

TCAS BENCHMARK

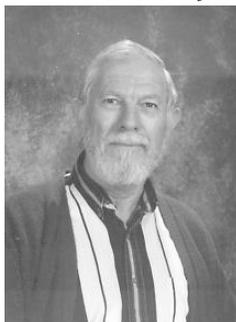
Time to renew your membership
for 2006



JANUARY 2006

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 1

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Here's hoping everyone has had a great holiday period and that 2006 brings good health, prosperity and peace. With the holidays over, below are some of reflections from me that have to do with archeology. With the holidays over, below are some of reflections from me that have to do with archeology.

The opportunity to attend the Lithics Academy next month should not be missed. Feedback from those who attended last year elsewhere in the state is that the academy is well worth the cost. Also this year the session has undergone further improvement. I hope we will support the academy with maximum attendance.

Why don't we all make an effort to learn more about archeology this year? The Internet has become an important source for not only archeological news, but as a place to do research on a variety of archeological topics. A good place to start would be www.archaeology.about.com. There are many categories that can be linked from that site and also an Archeology 101 primer for newcomers.

I think we will have our plates full of activities this year. I realize most of the surveys and testing that we do require an hour or two drive time from Fort Worth but that is the way it has been for the past few years.

Glynn Osburn

Calendar of Activities

JANUARY

- 5 Board Meeting, 7 P.M
- 12 TCAS Meeting 7:30 P.M., UNT-HCS (See map on Page 9, Program on the Techado Springs Report by Jimmy Smith (see box below)
- 14-15 TAS Board Member Retreat @ Sun City near Georgetown

FEBRUARY

- 2 Board Meeting, 7pm
- 3 TCAS Meeting 7:30 P.M. UNT-HSC
- 11-12 Lithics: Reading Stone Artifacts, Tarrant County College NE Campus, Hurst TX— See more in newsletter

January 12

7:30 pm

Program by Jimmy Smith

**"150 YEARS AFTER CHACO IN WEST
CENTRAL NEW MEXICO"**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend

January refreshments by Jay & Linda Hornsby and
Bret Williamson

Lithics: Reading Stone Artifacts—February 11 & 12, Tarrant County College—NE Campus

The Lithics workshop is designed to provide hands-on experience for recognizing and analyzing stone artifacts. You will learn the different ways in which stone tools were made, how to recognize their different use-wear patterns and the interpretation of stone artifacts found in the archeological record. Flintknapping demonstrations will focus not so much on how points are made but rather how the archaeological record is formed. Dr. Harry Shafer will lead the workshop with the assistance of flintknapping specialists. If you have questions, please call Linda Ott at 817-781-8236. Workshop meets 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM each day.

Register online at www.txarch.org! or use the form in this newsletter

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January Program by Jimmy Smith

The 150 Years following Chaco in West-Central New Mexico

Almost everyone who is interested in Southwestern archeology knows about Chaco Canyon. But little is known about the period from A.D. 1150 to 1300 after the “collapse” of the Chaco system. Members of the Tarrant County Archeological Society have enjoyed working in the Southwest at Tri R Pueblo for several years. They have also participated in the analysis of material from Techado Spring Pueblo that was the subject of a TCAS program a couple of years ago. This program will focus on the events that occurred during that period in West-Central New Mexico and how these two sites are producing important information on that poorly documented period.

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**Happy New Year to all !**



More Christmas pictures next month. Thank you, Sonny for being our photographer!

## *Around the State*

### ARCHAEOLOGISTS UNEARTH 8,000-YEAR-OLD CAMPSITE-10:18 AM CST ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2005

By MICHAEL MENDOZA / KVUE News

Evidence of prehistoric Native Americans has been unearthed in Central Texas at a secret excavation site.



KVUE News

This artifact was found at a prehistoric campsite in Williamson County.

A Texas Department of Transportation worker found multiple ancient campsites while working on a construction project in Williamson County.

The campsites date back some 8,000 years.

Jonathan Budd, an archeologist who works for TxDOT, says sites like these are sometimes found during work on their projects, but this one is unique.

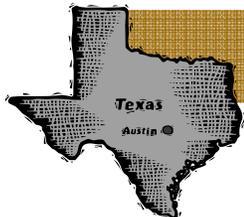
"This in itself is extraordinary. This is found to be eligible for the National Register for Historic Places," said Budd. "We have significant archeological deposits here. For the last 7,000- 8,000 years you have multiple occupations like a birthday cake."

