



South Texas Researcher

September 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

Events & Classes



Exploring Heritage Quest

The HeritageQuest database was expanded in 2015 and is again available to use from home! Join the Texana/Genealogy staff to learn how to utilize the new interface and useful features of this powerful database.

Tuesday, 6 Sept. 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

Central Library

600 Soledad Street

Call 210.207.2500 for more information.



Hispanic Genealogy

Join us as we investigate the Hispanic branch of your family tree. Learn the basic research principles and techniques for conducting Hispanic genealogical research. Find out what books, databases and resources are out there to help you uncover your family history. Registration is required.

Tuesday, 20 Sept. 2016 at 2:00 p.m.

John Igo Branch Library

13330 Kyle Seale Parkway

Call 210-207-9080 for more information



New Publications



Field Guide for Genealogy
GENEALOGY 929.1072 JACOBSON

Alonso De Leon

GENEALOGY 929.2 LEON

Choctaw by Blood Enrollment Cards, 1898-1914
GENEALOGY 970.1 BOWEN V.1

Galvez: Spain - Our Forgotten Ally in the American Revolutionary War: A Concise Summary
of Spain's Assistance
GENEALOGY 973.326 BUTLER

Township Tidings from Potter County, Pennsylvania: News From All of the Valleys, Creeks
and Hollows in the County
GENEALOGY 974.1 POTTER V.1

Bedford County, Pennsylvania 1779 Tax List and 1784 Census
GENEALOGY 974.8 BEDFORD

State of Accounts of the County Lieutenants During the War of the Revolution, 1777-1789
GENEALOGY 974.8 STATE

Early Families of Frederick County, Maryland and Adams County, Pennsylvania
GENEALOGY 975.2 FREDERICK

History of Washington County, Maryland: From the Earliest Settlements to the Present
Time, Including a History of Hagerstown
GENEALOGY 975.2 WASHINGTON V. I and V. II

John Hanson of Mulberry Grove
GENEALOGY 975.2092 HANSON

Shenandoah County, Virginia: A Study of the 1860 Census, Vols. 9-11
GENEALOGY 975.5 SHENANDOAH

Mississippi Marriage Records Thru 1900, Vols. 10-12
GENEALOGY 976.2 WILTSHIRE

Burials in Oakland Cemetery, Shreveport, Louisiana
GENEALOGY 976.3 CADDO

Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, 1830, 1840 & 1850 Censuses with 1850 Mortality Schedule and
Slave Holders
GENEALOGY 976.3 CLAIBORNE

Claiborne Parish, Louisiana, 1860 Censuses with 1860 Mortality Schedule and Slave
Holders
GENEALOGY 976.3 CLAIBORNE

Claiborne Parish, Louisiana Deed Book Abstracts, 1850-1853
GENEALOGY 976.3 CLAIBORNE

African American Inhabitants of Rapides Parish, Louisiana, 1 June - 4 September 1870
GENEALOGY 976.3 DILL

Index to Arkansas' World War I Soldiers
GENEALOGY 976.7 AUEN V. 1-6

Hempstead County, Arkansas, Early Marriages: prior to 1875
GENEALOGY 976.7 HEMPSTEAD

Court of Common Pleas and Circuit Court, Hempstead County, Arkansas Territory, 1819-1822

