SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Website:

https://txsaghs.org

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

April 2022

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A newsletter to inform members of Society activities and Library Acquisitions
April 2022

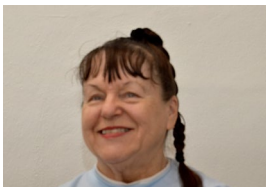


Photo by Ray Weiland

President's Message

Dear Friends,

If you missed the last General Meeting, you missed a real treat! We have been having some very interesting speakers, and our speaker on March 19th (3rd Saturday as always) was slightly north of Awesome! A walking, talking history lesson, Joe Wiegand is indeed a professional, looking and sounding like Teddy Roosevelt himself. I, and perhaps all of us, remembered things we had learned and forgotten, and then learned a lot more. Joe stayed for refreshments and a tour of the library. It was a wonderful day.

I must thank Ray Weiland for telling me about Joe Wiegand. Joe was scheduled to perform in several places in Texas, including Hill Country (Del Webb) and the Menger Hotel where the original Teddy delighted in the mango ice cream. Joe had 2 open days and agreed to share one of them with us. I decided to attend the Menger dinner and had a wonderful time again. Joe's presentation, saluting the Rough Riders, the Alamo and TR's history in Texas, was a delightful fundraiser for the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF) Veterans' Appreciation Endowment. There were well over a hundred people in attendance and the disabled veterans who attended were beside themselves with excitement when Joe caused a bidding war over a medium size bear. Bidding began at $500 and proceeded upwards. The shouting began as each bidder tried to out-do the last. Gradually the suspense built as we were down to 2 bidders. That Teddy Bear went for **$8,000.00** (yup, thousand)! If you would like to support the endowment, please visit https://foundation.medora.com/veterans/

Joe's presentation to us is available on our website under Members Only. Forty-two members were present in the Roosevelt Auditorium, with twelve more on zoom. What were the other 426 of you doing?

Cont. p. 3



Joseph Bouvier
Leslie Bouvier
Marilynn Fyffe
Deaubrey Grayson
Megan Groves
Frank Kebelman
Linda Myers
Vicki Olson
Conrad Ortega
Martha Pomroy
Michael Reininger
SueAnn Reininger
Billy Thompson
Ronald Travis
Chuck Villarreal
Lois Villarreal
Alison Whigham

Submitted by Linda Monts

Meetings

Board Meeting:
Sat. April 9th at 10 am
Roosevelt Auditorium

General Membership Meeting:
Sat. April 16th at 10 am
Roosevelt Auditorium

SAGHS Wants You!

To step up to volunteer for one of these positions:

1st. VP: To obtain speakers for our General Membership Meetings, Plan for the Founders Day Luncheon & Seminar.

Memorials Chairperson: Post obituaries of members & their immediate family member(s) on the board, and send condolence cards to the family.

Other Opportunities to help the Society

The Publications Committee is seeking volunteers who will be able to perform their work from the comfort of their own homes. The project requires volunteers to extract information from digital record images of Wills and Probate Records and to summarize the information in a Microsoft Word document. This work can easily be done on a personal computer from the comfort of your own home. Even if you can only help with one or two of these documents, your volunteer efforts will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Nancy Mabie (Publications Committee Chair) at publications@txsaghs.org or (210) 490-9997, if you are willing to participate in this project.

Submitted by Nancy Mabie

ANNOUNCING OUR SPRING DUPLICATE BOOK SALE

Since our sale last fall, we received several book collections to sort and use in our Library. We are sincerely grateful to the generous people, who chose SAGHS as the beneficiary of their own or their loved one's reference books, so that others might use or obtain them. Once these donated collections were sorted by our dedicated volunteers, those books needed for our Library were catalogued and added to our bookshelves. Since there were many duplicates, we decided to add a spring sale so that our members could obtain and purchase added resource(s) for their home library. The earnings from this sale is another avenue to provide added income to our Library's General Fund.

Attached to the email with this newsletter is the listing of available books for you to review and choose. Please email your choices to Education@txsaghs.org so they will be reserved for you at our May sale. At that time you will be able to pay and pick up your selection(s) as well to review the remaining books. For those that may have a question of the content of the book, it may be examined from our library shelf as these are duplicate books.

