

Kerrville Genealogical Society Messenger

Newsletter of the Kerrville Genealogical Society, Kerrville, Texas

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October 2021

2021 Kerrville Genealogical Society Board

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We can be found on the Internet

Our blog:

- kerrvillegenealogy.blogspot.com

Check these for future events:

- kerrvillegenealogy.wordpress.com
- www.facebook.com/KerrvilleGenealogicalSociety/

Next Issue:

January 2022

Deadline for submissions:

December 26, 2021

Send to: leslie.vandrasek@live.com

Address changes:

If you need to make a change to your e-mail or postal address, let us know by sending an e-mail to kgs@hctc.net or by phone.

President's Message



Up to this time the 1918 influenza pandemic was the most severe in history. It was first detected about February 1918 in the U. S. and lasted through April 1920. Now 2021 finds us in the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic. Just as in the Covid pandemic, 1918 saw business, church and school lockdowns; social distancing; mask mandates; and anti-masker leagues. The Suffragettes who symbolically did not want their voices stifled resisted mask wearing. Rubbing cut onion on the chest was recommended as respiratory therapy in 1918. It probably aided in social distancing as well! When reading about the Spanish flu pandemic I see a lot of parallels with today's pandemic. History does indeed repeat itself! For interesting photos taken during the 1918-1920 flu pandemic, search on www.google.com/images.

The Kerrville Genealogical Society is trying to maintain a near normal routine. We have resumed our general meetings and Lynn has speakers lined up for us through November and into 2022. (We don't meet in December.) For now, we will provide wrapped snacks and bottled water at the sign in table instead of refreshments and social time after the meetings. The KGS Research Center is open two days a week on Tuesdays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm. I am hoping we can go back to our normal 3 days a week in January 2022. Our workshop with Susan Ball scheduled for November 6 has been postponed until Spring of next year. Anyone uncomfortable with coming to the Center and needing a lookup or research can contact our volunteers by phone at 830-315-1836 or email kgs@hctc.net.

As we near the end of the year, we are looking for new board members. If you would like to contribute a little of your time to the ongoing success of the Society please let us hear from you. There are officer positions and chair positions available. None are difficult or terribly time consuming. Any of the current officers or chairpersons will be happy to discuss with you what their jobs entail. It is also time to renew memberships for 2022. A form is at the end of this newsletter. We also have membership forms available in the genealogy Research Center, on our website <https://kerrvillegenealogy.wordpress.com> to print, and will have forms at the sign in table at our October and November meetings. Your membership dues help us pay the bills. So, please renew.

Lastly, to our members of Kerrville Genealogical Society who have had Covid, we hope you are all recovering well.

Best regards,

Sharon Ashby

From the Editor

We hope the KGS Messenger provides you with information you can use in your research, interesting stories contributed (usually) by board members, and articles to entertain you as well. What we need is you! We want to hear from our membership—what have you learned during the pandemic, did you break any brick walls, learn new family stories, did you find new resources? This is

your newsletter and a way to share with everyone something about your genealogical journey.

Submit



What you share does not have to be lengthy or elaborate, but we do want to hear from you. Please send anything by the deadline submission date as shown on the front of each KGS Messenger.

Upcoming Meetings

Our 2021 meetings are held at:
UGRA Auditorium, 125 Lehmann Drive, Kerrville, TX 78028 at 2:00 p.m.

October 20, 2021

Jackie “J.D.” Dowdy: Using Courthouse Records

Jackie is a Certified Paralegal who worked at the Kerr County Attorney’s Office before becoming the Kerr County Clerk in January 2019. She was born and raised in Kerrville and graduated from Tivy High School. She has been actively involved in the local election process. She will discuss what records are in the County Clerk’s office, public and non-public records, accessing digitized records, unusual records and more. Her office is responsible for vital records including: births, deaths, marriages, cattle brands, Veteran’s certificates of release or discharge from active duty, etc. She will also talk about the Dowdy family massacre that happened on October 5, 1878, at Mountain Home. She will be available to answer questions.

November 17, 2021

Barb Sheffer: Masterpiece Quilts

After arriving in Plymouth in 1620, Barb’s ancestors traveled by covered wagon into the Ohio Valley on a land grant awarded following the War of 1812. She was born in Toledo, Ohio but an oil company brought her to the fine state of Texas! Her BS and MA are both in education. She has taught in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Texas. She loves studying genealogy and history. She is a member of the Mayflower Society and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She has been making quilts for many years. Her program, from the DAR Museum in Washington DC is about masterpiece quilts. The quilts are from the late 1700’s.

