

The **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS)** will welcome **Doug Boyd** as the featured speaker for the **April 11th** meeting (see **Page 2** for details).

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

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# Benchmark

Volume 33, Issue 4

April 2019

## President's Message

It is April, the temperatures are rising, and it looks like Spring is finally here. As shown on page 4 of this newsletter, the warmer weather allowed 11 NTAS members to conduct a survey on March 25 on two large plots of land near Ponder in Denton County. Due to heavy ground cover, we were not able to find any current evidence for a site originally reported in the area in 1966. However, it was fun getting together, walking the pastures and undergrowth along Denton Creek, comparing GPS readings, and feeling the warmth of the sunshine. I really want to thank Glynn Osburn for his hard work over the past several months to set up the Ponder survey. His persistence on this project paid off for NTAS and for the Texas Historical Commission. We look forward to more surveys this year.

Speaking of surveys, the Texas Archeological Society's Field School this June in Palo Duro Canyon will provide an outstanding opportunity for members to participate in a very meaningful survey in and around the State Park. There will also be opportunities to excavate and to work in the lab, so be sure to register for the TAS Field School as soon as possible.

With regard to a survey of a different type, we received 5 responses to our NTAS member survey at the March 14 meeting. An additional response was received by email. Blank forms will again be available at the April 11 meeting.



**James Everett, President**

Please complete a survey form if you have not already done so and drop the form in the collection box. Mailed and emailed responses will be accepted through the end of April.

I know that I speak for all NTAS members when I thank Bryan Jameson for the quality and variety of our programs so far this year. Presentations in 2019 have taken us from Bonfire Shelter to North Texas, and from pre-Clovis times to 20<sup>th</sup> Century Dallas. This month we will learn more about the history and archeology of one of Houston's oldest neighborhoods. NTAS programs for the rest of the year promise to be as outstanding as our first four programs. I encourage those of you who regularly attend the monthly NTAS meetings to continue to do so, and to bring a friend or two. If you have not been able to be with us in person in a while, please join us at an upcoming meeting. You will be glad you did, and so will we.

### Connect with NTAS:

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

[www.ntxarch.org](http://www.ntxarch.org)

[info@tarrantarch.org](mailto:info@tarrantarch.org)

## April Speaker: Doug Boyd

### Ethnic Identity at Frost Town: Archeological Investigation of German, African American, and Mexican Heritage of a Historic Urban Community in Houston, Texas

Beginning in the 1830s, German immigrants settled in a prominent bend of Buffalo Bayou located just downstream from Allen's Landing. Known as Frost Town, this 8-block area evolved into a thriving Houston neighborhood that survived for more than 120 years. The ethnic makeup of the community changed over time, and occupation periods are identified by dominant groups that lived there as: German Period from 1830s–1890; African American Period from 1890–1920; and Mexican/Mexican American Period from 1920–1955. Located in the shadow of downtown Houston, and only a few blocks north of the Houston Astro's ballpark, Frost Town was one of Houston's oldest neighborhoods. As modern developments engulfed the area, the *Barrio del Alacran* (as the neighborhood was called by the twentieth-century Hispanic residents) was slowly abandoned between the mid 1950s and the 1990s. Now reduced to archeological remains, Frost Town is one of the least known, yet most important, historic sites in the city of Houston.



Intermittently since 2004, Prewitt and Associates, Inc. has conducted archival research, oral history interviews, and several phases of archeological survey and excavation at the historic Frost Town site (41HR982). A Texas Department of Transportation road improvement project triggered these historic archeological investigations. In 2016 and 2018, PAI archeologists conducted intensive archeological data recovery investigations at the site, collaborating with TxDOT's Archeological Studies Program and many volunteers from the Houston Archeological Society. This work discovered over 1400 features and more than 200,000 artifacts representing all three occupation periods. The analysis of the features and material remains is underway.

This program is a preliminary look at some of the historical and archeological evidence for the ethnicity of Frost Town residents, and it will highlight some analytical challenges that lie ahead. The features and artifacts reveal some exciting insights into the people who lived in Frost Town. Among the more unusual types of features are two "ornamental bottle alignments"—rows of buried, upside-down glass and ceramic bottles. Archival and oral history research reveals that these alignments are decorative borders along gardens and walkways, and they represent a strong tradition among nineteenth-century German immigrants in Texas. Many of the artifacts—such as German-made dolls, various products made and sold by local German merchants, and hand-painted Mexican pottery—reveal the ethnic heritage of specific Frost Town residents. In addition, we will explore the mystery of the Chinese opium pipe bowl recovered from one of the Frost Town trash pits.

