

Tarrant County Archeological Society

President's Message

As the year winds down and my term as TCAS President comes to an end, I am excited to turn the reins over to James Everett and our newly elected Board of Directors. It has been an honor and a pleasure to serve such a talented, generous and caring group of members.

My sincere thanks go out to:

TCAS Board – for their professionalism, dedication and commitment to TCAS and its mission. Whether it was lining up speakers, preparing our newsletter, planning member activities, maintaining our internet presence, keeping track of our finances, records and activities, each did a superb job!



Chris Meis, President

TCAS Members – for setting an example of what a Regional Archeological Society should be; always participating in TAS events, always volunteering to share their archeological knowledge with the community.

Refreshment & Coffee Volunteers – our monthly meetings would be lacking without your efforts of time and money. The friendly social atmosphere our society is known for is a result of your contributions.

Meeting Attendees – your presence at our monthly meetings is so appreciated. It is impressive for visiting speakers to have such an enthusiastic and interested audience. Thanks for showing up!

Monthly Speakers – Our speakers consistently present interesting, thought-provoking programs each month. Taking time out of their busy lives to address our group is appreciated.

Memorial Fund Donors – because of your contributions, we have been able to send students to TAS Field Schools and Annual Meetings. Those past TCAS members you honor through your generosity would be proud!

Get your party hats on and that White Elephant Gift wrapped since our Christmas/Holiday party is December 8th. It is always a fun evening and a great chance to visit with your friends away from the normal time crunch of our monthly meetings (see page 3 for additional party details). May each of you have a memorable holiday season with your loved ones. See you in January for the start of another exciting year of Archeology.

REMEMBER TO INCLUDE TCAS IN YOUR YEAR-END CHARITABLE GIVING!!

Connect with TCAS!

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/TCAS-Tarrant-County-ArcheologicalSociety>

Website: www.tarrantarch.org

Email: info@tarrantarch.org

TCAS meetings are open to the public! Visitors are always welcome!



Moving Forward: TCAS changes name to NTAS

By James Everett

At the November Tarrant County Archeological Society meeting, members voted 28 to 8 to change the name of our organization to North Texas Archeological Society. The Board is currently identifying all of the actions needed to complete the name change (e.g., change our name on bank accounts, tax forms, email addresses, web site, newsletter, etc.). It will require several months before all necessary actions have been completed. At this point, the status of our name change is that:

Beginning in January, our name change to NTAS will be reflected on the newsletter, on the web site, and in references to our organization in emails and announcements.

Until further notice, **checks should continue to be made out to Tarrant County Archeological Society**, the name on our current bank account.

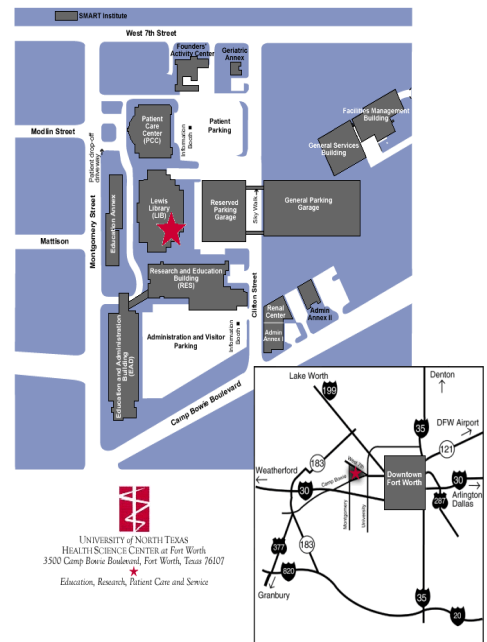
The change in our name more accurately reflects the regional nature of our membership and our activities, and NTAS will continue the TCAS tradition of being a highly respected and very active archeological society.

Monthly Meeting Speakers

- January 10: Dr. David Kilby, Associate Professor, Texas State University
- February 14: Dr. Tim Sullivan, Professor, Richland College

Monthly meetings are free and visitors are always welcome! Plan now to join us!

TCAS 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 (UNTHSC), 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 "1" 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



<https://www.unthsc.edu/campusmap/>

TCAS Annual Holiday Party

Come join us as we celebrate!

