

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society

Mail and Library - 911 Melissa Dr., San Antonio, TX 78213
Phone 210-342-5242 Email askus@txsaghs.org Website www.txsaghs.org

A Member Society Chartered in 1959

A newsletter to inform members of Society Activities and Library Acquisitions

June 2017 *Newsletter*



Our Hours Are Changing

The SAGHS Board recently took action to change the Wednesday evening closing hours due to decreased patron use. The library now closes at 7:00 P.M. instead of 9:00 P.M. on Wednesdays. The library can stay open until 9:00 P.M. by appointment. A patron who wishes to stay at the library until 9:00 P.M. on a particular Wednesday should call the library (210-342-5242) no later than 3:30 P.M. on the preceding Monday to make arrangements with the librarian on duty. The change in operating hours was ratified by the membership at the general meeting on 20 May.

We will be assembling for the Founders' Day Luncheon on 17 June for our June meeting (details on page 5).

Then we will take the summer off so that the next meeting of the General Membership will be on Saturday, 16 September 2016 10 A.M. at the Library Annex.

We will still have monthly events and volunteer opportunities. Your best source for the up-to-date schedule of events is to visit the SAGHS website: www.txsaghs.org

2017—2018 Dues are Due

It is time to submit your dues payment for our next fiscal year, 1 July 2017 — 30 June 2018. This year you can renew at the SAGHS website using your credit card. Renew online (using this LINK), or print the enclosed flyer (page 3) and drop it at the library or mail it back with your payment before 1 July 2016 to maintain your full member benefits.

2018 Classes Preference Survey

This survey is enclosed (page 6). The **Education Committee** has worked diligently to develop a survey to capture the preferences of our members for classes and workshops to be presented in 2018. Be sure to mark the survey and drop off at the library or enclose when you send in your dues.

Two free response areas of the survey that are very useful in planning for next year's schedule:

- Suggestions for future Fall Seminar speakers. For our Fall Seminar held in October we try to bring a nationally-recognized speaker on genealogical topics of interest. If you have seen a speaker who was particularly effective, perhaps at a TSGS, NGS or FGS Convention last year, please provide the name.
- Program(s) you would like to teach. Our membership is chock full of individuals like you who have skills and knowledge gained from years of research. Please volunteer to teach a class or workshop.

Please return your survey to the library or submit by mail with your dues payment.

June – July Calendar



Sunday, 11 June — "Is An Archive On Your Itinerary?" Instructor: Susan Stieler. 2:00 P.M., SAGHS Annex.

Tuesday, 13 June—SAGHS Board, 10:00 A.M., SAGHS Annex

Saturday, 17 June — Founders' Day Luncheon, Speaker: Larry Luckett, "WWI — Behind the Trenches." 11:30 A.M., Oak Hills Country Club, **Library Closed.**

Sunday, 18 June — Father's Day, Library Closed.

Wednesday, 21 June — Workshop: Family Tree Maker, Moderator: Scott Atkinson, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., SAGHS Annex. **Date Change from 14 June.**

Tuesday, 27 June — DNA Consult with Kurt Kneeland. Pre-registration required.

Tuesday, 4 July — Independence Day, Library Closed.

Sunday, 9 July — "Finding and Using Vital Records and Family Trees on Ancestry.com" Instructor: Julia George. 2:00 P.M., SAGHS Annex.

Tuesday, 11 July—SAGHS Board, 10:00 A.M., SAGHS Annex

Wednesday, 12 July — Workshop: Family Tree Maker, Moderator: Scott Atkinson, 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M., SAGHS Annex.

Tuesday, 27 June — DNA Consult with Kurt Kneeland. Pre-registration required.

NEW MEMBERS

Martha George
Cindy Guidone
Marcella Howard
Monty Howard
Sharon Quirk
Michele Ramon
Adela Walsleben

Be sure to visit the library and the members-only section of the website to enjoy the benefits of your membership!

Sunday Afternoon Classes

CLASS SCHEDULE: Please pre-register by calling the library, emailing or registering in person. We ask members for a $5.00 donation and non-members for a $10.00 donation. Donations support the library operations and society programs.

Class time is 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. at the SAGHS Library Annex, 911 Melissa, San Antonio, TX.

Sunday, 11 June — "Is An Archive On Your Itinerary?" Instructor: Susan Stieler. This class will describe the preparations needed before you visit an archive, followed by a thorough explanation of genealogical resources found in the Texas State Library and Archives at Austin.

Sunday, 9 July — "Finding and Using Vital Records and Family Trees on Ancestry.com" Instructor: Julia George. A beginner to intermediate level course providing an overview of using the subscription research website *Ancestry.com,* available at the SAGHS Library. The focus will be on various methods for locating vital records as well as a discussion of the use and value of family trees on the website.

