

# 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      April - May 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, APRIL 3, 2012,      2:00 – 3:30PM**

**Genealogy Software**

The development of genealogy software has made it much easier to keep track of genealogical information. The class covers a variety of free and retail software and their features. You will learn about basic functions and reports generated by these programs to see which one is right for you.

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)

**TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2012,      2:00 – 3:30PM**

**American Ancestors**

Although this database is maintained by The New England Historic Genealogical Society, it has recently expanded its coverage to include states outside New England. It provides online access to such resources as Massachusetts vital records through 1910 and New York Probate Records, 1787-1835. If you have family in New England and the Middle Atlantic areas, you'll want to see what this website has to offer

### April -- Class at Great Northwest Branch

SATURDAY, APRIL 21, 2012, 2:00 - 3:30

#### Hispanic Genealogy

Learn the basic research principles and techniques for conducting Hispanic genealogical research. How to begin, where to go, and what you can expect to find along the way will be discussed. Class will offer clues and strategies to help as you climb your "arbol de familia".

Class is FREE and open to the public. They will be held at the Great Northwest Branch Libray, 9050 Wellwood. Registration for handouts is required. Please register at 207-2500 (ask for Genealogy) or email us at: [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov).

### 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

## **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 April 7, 2012**

**Date:** April 7, 2012

**Speaker:** Jesse Villarreal

**Topic: Events Surrounding the Writing of the book "Tejano Patriots of The American Revolution"**

**Summary:** Jesse Orlando Villarreal, Sr. was born in Westside San Antonio on Feb 4, 1945. He attended Our Lady of Guadalupe Elementary School and then Sidney Lanier High School where he graduated in 1964. He served in the U.S. Army from Sept 1965 to Sept 1967 and was stationed in Germany. After an honorable discharge, Mr. Villarreal worked with the U.S. Department of Defense at Kelly AFB in San Antonio. He married Connie Perez of San Benito, Texas in 1972. Mr Villarreal graduated from Our Lady of the Lake University in 1975 with a B.A. degree in Social Work. In 1978, the family moved to Dallas, Texas, where he worked with the U.S. Department of Labor in the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In 1980, he transferred to Austin, Texas where he continued working in the Federal Government with the U.S. Department of Labor OSHA as a Safety and Health Compliance Officer until his retirement in 2002 with 35 years of service to our nation.

### **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**

***Darwin: How One Man's Theory Turned the World on its Head***

*18 February 2012 to 3 September 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**

***San Antonio Collects: Theodore Gentilz and Mission Life of San Antonio and Northern Mexico***

*2 March 2012 to 20 May 2012*

***The Chinese Art of Cricket Keeping: The Ernest K.H. Lee Collection***

*3 December 2011 to 15 June 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)

### **[My Heritage.com to offer 1940 census for free.](#)**

"The images of the 1940 U.S. Census will be released by the National Archives and Records Administration on April 2, 2012... MyHeritage will then make all images immediately available to the public and begin the gradual process of transcribing them and making the index searchable, pledging a 98% or higher degree of accuracy." In other words, the indexes will not be available until some time after April 2 even though the images will appear on that date."

### **[London's Westminster Parish Records Online](#)**

Leading UK family history website [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk) has published online for the very first time parish records held by the City of Westminster Archives Centre. The Westminster Collection at [findmypast.co.uk](http://findmypast.co.uk) comprises fully searchable transcripts and scanned images of the parish registers, some of which are over 400 years old.



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San Antonio Public Library  
600 Soledad  
San Antonio, Texas 78205 210-207-2500  
E-mail: [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov)

Please submit information and articles to the above e-mail.  
For the May 2012 by 15 April  
June 2012 by 15 May  
July 2012 by 15 August