



Benchmark

Volume 36, Issue 7

August 2022

The **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS)** meeting for **August** will be **in person and on Zoom**.

NTAS meetings are **free** and visitors are always welcome.

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President's Message

For the July 14th monthly meeting 20 folks joined in person, 31 via Zoom, and 20 on YouTube live streaming. In the July program Tim Roberts described the stunning archeology and rock art located at the Hueco Tanks State Park and Historic Site in El Paso. After his program Tim mentioned he hopes this provided folks with a better appreciation and exposure to the archeology and region. The July 14th meeting was recorded and is available on the NTAS YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChDKM9I3UdiYizPyG3duohQ/featured>

From July 23rd-August 6th the NTAS Vice President of Projects, Dr. Catrina Whitley oversaw the BaahKu field season in northern New Mexico. Dr. Whitley will present on this project as the October guest speaker for NTAS.

On July 30th James Everett and I performed a reconnaissance survey to a series of archeological sites along the Clear Fork of the Brazos River in Jones County (see pages 4-5 for details).

Fundraiser items available for those who attend the August 11 meeting in person: NTAS will have archeology books (Marvin Glasgow's library), hats, business card rulers, and handmade scoops. Please consider picking up something and supporting NTAS with your donations (thank you)!

The August 11, 2022 monthly meeting will be a hybrid meeting (in person and via Zoom) held in our usual meeting



room on the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) campus in the Research & Education Building, Room 114 (see page 3 for map). The meeting will start at 7:00 pm and we look forward to seeing you in person at the UNTHSC or on Zoom for the hybrid meeting. The August guest speaker is Dr. Alan Slade – Researcher with the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Archeological Research Laboratory and member of the Prehistory Research Project. Dr. Slade will present on the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey with some emphasis on north central Texas. Thank you and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on August 11th.

Jimmy Barrera

Connect with NTAS:

[facebook.com/NTXAS.org](https://www.facebook.com/NTXAS.org)

www.NTXAS.org

For general inquiries, please contact info@ntxas.org

North Texas Archeological Society

August Speaker: Alan M. Slade

Clovis Fluted Points in Texas A Further Update to the TCFPS, 4th Edition

In 1985, David Meltzer of the Southern Methodist Museum (SMU) initiated a survey of Clovis fluted points in Texas (TCFPS). That survey continues to the present, and as of 2007 when the third edition was published, there were 544 Clovis points recorded by the survey. Clovis occur throughout the state, with concentrations on the High Plains, Coast, and along an arc through central Texas following the Balcones Escarpment along which high quality chert and freshwater sources were readily available.

This presentation will introduce the fourth edition of the survey that has come under the control and curation of staff at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL). As the current director of the TCFPS, I will highlight the aims of the current survey, preliminary results prior to publication in the Texas Archeological Society journal (BTAS), and early observations and outline some ideas for future research. An emphasis on how the current survey relates to the North Central region of Texas will also be presented.

Alan M. Slade — Lithic Analyst / Palaeolithic Researcher

Alan is currently a postdoctoral researcher with the University of Texas at Austin, Texas Archeological Research Laboratory (TARL) and is also a member of the team that heads the Prehistory Research Project (PRP). Alan spent fifteen years as a Prehistoric and Palaeolithic field archaeologist in Britain and Europe, and a further decade helping to curate the lithic collections in the British Museum. In 2007 Alan became interested in Early Paleoindian archaeology, in particular Clovis. Alan spent six years studying the Clovis fluted points in collections across North America, largely facilitated and encouraged by Dennis Stanford of the Smithsonian Institution. Dr. Michael Collins invited Alan to continue his analysis of Clovis fluted point technology and to become a lithic analyst for the project in 2019. From 2019, Alan is directing the Texas Clovis Fluted Point Survey (TCFPS) at TARL. Alan was educated in London at Birkbeck College London, University College London (UCL) Institute of Archaeology, and at the University of Southampton. He is a research fellow of the Centre for the Archaeology of Human Origins (CAHO) at the University of Southampton, he is on the committee for the Lithic Studies Society (LSS), and is also an active member of the Society for Museum Archaeologists (SMA). Since 2018 he has been an active member of the Texas Archeological Society, Central Texas Archeological Society, and Travis County Archeological Society.



