



South Texas Researcher

June 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



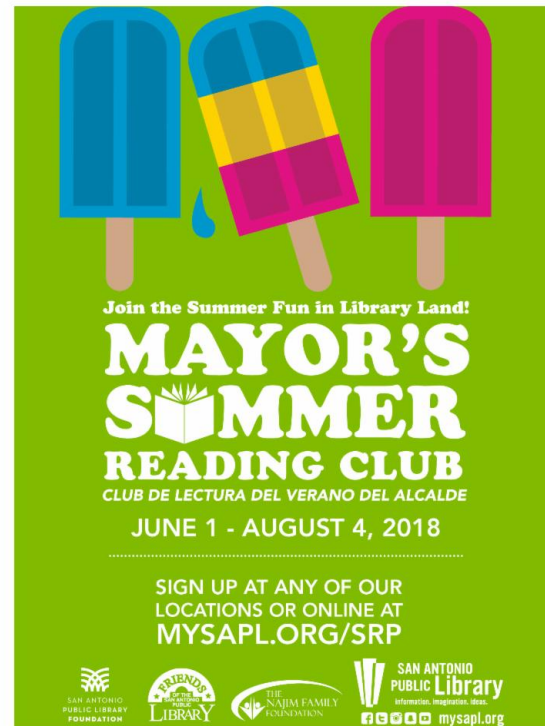
Mayor's Summer Reading Club

Registration for the Mayor's Summer Reading Club opens June 1. Sign up online or at any San Antonio Public Library location.

Read or listen to books and attend programs to get entries to win prizes!

Read eight books, attend eight programs, or do a combination of reading and programs to reach eight to earn a free book and an extra entry to win.

Take a look at the new books list below in this newsletter. Books marked with an asterisk (*) also have copies outside of the department that you can check out.



These will count towards your summer reading total.



New Publications

Bible of Kee-Barker, 1771-1840
GENEALOGY 929.2 BARKER

Family Records: Mathis
GENEALOGY 929.2 MATHIS 1948

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Holyoke, Massachusetts: Marriages, June 1890 to July 1991
GENEALOGY 974.4 HAMPDEN 2014

Notre-Dame-des-Canadiens, Worcester, Massachusetts: Marriages, v. 1, 1870 to 1930
GENEALOGY 974.4 WORCESTER 1992, v. 1

Notre-Dame-des-Canadiens, Worcester, Massachusetts: Marriages, v. 2, February 1931 to November 1947
GENEALOGY 974.4 WORCESTER 1992, v. 2

Notre-Dame-des-Canadiens, Worcester, Massachusetts: Marriages, v. 3, December 1947 to June 1997
GENEALOGY 974.4 WORCESTER 1992, v. 3

Saint Joseph, Cohoes, New York: Burials, October 1868 to March 2003
GENEALOGY 974.7 ALBANY

Saint Alphonsus, Glen Falls, New York: Baptisms, v. 2, L to Z, July 1855 to October 2003
GENEALOGY 974.7 WARREN 2003 v. 2

Index to The Arkansas Gazette: January through June, 1899
GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX v. 5, pt.1

Index to The Arkansas Gazette: July through December, 1899
GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX v. 5, pt. 2

Index to The Arkansas Gazette: January through June, 1900
GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX v. 6, pt. 1

Index to The Arkansas Gazette: January through June, 1900
GENEALOGY 976.7 INDEX v. 6, pt. 2

The First 100 Years: Centennial History of the University of Arkansas
GENEALOGY 976.7 LEFLAR

Nut Country: Right-Wing Dallas and the Birth of the Southern Strategy (*)
TEXANA 324.2734 MILLER 2015

Fort Bascom: Soldiers, Comancheros, and Indians in the Canadian River Valley (*)
TEXANA 355.00978 BLACKSHEAR 2016

Bitter Waters: The Struggles of the Pecos River (*)
TEXANA 577.64097 DEAREN 2016

The Austin Cook-Book: Recipes and Stories from deep in the Heart of Texas (*)
TEXANA 641.59764 FORBES 2018

Texas on the Table: People, Places, and Recipes Celebrating the Flavors of the Lone Star State (*)
TEXANA 641.5976 THOMPSON-ANDERSON

Listening to Rosita: The Business of Tejana Music and Culture 1930-1955 (*)
TEXANA 781.62687 VILLARREAL 2015

Alamo Village: How a Texas Cattleman Brought Hollywood to the Old West
TEXANA 791.437 FARKIS 2015

