



South Texas Researcher

October 2015

Texana / Genealogy



San Antonio Public Library Texana / Genealogy

Find Texana / Genealogy online by visiting mysapl.org/texana. Here you will find the *On this day in San Antonio* blog, past issues of *South Texas Researcher*, information about upcoming classes and guides to help you in your genealogy research.

Texana / Genealogy Department is located on the sixth floor of the Central Library, 600 Soledad 78205. The department is open to the public Tuesdays through Saturdays:

Tuesday	12:00pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday	12:00pm - 8:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm



Library Guides from Texana / Genealogy

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
- HeritageQuest Online
- Hispanic Genealogical Research

Jewish Genealogy
King James Bible
La Meri
Local History
Texas History
The Wild West
Special Collections
World War I

Events & Classes



Fold3 database

The fold3 database collections feature documents, many never before available 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 other topics.



Registration is required

Tuesday, 20 October 2015 at 2 p.m.

Igo Library

13330 Kyle Seale Parkway

Call 210.207.9080 for more information. (Ask for Ramona)

Celebrate Catholic Archives

Join us as Brother Ed Loch, archivist from our local Catholic Chancery Archives describes the genealogy resources available at the Archdiocese.

Learn how these sacramental records can aid you in your local history research.

Registration is required

Tuesday, 27 October 2015 at 7 p.m.

Central Library Auditorium

600 Soledad Street 78205

Call 210.207.2500 for more information. (Ask for Texana)



New Publications



An Evening with Venus: Prostitution During the American Civil War
(GENEALOGY 306.74 GAINES)

The True Chronicles of Jean Le Bel, 1290-1360
(GENEALOGY 944.025 LE BEL)

Jasper County, Mississippi Cemeteries, 1833-1998
(GENEALOGY 976.2 JASPER)

Sumner County, Tennessee Marriage Records, 1787-1838
(GENEALOGY 976.8 SUMNER)

Marriage Records of Williamson County, Tennessee, 1804-1850
(GENEALOGY 976.8 WILLIAMSON)

Ohio Marriages Recorded in County Courts, 1 Jan 1821 - 31 Dec. 1830: An Index
(GENEALOGY 977.1 MARRIAGES v. 1 & v. 2)

Aquifers of Texas
(TEXANA 333.91009 GEORGE)

Death on Base: The Fort Hood Massacre
(TEXANA 364.15234 PORTERFIELD)

Mexican-American Baseball in the Alamo Region
(TEXANA 796.35709 SANTILLÁN)

The Armies on the Rio Grande
(TEXANA 973.62 MURPHY)

True Tales of the Texas Frontier: Eight Centuries of Adventure and Surprise
(TEXANA 976.4 WILLIAMS)

Port Arthur Centennial History, 1898-1998
(TEXANA 976.4145 PORT)

Waco, Texas: A Postcard Journey
(TEXANA 976.4284 BARNES)

Gillespie County School Histories
(TEXANA 976.465 GILLESPIE)

A Guide to the Historic Buildings of Fredericksburg and Gillespie County
(TEXANA 976.465 HAFERTEPE 2015)

Community Partners



Los Bexareños Genealogical and Historical Society

Meetings are normally held at 9:30 a.m. at the Central Library Auditorium. Visitors are welcome to attend. Membership is not required. Speakers at the meetings are people with a passion for history, professional historians, genealogists, archaeologists and researchers.

For the October Meeting

Date: October 3, 2015

Speaker: none

Topic: Los Tejanos Exhibit at the Institute of Texan Cultures

Los Tejanos is an Institute of Texan Cultures exhibition exploring the Tejano experience.

It offers a glimpse of the Tejanos' compelling stories from the early 19th century to this present day.

When you arrive, go thru admissions and tell them that you are there for a Bexarenos meeting and Exhibit tour with Lupita Barrera and that the admission fee has been waived. We are expected at 10 AM. After the business meeting we will be given a tour, which will likely take 20-25 minutes for the overall view, then you may spend as long as you like in the gallery.

