

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society

NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Peter Baron



250 years ago, our forefathers took to Lexington Common and stood for the idea, the dream of freedom that would become the United States.

In this sesquicentennial time, we as a Society need to remember and proclaim the men and women who through great sacrifice, created this free and independent Republic. The San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society has a mission to promote our history. I challenge all of our membership to use this anniversary to explore their own revolutionary lineages. The easiest way is to join a legacy society. Among those of historical note are the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Sons of the American Revolution, or the Sons of the Revolution. However, I believe we should go father. There are many other juried societies that promote this goal: The Society of Cincinnati, The Order of Founders and Patriots, The Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge, The Sons and Daughters of Officers of the Colonial Militia, among others. Our October 18th Annual Seminar, under the auspices of **Dr. David Katerndahl**, will provide a myriad of linage group members who will provide material and guidance to assist in connecting with many local lineage groups.

I challenge our members to search out the real life story of your ancestors' service. Recreate their life to fill in the blank spaces between those two dates and a dash. Where did they serve? What battles or campaigns did they participate in? Questions like these will help us to better understand the cause for which they fought. We are the custodians of our heritage. We must be the source of knowledge for the youth to come.

To perform that function, the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society has accepted this challenge and has begun a program to provide grants to the history department, under the direction of **Dr. William Kiser**, directed toward American history majors at Texas A&M San Antonio campus. Several juried historical compositions each quarter are to be submitted via that college



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department to our publications committee. An agreement is signed, our annual grant to support, through the history department, appropriate submissions, is in progress. I am hopeful that we can extend this project to other local universities and colleges. If you have a contact at a local college and believe they would be willing to partner with us, please share that with a board member. We would like to bring out two or three more programs this year.

This is our first step to expand our mission offered to many students across San Antonio. We want to support the pursuit and study of historical knowledge.

I am excited that **Dr. Jeffery Hankins** has agreed to produce our journal. I am eager to give him as much material as possible to ensure its success. Any member who wishes to contribute to the journal is encouraged. Member contributions can be as simple as book reviews or short presentations about family heirlooms. We all have stories to tell, and I am eager to hear yours.

Finally, I am instituting a program to track volunteer hours. The federal government currently assesses the value of a single volunteer hour at $34.79. We have thousands of hours a month that we fail to record. I appreciate the work of the librarians who do record their hours; however, we are not capturing any other work that we do on behalf of the Society. I ask each of you to please begin tracking volunteer time. This can be any work, mileage, or expenses that benefit SAGHS. We will have further information as to how and where those hours will be recorded. It's time we recognized the hours spent in support.

I wish to thank you all for your continued membership and for all the many volunteers whose excellence personifies our success.

Call for Submissions, *Our Heritage*, Volume 67, Numbers 1 and 2.



Our Heritage, the SAGHS flagship journal is now seeking articles from members and non-members for the 2026 issues. Editor **Dr. Jeffery Hankins** is looking for articles about "farming ancestors" or "farming families" or "farming stories." The submitted articles can be set in Texas or in other areas but should be connected to its author.



Submitted articles can be any length and should be in a Word document format. We ask authors to provide citations supporting sources used to create the article; however, our editorial staff is very happy to assist an author in doing this. We encourage stories on a wide variety of subjects, and historical topics are invited as well as family histories. Photographs or images are also encouraged and should be attached separately from the article.

Please submit your article attached to an email to **Publications@txsaghs.org** or Jeffery R. Hankins at jrhankins52@live.com. *Our Heritage* is an award-winning publication, recognized by the Texas State Genealogical Society. Journals will be available nationwide via PERSI, as well!

ON THE COVER

KYLEE KELLNER – OUR GRANT RECIPIENT FOR THE NATIONAL HISTORY DAYS COMPETITION

By Barbara Holmes



We are proud to announce that Miss **Kylee Kellne**r has received the SAGHS grant to support her participation in National History Days (NHD) Competition. National History Days is a non-profit organization based in College Park, Maryland. The goal of this organization is to improve the teaching and learning of U.S. History. It was established in 1974, and currently engages more than half of million students each year in conducting original research on historical topics of interest. It also supports teachers through professional development opportunities.

