CTA Members Play Pro-Active Roles in Bringing Texas Archeology to Texas Audiences

Alston V. Thoms, Current President

One of my objectives as CTA President is to enhance the organization’s role as a key player in the complex business of making Texas archeology relevant to more people of Texas. This objective is consistent with, and its attainment contributes significantly to, CTA’s primary mission: to maintain and promote the goals of professional archeology in Texas. Toward this end, I want to call your attention to some of the relevant actions undertaken by CTA and its membership. In doing so, I hope you are encouraged to continue your efforts to bring more of Texas’ archeology to its archeologists, to other professionals who interface with archeologists, and to the general public with whom we all interact.

Contributions to TAS’s Video-News-Release

It was a pleasure to preside over CTA’s Fall 1997 meeting, especially when members meaningfully responded to a request from the Texas Archeological Society for a $1,500 donation to serve as “seed money” for a ca. $70,000 Video-News-Release program designed to reach the public through regional television newscasts. Our pro-active response was taken in full appreciation of CTA’s current financial status. Following suggestions from legendary-sage Elton Prewitt, attending members unanimously voted to contribute $1,000 to the Video-News-Release program AND they provided an additional $410 from their own pockets.

Sponsorship Of and Participation In Open Forums on Site Significance Issues

For the 1997 TAS meeting in Odessa, CTA’s Executive Committee sponsored and participated in an open forum attended by some of its membership and some non-members as well. The forum was designed to present current perspectives on site significance and related issues about designing and using effective research strategies. Those who attended the two-hour session know that the discussions were lively, informative, and by most accounts, productive. In any case, it was
clear that there is much to be learned from listening to and participating in discussions among knowledgeable, well-experienced archeologists who work in different sectors – agencies, universities, and private – to identify, assess, and as necessary conduct data recovery or otherwise manage Texas’ archeological resources. Toward that end, I am planning an afternoon-long, open forum for the Spring 1998 CTA meeting that focuses on identification of heuristically useful research strategies for recovering significant archeological data from several of Texas’ better-known site types.

CTA’s Spring 1998 meeting will be held on Friday, April 17, at the Pickle Research Campus in north Austin. The research-strategy forum takes place in the afternoon (ca. 1:00-5:00 p.m. or so), following a late-morning business meeting (ca. 10:00 - 12:00 a.m.) and lunch. As planned, Margaret Howard will moderate the open-forum, and each of three site types will be discussed by two designated archeologists and the audience for about a hour. Douglas Boyd and Myles Miller (tentatively) will initiate the discussion on surface scatters and surface features in west Texas and other dry quarters of the state. A discussion of burned-rock middens in central Texas and adjacent parts will be lead by Drs. Stephen Black and James Bruseth (tentatively). And Drs. Nancy Kenmotsu and Alston Thoms will start the discussion of sites buried in the “everlasting sands” of southeast Texas and vicinity.

Other discussion groups may also meet during the afternoon, and as usual, there will be a late afternoon social for the CTA membership, prospective members, and quests (see the accompanying article by Past President Stephen Black about CTA’s membership drive). An agenda and schedule for the fall meeting will be included in the March 1998 CTA Newsletter.

**Participation in OSA’s Speakers Bureau**

CTA members, along with other Texas archeologists, have also played a key role in promoting Texas archeology through their contributions as guest speakers at public lectures in the San Angelo area sponsored by the Concho Valley Archeological Society and the Office of the State Archeologist. In September 1997, Mike Davis spoke on the *Belle* excavations, and Dr. Steven Black, CTA’s Past President, gave a well-attended talk on burned-rock middens. Daniel Potter informs me that the talks were well received, and that those in attendance not only learned about the results of these investigations, but perhaps more importantly, they also learned “how archeologists go about doing what they do.” My turn at the Fort Concho podium comes on January 22, 1998; I will talk about work conducted by the Center for Ecological Archaeology at Camp Ford, a Confederate-run prisoner-of-war camp in east Texas near Tyler.

**Active Roles in Developing TAPA**

CTA members also played active roles throughout 1997 by participating in the development of a public archeology initiative that culminated in the formation of the Texas Alliance for Public Archeology (TAPA). In January, Dr. Richard Schott of the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs (UT-Austin) invited 20 individuals, mostly archeologists, from Texas universities, public agencies, and the private sector to help develop a plan aimed at promoting policy research and programs designed to encourage greater public awareness of archeological resources. At our last meeting in December, we worked through the articles of incorporation and began the process of establishing TAPA as a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering public awareness, support, and participation in scientific research and the preservation and protection of Texas’ archeological records. We also created an interim board of directors and elected officers: President, Elton Prewitt; Treasure, Brett Cruse; Secretary, David Armstrong; and members, Steven Black, Daniel Potter, Richard Schott, Alston Thoms, and Pam Wheat.

**Commitment to Scholar Roles in “Project Archeology”**

Earlier this year, Dr. Mary Black (UT-Austin) and Ms. Pam Wheat (THC) put together a proposal for an NEH focus grant to develop a plan for “Project Archeology” in Texas schools (curricula
for grades 4-8). More importantly, their proposal was successful and their now-funded project has TARL and TAMU components, with current/one-time/should-be CTA members Steven Black, James Garber, Grant Hall, Thomas Hester, and Alston Thoms listed as archeology scholars with the responsibilities to: (1) select appropriate context material; (2) assure content accuracy in materials development; and (3) share expertise with classroom teachers. Dr. Mary Black informs us that the plan is for teachers to field test the lessons in their classrooms next fall. Participation in this project promises to afford new experiences and provide new insights for this particular set of scholars. Their participation also serves to encourage more pro-active educational roles for CTA and its membership.

