THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

# EBAY AUCTION CONTINUES TO BENEFIT TAS

#### Linda Gorski

As most of you know, the 91<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society scheduled for October 29 – November 1, 2020 in Houston was cancelled due to uncertain future effects of Covid19. This meeting is not just the annual gathering of the archeological clan in Texas, it is also the biggest fundraiser for the society. In order to offset some of the financial shortfalls as a result of cancelling this meeting, the Houston Archeological Society and the Local Arrangements Committee in Houston continue to run the online auction we've hosted on Ebay since May to raise funds we would have raised at the Annual Meeting's Silent Auction.

The good news is that as of publication of this newsletter, we have raised over \$5700 on the way to our goal of \$6,000!!!! The best news is that when we reach our goal of \$6,000 an anonymous donor (and HAS member) will match that total with another \$6,000. So HAS will donate \$12,000 to TAS thanks to this auction and all the generous donations from TAS members.

The real hero of this auction is Houston Archeological Society vice president, Larry Golden, who has used his Ebay shop to auction the items. Anyone who sells online knows that it is a time-consuming process. First you need to collect the items to auction. Then you have to research them and write a compelling description so people will want to bid on the item. Then you need to take really good photographs of the items so they appeal to buyers in the listing on Ebay. Then you must fill out the listing form on Ebay and get it ready to post online.

Every Sunday night at 7 p.m. the previous week's auction ends and the new listings go on line. But that's when the real work for Larry begins. He has to collect the money for items that were sold, wrap the items, box them, and get them to the post office. (That usually takes two days depending on how many items were on auction that week.) Then when all that is done, he goes to the bank and gets a certified check for the amount sold that week and sends it to TAS. Not only that, Larry has also generously provided all the packing material (bubble wrap, peanuts, paper, boxes, etc.) out of his own pocket so that all proceeds from the donated auction go directly to TAS. Be sure to give Larry a big high five the next time you see him!!!



Superstar and Houston Archeological Society Vice President, Larry Golden. All photos in this article courtesy Linda Gorski, unless otherwise specified.

Since we started this auction on May 1, we've sold some absolutely amazing items and we are so grateful for everyone who has donated items to the auction. But we are not done yet! Here are some items that are still in the pipeline:

Many of us know Emma Durst, THC archeologist Jeff Durst's daughter, from the many field schools she attended with us over the years. *(continued, page 3)* 

#### **TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY® ETHICS**

- Members of TAS must abide by all terms and conditions of the TAS bylaws and all Federal and State antiquities laws or regulations.
- TAS does not condone the practice of buying or selling artifacts for commercial purposes.
- TAS does not condone the disregard of proper archeological field techniques or the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data.

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#### **NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

Friday, November 13, 2020 — Winter Edition

#### TAS BOARD MEETINGS

September 12, 2020 - Virtual
October 24, 2020 - Virtual
Orientation meeting, November TBD - Virtual

A digital version of this newsletter can be found on the TAS website: <a href="http://www.txarch.org">http://www.txarch.org</a>.



#### (continued from page 1)

Well, Emma is all grown up and has started a business tie dying t-shirts and she has donated two of her creations to the Ebay Auction. They are spectacular! If you'd like to see more of her creations, check out her website at www.Bossanovtiedye.com.

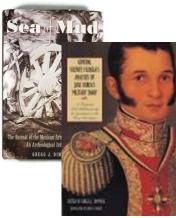




Author and historian Dr. Gregg Dimmick has donated autographed copies of his two books AND is also offering a free guided group tour of the Sea of Mud site in Wharton County. He offered this tour through the San Felipe de Austin Museum last year, which sold out in minutes and got rave reviews!

Dr. Gregg Dimmick and his books, photos courtesy Gregg Dimmick.





TAS member Bill Birmingham from Victoria is making one of his amazing draw trowels for the auction. His trowels feature an antler handle embellished with turquoise.

This is the trowel I succeeded in winning at a TAS silent auction several years ago.



A Bill Birmingham Trowel.

HAS member Ron Davis made this fabulous hand-tooled leather holster that holds a Marshalltown Trowel. We have already auctioned one of these off and will be auctioning the second one off shortly.



A Ron Davis Leather Trowel Holster.

Lauren Hahn Bussiere donated these two fabulous handembroidered on organic linen pillows featuring designs of points. *(continued, page 4)* 





#### (continued from page 3)

Our wonderful friend and former Texas State Archeologist, Pat Mercado Allinger, has been busy doing crafts during the Covid pandemic and has given us these two beautiful hand-crafted and very creative "button" pillows for the auction. They are signed in embroidery by

the creator! 😊





Steve Davis and the Board of the Journal of Texas Archeology and History have donated a complete hardcopy set of their publications including five annual volumes and two special publications to the

auction. For more information about this terrific publication check out www.JTAH.org.

As we near the end of this auction we want to thank everyone once again who supported this important auction to benefit an important cause. Proceeds from this charitable auction will benefit the Texas Archeological Society in its efforts to promote scientific archeological exploration and research, the preservation of archeological materials and sites, the publication of associated information, and public education and outreach programs for both adults and children throughout the State of Texas. (TAS is a non-profit organization with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status.)

You can check out the items on our Ebay auction this

week by going to <a href="www.ebay.com">www.ebay.com</a> and in the search bar typing "TAS Auction 2020" (don't forget to use the quotes).

If you have any questions about this auction please email Linda Gorski at <a href="mailto:lindagorski@cs.com">lindagorski@cs.com</a>. Thanks so much for your support.



## **2020 TAS ANNUAL MEETING**

# "VIRTUAL" BOOK ROOM - BOOKS FOR SALE!!!

#### Linda Gorski

Yes, the 2020 TAS Annual meeting was cancelled due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Yes, we've been running an Ebay auction to take the place of the Silent Auction that would have been held at the meeting and are ever so close to reaching our goal of \$6,000 to donate to TAS. However, members of the Houston Archeological Society have also been collecting book donations for the past couple of years to sell in the Book Room at the cancelled 2020 TAS Annual meeting. We have so many books now that we've decided to sell them to TAS members for a donation instead of holding







them all until the 2021 TAS Annual meeting. These books include many, many, many volumes on both terrestrial

and underwater archeology, loads on archeology in Texas, many archeological reports, lots of history books, resource books on identifying historic artifacts, a ton of nearly new cookbooks, and some just plain quirky titles. We have put most of these books on two spreadsheets that include title, author, publisher, and condition. If you'd like to peruse a copy of these spreadsheets which include literally thousands of books, just email me at lindagorski@cs.com. You will not believe the awesome books that folks have donated... and that you could now own! If you are a young archeologist just setting up your library, be sure to have a look!!! Because all the funds raised from this virtual book sale will go directly to TAS, we will ask that you make a donation for each book and pay postage (media mail).

### A LETTER TO TAS MEMBERS:

#### Marvin Gohlke, Jr.

After great preparation by our local Hill Country Archeological Association (HCAA), the TAS, and all others involved, and despite anticipation for a great 2020 Field School on my land just outside of Kerrville, life threw us all a curveball, as it often does, with the COVID-19 virus mess. But I hope this "hiccup" doesn't discourage anyone from coming to the 2021 Field School, same place, one year forward.



HCAA, of which I am a part, has been excavating on my land for the past 7 years, with many discoveries that have added to the rich archeological heritage of this part of Texas. And we have barely "scratched the surface" of an area which, undoubtedly, still has many secrets to give up.

I invite all those who wish to be a part of this ongoing quest for the knowledge of the people who lived here before written history to attend the 2021 Texas Archeological Society Field School and to help find and analyze what these ancients left behind. Don't be one who just wishes they had attended- "come on down!" I truly feel this field school will not disappoint!

Sincerely, Marvin Gohlke, Jr. Kerr County Steward

# ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021 TAS FIELD SCHOOL IN KERRVILLE WILL OPEN IN JANUARY!!

Sample of Artifacts Recovered from 41KR739. Photo courtesy Marvin Gohlke, Jr.

