

For man ,Autumn is a time of Gathering
For Nature it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad!

Edwin Teale



GENFEST 2006 Saturday Oct. 21

We are all looking forward to spending a leisurely day visiting and discussing the many fascinating subjects that we have become involved with, while pursuing our common interest in Genealogy.

- ◆ A new speaker to our forum is Bill Morgan who chairs a Corel Paint Shop centered Photo SIG for the N. LA PC Users Group.. He and artist wife Cisly have made their meetings extremely popular. (He says he is pinch-hitting for our Glenda Conradi who is traveling in October.)
- ◆ We are delighted to have James and Kathy Jackson of Restor-A- Books in Oil City back with us. Artists in their craft and bibliophiles . Our kind of people!
- ◆ Will Mc Gilvray will present "Finding Grandma's Land Phase II
- Don Davis will show the new Family Tree Maker 16

GENCOM OBSERVES FAMILY HISTORY MONTH

Celebrate Your Family Heritage

October is designated in many U.S. States as "Family History Month." There has also been a push in recent years to have it designated at the national level. "Millions of Americans are researching the history of their families," said Senator Orrin G. Hatch, the Utah Republican who first brought the Family History Month resolution before the U.S. Congress. "Experts say that in the United States, genealogy is now the second most popular hobby next to gardening." While the resolution's status has stagnated, genealogists across the United States have still adopted the month of October as their own, sponsoring a wide variety of special events, workshops and activities focused on family history.

This explosion of interest in family history is due, in part, to the advent of the Internet.

It is estimated that more than two million separate Web sites are devoted to genealogy. Celebrate Family History Month with your family with these ten wonderful ways to craft and commemorate your past:

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CONNECTIONS



GENFEST 2005

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- GENFEST 2006
- Robert Franklin has again agreed to chair our annual event with Goodwife Carolyn in charge of our Dinner on the Grounds! We discussed the menu at the September meeting and decided to repeat last years menu. Spaghetti Salads, Garlic Bread and Desserts. Three people signed up to bring the bread so that should be enough. I am making the spaghetti... So, various salads and desserts...or grapes would be welcomed.
- Carolyn has suggested that we have our dessert between the last two presentations.
- When you decide what you want to bring give Carolyn a call at 933-1235
- Or send her a message: carolf@sport.rr.com
- Also, call or send message to either Carolyn or myself pbettis@sport.rr.com to let us know how many are coming. We are setting up tables for a family style meal so it would be helpful to have an idea of how many to prepare for.
- We would love to have guests. So, do take this opportunity to invite any interested friends to get acquainted with GENCOM

Take note of the presentations being offered and consider the fascinating subjects being addressed. Your friends would enjoy hearing them too!

The subjects are sure to appeal to anyone interested in family history. Both speakers are experts in their fields and we are most fortunate to have them with us. I learn so much from Bill Morgan's SIG meetings, and always come home inspired and anxious to begin another project.

I think it interesting that both men learned their craft from their fathers. This was common tradition in past generations...We often see old wills showing fathers leaving the tools of their trade to a son who is carrying on the family business.

A Message to Teachers

As you may know I have edited The Courier for the Civil War Round Table for 15 years and am quite involved with Civil War studies. The Civil War Preservation Trust has developed a wonderful teachers packet and their educational chairman has sent me one. It includes information of a specific battle, a soldiers pension record, all sorts of information on researching CW records..,a CD.. Teaching suggestions...each child selects a soldier to study. .etc. I will bring it to GENFEST ..Please let me know if you would like further information.. Patte Bettis



GENFEST 2006

October 21 Saturday 10:00-4:00
Hamilton Library

Genealogical Displays
Special Presentations

10:00 Will MC Gilvray: Finding Grandma's Land (Phase II)

11:00 Restor-A-Book James Jackson

12:00 Dinner on the Grounds

1:00 GENCOM Business Meeting

1:30 Don Davis presents Family Tree Maker 16

Dessert Break

**2:30 Bill Morgan "Photography Tips:
Restoring old Photographs"**

4:00 Adjournment



A friend who is a computer expert received the following directly from a system administrator for a corporate system. It is an excellent message that absolutely applies to all of us who send e-mails. Please read the short letter below, even if you're sure you already follow proper procedures.

Do you really know how to forward e-mails? 50% of us do; 50% DO NOT.

Do you wonder why you get viruses or junk mail? Do you hate it?

Every time you forward an e-mail there is information left over from the people who got the message before you, namely their e-mail addresses and names. As the messages get forwarded along, the list of addresses builds, and builds, and builds, and all it takes is for some poor sap to get a virus, and his or her computer can send that virus to every E-mail address that has come across his computer.

Or, someone can take all of those addresses and sell them or send junk mail to them in the hopes that you will go to the site and he will make five cents for each hit. That's right, all of that inconvenience over a nickel! How do you stop it? Well, there are several easy steps:

(1) When you forward an e-mail, DELETE all of the other addresses that appear in the body of the message (at the top). That's right, delete them.

Highlight them and delete them, back-space them, cut them, whatever it is you know how to do. It only takes a second. You MUST click the "Forward" button first and then you will have full editing capabilities against the body and headers of the message. If you don't click on "Forward" first, you won't be able to edit the message at all.

(2) Whenever you send an e-mail to more than one person, do NOT use the To: or Cc: fields for adding e-mail addresses. Always use the BCC:(blind carbon copy) field for listing the e-mail addresses. This is the way the people you send to will only see their own e-mail address. If you don't see your BCC: option click on where it says To: and your address list will appear.

Highlight the address and choose BCC: and that's it, it's that easy.

When you send to BCC: your message will automatically say "Undisclosed Recipients in the "TO:" field of the people who receive it.