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Membership Drive

Steve Black, Immediate Past President

At the Fall Meeting, an ad hoc membership drive committee was formed in recognition of the need for more participation in CTA. Committee members include Dana Anthony (Utopia), Steve Black (Austin), Curt Harrell (San Antonio), Karl Kibler (Austin), Ruth Marie (Lubbock), and Patrick (Pat) McLaughlin (Austin). We met at Odessa on Sunday.

Upon reflection, we decided that effort was better spent trying to bring in new blood than attempting to persuade the various deadbeat former members as to the virtues of rejoining the CTA. In particular, we want to focus our membership efforts on students and those in the early stages of their archeological careers. These individuals stand the most to gain from joining the organization and vice versa. However, we recognized that new and potential members are often put off at CTA meetings because the veterans dominate the organization and rarely make much effort to welcome and integrate newcomers. In an effort to improve the status quo, we decided to do three things: update and reprint the membership brochure, set up a mentor program for new members, and sponsor a student luncheon in conjunction with each meeting.

I am working on a revamping the CTA brochure. The new and improved version will stress the positive benefits of joining the organization and include such things as our web address. When it is printed, we will create a poster with a brochure slot so that this can be posted at universities, contractor offices, and other likely spots where potential members might lurk. I would welcome any suggestions and offers to distribute the brochures and posters.

Dana Anthony is taking the lead in setting up a Mentor Program. She needs current members to volunteer to serve as mentors. What we are proposing is simple enough. New student or journeyman (person if you prefer) members will be matched with a mentor. The mentor’s job is to contact the new member, welcome them to the organization, answer questions, and meet with the new member at the next meeting. There, the mentor should do her/his best to introduce the new member to others and make them feel a part of the group. We think this will help break down generational boundaries and help build a more cohesive organization.

Karl Kibler and Pat McLaughlin are going to set up a Student Luncheon at the Spring Meeting. The details are yet to be worked out. The idea is to further welcome new and potential members by providing an informal setting where basic questions can be addressed, student concerns can be aired, and where the young and the jaded can share enthusiasm and experience. Details will appear in the next newsletter.

Please contact one of us if you have ideas or are willing to help us out. We really think that CTA needs new blood and we want your help. Steve can be reached at TARL (sblack@mail.utexas.edu or 512-471-5998). Dana can be reached in Utopia (danthony@swtexas.net or 830-966-3476). Karl can be reached at Prewitt and Associates (PrewittArcheology@compuserv.com or 512-459-3349). Pat can be reached at Hicks and Co. (512-478-0858).
**CTA and Related Business**

**Contractors Listing Fee to Increase in 1998**

At the fall meeting in Odessa, CTA members voted to increase the annual fee for contractors to be included in the Contractors List to $100. The increase will take effect at the spring meeting in 1998. The new fee will be the same for all contractors, regardless of whether the contractor is an individual or an institution with several employees. The $100 listing fee does not include the Cultural Resource Director’s (CRD) individual dues. In other words, each CRD must still pay their individual CTA membership dues as a separate fee from the listing fee. The increase was needed to help off set increased costs for printing the Contractors List and to help get CTA back on a more secure financial footing.

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**Accreditation and Review Council, Council of Texas Archeologists**

**Trial Training Workshop for Potential Field Reviewers**

The Accreditation and Review Council is having a trial training workshop for potential Field Reviewers at the J. J. Pickle Research Campus, The University of Texas at Austin. It is tentatively set to begin at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 19, and continue through Friday, February 20. If enrollment is large enough, we will attempt to secure a room at the Commons; otherwise, we plan to set up shop in the TARL area, Building 5.

In order to reach the entire membership, we are placing our questionnaire in the newsletter (anyone who returned our questionnaire at the fall business meeting on October 31 need not duplicate their efforts by completing this form). It would be helpful to the ARC to know who in the membership has an interest in becoming field reviewers and who would like to attend the upcoming workshop. Your assistance is requested; we will need to have individuals qualified to conduct accreditation reviews if we wish to meet the deadline set by the Division of Antiquities Protection/Texas Historical Commission (sufficient repositories and museums accredited to hold permitted collections and records by the year 2000).

Please check the applicable line:
- [ ] I plan to attend the trial training workshop.
- [ ] I am not able to attend the workshop at this time, but I am interested in possibly being a Field Reviewer.
- [ ] I have no interest in being a Field Reviewer.

If you are interested in becoming a Field Reviewer, please photocopy and complete the information below. If you are not interested, do provide your name so we may exclude you from future contacts.

Name __________________________

Address __________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip __________________________

Phone ___________ Fax ___________

e-mail __________________________

Business/Institution __________________________

City/State/Zip __________________________

Phone ___________ Fax ___________

e-mail __________________________

Comments? __________________________

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__________________________________
If there is time, please return your forms to Carolyn Spock, Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin, Pickle Research Campus Bldg. 5, Austin, TX 78712-1100. If time is too limited and you wish to attend the workshop, please call or e-mail Carolyn (512-471-6006; c.spock@mail.utexas.edu).

