

South Texas Researcher

Inside This Issue

Introduction	1
News and Calendar	2
Civil War Records	9
Websites	11

Introduction

Note: the *South Texas Researcher* is also now available on the San Antonio Public Library's web site (www.sanantonio.gov/library/) under "News & Events" then "News & Newsletters." Backfiles will soon be added.

Please remember that the purpose of this newsletter is to keep librarians, historians, archivists, genealogists, archaeologists, 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.



I am 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 the address at the end of this newsletter.

Feel free to forward this communication to anyone who might be interested.

Thank you!

News and Calendar of Events

Texana/Genealogy Class Schedule San Antonio Public Library

All classes are on Saturdays from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

**Programs are free and held at the San Antonio Central Library,
600 Soledad, San Antonio, Texas, 78205.**

E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

**To register (so we have enough handouts) or for information please
call the Texana/Genealogy Department at (210) 207-2500 (ask for
Texana) or E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov**

Saturday, 21 March 2009; 2:00-3:30 p. m.

On March 21st, the staff of Texana/Genealogy will present an all-day series of classes on basic records groups useful to family historians and those interested in researching basic records of United States history.

Census Records, 9:30-10:45 a.m.

The U. S. census reports begin in 1790 and are available through 1930. See how they have changed over time, what information is included, and how to read and interpret them. Also, see what special schedules were taken (agricultural, mortality, military, etc.) and how they can further your research.

Vital Records, 11:00-12:15

Vital records are generally defined as birth, marriage, divorce, and death records. We will first learn how to locate these records, then how to read and interpret them. When unable to locate these official records, we will look at alternative sources, i.e. church records, cemetery readings, deeds, probate records, newspapers, and more.

County Records, 1:30-2:45

The primary thrust of this workshop will be on records one would expect to find in a county courthouse: deeds, wills and probate, tax records, naturalization, civil and criminal court records, and others. How these are indexed and how to understand them will be discussed.

Federal Records, 3:00-4:15

This class will give an overview of records created by the federal government. These include immigration and naturalization, military, federal land records, legislative materials.

Saturday, 4 April 2009; 2:00-3:30 p. m.

Organizing Your Research

City Archivist, Amanda DeFlorio, will be a special guest speaker. She will be presenting techniques to make your research more effective and easier to use.

Transcribers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help transcribe recorded oral histories. Please contact Frank Faulkner at frank.faulkner@sanantonio.gov for more information.

James & Doris Menke Collection Medina County Family Files

Files are organized alphabetically first by surname into a general file. Once three sheets were found for a particular family, they were moved into an individual family surname file. Sometimes several spellings of a surname are combined into one folder.

These files contain information pertinent to a particular surname such as births, marriages, obituaries, deeds, reunions, or general history which has been collected over the years. Most files contain clippings from the 1960s to the end of 2007. Some go back into the 1940s. There are also original documents, pamphlets, letters, and other items dating from the middle 1800s to the past few years.

A majority of the articles was taken from The Hondo Anvil Herald and list only the date. "NB" indicates the article was taken from The News Bulletin of Castroville. A few articles were taken from the San Antonio Light or the San Antonio Express-News and are so indicated.

James & Doris Menke
5 August 2008.

Texana/Genealogy Department Internet Classes

All classes are on Saturdays from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

**Programs are free and held at the San Antonio Central Library,
600 Soledad, San Antonio, Texas, 78205.**

E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

**To register (so we have enough handouts) or for information
please call the Texana/Genealogy Department at (210) 207-2500
(ask for Texana) or E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov**

Tuesday, 7 April; 2:00-3:30 p. m.

Footnote.com

The Footnote.com collections feature documents, most never before available before on the Internet, relating to the Revolutionary War, Civil War, WWI, WWII, US Presidents, historical newspapers, naturalization documents, and many more.

Tuesday, 5 May; 2:00-3:30 p. m.

