



My Journey From Yesterday

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 407

Bedford, TX 76095

Visit our Website at: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~txmcgs>

June 2015

Volume 38 Issue 6

Bonnie Baker, President

Mid-Cities Genealogical Society Meets the 1st Thursday of each month at:

Mary Lib Saleh Library
Meeting Room, 201 N. Ector
Eules, Texas
6:30 p.m. – Social
7:00 p.m.-General Meeting
Visitors are welcome.

2015 MCGS GENERAL MEETINGS CALENDAR

June 4, 2015

Speaker: *Kelvin L. Meyers* is a researcher-historian since 1979. He is also a forensic genealogist and a frequent speaker to many genealogical societies and family associations throughout the US.

Watch Us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/TXMCGS

Genealogist: (definition 3) A person who spends a lot of time talking with others about long time deceased people.

Kelvin L. Meyers

Kelvin L. Meyers is a fifth generation Texan and professional genealogist since 1990 and an avid researcher-historian since 1979; he is a frequent speaker to many genealogical societies and family associations throughout the US. He was employed for ten years in the Genealogy Department of the Dallas Public Library. Now, he contracts with attorneys, banks, the US Immigration Service and energy companies, as a forensic genealogist, searching for missing or unknown heirs to estates and oil and gas leases. Kelvin is a 1989 and 1990 alumni of the Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research at Samford University and has returned to IGHR as lecturer. Kelvin will be a coordinator of the forensic tract at the Genealogical Research Institute Of Pittsburgh (GRIP) in 2016. He is a past board member of the Association of Professional Genealogist, a past President of the Lone Star Chapter of APG. He is a founding member and serves on the board of the Council for the Advancement of Forensic Genealogist. Kelvin also serves at the chairman of the history and archives committee for First United Methodist Church in Dallas.



Names Out of Order?

Genealogy Tip of the Day, 19 May 2015

If your ancestor had a first, middle, and last name, keep in mind that it is possible that those names could be in the wrong order in a record. If the names are in the wrong order on the record, then the ancestor will appear in the index under the wrong "last name."

If the index does not include the last name of interest, consider searching for that relative with their first or middle name as their last name.

Posted by [Michael John Neill](#)

<http://genealogytipoftheday.blogspot.com/2015/05/names-out-of-order.html>

**MID-CITIES
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

OFFICERS:

President:

Bonnie Baker
(817) 562-3242
smyles200us@yahoo.com

Vice President:

Marilyn Reid
(817) 656-0192
mmbbreid@att.net

Secretary:

Patsy Harrison
(817) 287-8126
chuck@gmail.org

Treasurer:

HP O'Mary
(817) 283-7264
hpox@swbell.net

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

Comm/Web Master:

Bernard Meisner
(817) 545-6512
bernardmeisner@cs.com

Membership:

Marilyn Hay
(817) 379-4214
mm3651@verizon.net

Correspondence Secretary:

Ruth Tipton Smith
(817) 605-8909
rstipton56@gmail.com

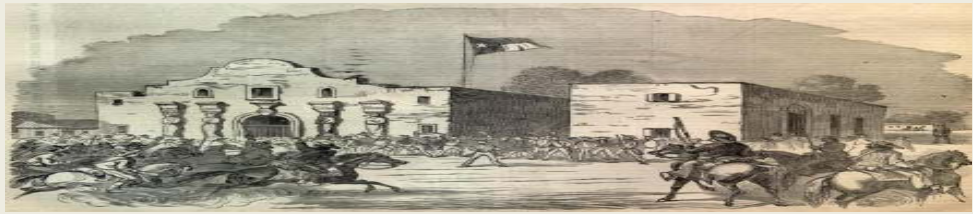
Greeter:

Leah Chance
(817) 427-4623
lhchance@sbcglobal.net

Historian:

Mary Moore
(940) 648-8764
Evermoore54@gmail.com

The Story of Present Day ALAMO Continues:



From: page 6A – Star-Telegram, Saturday, May 02, 2015

Judge upholds state's trademark on Alamo

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — A federal judge has ruled that as the owner of the Alamo, the state also owns the shrine's image and can challenge those who use its likeness.

The *San Antonio Express-News* reports that the judge signed an order Thursday restricting two beermakers from using images that the Texas General Land Office said infringed on the state's Alamo trademark.