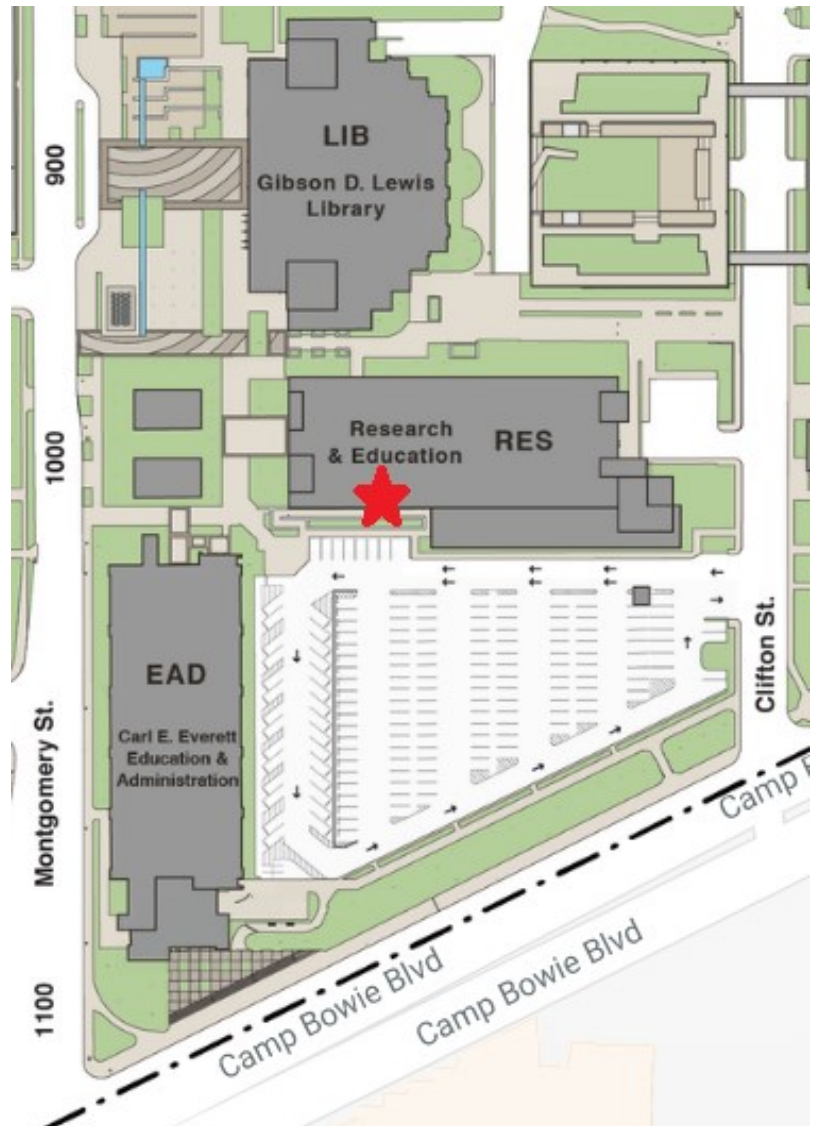
Update Your Calendar - NTAS Monthly Meeting Speakers

September 8th: Dr. Heather Para (The First Vikings in Britain)
October 13th: Dr. Catrina Banks Whitley (BaahKu Site in New Mexico)
November 10th: Bonnie Etter (Unraveling the Toyah Paradox)

NTAS Monthly Meeting Location & Directions

NTAS meets at 7:00 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.**



From the Archives

Linda Lang

In this month's installment, we feature TCAS' August 1991 issue of "The Letter." This newsletter features two articles about world archeology and rock art, "Archeology in Australia" and "Rock Art and World History." This gives insight into the varied interests of society members during this time. If you are interested in this month's featured document, please email Linda Lang at lottlang@gmail.com. If you wish to access other newsletters or materials not currently featured, or have questions, feel free to contact me for those requests as well!

