

The **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS)** meeting for **September** will be **in person and on Zoom**.

NTAS meetings are **free** and visitors are always welcome.

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Benchmark

Volume 38, Issue 8

September 2024

President's Message

Welcome to the September newsletter! We have a busy month in anticipation of Texas Archeology Month (TAM) in October. Before diving into all the upcoming activities, I'd like to thank everyone who came to our August meeting and a special thank you to Amy Bluemel for joining us. Amy's ability to weave a story and make it relevant to our archeological interests is special in a way that's almost indescribable, so I won't try. If you were present for the evening, either in person or via Zoom, you know what I'm talking about. If you weren't present, the good news is that her presentation is on [YouTube](#). Do yourself a favor and visit her [website](#) for more. For our September 12th meeting, we are excited to host Dr. David Kilby who'll be presenting his recent research from Bonfire Shelter. Bison kill sites are incredibly intriguing, and Dr. Kilby has some fantastic updates for us.

As many of you are aware, NTAS offered our membership the opportunity to buy NTAS t-shirts in August. I'm happy to announce we *met* our goal of 50 t-shirts sold! Given the success of that t-shirt offer, we ordered 15 more which will be available for purchase at future NTAS meetings. So, if you missed out, or would just like to add to your already existing collection of NTAS t-shirts, you still have an opportunity to purchase one.

In preparation for TAM, NTAS is holding a Pinch Pot Kit making session on **Saturday, September 14th from 9-**



11am. NTAS is assisting the Texas Historical Commission by being a North Texas distribution hub for Pinch Pot Kits, so this is a very important event to make sure our Pinch Pot Kit coffers are full. Please contact [Molly Hall](#) to RSVP. We are still looking for volunteers to participate in the Doss Pioneer Heritage Festival which is held annually at the Doss Heritage and Culture Center. This year's festival will be held **October 5th from 9am (setup) to 5pm (clean up)**. Those who volunteer will have an opportunity to have a free lunch *and* meet and greet up to 3,000 people who I'm certain will be thrilled to hear about all the things the North Texas Archeological Society is up to. Please consider volunteering and if you'd like more information, contact [Katrina Nuncio](#).

We are also looking for volunteers to participate in Denton Dig It! which will be held on **October 12th** in Denton.

Connect with NTAS:

www.facebook.com/NTXAS.org

www.NTXAS.org

For general inquiries, please contact info@ntxas.org

North Texas Archeological Society

As with the Doss, Denton Dig It! will be an all-day event with lots and lots of opportunities to discuss archeology with the public. We will have a selection of hands-on activities and will share the space with the Denton Farmer's Market which has wonderful food and other local goods. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Gen Freix](#) for more information. This year, for the first time, NTAS will have a booth at the Grand Prairie Farmers Market on **Saturday, October 19th**. Thanks so much to Charlene Erwin for identifying and organizing that event for NTAS. If you would like more information please contact info@ntxas.org.

NTAS will be participating in the Plano Archeology Fair on **Saturday, November 9th**. This is a new event for NTAS, but one we are very much looking forward to. It is the 25th anniversary of the event. If you would like to volunteer, please contact [Allen Rutherford](#).

Registration is open for the [TAS Annual Meeting](#) in Victoria. There has already been a call for papers, posters, and symposiums, the deadline for all of which is **September 15th**. A general reminder that NTAS offers scholarships for the annual meeting and the [applications are open](#) to anyone who would like to apply. So, if you, or someone you know, would like to attend the annual meeting and need some support to do so, please apply today. It's never too early to apply!

The September 12th 2024 monthly meeting will be a hybrid meeting (in person and via Zoom) held in our usual meeting room on the University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC) campus in the Research & Education Building, Room 114 (see page 3 for map). The meeting will start at 7:00 pm and we look forward to seeing you in person at the UNTHSC or on Zoom for the hybrid meeting on September 12th!

