SAN ANTONIO GENALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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A Member Society Chartered in 1959 as a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization

March 2023
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A newsletter to inform members of Society Activities and Library Acquisitions

March 2023



President's Message

Dear Members and friends;

Happy Spring, (almost summer)! Mark your calendars for our General Membership Meeting on Saturday **March 18th**. It should be a lot of fun as we are having a **Show & Tell!** So bring your treasures to share with each other. Among them will be Meerschaum pipes, and a gavel whose head comes from a piece of Walnut cut from a tree on the first day's fight at Gettysburg. The handle was cut from a Maple tree on Culps Hill and fashioned by a Veteran who fought in this battle. Bring your documents and treasures of all kinds and tell us a story!

Also on Saturday **March 25th** , we are planning a members' orientation. Please register for this event, so we can plan effectively. Simply call the library and ask the librarian to add your name to the list. Librarians are on duty Saturday, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday. We will begin at 10 am in the Dwyer Center and then explore our wonderful library and its treasures. All members are welcomed to attend.

Family Search is recruiting indexers for their re-launch indexing of their Texas Death Certificates. Many enhancements have been made to improve their unique indexing tool. They are indexing new fields in these records such as: the deceased's race, the informant's name, the burial date, burial place, cemetery, funeral home, and funeral director's name. They will also be correcting the county where the death occurred if needed. Will you help?

Introduction Video: https://youtu.be/pIqg13nGOzI
How To Get Started: Training Video and PDF -
https://tinyurl.com/TexasDeathCert

(Cont. pg. 2)



Loveada Escamilla
Maria Anna Esparza
Fredrick Gonzalez
Julie Gonzalez
Susan Harms
Carol Niescier
Janet Robey
Melinda Strong

Submitted by Linda Monts

Meetings

Board Meeting
Sat. March 11, 10 am
Roosevelt Auditorium

Membership Meeting
Sat. March 18, 10 am
Roosevelt Auditorium
"Show and Tell"

Note:
Gaspar Gomez, our in-house photographer will be available after the Membership Meeting (until 1 pm) in the Dwyer Classroom, to take photos of members for the 2023-24 Membership Yearbook.



President's Message (cont.)

For any other questions or problems, please contact Jean Bavender at jean.bavender@FamilySearch.org or Bruce Carson at bruce.carson@FamilySearch.org or Vicki Fanning at vicki.fanning@FamilySearch.org
Thank You!

March 12, 2023



National Slam The Scam Day
March 10

Tips provided by the Social Security Administration:

https://oig.ssa.gov/assets/uploads/slam-the-scam-press-release-feb-9-2022.pdf

Membership Yearbook Photos

The opportunity to have your photo included in the 2023-2024 Membership Yearbook is approaching for:

- New members and members whose photos are not in the 2022-2023 Yearbook, but would like to have a picture in the upcoming edition.
- Members whose photos are in the 2022-2023 Yearbook, but who would prefer a different one.
- If you have a photo in the 2022-2023 Yearbook and are satisfied with it,
  do not send in another photo.

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For those wishing to come to the Dwyer Center to have their photo taken, our in-house photographer, Gaspar Gomez, will be available to take your photo Saturday March 18 from the conclusion of the Membership Meeting until 1 pm.

****

Those members who wish to submit a photo by post or by email need to follow these guidelines:

* Photos must be received no later than 31 July, 2023.
* Any photo received after 31 July will not appear in the 2023-4 Yearbook, but will be archived and used in future yearbooks.
* Either color or black and white photos may be submitted, even though the member photos will appear in black and white only.
* Member photos should contain head and shoulders only—not a full body or group photo.
* Photo should have a solid or uncluttered background. All submitted photos will be changed to a neutral background.
* No newspaper photos or clippings should be submitted.
* Photos should be reasonably recent (no childhood photos, for example)
* Joint members should each submit a separate photo.
* Mailed-in photos will not be returned unless the member includes a self-addressed, stamped envelope with adequate postage.
* Submitted photos may be used for a five-year period.
* Photos submitted by post should be clearly labeled on the back of the photo with the name of the individual, as the individual wishes it to appear beneath the photo in the Yearbooks.
* Hard copies of photos should be mailed to: SAGHS, 911 Melissa Dr, San Antonio TX 78213-2024.
* Digital photos should be emailed with the subject line “Photo Submission” to: publications@txsaghs.org and may also be emailed to cbbrussell@sbcglobal.net.