Texas General Land Commissioner George P. Bush said the decision "ensures that commercial use of the Alamo is protected from improper use in order to preserve the honor of our beloved Alamo."

Last year, Alamo Beer Company of San Antonio

filed a lawsuit against Old 300 Brewing, which operates as Texian Brewing in Richmond, claiming that trademark infringement occurred with the use of the Alamo on products and promotional materials.

The lawsuit said "Texian Brewing's overall commercial impression through use of the Alamo outline/silhouette is an effort to capitalize on the significant goodwill developed by Alamo Beer since 1997"

The land office intervened, leading to the ruling.

The court order permanently enjoins and restrains the companies from using "any other mark or name confusingly similar" to those trademarked by the state.

Genealogist: (definition 2) *A person who cannot remember their own wedding anniversary but knows the birth date of their great-great grandmother.*

Room Setup:

HP O'Mary
(817) 283-7264
hbox@swbell.net

Newsletter Editor:

Peggy Poole
(817) 243-9990
glynnp413@aol.com

Parliamentarian:

Bernard Meisner
(817) 545-6512
bernardmeisner@cs.com

Hospitality:

Anne Taylor
(972) 254-1604
Ataylor42150@gmail.com

Publicity:

Evelynn Kelly
(817) 988-2055
evelynn@shamrockpromotions.com

Seminar Coordinator:

Sandra Crowley
817-571-9939
sandrac@tx.rr.com

From: *Lisa Louise Cooke*
Genealogy Gems
12 Things You Can Find in
Obituaries July 24, 2014 by Sunny

Recently I decided to learn more about my great-uncle Paul McClellan, my grandfather's brother. After World War II, Paul left his Idaho hometown for Pennsylvania. Surviving relatives know hardly anything of his life or family. The census only takes me through 1940 and he lived through the 1970s. Pennsylvania vital records are pretty tight-lipped. So almost immediately, I found myself looking for obituaries.



I ditched Microsoft Word several years ago and started experimenting with different word processors. I eventually settled on LibreOffice, a FREE suite of programs that includes a word processor (replacing Microsoft Word), a spreadsheet program (replacing Microsoft Excel), a presentation program (replacing Microsoft PowerPoint), a drawing program, a database creation and management program, and a formula editor that can be invoked in your text documents, spreadsheets, presentations and drawings, to enable you to insert mathematical and scientific formulas. LibreOffice is available for Windows, Macintosh, and Linux.

NOTE: The LibreOffice programs are similar to, but different from, Microsoft Office. It is not 100% compatible. For instance, macros in LibreOffice's spreadsheet program are different from those in Microsoft Excel. Even so, the LibreOffice suite of programs meets the needs of hundreds of thousands of computer users, corporations, and non-profits around the world.

Best of all is the price tag: FREE. LibreOffice never asks for payments although the sponsoring organization will accept donations. Most of the articles published in this newsletter, including the article you are reading at this moment, were created with LibreOffice.

Now the non-profit producers of LibreOffice have announced that an online version will be created to compete with Google Docs and Microsoft Office 365. While the product is not yet available, it probably will be a true cloud-based application with no need to install software in the user's computer. To run LibreOffice, all the user needs to do is to open a web browser and connect to a bank of servers on the Internet. This will be great for use on borrowed computers, public access computers at a library or an Internet cafe, or with a Chromebook.

The good news is that LibreOffice Online (Called "LOOL") will feature: 100% document fidelity between LibreOffice desktop and LibreOffice Online.

Collaborative editing with multiple simultaneous users and cursors.

All Writer, Calc, and Impress supported file-types supported. Initially will include a basic HTML5 user interface.

The bad news is that the online suite of programs will not be available for use for a year, possibly longer. (The present version of LibreOffice will remain available, however.)

The new LibreOffice suite of programs will have greatly increased security when compared to Google Docs and to Microsoft Office 365. Unlike those two suites of programs, it will not run on one group of servers under the

Paul R. McClellan

Paul R. McClellan, 68, of 433 Spruce St., died Wednesday in the Community General Hospital, where he had been a patient a week.

Born in Pocatello, Idaho, a son of the late Raymond and Elizabeth (Clark) McClellan, he was employed by Car Parts, Inc., retiring in 1972.

He was a member of the Senior Citizens of the Salvation Army, Spartaco Club, and Victor Emmanuel II Society.

