

# South Texas Researcher

March 2014

Welcome to the new South Texas Researcher.

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. Back files will soon be added.

This newsletter is produced 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.

We are 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 us at [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov).

Please share this newsletter with others.



## Texana/Genealogy Classes

The following classes are held at the Central Library Auditorium.  
600 Soledad Street

One hour free parking is available with a validated ticket.  
E-mail: [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov)

## **Traditional Classes in Texana Room**

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

### **Hispanic Genealogy: An Introduction**

Learn the basic research techniques and strategies for uncovering your Hispanic genealogy. How to begin, where to go, and what you can expect to find along the way will be discussed.

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

### **An Introduction to Military Records**

Learn the basic research techniques and strategies for researching military records.

## **Computer Classes at Central:**

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

### **WorldCat and Library Catalogs**

Genealogists will learn how best to navigate and utilize the vast bibliographic database WorldCat which includes the holding of over 9,000 libraries in the United States and abroad.

Participants will also learn about the treasures awaiting researchers through online library catalogs.

This class will be in the new Connect Training area on the first floor.

## **Igo Library**

13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy.

210-207-9080

For information about classes at Igo Library contact:  
Michelle Ricondo at [Michelle.Ricondo@sanantonio.gov](mailto:Michelle.Ricondo@sanantonio.gov)

Tuesday, March 18, 2014

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

## Find A Grave

Find the graves of ancestors, create virtual memorials, add 'virtual flowers' and a note to a loved one's grave, etc.

Tuesday, April 15, 201  
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

## Using Family Bible Records

Many families traditionally recorded genealogies in their family Bible. These are a good source of information about immediate family members and relatives, including names of parents, children, their spouses, and their dates of birth, marriage, and death. For some families, Bible records may have the only recorded vital statistics information. Family Bibles that are no longer in possession of the family may be at a historical or genealogical society or found online.

## News and Calendar of Events



**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](mailto:jltolleson@sbcglobal.net).



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## **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.

### **March 2014 Meeting**

Thelma Garcia Celestino was the speaker at the March 1 Los Bexareños Genealogical and Historical Society meeting where she discussed her book *Are We Almost There?*

The book chronicles her childhood experiences as a member of her migrant family as they traveled from state to state working in the fields.

Thelma Garcia Celestino worked as a teacher and administrator for San Antonio ISD for thirty years. She held positions as an elementary teacher in Gifted/Talented and bilingual classes, instructional coordinator, assistant principal, principal, and library director before retiring in 2009. She is currently an adjunct professor at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, teaching and supervising for the Teacher Education Program. This year, she also started teaching computer and English as a Second Language classes twice a week. Thelma lives with her husband, Richard, in Floresville, Texas. They have three children. Thank you and Blessings! Contact info: (210) 834-4899 [tcelesti@uiwtx.edu](mailto:tcelesti@uiwtx.edu) or [thelmacelestino@yahoo.com](mailto:thelmacelestino@yahoo.com)

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### **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](mailto:dennis.moreno@sbcglobal.net)

Yolanda Patino  
210-434-3530  
[patinogil@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patinogil@sbcglobal.net)



## **Museum News**

### **Witte Museum**

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

### ***The World Through Magic Lanterns***

*June 29, 2013 - June 30, 2014*

### ***Threads of South America: 2,000 Years of Textiles***

*October 13, 2013 - March 31, 2014*

### ***Alien Worlds and Androids***

*February 22 - May 27, 2014*

### **McNay Art Museum**

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

### ***Roberta Indiana: Beyond LOVE***

*February 25 - March 5, 2014*

### **San Antonio Museum of Art**

200 West Jones Ave.  
San Antonio, Texas 78215  
(210) 978-8100

### ***Andy Warhol: The Athletes***

*January 31 - April 27, 2014*

***Fray Antonio Margil de Jesús: "Patron Saint of Texas"***  
*October 12, 2013 - March 23, 2014*

***TX★13: Spotlight on Texas Artists  
in the Contemporary Collection***  
*September 5, 2013 - November 9, 2014*

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**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 [www.mysapl.org/texana.aspx](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
- Civil War
- Civil War in Texas
- Death
- Family History
- La Meri
- World War I
- Hispanic Genealogical Research
- Jewish Genealogy
- King James Bible
- Local History
- Special Collections
- Texas History
- 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 email to [saghs@sbcglobal.net](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.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2)

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## **Research in Texana/Genealogy**

The following are selected journal articles that may be found in journals received by the Texana/Genealogy department of the San Antonio Public Library.