Check back next month for the latest installment... *from the archives!*



Jones County Archeology

Jimmy Barrera

There are most sites and then there are those archeology sites that make you involuntarily emit a “Woof.” On Saturday July 30, 2022 James Everett and I were fortunate to recon a series of “Woof” sites along the Clear Fork of the Brazos River in Jones County, Texas. Joined by one of the landowners, Perry Scott, we visited the following sites: Dr. J. M. Alexander Ranch (41JS1), W. A. Myatt site (41JS9), Roberts Covered Mounds (41JS31), 41JS32, 41JS44, 41JS48, 41JS63, Alexander Covered Mounds (41JS73), 41JS74, the Kirkland Cemetery, and a couple of unrecorded historic sites.

These sites range from spectacular prehistoric open campsites excavated by the WPA in 1940 (W. A. Myatt site), to the famous Roberts Covered Mounds and Alexander Covered Mounds sites. Because most of the site records are around 80 to 100 years old, one of the goals was to test the accuracy of

Figure 1. Perry Scott on possible cairn feature at the Roberts Covered Mounds site (41JS31). Photo by J. Barrera.



Figure 3. Jesse M. Kirkland headstone at the Kirkland Cemetery. This cemetery has yet to be recorded. Photo by J. Barrera.



Figure 2. W. A. Myatt site (41JS9) showing midden deposits (shell, burned rock, lithics) exposed within alluvium. Photo by J. Barrera.



Figure 4. Hearth feature exposed approximately five meters below surface in alluvium at site 41JS74. Photo by J. Barrera.

the site location. And the recon checked site boundaries, access, and site conditions, and considered future possible projects.

The recon observed undocumented burial cairns at some sites. Extensive buried prehistoric occupations were observed in various alluvial exposures. The Kirkland Cemetery was located and identified with at least two graves. This was a very productive reconnaissance trip to sites that have not been visited since investigations in the 1920s-1940s. And building relationships with these landowners will benefit future NTAS projects. Landowner Perry Scott was very gracious in providing access and we really enjoyed his knowledge and passion for the preservation of resources on this land.

Texas Archeology Month (TAM) Kits — Call for Volunteers

Maggie Moore

Last year, we gave pinch pot kits to 400 kids in Central Texas. These simple kits cost less than 45 cents apiece and consist of a half-pound ball of clay (wrapped in plastic wrap so it doesn't dry out), tools to create designs in the wet clay, and a handout with instructions and links to online educational materials about ceramic traditions in Texas.

This year, we want to build on that success--our goal is to distribute 5,000 kits to students around the state.

To meet our TAM 2022 goal, we need volunteers to help with assembly! Here's what you can do:

1.If you're near Austin, come join the THC assembly sessions at our lab on Wheless Lane every Thursday in August from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.!

2.Or, if you have a group of 4+ volunteers, we can bring the supplies to you and help set up an assembly line!

Please contact Maximilian Hall at Maximilian.Hall@thc.texas.gov or Maggie Moore at Maggie.Moore@thc.texas.gov to volunteer your assistance. We welcome ideas and collaboration. Please feel free to forward this information to anyone you think might want to help.

Thank you for helping us reach our goal of assembling and distributing 5,000 kits!



TAS/ETAS 2022 Annual Meeting

The 93rd TAS Annual Meeting and the East Texas Archeological Conference will be a combined event this year. We will meet on the UT Tyler campus in the new Soules College of Business Building. The meeting dates are October 21 – 23, 2022

The co-hosts for this year's meeting are North Texas Archeological Society and the Department of Social Sciences at UT Tyler, TX. The Program Co-Chairs are Dr. Thomas Guderjan and Dr. E. Cory Sills of UT Tyler. Their "First Call for Papers" was distributed in an earlier email and is included in the TAS Newsletter and the "Second Call for Papers" is included on page 7.

The Friday night Public Forum Speaker will be Bobby Gonzalez, Chairman of the Caddo Nation. Our keynote speaker for the Saturday night banquet is Dr. Rolfe Mandel, Distinguished Professor, Director of Kansas Geological Survey, Senior Scientist, Geoarchaeology/Quaternary Geology.

Since we are not meeting in a hotel, those attending will be responsible for securing their own accommodations. The Local Arrangements Committee is working with several hotels in the area to secure favorable rates. The Hotel information was published in the Summer TAS Newsletter.

Watch for continuing Annual Meeting information in the TAS Newsletter and on the TAS website.



