SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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A Member Society Chartered in 1959

February 2020 Inside this issue:

President's Message..... 1
Grand Opening 2
New Members 3
Vol. Opportunities 3
1st Families of Bexar Co.. 3
Methods & Sources..... 4
Methods & Sources 5
2020 –21 Yearbooks..... 6
Meet Our Officers 7
SAGHS Events..... 7
Library News..... 8
Fiesta Medals 9
Annual SAGHS Events ... 9
Finance Report 9
Genealogical Tidbits..... 10



A newsletter to inform members of Society Activities and Library Acquisitions
February 2020



Photo by Nika Scarbrough-Jenkins

President's Message

Based on the comments I've received from the 70 or so people in attendance, our January 18th dedication of the Dwyer Center was a successful celebration of the life of Yvette Dwyer. Our two guests of honor were the Dwyer estate attorney, Mr. A. Tyrrell Kott and the estate executor and long time friend of Yvette Dwyer, Ms. Diane Thomas. The day started with the ribbon cutting by Barbara Dehle and included a group photo, the introduction of the nine 30-year members in attendance and concluded with wonderful tributes to Yvette by Barbara Froebel, DeDe Wilson, Nancy Brennan, and Diane Thomas. Many thanks to Barbara Holmes for donating the commemorative coasters that were handed out to all in attendance.

Our next General Membership Meeting will start at 10:00 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room of the Dwyer Center on February 15th. Our program will feature Society 30-year member June England, who will be speaking about her ancestor, Francis "Frank" White Johnson (October 3, 1799 - April 8, 1884), a most fascinating man who not only participated in the making of the Republic of Texas, but who later in life wrote the manuscripts which were eventually edited by historian Eugene C. Barker into the 5 volume *A History of Texas and Texans*. I trust you will find June's presentation both educational and interesting. And as always, we will have coffee and pastries for your enjoyment.

I am also very pleased to be the first to inform you that our Founders Day Luncheon will be held this year on Saturday, June 13th (*note that this is a date change)* with our featured speaker being Paula Allen who writes The *History Column* for The San Antonio Express-News. Paula has previously spoken at our Founders Day events and her talks are always interesting. (continued page 3)

Grand Opening and Dedication of the Dwyer Memorial Center
San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society
January 18, 2020



Photo by Ray Weiland

On this exciting Saturday morning, many members of SAGHS gathered for our January, General Membership Meeting. Preceding the business portion of the meeting, we celebrated and commemorated the life of our benefactor, Yvette Helene LéCubain Dwyer and the naming of our new building (adjacent to our Library), the Dwyer Memorial Center.

Yvette Dwyer was a long-time member of SAGHS; her name is listed on the plaque in our new classroom honoring the 82 members who achieved being a member of SAGHS for over 30 years. Yvette passed on March 28, 2017. SAGHS was contacted by Mrs. Dwyer's estate attorneys in April 2018, and we were informed that we were included in a substantial inheritance! Over the next 18 months, SAGHS received checks from Yvette's estate for $1.6 million.

Coincidentally during this time, specifically in May 2019, the church next to our library announced it was closing. The SAGHS Board of Directors was approached by realtors representing the church to see if we had any interest in purchasing the church. After many negotiations, in September 2019, a contract to purchase was agreed upon, and SAGHS membership approved the purchase. All escrows were closed on October 30, 2019. Thanks to our benefactor, Yvette Dwyer, we now had a financial reserve that allowed us to pay cash for our new building, the Dwyer Memorial Center!

Not letting the dust settle too much, our many volunteers got busy and by Jan 1, our new center was Open for Business! Nearly all weekly classes and workshops are now held in the new, large classroom in the Dwyer Center. While still not completed, the new Roosevelt Room was ready enough for the General Membership Meeting on January 18th. Our Board of Director's goal is to have this room ready for our annual Seminar this coming October.
(continued page 9)



Photo by Nika Scarbrough-Jenkins

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

We have an urgent need for a
Volunteer Assistant Treasurer.

