



Arlington Genealogical Society News

April 2013

Tuesday, April 9, 2013
Arlington Central Library
Community Room
6:30 pm

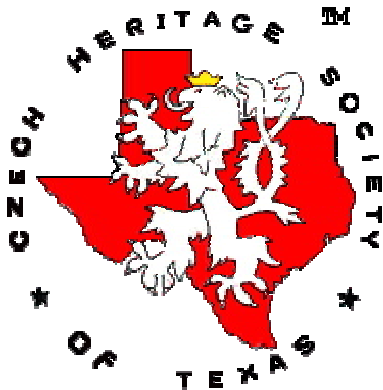
Program:

Leo Baca: Czechoslovakia

Czech immigrants to the US settled in small clusters around the nation, two of the larger settlements being in West, Texas and Shiner. Most arrived in the late 1800s or early 1900s in search of available farmland of the Midwest. Most of them came from Bohemia and it was common for others to call them Bohemians.

The Czech Republic, separate from Slovakia since 1 Jan 1993, is in central Europe east of Germany. The capital city is Prague, a beautiful place.

Leo Baca is a fourth generation Czech Texan whose research has specialized in the means of travel and times of arrival of Czech immigrants. He wrote Czech Immigration Passenger Lists, Volumes I-IX, available in the Arlington Public Library Genealogy Collection, catalog number YZ.7 B.



Hospitality:

Hospitality for the April meeting will be provided by William and Gloria Gochenour, Cecilia Messick, _____ and _____.

For members who would like to volunteer to bring food before our year ends, please call Cecilia at 817 795 8655.

Larry Howser has made a contribution for the support of the hospitality program, which is an option for those who find it inconvenient to bring food.

Arlington Genealogical Society meets on the second Tuesday every month from September through June. Annual dues, due in September, are \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a couple.

AGS OFFICERS FOR 2012-2013

President: Sylvia Hoad
1st VP: Cecilia Messick
2nd VP, Program Committee: Pete Jacobs
Assisted by Dorothy Rencurrel
Secretary: Alice Noe
Treasurer: Virginia Orchard
Assistant for Membership: Don Lewis
Parliamentarian: Cherry Williams
Newsletter: Tom Cogdell
Library Liaison: Mary Ann Conrad
Publicity: Wally and Ruth Goodman
Web Master: Sheri Tiner
Web Address:
www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txags/

Business

Visitors on March 12-
Karen Brown
Rayne Hamby

Elizabeth McLean
Trudy Ensey, a new member
Geraldine Mills
Wanda Marshall
Doreen Kaszak
Leon Carpenter
Mary Lolotai
Debbie Dunnigan

For a celebration of the historical events in Texas during March, the members sang "Beautiful Texas", some no doubt for the first time. The composition by Governor W. Lee "Pappy" O'Daniel, it has a strong local connection to the western swing band of the 1930s The Light Crust Doughboys. Jenny Manca proved her mastery of media by bringing up a recorded version showing some of the beauties.

President Sylvia Hoad reported that Bettie West, Pete Jacobs and Mary Ann Conrad helped her man the Arlington Genealogical Society/Arlington Public Library table at the LDS Family History Fair on March 2.

Sheri Tiner, who is a new AGS member, has been appointed Web Master for the AGS website hosted by rootsweb. She has designed the very attractive logo there and also heading this newsletter. She will post the monthly newsletter as well as other information. At present it appears that the best way to access the website is to enter arlingtonlibrary.org to bring up the APL home page, select Genealogy and then select Arlington Genealogical Society. If you search on the rootsweb.ancestry URL, Google will find us, whereas Yahoo won't.

Sylvia showed a poster-sized family tree design that was given to her by a vendor at the TSGS conference. There are several varieties of these, free for the taking and available at the April meeting.

Genie's Genealogical Gem

Sylvia appealed to members to respond to Mary Ann Conrad's appeal to report their interests for her guidance in ordering books for the APL Genealogy Collection.

Surnames of ancestors you are active researching
States and Counties where they lived

Time period

Other things that you think would be helpful

On the Calendar

AGS May 14: Family Tree Maker
AGS June 11: Dawn Youngblood, Tarrant County Archivist

The Fort Worth Family History Center talks on the first Saturday of months during the spring will continue.

