

The **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS)** will welcome **Bill Perdue** as the featured speaker for the **Aug 8th** meeting (see **Page 2** for details).

NTAS meetings are **free** and visitors are always welcome (see **Page 3** for our **NEW** location and directions).

Inside this issue:

July Speaker <i>Bill Perdue & Reclaiming History</i>	2
Monthly Meetings <i>Location & News</i>	3
Thoughts about Field School & Scholarships	4
Notes from NTAS Scholarship Recipients	4-5
Infesting Students with Field School Fever	6
TAS Field School Highlights	7
Future Archeology Events	8
Membership & Society Info	9

Benchmark

Volume 33, Issue 7

August 2019

President's Message

In 2015 and 2016, under the leadership of Catrina Whitley, the Tarrant County Archeological Society (NTAS's name then) worked to identify individuals buried in the Colonel Middleton Tate Johnson Cemetery in Arlington, and to explore their genealogy. The project included the use of Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and a large Gradall to remove surface layers above several anomalies identified by the GPR. Since 2016, many of us have wondered about the status of the cemetery and the project to identify those buried there. This month's speaker, Bill Perdue, will let us know what has been happening and what the future holds for the cemetery.

Each year, Texas Archeology Month (TAM) is observed in October. This October, NTAS plans to participate in several events related to TAM, so be ready to volunteer to help NTAS celebrate Texas Archeology Month.

Also in October, plan to attend the TAS Annual Meeting in Amarillo (October 11-13). This will be another significant year for TAS since we will celebrate the 90th Annual Meeting for TAS, and shortly after the Annual Meeting, the organization will



James Everett, President

issue the 90th Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society.

Because the TAS Annual Meeting will take place earlier in October than normal this year, the date of the NTAS monthly meeting in October may be changed (e.g., to October 3). Stay tuned for the final word on the date for our October meeting.

Finally, remember the raffle being held for the poster framed by Mike Shannon. At our July meeting, many of you were able to see the poster in person and purchase raffle tickets. You will have additional opportunities to see the poster and buy tickets at the August and September NTAS meetings. Proceeds will be donated to NTAS.

Connect with NTAS:

<http://www.facebook.com/tarrantarch.org/>

www.tarrantarch.org

info@tarrantarch.org

August Speaker: Bill Perdue

Reclaiming History — The Colonel Middleton Tate Johnson Cemetery

“Reclaiming History” will use the Colonel Middleton Tate Johnson Cemetery in Arlington to focus on the preservation of a historic cemetery and on procedures for discovering the history of those who are buried there.

Bill Perdue

William “Bill” Perdue is a fifth-generation Texan. He was born in Fort Worth into a family that has lived in Tarrant County since the 1920s. Bill received a BA in Archaeology from the University of Texas, Austin, and did graduate work in Texas Indian History at TCU. He is currently the Chairman of the Archaeology and Endangered Properties Committee of the Tarrant County Historical Commission. Bill is a longtime member of the North Texas Archeological Society and the Texas Archeological Society.