The May sale will be held from 10 am – 4 pm on 17 and 18 May 2022 in the Dwyer Center Classroom. Payment may be made in either exact cash or check at the time of purchase. If you wish to have your items mailed, we ask that you pay postage and purchase in advance before mailing. Should you have any questions, please feel free to email Nancy McNamara at Education@txsaghs.org.

Submitted by: Nancy McNamara
Book Sale Coordinator

President's Message (cont.)

Well here is another chance to see a TR-iffic presentation. ☺

April's General Meeting will feature Freddie Bustillo, President of the Canary Islanders Association. I know that is the Saturday before Easter, but please come as we need to elect a new set of Directors and this is a rare chance to hear from the Canary Islanders, as they meet on the same day we do.

Monday e-blast: Please check your spam folder. It seems many are not receiving the e-blast in their inbox. When we send a large number of emails at one time, current technology scoots it into spam. We don't like it but unless one of reinvents the technology, we have to work around this slight annoyance.

Well, all good things come to an eventual end. Our wonderful *Our Heritage* editor, Larry Luckett has announced his retirement after 10 great years. But the 10 years aren't up yet! Larry has promised us 3 more issues! That means Larry will be with us thru June of 2023 as Editor!

Have you noticed that more and more articles are being written by Larry? Now is your chance to avail yourself of his expertise, while you can! I know there is a story in all of you. Take advantage of Larry's excellent help with wordsmithing and get that story written! I will if you will! Yes, that's a dare. Let's let Larry help us shine.

The Founders Day Luncheon is in the works, details to be announced. Remember to check your spam folder!

Make us Smile, when you shop at Amazon! Login at:

https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6053342
and designate SAGHS for Amazon to donate .5% of the price of your eligible purchases to us.

METHODS and SOURCES

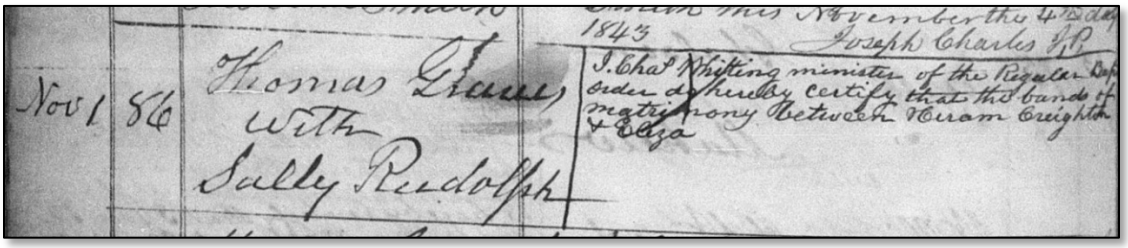
by Leslie Tomlinson, CG

Mini Case Study

Using a variety of resources incorporating guardianship records, a family may be constructed for a woman who lived and died pre-1850. Following the records through to the final guardianship report revealed direct proof of her husband and children, led to clues of a probable brother, and supplied an approximate death date of her father.

Marriage

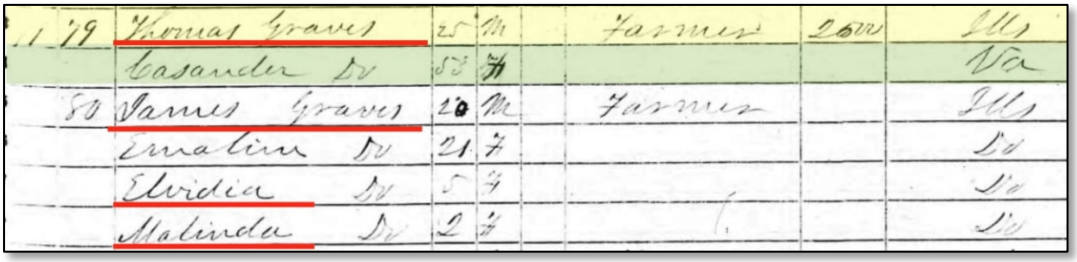
On 1 November 1843, Sally Rudolph married Thomas Graves in White County, Illinois.



