



South Texas Researcher

January 2016

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 and genealogy books (other than those in the Texana Room) at the circulation desk on the first floor and they will be retrieved and brought downstairs for you.



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, 5 January 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Central Library

600 Soledad Street 78205

Call 210.207.2500 for more information. (Ask for Texana)

DNA Tests as Genealogical Sources and Evidence

Join us as Randy Whited, Director of Development for the Texas State Genealogical Society, discusses DNA testing and its usefulness and limitations when doing family history research. Registration is required



Tuesday, 19 January 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Central Library - Texana Room

600 Soledad Street

Call 210.207.2500 for more information. (Ask for Texana)

New Publications



Camargo, Tamaulipas, Mexico Baptismal Church Register, 1964-1786
(GENEALOGY 972.12 NICHOLS)

A History of Rankin County Mississippi, Vol. 1 & 2
(GENEALOGY 976.2 RANKIN)

Grant County, Oklahoma Land Patents
(GENEALOGY 976.6 GRANT)

Hidden Tennessee Marriage
(GENEALOGY 976.8 HAYS)

Jefferson County, TN Will Book 1, 1792-1810
(GENEALOGY 976.8 JEFFERSON V. 1)

Ohio Cemeteries, 1803-2003
(GENEALOGY 977.1 OHIO)

Marriages of Harvey County, Kansas, 1896 - Apr. 24, 1898
(GENEALOGY 978.1 HARVEY)

Marriages, Births and Deaths in Kansas Before 1854

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.

**The Society will not be having a meeting in January 2016.
Instead, we will be having our annual Installation of Officers banquet
on January 9, 2016 at Ft Sam Houston Golf Club.
Regular meetings will resume in February 2016.**

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
Converse, TX 78109

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.txsaahs.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 through 31 January 2016	Miró: The Experience of Seeing 30 September 2015 - 10 January 2016	28 Chinese 5 September 2015 - 3 January 2016
Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed opens May 2016	Picasso, Braque and the Cubist Legacy: Prints and Drawings from the Collection 21 October 2015 - 24 January 2016	Realms of Earth and Sky: Indian Painting from the 15th to the 19th Century 6 November 2015 - 14 February 2016
	Stephen Westfall: The Holy Forest 6 August 2015 - 31 July 2016	Corita Kent and the Language of Pop 13 February - 8 May 2016

News



Ancestry discontinuing Family Tree Maker software

Ancestry is proud to have made a significant investment this year to bring valuable new content and records to the Ancestry site. In 2015, we've made 220 million searchable historical records from Mexico available, more than 170 million pages from the largest collection of U.S. will and probate records, among others. We've also introduced new features such as Ancestry Academy and major advancements for AncestryDNA.

We remain dedicated to helping people gain new levels of understanding about their lives, and who and what led to them, harnessing the information found in family trees, historical records and genetics. As a company, we're also continually evaluating ways to focus our efforts to provide the most impact and best product experience for our users through our core offerings. True to this focus, we've taken a hard look at the declining desktop software market and the impact this has on being able to continue to provide product enhancements and support that our users need.

With that, we've made the decision to stop selling Family Tree Maker **as of December 31, 2015**. Our subscription business and website, on the other hand, continue to grow and we are doubling down our efforts to make that experience even better for our Ancestry community. Ancestry will continue to support current owners of Family Tree Maker at least through January 1, 2017. During this time, all features of the software, including TreeSync™, will continue to work, and Member Services will be available to assist with user questions. We will also address major software bugs that may occur, as well as compatibility updates. -

See more at: <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/12/08/ancestry-to-retire-family-tree-maker-software/>

RootsMagic \$20 offer for Family Tree Maker users

Over the past few years, thousands of Family Tree Maker users have made the switch to RootsMagic. They've enjoyed its amazing new features such as color coding, Problem Alerts, Shareable CD's, running straight off of a flash drive, FamilySearch integration, DataClean, multi-provider WebHints, Mac and Windows versions with a single license, and more!

To make the transition as painless as possible, we've set-up a special website at www.FTMUpgrade.com that includes training videos, testimonials, and more. And for a limited time, we are offering Family Tree Maker users the full-version of RootsMagic for the amazing low price of only \$20. We will also include the printed book, "Getting the Most out of RootsMagic" absolutely free (a \$14.95 value). You must visit www.FTMUpgrade.com to receive the discount.

Read more about the offer here: <http://blog.rootsmagic.com/?p=2546>

Legacy \$10 off for Family Tree Maker users through 12/31

RootMagic is not the only company trying to entice Family Tree Maker users to try a new product. Legacy is offering \$10 off their usual price of \$29.95.

Read more about the offer here:

<https://www.legacyfamilytreestore.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=L8D>

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 seven - James P. Newcomb - 1863

PART II
Journal of Events and Travel
from
Texas through Mexico to California
Including a History of the "Box Colony."