HeritageQuest Online - HeritageQuest Online contains:

- **U.S. Federal Census records** from 1790 through 1930. (No index for 1830, 1840, 1850, nor 1880 census.)
- More than **25,000 fully searchable family and local history books**. Selected **Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application Files**, again fully searchable with high-quality scanned images of the original applications available online.
- Signatures of and personal identification data about depositors in 29 branch offices of the **Freedman's Savings and Trust Company**, 1865-74.
- **PERSI** (the PERiodical Source Index - a comprehensive subject index covering more than 6,500 genealogy and local history periodicals written in English and French since 1800).

Odell Miller, President of *Palatines to America* has released the following news:

The Palatine to America Library has been closed. Our collection is being relocated to the Columbus Metropolitan Library in Columbus, Ohio. It is anticipated the Palatine Collection will be available for use sometime in the first quarter of 2009.

Los Bexareños Genealogy 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.

Meeting Date: March 7, 2009

Speaker: Robert Garcia

Topic: Trinidad Coy, Alamo Defender

The March presentation will be on Trinidad de los Santos Coy, a former soldier at the Presidio de San Antonio and a spy for the Alamo during the Battle of the Alamo in 1836. The presentation demonstrates the importance of family legends and how they can eventually be accepted by the historians.

“Late on February 22, 1836, the day before Santa Anna’s entry into San Antonio, Trinidad was on the lookout for General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna and his army near the Medina River when he was captured by the troops of General Joaquin Ramirez y Sesma.” (From a manuscript submitted to The Handbook of Texas by Robert Thonhoff).

For the past 17 years, Mr. Garcia has been an active member of Los Bexarenos Genealogical Society and has served at various times as Director and Treasurer for the organization, and twice as President. Mr. Garcia was the Chairman of the 2003 State Hispanic Genealogical Conference that was held here in San Antonio and was attended by over 300 genealogists, many of them from across the country and from Mexico.

Mr. Garcia is the author of several books including, *Tejano Participants in the Texas Revolution of 1835-1837*; *The Coy Family, Ancestors and Descendants of Jose Segundo de los Santos Coy, a Presidial soldier who married Maria Luisa Teresa de Rosas*; *Descendants of the Alferaz, Francisco Hernandez, Soldier of the Presidio de Tejas de Bexar 1718*; and *Ancestors and Descendants of Francisco Xavier Chavez, Indian Interpreter and Scout at the Presidio de Bexar 1785*.

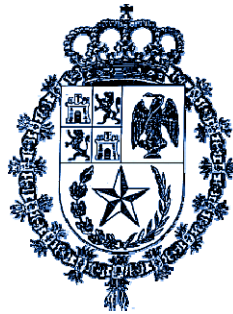
Help for the beginning genealogist.

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. Currently we are offering assistance by appointment only and on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month between the hours of 10:00am and 2:00pm at the following location:

The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society
911 Melissa Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213

Contact one of the following individuals by email or phone to schedule an appointment:
Dennis Moreno 210-647-5607 dennis.moreno@sbcglobal.net
Yolanda Patino 210-434-3530 patinogil@sbcglobal.net

Los Bexareños Genealogical Society of San Antonio presents:



Nuestros Antepasados

A Hispanic Genealogical Seminar with Professors George and Peggy Ryskamp.

Date / Time: Saturday, March 28, 2009 from 9 am through 3 pm.

**Location: Crown Plaza Hotel, along the San Antonio River,
111 East Pecan Street, San Antonio, Texas 78205**

Schedule of Events: Please circle your preference(s)

9-12 am — Executive Salon 4: World renowned George Ryskamp presents a seminar for the advanced genealogist. Author of numerous books on Hispanic Ancestry, such as, Finding Your Hispanic Roots, A Student's Guide to Mexican American Genealogy, and Tracing Your Hispanic Heritage, Mr. Ryskamp will share his vast research expertise with seminar participants.

9-12 am — Executive Salon 5: Peggy Ryskamp will present a seminar for the novice genealogists. This seminar will introduce the fundamentals of genealogy and guide the student to go beyond their immediate family and provide aids to find their family roots.

12-1 pm — Lunch is included in the price of the seminar and will be served in the San Antonio Ballroom.

1-3 pm — Town hall meeting with both presenters and all participants will follow lunch in the San Antonio Ballroom.

Admission: \$50.00 per person.

