July, 2017 Volume 31, Issue 6

# Benchmark

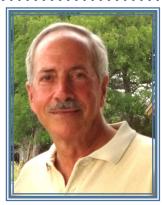


## **Tarrant County Archeological Society**

#### President's Message

Hope you were one of the 40 + TCAS members who attended this year's TAS Field School in Camp Wood, Texas. Our members always show up in large numbers for Field School, but with our eight scholarship recipients, we really had a strong presence this year. In talking to those at the Mission San Lorenzo de la Cruz, the excavations went well and people are anxious to get back next June and continue the preliminary discoveries made this year. If you got a chance to hear Dr. Tamra Walter at the Thursday night public forum, you have a better understanding of what these Field Schools could mean to the community of Camp Wood. The archeological and historical information being discovered will be invaluable to the community and its future.

Tiffany Osburn, Art Tawater and I all ran survey crews on different ranches and, true to West Texas traditions, the ranch owners and employees were gracious, generous and very interested in learning all they could about archeological



Chris Meis, President

sites on their properties. That, coupled with beautiful scenery and the cold, clear Nueces River made for a really enjoyable 2017 Field School.

We fortunately were able to send eight students and teachers to the TAS Field School through our Memorial Fund donations. It is still a learning experience for the Board in awarding these scholarships and one lesson learned this year was that we need to announce the awards earlier in May. They were announced after our May meeting this year which meant that the TCAS membership did not get a chance to meet the recipients before Field School. We will change that for 2018. Please refer to Page 2 of this newsletter for more info about the recipients.

Now that we are entering the second half of 2017, our attention turns to making the 2017 TAS Annual Meeting an outstanding one. We have had many people volunteer to help but we will be going through our list of tasks that have to be addressed and asking TCAS members to help in specific areas. Also, please start gathering those silent auction donations. Gen Freix is in charge of the Silent Auction this year, so talk to her about delivery details. With our two excellent speakers, Dr. Pegi Jodry and Dr. Dennis Stanford and the popular Grapevine location, we should have a great turn-out in October.

Mark your calendar and make plans to hear Dr. Glen Sample Ely speak about his book "The Texas Frontier and the Butterfield Overland Mail 1858-1861." Dr. Sample is a Texas historian and an engaging speaker and you will enjoy this view of Texas's past.

See you at our meeting on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks for being a TCAS member and supporter!



#### **Upcoming Speakers**





August 10: Jim Frisinger Sept 14: Dr. Brad Jones Oct. 12: Dr. John Connaway

Nov 9: Arlo McKee

**Connect with TCAS!** 

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

Website: www.tarrantarch.org Email: i

Email: info@tarrantarch.org

## **TCAS 2017 Memorial Scholarship Recipients**

Congratulations to the latest group of the TCAS Memorial Scholarshhip recipients! Those attending the 2017 TAS Field School in Camp Wood were Jessica Demarais, Lori Gouge, Andrea Johnson, Anabelle McClellin, Deborah Robinson, Ian Teeples, Julee Teeples, and Valerie Winn. For the first time this year TCAS selected three professional educators, Deborah, Lori and Julee, as recipients.

Special recognition is due to Jessica. She attended the 2016 TAS Field School as a student Scholarship recipient, became an active TCAS member, and received a Scholarship as a student to attend this year. Jessica camped out both years and embraced the entire FS experience by excavating and even joining a survey crew for a day. Of course, we wish her the best as she continues to pursue her educational goals. The rumor is that her atlatl skills are growing and she is well on her way as an avocational archeologist.

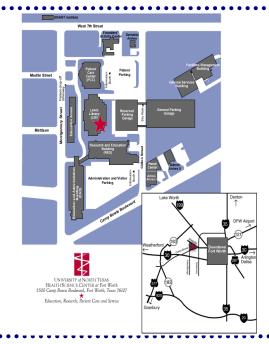
None of this would be possible without the continued support of the generous donors to the Memorial Scholarship Fund. Thanks to each of you! The Fund was established as a way to honor the memories of the dedicated TCAS members who gave of their own time and shared their talents in making TCAS a better organization. Joe Nichols, John Yates, Becky Glasgow and Jay Hornsby will always have a special place in our hearts. It is our hope that each of the Scholarship recipients will develop an appreciation for the important role that archeology plays in preserving the history of Texas. Since the recipients are members of TCAS, we look forward to meeting each one personally as they become more active in the Society.



Jessica at the excavation site

Photo by Daniel Scott Arnauld

TCAS meets at 7:30 pm 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 PM) 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.