GENEALOGY 976.7 HEMPSTEAD

Marriages, Hempstead County, Arkansas, January 1, 1900 Through December 31, 1912

GENEALOGY 976.7 HEMPSTEAD

Index to the Arkansas Gazette, January - June 1901

GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX V. 7 PT. 1

Index to the Arkansas Gazette, July - December 1901

GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX V. 7 PT. 2

Index to the Arkansas Gazette, January - June 1902

GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX V. 8 PT. 1

Index to the Arkansas Gazette, July - December 1902

GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX V. 8 PT. 2

Arkansas Newspaper Index, 1819-1845

GENEALOGY 976.7 MORGAN

Fayetteville, Arkansas National Cemetery

GENEALOGY 976.7 WASHINGTON

La Porte County, Indiana Early Probate Records, 1833-1850

GENEALOGY 977.2 LA PORTE

Caldwell, Kansas (Sumner County) City Cemetery

GENEALOGY 978.1 SUMNER

Texas Confederate Pensions, P-Z

TEXANA 929.3764 WYLLIE

Los Mexico-Americanos en La Gran Guerra

TEXANA 940.41273 SAENZ

Handbook of Middle American Indians

TEXANA 970.42 HANDBOOK

V. 12 PT. 1

V. 13 PT. 2

Mount Vernon City Cemetery

TEXANA 976.4213 MOUNT

Franklin County Marriages, 1960-2003

TEXANA 976.4213 SKELLY

Marriage of Franklin County, Texas, 1875-1959

TEXANA 976.4213 SKELLY

Obituaries and Death Notices from Franklin County Newspapers

1907-1925 (V. 1)

1926-1936 (V. 2)

TEXANA 976.4213 SKELLY V.1 & V.2

History of Hopkins County, Texas
TEXANA 976.4274 ORREN

"El Cojo" (The Lame One): The Story of South Texas Cattleman and Banker, Charles Waugh Hellen, Sr.
TEXANA 976.4482 HELLEN

History, Heritage and Honor: 100 Years of Jim Hogg County
TEXANA 976.4482 HISTORY

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: Sept. 3, 2016

Speaker: Four Lead Researchers (see below)

Topic: Sharing Family History

These are small groups who will be sharing information on family surnames. Each group will be facilitated by a person who will share and discuss information with the group. Some of the facilitators will bring their own family trees, information or books related to their subject area. This will be a very informal sharing of family history.

- * Juan Rodriguez Granado and Robiana de Bethencourt facilitated by Jose Hernandez
- * De La Zerda, Arciniega, Saucedo, Salvador Rodriguez, Curbelo, Gortari and the San Antonio River Valley Area facilitated by Doris Fischer and Edward Aranda.
- * Hernandez, Torres and Cantú facilitated by Mary Esther Escobedo
- * Casanova and Seguí facilitated by Eleanor Foreman

Doris Fischer is a lifelong resident of San Antonio and was born in Floresville, Texas. She has been married to Charles Fischer for 44 years and has 2 children and 1 grandchild. She is a charter member of Los Bexareños serving as President, Vice-President and treasurer. A Canary Island Descendant holding office of Vice President in the organization. She is a former member of the Bexar County Historical Commission and author of Greytown Marriages with Larry Kirkpatrick. A habitual genealogist for many years, she is currently working as a paralegal.

Edward Aranda is a long time member of Los Bexareños and assists with the Society's Face book. He has done extensive research on the Arciniega family

Eleanor Foreman is a charter member and present president of Los Bexareños for which she has served two terms. She has also served as a member of the Board of Directors of Los Bexareños. As a member of the Canary Islanders she

helped with the re-organization of the group and served as a two term president. Among the many families she is researching are Casanova and Seguí. Besides doing research, she loves to spend time with her two sons and three grandchildren.

Jose Hernandez is a long time member of Los Bexareños. He also serves as Sergeant-at-Arms for the Society and assists with Publications.

Mary Esther Escobedo has had an interest in genealogy since she was 13 years old. Her first resources were her relatives. She also did some research in Mier and Noriega and Monterrey, Mexico in 1979 when she graduated from Law School. A research trip to Salt Lake City added to her family research. She says that she learned about the types of research available after she joined Los Bexareños. Mary Esther has served as President of Los Bexareños and has also worked on several committees. She continues researching her paternal grandfather's Hernandez family as well as her maternal grandfather's Torres family and her maternal grandmother's Cantú family.

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



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



Nuestra Historia

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

4 May - 4 September 2016

Featuring documents from the General Archive of the Indies in Seville, Spain, which was the launching point of Spain's exploration and expansion of the northern frontier of their new territory. Presented in partnership with Bexar County, at the Bexar County Presidio Gallery.



