



South Texas Researcher

November 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

As of October 1, 2015, these hours apply to the entirety of the sixth floor, as well as the Texana Department. Outside of these hours, you may request back issues of periodicals at the circulation desk on the first floor and they will be retrieved and brought downstairs for you, but there will be no access to Genealogy materials.



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



Local Online Genealogy Resources

Learn about local genealogical and historical records that are available online from San Antonio and Bexar County websites. Registration is required.

Registration is required

Tuesday, 3 November 2015 at 2 p.m.

Central Library

600 Soledad Street

Call 210.207.2500 for more information. (Ask for Texana)

MARRIAGE RECORD

The State of Texas—County of Bexar:

To my Deputed Minister of the Gospel, Judge of the District Court, Judge of the County Court, &c.

You or either of you are hereby authorized to acknowledge as given in the solemn Oath of *Annny Lewis Cunningham* and *Sallie Ann Davis* in accordance with the laws of this State, and that you make no return of this your office in any other place than such as is required by the laws of this State.

Witness my hand and the seal of the County Court of Bexar County, this 5th day of September, 1887.

J. H. Smith
County Clerk

Witness my hand and the seal of the County Court of Bexar County, this 5th day of September, 1887.

John H. Cunningham
John W. Davis

A True Copy of the Original. RECORDED in the 5th day of September, 1887.

John H. Cunningham
John W. Davis

INDEX TO BIRTH RECORDS

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	PLACE OF BIRTH	DATE OF RECORD	RECORD NO.	INDEX NO.
Annny Lewis Cunningham	1887	San Antonio, Texas	1887	1001	1001
Sallie Ann Davis	1887	San Antonio, Texas	1887	1002	1002
John H. Cunningham	1887	San Antonio, Texas	1887	1003	1003
John W. Davis	1887	San Antonio, Texas	1887	1004	1004

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Cemeteries: History & Preservation

Explore the history of cemeteries and learn about preservation techniques that can help maintain them. Learn how to record the information found in these sacred places for future generations. The cleaning and restoration of headstones and masonry will also be discussed.



Registration is required

Tuesday, 3 November 2015 at 6:30 p.m.

Central Library Auditorium

600 Soledad Street 78205

Call 210.207.2500 for more information. (Ask for Texana)

New Publications



Ghosthunting San Antonio, Austin and Texas Hill Country
(TEXANA 133.10976 VARHOLA)

Bexar Archives Still at Bexar: 1717-1836
(TEXANA 976.4351 VALERO)

Los Ojuelos Ranch
(TEXANA 976.4462 MARTINEZ)

Red Water, Black Gold: The Canadian River in Western Texas, 1920-1999
(TEXANA 976.48 BICKERS)

Family Maps of Bartholomew County, Indiana
(GENEALOGY 977.2 BARTHOLOMEW)

Family Maps of Carroll County, Indiana
(GENEALOGY 977.2 CARROLL)

Family Maps of Gibson County, Indiana
(GENEALOGY 977.2 GIBSON)

Family Maps of Owen County, Indiana
(GENEALOGY 977.2 OWEN)

Family Maps of Cook County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 COOK)

Family Maps of DuPage County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 DUPAGE)

Family Maps of Grundy County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 GRUNDY)

Family Maps of Jersey County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 JERSEY)

Family Maps of Kane County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 KANE)

Family Maps of Massac County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 MASSAC)

Family Maps of Randolph County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 RANDOLPH)

Family Maps of Rock Island County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 ROCK ISLAND)

Family Maps of Union County, Illinois
(GENEALOGY 977.3 UNION)

Family Maps of Allamakee County, Iowa
(GENEALOGY 977.7 ALLAMAKEE)

Family Maps of Iowa County, Iowa
(GENEALOGY 977.7 IOWA)

Family Maps of Mahaska County, Iowa
(GENEALOGY 977.7 MAHASKA)

Family Maps of Ford County, Kansas
(GENEALOGY 978.1 FORD)

Family Maps of Meade County, Kansas

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 November Meeting

Date: November 7, 2015

Speaker: Jose Antonio "Joe" Lopez

Topic: Preserving Early Texas History

Mr. José Antonio (Joe) López was born and raised in Laredo, Texas. USAF Veteran.