They occur from 10 am to noon at 5001 Alta Mesa. Please register by a message to jarie@prodigy.net or bxerladi@sbcglobal.net

May 4 **Where did she come from?**
June 1 Sharing your research results

Fort Worth Genealogical Society **Beginners Workshop Series**, Saturday mornings
Fort Worth Central Library, 500 West 3rd St, 10:30 am-12:30 pm, Chappell Meeting Room
Instructor Terri Meeks
terri.meeks@sbcglobal.net
Apr 27 **Libraries, Archives, +**
May 25 Vital records
Jun 22 Immigration
Jul 27 Military
Aug 24 Your legacy

Building New Bridges

The National Genealogical Society Annual Conference
Members.ngsgenealogy.org/Conferences/Program2013.cfm
8-11 May 2013 at Las Vegas



The Fort Worth Genealogical Society Summer Seminar will be on the subject of DNA in Genealogy August 10, 2013. The speaker will be Jane Beck of Family Tree DNA. It will be at the Trinity Terrace Towers, 1600 Texas Street, which has been the very satisfactory venue for the last two years.

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txfwgs

Happenings

We thank Pete Jacobs for organizing the program Tour the Stacks, as well as Mary Ann Conrad, Linda Seitz and Jenny Manca for guiding us through the Genealogy Collection on the second floor and way beyond...

There is a folded handout "Family History Resources at the Arlington Public Library." On the scene, the following resources were pointed out. West wall- microfilm reader/printer, demonstrated by Linda Seitz.

North wall- vertical file of local history clippings, collections of city directories, phone books and school annuals.

East wall all the way across the library- microfilm of newspapers, especially the Arlington Citizen-Journal and the Fort Worth Star Telegram.

Stacks- beginning at the south stack there are general reference books for genealogy, then proceeding north are state records from Alabama to Wyoming and finally records of geographic regions, ethnic groups and a very small collection of international information.

There was a handout for the stacks, "This Doesn't look like the Dewey Decimal System" to explain how subjects are cataloged within each state. As a single example, you would find census records, then military records, obituaries and cemeteries, court records (birth, marriage, land deeds, etc) and finally books of county history.

Returning to the Community Room, Jenny Manca demonstrated access to online resources.

To use the library electronic media, you need to sign on at any available terminal with your library card number (12 digits) and a personal 4 digit PIN number that you choose and get a librarian's help to activate it.

You will also need these to access certain kinds of records from your home computer. The old

system of using TXSHARE numbers is being phased out, though it may linger for a while.

The Genealogy resources accessed from a computer are the **Genealogy and Local History Collection**, which lists: ☺ labels those that do more.

Search Tips a tutorial on genealogy research

City Directories a list

Local History Files a list

Local Newspapers ☺ the Will Keller abstracts of the Arlington Journal and Arlington Citizen

Maps a list

Microfilm a list

Police Museum ☺ photographs, real history

Yearbooks and Annuals lists

Genealogy Databases

The big three, ☺ ☺ ☺, Ancestry, Familysearch (open), and Heritage Quest, plus the following:

America's Obituaries and Death Notices

Bibliography of Native North Americans

Handbook of Texas (Sylvia recommends)

Texas Digital Sanborn Maps ☺

Texas Heritage Online

Texas Reference Center

World History Collection

The UTA Friends of the Library program on March 22 was by Alan C. Lowe, the Director of the George W. Bush Presidential Center in Dallas. Lowe has worked at several of the presidential libraries, the Reagan in California, the Roosevelt in Hyde Park, NY, the Office of Presidential Libraries at the National Archives in Washington, DC, the Howard W. Baker Center in Knoxville, Tennessee (not a presidential, but similar), and now the GWB over by SMU.

Mr. Lowe spoke about his career, his interview with President Bush, and the work so far. The GWB collection was moved from Washington to a storage facility in Lewisville, where it stayed during the fundraising by the Foundation that supports the new library and archive and during the completion of the building and grounds. They are located on SMU Boulevard between central expressway and the college on the south side of the boulevard, a triangular space of several acres. There is a lot of park space surrounding the building, supposed to be environmentally correct.

The visitor center is on the north side and the Bush Institute on the south. There are just 200 public parking spaces and he recommended that people get there via DART if they can. I can testify that parking anywhere near SMU is a problem.

