

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, archæologists, 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 Classes

Texana/Genealogy Classes San Antonio **Central Library**

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

One hour free parking.

E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

Registration is required.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2013

2:00 – 3:30 P.M.

Introduction to Genealogy Databases

You've heard of *Ancestry*, but what about *Access NewspaperArchive*, *Fold3* (formerly *Footnote*), *HeritageQuest Online*, & *American Ancestors*? Join us for an introduction to these exciting Genealogy databases that SAPL makes available to you - for FREE!"

This class will be in the new Connect Space on the first floor

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2013

2:00 – 3:30 P.M.

Online Archives and You

Are you interested in learning what kind of archival resources are available online to assist you in doing historical research? This class will look at available local, regional and national sources and provide a list of web sites for further personal exploration.

This class will be in the new Connect Space on the first floor

Texana/Genealogy Classes

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2013

10:00 - 11:30 A.M.

History Fair Resources

A panel of librarians and archivists from libraries across the city will discuss local history resources available in their collections to help students doing History Fair project research.

Other researchers may wish to attend to see what records are held by various local institutions.

This program will be held in the Central Library auditorium

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2013

10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

Historic Cemetery Tour

Everyone meet at 1917 East Commerce St.

Walking into the Past: A Tour of Eastside Historic Cemeteries

Maria Watson Pfeiffer, celebrated local historic researcher, will begin the tour in City Cemetery #1 (main entrance is off of East Commerce St.) and continue through the northern part of the cemetery district including Alamo Masonic, Odd Fellows, Dignowity, St. John's Lutheran and Temple Beth El cemeteries.

Tour is free & open to the public.

Dress in weather appropriate attire.

13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy.

(210) 207-9080

For information about classes at Igo Library contact:

Michelle Ricondo

Michelle.Ricondo@santonio.gov

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

2:00– 3:30 P.M.

**What Do You Know:
Should You Hire a Professional
Genealogist?**

Sometimes we lack the time, proximity, skills, or physical abilities to do significant parts of our research (beyond just a lookup). This class will provide information about professional certifications and whether hiring a professional genealogist is an appropriate step for continuing your family history research.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013

2:00 – 3:30 P.M.

**19th Century Photographs:
Identification and Conservation**

Local photo historian David Haynes will briefly discuss the history of photography, emphasizing the characteristics of major 19th century processes as an aid to dating your photos. Haynes will also mention some of the conditions that can cause deterioration along with some suggested actions private owners of small collections can take to minimize the effects of these problems. He encourages attendees to bring any photos that they would like to discuss to the session.



SOUTHWEST VAQUEROS

Southwest Vaqueros is a Corral (Chapter) of [Westerners International](#)

Southwest Vaqueros was founded by Al Lowman and his friends when he was a researcher and writer for the Institute of Texan Cultures. Among his friends were John Woodhull and Charlie Schreiner III. His personal library and collection are now housed in the Cushing Library at the TAMU campus.

For the present we meet at 6:30 PM at Papa Dante's on the third Tuesday of every other month since March and May. No dues are due for now, so the only cost is transportation and your wonderful meal. Tolerance of the elderly is appreciated at this time until we can chase up some younger mavericks... If you don't have a computer, call our irksome Sheriff (president) and Scribe (Secretary) at **210-418-4087** and it is reported that he checks his voicemail. His e-mail address is jltolleson@sbcglobal.net.

SEPTEMBER 2013 MEETING: TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2013 6:30 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER:

SUBJECT:

The speaker for August is H. A. 'Dan' Daniels. He owns the Palace Theater in Seguin and is a patron of the arts. His wife Janis is a photographer as is he. Some years ago Dan wrote a screenplay based on the life or the legend because the life is the stuff of legend of Seguin's famous city marshal Buck Bergfeld. He asked me (CFE) to read and critique the screenplay. There were a couple of minor errors in it but it would make a fascinating movie. When Dan's father Windy Daniels, who had contacts in the movie business brought stars to Seguin in the 40's & early 50's the person they all wanted to meet was Buck Bergfeld.