Even though archeologists are focusing on an area that's 70 by 30 meters, they believe the campsite is much larger. And for the most part, the artifacts they're finding have been remarkably preserved.

"For some reason, and we haven't really determined it yet, this was protected over the last 7-8,000 years.

Scientists are hoping to learn how and when early Native Americans utilized the prehistoric landscape to scratch out a living.

They're trying to keep the site a secret, but looters have already compromised a small section.



## Around The State

**ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md., Dec. 27 /PRNewswire/** -- In a recent find, Army archeologists have discovered several pueblo and pit-house sites on the Dona Ana Range at Fort Bliss, Texas believed to date between the 14th and 15th centuries.

This time frame coincides with the occupation of the area by the Jornada Mogollon, a branch of the "Mogollon" culture, the prehistoric people who inhabited much of southern New Mexico, east-central Arizona, northern Chihuahua, and far western Texas. A large percentage of the Jornada Mogollon culture is found on Fort Bliss and White Sands Missile Range.

The Army identified the site last year, but just recently investigated it. "We scraped back some of the sand and sure enough the pueblo walls started turning up," said Brian D. Knight, senior Army archeologist speaking about the find. "The site is pretty spectacular, it's huge. We had never anticipated it was going to be this nice."

One of the structures discovered was an 11-room pueblo with one central large room believed to be a communal room, typical of most Jornada Mogollon structures. Knight said it is thought to be a ritual room because it doesn't have the normal domestic activity-type objects, such as a ground stone artifact used for food processing.

The site is not open to the public due to safety issues such as live artillery and convoy exer-

**The East Texas Archeological Conference** is scheduled for February 18, 2006 at the Robert R. Muntz Library on the University of Texas at Tyler campus. Hours are from 9 AM to 4 PM. Registration is \$10 at the door.

The University of Texas at Tyler campus is located in Tyler's southeast corner. Exit Loop 323 onto University Blvd. (Spur 248), then head east on University Blvd. until you get to Old Omen Road (approximately 2 miles). Take a left onto Old Omen Road and you will see the main entrance to the campus on your left (approx. 1/2 mile). For additional information contact Mark Walters (walters@tyler.net).



## Around The State

### ATTEND TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY ACADEMY IN 2006



Three sessions of the *Texas Archeology Academy* will be sponsored by TAS in 2006. No experience or previous knowledge is needed to learn and enjoy these weekend sessions.

#### **Lithics: Reading Stone Artifacts**

The Lithics workshop is designed to provide hands-on experience for recognizing and analyzing stone artifacts. You will learn the different ways in which stone tools were made, how to recognize their different use-wear patterns and the interpretation of stone artifacts found in the archeological record. Flint knapping demonstrations will focus not so much on how points are made but rather how the archaeological record is formed. Dr. Harry Shafer will lead the workshop with the assistance of flint knapping specialists. The Lithics Academy will be held Feb. 11-12 in Fort Worth (Hurst) at Tarrant County College NE. See campus map on page 7 of this newsletter.

#### **Ceramics: The Stories Found in Pottery**

In this workshop you will learn how pottery is made and used, how pottery reflects cultural traditions, and how archeologists use the ceramic data to understand the people and their past life-ways. Participants will learn to recognize and sort sherds to answer questions about ancient life-ways. Dr. Shafer will lead the workshop with the assistance of local potters. The Ceramics Academy will be held in Midland March 4-5 at the Sibley Learning Center.

#### **Rock Art**

This Academy will introduce Texas rock art within a world framework. Presentations will include rock art as part of cultural expression, rock art and territorial geography, sacred canyons, and why recording rock art is important. Dr. Harry Shafer and Dr. Carolyn Boyd will lead the workshop. Participants will be in class in mornings and visiting rock art sites each afternoon. Participants should be in good physical health to visit the sites. Classes will be held at the Shumla School near Comstock. Accommodations are available at Shumla, Seminole Canyon State Park or Del Rio. Participants will be informed of options. Rock Art Academy will be held March 31- April 2 (beginning Friday evening).

