SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

911 Melissa Dr.
San Antonio TX
78213-2024
210-342-5242

Website:
https://txsaghs.org

A Member Society
Chartered in 1959 a
501 (c) (3) non-profit

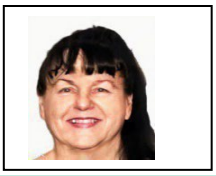
February 2023

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A newsletter to inform members of Society activities and Library Acquisitions
February 2023



President's Message

Photo by Ray Weiland

We had some real rough spots in 2022 including the deaths of several long time members and debilitating illnesses of others. The challenges have been steep, but there have been blessings too, and it is the perseverance of our wonderful volunteers that have kept us going. We need more of you!

Joe Weigand, "TR Joe" waived his fee to perform for us on January 21st. He donated the money raised from his Teddy Bear auctions at each of the four performances at the Menger Hotel the same weekend! His auctioneering abilities brought in an even $2,000.00 for SAGHS! His reason for doing so: "*I love your passion for History.*" We have an amazing friend in TR Joe.

At our January 21, 2023 Membership Meeting, we voted unanimously to give an Honorary Life Membership to Joe Wiegand, aka Teddy Roosevelt. TR Joe has been supportive of our purposes, and when I asked the members to approve the motion with a fist pump and yell "Bully", the room roared its approval!

Thanks to the wonderful volunteers who provided refreshments for the January Membership Meeting: Cathy Bohnak, Ann Hunt, Barbara McPherson, Sue Seiler and Mary Souter. Thank you Ladies! I would encourage other members to volunteer also. It is a great way to support your Society. A sign-up list is in the Library entrance with (cont. pg. 2)



Photo by: Kurt Kneeland



Lois Bready
Trish Champion
Meghan Champion-Bowling
Douglas Ferrier
Marie Ferrier
Marcie Hanson
Joe Holahan
Chris Hughes
Pat Johnson
James O'Connell
Linda Manchester
Lynn Rothe
Rita Schimpff
Patricia Small
Patrick Small

Submitted by Linda Monts

Meetings

Board Meeting:
Sat. February 11, 2023
10 am Roosevelt Auditorium

General Membership Meeting
Sat. February 18, 2023 10 am Roosevelt Auditorium

President's Message continued

the sign-in log.

At our January meeting, a group of five members (Ann Hunt, Sue Seiler, Bill Myers, Cathy Bohnak and Carole Pyles) were elected to serve as the nominating committee for Officer Elections in April. Please do not be surprised if you get a call asking for you to serve in these critical positions. Serving your Society as an officer is not as scary as it may sound. We have sound practices and guidelines for each and help from members who have already served. Officer candidates need to have been a member for at least a year.

Committees are a wonderful place to volunteer also. You will work with experienced people familiar with the procedures of the library, our education endeavors and our special functions. In fact, the best way to learn our collection is to volunteer as a duty librarian, usually one day a month. Come have fun with us!

Also, in January, we received another check from the Dwyer Estate, for $125,000. This will be the last large amount we will receive. If anything remains after the Executors take their percentage, it will be very small. The board will soon decide the best use of these recent funds.

We deeply appreciate the member donations to the Annual Fund Drive. This year's donations totaled $4,200. Thank you for remembering as we depend on these donations too. Thank you for your generosity, as we depend on these donations too. Your support is vital! Donations can be made anytime.

One unexpected recent expense is the discovery of "roof rats" in the Library attic. That explains the disappearance of food items from our wee pantry. Traps have been set and entry holes have been plugged, and hopefully it won't be long before we are free of those pests.

Barb Froebel

Our Next Membership Meeting

A committee of Rob Lewis, Kitty Myers, Steve Mabie and Charlotte Travis reviewed our current Bylaws. The result of their review was suggested revisions. Attached to this Newsletter are the revisions, which the Board has endorsed. Members will have the opportunity to discuss and vote on these changes during the Business portion of our February 18th meeting. Please plan to attend, in person or via Zoom.

Our Speaker for the February 18th Membership Meeting, David A. Bowles, is an International Award-Winning writer who has published five novels in a series known as the Westward Sagas. The story is inspired by his great-grandmother's family and their journey from Chester County Pennsylvania to Texas. The fifth book in the series will be released in February. David hopes to have some available for purchase at our meeting.

Thanks to our Annual Fund Donors:		
Virginia Alexander	Margaret Linn	Mary & David Ringer
Jacobina Alley	Jane Lowenhaupt	Dugan Sabins
Joseph & Leslie Bouvier	Robert Lozano	Martha Sarrack
Joann Boyett	Larry Luckett	Lisa Sawa
Judy Castleberry	Nancy & Stephen Mabie	Diane Scannell
Judy Curtis	Katherine Massey	Herschel Sheiness
Pamella Daniel	Vicki McRae	Mary Souter
Julia George	Jackie Meldrom	Mary Ann Spreen
Ann Hunt	Ellen & William Myers	Charlotte Travis
Fay Jackson	Beverly & James Rakowitz	Barbara Walski
Kurt Kneeland	Glenda Rast	Mark White

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.