& Written by Charlie the Roper, re-edited by JLT, the default Sheriff



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 September 7, 2013

Date: September 7, 2013

Speaker: Kay Hindes

Topic: Acequias in Brackenridge Park and the Water System Trail

San Antonio City Archaeologist Kay Hindes graduated in 1986 with a bachelor's degree in anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin and has conducted a variety of cultural resource studies. She is a specialist in Spanish Colonial mission archeology and archival research. Ms Hindes was instrumental in locating the site of Mission San Saba as well as identifying the second site of Mission Espiritu Santo in Victoria.

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	dennis.moreno@sbcglobal.net
Yolanda Patino	210-434-3530	patinogil@sbcglobal.net



12th Annual Family History Seminar
8801 Midcrown
(corner of Crestway & Midcrown)
Windcrest, Texas

Registration: 8:00-8:30 am in Gym

Opening & Welcome: 8:30-8:50 am

Classes for 2013

9:00-9:50 am

1. The Grandparent Effect: Involving Youth in Family History (Everyone)

2. DNA—How It Works (Everyone)

3. Hidden Gems on the “Find a Grave” Website (Everyone)

4. Beginning Your Family History (Beginners)

10:00-10:50 am 5. 20th Century War Records (Everyone)

6. Hispanic Research (Beginners)

7. Google Earth Part A (Intermediate)

8. Census Research for Beginners (Beginners)

9. Creative and Fun Ways to Cherish Your Family History (Everyone)

11:00-11:50 am 10. Citing Your Sources (Everyone)

11. Names, Dates, Places: Now What? (Everyone)

12. Google Earth Part B (Intermediate)

13. Hiring a Professional Researcher for Your North (Everyone)

European Ancestors

14. Open Discussion: Writing a Family History (Everyone)

Lunch Break 11:50-12:50

1:00-1:50 pm 15. 10 Habits of Effective Genealogists (Everyone)

16. Preserving Family Treasured Heirlooms (Everyone)

17. Researching Your Matriarchal Lines (Everyone)

18. Organizing Your Research (Beginners)

2:00-2:50 pm 19. Publishing Your Family History with Roots Magic: Part I (Intermediate)

20. Photographing and Scanning Pointers (Everyone)

21. Family Tree—Part A (Beginners)

21. Native American Research (Beginners)

3:00-3:50 pm 23. Publishing Your Family History w/Roots Magic: Part II (Intermediate)

24. County Websites: an Under Utilized Resource (Everyone)

25. Family Tree—Part B (Beginners)

26. Indexing: Vital to On-Line Database Searches (Everyone)

Need more information? Contact:

Jim Keeth: 210- 287- 9001

Kay Urban: 210- 381- 3695



The 201st Fighter Squadron Mexico Joins the Fight in World War II

SAN ANTONIO – In May 1942, Nazi submarines sank two Mexican oil tankers. This provocation prompted Mexican President Manuel Avila Camacho to pledge support to the Allied forces and enter the war against Germany and Japan. In meetings with United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt, they determined the war effort could best be served with fighter pilots. The result: Recruitment and mustering of personnel for the 201st Fighter Squadron that became known as the "Aztec Eagles."

The story of this small unit of Mexican pilots, largely untold and overlooked in the history books, will be on display at the **Institute of Texan Cultures, Aug. 3, 2013 – Jan. 12, 2014**. "The 201st Fighter Squadron: Mexico Joins the Fight in WWII" is curated by UTSA Art Specialist Arturo Infante Almeida and developed by researcher and English Doctoral candidate Mario Longoria.

"The exhibit features the courageous Mexican volunteers who trained and fought alongside American servicemen during World War II, and offers a rare glimpse at a moment in history that reflects the enduring tenacity of the generation that saved the world," the joint statement from Almeida and Longoria reads.