Students present their research as a documentary, exhibit, poster, performance, or website. Projects compete first at the local and affiliate levels, then at the state level, with the top entries invited to the annual National Contest at the University of Maryland.

Kylee was one of two students from Texas who were invited to the National Competition.

Prior to the National Event in June, she has competed and won, in her Junior independent Exhibit Category, against other San Antonio students and in the Texas State, winning the Jane McCollum Award for Women in Texas History.

Kylee gave her presentation “Rights and Responsibilities of Women in Texas History” at our September 20th membership meeting. **Dr. Katerndahl** presented her, as you see, with our grant ‘check.’ She was accompanied by her mother Mrs. **Stacy Kellner**, and history teacher Ms. **Cari Garcie**, not pictured.



Miss Kellner is a well-rounded 8th grader at Heritage Middle School, competing in volleyball, FAA, cheerleading activities and is running for National Junior Honor Society office of president. She plans to compete in the 2026 National History Day competition, focusing on the history of aviation. We wish her well.



MR. FAITHFUL
Scott Atkinson

By Carol Thompson

My first experience with this campus, came, a forced march by longtime member **Jenny Fultz**, the goal, to be educated about genealogy – seated front and center right underneath Scott Atkinson's' nose.

Every month, rain, shine, sleet, weather notwithstanding Scott Atkinson (SAGHS member #827) has been faithfully ready to teach us about how to manage and save our genealogical hard-earned data.

He first heard about a San Antonio based genealogical library from fellow Coker Methodist Sunday School friend **Ed Graham**, about 1994. At that time, the library was temporarily housed in an office room, prior to that first Isom rental space. That was how he got started.

His next memory is of taking a class in the garage portion of the 911 Melissa Drive mansion (the secret room, the Annex), meeting **Nancy McNamara** who asked if anyone could help teach a class; he suggested the Family Tree Maker software. She "graduated" Scott from that topic teacher to a member of her Education Committee. Many of you can certainly identify with this scenario! By 2010, he was seeing that as interest was growing in managing their research, he was needing to develop slides as teaching aids. That required him to enlist **Jim Garrett** to help him paint one garage wall white so that those slides could best be seen.

His knack for teaching, explaining technical programs came through years of experience grained during his varied career. Scott graduated from Texas A&I University in Kingsville, Texas, entered Lackland Air Force Base in February 1961 as an Officer Trainee. He was transferred to Keesler AFB, Mississippi for technical training, then on to Itazuke AFB, Japan in 1962. He and Margaret spent three years there, as he served as the Base Communications Operations Officer. They were then moved to Long Beach, California, assigned as an Air Force Liaison Officer to the Air National Guard for 2 years before resigning from active duty.



They moved back home to Texas, the Clear Lake area of Houston with their two daughters Elizabeth and Charlotte, both born in Japan. Scott accepted a direct commission as an Air Force Reserve Officer, serving 16 years in this capacity, before retiring from military duty. He worked on the Apollo Spacecraft Communications System for NASA before taking a position as a Communication Engineer with Tenneco Inc., spending 14 years there.

They then moved, joyfully, to San Antonio in 1987 where Scott joined USAA staff working with telephone and computer systems until his final retirement in 1997. They were active at Coker Methodist Church as members/teachers in the Questors Sunday School Class and ultimately the Church History Committee. And what has developed from this association is the request by the Church Historian that Scott develop a biography of founder **John "Jack" Coker**, a hero of the battle of San Jacinto.

Scott is now establishing/ writing for publication the genealogical history from the 1600's onward, of this enormous Coker family that has spread from Europe to America. This specific branch of the Coker family has more than 2,500 profiles in WikiTree at this writing; he hopes to be ready to publish his work sometime later this year. In that pursuit, he has driven many miles to research documents at the San Jacinto Monument Library/Archives, visited Vince's Bridge and Santa Anna's Capture Site, San Felipe de Austin and County archives held in the Montgomery County Library in Spring, Texas.