An Army veteran of World War II, he is survived by his widow, Jennie L. (Sterner) McClellan; two brothers, Dean C., Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Loel W., Kennewick, Wash., and two sisters, Myra, wife of Roy Ritzman, Pocatello, and Sally, wife of Lee Perdue, Royal City, Wash.

Services will be held at the convenience of the family in the Henninger Funeral Home, Brigadier Donald R. Lance officiating. Burial will be made in the Leesport Cemetery.

Our online community tree at **FamilySearch** told me when and where he died. I emailed the local history and genealogy contact at the public library in that town. I heard back within a day and had this obituary within a week.

I've seen a lot of detailed obituaries. But perhaps because I'm so thirsty for information on Paul, the level of detail in this obituary made me especially happy. I see his

1. Age
2. Street address
3. Hospital where he died and length of stay there
4. Birthplace and age
5. Parents' names, including mother's maiden name

control of one corporation. Instead, the new LibreOffice cloud app can be installed on any Linux server and the individual Windows, Macintosh, and Linux desktop and laptop computers will connect to those systems wherever they are. This increased security will appeal to corporations who will now not be dependent on the security of some other company. Instead, the server software can be installed on servers owned and operated by the company, even behind a firewall inside the company's own internal network. The result will be that business-critical information will never leave the company's own network and servers, improving security.

I expect the ability to install the application on local servers to become very popular with corporations but probably will not appeal to individual users. Instead, a number of different hosting companies will install the software on their own servers and make access available to customers for free or for very low prices, much cheaper than purchasing a copy of Microsoft Office. This online access, couple with encrypted VPN connections, will result in highly-secure operation although not quite as secure as having the server software installed on your company's own servers. I also suspect a few individuals who possess technical knowledge will want to install the server software on their own servers although that undoubtedly will be a small percentage of all the potential private users.

A year or possibly more is a long time to wait. If you are looking for a new suite of office applications that is available today and are interested in a high-quality free product, you might check out **LibreOffice** right now at <https://www.libreoffice.org>. You will need to download and install today's version on your own Windows, Macintosh, or Linux computer(s).

You can learn more about the newly-announced but not yet ready LibreOffice Online in the press release at <http://goo.gl/e7Sylw>.

FamilySearch Blog

[Blog / Consultants](#) / 52 Questions in 52 Weeks: *Writing Your Life Story Has Never Been Easier*

52 Questions in 52 Weeks: Writing Your Life Story Has Never Been Easier
August 26, 2013 By [Steve Anderson](#)

Few people would argue the value of creating a story about a life lived. In fact, it's a noble idea to create your life's story. From it, your descendants will learn something valuable and endearing from your life experiences and will get to know you as an individual. Elder John H. Groberg of the First Quorum of Seventies spoke of the importance of our individual histories. He said, "In a very real sense, our properly written histories are a very important part of our family scripture and become a great source of spiritual strength to us and to our posterity. ... I have a strong feeling that when this life is over, our personal and family histories and the influence they wield will be of much greater importance than we now think."

- 6. Employer and retirement date
- 7. Membership in local civic organizations
- 8. WWII Army veteran status
- 9. Surviving widow's name, including maiden name
- 10. Names, spouses and residences of surviving siblings
- 11. Name of funeral home and officiator of funeral
- 11. Cemetery name

Wow! Some of these details confirmed that I had the right guy: his age, birth data, and relatives' names. Others open new avenues of research for me. I've already started following leads to the civic organizations, funeral home and cemetery.

You know, what is NOT said in this obituary may also prove important as I continue my research on Paul. First, there are no surviving children or grandchildren listed. This disappoints me as I was told he did have children by at least one previous marriage. If he did have children, the informant (his widow?) either didn't know about them or didn't choose to mention them. Second, the informant did know a lot about Paul's kin. Maybe Paul and his wife didn't totally lose touch with the folks back home—it just seems so years later.