Texas Laboratory and Curation Alliance

Gail Bailey

What follows is the statement of purpose for the Texas Laboratory and Curation Alliance.

Mission Statement

(1) to establish a venue to exchange and foster new ideas, techniques, and resources regarding archeological laboratory procedures among laboratory supervisors;

(2) to create a forum as an Ad Hoc Committee of the Council of Texas Archeologists and through programs with the Texas Archeological Society for the purpose of educating both professional and avocational archeologists on proper laboratory techniques; and

(3) to encourage awareness throughout the archeological community of the importance of good laboratory techniques and standards in the overall process of studying the past through archeology.

TLCA Goals

We will create and make widely accessible a laboratory processing manual that will assist archeologists in overall laboratory techniques and concerns. This manual is under construction now and will be available in early 1998.

We plan to increase membership to include all regions of Texas by the end of 1998. Please fill out a registration form to help us meet this goal! We will have a section on the CTA web page in 1998 which will provide another source of information exchange.

Boy Scouts of America Archeology Badge

Joan Few

Attention all CTA members! This is a wake-up call. The BSA Merit badge for Archeology is happening. Booklets are in the hands of the scouts. The question is, “Are the professional archeologists in the State going to serve as the councilors and qualified archeologists for this badge, or are the pothunters?”

Every member of CTA needs to register with their regional BSA district as a qualified archeologist and councilor for this badge. The badge is very worthwhile and is site-preservation oriented. This is an excellent opportunity for us to reach out to the public and make a very positive statement about our profession. If we can make an impact, we must.

Please take the time to get an Archeology Badge booklet from your BSA office and register to be a councilor/qualified archeologist. If your are on the councilor list and can not assist a troop, you can steer them to a qualified person such as a TAS member. We must be in the loop!

Texas Regional BSA Offices

Abilene
Chisholm Trail Council
1208 North 5th Street
Abilene, TX 79601-5020
(915) 677-2688

Amarillo
Golden Spread Council
401 Tascosa Road
Amarillo, TX 79124-1515
(806) 358-6500


**Austin**
Capitol Area Council  
7540 Ed Bluestein Blvd.  
Austin, TX  78723-2399  
(512) 926-6363

**Beaumont**
Three Rivers Council  
4650 Cardinal Dr.  
Beaumont, TX  77705-2797  
(409) 842-5240

**Brownwood**
Comanche Trail Council  
602 E. Adams St.  
P.O. Box 1086  
Brownwood, TX  76804-1086  
(915) 646-0616

**Corpus Christi**
Gulf Coast Council  
1444 Baldwin  
Box 3159  
Corpus Christi, TX  78463-3159

**Dallas**
Circle Ten Council  
8605 Harry Hines Blvd.  
P.O. Box 35726  
Dallas, TX  75235-0726  
(214) 351-1010

**El Paso**
Yucca Council  
7601 Lockheed Drive  
Box 370891  
El Paso, TX  79937-0891

**Fort Worth**
Longhorn Council  
4917 Briarhaven Rd.  
Fort Worth, TX  76109-4498  
(817) 738-5491

**Galveston**
Bay Area Council  
3020 53rd St.  
P.O. Drawer M  
Galveston, TX  77552-1013  
(409) 744-5207

**Harlingen**
Rio Grande Council  
1301 S. 77 Sunshine Strip  
Box 2424  
Harlingen, TX  78551-2424  
(210) 423-0250

**Houston**
Sam Houston Area Council  
1911 Bagby St.  
P.O. Box 52786  
Houston, TX  77052-2786  
(713) 659-8111

**Lubbock**
South Plains Council  
30 Briercroft Office Park  
Lubbock, TX  79412-3099  
(806) 747-2631

**Midland**
Buffalo Trail Council  
1101 West Texas Avenue  
Midland, TX  79701-6171  
(915) 570-7601

**Paris**
NeTseO Council  
3787 N.W. Loop 286  
Box 995  
Paris, TX  75461-0995  
(903) 784-2538

**San Angelo**
Concho Valley Council  
104 W. River Dr.  
Box 1584  
San Angelo, TX  76902-1584  
(915) 655-7107

**San Antonio**
Alamo Area Council  
2226 MW Military Dr.  
San Antonio, TX  78213-1894  
(210) 341-8611

**Texarkana**
Caddo Area Council  
24 Lynwood Dr.  
Box 5807  
Texarkana, TX  75505-5807  
(903) 793-2179
The Texas Historical Commission approved funding of 19 grant projects for 1998 from an estimated $350,000 available from the Texas Preservation Trust Fund (TPTF) at their October 31st meeting in Kilgore, Texas. Among those approved is an archeological planning project to support further interpretation of the historic Sterne-Hoya House State Archeological Landmark in Nacogdoches, Texas. While a worthy project, the Sterne-Hoya proposal was the only archeology-related proposal received for the upcoming grant cycle.

As has been previously reported in the CTA Newsletter, 10 percent of the available TPTF grant funds are earmarked for the preservation of archeological sites. This year, funding approved for this single project fell short of the percentage specifically set aside for archeological projects due to a shortage of applications. This is a distressing development and is certainly not an accurate reflection of the need for financial support of archeological projects across the state!

