
John A. Moretti

Jackson School of Geosciences | The University of Texas, Austin, Texas, 78712
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Education

- Aug. 2019 – Present Jackson School of Geosciences, The University of Texas at Austin
Ph.D. candidate – (expected graduation 2024)
- Aug. 2014 – Dec. 2018 Texas Tech University
M.S. Interdisciplinary Studies
Thesis: *The Vertebrate Fauna of Macy Locality 100: Exploring late Pleistocene Community Composition in Non-Analog North America* – Eileen Johnson (Supervisor)
- Aug. 1999 – Aug. 2004 Texas Tech University, College of Arts and Sciences
B.A. Anthropology

Professional Experience

2018-present

- Research Aide, Museum of Texas Tech University/Lubbock Lake Landmark, Lubbock, Texas

2014-2018

- Research Assistant, Museum of Texas Tech University/Lubbock Lake Landmark, Lubbock, Texas

2007

- Field Technician, Moore Archeological, Houston, Texas
- Senior Level Field Technician, HRA, Gray and Pape, Inc., Houston, Texas
- Field Archaeologist, Sul Ross State University Center for Big Bend Studies, Alpine, Texas

2006

- Senior Level Field Technician, HRA, Gray and Pape, Inc., Houston, Texas
- Archaeologist III, R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., New Orleans, Louisiana
- Field Archaeologist, Sul Ross State University Center for Big Bend Studies, Alpine, Texas

2004-present

- Senior Crew Chief, Museum of Texas Tech University/Lubbock Lake Landmark, Lubbock, Texas

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Johnson, Eileen and **John A. Moretti**

2022 Diversity and paleoecology of the Zone 3 late Pleistocene vertebrates at Kincaid Shelter (41UV2), Central Texas, USA. *PaleoAmerica* 8(3):228-252.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/20555563.2022.2075134>

John A. Moretti

2022 An ancient Thick-billed Parrot (*Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha*) from southeastern New Mexico with a review of archaeological occurrences in the American Southwest. *Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 134(3):000-000. <https://doi.org/10.1676/21-00078>

Johnson, Eileen and **John A. Moretti**

2022 Identification of *Aztlanolagus agilis* from the early Pleistocene of Texas using micro-computed tomography. In: Gary S. Morgan, Jon A. Baskin, Nicholas J. Czaplewski, Spencer G. Lucas, Jim I. Mead, and Richard S. White, Jr. (eds.), Pliocene and Pleistocene Vertebrate Paleontology of the American Southwest: A Tribute to the Career of Arthur H. Harris, *New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science, Bulletin* 88:123-137.

Johnson, Eileen, Stance Hurst, and **John A. Moretti**

2021 Late Quaternary stratigraphy and geochronology of the Spring Creek drainage along the Southern High Plains eastern escarpment, northwest Texas. *Quaternary* 4(19).

<https://doi.org/10.3390/quat4030019>

Johnson, Eileen, Patrick J. Lewis, and **John A. Moretti**

2019 Molar microevolution in late Quaternary *Ondatra zibethicus* (Arvicolinae, Rodentia). In: Robert D. Bradley, Hugh H. Genoways, David J. Schmidly, and Lisa C. Bradley (eds.), From Field to Laboratory: A Memorial Volume in Honor of Robert J. Baker, *Museum of Texas Tech University, Special Publications*, 71:681-695.

Moretti, John A.

2018 Early Pleistocene leporids (Mammalia, Lagomorpha) of Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 and the rise of North American Quaternary Leporines. *Quaternary International*, 492:23-39.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.quaint.2017.08.048>

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2015 The First Record of the Jumping Mouse *Zapus* from the Southern High Plains.

PaleoAmerica, 1:121-123. <https://doi.org/10.1179/2055556314Z.0000000006>

Peer-Reviewed Publications In-Progress

John A. Moretti and Eileen Johnson

Small rails from the late Quaternary of the Southern High Plains and their paleoenvironmental context. (in preparation, targeted for submission to *Ornithological Applications*)

Non-Peer-Reviewed Publications

Bell, Christopher J. and **John A. Moretti**

In review Early and middle Pleistocene vertebrate records from North America. In: *Encyclopedia of Quaternary Science*, 3rd edition.

Moretti, John and Eileen Johnson

2011 Explorations in the Early Pleistocene of West Texas. *Current Research in the Pleistocene*, 28:176-178.

Published Abstracts

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2022 The Plio-Pleistocene avifauna of Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1: Preliminary analysis of the waterbird assemblage. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts.