Other volunteer opportunities are for a Parliamentarian, and Campus Planning Chairperson.
If interested, please contact
Steve Mabie at: **president@txsaghs.org**

An ongoing need also exists for duty Librarians. These individuals staff our Library on Monday, Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday. We provide training!
If interested please contact Laura Grover at:
librarian@txsaghs.org.

We have many other opportunities for members to volunteer, whether it is an ongoing task, such as a member of a committee, to assist with our Grounds crew in preparation for brush pick-up, or to teach a class.
If interested, please contact Nancy McNamara at:
education@txsaghs.org to express your interests.

President's Message continued

The Founders Day Luncheon will be at the Fort Sam Houston Golf Club. So mark your calendars now and be sure to make your reservations starting in April.

Submitted by Steve Mabie



WELCOME

New Members

Rolando Arciniega
Rebecca Boles
J. B. Crowther
John Dickson
Scott Hubbartt
Joan Jackson
Diane Krupka
Jon Osborn
Joy Osborn
Herschel Sheiness
Lisa Smith
Dustin Whittenburg
Richard Wiggins

Submitted by: Nancy Mabie

Calling All First Families!

Each year SAGHS honors families who prove their descent from an ancestor who was in Bexar County no later than the enumeration of the 1850 Bexar County census. If one or more of your ancestors lived in the county when the 1850 U.S. census was taken or prior to that date, you can qualify.

SAGHS will be recognizing all newly proven First Families of Bexar County and the applying descendent at our annual SAGHS Founders Day luncheon in June of this year. In order to be recognized at our Founders Day Luncheon, **applications must be received no later than 29 February 2020.** More information is available in the First Families section of our website.

Submitted by: Nancy Mabie

METHODS and SOURCES

by Leslie Tomlinson, CG

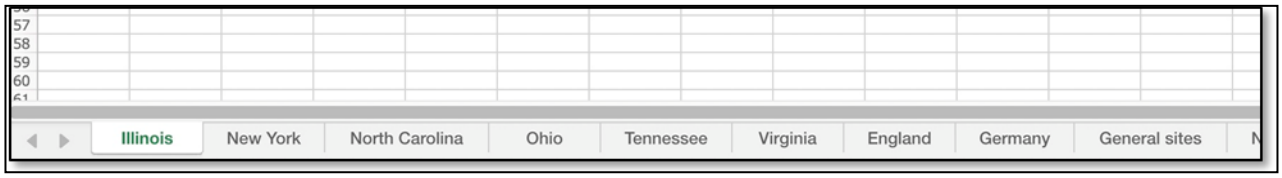
Locality Guides

Several years ago a ProGen study group assignment was to create a **locality guide** focusing on a geographic area specific to my ancestors or area of interest. This has been an invaluable resource that I have added to over the years. It is a personal reference guide, customized to my own needs and interests. And by storing it in the cloud—using Dropbox, Evernote, One-Note, or Google Drive—it is easily accessible wherever an internet connection is available.

Before you start a **research plan** (see newsletters from November/December 2019 and January 2020) it's best to learn all you can about the area where you will be researching. Knowing its geography and history will lead you to where the records are located and suggest how your ancestors may have migrated to and from the locale. Plus, collecting information about the relevant resources in one document will save you time and energy when you need it in the future. Making a locality guide is easy—here's how:

Start by creating a guide for an area you *already know* the most about. Tailor it to how you work best, i.e. use the kind of software with which you prefer to capture data. I use Excel spreadsheets, but you could use Word, Evernote, or OneNote, among other choices. Here is a link to examples of locality guides submitted by ProGen students: http://web.archive.org/web/20160102055922/https://www.progenstudy.org/locality-guides/. Find a style you like and adapt it to your use.

