

# South Texas Researcher

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## Introduction

**Note:** the *South Texas Researcher* is also now available at <http://www.mysapl.org/texana.aspx> on the San Antonio Public Library's web site. Backfiles will soon be added.

Please remember that the purpose of this newsletter is to keep librarians, historians, archivists, genealogists, archaeologists, and those in other allied fields informed of what is going on that may be helpful in these fields so they may pass this information on to other interested parties in their locations.

*South Texas* is being broadly defined as beginning in Val Verde County in the west; moving east to Austin (Travis County); and then southeast through Caldwell, Lavaca, Jackson, and Calhoun counties to the Gulf of Mexico.



I am willing to include important events or acquisitions from other areas, in some instances, if they may be of particular usefulness to those in our area. News from our neighboring Mexican states of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon, and Coahuila would also be welcome.

If you have items you or your organization would like others to know about, please e-mail the address at the end of this newsletter.

*Feel free to forward this communication to anyone who might be interested.*

*Thank you!*

**Texana/Genealogy      February-March 2012**  
**Class Schedule**  
**San Antonio Public Library**

Programs are free and held at the San Antonio Central Library,  
600 Soledad, San Antonio, Texas, 78205.

E-mail: [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov)

To register (so we have enough handouts) or for information please  
call the Texana/Genealogy Department at (210) 207-2500 (ask for  
Texana) or E-mail: [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov)

**Computer Classes**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2012,      2:00 – 3:30PM**

**Fold3 Database**

The Fold3 database collections feature documents, most never before available before on the Internet, relating to the Revolutionary War, Civil War, World War I, World War II, United States Presidents, historical newspapers, naturalization documents, Native American records, and many more. There is also the ability to post your own comments and documents.

**Traditional Classes**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012,      1:30 – 2:30PM**

**Stories of the Underground:Photos, Narratives & History Quilts**

In honor of African American Heritage Month, the Texana/Genealogy Department presents a lecture by Jerelyne Williams, local author, researcher, educator, community activist, and President of the African American Genealogical and Historical Society of San Antonio. Mrs. Williams will display personal scrapbook collections of photographs and narratives from her tours with an Underground Railroad study group in Columbus, Ohio. The focus is on parts of Ohio, Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass in Maryland and Washington, D.C. and the Underground Railroad settlements in Canada. Additionally, she will also talk about the local African American Genealogy Group, as well as curate an African American display in the Texana Department.

Joining Mrs. Williams will be Nina Fennell, History quilter, genealogist, community activist, CASA child advocate, and Treasurer of the African American Genealogical and Historical Society of San Antonio. Ms. Fennell will display her genealogical quilts, showcasing not only her artistry and skill but also her family history, all beautifully laid out on fabric. Her genealogical quilts add a unique dimension to the ancestral story.

## *Texana/Genealogy Classes*

### **Classes at Branch Libraries - February**

These classes are FREE and open to all.

6 February – Monday – 6:30 – 8:00                      Forest Hills Branch  
*“Beginning Genealogy”*

18 February – Saturday – 2:00 – 3:30                      Great Northwest Branch  
*“Introduction to San Antonio Public Library Genealogy Databases”*

A series at the [Igo Branch](#)                      all classes are on Tuesdays from 2:00 to 3:30

- 7 February - *“Beginning Genealogy”*
- 14 February - *“Census and Vital Records”*
- 21 February - *“Draper Manuscripts”*
- 28 February - *“Ancestry and Heritage Quest databases”*

### **March Classes**

#### **Understanding Ancestry, Library Edition**

One of the most popular genealogy databases available today, Ancestry (LE) is made available - for FREE - at all SAPL libraries. Join us in learning how to find your ancestors using this powerful database.

Class is FREE but seating is limited. Therefore, registration is required.  
To register, please call 207-2500 (ask for Genealogy) or email us at:  
[genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov)

### **Growing Your Family Tree: Special Topics**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 2012, 10:30AM – 4:45PM**

Presentations will outline research methods for finding alternate sources of information when census records aren't available; tracking down the elusive female ancestor; and uncovering the jewels hidden in the local courthouse.