- When:** December 8th, 6:30 p.m.
- Where:** Home of Paula Vastine
7609 Spring Creek Court, Fort Worth
See map below: Exit 23, Cook's Lane
- Bring:** A dish of food to share
An archeologically-related gift to exchange
A canned food item to donate to the North Texas Food Bank



Getting it right: the Doss Heritage & Culture Center

The Newberry Cabin has served as a primary archeological excavation field project for Professor Katrina Nuncio, her students at Weatherford College, and the members of the Tarrant County Archeological Society. Katrina has very kindly written numerous articles documenting the progress at the site and the ongoing artifact identification efforts in the Lab at Weatherford College. Many of our TCAS members have spent long hot hours this past summer at the Cabin, preparing the dig sites, documenting the progress every step down this path. The Cabin is now awaiting transport to the Doss Heritage and Culture Center in the Pioneer Cabin Park, to serve as one of the pioneer cabins that will tell the visual story of early Parker County. All of this has also provided valuable

field opportunities to all the participants. These opportunities would not have happened without the support of the Doss Heritage and Culture Center in Weatherford, the City of Weatherford, and of course, the citizens of this ever-growing town. They've proven that historic preservation that highlights archeological artifacts and principles is a really good idea.

Of course, there is more to see and do at the Doss. As these photos show, the Doss is a Texas History Museum, showcasing pieces that played a historic role in early Texas. Kudos to curator Amanda Edwards and the rest of the staff on making the Doss a fun destination.



**The Quilter's Art:
original signatures, hand-stitched**



The Majestic Texas Longhorn



From farm to town, by buckboard



Photos by Lloyd Erwin

Family friendly: the Doss Heritage & Culture Center

If you're looking for a safe, friendly place to take the kids to visit Santa, please consider visiting the Doss Heritage and Culture Center on **December 8th**. Listen to a few Christmas treasures, too. A fun, relaxing time to take a break with your family. Best of all, there is no admission fee at the Doss!



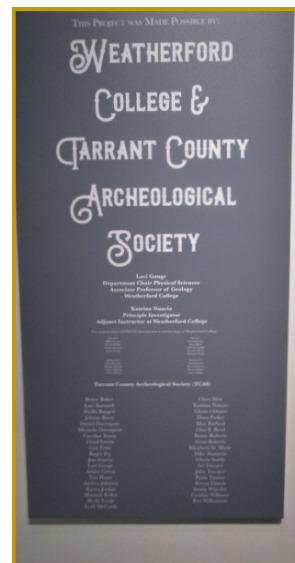
Address:
1400 Texas Dr
Weatherford, TX 76086
[Directions](#)

It's a Fact! Check out the WC & TCAS Placque!

DOSS HERITAGE & CULTURE CENTER

HERITAGE CHRISTMAS

Saturday, December 8, 2018
 11am-3pm Holiday Activities in Heritage Hall
 11am-1pm Christmas Music in the Museum
 1pm-3pm Santa Visit



See reviews of the Museum and more photos of the exhibits online at

<https://www.facebook.com/DossHeritageandCultureCenter/>

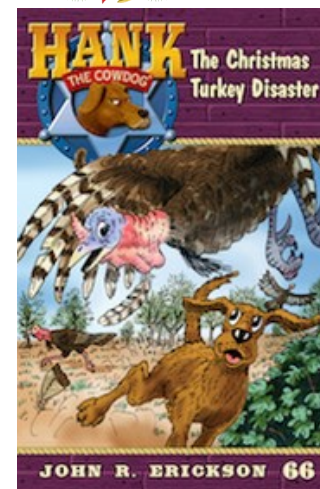
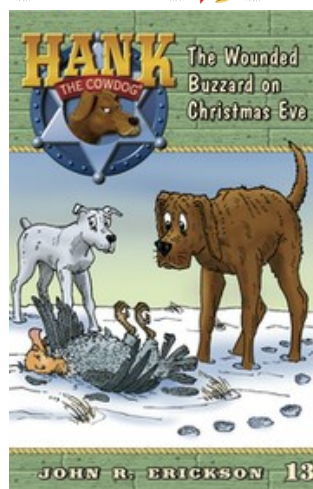
Visit the website at <http://dosscenter.org>



Gift Suggestions: Author John Erickson and his fictional pal, Hank the Cowdog, were known to our children and grandchildren long before he spoke to us at the 2008 TAS Field School in Perryton. Hank's struggles to maintain order on the ranch, while staying out of big trouble, bring joy to kids year around. If you're looking for a stocking stuffer, please consider these stories of Hank's Christmas adventures that are sure to delight.

Order online from

<http://www.hankthecowdog.com/books>



A Holiday Message from Max Ratheal

As these holidays approach, I would like to bring to your attention a couple of thoughts I feel are pertinent to our special circumstances in life. Special, as a club that dedicates itself to the furthestmost of archeological knowledge. Through scientific investigation we endeavor to determine where artifacts came from, what groups they belong to, when they got to where they were found, how they arrived at these places, and what glorious information about the past do they tell us. Indeed, the study of all the sciences tries to enlighten all of us, from the chemist, biologist, climatologist to the astrophysicist and every discipline in between. There is a concerted effort to answer the following questions: when did it happen, where did it happen, how did it happen, where did it develop and perhaps too, how does this information coincide with our everyday life.