The auditorium has been reserved for us, and has plenty of space to accommodate 50 people on a first come, first serve basis. There are approximately 30 free visitor parking spaces immediately in front of the building. If the visitor parking lot is full, paid parking is available at Landry's across the street, next to the tower.

Note: 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 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. There is no charge to use the Library and one need not be a member of the Society.

Help for the beginning genealogists:

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

[Yolanda Patiño](#) 210.434.3530



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. Southwest Vaqueros is a Corral of **Westerners International**.

**SOUTHWEST
VAQUEROS**

Third Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm

Papa Dante's Italian Restaurant
8607 FM 1976
Converse, TX 78109

Call 210.418.4087 or email jltolleson@sbcglobal.net for more information.



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. Cost is \$5.00 for members, \$10 for non-members. Call 210.342.5242 or click on the "Ask Us" button on the website for reservations.

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 San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society Library is located at 911 Melissa Drive, off Blanco Rd, outside Loop 410 and is open Monday 10am - 4pm, Wednesday 10 am -9pm, Saturday 10am - 4pm and Sunday 1 - 5pm. 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.txsaghs.org



Los Tejanos

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](http://www.institutetexancultures.org)

presents an exhibit on the Tejano experience.

A thematic approach to 500 years of history, the exhibit draws upon major themes in Tejano life: migration, making a living, struggles for inclusion, and cultural traditions.



Our Part of Victory

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

September 2, 2015 - December 7, 2016

September 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. Along with a massive civilian effort on the home front, some 750,000 Texans served during the war. This pivotal point in history shaped the direction of future global development, and brought great changes to Texas. "Our Part of Victory" explores the role of Texans during World War II, and sheds light on the impact it had on the Lone Star State.



Texas was a major supplier of war materials, including aircraft and ships. Some Texans, such as Audie Murphy and Dorie Miller were lauded for heroism, while others simply carried on the fight. Hundreds of pilots from allied nations trained in Texas. On the home front, thousands of Texas women worked in factories, while Boy Scouts and other youth organizations organized scrap drives for vital war materials. Through artifacts, images, anecdotes, and audio and video clips, Our Part of Victory will chronicle lesser known Texas involvements and contributions to World War II.



Bodies Revealed
3 October
2015 - 31 January 2016

**Maya: Hidden Worlds
Revealed**
opens May 2016

**Martín Gutierrez:
Transcending Rhythm**
8 September 2015 - 10
January 2016

**Stephen Westfall: The
Holy Forest**
6 August 2015 - 31 July
2016

**Miguel Covarrubias:
Culture and Caricature**
18 July - 18 October 2015

28 Chinese
5 September 2015 - 3
January 2016

**Realms of Earth and Sky:
Indian Painting from the
15th to the 19th Century**
6 November 2015 - 14
February 2016

News





Texas Czech Genealogical Society Proudly Presents



IT'S ALL ABOUT

REGISTRATION
AND
MORNING
REFRESHMENTS
8:00 AM

Google™

with
**Google™ Expert, National and
International Speaker**

Lisa Louise Cooke



October 10, 2015

Caldwell Civic Visitor Center

103 Presidential Corridor (Hwy 21) Caldwell, Texas

Visit Lisa's Website at:
www.genealogygems.com

LISA'S TOPICS WILL INCLUDE:

*Google™ Tools and Procedures for
Solving Family History Mysteries*

*5 Ways to Enhance Your Genealogy
Research with Old Maps*

*Google! Everything New That You
Need to Know for Genealogy*

Time Travel with Google™ Earth

Lunch

BBQ Brisket * Sausage
Pinto Beans * Potato Salad * Cole Slaw * Bread
Tea * Coffee * Dessert

**Visit our website for
registration form
www.txczgs.org**

Registration Fees:

