



The **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS)** meeting for **December** will be **cancelled**.

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

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# Benchmark

Volume 34, Issue 11

December 2020

## President's Message

In my article last month, I congratulated the newly elected Board of Directors who will lead NTAS during 2021 and 2022. This month, I would again like to wish them much success throughout their 2-year terms. At the same time, I want to thank the 2019-2020 Board (pictured on page 2 in a recent Zoom Board meeting screen shot). I have really enjoyed working with:



*James Everett, President*

*Vice President:*

*Bryan Jameson*

*Vice President – Projects:*

*Catrina Banks Whitley*

*Secretary:*

*Lloyd Erwin (I sincerely miss and will continue to miss Lloyd)*

*Treasurer:*

*Dana Ritchie*

*Internet Chair:*

*Gen Freix*

*Publications (Newsletter) Editor:*

*Molly Hall*

*Historian:*

*Linda Lang*

*Immediate Past President:*

*Chris Meis*

I especially want to thank Gen, who besides serving an extra term as Internet Chair, repeatedly volunteered when we needed her to take minutes at Board meetings, served as

a very active Zoom assistant, and always provided helpful comments and ideas. I also want to thank Susan, without whose support and understanding I could not have devoted the time required to serve as NTAS President.

NTAS accomplished a lot in the past 2 years: we changed the name of our Society; revised our Constitution and Bylaws; moved our in-person meetings (remember those?) to a new meeting room; purchased and began to use a new PA system for our meetings; purchased a new projector (which, thanks to Covid-19, we have not yet been able to use); issued Special Publication #1 on Homer Norris's work in Parker County; implemented a conference call option for Board meetings fol-

*Continued on Page 3*

## Connect with NTAS:

[facebook.com/NTXAS.org](https://www.facebook.com/NTXAS.org)

[www.NTXAS.org](http://www.NTXAS.org)

[info@ntxas.org](mailto:info@ntxas.org)

## President's Message

*Continued from Page 1*

lowed several months ago by Zoom Board meetings; and began to hold our monthly meetings by Zoom.

Zoom technology actually opened up participation in our meetings to more people from more locations than in-person meetings ever could have. Recent NTAS Zoom meetings have been attended by individuals in Montreal, Canada; Cancun, Mexico; Illinois, Oregon, and across Texas. Our progress in successfully utilizing Zoom would not have been possible without the willingness to help and the productive practice sessions supported by our Zoom assistants:

