

October, 2016
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Benchmark

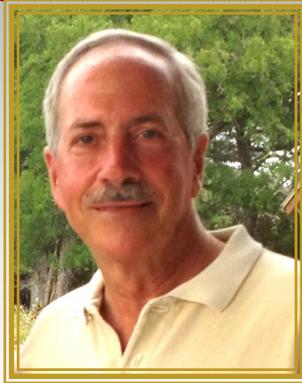


Tarrant County Archeological Society

President's Message

October and Archeology go hand in hand. There are opportunities all across the state to volunteer and learn about Archeology. Get out in this glorious weather and enjoy one of these events. Also, it's not too late to sign up for the TAS annual meeting held in Nagodoches, October 28-30th. **Early registration ends on October 7th. A link to the online registration is on Page 6 of this newsletter.**

As if October isn't already chock full of great Archeological events, we have the distinct pleasure of having Benny and Gena Roberts pay us a visit from Byram, Mississippi. Benny is the speaker for this month's TCAS meeting. We appreciate them traveling so far to be with us this month. The Roberts became members of TCAS through their involvement with TAS Field Schools. They were assigned to Jay Hornsby's excavation crews for several years and I was fortunate to have them on my survey and excavation crews for a couple of years. Always fun, always hard working and always traversing Texas learning about archeology makes them great TCAS members and role models for



Chris Meis, President

avocational archeologists. Benny is going to talk to us about the work he has done in Brewster County with the Center for Big Bend Studies, combining his love of archeology and astronomy.

We recently met with the property owner of the Newberry Log Cabin in Parker county to arrange access and lay out our plan for a survey and resulting excavations. We have defined the survey area and are in the process of selecting dates to begin work. TCAS volunteers will be joined by Katrina Nuncio's anthropology students from Weatherford College. Hopefully we can make some significant progress during November and December before the worst weather hits. Keep in mind that the Doss Cultural and Heritage

Center would like to dismantle and move the cabin by the end of 2017, so we will be on an aggressive schedule to get our work completed.

I would like to thank Dana Austin for arranging our visit to the Top O'Hill Terrace. Known as "Vegas Before Vegas", in the late 1920's it was the site of a casino, brothel and tea room! The Arlington Baptist College is now occupying the land and many of the original structures remain. The tour costs \$10.00 per person and starts at 10:00 am, November 5th. Our group will meet there at 9:45 am. There will be a sign-up sheet at this month's meeting.

TCAS is very appreciative that Linda Hornsby designated our society as a recipient of memorials in Jay's honor. The Memorial Fund has been enriched with several gifts which will go toward funding scholarships in 2017. I know that Jay would be honored by his friends' generosity and remembrance. We will be publishing a list of all scholarship contributions at the end of this year.

Upcoming TCAS Speaker

November 10: Dr. Steve Howard

***Thanks for being a
TCAS member and
supporter!***

October Speaker: Benny Roberts



**Benny
Roberts**

TCAS will welcome Benny Roberts as the speaker for the October 13th meeting. Benny is very involved in Texas archeology and is well known to many of our members.

Bio

Benny earned a B.S. in Chemistry from The University of Mississippi and a M.T. (Medical Technology) degree from Jones County Hospital in Mississippi. He worked for over 30 years in the hospital and private laboratory setting before retiring in 2005. He has been involved with amateur Astronomy since 1975 and Archeology since 2005. He and his wife, Gena, have volunteered with the CBBS in Alpine, TX since 2005 and at the Carson Mound Site in Mississippi for the last 5 years. He is a Vice President in the Mississippi Archeological Association and has been a member of Texas Archeological Society (TAS) for 9 years and TCAS for 2 years.

