



South Texas Researcher

January 2018

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	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Wednesday	9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Thursday	12:00 pm - 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



Using Census Records in Genealogy Research

Emphasis will be on the United States Federal census but we will also discuss agricultural, manufacturing and slaveschedules and other census alternatives.

Registration is preferred:
genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

Saturday, 6 January 3:00 p.m.



Central Library Auditorium

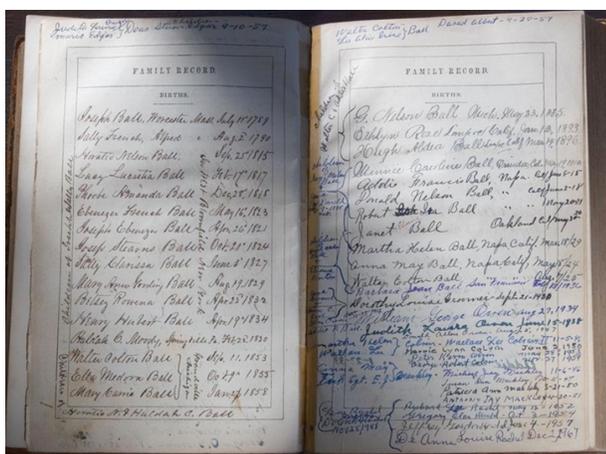
600 Soledad 78205

210.207.2500 (ask for Genealogy)

Searching for Family Bible Records Online

Family Bibles can be valuable sources of genealogical information. Even if you don't own one, you may find Bible records online, in published journals or in archives that contain information about your family. This class will show you where to target your search. Registration is required.

Tuesday, 9 January 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.



Central Library - Texana

600 Soledad 78205

210.207.2500 (ask for Genealogy)



New Publications

Comanche Ethnography: Field Note of E. Adamson Hoebel, Waldo R. Wedel, Gustav G. Carlson and Robert H. Lowie
GENEALOGY 970.1 COMANCHE

Independence County, Arkansas, Marriage Book E, December 1877 - September 1884
GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEPENDENCE

Johnson County, Arkansas 1890 Personal Property Tax Book

GENEALOGY 976.7 JOHNSON

Vital Records Abstracts From Randolph County, Arkansas Newspapers of 1928 Through 1932

GENEALOGY 976.7 RANDOLPH

Historical and Genealogical Abstracts from Randolph County, Arkansas Newspapers of 1919

GENEALOGY 976.7 RANDOLPH V. 13

Historical and Genealogical Abstracts from Randolph County, Arkansas Newspapers of 1920

GENEALOGY 976.7 RANDOLPH V. 14

Historical and Genealogical Abstracts from Randolph County, Arkansas Newspapers of 1921

GENEALOGY 976.7 RANDOLPH V. 15

Deaths, Marriages Harvey County, Kansas: 1892, 1893, 1894, 1901, 1902

GENEALOGY 978.1 HARVEY

Northern New Spain: A Research Guide

TEXANA 016.979 BARNES

El Camino Real de Los Tejas

TEXANA 976.4 GONZALES 2017

Seldom Heard: Ranchers, Ranchos and Rumors of the South Texas Brush Country

TEXANA 976.44 MALOUF

Pioneer Profiles

TEXANA 976.4351 EVERETT



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.

Date: January 6, 2018

Speaker: none

Topic: none

This month will be the installation of Officers (President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer) and Directors for the 2018 year. There will not be a speaker at this meeting. The membership is encouraged to attend to participate in this important meeting.

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



Canary Islands Descendants Association

The Canary Islands Descendants Association's monthly meetings are open to the public. Association membership is not required to attend. There is a guest speaker at each meeting that shares information about historical events, facts or other related information on Texas, San Antonio or the Canary Islands.

Event Details:

- Every third Saturday between January 20, 2018 and November 17, 2018
- 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
- Free

Venue:

- **San Antonio Central Library**
- 600 Soledad Street
- San Antonio, TX 78205
- 210-538-0905

EVENT PRESENTED BY:

- Canary Islands Descendants Association
- cida.satx@gmail.com
- <http://www.cida-sa.org>



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



Texas in the First World War
[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)
Opened April 6, 2017

A century since the U.S. formally entered World War I, the events that unfolded continue to have a profound impact on modern international affairs and society.



Brewing Up Texas
[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)
October 21, 2017 - October 28, 2018

From 1840 to the modern craft beer industry, follow the story of beer, brewers and breweries and how they left their mark on Texas culture.



