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the SAGHS newsletter

SAN ANGELO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
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✧ SPEAKER SERIES ✧

RUSSELL SMITH, NOTED COLUMNIST AND LOCAL AUTHOR

"LESSONS LEARNED IN DOCUMENTING HISTORY"

By Mary Lee Lenertz

The San Angelo Genealogical and Historical Society is proud to feature Russell Smith as the last speaker of 2008-09 speaker series. Smith will present "Lessons Learned in Documenting History" as part of the general meeting of SAGHS on Tuesday, May 5th, 2009.

A former San Angelo Police Chief, Russell is a columnist and author of two books, The Gun That Wasn't There and No Reason to Kill. Smith attended Southwest Texas Junior College, Howard College and Angelo State University; the majority of his classes dealt with criminal justice. His law enforcement career began as a reserve deputy with the Tom Green County Sheriff's Department in 1977 and ended when he retired as the San Angelo Police Chief in 1999.

This experience spurred his professional writing career when he sold his first article to a police trade magazine in 1980.

While writing his books, Smith completed extensive research about historical cases; he will share his methods in documenting that history. Genealogists and historians will learn how to collect, organize and document historical data.

The presentation will be part of the regular May SAGHS Meeting at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 5th, 2009 at the Christian Life Center, 20 East Harris (parking on the corner of Chadbourne and E. Harris.) For more information call (325) 942-5741 or (325) 944-8403, email SAGHS.Inc@gmail.com. The public is invited to attend and hear this very interesting presentation.



New Members

Our 1st New Member for 2009-10!!!

Janice Marley
1430 W. Ave. J
San Angelo, Texas 76901
marleyj56@aol.com



New e-mail address:

Ouida Jackson
oidajackson@suddenlink.net



SAGHS Needs You...

SAGHS has experienced a tremendous increase in vitality and it's due in large part to our increased membership. Please continue supporting SAGHS by renewing your membership now! Membership forms will be available at the next meeting. Basic membership dues are \$20.00 (\$5.00 for each additional person at one address), and include a one-year membership for 2009-10, a one-year subscription to the Stalkin' Kin, nine newsletters, and a fascinating speaker series. Extended memberships such as Contributing, Sustaining, Patron, and Benefactor benefit the society while providing a tax deduction. **If you are a life member,** please consider an extended membership to help defray the cost of postage.

SAGHS Calendar

Beginning Genealogy Class meets at **6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 5.** This month's topic is "Getting it in Writing: Crafting an Interesting Family Story."

Research Special Interest Group usually meets at the West Texas Collection on the 2nd Thursday of each month. We will instead meet **Thursday, May 7, from 6 to 8 p.m.** See article, page 3. Open to the public. No meetings during the summer; the next meeting will be September 17.

3rd Monday Genealogy Luncheon meets the 3rd Monday of each month. The next meeting is **May 18, 11:30 a.m.** The group is meeting at McGowan's at Rio Concho Manor, 401 Rio Concho Drive. Delicious buffet with selection of main dishes, side dishes, and deserts for only \$6.50. Continues on 3rd Mondays during summer.

Records Abstraction Special Interest Group meets at the West Texas Collection the 3rd Wednesday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m.; the next meeting is **Wednesday, May 20.** Open to all who are interested in abstracting and learning about records.

SAGHS Board will not meet again until August, date and time to be announced.

For more information on calendared events, call 942-5741 or 944-8403, or email SAGHS.Inc@gmail.com.

<p>SPEAKER SERIES</p> <p>2008-2009</p>	<p>SEP 2</p> <p>Finding Your Family on the Internet</p> <p>Susan E. Ball</p>	<p>OCT 7</p> <p>The Chaplains of Ft. Concho</p> <p>Rev. Arthur Mavrode</p>	<p>NOV 4</p> <p>Grandma, Did You Know Moses?</p> <p>Ross McSwain</p>	<p>DEC 2</p> <p>Christmas Party and Silent Auction</p>
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Members Go "Green" at May Meeting

The May issue of the Stalkin' Kin will be available for pick-up by Society members at our meeting on May 5. Additional copies are available for \$5.00 each. You can reduce emissions and save postage expenses at the same time by getting your copy at the meeting! The remaining issues will be mailed after May 5. Members can attend the May meeting, hear Russell Smith speak, and be among the first to receive the Stalkin' Kin - what a winning combination!!



Searching on Ancestry.com Focus of Research SIG

The Research Special Interest Group will focus this month on search techniques for Ancestry.com (see SAGHS Calendar, p. 2 for meeting details). The WTC has three computers available for use and several other members will bring their laptop computers. Susan Ball will show how to find specific databases in Ancestry and how to use Ancestry's search engines. If you are proficient at using Ancestry, come and help teach the others. Computers will be available on a first-come basis. This topic was planned for last month but postponed due to Easter weekend.