Title: Archaeoastronomy and Eastern Trans-Pecos Rock Art, Brewster County, Texas

Abstract

In 2006, twenty-nine rock art sites were recorded in the Black Hills of central Brewster County by the Center for Big Bend Studies (CBBS). Among all of these sites only one cupule and grooved-line rock art site was recorded and it is located on a large horizontal sandstone boulder spall. Benny Roberts, an avocational astronomer and also a volunteer avocational archaeologist for the CBBS subsequently visited the site and noticed that the central configuration created by seven of the cupules represented a portion of the constellation Scorpius and five other cupules appeared to represent the Pleiades star cluster. Another rock shelter, located on the western slopes of the Black Hills, is also being investigated as a Solar Observatory or Seasonal Marker site.

The program will consist of a Power Point presentation of the sites and a discussion of why these constellations would have been important to the people who carved them into the rocks. A review of what has been learned from the possible Seasonal Marker site will also be given.

Welcome, Guests!

Guests at the September TCAS meeting were: Blake Allen, Carly Allen, Crichelle Brice, Caden Byas, Kim Byas, Matt Everett, Cheryl Everett, Justin Dupree, Linda Good, Tram Tran, and Angie Williamson. Thanks so much for attending. We hope that you will join us again soon.

Work Days at the Cotton Field in Columbus, Texas:

October 8 - 9, November 5 - 6, and December 10 - 11 (dates are subject to change)

Contact Linda Gorski if you are planning on attending: lindagorski@cs.com

THC Announces October as Archeology Month

From the Texas Historical Commission website:

If the history of human experience in Texas were a book, most of the pages would be blank. For all we know about human cultures, lives, and activities in Texas, many more stories of Texas' past remain unknown and await discovery.

Each October, [Texas Archeology Month](#) (TAM) celebrates this spirit of discovery. It's an opportunity for Texans to understand the:

- **Depth and richness of our heritage, from the former dwelling sites of prehistoric hunters and gatherers to historic shipwrecks and military sites**
- **Historical significance of the state's archeological sites**
- **Importance of proper archeological practices**
- **Contributions made by professional and avocational archeologists to our understanding of Texas' ancient and recent past**

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is proud to sponsor TAM in association with the [Texas Archeological Society](#) and the [Council of Texas Archeologists](#) (CTA).

See the TAM October Calendar at <http://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs/texas-archeology-month/texas-archeology-month-2016-calendar-events>

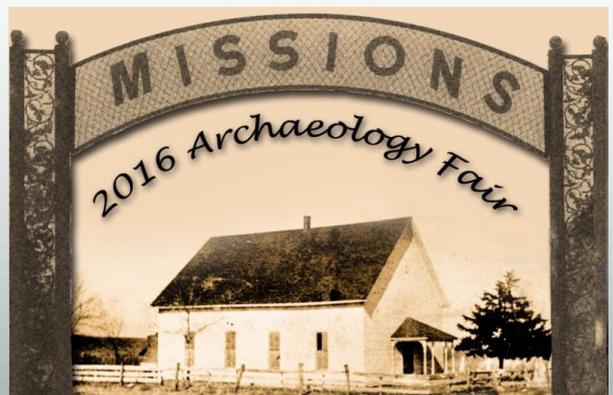
Celebrate TAM in Plano: 14th Annual Fair on October 22nd

The Plano Conservancy for Historic Preservation, Inc. is pleased to sponsor the 14th annual Plano Archaeology Fair on **October 22, 2016 from 10a.m.-4p.m.** The archeology fair is a free, family friendly event. Activities will include hands-on excavation, corn grinding, pictographs, rock painting, petroglyphs, face painting, cornhusk dolls, Ojo de Dios, pottery making, Atlatl throw and more.

The archaeology fair provides a look at both prehistoric and historic archaeology, and it provides an opportunity for children to learn about Native American culture and early settlement of Plano.

Children participating in the excavation will learn archaeological techniques and how archaeologists interpret what they find. The hands-on excavation (which requires reservations) will take place at the Bethany Historic Site south of Bethany Cemetery, where the school and teacher dormitory once stood.

There will be featured performances at 11a.m. and 1:30p.m. by the Bear Claw Singers, a local group of Native American performers. In keeping with their traditional values the group



uses its talents to bring together the Native American community to celebrate their proud heritage through song and dance.

