

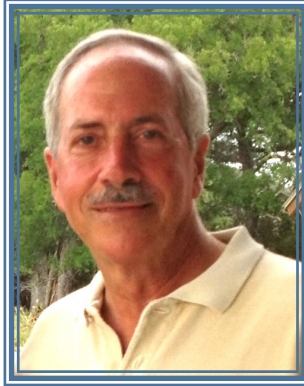


## Tarrant County Archeological Society

### President's Message

If you have not taken time to register for the TAS Field School at Mission San Lorenzo de la Cruz, please hurry up and do so! The online registration has been challenging but you still have time to be old school, fill out a form and mail it in. TCAS has historically had a significant presence at Field Schools and hopefully we'll repeat that at Camp Wood in June. It should be a great event with interesting archeology, the beautiful Hill Country Nueces river to play in and the irreplaceable comradery of your TAS friends.

There will be several crews working on the historic Spanish colonial mission component, a metal-detecting survey crew and one or two other survey crews documenting sites on neighboring ranches. If you prefer something less physical, the lab always needs lots of assistance washing, sorting and cataloging the daily artifacts. Doug Boyd will again do his fantastic job of running the youth group and if history repeats itself, the kids will find



**Chris Meis, President**

some of the most interesting artifacts of the week.

Last year, which was the second year our Society funded student scholarships to the TAS Field School, we awarded three. This year we have been fortunate to receive several student and teacher applications, which will be reviewed by the Board and awarded after the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline. If you applied for a scholarship we will let you know on May 16<sup>th</sup> so you can finalize your plans. The number of applications has been surprising and I am so glad our generous donors have allowed us to be in a position to fund several scholarships this year. TCAS will be known for not only having a significant presence but for sending a sig-

nificant contingent of deserving students and teachers to Camp Wood.

Our Local Arrangements Committee has been busy with Annual Meeting details. With our excellent speakers for both evenings and the newly renovated Embassy Suites Hotel, this year's meeting is shaping up to be a great one. If you haven't stayed at an Embassy Suites before, your room rate includes a delicious breakfast buffet and an evening Happy Hour. Somehow the hotel has heard that archeologists are known for their proclivity of drinking and having a good time and will stock the bar accordingly! We need your help with Silent Auction donations. Please consider donating any appropriate items to the auction. See Gen Freix to coordinate delivery of your items.

Dr. Mary Black will be our speaker this month. She will be speaking on her new travel guide book titled *From the Frio to Del Rio, Travel Guide to the Western Hill Country and the Lower Pecos Canyonlands*.

*(Continued on page 3)*

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**Upcoming Speakers**

June: No TCAS Meeting July 13: Dr. Glen Sample Ely August 10: Jim Frisinger Sept 14: Dr. Brad Jones

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### Connect with TCAS!

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

**Website:** [www.tarrantarch.org](http://www.tarrantarch.org)

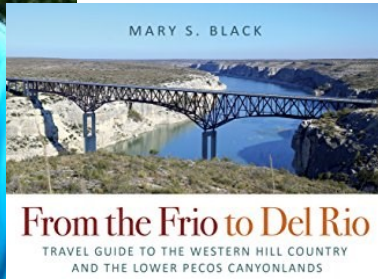
**Email:** [info@tarrantarch.org](mailto:info@tarrantarch.org)

# May Speakers: Mary S. Black and Margie Crisp

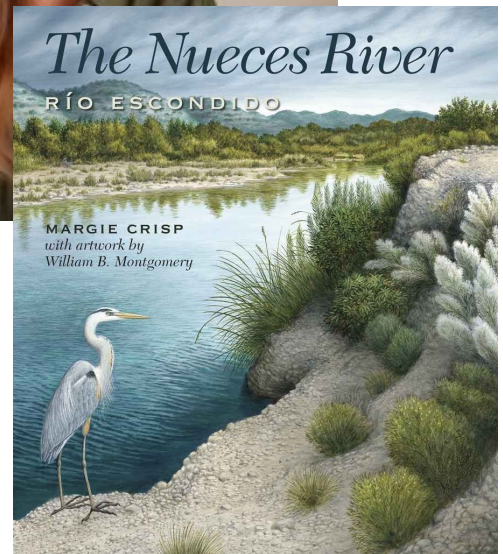
The **TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TCAS)** will welcome Mary S. Black and Margie Crisp as the featured speakers for the May 11th meeting. Each will be speaking about their respective travel guides. TCAS meetings are free and visitors are always welcome.