## July Speaker: Dr. Glen Sample Ely

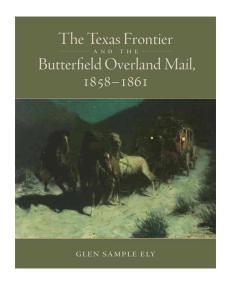
The **TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TCAS)** will welcome Dr. Glen Sample Ely as the featured speaker for the July 13th meeting. Plan now to join us and meet this distinguished Texas historian who truly has driven and photographed miles and miles of Texas. TCAS meetings are free and visitors are always welcome.



Photo provided by Dr. Glen Sample Ely

From Dr. Ely: My presentation will discuss my quarter century of field work and research across Texas for my latest book, *The Texas Frontier and the Butterfield Overland Mail, 1858-1861*, published by OU Press in 2016. This award-winning book is a history of the Texas frontier, its settlements, and its people before the Civil War, from the Red River to El Paso. Reviews of this book have said that it is "Texas & Western History at their best, beautifully written, filled with compelling stories, a monumental work, sweeping, comprehensive, and eloquent, a masterpiece of scholarship."

Dr. Glen Sample Ely is a Texas historian and documentary producer. He earned his Ph.D. in history from Texas Christian University. Ely's work has won The Award of Excellence in Preserving History from the Texas Historical Commission as well as Gold and Silver Wilder Awards from the Texas Association of Museums. His first book, Where the West Begins: Debating Texas Identity, published by Texas Tech University Press, is now in its third printing.



Check out Dr. Ely's Butterfield Blog at <a href="https://texashistory.com/category/butterfield-blog/">https://texashistory.com/category/butterfield-blog/</a>

## "A Taint on the Wind" by Frederic Remington, 1906

If you are a Frederic Remington fan, you know that the scene depicted on the front of Dr. Ely's latest book, *The Texas Frontier and the Butterfield Overland Mail, 1858-1861,* is a reproduction of one of Remington's more iconic works, *A Taint On the Wind*, painted in 1906. To see the original painting, take a trip to Downtown Fort Worth and visit the Sid Richardson Museum. To learn more about the painting the lazy, easy way, peruse the Museum's Curator's Corner at <a href="https://www.sidrichardsonmuseum.org/blog/travel-by-night/">https://www.sidrichardsonmuseum.org/blog/travel-by-night/</a>

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## TAS Field School 2017: Back in the Saddle Again

#### By James Everett

June 10 found me doing something I had done a number of times in the 70s, 80s and early 90s – serving as a TAS field school crew chief. During the week at Camp Wood, half of the 10 dedicated, enthusiastic people who worked with me were TCAS members.

Katrina Nuncio used her expertise and field experience to help out as our informal assistant crew chief. Also, all week she successfully overcame the hot sun and constant red ant attacks. Sunscreen and Raid make a powerful combination!!

Jerry Grubis was the first to arrive at our units every morning. He worked extremely hard, and brought with him a sturdy, professional shade and a "smooth-as-glass" roller screen, both of which he built. Thanks, Jerry!

The crew had three TCAS scholarship recipients: Anabelle McClellin, a high school student; Debbie Robinson, an outstanding teacher; and Valerie Winn, one of Katrina's Weatherford College students. They helped grid the units, excavated, screened, and voted on many of our Munsell readings. (Personally, I wouldn't know a taupe from a jeep, so I often use "participative Munselling" and I very much appreciated their opinions on soil colors.) TCAS can be proud of these three participants and of all of our scholarship award winners this year.

Experienced TAS members Robin and Ann Matthews also played vital roles on our team. In addition to finding an adobe wall and many of the artifacts described later in this article, they celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with us. Due to the timing of TAS field schools, they always end up observing their anniversaries surrounded by the heat, the dirt, and close friends at field school.

In the chaos of getting organized on the first morning, Carol Macaulay-Jameson took steps to ensure that one of her Baylor students, Maisha Dramiga, was assigned to our crew. All of us benefited from Mai's cheerful attitude and her willing contributions to every aspect of the work we accomplished

Genny McElhaney was with the crew for the first two days and helped open the units. Sarah Chesney joined us for the last part of the dig. I have no artistic ability so I was delighted to learn that Sarah was willing to draw the plan map and two wall profiles for the unit she was helping to excavate. Yes!!

Throughout the week, Mike Boyles, our Texas Tech Area Supervisor, was friendly, knowledgeable, and totally supportive of our crew. That really made a difference.

The archeology in our units inspired our work all week. We were asked to explore part of the previously unexcavated north wall of the mission. In less than 90 minutes of careful digging and brushing, we found adobe "wall fall" and deteriorating adobe bricks. By 11:00 a.m. on the first day, we encountered a yellowish adobe brick wall running north/south, connected to the grayish bricks of the mission's north wall. During the week, we found another north/south wall and several burned roof beams/vigas. Among the artifacts the crew recovered were a highly patinated Guerrero point, a tiny turquoise bead, burned and unburned bone fragments, and numerous non-native glazed ceramics.

