

Benchmark

Volume 34, Issue 2

February 2020

The **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS)** will welcome **Arlo McKee** as the featured speaker for the **February 13th** meeting (see **Page 2** for details).

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

President's Message

This year has started off very well for NTAS. On January 9, Drew Sitters presented an extremely informative program featuring a discussion of perishable materials found in a dry Val Verde County rockshelter. Also in January, NTAS received significant donations from two of our longtime members. The donated money will certainly help NTAS meet operating expenses and scholarship needs this year and in the future.

On February 8, we are scheduled to have one of the largest and most interesting tours ever organized for our Society. Thanks to Catrina Banks Whitley, Vice-President for Projects, several dozen NTAS members will participate in a guided tour of the Gault Site, a very important Clovis and pre-Clovis site.

As I announced at the January monthly meeting, a book on the archeological work of Homer Norris, a former Tarrant County Archeological Society member and a Parker County artist, is being prepared for publication. To help offset the publication costs, Homer's daughter has asked NTAS to raffle a print of one of Homer's paintings of Quanah Parker. (see page 4) The print, which is pictured on Page 4, will be displayed at the next three NTAS meetings. Raffle tickets will sell for \$10.00 each. The



James Everett, President

drawing to determine the winning raffle number will be held at our April meeting, so please buy some raffle tickets (and then hold onto them until the drawing takes place).

Our speaker on February 13 will be Arlo McKee, an NTAS member and the Texas Historical Commission's regional archeologist for Northcentral Texas and the Panhandle. He will discuss how to put our phones to work in our archeological endeavors. Please plan to attend and bring a guest with you. The meeting will be a great prelude to a

Happy Valentine's Day!

Inside this issue:

February Speaker Arlo McKee & Mobile Technology	2
Monthly Meetings Location & News	3
Texas Archeology Events	4
Membership & Society Info	5

Connect with NTAS:

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

www.NTXAS.org

info@ntxas.org

North Texas Archeological Society

February Speaker: Arlo McKee

The State of Mobile Technologies; Or, Putting Our Phone Addiction to Work for Archeology

NASA sent astronauts to the moon with computers that could perform calculations 100 thousand times slower than the average cell phone most of us carry in our pockets today. These devices are so present in most of our lives, that mobile app development is an industry with more than \$70 billion in annual revenues. Both mobile hardware and software have seen more than 75% growth since 2016, and the pace of this development is often so staggering that most of us consumers have little idea where to begin with selecting the best apps to help us with our passions. Today's smartphones integrate what were previously thought of as separate recording techniques. The same small device can be used as a camera, calculator, GIS/GPS, and for managing databases, as a notepad, drafting, and the list goes on. This presentation will focus on the ways we can think about these devices compared to traditional pen and paper, and we'll hopefully identify some avenues where we can better make use of relatively low-cost apps for field recording. With both the diversity of integrated technologies and the rapid pace of app development, we will be covering some of the current apps that will likely prove to have some "staying power" and ultimately be worth investing time learning before your next field project.