Mary



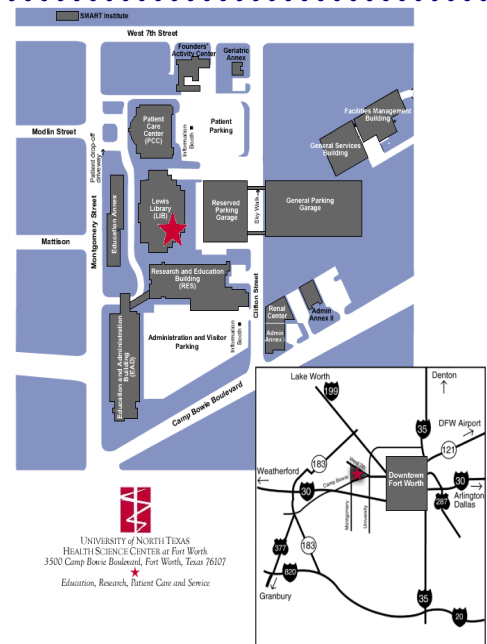
Margie



Authors' photos provided by Mary S. Black and Margie Crisp.



**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.**



## President's Message

(Continued from page 1)

Mary is an entertaining speaker and as an added bonus she will be joined by Margie Crisp, author of *The Nueces River*. Both of these publications sound like great reading to take along to this year's Field School.

Make plans to join us on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm and remember there is no meeting in June. See you at Field School!

***Thanks for being a TCAS member and supporter!***



### Welcome to new TCAS members!



Welcome to our newest TCAS members: Billy Cannon, Meghan Cannon, Gracie Cannon, Stephanie Clark, Caroline Erwin, Patrick Espinosa, Brenda Jackson, Ron Jackson, Anabelle McClellin, and Mary VonZastrow.



**We're so glad that you have joined us!**



## Gault Site Visit: A Hill Country Treasure

***By Katrina Nuncio***

On Saturday, April 29, I had the privilege of accompanying Lori Gouge and my Weatherford College students in a tour of the Gault Site. I have been to Gault on two previous tours with large groups of people but this was different with just six of us. Dr. Clark Wernecke graciously arranged his time to conduct this tour for my group. The end of the semester was fast approaching and I very much wanted my class to see firsthand this site that is so important to the settling of the Americas.

Because there were only six of us in this tour, any questions we had were quickly answered with thorough explanations – the benefits of a small versus a large group. Of course Lori Gouge as a geologist was viewing the site through her profession and asked some interesting questions. Seeing the large veins of chert is always an impressive sight.

One thing I learned on this visit was that the “flute” on a Clovis point is more accurately called basal thinning. Dr. Wernecke also stated that the “flute”

is not the last thing a flintknapper completes on his Clovis point, but rather it is the first thing. Napping the “flute” first before any thinning has taken place helps to insure the napper will be able to successfully produce a finished point while the material is still fairly thick. This is just the opposite of what I have always heard about the “flute” being the last thing completed on a Clovis point and because the point is already thinned, the chance of breakage is very high.

My little group really enjoyed the tour and urged me to make this tour a part of all my Introduction to Archeology courses. I am so very glad that we have a site like Gault that is available and open to the public. If you have never visited the Gault Site, I highly recommend it. There are a couple of museums in the area that periodically host tours or if you have enough people you can always arrange your own tour with Dr. Wernecke.