Submitted by Ann Hunt



Photo by Ann Hunt

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

The Grants Committee needs Volunteers to help SAG&HS 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 your satisfaction, obtained 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.

Nominations of Officers

The Nominations Committee of Ann Hunt, Carol Pyles, Cathy Bonack, Bill Myers and Sue Sieler are recruiting for members to fill our 2023-2025 officer positions: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Please give some thought to volunteering to fill one of these vital positions. For more information, contact the current Officers, or a member of the Nominating Committee.

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

Photographers Needed

We are looking for one or more photographers to take photos of SAGHS members for next year's membership yearbook. We plan to schedule one hour photo sessions after the general membership meetings in March, April, and May. The photos will be head shots of the members and can be taken with any digital camera. If interested in volunteering, please contact Nancy Mabie at NRMabie@gmail.com.

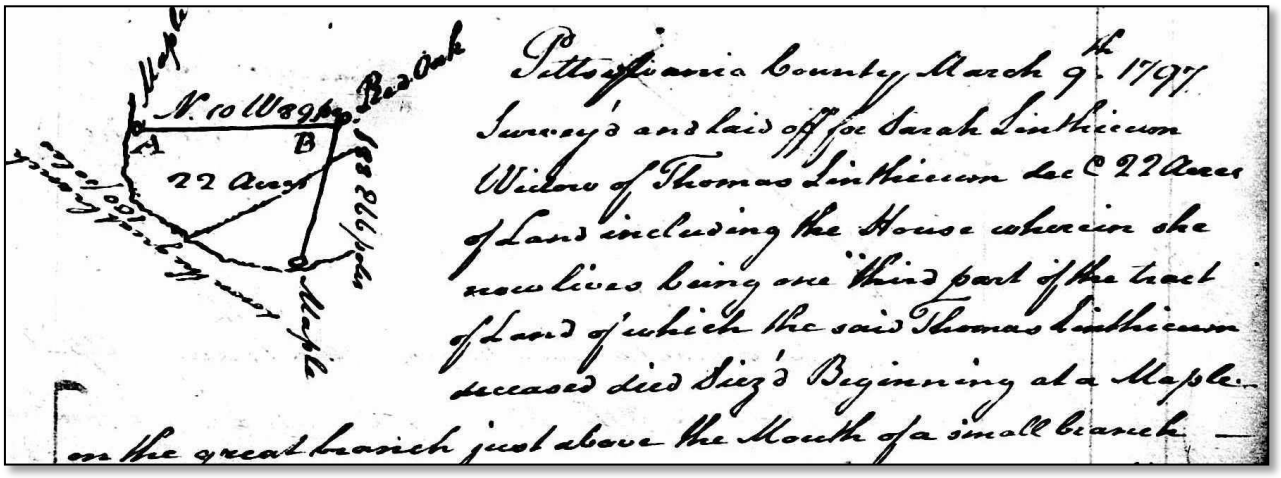
METHODS and SOURCES

by Leslie Tomlinson, CG

The Importance of Dower Records

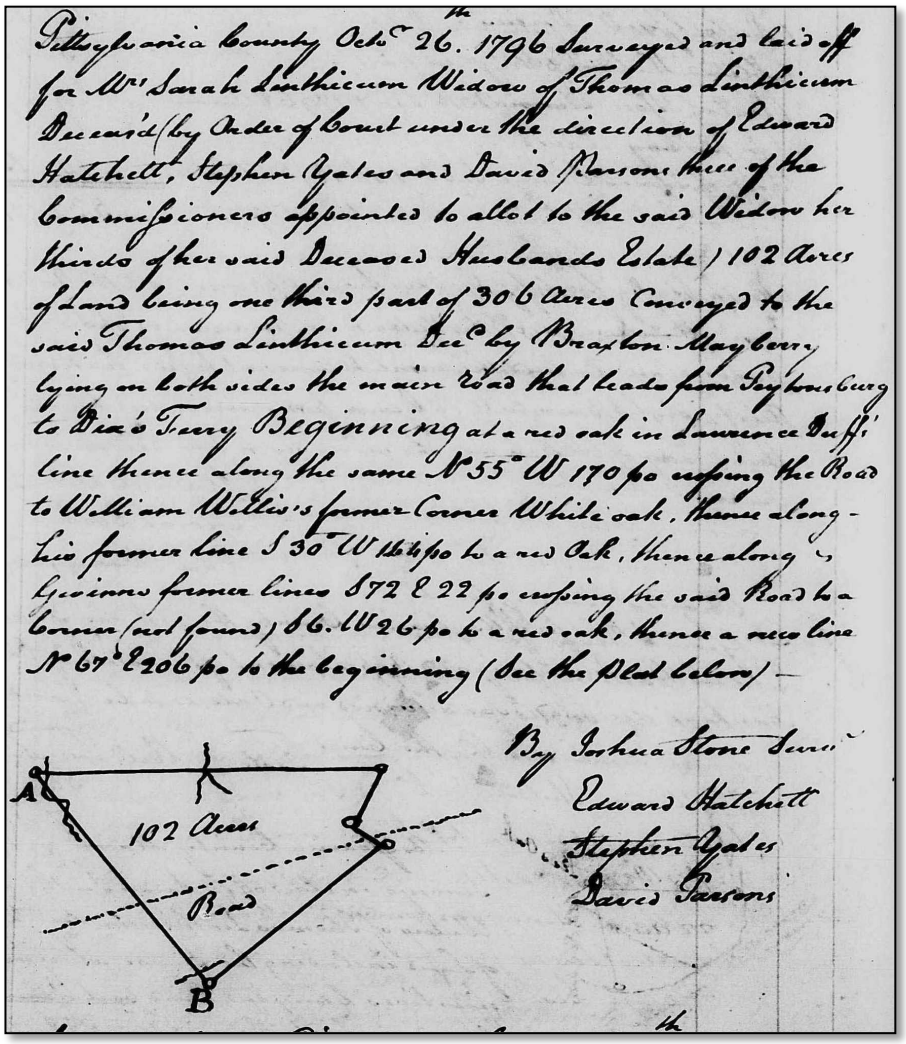
(continued from previous newsletter)

Dower Land Laid Off:
Sarah Linthicum, of Pittsylvania County, Virginia, was a widow of Thomas Linthicum. On 9 March 1797 county commissioners laid off 22 acres for her including the house where she lived. This land was one third of the tract owned by her husband at his death. A plat was copied into the court document and a land description in metes and bounds was included. This entry spanned two pages. The second entry was easily missed by the author on the first view, so make sure to examine the pages before and after to ensure that all relevant entries are examined.



Dower land laid off, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, 1797.