10:30-12:00    Alternate Census Records  
12:00-1:30    Lunch (On Your Own)  
1:30-3:00     Finding Female Ancestors  
3:15-4:45     Courthouse Records Explained

Classes are FREE and open to the public. They will be held in the auditorium of the Central Library, 600 Soledad.

Registration for handouts is required. Please register at 207-2500 (ask for Genealogy) or email us at: [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov)

Light refreshments will be available.

### **San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society**

In addition to Beginner and Intermediate Genealogy classes, The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society will once again offer it's *How to Find Out Who You Are* classes in conjunction with the NBC TV program "Who Do You Think You Are".

The 2:00 pm Sunday, February 12th class is *Connecting your Ancestors Despite the Absence of Vital Records* with Janey Joyce, CG. Classes are \$5.00 for members, \$10 for non-members Call 210/342-5242 for reservations or email [saghs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:saghs@sbcglobal.net).

With over 17,000 volumes, 600 + maps, a large vertical file collection and internet access to several great databases, the SAG&HS Library is one of the best private repositories of genealogical and historical material in South Texas.

The Library is located @ 911 Melissa Drive, off Blanco Rd, outside loop 410 and is open **Monday** 10-4, **Wed.** 10 am-9:00 pm, **Sat.** 10-4, **Sunday** 1-5. Members research free. Non-members may research for a \$5.00 donation per day. Tours of the library are free. For more information, visit [www.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2)

## Library Guides from Texana/Genealogy

The Texana/Genealogy department now has a presence on the San Antonio Public Library's website, [www.mysapl.org](http://www.mysapl.org). Go to the website, click on "Services," and scroll down to Texana/Genealogy. There you will find our blog, back issues of the *South Texas Researcher* (directly at <http://www.mysapl.org/texana.aspx>), our upcoming classes, and some of our "guides."

The **Library Guides** are subject bibliographies with a current twist—databases, websites, event schedule, blogs, as well as books. The department now has the following guides on the library's website under "Resources."

- |                    |                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cemeteries         | Hispanic Genealogical Research |
| Civil War          | Jewish Genealogy               |
| Civil War in Texas | King James Bible               |
| Death              | Local History                  |
| Family History     | Special Collections            |
| La Meri            | Texas History                  |
|                    | The Wild West                  |

## Friends of Texana/Genealogy on **facebook**.

So, you may keep up with the Friends of Texana/Genealogy and the department by becoming a "friend." There is a video on the difference between primary and secondary sources, and pictures from our collection of illuminated manuscript pages, photographs of the 1921 flood, photographs from one of our lock-ins, and World War I posters. See you there.



## *News and Calendar of Events*

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**Centro Cultural Aztlan Segundo de Febrero** opening reception. Free and open to the public. Thursday, **February 2, 2012, 6 pm - 9 pm**, 1800 Fredericksburg Road, suite 103. Declamaciones by Alicia Zavala Galván and Marta Curcio. Music by Jacinto Guevara. 25 Artist's are participating in this annual exhibit to commemorate the 1848 signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, and the beginning of the Mexican American as a political entity in the United States. Exhibit continues to March 2, 2012. Monday - Friday 9 am to 5 pm Information: 432-1896, [centroaztlan@sbcglobal.net](mailto:centroaztlan@sbcglobal.net)

Walk the Old Spanish Trail in Comfort, Sunday, February 5, start anytime between 8 am to 11 a.m. from Comfort Independent School District Administrative Office, 327 High Street. Sponsored by The Hill Country Volkssportsverein Club in conjunction with the 2012 Texas Volkssport Association annual meeting. More information: John Bohnert 830-995-2421 or e-mail [txtrailhead@gmail.com](mailto:txtrailhead@gmail.com). This walk will qualify for a stamp in the Walk the Texas OST booklet for those working for their Texas OST patch. The American Volkssporting Association has just announced the beginning of a Walk the U.S. OST Program in OST towns in the gulf and boarder states from Florida to California. Carlin and JoAnn Forinash and Ellen Ott have formed a strong AVA/OST100 partnership working tirelessly to promote these walks.

Bihl Haus Arts, Fifth annual self-guided two-day tour of artist studios and galleries **"On and Off" Fredericksburg Road** in San Antonio, Texas.

