

South Texas Researcher

April 2014

Welcome to the new South Texas Researcher.

Note: the South Texas Researcher is also now available at <http://www.mysapl.org/texana.aspx> on the San Antonio Public Library's web site. Back files will soon be added.

This newsletter is produced to keep librarians, historians, archivists, genealogists, archæologists, 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.

We are 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 us at genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov.

Please share this newsletter with others.



Texana/Genealogy Classes

The following classes are held at the Central Library Auditorium.
600 Soledad Street

One hour free parking is available with a validated ticket.
E-mail: genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov

Traditional Classes in Texana Room

Tuesday, April 8, 2014
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

An Introduction to Military Records

Learn the basic research techniques and strategies for researching military records.

Tuesday, May 13, 2014
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

19th Century Photographs: Identification and Conservation

On Tuesday, 13 May, David Haynes local photography historian, will speak in the auditorium of the Central Library, 600 Soledad. The hour-long presentation will be in three parts: (1) a short look at 19th century South Texas photography, (2) a general description of 19th century photographic processes, and (3) a few pointers on the care and feeding of small private collections. A general discussion of problem images that participants would like to bring will follow the formal presentation.

Computer Classes at Central:

Tuesday, May 6, 2014
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Hunting Down Your House History

Interested in the history of your home? When was it built? Who designed it? Who lived there before you? Join us and learn about the research sources and techniques available for answering these questions and more.

This class will be in the new Connect Training area on the first floor.

Igo Library

13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy.
210-207-9080

For information about classes at Igo Library contact:
Michelle Ricondo at Michelle.Ricondo@sanantonio.gov

Tuesday, April 15, 2014
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Using Family Bible Records

Many families traditionally recorded genealogies in their family Bible. These are a good source of information about immediate family members and relatives, including names of parents, children, their spouses, and their dates of birth, marriage, and death. For some families, Bible records may have the only recorded vital statistics information. Family Bibles that are no longer in possession of the family may be at a historical or genealogical society or found online.

News and Calendar of Events



SOUTHWEST VAQUEROS

Southwest Vaqueros is a Corral Chapter of Westerners International.

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.

For the present we meet at 6:30 PM at Papa Dante's on the third Tuesday of every other month since March and May. No dues are due for now, so the only cost is transportation and your wonderful meal. Tolerance of the elderly is appreciated at this time until we can chase up some younger mavericks... If you don't have a computer, call our irksome Sheriff (president) and Scribe (Secretary) at 210-418-4087 and it is reported that he checks his voicemail. His e-mail address is jltolleson@sbcglobal.net.



Los Bexareños Genealogical and Historical 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.

For the April Meeting:

Note***Note***Note

For the April Meeting Only - Change of Meeting Location
Meeting will be at the Mission Branch Library at
3134 Roosevelt Ave, San Antonio, Texas
10:00 am - 12:30 pm (Library opens at 10:00 am)

Date: April 5, 2014

Speaker: Doug Baum

Topic: Texas Camel Corps

Since 1995, the Texas Camel Corps has been educating on the unique part camels played in opening up America's West. Owner Doug Baum had stumbled across this little-known piece of history while a zookeeper doing research on the animals in his care. Though these beasts of burden have served man for almost 4,000 years, Baum realized there was a lack of awareness of camels and desert ecology as well as the historic US Camel Corps of the 19th century. Thus was born the education arm of the Texas Camel Corps.

Help for the beginning genealogist

In November, 2009, the Society rented a building on the campus of Holy Rosary Parish to house our Library. The Parish is located at 159 Camino Santa Maria just north of Culebra Rd. The Library is manned by volunteers on Saturdays, except the 1st Saturday of the month. The hours are 10:00am to 2:00pm. There is no charge to use the Library and one need not be a member of the Society.