All of this... step for step, stride for stride, accompanied by his best friend, the beautiful **Margaret** whom he met on a blind date, 1960 at Texas A&I. Those two daughters now giving them five grandchildren and one great-grandson with another anticipated great-grandson, yet to be named, due in November, he is quick to add! Margaret has even competed along with Scott in the Senior Olympics .... running 50 and 100 Yard Dashes! They have just celebrated with hundreds of friends, their 64th wedding anniversary, there in Coker's Wesley Hall.

He has faithfully held a monthly workshop, open to members and non-members to help folks interested in documenting their genealogical finds. He has taken us all through the various downloads, improvements not only to Family Tree Maker software, but is ready to do the same for folks who use other recordation platforms. His monthly Workshop continues, second Wednesday at 10 o'clock, is open to beginners as well as those who have used data storage software for many years.

Best of all, he has remained ready to take those emergency "oh my God" phone calls from those who think they have done something really bad with their hard-won data... "asking for a friend."

HAYSTACKS FULL OF HERITAGE NEEDLES

By Elizabeth Prike



Elizabeth Prike organizing periodicals into folders and files. | Photo Credit: Bev Rakowitz

A beginning family history researcher is often told not to overlook "periodicals" in his or her quest because they are a "veritable goldmine, my dear!" of buried facts about our forebearers, containing articles contributed by distant or unknown relatives with family anecdotes.

He or she nods and smiles in accord, all the while wondering: What the heck are periodicals?

A periodical (also called a serial) is an all-inclusive term for any publication that appears at a regular or irregular *period*, such as a magazine, a journal, a newspaper, a newsweekly, a newsletter, a monthly, or a quarterly (every four months).

The word magazine comes from the plural Arabic word "makszin" meaning storehouses. In modern-day English it designates a regular publication intended for a specific audience such as *National Geographic, People, Bon Appétit, Architectural Digest, Vogue, Sports Illustrated*, etc. Some examples of SAGHS magazines are the *Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey, Family Tree Magazine, and Magazine of Virginia Genealogy*. The term also has several other meanings, such as a "cartridge of ammunition to be loaded into a firearm," but, hey, that's a topic for Guns and Ammo Magazine.

The term journal was borrowed from the French word "daily," and in France usually refers to a newspaper or a diary. In English it is still used as a synonym for diary, but also often designates academic or scientific periodicals, even though they are rarely daily publications. Two examples of these in SAGHS's library would be *North Carolina Genealogical Society Journal, and Missouri State Genealogical Association Journal*.

Since the advent of digitization, many newspapers can now be searched on websites such as newspapers.com, the Portal to Texas History, and the Gateway to Oklahoma History. For researchers who know specifically which community their ancestors hailed from, the public library or the genealogical society in that location may have digitized its local newspapers. Bear in mind that gentlemen were normally called by their first initials and last names. Franklin George Hamilton would be called F.G. Hamilton, and his wife would be Mrs. F.G. Hamilton, rather than Nancy Ann Hamilton, BUT there are many exceptions, so try several variations when searching, including likely misspellings, especially of foreign last names.

Family names in periodicals other than newspapers can be searched in PERSI, the Periodical Source Index, thanks to The Genealogy Center of the Allen County Public Library. PERSI will not index every surname in a given article but is very useful for surnames

mentioned in the title of the article.

Several genealogical and historical organizations now publish their periodicals in digital format, which makes it easy to search by keyword.

The e-publications that SAGHS subscribes to can be searched under Digital Periodicals on the library's computers.

Ready to start? SAGHS's periodicals can be found from its website under Library/ Library Catalog. Then select the media types "periodicals" and "location" from the drop-down menus.

Consult any volunteer librarians for assistance, they'll be glad to help. Happy haystack hunting!



From the Library

By Bev Rakowitz

This is a good look at Periodicals. One definition I would add - journals usually include references to the sources, footnotes explaining the information.