#### **Open to All**

All workshops are intended for anyone interested in archeological topics. Experienced avocational archeologists have experienced new dimensions of expertise; professional archeologists benefited from review; undergraduate, graduate students and educators have gotten credit for the classes. The goal of Texas Archeology Academy is to show how archeology is done and why we do it.

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**Fees will be \$85 for members and \$125 for non-members.** Fees include a CD manual, lunch and snacks during the class sessions. Professional development credits will be given to teachers attending classes.

TAS is a provider of professional development accredited through SBEC.

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To register complete the form or see [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org), Texas Archeology Academy. You may register online or by mail. Call 1-800-377-7240 for more information.

# TCAS BENCHMARK



*Around The State continues...*

REGISTRATION TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY ACADEMY 2006 REGISTRATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Business \_\_\_\_\_

Email for confirmation \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE THE ACADEMY SESSION THAT YOU WANT TO ATTEND

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Topic</u> | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Deadline</u> |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|

|            |         |            |        |
|------------|---------|------------|--------|
| FORT WORTH | Lithics | Feb. 11-12 | Feb. 1 |
|------------|---------|------------|--------|

|         |          |           |         |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|
| MIDLAND | Ceramics | March 4-5 | Feb. 22 |
|---------|----------|-----------|---------|

|                  |          |                |          |
|------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| DEL RIO/COMSTOCK | Rock Art | March 31-Apr.2 | March 22 |
|------------------|----------|----------------|----------|

**Lithics & Ceramics will be Saturday and Sunday 9 AM - 4 PM. Rock Art will begin Fri. PM**

## FEES

TAS member 2005 \$85

Non-member (includes membership) \$125

**Total fee enclosed \_\_\_\_\_**

## CREDIT CARD Authorization form (please print)

Name as it appears on Credit Card, please print :

\_\_\_\_\_ Ph.No. \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized signature \_\_\_\_\_

## CHECKS Payable to Texas Archeological Society - academy

**MAIL** REGISTRATION FORM & PAYMENT TO:  
TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY ACADEMY - SANDY ROGERS, 3011 HWY 30 WEST, SUITE 101  
HUNTSVILLE, TX 77340

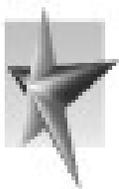
**Questions: call 1-800-377-7240**

# TCAS BENCHMARK

## MAP TO TARRANT COUNTY COLLEGE—NE CAMPUS for TAS ACADEMY



### TARRANT COUNTY COLLEGE NORTHEAST CAMPUS



- |                         |                                 |                        |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| ACB Academic Classrooms | FAC Faculty Offices             | OFO Office Occupations |
| ADM Administration      | HPE Health & Physical Education | SCI Science            |
| ATB Arts & Technology   | IMC Instructional Media Center  | STU Student Center     |
| CAB Communication Arts  | LRC Learning Resources Center   |                        |
| FAB Fine Arts           | OCB Occupations Building        |                        |



*Congratulations and Best Wishes to Linda Ott and Brett Lang on their wedding, December 27, 2005 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Brett's family, and Paula Vastine from TCAS, attended the ceremony at the Wedding Chapel. The wedding party toured the city and dined at New York New York. We all wish Bret and Linda a long and happy life together.*



## **Mark Cohen, longtime TCAS member, discovers 92 million-year-old mosasaur, *Russellosaurus coheni* n. gen., n. sp.**

The Dallas Paleontological Society announced that a nearly complete skull of a new mosasaur, *Russellosaurus coheni*, from the lower Middle Turonian (92 Ma) was discovered at a housing construction site in 1992 by member Mark Cohen. This new specimen represents the oldest, well-preserved mosasaur skull from North America. Mosasaurs are a large and diverse group of marine lizards whose evolutionary history spanned the entire Upper Cretaceous. The fossil record of pre-coniacian mosasaurs is poor with a small number of specimens, mostly fragmentary and poorly preserved which has created significant gaps in our knowledge of the early evolutionary of the group.

Great work, Mark.