Served over 37 years in military/Federal Service. When he retired on January 1, 2000,

he held a senior civilian management position at the U.S. Air Education/Training Command, Randolph AFB, TX. He is a direct descendant of Don Javier Uribe, one

of the earliest families that settled in what is now South Texas in 1750.

He is married to the former Cordelia Jean "Cordy" Dancause of Laredo.

He and his wife reside in Universal City, TX. They have one daughter, Brenda Jo.

Mr. López is a Martin High School graduate, Class of 1962. He has college degrees

from Laredo Jr. College and Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, TX.

He earned a Master's Degree in Education.

He is the author of four books: "The Last Knight (Don Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara Uribe, A Texas Hero)", "Nights of Wailing, Days of Pain (Life in 1920's South Texas)", "The First Texas Independence, 1813", and "Preserving Early Texas History (Essays of an Eighth Generation South Texan)".

Although an early Texas history writer at heart, Mr. Lopez also writes newspaper and online magazine articles on socio-political issues and current events that affect Spanish-surnamed citizens in the Southwest. He and his wife Cordy visit school

campuses throughout South Texas teaching about the Spanish Mexican roots of Texas.

Mr. Lopez is the founder of the Tejano Learning Center, LLC, and www.tejanosunidos.org, a web site dedicated to Spanish Mexican people and events in U.S. history that are mostly overlooked in mainstream history books. His hobbies are many: writing, jogging, walking, cooking, rock/fossil collecting, landscaping, and gardening. He volunteers in his community.

About Miss Cordy (Very Able Assistant):

Cordy is a 1965 St. Augustine High School graduate. "Go Knights!". She has spent about 30 years working with children in various learning settings. She recently retired from the Judson Ind. School District. For the last 20 years of her very successful career, she worked as a certified para professional, concentrating in special education.

She is the TLC chief editor and scheduler. She is also responsible for setting up and putting away Tejano Learning presentation equipment and static displays. Cordy enjoys gardening, cooking, walking, and tending to her dog and two cats.

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 Third Tuesday Meetings

**SOUTHWEST
VAQUEROS**

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](#).

Third Tuesday of the month, 6:30pm

Papa Dante's Italian Restaurant
8607 FM 1976

Call 210.418.4087 or email jtolleson@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.txzaghs.org



Los Tejanos

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

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

**Miró: The Experience of
Seeing**
30 September 2015 - 10
January 2016

**Picasso, Braque and the
Cubist Legacy: Prints and
Drawings from the
Collection**
21 October 2015 - 24
January 2016

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

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

**Corita Kent and the
Language of Pop**
13 February - 8 May 2016

News



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)

1939 National Register for England and Wales to be released.

A new set of records will soon be released that will help fill in the 30-year gap in England and Wales' census records. On 29 September 1939, just 26 days after hostilities had been declared, a survey nicknamed the UK's only "instant census" took place. The findings enabled the issuing of identity cards and ration cards. The register applied to all civilians. Now individual returns in England and Wales from the

register are being digitised and are expected to be released next month. Censuses have been carried out since 1801 and have recorded the names of all people in households since 1841. However, the 1931 census relating to England and Wales was destroyed by a fire at an Office of Works store at Hayes, Middlesex, in 1942. Investigators suspected that a dropped cigarette was the cause, but this was never proved. In 1941, the government did not carry out a census because it was too impractical and labour-intensive with the war much intensified by then. This means genealogists in England and Wales face an information gap of 30 years from 1921 to 1951. The 1939 National Register will help fill in those missing years.

The UK's only "instant census" was taken on 29 September 1939. It later enabled the issuing of identity cards and ration cards. The register applied to all civilians.