**Friday, February 17:** On and Off Fred Autograph Party, 6-9 pm, Bihl Haus Arts, Inside the gates of Primrose at Monticello Park Senior Apartments, 2803 Fredericksburg Road. Admission for 2 with the purchase of \$10 Studio Tour Guidebook.

**Saturday, February 18:** On and Off Fred Studio Tour, 11 am to 6 pm, Over 90 artists in 40 locations. Studios open free to the public  
Saturday, February 18, 5:30-9 pm, Liz Davies Greenspace, 800 Fredericksburg Road at Michigan Avenue. FREE kid-friendly evening of HOT music on a cool evening by South Texas Jazz.

**Sunday, February 19:** On and Off Fred Studio Tour, Noon to 5 pm More information: [bihlhausarts.org](http://bihlhausarts.org)

### **Los Bexareños Genealogical and Historical Society**

Meetings are normally held at 9:30 a.m. every first Saturday of the month on the first floor, Main Auditorium, of the San Antonio Public Library, 600 Soledad Street, San Antonio, Texas. Visitors are always welcome to attend. Membership is not required. Speakers at the meetings are people with a passion for history, professional historians, genealogists, archaeologists and researchers.

#### **Meeting of February 4, 2012**

**Date:** February 4, 2012

**Speaker:** Dr. Alonso Perales

**Topic:** Indigenous Cultures of South Texas and Northern Mexico

#### **Summary:**

**Biographical Data:** Alonso M. Perales, PhD:

A Fulbright-Hays scholar in applied linguistics, Dr Perales is not new to the Bexarenos. He has been a member of our organization for several years and has made three presentations to our group on subjects of interest to all of us. We are happy to have him again today to share with us a topic of special interest to him. His topic today is of special interest since not many of our speakers have touched on it. His topic is the history and culture of the real Tejanos who roamed the area of Mexico before the Spaniards arrived in south Texas.

#### **Help for the beginning genealogist.**

In November, 2009, the Society rented a building on the campus of Holy Rosary Parish to house our Library. The Parish is located at 159 Camino Santa Maria just north of Culebra Rd. The Library is manned by volunteers on Saturdays, except the 1st Saturday of the month. The hours are 10:00am to 2:00pm. There is no charge to use the Library and one need not be a member of the Society.

The Society assists individuals in getting started with genealogical research through beginner's workshops. Beginners also receive assistance from the more experienced members of the Society. Contact one of the following individuals by email or phone to schedule an appointment:

Dennis Moreno	210-647-5607	<a href="mailto:dennis.moreno@sbcglobal.net">dennis.moreno@sbcglobal.net</a>
Yolanda Patino	210-434-3530	<a href="mailto:patinogil@sbcglobal.net">patinogil@sbcglobal.net</a>

**Witte Museum**

**3801 Broadway  
San Antonio, Texas 78209  
(210) 357-1900**

*Opening the Witte Wardrobe: 85 Years of Collecting Textiles*  
20 August 2011 to 25 March 2012

*Out of the Vault: 85 Years of Collecting at the Witte Museum*  
16 September 2011 to 29 April 2012

**McNay Art Museum**

**6000 North New Braunfels  
San Antonio, Texas 78209  
(210) 824-5368**

*Baroque to Bauhaus: Designs from the Tobin Collection*  
18 January 2011 to 10 June 2012

*Andy Warhol: Fame and Misfortune*  
1 February 2011 to 20 May 2012

**San Antonio Museum of Art**

**200 West Jones Ave  
San Antonio, TX 78215  
(210) 978-8100**

*5,000 Years of Chinese Jade*  
1 October 2011 to 19 February 2012

*Animal Instinct: The Photographs of Daniel Lee*  
3 September 2011 to 19 February 2012

*Imágenes del Pueblo: Spanish Popular Graphics from the Permanent  
Collection*  
28 January 2012 to 28 June 2012



**DO YOU HAVE A CONFEDERATE ANCESTOR?**



The period 2010-2015 is being observed as the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States.

Now is the time to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans and honor your ancestor and his heritage.