Allen Rutherford

September Speaker: David Kilby

The Bison Kills at Bonfire Shelter: An Update, Some Conclusions, and Future Directions

Bonfire Shelter contains an extensive record of human prehistory in the Lower Pecos Canyonlands of Southwest Texas, and a correspondingly long history of competing interpretations of that record. The initial investigations of the site in the 1960s led to the announcement of the earliest known bison jump in North America, attributed to Plainview and perhaps Folsom hunters. Subsequent investigators argued the deposits had been misinterpreted, and that the Paleoindian bone bed represents a single butchering event associated with a kill that occurred elsewhere. Vigorous debate ensued. This presentation summarizes new data collected over the last 7 years by ASWT, arguing that multiple avenues of evidence support the original interpretation, and at least two Paleoindian bison jump drives occurred at Bonfire Shelter.

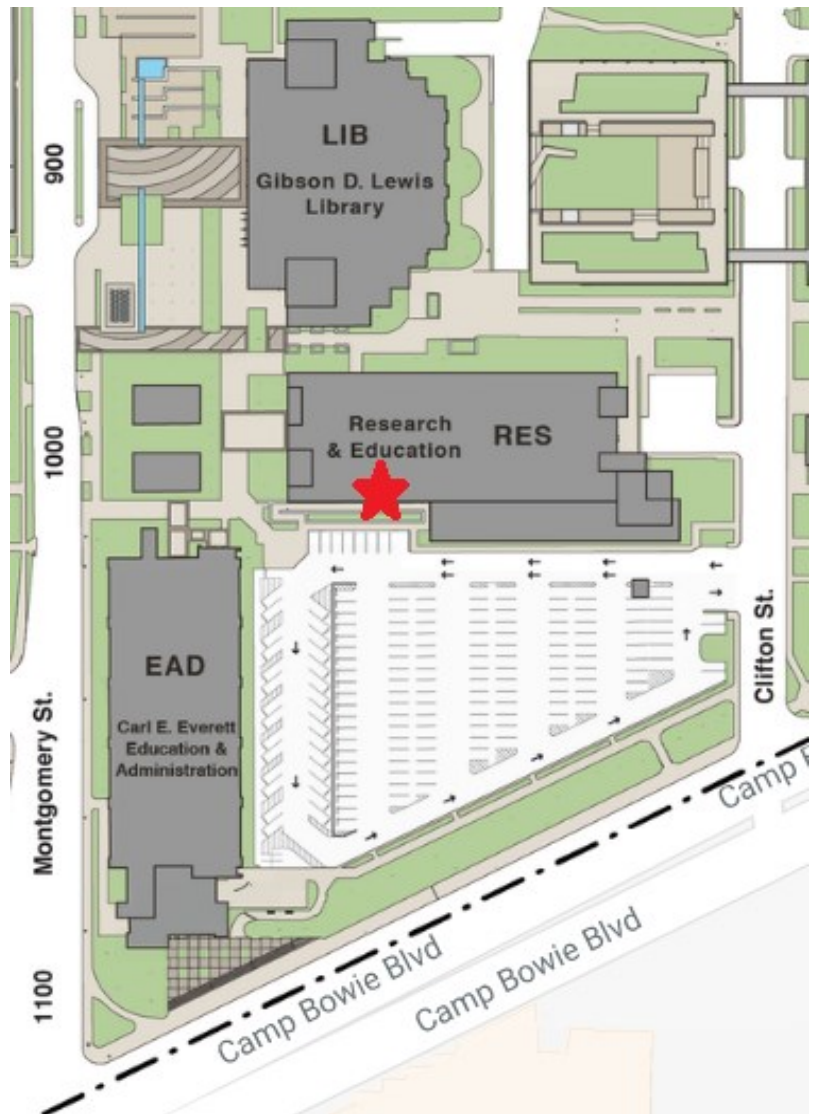
David Kilby is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at Texas State University and Director of the Ancient Southwest Texas Project. His research focuses on the archaeology of the earliest inhabitants of the Americas, with particular emphasis on the relationship between Ice Age foragers and the changing physical environment of the North American Southern Plains, West, and Southwest. Current projects include the excavation of Bonfire Shelter, perhaps the earliest bison jump in North America, new work at the Mockingbird Gap Clovis site, and ongoing research into Clovis lithic tech-