### Doug Boyd

Boyd received a BA degree in General Studies-Archeology from West Texas State University in 1982 and an MA degree in Anthropology from Texas A&M University in 1986. He joined Prewitt and Associates, Inc., in 1987, and is a vice president of the firm. Boyd is active in the Texas Archeological Society, and currently serves as the TAS representative on the Texas Historical Commission's Antiquities Advisory Board and is a co-director for the Youth Group at the annual TAS field school.

In the past 35 years, he has participated in or directed many archeological projects in Texas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico, including investigations at a wide range of prehistoric and historic sites and published numerous reports and articles. His historic site investigations include cemeteries, Anglo ranching sites, Spanish Colonial sites, African-American farmsteads, Hispanic townsites, brick kilns, and antebellum plantations. Recently, he was the primary contributor to an elaborate historical archeology exhibit on the *Texas Beyond History* web site called: "Life After Slavery: Investigations of an African American Farmstead." Currently, Boyd is the principal investigator for the Frost Town Archeological Project, a major data recovery excavation of a historic urban community near downtown Houston. This project is being done in conjunction with a Texas Department of Transportation road project.

## Update Your Calendar - NTAS Monthly Meeting Speakers

**May 9th: Dr. Christopher Lintz**  
**June: No Meeting (TAS Field School)**

## Welcome New NTAS Members:

**Glen Lee**

**Michael Nelms**

**Chetta Owens**

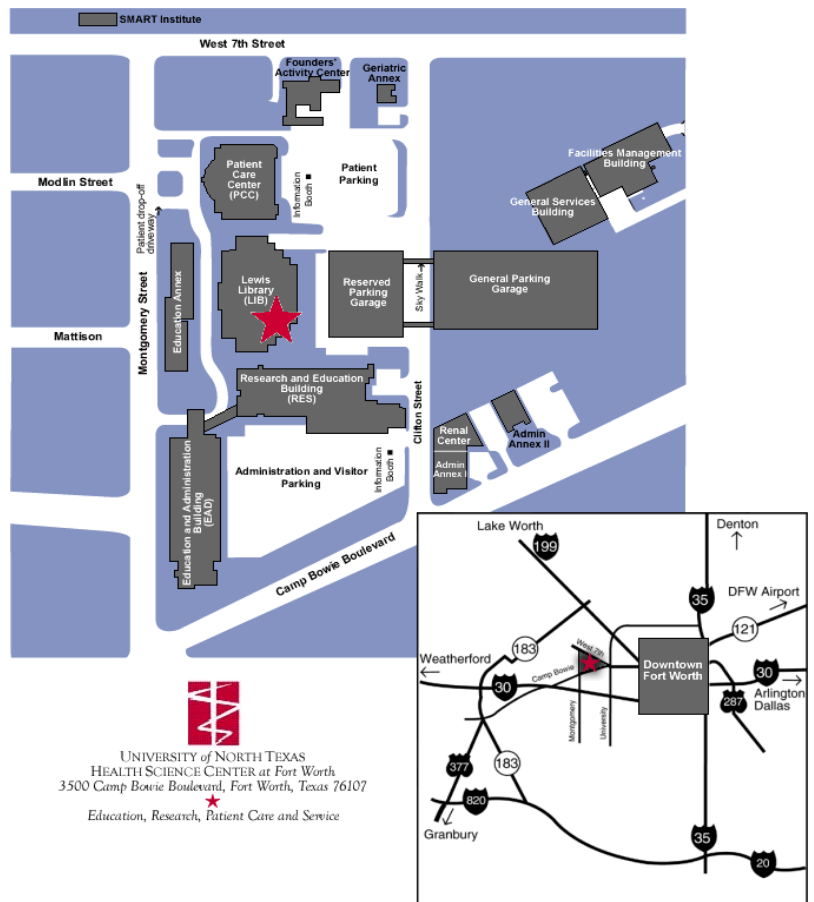
**Vicki Pacek**

**Alanis Ramos**

## 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 Lewis Library Building, Room 110), near the intersection of Camp Bowie and Montgomery Street.

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 "I" on your left (past the Parking Garage and Sky bridge). Park in the patient spaces (after 5:00 p.m.) 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.



  
 UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS  
 HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER at Fort Worth  
 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard, Fort Worth, Texas 76107  
 Education, Research, Patient Care and Service

# Ponder Survey



Left: Several members spread out and prepare for survey.