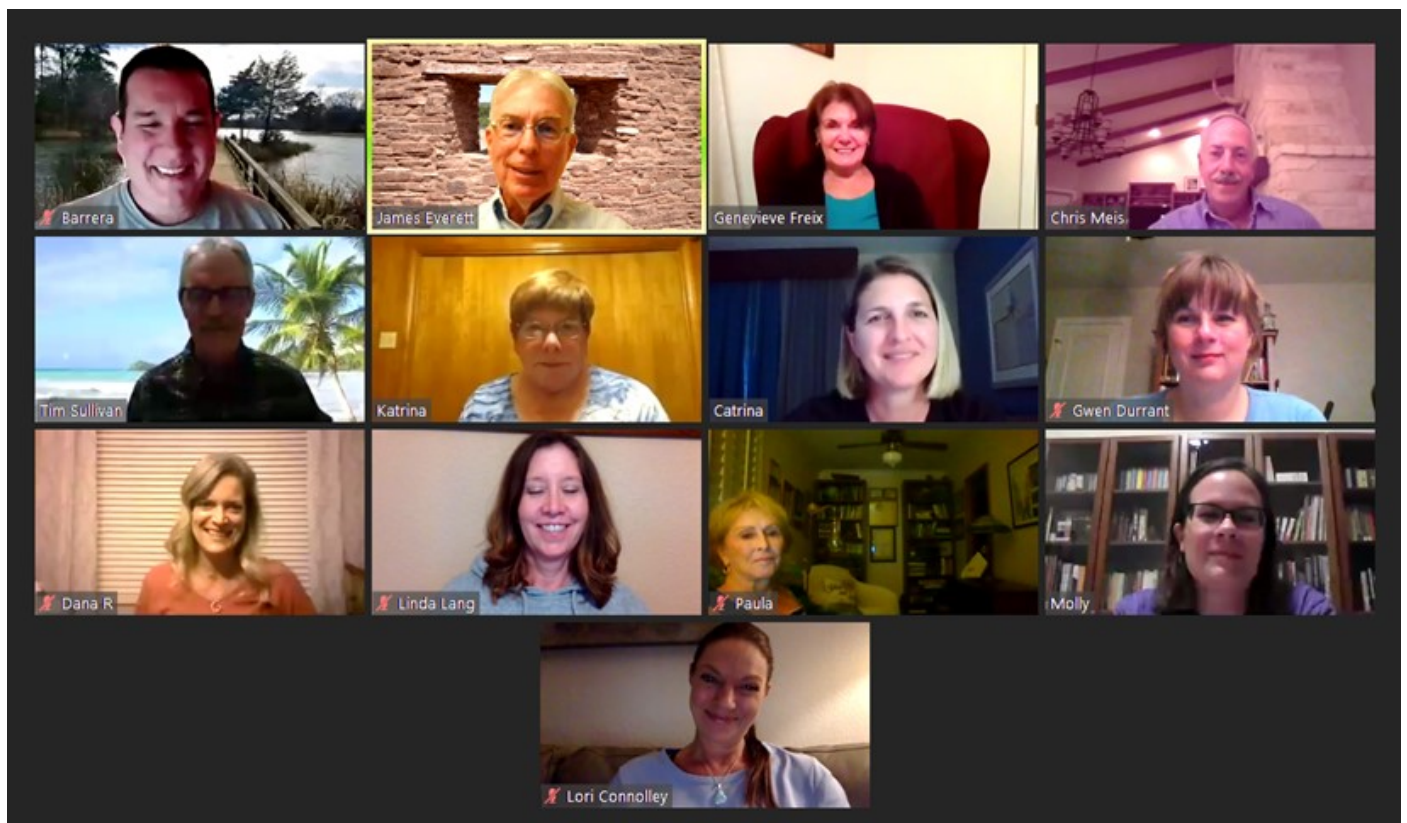
Gen Freix  
 Katrina Nuncio  
 Carolyn Coughlin  
 Dana Ritchie  
 Annaliese Sonntag  
 Patrick Emmons

Despite the difficulties of the past year, NTAS has continued to grow, adding new members every month. We now have members throughout Texas (e.g., Beaumont, Brownsville, Austin) and outside of the State (e.g., Mississippi, Oregon).

As a “new year reminder”, NTAS membership is on a calendar year basis. That means that unless you joined NTAS as a first-time member in the last quarter (Oct-Dec) of 2020, your **membership renewal dues** for 2021 should be paid in January. We will remind members periodically through the first quarter of next year that “dues are due”.

It has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve as the President of NTAS for the past 2 years. As I approach the end of my term, I wish you:

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and Continued Success for NTAS!!!



## Preservation Dallas Education Award to Tim Sullivan

Preservation Dallas is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation and revitalization of the city's historic buildings, neighborhoods and places. Part of this mission is educating the public about historic buildings and neighborhoods that make Dallas a vibrant and viable place to live. Each year Preservation Dallas hosts an Achievement Awards honoring Dallas' outstanding residential and commercial historic preservation projects and those individuals who have worked on them. NTAS member Tim Sullivan is one of those receiving the Education Award for his work as a co-leader of the *Finding Little Egypt Project* for 2020. Some members of NTAS (when it was still TCAS) assisted in the project and others were able to attend the talks he gave at TAS and NTAS on the progress on that project.

Little Egypt was the name of a small African American Freedman community located in what is now Lake Highlands in Dallas from 1883 to 1962. The five-year project involved a learning community of students from History and Anthropology classes, focused on investigating Little Egypt using oral history, archival, genealogical, archeological and geo-spatial research, along with virtual 3-D reconstruction of one of the houses. As a result of their work, the site has been approved for a Historic Marker by the State of Texas.

The Preservation Dallas Awards ceremony, originally scheduled for May 2020 had to be moved to a virtual event on November 18, 2020. For more information on Preservation Dallas and the award, see this link: <https://www.preservationdallas.org/events/preservation-achievement-awards/>

For more information on the Finding Little Egypt project, see the following:

<https://dallasgenealogy.com/dgs/the-case-of-the-missing-community-little-egypt-and-the-history-detectives-of-richland-college/>

<https://core.tdar.org/document/435598/finding-little-egypt>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HwhTy6AwlhM>

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## TAS Academy Scholarships Available

The Texas Archeological Society is offering 3 academies next year. The Archeobotany and Lithic academies will be virtual and the Archeology 101 Academy will have a virtual classroom portion with a hands-on day of excavation. See details about the academies on pages 6-8 of this newsletter.