### **TEXAS ARCHEOLOGY MONTH**

#### **Maggie Moore**

Each October, Texas Archeology Month (TAM) features events such as archeological fairs, lectures, exhibits, demonstrations, and tours in collaboration with the Texas Historical Commission (THC) and partners across the state such as the Texas Archeological Society. TAM is a vital educational program that the THC will continue to promote and support even under current circumstances. However, in response to the pandemic, the THC is currently working to reorganize TAM to be safer and more accessible by promoting and facilitating virtual

events and activities on the <u>TAM website</u>. Events can take place on many platforms including videos, virtual tours, livestreamed presentations, and printable activities, and more. Check out the <u>TAM website</u> for a list of ideas and best practices for suggested ways to participate and contribute!

Kids love Archeology Month!



#### CALL FOR TAM 2020 EVENT/ACTIVITY SUBMISSIONS!!

We are now soliciting contributions from our TAM partners, and the 2020 Texas Archeology Month Event/Activity Form is live! Please complete and submit it as soon as possible. \*We understand you may not have all the information yet (tentative dates/times, still searching for speakers, etc.), and that's okay! Just submit what you have now and send the TAM coordinator updates as needed. Like previous years, we will provide free archeology-related printable materials, which you can receive by submitting the Public Outreach Materials Order Form or emailing Donna McCarver (donna.mccarver@thc.texas.gov).

The THC understands there can be difficulties with organizing online events, and we're here to help. We can

act as moderators, locate speakers, and help with technological issues. For more information about our resources, support, and the new structure of TAM, visit our website at <a href="www.thc.texas.gov/tam">www.thc.texas.gov/tam</a> or contact Texas Archeology Month Coordinator Maggie Moore at <a href="Maggie.Moore@thc.texas.gov">Maggie.Moore@thc.texas.gov</a>. We look forward to celebrating TAM with you!

### **DONATIONS- THANK YOU!**

#### **GENERAL FUND DONATIONS**

Paula Vastine

**CB Bousman** 

**Genevieve Freix** 

**James Barrera** 

**Sandra Rogers** 

**Gregory Groff** 

**Anne Gibson** 

James Smith

**Nancy Kenmotsu** 

Jonathan Swift

**Margaret Melton** 

**Royce Terry Baker** 

Michelle Hartsfield

**Chris Meis** 

**Kenneth Brown** 

**Gwen Durrant (Dallas Archeological Society)** 

**Mary Galindo** 

**Carolyn Coughlin** 

Funding for organizational expenses has been provided to Texas Archeological Society from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the 2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020.



# THC STEWARDS AWARDS ANNOUNCED

#### **Farah Merchant, THC Preservation Scholar**

On August 1, Brad Jones, State Archeologist and THC Archeology Division director and Rebecca Shelton, THC regional archeologist and Texas Archeological Stewardship Network (TASN) coordinator, announced the recipients of the Jim Word Award and Norman Flaigg Certificate of Outstanding Performance at the TASN virtual meeting. The awards honor the service, commitment, and work of stewards. The Jim Word Award highlights the many years of service to the THC and the stewardship program. The Norman Flaigg

Certificate of Outstanding Performance honors stewards' exemplary contributions to archeology and the TASN program for the previous year.

#### Jim Word Awards

Five TASN members were honored for 30 years of service. These stewards include Joe Hudgins, Tom Middlebrook, Johnney Pollan, Jimmy Smith, and John Stockley. A glimpse into the TASN archives illuminates the depth of their work and the

breadth of their contributions to preserving the history of Texas. In addition to the many sites recorded and collections analyzed, these stewards share their research through publications and public outreach. They have set the standard high for their collaborative approach to archeology, which includes participation and service in their local societies, as well as mentoring the next generation of stewards.

**Joe Hudgins** (Wharton County) is a stalwart member of the Houston Archeological and Fort Bend Archeological societies, authoring many of the works published in their journals and newsletters. To date, he has authored or coauthored over 70 publications for local, regional, and state journals, such as *La Tierra*, *Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society, Fort Bend County Archeological Society Reports*, and the *Journal of the Houston Archeological Society*.

In Nacogdoches County, **Tom Middlebrook's** pursuit of knowledge is seen through his meticulous research on topics extending from the ancient Caddo to the Spanish Colonial presence in East Texas. Recently, he researched pXRF (portable X-ray fluorescence) data from 11 ceramic sherds from Morre Mound and lead balls from Mayview site. Due to his commitment to avocational archeology throughout the state, he serves as a TASN advisor. He mentors and guides avocational groups and archeology

societies throughout the state and shares his work at national conferences.

Johnney Pollan (Brazoria County) has wide-ranging interests from ceramics to mammoth bones, which is perfect for museum work. For years, he helped maintain collections at the the Brazosport of Museum Natural Science. Recently, his role shifted from maintaining the collections to adding his own work to the museum. Important discoveries he has

uncovered at a regional site are now housed there. Along with his work at the museum, he analyzed, documented, and placed two collections during the last year.

Thirty years ago, **Jimmy Smith** (Johnson County) recorded a prehistoric rockshelter site containing at least one burial; Perdiz, Washita, Bonham, and Scallorn arrow points; deer and fish bones; burned rock; deer antler flaking tool; and shell scoop. His volunteer work following the uncovering of this (continued, page 8)



(continued from page 7) site continued to be exceptional, uncovering, excavating, and recording numerous sites. In 2010, he received the Heritage Preservation Award in the category of Archeological Heritage for his many years of work preserving the Techado Springs Pueblo site. He has served for years as the curator at the Big Bear Native American Museum in Cleburne.

As a longtime resident of South Texas, **John Stockley** (Bexar County) has been recognized by Tom Hester, retired archeologist and TASN Advisor, as a "historian, archeologist par excellence of the middle Rio Grande and both sides of the border." He assists other archeologists who come to the region, including Daniel Potter who was investigating the Eagle Pass area. His expertise on border forts helped him identify a cartridge as a .45-.70 caliber and associate with the Fort Duncan occupation.

The five TASN members awarded for 20 years of service include Bryan Boyd, Roy Craig, Connie Hodges, Gary McKee, and Marisue Potts. Their work includes serving on historical associations, organizing events and exhibits, volunteering at different sites, and much more.

As a fifth-generation East Texan, **Bryan Boyd** (Gregg County) heard stories of his hometown, its diversity, and its rich culture that fostered his love for the region and its history. His passion for photography further cultivated a love for the area around him and the artifacts underneath.

Much of **Roy Craig's** (Bandera County) work as a steward has centered on volunteering. Recently, he assisted three landowners, teaching them how to respond when discovering archeological artifacts on their land, and distributed stacks of THC educational materials throughout his region to further educate people. THC Regional Archeologist Tiffany Osburn noted that Roy's "willingness to assist the THC has always been appreciated, and he is known for many years of contributing to the archeology of the Hill Country west of San Antonio and beyond."

**Connie Hodges** (Shelby County) has a passion for the history along El Camino Real de los Tejas that led to the identification of multiple sites. Her participation at

Mission Dolores and the Early Texas Sawmill in San Augustine County led to the recognition of these sites as historic landmarks. Her regional expertise makes her a reliable steward for the THC and landowners in the area.

Gary McKee's interest in the natural world ranges from zoology, botany, geology, and hydrology, making him an expert and curious learner of Fayette County, and resulting in his tenure as co-chair of the Fayette County Historical Commission. His interests also include polka music. Since grade school, he has loved to dance to folk songs such as "Stodola Pumpa" and the "Hokey Pokey."

Marisue Potts grew up surrounded by history in Motley County. Her family owns the historic Matador Land and Cattle Company, where she spent the majority of her childhood and which inspired her love for history. Now, she serves as chair and founding board member of the Motley County Historical Museum in Matador and on the board of the Comanchero Canyons Museum in Quitaque.

#### **Norman Flaigg Certificates of Outstanding Performance**

Each year, these awards are typically presented by the regional archeologist at the annual meeting and workshop since much of the work completed by these stewards focuses on the region where they work or reside. However, due to the virtual format of the workshop, the awards are detailed here.