In July 1944, the 201st Fuerza Aerea Expedicionaria Mexicana (Mexican Expeditionary Air Force) arrived for training at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. The unit trained on various aircraft including the P-40 Warhawk and P-47 Thunderbolt fighter planes. The unit shipped to the Philippines in April 1945, assigned to the 58th fighter Group of the 5th United States Army Air Force.

The unit flew combat missions from Porac and Clark Air Fields on the island of Luzon. Major General Charles L. Mullins, Commander, 25th Infantry Division praised the 201st for the support they provided his troops. The unit sustained five casualties during their overseas service. In recognition of their service, members were awarded many decorations, including the Legion of Merit, the Air Medal, the Philippine Presidential Unit Citation, and the Mexican government's Far East Service Medal of Valor. The squadron has the distinction of being Mexico's only veterans of a foreign war in the nation's history.

"ITC is pleased to be partnering in the creation of this exhibit, highlighting the contributions of our Mexican allies in World War II," said Bryan Howard, director of exhibits at the museum. "The 201st trained in Texas for a period before joining our forces in the Pacific, but it's a story few Americans have ever heard. One of the last members of the squadron passed away not long ago here in Texas, so in a way, the history of the 201st isn't just one of U.S. and Mexican cooperation during the war, it's now part of our collective Texan heritage too."

The Institute of Texan Cultures is located on the UTSA HemisFair Park Campus, 801 E. César E. Chávez Blvd., a short distance from the Alamo and the River Walk. Regular hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Saturday; noon-5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$8 for adults (ages 12-64); \$7 for seniors (ages 65+); \$6 for children (ages 3-11); free with membership, UTSA or Alamo Colleges identification. For more information, call 210-458-2300 or visit TexanCultures.com.

East Texas Historical Association Fall Meeting - September 27-29, 2013.

**Hotel Fredonia
200 N. Fredonia, Nacogdoches, Texas
936-564-1234**

Reservations by September 1, 2013

**For reservations, contact the Fredonia Hotel at
(936)564-1234, and mention you wish to reserve part of
the block of rooms for the East Texas Historical
Association.**

[View the Fall 2013 program](#)

[Register for the Fall meeting](#)



German-Texan Heritage Society
2013 Annual Meeting
Winedale, Texas
September 20-21, 2013

Friday, September 20

Winedale Conference Center

1:00 - 2:00 Registration, GTHS Gift Shop, Exhibitors, Vendor Tables

2:00 - 2:45 Dr. James Kearney, "Nassau Plantation"

2:45 - 3:00 Break

3:00 - 3:30 Kevin Klaus - "Nassau Plantation thru the GLO"

3:45 - Leave for tour of Nassau Plantation

5:00 Simple Supper (cold cuts/beer) at Winedale w/entertainment by the Winedale Singers

Saturday, September 21

Winedale Conference Center

8:00 Registration, GTHS Gift Shop, Vendors, Exhibitors and Breakfast Table

8:30 Welcome & Introductions, Winedale

9:15 Speaker, Dr. James Kearney, "The Freethinkers"

10:00 Break

10:15 Speaker - Dr. Ken Hafertepe - "German-Texan Houses, Churches, Cemeteries in Fayette County"

11:00 Speaker - Trevia Beverly - "Dead Men Tell no Tales. Or Do They?"

11:45 Lunch - Barbecued chicken, German potato salad, green beans, birthday cake, tea

12:30 GTHS Business Meeting

Election of new Board Members

Ehrenstern Award Winners

IPHONE APP

1:15 Trevia Beverly - "The Black and White of it. Your Ancestors are in the Newspapers"

1:45 Dr. Ken Hafertepe - "Winedale and Miss Ima Hogg"

2:30 Tour of 2 Winedale Homes led by Dr. Ken Hafertepe and Barbara White, Administrative

Manager, Winedale Historical Complex, Briscoe Center for American History, UT at Austin



San Antonio by Decade, 1840-1849

Baylies, Francis. *A NARRATIVE OF MAJOR GENERAL WOOL'S CAMPAIGN IN MEXICO, IN THE YEARS 1846, 1847 & 1848*. [973.623 Baylies]

Bell, Thomas W. "Thomas W. Bell Letters." [1842] *SWHQ*, 63 (April 1960): 589-590.