Here is how my spreadsheet is organized with tabs for states and countries in which I have interest:



Each tab is then divided into topics such as history, government, geography, libraries and archives, genealogical and historical societies, atlases and maps, churches, cemeteries, vital records, military, periodicals, newspapers, and immigration. For each topic include websites, repositories, important books, where records are kept, and key resources, and an area for notes. You can include a simple history of the place, when it was formed, boundary changes, any record loss, and vital records dates. You can add links to the Family Search catalog for the particular area, the Library of Congress for newspaper sources, the local county clerk's office, and map sources. You can record operating hours and parking information for places to visit. How much detail you include is up to you.

Methods and Sources

(continued from page 4)

Here is how my locality guide is arranged within one tab:

Locality Guide: Erie County, New York		
Subject	**Website or Repository**	**Notes**
History		
State		
New York Historical Background	http://www.familysearch.org/eng/search/RG/frameset_rg.asp?Dest=G1&Aid=&Gid=&Lid=&Sid=&Did=&Juris1=&Event=&Year=&Gloss=&Sub=&Tab=&Entry=&Guide=NY_T3_HistoricalBack.ASP	Downloaded pdf to Places > New York
New York History & Genealogy	http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ny/state/	
Erie County		
Erie County -- rootsweb	http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyerie/	A few paragraphs about the county with some working links to other websites
Erie County -- usgennet	http://www.usgennet.org/usa/ny/county/erie1/	
Buffalo		
The History of Buffalo, New York	http://www.buffaloah.com/h/histindex.html	Indexed by people, places and events
The History of the City of Buffalo and Erie County With Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of Its Prominent Men and Pioneers	http://64.30.240.5/buffhist/eriehome.html http://openlibrary.org/books/OL20470525M/History_of_the_City_of_Buffalo_and_Erie_County_With_Illustrations_and_...	Edited by H. Perry Smith, In Two Volumes
Genealogy & Local History in Buffalo, NY	http://www.buffaloresearch.com/local.html	
Local villages and towns		
West Seneca		
An Outline of West Seneca History		Frank James Lankes, West Seneca Historical Society
The Town of West Seneca	http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyerie/west_seneca/french.htm	J.H. French, Gazetteer of the State of New York (Syracuse, New York: R. Pearsall Smith, 1860), p. 293
History of West Seneca	http://history.rays-place.com/ny/w-seneca-ny.htm	
The Changing Scenes of West Seneca		Lankes, Frank James, 1895- Published in collaboration with the observance of New Yorks year of history.
Just for Old Times Sake		Lankes, Frank James, 1895-
A History of the Town of West Seneca		Weller, Ethelyn
Lancaster		
The Town of Lancaster	http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~nyerie/lancaster/french.htm	J.H. French, Gazetteer of the State of New York (Syracuse, New York: R. Pearsall Smith, 1860), p. 291 - 292.
History of Lancaster	http://history.rays-place.com/ny/lancaster-ny.htm	
Lancaster history	http://lancasterpast.com/sesqui/Welcome.html	From the Office of the Historian, Village of Lancaster, NY. In four parts.
Village of Lancaster, N.Y., incorporated 1849	Locate library willing to lend this book.	quasquicentennial commemorative book : July 4, 5, 6, 1974.
Depew		
History of Depew	http://www.villageofdepew.org/villageHistory.php	
Elma		
History of Elma	http://history.rays-place.com/ny/elma-ny.htm	Have printed copy

In the note section, add what is significant about the collection or website. If it is a repository, note its hours of operations, contacts, etc.

Buffalo	http://www.city-buffalo.com/	
Birth, Death & Marriage Records for the City of Buffalo ONLY	http://www.city-buffalo.com/Home/City_Departments/City_Clerk/BirthDeathMarriageRecords	Birth records start at 1878 to present. Phone: (716) 851-5440 Death records start at 1852 to present. Phone: (716) 851-5437 Marriage records start at 1877 to present. Phone: (716) 851-5444 Birth, Death & Marriage records are available at the Buffalo City Clerk's Office located on the 13th floor of City Hall.

Notes about searching on specific sites can be helpful when accessing them later when you may have forgotten successful methods.