Director Lowe said that the 'stuff' has been moved to the building and they are now in a time period when access to the 'stuff' is limited, by law. However, he is working as hard as he can with a staff presently 19 people, getting something ready to display in the museum part of the building. This will presumably include the stuffed lion that GWB received on a trip to Africa and some of the jewelry that Asiatic princes gave to the first lady. He showed the note that the President made on 9-11 when he was in a school classroom in Florida talking to elementary school students and the news of the two airplanes hitting the twin towers in New York City was brought to him. It also includes the megaphone which was found to help him talk to first responders and other workers on site in NYC a few days later.

George and Laura Bush are frequent visitors. The political institute has already started having meetings. Lowe is lining up docents to answer visitors' questions and lead elementary student groups on tours. Adult visitors don't need guides. They just follow the path and can download a commentary on their own gadget when they arrive. There are amenities such as a place to eat. He says that the Oval Office is full scale and you can sit on the furniture or pose behind the desk for a photograph. He also said that the old Situation Room from the basement of the West Wing has been moved here intact, if I understand it correctly. There are other voluntary positions working with the archivists which he is working to fill.

This is the third presidential library in Texas, after the ones for the archives of Lyndon B. Johnson in Austin, which has recently been renovated, and for George H. W. Bush in College Station.

Alamo Library is Closed Temporarily

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas Library, located next the Alamo in San Antonio, recently closed for inventory. The facility has been closed since January 14 for an inventory to determine which items belong to the Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT), and which ones belong to the state of Texas. The re-opening date is

not yet known as it depends upon the speed of the inventory process. If you are planning a visit, you might want to call first.



The library catalogue has 7,000 pages and lists an estimated 62,000 items, including about 450 collections of personal and family papers, such as those of Samuel Maverick, a signer of the Texas declaration. The collection includes 17,000 book titles, primarily history, but including genealogy, politics and government, art, natural history and science, religion, folklore, and fiction, all associated with Texas.

The Library has reduced its staff from 10 full-time employees in the 1980s to five currently and one part-time staffer, according to DRT meeting minutes. The DRT is asking its 109 chapters to each donate at least \$100 to hire temporary workers to complete the inventory.

You can read more by Scott Huddleston in the *My San Antonio* web site at <http://goo.gl/CYY54>. You can read a description of the library's collections at <http://www.drtd.org/AboutTheLibrary/OverviewCollection.asp>.

You can also watch for an announcement of the library's re-opening on the Daughters of the Republic of Texas web site at <http://www.drtd.org/>. Thanks to Dick Eastman 4 Mar 2013

NARA is reducing hours in the Washington, DC and College Park, MD branches due to sequestration. They will remain open on the same day schedule M-Sat 9-5, cutting out all of the
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evening hours, which were WThF till 9 pm.

Dick Eastman's blog did not mention the regional archives, but it is predictable that they will have to make cuts, so it is probably a good idea to call the NARA Fort Worth office before making a trip there.



Pete Jacobs and Linda Seitz representing the Arlington Genealogical Society at our Host table at the Texas State Genealogical Society Conference in Fort Worth on November 1-3, 2012

Getting Married in Israel: Why It So Often Means Hiring a Detective
Jews [in Israel] who want a marriage license must first prove they are Jewish in accordance with Orthodox tradition, which means they need to have been born to an uninterrupted line of Jewish mothers. Such a pedigree can be difficult to prove, especially for the children of Israel's largest immigrant community, the former denizens of the Soviet Union, many of whom spent years obscuring their Jewish roots to avoid discrimination.
From the NEHGS Weekly Genealogist **16**, 9, 27 Feb 2013



Tom Cogdell, Cecilia Messick, Cherry Williams and Mary Ann Conrad making a presentation of the four volumes of Will Keller's abstracts of the Arlington Journal and Arlington Citizen to the Arlington Historical Society Fielder House Museum.

Links

<http://newbern.cpplib.org/research>
Family bibles accessible online from the New Bern/Craven County Public Library web site. Other things may be available on this searchable resource.

www.hardscrabblefarm.com/ww2/Britain.htm
"...It is always impolite to criticize your hosts; it is militarily stupid to criticize your allies."
Instructions for American Servicemen in Britain 1942, available as an ebook

Subject: Geography Lessons for Retirees
You can retire to New York City where
1. You say "the city" and expect everyone to know you mean Manhattan .
2. You can get into a four-hour argument about how to get from Columbus Circle to Battery Park, but can't find Wisconsin on a map.
3. You think Central Park is "nature."
4. You believe that being able to swear at people in their own language makes you multi-lingual.
5. Your car's horn is worn out.
6. Everyone around you thinks that eye contact is an act of aggression.