Before September 28, 2015
TCCGS Members - \$35 * Non-Members - \$40

After September 28, 2015
TCCGS Members - \$40 * Non-Members - \$45

At Door (All) - \$50

**Research Book Room Will Not
Be Available For This Event**

**Silent
Auction**

**Send Registration Form To:
Deane Hodon - 1201 Nimbus Dr.,
Pflugerville, Texas 78660
512-251-5201
bdhodon@sbcglobal.net**

RIDERS ON THE ORPHAN TRAINS

A Conference and Sharing Session
at TCHCC's Bill and Betty Melnar Library, La Grange, Texas
Located next to the Fayette County Fairgrounds
SATURDAY, October 31, 2015 9 am to 7:30 pm
Free registration/RSVP encouraged

Open to anyone who would like to share their stories of friends or relatives who were riders on the orphan train, as well as descendants, historians and genealogists.

The National Orphan Train Museum is interested in documenting your family stories, which are an important part of our history. To schedule a video interview, please contact Alison Moore at orphantrain99@yahoo.com.



Photo Courtesy of the National Orphan Train Complex

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

- 9:00-11:00 am Scheduled video interviews with Alison Moore
- 11:00-12:15 pm Opening Session, Multimedia presentation by Alison Moore
- 12:15 pm Lunch provided - Vegetable and Chicken Noodle Soup and Sandwich + kolač, Coffee, Tea, Crackers \$10 (RSVP/pay at the door)
OR Brown Bag it.
- 1:00-5:00 pm Presentation by Elaine Smith regarding the RESEARCH OF THE descendants of Lawrence Bartosh from Weimar
Afternoon presentations, Q&A, story sharing and research tips
- 5:00 pm Dinner on your own (visit many of the area restaurants)
- 6:30-7:30 pm Optional sessions/sharing and additional video interviewing

**PLEASE BRING PHOTOS, RECORDS, ANY SURVIVING MEMENTOS OF NEW YORK
FOUNDLING HOME CORRESPONDENCE.**

RSVP for the conference by contacting Alison Moore at orphantrain99@yahoo.com

OR

TCHCC at info@czechtxas.org or 888-785-4500 (www.czechtxas.org)

RSVP for lunch \$10 by contacting TCHCC (may pay at the door)

Los Bexareños - Hispanic DNA & Genealogy 101 October 3, 2015

Los Bexareños, Hispanic Heritage Center of Texas, Canary Islands Descendants Association (CIDA) and Family Tree DNA will host a "HispanicDNA & Genealogy 101" Workshop from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at La Trinidad Methodist Church, 300 San Fernando St.. This is the first of a three part series workshop. Tickets can be purchased [here](#) or contact Andrea Ozuna at (210) 892-0136.

Luxembourg Family History Searches

More than one million Luxembourg birth certificates from 1600 to 1923 have been made available online thanks to a voluntary project. Since Luxroots.com launched in 2004, its 50 volunteers have analysed and uploaded 1 million birth certificates to its database, 800,000 of which were from communes currently in Luxembourg.

The online service was started by Georges Eicher and is funded entirely by contributions from users. Currently, around 700 people have subscribed and their fees provide the needed funding for the not-for-profit group behind the project.

You can access the 1,017,904 birth records and 47,941 death records at Luxroots.com.

Back Up Your Genealogy Files!

It is the first of the month. It's time to back up your genealogy files. Then test your backups!

Actually, you can make backups at any time. However, it is easier and safer if you have a specific schedule. The first day of the month is easy to remember, so I would suggest you back up your genealogy files at least on the first day of every month, if not more often.

Of course, you might want to back up more than your genealogy files. Family photographs, your checkbook register, all sorts of word processing documents, email messages, and much more need to be backed up regularly. Why not do that on the first day of each month?