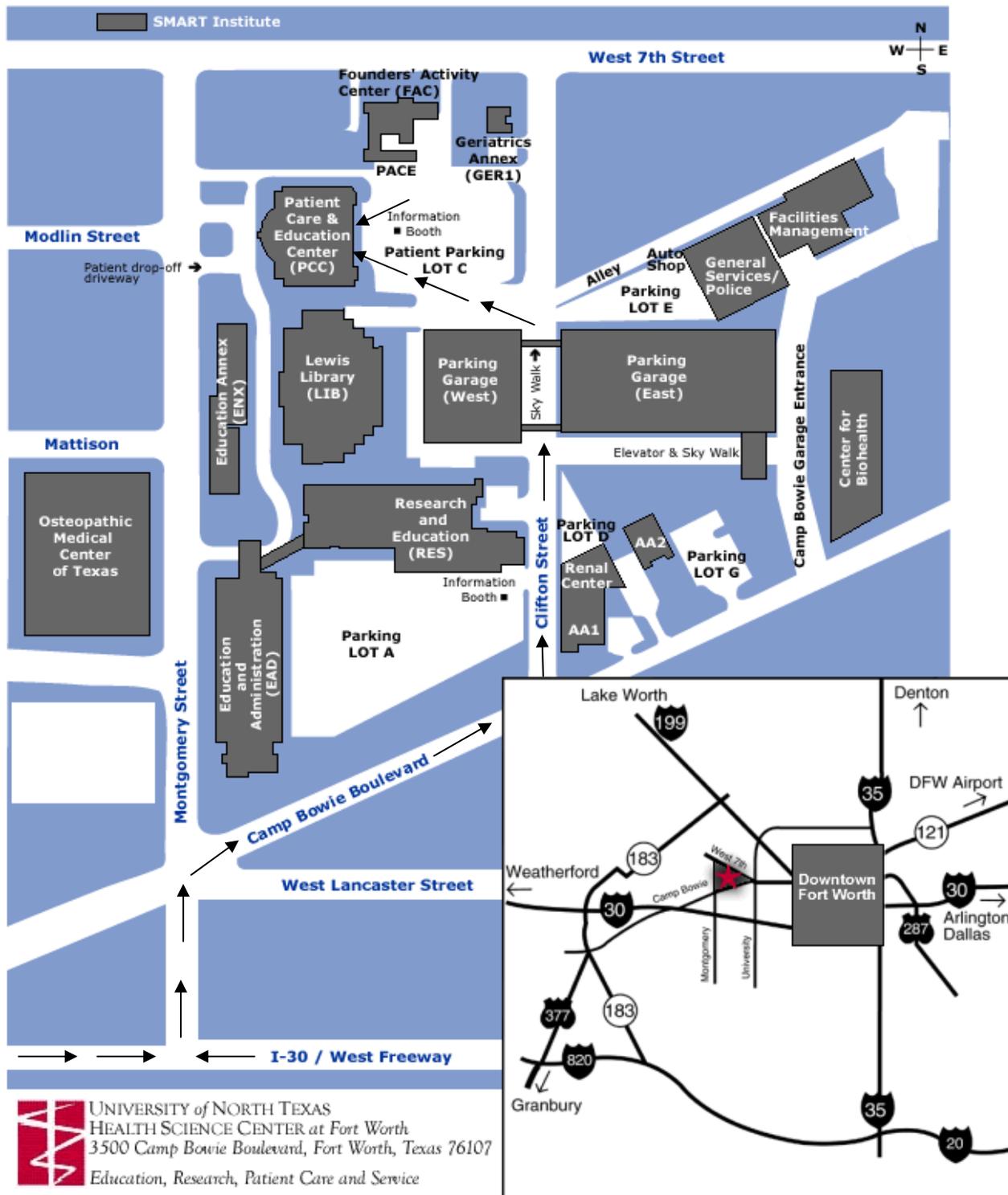
**It's that time again!**

**2006 membership renewals are due.**

**See last page of Newsletter**

# TCAS BENCHMARK

TCAS meets at 7:30PM, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month 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. Take Clifton Street off of Camp Bowie (one block east of the Montgomery intersection) to Parking Lot "C" on your left (west). 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

## Membership / Renewal Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:

\_\_\_\_\_

Renewal \_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Individual \_\_\_ \$20.00

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Family \_\_\_ \$25.00

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Student (H.S., active univ. degree candidate through age 25)

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ \$10.00

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Contributing \_\_\_ \$30.00+

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Lifetime \_\_\_ \$250.00

### 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 practice 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 ground for expulsion from the Society.

Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 24679

FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76124

Time to renew membership for  
2006