NTAS Is Co-Hosting the 2022 TAS Meeting!

Mark your calendars for the TAS Annual Meeting:

October 21-23, 2022!

Not only will it be under two hours from the Metroplex in Tyler, Texas, but NTAS is co-hosting the meeting along with UT Tyler!

Join us for the presentations and comradery, as well as the opportunity to volunteer as part of the Local Arrangements Committee!

Second Call for Papers

TAS/ETAS 2022 Annual Meeting

Abstracts and creative ideas are sought for papers, symposia, and posters to be presented at the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society on October 21-23, 2022, at the University of Texas at Tyler. TAS encourages presentations by avocational, student, and professional archeologist members on any topic of archeological interest.

The organizing committee is making arrangements for a series of regional and topical symposia. Consequently, time slots for papers and symposia will fill early. Anyone interested in presenting at the meeting should contact the program chair as early as possible to ensure that time and space will be available.

All presenters must be TAS members and be registered for the meeting. Papers will be limited to 15 minutes, a limit that will be strictly enforced. The deadline for receipt of paper abstracts is September 1, 2022.

Symposia may be organized around any topic, area, major project, and/or time period. Each symposium will be allotted two hours per five presenters, with a five-presenter minimum. Due to scheduling concerns, symposium organizers must ensure that all abstracts for symposia and symposium papers meet an earlier deadline of August 15, 2022. For effective presentation of symposia, organizers may specify the order of papers and their length, as long as these points are stated in the symposium abstracts.

Poster presentations can effectively convey visual, graphic, and quantitative information, and posters reach a larger audience than oral papers. Members are encouraged to consider poster presentations as an alternative to papers. Poster abstracts must be received by September 1, 2022 to appear in the program; late poster entries may be accommodated after consultation with the Program Chair. Other presentation formats such as discussions, demonstrations, and hands-on workshops may be held on approval of the Program Chair and Annual Meeting organizers.

Submit all abstracts as files attached to email. Meeting rooms will be equipped with data projectors and laptop computers; additional audiovisual needs may be accommodated given prior notice. Contact the Program Chair with questions about submission dates, formats, and/or equipment (Thomas Guderjan, 2022 TAS Annual Meeting Program Chair, Email: tguderjan@uttyler.edu).

Abstracts must include the following information: Paper/Symposium/Poster (indicate one); Title; Author(s) and Affiliation(s); Abstract for each presentation (150 words maximum).

We look forward to your contributions to this meeting!

Thomas Guderjan, 2022 TAS Annual Meeting Program Chair, Email: tguderjan@uttyler.edu

Attention College Students:

Free TAS Annual Meeting Registration Available!

The first 40 college students to register for the TAS Annual Meeting, will have their registration paid for by the UT Tyler Department of Social Science!

See the TAS website for details and registration:

<https://www.txarch.org/event-4880412>

If you are unable to register in time to receive one of these free registrations, consider applying for a TAS or NTAS scholarship to help with the cost of attending the annual meeting.

TAS Scholarship Information: <https://www.txarch.org/TAS-Scholarships-Overview>

NTAS Scholarship Information: <https://ntxas.org/scholarships>

Archeological Events & News

Spirit Lodge: Mississippian Art from Spiro

through August 7, 2022

Dallas Museum of Art

<https://dma.org/art/exhibitions/spirit-lodge-mississippian-art-spiro>

General admission to the DMA is free, but tickets are required.

Armed to the Teeth

August 18, 2022

Texas Historical Commission

<https://www.thcfriends.org/event/armed-to-the-teeth/>

Free, virtual event. Registration is required.

The first half of the 19th century was a tumultuous period in the Gulf of Mexico as European and regional powers competed for territorial dominance. As immigration into the northern Gulf of Mexico increased, age-old rivalries erupted while new independent nations emerged. In such a climate, maritime supremacy was essential—foreign and local navies representing every major power were present, new and sometimes ad-hoc navies were created, and privateers capitalized on the unrest—often acting in concert with revolutionary factions. Within this diverse arena, three archeological sites off Texas and Louisiana have been investigated that contain arms and/or cannon.