Please mail this form and your checks to :
(before March 21, 2009, please)

**Los Bexareños
Attn.: Seminar
P.O. Box 1935
San Antonio, Texas 78297**

**Out of Town visitors can reserve rooms at \$129.00 per night with code "LBJ."
Phone 210-354-2800 fax 210-362-6444
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/LBJ>**

For information call Santiago Escobedo @ (210) 260-2253
Los Bexareños publications will be on sale, cash or checks only. Thank you.

Witte Museum

**3801 Broadway
San Antonio, Texas 78209**

(210) 357-1900

Genome: The Secret of How Life Works
7 February through 25 May 2009

*Wild Wild West:
True Stories and the Arena*
20 December through 23 August 2009

Breathing Places: History of San Antonio Parks
31 January through August 2009

McNay Art Museum

**6000 North New Braunfels
San Antonio, Texas 78209**

(210) 824-5368

*American Concepts and Global Visions/Selections from the AT&T Collection:
Contemporary Paintings, Sculpture and Masterworks of Photography*

11 February through 17 May 2009

San Antonio Museum of Art

**200 West Jones Ave
San Antonio, TX 78215
(210) 978-8100**

*Imagenes de Mexico:
Select Photographs from the Permanent Collection*

27 February 2008 – August 2009

Marcia Gygli King: Botanical Paintings

29 January 2009- 12 April 2009

The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society will hold its March Meeting at 10 am on Saturday, March 21st at the LDS Church in Windcrest, corner of Midcrown and Crestway. Meetings are free and open to everyone with an interest in genealogy and history. Speaker to be announced

SAGHS has 2 new publications available; (a full list may be seen on the society web site)

Cemeteries of Bexar County, Texas, Volume 6

Abstractions from the gravestones of the International Order of Odd Fellows Cemetery (augmented with interment records), Voges Cemetery, Vogel Cemetery, Barney Williams Cemetery, Espada Cemetery, St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery, Old German Lutheran Cemetery (augmented by interment records), Panteon de Guadalupe (augmented by interment records, obituaries and Texas death records), San Pedro Cemetery, and Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament Convent Cemetery. Full name index. Women are indexed by both maiden names and married names, if known. Soft cover. **\$20**

San Antonio, Texas, Sexton Burial Records 1879-1891

Provides the names, burial date, age, birth place, marital status, race, and gender of the 4,162 persons buried by the San Antonio city sexton between 1879 and 1891. Most, but not all, of the records also provide the grave locations. Those buried are listed in alphabetical order. **\$18**

Shipping cost is \$4.00 for the first book and \$2.00 for each additional book. Books may be picked up at SAGHS Library, 911 Melissa Drive

For more information, call 210/342-5242, email saghs@sbcglobal.net or visit www.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2.

Civil War and Reconstruction Collections

The following items related to the periods of the Civil War and reconstruction are available in the Texana/Genealogy Department of the San Antonio Public Library. These items are on microfilm or microfiche. Many other items are in book format, such as the "Official Records," many unit histories, and a number of magazines and journals.

Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans,
ca. 1879 - ca. 1903 (M1845)

Case files of Applications from Former Confederates for Presidential Pardons
("Amnesty Papers"), 1865-1867 (M1003)

Civil War direct tax assessment lists: Tennessee (T227)

Civil War Muster Rolls, Pennsylvania, 47th Regiment

Civil War Unit Histories (University Publications of America) (fiche)

(entire collection of over 2,000 personal and unit histories and other narratives and documents written by Union and Confederate soldiers between 1861 and 1920)

Compiled service records of Confederate soldiers who served in organizations from the
State of Texas (M323)

Compiled service records of volunteer Union soldiers who served in organizations from
the State of Texas (M402)

Correspondence of the Office of Civil Affairs in the Department of Texas, 1867-1870
(M1188)

Descriptive Recruitment Lists of Volunteers for the U. S. Colored Troops of the State of
Missouri, 1863-1865 (M1894)

General Orders and Circulars of the Confederate War Department (M901)

Historical information relating to Military Posts, ca. 1700-1900 (M661)

Index to Quartermaster Claims, 1839-1894 (M1999)

Index to compiled service records of Confederate soldiers who served in organizations
from the State of Texas (M227)

Indexes to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in
Organizations Not Raised by States or Territories, 1780s to 1917 (M1290)

Internal Revenue Assessment List, Texas, 1865-1866 (M791)

Journals of the Congress of the Confederate States of America (fiche)

Letters sent by the Department of Texas and the Fifth Military District, 1856-1858,
1865-1870 (M1165)

Lost Cause Press Microfiche on Slavery

(195 contemporary speeches, documents, publications, etc.)