Submitted by Charles B. Brussells, Editor and Graphics Layout SAGHS Membership Yearbook

METHODS and SOURCES

by Leslie Tomlinson, CG

Using Pre-1850 Censuses to Construct a Hypothetical Family: Part One

Have you recently checked your family compositions to ensure you have accounted for any and all the family members? Do the birth years of the children make sense as far as sequency and expected childbearing years for females? Are the children attributed to the correct mother and father? Do you have DNA matches descending from, for example, unknown siblings of your second great grandfather?

For years I believed I had accounted for all the children of my third great grandparents, Josiah and Martha Watson:

1. Tarlton, b. 1817–1820
2. Thomas Jefferson, b. 1 Jan 1818, my 2GGF
3. James, b. 1828
4. John, b. 1829
5. Martha, b. 1830
6. Nancy, b. 1836
7. Susan, b. 1838
8. George, b. 1839
9. Sarah Jane, b. 1843

Lately, unknown children of Josiah and Martha appeared in my ThruLines® on AncestryDNA. Were these actual children, anomalies of the system, or incorrect family trees? Or, was my tree incorrect?

Step One. Verify what you know and how you know it.

The children born after Thomas were all listed in two 1850 censuses, one in Montgomery County, Tennessee, followed a month later by one in Williamson County, Illinois, mirroring the family's move to Illinois. Granted, the 1850 census did not list relationships; however, the identities of the nine known children were based on a diverse group of original sources including census and military records, a family Bible, gravestones, and obituaries. I was confident with my family tree, but what about those other children suggested by DNA matches? How could their existence be tested?

Step Two. Try to fit the known children into pre-1850 censuses.

Josiah, born about 1792 in Virginia, was first enumerated in Robertson County, Tennessee, in 1830 and then in neighboring Montgomery County in 1840 and 1850. I created a table with the census years across the top and the members of the household on the left. For the tick marks of censuses before 1850 I estimated a birth year range. Then I predicted which person fit into which birth year range. See below:[1]

[1] Websites were viewed 27 February 2023.

Age range 1830 census[2]	**Age range 1840 census**[3]	**Age in 1850 census**[4]	**Hypothetical identity**
M 30–39, b. 1790–1800	M 40–49, b. 1790–1800	58, b.1792	Josiah
F 30–39, b. 1790–1800	F 40–49, b. 1790–1800	54, b. 1796	Martha, wife
M 10–14, b. 1815–1820		*Own household, 31, b. 1819*[5]	Tarlton, son
M 10–14, b. 1815–1820		*His 1850 census missing, b. 1 Jan. 1818*[6]	Thomas J., son
F 10–14, b. 1815–1820			Unknown daughter?
M 5–9, b. 1820–1825	M 15–19, b. 1820–1825		Unknown son?
M 5–9, b. 1820–1825			Unknown son?
M <5, b. 1825–1830	M 10–14, b. 1825–1830	23, b. 1827	James, son
M <5, b. 1825–1830	M 10–14, b. 1825–1830	23, b. 1827	John, son
F <5, b. 1825–1830	F 10–14, b. 1825–1830		Unknown daughter?
	F 5–9, b. 1830–1835	20, b. 1830	Martha, daughter
	F 5–9, b. 1830–1835	17, b. 1833	Nancy, daughter
	M <5, b. 1835–1840	13, b. 1838	Susan, daughter
	F <5, b. 1835–1840	12, b. 1838	George, son
		7, b. 1843	Sarah Jane, daughter

[2] 1830 U.S. census, Robertson Co., Tenn., no township, p. 374 (penned), line 13, Josiah Watson; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com); NARA microfilm publication M19, roll 179.

[3] 1840 U.S. census, Montgomery Co., Tenn., no twp., p. 229 (stamped), line 6, Josiah Watson; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com); NARA microfilm publication M704, roll 532.

[4] 1850 U.S. census, Montgomery Co., Tenn., population schedule, no district, p. 187 (stamped), dwelling/family 772, Josiah Watson household; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com); NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 891.

[5] 1850 U.S. census, Robertson Co., Tenn., pop. sch., dist. 14, p. 132b, dwell./fam. 1539, Tarlton Watson, *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com); NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 894.

[6] Montgomery County, Tennessee, Church & Family Records, p. 31, Thomas J. Watson Family Bible, FamilySearch Library (FSL) microfilm 24,777, item 2; Tennessee State Library, Nashville, Tenn.