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**The San Antonio Civil War Roundtable**

The San Antonio Civil War Roundtable (SACWRT) is a non-profit group that promotes the study of the American "Civil War". The Sesquicentennial of the War is being observed from 2010 to 2015. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month in the Alamo Room at Luby's, 911 N. Main & I-35 to discuss topics about the War. The group gathers at 6 PM to eat and visit, with the speaker and discussion at 7:00 P.M.

We are seeking to grow the group by recruiting new members and speakers. Please visit one of the meetings to see if this group might be of interest to you. For further information contact Russ Lane at 491-0676 or by email [russlanerok@aol.com](mailto:russlanerok@aol.com).

We look forward to having you attend our meetings and become an active member.

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**THE ALAMO CITY GUARDS CAMP #1325**

**MEETS ON THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 6 P.M. AT GRADY'S BARBECUE, 6510 SAN PEDRO AVENUE AT THE INTERSECTION WITH JACKSON-KELLER ROAD.**

Visitors are always welcome. Come see if this may be an organization that interests you.

Contact Commander Russ Lane, [alamocamp@yahoo.com](mailto:alamocamp@yahoo.com), 210-491-0676 for additional information and eligibility requirements

[WWW.ALAMOCITYGUARDS.COM](http://WWW.ALAMOCITYGUARDS.COM)

**The Genealogical Society of Kendall County announces the  
Eighth Annual Hill Country Family History Seminar  
Saturday, February 4, 2012  
Guest Speaker: Colleen Fitzpatrick, PhD.**



**Time:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Seminar doors open at 8:15 a.m.

(Morning and afternoon snacks and lunch provided)

**Place:** The Boerne Convention and Community Center

820 Adler Rd., Boerne, TX

**Pre-Seminar Dinner with Colleen Fitzpatrick-  
Friday, Feb. 3rd**

**Time:** 6:30 p.m. social; 7:00 p.m. dinner

**Place:** Kendall Halle at Ye Kendall Inn, 128 W. Blanco, Boerne, TX

**(Space Limited. Pre-registration required.  
Seminar registrant and 1 guest.)**

**For more information:**

(1) Visit our website at

[www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc)

(2) Contact Nancy McLarry, [npm@gvtc.com](mailto:npm@gvtc.com) or  
Linda Stephens at [lindamstephens@gvtc.com](mailto:lindamstephens@gvtc.com).

Mention "GSKC Seminar" in the subject line

***Books and Things* will again be at the Seminar with genealogy books and supplies.**

**Dr. Fitzpatrick**, author of *Forensic Genealogy*, has been recognized by the international press for her work with the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory and for exposing two well-known Holocaust frauds. Her article on her work on the Hand in the Snow project will appear in *Scientific American* in the fall 2011. Although Colleen works on high-level projects, her techniques are familiar to genealogists researching their own family histories. As Colleen explains, it's all a matter of imagination and how you look at the materials you have. If you come to her talk as a genealogist, you will leave as a forensic genealogist.

Her topics will be: **Forensic Genealogy-CSI Meets Roots Looking at Old Photographs  
Database Detective 6 Degrees of Separation - How to Find Anyone**

Registration forms are available at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc).

GSKC Seminar Registrar

Genealogical Society of Kendall County

PO Box 623

Boerne, TX 78006-0623

## Websites

As the bicentennial of the War of 1812 approaches, we provide a couple of websites to provide background for this historic event in the history of the United States.

**War of 1812**      <http://www.pbs.org/wned/war-of-1812>

This PBS website is will be of particular use to teachers as it includes essays on the War of 1812, descriptions and virtual tours of historic, and educational resources.

**A Guide to the War of 1812**      <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/1812/>

Compiled by Kenneth Drexler, Digital Reference Specialist

The digital collections of the Library of Congress contain a wide variety of material associated with the War of 1812, including manuscripts, broadsides, pictures, and government documents. This guide compiles links to digital materials related to the War of 1812 that are available throughout the Library of Congress Web site. In addition, it provides links to external Web sites focusing on the War of 1812 and a bibliography containing selections for both general and younger readers.



[The fall of Washington--  
or Maddy in full flight.](#)

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Please submit information and articles to the above e-mail.  
For the March 2012 by 15 February  
April 2012 by 15 March  
May 2012 by 15 April