Newspapers		
Old New York State Historical Newspaper Pages	http://www.fultonhistory.com	Awesome resource for old New York newspapers, inc. some from Buffalo. Hints: Try name in Boolean search, do your searches with quotes and also try searching with first two initials and last name. Also you can put address in and run a search with just the number and the street name but not reference to city or street, road, avenue etc. i.e.: "250 Carlton" you sometimes get lucky on the address search.

Each time you start investigating a new location, add another tab (if using Excel) or section that repeats the structure you have created for your familiar area, and start (continued page 6)

Photographic Portraits of SAGHS Members to Be Featured in SAGHS 2020-2021 Membership Yearbook

For those members who wish to participate, photographic portraits of those members will be featured in the 2020 -2021 SAGHS Membership Yearbook. SAGHS in-house photographer, Neka Scarbrough-Jenkins will be available to take these photographic portraits at the Dwyer Center from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., before the General Membership Meeting 15 February, and after the 15 February General Membership Meeting.

For those members who may prefer to send by post or email a photographic portrait of their choosing, the following guidelines should be noted –

- The photo should be received in the required format no later than 31 August 2020.
- Photos received after the deadline will be used in the future Yearbooks.
- Member photo should contain head and shoulders only, preferably with a solid or uncluttered background.
- Photos should be relatively current (no childhood pictures).
- No group photos or full-body photos.
- No newspaper photos or clippings.
- 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.
- Emailed photos should be at least 300 dpi resolution.
- Although member photos will be included in the Membership Yearbook in black-and-white, both color and black-and-white photos will be accepted.
- Photos must be clearly labeled (on the back) with the name of the individual.
- Separate photos required for joint memberships.
- Hard copies of photos should be mailed to SAGHS, 911 Melissa Dr., San Antonio, TX 78213.
- Digital copies of photos should be emailed to publications@txsaghs.org

All participation will be highly appreciated.

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

Methods and Sources (cont.) adding information about the new place. This is a living document—always growing and changing as your experience and expertise increase. Think of it as a New Year's present to yourself and create a locality guide in 2020!

Next time: **Getting the Most Out of Census Records: Part One**

Meet Your Officers

(Each month, one SAGHS officer will be featured in this column.)

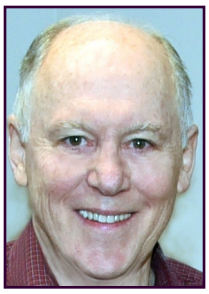


Photo by Nika Scarbrough-Jenkins

Director-at-Large: David Ringer

David was born in Iowa and after a long career in his chosen field retired to San Antonio in 2014. He first became interested in genealogy when, as the eldest child in the family, he inherited the family papers when his mother passed away in 1989. But work and family prevented him from doing much research until he retired. Upon arriving in San Antonio, David joined SAGHS in June 2014. Since that time, he has been indispensable, having served on Building and Grounds for 6 years and concurrently as Director-at-Large for the past 4 years. Unfortunately for us, David is now term-limited as Director, and he will be stepping down with the election of his replacement in June. While serving as chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, David has overseen the replacement of the outside water pipes, the transition of the breezeway into a functional library room, the remodeling of the Texas Room and the acquisition of the Dwyer Center. We all owe David a big "Thank You" for his service.

Little known facts: David received his undergraduate degree from Albion College in Albion Michigan, and then earned his PhD in Bio-Chemistry from Wayne State University.

Submitted by: Steve Mabie

"There is only one happiness in life: to love and be loved."