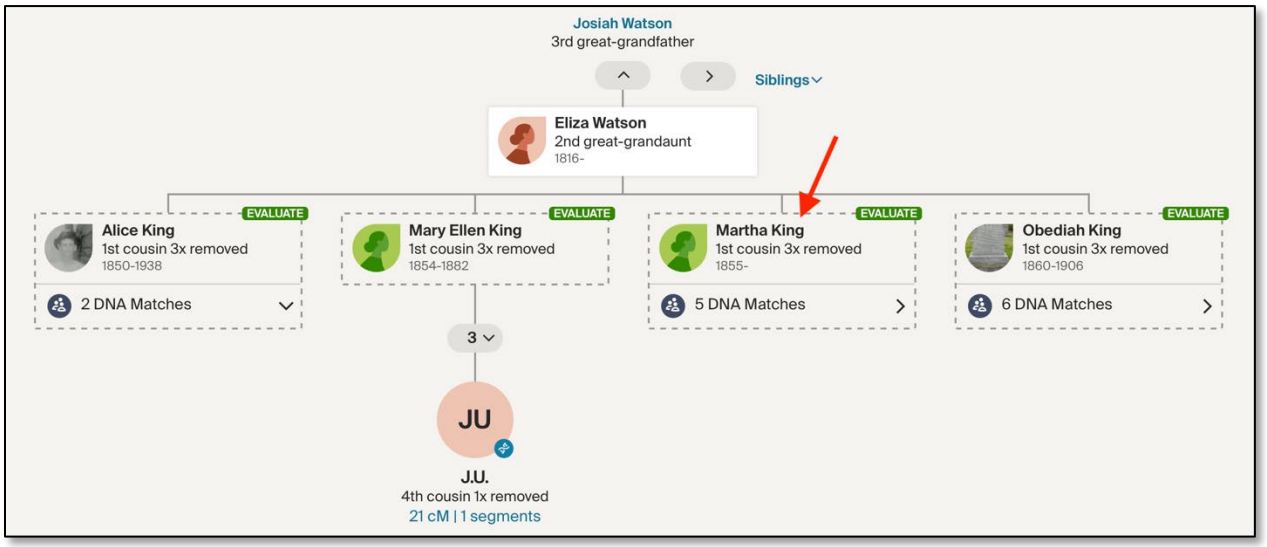
Was I surprised! **Four** more possible children (two boys and two girls) were potentially born to the couple. There is also the possibility the unknowns were relatives or boarders. I had been looking at details for my direct line and not verifying the family as a whole.

Step Three. Test the identify of possible children.
One way of identifying unknown children is by using the aforementioned Ancestry ThruLines with your DNA matches if you have tested there. Here is what my ThruLines looked like with three of the four new children marked with red arrows:



A cautionary note! Take these potential new ancestors with a grain of salt until you can prove the paper trail. On one of my lines, an Ancestry-suggested sibling of my 3rd great grandfather somehow appeared with the same data as my 4th great grandmother. Upon examination, this DNA match had a very problematic tree. So, use these proposed connections as clues only.

1. Choose one of the potential children—for example, Eliza Watson, who has the most matches and a birthdate that could fit in the birth range for the first unknown daughter, b. 1815–1820.



2. Look into the trees of these new children and find the closest DNA match, i.e. choose a 3rd cousin, not a 3rd cousin 2 times removed. Look at that family tree first. I found my closet DNA match in Martha King's line in one of the five matches.
3. Look at the sequence of events in the family trees of the new sibling to see if they make sense. Verify birthdates using at least two independent sources, if possible. This could take a while. After viewing all 14 DNA matches for Eliza Watson, no birth records other than the censuses of 1850–1880 were found for her. And no marriage records were located, but the supposed husband, Andrew King, lived

two households away in 1840 from Josiah Watson, Eliza's proposed father. Andrew King had a female aged 20–29 (b. 1810–1820) in his household. This could have been Eliza.

4. By 1855 the Andrew King family lived in Williamson County, Illinois, the same location to which Josiah and Martha moved in 1850. In 1860 she lived 10 households away from widow Martha and the three remaining children at home after Josiah died in 1853.
5. Three of Eliza's children's marriage records state her maiden name as Eliza Watson.
6. My shared matches with Eliza's descendants mainly point to the same ancestral couple: Josiah and Martha Watson.
7. It very well could be that Eliza is the missing oldest daughter. But wait, there's more!

Next month: Clues from biographies, deeds, news articles, and more lock down the identities of Eliza and her newly suggested siblings.



The San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society Grants Committee needs YOU!



The Grants Committee needs Volunteers to help SAGHS achieve its Goals for Capacity Building Growth and Community Outreach.

If you have experience or interest in grant writing, submission, or management, the Society needs your help NOW! Imagine the satisfaction, you will get by assisting the Society to accomplish major growth projects with lasting impact.