In 1996, there was sufficient interest income to allow the first cycle of TPTF grants. Two archeological projects were approved and executed, including a development project to impede active erosion at the Oso Dune site (41NU37) in Nueces County, and an acquisition grant to Texas A&M University’s Conservation Research Laboratory to help defray costs associated with conserving and stabilizing artifacts recovered by THC staff from the Belle shipwreck in Matagorda Bay.

Archeological projects approved to date exemplify only a few of the varied archeological preservation efforts that may receive financial assistance from the TPTF program. Projects to assist the development of sites for public interpretation or to institute protective measures such as fencing, signage, or other conservation efforts at qualified archeological sites are eligible for funding as development projects. Proposals to purchase property containing a significant site (or sites) for the purpose of protecting a “piece of the past” for future study and possible interpretation are examples of eligible acquisition projects. Costs relating to cultural resource reports, preservation plans, and feasibility studies are also eligible for TPTF planning grants. Archeological fieldwork and analyses linked to planning activities may also qualify.

The ABC’s of TPTF

To help you to better prepare for the 1999 grant cycle, essential information about the TPTF program is presented below:

• Three broad categories of grant projects are eligible for TPTF grants or loans – development, acquisition, and planning.

• Grant applications may be submitted by any public or private entity.

• Archeological properties eligible for TPTF funds must either be listed on or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

• Priority will be given to those TPTF projects that target endangered properties.
Upon receiving a TPTF grant, the property owner must be prepared to encumber the property with a deed restriction, the duration of which is determined by the grant or loan award amount.

TPTF funds are allocated on a reimbursement basis (receivable after expenses are incurred).

Each TPTF project must have a two-to-one cash match. In-kind match, while encouraged, does not count for this match requirement.

The TPTF Timeline

Grant application information is sent to everyone on the TPTF mailing list each summer with applications due in early September. Grant applications are then reviewed by THC staff who develop a list of recommended projects for consideration by the TPTF Advisory Board. Members of the Texas Historical Commission render final decisions on TPTF projects in October. Detailed project plans (or research designs, where appropriate) are then required for each of the approved TPTF projects by mid-January. Once these final plans are accepted, the project may proceed and project expenses may be incurred until the August 1st project completion deadline.

To ensure that you receive the TPTF grant application and instructions for the next grant cycle, complete and send in the mail-in form below. If you have questions about the grant program or wish to discuss ideas for potential TPTF grant projects, feel free to contact me directly by phone (512) 463-8882 or via e-mail, pmercado-elliger@access.texas.gov.

YES! Place my name on the Preservation Trust Fund Grant Program Application Mailing List for Fiscal Year 1999.

Please complete project information known at this time:

| Property Name | __________________________ |
| City          | County | __________________________ |
| Address       | __________________________ |
| City          | State Senatorial District Number | __________ |
| County        | State Representative District Number | __________ |
|               | U.S. Congressional District Number | __________ |

Please mail to: Texas Historical Commission, Attn: Lisa Harvell, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276.

Call for Papers

The Center for Research and Fieldwork in Anthropology (CRFA) at the University of Texas-Arlington is soliciting manuscripts for publication in a new series entitled Occasional Publications in the Archaeology of North Central Texas. The purpose of this series will be to serve as an outlet for research articles, site reports, or notes regarding the archaeology and cultural resources of the north-central Texas region.

In an effort to promote and maintain interest in the archaeology of the area and to appeal to wide readership and potential contributors, we encourage the submission of papers from professionals, avocationals, and students. Descriptive, analytical, and theoretical papers are
strongly encouraged as are site reports or notes. Topics can range from artifact descriptions, floral/faunal studies, settlement patterns, and chronology, to issues of site preservation and site significance. Our mission is to integrate the diverse interests and positions into a common archaeological enterprise. Papers will be accepted based on relevance and how they contribute to north-central Texas archaeology.

The deadline for submission of manuscripts is March 1, 1998, with anticipated publication by May 1, 1998. Please submit a hardcopy and/or 3.5” diskette with WordPerfect or Microsoft Word (or Works), Windows 3.1 or Windows 95 compatible. Accepted papers may be edited for length or style. Manuscripts should be no longer than 30 double-spaced pages, including illustrations, appendices, and references cited. Send manuscripts to Jeffery R. Hanson co-editor, Department of Sociology-Anthropology, Box 19599, University of Texas-Arlington, Arlington, TX 76019; or to Kimberly K. Kvernes co-editor, Center for Archaeological Research, 6900 North Loop 1604 West, San Antonio, TX 78249; or send inquirens to Hanson@uta.edu or kkvernes@lonestar.utsa.edu.

If you would like to be put on a mailing list to receive a copy of the first issue (which will cost $5.00 to cover production costs), please send your name and address to either of the co-editors. Contributors will receive three complimentary copies of each issue.

Texas Museum Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the THC’s museum awards that recognize and honor the outstanding achievements and important role that museums play in preserving Texas’ heritage. Exhibits, media projects, community programs, and educational activities that are completed and initially offered to the public during 1997 are eligible for recognition. The deadline to submit nominations is February 28, 1998. For more information and application forms, please contact: Kit Neumann, Local History Programs, Texas Historical Commission, (512) 463-5756.

