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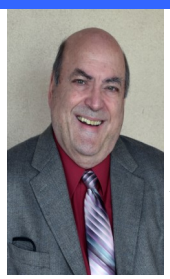
A Member Society Chartered in 1959

Nov./Dec. 2019 Inside this issue:

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A newsletter to inform members of Society Activities and Library Acquisitions
November/December 2019



President's Message

Well, another month of excitement and fun here in San Antonio! We have just completed a really great seminar (with thanks to Barbara Froebel and Barbara McPherson and all the many volunteers who made it a success), and last evening Nancy and I watched the episode of *Long Lost Family* which was partially filmed at our library. A note about Hollywood efficiency: a crew of about 16 people were at our library for four and a half hours to film what turned out to be just under two minutes of a 60 minute show (including many commercials). And they call that "reality TV". But they did include a nice shot of the front of our library and our name was prominently displayed for maybe 2 seconds. But that's okay. Any publicity is good publicity.

By the time you read this, we will have completed the purchase of the property at 903 Melissa Drive and we will have started the process of getting settled. We will start using the new facility for meetings and classes in January, so we have a lot to do in preparation. But nothing is more important in this regard than to remember our benefactor, Yvette Helene LeCubain Dwyer, who made this purchase possible, and we will do so by naming the building in her honor. This has been discussed at length among the Board members and volunteers, and almost everyone has an opinion on exactly what name we should adopt. As president, I believe that all of our members should have a voice in making a decision of this importance, and the board has agreed. To that end, in early November I will be sending out an email to all of our eligible members asking you to vote for one of 4 options for the building's name. It will be easy to vote. All you will need to do is to select one choice (voting for more than one is not permitted) and reply via email to me at President@TXSAGHS.org which will be the address automatically selected when you hit REPLY. The name selected by the most members will become the official name. (continued on page 3)

Annual Fall Seminar

Submitted by Barbara Froebel

Thank You Seminar Volunteers!



President Mabie, Dr. Lacopo, Ms S-Jenkins & Mr. Luckett

Our 2019 Seminar celebrating our 60th Anniversary was a great success! 92 people pre-registered and there were 3 walk-ins. The largest in many years!

There were many positive comments on Dr. Lacopo's presentation, using humor and excellent examples. Several have asked that he come back in the near future. Many prizes were given or won by lucky participants. Prizes were delivered by Barbara McPherson, Ginny Pulliam and Barbara Holmes. We were all delighted that Bev Rakowitz won the beautiful 2019 *Lace Flower* quilt!

Many thanks to All of you who participated and donated. I would especially like to thank Barbara McPherson for arranging for our great speaker Dr. Michael D. Lacopo , ordering the pen and tablet sets for the bags, decorating and myriad other details to get this year rolling. Nancy McNamara kept us organized and on track, reminding us of next steps, coordinated Kitchen activities, in addition to her many other duties. Dr. Cindy Kennedy gathered many wonderful items for basket drawings. Barbara Holmes and Nancy McNamara donated the bags. Leslie Tomlinson created the cover for the syllabus. Larry Luckett took pictures and sold Our Heritage copies and his prize winning book. Charles Brussells manned the duplicate book sale with Cindy Kennedy & Ray Weiland. Rushelle Mason took care of the raffle items. Nancy McNamara and Barbara Holmes took care of registration with Nancy Mabie distributing new Membership Yearbooks and Neka Scarbrough Jenkins handing out the syllabus. Annie Hunt and Helen Parker sold quilt tickets. Steve Mabie picked up our speaker and took him to dinner twice and I'll bet Steve enjoyed the process just a bit, since just *maybe* there is a Mabie connection in our speaker's ancestry. Kitchen support was provided by Carole McBee, Linda Reynolds, Barbara McPherson, Mary Ringer, Pat Merk, Ginny Pulliam, David Ringer, Sir Smitty, and Nancy Mabie. Kurt Kneeland loaded and delivered most of our goods. David Ringer and Smitty provided ice and with Kurt, ice chests. And what lovely baskets Sue Stieler made and donated. Many of you provided administrative support and refreshments were provided by the Myers, Nancy McNamara, Barb McPherson, Helen Parker, Carol McBee, Ann Hunt and Barbara Froebel. And how wonderful that Diane Scannell brought visiting Wilma Handley to help Tuesday volunteers with stuffing the bags! Pat Merk made signs and kept track of the money. Thanks again to all who donated items, time, money etc. **Our volunteers are the best.**

Check out the video on the SAGHS website: www.txsaghs.org



Members review duplicate book offerings.