Immediately after the above entry is another record dated 26 October 1796 *six months earlier*, for a second piece of land laid off for the widow. This consisted of 102 acres of the 306 acres Thomas Linthicum owned at his death. Included in the record is the name of the original grantor of the land, a plat, land description, names of adjacent landowners, and location in relation to a nearby road and ferry.[1]


Pittsylvania County Octr 26. 1796 Surveyed and laid off for Mrs Sarah Linthicum Widow of Thomas Linthicum Decd (by Order of Court under the direction of Edward Hatchett, Stephen Yates and David Parsons three of the Commissioners appointed to allot to the said Widow her thirds of her said Deceased Husbands Estate) 102 Acres of Land being one third part of 306 Acres Conveyed to the said Thomas Linthicum Decd by Braxton Magberry lying on both sides the main Road that leads from Petersburg to Dix's Ferry Beginning at a red oak in Lawrence Duff's line thence along the same N 55° W 170 po crossing the Road to William Willis's former Corner White oak, thence along his former line S 30° W 164 po to a red Oak, thence along Gwinns former lines S 72 E 22 po crossing the said Road to a Corner (and found) S 6. W 26 po to a red oak, thence a new line N 67° E 206 po to the beginning (See the Plat below) —

A
102 Acres
Road
B

By Joshua Stone Surv.r
Edward Hatchett
Stephen Yates
David Parsons

Dower land laid off, Pittsylvania County, Virginia, 1796.

In looking at dower-related documents such as the above example, you might assume that Thomas died intestate and the land was specified as his wife's dower amount. But why the two records at two different dates? When did Thomas die?

This requires further investigation. A next step would be to see if there are other probate records for Thomas. And there are. Thomas recorded a will on 4 April 1796. He directed that all his personal and real property be sold and divided among his five children. His wife Sarah could remain on the land and plantation where he lived but if she moved the land should be sold as the rest of his estate. The will was recorded 19 September 1796. At the same court hearing, widow Sarah came into court and denounced anything bequeathed to her in the will. Three commissioners were appointed to lay off one third part of Thomas's estate.[2]