In Region 2/North Texas, four stewards—Andy Burcham, Rolla Shaller, Art Tawater, and Doug Wilkens—received commendation. Andy Burcham (Potter County) committed over 300 hours to archeology work, digging, excavating, and analyzing. However, much of his time was spent completing pre-field work for the 2019 Texas Archeological Society (TAS) Field School in Palo Duro Canyon State Park. When working in the field, he worked at the Currie Rock Art Site.

Rolla Shaller (Randall County) recently published a book titled *History of Archeological Investigation at Palo Duro Canyon State Park: Journal of Texas Archeology and History, Special Report No. 4* with Dr. Veronica Arias, curator at the Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum (PPHM), and Anthony Lyle, *(continued, page 9)* 

(continued from page 8) archeologist with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. When not writing, he split his time volunteering at the PPHM and attending meetings either for the Panhandle Archeological Society, the Randall County Historical Commission, or the West Texas Historical Association. Even with a busy schedule of writing and cataloging, Shaller still found time to work in the field. In Potter County, he and fellow stewards investigated a possible archeological site and materials collected from the site. He also investigated Alibates Flint outcrops and Panhandle cultural ruins on a field trip to Kritser Ranch.

Art Tawater (Parker County) spent much of last year in the field. He monitored four sites and worked with six landowners, four individuals, and two organizations. When not doing field work, he assists employees of the THC with GPR (a radar system that scans, maps, and records information of the Earth's subsurface to understand the geophysics of the plain), and other technological devices that offer a greater understanding of the land and area. Recently, he helped THC Regional Archeologists Arlo McKee and Tiffany Osburn at the Comanche Agency site in Throckmorton County.

**Doug Wilkens** (Ochiltree County) helped develop and grow Plains Archeological Research (PAR), a foundation focused on fostering research and creating works to be published. Members of PAR defined objectives and established a foundation for future research and fundraising. He also committed over 900 hours to steward work over the last year.

In Region 3/North-Central Texas, Bryan Jameson (Bosque County) continues to receive commendation for his work. He spent much of 2019 assisting other stewards and landowners and recording and surveying historic sites and artifacts. He assisted Tawater with an ongoing survey in Throckmorton County to locate the Comanche Indian village established in 1854. He assisted Dr. Kevin Hanselka, archeologist with the Texas Department of Transportation, by acting as a site supervisor, photographer, and crew chief, and worked on the written report after the excavation. At the request of landowners, he surveyed the Brooks Ranch. Other work

includes recording two archeological sites near the Bonner Ranch, surveying and recording the historic site on the Sundown Valley Ranch in Bosque County, and writing descriptions of artifacts from the Brawley's Cave Collection.

Gary Endsley (Cass County) was honored for his work in Region 4/East Texas. Volunteering 1,171 hours, Endsley participated in many projects around his community. He analyzed monuments at the 1842 International Boundary at Cass County's eastern border. He restored the Union Missionary Baptist Church in Marion County, built in 1883 to serve the African American community. He worked on a junior historian group project at Old Smithland. Lastly, he completed cemetery surveys in Marion County for Freedom Colony communities. His work protected much of the history and historic infrastructure of East Texas.

Four stewards in **Region 5/Coastal Texas** received the Norman Flaigg award for their work in 2019. **Frank Condron** (Jackson County) is very active in numerous regional societies and has provided educational handouts and presented to several organizations as part of his public outreach and education efforts. Last year, he logged 529 hours for public outreach and conducted field work by monitoring and investigating several sites. He continues to serve as a liaison for his community as chair of the Jackson County Historical Commission.

Wilson "Dub" Crook (Harris County) divided his 1,085 hours of volunteer work between delivering presentations, writing manuscripts, providing landowner assistance, and analyzing collections. He spoke to the Houston Archeological Society (HAS), the Houston Gem and Mineral Society, the East Texas Archeological Society, North Texas Archeological Society (NTAS) in Tarrant County, and the Southeast Texas Master Naturalists. Publications included the HAS Journal and The Journal. Crook maintains his fellowship in the Leakey Foundation, has embraced using a virtual format for his presentations, and continues to provide outreach and education.

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Charlie Gordy (Galveston County) devoted much of his 259 volunteer hours to monitoring numerous sites, presenting his findings to regional societies, and assisting landowners and organizations with their collections or queries on archeological matters. Highlights from his biannual reports include his continued work at the Lamar Homesite through remote sensing and excavations. He has consulted with cultural resource management firms on the Arcola Sugar Mill and created a Fort Bend ArcGIS project identifying historic structures using historic aerials. He continues to assess flood risk to historic cemeteries, including the William Little and Beneficial cemeteries. He drove many miles from the south to attend the TAS field school in Palo Duro Canyon and conducted surveys in the canyons.

Sandra Rogers (Walker County) works tirelessly throughout the state to assist with a variety of projects—from cemetery identification and protection to providing survey and site recording assistance to the Forest Service, she uses her archival research skills and her love for the outdoors to aid the community. She volunteered 881 hours and drove 6,905 miles to assist with monitoring, assessment of sites, evaluation of collections, and to provide outreach and information to landowners and other institutions.

In Region 7/Central Texas, Steve Davis, Chris Meis, and Bob Ward were recognized for their contributions. Steve Davis (Travis County) divided his 583 volunteer hours on various projects throughout the state. He logged 6,691 miles to record 11 new sites during the last year and monitored and investigated five others. He worked with four collections and participated in workshops and

presentations. He continued his volunteer work of several years at the THC archeology lab and participated in the TAS field school in Palo Duro Canyon State Park.

Chris Meis (Lampasas County), who has served on the board of NTAS and currently serves as the TAS Board Annual Meeting Committee Chair, also devotes much of his volunteer work to the TASN. Last year, he divided his 374 hours for the program between site monitoring and landowner assistance. In addition, he assisted several agencies, institutions, and organizations with archeological or history inquiries. Last fall, Meis hosted an Atlas training session and encouraged his fellow stewards to incorporate new site recording strategies using QGIS and other readily available software.

**Bob Ward** (Travis County), who is chair of the Travis County Historical Commission and historian for the THC Antiquity Advisory Board, assists the City of Austin to monitor sites along Loop 360 and has worked to preserve an 1850s-era blockhouse in north Travis County. He worked with the Audubon Society documenting the historic site of Fort Prairie, an early Travis County site and Freedom Colony. Ward enlists volunteers from his community who are part of the nonprofit El Camino Real de los Tejas National Trail Association to document parks along Onion Creek. He assisted the Travis County Parks with identifying the African American school in Hayden Springs and a potential freedom colony in Manor. Ward assisted developers of the The Grove, Saltillo Plaza, and Estancia with interpretive materials for the history of the area. Finally, he worked on preserving and documenting the history at the Coleman Springs Site.



# THC AND TASN ANNOUNCE NEW STEWARDS FOR 2020

#### **Farah Merchant, THC Preservation Scholar**

Since 1984, the Texas Archeological Stewardship Network (TASN) considers the nominations of avocational archeologists from around the state to work with private property owners, private artifact collections, and preservation groups to assist with protecting and recording Texas' archeological and cultural resources. The TASN is one of the largest volunteer programs of its kind in the United States and is an integral part of the Texas Historical Commission (THC). Nominees come from wide variety of professional backgrounds, and many of them are active in the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) as well as local archeological societies throughout the state. This year, nine stewards, nominated by colleagues, members of communities, and other archeologists, joined the organization. Even with the pandemic and the shift to more online presence and less in-person assistance, these members continue to commit countless hours online and via phone, and many still manage to work in some capacity in trenches and labs.

#### Callan Clark - Coke County



As a child, Callan Clark dreamed of being a Civil War historian. After helping his father on an archeological investigation by the Concho Valley Archeological Society (CVAS) at Fort Chadbourne, Clark decided to follow his father's footsteps and continue his passion for history.