History Book Awards

The Texas Historical Commission is accepting nominations for its annual T.R. Fehrenbach Book Award. Up to three $1,000 cash prizes will be awarded to selected authors of Texas history books published in 1997. The book award is sponsored annually by the THC and The Dow Chemical Company to encourage original research of Texas history. The award is named for historian T.R. Fehrenbach of San Antonio, a THC Commission member and one of the State’s leading authorities on Texas history and the author of 18 books. For guidelines and a nomination form, please contact: THC Publications Division, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711-2276, or call (512) 475-4960.
TARL Material Culture Workshops

Darrell Creel, TARL Curator of Collections

In an effort to accommodate the interest in materials curated at the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory, The University of Texas at Austin (TARL), the Collections unit has begun a new program, Material Culture Workshops, that we hope will appeal to many archeologists. This is a series of informal evening sessions at TARL focusing on material culture. Each workshop focuses on a specific topic, led by one or more individuals, and uses examples from TARL Collections. Topics vary according to the interests of the individual volunteering to lead each session. We hope that these informal sessions will be interactive and informative, will allow participating individuals to examine many artifacts that they might not otherwise see, and that the workshops will be fun. The opportunities are many and varied.

TARL encourages anyone interested to lead a workshop. Collections staff will provide assistance and help in selecting specimens in advance. Obviously, there may be some restrictions on handling of particular specimens, but we want to encourage hands-on sessions to the extent allowed by artifact condition.

Scheduling may be variable, but we hope to have at least one workshop every month. Since most of these sessions will be held in the main collections facility, space will be limited. Those wishing to attend are asked to register in advance. To register for or to organize a workshop, please contact Darrell Creel, TARL Curator of Collections, at (512) 471-6007 or via email: dcreel@mail.utexas.edu.

Scheduled Workshops

(All at 7:30 p.m.)

Thursday, January 8, 1998: Some of the Important Paleoindian Site Collections at TARL; Michael Collins

Tuesday, February 3, 1998: Ceramics of Far Western Texas; Myles Miller

Tuesday, March 3, 1998: Snares and Deadfalls; Ken Brown

Tuesday, April 7, 1998: Lithic Biface Caches; Kevin Miller

From the Land: Nineteenth Century Texas Stoneware Seminar

Event Advisory
Saturday, February 21, 1998
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Learn about nineteenth-century Texas stoneware and share your knowledge with experts at this one-day seminar at the National Wildflower Research Center in Austin. Dr. Jim Fowler, keynote speaker and Austin Community College professor, will provide an overview of stoneware traditions in the South and will discuss the significance of stonewares produced by Texas potters. A panel discussion, featuring Marie Blaine of Bayou Bend and Anne Fox from the University of Texas at San Antonio, will focus on specific potters and ways to identify their work. Participants can bring one or two pieces of pottery for identification. Admission: $25, includes lunch. Call (512) 292-4200 for more information.

New Publications from the Office of the State Archeologist

Archeology in the Central and Southern Planning Region, Texas (Special Report #35, Mercado-Allinger et al). The latest volume in a series developed as part of a comprehensive preservation program for Texas. This volume presents information on archeological site destruction in central and southern Texas and identifies data gaps that need to be addressed by future research. This study represents efforts by the Texas Historical Commission to carry out long-term preservation planning for sites in the central and southern regions of the state. Cost: $15.
Archeological Bibliography for the Central Region of Texas (Special Report #36, compiled by Helen Simons and William E. Moore). A comprehensive archeological bibliography for 34 counties in the central Texas region. Includes Key Word, Site Number, and County indexes for archeological bibliography; also includes ethnohistorical/historical and environmental bibliographies. Cost: $7. Also available on diskette as a semicolon-delimited text file, as a database, or as Mac Microsoft Word file. Special offer: printed bibliography plus diskette file, $10.


To order any of these publications, contact the Office of the State Archeologist, Texas Historical Commission, P.O. Box 12276, Austin, TX 78711. Phone (512) 463-6090. Email osa@thc.state.tx.us.

Texas A&M University’s Center for Environmental Archaeology Recently Renamed: Center for Ecological Archaeology

Alston V. Thoms, Director

In 1994, the Center for Environmental Archaeology (CEA) in the College of Liberal Arts at Texas A&M University was created by the Board of Regents from the Department of Anthropology’s well-established Archaeological Research Laboratory. In November 1997, CEA’s name officially changed to the Center for Ecological Archaeology. Our primary function continues to be to develop new ways of inferring environmentally related change through archaeological research. The Center’s mission is accomplished through sponsored research carried out in collaboration with students, faculty, and researchers in the Department of Anthropology and other university departments.

CEA emphasizes what is becoming known as ecological archaeology, an interdisciplinary and holistic approach to understanding the relationships between ever-changing environmental conditions and the dynamics of human demography and adaptations. More and more, life-science departments around the country are offering classes and training in ecological and paleoecological studies. Not long ago, prototypes for these fields were designated as “environmental” and “paleoenvironmental,” respectively. A quick review of the Internet, as well as directories for professional organizations such as SAA and AAA, shows that many universities now list classes and research opportunities in ecological archaeology. However, we were unable to find any research facility that used “Ecological Archaeology” as part of its name.

