

# Kerrville Genealogical Society Messenger

Newsletter of the Kerrville Genealogical Society, Kerrville, Texas

Volume 11 Issue 2

Founded in 1970

April 2022

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## Research Center & Library

125 Lehmann, Suite 102

Kerrville, TX 78028

Phone: 830-315-1836

Office e-mail: kgs@hctc.net

### **We can be found on the Internet**

#### Our blog:

- [kerrvillegenealogy.blogspot.com](http://kerrvillegenealogy.blogspot.com)

#### Check these for future events:

- [kerrvillegenealogy.wordpress.com](http://kerrvillegenealogy.wordpress.com)
- [www.facebook.com/KerrvilleGenealogicalSociety/](http://www.facebook.com/KerrvilleGenealogicalSociety/)

### **Next Issue:**

July 2022

### **Deadline for submissions:**

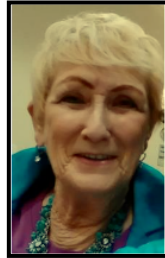
June 20, 2022

Send to: [leslie.vandrasedk@live.com](mailto:leslie.vandrasedk@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](mailto:kgs@hctc.net) or by phone, 830-315-1836.

## President's Message



With the beginning of the month already upon us, we need to make sure that all our dues-paying friends have contacted Kathy Turley to make sure that they have their dues paid. You are going to be left off the email list if you are not a paying member. This year you will receive the newsletter only if you are a member! A list is being prepared and we do not want to miss anyone who wishes to be a part of this group. So hurry and check to see that you are on that list!

We have many things planned for the coming year and we are going to start with the grand re-opening of our library for three days instead of two. We have trained several new volunteers to help you when you come in so get your research ready and come in on one of those three days....Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Covid can't stop us!

We have planned speakers that will interest you and your friends and relatives. So far, we have had Sharon Wolff, Mark Standley, and Lloyd Shenberger to start off the year. Come and see who we have lined up for you. Don't miss any of them because you might miss someone that will break down your "brick wall".

The exciting thing that will be happening this month in April is May Fest. KGS is joining up with the Genealogy Society of Kendall County and the Comfort Heritage Society and having a great PARTY IN THE PARK. Yes, the park in Comfort right in the middle of town will be the place to be on April 30 from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tables will be set up for all the different lineage societies that want to come and offer their applications for you to join them. Come and talk to them and see if that is the one for you!

Also the Boerne Village Band...a super little band that is internationally known for their German music will be there. They have been recognized by the German government and the state of Texas as the oldest continuous German band in the world outside of Germany and continually make trips to Germany to play there. Don't miss them at noon when they will play for you while you eat your special lunch.

Yes, a German lunch will be available for \$10.00 and you can get your tickets before-hand at the KGS library or from me. The meal will consist of bratwurst, sauerkraut, and all the trimmings. You can also get a ticket at the park on the day of the event...but don't let them run out before you get yours.

And don't forget that there will be a real May Pole for you to dance around complete with winding ribbons!

April 30....Comfort Park....11 a.m. until 2 p.m. ...and don't forget that KGS needs volunteers at our booth. Contact me at [npm@gvvc.com](mailto:npm@gvvc.com) or 210 313-4576 to help at the booth that day.

See you then.

*Nancy Polk McLarry*

## **Upcoming Meetings**

Our meetings are held at 2:00 p.m.:  
Guadalupe Basin Natural Resource Center  
Upper Guadalupe River Authority Auditorium  
125 Lehmann Drive, Kerrville, TX 78028

At the KGS General Meeting on February 16, Mark Standley, PhD, discussed his book, *Our Museum of Us, Curating Your Family's Past Into a Digital Future*, and demonstrated how to create digital stories. This meeting was recorded and has been uploaded to YouTube. It can be found at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f8g59YRNA0Y>.

Also, you may go to his YouTube channel, [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi4vfH\\_adjfaTKgPSuAfDtA](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCi4vfH_adjfaTKgPSuAfDtA), to view this video and others.