After graduating high school, he joined CVAS and worked on several projects, including some with professional archeologists across the state. His resilience, good work ethic, and interest in the field made him someone who "brought archeology to life in the Concho Valley," according to his colleague Larry Riemenschneider. Coming from the small Texas county of Coke, Clark will not only be a community representative but also a true embodiment of the goals and expectations for a steward.

Riemenschneider recalls all the projects he and Clark worked on together. "He was one person that I could count on and, if I put him in charge of something, he would get it done," said Riemenschneider.

For years, he was the chairman of CVAS Archeology Fair, before serving on several committees for CVAS. Clark now serves as the president of the organization and has for the past eight years.

#### Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen – Harris County



Elizabeth Coon-Nguyen always shared a dual interest in archeology and medicine. As a kid, she would buy old National Geographic's about *(continued, page 12)* 

(continued from page 11) mummies (Egyptian, Incan, or Bog-related). After graduating Bellaire High School, she pursued an undergraduate degree majoring in both Biology and Archaeology at Yale University. She did field work in Aguateca, Guatemala and later went on to Texas Tech University to earn her MD. While practicing Family Medicine and Hospice/Palliative Care Medicine, she found the Houston Archeological Society, becoming an active member over the last 7 years. She has hosted labs to process artifacts at her home and participated in field work as well as community outreach events. Her rationality and compassion are evident in her work and earned her a position on the HAS Board of Directors in 2017. She is also involved in other organizations, including the TAS. Since joining in 2014, she has attended every field school, annual meeting, and academy weekend. From 2014-17, she worked with the Human Remain Committee until she became the editor of the TAS newsletter in 2018. She has also volunteered with federal organizations such as the US Forestry Service Passport in Time Project, which is a volunteer archeology and historic preservation program attempting to preserve the nation's past with help from the public. As part of that program, she worked on a project in the Davy Crockett National Forest in 2018. Coon-Nguyen also participates with the Leakey Foundation, a non-profit that funds research that explores human origins. As a member of many groups, she informs each organization of the activities of the others, combining her interests and connecting programs all involved in preserving and protecting Texas history. Not only is she an exceptional archeologist, but as a doctor, she always brings her medical bag assuring everyone is safe working in the Texas heat!

### Janet Dye - Travis County

While on numerous family vacations to indigenous sites throughout the south, Janet Dye's respect for those who came before and knowledge from these trips inspired her to pursue archeology and work with young students to protect Texas heritage. For 11 years, Dye taught at an elementary school in Austin, instilling a love for history and artifacts to her students. Now, while she takes classes to earn a degree in archeology, she volunteers for the THC, and works on sites in England. Her involvement

at the THC began five years ago when she began to analyze, enter data, research, and repackage artifact collections. She currently helps with public outreach by participating in the Texas Archeology Research Laboratory (TARL) Archeology Fair and assists the THC in reviewing records from the Battle of Medina. She even assisted the Museum of Science and History in Corpus Christi and other places with re-inventory projects in her free time, making her an invaluable and committed volunteer to the THC. She currently divides her time between two countries, England and the United States, which is evident from her academic journey. She has taken classes at Austin Community College in Texas and Leicester and Oxford Universities in England. However, her fieldwork is exclusive to England. For three summers, she attended field schools with York Archeological Trust (YAT) working in a multi-period site located under a parking lot, excavating and recording with attention to detail. Last summer before the pandemic, she went to Nassington where she worked on remains of a Roman farm for variation in training but felt "this pull to return back to York," only to connect with her birth family and discover that her fifth and sixth grandparents lived in York. Currently, Dye takes online (continued, page 13)



(continued from page 12) classes at home, while deliberating on which country she will focus her archeological work.

#### Teresa "Terry" Farley - Kerr County



Like many other stewards, Terry Farley's parents, Kay and Woody Woodward, cultivated her love for history and archeology when they took her hiking and camping to prehistoric and historic sites. Her parents' involvement in the El Paso Archeological Association, and later the Hill Country Archeological Association (HCAA) when they moved, increased Farley's interest in the field.

Farley earned a degree in nursing from Denton before moving to Iowa with her husband. Returning to Texas after "brutal Iowa winters," she earned her master's degree and practiced as a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner in Dallas, before moving back to Kerr County in the Hill Country to be closer to her parents.

Like her parents, Farley joined the HCAA, participating in archeological fieldwork during Texas Archeological Society (TAS) field schools and on weekends while still working. After serving as a member for 14 years, she was elected vice president for the HCAA and joined the Kerr County Historical Commission (KCHC). She also has worked on many private land excavations in Kerr County and surrounding areas. Along with caring for her parents, leading organizations, and working in field and lab operations, Farley joined long-time HCAA member John Benedict on the cemetery preservation project. Together

they recruited 15 people from KCHC and HCAA to find, survey, and document lost cemeteries. When the pandemic ends, they hope to resume this important work.

#### **Beth Kennedy - Harris County**



The National Geographic Magazines laying around the house and her parents' interest in reading, history, and genealogy developed Beth Kennedy's interest in archeology. Looking back at old memories, she found a paper from 6<sup>th</sup> grade with the word archeologist scribbled next to the question of what she wanted to be when she grew up. However, growing up in a small town with fixed gender standards, Kennedy rarely saw female archeologists, which led Kennedy to pursue a degree in English and History and ultimately to become a teacher. She enjoyed educating students and having summers free to participate in paleontology digs. However, her childhood passion, cultivated by her parents' interests, remained.

When Kennedy retired, she became a Texas Master Naturalist. At one Texas Master Naturalist meeting, she met Linda Gorski, the current president of the Houston Archeology Society (HAS) and joined the organization. She has combined her interests for native plants and archeology by writing a few articles on how Native Americans used native plants for *(continued, page 14)* 

(continued from page 13) survival for the HAS newsletter. For her, knowledge of native plants and historic artifacts are intrinsically related. Among other activities, she leads an archeology training class for the Texas Master Naturalist program. Her experience in many fields makes her a valuable volunteer. She assists the TAS and HAS by processing and cleaning thousands of artifacts in the lab, as well as excavating, screening, and completing paperwork in the field. As part of her commitment to the group, and a testament to her ability to document scrupulously, she has served as HAS secretary for the last four years.

#### Casey Wayne Riggs - Dawson County



Casey Wayne Riggs' family started his interest in archeology. He and his grandfather, Gene Riggs, would hunt for "arrowheads" on the family's ranches. His teacher, Molly Yeager further supported Riggs' interest in archeology, but from a preservation perspective, teaching him the importance of recording artifacts during an after-school program focused on archeology. These two influences stimulated Riggs' fascination, which he supported with books and visits to Seminole Canyon State Park. He later earned bachelor and master's degrees as well as his Ph.D. in anthropology with a focus on terrestrial archeology to increase his

knowledge. He also began to utilize the ESRI and QGIS, new geographic information system software that allowed him and others to analyze and edit spatial date and edit and compose maps. Riggs' career took a different path after he completed graduate school, and he now farms and works the ranch in West Texas.

Due to his extensive experience in artifact curation, conservation, and identification while at Texas A&M and the Center for Big Bend Studies, he has become a reliable resource for preservation in his county. He is currently working with a local museum to create a cemetery preservation project and to examine lithics materials for the museum.

For the past few years, Riggs shared his work at regional, state, and nation archeological conferences, including a talk at Permian High School in Odessa, inspiring teenagers to enter this field. He has volunteered as an instructor at Sul Ross State University and Big Bend Ranch State Park to extend his audience to college students. Riggs also has combined his interests in archeology and botany by assisting at the most recent TAS Archeobotany workshop. Not only is he attempting to facilitate archeology and historic preservation in his local community, but also throughout the state.

Jesse "Jay" Roussel - Fort Bend County



For at least 15 years, Jay Roussel has advocated for protecting and recording Texas cultural resources through his involvement in the Fort Bend Archeological Society (FBAS) and TAS. After joining FBAS, Jay regularly attended monthly meetings and (continued, page 15)

(continued from page 14) participated in excavations. Soon, he became president of the organization and has held this position for six years. His work with the TAS includes attending several field schools and working with the host committee for its previous annual meeting.