On the Shelves at the KGS Research Center & Library

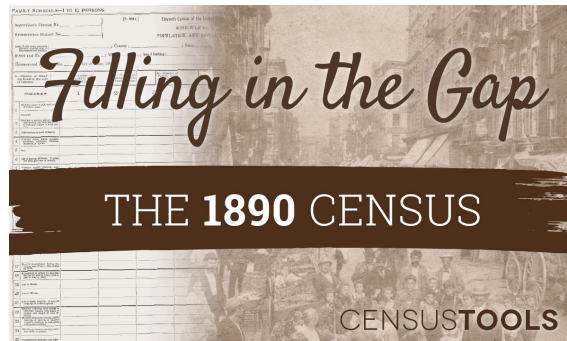
by Harriet M. Chesi, Collections



KGS appreciates donations to the collection:

Haunting the Graveyard, Unearthing the Story of the Coker Settlement

The Coker Settlement was derived from the land grant given to John (Jack) Coker, one of the 1836 Battle of San Jacinto heroes. Under orders from Sam Houston, they destroyed the Vincent's Bridge which trapped Santa Anna's army from escaping and led to the famous victory and to Texas Independence. The Coker Settlement was located between present day Anderson Loop, 1604, and Interstate Loop 410 near the San Antonio Airport in north central San Antonio. A historical park, church and cemetery exist today. The author, Gayle Spencer, captures the stories of the many families that settled there, including birth and death dates.



Substitute 1890 Federal Census for Kerr County

Submitted by Deborah Gaudier

<https://kerrvillegenealogy.blogspot.com/2021/07/substitute-1890-federal-census-for-kerr.html>

The U.S. Federal Census is taken every ten years beginning in 1790 and is an essential genealogical source. Unfortunately, the 1890 census was destroyed after a fire in 1921 in the Commerce Building. Genealogists and historians have, over the years, worked to compile substitute lists. This list was found during this project to look for news items about Kerr County in the state press. The list also appears on the blog post titled "Assorted News Items About Kerr County, January 1890", which appears on the previous blog page. This is the same list, but cleaned up to make it easier to read, and in more or less alphabetical order. Some of the names need editing as well.

SAN ANTONIO LIGHT

The following list of names will show who were here and doing business on January 1, 1890:

Cicero Bagby	carpenter	
Chas. Barleman	saloon	
A. L. Barnett	cashier Kerrville bank	
F. J. Beitel	lumber dealer	
J. W. Beldoon[?]	photographer	
Otto Boerner	at the firm of Boerner & Rau	blacksmiths and carriage makers
A. Brautigan	blacksmith	
H. Bundy	of the firm of Bundy & Ross	dealers in mutton sheep
W. W. Burnett	attorney at law	
R. H. Burney	state senator of the Thirty-eighth district and senior of the firm of Burney & Burnett	lawyers
A. Carr	of the firm of Carr & Smallwood	wood yard
Houston Chaney	of the firm of Ebaner[?] & Wineland	merchants
W. W. Coleman	baggage and transfer line	
Wiley Craft	proprietor Guadalupe hotel	

The following list of names will show who were here and doing business...continued

O. P. Crockett	deputy sheriff and jailer	
James Croty	butcher	
W. B. Darles	architect and contractor	
Ben Davey	of the firm of Davey & Schott	masons and contractors
H. B. Davis	carpenter	
H. J. Davis	county surveyor	
Chas. F. Dorsett	carpenter	
Thad. Dunker	machine repairer	
-- Dunkle	railroad manager for the Pacific Express Co.	
Albert Enderle	postmaster	
Dr. J. D. Everett	physician and surgeon	
T. D. A. Faubion	merchant	
W. G. Garrett	of the law firm of Denman, Franklin & Garrett	county judge
B. K. George	carpenter	
S. D. Glenn	cistern builder	
W. V. Gregory	merchant	
John Grider [Crider?]	city marshal	
G. A. Harrison	bookstore	
E. C. Hawkins	carpenter	
J. M. Hawkins	water hauler	
I. N. Hazlett	school teacher	
Mrs. Hole	music teacher	
James Horne	carpenter	
Mrs. __ Hoyle	boarding house	
Hubble Bros.	contractor for wells & cisterns	
__ Hutchinson	proprietor Hutchinson House	
Rev. J. A. Irvine	resident minister of the Presbyterian church	
W. F. James	carpenter	
J. S. Jolly	carpenter	
August Karger	of the firm of Karger Bros. & Page	butchers
Miss Cappa Kellam	of the firm of Kellam & Hamilton	milliners
J. M. Kinney	carpenter and contractor	
Frank Large	livery and fecil[?] stabler	

The following list of names will show who were here and doing business...continued..