NTAS Monthly Meeting Location & Directions

NTAS meets at 7:00 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

October 10th: Alex Younger (Washington on the Brazos)

November 14th: USACE Archeologists Panel Discussion

December 7th: Holiday Party in Keller (see Page 7)

An Evening with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Archeologists

Allen Rutherford

Current and former USACE archeologists are scheduled to participate in a panel discussion at the November 14, 2024 NTAS meeting. In advance of this program we want to ask the membership to consider and submit (to info@ntxas.org) discussion topics on the [USACE](#), and especially the role USACE archeologists play in protecting and managing archeological resources. Having these discussion topics in advance of the November meeting will help guide the program, which will be a panel discussion with the NTAS membership as opposed to a set presentation. We look forward to receiving your discussion topics and questions and to hosting Arlo McKee, Skipper Scott, Jay Newman, and others on November 14!

Texas! Can You Dig It!

Jimmy Barrera

On September 6th, NTAS once again participated with a booth during the annual “Texas! Can You Dig It!” archeology event hosted by TxDOT at the Texas Travel Information Center in Gainesville. We were gleefully represented by Steve Lowe (Vice President), Gen Freix (Historian), Glen Lee (NTAS member and TAS Regional Director), Tommy Standefer (Secretary), and Jimmy Barrera (Immediate Past President). Travelers and school groups were greeted by NTAS and other organizations to discuss archeology and other topics. Fellow organizations who participated include: TxDOT’s Archeology Department; local museums from Gainesville and Nacona; chamber of commerce representatives from the cities Gainesville, Frisco, and Grapevine; and the Dallas Paleontological Society. This was a great way for NTAS to truly greet the public and discuss archeology with folks of all ages.



Steve Lowe, Gen Freix, Glen Lee, and Jimmy Barrera at the event. Photo courtesy of J. Barrera.



Gen Freix handing out pinch pot kits, Glen Lee demonstrating atlatl use, and Steve Lowe talking to school children. Photo courtesy of Tommy Standefer.

NTAS scholarships are now available to -ANYONE- who applies for TAS Academies, the TAS Field School, or the TAS Annual Meeting.

Please visit the NTAS scholarships webpage to submit your application. [Apply now!](#)

2024 INDIGENOUS ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

SEPTEMBER 28, 2024
10:00AM - 3:00PM

Dive deep into Choctaw art forms and lifeways during this all-day educational and fun event.

All ages are welcome to this free event.

- ◆ Pottery making
- ◆ Textile education
- ◆ ATL-ATL throwing
- ◆ Children's events
- ◆ Flint knapping
- ◆ Bow shooting
- ◆ Stickball
- ◆ Resource Tables:
 - Growing Hope
 - Oklahoma Public Archaeology Network
 - Choctaw Nation Forestry

Traditional foods will be prepared onsite and served at noon.

Don't miss the Growing Hope Garden walkthroughs at 10:30AM and 1:30PM.

WHEELOCK ACADEMY HISTORIC SITE

1377 Wheelock Road | Garvin, OK | 580-746-2139



Scan to learn more.



Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma

CHOCTAWNATION.COM



Archeological Events & Opportunities

Please see the [calendar](#) on the NTAS website for the latest updates to archaeological events!

Fort Worth Westerners Zoom Programs

Third Tuesday of the Month

Zoom

If you are not a FW Westerner member, click [here](#) to request guest access to the zoom meetings.

September 17 - *Cattle Trails and Cowboy Poetry* by poet Ron Wilson

October 15 - *On a Mission: The Real Story of the California Missions* by author Janet Dowling Sands

SMU Lab Days

2-6pm September 29, 9am-5pm October 26, 9am-5pm November 23, 2024

Dallas, TX

Assist in organizing, cataloging, and re-bagging artifacts from the 1971 TAS Field School. For more information or to sign-up, contact [Brian Luetchford](#).