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

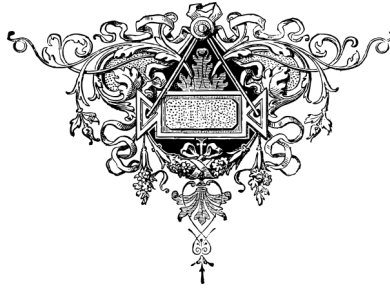
210-647-5607

dennis.moreno@sbcglobal.net

Yolanda Patino

210-434-3530

patinogil@sbcglobal.net



Museum News

Witte Museum

3801 Broadway
San Antonio, Texas 78209
(210) 357-1900

The World Through Magic Lanterns
June 29, 2013 - June 30, 2014

Alien Worlds and Androids
February 22 - May 27, 2014

McNay Art Museum

6000 North New Braunfels
San Antonio, Texas 78209
(210) 824-5368

Robert Indiana: Beyond LOVE
February 25 - May 25, 2014

Robert Indiana: The Mother of Us All
February 5, - May 25, 2014

Robert Indiana: The Hartley Elegies
February 5, - May 25, 2014

-
San Antonio Museum of Art
200 West Jones Ave.

San Antonio, Texas 78215
(210) 978-8100

Andy Warhol: The Athletes
January 31 - April 27, 2014

Fray Antonio Margil de Jesús: "Patron Saint of Texas"
October 12, 2013 - March 23, 2014

TX★13: Spotlight on Texas Artists
in the Contemporary Collection
September 5, 2013 - November 9, 2014

Library Guides from Texana/Genealogy

The Texana/Genealogy department now has a presence on the San Antonio Public Library's website, www.mysapl.org. Go to the website, click on "Services," and scroll down to Texana/Genealogy. There you will find our blog, back issues of the South Texas Researcher (directly at www.mysapl.org/texana.aspx), our upcoming classes, and some of our "guides."

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
- La Meri
- World War I
- Hispanic Genealogical Research
- Jewish Genealogy
- King James Bible
- Local History
- Special Collections
- Texas History
- The Wild West

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. Classes are \$5.00 for members, \$10 for non-members Call 210.342.5242 for

reservations or email to saghs@sbcglobal.net. Classes are held in the library annex, behind the library.

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 Library is located @ 911 Melissa Drive, off Blanco Rd., outside loop 410 and is open Monday 10-4, Wed. 10 am-9:00 pm, Sat. 10-4, Sunday 1-5. 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.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2

Research in Texana/Genealogy

The following are selected journal articles that may be found in journals received by the Texana/Genealogy department of the San Antonio Public Library.

The American State Papers

The publications of the first several Congresses are grouped into subject classes and are known as the American State Papers. There was originally no provision for maintaining or publishing the actions of the U. S. Congress. On 8 November 1800 a fire in the War Department destroyed all Revolutionary War pension and bounty land applications submitted up to that time. Later, during 1814, the British burned some public papers during their invasion of Washington. Finally, on 2 March 1831 Congress approved legislation to publish executive and legislative writings from the first thirteen Congresses. Between 1832 and 1861 Gales & Seaton gathered and published the 38 volumes known as the American State Papers.

Note: Because of destruction of original materials, and time lapse before publication, this is not a complete record of Congress' actions.

The volumes of the American State Papers are assigned serial numbers) 01-038. Note that dates and Congress numbers are not the same for all classes.

Class Title	Vols.	Dates	Congresses	Serial #
I Foreign Relations	6	1789-1828	1st-20th Congress	*01-06
II Indian Affairs	2	1789-1827	1st-19th Congress	*07-08
III Finance	5	1789-1828	1st-20th Congress	*09-013
IV Commerce & Navigation	2	1789-1823	1st-17th Congress	*014-015
V Military Affairs	7	1789-1838	1st-25th Congress	*016-022
VI Naval Affairs	4	1794-1836	1st-24th Congress	*023-026
VII Post Office Department	1	1790-1833	1st (2d sess.)-22d Congress	*027
VIII Public Lands	8	1789-1837	1st-24th Congress	*028-035
IX Claims	1	1790-1823	1st (2d sess.)-17th Congress	*036
X Miscellaneous	2	1789-1823	1st-17th Congress	*037-038

Each volume has its own subject index.

Classes VIII and IX are those most often used by genealogists. However, all ten have valuable

materials for the family historian, and all should be consulted.