NTAS offers scholarships that can be used for these academies (or other TAS educational events). For details, please visit: <https://ntxas.org/scholarships>

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## Welcome New NTAS Members:

Erin Kielty

Paula Galvan

Miranda Ehlers

Thomas Guderjan

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## Update Your Calendar - NTAS Monthly Meeting Speakers

**January: Dr. Charles Frederick**  
**February 11th: Dr. Catrina Banks Whitley**  
**March 11th: Josh Haefner**

## Newly Elected NTAS Board Members for 2021-2022

### **Jimmy Barrera — President**



Shortly after moving to north Texas from Austin, I joined NTAS in 2012 and have immensely enjoyed membership in this organization. A native of Corpus Christi, I have been an archeologist for over 20 years starting as a volunteer with a consulting firm at age 18. Archeological fieldwork has taken me to a few countries and a whole pile of states. I completed an undergrad degree in Anthropology (minor History) at Texas State University and a master's degree in Anthropology (minor Geography) at Texas Tech University.

In childhood I was constantly outdoors whether it was biology fieldwork with a marine biologist mom or avidly hunting/fishing/hiking/camping with dad and grandad. These experiences provided continual exposure to archeology, history, and a scientific approach. Past positions as an archeologist include volunteer roles, staff on research projects, consultant at numerous firms, and with the state of Texas. The Texas Archeological Society is another organization I really enjoy and for the past six years I have chaired the TAS Academy Committee. Today I work for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Fort Worth, an exciting and satisfying job with most time spent as an "archeocrat" but I wear numerous other hats. Home is Arlington with my lovely wife Diamond, who is also an archeologist, and our spoiled pup Tuffy the Diva.

### **Gwen Durrant — Treasurer**

Hi all! I've been a member of TAS for 25 years and NTAS for 15 years. I'm from the east side of the metroplex -- raised in Garland and currently living in Murphy with my husband and teenage son. I double-majored in Archaeology & Museum Studies (B.A., 1991) at Baylor University, then Archaeology at Boston University (M.A, 1995), and then worked in CRM in Texas and the Northeast for a while. For the past 15+ years I've been working as an Accountant/Admin. in the construction industry while dabbling in archaeology from the sidelines. I look forward to becoming more involved in NTAS and serving as your Treasurer!



### **Tim Sullivan — Secretary**



Tim Sullivan received a BA in Anthropology from the University of Southern California, an MA in Conservation Archaeology (CRM) from SMU and a Ph.D. in History from the University of Texas at Arlington. He has taught Anthropology, Sociology, and History for the Dallas County Community College District (now Dallas College), and as an adjunct for Texas Christian University (Anthropology) and UTA (History). Along with teaching, he has worked periodically on CRM projects, and recently completed working with students at Richland College (part of Dallas College), on the Finding Little Egypt Project in Dallas. He enjoys a wide field of interests in history and archaeology, recently focusing on Historical Archaeology. After 42 years of teaching, he is now retired and looks forward to serving as Secretary of NTAS, and continuing as Chair of the Collegiate Scholarship Committee for TAS. He lives in Arlington with his wife, Patricia, and their two very spoiled dogs.

### **Annaliese Sonntag — Internet Chair**

Annaliese Sonntag is originally from the Houston area. She graduated from Austin College (B.A., 2011) with a major in Anthropology and double major in Philosophy and Religious Studies, focusing primarily on East Asian cultures. She became a member of TAS in 2015 and NTAS in 2016. After spending 5 years working Mortgage and Finance and volunteering on archeology projects around Texas, she began working in CRM as an Archeologist in 2017. She currently serves on the TAS Internet Committee and is excited to assist NTAS in the role of Internet Chair.



# TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S

## Ceramics Academy: The Stories Found in Pottery



### Virtual Academy

February 20-21, 2021  
Via Zoom



### Instructors:

Marybeth Tomka  
Dr. Chris Lintz  
Rebecca Shelton

Register by February 6, 2021 at:

<https://www.txarch.org/tas-academies>

Cost: \$100 + TAS membership. CPE credits available.