Pinch-Pot Kit Making Session

9am-11am, September 14, 2024

Richardson, TX

It's pinch-pot kit making season! NTAS has materials from the Texas Historical Commission to make 500 pinch-pot kits to hand out (typically to kids) during the numerous Texas Archeology Month (TAM) events in which NTAS is participating. The kits will be made at AR Consultants, Inc.'s office in Richardson. Please let [Molly Hall](#) know if you plan to attend. She will send out exact location details closer to the date of the event.

Panhandle Archaeological Society Meeting

7pm, September 18, 2024

Zoom

Dr. Michael Jordan of Texas Tech University who will be presenting "*From the Battle of the Washita to the Red River War: Nineteenth Century Southern Cheyenne and Kiowa Narrative Art*." If you would like to attend via Zoom, please follow this [link](#).

Indigenous Archaeology Day

7pm, September 28, 2024

Garvin, OK

The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma Historic Preservation Department will be hosting Indigenous Archaeology Day at the Wheelock Academy Historic Site. Please see the Page 5.

Doss Pioneer Heritage Festival

10am-4pm, October 5, 2024

Weatherford, TX

NTAS is looking for volunteers for this year's festival with **set up starting at 9am** and volunteers needed until about 5pm for clean up. Those who volunteer will have an opportunity to have a free lunch and meet and greet up to 3,000 people who will be thrilled to hear about all the things the North Texas Archeological Society is up to. Please consider volunteering and if you'd like more information, contact [Katrina Nuncio](#).

Denton Dig It!

9am-1pm, October 12, 2024

Denton, TX

Denton Dig It! is an event with lots and lots of opportunities to discuss archeology with the public. We will have a selection of hands-on activities and will share space with the Denton Farmer's Market which has wonderful food and other local goods. If you are interested in volunteering please contact [Gen Freix](#) for more information.

Grand Prairie Farmers Market**8am-1pm, October 19, 2024**

Denton, TX

This year, for the first time, NTAS will have a booth at the Grand Prairie Farmers Market. Thanks so much to Charlene Erwin for identifying and organizing this event for NTAS. If you would like more information please contact info@ntxas.org.

95th TAS Annual Meeting**October 25-27, 2024**

Victoria, TX

The Museum of the Coastal Bend (MCB) at Victoria College and the Coastal Bend Archeological Logistics Team (CoBALT) are official hosts for the 95th TAS Annual Meeting. Guest speakers will be Texas' State Archeologist Dr. Brad Jones for the Friday Public Forum and Dr. Leland C. Bement, Senior Researcher at the Oklahoma Archaeological Survey at the University of Oklahoma, for the Saturday evening Banquet.

NTAS Holiday Party**December 7, 2024**

Keller, TX

The NTAS Holiday Party will be held at the Stone Glen Club House (301 Tulip Way, Keller, TX 76248; Gate Code: 3020). Parking is available near the Club House (please avoid fire lanes and private driveways). If you would like to assist with the setup, arrive at 4pm. Appetizers will start at 5pm and dinner will be served at 5:30pm. Following dinner, Santa will gather all for gift distribution. We ask that the gift exchange be archeology related. Tools, trowels, books, fossils, even antique jewelry have appeared under our tree! So please remember to bring a covered dish, a wrapped gift for the tree, and be ready to enjoy some face-to-face time with your friends who love and enjoy archeology as much as you. If you would like to assist in the planning of this fun event please call or text Paula Vastine at 817-988-8405. Your help is appreciated.

What Can You Do with NTAS? What Can NTAS Do for You?**Involve NTAS in Your Field, Lab, or Reporting Project**

Contact the [Vice President of Projects](#) if you know of a field, lab, data collection, or reporting project that could use the skilled labor of experienced and knowledgeable NTAS members.