– George Sand

Upcoming Events

Most classes are in the new classroom in the Dwyer Center
Located at the corner of Blanco & Melissa Dr. next to the Library

Please remember to pre-register for classes by calling the Library at 210-342-5242 or email to: *education@txsaghs.org*

Saturday February 1 & 8
DNA Consultation Hour
10, 11 & 12
SAGHS Library

Saturday February 1 & 8
Beginning Genealogy
9 am—1 pm
Library Annex

Sunday February 9
German Research
2 pm —4 pm
Dwyer Center Classroom

Wednesday February 12
Family Tree Maker/Wikitree
10 am – 12 (noon)
Dwyer Center Classroom

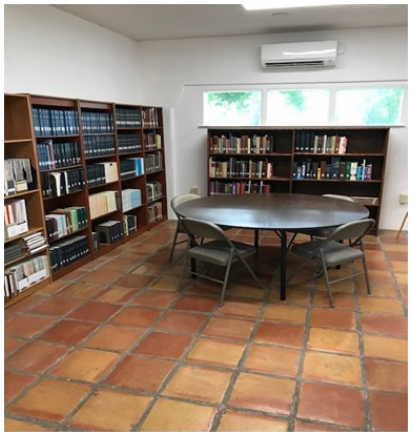
For more details and other Events, please go to our website: https://txsaghs.org

Please remember to pre-register for classes by calling the Library at 210-342-5242 or email to: *education@txsaghs.org*



Library News

Did you ever wonder what was moved to the new Entry (former Breezeway)?



The Entry Collection

The New Entry has a collection of a variety of books and periodicals. Located on the left wall next to the Annex are:

The Domesday Book including Bedfordshire to Yorkshire.
Domesday Book Guide (DO guide 1-2)
Domesday, A Search for the Roots of England (DO 00000 (4))

US Periodicals including:

- *Federation of Genealogical Societies Forum*, 1990-2009 issue #, Online 2009, issue #2 to current, Table of Contents provided
- *Magazine of American Genealogy,* A and B
- *Mayflower Quarterly*, 1959-1964, 1966-2013
- *National Genealogical Society News Magazine,* 1995-current
- *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, 1928-current
- *NEHGS Nexus,* 1983-1999
- *NGS Newsletter*, 1995-1998
- *NGS Newsmagazine*, 2000-2007

NEW ENGLAND

Approximately 200 books covering New England with the classification NG (NG 00000-NG 00008). Including:

- Histories
- *New England Ancestors,* 2000-2006, NG 00004
- *American Ancestors*, 2013-current, NG 00004
- *American Genealogist*, 1932-current, NG 00004
- *New England Historical and Genealogical Register,* 1945-current

•RF 33004

Books on famous, infamous people from Presidents to poets…

•RG 34000

Dictionaries in other languages (French, Italian, German, and more).

OVERSIZED BOOKS

These are large books that would not fit on the shelves. They were stacked on shelves for years, so many users never found these books.

Titles:

Addington – Edrington – Allington, FH addington
Ancestral History of the Kiker Family, FH kiker
Atlanta Century, 1860-1865, GA 00004 (34)
Genealogical…Benke Family, FH benke
Bolling Volume, (Vol 6, part 1-3), FH bolling
Clermont County, Ohio, 1891, OH cler4
Colquitt, FH colquitt
First American Jewish Families, MF 340
Gable Volume, (Vol 3), FH gable
History of the Salmans Family, FH salmans
Illustrations of Napa County California, CA napa4
Life Experiences of Picky, FH stillwell
Lovells Come to Tennessee, Vol 1-2, FH lovell
McMeen Descendants. 1981, FH mcmeen
My Ancestry and Life Experiences, FH rountree
Rish Volume, (Vol 2), FH rish
Robertson Volume, (Vol 7), FH robertson
Rountree Chronicles, 1827-1840, FH rountree
Something About Some Smiths, FH smith
Waialae County Club, HI 00004 (1)
Weatherbee-Norman Volume, FH weatherbee
Wells Volume (Vol 1, part 1-2), FH wells
Wofford Volume, (Vol 8, part 1-2), FH wofford

Submitted by Beverly Rakowitz

Grand Opening (cont. from p 2)
In addition to the classroom and Roosevelt Room, the building has smaller meeting rooms along with general offices. If you haven't seen this new facility, please make it a priority to stop and let us give you a tour!