"Making It Right: The Civil War Letters of John Wilmot" Vermont History, 81:1 (Winter/Spring 2013): 34-51

"A View of the War and the World from Baltimore, 1813-1815" [letters of George Douglas] Maryland Historical Magazine, 107: 4 (Winter 2012): 485-518

"St. Louis Cathedral Marriage Book 18, 24 August 1896-18 June 1901" New Orleans Genesis, 51: 202 (April 2013): 119-133

"St. Anthony Chapel Baptism Book-Free Persons of Color, 1841-1850" New Orleans Genesis, 51: 202 (April 2013): 155-160

"Records of Old Mobile Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception , Section 19-Baptisms of Blacks-1855-1863 (A-Z)" New Orleans Genesis, 51: 202 (April 2013): 175-184

"Colonial Records : Notarial Archives-Pedro Pedesclaux, Notary-Index to Volumes 58 and 59 (O-Z)" New Orleans Genesis, 51: 202 (April 2013): 188-198

"The Passion of the Perfect: Pierre Clement De Laussat, 1803 New Orleans, and the Bonapartist Louisiana That Never Was" Louisiana History, 54: 3 (Summer 2013): 261-291

Reduced to Ashes: The Good Friday Fire of 1788 in Spanish Colonial New Orleans" Louisiana History, 54: 3 (Summer 2013): 292-331

"Nations Colliding: The Civil War Comes to Indian Territory" Civil War History, 59: # (September 2013): 279-319

"Your Loving Father, Jack': Southern Illinois farm life in the 1890s as Seen Through the Correspondence of the Jack Pierce Family" Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, 106: 1 (Spring 2013): 129-90

"On the Front Page in the 'Jazz Age': Journalist lone Quinby, Chicago's Ageless 'Girl Reporter'" Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society, 106: 1 (Spring 2013) 91-128

"Free Black Residency in Two Antebellum Virginia Counties: How the Laws Worked" The Journal of Southern History, 79: 2 (May 2013): 261-298

"The Military Journal and Expense Accounts of Captain Thomas Butler During the Spring 1756 Oswego Campaign" The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, 144: 2 (April 2013): 111-121

"Slaves of the 'Ole' Foley Plantation, Lavaca County, Texas" The Journal of South Texas, 26: 1 (Spring 2013): 4-18

"Revising 'la huelga': Antonio Orendain, Cesar Chavez, and the Texas Farm Workers, 1975-1982" The Journal of South Texas, 26: 1 (Spring 2013): 20-49

"Myth or Fact: Unlikely Heroine, Francisca Alavez" [Angel of Goliad] The Journal of South Texas, 26: 1 (Spring 2013): 50-62

"Congressman Jack Brooks-'Taking Care of Business'" East Texas Historical Journal, 51: 2 (Fall 2013): 9-30

"Bowie County in Transition: From 1860 to 1870" East Texas Historical Journal, 51: 2 (Fall 2013): 31-39

"Paris is Burning: Lynching and Racial Violence in Lamar County, 1890-1920" East Texas Historical Journal, 51: 2 (Fall 2013): 40-64

"Carolyn Herster: Texas Songbird" East Texas Historical Journal, 51: 2 (Fall 2013): 65-78

"East Texas Labor Vignettes" East Texas Historical Journal, 51: 2 (Fall 2013): 79-92

"Slave Smuggling by Foreign Privateers: The Illegal Slave Trade and the Geopolitics of the Early Republic" Journal of the Early Republic, 33: 3 (Fall 2013): 433-462

"Stoking the 'Abolition Fire in the Capitol': Liberty Party Lobbying and Antislavery in Congress" Journal of the Early Republic, 33: 3 (Fall 2013): 523-547