Contribute Photos and Memories of NTAS Events

Photos are a great way to showcase what NTAS is all about. We'd love to share your NTAS experiences with the world immediately following NTAS events! Please send your images and captions to the [Internet Chair](#). By providing these photos, they may be used on the NTAS website and social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram.

Newsletter and Journal Content

Contribute highlights from NTAS volunteer opportunities, summaries of archeological research and field projects, announcements and links to events, exhibits, media, and publications, etc. by sending them to the [Publications Editor](#).

NTAS is now looking for articles to fill future volumes of the Journal of the North Texas Archeological Society. Please consider submitting an article about your North Texas research, fieldwork, or other related topics. The lead author must be an NTAS member in good standing for the submission year. For submissions and inquiries regarding the journal, please contact the [Publications Editor](#). The current volume (2023) is available digitally to members by logging in [here](#). A digital copy of Volume I is available to the public [here](#), and physical copies of both volumes are available for purchase on [Amazon](#).

North Texas Archeological Society (NTAS) Membership Application Form

(renew online by clicking above)

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

City\State\Zip _____ Email _____

Membership Type and Fees (Membership Term: January to December)

Choose One:

☐ Individual Membership - \$20

☐ Family Membership - \$25

Total Family Members _____

☐ Student Membership – \$10 (18 or older student with minimum half-time course load. Those under 18 must contact NTAS in advance of applying.)

Choose One:

☐ New

☐ Renewal

Communication Preferences: I/WE want to be added to the following lists:

☐ General Announcements - *For Meetings, Events, Publications, Membership Dues and NTAS Updates*

☐ Personal Updates - *For personal updates on NTAS members such as illnesses, and obituaries*

Digital copies of the newsletter are included with every membership. If you are interested in receiving paper copies, please contact the Publications Editor (publicationseditor@ntxas.org) or Secretary (secretary@ntxas.org) for pricing.

Donation: Amount: \$ _____

Where should your donation go? ☐ General Fund ☐ Memorial Scholarship Fund ☐ BaahKu Project

Would you like to remain anonymous? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Media Release: I/We DO -or- DO NOT [circle as appropriate] give permission to NTAS to use my/our image (photographs and/or video) in any NTAS publications, website, or social media.

Code of Ethics (signature required): I/WE PLEDGE THAT I/WE 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/WE UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE SOCIETY.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Mail your Membership Form with check or money order made payable to:
North Texas Archeological Society — P.O. Box 24679, Ft. Worth, TX 76124

Thank you for renewing or joining the North Texas Archeological Society!

We will send an email to confirm your membership once your payment has been processed. We look forward to seeing you at our next event!

Welcome, New Members!

Amy Bluemel
 Randie Debnar
 Travis Hatter
 Joey Huckabee and family (Tammie, Chloe, Wyatt)
 Stefanie Mills
 Michael Patterson

Donors

Mike Shannon (*Memorial Scholarship Fund*)

NTAS Aims & Objectives

The purposes of the Society are

- (1) the promotion of scientific archeological exploration and research,
- (2) the preservation and conservation of archeological materials and sites,
- (3) the interpretation and publication of data pertaining thereto, and
- (4) education of the public to the aims of archeology.

NTAS - Preserving the Past for the Future

Executive Committee

Allen Rutherford
President

Gwen Durrant
Treasurer

Genevieve Freix
Historian

Stephen Lowe
Vice President

Thomas Standefer
Secretary

Hannah Rainey
Internet Chair

Brian Luetchford
Vice President of Projects

Jimmy Barrera
Immediate Past President

Molly Hall
Publications Editor

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

The newsletter submission deadlines are two weeks prior to the monthly meetings, and upcoming deadlines are listed below.

October Newsletter: September 26

November Newsletter: October 31

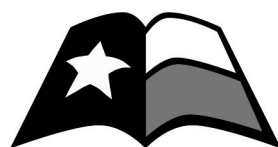
December Newsletter: November 28

January Newsletter: December 26

February Newsletter: January 30

March Newsletter: February 27

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