Not Thinkin'...Just Rememberin'...: The Making of John Wayne's The Alamo (*)
TEXANA 791.437 FARKIS 2017

Young Pegasus 2018: 92nd Poetry Anthology (*)
TEXANA 811.008 YOUNG 2018

Comanches and Germans on the Texas Frontier: The Ethnology of Heinrich Berghaus (*)
TEXANA 976.40049 GELO 2018

Texas Hill Country: A Scenic Journey (*)
TEXANA 976.4064 POHL 2017

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: June 2, 2018

Speaker: Gerald Poyo

Topic: On the Edge of Empire: San Antonio de Bexar in the Eighteenth Century

Dr. Gerald E. Poyo is the O'Connor Professor in the History of Hispanic Texas and the Southwest and Chair of the history department at St. Mary's University, San Antonio, Texas. In 1983 he received his PhD in Latin American history from the University of Florida. His research has focused on the intersection of Latin American and U.S. Latino history, especially on the history of Cuban exile communities in the United States during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the origins of Tejano communities in colonial and Mexican Texas, and Latino history narratives. He is the author and editor of seven books and over forty academic articles.

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
- 210-207-2500

EVENT PRESENTED BY:

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



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



Viva HemisFair!

[The Institute of Texan Cultures](#)

April 6 - December 31, 1968

Through historical photos, personal anecdotes, HemisFair memorabilia, archive film footage and more, the exhibit reveals what it took to put on the fair, and how it impacted San Antonio and the surrounding area.



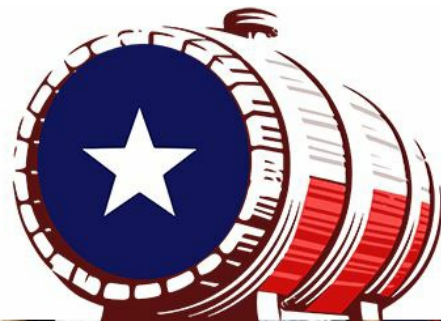
In preparation for the HemisFair exhibit, ITC graduate intern Garrett Bader generated a HemisFair Journal StoryMap. For a more comprehensive look into the HemisFair park area, the old neighborhood, the Polish Quarter, the historic homes, St. Michael's Church and more, access the journal [here](#).

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.



theMcNay



San Antonio Museum of Art

[Gathering at the Waters:
12,000 Years of People](#)

13 January through 1 July
2018

[Predators vs. Prey: Dinosaurs
on the Land Before Texas](#)

26 May through 3 September
2018

[Connecting Texas: 300 Years
of Trails, Rails and Roads](#)

17 February through
September 2018

[Confluence and Culture: 300
Years of San Antonio History](#)

3 March 2018 through
6 January 2019

[Spain to San Antonio:
Hispanic Culture On Stage](#)

1 March to 10 June 2018

[Cities on Parade: 300 Years of
European Festival Books](#)

1 March to 10 June 2018

[Captain Seth Eastman's
Journey with a Sketchbook:](#)

[Down the Mississippi](#)

5 April 2018 to 1 July 2018

[100 Years of Printmaking in
San Antonio: Bill Reily](#)

12 April 2018 to 1 July 2018

[HemisFair '68: San Antonio's
World's Fair](#)

May 3, 2018 to July 29, 2018

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

Through Spring 2018

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

17 February through 13 May
2018

[Egyptian Animal Mummies:
Science Explores an Ancient
Religion](#)

23 March through 1 July 2018

[Spain: 500 Years of Spanish
Painting from the Museums
of Madrid: A Tricentennial
Exhibition](#)

Through 16 September 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

June 2018

A Week in the Life of a Farm Family

- **Presenter:** Annette Burke Lyttle
- **Date:** June 27, 2018
- **Time:** 8:00 PM Central
- **Description:** It's a rare family tree that doesn't contain at least some farm families. What was daily life like for our farming ancestors? Learn how genealogical records and social history resources can help us answer that question in four different centuries of American history.
- **Registration:** <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7118922563078619650>

Clayton Genealogy Library - Houston

Saturday, June 2, 2018 | 2 PM - 4:30 PM

Join staff member Irene B. Walters for two programs designed to help you learn more about your immigrant ancestors. Reservations required, please call 832-393-2600. Adults/Teens.