Texans One and All

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

Texans One and All examines the stories and customs of more than 20 of the original cultural groups who settled in Texas. It is the people that make Texas the great state that it is. Guests will:



- Learn Wendish wedding customs
- Read the story of the Lebanese pack peddler
- Learn to write Chinese numbers
- Hear the stories of Japanese American intern camp detainees
- See the Czech polka
- Hear the blowing of the Jewish shofar
- Read the stories of black Texans including baseball player Frank Robinson and Pearl Harbor hero Doris Miller
- See how early Swedish Texans lived
- Walk through today's Tejano story
- Learn what Danish Texan sculpted Mount Rushmore

And much more! The exhibit will change as the museum updates content and specific areas of the exhibit floor.





theMcNay


San Antonio Museum of Art

Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed

opens May 2016

National Geographic Earth Explorers

24 Sept. 2016 - 22 Jan. 2017

Sheperd Fairey at the McNay

27 April - 11 September 2016

Coney Island: Visions of an American Dreamland: 1861-2008

11 May - 11 September 2016

Parlour Games: Ruloff Kip's Toy Theatre

6 July 2016 - 6 Feb. 2017

Jennifer Steinkamp: Botanic 3

30 Aug. 2016 - 8 January 2017

Highest Heaven: Spanish and Portuguese Colonial Art from the collection of Roberta and Richard Huber

11 June - 4 September 2016

Heaven and Hell: Salvation and Retribution in Pure Land Buddhism

10 June - 3 Sept. 2016

Carlos Merida: Selections from the Permanent Collection

8 July 2016 - 29 Jan. 2017

Registration Form



CONNECTING WITH OUR ANCESTORS

15th Annual Family History Seminar

Saturday September 10, 2016

Registration begins at 8:00 am

20 Classes offered - *All Classes Free*

Classes from 9:15 am to 3:45 pm

**Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter Day Saints**

**San Antonio East Stake
Family History Center
8801 Midcrown Drive
Windcrest, TX 78239**

Session Title

8:00 - 8:30	#	Registration
Session 1 9:15-10:30	1	Become a Master Searcher on Ancestry. VIDEO
	2	Begin Your Research, Where to Start
	3	Using Tax Records in Researching Your Family
	4	Finding Elusive Records-FamilySearch.com VIDEO
	5	Useful Websites for Online Research
Session 2 10:45-12:00	6	Proven Methodology - Google for Genealogy VIDEO
	7	Pitfalls of US Federal Census Records
	8	Genealogical Resources of the Texas Land Offices
	9	A Digital Treasure: PERSI and your Family History VIDEO
	10	African American Research Tips
Session 3 1:00-2:15	11	What's New in Family Tree for 2016 VIDEO
	12	Find a Grave
	13	Native American Research
	14	My Ancestors Are From Britain – What next? VIDEO
	15	After Census Records, Now What?
Session 4 2:30 - 3:45	16	General Q&A Session for Research Issues
	17	Introduction to Military Records
	18	DNA Connections
	19	Seven Unique Technologies for Genealogical Discoveries VIDEO
	20	How to Prepare an Application for DAR membership

Instructors

Diana Cox	Beginning your Research
Nancy Brennan	Pitfalls of Federal Census
Sherry Grabill	Find a Grave
Frank Faulkner	Military Records
Cynthia Kennedy	Tax Records
Patrick Walsh	Tx Land Office Resources
Nancy McLarry	Native American Research
Kurt Neeland	DNA Connection
Jim Keeth	Useful Websites
Dottie Diggs	African American Research
Jim Keeth	After the Census, Now What
Cindy Watson	Application for DAR
Sherry Grabill, Jim Keeth, Diana Cox – Q&A	

Thank you for not smoking on the Church campus!