From the Archives

Secession Times in Texas (part three) - James P. Newcomb - 1863

In the Spring of 1859, the Democratic Convention shifted their place of meeting to the town of Houston. In this convention the African slave trade was favored and

disunion sentiments expressed; Runnels was again their candidate for Governor, Frank Lubbock for Lieut. Governor, Gen. Waul † for Congress for the Western District, &c., a perfect batch of traitors. The old hero of San Jacinto, was again called from his retirement to bear the banner of the people, and although he did not exert himself as in the former election, the verity. Hamilton[§] beat Waul, and Reagan^{||} was elected to Congress from the Eastern district. This election was made upon the square question of Union or disunion, and the nominees of the Houston Convention relying upon the omnipotence of the Democratic party, they failed to elect their Governor and Congressmen, they were not discouraged, for the people in their enthusiasm for Gen. Houston and anxiety to wipe out their former sin, lost sight of the importance of the election of proper men to the Legislature, and it was left in the hands of the conspirators.

In 1860 we find a Union majority of 10,000 votes staring the secessionists in the face, the rebuke was too severe to be forgotten. Breckenridge was their candidate - they changed their tactics and became the champions of the Union. Opposed to Breckenridge was the Bell and Douglas ticket. It was evident to everyone that Mr. Lincoln would be chosen, and in this election the only question raised by the people of Texas, and propounded to the Presidential Electors throughout the State, was "do you consider the election of Mr. Lincoln sufficient cause for disunion?" the Breckenridge electors answered this question negatively as did the Union Electors, and their press chimed in on this villainous [sic] lie; it was the point on which turned all their movements and they knew it. A good deal was said in this campaign about the "overt act," which was never waited for. The people were deceived, they could not discriminate between their true friends and covert enemies, and Breckenridge received the vote of the State. The announcement of Mr. Lincoln's election was received in South Carolina with firing of cannon and great rejoicing; in Texas, it was received by the people with no demonstration of either joy or sorrow, it had been fully anticipated. Now commenced the execution of the designs of the conspirators, the election of Mr. Lincoln was declared sufficient cause for disunion, and every man who would not subscribe to that declaration was denounced as a submissionist and an abolitionist.

"KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CIRCLE"

In every town and village throughout the State there was established a "castle" of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," a secret armed society whose members were sworn to treason. This society had been started a year or more prior to the Presidential election, for filibustering movements, but had fallen through leaving several wandering Knights along the borders with nothing to lose and everything to gain by a revolution; among them were two vagabonds, Geo. W. Bickley and his nephew; those men were employed to travel over the State and organize "castles," receiving the initiation fee as compensation. This order was really insignificant, but from the fact of its perfect organization and secrecy it was a powerful instrument in the hands of the conspirators, in as much as there was not even a party organization

to oppose them; they made bold to say that they would force secession with arms if the people refused it at the ballot box. Through this organization the first secession convention was effected; the first armed rebels under Ben McCullough [sic] were members of this order; it furnished the vigilance hanging committees, and to them belong the credit of the murders and the arsons committed during the secession times. After secession was consummated they were suppressed by the very persons who had used them; either fearing or loathing them as they would an assassin accomplice. In the history of the "Knights of the Golden Circle," we learn a lesson we should never forget: by its aid, Texas was revolutionized, - her entire people vaulted involuntarily into rebellion and revolution; and why? because there was no opposing secret, loyal organization to counter-mine its plans, and intrigues; the American, or Know-Nothing order, or a Union League, would have saved the State. In a country like ours, where the right of association is so unrestricted and unguarded, when treason begins to plot in secret, it behooves loyal men to associate and work together and keep their plans from the enemy.

THE FIRST CONVENTION

In January 1861, sixty irresponsible persons, issued a call for a convention to meet in Austin on the 28th of that month, to consider the relations of Texas with the Union. This call recommended the Cheif Justises [sic] of the different counties to order the opening of the polls at the different precincts, as in regular elections. This recommendation was acted on by all the justices already in the treason, and where they took no notice of it, polls were opened by the "K.G.C." So seemingly ridiculous, informal and illegal was this election, that the people looked upon it as a farce and took little part in it; still ten thousand votes were reported cast out of the eighty-odd thousand legal voters in the State, and delegates actually assembled at Austin, at the appointed time to represent the people of Texas.