As part of this discussion with State Marine Archeologist Amy Borgens, artifacts from an early 19th-century shipwreck off Pass Cavallo, Texas, discovered in 1998, are reassessed in comparison with more contemporary shipwreck discoveries to evaluate the potential historic roles of these vessels. Could they represent privateers, pirates, or early naval vessels that were similar in design? Collectively these archeological sites help develop a broader understanding of these shipwreck types and allude to the dynamic character of the period.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Educational Courses

September-November 2022

If you are interested in any of these, online educational courses please call 520-798-1201 or email info@oldpueblo.org

An Overview of Mississippian Archaeology of the Eastern US September 12-November 28, 2022

Indigenous Forms of Resistance and Revolt in Colonial Mexico September 14, 2022

The Hohokam Culture of Southern Arizona September 21-December 14, 2022

Understanding Indigenous Mexico through the Maya and Aztec Codices October 4, and 18, 2022

Denton Dig It Archeology Fair

October 1, 2022

Denton, TX

See page 9 of this newsletter for details.

Doss Pioneer Heritage Fest

October 1, 2022

Weatherford, TX

See page 13 of the July Benchmark and the Doss website for details.

<https://dosscenter.org/>

TAS Annual Meeting

October 21-23, 2022

Tyler, TX

See the TAS website for details <https://www.txarch.org/Annual-Meeting>

Denton Dig It Archeology Fair

Ashley Green

October is sure to be an exciting month for NTAS with another TAM event on our calendar. The Denton County Historical Commission is hosting their first annual “Denton Dig It Archeology Fair” on October 1st at History Park on Carroll Boulevard in Denton. The fair will be adjoining the Denton Community Farmers’ Market that occurs every Saturday featuring live music, kids’ activities, local farms, local artists, food trucks, food vendors, and, on this weekend, a section dedicated to celebrating TAM and archeology happening in Denton County. In addition to NTAS, other participants include the Denton County Office of History and Culture, the City of Denton Preservation Office, and Integrated Environmental Solutions, LLC. The fair will feature different exhibits and activities including one hosted by Doug Boyd that highlights the TxDOT Bolivar excavations of Tom Cook’s blacksmith shop, a project many of our members volunteered on in the past. There will be an earth oven demo, a presentation of prehistoric Texas rock art, and flintknapping by our very own Dylan Holubar. In addition, local Scouts have been invited to attend the fair and participate in a mock excavation and an activity that demonstrates stratigraphy where they will attempt to reconstruct a past event by exploring the contents of an intentionally stratified trash can.

Volunteers will be needed at this event to talk with folks about NTAS and archeology at our booth and to guide participants through the mock excavation dig and trash can stratigraphy activity. Volunteers for the mock dig will need to feel comfortable walking participants through a basic excavation process whereas the stratigraphy activity is scripted. The archeology fair and market will be open 9 AM to 1 PM but volunteers need to arrive around 8:30 to check in.

If you would like to volunteer at this event or have any questions please contact me by email, internetchair@ntxas.org.



shumla treks 

**TREK THE LOWER PECOS
CANYONLANDS OF SOUTHWEST
TEXAS WITH AN EXPERIENCED
SHUMLA ARCHAEOLOGIST!**



Scan the QR code or visit shumla.org/shumlatreks to view our Trek dates and itineraries.

Shumla Treks are day-long journeys that can fit into any West Texas travel plan.

Like a book, each mural was authored and composed to communicate beliefs and ideas. Come read a chapter for yourself!

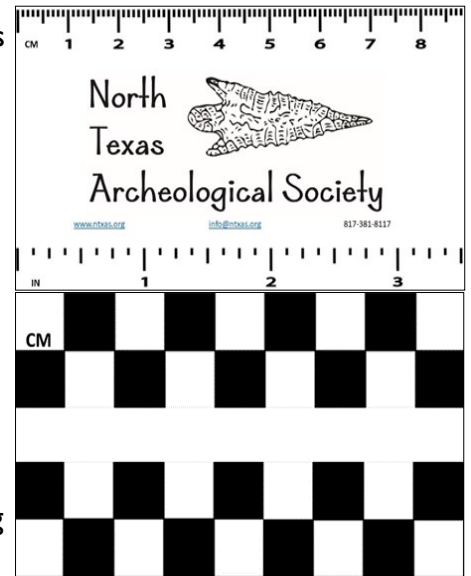
New NTAS Gear Available!



Bring your cash or checks to the July 14th meeting and score some brand new NTAS gear!

For a \$15 (or more) donation, you can have one of the first-ever NTAS hats!

For a \$1 donation, you can have a business card/ ruler - plan to get several to share with any budding archeologists that you may know.



Open Access Archeology Titles from the University of Arizona Press

Catrina Whitley

Twenty backlist archeology books from the UAP are now available for free! Visit their website to download your free copies:

<https://uapress.arizona.edu/2022/07/20-new-oa-titles-featuring-archaeology>

We Need **YOUR** Help!

There are numerous ways we would love for our members to contribute to NTAS. Just a few are noted here:

Involve NTAS in Your Field, Lab, or Reporting Project

Contact Catrina Whitley (vpofprojects@ntxas.org) if you would like to involve experienced, skilled, and knowledgeable NTAS members in your project.

Contribute Photos and Memories of NTAS Events

Photos are a great way to showcase what NTAS is all about. Please send your images and captions to president@ntxas.org. By providing these photos, please understand they can be used on the NTAS website and social media platforms such as Facebook.

Newsletter Content

Please contribute highlights from NTAS volunteer opportunities, summaries of archeological research and field projects, announcements and links to events, exhibits, media, and publications, etc. by sending them to Molly Hall (publicationseditor@ntxas.org).

Nominate a member for our member spotlight feature!



North Texas Archeological Society (NTAS) Membership Application Form

Online membership form and payment option available at ntxas.org/join-and-renew

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City\State\Zip _____ Email _____

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

- New Family Membership - \$25
 Renewal Total Family Members _____
 Individual Membership - \$20
 Student Membership - \$10 (18 or older student with minimum half-time course load. Those under 18 must contact NTAS in advance of applying.)

Communication Preferences: I/WE want to be added to the following lists:

- General Announcements - *For Meetings, Events, Publications, Membership Dues and NTAS Updates*
 Personal Updates - *For personal updates on NTAS members such as illnesses, and obituaries*

Digital copies of the newsletter are included with every membership. If you are interested in receiving paper copies, please contact the Publications Editor (publicationseditor@ntxas.org) or Secretary (secretary@ntxas.org) for pricing.

Donation: Amount: \$ _____ General Fund Memorial Scholarship Fund BaahKu Project

Media Release: I/WE DO -or- DO NOT (circle as appropriate) give permission to NTAS to use my/our image (photographs and/or video) in any NTAS publications, website, or social media.

Code of Ethics (signature required): I/WE PLEDGE THAT I/WE 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/WE UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE SOCIETY.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Mail your Membership Form with check or money order made payable to:
 North Texas Archeological Society
 P.O. Box 24679 Ft. Worth, TX 76124

Thank you for renewing or joining the North Texas Archeological Society! We will send an email to confirm your membership once your payment has been processed. We look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Welcome, New Members!

Jonas Bailey
 Johnny & Teresa Banks
 Amanda Collins
 Theresa De Luca
 Jacob Hartman
 Frank Kozar
 Annabeth Lovato
 James Ludden & Lana Green
 Monica Louise McManus & Eugene L. Stewart
 Dana Miller
 Tim Roberts
 Sara L. Sautter
 Rachel Thatcher

NTAS Aims & Objectives

The purposes of the Society are

- (1) the promotion of scientific archeological exploration and research,
- (2) the preservation and conservation of archeological materials and sites,
- (3) the interpretation and publication of data pertaining thereto, and
- (4) education of the public to the aims of archeology.

NTAS - Preserving the Past for the Future

Executive Committee

Jimmy Barrera
President

Gwen Durrant
Treasurer

Linda Lang
Historian

Ray Wallace
Vice President

Tim Sullivan
Secretary

Ashley Green
Internet Chair

Catrina Banks Whitley
Vice President of Projects

James Everett
Immediate Past President

Molly Hall
Publications Editor

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

The newsletter submission deadlines are two weeks prior to the monthly meetings, and upcoming deadlines are listed below for 2022.

September Newsletter: August 25

October Newsletter: September 29

November Newsletter: October 27

December Newsletter: November 24

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Humanities Texas



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 HUMANITIES

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