FamilySearch ((https://www.familysearch.org/search/film/005204400 : accessed 18 February 2022) digital film 005204400, image 143, White County, Illinois, Marriage Records, Book 1: 86, Graves–Rudolph marriage, 1843. Note that the clerk has copied in the data from another record.

Census

Sally does not appear in the 1850 census with Thomas nor do any children. Thomas was enumerated living with an older Graves woman, probably his mother. Living next door was his likely brother James with a probable wife and two girls, "Elvidia" and "Malinda." It is by tracking Sally's probate files that true relationships are discovered.



1850 U.S. census, White County, Illinois, population schedule, Dist. 13, p. 272, dwell. and fam. 79, Thomas Graves household; *Ancestry* (https://www.ancestry.com : accessed 18 February 2022); NARA microfilm publication M432, roll 132.

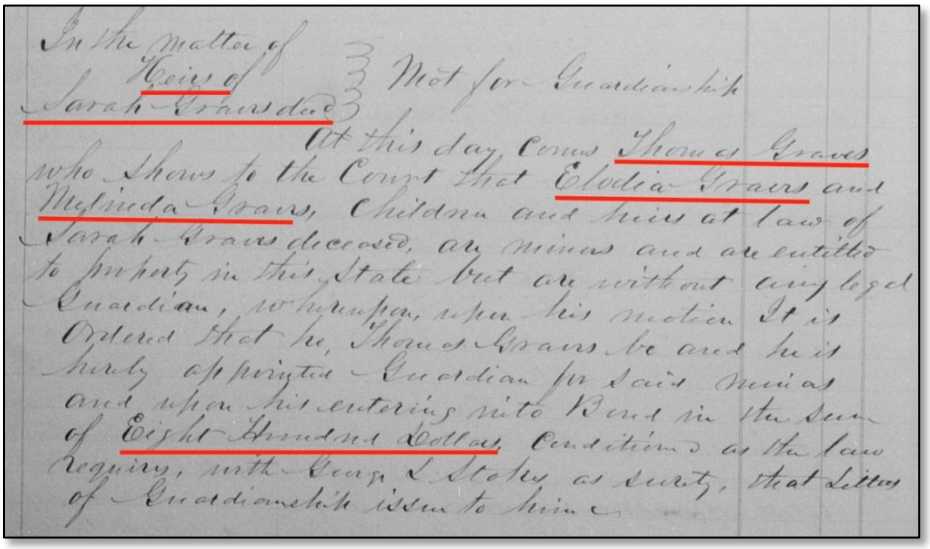
Appointment of Guardian

No probate record was found for Sally or Sarah Graves until a Motion for Guardianship was filed 17 February 1862.[1] From the record below it is presumed that Thomas Graves is almost certainly the same man that married Sally and fathered her two children,

[1] Sally is a nickname for Sarah. See Christine Rose, *Nicknames: Past and Present* (San Jose, California: CR Publications, 2007), 17.

Elodia and Melinda. He is appointed their guardian and posts a bond for $800. No death record was found for Sally, and as noted above, she was not found in 1850 living with either husband or children, so she probably died before the time of the census. From the record below we learn that the two girls are Sarah and Thomas Graves' daughters, not James Graves' daughters as might be surmised from the 1850 census. But why was a guardian solicited by Thomas, the father of the children, in 1862—at least 12 years after Sally died?

Something happened that initiated the filing for guardianship by husband Thomas. To get a clue it is necessary to follow the progress of the probate process of Sarah's estate.