### **April 20, 2022**

#### **Rebecca Norton: *True Cowboys and the Stories They Told***

Ms. Norton will talk about how the oral histories and recorded stories of the American cowboys became the impetus for the book *The Trail Drivers of Texas* by J. Marvin Hunter. Ms. Norton will explore how this book has become a testament to the value of recording history from those that lived it, giving historians and enthusiasts firsthand accounts of what it was like to be a true cowboy.

Ms. Norton is the current Executive Director for the Frontier Times Museum in Bandera. Beginning her career at the Witte Museum in San Antonio, she has been a museum professional for 30 years. She was appointed by the Bandera County Commissioners Court to serve as chairperson of the Bandera County Historical Commission in 2018. Ms. Norton currently writes a newspaper column, "Frontier Tales," and is the author of numerous articles and two Arcadia Publishing Images of America books on Bandera County and Medina Lake.

### **May 18, 2022**

#### **Mark and Linda Stone: *Restoration and Research of Historic Buildings***

Mark and Linda enjoy restoring old buildings and honoring their past. They are responsible for the restoration of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Train Depot (now Rails a Cafe at the Depot) built in 1915, the Beitel Lumberyard (now Rails Events Hall) built in 1889, and the Dietert Mercantile (now the Shops at Depot Square) built around 1884. They will discuss the process of restoring these buildings and their history.

Mark was born in Corpus Christi and graduated from Tivy High School. He made his career in Kerrville building custom homes. Linda was raised in Ohio but has lived in Texas almost 40 years, the last 25 in Kerrville, where she continues to do scrimshaw artwork. They are both members of the Kerr County Historical Commission and Linda serves on the Board of the Heart of the Hills Heritage Center.

## **On the Shelves at the KGS Research Center & Library**

*by Harriet M. Chesi, Collections*



In January, KGS was given a collection of over 250 books that belonged to former member, Wanda Bowlin Davis. Many books focused on Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, South Carolina,

Tennessee and a lot on Texas. Check out the bookcase shelves for these states.

continued...

Pat Weber worked many days on the collection and learned that over 50 books were duplicates of ones found on the shelves in the KGS collection. These are available for sale with a donation and can be found in Room 1 on a rolling cart and on overhead shelves marked "Duplicates". A printed list of the duplicates will be available to review.

Remember to check the large collection of family histories found in Room 3. There is a blue binder that lists the major surnames featured in the books.

We received a donation of a book connected to the early Coker Settlement, *Last Farm Standing on Buttermilk Hill – Voelcker Roots Run Deep in Hardberger Park*. Land grants after the Texas Revolution drew new settlers to the outskirts of San Antonio to form a community known as the Coker Settlement. It was located just north of today's Loop 410 and eventually was swallowed up by San Antonio. Many of the early dairy-farm families are included.

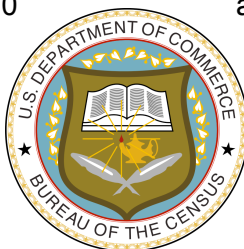
## **1950 Census Arriving Online 1 April 2022**

*Submitted by Sharon Ashby*

The National Archives will release the 1950 census on April 1, 2022, exactly 72 years to the day after the official census date. This census marks the first appearance of the "baby boomers" in a census count. The 1950 census is approximately 10 times the size of the 1940 census. It is quite lengthy and has a lot of parts. This census will be a searchable database that will include an index along with the population schedules for U.S. states and territories, Indian Reservation schedules, enumeration district maps, which are annotated maps of counties, cities, and other minor civil divisions, and enumeration district descriptions, which are written descriptions of geographic areas. The National Archives has been digitizing and indexing the records and developing and testing a new, dedicated 1950 Census website. The new website will include a name search function powered by an Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML) and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology tool. According to Project Management Director Rodney Payne, the OCR being used to transcribe the handwritten names from the census rolls is about as good as the human eye. Some pages are legible, and others are difficult to decipher. According to the National Archives the initial name index built on this technology, will not be 100% accurate. So, they developed a transcription tool to enable users to submit name updates. This will allow other users to find specific names more easily in the future. Familysearch.org and Ancestry.com will have volunteers creating a (hopefully more accurate) surname index after initial release.