Bollaert, William. *WILLIAM BOLLAERT'S TEXAS* [1843] [917.64 Bollaert]

Bracht, Viktor, *TEXAS IN 1848*. [1846-1847]. [976.405 Bracht]

Canterbury, Elizabeth, "A Talk With Mrs. Canterbury." [1841-1844] *SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS ANNUAL REVIEW*, 15 March 1890, page 4.

Carl, Prince of Solms-Braunfels. *TEXAS 1844-45*. [976.4 Carl]

Truehart, James L., *THE PEROTE PRISONERS: BEING THE DIARY OF JAMES L. TRUEHART*. [1842]. [B-Truehart]

Chabot, Frederick C. *TEXAS LETTERS*. [1845-1854]. [976.4 Yanaguana]

Chamberlain, Samuel E., *My Confession: Recollections of a Rogue*. [1846]. [973.628 Chamberlain]

Chapman, Thomas F., "To a Friend." *SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS*, 21 February 1886, page 15.

DeVilbiss, John Wesley, Sr. "Reminiscences of a Superannuated Preacher." (1844-1847). In *REMINISCENCES AND EVENTS IN THE MINISTERIAL LIFE OF REV. JOHN WESLEY DEVILBISS*. [287.092 DeVilbiss]

Domenech, Abbe [Emanuel] *MISSIONARY ADVENTURES IN TEXAS AND MEXICO [1848-1850]*. [976.4 Domenech]

Duval, J[ohn] C., *EARLY TIMES IN TEXAS [1843]*. [976.4 Duval]

Eastman, Seth. *A SETH EASTMAN SKETCHBOOK*. 1848-1849. [741.973 Eastman]

Falconer, Thomas. *LETTERS AND NOTES ON THE TEXAN SANTA FE EXPEDITION, 1841-1842*. [976.4 Falconer]

Fisher, Orcenth. *SKETCHES OF TEXAS IN 1840*. [917.64 Fisher]

San Antonio by Decade, 1840-1849 (cont.)

French, Sarah L. "Mrs. French's Reminiscences of Early Days in Bexar." [1846-1860]. In S. J. Wright's *SAN ANTONIO DE BEXAR*, pages 96-101. [976.41 Wright]

Fretelliere, Auguste. "Adventures of a Castrovillian." [1844] In Julia N. Waugh's *CASTRO-VILLE AND HENRY CASTRO, EMPRESARIO*, pages 91-94. [976.4 Waugh]

Gregg, Josiah. *DIARY AND LETTERS OF JOSIAH GREGG*. [1846] [B-Gregg]

GENTILZ: ARTIST OF THE OLD SOUTHWEST. [1844]. [759.13 Gentilz]

Green, John A. "A Talk about the San Antonio of the Earlier Days." *SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS ANNUAL REVIEW*, 15 March 1890, pages 2-3. [1845]

Green, Thomas J. *JOURNAL OF THE TEXIAN EXPEDITION AGAINST MIER*. [1842]. [976.4 Green]

"How the Alamo Looked Nine Years After Its Fall." [1845]. *SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS*, 9 April 1905, page 9

Jenkins, John. *RECOLLECTIONS OF EARLY TEXAS: THE MEMOIRS OF JOHN HOLLAND JENKINS*. [1842] [976.4 Jenkins]

Jordan, Gilbert J., Ed. And trans. "W. Steinert's View of Texas in 1849." *SWHQ*, 80 (1976-1977), 191-194, 200, 287, 399-400, 405-406