Crossing the Wide Blue Seas: passenger lists of our ancestors

Since the discovery of the New World ships have been bringing passengers to our shores to start new lives. Some of these voyages were well documented and some were not. In this talk we will be discussing how to

find evidence of your ancestors on passenger lists.

A Nation of Immigrants: U.S. naturalization and genealogy

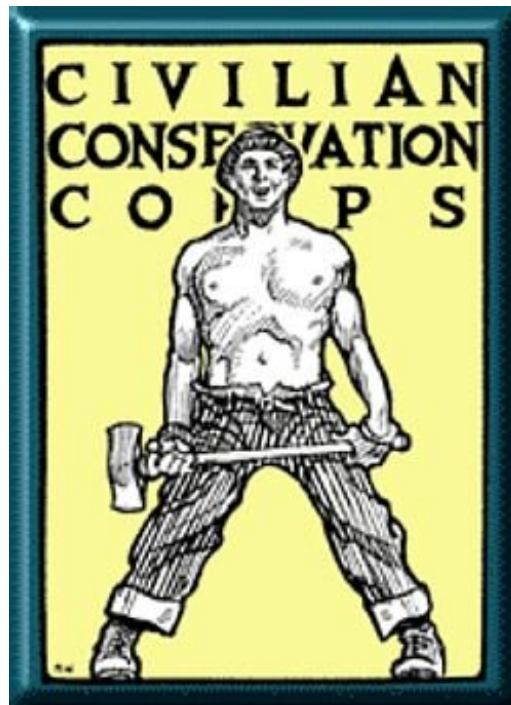
In this talk we will discuss the history of naturalization laws and requirements in the United States and how this affected your ancestors and their naturalizations. We will also discuss using naturalization records for genealogical research, what you may find, and how to find it.

Texas Archival Resources Online (TARO)

TARO (Texas Archival Resources Online) makes descriptions of the rich archival, manuscript, and museum collections in repositories across the state available to the public. The site consists of the collection descriptions or "finding aids" that archives, libraries, and museums create to assist users in locating information in their collections. Consider these an extended table of contents which describe unique materials only available at the individual repositories. In most cases, the collections themselves are NOT available online.

TARO is free and accessible to anyone who wishes to use it.

Access TARO here: <https://legacy.lib.utexas.edu/taro/index.html>



Researching the Civilian Conservation Corps

Interested in researching your Civilian Conservation Corps relative?

Try the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Enrollee Records.

The CCC was designed to provide jobs for young men, and to relieve their families who could not find work during the Great Depression in the United States, all while improving and conserving open space and parklands.

The young men of the CCC provided unskilled manual labor for conservation of natural resources in rural lands owned by federal, state and local governments. Enrollees worked 40 hours a week over five days, sometimes including Saturdays. In return they received \$30 a month with a compulsory allotment of \$22-25 sent to a family dependent, as well as food, clothing, and medical care.

In 1933, FDR issued an executive order expanding the CCC program to admit veterans, upon certification by Veterans Administration. They could be any age, and married or single if they needed work. These men received additional pay -ranging from \$36 to \$45 per month - depending on their rating.

The American public made the CCC the most popular of all the New Deal programs. Principal benefits of an individual's enrollment in the CCC included improved physical condition, heightened morale, and increased employability. The CCC also led to a greater public awareness and appreciation of the outdoors and the nation's natural resources.

Enrollees planted nearly 3 billion trees to help reforest America, constructed trails, lodges and related facilities in more than 800 parks nationwide and upgraded most state parks, updated forest fire fighting methods, and built a network of service buildings and public roadways in remote areas.

1. Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) Enrollee Records, Archival Holdings and Access Located at the regional National Archives in St. Louis, available only by written request. Click this link to download the request form and instructions [here](#). The retrieval and copying of the records are fee-based:
5 pages or less: \$25 flat fee
6 pages or more: \$70 flat fee
2. Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy Website: <http://www.ccclegacy.org>



From the Archives

Folks knew something should be done, but they dreamed and planned and argued for years before they finally built...

A Monument to the Alamo Defenders

Instead of the 60-foot Cenotaph, an 80-story memorial building would be standing in Alamo Plaza if an idea advanced in 1912 had succeeded. The structure, proposed to be "a most magnificent edifice, built of granite, marble, steel and reinforced concrete," would have outreached the 750-foot tower suggested for the 1968 Hemisfair. This idea was but

one of several for memorializing the Alamo heroes and changing the character of Alamo Plaza, dating back to 1887.