In recognition of the new ecologically oriented directions in natural and cultural sciences, Texas A&M University approved our request for a formal name change. From a name-recognition standpoint, however, we have retained our “CEA” acronym. Other than the name change, our mailing address remains the same: Center for Ecological Archaeology, 210 Anthropology Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77845-4352. Our telephone number [(409) 845-4044] and FAX number [(409) 845-4070] also remain unchanged, as does our newly updated Web Page address: http://nautarch.tamu.edu/cea/cea.html. CEA’s director can still be reached via e-mail at a-thoms@tamu.edu.
Standing Committees

**Governmental Affairs**
(6 appointed, staggered, 2-year terms)
Chris Lintz (98), co-chair
Jon Lohse (98), co-chair
Mark Denton (99)
Margaret Howard (99)
Steve Black (00)
Dan Potter (00)

**Ethics and Standards**
(6 elected, staggered, 2-year terms; no members from same organization)
Bob Skiles (99), chair
Karen Gardner (99)
*Lain Ellis (98)
Bob Hard (98)
To be filled (00)
To be filled (00)

**Contractors List**
(1-3 appointed)
*Aina Dodge, chair
Brett Cruse

**Public Education**
(6+ appointed)
Joan Few, chair
Karen Gardner
Alan Skinner
Alston Thoms
*Beth O’Leary
*Julie Pool
*Leonard Voellinger

**Auditing Committee**
Doug Boyd, chair
Gail Bailey
Melissa Voellinger

**Nominating Committee**
(chair appointed, 4 elected at fall meeting)
*Darrell Creel, chair
Dana Anthony
Brett Cruse

Nominating Committee (continued)
Joan Few
Ross Fields

Native American Relations
Margaret Howard, chair
*Dorothy Lippert
Tim Perttula
Alston Thoms
Paul Maslyk
*Kimball Smith
Darren Geimausaddle
Jane Van Praag
Jack Keller
*David Carmichael
Bob Skiles
Chris Lintz
Doug Boyd

Special Committees

**Accreditation and Review Council**
(5 elected, staggered, 3-year terms; no more than 2 from same organization)
*Eileen Johnson, chair
Carolyn Spock, secretary-treasurer
Mark Denton
Laura Nightengale
Karen Gardner (98)
Steve Black, ex officio

Archeological Survey Standards
(appointed in 1995)
Ross Fields, chair
Brett Cruse
Margaret Howard
Duane Peter
David Robinson
*Chris Ward

**CTA Web Page**
Kevin Jolly, chair
David Brown
Dan Julien
Steve Black
Bob Skiles

* = 1997-1998 dues not paid
BYLAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF TEXAS ARCHEOLOGISTS

ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this organization shall be the “Council of Texas Archeologists,” herein referred to as the “Council.”

ARTICLE II

Purpose

Section 1. Purpose.

The Council of Texas Archeologists is a nonprofit voluntary organization which exists for the purpose of maintaining and promoting the goals of professional archeology in the State of Texas. These goals shall include but not be limited to:

a. The promotion and coordination of communication and cooperation within the archeological community;

b. The preservation and conservation of the cultural resources of Texas;

c. The promotion and dissemination of information which enhances public awareness of the limited and non-renewable nature of our cultural resources.

Section 2. Legislative and Lobbying Action.

Where appropriate, the activities of the Council shall be directed towards legislative, lobbying, and consultative actions where it furthers the goals of the Council. Such activities shall be carried out in a manner consistent with the Council’s status as a professional society, with the duties of the officers, and with appropriate opportunities for action as stated in applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. Members.

Membership shall be open to professionals, students, and institutions vocationally involved in Texas archeology who subscribe to the goals of the Council. Each professional or student member in good standing, who has paid membership dues, shall be entitled to cast one vote for or against any issue brought before the Council. Institutional members are non-voting members.

Section 2. Dues.

The Council shall establish membership dues for the purpose of financing its business.

ARTICLE IV

Officers, Election and Terms, Qualifications, Nominations

Section 1. Officers.

The officers of the Council shall be a President, a President-Elect, an Immediate Past President, a Secretary-Treasurer, and a Newsletter Editor. These officers, who comprise the Executive Committee, shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws and by the parliamentary authority adopted by the Council.

Section 2. Election and Terms.

a. Officers shall be elected by ballot at the regular Spring Meeting to serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected, and their terms of office shall begin at the close of the meeting at which they are elected.

b. A plurality vote shall constitute an election.
c. No member shall serve two consecutive terms in the office of President.

d. Each officer/committee member shall be a member in good standing who has paid dues.

e. In the event an officer is unable to complete his/her term, the remaining members of the Executive Committee will meet (either in person or by telephone) and appoint a person to fill the vacant position until an election can be held at the next regular or specially-called meeting. If the office of the President is vacant, the President-Elect will become the President for the remainder of the term; the position filled would be that of President-Elect. Should both the President and the President-Elect positions become vacant before an election can be held, the office of President will succeed first to the Secretary-Treasurer, and if that office is vacant, to the Newsletter Editor. Members of the Executive Committee will retain their elected offices except to serve as needed in the position of President following the above outlined order of succession.

Section 3. Nominations.

a. At the regular Fall Meeting, a Nominating Committee of five persons shall be chosen. The Chairman of the Committee shall be appointed by the President. Four or more additional nominations shall be made from the floor for the remaining positions, and those four receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.

b. It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the offices to be filled at the regular Spring Meeting. This Committee shall confer with all persons nominated in order to determine their willingness to serve if elected.

c. No agency may be represented by more than one person on this Committee. An agency is herein defined as a private organization or a separately budgeted branch of government or educational institution.

d. Before the election of officers at the regular Spring Meeting, additional nominations from the floor shall be permitted.