Moretti, John A.

2021 Small rails (Aves: Gruiformes: Rallidae) from the late Pleistocene and early Holocene of the Southern High Plains of Texas. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts [pp. 189, abstracts organized by author].

Moretti, John A.

2021 Archaeological Remains of the Thick-billed Parrot (*Rhynchopsitta pachyrhyncha*) in the American Southwest: Comparative Morphology, Cultural Context, and Holocene Biogeography. *Program and Abstracts*, 124th Annual Meeting of the Texas Academy of Science:18.

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2020 Revisions to the late Blancan Mammalian Fauna from Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1, Scurry County, Texas. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts [pp. 251, abstracts organized by author].

Lewis, Patrick J., **John A. Moretti**, Deanna Flores, Will Godwin, Christopher J. Bell, Edwin Dickinson, and Adam Hartstone-Rose

2020 The First Record of *Homotherium* from McFaddin Beach, Texas. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts [pp. 220, abstracts organized by author].

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2019 Late Pleistocene Birds of the Macy Fork local fauna, Southern High Plains, Texas. *Program with Abstracts*, 2019 Joint Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Association of Field Ornithologists, Cape May, New Jersey [pp. 34, abstracts organized by author].

Moretti, John A., Eileen Johnson, and Leland C. Bement

2018 A Concentration of Young Adult *Hesperotestudo* (Testudines: Testudinidae) from the Late Neogene of Beaver County, Oklahoma, Provides Evidence of Ontogenetic Variation and Potential Burrowing. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Program and Abstracts, pp. 185.

Johnson, Eileen and **John A. Moretti**

2018 The Geographic Distribution of *Panthera atrox* (Carnivora, Felidae) Remains in Texas, USA. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Program and Abstracts, pp. 156.

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2017 The Latest Pleistocene Vertebrate Fauna and Stratigraphy of Macy Locality 100 from the Southern High Plains, Texas. *Geological Society of America Program with Abstracts*, 49(6):doi: 10.1130/abs/2017AM-304032

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2017 Late Blancan Gazelle-Horse *Nannippus peninsulatus* (Mammalia, Equidae) from Scurry County, Texas, with Implications for Biochronology. *Geological Society of America Program with Abstracts*, 49(6):doi: 10.1130/abs/2017AM-303999

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2016 Principal Components Analysis of Variables of the Lower 3rd Premolar of *Aztlanolagus agilis* (Mammalia, Lagomorpha). *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts, pp. 191.

Jones, Lila S., **John A. Moretti**, and Eileen Johnson

2016 Using Three Dimensional Geometric Morphometrics for the Identification of a *Canis* spp. at a Historic Site in Western Texas. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts, pp. 163.

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2015 Micro Computed Tomography Provides Insights into *Aztlanolagus* (Mammalia, Lagomorpha, Leporidae) Reentrant Pattern. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Program and Abstracts, pp. 184.

Moretti, John, Eileen Johnson, Joaquin Arroyo-Cabrales, and Patrick J. Lewis

2013 Exploring the Relationships of the North American Diminutive Skunk Genera *Spilogale* and *Buisnictis*. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, Programs and Abstracts, pp. 179.

Moretti, John, Eileen Johnson, and Stance Hurst

2013 Macy Locality 100 – A Record of Environmental Change from the Latest Pleistocene to Early Holocene Along the Southern High Plains of Texas. *Program and Abstracts*, 71st Annual Plains Anthropological Conference, Loveland, Colorado:104.

Moretti, John and Eileen Johnson

2011 Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1, An Early Pleistocene Fauna from the Southern High Plains of Texas. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 31(supplement 2):162.

Johnson, Eileen, **John Moretti**, and Stance Hurst
2011 A New Rancholabrean (late Pleistocene) Fauna from the Southeastern Edge of the Texas Southern High Plains. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 31(supplement 2):132-133.

Johnson, Eileen and **John Moretti**
2010 At the Other End of the Pleistocene - Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 on the Southern High Plains of Texas. AMQUA 2010, *American Quaternary Association Program and Abstracts of the 21st Biennial Meeting*:106-107.

Johnson, Eileen, Joaquin Arroyo-Cabrales, Amy Whynott, and **John Moretti**
2007 Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 - A Pleistocene Locality on the Southern High Plains of Texas. *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, 27(supplement to 3):96A.

Additional Conference Presentations

Moretti, John A.