The first recorded formal proposal was to build a 163-foot monument according to the design of renowned architect Alfred Giles, adopted in March of 1887 by the Alamo Monument Association. Mrs. M. A. Maverick was association president. Giles' monument would have looked something like the Confederate monument in Travis Park. Atop a stairstepped base would have stood a rectangular section of rough and encribed [sic] smooth stone, surmounted by a soaring cylinder topped by an heroic figure waving coonskin cap and rifle. The great column would have borne the name of William Barret Travis. To the sides, smaller statues of James Bowie and David Crockett were planned. The campaign, in which members of the Maverick family were prominent, raised \$25,000 for Giles' monument, but then the idea lay dormant for years.

Idea Revived

It was revived in 1909, the Express devoting a full page to it on Dec. 12 of that year. Proponents then figured the monument would cost \$150,000, and suggested the money would be raised by having each Texas school child contribute a small sum. The 1909 idea called for erecting Giles' monument on what was then the castle-like Hugo & Schmeltzer store site, now a set of low walls cherished as the site of the old Spanish mission "convent." The Giles' plan was dwarfed in all respects by the next idea to come along.

On Oct. 22, 1912, the Alamo Heroes Monument Association was chartered, with J. E. Webb as president, and with representatives of many Texas counties in its membership. A prospectus put out by this group estimated its plans for "a most magnificent edifice" would cost about \$2 million. The structure would have stood 802 feet tall, 85 feet square at the base. Inside, a grand lobby would have led to four elevators and stairs, for access to upper stories containing museums, art galleries, statuary halls, and other displays pertaining to Texas history. Furthermore, "... on the very top will be the powerful search-light electric engineers can devise," the prospectus said. From the topmost balcony, equipped with telescopes, visitors would have been able to enjoy a 100-mile view, it added.

Surrounding the soaring building would have been the monument proper - 12 immense columns of Texas granite, three to a corner, surmounted by 30-foot statues of William Barret Travis, James Bonham, James Bowie and David Crockett. The columns would have been eight feet in diameter and 70 feet tall. Towering to 802 feet, it would have been taller than the Washington Monument (555 feet, 5 ½ inches), the San Jacinto Monument (567 feet), the 1962 Seattle World's Fair Space Needle (602 feet), in addition to the proposed HemisFair theme tower.

4,000,000 Tickets

To raise the \$2 million construction fund, proponents suggested selling 4 million double-admission tickets at 50 cents each. The "magnificent edifice" plan languished, to be succeeded in 1931 by a suggestion from Stephen F. Austin, a descendant of the Texas colonizer. He suggested erection of a combination memorial and parade reviewing stand of bronze and white marble, 58 feet tall, 82 feet in maximum width and 70 feet in maximum depth. Atop a rounded base with starts would have stood an altar-like section with a shaft towering above.

When time to observe the Texas Centennial in 1936 came, another design was chosen by the State Board of Control. This was the Cenotaph, the "empty tomb," built wil \$100,000 allocated by the U. S. Centennial Commission. Sculptor Pompeo Coppini conceived and

executed the structural parts of the monument designed by architects Adams and Adams, with Frank T. Drought serving as consulting engineer.

Cenotaph Controversial

This marble memorial, which inspired a lot of heated conversation, stands clean-lined and white in the plaza today - 60 feet tall, 40 feet long, 12 feet wide. A figure representing the Spirit of Sacrifice is carved on the south side of the shaft, and on the north is a female figure symbolizing Texas. Statues and names of Alamo heroes are arrayed along the sides.

"From a distance it looks like a grain elevator, or one of those swimming pool slides which you climb straight up on one side and then on the other scoot down into the water..." objected historian J. Frank Dobie. Controversy raged, but sculptor Coppini was not moved to comment. "A fellow doesn't defend himself unless he's guilty," he said.

Ground for the Cenotaph was broken March 10, 1939. There were plans to dedicate it the following March 6, anniversary of the Alamo's fall, but months later San Antonio was still talking about it. Finally, in October, city officials voted to hold the dedication ceremony on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1940. Mayor Maury Maverick urged everybody to "stop quibbling."

"I am not an artist - I have been called everything but that - but competent critics have praised the monument," he said. "It is set there in concrete and cannot be moved, so we might as well dedicate it."

San Antonio Express/News - October 17, 1965



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:

- July 2018 by June 15
- August 2018 by July 15
- September 2018 by August 15

[VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#)