D. M. Lawrence	wood yard	
M. C. Lee	of the firm of Lee & Garner	merchants
Geo. L. Leigh	county assessor	
Jesus Lozano	bakery	
G. F. Markneib[?]	watchmaker	
H. H. Marshall	boot and shoemaker	
A. McFarland	county and district clerk	
S. W. Melson	painter and paper hanger	
John Michon	carpenter; Bertrand Michon	merchant
J. W. Mickle	of the firm of Mickle & Moore	confectioners; oysters and fish
M. K. Miles	carpenter	
F. M. Moore	Kerr County Sheriff	
J. W. Moore	barber	
F. M. Mueller	stoves and tinware	
Chas. H. Muench	wool and cotton buyer	
Oscar Nenelee [?]	telegraph operator	
Ed Newlon [Newton?]	barber	
H. Noll	merchant	
G. T. Obarr	livery and feed stable	
Dr. E. E. Palmer	of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway company	physician and local surgeon
G. R. Parsons	of the firm of Parsons & Richards	dealers and shippers of cedar posts, piling, house blocks, etc. and lessees of the Kerrville truck quarry
Dr. G. R. Parsons	proprietor public hall	
Mrs. August Patton	boarding house	
W. W. Peavy	of the firm of Peavy & Codrington	druggists
Rev. F. J. Perrin	resident minister of the M. E. church south	
Mrs. M. A. Phaur [Phaar?]	boarding house	
W. A. Poling	station master and local agent of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway company	
P. J. Pruitt	proprietor of the Pruitt house	
Public Hall	Dr. G. R. Parsons, proprietor	
Public School	General S. C. Moore, principal; Prof. J. S. Perkins, Miss Georgia Davis and Miss Alice Starkey, assistants	

The following list of names will show who were here and doing business...continued...

Dr. H. C. Rees	physician and surgeon	
H. Remschel	lumber dealer	
Rev. O. H. Rice	rector St. Peter's Episcopal church	
D. C. Robinson	merchant	
Fred Roth	mason	
Mrs. Russell	ladies' furnishing goods and dress making	
W. H. Russell	carpenter	
Chas. Schreiner	banker; wholesale and retail merchant, W.E. Stewart, druggist	
Henry Schmidt	saloon	
H. V. Scholl	manager, Beitel's lumber yard	
Mrs. Augusta Schwerein	proprietress of the St. Charles Hotel	
Ed. Smallwood	proprietor of the Kerrville House and editor of the Kerrville Paper	
Smith Brothers	furniture dealers	
E. M. Smith	dairyman	
S. W. Smith	editor and proprietor of the Kerrville News	
E. A. Steel	hide and animal inspector	
P. M. Stegall	boarding house	
R. L. Temple	United States mail route agent	
Chas. Udick	stone mason	
Robt. Vaughan	carpenter	
B. J. Watson	saddler and harness maker	
W. C. Weatherford	boarding house	

[KGS note: this list nicely serves as a 1890 US census substitute.]

In addition the following city officials are also named in the news story:

Jos. A Ling, mayor; aldermen: W. W. Burnett, Nathan Herzog, B. C. Richards, S. C. Schreiner, Ed. Smallwood



Careless smoking in the basement of the U.S. Department of Commerce Building on the evening of January 10, 1921, may have caused a fire that destroyed the majority of the 1890 Census Records. The National Archives microfilmed surviving records in 1942 and 1953. Record fragments are available from Alabama, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, and Texas.

Image courtesy of National Archives and Records Administration.

To learn more about this fire go to: [United States Census Bureau](#)

Strategies for Successful Research

Submitted by Harriet Chesi

“The What of the Who will be found Where and When the What occurred”

I. Factors necessary to all successful family history research

- A. Organize information you already have — The What
- B. Developing a plan for research — The What & When
- C. Determining the right location — The Where & When
- D. Recognizing the name in an index — The Who

II. Preparing a Task List — Planning

- A. Who is the object of your search? What is your question?
- B. What kind of document or information are you seeking?
- C. Where might you find that document?
- D. When did the event or events occur?
- E. Why do you need that information?

III. Using a Timeline for Analysis

- A. Shows relationship between events in lives of parents and children.
- B. Suggests time and place to look for missing records.
- C. May reveal inconsistencies in dates and places.
- D. Helps place ancestors in historical context.

IV. Making a Timeline

- A. Five “W’s” — when, who, what, why, and where
- B. May be for one ancestor or for two or three generations.
- C. May include non direction-line ancestors who influenced ancestor.
- D. Include birth, death, marriage, children births, relocations, or other life events.

V. Steps to finding location of records — the Where and When

- A. Start with county where you know that ancestor last was recorded.
- B. Look at all the records in that county before moving on.
- C. Always record the name of the county as it was at the time of the event.
- D. Check census records in every location for every decade for your ancestors.
- E. Learn about county evolution in the areas in which your ancestors lived.
- F. Locate each county on a map current to the time period.