Registration Form

Pre ordered Box Lunch available. Turkey or Ham sandwich with chips, cookie and drink \$8 Check or Cash only - make checks payable to: **San Antonio East Stake.** *We cannot accept Credit Cards. Lunch tickets for pre-ordered lunches will be provided via email.*

Please complete the info below:

Course Selection: Select one class per session listed at the left and write the number in the corresponding box. Circle your lunch and drink preference.

Name	
Phone	
email	

Session 1	Session 2	Lunch	Session 3	Session 4
		12 - 1		

HAM		TURKEY	
Coke	Dr. Pepper	Sprite	Water
Diet Coke	<i>Diet Dr. Pepper</i>	<i>Diet Sprite</i>	<i>Root Beer</i>

Mail your Registration Form & check to:
Sherry Grabill
5043 Merlin Drive
San Antonio, TX 78218
sggrabill@awards-mart.com

News



Records of Methodist Episcopal Church Congregations in Louisiana and East Texas during the late 19th and early 20th Centuries are now online

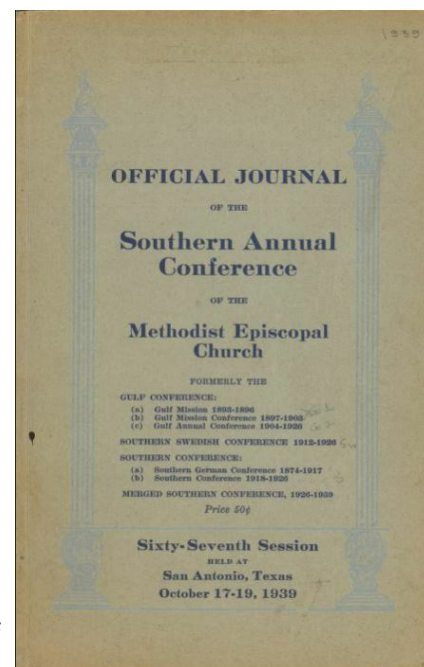
The Centenary College of Louisiana Archives and Special Collections recently completed a collaborative digitization project with Perkins School of Theology's Bridwell Library at Southern Methodist University. As a result, researchers now have online access to publications documenting Methodist Episcopal Church congregations along Louisiana's Gulf Coast and in East Texas during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

"This project successfully fills gaps in the collections of each archives and makes the volumes more accessible to the public," says Chris Brown, Centenary archivist. Each archives handled scanning while Centenary staff and student workers edited the nearly 3,400 scans to create electronic reproductions of the forty-seven volumes.

Timothy Binkley, Bridwell Library Archivist, notes that, "Annual Conference journals are important sources of information about the careers of Methodist clergy, the establishment of circuits and charges, changes in district and conference boundaries, and the actions of conference board and ministries. Due to age and physical use, the Gulf Conference journals have become brittle, and replacement copies are difficult to find. Digitizing the journals and posting them online will help us preserve the information while making it available to more people."

The Gulf Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church formed in 1893 and merged with the Southern Conference in 1923. As explained by Methodist historian Dr. O. E. Kriege in 1939, "The Gulf Conference was erected to take care of several English speaking congregations which sprang up among settlers from northern states (mainly Iowa) in the western part of Louisiana and in Texas." Today, this lineage can be traced to current congregations such as Jennings United Methodist Church in Louisiana and Shelbyville United Methodist Church in Texas.

To access this digital collection, visit <http://www.centenary.edu/library/archives/methodist/digitalcollections>.



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?



From the Archives

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

A FINE VIEW

So numerous and bold are the robbers, that every one goes armed, even in the walks and rides upon the outskirts of the city; So buckeling [*sic*] on my revolver, I climbed to the top of the high hill which rises upon the western edge of the city, and upon which stands a church called "La Señora de los Remedios." It commands an unrivaled view of the city and wide valley. The sun was far on the downward slant, and the shadow of the mountain fell half across the city that lay below, its flat roofs and upward shooting church spires, half in sun-shine half in shade, typical of the moral and intellectual condition of its inhabitant. A little stream, bridged at a hundred points cuts off "Analco" the original city, from the main city; in this stream Mexican girls are bathing and standing on the banks, their long beautiful hair falling to their feet. Beyond the city, stretches out on all sides a level plain bounded by mountains; this plain seems one unbroken cornfield, with lakelets here and there, and haciendas.