Evenings at camp confirmed that many important field school traditions continue, including the sinking of the <u>Titanic</u> and lectures by recognized experts in many fields. I could also see that meaningful new traditions are being established.

(Continued on page 5)

#### TAS Field School 2017: Back in the Saddle

(Continued from page 4)

For example, thanks in large part to Glynn Osburn, interest in the events of the archeolymics is expanding exponentially. Soon, no hay bale will stand a chance against TAS atlatls.

The impressive archeology, the fabulous fellowship, and memories that last a lifetime are just a few of the things that make TAS field schools so important for the Society and for each participant. For me, next year's field school can't come soon enough.

James and the crew plus Mike from Texas Tech: standing (left to right) - James, Mike, Debbie, Katrina, Anabelle, Maisha, and Jerry. Kneeling: Ann, Robin, and Sarah. The photo was taken on Thursday, so Valerie and Genny had already left.

Photo provided by Robin and Ann Matthews



#### TAS Field School 2017: #33 for Mark Cohen



Congratulations to Mark Cohen! 2017 was his 33rd consecutive year to attend the TAS Field School! A lot of partnerships, friendships, heck, even marriages, don't last that long. The 1984 FS, his first, was held in Rowe Valley, just outside of Austin. His favorite job assignment is, and has been for many years, to screen the dirt, dust, debris removed from the units in search of small treasures, which he consistently discovers. That small Perdiz or Scallorn, a blackened button, and many small alibates flakes have been saved because of his patience, keen eyesight and attention to detail.

His faithfulness to TAS and TCAS is equally admirable. Kudos, Mark, on this remarkable record. We appreciate you!

Photo by Catrina Whitley

## Confirmation: Lemur befriends TAS Survey Crew



A lemur? Yes, a lemur lives somewhere close to Camp Wood, Texas. This lucky lemur lives in his own home with his own devoted and well trained human staffers who maintain his high status lifestyle. The photo to the left offers proof that he enthusiastically supports the archeological work being done by the TAS Survey Crew led by Chris Meis!

This engaging and agile ringtailed lemur became a topic of one of the more riveting camp discussion\rumor items at the 2017 FS. A lemur??? Really?? Really.

Note: the lemur's name and exact location are not printed here to protect his privacy. Thanks to Chris and whoever took these photos for reminding us all that FS often surprises and delights.



## FS 2017 Lab: TCAS Pros bring expertise, great attitudes

Before working in the 2017 Field School Lab, our TCAS members Ona B. Reed, Wendy Lockwood, Paula Vastine and Lloyd Erwin spent years, even decades, in the field, developing skills in various aspects of archeology. In the Lab, each of these pros could often be found mentoring new attendees, offering assistance without being asked, as they washed, sorted and classified items delivered from the various units. All of these tasks were accomplished with great attitudes, proving that Lab is a terrific space for pros.





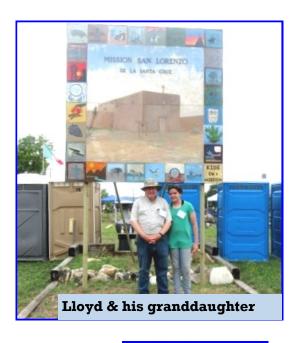
Excavation site treasures, cleaned and preserved



## FS is always family friendly

From the Texas Panhandle to Camp Wood, TAS Field Schools provide opportunities for unique family fun.







Carol & her grandsons

We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future. Franklin D. Roosevelt







## **TAS On Facebook**







Texas Archeological Society Members and Friends

FS 2017 is now on Facebook. See fun photos of TCAS members Bryan, Gen, Lori, Jerry, James, and Katrina, among others. Kudos to Daniel Scott Arnauld and Nathan Palmer for sharing their skills.

## TCAS: Preserving the Past for the Future

#### TCAS BOARD Catrina Banks Whitley Lloyd Erwin **James Everett** Chris Meis Vice President - Projects Historian Secretary President Katrina Nuncio Gen Freix **Dana Ritchie Parker Bryan Jameson** Immediate Past President Internet Chair Treasurer **Vice President** Charlene Erwin **Newsletter Editor** •••••• Paying your dues is easier than ever this year! By PayPal: Register 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. ★..... July, 2017 TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TCAS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM Type of Membership and Fee New Renewal Individual \$20 \$10 USPS Mail Fee Address \_ Family \$25 \$10 USPS Mail Fee City\State\Zip Preferred Phone \_ Student \$10 (enrolled in grade school through college/university whose coursework is Email Address considered to be half time or more) 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 UNDER-STAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE SOCIETY.

Date

Signature