Ms. Froebel calls out numbers while Ms. McNamara distributes door prizes.



Ms. Mason staffs the gift basket table.

Photos by Larry Luckett

VOLUNTEER NEEDS

We have a need for a volunteer Parliamentarian. If interested, please contact Steve Mabie at: president@txsaghs.org

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



WELCOME

New Members

Daniel Heinchon

Nita Heinchon

Christy Toms

Ray Weiland

Submitted by: Nancy Mabie

SAGHS Membership Yearbooks Are Here!

The *July 2019-June 2020 SAGHS Membership Yearbook* is now available and many members were able to get their copies at the Fall Seminar. Any member who has not yet received a copy, may pick it up at the SAGHS Library during normal business hours. Each member is entitled to receive one copy, so joint members can each get one. If extra copies are needed, each additional copy costs $5.00. If you would like your Yearbook(s) mailed to you, the mailing fee is $3.00 per book. Mail an explanatory note with your check that lists your name, address, and number of copies to SAGHS 911 Melissa Dr., San Antonio, TX 78213-2024.

Note: If there are any errors or changes needed in your contact information, please contact Nancy Mabie, membership@txsaghs.org.

Submitted by: Nancy Mabie

President's Message (cont) Everyone gets one vote only.
Remember that our General Membership Meeting on January 18th will be held in the new building, with the program that day being an official grand opening and a celebration in honor of Yvette. The day will start with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:15 with coffee and treats available after the ribbon is cut. The meeting will then officially start at 10:00.

Since this is the last edition of this newsletter for 2019, I will close by taking this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting in January.

Steve Mabie

METHODS and SOURCES

by Leslie Tomlinson, CG

This new series of articles will focus on methods and sources aimed at helping you:

- develop strategies for breaking through brick walls and building reliable cases for proving family relationships,
- identify the sources most likely to answer specific research questions, and
- discover new records, archives, and collections to explore.

Developing Research Plans: Part One

Why create a research plan?

How many times have you set out to do one last search for an ancestor's record and two hours later you are still looking, maybe even having moved on to someone else? Did you record everywhere you looked and all the ways you searched? Sounds like you need a research plan!

An unfocused search can be frustrating and result in searching the same records over and over again or head you down a path to a premature or faulty conclusion. A well thought out plan helps you concentrate on one task at a time thus allowing you to critically think about the records you find and how they might factor in your research. By following the steps in this two-part series, you can stay focused and make progress on your family research.

Step One: Review what you already know and how you know it.

Say you want to find out more about your great-grandmother. What do you already know about her? And, just as importantly, how do you know it? If you haven't already done so, create a document, a spreadsheet, or a profile in your genealogy software just for your great-grandmother. Go through **all** the records and information you have about her. This is a great chance to refresh your memory on records you already have on this person. List what you know about her and include where you found the information (yes, create a citation!). For example, list her name, birth date and place, parents' names, marriage date and place, husband's name, husband's birth date and place, their children's names, birth dates and places, death dates and places, residences, and occupations. Include spelling variations. List the events in her life in chronological order. This will form a framework for your individual and lead to the next step.

Step Two: Identify the gaps in your profile.

What are you missing? Take the time to pinpoint the holes in your research. Examine each record and mine it for all the details you may have missed earlier when you were less experienced in family research. Did you notice that in the 1900 census (which you last looked at five years ago) your great-grandmother lived with her husband, children, and a man with a different last name? What years in your timeline have no information? What is the most critical question you have about your great-grandmother that—if known—would help you move on in your research? Now, you are ready to move on to the next step.

Methods and Sources

(continued from page 4)

Step Three: Develop a focused research question.