Sunday, 13 August — "WorldCat & USGenWeb" Instructors: Beverly Rakowitz and Barbara Froebel.

WorldCat is the world's largest network of library content and services. Beverly will explain how to use this library tool, so that you can locate books, videos, articles and audiobooks that will help you with your research. Barbara will explain the use of USGenWeb, a free, user-supported information source for genealogical records nationwide.

Please call the library 342-5242 to reserve a space for all classes and workshops!

The *Events* schedule is posted on the SAGHS website: http://www.txsaghs.org/eventListings.php?nm=38

DUES ARE DUE 1 July 2017

IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN
SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Just a reminder—Our dues year is 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Renew with your credit card on the SAGHS website https://txsaghs.org/index.php

or complete his form, and mail or drop off with your check.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP+4 _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

Please provide your current address, phone number, and email address so that we may update our records. Returned mail costs the Society and delays eventual delivery to you.

DUES PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- Pay by 1 July 2017 to ensure you will receive the July issue of *Our Heritage* by mail.
- Pay dues after 1 July 2017 you will have a copy of the July issue of *Our Heritage* available at the Library for free pick-up or mailed to you for an additional $4.50.
- Members who fail to renew by 1 September 2017 will be dropped from membership.

Membership Class	Member Benefits					
	Unlimited free use of Library and databases	*Our Heritage*	*News-letter*	Website	Vote	Member discounts (courses, classes, seminar, and subscriptions)
Member	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Family/Joint	✓✓	✓	✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓
Subscription Only		✓	✓			
Student	✓		✓			

DUES: (CIRCLE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER	$ 40.00	FAMILY/JOINT MEMBER	$ 60.00
SUBSCRIPTION ONLY MEMBER	$ 25.00	STUDENT MEMBER	$ 25.00

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **SAGHS** and MAIL TO:

Amount enclosed $ _____

Check Number _____

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society
911 Melissa Dr.
San Antonio, TX 78213-2024

Please also complete the Education Committee survey regarding member preferences for repeats of classes and workshops, new classes and workshops, and use of web-based resources. Also volunteer to present a class on a genealogical topic that you have mastered or suggest a speaker for our Fall Seminar.

Thank You.

Speakers at Classes and Meetings Enrich the Research Experience



Photo by Jordan E. Stewart

Google and Genealogy: Working Together

by Jordan E. Stewart

Google was found to be a valuable implement to use for genealogical research. On 21 May the second Sunday class was presented by Diane Scannell, who instructed a large group on using the many tricks and intricacies of this online tool. Diane demonstrated creating a Google account and how to set up keyword alerts; the service sends emails to the user when it finds new results—such as web pages, newspaper articles, or scientific research—that match the user's search term(s). It's very easy to customize your searches to find what you are looking for by using special characters in the search engine (Ex: use a ~ before a word for "Similar to"). She concluded by showing how to use Google Maps to plot ancestors and create an image of your family's migration. Special thanks to Diane for a great presentation!

Mission Indians in Spanish Colonial Texas

by Cindy Kennedy and Charles Brussells

Tom Castanos, Education Director at the San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, spoke at the 20 May SAGHS general meeting. Mr. Castanos engaged the audience with descriptions of the lives of the Mission Indians and the factors that influenced their decisions to enter the missions and completely change their religion, way of life, and language. Mr. Castanos discussed the difference between a band and a tribe, and described the lives of the hunter-gatherers who lived in the south Texas area drained by the San Antonio River at the time of the arrival of the Spanish. He presented a realistic and factual view of history, pointing out that the indigenous peoples of the area did not flock to the confines of the Spanish missions hearing the call of Christianity, but rather the war whoops of the raiding Comanche. His presentation was engaging and well-received by the audience.

Jack Bleakley, former resident at 911 Melissa dies at age 94

Sadly we provide information on the death of Jack Bleakley on 5 May 2017 (link to obituary). In 1945 Jack's parents purchased a 100-acre ranch north of San Antonio, a property that eventually had the address 911 Melissa, with a residence that became the home of the SAGHS Library. Jack lived in the house from the time in 1946 when he returned from his service in WWII until he enrolled to attend the University of Texas in Austin, from which he returned often to his parent's home. Jack's bedroom was at the top of the stairs, which is now a society volunteer workroom.

Jack visited his old home, now our library, in April 2014, and Larry Luckett, Mitzi Jackson, and Merri Murphy accompanied him on his house tour, and enjoyed hearing his tales of the house and his family's history there. The next morning, Patsy Kuentz interviewed Jack and his daughter, Anne Shahan, an interview that formed the basis of her article published in *Our Heritage* ("Surprise Visit Solves A Few Mysteries about 911 Melissa Drive", OH, vol. 56, nos. 1&2).