Class VIII: Public Lands: Volumes are indexed in Grassroots of America [Genealogy 333.1 McMullin]. Refer to public domain, ie. land owned by the federal government. Documents refer to claims and transactions for military bounty land, claims by refugees, agreements with Indian Nations, private claims, and more.

If a claim is located here, sometimes more can be found through the Legislative Archives at NARA in original materials submitted to Congress. (700 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington D.C. 20408-0001)

Part IX: Claims: Includes pensions, requests for wages, militia claims, request for compensation for property destroyed, and more. War Department reports on pension applications are included with lists from 1792, 1794, and 1795.

see also:

Glavinick, Jacquelyn. "Genealogy Research in the U.S. Serial Set." Heritage Quest, #33 (March 1991): 14-16

Meyerink, Kory L., ed. Printed Sources: a Guide to Published Genealogical Records: pp.410-411.

Naylor, Chris. "Those Early Americans: Public Lands and Claims in the American State Papers, 1789-1837." Prologue, Summer 2005: 54-61

American State Papers are available in Texana/Genealogy or online through the Library of Congress at

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/amlaw/lwsp.html>

DO YOU HAVE A CONFEDERATE ANCESTOR?

The period 2010-2015 is being observed as the Sesquicentennial of the War Between the States.



Now is the time to join the Sons of Confederate Veterans and honor your ancestor and his heritage.

The San Antonio Civil War Roundtable

The San Antonio Civil War Roundtable (SACWRT) is a non-profit group that promotes the study of

the American "Civil War." The Sesquicentennial of the War is being observed from 2010 to 2015. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month to discuss topics about the War. We meet at Grady's BBQ, 6510 San Pedro Avenue at the intersection with Jackson-Keller Road. The group gathers at 6 PM to eat and visit, with the speaker and discussion at 7:00 P.M.

We are seeking to grow the group by recruiting new members and speakers. Please visit one of the meetings to see if this group might be of interest to you. For further information contact Richard Brewer at 210-490-8827 or by email rbrewer@sbcglobal.net.

We look forward to having you attend our meetings and become an active member.

The Alamo City Guards Camp #1325 Meets on the first Thursday of the month at 6pm at Grady's Barbecue, 6510 San Pedro

Visitors are always welcome. Come see if this may be an organization that interests you. Contact Commander Russ Lane, alamocamp@yahoo.com, 210-491-0676 for additional information and eligibility requirements or visit www.alamocityguards.com

Websites

[Using Ancestry for free in the library!](#)

Did you know that Ancestry.com is available for free in thousands of libraries in the U.S (including all San Antonio library locations?) You can't create a tree, or post messages on message boards. You can't sit in your jammies and work on your family (please don't sit in your jammies in the library!). You can't work until 3am in the morning. But you can view much of our great content.

But how do you get the content home? You've found that census record that shows your great-great grandma's maiden name was Smith (it's always something challenging like that, isn't it?).

You could print it. But that usually costs you money. Not much, granted, but it adds up. And printers don't always work. You could save it to a flash drive, but not all libraries allow that. What is an excited genealogist to do? Trust your memory? Ha!

[You can download 83,947 genealogy books for free](#)

Several organizations have been digitizing old genealogy and family history books for several years. The number of available books is still growing daily. Perhaps the largest such collection is available in Archive.org's genealogy collection. Available items include books on surname origins, vital statistics, parish records, census records, passenger lists of vessels, and other historical and biographical documents.

Archive.org never charges for any of its holdings. You are free to read, download, print, and enjoy anything and everything available at Archive.org.

The books and other items are presented exactly as they were printed or written-without any additional indexes. For instance, images of census records are available although you cannot simply enter a name to search for a single entry. You can only search census records by finding the town or city of interest in the printed index, and then manually "turn the pages" of the images with a mouse-click as you look at the records, page by page.

About Us

Texana / Genealogy
San Antonio Public Library
600 Soledad Street
San Antonio, Texas 78205
210.207.2500

Please submit information and articles to genealogydesk@sanantonio.gov.

For: May 2014, by April 15

June 2014, by May 15

July 2014, by June 15