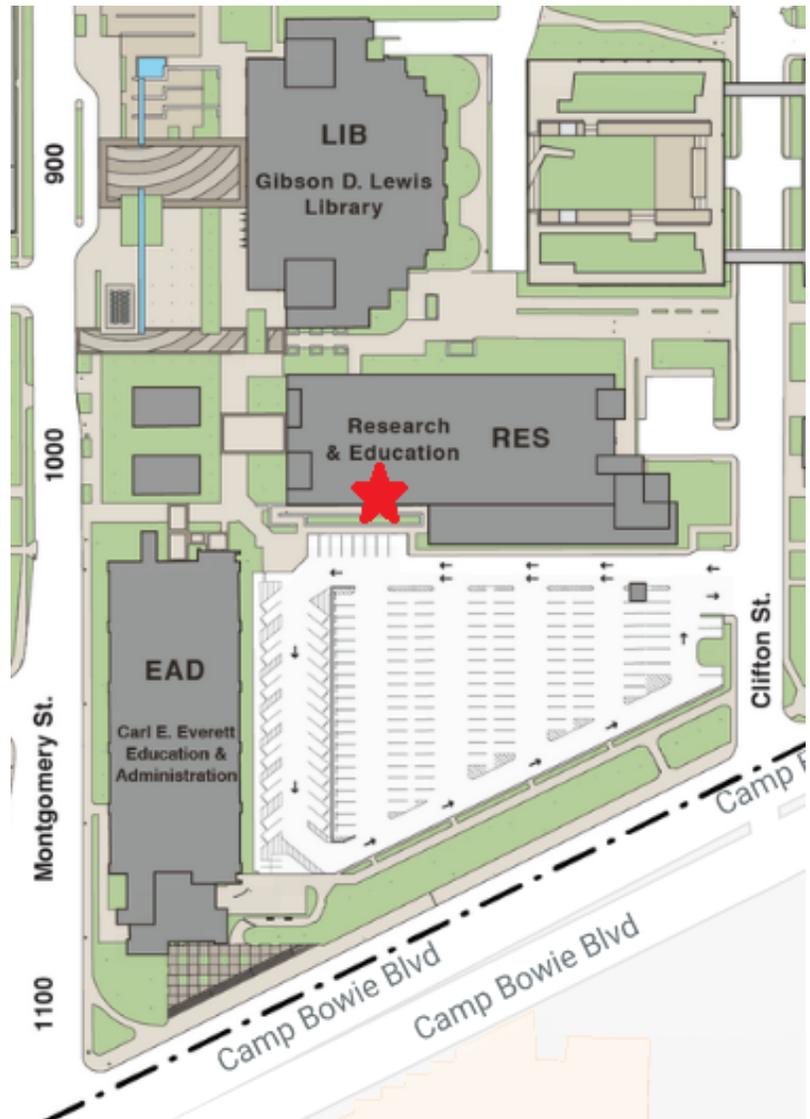


Arlo McKee is the regional archeologist for Northcentral Texas and the Panhandle for the Texas Historical Commission. Since 2009, he has been living in Texas and has been focused on various aspects of Texas Geoarchaeology and Geospatial Information Sciences. He has a MA degree in Geoarchaeology from the University of Kansas and is currently working on his PhD dissertation in Geospatial Information Sciences at the University of Texas at Dallas. He has experience conducting archaeological and remote sensing studies throughout Texas and most of the Midwest. Much of Arlo's interest in archaeology centers on the use of geospatial technologies to understand site preservation.

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

March 12th: Tiffany Osburn

April 9th: Thomas Guderjan

May 14th: Marian Keene

Welcome New NTAS Members:

Wes Shannon
Sandra Kline

Timothy S. Dalbey
Robert Lovett

Melissa Brown
Freddy Frankel

East Texas Archeological Conference/Caddo Conference

When: February 28-29, 2020

Where: University of Texas at Tyler

The 27th ETAC and 62nd Caddo Conference are combined in Tyler this year. The keynote speaker will be George Sabo III who will be speaking about the Archeology of Caddo Storytelling. More info available at: <https://sites.google.com/view/easttexasarchaeologyconference/home>

TAS Ceramics Academy

When: March 28-29, 2020

Where: Fort Concho National Historic Landmark

Cost: \$100 (and TAS membership)

This two-day Texas Archeology Academy provides a comprehensive background and understanding of prehistoric and historic ceramics from archeological sites. Expect a hands-on learning environment! In this workshop you will learn how pottery is made and used, how pottery reflects cultural traditions, and how archeologists use the ceramic data to understand the people and their past lifeways. Participants will learn to recognize and sort sherds to answer questions about ancient lifeways. Presenters include Dr. Chris Lintz, Marybeth Tomka, and Becky Shelton. The cost includes two days of instruction, refreshments, lunch, and a digital manual.

TAS Archeology 101 Academy

When: May 1-3, 2020

Where: San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site

Cost: \$100 (and TAS membership)

This three-day Texas Archeology Academy introduces the field of archeology and provides each participant with the tools to identify, assess, and record an archeological site. Instruction will include identifying archeological sites, mapping visible remains, analyzing evidence, reporting finds, and protecting our heritage from destruction. This Academy will include instruction and laboratory exercises led by Dr. John Lohse and a day of field excavations at San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site. Dr. Sarah Chesney, archeologist at the San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site will be the Principal Investigator for Sunday's excavations. The cost includes three days of instruction, refreshments, lunch, and a digital manual.

See the TAS website for more details and to register: <https://www.txarch.org/tas-academies>

Scholarships are available from TAS and NTAS via their websites

Homer Norris Art Raffle

Buy raffle tickets February-April



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 2020 NTAS dues!

By PayPal: Complete the Application Form and pay online with PayPal at the NTAS website, ntxas.org/membership

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 2020 **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

****Please make checks payable to NTAS****

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 _____