The 3 pictures you see are; picture of the new SAGHS sign on Blanco Rd.; the group picture of attendees on Jan 18; and a picture of the outside of the Dwyer Center. Note: plans to remove the steeple are now in process and this picture was photo-edited to show what the future building will look like. It's going to be a great year!

Photo by Ray Weiland



Annual 2020 SAGHS Events:

Founders Day: (new date) **13 June!**
Location: Ft. Sam Houston Golf Club
Speaker: Paula Allen, columnist for the San Antonio Express News

Save the date…. More details to follow

SAGHS Seminar: **24 October**
Location: TBD
Topic North Carolina Research
Speaker: J. Mark Lowe, CG, CGL

Save the date…. More details to follow

Submitted by Barbara Froebel

2020 Fiesta Medals

SAGHS is taking pre-orders for our 2020 Fiesta Medal. Cost is $10.00, each We will only be receiving 150, so order now before we sell out. We expect the medals to arrive in March.



Stop by our Library (during regular business hours) to order yours, or mail request with a check to:
SAGHS
911 Melissa Dr, San Antonio TX 78213

Finance Committee Report: At their January 11 meeting, the Board of Directors approved the budget recommended by the Finance Committee. The $21,000 budget includes expenses incurred, or to be incurred, for the operation of our new Dwyer Center from November 2019 to June 30, 2020. The expenses will be offset by using $5,000 from annual fund donations and $16,000 remaining from the amount approved by the Board for the purchase of the new building and associated costs. Both facilities' operations will be included in our next year's annual budget proposal, which will be for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

The Finance Committee will begin developing next year's budget proposal in the coming months. To this end, officers, directors, committee chairs and our librarians will be asked to complete a form to suggest expenses expected for that time frame. If any member has suggestions to make for items to be included in the budget, please pass that information along to one of those mentioned in the previous sentence or to a member of the Finance Committee.

Submitted by Bill Myers

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society

Important Contacts

President: Steve Mabie
President@txsaghs.org

1st VP (Programs)
Barbara Froebel:
FirstVP@txsaghs.org

2nd VP (Membership)
Nancy Mabie
Membership@txsaghs.org

3rd VP (Finance)
Bill Myers
ThirdVP@txsaghs.org

Librarian
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Librarian@txsaghs.org

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Newsletter Editor
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Webmaster
Rob Lewis
webmaster@txsaghs.org

Library Hours:
Sun.: 1 pm – 5 pm
Mon.: 10 am - 4 pm
Wed.: 10 a m – 7 pm
Sat.: 10 am — 4 pm

Library Closures:

New Years Day, Easter, Mothers Day, Memorial Day, 2nd Sat in June (Founders Day), Fathers Day, July 4, Labor Day, 4th Sat in October (Seminar), Christmas Eve & Day. *Early closings on Thanksgiving & New Years Eves.*

Genealogy Tidbits
Free webinars

American Ancestors (NEHGS)

Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Records Project: We're Expanding!

Live Broadcast: Thursday, February 20, 3:00–4:00 PM EST

Presented by Molly Rogers, Database Coordinator

Cost: FREE; recording available on our website following the presentation

Legacy Family Tree webinars:

Wed. 5 February: Developing a DNA Testing Plan, A Guide for Beginners by Debra Renard at 1 pm Central

Wed. 12 February: Best Practices for Success in FaceBook Groups For Genealogy, by Cindi Ingle at 7 pm Central

Wed. 19 February: Newspapers For People of Color Genealogy Research, by Nika Smith, at 1 pm Central

Tue. 25 February: Working with DNA Segments on My Heritage, at 1 pm Central

Wed. 4 March: Three Genealogy DNA Case Studies and How I Solved Them, by Roberta Estes, at 1 pm Central

To register go to: familytreewebinars.com

Memorial

Betty Arnaud (former member) passed away on January 12, 2020

Donations made in her name are used to purchase Library Resources.

"...Those times when we laugh and reminisce are moments to be cherished...."
Samantha Chase Meyers