LEAVING TEXAS

Monterey, Mexico

Oct.15th, 1861

In July I determined to leave Texas, and I may say it was with no ordinary struggle;

I had clung fondly to the hope that a great counter-revolution would occur to ward off the dark cloud of civil war which hung over the country and threatened a deluge of blood, but the more I looked, the fainter grew this hope. Sumter had fallen, like the first crash of a terrible storm; the work of precipitation had been inaugurated, and I knew too well the men who then controlled the destinies of the South, to believe they would let their cause faint for want of blood. In fraternal bloodshed lay their hope of engendering section hatred and inflicting deep wounds which would take years to heal. A fierce exciting war, they knew would engulf the entire population of the South, and their fury would blind them to the usurpation, deception and tyranny practiced on them by its authors. For years I had seen the gathering storm of disunion, and decided upon my course, from which I have never wavered and never regretted. I believed disunion to be one of the most damnable crimes under heaven; I believed it would entail upon the country that most to be dreaded of calamities, civil war; I

believed disunion to be without shadow of cause or reason, a blow at American liberty, the work of ambition and treason; and every day has served to convince me in this belief. I took my stand against disunion and with all my humble ability opposed it from first to last. The sacrifice I was called upon to make in leaving Texas, I considered poor that I should have to make if I remained. For I would be required to sacrifice my principles, my very manhood; I would be compelled to come out and lie - to say I was wrong when I knew I had been right - to fawn to those I had denounced as traitors - and for what? the poor privilege of remaining in a country where liberty had been supplanted by anarchy and tyranny, and at last to be dragged out and forced to fight to make right what I knew and had contended was wrong - to be sacrificed on the alter of the ambition of the bad men who had brought on the war - the ignominious death dealt out by the "K. G. C.," a vigilance committee to so many loyal men, was preferable. I had been made a citizen of the United States by annexation, had grown up under the starry flag of the Union. To it, I owed my allegiance and for the life of me I could see neither manliness nor patriotism in deserting that flag, because traitors trailed it in the dust and treason flaunted its foul banner over Texas.

Many of my friends wished me to stay and share with them the consequences, deluding themselves with the idea that the trouble would be of short duration, but I bid them good-bye and started on my journey. I started to go through to Missouri, intending to skirt along outside the settlements. Arriving at Judge J's plantation in Blanco county, that gentleman entertained me with his kind hospitality, and dissuaded me from undertaking by proposed route; he said in the settlements I would be dogged by vigilance committees and outside I could not hope to escape the Indian, and advised me to go by way of Mexico; I took the Judge's advice and am not sorry for it. The Judge is an old Texan and a sound Union man; he had accumulated a nice property in negroes and lands and was surrounded by a young family; such were his surroundings that he could not leave Texas, and he reconciled himself to secession as he would to a pestilence he could not escape. I left the Judge's beautiful plantation and returned to the ranch of a German friend within eight miles of San Antonio, to await the chance of company to Mexico.

THE BATTLE OF BULL'S RUN

Just on the eve of my starting for Mexico, came the news of the battle of Bull's Run, which was claimed as a victory for the the Southern arms. The accounts of this were exaggerated beyond all reason, and it was claimed that in this first battle the entire prowess of the Federal government had been overthrown, that the Northern people would sue for peace, and that the war was at an end. Had this battle resulted the reverse of what it did, then truly might people have rejoiced at the prospect of a speedy peace. I regarded it as only the beginning of the end.

OLD SAN ANTONIO

By climbing a ride of hills about a mile from my resting place I could have a view of San Antonio in the distance. For fifteen years it had been my home - during the happiest days of my life, and its very old walls seemed kindred to me. Pleasant memories of the past clung around the old place, and I bid it good-by with a feeling of sadness, but the flag of the Union floated no longer over it, and no affection, no fond recollection or sacred ties could teach me to turn coward or traitor. The very air, laden with the perfume of millions of prairie flowers, now seemed tainted with the foul breath of treason, and I cared to breathe it no longer.

MY TRIP TO MONTEREY

On the second of August 1861, I left my German friend and his kind family, to join a party of travellers bound for Monterey, Mexico. Arriving in Castroville, I was compelled to wait on my companions several days; finally got under way, leaving that place on the day of the August election. Just as I was ascending the hill that overlooks Castroville and the beautiful valley of the Medina, I met an old friend who was just returning from the Rio Grande. It was a pleasant surprise and afforded me the pleasure of sending a few messages to my friends; we parted and as he saw me hurry on to overtake my companions, no doubt he pitied me to the bottom of his heart, while I saw him drive away towards San Antonio as I would view one pushing on to a city doomed to destruction. We travelled leisurely along to the Rio Grande, and as we proceeded, our company kept increasing until we became quite a large party of refugees and emigrants, embracing several nationalities and many professions and trades; among the rest Mr. Van Slyck, with his delicate wife and young children. It was sad to see these people leaving their homes and flying from persecution and the ruin which threatened them in Texas, and I became ashamed of my own little misfortunes when viewing the misfortunes and vicissitudes of those around me. It is needless to recount in detail the circumstances which attended the Texas portion of my trip. On every hand were to be seen the sad evidences of the times, and ominous signs of the future, in the deserted frontier settlements, and the lonely state of the road, once one of the liveliest thoroughfares between Texas and Mexico. We passed nice farms with fields of beautiful corn standing, but those who planted them had fled.

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:

- February 2016 by January 15
- March 2016 by February 15

- April 2016 by March 15

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)

Copyright © 2015. All Rights Reserved.