VI. Use the Circle of Influence if records not where expect — The Where & What

- A. Look in neighboring counties or state for missing family members or marriages. Check the bride’s home county.
- B. Deeds may be recorded in previous county from where censused.
- C. If county is on state line, check county at that time in neighboring state.
- D. If county is on river, look at county across the river.

VII. Use Cluster Theory to find previous locations

- A. People moved with other family members.
- B. Have you recorded all the relatives and in-laws in the current county?
- C. Were any other family members there before your ancestor?
- D. Check census records for clues to past locations.
- E. Look for neighbors born in same state as your ancestor. They may be kin.

VIII. Where Did They Live Previously — The When & Where

- A. Check birth places in census of children, uncles, in-laws.
- B. Were neighbors born in the same state or country?
- C. Look at deeds purchasing land for clues to past or new locations.

IX. Recognizing Your Ancestor — The Who

- A. How do you spell the name?
- B. How did the recorder hear it?
- C. How did the indexer interpret the handwriting?
- D. What was he “called by Mom” — nicknames
- E. “A Rose Would Smell as Sweet by any other Name”

X. Using Ancestor Research Record* — Organizing

- A. List the records you already have.
- B. Remarks—explain source of record or why one not found.
- C. Archived—where document is filed—folder, notebook, electronically

XI. Record Sources properly on document and in Data Base Program

- A. All the information for you or someone else to find the source again.
 - 1. What is the original source of the information?
 - 2. Document: deed, marriage record, death certificate, etc.
 - 3. Location: county, state, federal, other?
 - 4. Place you acquired it—court house, extracted from book, URL of web site and date, etc.
(always copy title page of a book).
- B. Informal citations-see Formats for Writing Citations
- C. Formal format for publication—see Elizabeth Shown Mill book.

XII. Record negative results

- A. Important to keep you from searching same source again.
- B. Record title of book, author, year of publication, date, and place searched.
- C. Government record search, place, and date.
- D. Web site searched, URL, and date.

XIII. Storing Your Records

- A. Folders or Files
- B. Fireproof safes for special documents.
- C. Digitized copies in computer files on mini hard drive.
- D. Always backup **after every change** on external source.
- E. Store one copy off-premises, online, or with another person.
- F. Update your technology.

* Ancestor Research Record on the following page.



ANCESTOR RESEARCH RECORD

Ancestor's Full Name _____

ID # _____

Records	Record Researched - Located or Remarks	Date	Archived
Birth Record			
Marriage Application			
Marriage Certificate			
Marriage Record			
Marriage Consent			
Death Certificate			
Death Record			
Church			
Divorce			
Tombstone/cemetery			
Obituary			
Will Administrator			
Court Record			
Guardian Record			
Estate Inventory/Sale			
Deeds - purchase			
Deeds - sale			
Patents/Grants			
Plat Map			
Census - Year			
Census - Year			
Census - Year			
Census - Year			
Census - Year			
Census - Year			
Census - Year			
Tax List - Year			
Tax List - Year			
Tax List - Year			
Military Record			
Pension Record			
Immigration			
Naturalization			
Licenses			
Employment Record			
Family Files			
Periodicals			
County History			
Other Publications			
Photographs			
Newspaper clippings			
Personal Possessions			
Other Records			

KERRVILLE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Membership Application

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Membership Year: January 1 - December 31, 2022

Membership is open to all individuals 18 years and older, libraries, and societies and is pro-rated based on date of application.

Primary Member Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zipcode:** _____

Phone (home): _____ **Phone (cell):** _____

Email Address: _____

Secondary Member Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zipcode:** _____

Phone (home): _____ **Phone (cell):** _____

Email Address: _____

I consider myself: ☐ Beginner ☐ Intermediate ☐ Advanced

I would be willing to: ☐ Contribute to newsletter ☐ Serve on a committee
☐ Other _____

Type of membership: ☐ Student \$10.00 New members and former members (if more than a full year) may join at a pro-rated fee:
☐ Individual \$25.00
☐ Family \$30.00 January 1 - June 30 full-price membership
☐ Patron \$75.00 July 1 - December 31 half-price Individual and Family memberships
☐ Benefactor \$500.00
☐ Donation \$_____ If you can, please consider a higher level of support.

Kerrville Genealogical Society is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). The Society relies on donations and membership support.

SEND COMPLETED FORM AND CHECK PAYABLE TO:

Kerrville Genealogical Society
125 Lehmann Drive, Suite 102
Kerrville, TX 78028

For KGS use only Date: _____ Check #: _____