Mathew B. Brady collection of Civil War photographs (T252)

Muster rolls and lists of Confederate troops paroled in North Carolina (M1781)

The Negro in the military service of the United States, 1639-1886 (M858)

Civil War and Reconstruction Collections

Records of Ante-Bellum Southern Plantations, from the Revolution through the Civil War (University Publications of America):

Series A, Part 2: South Carolina

Series B: South Carolina

Series C, Part 1: Virginia

Series C, Part 2: Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina

Series E, Part 2: Virginia

Series E, Part 3: Virginia

Series F, Part 1: Deep South

Series G, Part 1: Texas and Louisiana

Series G, Part 2: William Massey (VA)

Series I, Part 3: Natchez Area

Series J, Part 5: Louisiana

Series J, Part 7: Alabama

Series J, Part 14: Western North Carolina

Records of the Adjutant General's Office re: Affairs on the Rio Grande and Texas frontier, 1875-1881 (T32)

Records of the Assistant Commissioner for the State of Texas, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned lands, 1865-1869 (M821)

Records of the Military Post at San Antonio, Texas, 1866-1911 (T789)

Records of the Superintendent of Education for the State of Texas, Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned lands, 1865-1870 (M822)

Records relating to Confederate Naval and Marine personnel (M260)

Register of Confederate Soldiers, Sailors, and citizens who died in Federal prisons and military hospitals in the North, 1861-1865 (M918)

Register of Enlistments in the United States Army, 1798-1914 (M233)

Schedules enumerating Union veterans and widows of Union veterans of the Civil War, 1890 (M123) (all available states and indices)

Southern Claims Commission Approved Claims, 1871-1880: West Virginia (M1762)

Texas Confederate Military Service Records compiled from muster rolls

Texas Confederate Pensions; Approved Applications, Nos. 1-27,625

Texas County Tax Records (all available counties to 1910) (Bexar County to 1939)

Texas. Executive Department. *Journals*. (March 1836-Sept. 1869)

Texas. Senate. *Journals*. (3 Oct. 1836-4 May 1874)

Texas. House of Representatives. *Journals*. (3 Oct. 1836-4 May 1874)

Texas. Supreme Court. *Texas Reports*. (1840-1886)

Voter Registration Lists, 1867-1869 (all available for State of Texas)

Web Sites of Interest

Oakwood Cemetery Database – Austin, TX

<http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/library/ahc/oakwood.htm>

This database contains a searchable listing of burials in Austin's oldest cemetery, Oakwood, located at 1601 Navasota St. The names included in this database were extracted from centuries old ledgers preserved in the archives at the Austin History Center, Austin Public Library. The data reflects the verbatim transcription of these records dating from 1866 through 1913 with additional years being added periodically.

The Second Flying Company of Alamo de Parras

<http://www.tamu.edu/ccbn/dewitt/adp/toc.html>

This site is dedicated to the discovery, study and preservation of Alamo History. It features the early Spanish/Mexican military history, a much-neglected area. There is a significant section on Alamo archaeology and the Alamo siege of 1836. The Alamo de Parras website features contributions by some of the best Alamo historians, archaeologists and writers in this field. This content and illustration rich site is a must for the casual and serious students of Texas History.

Texas County Vital Records

<http://ftp.rootsweb.ancestry.com/pub/usgenweb/tx/>

Many of these counties have birth, death and marriage records. Many, such as Bexar County, have a variety of other information such as bible, cemetery, land and military records.

Published by: Texana/Genealogy Department
San Antonio Public Library
600 Soledad
San Antonio, Texas 78205 210-207-2500
e-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

Please submit information and articles to the above e-mail.
For the April 2009 issue by 15 March
May 2009 issue by 15 April
June 2009 issue by 15 May