His involvement in the community is not restricted to archeology, as Jay also serves on the Fort Bend County Historical Commission and is a member of the Cemetery Committee and Historic Preservation Committee. His holistic background in history and archeology, coupled with his career in IT makes him a valuable member of the stewardship network.

#### Françoise Wilson - Gillespie County

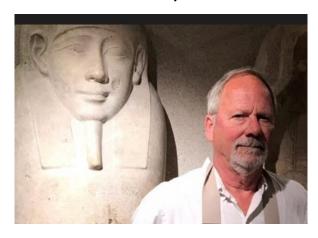


Françoise Wilson's interest in history and archeology began when she was a child. Her lifelong fascination with mythology coupled with her exposure to Latin through reading, reciting, and singing the Latin liturgy at Mass in Catholic school resulted in gifts of books on the Odyssey, the Iliad, and the archeology of the Holy Land. However, it wasn't until retirement that Wilson pursued her interest in archeology. After receiving her MA in foreign language and romance linguistics, she worked as a high school teacher in Ohio, teaching French and Spanish.

Six years ago, Wilson retired and moved to Gillespie County, where she became a Texas Master Naturalist and from there learned about the volunteer opportunities with HCAA. She found happiness working

weekly at the HCAA's site south of Kerrville, where she met Steve Stoutamire, chairman of HCAA's Field Work Committee, who created opportunities for her. Wilson has been a member of the HCAA for 3 years, a member of the Texas Master Naturalist program for 3 years, and a member of the TAS for two years. She is a qualified principal archeologist after completing the 5-part HCAA training course on field and lab methods. Her interest in archeology also took her out of Texas. She worked on a paleo dig in Montana and has spent three successive summers near Granada in Spain with Earthwatch, a volunteer program that connects volunteers with researchers and scientists to conduct excavations and protect history. Currently, she supervises field and lab work for the HCAA and serves as a board member for the HCAA.

#### Jim Wukasch - Burnet County



Jim Wukasch approaches life and archeology with a hands-on mentality. His interest in archeology began when exploring his grandfather's ranch as a child and continued while he operated a private concrete construction company monitoring the soil for artifacts that could be uncovered during trenching. His time with his son, hiking and exploring the San Gabriel River looking for cretaceous fossils, also revolves around this interest. When he purchased a house upstream from the Lion Creek Site, he identified an archeological site on his property and invited the Llano Uplift Archeological Society (LUAS) to help record it.

His desire to learn more about the sites near his home led to a pursuit of self-education. He began studying, reading, and traveling to historic (continued, page 16)

(continued from page 15) sites, such as Mesa Verde, Alibates, and Big Bend. He became involved with LUAS and the Texas Archeological Society, participating in field schools and annual meetings. His commitment to uncovering and protecting the past has resulted in his involvement at the Gault site, where he assisted in funding and construction of restrooms and a field deck house for participants in the Gault School of Archeological Research. From there, he focused on conservation, purchasing two sites in Burnet, one on Hamilton Creek and the other on Council Creek. He now monitors and protects both sites while educating adjacent property owners about the importance of maintaining the archeological integrity of these locations.

His action-oriented response to archeology resulted in him joining five archeology organizations, becoming a life member of the Hill Country Archeological Association, and president of LUAS. He also offers financial assistance to the Archeological Conservancy, Alexandria Project at SHUMLA, Friends of TARL, the Texas Wendish Heritage Society, and many more. He volunteers his time at the annual Wendish Festival, Texas Folklife Festival, and Wendish Heritage Museum. His avocational passion has resulted in a strong commitment to preserving Texas history, especially in the Hill Country region.



Each steward hopes to use their background and work experience to help their community and the state protect and record archeological resources. Their integrity and work make them valuable and trusted members to the THC Stewards program. With the access to archeological resources from the THC, they can help uncover history as old as 12,000 years or even as recent as 100 years ago and share that with the public!



Farah Merchant is an undergraduate English major at the University of Texas at Austin. Her love for literature began as a kid but grew in high school. Along with reading, Farah enjoys art, travel, and movies and hopes to write a

screenplay in the future. This summer, she interned as a Preservation Scholar for the THC. Her work included producing online content for the communication and archeology division. Through the Preservation Scholars Program, the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission seeks to build interest in historic preservation among students from underrepresented cultural and ethnic groups, engaging a wider range of communities and perspectives in the effort to discover and share Texas' historical narrative.

Launched in 2007, the program is an 8-week, paid, summer internship placement within the Texas Historical Commission (THC). Internships are available to college students from Texas or studying to receive their undergraduate or graduate degree at a Texas college or university. Working with THC staff, students gain exposure to various exciting vocational opportunities in the fields of history, preservation, architecture, archaeology, downtown revitalization, and heritage tourism.

https://www.thcfriends.org/preservation-scholarsprogram

# PANHANDLE ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY TURNS 50!

#### **Rolla Shaller**

Members of the Panhandle Archeological Society (PAS), Amarillo, Texas quietly and in a socially distant fashion observed the passing of their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an organization in July, 2020.

The Panhandle Archeological Society was organized during the summer of 1970, after several of its founding members attended the 1969 Texas Archeological Society Field School at Lake Meredith in the Texas Panhandle. Jim Word of Floydada, Texas, a TAS

Regional Vice-President and member of the South Plains Archeological Society in Lubbock, was instrumental in furnishing information and advice during the organizational process. Dr. Jack T. Hughes served as the society's sponsor during the early years, guiding the organization on its mission.

The PAS is a member of the TAS and also holds membership in the Southwestern Federation of Archaeological Societies (SWFAS). Over the years PAS members have participated as volunteers in numerous

archeological surveys and excavations; it has hosted three TAS Annual Meetings and several SWFAS meetings; and society members have been active in recent TAS activities.

The PAS has a monograph series, publishing reports dealing with the archeology of the Texas Panhandle, and it continues to publish its newsletter, *PAStimes*. The PAS meets on the third Wednesday of each month,

Wednesday of each month, September through May (except for December when the Floyd V. Studer Lecture and Banquet is held), at the downtown branch of the Amarillo Public Library at 4th and Buchanan Streets. Meetings are open to the public.



Members and guests of the Panhandle Archeological Society visit the Rocky Dell (410L4) rock art site in 2012. (photo credit: a PAS member).

# Along the Border...

#### **Mark Howe**

It has been a busy time here along the border even though confined to working from home. As the Cultural Resource Specialist for the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section (USIBWC), I do make time to get out in the field when I can. Since I manage the border from San Diego to the Gulf of Mexico, I have been doing many projects along the Rio Grande in both Texas and New Mexico. In New Mexico and Texas, I have been recording and updating sites for sediment disposal locations. This is where we remove sediment from the Rio Grande and deposit on private land after we complete SHPO consultations. One site in New Mexico yielded three pieces of obsidian on surface. (Photo 1). These have been sent off to Richard Hughes at the



Photo 1: Obsidian from surface. Photo courtesy the author.

Geochemical Research Laboratory for analysis. In Texas, I recently published in *KIVA* on Smeltertown in El Paso and the International Border Monuments from El Paso to California. Down the river in Presidio, Tx, I have been working with several archeologists and researchers on areas in and outside of town. *(continued, page 18)* 

(continued from page 17) On one visit, we explored site 41PS16 near the river. This has been getting some attention again by the Center for Big Bend Studies and is yielding new information as artifacts are being uncovered by the wind. Another survey was to examine the IBC (pre-IBWC) monuments along the river that were established in the 1900s - 1910s by the Commission to demark the boundary when the river flooded. One of these markers is at the 41PS16 site (Photo 2). Besides



Photo 2: IBC monument at site 41PS16. Photo courtesy the author.

this, we also surveyed for impact at an area for a new TxDOT location that is across the road from IBWC property. Later, working with Brad Newton of the City of Presidio and a Commissioner on the Presidio County Historical Commission, we explored and documented the Ignatz Kleinman Store / Miguel Nieto Store for a preservation project in the future. It is an adobe building with artifacts in the adobe (Photos 3, 4 and 5). The inside is still similar to what it was in the 1910s when in use. A future article will be coming out soon on this store and the roles it had in the Mexican Revolution. Other work



Photo 3: Adobe storefront. Photo courtesy the author.

along the river was examining an unrecorded site with TPWD Archeologist Tim Roberts.