[2TheXtreme: Math Alive!](#)

30 Sept. 2017 - 7 Jan. 2018

[Your Country Calls: Art to Win World War I](#)

23 Sept 2017 - 7 January 2018

[Maverick - A Texas Word That Became Legend](#)

Now through 7 January 2018

[Rashaad Newsome: KNOT](#)

8 August - 5 January 2018

[Chuck Ramirez: All This and Heaven Too](#)

14 Sept. 2017 - 14 Jan. 2018

[The Magic of Clay and Fire: Japanese Contemporary Ceramics](#)

14 Dec. 2016 - Spring 2018

[San Antonio 1718: Art from Viceregal Mexico A Tricentennial Exhibition](#)

February 17 - May 13, 2018



News

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?

How Many Backup Copies of Important Files Do You Need?

Here's the old data center 3-2-1 rule-of-thumb for backing up:

- 3 copies of anything you care about - Two isn't enough if it's important.
- 2 different formats - Example: Dropbox plus DVDs or Hard Drive plus Memory Stick or CD plus Crash Plan, or more
- 1 off-site backup - If the house burns down, how will you get your memories back?



Links

Free Online Genealogy Webinars

Legacy Family Tree Webinars

View here https://familytreewebinars.com/archived_webinars_free.php

New GIS mapping project is chronicling genealogical history through Waxahachie Cemetery

Technology is being used to document history at the Waxahachie City Cemetery. A mapping project will record biographical information of each person buried as well as the location of each grave. This information will then be put into an interactive map that residents can view through the city's website.

"People are familiar with websites like Find a Grave and Ancestry where they have genealogy information. Through those sites, you can look at different cemeteries and find your loved ones and get information about those loved ones. However it is not always completely accurate," Director of Parks and Recreation John Smith said. "We would like complete accurate records for the City of Waxahachie to be used by our citizens. So what we are doing is creating an interactive map of our cemetery through our Geographic Information Systems department in city hall."

Manjul Shrestha, a GIS technician, stated that the map would have a look similar to a Google map. It will be an aerial view that will show the terrain of the cemetery. The map will show the different sections and allow people to zoom in and out.

When people look at a closer view, they will see pins of different colors. Red pins note spaces that have been purchased or are occupied graves, green pins are for plots currently for sale, and the blue pins are for pending purchases.

"We started this in September when John shared this idea with me. He wants to map out the cemetery. He asked me if we have that capability in our GIS. I told him that we could do this because we have software in-house," Shrestha explained. "I started from there and looked at the old database. I used that data as a reference. There was a lot of missing information like date of birth or date of death."

Shrestha explained, to fill in the gaps with the data, an intern, Luke Smolka, was brought on board. Smolka's job is to go out into the cemetery and record the information directly from the headstone using a tablet computer. He documents the location using a portable GPS unit and takes a photo of the gravestone to be included on the map.

When the interactive map is up and running, people can search by name and date of birth or death.

When the results turn back up, it will feature several information points that will appear as pins on the map. By clicking on one of the pins a box will appear and will list all of the

information contained on the headstone. It will include military service if it is listed on the marker and will have a link where people can view a photo of the headstone. The location of the grave will be listed as well.

The project at this time is about 10 percent complete. Additional volunteers will be brought to bring the project to completion. When the map does go online, it will be updated monthly.

Smith said having this map will be a valuable resource for both residents.

"This is just for the benefit of our citizens so they can better search our cemetery. Genealogy is becoming a very popular hobby and a very popular thing for families to do," Smith explained. "It will help in that hobby and help our citizens better learn our cemetery because our cemetery is large and kind of confusing if you are not familiar with how it is laid out."

[Waxahachie Daily Light](#) - Dec. 11, 2017



From the Archives

UFO Sightings around the United States in 1896-97 Even in San Antonio!

AIRSHIP COMING

WILL BE IN TOWN NEXT TUESDAY NIGHT

**Passed Over Main Plaza Yesterday Morning
And Will Come Back Next Tuesday Night**

The famous air ship which has recently created so much talk all over the country, passed over San Antonio yesterday morning and will again visit us next Tuesday

Yesterday morning between one and two o'clock a waiter at the Southern hotel was going across Main Plaza when heard something heavy fall near by and turned to see if someone had not thrown a rock at him, but instead of finding a stone he discovered a small piece of iron with a tag and a letter attached thereto. He then looked up to see from whence it came and says he saw a large, cigar shaped object moving through the air almost over Wolfston's store, going north, but could distinguish no lights on the object as the airship is reported to carry.

The object which had fallen was a lock used for holding a rope to prevent it from slipping and bore evidence of having been removed from some freshly painted surface. white paint adhering to it in several places. To this, attached by a hempen cord, was an ordinary shipping tag, bearing the inscription "Just from the airship 'Sacramento.' "

A letter, enclosed in a small envelope, was also tied to the weight and addressed "To the public."