Contacts Needed!

Do you know someone who is interested in genealogy but is not a member of SAGHS? Give their name and contact info to Mary Lenertz (phone 944-8403 or e-mail merrily007@aol.com) so she can add them to the SAGHS mailing list. Mary Lee is planning an early start to next season's membership development and each additional name she receives is like gold!



Speaker's Program Taking Shape for 2009-10

Mary Lee Lenertz, Program Chair, is already lining up speakers for 2009-10. Mary Lee reports that Suzanne Campbell will be speaking at the first meeting, September 1, 2009. Dr. Brian McKnight will speak on the Civil War on the last meeting of next season, May 4, 2010. Joyce Gray, Regent of the local chapter of the DAR, is slated to speak on the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. This should be an especially interesting presentation as the DAR is celebrating their 100th year in 2010.

Mary Lee wishes to repeat the silent auction as program for the December program, Dec. 1. The Silent Auction was great fun and generated a sizable Speaker's Fund. The Board is also planning a fall workshop tentatively scheduled for the end of October. Don't miss out on a minute - renew your membership!

<p>JAN 6 Genetic Research = DNA and Family Research Carey Bracewell</p>	<p>FEB 3 Annie Black and the Soiled Doves of San Angelo Suzanne Campbell</p>	<p>MAR 3 American Soldiers or Turncoats? Misguided Texans in the Korean War Brian McKnight, Ph.D</p>	<p>APR 7 When Patriotism Turns Ugly: Anti-German Sentiment in Runnels County; 1917-1921 Shannon Sturm</p>	<p>MAY 5 Lessons Learned in Documenting History Russell Smith</p>
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Registration Extended for Genealogy Workshop

The West Texas Collection and Friends of the Porter Henderson Library and the West Texas Collection are pleased to announce Brent Holcomb as speaker for the 2009 Genealogy Workshop on May 2. Brent is editor of the South Carolina Magazine of Ancestry Research, author of over 100 genealogical and historical books, and expert on research in the Carolinas.

Topics for the workshop are:

- South Carolina Land Records including Indian Lands
- South Carolina Vital Records and Substitutes (includes burned records)
- The Border Problems between the Carolinas in the Colonial Period

The Genealogy Workshop will be held at First United Methodist Church, 37 East Beauregard. A catered lunch will be provided. The workshop fee is \$50.00 with the catered lunch, \$40.00 without the lunch. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.; the conference concludes at 2:00 p.m.

Registration including lunch will be accepted until April 29 - just call or e-mail Suzanne Campbell to reserve a place then pay at the door. If you don't contact Suzanne in advance, registration at the door will be \$55.00, without lunch.

Phone: 942-2164.

e-mail: suzanne.campbell@angelo.edu



Permian Basin Fall Workshop

The Permian Basin Genealogical Society has scheduled their annual Fall Workshop for September 19, 2009. The speaker will be Kelvin L. Meyers, Forensic Genealogist. Kelvin has worked for 10 years in the Dallas Public Library with the well-known and respected genealogist, Lloyd Bockstruck. Presently, Kelvin specializes in locating unknown or missing heirs to estates. Topics will be announced at a later date. The Permian Basin Fall Workshop is a favorite among SAGHS members - the speakers are great, the fee is low (due to a grant that supports the workshop), and the food is good. It's a can't-miss day of genealogy fun and education!



GARAGE SALE EVENT IN THE BARN - 2009

By Shirley Huntley Dobson

The Garage Sale Event in the BARN for this year has come to a close. It was exhausting work, time consuming, but oh goodness, the friendships we made working so closely with one another. I thoroughly enjoyed the kindred bonds that I was able to establish being with just a few members at a time. We did really well in spite of some members. Some became quite ill thinking of the garage sale event and went to bed until it was over.

Some packed their bags and left town to keep from working the garage sale, others fell down and broke/fractured their bones to get out of it. That is alright, there is always next year.

You heard me. Now that we as a team have overcome getting power to the BARN, getting the building inspected, and the inconvenience of the missing street signs, we can do anything anyone challenges us to do.

So here is my challenge to you. Keep cleaning out those closets and yard buildings. Go buy new stuff and move out the old stuff. I think it would be great to have another one in 2010. Susan and I have already tossed around some ideas for next year.

The total income was:

Preview:	\$322.95
Friday:	\$655.85
Saturday:	\$627.00
Total:	\$1,605.80

There are a few receipts to be subtracted but minimal amounts.

Get ready, less than 360 days left before Garage Sale Event in the BARN 2010!

Let's keep in touch throughout our summer months. I have a fifth wheel that is raring to travel.