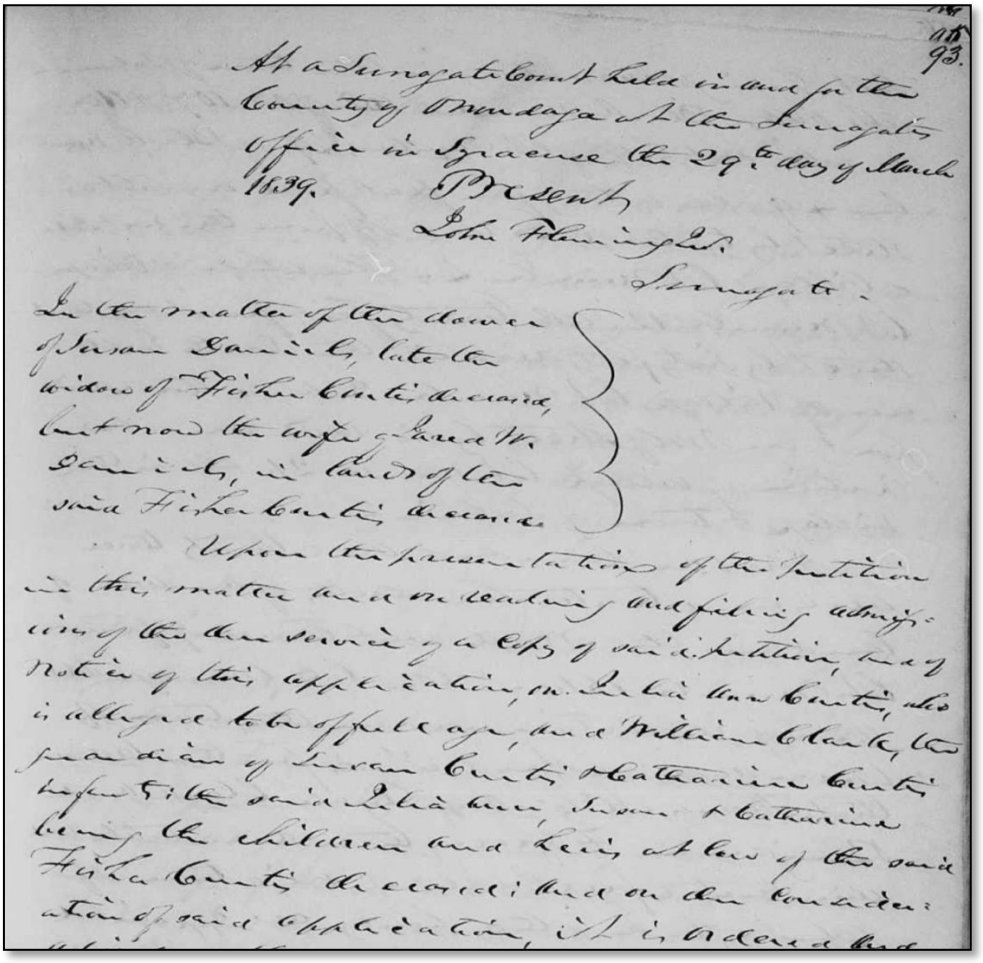
What does all this mean?

1. This tells you that Thomas died shortly before the day the will was recorded.

2. Sarah refused her part of her husband's will which only allowed her to live on the land where she lived at the time of his death — the 22 acres laid off on 9 March 1797.
3. She wanted to be able to control one third of **all** his land that he owned at the time of death, so she also acquired access to the 102 acres for her lifetime's use in the second part of the record described above.

Variations on a theme

Even if a woman remarried, she could be eligible to collect dower in the lands her former husband owned in some localities and times. This example from Onondaga County, New York, shows the petition for dower of Susan Daniels, formerly the wife of Fisher Curtis, who now was married to Jared W. Daniels.[3] On 5 April 1839 she applied for dower and was allotted her one third share of the lands and dwellings in the village of Salina that her former husband owned and on which three heirs, probably her daughters, now lived.



At a Surrogate's Court held in and for the County of Onondaga at the Surrogate's Office in Syracuse the 29th day of March 1839. Present John Fleming Esq. Surrogate.

In the matter of the dower of Susan Daniels, late the widow of Fisher Curtis deceased, but now the wife of Jared W. Daniels, in lands of the said Fisher Curtis deceased

Upon the presentation of the petition in this matter and reading and filing affidavits of the due service of a copy of said petition, and Notice of this application, on Luther Curtis, who is alleged to be of full age, and William Clarke, the guardian of Susan Curtis & Catharine Curtis infant children of said Luther, Susan & Catharine being the children and heirs at law of the said Fisher Curtis deceased and on the consideration of said application it is ordered and

Dower land from former husband's estate, Onondaga County, New York, 1839

The difficult thing about finding records like this is that they are not usually filed under the former husband's name, but under a wife's new married name, of which you may not be aware. It pays to follow the estate/probate records through to the end—final account

settlement, guardian final settlement, and distributions of land. This may involve many years but is well worth the effort.