Below: NTAS members overlooking Denton Creek

Below: Chris Meis, Mike Shannon, Royce Baker, Bret Williamson, Glynn Osburn, Glen Lee, Ona B. Reed, Gen Freix, Stephen Loew, Bill Perdue (James Everett took the photo)



## Caddo Culture Days

When: April 13, 10am-3pm

Where: Caddo Mounds State Historic Site

From the THC website: *The day-long celebration includes traditional Caddo music, dance and art. Other activities include talks about Caddo culture, guided hikes, children's activities, exhibits by Caddo artists, and more. Cameras are permitted and lawn chairs and/or blankets are encouraged. Admission is free, but donations to the Friends of Caddo Mounds, Inc. are appreciated.*

More information: <https://www.thc.texas.gov/news-events/events/caddo-culture-day-2>

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## 2019 Lithic Academy in San Marcos

When: April 27-28

Where: Texas State University

From the TAS website: *The course will include a brief overview of stone tools, why stone artifacts are important, how they are produced and used, and how stone tools contribute to the archaeological record. The academy will include a review of raw stone materials and how they were used.*

More information: [www.txarch.org/academy02](http://www.txarch.org/academy02)

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## 2019 Field School in Palo Duro Canyon

When: June 8-15

Where: Palo Duro Canyon State Park

From the TAS website: *The primary goals for this year's field school are to record new sites within the canyon and to collect additional information on sites that were recorded many decades ago. Survey teams will work in easily accessible areas of the park near the main loop, as well as in the more rugged, seldom visited reaches of the sprawling canyon. Areas of more intensive excavation will take place at a historic CCC-era site and several of the park's prehistoric sites.*

More information: [www.txarch.org/tas-field-school](http://www.txarch.org/tas-field-school)

**TAS Field School Forms are available at the end of this newsletter.**

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## NTAS Scholarships Available for TAS Field School

For: Eligible Teachers and Students

**Deadline: April 28, 2019**

From the NTAS website: *The NTAS Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 2014 to fund scholarships while honoring NTAS members who have passed away. This scholarship program is supported entirely through donations.*

More information: <http://www.ntxarch.org/ntas-scholarships.html>

## 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 using with PayPal at the NTAS website, [www.tarrantarch.org](http://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 Lloyd Erwin 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 \_\_\_\_\_

## NTAS Survey

Your feedback and input are welcomed by the NTAS Board of Directors at any time. To encourage communication at this time, we invite you to respond to the survey questions below. You may email responses/suggestions to: [President@tarrantarch.org](mailto:President@tarrantarch.org); or, you may print this form from the newsletter or pick up a printed form at the March or April NTAS meeting and complete the form. Completed forms may be **deposited in a box** at the NTAS meeting in March or April or mailed to NTAS **by the end of April**.

1. If you like the way NTAS operates and/or have no suggestions for improvement, please let us know by checking one or both of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ I am satisfied with how NTAS operates.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have no suggestions to make at this time.

If you have thoughts on any of the following, please let us know:

2. What time should our meetings **begin**?

3. What time should we try to **end** our meetings? (At our current location, we must end by 9:00 p.m.)

4. What **types of programs** or subjects would you like to see presented at our monthly meetings?

5. What specific **speaker(s)** should we invite to talk with us?

6. For our monthly programs, are there any **topics** you would like to see us **avoid**?

7. What is the **best length** for a presentation at our monthly meetings?

8. Do you have any recommendation concerning our **meeting place**? (e.g., how to improve our meeting place; other possible meeting places, etc.)

## NTAS Survey continued

9. Should we serve **refreshments** at our meetings? If so, **what kind**?
10. Do you plan to participate in future NTAS **projects** (e.g., surveys, excavations, artifact analysis)? If so, what types of projects should NTAS pursue?
11. Do you plan to participate in future NTAS **trips/tours** (e.g., to museums, to archeological sites, to artifact collections)? If so, what types of trips/tours should NTAS schedule?
12. What **day(s)** of the week would typically be good for you in terms of participation in projects or trips/tours?
13. What is NTAS doing that we should **stop doing**?
14. What should NTAS **start doing** that we are not currently doing?
15. What **other issues** do you wish to bring to our attention at this time, or what other **recommendations/suggestions** would you like to offer for us to consider?

**Thank you very much for your response.**



**2019 TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY FIELD SCHOOL REGISTRATION**  
**PALO DURO CANYON STATE PARK, TEXAS, JUNE 8-15**  
**MAILED REGISTRATION DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 25**

**\$10 LATE FEE PER REGISTRANT IF POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 25**

**DO NOT MAIL AFTER JUNE 1. FEE REFUND DEADLINE: CANCELLATION IF POSTMARKED BY MAY 25.**  
**REGISTER ONLINE at [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org) to pay by Credit Card**

- Complete all applicable sections on both sides of the form - PLEASE PRINT AND USE INK.
- **TAS MEMBERSHIP** is required for Field School attendance. Join online at [www.txarch.org](http://www.txarch.org) or send membership forms and dues to TAS.
- Anyone **UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE** unaccompanied by parent or guardian must be a TAS member and have an adult TAS sponsor.
- The **SPONSOR AGREEMENT** on the reverse side must be **COMPLETED, NOTARIZED, and INCLUDED** with this form.