Learn more about the chronology of Central Texas from the Gault website:

<http://www.gaultschool.org/history/peopling-americas-timeline>

## Newberry Cabin Project: Two Work Days Scheduled for May

*By Katrina Nuncio*

I have planned two last work days at this site before everyone disperses for TAS Field School and other various projects. If you are interested in joining us please put your name on the signup sheet at the May meeting or email me at [www.tarrantarch.org](http://www.tarrantarch.org). I will email directions to you when you let me know you are coming to the site. Unless we get extensive rain right before the excavation date, the days are as follows with a start time of 9:00 AM and ending at approximately 3:00 PM:

**Friday, May 12**  
**Saturday, May 20**

Since my last article for the April Benchmark, TCAS members and my Weatherford College students have completed three days of excavation. During those days we had visitors from the Weatherford Preservation and Historical Commission, the Parker County Historical Commission, and some students from Texas Christian University. We also had a journalist from the Weatherford NOW magazine that interviewed five of my students (past and present semesters), Lori Gouge and myself for a future article that I think will be published in their August edition. In keeping up with the new technology available to archeologists now, the operator of the drone owned by the Weatherford College Police Department came out and flew over various points of interest on the property including the Cabin and took pictures. I can't wait to see the results of this work!

Oh yes, the cows still find our excavation units absolutely fascinating and the orange temporary fencing is apparently quite tasty to them. They also seemed to find the pink string tied to the datum to be complementary to their cud. I was trying to untangle the datum string after one of their forays into the units and couldn't figure out what the green stuff was that was "gluing" the string together. Since the cows couldn't get the string loose from the datum they spit the string interlaced with their cud out. Thank goodness for hand sanitizer! Before we begin excavating again in the fall, we will have to install a much sturdier form of temporary fencing around our excavation units.

As I previously said, we had three excavation days at the Cabin: Friday, March 31, eleven participants including my Weatherford students; Saturday, April 8, fourteen participants, with two students from Dr. Leah McCurdy's archeology class at TCU; and Friday, April 28, twelve participants again including my four Weatherford students. Throughout this past fall and spring, Art Tawater, Bret Williamson, Chris Meis, and Mike Shannon have managed to be at the Cabin for nearly every excavation day. I would have accomplished very little had I not had help from these guys and all the rest of the TCAS members who came and excavated. My sincere and heartfelt thanks go to each and every one of you for all your assistance.

In total we have opened seven units of which two are still open. We found red clay just before we reached 30 cm on the five closed units and for all practical purposes these units were sterile at that level. Johnny Byers, our resident geoarcheologist, predicted this is what we would find when we reached the red clay. Thanks Johnny!

We have continued to find an abundance of rusted metal with some identifiable historic artifacts. Much is not identifiable which is to be expected from land that has been farmed for a long period of time as this has.

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## Newberry Cabin Project

*(Continued from page 4)*

There is also a lot of glass and ceramic fragments, some of which have maker's marks and other features that will assist in dating the occupation of the Newberry Cabin.

One of the identifiable artifacts is the small porcelain leg of a dog that is very similar to a Hertwig dog that was manufactured in the early 1900's in Germany.



We found several buttons with the phrase "Honor Bright" on them that we think were used on women's high top shoes in the early 1900's. The real jewel is a uniform button that has a star and a rose within the star that was found by Lori Gouge. This button is very similar to those that were found in the campsite of the "Johnson County Slashers." This was a Texas Civil War military site and suggests a Texas military button recalling the legend of the "Yellow Rose of Texas." (Thanks to Art Tawater for doing the research to identify these historical artifacts!)



According to the Doss Heritage and Culture Center, this fall they are going to engage some folks who need to do some community service work to take down the newer structure that was attached to the Newberry Cabin. It will be very interesting to see what kind of artifacts we find beneath this structure.

*Photos provided by Katrina Nuncio*

# TCAS Event: A Case for Baskets!

Thanks to Leta Jones Goodman, Cherokee basket weaver, and Bill Goodman for sharing their time and expertise with TCAS members! Gen Freix, Katrina Nuncio, Miranda and Daniel Davenport and Charlene Erwin spent the afternoon of Saturday, April 15th, with Leta and Bill learning about the art of making baskets.



Miranda and Daniel begin assembling the soaked reeds to create the base (5 rows crisscross with 6 rows) of the basket, while Leta (center) instructs. *Photo by Gen Freix*



Thanks to Gen Freix for organizing the class for TCAS.  
Leta Jones Goodman, an accomplished and talented weaver, is a member of the Oklahoma Native American Basket Weavers Association and the Cherokee Community of North Texas. She was the featured speaker at the August, 2016 TCAS meeting.