Our own journal, *Our Heritage* is uploaded to PERSI. It can be accessed/used from home via that website or for free in our library.

As you can see in the photo from the previous article that I took, **Elizabeth Prike** is working on organizing a periodical either into a notebook or folder and placing the "loose" issues in a document holder. She began this with the inventory we did on the collection. For many years SAGHS bound their periodical issues into a book form. Some titles where not complete, because most of our periodicals are donated, so they would not be bound into a book. Elizabeth is working to organize these into a folder, notebook, or document holder.

SAGHS does purchase many periodicals, and we exchange *Our Heritage* with other societies to expand our offerings. There are gaps in these that may not be filled. I need to repeat that most of our books and periodicals are donated. When the spouse gets tired of the stacks of magazines you have collected, they get donated to SAGHS. If there is a robust collection, these might get added to our shelves. Our website Card Catalog is a great starting place to see what we have available, thanks to those long volunteer hours, sorting, making useful these priceless references of the past. And thanks to webmaster **Rob Lewis** for ensuring that all are listed for use and convenience.



Memorial

Sharon DeRussy Stillman Cotton Wood

Mother of Lawrence "Bob" Cotton, husband of Ellen Cotton

July 8, 1941 – August 30, 2025



Technology Corner

TIPS FOR USING FAMILYSEARCH.ORG





By Dan & Nita Heinchon

FamilySearch.org is a free genealogy website that is run by the Mormon Church. They help people discover their family history through their website, mobile apps, and in-person at over 5,000 local family history centers. Their main library is a multi-story building in Salt Lake City, Utah which you can visit any time. Our SAGHS library is a local family history center. In order to use many of these fun things, you would need to have an account (Free!), and a family tree consisting of at least you, your parents, and grandparents. This will help their algorithms function to provide the most usefulness.

Search the FamilySearch Catalog

The FamilySearch Catalog is an indexed listing of books, records, images, and other important resources offered through the FamilySearch website, and select FamilySearch Centers around the world.

You can search by place names, surnames, titles, authors, subjects, and by using keywords.

Place Names – if you enter a city name, the search will try to fill in the county, state, and country for you to select from. Entering Kanturk, a small village in County Cork, Ireland, you can find records for: churches, correctional institutions, courts, genealogy, history, and property/land valuation lists.

Selecting one of the church records links, you will see a detailed description of the record: the authors, format, language, date of publication, and other information. This record exists on 35mm microfilm, and further information says it has been digitized, and the original is stored at the Granite Mountain Record vault. Clicking on a camera icon at the end of the description, will bring up the record, which you can then scroll through – all 1,089 pages.

Find Relatives You Didn't Know You Had

This one is a lot of fun! In my scrolling in Facebook, because it knows I'm into genealogy, and have clicked on links to genealogical type stories, it shows me family history and location history stories. Traces of Texas is a Facebook page that covers historical subjects in Texas over the years, decades, and centuries. Many times, the page will give the genealogical information you need, or enough information that you can find the information on a person. FamilySearch has a Family Tree search function.

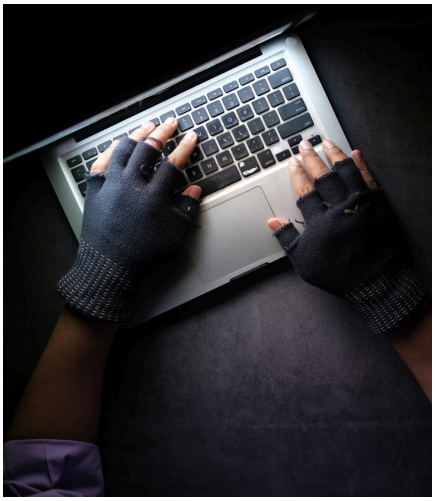
Click Search on the home page, and then Family Tree. If you then enter that information – first, middle, and last names, birth and/or death years, maybe a location into the search fields, you will see a list of names that FamilySearch thinks might be the person you are looking for. It will potentially have birth and death dates, locations, parents or spouses. If you click on a person that matches your search data, you can then look at the Person, or the Family Tree. I generally click on Person, and then on View Relationship. This will bring up a family tree from you to the person in question, if it can find this list. Sometimes it says not enough information to link to that person.