Scholarship opportunities at:

<https://www.txarch.org/scholarship>

Learn the fundamentals of ceramics dating, chronology, technology, vocabulary, classification, analysis and much more.

Receive a class manual and a KIT for hands-on exercises.

# TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S Archeology 101 Academy



## Virtual Academy

March 13-14, 2021

Via Zoom



## Field Excavations

March 20-21, 2021

San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site

**Instructor:** Dr. Jon Lohse

**Principal Investigator:** Dr. Sarah Chesney

Register by February 27, 2021 at:

<https://www.txarch.org/tas-academies>

Cost: \$100 + TAS membership. CPE credits available.

Scholarship opportunities at:

<https://www.txarch.org/scholarship>

Learn the tools to identify, record and assess an archeological site (investigation, survey, test excavation, sample, preservation, catalogue, report and much more).

Particpe in a field excavation on the Historic Site of San Felipe de Austin.

No experience necessary.

**TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY'S****Archeobotany Academy****Virtual Academy**

April 24-25, 2021

Via Zoom

**Instructor:**

Dr. Leslie Bush

Register by April 10, 2021 at:

<https://www.txarch.org/tas-academies>

Cost: \$100 + TAS membership. CPE credits available.

Scholarship opportunities at:

<https://www.txarch.org/scholarship>

Introduction to Archeobotany with emphasis on Caddo ancestors and plant species of east Texas. Recovery techniques, plant identification, analytical processes, ancient technologies, traditional stories, Caddo language, and more. With lectures, a kit with plant-based snacks, class handbook, and more.



## NTAS Volunteers with TxDOT at Sartin Hotel Excavation

Several NTAS members volunteered with TxDOT doing screening at the Sartin Hotel excavations in Bolivar.



*Sartin Hotel excavations.  
Photo courtesy of  
Savanah Neal.*

*Lori Connolley and a glass marble.  
Photo courtesy of Lori Connolley.*

*Gwen Durrant.  
Photo courtesy of Lori Connolley.*



Kristin Kaosa and  
Vicenzo Ramos.  
Photo courtesy of  
Lori Connolley.



## Potter: Pioneer Pottery

### Biography

Pioneer Pottery Co. (1884-1900) was founded by Hamer Michaels, I. B. Clark and George Morley. Before 1884 they operated a two kiln pottery in Wellsville, West Virginia as Morley & Co. Morley withdrew in 1884 and the pottery continued under the name Pioneer Pottery until 1890 when the pottery closed. Then this pottery became known as Wellsville China Co.

**Location:** Wellsville, West Virginia

**Origins:** American

**Manufacturing Era:** 1880s, 1890s, 20th Century

**Type of Company:** Potter

**Type of Ware:** Dinnerware

**Treatments:** Gold Lustre

**Body Styles:**

Unknown

**Motifs:**

Tea Leaf

Plate found in the Sartin Hotel Excavations. Photo and artifact details courtesy of Doug Boyd.

# HISTORICAL TIMELINE FOR BOLIVAR ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES

DENTON COUNTY, TEXAS DALLAS DISTRICT

## Sartin Hotel (41DN593)

**1820/1870** — Jesse Sartin was born in 1820, and lived in Bolivar by 1870, where he operated a stagecoach stop.

**1881** — Jesse Sartin purchased Block 1, Lot 6, in Bolivar on July 13, 1881. There is unconfirmed evidence that a hotel was already on this parcel, and that Sartin expanded and improved the building.

**1881 to 1899** — The Sartin Hotel was in operation during the later days of the Chisholm Trail (to 1886), and for some time afterwards.

**1899** — When Jesse Sartin died on July 24, 1899, he was buried in the Bolivar Cemetery next to his second wife, Salle. No documentation has been found that reveals the fate of the Sartin Hotel after 1900.

The appearance of the Sartin Hotel and specifics about its operation also remain unknown, but contemporary accounts and oral history recollections provide the following details. The Sartin Hotel:

- \* was as a stop on the Chisholm Trail,
- \* served as the stagecoach stop for overland lines through Denton County,
- \* was a two-story, L-shaped wood building and,
- \* had a "flowing well in the lobby" and a "saloon nearby."



Overhead view of rock foundation of Sartin Hotel.

## Thomas Cook Blacksmith Shop (41DN617)

**1826 (or 1840)** — Thomas Cook was born enslaved in South Carolina, but records offer conflicting birth years.

**1857** — Thomas Cook was brought to Tarrant County, Texas, as an enslaved person, according to a voter's registration roll.