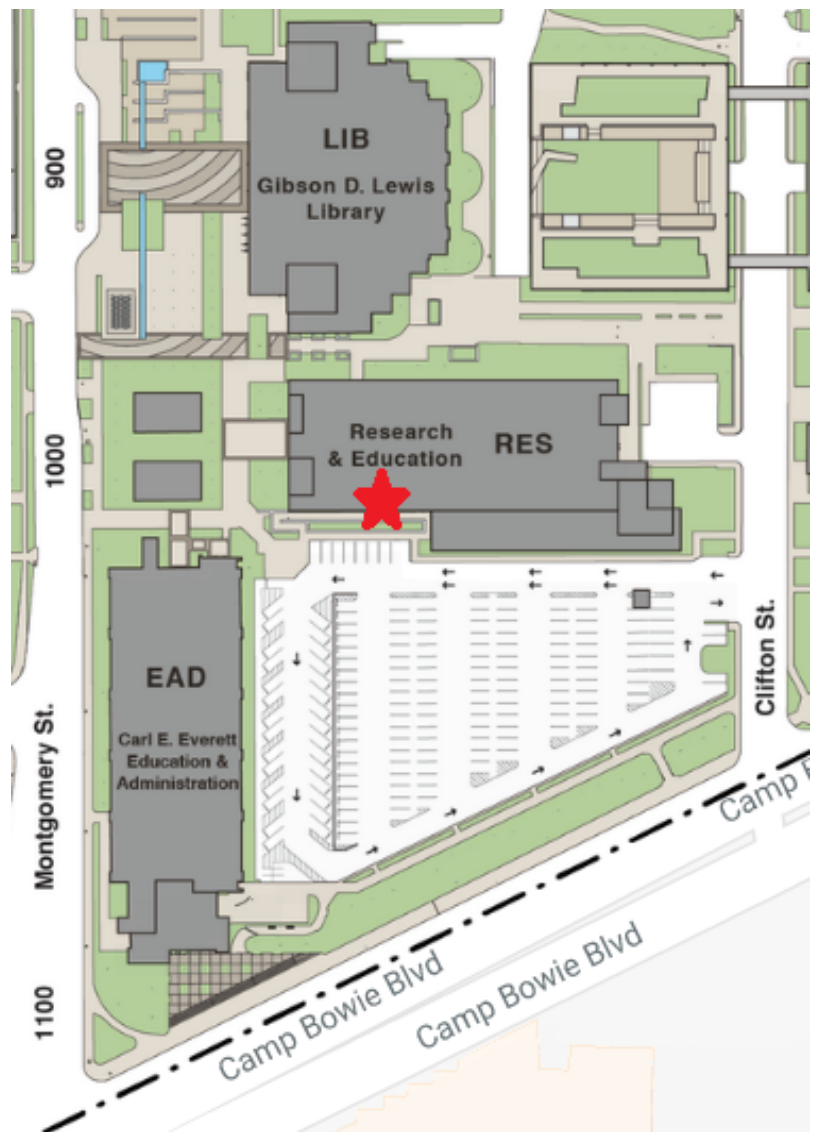


WE HAVE A NEW MEETING LOCATION

NTAS Monthly Meeting Location & Directions

NTAS meets at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month (except June and December) at the University of North Texas Health Science Center, 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard, Fort Worth (in the **Research and Education Building, Room 114**), near the intersection of Camp Bowie and Montgomery Street.

Traveling west on I-30 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. **Turn into the first parking lot on the left (Administrator and Visitor Parking). You will drive past an information booth as you enter the parking lot. Park on the far (north/west) end of the parking lot and enter the Research and Education building. Once you enter the building, turn right and proceed down the hallway to Room 114.**



Update Your Calendar - NTAS Monthly Meeting Speakers

September 12th: Joshua Keene

October 10th*: Kevin Hanselka

*This date may change to October 3rd

November 14th: Becca Peixotto

Welcome New NTAS Members:

Levi Cormier
James Ludden

Abigail Fisher
Barbara Palmer

Rachael Howell
Regina Orona

Carmen Johnson
Madison Roberts

Katelyn Kitch
Sara Whale

Thoughts about Field School and Scholarships

By *Katrina Nuncio*

As an adjunct college instructor, I have a lot of students that pass through my anthropology classes that aren't necessarily interested in pursuing archeology as a career or even as a hobby. So when six of my students, some current and some former, attended the 2019 TAS Field School, I was absolutely thrilled. Three of my students were recipients of the North Texas Archeological Society (NTAS) scholarship program. My lectures and enthusiasm for archeology didn't fall on deaf ears after all!

I am very thankful that my local society, NTAS, offers scholarships to students who couldn't otherwise afford to attend the annual TAS Field School. As many of you know, there isn't extra money floating around in most community or four-year colleges to send students to these type of events. And, it is these types of events like Field School that can so enrich and expose students to many of the aspects of choosing archeology as a career path.

I think some of us who have been involved in archeology for many years forget how enthusiastic and excited we were at the beginning of our own careers to get to do anything that was archeologically involved. I am reminded of this every time my students come up to me at the end of a hard day in the field and are so excited to tell me what they experienced that day at Field School. For me as an instructor, this type of enthusiasm from my students makes my job so very rewarding.

Statements from Scholarship Recipients

The NTAS scholarship I received to attend TAS field school this year gave me another amazing opportunity to further learn and experience archeology first hand, for the second year in a row. Last year I worked on an excavation crew and this year I got the chance to get out with a survey team and learn about a whole new aspect of the process. I was part of the most amazing crew that was patient with me being new and that also took the time to answer all the questions I threw at them. It is one thing to learn the lingo from a book but field school gives you the chance to learn from immersion. With the NTAS scholarship I once again got the chance to be around a wonderful group of people that are passionate about a field that I too am loving more and more. I will cherish the memories made and use the knowledge gained as I move through my studies. I'm looking forward to many more field schools to come!

Thank you NTAS!

Ashley Green



I have had a passion for anthropology for a long time, but my experience has been limited to what I have learned from lectures and textbooks. I haven't had the opportunity in my life to experience the more rugged aspects that come along with this field. There have been moments that I worry that I am wasting my time and money by focusing on something that can be very rigorous or that I might not enjoy in practice. I did not know what to expect, but going to the TAS field school not only reinforced that I am making the right choice in my major, but it was absolutely one of the best experiences of my life. Every part of it was an entirely new experience for me and I learned so much. Without the NTAS scholarship, I would not have been able to go and I am so grateful for the experience because I feel like I have found my place and I cannot wait to go again.

Kristin Koasa



Thanks to the NTAS scholarship I was able to attend my first TAS Field School. This field school gave me my first hands on experience in the field. Throughout this week I met some great people who gave me advice as well as ideas on how to approach the world of archaeology and all its different aspects. This experience meant the world to me and I have never before experienced anything like it. I knew going in that I would be striving for a career in the field of archaeology and this only solidified my belief that I do want to pursue this as a career. I am truly grateful for the experience and hope to have many more just like it.

Vicenzo Ramos

Infecting Students with Field School Fever

By Katrina Nuncio

To a student, an awarded scholarship is sometimes the only way they can possibly afford to attend an event like the annual TAS Field School. This year I am personally thankful and proud that one of my students was the recipient of a TAS scholarship that granted him the financial support he needed to attend Field School. Thank you TAS!