Governor Houston in order to head off this revolutionary convention, and if possible, get a fair expression of the minds of the people in a proper and dignified manner, called an extra session of the Legislature, to take into consideration the ordering of an election for delegates to a convention. The Legislature and the revolutionary convention assembled in the Capital, at the same time. The Legislature betrayed the State, by recognizing, wholesale, the convention, in the face of all the facts; this was a most atrocious act.; it was assuming a power never conferred by the people, in clothing these self-elected delegates, with plenary powers. In the House, the resolution recognizing the convention, pass with little opposition; in the Senate, Mr. Gentry offered a substitute, to the effect that an election be held for a convention, to meet on the 4th of March following; this substitute was lost, 10 yeas to 20 nays. Mr. Towns offered an amendment, which was also lost. The Governor's veto was overridden. Therefore, so far as the Legislature was concerned, the convention was clothed with absolute power, or rather, could assume supreme power and not be amenable to the laws of Texas. On the 28th of February the convention assembled in the hall of the House of Representatives - it was a day big

with the fate of Texas. The outside pressure was very great. Judge Reagan was in attendance, and also Mr. McQueen, Minister Plenipotentiary from the foreign country of South Carolina. On the 1st of February, 1861, but a vote of 166 to 7, the ordinance of secession passed, subject to a vote of the people on the 23rd of the same month.

The work of precipitation was fairly inaugurated, and the members of the convention were carried to swiftly down the tide of treason that they jumped at the conclusion, appointed commissioners to the Confederate Congress, then holding at Montgomery, Alabama; appointed a "committee of public safety" with secret instructions and extensive powers, and adjourned to meet again on the second of March.

That there were seven votes against the ordinance of secession; may be wondered at; several counties sent unconditional Union delegates, with instructions to vote against secession, and thus it is we see seven votes for the Union even in this convention. One delegate who betrayed a Union constituency received much applause. The miseries of secession were now thought by many to be over.

Deluded mortals!

‡ Many of the secession leaders were either apostate sons of New England or foreigners.

Gen. Waul is an Englishman but claims to be a South Carolinian. He was the first Representative to the Confederate Congress from Texas, elected by the secession Convention.

Thus Texas occupied the ridiculous [sic] and mean position of being represented in two Congresses; in the U.S. Congress, Wigfall remained as a spy, at the same time Waul was blushing with the honors conferred by a convention which had been refused him by the people.

§ Gen. Hamilton, or familiarly called Jack Hamilton, is a true son of the South; he was a pillar of strength to the democracy during the "Know-Nothing" raid, but subsequently seeing the disloyal designs of the leaders of that party, he threw all his influence against it. The organ tones of his manly eloquence reverberated through the State in favor of the Union. His career in Congress is well known; he returned to Texas after secession had been completed, and in front of the Capitol in Austin, he delivered a bold, defiant, scathing speech against secession and its authors; for this he was threatened with hanging, but there was too much latent loyalty in that portion of the State for the threat to be executed; at last a warrant for his arrest on a charge of treason was issued, and he fled the State.

|| Reagan disclaimed any connection with the Galveston Convention, and favored Gen Houston, he had little opposition. He deserted his seat in the U.S. Congress and returned to Texas to take part in the secession movement, and was rewarded with the position of Post Master General for the Confederate States.

To Be Continued...



The South Texas Researcher is a publication of the San Antonio Public Library Texana/Genealogy department. For more information, or to submit program information for an upcoming issue, email genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov by the deadline provided:

- November 2015 by October 15
- December 2015 by November 15
- January 2016 by December 15

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

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