Have you worked much with obituaries? Do you know how to find them? Learn more in Lisa's book [How to Find Your Family History in Newspapers](#), available in print or as an e-book. There's an entire chapter on online digitized newspaper collections, and one on online resources for finding newspapers (either online or offline). Yet another chapter is devoted to African American newspapers. This book will teach you to find all those elusive obituaries—and plenty more mentions of your family in old newspapers. **Continued** →

Walking - I am listening to a deeper way. Suddenly all my ancestors are behind me. Be still, they say. Watch and listen. You are the result of the love of thousands.---Linda Hogan

Many people believe that it takes a huge amount of time and effort to write their history. They feel that the task is simply too big. Because of that, they never start. But sharing memories of your life does not have to be a big, involved effort. Imagine for a moment, how much easier the task of writing about your life might be if you were to focus on writing about just one topic each week. It doesn't matter if you write a few paragraphs, a single page, or several pages. The important thing is that you write something. Anything is better than nothing at all.

Now imagine if someone provided you with one question to write about each week for 52 weeks. At the end of just one year you will have created your own life story to share with your children and your future posterity. Long after you have gone, your life story will help teach your posterity who you were and what you were like as an individual person. You will never be forgotten because your own life story will bear witness of who you were. Add some pictures and you can make it even more inviting to read.

***Below are 52 questions.** Each week for one year, take one question and write as much or as little as you want. Don't worry about how much you write



for each question, but do write something. Questions do not need to be answered in any special order. At the end of the list are a few extra questions in case there are some that don't apply to your life.

When you are done, go to FamilySearch.org, and add your stories to your own page on your family tree. By adding your stories to your branch of the Family Tree, you ensure that they will be safe and secure for future generations. Your great-grandchildren will be able to find your story and will enjoy reading about your life and getting to know

who you were.

Enjoy your new writing adventure. Future generations will be glad that you left them with such a valuable legacy. It will be your gift to them.

****The 52 Questions are on pages 9 and 10 of this Newsletter.***

Sunny is a genealogy writer whose work is read by thousands in magazines and online. As a Contributing Editor at *Lisa Louise Cooke's Genealogy Gems*, she frequently posts on the news, but also loves to share quick research tips, reveal little-known resources or take genealogists for an exhilarating dive into deeper research topics and techniques. She's also the author of *My Life & Times: A Guided Journal for Collecting Your Stories*.

Genealogist: (definition 1) A person who spends more time searching for dead relatives than spending time with living relatives.

Dutch leader honors Americans who freed nation from Germany

The Associated Press

MARGRATEN, Netherlands — Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte paid tribute Sunday at a Memorial Day ceremony to U.S. troops who fought and died liberating the Netherlands from Nazi occupation in World War II, while NATO's supreme commander said the fight to defend freedom continues to this day.

Thousands of people sat under blue skies and wispy white clouds for Sunday's ceremony at the American cemetery in Margraten, a manicured patch of 65.5 acres in the rolling hills of the southern province of Limburg that contains 8,301 headstones.

The cemetery is on land close to the Dutch border with Germany that was liberated from Nazi occupation on Sept. 13, 1944, by the U.S. 30th Infantry Division.

"We say thank you to our liberators," Rutte said. "Thank you for enabling us



Eric Ommering, wearing a WWII uniform, salutes at the grave he adopted of Sgt. Charles McMillan of Michigan.

The Associated Press/Vincent Jannink

to stand here today in freedom, and we bow our heads in memory of the fallen."

Among the thousands of people attending the solemn ceremony were orphans of soldiers who were buried or are listed as missing at Margraten.

Arthur Chotin, whose father was killed in a jeep accident in the aftermath of the war and is buried at Margraten, thanked Dutch families who have adopted

all the graves at the cemetery, helping keep alive the memory of the dead.

"Even though I didn't know him, I think of him almost every day," Chotin said. "So here I am. 70 years old, more than twice the age of the father I never played catch with, never argued with, never even hugged. ... I hope he would be proud of me.

"Oh, the power these dead have over those they left behind."

Women's Surnames at Marriage and Beyond

Dick Eastman · May 29, 2015 · Current Affairs · 3 Comments

The *Journal of Economic Perspectives* has published an article that will be of interest to many genealogists. The article by Claudia Goldin and Maria Shim states:

Throughout U.S. history, few women have deviated from the custom of taking their husband's name (Stannard, 1977). The earliest known instance of a U.S. woman who retained her surname upon marriage is Lucy Stone, the tireless antislavery and female suffrage crusader, who married in 1855. In the 1920s, a generation after her death in 1893, prominent feminists formed the Lucy Stone League to help married women preserve the identity of their own surnames. But until the late 1970s, almost all women, even the highly educated and eminent, assumed their husband's surname upon marriage. When prominent women who married before the 1970s wished to keep their maiden names as part of their professional image, they sometimes used their maiden names as their middle names, like the U.S. Supreme Court Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Sandra Day O'Connor.