"Auctioneer of Offices': Patronage, Value, and Trust in the Early Republic Marketplace" Journal of the Early Republic, 33: 3 (Fall 2013): 463-488

"Mexican Party, American Party, Democratic Party: Establishing the American Political Party in New Mexico, 1848-1853" New Mexico Historical Review, 88: 3 (Summer 2013): 253-285

"Three Brothers in Arms: The Philbrooks and the Civil War in the West" New Mexico Historical Review, 88: 3 (Summer 2013): 321-340

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## **Cadena Hispanic Genealogical Collection**

### **Now Available for Research in Texana/Genealogy**

Historian, genealogist, researcher Gloria Lillia Villa Cadena conducted primary Hispanic research from original records. The field work required that she meet with the challenges of traveling to research in Mexico and throughout Texas and having to decipher the archival Spanish language and handwriting. She did this with a passion to fulfill the much needed job of recording Hispanic family genealogy and history and share it with fellow researchers. The research was conducted over a period of many years. Cadena was a prominent founding member of Los Bexarenos Genealogical Society, which began with her inception in 1980, promoting ancestral research and Hispanic history. Along the way, other researchers donated their records to her, and now they are part of this collection. Preserving the genealogical information reflecting the Hispanic culture was an obsession met with a delightful zeal leaving a legacy and inspiring others to conduct research on their family heritage.

The Cadena Hispanic Genealogical Collection of books and research files were donated by her children to the Texana/Genealogy Department of the San Antonio Public Library after she passed in 2007.

The files consist of 49.5 cubic feet and 1,512 file folders, two file cabinets for Bexar County and two for Mexico. The collection spans from the late 1500's to the early 1900's. The much needed information reflects culture and population in Bexar County, surrounding communities, and several Mexican states. The majority of the collection covers Bexar County and Coahuila, Mexico. Other Mexican States include: Chihuahua, Durango, Nuevo León, Revilla/Guerrero, Tamaulipas and Zacatecas.

The records are arranged by sixteen series; subject and description in alphabetical subject files divided by county and country then cabinet, drawer and file number.

Included are cemeteries, census records, church records, (sub-series: baptisms, confirmations, marriages, and deaths; court records, (deeds, probates, testimonies, and wills; family group sheets and records; Hispanic (history and genealogy) land and land grants, military information, photocopies of maps and newsletters, organizational information, pedigrees, personal correspondences, publications, vital records, and an inclusive miscellaneous category.

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## 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 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](mailto:rbrewer@sbcglobal.net).

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 6pm at  
Grady's Barbecue, 6510 San Pedro

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 or visit [www.alamocityguards.com](http://www.alamocityguards.com)

## Website

### [TheGenealogist launches International Headstone Database](#)

TheGenealogist project is preserving our fast vanishing heritage with its latest project.

Following the success of the War Memorials Project, leading family history website TheGenealogist has embarked upon a project to help preserve the invaluable family history information that can be found on gravestones.

The Headstone Image Database is the only collection of records and images available as part of a UK genealogy subscription.

To boost the project TheGenealogist recently acquired Last Resting Place (LastRP.com), which has a large collection of photographs covering many graveyards.

This searchable transcript database allows you to view photographs of the headstone and see photographs of the church and surrounds. Maps are also available for the latest additions to the records.

Headstones nationwide are suffering from erosion, and burial grounds from closures for new developments. Often the stones are removed to create green spaces and then reused as paving or destroyed. Volunteers everywhere are now offered the chance to join the project. With every headstone photographed or transcribed, volunteers will earn credits towards subscriptions at TheGenealogist or products at Genealogy Supplies. To sign up to the project please click the link above.

With more records and images to be added throughout 2014, the project will prove a useful tool to family historians looking to discover more information about relatives in their family tree.

No other website provides the comprehensive service of researching the complete life history of an ancestor and then being able to discover their burial plot too in just a couple of mouse clicks.

## About Us

Texana / Genealogy  
San Antonio Public Library  
600 Soledad Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205  
210.207.2500

Please submit information and articles to [genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov](mailto:genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov).

For: April 2014, by March 15

May 2014, by April 15

June 2014, by May 15