1. FEES (MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE – See No. 5 below)													2. FIELD WORK			3. T's					
REGISTRATION:		1-3 DAYS	Over 3 DAYS	MEALS		BREAKFAST							DINNER	Archeological experience  none some lots specify	ASSIGN TO: EH – Historic Excavation EP – Prehistoric Excavation S – Survey R – Rugged Survey L – Lab Y – Youth N – No Preference	YOUTH	Camp	T-Shirts: Indicate Qty. per size  Kids-S Kids-M Kids-L			
Name(s) to appear on badge(s)	Fee			S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	B	B			YOUTH 7-13 Years					
Adult.....	\$100	\$150		B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B	\$7.00	Tent RV Popup Motel		S					
Youth 7-17.....	\$40	\$60		D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	\$5.00	Age								
Nonparticipant.....	\$50	\$80		B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
Children, 6 and under.....	No charge			D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
				B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
				B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
				B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
				B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
				B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
				B	B	B	B	B	B	B	B										
				D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D										
Registration Total													\$	Meals Total			\$	T-Shirt Quantity			\$

**4. YOUR MAILING ADDRESS:**

Street \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

**5. SUBTOTAL FEES: IMPORTANT – SEE REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

Registration Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Late Registration (+\$10/person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Add if you register after May 25)  
 Meals Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 T-Shirt Qty. \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (T-shirts must be reserved by May 25)  
**TOTAL FEES \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**6. SIGN ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT and LEGAL RELEASE;** complete other applicable sections.

Home Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 SEND TO: Sylvia Gunn  
 5 Adler Circle, Galveston, Texas 77551  
 Cell: (832) 472-1981 or E-mail: [gunningal42@gmail.com](mailto:gunningal42@gmail.com)  
**MAKE CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO: TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
 (First installment must be 50% of total fees)  
 Enclosed 1<sup>st</sup> payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Balance Due June 7 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT

(Required for registration)

Individually and on behalf of any family members and sponsored minors attending the TAS Field School with me, I hereby pledge and agree:

- To pay for all meals I/we eat that are provided by TAS.
- To respect the rights of other participants, keep the camping area clean, and avoid disturbing other campers.
- To abide by the rules and codes of conduct of the TAS Field School, to obey the instructions of directors and other officials of the Field school, and to perform such archeological work and camp chores as may be assigned to me/us by Field School Directors and officials.
- To care for and turn in all equipment, records, and supplies that do not belong to me/us; to collect and excavate archeological materials only when and where instructed by Field School officials; to properly record and turn in all artifacts and to keep records and controls in all archeological work.
- To abide by the terms and conditions of the Texas Antiquities Statutes.

**I HAVE READ THE ABOVE AND AGREE TO ALL ITEMS:**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## LEGAL RELEASE

(Required for registration)

- I hereby release the Texas Archeological Society and the property owners from any and all liability for the safety and wellbeing of me or members of my family while attending the 20 19 TAS Field School. I/We will respect the rights and property of landowners and will not damage or destroy public or private property.
- I approve the use by TAS and other sponsoring organizations of any photographs of me or members of my family taken by the official Field School photographers during scheduled Field School activities for use in publications or publicity and promotional projects.

**I HAVE READ THE ABOVE AND AGREE TO ALL ITEMS:**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Printed name \_\_\_\_\_

## AIDE TO YOUTH PROGRAM

(For parents or sponsors of Youth Group participants)

Parents or guardians are encouraged to sign up to work with the youth group. Parents or guardians can sign up for a single day, but the youth group supervisors encourage participation for the duration of your field school.

## SPONSOR AGREEMENT

(Required for persons under 18 years of age unaccompanied by parent or guardian;  
must be completed, notarized, and included with registration form)

**TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, parent or guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, a minor, residing at \_\_\_\_\_ in the city and state of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby release the Texas Archeological Society and the property owners from any and all liability for the safety and wellbeing of said minor while he/she is attending the 20 19 TAS Field School. I hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ adult sponsor for this minor, and the sponsor has agreed to assume this responsibility.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent or Guardian ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Subscribed and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public In and For the State of \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE COMPLETED BY SPONSOR:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, having been appointed adult sponsor of \_\_\_\_\_, a minor, by his/her parent or guardian, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby agree to this appointment and further agree to assume the responsibility of said minor at the 20 19 TAS Field School.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Subscribed and sworn before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

Notary Public In and For the State of \_\_\_\_\_