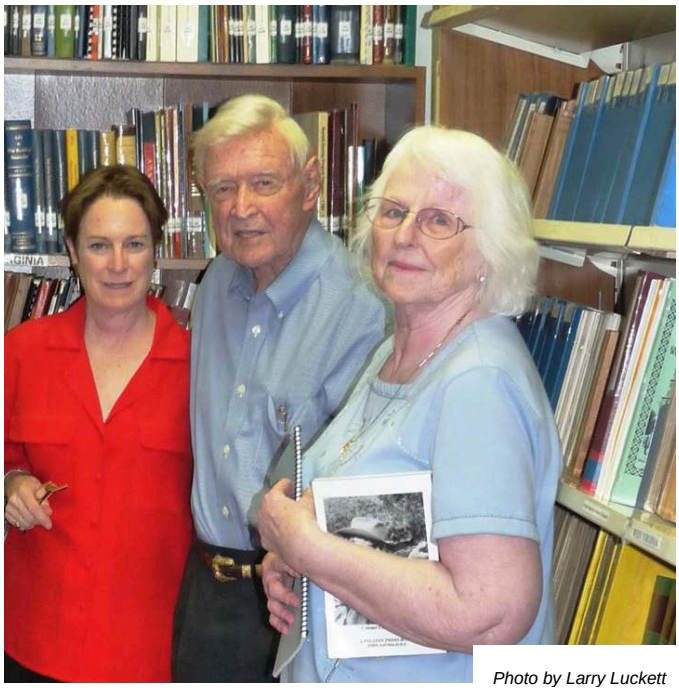


Photo by Larry Luckett

Anne Bleakley Shahan (left), Jack Bleakley, and Mitzi Jackson in April 2014 during Jack's tour of his old home at 911 Melissa, now the SAGHS Library.

Jack was a member of the "Greatest Generation" serving with the U.S. Army Air Corps in the European Theater in WWII. He was friendly and generous with his time and his memories during his short visit which touched us greatly. Our prayers and condolences go out to Anne and her brother Mark on the passing of their father.

San Antonio
Genealogical and Historical Society

Founders' Day Luncheon

17 June 2017

Speaker: Larry W. Luckett
Topic: World War I—Behind the Trenches



This year marks the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into World War I. Thoughts of World War I bring visions of trench warfare, no man's land, and deadly machine gun fire causing almost countless casualties. While this upheaval occurred on the battlefields of the Western Front and around the world, the war had other realities to those who served in support of American troops. Award-winning writer Larry Luckett will discuss some of the little-known military units and civilian organizations in France that helped to sustain the fight and maintain the morale of those in the trenches.



SAGHS Founders' Day

17 June 2017

Oak Hills Country Club
5403 Fredericksburg Rd.

Program starts at 11:30 A.M.
Lunch follows the presentation

Speaker: Larry W. Luckett
Topic: World War I—Behind the Trenches

First Families of Bexar County **recipient will be recognized**

2017-2019 Officers will be sworn-in

Door Prizes!

Quilt Raffle Tickets Available

Menu

Choice 1— Caesar Salad,
Chicken Picatta (in lemon, wine and caper sauce),
Angel Hair Pasta (with garlic butter and fresh herbs),
and Spinach Soufflé in a Broiled Tomato Cup

or

Choice 2—Vegetarian Medley

Both menus served with assorted rolls and butter, tea and coffee, and Italian Cream Cake.

RSVP by 12 June 2017

Name _____

Guest Names _____

_____

Phone: _____

email: _____

No. attending: ___ **x $35 ea. = $** _____

Entree choice:

Chicken Picatta **No.** _____

Vegetarian Medley **No** _____

Mail your check and this order blank to
SAGHS, 911 Melissa Dr,
San Antonio, TX 78213
or register and pay at the SAGHS website
www.txsaghs.org

Preferences for 2018 Classes/Workshops

Classes are being planned for 2018. We are trying to determine if there is enough interest to repeat some of the classes, as well as which new ones to add. Please return your response to the Education Committee; it is appreciated. Thank you.

Please circle your preference for these classes.