These holidays also suggest that it is time for an introspection of our religious beliefs. It was pointed out to me many years ago that there should not be any conflict between science and religion since the two topics don't even try to answer the same questions. As previously outlined, science tries to answer, where, when, how, and how it fits in. Religion answers who did it and why. Therefore we should embrace both. Contemplate the thoughts we all must have had at one time or another; if one adheres strictly to the literal teachings of our faith's great books (Bible, Torah, Koran. for example) or fear a modicum of heresy? I don't think so since each great religious work is accompanied by thousands of interpretations; we should celebrate mankind's ability to contemplate these diverse ideologies and try our best to reconcile them in our lives.

Our marvelous secular nation guarantees us the right to believe as we choose. We may embrace science and/or religion as we see fit. At this Holiday season I invite each of you to revel in this freedom, revel in our great freedoms as a people and our great freedoms of/from religion, freedoms of/from science. Spread the joy of life and humanity.

And from me, a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year** to you all.

A few words of gratitude

From Charlene Erwin

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as the editor of the **Benchmark**. The newsletter has continued to evolve and become a much better publication because of the interest, support and contributions from you, the members of the Tarrant County Archeological Society. Your ideas and your photos have given us all a better view. The constant support and editorial contributions of the members of the TCAS Board have also been a fundamentally important part of this. For all of that, I thank each of you.

I personally have enjoyed getting to know you and learn from you. The TCAS events and the Holiday Parties, the annual TAS Field Schools and Annual Meetings, the TAS Academies, which often included traveling with Lloyd, my best friend and partner in life, to so many wonderful locations here in Texas, have all been tremendous educational opportunities. Again, I thank you for these times.

The name change for TCAS is monumental and positions the Society for more regional growth. I am excited about the future for NTAS! I am also delighted that **Molly Hall**, a talented archeologist, will be the new editor for the **Benchmark**. I know that everyone will enjoy getting to know Molly and work with her as she documents the continuing story of NTAS with a fresh and vital voice.

Thank you, Molly!

Best wishes to us all for a joyous Holiday Season!



Tarrant County Archeological Society

2019 Rock Art Academy in El Paso



When: February 16-17, 2019 **Registration ends: January 17, 2019**

Where: El Paso Museum of Archaeology & Hueco Tanks State Park

From the TAS website:

Learning to record and interpret rock art can illuminate both how a site was used by people and how people interacted with the natural environment and cultural influences. This Academy will include classroom instruction, and field trips where participants will have the opportunity to participate in a rock art recording session at Hueco Tanks State Park. The instructor team includes experienced rock art specialists and archeologists who specialize in Mogollon culture.

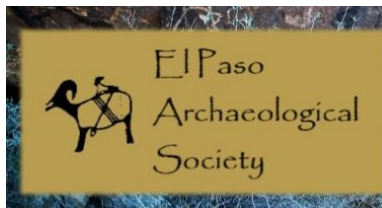
More information is available from TAS at <https://txarch.org/civicrm-event/192>

This Academy is being presented in partnership with the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, the El Paso Archeological Society, and Texas Parks and Wildlife – Hueco Tanks State Park.



Visit the Museum website

<https://archaeology.elpasotexas.gov>



Visit the EPAS website at

<http://www.epas.com>



Learn more about the Hueco Tanks State Park at

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/hueco-tanks>

Note: Please consider registering **now for this terrific Academy.**

Don't wait until the deadline!

26th Annual East Texas Archeological Conference

Saturday, February 23, 2019, Tyler, Texas Time: 8 am to 4:30 Cost: \$20 (includes lunch)

Topic: The Paleoindians

Speakers: Dr. Michael Waters, Dr. Michael Collins, and Dr. Amanda Evens

Sponsored by the University of Texas at Tyler

Dr. Thomas Guderjan, Chair, Department of Social Sciences

More info available at <https://sites.google.com/view/easttexasarchaeologyconference/home>



TCAS: Preserving the Past for the Future

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

By PayPal: Complete the Application Form and pay online using your PayPal account at the TCAS website, www.tarrantarch.org

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

In person: Give your dues and completed application to Lloyd Erwin at the monthly meetings.

December 2018

TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TCAS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name(s) _____

Type of Membership and Fee

New _____ Renewal _____

Address _____

_____ Individual \$20 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee

City\State\Zip _____

_____ Family \$25 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee

Preferred Phone _____

_____ Student \$10 (**enrolled in grade school through college/university whose coursework is considered to be half time or more**)

Email Address _____

I want my newsletter delivered by _____ email or _____

_____ Contributing \$30 _____ \$10 USPS Mail Fee

by USPS mail. Thank you for choosing delivery by email.

_____ Optional Memorial Fund Contribution

Membership Term: January to December

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 _____