The church before mentioned, is much out of repair, a conquering Liberal chieftain at one time made his headquarters in the church, lording it over the surrounding country, his vandalism has never been repaired; - it is visited but once a year, on the 8th of January, I believe, when peculiar rites are performed.

THE MERCERIA

Or "Iron Mountain" is a natural wonder, about one and half miles north of the city; in company with one of the party I paid it a visit. In appearance, the mountain is darker than its immediate neighbors; upon reaching the base we found a heap of ore ready to be hauled away to the foundry, which is situated just across the city about six miles distant; this ore produces 80 percent iron; the boulders, merely, are rolled down and broken up.

It is no exaggeration to say this is a mountain of iron. I sat awhile upon its glittering pinnacles of solid iron, and gazed upon the plain below me and the city beyond - strange it is that Mexican scenery is so bewitching when viewed from an eminence; in the valley you see nothing attractive, from the mountain all looks enchanting - even the *peon* driving his lazy donkey along the dusty road, seems a picture worthy of a canvas. And while thus perched upon my iron castle, I mused upon the riches that lay around and under me, unguarded by miser hands, and of the thousands of poor in the city beyond, who daily, heedlessly caught sight of the pyramid of iron. Here is iron to rib Mexico with railroads, to connect her in closer union with the rest of the continent, and thereby educate and civilize her people; here is iron to build the machinery to work out the untold mineral wealth which lies buried in the bosom of its mountain, and thereby enrich its people. In Durango, as in all Mexican cities, one day of the week is set aside as a beggar's day, when the streets swarm with *lazeroni*; and the sight is shocked with

sickening deformities, disease and misfortune; and on every hand you will hear the sad wail of distress; count this mountain be worked up, there would be no more dismal beggar days.

This mountain is several hundred feet, and several miles in circumference; grass and flowers grow profusely in the fissures of the iron rocks, and herds of goats and cattle grazes over the rugged heights. On the crowning pinnacles, stands a cross.

THE ALACRAN

Durango is cursed with the "alacran" or little stinging scorpion; here they are peculiarly poisonous, their sting causing almost instant death to children, and throwing grown persons into fits, from which they do not recover for weeks. They exist in immense numbers, living in every crevice of the house from ceiling to floor, making in dangerous to lean against a door or window; they are said however to be less numerous then formerly, once threatening to depopulate the city. "Alacran" catching was at one time quite a business and is carried on now to some extent, and the catchers are very expert; at night they go along the streets with torches, which they hold near the floor chinks and walls, when the little "alacran" attracted by the light, runs out, and is dexterously swept to the pavement, killed and placed in a bottle. The authorities pay so much per hundred for them, and those who follow the business make a good living; besides they are employed to search private residences. The "alacran" can also be considered an "institution" of the city; in the Cathedral and image of "St. George and the Dragon," and a shrine devoted to his saintship, who is claimed as the protecting saint against the "alacran."

The "alacran" excepted, Durango is very pleasant; the climate is delightful and healthy, and the people fairer and finer looking than in any part of Mexico I have yet seen.

Editor's Note: *We realize that some of the language used by Mr. Newcomb in 1863 may be offensive and/or derogatory. This document is provided for historical purposes only and the opinions therein are solely those of the late James P. Newcomb and do not reflect the opinions or of beliefs held by the San Antonio Public Library or its Texana/Genealogy Department. Also, all the unorthodox spellings were left as-written by Mr. Newcomb.*

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:

- October 2016 by September 15
- November 2016 by October 15
- December 2016 by November 15

VISIT OUR WEBSITE