Excavation units are for children age 7 and older and are limited. For excavation unit reservations and more information, go to planoconservancy.org or call 972-941-2117.

Jay Hornsby Memorial

By Katrina Nuncio

I have struggled to define what I wanted to say in this memorial about Jay. He was many things to many people depending upon what your specific interaction was with him, but no matter how you came to know him, the one constant factor was that Jay was your friend, a good friend. I think his friendship is the main thing that we will all miss the most.

For those of us who are members of the Tarrant County Archeological Society (TCAS), we will miss his presence at every event where we gather. For those of us on the TCAS Board of Directors, we will miss his presence every time we hold a board meeting – his advice that came from his many years of experience with this organization, his knowledge and love of archeology, and especially his dry sense of humor. Over the years Jay served in many different capacities with TCAS: President 2007-2010, Vice President for Projects 2005 and 2006, and Treasurer 1993-1998.

In the fall of 2010 when Jay approached me to consider serving as the President of TCAS, I was very apprehensive of accepting the responsibility of this position. Jay reassured me, telling me that he would be right there to help and support me in any way and he was, as a friend and in the position of Immediate Past President throughout my own term as TCAS President.

Jay was a dedicated member of our state organization, the Texas Archeological Society (TAS), for



Jay Hornsby
1947-2016

thirty-one years. And even though he already had many personal obligations in place, Jay was prepared to accept the nomination of the next incoming President of TAS for 2018.

One position where Jay served annually was that of Crew Chief at the TAS Field School. He was always so patient working with his crews, no matter what their level of expertise. From beginner student to an experienced excavator of many years, Jay guided them all. He wasn't one of those Crew Chiefs who stood on the outside of the unit and gave directions, not Jay Hornsby. He was a hands-on kind of Crew Chief who was down in the dirt with his crew leading by example.

(Continued on page 5)

Additional contributors to this article included Chris Meis, Bryan Jameson, and James Everett.

Memorial for Jay (Continued from page 4)



**Jay at the 2011
TAS FS, Hondo**

Looking back over some of the articles Jay wrote for our Benchmark newsletter while he was President of TCAS, offered a true insight into Jay's enthusiasm for Field School and his sense of humor. The following are some excerpts from those articles:

"Being that this event is considered a Field School I always expect to learn something, and this year was no exception. I learned that the difficulty of excavating a pile of medium to large sized rocks is inversely proportional to the quantity of rocks. Also, that the number of theories on how the rocks became arranged the way they did is simply a factor of the number of levels dug, multiplied by the number of units opened, squared by the number of crew chiefs with an opinion." *From the "Message from the President" column, TCAS Benchmark, July, 2007.*

"My summer officially starts with the TAS Field School; and after a great week at Menard in June, the summer was off to a good start." *From the "Message from the President" column, TCAS Benchmark, September, 2007.*

"I really enjoyed Field School this year. The weather cooperated, the programs were informative, the archeology was excellent, and the socializing with fellow TAS members as much fun as always. My personal highlight this year was all of the new friends that I made..." *From the "Message from the President" column, TCAS Benchmark, July 2010.*

Beginning in 2007, Jay served as a member of the Texas Archeological Stewardship Network of the Archeology Division of the Texas Historical Commission. This was an area where Jay's many years of archeology experience really stood out. He was such a tremendous advocate for preserving history/archeology and educating the general public that he came in contact with.

Jay's interest in archeology didn't end in Texas, but extended to New Mexico and Southwestern Archeology. He excavated at Casa Morena also known as "The Mesa" project from 1993 to 1996 under the direction of Dr. Bob Coleman and then James Everett. In the following years, Jay continued to work on several New Mexico projects under various directors until the weeks just prior to his passing.

Jay Hornsby was a man of many talents and interests including photography and astronomy. However, of all his interests he loved archeology of any type, and his enthusiasm was always evident and will always be missed.