Bottom line: know the state laws for the period you are researching. "They determine how estates are administered and divided, and how land is acquired … They govern county record keeping, including titles of record books, courts, and officials; information recorded; and forms used. State laws also address bankruptcy, coverture, dower, free people of color, guardianship, indebtedness, insanity, licensing, miscegenation, and slavery."[4] The accuracy of the evidence gleaned from these records, whether direct or indirect, depends on how well you interpret the concepts in the law.

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[1] *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9PX-G9ZN-N?i=310&cat=415001 : accessed 27 December 2022) digital film 007646033, image 311–312, Pittsylvania Co., Va., accounts current, book 2, 1788-1797, p. 343–5, Sarah Linthicum widow's dower, 1797.

[2] "Virginia, U.S., Wills and Probate Records, 1652-1900," *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com/search /collections/62347/ : accessed 27 December 2022) > Pittsylvania Deeds and Wills Book, Vol 9, 1791-1794; Deeds and Wills Book, Vol 10, 1794-1797 > image 548, p. 434, Thomas Linthicum will, 1796.

[3] *FamilySearch* (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:33SQ-GYCJ-CH4?i=62&cc=1920234&cat=626359 : accessed 27 December 2022) digital film 005116349, dower book A, 1830–1879, image 64-67, p. 93–98, Susan Curtis Daniels dower, 1839.

[4] Ann Carter Fleming, "Genealogical Applications of Statute Law," *National Genealogical Society Quarterly (NGSQ)* 95 (September 2007), 204–205.

Resources

Note: Call numbers in bold refer to items in the SAGHS library.

Devine, Donn. "The Common Law of England: A Key Resource for American Genealogists." *National Genealogical Society Quarterly (NGSQ)* 95 (September 2007): 165–178. **SAGHS Periodicals.**

—. "The Widow's Dower Interest." *Ancestry Magazine* Vol. 12, no. 5, Sep–Oct 1994): 20–22.

Hatcher, Patricia Law. *Locating Your Roots: Discover Your Ancestor Using Land Records*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 2016. **SAGHS: RF 00000 (83).**

Rose, Christine. *Courthouse Research for Family Historians*. San Jose, Calif.: CR Publications, 2004. **SAGHS: RF 00000 (258)**.

Russell, Judy G., *The Legal Genealogist* blog (https://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog), search for "dower".

Ryskamp, George. "Common-Law Concepts for the Genealogist: Real-Property Transactions." *NGSQ* 84–3 (September 1996): 165–181. **SAGHS Periodicals.**

—. "Fundamental Common-Law Concepts for the Genealogist: Marriage, Divorce, and Coverture." *NGSQ* 83–3. (September 1995): 165–179. **SAGHS Periodicals.**

Salmon, Marylynn. *Women and the Law of Property in Early America*. Chapel Hill, N.C.: University of North Carolina Press, 1986. **SAGHS: RF 00000 (76).**

New Books		
Call Number	**Title**	**Author**
RF 25005 (22a) Rare Book	Ancestry: The Objects of the Hereditary Societies and the Military and Naval Orders of the United States and Requirements for Membership	Zieber, Eugene
RF 32004 (50)	Hidalgo Revolt: Prelude to Mexican Independence	Hamill, Jr.,Hugh M.
RF 33004 Kleberg	Bob Kleberg and the King Ranch	Cypher, John
RF 33004 MacArthur	American Caesar: Douglas MacArthur 1880-1964	Manchester, William
RF 33004 Russell	Good Medicine: Memories of the Real West	Russell, Charles M.
TN ande2	1850 United States Census, Anderson County, Tennessee	Gammel, Paula (transcribed by)
TN ande8	Anderson County, Tennessee Marriage Records, 1881 through 1888	Hutton, Edith Wilson
TN ande8	Anderson County, Tennessee, Marriages, January, 1859-August, 1882	Gammell, Paula
TN blou7	Estate Settlements in Blount County, Tennessee, Naming Heirs	Dockter, Albert W.
TX mont8	Montgomery County, Texas Marriage Records 1842-1879	Grammer, Norma Rutledge (compiled by)
TX 00004 (352)	Texas: 1874	King, Edward, and Champney, J. Wells
TX 00004 (353)	Society of Mary in Texas	Schmitz, S.M., PH.D. Joseph William
TX 00004 (354)	First Texas Navy	Powers, John
TX 00004 (355)	Century of Service, The Concise History of Victoria Bank & Trust Company	Johnson, Laurence S.
TX bexa0	Texas Hollywood: Filmmaking in San Antonio since 1910	Thompson, Frank
TX bexa4 (140)	San Antonio Story	Fehrenbach, T.R.
TX croc4	History of Crockett County	The Crockett County Historical Society
TX mont8	Montgomery county, Texas Marriage Records, 1842-1879	Grammer, Norma Rutledge
TX mont8	Montgomery County, Texas Marriages, 1838-1864	Montgomery County Genealogical & Historical Society, Inc.
TX park8	Parker County, Texas Marriage Records 1874-1889 Volume 1	Hudson, Weldon I.
TX tyle2	1860 Tyler County, Texas	Whitmeyer, Jack
AL 00004 (27)	Formative Period in Alabama, 1815-1828	Abernethy, Thomas Perkins
AL 00006 (8)	Old Cahaba Land Office Records & Military Warrants. 1817-1853	Hahn, Marilyn Davis
AL 00008 (10a)	Early Alabama Marriages, 1810-1850: many continue or end between 1850 to 1900, a few continue through 1900-1936: Groom "G" and Bride "G"	