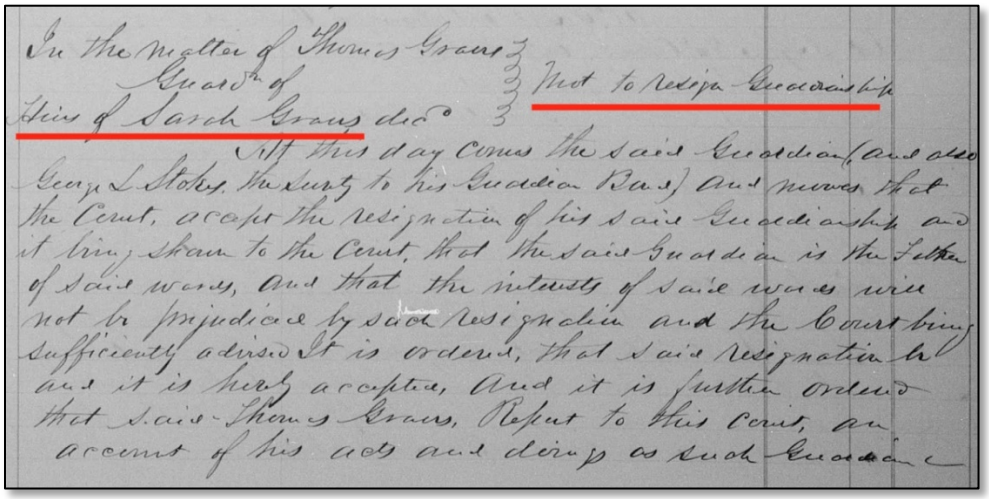
In the matter of
Heirs of
Sarah Graves dec'd
Mot for Guardianship

At this day, Comes Thomas Graves who Shows to the Court that Elodia Graves and Melinda Graves, Children and heirs at law of Sarah Graves deceased, are minors and are entitled to property in this State but are without any legal Guardian, whereupon, upon his motion It is Ordered that he, Thomas Graves be and he is hereby appointed Guardian for said minors and upon his entering into Bond in the sum of Eight Hundred Dollars Conditioned as the law requires, with Geo L Stokes as surety, that Letters of Guardianship issue to him

Illinois Probate Records, 1819-1988, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ : 19 February 2022), White > Probate journal 1860-1864 vol A > image 157, Sarah Graves heirs, guardianship motion, 17 February 1862, A:258.

Resignation of Guardianship

In August 1863 Thomas resigns from the guardianship. In this record it is stated for the first time that Thomas was the father of Elodia and Melinda.



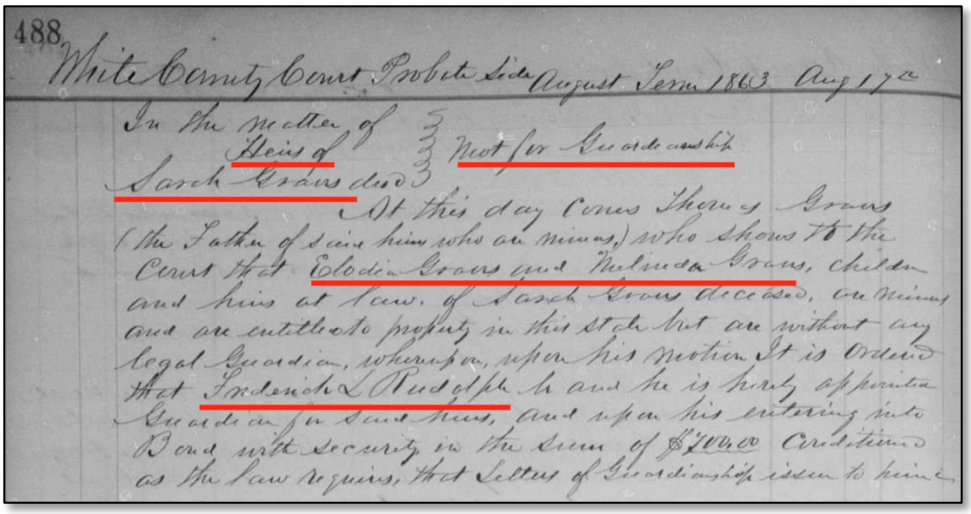
In the matter of Thomas Graves
Guard[n] of
Heirs of Sarah Graves dec'd
Mot to resign Guardianship

At this day comes the said Guardian, and also Geo L Stokes the surety to his Guardian Bond, and moves that the Court accept the resignation of his said Guardianship and it being shown to the Court that the said Guardian is the father of said wards, and that the interests of said wards will not be prejudiced by such resignation and the Court being sufficiently advised It is ordered, that said resignation be and it is hereby accepted, And it is further ordered that said Thomas Graves, Report to this Court, an account of his acts and doings as such Guardian

Illinois Probate Records, 1819-1988, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ : 19 February 2022), White > Probate journal 1860-1864 vol A > image 273, Sarah Graves heirs, motion to resign guardianship, 17 August 1863, A:487.