"Carve your name on hearts, not tombstones. A legacy is etched into the minds of others and the stories they share about you." — Shannon L. Alder



87th ANNUAL MEETING

October 28-29th

Stephen F. Austin State University

Baker Pattillo Student Center, Nacogdoches, Texas

Early registration (reduced fees) extends through October 7!

Online Registration: <http://www.txarch.org/forms/annualmeeting/index.php>

Celebrate Texas Archeology Month: More Opportunities!

JACKSBORO, Jack County

Oct. 15 • Mock Archaeology Dig at **Fort Richardson State Park and Historic Site**

Get ready to dig and find lost treasures and maybe even some lost bones in our mock dig at Fort Richardson State Park and Historic Site celebrating TPWD's archeology month. **9 – 10 a.m. at 228 State Park Road 61.** Information: Ray Monroe, 940-567-3506, ray.monroe@tpwd.texas.gov



KERRVILLE, Kerr County

Oct. 15 • Event: HCAA Annual Archeology Celebration

Come join the Hill Country Archeological Association at the **Riverside Nature Center** for a fun afternoon of artifact identification, demos, presentations, and refreshments. Dr. Robert Lassen and Sergio Ayala from the Gault School of Archaeological Research (GSAR) will present their research on Folsom Technology and Sites in the Southwest and a New Quarry Site in Gillespie County. Sponsored by the Hill Country Archeological Association. Free. 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Information: HCArcheology.org, Kay Woodward, twoodward1@stx.rr.com

See the complete TAM October Calendar at <http://www.thc.texas.gov/preserve/projects-and-programs/texas-archeology-month/texas-archeology-month-2016-calendar-events>



SOUTH-CENTRAL CONFERENCE ON MESOAMERICA

The 2016 Seventh Annual South Central Conference on Mesoamerica will be held at the University of Texas at Tyler from November 4th-6th.

The SCCM is a regional conference that provides a venue to bring together scholars in the fields of archaeology, ethnography, art history, and others, as well as the general public, to share information and interpretations on current research focused on the cultures of the Mesoamerican region. The conference is free and open to the public.

More info is available at: <https://southcentralmeso.org>

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

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Lloyd Erwin
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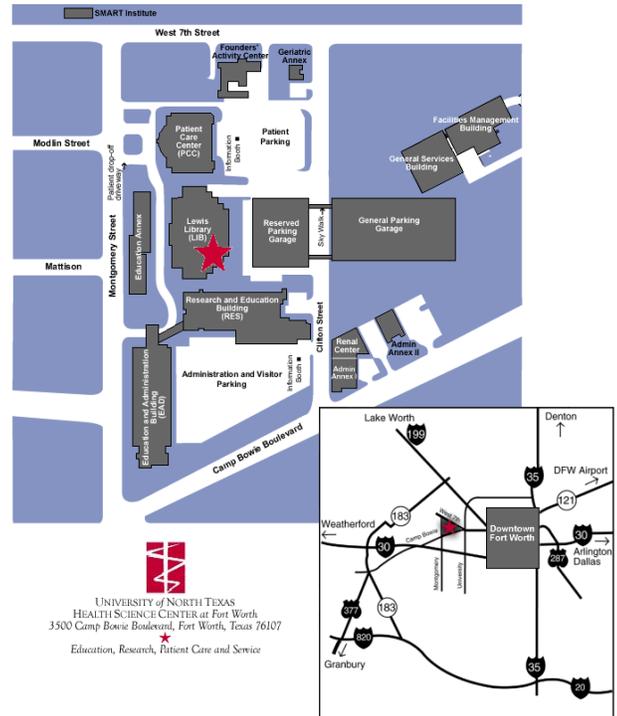


Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TCAS-Tarrant-County-ArcheologicalSociety>

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), Lewis Library Building, 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 in the Lewis Library building.





TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

October, 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 _____

_____ Contributing \$30 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee

I want my newsletter delivered by _____ email or _____

_____ Optional Memorial Fund Contribution

by USPS mail.

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