Ordinary observation suggests that during the past 25 to 30 years, the fraction of college graduate women retaining their surnames has greatly increased. But the basic facts concerning women's surnames as a social indicator have eluded investigation because none of the usual data sets contains the current married and maiden surnames of women. This article seeks to estimate the fraction of women who are "keepers" and the factors that have prompted women to retain their surnames.

You can read the full article as a PDF file at <http://goo.gl/BEAVPR>.

My thanks to newsletter reader Lynna Kay Shuffield for telling me about this article.

WHAT GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES TO SPEND YOUR MONEY ON

From: The Genealogy Gems Podcast Email Archives – <http://www.genealogygems.com>

January 15, 2015 newsletter

Bill in Manassas, Virginia wrote to me ask me a question that is on the mind of so many genealogists:

"It's difficult to know what genealogical resources to spend your money on. I have been a subscriber to Ancestry.com for years. But, there is FindMyPast, MyHeritage, etc. Where should you spend your time and money?

While money is always a factor, I find that my time is a more precious resource...Why visit a site that only offers a select subset of the data that I access through Ancestry? Which paid sites do you regularly use? Which free sites do you use? Your books have a plethora of suggestions but the pool of resources is increasing by the day. It is really getting rather confusing."

What a great question! Here's my answer: "I agree, it's gotten more complicated selecting the best genealogy websites for your own needs. I plan to cover this more in depth in upcoming podcast episodes, but I definitely have some ideas for you right now. It's really all about accessing the right website (or tool) for the task. [Click here to read my full answer](#) on the Genealogy Gems blog.

And speaking of emails, this lovely note dropped into my inbox last week: "I've seen many of your presentations over the last few years and for the most part have found them quite helpful and in



A Member's Story: The Domino Desk

By Barbara Tsirigotis

This event took place in the country outside Commerce (Hunt County) TX in the fall of 1959. I say fall, because the cotton picking was done and my aunts and uncles were free to drive in from where they lived in Honey Grove, Allens, Allens Chapel and Bonham.

In the spring and summer they worked long hours in the cotton fields; and, in the winter months, the roads were impassable. Everyone brought a dish of food and there was plenty to go around.

I wasn't tired at all. Really! Mother said it was almost 10:00 p.m., but I wasn't tired. Having Papa, Ma, Ma's baby sisters Aunt Blanche and Aunt Ella, Uncle Jimmy and Uncle Johnny visit for dinner and a game of dominos was always exciting. On Saturday nights they would sit around the domino desk until the wee hours of the morning playing dominos and telling stories of their childhood. Their stories brought to life people I had never met – people who had died long before I was born – my ancestors.

When the ladies went to the outhouse, I would grab my pillow and blanket and crawled underneath the desk. It was an old teacher's desk Papa had brought home when they tore down the Bagley school. It had a privacy panel on one side and a shelf below that made a perfect bed for me. Daddy, Papa(Grandpa), Uncle Jimmy or Uncle Johnny never ever gave me away; otherwise, Mother would have hauled me off to bed for fear I would hear something during the conversation that I wasn't supposed to hear. After all, every family has their secrets.

It was from this perch that I learned about Ma's one and only bicycle ride. She was 12 years old and desperately longed to ride her brothers' bicycle; however, in 1912 young ladies did not ride bicycles, according to her mother. Only her brothers, Elmer and Delmer, rode the bicycle. But early one December morning, while her mother was busy preparing breakfast for her family of seven, Ma crept out of the house. She mounted the bicycle and rode in circles around the house, ducking beneath the clothesline and the kitchen window as she rode past. She described the wind in her uncombed hair, the crispness of the morning air, and the cold, hard pedals beneath her bare feet. Having ridden a bicycle since the age of ten, I can only imagine what a liberating feeling that must have been. Had she lived in a different era, Ma would certainly have been a tomboy.

She was amazed at how well her plan had worked. She went unnoticed,

The Domino Players



L-R: Earl Bryant, Reba Bishop Lancaster Flora Harrison Covington, Ollie Harrison Bishop, Alice Hamilton Harrison Blanch Harrison Bishop, Mattie Browning Harrison, Delmer Harrison

appreciation thought I'd send you a quick note. Having just gotten your most recent post I couldn't help but notice the erosion the years had taken a quite charming image of your past. I do hope you don't mind my having taken the liberty of removing this damage and hope you enjoy the improvement. All the best of the new year to you and your loved ones from the snowy north of Canada.