Kendall, George Wilkins. *NARRATIVE OF THE TEXAN SANTA FE EXPEDITION*. [1841] [976.4 Kendall]

King, Sarah Brackett. "Early Days in San Antonio Recalled by a Pioneer Resident of the City." [1846-1860], *SAN ANTONIO LIGHT*, 4 Feb 1917, page 14

Latham, Francis S., *TRAVELS IN THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS, 1842*. [976.404 Latham]

(to be continued)

Witte Museum

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

Dinosaurs Unearthed: Bigger, Better, Feathered
23 February 2012 to 2 September 2013

The World Through Magic Lanterns
29 June 2013 to 30 June 2014

Threads of South America: 2,000 Years of Textiles
13 October 2013 to 31 March 2014

McNay Art Museum

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

The America of Grant Wood and Thomas Hart Benton
29 May 2013 to 8 September 2013

Printing Perfection: The Art of Beth Van Hoesen
29 May 2013 to 29 September 2013

San Antonio Museum of Art

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

Rostros de Maria: The Virgin as Archetype and Inspiration
18 August 2013 – 28 September 2013

Danny Lyon: The Bikeriders
7 September 2013 – 1 December 2013

Lethal Beauty: Samurai Weapons and Armor
28 September 2013 – 5 January 2014

Library Guides from Texana/Genealogy

The Texana/Genealogy department now has a presence on the San Antonio Public Library's website, 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
World War I (NEW)	The Wild West

San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society

In addition to Beginner and Intermediate Genealogy classes, The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society is offering its Sunday afternoon "How to Find Out Who You Are" classes. Classes are \$5.00 for members, \$10 for non-members. Call 210/342-5242 for reservations or <mailto:saghs@sbcglobal.net>. Classes are held in the library annex, behind the library.

With over 16,500 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.rootsworld.com/~txsaghs2

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.

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 Thursday of the month to discuss topics about the War. We meet at Grady's BBQ, 6510 San Pedro Avenue at the intersection with Jackson-Keller Road. 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 Richard Brewer at 210-490-8827 or by email rbrewer@sbcglobal.net.

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

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, 210-491-0676 for additional information and eligibility requirements

WWW.ALAMOCITYGUARDS.COM

NARA to host a virtual Genealogy Fair on Sept. 3 & 4

For the first time ever, the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration will host a virtual Genealogy Fair with live lectures and chat via the web and a call-in genealogy help line.

This two-day program will showcase tips and techniques for using Federal records at the National Archives for genealogy research. Lectures are designed for experienced genealogy professionals and novices alike. Lecture topics include Native American and African American history, immigration, Civil War pensions, U.S. Colored Troops, and Navy Deck logs.

You can learn more at <http://www.archives.gov/dc-metro/know-your-records/genealogy-fair>.

[Genealogy Roadshow](#) on PBS

Genealogy Roadshow, based on the hit Irish series of the same name, is scheduled to debut at 8 p.m. Monday, Sept. 23, on PBS.

Genealogy Roadshow features participants who have unique claims and storylines: two Nashville participants have documents they believe make them distant cousins of a famous 19th Century frontiersman and folk hero. A woman in Detroit wanted to learn more about deceased members of her Polish family and found common bonds she never knew existed. A Hispanic woman in Austin wanted to learn whether or not she had a connection to the “Daughters of the Republic of Texas.” Over the course of the series, participants will be reunited with family members they never knew existed, and other story lines reveal surprising turns and dark secrets, including one participant’s lineage that is traced back to a gruesome murder.

GENEALOGY ROADSHOW will air Mondays, September 23-October 14, 8:00-9:00 p.m. CDT.

Published by: Texana/Genealogy Department
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San Antonio, Texas 78205 210-207-2500
E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

Please submit information and articles to the above e-mail.
For the October 2013 by 15 September
November 2013 by 15 October
December 2013 by 15 November