Appointment of a Second Guardian

Frederick L. Rudolph is appointed as guardian in Thomas Graves's place. This is a great clue that Frederick may be a relative of Sarah's and indirect evidence of a relationship with her.



488 White County Court Probate Side August Term 1863 Aug 17th

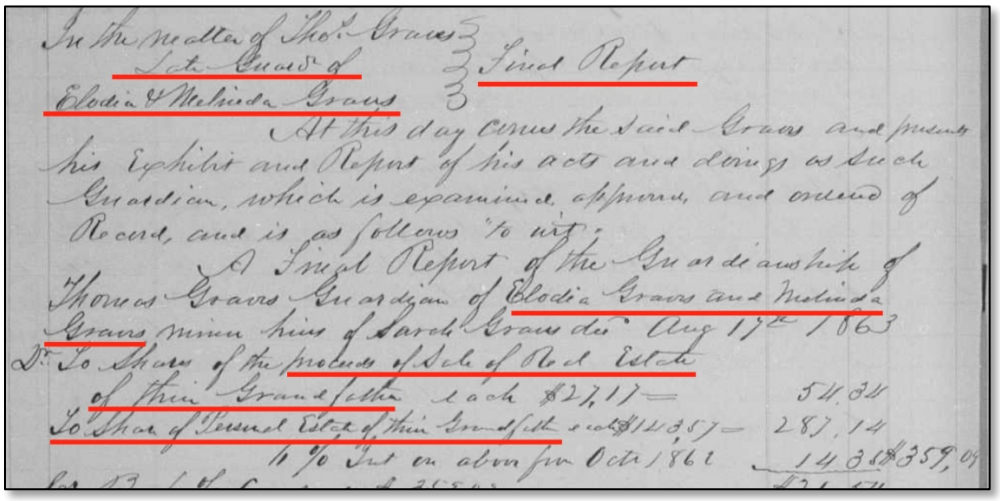
In the matter of } Mot for Guardianship
Heirs of }
Sarah Graves dec'd }

At this day Comes Thomas Graves (the Father of said minors who are minors) who shows to the Court that Elodia Graves and Melinda Graves, children and heirs at law of Sarah Graves deceased, are minors and are entitled to property in this State but are without any legal Guardian, whereupon, upon his motion It is Ordered that Frederick L Rudolph be and he is hereby appointed Guardian for said Heirs, and upon his entering into Bond with security in the sum of $1000.00 Conditioned as the Law requires, that Letters of Guardianship issue to him

Illinois Probate Records, 1819-1988, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ : 19 February 2022), White > Probate journal 1860-1864 vol A > image 274; Sarah Graves heirs, motion for guardianship, 17 August 1863, A:488.

(First) Final Report of a Guardian

Located immediately after the above record in the probate journal is Thomas's final report for the guardianship of the two girls. It stated that they were *inheriting proceeds of the sale of both real and personal property of their grandfather*. Now the reason for the guardianship is known—the heirs were minors inheriting property from their grandfather on their mother's side. After finding the final guardianship report from Frederick, we should try to learn the identity of that grandfather if not yet known.



In the matter of Thos Graves }
Late Guard'n of } Final Report
Elodia & Melinda Graves }

At this day comes the said Graves and presents his Exhibit and Report of his acts and doings as such Guardian, which is examined, approved, and ordered of Record, and is as follows to wit;