Submitted by Beverly Rakowitz

Contact Us

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President@txsaghs.org

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FirstVP@txsaghs.org

2nd Vice President: (Membership)
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3rd Vice President (Finance)
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ThirdVP@txsaghs.org

Librarian **vacant**
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Education &Volunteers
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Education@txsaghs.org

Registrar
Steve Mabie
Publicity
Vacant

Newsletter Editor
Barbara Holmes
Publications@txsaghs.org

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 at
210-342-5242 or via email to: ***education@txsaghs.org***

Wed. Feb 8
Family Tree Maker/WikiTree
10 am – 12 pm
Scott Atkinson

Sat. Feb. 11
DNA Consult Hours
10, 11, 12
Annette Graham

Wed. Feb. 15
Part 1 of 2 Beginner's Genealogy
10 am – 2:30 pm
Stephanie Wells

Wed. Feb. 22
Part 2 of 2 Beginner's Genealogy
10 am – 2:30 pm
Stephanie Wells

Sat. Feb. 25
(Make-up Class)
Mississippi/Alabama Consult Hours
Jim Keith

Sat. Mar. 4
Ancestry.com DNA subscription
10 am – 12 pm
Annette Graham

Sun. Mar. 5
Using Google for Research
2 pm – 4 pm
Stephanie Wells

Wed. Mar. 8
Family Tree Maker/WikiTree
10 am – 12 pm
Scott Atkinson

Sat. Mar. 11
DNA Consult Hours
10, 11, 12
Annette Graham

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society
Proposed Bylaw Revisions – 2023

Just the Proposed Bylaws Revisions are listed here. One needs to refer to the Bylaws in the membership yearbook (pages 50-60) or go to the SAGHS web site, click on Members Only, click on Members Resources, then click on Organizational Documents for the current Bylaws.

Code: words that are struck have a line through them
words to be added are underlined.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Membership
Membership in the Society shall be open to all persons ~~eighteen (18) years or older~~ willing to uphold the purposes of the Society and pay annual dues.

Rationale: The Board of Directors has established the categories of membership with the youngest being called Student. Striking the age of eighteen (18) is more in keeping with the ages of students.

Section 2: HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

a) Honorary Membership may be conferred upon a member or non-member who ~~has~~ have made significant contributions to the Society, upon written recommendation to and approval of the Board of Directors and a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at any regular meeting of the Society.
b) Such membership does not include the right to vote or hold office, unless the individual is or becomes a dues-paying member of the Society.

Rationale: The title of Honorary Membership does make one a member of the Society without privileges. If this member pays dues, they should have all the privileges of membership. Note the original verbiage had been reorganized

ARTICLE IV: ~~OFFICERS~~ BOARD MEMBERS

Section 1: ELECTED OFFICERS
The elected officers of the Society shall be President, ~~First~~ Vice President, ~~Second Vice President, Third Vice President~~, ~~Recording~~ Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Directors At-Large elected to serve terms of two (2) years or until their successor is elected. ~~All officers of the Society shall be bonded.~~

Rationale: The office of First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Third Vice-President were struck leaving one Vice President. Presently, the Second Vice-President is membership chair and the Third Vice-President is finance chair. As committee chairs instead of officers, they will be able to keep their positions for more than four (4) years. This will maximize the talents of our volunteers. Only those who sign checks need to be bonded and that is included in their respective duties.

Section 2: APPOINTED ~~OFFICERS~~ MEMBERS

The President shall appoint:

a) a Librarian and a Finance Chair who shall be ~~a~~ voting members of the Board of Directors; and
b) a Parliamentarian and a Chaplain who shall serve as advisors on the Board and shall not have a vote.

Rationale: Since the position of Third Vice-President has been struck, it was felt that a Finance Chair should be a member of the Board of Directors.