← **Finished baskets!** →  
*Photos by Caroline Erwin*



Arlo

## TAS On Facebook

### [Texas Archeological Society Members and Friends](#)

You can see new photos from the Ancient Southwest Texas Project at Texas State University or current photos from the TAS Technology Academy or sign in to read posts from THC archeologists or find a photo of TAS President Charles Frederick or spend lots of time looking through old photos ... or even post an archeologically related question or two!

Read Carole Leezer's post on April 30th and learn more about Arlo McKee and his "super" drone.

# 2017 TAS Field School

# Camp Wood, June 10-17

## REGISTRATION DUE ON OR BEFORE MAY 26

**LATE REGISTRATION FEE: \$50 IF POSTMARKED AFTER MAY 26**

**T-SHIRT DEADLINE: RESERVE BY MAY 25th**

**MEAL DEADLINE: POSTMARKED BY JUNE 2. DO NOT MAIL AFTER JUNE 3.**

**FEE REFUND DEADLINE: CANCELLATION IF POSTMARKED BY JUNE 1**

What to expect, what to bring, reading list from TAS:

<https://txarch.org/get-involved/field-schools>

Print registration form:

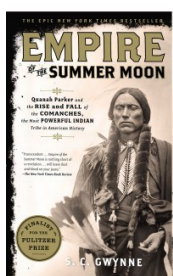
<https://txarch.org/sites/txarch.org/files/2017-registration-form-draft-1.pdf>



## Invitation: S.C. Gwynne to Discuss *Empire of the Summer Moon*

### KELLER READS!

ONE BOOK  
ONE CITY  
06.07.17



FEATURING AUTHOR  
**S. C. GWYNNE**

### Empire of the Summer Moon

QUANAH PARKER AND THE RISE AND  
FALL OF THE COMANCHES,  
THE MOST POWERFUL INDIAN TRIBE  
IN AMERICAN HISTORY

#### BOOK DISCUSSION & BOOK SIGNING

KELLER PUBLIC LIBRARY  
4:00PM | FREE PUBLIC EVENT

#### AN EVENING WITH S. C. GWYNNE

SKY CREEK RANCH GOLF CLUB  
6:00PM | \$35 PER PERSON

DINNER TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [KELLERFRIENDS.ORG](http://KELLERFRIENDS.ORG)  
CONTACT [JPROCK@CITYOFKELLER.COM](mailto:JPROCK@CITYOFKELLER.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION

SPONSORED BY **H** AND THE FRIENDS OF THE KELLER LIBRARY

**When: June 7, 2017, at 4:00 PM**

**Where: 640 Johnson Road, Keller**

From the Keller Library: Join us for this free event to hear author S.C. Gwynne discuss his book *Empire of the Summer Moon*, a stunningly vivid historical account of the forty-year battle between Comanche Indians and white settlers for control of the American West, centering on Quanah, the greatest Comanche chief of them all.

*Empire of the Summer Moon* spans two astonishing stories. The first traces the rise and fall of the Comanches, the most powerful Indian tribe in American history. The second is the epic saga of the pioneer woman Cynthia Ann Parker and her mixed-blood son Quanah, who became the last and greatest chief of the Comanches. The author will be signing books.

Event will be followed by a ticketed event, An Evening With S.C. Gwynne, at the Sky Creek Ranch Golf Club. Tickets are available at <http://www.kellerfriends.org/index.html>

 *Happy Mother's Day*  
Remember Mom on May 14th



# TCAS: Preserving the Past for the Future

## TCAS BOARD

Chris Meis  
President

Catrina Banks Whitley  
Vice President - Projects

Lloyd Erwin  
Secretary

James Everett  
Historian

Bryan Jameson  
Vice President

Dana Ritchie Parker  
Treasurer

Katrina Nuncio  
Immediate Past President

Gen Freix  
Internet Chair

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](http://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.



May, 2017

### TARRANT COUNTY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (TCAS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership and Fee

Address \_\_\_\_\_

New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

City\State\Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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

Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Student \$10 (enrolled in grade school through college/university whose coursework is 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 UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE SOCIETY.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_