ARTICLE V

Duties of Officers

Section 1. Duties of the President.

The President shall:

a. Maintain continuity of the Council by executing the provisions of these Bylaws.

b. Preside at Council Meetings.

c. Make necessary arrangements for each Council meeting in accordance with the date and location selected by the membership at the preceding meeting.

d. Provide an agenda for each Council meeting.

e. Appoint committees in accordance with Article VII of these Bylaws and with the assistance and approval of the elected officers.

f. Speak for the Council as a whole only when so authorized by the membership, except in emergency situations wherein the President shall be empowered to so speak for the Council with the assistance and approval of the elected officers. In all such emergency cases, statements issued by the President shall be subject to ratification by a majority vote of the members at the next regular or special meeting of the Council. The President shall notify the membership as to the contents of any statements made in their behalf, in the Newsletter or at the next meeting, whichever comes first.

g. Convey all records, correspondence, and property of the Council to his/her successor.

h. With the approval of the officers, present an annual budget for the coming year at the Spring Meeting of the CTA. The budget will be approved by a majority vote.

i. Attend the quarterly meetings of the Antiquities Advisory Board to the Texas Historical Commission as the representative of the CTA, and attend the quarterly meetings of the Texas Historical Commission.
Section 2. Duties of the President-Elect.

The President-Elect shall:

a. Maintain continuity of the Council by working closely with the President and other elected officers.

b. Assume the office of President at the end of the Spring Meeting one year after being elected.

c. Convey all records, correspondence, and property of the Council to his/her successor.

Section 3. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer.

The Secretary-Treasurer shall:

a. Receive dues and contractors' listing fees and deposit them in an account in the name of the Council and shall disburse funds from this account for publication and distribution of the Newsletter and for other necessary Council expenses.

b. Maintain an up-to-date list of the members.

c. Carry on necessary correspondence as directed by the President.

d. Report at every regular meeting to the membership the receipts, expenses, and financial condition of the Council. No funds from dues are to be used for salaries or otherwise to reimburse persons for time spent on Council business (see clarification in Article IX).

e. Record the proceedings of all Council meetings and maintain a complete set of records, Newsletters, and Contractors Lists.

f. Keep copies of the Bylaws and standing rules and record amendments.

g. Call the meeting to order in the absence of the President or President-Elect and preside over the election of a temporary presiding officer.

h. Send notices of all meetings to members.

i. Close the books within 15 days of the end of the fiscal year (January 1 through December 31) and submit them to the chairman of the Auditing Committee.

j. Convey all records, correspondence, and property of the Council to his/her successor.

Section 4. Duties of the Newsletter-Editor.

The Newsletter-Editor shall:

a. Produce and distribute a Newsletter three times yearly. Additional editions of the Newsletter may be issued as needs, funds, and time allow.

b. Provide the Secretary-Treasurer with a copy of all Newsletters.

c. Convey all records, correspondence, and property of the Council to his/her successor.

Section 5. Duties of the Immediate Past President.

The Immediate Past President shall work with the President and other elected officers to maintain the continuity of the Council.

ARTICLE VI

Meetings

Section 1. Regular Meetings.

There shall be two regular meetings held each year: (1) Fall Meeting, held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Texas Archeological Society unless decided otherwise at the Spring Meeting, and (2) Spring Meeting, in Austin, Texas, the date of which shall be selected at the preceding regular Fall Meeting. Notification of members by mail to the last known address shall be made at least 15 days prior to any meetings.

Section 2. Quorum.

Twenty-five voting members present shall constitute a quorum.
Section 3. Special Meetings.

Special meetings shall be called by the President upon the written request of 15 members. Notice of special meetings must include an agenda.

ARTICLE VII

Committees

Section 1. Governmental Affairs Committee.

The Governmental Affairs Committee shall consist of six members, appointed by the President with the assistance and approval of the elected officers. The Governmental Affairs Committee shall monitor official plans and actions at the local, state, and federal levels, as they affect archeological work in Texas. This information shall be conveyed to the membership through the Newsletter and by submission of reports at regular meetings.

Section 2. Ethics and Standards Committee.

The Ethics and Standards Committee shall consist of six members, no two of whom shall be employed by the same agency. Members of the Ethics and Standards Committee shall be nominated from the floor and elected by the membership. This committee shall consider professional problems, make recommendations where necessary, and communicate with the membership on matters of ethics and standards in the conduct of all phases of archeological work in Texas.

Section 3. Auditing Committee.

The Auditing Committee shall consist of three members, appointed by the President with the assistance and approval of the elected officers. The Auditing Committee shall at the end of every fiscal year conduct an audit of the records of the Council maintained by the Secretary-Treasurer and by the Accreditation and Review Council and its Secretary-Treasurer. The Committee shall report its findings to the membership at the next regular meeting.

Section 4. Contractors List Committee.

The Contractors List Committee shall consist of one or more members, appointed by the President with the assistance and approval of the elected officers. This Committee shall maintain and publish two times yearly an up-to-date Contractors List; receive contractors’ listing fees and deposit them with the Secretary-Treasurer; report all expenditures to the Secretary-Treasurer; and provide each elected officer with a copy of all published Contractors Lists. CTA members shall be responsible for meeting deadlines for inclusion on the CTA Contractors List and timely notification to this Committee of address changes.

Section 5. Public Education Committee.

