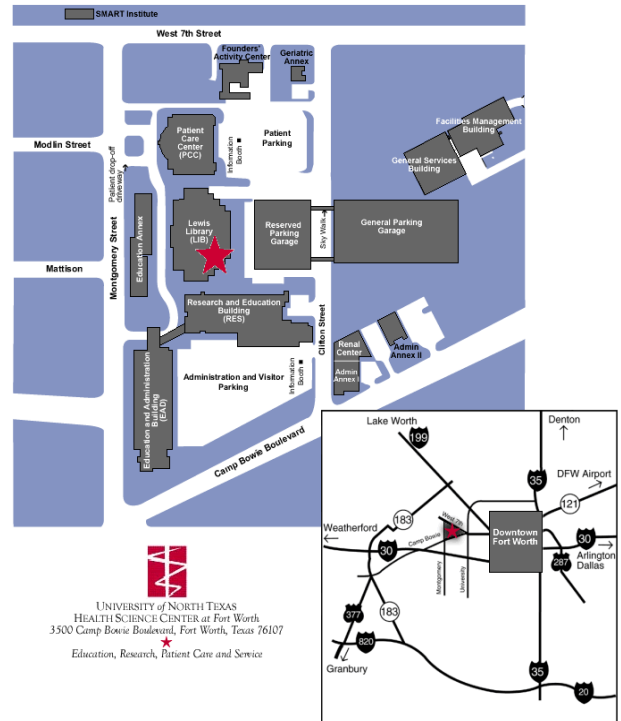


Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TCAS-Tarrant-County-ArcheologicalSociety>

Website: www.tarrantarch.org

Email: info@tarrantarch.org

The **TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TCAS)** meets at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month (except June and December) at the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC), 3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., in Fort Worth. The location is centrally located in Tarrant County near the intersection of Camp Bowie and Montgomery Street; about two miles west of downtown. Traveling west on I30 from downtown, take the Montgomery Street exit. Turn right on Montgomery and continue to the five-way intersection at Camp Bowie. Turn right onto Camp Bowie, followed by an immediate left onto Clifton Street. Continue on Clifton to Parking Lot "1" on your left (past the Parking Garage and Sky bridge). Although Lot 1 is marked as Reserved Parking it is open parking in the evenings. Park in the patient spaces (after 5PM) and go past the information booth into the underground parking garage. Turn left down the corridor at the double doors in the center. Proceed down the hallway until you come to Room 110.





TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

March, 2016

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name(s) _____

Type of Membership and Fee

New _____ Renewal _____

Address _____

_____ Individual \$20 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee

City\State\Zip _____

_____ Family \$25 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee

Preferred Phone _____

_____ Student \$10 (**enrolled in grade school through college/university whose coursework is considered to be half time or more**)

Email Address _____

I want my newsletter delivered by _____ email or _____
by USPS mail.

_____ Contributing \$30 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee
_____ Optional Memorial Fund Contribution

Membership Term: January to December

Code of Ethics (signature required): I PLEDGE THAT I WILL NOT INTENTIONALLY VIOLATE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ANY FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL ANTIQUITIES STATUTES CONCERNING CULTURAL RESOURCES OR ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICES OF BUYING OR SELLING ARTIFACTS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES OR ENGAGE IN THE WILLFUL DESTRUCTION OR DISTORTION OF ARCHEOLOGICAL DATA OR DISREGARD PROPER ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD TECHNIQUES. I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE SOCIETY.

Signature _____

Date _____

Tarrant County Archeological Society
PO Box 24679
Fort Worth, TX 76124