The information recorded included:

Name

Sex

Age

Occupation

Address

Marital status

Membership of naval, military or air force reserves, auxiliary forces

Details can be found here: <http://www.bbc.com/news/magazine-34570120>

46 Million Swedish Household Records Now Available

MyHeritage announces the addition of over 46 million Swedish records to MyHeritage SuperSearch. The high quality parish register records, spanning 1880 to 1920, are now available, indexed and searchable online for the first time. These records include information about births, deaths, marriages, addresses and changes in household composition. They provide a unique view into the lives of Swedish people living at that time, making this collection a fantastic family history resource for anyone with Swedish heritage. Click [here](#) to take a look at the collection

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 five) - James P. Newcomb - 1863

THE ELECTION

The election on the secession ordinance was held on the 23rd of February 1861 and resulted in about half a vote of the State, forty-two thousand votes out of the eighty-odd thousand legal voters at the time, precluded the possibility of a fair expression of the people and after developments brought to light the fact that many of the secession majorities reported, were false. The Capital, San Antonio and several western towns and counties, gave Union majorities. But while we claim a great majority of the people as Union in Sentiment, we cannot escape the humiliating fact, that they stood by with folded arms and allowed the conspirators to presume their opinions and commit them, soul and body, to the work of treason. And why was this? Because there was no organization - no one to say, "Come, let us put down this usurpation," - in vain the people looked for a leader. Everything favored treason; even the Federal forces would have been sufficient to arrest its progress, but unfortunately a traitor's heart beat under Gen. Twigg's uniform and he surrendered all the military posts and munitions of war, before the question of secession had been hazarded to a vote of the people. Many became reconciled to secession thinking it a road to "reconstruction"; others from some vague idea that immediate great benefits would result from it; and there were others who had before them the vision of a "Lone Star Republic." War was not thought of. Had the people of Texas believed that civil war would be the inevitable result of secession, they would have recoiled from it. But, step by step, they were led gently, but swiftly, down into the depths of treason, - the transition was so gradual and easy, they were committed to the dreadful issue before they knew it

THE SECOND CONVENTION

The ordinance of secession went into effect on the 2nd of March, 1861. The

principal acts of the convention at its second sitting, all of which were arbitrary, were, the annexing the State to the Southern Confederacy; the adoption of the Confederate Constitution; the appointment of Representatives to the Confederate Congress; and the deposing of Gov. Houston.

GOV. HOUSTON

Gen. Houston seemed to fail, for the first time in his life, to be equal to the emergency. True, he interposed his official authority, but had he boldly raised the flag of the Union, and called upon the loyal men of the State to stand by him. Secession would have been nipped in the bud; this he was petitioned to do; but we find him sullenly clinging to the Governor's chair, until forcibly ousted by a decree of the secession convention; then he appeals to the people, but too late. From this appeal I take the following extract and protest:

"I love Texas too well to bring civil strife and bloodshed upon her. To avert this calamity, I shall make no endeavor to maintain my authority as Chief Executive of this State, except by the peaceful exercise of my function. When I can no longer do this I shall calmly withdraw from the scene, leaving the Government in the hands of those who have usurped its authority, but still claiming that I am its Chief Executive."

"I PROTEST IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF TEXAS AGAINST ALL THE ACTS AND DOINGS OF THIS CONVENTION AND DECLARE THEM NULL AND VOID! I solemnly protest against the act of its members who are bound by no oath themselves, in declaring my office vacant, because I refuse to appear before it and take the oath prescribed."

Had Governor Houston been twenty years younger, he would hardly have been allowed so glorious an opportunity as that presented to him to rescue Texas from disunion, to pass unimproved.

UNION MOVEMENT AFTER SECESSION

After the secession ordinance went into effect, the work of the conspirators seemed complete, but far from it. Every moment after the 2nd of March, weakened disunion - it needed blood. Had the attack not been made on Fort Sumter, in sixty days secession would have perished and its authors been in disgrace and contempt. Immediately after the vote on the secession ordinance, Union men over Texas began to organize secret Union leagues, the object being to control the next general election on the first Monday in August following; in which election the entire face of the Legislature could be changes; and all the acts of the former Legislature annulled, and this, secession undone, the State re-revolutionized through the peaceful means of the ballot box. In few weeks the organization had spread over the State, and could count in its ranks the ablest and best men in the country, and if hostilities had not been commenced, it would have swept the State in August. The attack on Fort

Sumter paralyzed [sic] this organization - men fell back in sullen apathy, to abide the result - closing their eyes as the rocking figure of civil war shook its gory locks at them from the flaming walls of Sumter, but they were soon forced by the most powerful military despotism, that ever ruled or fell, to stand face to face with the terrible reality itself.

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:

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

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)