2022 The Pleistocene record of natural history at Inner Space Cavern. Field trip, co-leader. International Show Caves Association and National Show Caves Association Congress 2022, San Antonio, Texas.

Moretti, John A.

2022 Caves are archives of natural history. Importance of Exploration and Cave Science breakout session, co-panelist. International Show Caves Association and National Show Caves Association Congress 2022, San Antonio, Texas.

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2022 Fossil wading birds from Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 and Plio-Pleistocene avian biogeography in the Great Plains of North America. Program, 103rd annual meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Society, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Moretti, John A.

2021 A Pied-billed Grebe (*Podilymbus podiceps*) from the middle Holocene of Murrah Cave, Val Verde County, Texas. Poster presented at the 10th Annual Jackson School Student Research Symposium, Austin, Texas.

Moretti, John A. and Eileen Johnson

2018 The Late Pleistocene (Rancholabrean) Vertebrate Local Fauna from Zone 3 of Kincaid Rockshelter (41UV2), Uvalde County, Texas. Program, 83rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C., n.l.

Johnson, Eileen, Stance Hurst, and **John A. Moretti**

2018 Spring Creek Drainage – Geoarchaeological Explorations along the Southern High Plains Eastern Escarpment, Northwest Texas. Program, 83rd annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Washington, D.C., n.l.

Moretti, John A.

2016 Preliminary Analysis of Extinct Box Turtle (*Terrapene carolina putnami*) Material from the late Pleistocene of the Southern High Plains. Paper presented at the 81st annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Orlando, Florida.

Moretti, John A., Stance Hurst, and Eileen Johnson

2016 Paleoindian (~11,500-8,000 ¹⁴C yrs BP) Landscapes Along the Southern High Plains Eastern Escarpment, Northwest Texas. Program, American Quaternary Association, 24th Biennial Meeting, 28 June-2 July 2016, Santa Fe, New Mexico, n.l.

Moretti, John and Eileen Johnson

2009 The Late Quaternary Fauna from a Varied Landscape at the Southeastern Edge of the Southern High Plains. Program, 67th annual Plains Anthropological Conference, Norman, Oklahoma, n.l.

Other Writings

Moretti, John A.

2020 Pied-billed Grebes Enjoy New Marsh and Pond Habitats at Lubbock Lake. *Notes from the...Field*, the newsletter of Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark, Spring 2020, pp. 5-6.

2020 Precarious Excavation Produces a Wealth of Ice Age Animals. *Notes from the...Field*, the newsletter of Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark, Spring 2020, pp. 11-12.

2017 The Ice Age Lion of the Southern High Plains. *Notes from the...Field*, the newsletter of Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark, Spring 2017, pp. 1, 3.

2017 A New Camp and a Lot of Visitors for Roland Springs Ranch Research. *Notes from the...Field*, the newsletter of Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark, Spring 2017, pp. 15-16.

2016 Exploring the Animals of the Pleistocene: Pronghorns Past and Present. *Notes from the...Field*, the newsletter of Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark, Spring 2016, pp. 10-11.

2015 An Introduction to Peccaries and their Past. *Notes from the...Field*, the newsletter of Lubbock Lake National Historic Landmark, Spring 2015, pp. 1, 4.

2006-2021 Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 regular (currently biennial) reports (#1-46) on research, laboratory work, and outreach efforts to funding agencies and landowners.

Grants

2019 – Johnson, Eileen and **John A. Moretti**

Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 Biochronology Program Phase 2. Museum of Texas Tech University. Funded by the Legett Foundation and the Kickapoo Springs Foundation of Abilene, Texas.

Awards and Honors

2022 – First place award in the Texas Academy of Science Graduate Student Research Proposal Competition.

2021 – **Francis L. Whitney Endowed Presidential Scholarship** (2021-2022) from The Jackson School of Geosciences at The University of Texas at Austin.

2021 – Third place award in the Graduate Student Oral Paper Competition at the 124th Annual Meeting of the Texas Academy of Science (virtual).

2020 – **Francis L. Whitney Endowed Presidential Scholarship** (2020-2021) from The Jackson School of Geosciences at The University of Texas at Austin.

2018 – The Paleontological Society **Stephen Jay Gould Award** recipient for the project: Great Plains Avifaunal Composition in the Final Millennia of the Pleistocene: Identification of Avian Remains from Macy Locality 100 (Southern High Plains, Texas, USA).