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Board of Directors

President: Susan E. Ball

Vice-President: Mary Lee Lenertz

Recording Secretary: Shirley Dobson

Corresponding Secretary: Carolyn McGaughey

Treasurer: Christine Scott

Publicity Director: Joanna Sturgill

Historian: Vanora Brown

Editor, Stalkin' Kin: Ron Downie

Webmaster: Ron Downie

Directors: Connie Fletcher, Peg Gordon, Jerry Hambright, and Marie Russell.

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Happy Cinco de Mayo from the

Board of Directors!



MANY THANKS TO OUR GARAGE SALE VOLUNTEERS!!!

Garage Sale Committee

Chair: Shirley Dobson
 Members: Dorothy Diaz
 Elizabeth Aten
 Mary Lee Lenertz
 Peg Gordon



Donors

Elizabeth Aten
 Susan Ball
 Vanora Brown
 Dorothy Diaz
 Shirley Dobson
 Martha Dolliver
 Ron Downie
 Liz Emerson
 Mary Everson
 Connie Fletcher
 Peg Gordon
 Ron Herring
 Ouida Jackson
 Janet Johnson
 Mary Lee Lenertz
 Maxine Long
 Jeanette and P. M. Miller
 Marie Russell
 Christine Scott
 Dyann and Mel Shull
 Barbara Thompson
 Mozelle Tonne
 Betty Varner
 Helen Wike

Tables

Almost as important as the barn!
 Susan Ball
 Shirley Dobson
 Jeanette and P. M. Miller
 Barbara Thompson
 Betty Varner



Volunteers

These provided countless hours sorting, pricing, setting up, and staffing the garage sale.

Elizabeth Aten
 Susan Ball
 Don Ball
 Vanora Brown
 Dorothy Diaz
 Manuel Diaz
 Martha Dolliver
 Mary Everson
 Connie Fletcher
 Peg Gordon
 Debby Hendrix
 Flo Howell
 Mary Lee Lenertz
 Maxine Long
 Carolyn McGaughey
 Jeanette Miller
 Marie Russell
 Christine Scott
 Dyann Shull
 Barbara Thompson
 Betty Varner

Please forgive us if your name was inadvertently missed! At one meeting, people were dropping items off in Shirley's car and she's not sure she got everyone's name as a donor. Please let us know if we missed your name in any capacity. Thank you to everyone who helped!

From the President

It's almost May, and our last meeting for 2008-09 is next week. Where did this year go? Following the lead of other new presidents, I think it's useful to present a "State of the Society" to round out the year.

Almost a year ago, the Board of Directors met at my house for a workshop, planning the steps we needed to take to revitalize the Society. At that time, I felt the the three main areas we needed to address were membership, visibility, and finances. These three areas are interrelated; each affects the other.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership has increased dramatically, from 62 in May, 2008, to 100 in May 2009. We've added new members each month, and each new member brings new ideas, new energy, and increased vitality. For the garage sale alone, at least 31 people volunteered by donating time, tables, or items for sale, and nine of those volunteers are new members for this year. That's amazing!

VISIBILITY

A viable society will be doing things that attract attention and entice people to join. One of the key components enhancing visibility this year was the speaker's program; the speaker's program encouraged attendance and attracted new members because people knew the speaker and topic in advance. Visibility was further enhanced by the well-designed SAGHS web site that provides a quality first look for potential members. In addition, the monthly newsletter keeps members informed and showcases SAGHS events for potential members. To further improve visibility we've hosted the fall workshop, held new member's classes, and created special interest groups. Our increased visibility has increased membership and income, which in turn enables us to offer additional programs and events of interest to genealogists. That's exciting!

FINANCES

Last May, the Board of Directors addressed the financial issues facing the Society by revamping the dues structure. We then reduced expenses by cutting the cost of printing the *Stalkin' Kin* and other SAGHS publications, cutting the cost of postage by distributing the *Stalkin' Kin* at meetings, and reducing all other non-essential expenses. Publicizing Society publications on our website and through the Texas State Genealogical Society increased sales. The silent auction held in December raised over \$1,000 for a speaker's fund and the garage sale brought in over \$1,600. At the end of April 2008 the Society had \$1,305.42; and we're ending April 2009 with over \$5,600. That's fantastic!

I can say with confidence that the "State of the Society" is good. Thanks to all who made it so - the Board of Directors, the many volunteers, and those who invited friends to attend events and to join the Society. It's been a fun year and I can't wait until September to start all over again!

Susan E. Ball, President



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1 PLACE OF DEATH TEXAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Bexar BUREAU OF VITAL STATISTICS
5223 D.O.V.S.
576 D
Reg. Dk. No. 576
Registered No. D
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SAGHS

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