Clicking on each person in the list, will show their genealogical data, and if the data matches what you know in your family tree, you can add these people.

Stay tuned for more fun with FamilySearch!

DEALING WITH THE DARK SIDE OF GENEALOGY—THEFTS

Bones & Notes by Don Sharon



Hey cuz, why'd you steal that document?

For some reason, an immigration document that I had seen before of one of my ancestors apparently took an involuntary walk out the courthouse and into someone's private collection. At least, that is what I have been thinking. If so, the alleged thief had to have been another descendant—some sort of distant cousin.

That immigration document, dated 1849, was in a normal letter envelope, within a shoebox-style cardboard box, along with other documents, when I visited the DeWitt County courthouse in Cuero several years ago.

I was able to get a photocopy, but at the time, I did not have a camera. I thought maybe one day I could go back and photograph the document and scan it with a phone app—with permission of the county clerk's staff. When I finally got back to the courthouse, I found the same box and the same envelope, but the document was gone. I looked throughout the box and in the other envelopes, but nada.

I just shook my head, and thought about the other things we have to contend with:

- Plagiarism, copyright infringement
  - The Legal Genealogist puts it bluntly: taking another person's work—even without monetary gain—is theft.
- Identity theft
- Porch pirates
- Mail thieves
- Auto burglars/thieves
- House burglars
- Etc., ad nauseam, ad infinitum

Given the situation at the time, the only thing to do was to tell the staff of the county clerk's office about the missing document.

This is nothing new. Media reports through the years have told about maps and signed letters (to and from famous people) going missing. Theft of historical and genealogical documents is a bigger problem than I had thought. A Google search for "stealing genealogy documents" returned results indicating prosecutions of a staff member of the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and a professor who was convinced of stealing and trying to sell documents from the National Records of Scotland.

To deal partly with this situation, the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) has published a brochure titled "Recovering Stolen Texas Court Documents."

The TSLAC has been retrieving missing documents as outlined in a paper called "Strategic Plan for the Texas State Archives, 2021-2025". In section 4.2 of that plan, the TSLAC said it has successfully recovered 168 documents from its "missing lists"—including 152 Supreme Court case files and seven Republic-era records.

Also, the New York State Archives has published a white paper called "Historical" Records Theft: Strategies for Prevention and Response". This white paper is designed for New York repositories but can be a basis for protection in other states.

For us everyday amateur genealogists, when a document is missing, Google

search results suggest:

- Looking into state archives.
- Use online databases such as FamilySearch and Ancestry, which have digital images or indexes of historical records.
- Search for transcribed copies in genealogical journals and books, or maybe the Library of Congress or a state historical society.

If you encounter suspicious documents being offered for sale, report the suspect(s) to the relevant state archive or historical society. For Texas documents, report them to the TSLAC.

IT'S HERE - THE FALL SEMINAR!



By Dr. David Katerndahl

IT'S HERE! TIME TO REGISTER! This year's Fall Seminar is scheduled for **Saturday, October 18th** at our Dwyer Center. The morning session features two presentations by **Teri Flack**, MA, MBA on "Seeing the Patterns: Organize, Visualize, & Evaluate the Evidence" and "Using Maps to Explore our Ancestors' Lives." The afternoon session will begin with a presentation by our own **Larry Luckett**, MS on a "Guide to Joining a Lineage Society." His address will be followed by our first Lineage Group Forum, featuring representatives from the following lineage groups:

- Canary Islands Descendants Association
- Colonial Dames of 17th Century
- Company of Military Historians
- Continental Society Daughters of Indian Wars
- Daughters of American Colonists
- Daughters of the American Revolution
- Daughters of the Republic of Texas
- Daughters of Union Veterans
- First Families
- General Society of War of 1812
- Jamestown Society
- Los Bexarenos
- Magna Carta Dames & Barons
- Mayflower Society
- National Huguenot Society
- National Society of Colonial Dames
- National Society of New England Women
- Sons of the American Revolution
- Sons of Union Veterans
- U.S. Daughters of 1812
- United Daughters of the Confederacy

They will be here to answer your questions and assist with your application needs.