The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, better known as the GI Bill of Rights provided returning servicemen from WWII with stipends covering tuition and expenses for college or trade school, low interest mortgages, unemployment allowances, and job-finding assistance. As a result, more people will

have left the farm, work in trades or manufacturing and own their own homes. If you had a relative away at college or university during this census, look for them enumerated at the school and not at home.



The 1950 enumerators had many daunting challenges. Due to continuous rains and significant flooding in the Mississippi Valley waterway areas in March and April of 1950 most of the population of these areas evacuated to tent camps, refugee shelters or you may find them in this census living elsewhere with relatives. Aroostook and Piscataquis counties in upper Maine had 191 unorganized townships mostly owned by timber and paper companies. Most of these townships had no roads, or muddy roads trapping cars, or were strictly private properties. The enumerators of 1950 also faced language barriers. One month after the census began, census takers in Chicago's Chinese community were still struggling to enumerate it. The district supervisor was given permission to have Chicago's Chinatown schedule written in Chinese characters and much later it was translated into English. Many of the larger U.S. cities with ethnic communities after WWII presented similar challenges with language. So, you might want to learn what was happening at that time in your area of interest to help you in a census search for your family.

- To review questions asked on the 1950 census go to [www.archives.gov/research/census/1950/questions-asked](http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1950/questions-asked) or [www.familysearch.org/en/blog/1950-census-questions](http://www.familysearch.org/en/blog/1950-census-questions).
- For more information on the 1950 census from the National Archives go to <https://www.archives.gov/research/census>.
- More interesting information is on the Archives blog at <https://historyhub.history.gov/docs/DOC-1481>.

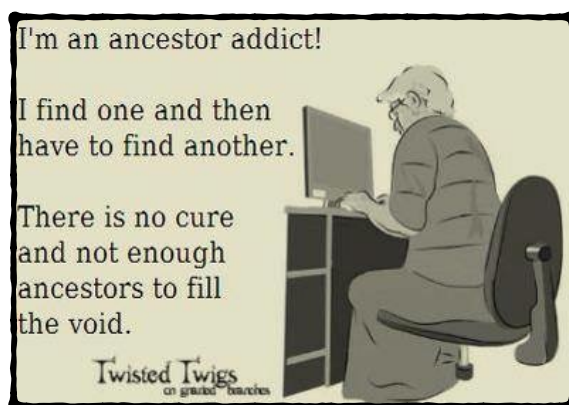






Form P11 - Census of Population and Housing  
 Form 12A - Census of Population and Housing  
 (household Schedule)  
 Form P80 - Population of American Samoa  
 Form P81 - American Samoa Individual Census  
 Report  
 Form P82 - Population and Housing of Alaska  
 Form P83 - Alaska Individual Census Report  
 Form P85 - Population of Guam  
 Form P86 - Guam Individual Census Report

Form P87 - Population and Housing of Hawaii  
 Form P88 - Hawaii Individual Census Report  
 Form P91 - Population of Panama Canal Zone  
 Form P92 - Panama Canal Zone Individual Census  
 Report  
 Form P93 - Population of Puerto Rico  
 Form P94 - Puerto Rico Individual Census Report  
 Form P97 - Population and Housing of U.S. Virgin  
 Islands  
 Form P98 - U.S. Virgin Islands Individual Census  
 Report



## **From the KGS Archives**

*From KERRVILLE MOUNTAIN SUN, June 9, 1938*

### **PIONEER CATTLEMAN TAKES LAST TRAIL, DIES AT AGE OF 87** **Fred Duderstadt, Trail Driver of '70s, Claimed Tuesday at Home Near Center Point**

Fred Duderstadt, 87, started on his last long trail early Tuesday morning, when he passed to the Great Beyond at his home near Center Point. He had been one of the Old Trail Drivers, and in the early '70s, made many a trip with the Texas herds to the markets in Kansas and Missouri.