Section 3: NOMINATIONS

a) At the January regular meeting, a nominating committee of five (5) members shall be elected by the members present and voting.
b) It shall be the duty of this committee in odd number years to nominate candidates for each elected office and in even number years nominate three (3) Directors At-Large.
c) ~~No member of the nominating committee shall serve consecutive terms.~~
d) Notification of the election for the Nominating Committee shall be published prior to the January meeting.

Rationale: Section 3 was in the Standing Rules. Inserting it in the bylaws makes the process of electing the Nominating Committee and their duties clearer. Renumber d) to c).

Section 4: ELECTIONS

a) The Nominating Committee shall present a slate of nominees in a report at the February meeting and the report shall be in the newsletter prior to the March meeting.
b) Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the February and March meetings, and then the nominations shall be closed.
c) Elections shall be at the April meeting by ballot unless there is only one nominee for an office, in which case the election may be by voice.
d) Newly elected officers and directors shall take office on the first day of the fiscal year (1 July) of the year in which they are elected and serve a term of two years or until their successors take office.

Section 5: QUALIFICATION OF OFFICERS

a) Elected officers shall have been members of the Society a minimum of one (1) year. ~~and~~
b) The President shall have served on the Board of Directors.
c) No member shall hold more than one (1) office at a time.
d) ~~nor be eligible to~~ No elected officer shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same elective office.

Rationale: Sections 3, 4, and 5 were put into outline form to make them easier to follow rather than being in one long sentence. The Sections were renumbered to reflect the addition of a new number 3.

ARTICLE V: DUTIES OF ELECTED OFFICERS

Section 1: The PRESIDENT shall:

c) sign all contracts approved by the Board of Directors ~~with the secretary~~, for and on behalf of the Society;

d) sign all checks issued by the Society with the Treasurer, except that, in the absence of the President, the Vice President, Secretary, ~~Third Vice-President~~ or Finance Chair may sign checks in the President's stead;

e) be bonded ~~with other officers who are~~ to be authorized to sign checks;

f) appoint the chairman of all committees with the approval of the Board of Directors;

Rationale: Adding the words approved by the Board of Directors makes it clearer what contracts should be signed by the president. Sometimes it has been hard to obtain the secretary's signature in a timely manner. The sentence in d) was changed to reflect the striking of Third Vice-President and adding a Finance Chair to the Board of Directors. f) was changed to appoint just the chairman of all committees in order to remove some of the president's work load and allow chairman to select members they might be more familiar with.

Section 2: The ~~FIRST~~ VICE PRESIDENT shall:

~~a) be Chairman of the Program Committee;~~

b) preside at meetings in the absence of the President;

c) ~~in the event of a vacancy in the office of president fill the unexpired term;~~

d) be bonded to be authorized to sign checks;

e) perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President, the Board of Directors, or the Society.

(*The letter for each sentence will be adjusted)*

Rationale: a) and c) have been struck to remove the chairman responsibilities and requirement to move into the office of president should a vacancy arise.

~~Section 3: The SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT shall:~~

~~Section 4: The THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT shall:~~

(The number of the sections that follow will be adjusted to reflect 3 and 4 being struck)

Rationale: The number of vice-president's were reduced to one with that person serving as support to the president.

Section 5: The SECRETARY shall:

a) serve as ~~be~~ the registered agent of the Society with the Secretary of State of the State of Texas; and maintain a file in a timely manner at the Society Library with appropriate reports;

c) ~~have at each meeting a copy a of the Bylaws and a current list of members at each meeting~~;

~~d) sign checks with the Vice President, Treasurer, Third Vice-President or Finance Chair, or other authorized Executive Committee members on bank accounts of the Society in the absence of the president; and~~

f) be bonded to be authorized to sign checks;

(The letter of all sentences will be readjusted)

Rationale: Each section was reworded to begin with an action word. In section c) a change was made to reflect the earlier change of striking the Third Vice-President and adding a Finance Chair.

Section 6: The TREASURER shall:

d) ~~may~~ appoint an Assistant Treasurer with consent of the Board of Directors and the Society membership;
f) be authorized to sign checks with the President, ~~Recording~~ Secretary, ~~or Third~~ Vice President, or Finance Chair ~~be authorized to sign checks~~ on the accounts of the Society;
h) be bonded, ~~with such other officers as are~~ to be authorized to sign checks;

(The letter of all sentences will be readjusted)

Rationale: d) 'may' was struck so the 'shall' in the heading will serve to make this a requirement as the office of Treasurer requires assistance. Other sentences reflect that the Third Vice-President has been struck and the Society has only one Secretary.

