



# CONCHO VALLEY ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

April 2009

Newsletter

**CVAS Regular Meeting: April 23, 2009 7:00 P.M.**

**Ft. Concho Commissary Bldg Refreshments served**

Web Site [www.cvassanangelo.org](http://www.cvassanangelo.org)

President: Sue Meacham, (325-949-5156)

Vice President: Cynthia Purcell, (947-8195)

Secretary: Marcia Esser, (224-0290)

Treasurer: Ward Gregory, (942-8370)

Director: Larry Reimanschneider, (653-8216)

Meeting Agenda: An agenda will be available at the meeting.

April Program: 2008 Field School presented by: Brownie Roberts, Christine Buckstead, Arnetta Cooper

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## **PRESIDENT'S NOTE:**

We have a new "Members Directory" provided by Cynthia Purcell...Thanks so much for your hard work in putting it together and getting it out to our members.

We had a great time at Fort Chadbourne in March. Thanks to all of you who helped make this dig a great success. Thanks to Garland and Lana Richards for having us ...feeding us and entertaining us. Thanks to Ann and Randall Pate for having us out at the Lagoon. Sue Meacham

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## **Fort Chadbourne Days**

**Friday May 1 Saturday May 2**

Archeological investigations of the post hospital in March proved to be a very interesting and informative project. The archeological data recovered during that time will add to the Fort Chadbourne Foundation's knowledge of the buildings that were present during the fort period era.

On Friday May 1st and Saturday May 2nd, the Concho Valley Archeological Society will continue work on the hospital project. The work during these days will complete the project.

Friday May 1st is School Day and we will start working at 7:30 am. Children will start arriving at 8:30 am, so we need to be set up and ready to go.

Saturday May 2nd will be open to the general public and we will start working at 8:00 am.

We will work each day as long as we have visitors. If you plan to attend either day, we need to know which day and how many of you will be attending. Meals will be provided by the Fort Chadbourne Foundation for those who are participating. **It is very important that you RSVP by Friday April 24th in order that your name is placed on the meal roster. If it is not on the roster you will not receive a meal ticket.**

All are welcome to come out and be a part of helping the Fort Chadbourne Foundation meet their goals in historic preservation and restoration of the fort. Hope to see you on Friday and Saturday! For more information or to RSVP 325-653-8216 [larremjo@wcc.net](mailto:larremjo@wcc.net)

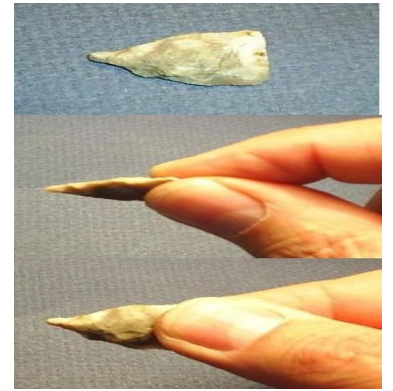
Larry Riemenschneider

## The Texas Twisted Points, Part II

By Tom Ashmore, tomashmore@wcc.net

In Texas Twisted Points Part I, I documented how my wife found what appears to be a one of a kind twisted Perdarnales point. I also documented that several other twisted points have been found throughout Texas, the most famous of which is the Pandale, but various designs have been found to be twisted. Several archeologists I contacted presented the theory that this point is a reworked regular point made into a drill, but I disagree. I've reworked actual broken points myself and I've made many drills. In fact, drills were the first thing I learned and the easiest to make. In order to make a point of this caliber would take a master knapper. Additionally, the body of this point is too thick to have been a flat point originally, the dimensions are consistent all the way around and the tip comes to a needle-like point; if you tried to drill anything with this (even leather) it would immediately break

Below: typical point made into a drill for comparison



Above : drill found on Dove Creek – note similarity of larger point drill.

My theory is that the twisted points were made for spear fishing. I believe the twists provide hydrodynamic reaction to rotate the arrow in water to achieve straight line accuracy in water. In my previous article I documented a current patent for bowfishing that uses this concept.

In order to test the theory I needed to do an actual test in water. Since I cannot knap a point well enough to duplicate this point I made a duplicate out of wood and a second of the same type but without the twist in it. I then made the dart shafts and embedded a small brass weight into the shaft to give it the proper weight of a stone point. The shaft was attached to a river cane of about 6 feet in length. I did not attach feathers as is done with a typical atlatl.



**Two test points after first test. Tips are dulled after hitting bottom of creek.**

I took the two points down to the creek behind my house where there are large pools of around 5 feet deep. More than half the time the straight point would veer off one way or another, especially the farther it had to travel through water. However, the twisted point stayed straight and true every single throw. Although the test is not scientific enough to say this is unequivocally the purpose for these twisted points, it does add support to the theory. I hope someone in the archeology community will pick up on this and conduct more thorough tests to be able to make a solid determination on this new theory.

2009 Membership Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Hm. \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Newsletter delivered by: email? \_\_\_\_\_ Postal? \_\_\_\_\_

Family Members: \_\_\_\_\_

**Individual:** \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_ **Family:** \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_ **Student/Military:** N/C \_\_\_\_\_

**Pay by :** **Check #** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cash** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please read and sign and understand the importance of this statement.**

I pledge that I will not intentionally violate the terms and conditions of any present or future Federal, State, County, or City statute concerning cultural resources. I will not engage in the practice of buying or selling of artifacts for any purpose. I will not engage in the willful destruction of an archeological site, or data, or disregard the privacy of a landowner. I will engage in proper archeological field work as directed by an archeological project director or principal investigator.

\_\_\_\_ Signature (printed) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: (written) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2009

\_\_\_\_ Please list any physical restrictions so that we may serve you better.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Please mail this application and your payment to:

\_\_\_\_ CVAS c/o Cynthia Purcell

\_\_\_\_ 1532 Loop Dr.

\_\_\_\_ San Angelo, TX. 76904 \_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ CVAS is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to bring together people who have an interest in archeology and whose mission is to protect the historic and prehistoric resources of the region. \_\_\_\_

Southwest Federation of Archeology Societies (SWFAS) with 10 copies of the journal. Each society that is a member is obligated .to sell at least 10. This contains the papers from the 2008 meeting in Midland.

Also, next year (2010) is our turn again to host the conference. Last time (about 4 years ago), I didn't get much help from CVAS, and only a couple of members came out to hear the presentations. I hope CVAS can provide more support next year.

Bill Yeates