As the days cool down and hopefully the virus recedes, more field work can be accomplished here and down at Falcon Reservoir where sites are being exposed on both sides of the river.

Mark Howe is a Cultural Resources Specialist for the International Boundary and Water Commission, United States Section. He is located in El Paso, Texas.





Photos 4 and 5: Store interior photos, then and now. Photos courtesy Brad Newton of Presidio, Texas.

# TXDOT ROADSIDE CHAT-DISCOVERING TRACES OF THE CADDO IN NORTHEAST TEXAS

TxDOT archeologists must consider a transportation project's impact on cultural resources, such as archeological sites, before construction begins. It is part of our work beyond the road. More than 15 years ago, TxDOT began the process of identifying historic and prehistoric properties along



prehistoric properties along Caddo artifact. Photos this page courtesy TxDOT.

the proposed 14-mile transportation corridor in an effort to widen US Highway 175. TxDOT staff archeologists were aware of the multiple prehistoric and historic Caddo sites in the area, but delays in project funding and right-of-entry access put the project on hold.

The project finally received funding in 2014, and TxDOT archeologists and consultants went to work. Experts review a project's potential impact based on existing data like aerial maps, historical and archeological atlases, project information, and photos. Previously recorded sites can help identify and evaluate sites in the project area, which helps TxDOT avoid potentially high-risk areas, such as cemeteries and sacred burials. Unfortunately, the records from the 1930s and 1940s were slim, and a consultant suggested that some of the sites may be missing. The reason some sites were not showing up on current maps from the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory was because multiple surveys and maps had confused an old Highway 40 and the new Highway 40. Even more confusing, the new Highway 40 is now named US 175. Archeologists dug deeper by examining old photographs, measuring distances from the original highway route, studying old Texas Highway Department maps, and comparing previous reports and surveys. In doing so, the team uncovered two lost archeological sites, the A.S. Mann site and the M.S. Roberts Mound site.

#### **Discoveries**

One of the sites contained a lost Caddo mound. These built-up earthen mounds are extremely rare. In fact, there is only one other known mound found in the Frankston era (between 1400-1650). Mounds were used

by the Caddo as ceremonial grounds and were usually located near a village.

In addition, archeologists found nine clay pipes, an obsidian arrow point, 204 vessels, several burials, 194 arrow points, and two metal objects, among other things. The metal objects uncovered appear to be a box fragment consisting of two pieces from two different

sides of a Spanish jewelry box. The artifacts uncovered during TxDOT's excavations date the Caddo's interaction with European explorers further back in time than what was previously documented. TxDOT is in consultation with the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma to determine outreach activities to educate various audiences throughout the state about Caddo archeology and heritage.

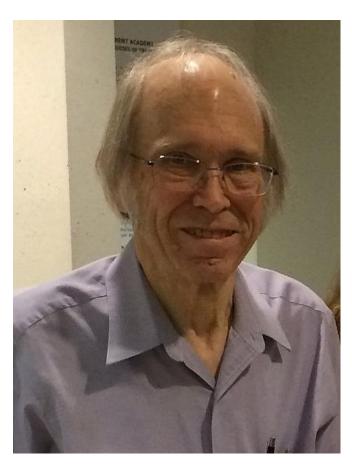


Register for this Webinar on Sept. 24

Join TxDOT Archeologist Waldo Troell on Thursday, Sept. 24 at 10 a.m. CDT for a webinar to learn about the process and discoveries in Anderson Co. at this unique site. Visit <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BQQ36TH">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BQQ36TH</a> to register or to view the latest on TxDOT archeology projects throughout the state, including recorded webinars, interactive story maps, and project fact sheets.

## IN MEMORIAM

## RICHARD L. (DICK) GREGG



Richard L. (Dick) Gregg, age 77, of Nevada, Ohio and formerly of Houston, Texas, passed away Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at the Kingston Residence of Marion, Ohio. Services for Richard L. Gregg were private with burial at Nevada Cemetery.

We recently learned of the passing last year of our friend and mentor Richard L (Dick) Gregg. The very short obituary above was published in Dick Gregg's hometown newspaper for a man who was, literally, a legend in Texas archeology and to whom Texas archeology owes a huge debt of gratitude. The members of the Houston Archeological Society hope we can do better with an obituary that will properly honor this very special man.

Dick Gregg was born and raised in Nevada, Ohio. He

graduated from Nevada High School in 1959. This brilliant man received his BEE in 1964, M.SC in 1964 and his PhD in 1968 all from Ohio State University, in electrical engineering. He was employed as a geophysicist with Shell Research and Development in Houston although he also spent several years in the Netherlands. But Dick's true passion was archeology, sparked in the early 1970s by his mentor, noted archeologist Lou Fullen, and his relationship with other avocational and professional archeologists across the State of Texas.

Once retired from Shell, Dick had even more time to devote to archeology. Dick joined the Texas Archeological Society (TAS) in 1970 shortly after moving to Texas. He was an active member of not only the TAS but also the Fort Bend Archeological Society, the Brazosport Archeological Society as a founding member, and the Houston Archeological Society where he served as the editor of the HAS Newsletter for over 30 years and as president from 1977 – 1979. In 1984 Dick was invited to be one of the first 10 members of the Texas Historical Commission's Texas Archeological Stewards Network and continued to serve as an active member until he moved back to Ohio in 2016 when he began experiencing health problems.

Putting his engineering background to work in the field of archeology, Dick became interested in non-destructive investigative techniques and began attending Bureau of Land Management workshops on the use of remote sensing systems. Dick was instrumental in the acquisition by the Fort Bend Archeological Society and the Fort Bend County Historical Commission of two of the remote sensing systems described and demonstrated in those workshops, electro/magnetic conductivity and ground penetrating radar. Later he developed procedures for performing systematic electro/magnetic survey data acquisition, processing, and interpretation. Dick participated in many electro/magnetic surveys at archeological sites in Fort Bend County and at numerous TAS Field Schools.

Few avocational archeologists have dedicated more of their time and unique skills to archeological projects in southeast Texas, answering the call in Liberty, Wharton, Austin, Harris, Fort Bend, and (continued, page 21) (continued from page 20) Brazoria Counties to name but a few. Described by his closest friends and colleagues as being methodical, exacting, and rigorous in the application of proper archeological field methods, Dick stands out as one of those members of the TAS who exemplifies what it means to be a dedicated and selfless team player.

Dick Gregg was respected throughout the avocational and professional communities and several of his colleagues have chosen to add their reminiscences to his obituary:

Professional archeologist Douglas Mangum with MAC/CEI had this to say: "Dick Gregg was one of those people I felt like I could always talk to. In the many times that he volunteered to help us during our various battlefield investigations, I always made sure to seek him out at least once a day to get his impression of the work and to discuss my own thoughts as well. The back and forth of those conversations was something I looked forward to because his wit and wisdom made them both fun and informative. Even when his health was waning, Dick sought to join our projects because his commitment to and interest in the work was that strong... and he always found a way to contribute. He will be much missed."

Several of his fellow avocational archeologists and TASN colleagues also shared memories.

Beth Aucoin said, "Dick was an incredible avocational archeologist!! So knowledgeable in so many areas - ceramics, fish and faunal—he collected many bones/specimens, sometimes burying critters in his yard and then retrieving the bones for study later. An avid reader and researcher with an incredible personal library. Dick had an extremely dry sense of humor and was often dogmatic about many things. He and I often had a difference of opinion, but he was willing to share his knowledge. He was a unique individual."

Sheldon Kindall: "For me, everything I have done relating to archeology has involved Dick Gregg in one way or another. Dick never passed up an opportunity to participate in any archeological investigation. His interests were broad in general but recovering data from the past was his favorite task. He excelled at recovering, processing, and documenting data."