Perhaps you now see that you don't know the names of your great-grandmother's parents. Your research question could be simply "Who are the parents of Lillie Belle Bowers?" Now, take it a step further and tag Lillie in a unique place and time—helping to distinguish her from others with a similar name. In addition, it will guide in identifying records that are most likely to give you the answer you are seeking. This is better way to ask the research question: Who are the parents of Lillie Belle Bowers who married William Bowers in 1891 in Edwards County, Illinois?"

Other examples of good research questions:

When did Stephen Thomas Spillett born in Chartham, Kent, England, in April 1867 immigrate to the U.S.?

Was Margaret Lucas (1790-1847), wife of Parker Lucas, the same person as Margaret Lucas, daughter of William W. Moss, all of Robertson County, Tennessee?

Who are the children of Josiah Watson born in Buckingham County, Virginia, in 1793 and died in Williamson County, Illinois, in 1853?

An effective research question is answerable and will keep you motivated, helping you check off your list, one question at a time. It also assists you in defining the particular piece of information you need. This comes into play when you seek assistance in your quest, i.e. contacting a reference librarian or county clerk. By breaking down your research into achievable steps you stay focused on your goal and able to see your progress.

Next time: **Developing Research Plans: Part Two**

Locating records and resources most likely to answer your research question.
Recording your findings.
Evaluating the results.

The man who never has enough time to do a job properly always has enough time to do it over again.

Anonymous

SAGHS Publications were recognized with six awards in the Texas State Genealogy Society 2019 Writing Competition

- **1st Place** Manuscript by a Non-professional -- **Larry W. Luckett:** "Collateral Crittenden Cousins: John J. Crittenden III Gets His Wish".
- **1st Place** Manuscript by a Professional -- **Nancy Wright Brennan:** "A Tricentennial Lineage -- José Antonio Peres Casanova and Juana Gertrudes de la Zerda".
- **1st Place** Society Newsletter -- **Pat Merk / Barbara Holmes** editors.

- **2nd Place** Society Journal -- *Our Heritage*, **Larry Luckett**, editor, **Charles Brussells**, graphic design, **Julia George**, indexer; with contributions by **Clarence Bell, Nancy Wright Brennan, Charles B. Brussells, David Carlson, Patricia Ezell, Barbara Froebel, Robbie Ellis Fuqua, Annette Graham, Cynthia Kennedy, Larry W. Luckett, Nancy Mabie, Steve Mabie, Nancy McNamara, and Liliana Villanueva**.

- **3rd Place** Society Book -- *First Families of Bexar County: Descendant Lineages*, **Larry W. Luckett**, editor; **Julia George**, indexer; with contributions by **Rose Arciniega, Nancy Wright Brennan, Patsy Castanon, Annette Graham, Katherine Nelson Hall, Jo Anne Horne, Velma Wurzbach Keller, Larry W. Luckett, Nancy Mabie, Robert E. Schenk, and Mary Lee Sloan.**
- **3rd Place** Society Website -- **Rob Lewis**, Webmaster.

Congratulations to these individuals whose solid efforts and genealogical research brought recognition and prize money to the Society. Your hard work is appreciated.

Submitted by Larry Luckett

"Somebody is always doing what somebody else said couldn't be done."

Anonymous

Meet Your Officers

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



Treasurer:
Pat Merk

Pat has been a member of our Society (this time) for only 3 years, having joined SAGHS in 2016 but she had also joined back in 2001 and she had taken our Beginning Genealogy Course when it was taught by Ann Roberts. Her interest in genealogy, like many of us, traces back to inheriting the family papers, but she was bitten by the BUG when her brother asked for some information for his son. Pat's father (COTTINI, Frank Patrick) was third generation Italian with his family arriving in Massachusetts in the 1890s. Her mother (GATCHELL, Claire Harriet) descended from immigrants from England (father in 1700s) and from The Netherlands (mother in 1800s).

Little known facts: Pat's father was Career Navy and she grew up on a variety of bases around the country. She graduated college with a degree in Mathematics and Accounting.