He was a native of Germany, and came across the broad Atlantic Ocean in a sail boat when but five years of age. He, with his family, landed in the old port of Indianola, and until his death could vividly recall the crossing of the ocean. The family settled in DeWitt County, which at that time was considered as the Western frontier of civilization. He grew to young manhood and was interested in cattle raising and ranching. When still young, he joined the Trail Drivers, and assisted with driving herds to markets, when troublesome Indians were thought to lurk at each bend of the trail and often in the brush beside the path of the herders.

Many times the long drives and the return trip would take as much as three months, and during this time loved ones at home would have no means of hearing how the drivers had fared on the trips. A number of times Duderstadt was present in the hand-to-hand battles between outlaws or gunmen and the Indians. So far as is known, he was the only eye witness left to tell the story of the famous fight between John Wesley Hardin and Jim Clements and the band of Mexicans which took place on the Plains of Kansas, near Abilene.

As fast-moving trains came into general use in the country, Mr. Duderstadt quit the trail driving and settled down to the cattle business, and was one of the leading cattlemen of the country for many years, and was recognized as an expert when it came to being able to judge fat cattle. He moved to this section of the state in 1918, having purchased extensive ranch holdings in Kendall County. Later he purchased a large ranch near Mountain Home, and the huge house at Mountain Home Ranch was

one of the most hospitable in the countryside. After his retirement from the cattle business he moved to Center Point, where he purchased a home at the edge of town.

Hundreds of sorrowing friends and relatives were present for the funeral services which were held in the school auditorium in Center Point Wednesday afternoon, and made a long processional to the cemetery where the Masonic Lodge conducted the burial rites. The services were directed by the Smith Funeral Home and the tributes at the school house were paid by Rev. M. F. Drury, pastor of the

Center Point Baptist Church, and Rev. H. Ellis Thomas, pastor of the Methodist Church in that city. The pallbearers were W. B. Anglin, A. W. Henke, John R. Leavell, A. B. Burton, Jasper Moore and W. J. Work.

The survivors are his wife; two sons, G. C. Duderstadt of Harper and Tom Duderstadt of Hondo; two stepsons, R. P. McCoy of Port Arthur and Roger McCoy of Center Point. There are 20 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren and a large number of other relatives among the survivors.

## **Upcoming Dates of Interest To The Genealogist**

*Submitted by Sharon Ashby*

### **National Ellis Island Family History Day April 17, 2022**

From 1892 to 1924, Ellis Island in New York served as the entry point for millions of immigrants seeking to enter the United States. On April 17, 1907, a little over 12,000 immigrants (the most in a single day) passed into the US through Ellis Island. Over 1,000,000 immigrants were processed at Ellis Island throughout the year 1907. Ellis Island Family History Day is an authorized declaration issued by this country's legislators under the supervision of The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, Inc. and the National Genealogical Society.

A complete collection of Ellis Island passenger lists is available online and searchable for free at FamilySearch.org and <https://www.statueofliberty.org/discover/passenger-ship-search>. These ship passenger records include the millions of arrivals during the "Great Wave" of immigration (1880s-early 1920s).

### **National DNA Day is Monday, April 25, 2022**

On April 25, 1953, molecular biologists James Watson, Francis Crick and Maurice Wilkins published a paper in the scientific journal, Nature, describing their discovery of DNA's double-helix structure. Nine years later they were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for unearthing the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its importance for genetic information transfer in living beings.

National DNA Day events and celebrations have been hosted by the National Human Genome Research Institute to encourage further research as well as celebrate and continue to acknowledge the hard work that has been dedicated to the study of DNA.

Watch for various companies offering discounts on DNA-based ancestry and genealogy kits and informational DNA articles and YouTube tutorials leading up to this date.

## **Genealogist's Serenity Prayer**

**God, grant me the serenity to accept  
the ancestors I cannot find,  
courage to find the ones I can,  
and the wisdom to document  
thoroughly.**

# 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:	<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$10.00	New members and former members (if more than a full year) may join at a pro-rated fee:
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25.00	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$30.00	January 1 - June 30 full-price membership
	<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$75.00	July 1 - December 31 half-price Individual and Family memberships
	<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$500.00	
	<input type="checkbox"/> 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 #:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE