



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

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

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Benchmark

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President's Message

I'd like to start by thanking everyone who attended our February meeting and special thanks to members Steve Lowe, Paula Vastine, and Royce Baker for providing refreshments in the room, including a coffee maker! The return of refreshments provides a nice opportunity for some pre-presentation fellowship and is a welcomed return. On February 9th approximately 26 folks joined in person for the meeting and 30 folks joined via Zoom to hear Dr. Brendon Asher give a presentation on the history of archeological work at Blackwater Draw. A fascinating aspect of the presentation was his description of the amount of work required to keep an active and living (literally!) open excavation site operational and preserved throughout the year. During his presentation, Dr. Asher mentioned several future events at the monument which North Texas Archeological Society members might be interested in knowing about. Folks can keep up with their news feed here (<https://www.bwdarchaeology.com/blog>) to track upcoming events. The February 9th program was recorded and is available on the NTAS YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Rfh1B9TKqs>.

Reminder to pay your membership dues, thank you! Please renew your membership online <https://ntxas.org/join-and-renew> or mail a check with the membership form in the newsletter. After March 15, those who have not renewed their membership will no longer receive NTAS general announcements or publications.

There are still spots available for the upcoming March 24-26, 2023, Archeology 101 Academy! One does not need experience to attend, so sign up now and receive classroom and field instruction from experi-



enced archeologists, including NTAS members Chris Meis and Jimmy Barrera. The Academy will be held in Goldthwaite and field instruction will occur at the Clovis Field Site. NTAS scholarships are available for ALL NTAS members in good standing who would like to attend (<https://ntxas.org/scholarships>). The scholarship covers your registration fee and provides a free membership to TAS if the applicant is not already a member.

There will be another opportunity for NTAS members to volunteer at the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge on March 18! Please see Jimmy Barrera's newsletter submission on page 6 for additional information. Also, registration for the TAS Field School in Nacogdoches from June 10-17 is open. Please visit <https://txarch.org/Field-School> for more information and remember, NTAS provides scholarships to those who would like to attend (<https://ntxas.org/scholarships>).

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Connect with NTAS:

facebook.com/NTXAS.org

www.NTXAS.org

For general inquiries, please contact info@ntxas.org

North Texas Archeological Society

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The March 9, 2023 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. Our March 9th guest speakers are Tom Ashmore and C.A.

Maedgen, two avocational archeologists in the state of Texas with more than 45 years combined experience. They will present on the Camp Meyers Spring (4ITE9) Conquistador & Lower Pecos River Spanish Soldiers (Ring Bit Shelter, 41VV339) Pictographs. We are excited to host Mr. Ashmore and Mr. Maedgen for this presentation and look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on March 9!

Allen Rutherford

March Speakers: Tom Ashmore and C. A. Maedgen

The Camp Meyers Spring (4ITE9) Conquistador and the Lower Pecos River Spanish Soldiers Pictograph (Ring Bit Shelter, 41VV339)

A small pictographic image on the vast 100-foot story wall of Meyers Spring in the Lower Pecos region of Texas, near the Rio Grande River, is very likely an overlooked depiction of the first contact between Lower Pecos Indians and sixteenth century Spanish Conquistadors. The depiction is not very large and has been overlooked over the years, probably most viewers assuming it is depicting an Indian warrior due to the shield being held. However, there are multiple aspects of this image that do not match for any Indian tribe and do match for the Conquistadors. This report will give a detailed analysis of the pictograph to explain the probability that it is, in fact, an Indian depiction of Spanish Conquistadors and may represent the first contact between the Jumano Plains Indians and the Spanish Conquistadors in Texas.

A large pictographic image on a wall facing the Lower Pecos River, near the Rio Grande River, Texas is very likely a depiction story of the Lower Pecos Indians as they watched a scouting party from the Gaspar Castaño de Sosa Expedition on their 1590 transit through the area. Although the Castaño de Sosa Expedition was not officially a Conquistador expedition, it was at the end of that period and his soldiers were dressed and carrying weapons in the same manner as the Conquistador expeditions of only a decade earlier.

Tom Ashmore spent 22 years in the Air Force as a special intelligence analyst. After retiring active duty he taught intelligence skills for another 20 years for the Air Force Intelligence School at Goodfellow AFB, Texas. He headed up avocational archeological investigations for the Concho Valley and Iraan Archeological Societies and worked closely with the Texas Archeological Society over the last 15 years. He completed a book in 2019 on his Butterfield Trail investigations, 'The Butterfield Trail Through The Concho Valley And West Texas.' He is currently a member of the West Texas (formerly Iraan) Archeological Society and board member of the Southwest Federation of Archeological Societies.



C.A. Maedgen, III is a military veteran having served in Viet Nam at Da Nang in the U.S. Air Force in 1970. Prior to military service C.A. graduated from SMU in 1966 with a degree in Geology and in 1968 graduated with an MFA in Communications. After military service C.A. worked in Houston as a licensed Real Estate Broker for 10 years and in the last 30 years C.A. worked for a national chemical manufacturer as a sales and service engineer. C.A. has many hours of volunteer archeology service at Fort Chadbourne and at Fort Concho historic sites, Butterfield Trail station sites, Horse Head Crossing, Lower Pe-

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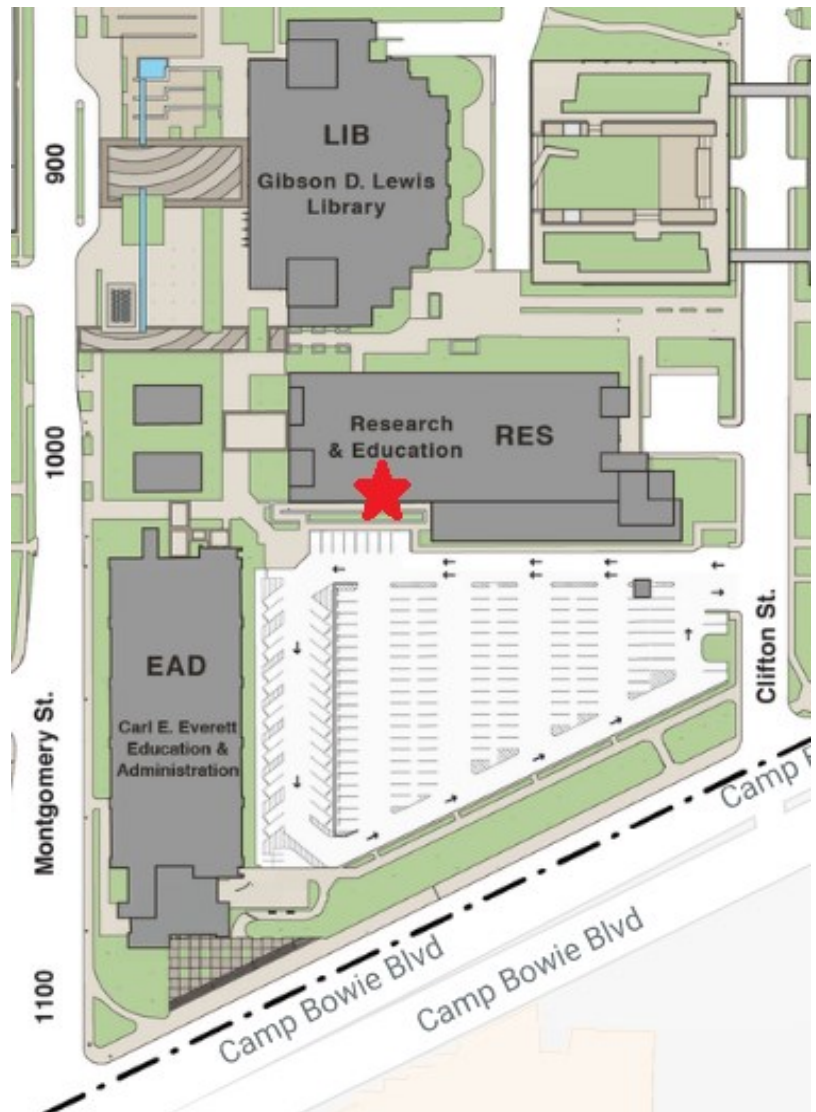


cos Rock Art sites, Lower Pecos archeology sites, and worked with Texas State University at Eagle Cave and archeological explorations for the Nature Conservancy at Independence Creek. C.A. served for over 10 years as the Region 10 Director of the Texas Archeological Society, 4 years as president of the Concho Valley Archeological Society, and past board member of the Southwest Federation of Archeological Societies. He is currently an active member of the West Texas (formerly Iraan) Archeological Society and Texas Archeological Society. Last but not least, he spent 14 plus years in cooperation with and supporting Tom Ashmore on various archeological projects.

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.



Update from the Clovis Field Site

Jimmy Barrera

Many thanks to Del Barnett, landowner and host of the Clovis Field site, NTAS members, and folks from the Gault School of Archaeological Research (GSAR) for another excellent field experience. On Saturday, February 11, multiple members of NTAS participated in excavations at the Clovis Field site including: Chris Meis, Steve Lowe, Kathleen Hughes, Carolyn Coughlin, Art Tawater, John Zumwalt, Royce Baker, Ciara Mason, and Kristina Wolfe. Excavators continued to expose various burned rock features that were initially identified from geophysical survey. Chris, Steve, and I spent time selecting areas for excavation during the upcoming March 24-26, 2023, TAS Archeology 101 Academy. Then Steve and I met with the Legacy Plaza where classroom sessions will be held. And then we topped off the day with a BBQ sample from the lunch vendor for the Archeology 101 Academy. Successful trip!



At left Chris Meis (NTAS) and at right Dr. Steve Howard (GSAR) overseeing excavations.
Photo by J. Barrera.



NTAS members, Art Tawater, Ciara Mason, Kathleen Hughes. Steve Lowe, John Zumwalt, Del Barnett (landowner), Dr. Steve Howard (P.I. with GSAR). Photo by C. Meis.



NTAS members, Royce Baker, Art Tawater, Kathleen Hughes, Chris Meis, and Phillip Darce. Photo courtesy of C. Meis.

NTAS members, Kathleen Hughes, Steve Lowe, Art Tawater. Photo courtesy of C. Meis.



2023 TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY ACADEMY



Join us for the Archeology 101 Academy and learn the basics about how to perform archeology in the field, lab, and reporting through both classroom and field instruction in Goldthwaite, Texas.

Archeology 101 Academy: March 24-26, 2023 (\$100)

For more info and registration: <https://www.txarch.org/>

NTAS scholarships are now available to -ANY- NTAS members for the March 24-26, 2023 Archeology 101 Academy.

The only requirement is that you are an NTAS member in good standing.

Please visit the NTAS scholarships webpage to submit your application. Apply now!

<https://ntxas.org/scholarships>

Recon and Field Opportunity at FWNC&R

Jimmy Barrera

Friday February 24, Bret Williamson and I performed a recon survey at the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge (FWNC&R). Previous investigations along with NTAS reconnaissance and site recordings in 2021-2022 have aided in identifying areas within the FWNC&R that have high potential for archeological sites. Thanks to nice weather and the light vegetation in winter, we were fortunate to identify one new prehistoric site. The site appears to be an open campsite of indeterminate age containing (on the surface) two burned rock hearth features, scattered burned rock, a mano, one formal biface fragment, one modified flake (heat treated), and some chert debitage.

We are offering the membership of NTAS an opportunity to join us and learn how to record an archeological site. If you are interested to come out, enjoy the FWNC&R, and learn how to record an archeological site please contact Jimmy Barrera james_e_barrera@yahoo.com. No experience is required. The site recording will be Saturday March 18 and further details will be provided to volunteers.



Figure 1. Mano on surface of newly identified archeological site. Photo by J. Barrera.



Figure 2. Bret Williamson performing recon survey at FWNC&R. Photo by J. Barrera.

Update Your Calendar - NTAS Monthly Meeting Speakers

April 13th: Mike Adler (Picuris Pueblo)

May 11th: Rebecca Shelton (Texas Archeological Stewardship Network)

June: No Meeting (TAS Field School)

Archeological Events & News

Two Weeks with Huichol Elders

Online

Shumla Lunch and Learn lecture. Carolyn Boyd will share her recent experiences with Huichol elders and connections to Lower Pecos rock art. *Free, but registration is required.*

12pm, March 15, 2023

<https://shumla.org/education/lunchandlearn/>

Recon and Field Opportunity at FWNC&R (NTAS)

Fort Worth, TX

If interested, contact Jimmy Barrera james_e_barrera@yahoo.com

March 18, 2023

TAS Archeology 101 Academy

Goldthwaite, TX

March 24-26, 2023

<https://www.txarch.org/Archeology-101/>

SAA 88th Annual Meeting

Portland, OR

March 29-April 2, 2023

<https://www.saa.org/annual-meeting>

Interpretations of Feline Figures with Speech-Breath

Online

Shumla Lunch and Learn lecture. Dr. Diana Radillo Rolón will describe a comparative analysis between Lower Pecos and Teotihuacan felines with speech-breath attributes to discuss their possible interpretations. *Free, but registration is required.*

12pm, April 19, 2023

<https://shumla.org/education/lunchandlearn/>

TAS Field School

Nacogdoches, TX

June 10-17, 2023

<https://www.txarch.org/Field-School>

An Evening with Dr. Zahi Hawass

Dallas, TX

6pm, June 24, 2023

<https://zahilectures.com/>

The Beauty of Clay: Cultural Works of Mesoamerica - Fort Worth Museum

Fort Worth, TX

Showcasing ceramic and earthenware from the Huastec, Zapotec, and Colima. Examine the jaguars, birds, deer and even dogs depicted in these works as part of a style known as zoomorphism!

<https://www.fwmuseum.org/news/press-releases/beauty-of-clay/>

NTAS Needs *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 Brian Luetchford (vpofprojects@ntxas.org) if you would like to involve experienced, skilled, and knowledgeable NTAS members in your project.

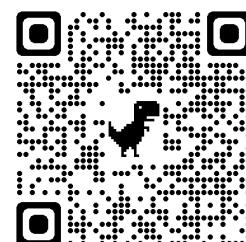
Contribute Photos and Memories of NTAS Events

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, they may be used on the NTAS website and social media platforms such as Facebook.

Newsletter and Journal 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).

NTAS is now looking for articles to fill the 2023 Journal of the North Texas Archeological Society. Please consider submitting an article about your North Texas research, fieldwork, or other related topics. The lead author must be an NTAS member in good standing for the 2023 calendar year. For submissions and inquiries regarding the journal, please contact Molly Hall (publicationseditor@ntxas.org). Volume I of the Journal is now available for purchase on Amazon. Visit amazon.com/dp/B0BJYD52JP or scan the QR code:





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!

Brady Atwood	Chris Barry
Christy Bednar	Lucy Berry
Glen Butler	April English & Family
Roy Evans	Keki Flatia
Martin Gallagher	David Macias
Lucia Smith	Thomas & Cyndi Standefer
Brian Sutton	Dawn Youngblood

Donors

Art & Dianne Tawater — *General Fund*
 Bryan Jameson & Carol Macaulay-Jameson — *NTAS Memorial Scholarship Fund*
 Phillip & Sharee Darce — *NTAS Memorial Scholarship Fund*
 Shirley Green — *NTAS Memorial Scholarship Fund*
 Christy Bednar, in memory of Fred Wendorf — *NTAS Memorial Scholarship Fund*

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

Allen Rutherford
President

Gwen Durrant
Treasurer

Genevieve Freix
Historian

Stephen Lowe
Vice President

Dylan Holubar
Secretary

Ashley Green
Internet Chair

Brian Luetchford
Vice President of Projects

Jimmy Barrera
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.

April Newsletter: March 30

May Newsletter: April 27

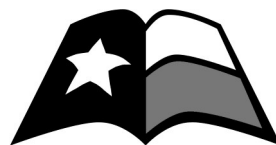
July Newsletter: June 29

August Newsletter: July 27

September Newsletter: August 31

October Newsletter: September 28

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Humanities Texas



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HUMANITIES

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