**1865** — Thomas Cook became a free man on Juneteenth, June 19.

**1867 to 1870** — Thomas Cook first appeared as a Texas citizen in voter's registration rolls and tax records that show he resided in Tarrant County.

**1872 to 1895** — Thomas Cook resided in Denton County by 1872, although he may have arrived up to a year earlier. Ad valorem tax records and the 1880 population census confirm that he lived with his family in Bolivar through at least 1895.

**1898** — Thomas Cook died in Denton County on January 5, 1898.



Archeologist operating a ground-penetrating radar at the Tom Cook Blacksmith Shop, where the "Bolivar" historical marker is located.

## Bolivar, Texas

### 1859/1861

After New Prospect was established, citizens voted to change the town's name to Bolivar in 1861. The town is 3 miles east of the postbellum Chisholm Trail.

### 1867 to 1886

The first cattle drive up the Chisholm Trail passed a few miles west of Bolivar, delivering cattle to railheads in central Kansas. During this time, the Chisholm Trail became a major economic boom for towns along its route.

### 1886

The Gulf, Colorado, and Santa Fe Railroad built a new track through north-central Texas, several miles east of Bolivar, causing local economic decline. At the same time, the small water stop at Sanger flourished as a railroad town.

### 1916

The Bolivar post office closed, and mail was forwarded to Sanger.



## FM 455 Road Improvements

The Texas Department of Transportation is in the process of widening FM 455 in Denton County, and this activity will impact the historic Sartin Hotel and the Thomas Cook blacksmith shop, which are on either side of this road. In compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act (federal law) and the Antiquities Code of Texas (state law), these sites have been determined historically significant. Consequently, historical and archeological investigations are being undertaken to salvage important information about these significant places and the people associated with them. (Photo: looking east down FM 455; the Sartin Hotel site is on the left.)

## NTAS - Preserving the Past for the Future

### NTAS Board

**James Everett**  
*President*

**Dana Ritchie**  
*Treasurer*

**Linda Lang**  
*Historian*

**Bryan Jameson**  
*Vice President*

**secretary@ntxas.org**  
*Secretary*

**Gen Freix**  
*Internet Chair*

**Catrina Banks Whitley**  
*Vice President—Projects*

**Chris Meis**  
*Immediate Past President*

**Molly Hall**  
*Newsletter Editor*

### Two easy and quick ways to pay your 2020 NTAS dues!

**By PayPal:** Complete the Application Form and pay online with PayPal at the NTAS website, [ntxas.org/membership](http://ntxas.org/membership) (**PLEASE NOTE:** The browser Chrome does not interface with PayPal through our website. Please use a different browser.)

**By mail:** Complete the application below and mail it with your check to:  
North Texas Arch Society, PO Box 24679, Fort Worth, TX 76124

December 2020 **NORTH TEXAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (NTAS) MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City\State\Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contact(s):** Please provide the following information regarding the individual(s) from whom we can request or to whom we may provide information in the event of an emergency. Please consider listing at least one contact who does not live at your residence.

Primary Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

I want my newsletter delivered by \_\_\_\_\_ email (\$0) or \_\_\_\_\_ by USPS mail. (\$10) **Thank you** for choosing delivery by email.

**Membership Type & Fees (Membership Term: January to December)**

New       Individual \$20       USPS Mail Delivery \$10  
 Renewal       Family \$25       Optional Memorial Fund Contribution  
 Student \$10 (*enrolled in grade school through college/university whose coursework is considered to be half time or more*)  
 Contributing \$30

**\*\*Please make checks payable to NTAS\*\***

**Code of Ethics (signature required):** I PLEDGE THAT I WILL NOT INTENTIONALLY VIOLATE THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF ANY FEDERAL, STATE, OR LOCAL ANTIQUITIES STATUTES CONCERNING CULTURAL RESOURCES OR ENGAGE IN THE PRACTICES OF BUYING OR SELLING ARTIFACTS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES OR ENGAGE IN THE WILLFUL DESTRUCTION OR DISTORTION OF ARCHEOLOGICAL DATA OR DISREGARD PROPER ARCHEOLOGICAL FIELD TECHNIQUES. I UNDERSTAND THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES WILL PROVIDE GROUNDS FOR EXPULSION FROM THE SOCIETY.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_