These the boy gave to another waiter named Pablo Remedios, who took them to Mr. Chas. A. R. Campbell, the druggist, where they were given to a Light reporter this morning.

The following is the letter contained in the envelope attached to the weight and which is self-explanatory and is given verbatim, even to some incorrect spelling:

"On board the Air Ship 'Sacramento,'"

April 27, 1897.

"As we have just landed and received our mail and papers we have noticed from articles in the papers that there is some doubt in the minds of the people as to the existence of an air ship sailing over the country; in order to convince the people of your city we will sail over San Antonio on May the 4th between 6:30 and 8 o'clock P.M. going in a westerly direction, entering the city near Government Hill and going west following the line of the S. P. Railroad as near as possible.

"If the people are on the lookout we will try to give as pretty a display as possible for our small ship. If the weather is not fine you need not look for the ship, as we always land in case of storms and on dark nights. We expect to have our ship ready for general use, in carrying passengers and freight by fall, until then we will be very secret in regard to our movements. We will make three copies of this and drop them in different parts of the city, as we pass over tonight in the hope that one may be found for publication.

"First Mate L. S."

The letter is written a clear, bold hand, in ink, on ordinary note paper and occupying the first and second pages.

It was either written by some practical joker and thrown from the roof of one of the tall buildings in the vicinity and the finder's imagination about seeing the object moving off was somewhat stretched, or is a genuine message from the navigators of this strange air craft.

The truth, however, will be known next Tuesday night, when the air ship will either put in its appearance and prove itself a reality or will not show up and prove the note to be a fake.

San Antonio Daily Light

30 April 1897

Page Five

THE AIR SHIP

Did Not Come Last Night - The One Seen Here Last Week

The air ship did not make its appearance in the city last night as promised in the message found last week on Main plaza, which was supposed to have dropped from that wonderful newspaper creation, and thus proves that there exists no such an invention in this part of the country anyway.

Notwithstanding this, there were hundreds of persons in the city who kept their eyes directed in the vicinity of the Sunset depot for several hours after dusk last night in the expectation of seeing the aerial wonder, but all were disappointed.

The origin of the story of the air ship being over our city several days ago is said to have been caused by a dummy constructed of small colored balloons and allowed to drift over the city from Laurel Heights.

It was arranged by a well-known citizen of that suburb and was composed of several small balloons such as street fakirs sell on the street corners, attached to which was a light pasteboard box, containing several small candles, which gave the appearance of colored lights when reflected on the balloon in mid-air.

The gentleman's name who sent up the affair can be given

San Antonio Daily Light

5 May 1897

Page Four

THE AIR SHIP

A Very Reliable Citizen of Medina County Vouches For It

Mr. Nato Villareal, of San Antonio, yesterday received the following letter from Mr. Ed Krause, a well known merchant of Medina Station, which Mr. Villarreal has given the light for publication:

Kind Sir and Friend:

After wishing you well, I will tell you that that much wrote of air ship paid our city a visit. I have been reading and hearing a great deal about the air motor, but have always believed it to be a fake, but now I am convinced that it is so, as last night it hovered over my place and finally came down just back of the Hermann gin. There are two men and a woman and child with the ship. The child is very sick, and one of the men (he says his name is Jones) came over to get some milk. I told him to go over to your ranch and your people treated him nicely. As it was very dark last night, and you know our street car has no headlight, it came pretty near striking Mr. Jones, as it was returning from the opera house. I was it would have struck Mr. Jones, as then I would have been in possession of his air ship. Well returning to the air ship, they also wished to have a doctor so I got Dr. Bywater. He gave them the necessary medicine. After we had the child O. K. I asked Mr. Jones over to the saloon and we had a few scoops of Lone Star beer. He bought a corkscrew and some bottle beer. So we walked back to where the air ship was. When they were ready to ascend, Katherine Garza came up (Mr. Arnold will tell you who Katherine is) and roped the air ship. The poor fellow hung to the rope a while, but soon had to leave all holds go and drop. The air ship is cigar shaped and from the way she sailed is surely a good success. When you come out again will tell you exactly where the ship landed and show you the print on the ground. Your friend,

ED. KRAUSE

P. S. Our street car is in fine shape. Send out some headlights as we don't want any damage suits to pay.

San Antonio Daily Light
6 May 1897
Page Seven

You can read more about the rash of airship sightings in 1896-97 [here](#).



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 2018 by January 15
- March 2018 by February 15
- April 2018 by March 15

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)