(1-Not interested, 2-Slightly interested, 3--Somewhat interested, 4—Very Interested)

Using Collateral Ancestors in Your Research
1 2 3 4

Researching and Platting Land Records
1 2 3 4

Choosing a DNA Test & Utilizing Results
1 2 3 4

Using Migration Trails in the USA
1 2 3 4

Texas after Statehood
1 2 3 4

Why and How to Cite Sources
1 2 3 4

Analyzing Your Findings: Sources, Information, and Evidence
1 2 3 4

Researching German Ancestors
1 2 3 4

Researching State(s) (name) _____

_____

Research Hidden Treasures in the SAGHS Library
1 2 3 4

Interest in a Brick Wall Special Interest Group
1 2 3 4

Interested in Microsoft Office:

Word
1 2 3 4

Excel
1 2 3 4

PowerPoint
1 2 3 4

How to Write a Family History
1 2 3 4

Researching Government Employees, Including Military
1 2 3 4

Using Genealogical Resources (*indicate any/all you are interested in:*

American Ancestors (NEHGS)
1 2 3 4

Ancestry.com
1 2 3 4

BillionGraves.com and FindaGrave.com
1 2 3 4

Family Search.org
1 2 3 4

Genealogical Blogs
1 2 3 4

Heritage Quest
1 2 3 4

Historygeo.com
1 2 3 4

Lineage Societies (DAR, Mayflower…)
1 2 3 4

PERSI
1 2 3 4

Others_____

1 2 3 4

Suggestions: _____

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_____

_____

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To return your preferences survey, either: Drop off at the library email to: education@txsaghs.org
Mail to: SAGHS, 911 Melissa Dr., San Antonio, TX 78213



NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Gift of Barbara Harrell Estate by Mr. Smoot

Combing Cullman County Jones, Margaret Jean AL cull4

Our Family's Book of Books Jones, Louise Dale Ray FH Jones

Thomas Thompson and Ann Finney of Colonial Pennsylvania and North Carolina Buchanan, Jane Gray FH Thompson

Holmes Valley; A West Florida Cradle of Christianity Carswell, Elba Wilson FL 00004 (5)

Index of the Source Records of Maryland: Genealogical, Biographical, Historical Passano, Eleanor Phillips MD 00000 (22)

Gazetteer of Maryland and Delaware, A; Two Volumes in One Gannett, Henry MD 00000 (4)

Genealogy Online for Dummies Helm, Matthew L. and April Leigh Helm RF 00000 (48)

Early Pee Dee Settlers Part One Gregg, John M. SC 00002 (2a)

South Carolina Women: They Dared To Lead Bodie, Idella SC 00004 (42)

Tombstones and Cemeteries of Cherokee County, South Carolina and Surrounding Areas Vol 1 (of Four Volumes) Moss, Bobby G. and Dennis R. Amos SC cher8

Our Kin The Genealogies of Some of the Early Families Who Made History in the Founding and Development of Bedford County Virginia Ackerly, Mary Denham & Lula Eastman Jeter Parker VA bedf4

Sketches of Greensville County Virginia 1650-1967 Brown, Douglas Summers, editor VA gree4

Abstracts of Pittsylvania County, Virginia Wills, 1767-1820 Adama, Lela C. & Virginia Bassett VA pitt7

Surry County, Virginia, Wills, Estate Accounts and Inventories 1730-1800 Hart, Lyndon H. VA surr8

Gift of Clarence Bell

Ireland Thompson, Tim and Susan Poole RF 03000 (32)

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Gift of Alfred Evans

World War II Fallen of Texas Volume 1 and 2 Evans, Alfred RF 16004 (17)

Remembrance: The Former POWS of Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery Evans, Alfred, comp. TX 00002 (20)

Before Memories Fade; An Archival Index of Comanche Co., Texas WW2 Veterans Evans, Alfred TXcoma4

Gift of Betty Arnaud

The Famine Ships: The Irish Exodus to America Laxton, Edward RF 03001 (7)

Purchase by Memorials

Liber A of the Collegiate Churches of New York Part 2; Baptisms 1639 to 1697, Members 1649 to 1701, Marriages 1639 to 1701 Sypher, Francis J. NY 00000 (22)

Source, The; A Guidebook to American Genealogy, Third Edition Szucs, Loretto and Sandra Luebking RF 00000 (151)

The *Family Tree Polish, Czech & Slovak Genealogy Guide,* Alzo, Lisa A RF 00000 (227)

Trace Your German Roots Online; A Complete Guide to German Genealogy Websites Beidler, James M. RF 04000 (32)

Ancestral Roots of Certain American Colonists Who Came to America before 1700, Eighth Edition Weis, Frederick Lewis, et al RF 09004 (1)

South Carolina in the American Revolution: A Source Guide for Genealogists and Historians Grundset, Eric G. SC 00004 (21)

Virginia in the American Revolution; A Source Guide for Genealogists and Historians Grundset, Eric G. VA 00004 (61)

Gift of Andrew Grohe

Chronicles of the Scotch-Irish Settlement in Virginia Extracted from the Original Court Records of Augusta County 1745-1800, Vol. I Chalkley, Lyman VA augu0