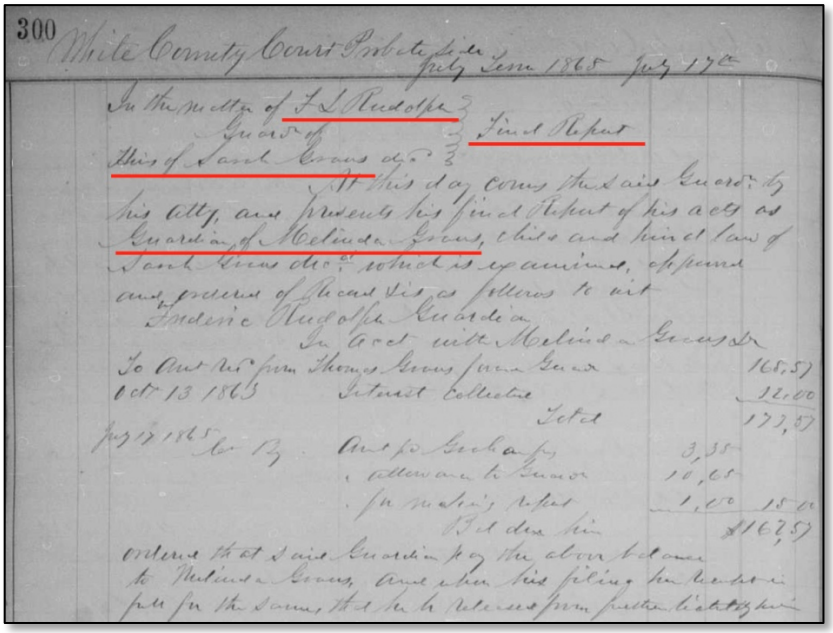
A Final Report of the Guardianship of Thomas Graves Guardian of Elodia Graves and Melinda Graves minor heirs of Sarah Graves dec'd Aug 17th 1863

Dr. To Share of the proceeds of Sale of Real Estate of their Grandfather each $27.17— 54.34
To Share of Personal Estate of their Grandfather each $143.57— 287.14
6 % Int on above from Oct 1861 14.38 $359.05

Illinois Probate Records, 1819-1988, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ : 19 February 2022), White > Probate journal 1860-1864 vol A > image 274; Sarah Graves heirs, final report, 17 August 1863, A:488.

(Second) Final Report of a Guardian

Pursuing the guardianship process until the final report by Frederick, we note that Elodia is not mentioned. The report is dated July 1865. It is very likely that Elodia has died—if she had married, she would still inherit her share of her grandfather's estate and be named. In addition, Melinda had most likely reached the age of majority by now and so Frederick was released from his guardian duties.



300

White County Court Probate July Term 1865 July 17th

In the matter of F. L. Rudolph Guard of } Final Report
this of Sarah Graves dec'd }

It this day comes the said Guard by his Atty and presents his final Report of his acts as Guardian of Melinda Graves, this and heirs of Sarah Graves dec'd which is examined, approved and passed of Record is as follows to wit

Frederic Rudolph Guardian
In Acct with Melinda Graves Dr

To Amt rec'd from Thomas Graves late Guard 165.57
Oct 13 1863 Interest collected 12.00
Total 177.57

July 17 1865 By Amt pd Guardian fee 3.50
" allowance to Guard 10.00
" for making report 1.00 15.00
Bal due him $162.57

Ordered that said Guardian pay the above balance to Melinda Graves, and upon his filing his receipt for the same that he be released from further liability

Illinois Probate Records, 1819-1988, *FamilySearch* (https://familysearch.org/ : 19 February 2022), White > Probate journal 1864-1866 vol B > image 179; Sarah Graves heirs, final report, 16 July 1865, B:300.

Where to Find Guardianship Records

Your first stop in searching for guardianship records should be the Family History Library catalog, at http://www.familysearch.org. Search for the county your ancestor lived in and check the categories of "Guardianship" and "Probate records." You might find separate volumes such as Guardian Bonds, Settlements, and Administrations, but the individual steps in the probate process may simply be noted in the county court minutes. Follow the records to the final guardianship report to get clues about inheritance, relationships, and the ages of the children who were appointed guardians.

Resources

Christine Rose, *Courthouse Research for Family Historians* (San Jose, California: CR Publications, 2004).

Judy G. Russell, "Guardian for a son," *The Legal Genealogist* (https://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog : posted 8 November 2017).

Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, editors, *The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy,* (Provo, Utah: Ancestry, 2006), 270.