The Society's Grants goal in 2023 is to raise several hundred thousand dollars through extramural funding. This funding would be used to support capital construction and major repair projects identified in the SAGHS Long Range Plan.

Please contact David Ringer if you are interested in learning more about this Society initiative. It will utilize both Face-to-Face meetings as well as Zoom meetings to allow flexibility in participation. David can be reached at ringer.david@gmail.com or by phone at: 210- 616-1581.

Thank you on behalf of the Grants Committee: Larry Luckett, Bill Myers, and David Ringer.



Quilt Tickets Available!

Tickets are now on sale for our latest quilt "Stars & Stripes Forever"!

The Quilt is Queen-size, was made by Helen Parker, and donated in her honor.

The tickets are still only one dollar each, so buy early and often. See our duty Librarian for purchases.

The money raised from our quilt ticket sales are important to support our on-going Library functions.

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society is a proud member of the following societies:

Texas State Genealogical Society

MEMBER

NEW BOOKS

AL 00008 (21)	Early Alabama Marriages, 1810-1850: many continue or end between 1850 to 1900, a few continue through 1900 -1936: Groom "X" and Bride "X"	
AL 00008 (23)	Early Alabama Marriages, 1810-1850: many continue or end between 1850 to 1900, a few continue through 1900 -1936: Groom "Z" and Bride "Z"	
AL 00008 (24)	Early Alabama Marriages, 1810-1850: many continue or end between 1850 to 1900, a few continue through 1900 -1936: Surname for Groom "Blank" or for Bride "Blank"	
AL 00008 (9a)	Early Alabama Marriages, 1810-1850: many continue or end between 1850 to 1900, a few continue through 1900 -1936: Groom "E" and Bride "E"	
AL clar6	Clarke County, Alabama Marriage Book "B", January 4, 1865 - November 18, 1870	Crumpton, Freda, Ann L. Crumpton, and Louise Skinner
AL tall8	Tallapoosa County, Alabama Marriage Records, Volume 2	Horn, Robert C. and Julia Horn
AL tusc2	1986 Census of Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, Part 2	Sudduth, Maggie Hubbard
AL tusc2	Tuscaloosa County, Alabama Records, Volume 3	Sudduth, Maggie Hubbard
AL tusc2	Tuscaloosa County, Alabama Records. Volume 6	Sudduth, Maggie Hubbard
AL tusc8	Moores Bridge, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, 1825-1990, Volume 1	Sudduth, Maggie Hubbard
AL tusc8	Moores Bridge, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, 1825-1996, Volume 3, Part 1	Sudduth, Maggie Hubbard
AL tusc8	Moores Bridge, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, 1825-1996, Volume 3, Part 2	Sudduth, Maggie Hubbard
AR hemp2	Hempstead County, Arkansas United States Census of 1870	The Hempstead County Genealogical Society
AR hemp2	Hempstead County, Arkansas United States Census of 1880	The Hempstead County Genealogical Society
AR hemp8	Hempstead & Nevada Counties, Arkansas, Cemetery Inscriptions, Volume 1	Head, John Calvin
AR hemp8	Marriages Hempstead County, Arkansas, 1875-1900, Volume 1	The Hempstead County Genealogical Society
FH Cantelou	House of Cantelou & Co.: The Story of a Southern Family	McLeod, Stephen A.
FH Hanson	Flashback to the Golden Years, 1940-1960	Hanson, Ralph Neal
FH Holland	Holland - Jackson Record with Related Hoyle - Swofford History	McCall, Pearl Davis

Submitted by Beverly Rakowitz

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Barbara Holmes

Library Hours

Sun.: 1 pm – 5 pm
Mon.: 10 am – 4pm
Wed.: 10 am – 7 pm
Sat.: 10 am – 4 pm

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

Upcoming Events at SAGHS

Classes are held in the Dwyer Center Social distancing will be respected
Please Pre-register by calling the Library during business hours at:
210-342-5242 or via email to:
education@txsaghs.org

Sat. March 11
DNA Consult Hours
10 am, 11 am, 12 pm
Annette Graham

Sun. March 19
Internet Resources in Genealogy
2 pm—4 pm
Stephanie Wells

Sat. March 25
Members Orientation with Library Tour
10 am—12:30 pm
B. Froebel, R. Lewis, B. Rakowitz

Sat. April 1
DNA Subscription 23 & Me
10 am—12 pm
Annette Graham

Sat. April 8
DNA Consult Hours
10 am, 11 am, 12 pm
Annette Graham