And attached was this refurbished photo. Side by side you can see what a difference he made. My favorite little car coat never looked so good! Thank you Bryan!



Me (in my favorite "car coat") and My Dad
Each and every one of you is a Genealogy Gem! Thanks for listening friend,





flying freely and almost silently around the house time and time again. Her main concern was that her mother would not see her, for that would certainly bring some sort of harsh punishment. Ma was the oldest of the children and was expected to set an example for her younger sisters. On what was to be her last lap around the house, with her eye on the kitchen window, she forgot about the clothesline. It caught her beneath her chin and flipped her off the bike. She landed on her back with a thud, and the bike continued on its path into the garden. She immediately looked toward the door expecting to see her Mother and Father running out to pick her up and paddle her good, but no one had noticed. As she flipped off the bike, she struck her foot on some wooden planks which served as a walkway from the kitchen door to the outhouse. The pain in her little toe was excruciating, but she dared not cry out. Crying would give her away; so she brushed herself off and stumbled back inside the house.

Ma never told anyone about her broken toe that fall or any other time which explained why her toe was always crooked. And no one ever knew of Ma's early morning ride until she confessed over the domino desk.

I must have taken mental notes from my perch beneath the domino desk, for years later when I discovered genealogy; all those stories came back to me and provided a foundation for my research. Somehow, I found the ancestors they had discussed, rather familiar to me.

Did You Know

Ladies, did you know people were already fashion-conscious during the medieval times. When their eyebrows did not look fashionable, they often masked them with tiny pieces of skin from a mouse.

Gentlemen, did you know a 17th century publication by Peter Levens instructed men on how to cure thinning hair and pattern baldness. Men had to combine potassium salts with chicken droppings, and then place the mixture on the affected area. If they wanted to remove unwanted hair from any area of the body, they had to make a paste consisting of eggs, strong vinegar, and cat dung, and then apply it to the area where they want to remove hair.

One more: Ladies and Gentlemen do you know what a nosegay was used for? A nosegay was something to keep the smells at bay, usually held in the hand or on the wrists or lapel. It could be a small bouquet of flowers or a sachet of dried flowers and herbs. People held it up to their noses while walking in a large crowd.

From: *15 Medieval Hygiene Practices That Might Make You Queasy*
<http://www.answers.com/article/1234182/15-medieval-hygiene-practices-that-might-make-you-queasy>

We all carry inside us people who came before us. Liam Callanan

Texana Foundation Donates Five Rare Maps to Texas General Land Office Archives and Records

Significant support for the Save Texas History project



Texana Foundation, Jefferson Morgenthaler, are proud to announce the donation of five historic maps to the Texas General Land Office Archives. This represents the largest single donation of historic maps to the archives.

"These maps donated by Mr. Morgenthaler through the Texana Foundation will be viewed by our children and our grandchildren, thanks to their generosity today," Commissioner Bush said. "These maps augment our collection of 45,000 maps and sketches and enhance the GLO Archives – one of the premier cartographic collections in Texas and the Southwest. This generous donation is a great example of how Texans can help support our Save Texas History efforts."

Morgenthaler approached the Texas General Land Office earlier this year, inquiring how he and the Texana Foundation could help the agency's Save Texas History program. Deciding that acquiring a selection of significant historic maps for the General Land Office was the best way that he could show his support, Morgenthaler proceeded to research available Texas maps, with guidance from the archives staff at the General Land Office.

"It is rewarding to acquire valuable historic items and ensure that these treasures will be safely preserved and made accessible for future generations through the Archives of the Texas General Land Office," Morgenthaler said. "Over the last decade, I have sought partners to share my passion for Texas history. It has been a complete pleasure to work with the Texas General Land Office, which has been both professional and tremendously enthusiastic."