New ARTICLE VI: DUTIES OF APPOINTED MEMBERS

Section 1: The LIBRARIAN shall:

a) serve as chair of the Library Committee; and
b) coordinate the activities of the Cataloging Committee, Book Selection Committee, Memorials Committee, Periodicals Committee, ~~Registrar~~ Research Committee, and Vertical Files Committee.

Section 2: The FINANCE CHAIR shall:

a) chair the Finance Committee;
b) advise the Board of Directors on matters of financial policy;
c) recommend to the Board of Directors the annual budget to be adopted by the membership at the September meeting; and
d) ~~recommend amendments to the budget as needed~~;
e) manage all investments of the Society.
f) ~~recommend and implement plans for fund-raising~~.
g) be bonded to be authorized to sign checks;

Adjust the letters for each item.

Section 3: the CHAPLAIN shall

a) offer a prayer when requested at meetings of the Society;
b) communicate with an ill or distressed member;
c) coordinate with the Memorial Committee regarding a deceased member; and
d) perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors.

Section 4: The PARLIAMENTARIAN shall:

a) serve as an advisor to the President on matters of procedure and protocol;
b) advise members of protocol and procedures when requested; and
c) perform such other duties as may be assigned by the President or the Board of Directors

(All articles that follow will be renumbered)

Rationale: If Appointed Members are mentioned in the bylaws, their duties should also be included. Their duties were in the Standing Rules and have been placed here.

ARTICLE VII: MEETINGS

Section 2: The ~~Board~~ General meeting in ~~August~~ September shall be the Annual Meeting at which annual reports of officers and standing ~~and special~~ committees shall be recorded in the minutes.

Rationale: Having the Annual Meeting in September will give officers and committee chairman more time to complete their annual report. All activities of the previous year should be reported to the general membership.

New Section 5:
The society may meet and transact business electronically as long as all the members can interactively participate during the meeting.

Rationale: The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order addresses electronic meetings and adding Section 5 enables the Society to use this method to transact business.

Section 6: The quorum for a meeting of the Society shall be ~~five percent of the membership.~~ fifteen (15).

Rationale: The requirement for a quorum should be a number rather than a percent.

ARTICLE VIII; EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The President, Vice President, ~~Recording~~ Secretary, and Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 4: The quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be ~~fifty percent (50%) of the members.~~ three (3).

Rationale: In Section 1 the word Recording was struck as the Society has only one Secretary. In Section 4 the quorum should be a number rather than a percent.

ARTICLE IX; BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall be composed of the elected officers, elected directors, and the appointed board members. ~~and the Chairman of Library Committee~~.

Rationale: The Librarian is the Chairman of the Library Committee and is an appointed board member.

Section 7: Special meetings of the Board of Directors:

a) may be called by the President with not less than 24 hours notice given; ~~and~~
b) shall be called upon written request of ~~fifty percent (50%)~~ five (5) of the voting members of the Board of Directors;

Section 8: A member of the Board of Directors is considered resigned upon missing three (3) consecutive regular meetings unless the resignation is overridden by ~~sixty-seven percent (67%)~~ six (6) of the voting members.

Section 10: A quorum of the Board shall be ~~sixty-seven percent (67%)~~ six (6) of the voting members.

Rationale: In Section 7, 8 and 10, a number should be used instead of a percent.

ARTICLE X; STANDING COMMITTEES:

Section 1: The Standing Committees of the Society shall be: Cataloging, Book Selection, Building and Grounds, Education, Finance, Information Technology, Library, Membership, Programs, Publications, Volunteer Coordinator, and Website.

Rationale: The committees were alphabetized so they are easier to locate. Finance and Membership have been added to replace the duties of the Second and Third Vice-Presidents which have been struck. Five additional Standing Committees have been added.

Section 2: The duties of the Standing Committees will be located in the Standing Rules.

Rationale: Standing Rules can be amended without notice and a majority vote. As a volunteer-managed Society, changes in responsibilities must be adjusted in a timely manner.

ARTICLE XI: PARIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

(No changes to this article.)

ARTICLE XII: AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Society by a ~~sixty-seven percent (67%)~~ two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting, provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing at the previous regular meeting and published in the newsletter prior to the meeting at which the amendments are to be adopted.

ARTICLE XIII: DISSOLUTION:

In the event of dissolution of the Society, the Board of Directors shall recommend to the Society at a regular meeting the disposition of the assets of the Society in accordance with the Not-For-Profit statutes of the State of Texas, as amended, and Paragraph 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Such disposition shall require the approval of ~~sixty-seven percent (67%)~~ two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting.

Rationale: The number required to amend the bylaws or dissolve the Society needs to be expressed as a number rather than a percent.

Charlotte Travis
Rob Lewis
Steve Mabie
Kitty Massey
Barbara Froebel