2018 – Second place award in Physiology and Evolutionary Category of the Oral Presentation Competition of the 9th Texas Tech Annual Biological Science Symposium, Lubbock, Texas.

2017 – Geological Society of America South Central Section Student Travel Grant recipient.

2017 – First place award (interdisciplinary category) at the Texas Tech University 16th Annual Graduate Student Poster Presentation Competition, Lubbock, Texas, for the poster presentation Statistical Analysis of Variables of the Lower 3rd Premolar of *Aztlanolagus agilis*.

2017 – Second place award (graduate poster category) at the 8th Texas Tech Annual Biological Sciences Symposium, Lubbock, Texas, for the poster presentation Extinct Gazelle-Horse *Nannippus peninsulatus* (Mammalia, Equidae) from Scurry County, Texas, with Implications for Biochronology.

2017 (Fall) – Texas Tech University, Graduate Student Travel Grant.

2016 (Spring) – Texas Tech University, Graduate Student Travel Grant.

2016 (Fall) – Texas Tech University, Graduate Student Travel Grant.

Invited Talks

2022 (24 June) – Exploring the ancient past of Scurry County at Roland Springs Ranch. Scurry County Museum, Snyder, Texas.

2022 (2 April) – The Natural History of Water on the Southern High Plains: A Perspective from the Vertebrate Fauna of the Late Cenozoic. Perspectives on Water on the Llano Estacado: 54th Comparative Literature Symposium, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

2021 (6 April) – Exploring the Ice Age in Texas: the Pleistocene Fauna of Inner Space Cavern. Austin Nature and Science Center Lunch & Learn Series, Austin, Texas.

2020 (21 January) – Near the End of the Ice Age: The Macy Fork local fauna and Late Pleistocene Community Composition on the Southern High Plains of Texas. Austin Paleontological Society, Austin, Texas.

2018 (5 November) – Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 and the Ancient Animals of West Texas. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas.

2017 (19 September) – Giant Tortoises and Tiny Horses: Roland Springs Ranch Locality 1 and the Prehistory of West Texas. Permian Basin Petroleum Museum, Midland, Texas.

Teaching Experience

Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021

Teaching Assistant: GEO302D – *The Age of Dinosaurs* (Instructor: Timothy Rowe), Jackson School of Geosciences, The University of Texas at Austin

- Organized and led laboratory activities including quizzes, exercises, lectures, and field trips.
- Led course transition to COVID-19 online format.

Summer 2021

Mentor: The Jackson School of Geosciences' Undergraduate Research Traineeship Experience (RTX)

- Guided an undergraduate student through an independent research project focused on the developing technical and professional skills necessary for graduate school.

Spring 2022

Teaching Assistant: EVS121 – *Introduction to Research Methods in Environmental Sciences* (Instructor: Mary Poteet), College of Natural Sciences, The University of Texas at Austin

Professional Activities and Service

Service to Department and College:

- **2020-2021** – Organizer for The University of Texas at Austin Paleontological Seminar series

Service as reviewer for professional papers:

- *Eastern Paleontologist* (2019)
- *New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science Bulletin* (2021)

Other Scholarly Activities

2018 – Organized, developed content, and designed the mural for the *Ice Age Animals of the Southern High Plains* temporary exhibit at the Lubbock Lake Landmark.

2011 – Developed content for *The Ice Age on the Southern Plains* permanent exhibit at The Museum of Texas Tech University.

Language Proficiency

Native English speaker. Meager ability to navigate basic conversation in Spanish.

References

Christopher J. Bell
Professor, Department of Geological Sciences
The University of Texas at Austin
cjbell@jsg.utexas.edu

Eileen Johnson
Director of Academic and Curatorial Programs
Chair, Museum Science
Horn Professor of Museum Science
Museum of Texas Tech University
eileen.johnson@ttu.edu

Robert D. Bradley
Professor of Biological Sciences
Director of the Natural Science Research Laboratory
Texas Tech University
robert.bradley@ttu.edu

Patrick J. Lewis
Professor of Biological Sciences
Associate Dean, Honors College
Sam Houston State University
Box 2116
Huntsville, Texas 77341

PJL001@shsu.edu

Professional Society Membership

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology (2011-present)
Society of American Archaeology (2016-present)
The Wilson Ornithological Society (2018-present)
The American Ornithological Society (2018-present)
The Southwestern Association of Naturalists (2017-present)
The Paleontological Society of Austin (2020-present)
Texas Ornithological Society (2021-present)
The Paleontological Society (2021-present)