The five donated maps, as well as the 45,000 other maps, sketches and drawings of the Texas General Land Office, are available at <http://www.glo.texas.gov/cf/ArcMaps/ArcMapsLookup.cfm>

The 52 Questions from Family Search Blog

1. What is your full name? Explain why your parents gave you that name.
2. When and where were you born? Describe your home, your neighborhood, and the town you grew up in.
3. What memories do you have of your father (his name, birth date, birthplace, parents, etc.)?
4. What memories do you have of your mother (her name, birth date, birthplace, parents, etc.)?
5. What kind of work did your parents do (farmer, salesman, manager, seamstress, nurse, stay-at-home mom, professional, laborer, and so on)?
6. Have any of your family members died? If so, explain what they died from and what you remember of their death; the circumstances of their death.
7. What kind of hardships or tragedies did your family experience while you were growing up?
8. Are there any obvious or unusual genetic traits that run in your family line?
9. What are the names of your brothers and sisters? Describe traits and memories that stand out in your mind about each of your siblings.
10. What are some of your family traditions that you remember?
11. Did your family have special ways of celebrating specific holidays?
12. Share some memories of your grandparents.
13. Did your grandparents live close by? If so, describe how they were involved in your life. If they lived far away share some memories of visiting them or of them traveling to visit you.
14. Who were your aunts and uncles? Write about any of your aunts or uncles who really stand out in your mind. Give some details about them (names, personalities, events that you remember doing with them, and so on).
15. Where did you go to school? Give some details about what was school like for you and some of your memorable experiences.
16. What were your favorite subjects in school? Explain why.
17. What subjects did you like the least? Explain why.
18. Who were some of your friends in school? Explain what your friends were like and what they are doing today if you know that.
19. If you went to college or a vocational school, what school did you attend? Describe what memories you have of those years and what subjects you studied.
20. What do you see as your greatest strengths?

21. What were some of the challenges you have had to deal with in your life?
 22. What medical issues have you had to deal with throughout your life?
 23. Was religion an important for you and your family? If so, explain what religion your family practiced and what it meant to you. Explain if it is or is not an important part of your life today.
 24. What foods do you like and dislike? Describe any food allergies you or other family members had.
 25. Were there two or three food dishes your mother or father made that were especially memorable?
 26. How did you meet your spouse?
 27. What was your courtship like? Describe your marriage day.
 28. Share some stories about your spouse.
 29. How many children do you have? List their names and share a few memories about each one.
 30. Describe some of the major community, national, and world events you lived through. How did these events change your life?
 31. What are some of your life philosophies or life views that you would share with others?
 32. What are some of the personal values that are very important to you? Share some examples of what have you done and what are you doing now to teach these values to your children, grandchildren and others.
 33. List at least five people who have had a memorable influence on your life. What did they do that had such an influence on you?
 34. What are 20 things about yourself that make you uniquely you.
 35. What are 50 things that you are grateful for.
 36. What is your philosophy on money.
 37. If you could spend a day with any famous person in the world, who would it be, and what would you do during your day with him or her?
 38. What scares you?
 39. What makes you stop and go "Wow!"?
 40. What are some of the things you enjoy doing in your leisure time?
 41. If you could go back in time and spend an hour visiting with yourself at age 15, what would you tell your younger self?
 42. What are some of your talents? Explain how you discovered them and what you have done to cultivate and improve them. Describe how your talents have they affected your life.
 43. What did you do for a career? Explain how you chose that career.
 44. What were some of the jobs you had throughout your life and what were some of the memorable experiences you had with these jobs?
 45. What are 5 significant events or experiences in your life, and explain what effects they have had on you.
 46. What are some of the life lessons that you have learned and would like to pass on to your descendants?
 47. In how many places have you lived during your lifetime? Provide a brief description of each place you've lived, why you lived there, and why you moved.
 48. If someone gave you \$10,000 and told you that you could NOT give it to any of your friends, family members or use it for yourself, what would you do with it?
 49. If you could go back in time and do things over again, what would you change?
 50. When all is said and done, what do you want to be remembered for? Write about what you are doing now to create a legacy worthy of remembering.
- If you were to leave 5 different bits of advice for your future posterity, what would they be?
- Have you traveled to any place outside of your home country? If so, explain the reasons for your trip(s) and what memorable things happened on some of those trips.

Extra Questions

1. If a newspaper wanted to do a story about you, what would the story be about?
2. What were some of the popular fads you experienced during your life?
3. How did you spend your summers?
4. What were some of your more memorable vacations?
5. Did you ever have pets? If so, tell us about them.
6. List 20 things you think the world would be better off without.

From: <https://familysearch.org/blog/en/52-questions-52-weeks/>

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