Joe Hudgins said: "I have known Dick Gregg for as many years he has participated in meetings and archeological field trips for HAS and Fort Bend AS. Dick is true to his nature which is being *exact and meticulous; slow but sure; dependable*. Over the years HAS spent in Wharton County doing archeological surveys, Dick was part of that core group known as the *Dirty Half Dozen* that could be counted on to show up first and be the last to leave."

Charlie Gordy said: "When I was new to the field, I considered him my mentor and always enjoyed working with him in any capacity but especially unit excavation. He was a perfectionist and I always either learned something new or a better way."

Johnney Pollan added: "Those of you in the archeology world who worked with Richard (Dick) Gregg knew that Dick was a stickler for accuracy. He and I were laying out a series of 1mX2m units at Velasco and it took BAS (Brazosport Archaeological Society) nearly 20 years before Dick could accept +/- 3mm as good enough. He was always learning and he wanted to know the various ceramic transfer patterns without going to reference books. After many years, Dick was one the best at determining the pattern "Canova" from small sherds. He was a charter member of BAS and made sure that the young society was always on the straight and narrow. One thing that many people may not know was Dick's favorite soft drink. It was Nehi Grape soda - only in a glass bottle. Once Marcy Grubbs presented Dick with a full case for his birthday. He never let Marcy forget the kind gesture. Just a few memory strands about my relationship with Dick. We all will miss him and a few of his quirks (good quirks) that made him special and a good friend."

As for me, Dick Gregg was a hard act to follow. He kept me on my toes during my tenure on the Board of the Houston Archeological Society and more recently as President of the organization. Dick was never afraid to express his opinions and I soon realized that his opinions, based on years and years of experience in the field, were offered for the greater good. I listened. Every time. And learned valuable lessons from this wonderful man. Rest in Peace, Dick. Your friends in Texas miss you!

Linda Gorski President, Houston Archeological Society

### **ALVIN RAY LYNN**

Alvin Ray Lynn passed away August 27, 2020. The third of nine children born to Lonzo Lacy and Elsie Mae Mohling Lynn, he was born October 14, 1938, at Four Corners, east of Whiteflat, Motley County, Texas. Alvin worked on the family farm and roamed the hills, fields, and pastures just below the Caprock Escarpment. Relics he discovered there launched him on a lifelong pursuit of the people who came before - the pioneers, cowboys, buffalo hunters, Indians and travelers.

In 1961, Alvin graduated from West Texas State College in Canyon with a BS in geology. He earned his MS from West Texas State University in 1975. Having learned a strong work ethic from his parents, Alvin contributed to the family resources from an early age—at age twelve, he drove a truck to New Mexico for Mr. Thelma Casey; he was a soda jerk at Vaughn's Drug; he pumped gas at Bob's Oil Well; he went on the wheat harvest during college; he worked on an oil rig; he worked for the U.S. Forest Service at Buffalo Lake; he sold sporting goods in Furr's Family Center in Lubbock; he was a life-guard in Dumas; and he devoted hours and hours of time and resources to Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, civic clubs, schools, and organizations. Alvin spent over thirty years of his life teaching physical science to ninth grade students.

In 1975, he received recognition as an outstanding secondary educator of America for his contributions to the advancement of secondary education and service to community; in 1977, the Dumas Chamber of Commerce presented the Joyce Dillow Award to him for his unselfish

contribution to the community; in 1979, he was named Teacher of the Year for Dumas Independent School District; in 2007, the Texas State Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution recognized him with the Community Service Award for excellence in community service; in 2008, the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution awarded the DAR Medal of Honor to him for leadership, trustworthiness. service. Panhandle-Plains patriotism. Historical Museum was the recipient

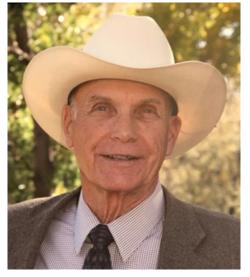
of a Ward-Burton rifle given by an anonymous donor in honor of Alvin in 2011. In 2013, Alvin received notification of the establishment of the Alvin Lynn Endowment for Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum by an anonymous donor. DHS inducted Alvin into the 2015 Dumas High School Hall of Fame. Alvin received the 2019 Curtis D. Tunnell Lifetime Achievement Award in Archeology from the Texas Historical Commission. He also recently received the "Norman Flaigg Honorable Mention" award for outstanding performance for THC Stewards on Aug. 1, 2020 for the North Texas Region. He received his 30-year TAS membership certificate in 2019.

Alvin was an active member of Boy Scouts of America at Matador and an honorary member of BSA Troop #202 in Dumas; Potter County Historical Society; WT Geology Club; Amarillo Classroom Teachers; Texas State Teachers Association; Westerners International; Santa Fe Trail Association; Panhandle Archeological Society; West Texas Historical Association; Wild West History Association; Ranching Heritage Association; and Texas Archeological Society. He served on the board of directors for the Dumas YMCA and Wildcat Bluff Nature Center in Amarillo. He was a steward for the Texas Historical Commission. He was a volunteer at PPHM and member of the Panhandle-Plains Historical Society, taking to heart the quote of Hattie Anderson founder, "It is the sacred duty of ours to collect the record of life here and hand this on to the children of the future."

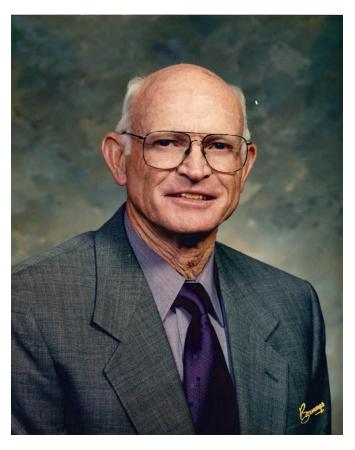
Alvin wrote numerous scientific papers and was a contributing author to 100 Moore Years: A History of Moore County, Texas. He spent three years working on the Red River War Project. He located the trail taken by Kit Carson in 1864 on his winter campaign to fight the

Kiowas and Comanches at Adobe Walls. In 2014, after researching for fifteen years, Texas Tech University Press published Alvin's award-winning book, Kit Carson and the First Battle of Adobe Walls - A Tale of Two Journeys.

In 2005, Alvin began a long journey with carcinoid, a rare neuroendocrine cancer. For anyone wishing to give a memorial, the family suggests the Zebra House, "Ochsner Foundation – Zebra Fund," (Account # 1601147), 200 West Esplanade Avenue, Suite 200, Kenner, LA, 70065, 866-91-ZEBRA.



### **JACK RAYMOND SKILES**



Jack Raymond Skiles, 89, of Langtry and Midland, passed away on August 5, 2020. Wilmuth, the love of his life and wife of 68 years, was at his side. Jack was born March 20, 1931 in Del Rio, Texas to Guy and Vasti (Barnes) Skiles and lived his childhood at Langtry, Texas. Following high school graduation in Del Rio, he attended Sul Ross State University where he obtained a B.S. degree in 1952 and M.A. degree in 1953. He met Wilmuth McCarty at Sul Ross and they married on Sept. 1, 1951 in Mertzon.

He began his career as a science teacher and junior high principal at Rankin. He was curator of the Sandhills Museum in Monahans for several years. Jack served as superintendent of schools at Paint Rock and Balmorhea before returning to Langtry in 1968. He was the first manager of the Judge Roy Bean Visitor Center, serving for eighteen years. He returned to school administration as superintendent of Comstock schools from 1987 through 1991.

During his years in Langtry he raised sheep and goats, and wrote the book *Judge Roy Bean Country*, a history of the

Langtry area. He served on the board of directors for the Rio Grande Electric Cooperative, Region 15 Education Service Center, and Big Bend Natural History Association. Jack and Wilmuth moved to Midland in 2016.