Another difference at this year's seminar is our effort to invite like-minded people from the community. Last August we disseminated registration information about the Fall Seminar to regional genealogical and historical societies, lineage groups, history departments and libraries as well the media. This was our opportunity to showcase our society as well as recruit new members.

However, this outreach means that our limited seating at the Dwyer Center is filling up fast. Hence, I urge SAGHS members to avoid delay and register for the Seminar NOW! The registration fee for SAGHS members is $40 payable via check through the mail or in-person, or via PayPal (add $5 processing fee) through the SAGHS website or call the library 210-342-5242 for assistance.

Please include ALL required information (name, address, phone, email address) when registering. You should also receive a registration brochure via email in the coming days. To ensure you have your spot at the Fall Seminar, please register NOW!



SUMMARY OF THE ANGEL OF GOLIAD PRESENTATION

By Dan Garza

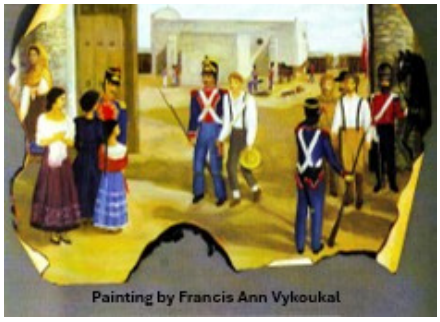
Francisca Alvarez was abducted by Apache when she was approximately three years old in the town of Cruillas, Tamaulipas, Mexico sometime in 1819. She lived with the Apache for approximately seven years before a fur trader found her and took her to a Catholic orphanage in San Luis Potosi. There, she was educated very well, learning Spanish, French, etiquette, cooking, and religion. She was deeply devoted to her religion, and it was from this devotion that her tremendous compassion for humanity developed, as she followed God's will to respect mankind.

For years, she did not know her real name since it was hard for a child to remember her original family after being abducted at such a young age. The orphanage called her Apachita and Panchita. From there came the name Francisca. When she was approximately 16, General Urrea and his wife hired her to educate their children. She went with them to live in Durango. She had a son in Durango, named Matias. The father, Telesforo Alavez Alvarez, was already married and had a family in Mexico City. She would use Telesforo's mother's maiden name, Alvarez, as her surname. When General Urrea was called to war, he brought his family, including Francisca, to Texas.

During the Texas Revolution, Mexican President Santa Anna ordered the execution of over 400 Americans prisoners, in Goliad. She was appalled and was instrumental in saving over one hundred American soldiers, persuading Mexican officers to release the younger ones, hiding soldiers, and nursing those who were wounded after the massacre. No one knew her name. She did not know her name. Dr. Barnard and Dr. Shackleford called her the Angel of Goliad.

After the war, her companion abandoned her in Mexico City, so she returned to Matamoros, where she discovered her real family and her true identity. However, it impacted her that the Mexican people were against what she did in Texas, and so she went into hiding. The Mexican people ostracized her.

Since **Richard King** was aware of her good deeds in Texas, he invited her, her son, and



Painting by Francis Ann Vykoukal



grandkids to move to the **King Ranch**. She was without a country and in a state of confusion, unsure of where she belonged. At the **King Ranch**, the Alvarez family thrived and worked their way to become Texans, with over two thousand descendants and counting, many of whom served as American soldiers fighting for their country in all the wars. One descendant became the Secretary of Education under **Ronald Reagan** (**Lauro Cavazos**), and the other a four-star General in the Army, General **Richard Cavazos.**