Submitted by: Steve Mabie

Meetings

The next General Membership Meeting will be on January 18 at 10 am in our new Auditorium at 903 Melissa Dr. Ribbon Cutting at 9:15, followed by refreshments. Please plan to attend as we make plans for the use of this new addition.

Also your Board of Directors and Committee Chairs continue to meet on the second Saturdays at 10 am, thru the Fall.
Members are invited to attend.

Upcoming Events

November 2 & 9
DNA Consultation Hour
10, 11 & 12
SAGHS Library

November 10
Establishing Death Dates
For Your Ancestors
2—4 pm
Library Annex

November 13
Family Tree Maker/Wiki Tree Workshop
10 am—noon
Library Annex

December 7 & 14
DNA Consultation Hour
10, 11 & 12
SAGHS Library

December 8
Treasures Among the SAGHS State Books
2—4 pm
Library Annex

December 11
Family Tree Maker/Wiki Tree Workshop
10 am—noon
Library Annex

Happy Holidays

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 210-343-5242 or email to: *education@txsaghs.org*

NEW BOOKS

Title	Author	Call Number	Donor
Americans of Royal Descent	Browning, Charles H.	RF 01004 (30)	Ann Roberts Estate
Family Register of Gerret Van Sweringen and Descendants	Swearingen, Henry Hartwell, 1857-	FH van sweringen	Ann Roberts Estate
Family Tree of John "Pealicker" Johnson, Conecuh County, Alabama and William Johnson	Stephens, Gertrude Louise (Johnson)	FH Johnson	Ann Roberts Estate
History of Ashland County, Ohio, with illustrations and biographical sketches	Hill, George William	OH ashl4	Ann Roberts Estate
History of Captain Richard Stillwell Son of Lieutenant Nicholas Stillwell and his Descendants, The	Stillwell, John E.	FH Stillwell	Ann Roberts Estate
Legacy Family Tree - Unlocked!	Rasmussen, Geoffrey D.	RF 00000 (85)	Ann Roberts estate
Soldiers in King Philip's War: Containing Lists of the Soldiers of Massachusetts Colony, Who Served in the Indian War of 1675-1677. with Sketches of the Principal Officers, and Copies of Ancient Documents and Records Relating to the War	Bodge, George Madison	MA 00004 (16)	Ann Roberts Estate
The New England: Historical and Genealogical Register, Volume IX	Samuel G. Drake	NG 00004 (9)	Ann Roberts Estate
Twiss and Allied Families	Twiss, Judson C. & G. Ann Roberts	FH Twiss	Ann Roberts Estate

REMINDER:
Holiday Closures

Library will be closed at 3 pm on November 27 (Thanksgiving Eve), and all day on December 24 and 25 (Christmas Eve and Day), We will also be closing at 3 pm on December 31 (New Years Eve), and all day January 1 (New Years Day)

San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society

Important Contacts

President: Steve Mabie
President@txsaghs.org

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

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3rd VP (Finance):
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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, 3rd Sat in June (Founders Day),
Fathers Day, Memorial Day, July 4, Labor Day, 3rd Sat in October (Seminar),
Christmas Eve & Day. *Early closings on Thanksgiving & New Years Eve*

Genealogy Tidbits

Free Legacy Family Tree webinars:

- "Understanding Ethnicity Estimates (made by DNA testing Companies)" Nov. 6 @ 1 pm CT
- "Soldiers Homes 1865-1930 Caring for Veterans", Nov. 13, at 7 pm CT
- "Native American Research", Nov. 19 at 7 pm CT
- "No Will, No Problem", Nov. 22 at 1 pm CT

And More…. For details and registration go to:

https://familytreewebinars.com



- Ancestry.com has recently added new records of Civil Registrations (births and deaths) from 1860-1987 in Mexico (in Spanish)

- Reclaim the Records has posted on their website, a geographic index of NYC births (organized by street locations), for births occurring in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Website:
  *https://archive.org/details/nycgeobirthindex?utm_source=Reclaim+the+Records&utm_*

Memorials

John Scannell husband of member Diane Scannell, passed away recently.

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