I also had two other students along with their families that were not able to apply for scholarships by the deadline. These students were determined to attend the 2019 Field School so they paid the necessary fees in good faith not knowing what the experience was going to hold for them and their families. I am pleased to report that all members from both of these families very much enjoyed their field school experiences. Their enthusiasm is apparent when reading what these two students wrote about their first experiences this year attending Field School. Their statements are below.

As their instructor, it gives me great comfort to know that I can recommend the TAS Field School as an experience that is suitable for the whole family to attend. And from me, thank you TAS for once again arranging a wonderful Field School experience for all that attended and putting together year after year the finances, location, personnel, and countless hours it takes to host these annual Field Schools. All of these things are much appreciated if seldom mentioned.

This was the first year I've attended the TAS Annual Field School! Originally it was just going to be a great opportunity for me to get more experience doing archaeology in Texas, but when I looked more into it I realized that there was a children's program. So what started out as a trip for me ended up becoming a mini family vacation. My niece loved the children's program. They were super supportive of the kids and they always had something new to learn and find! My dad got to excavate with me. I got to teach him the ropes and it was really cool to show him the thing I'm so passionate about. My dad told me it was the most fun he has had in years, and he never felt out of place or unwelcome. He knew absolutely nothing coming into this and he feels like he could go out to any dig and he'd know what to do. Next year we're bringing the entire family!

Autumn McGaha and family

We had a great time and my two daughters, a teenager and a preteen, really enjoyed TAS Field School. Being in the field was a first time experience for all three of us. I personally really enjoyed the excavating. Both of my daughters want to attend next summer and maybe stay the entire week. My youngest daughter didn't want to leave this year. Thanks again for inviting us to the TAS Field School, everyone was very welcoming and extremely nice to us.

Robert Mayben and family

TAS Field School Highlights

NTAS members enjoying a variety of TAS Field School activities



Edible Plant Hike

Can I Eat That? Find out with this ranger-led hike!

When: Sunday, August 25, 2-3pm

Where: 1629 Park Road 59, Glen Rose, Texas 76043

Adult (13+): \$7 park entrance fee (or free with Texas Parks Pass); class is FREE

Hike with a Ranger as we identify the many uses of native plants that call this park home (<https://tpwd.texas.gov/calendar/dinosaur-valley/edible-plant-hike-3/2019-08-25>).

Meet at the Dinosaur Valley State Park Store (or let us know if anyone wants to ride share). Bring water, hat, and close-toed shoes.

Please sign up at our August meeting.

Other events at the park on the 25th:

10:00 am and 3:30 pm—Track Talk—Gather round and hear the 113-million-year-old story of the park's dinosaur tracks.

11:00 am—Fossil Dig—Try out paleontology.

Artifact Analysis Days

When: 10:00am-2:30pm, August 30, September 13, September 27, October 18

Where: Midlothian, — email catrina_whitley@prodigy.net for directions

Learn to analyze artifacts from Taos Valley, NM. The artifacts are from a site that dates AD 1050-1250.

Donuts, coffee, tea, and iced tea will be served!

Save the Date — More Info to Come

January 2020 — Perot Museum Activity

February 2020 — Bell County Museum, Gault Site/Gault School

SAA Annual Meeting — April 22-26, 2020 — Austin

NTAS - Preserving the Past for the Future

NTAS Board

James Everett
President

Dana Ritchie
Treasurer

Linda Lang
Historian

Bryan Jameson
Vice President

Lloyd Erwin
Secretary

Gen Freix
Internet Chair

Catrina Banks Whitley
Vice President—Projects

Chris Meis
Immediate Past President

Molly Hall
Newsletter Editor

Three easy and quick ways to pay your 2019 NTAS dues!

By PayPal: Complete the Application Form and pay online with PayPal at the NTAS website, www.tarrantarch.org

By mail: Complete the application below and mail it with your check to:
North Texas Arch Society, PO Box 24679, Fort Worth, TX 76124

In person: Give your dues and completed application to James Everett at the monthly meeting.

February 2019 NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Preferred Phone _____

City\State\Zip _____ Email Address _____

Emergency Contact(s): Please provide the following information regarding the individual(s) from whom we can request or to whom we may provide information in the event of an emergency. Please consider listing at least one contact who does not live at your residence.

Primary Contact Name _____ Alternate Contact Name _____

Relationship _____ Relationship _____

Phone Number _____ Phone Number _____

I want my newsletter delivered by _____ email (\$0) or _____ by USPS mail. (\$10) **Thank you** for choosing delivery by email.

Membership Type & Fees (Membership Term: January to December)

- _____ New _____ Individual \$20 _____ USPS Mail Delivery \$10
- _____ Renewal _____ Family \$25 _____ Optional Memorial Fund Contribution
- _____ Student \$10 (*enrolled in grade school through college/university whose coursework is considered to be half time or more*)
- _____ Contributing \$30

****Until further notice, please make checks payable to TCAS****

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 _____