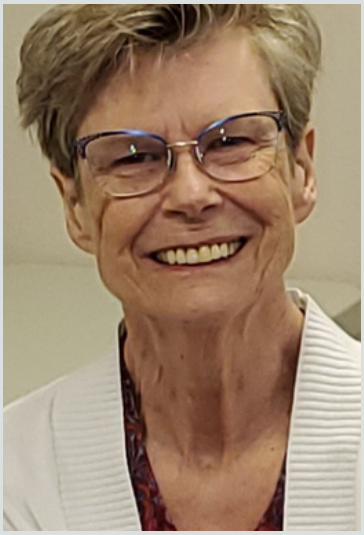
She died in the King Ranch sometime in 1902-1903. She asked the **Kleberg** family to please have her buried in an unmarked grave. We still do not know where she is buried. As a descendant, it took me over 35 years to compile enough information to where in 2024 I wrote a book The Angel of Goliad: An Investigation of Francisca Alvarez. My presentation is called "The Mystery of the Angel of Goliad: Francisca Alvarez."

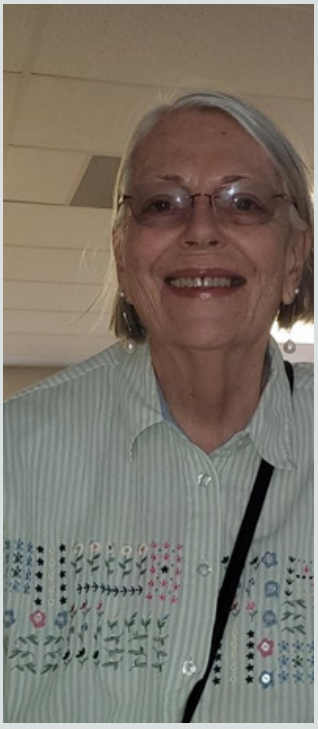
NEW BOOKS

For a full list of new books, view the catalog online or ask the duty librarian in person.

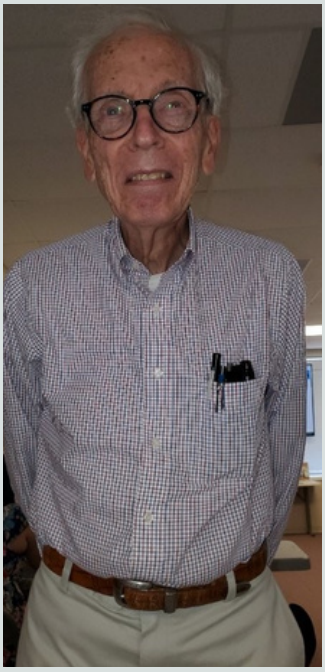
Call #	Title	Author	Donor	
CO doug4	Castle Rock: A Grass Roots History	Lowenberg, Robert L.	Jacob Sherman	CO
FH von Rosenberg	von Rosenberg Family of Texas, The: Book 1-3	von Rosenberg-Tomlinson, Alma	Frances von Rosenberg	Fam Hist
FH Witter Rare Book	Witter Genealogy; Descendants of William Witter of Swampscott, Massachusetts, 1639-1659	Washburn, Georgia Cooper	Mr and Mrs Frederick Smith	
IL 00004 (4)	Moline, A Pictorial History	Pierce, Bess	Jacob Sherman	IL
OR 00004 (3)	East of the Cascades	Brogan, Phil F.	Jacob Sherman	OR
PA 00000 (34, 34a, 34b, 34c)	German Church Records of Western Pennsylvania, The; Volume 1-4	Ruff, Paul Miller	Jacob Sherman	PA
RF 00001 (17)	Great Wagon Road, The: from Philadelphia to the South	Rouse, Parke Jr.	Martin Soward	Ref
RF 07000 (19)	Album of American History: Colonial Period	Adams, James Truslow	Jacob Sherman	
RI 00008 (2)	Cemeteries in South Kingstown Rhode Island	Pettaquamscutt Historican Society	Sue Nitz	RI
SN 1c	Our Ancestors: Lineage Charts Covering the United States and Many Foreign Countries	SAGHS		SN
TX 00004 (413)	Los Tejanos	Ford Motor Company Ford Division	Martin Soward	TX
TX 00006 (35)	Texas Counties Original Landholders, Vol. 2	Harris County Genealogical Society	Martin Soward	
TX 00006 (38)	Original Land Holders of Some Texas Counties	Gregory, Peggy H.	Martin Soward	
TX hous8	Supplement to Houston County, Texas Cemeteries, 3rd ed.	Houston County Historical Commission	Kelly Sharp	
VA spot8	County Records, Spotsylvania County, 1721-1800, Vol. 1	Crozier, William Armstrong	Martin Soward	VA