The Public Education Committee shall consist of six or more members, appointed by the President with the assistance and approval of the elected officers. The Chair and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the Committee. This Committee shall be responsible for the CTA Speakers Bureau and CTA participation in Archeology Awareness Month.

Section 6. Native American Relations Committee.

The Native American Relations Committee shall consist of four or more members, appointed by the President with the assistance and approval of the Executive Committee. The Chair shall be elected by the Committee. The Committee shall foster positive working relationships between the archeological and Native American communities, serve as a forum for inquiring into current issues, disseminate relevant information, and, when appropriate, recommend courses of action to the membership.

Section 7. Standing or Special Committees.

Such other committees, standing or special, shall be appointed by the President, with the approval of the elected officers, as deemed necessary from time to time or as directed by the Council to carry on the work of the Council. Appointments of other committees by the President shall be subject to approval by majority vote of the
members at the next regular or special meeting of the Council.

Section 8. Committee Membership.

Committee members shall be appointed by the new President at any time after he/she takes office at the conclusion of the Spring Meeting. Committee memberships, elected or appointed, terminate at the conclusion of the Spring Meeting following their appointment or election unless otherwise specified in the Bylaws of the Council.

Section 9. Terms.

Members of the Governmental Affairs and Ethics and Standards Committees shall serve staggered terms of two years with two new members being appointed or elected each year. To stagger the original membership, member pairs on the Governmental Affairs and Ethics and Standards Committees will serve initial terms of one, two, or three years.

ARTICLE VIII

The Accreditation and Review Council

Section 1. Name and Purpose.

The Accreditation and Review Council (ARC) is a permanent, official body and functioning unit of the Council of Texas Archeologists (CTA). Its purview is the examination of all agencies/institutions in Texas holding or wishing to hold archeological collections. It is charged with the responsibility and authority of accrediting those agencies/institutions which meet or exceed collections and repository standards as established by the CTA and ARC.

Section 2. ARC members, Qualifications, Term, and Vacancies.

The ARC shall consist of a Chair, a Secretary-Treasurer, and three other counselors, all serving staggered terms of three years. Council members shall be nominated by the CTA Executive Committee (ExCom) from the qualified CTA membership. Qualified CTA membership is defined as those members in good standing who have three or more years professional background and experience in archeological collections management. The counselors shall be elected by CTA members present and voting at the Spring Meeting; no more than two of the five counselors shall come from the same agency/institution. In the event of a vacancy on the ARC, the ExCom shall again nominate from the qualified membership; the Counselor shall be elected to fill the term of that vacancy by the CTA membership at the next regular or special meeting.

Section 3. Election of ARC Officers.

The ARC shall elect by majority one of its members to serve as Chair and another to serve as Secretary-Treasurer. (Members of the Implementation Committee shall act as the first ARC body.) The past ARC Chair and past CTA President shall be ex-officio members of the ARC.

Section 4. Meetings.

The ARC shall meet as frequently as necessary to conduct business in a timely fashion, but no less than twice a year. ARC meetings may, but are not mandated to, coincide with the Spring and Fall CTA meetings. ARC meetings shall be confidential, although minutes must be taken, approved, and kept on file. Council members shall be circumspect with the confidential information to which they are privy. Disregard for this confidentiality is a breach of ethics and shall constitute grounds for removal from the ARC. Each Council member shall be exempted from meetings or portions of meetings concerned with the accreditation application, reviews, and determination of his/her agency/institution.

Section 5. Quorum.

Three ARC members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 6. Removal of Counselors.

A Counselor may be removed from the ARC as indicated in Section 4 above or for failure to carry out duties or attend more than two
consecutive meetings. Removal shall be accomplished when a majority of the ExCom and ARC vote to replace the Counselor. The voting may occur by phone, letter, or in person at regular or specially-called CTA meetings.

ARTICLE IX

Finances

The Council shall establish listing fees for the purpose of financing production and distribution of the CTA Contractors List. No part of the net earnings of the Council shall inure to the benefit of or be distributable to its members, officers, or other persons, except that the Council shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered or to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article II.

ARTICLE X

Operation

The place of business for the Council shall be the place of business or location of the Secretary-Treasurer.

ARTICLE XI

Parliamentary Authority

The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the Council in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and any special rules of order the Council may adopt.

ARTICLE XII

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the Council by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting, provided that the amendment has been submitted through the Newsletter or by special notice to the membership at least 15 days prior to the meeting at which the vote on the proposed amendment is taken.

ARTICLE XIII

Disposal of Assets

In the event of dissolution, the Council shall dispose of all its assets to an educational or scientific institution which is exempt from taxation under the then current code of the Internal Revenue Service.
Council of Texas Archeologists  
*Membership and Renewal Form*

Please correct or update my address as indicated.

I wish to join or renew my membership in CTA (the dues year runs from Spring Meeting to Spring Meeting):

- Professional or Student, annual income more than $20,000  
  - $25.00
- Professional or Student, annual income less than $20,000  
  - $15.00
- Institution/Library *(Newsletter only--no voting privileges)*  
  - $25.00
- I would like to purchase a copy of the *CTA Guidelines*  
  - $7.50

Total amount remitted to CTA  
$ ______

Name (please print) ____________________________________________________________

Company/Institution _________________________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________________

City __________________ State __________ Zip __________

Telephone ___________________ Fax ___________________

E-mail ____________________________