New Books		
Call Number	**Title**	**Author**
TX bexa4 (131)	Alamo, The	Myers, John Myers
TX bexa4 (132)	Echoes from Women of the Alamo	Shiffrin, Gale Hamilton
TX bexa4 (133)	Alamo Legacy; Alamo Descendants Remember the Alamo	Jackson, Ron
TX cald2	1870 Census of Caldwell County, Texas	Brice, Donald E. (Transcribed)
TX cald8	Caldwell County, Texas Marriage Records, 1868-1873, Volume II	Ingmire, Frabces T.
TX cald8	Caldwell County, Texas Marriage Records, Book A & B, 1848-1869	Ingmire, Frances T.
TX cald8	Caldwell County, Texas Marriage Records, Book E & F, 1874-1886, Volume III	Ingmire, Frances T.
TX gill8	Kirchen - Buch; Church Record Book of the Vereins-Kirche, 1848-1870	Gold, Ella A. (Translation)
TX gill8	Cemetery Records of Der Stadt Friedhof Fredericksburg, Texas; A State Historical Cemetery, 1846-2002	
TX hood4	Hood County History in Picture and Story, 1978; This History Covers Hood and Somervell Counties	Hightower, C. L. and Thomas Ewell (Compilers)
TX kerr2	Federal Censuses of Kerr County, Texas: 1860 - 1870 - 1880	Powell, Maxine and Sidney D. Smith (Transcribed)
TX maso4	Mason County's First Settlers, 1840-1900	Ponder, Jerry
TX park4	Parker County Texas Cowboy "All Over"	Tanner, Bill, Leon Tanner and Mary Kemp
TX sutt4	Sutton County Historical society, 1887-1977	Sutton County Historical Society
TX will5	Williamson County Genealogical Society Surname Index: Surnames From Ancestor Charts of WCGS Members, Volumes I and II	Blakemore, Alice (Compiler)
TX will7	Index to Probate Cases of Texas, No. 246, Williamson County, October 16, 1848-December 27, 1938	The Texas State-wide Records Project, WPA
VA 00004 (175)	Women in Colonial Virginia; A Compilations of Excerpts Collected From Original Sources to Acquaint the Modern Reader with the Wife of 18th Century Virginia Women	Colonial Williamsburg Foundation
VA gree4	Virginia Publick Claims - Greensville County	Abercrombie, Janice L., Richard Slatten (Compiled by)
VA isle4	Virginia Publick Claims - Isle of Wight County	Abercrombie, Janice L. and Richard Slatten (Compilers)
VA sout4	Virginia Publick Claims - Southampton County	Abercrombie, Janice L. (Compiler)
WI shaw4	Grandma's Footprints: A History of Shawano from 1843-1918	Moede, Ila N.
AL 00008 (21)	Early Alabama Marriages, 1813-1850, Groom's and Bride's "Y"	Family Adventures
DO 00000 (5)	Domesday Heritage: Towns and Villages of Norman England Through 900 Years	
FH Bronson	Ancestors and Descendants of Leman Bronson, 1640-1963	Boden, Sarah Bronson
FH Cheneau	Descendants of Estienne Cheneau (Stephen Chenault), 2008 edition	Mellick, Donna S. and Carolyn Sue Chenault
FH Eggleston	Bygod Eggleston: Englishman and Colonist and Some of His Descendants	Eggleston, Rosalie, Dr. and Linda Eggleston McBroom

Submitted by Beverly Rakowitz

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Library Hours:

Sun.: 1 pm – 5 pm
Mon.: 10 am – 4 pm
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***

Sat. Apr. 2
Ancestry.com DNA Class
10 am – 12 pm
Annette Graham

Sun. Apr. 3
DNA Basics
2 pm – 4 pm
Annette Graham

Sat. Apr. 9
DNA Consultation Hr.
10 am, 11 am, 12 pm
Annette Graham

Sun. Apr. 10
Researching the 1950 Census
10 am – 12 pm
& repeated:
2 pm – 4 pm
Laura Grover & Barbara Holmes

Wed. Apr. 13
Family Tree Marker/WikiTree
10 am – 12 pm
Scott Atkinson

Sun. Apr. 24
Irish Research
2 pm – 4 pm
Laura Grover

Sat. Apr. 30
South Carolina Consult Hours
10:30 am, 11:30 am & 12:30 pm
Marianne Collier

Sun. May 1
Preserving Family Documents
2 pm – 4 pm
Laura Grover