Known widely in West Texas and beyond, he had many friends from all walks of life, always looked forward to spending time with them, and easily made new friends. He enjoyed walking the canyons and hills of the family property at Langtry, whether with family and friends, local townspeople, neighboring ranch people, visiting archeologists and scientists, or in the company of his sheep and goats. He conducted tours of his private history and native American artifact museum for the many who came to visit, most happily for youth and student groups fascinated by the items and his accomplished storytelling.

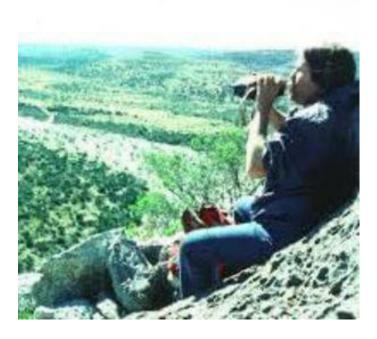
He was an active leader and participant in the Langtry and Comstock communities, churches, and other organizations. Jack and Wilmuth's interest in people and places near and far led them to travel widely, including to South America, Egypt, Russia, Pacific Islands, Mexico, Alaska, and much of Europe.

Jack was passionate about archeology and was recognized by the Texas Historical Commission for preservation of archeological sites on the family ranch. The Shumla Archeological Research & Education Center, located in Comstock, recognized Jack and his family as their 2020 Stewards of the Year.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, aunts and uncles. He is survived by his wife Wilmuth, daughter Peggy Skiles of Big Spring, son Jack Raymond Skiles Jr. of Alpine, and son Russel Skiles and his wife Diane of Lamesa. He was especially proud of his granddaughter Kimberly, and Kimberly's husband Nathan Vaughan and their daughter, Lilly Rose, of Polokwane, S. Africa; and his grandson Aaron of Lamesa.

A memorial service will be scheduled for a later date. Memories and tributes may be written at <a href="https://www.gwcoxmemorialfuneralhome.com/obituaries/">https://www.gwcoxmemorialfuneralhome.com/obituaries/</a>. Donations in honor of Jack may be made to the nonprofit Shumla Archeological Center at <a href="https://www.shumla.org/donate">www.shumla.org/donate</a> or to their mailing address, 5706 E. Mockingbird Ln., #115-363, Dallas, TX 75206.

### **SOLVEIG ASTRID TURPIN**



Solveig Astrid Turpin (nee Skramstad), 83, born in Waseca, Minnesota on August 31, 1936, passed away in San Antonio, Texas on July 17, 2020. She is preceded in death by her parents, Olaf and Magnhild Skramstad; brother, Odin Skramstad, and sister, Ingrid Henry.

Solveig was married to William Francis Turpin [dec.] in 1955 and they were both active in MENSA. They shared a son, William Eugene Turpin [dec.], from his first marriage. Solveig will be lovingly remembered by her children: Jeffrey Peter Turpin (Lisa Middleton); Rachel Lesley Smith (Larry Smith), Jennifer Ellen Turpin (Robert Elias) and Anthony David Turpin (Amicia Turpin), her grandchildren: Madeleine Rachel Elias; Conner Anthony Turpin; Jack Anders Elias; Sidney Patricia Turpin; Bjorn Harper Turpin; Erik William Turpin; Sawyer Mathew Turpin; Matthew Curtis; and Emma Mae Turpin; her sister Marie Skramstad DeForest (Felix DeForest); her extended family of in-laws, cousins, nieces and nephews; her partner in adventure, Dr. Herbert H. Eling, Jr.; her close friends, and her dog, Barbie.

Solveig and family lived in Minneapolis and Chicago before moving to San Antonio. She began her undergraduate studies at St. Olaf's College, but her formal intellectual pursuits were subsumed by her family until 1974, when she divorced and moved to Austin. She still had three of her children at home, and, on a graduate student salary, raised them while completing her B.A., followed by a PhD in Anthropology at the University of Texas.

Her interest in Native American petroglyphs (rock carvings) and pictographs (rock paintings) was sparked during her doctoral studies under Dr. James A. Neely at Seminole Canyon in the West Texas desert. Solveig also worked with the archeologist David S. Dibble, Director of the Texas Archeological Survey (TAS) at the University of Texas, where she served as Associate Director. Solveig employed dozens of student archeologists and opened and extended research at seminal archeological sites including Seminole Canyon, Bonfire Shelter, and Skyline Shelter, also conducting research at Lewis Canyon funded by the Rock Art Foundation. She went on to become Director of TAS, then Associate Director of Texas Archaeological Research Labs (TARL), and ultimately director of Borderlands Archaeological Research Unit under the Institute of Latin American Studies at the University of Texas, until her retirement in 1994, bringing in millions of dollars in research grants to the university over the years. After retiring she founded Turpin and Sons, Inc., a cultural resource management firm, where her son Jeff currently serves as President.

She spent decades finding and recording rock art in the Texas and northern Mexico deserts with her partner Herbert Eling, her son Jeff, and many graduate students and avocational archeologists. Her research has been published in hundreds of articles and bilingual and colorplated books, including The Rock Art of Coahuila, and presented at international and regional conferences. Her many awards included recognition by the International Rock Art Congress in Oaxaca, Mexico (2016) and the Texas Historical Commission and University Lands (2017) for her seminal contributions to archaeology.

Solveig was a strict, energetic, and disciplined researcher, whose trips into deserts, canyons, hills and mountains in west Texas and Mexico with Dr. Eling (in his various ancient Land Rovers) can only be described as legendary. These trips also piqued her interest in an early twentieth century Mexican scandal, about which she wrote the biography, *The Hillcoat Murders*. (continued, page 24)

(continued from page 23) Her legacy will live on in her foundational, ground-breaking research and in the hearts and minds of her colleagues.

Deeply engaged in the lives of her children and grandchildren, she supported their educations and their diverse interests. She traveled the world, exploring her Norwegian heritage and her interests in other cultures. She was a voracious reader, especially of mystery novels. She had a prodigious memory for events and places, plots and characters in books she read or films she had seen, decades earlier. Solveig was a gifted and humorous storyteller, making frequent observations about the

absurdities of life and of people. She loved to garden, and especially loved her dogs. She was the matriarch and center of her family, a force of nature with a lasting impact on the lives of her family and friends. We will miss her greatly.

Given COVID concerns, there are no current plans for a memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Family Violence Prevention Services,

https://www.fvps.org/donate-2/.





# EAST TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE UPDATES

#### Dr. Thomas Guderjan

The joint 62<sup>nd</sup> Caddo Conference and the 27<sup>th</sup> East Texas Archeological Conference were hosted at The University of Texas at Tyler on February 28 and 29, 2020 with about 250 people in attendance. The conferences opened with a social gathering at ETX Brewing Co. followed by two days of presentations culminating with a keynote address on The Archaeology of Caddo Storytelling by

George Sabo III, Director of the Arkansas Archeological Survey. The conferences were dedicated to support the devastation at Caddo Mounds State Historic Site in Alto, Texas, a year earlier. The conference ended with several hours of Caddo dances in Patriot Plaza.

In view of COVID-19 concerns, the 2021 ETAC will be cancelled and the next ETAC will be in February, 2022.





The Texas Archeological Society promotes knowledge and preservation of Texas archeology.

The Society encourages: scientific archeological exploration and research ◆ the preservation and conservation of materials and sites ◆ the interpretation and publication of the data attendant thereto.

#### **Ethics**

- Members of TAS must abide by all terms and conditions of the TAS Bylaws and all Federal and State antiquities laws or regulations.
- TAS does not condone the practice of buying and selling artifacts for commercial purposes.
- TAS does not condone the disregard of proper archeological research techniques or the willful destruction or distortion of archeological data.

#### I accept the invitation to join and agree to support the mission of the Texas Archeological Society.

Beginning when payment is processed, a member receives access to the Bulletin of the Texas Archeological Society and current newsletters for 365-days.

Please note our newsletter is now available in digital format only and is available on the TAS Website under the Our Voice tab.  Please select your delivery preference for the Annual TAS Bulletin:   Mailed   Digital Only  If you wish to pay by credit card, please join or renew online at <a href="http://www.txarch.org">http://www.txarch.org</a> .						
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