Update in progress...(4%)
Cancel Update

















SONS & DAUGHTERS OF WORLD WAR II VETERANS



By Courtney Carr
Fredericksburg, TX

The Society of Sons and Daughters of WWII Veterans is dedicated to honoring and preserving the legacy of America's "Greatest Generation." United by gratitude and respect for those who served in World War II, our members include descendants, relatives, friends, and admirers who are passionate about safeguarding the personal stories and heroic sacrifice of WWII veterans. We come together to celebrate, remember, and share these stories, connecting generations and ensuring that the lessons and inspiration of WWII endure.

World War II genealogy provides an essential link between past and present by connecting individuals and families with their unique heritage. Understanding our WWII ancestry allows us to:

- **Preserve Family Legacies:** Tracing lineage helps family members uncover personal connections to history, fostering a sense of identity and pride.
- **Educate Future Generations:** Documenting and sharing the experiences of WWII veterans provides invaluable educational resources for schools and researchers, keeping their stories alive.
- **Honor Sacrifice and Bravery**: Researching and recording the service of WWII veterans ensures that their bravery and sacrifices are not forgotten.
- **Build Community:** Through shared heritage and remembrance, genealogy strengthens the bonds between members of our Society and the broader community.

WWII genealogy is not just about family history—it's about contributing to our collective memory, respecting those who came before us, and illuminating the path forward by understanding the past.

The Society of Sons and Daughters of WWII Veterans is thrilled to announce a major expansion of its mission to honor the bravery and sacrifice of America's "Greatest Generation" with the launch of our **online application portal**, making it easier to join the Society.

This expansion represents a significant step forward in our efforts to ensure the stories of WWII veterans are not only remembered but also shared with future generations. We're inviting more descendants, relatives, and friends to join us in celebrating their contributions and safeguarding their memories.



Honor WWII Veterans – Join Today

Know someone who qualifies? Share this opportunity! Your participation helps preserve their legacy and ensures their sacrifices continue to inspire future generations.

Membership Options:

- **Lineal Membership**: For individuals directly descended from a WWII veteran by birth or adoption—a meaningful way to honor your family's history.
- **Memorial Membership**: Open to anyone who wishes to pay tribute, regardless of lineage.

How to Join:

Join online or submit your application via mail or email. Visit pacificwarmuseum.org for details.

Questions? Contact Courtney Carr, WWII Veterans Legacy Program Manager, at ccarr@nimitzfoundation.org.



Oct.16 @ 11:00 am MDT	FamilySearch Family Tree: Records, Hints, and Sources
Oct. 16 @ 12:15 am MDT	Live from New York: The Norwegian Ship Arrives After a Historic Journey
Oct. 23 @11:00 am MDT	FamilySearch Library's 40th Anniversary Celebration
Oct. 23 @ 12:00 pm MDT	Using U.S. Cemetery Records to Fill in Gaps on Your Family Tree
Oct. 30 @ 11:00 am MDT	Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with FamilySearch

SAGHS is a proud member of:

Partner Society
Texas State Genealogical Society

National Genealogical Society
FOUNDED 1903

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Sunday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
Monday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Wednesday: 10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Library Closures:
New Year's Eve & Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Founders Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, October (Seminar), Thanksgiving Eve & Day, Christmas Eve & Day