(3) Remove any "FW :" in the subject line. You can re-name the subject if you wish or even fix spelling.

(4) Always hit your Forward button from the actual e-mail you are reading. Ever get those e-mails that you have to open 10 pages to read the one page with the information on it?

Forwarding from the actual page you wish someone to view, you stop them from having to open many e-mails just to see what you sent. (

Some of the other undesired emails include:

1. The one that says something like, "Send this email to 10 people and you'll see something great run across your screen." Or sometimes they'll just tease you by saying 'something really cute will happen.' IT AIN'T GONNA HAPPEN!!!! (Trust me, I'm still seeing some of the same emails that I waited on 10 years ago!)

2. I don't let the bad luck ones scare me either, they get trashed.

(3. Before you forward an 'Amber Alert', or a 'Virus Alert', or some of the other emails floating around nowadays, check them out before you forward them. most of them are junk mail that's been circling the net for YEARS!

Just about everything you receive in an email that is in question can be checked out a Snopes. Just go to www.snopes.com .

It's really easy to find out if it's real or not. If it's not, please don't pass it on.

So please, in the future, put an end to junk mail and viruses.

Finally, here's an idea!!! Let's send this to everyone we know .

This is something that should be forwarded, so do it. Amen!

More Civil War veteran's records arrive at Dallas Library



10:11 AM CDT on Sunday, September 24, 2006

Comparison shopping for genealogical records is a technique every family historian should practice. A good example involves the military service records of Civil War veterans.

The National Archives has microfilmed the records from the 14 Southern states and territories as well as the records of the general and staff members of the Confederate States of America. The National Archives also has microfilmed the records for all the Southern states that officially remained in the Union.

The records of the Union states that did not share the border with the CSA have not been microfilmed.

The cost of ordering the compiled service record file of a Union or Confederate veteran is \$17. If several veterans of the same name served in the same unit, you may want to consider purchasing the roll of microfilm for that unit containing their records. The cost of a roll of microfilm from the National Archives is \$65.

The Genealogical Society of Utah has all the National Archives' microfilm of Civil War veterans. Renting a roll of microfilm costs less than \$6. Photocopies from the microfilm would be about 25 cents per page. So if a soldier's file had 10 pages of records, borrowing the microfilm and making the copies would be half the cost of ordering the records from the National Archives.

The records of some Civil War veterans may be available locally on microfilm, so the only expense you would incur would be the cost of photocopies. The Dallas Public Library, for example, has the records of Confederate soldiers from Arizona, Tennessee and Texas, as well as the general staff of the CSA. This month, the CSA records for Alabama arrived at the library. Alabama was No. 4 in furnishing troops for the CSA, and its records are contained on 508 rolls of microfilm.

By comparison, Texas records fill 445 rolls. Contact the National Archives Regional Branch in Fort Worth to learn which records are held there. For details, call 817-334-8525 or see www.archives.gov.

The military history of each unit appears on event cards that are followed by the compiled service records for each veteran in that unit in alphabetical order. The event cards will enable you to know in what actions and campaigns your ancestor served even though his own file may not contain references other than that he was present on a specific date.

You can learn details of the activities of particular military units by examining the 80 volumes of records of events in the Supplement to the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.

Address questions to Family Tree, Sunday Life section, The Dallas Morning News, P.O. Box 655237, Dallas, TX 75265.

Celebrate Family History Month With Those you Love Past...and Present!



10 ways to Celebrate

1. Take a field trip.

The house you grew up in. The cemetery where great-grandma is buried. The farm where grandpa used to raise horses. Visiting places that are important to your family can be a great way to remember the past. And each memory might launch another story that has been forgotten. So grab a camera, grab a map, and go! And if you aren't lucky enough to have a family site near you, you might consider visiting a historic building, a museum, or even a cultural center.

2. Create a heritage cookbook.

What could be better than Grandma's fried chicken or mom's homemade Sunday rolls? Contact family members and ask them to send you their favorite family recipes. If possible, have them include personal stories about the dish, how it was passed down, when it was traditionally eaten—maybe there's even a photograph of Aunt Marianne serving her pecan pie. If possible make copies for families and friends; it's sure to be a gift that's enjoyed for years.

3. Take a genealogy class.

Have you been wanting to pursue your great-great-grandfather who emigrated from Spain but you just don't know where to begin? One way to get started is to take a genealogy class. Many local genealogical societies offer classes either for free or at a low cost. You can even find many classes and tutorials online. Genealogy.com offers a multitude of [free classes](#) on everything from Internet genealogy to tracing your immigrant ancestors. You can also learn research tips and tricks in the Ancestry.com [Learning Centers](#).

4. Interview a family member.

Preserve those funny and remarkable family stories for future generations by interviewing the family elders. Nothing shows the personality and uniqueness of an individual quite like a personal interview. Use a video camera or audio recorder to capture the moment. Then transcribe the whole interview as a backup—and don't forget to take loads of photos too.

5. Participate in a DNA project.

We'd all like to be able to prove definitively who we're related to. Most of the time that's not possible. But why not help out a DNA/Surname project by donating a sample of your DNA; you may even find a distant relative.

6. Start a family website.

With so many families living far away from each other, a family website is a great way to stay connected. In just a few minutes, you can create a private family website on [MyFamily.com](#). You can share photos, videos, and voice clips; access calendars of important family events; and even build your family tree—and it's all password protected.

7. Have an “ancestral” birthday party.

Does someone in your family tree have a birthday in October? Why not throw them a birthday bash? If your ancestor lived during the “Roaring Twenties,” the Civil War, or another easily recognizable time in history, you can decorate, dress, and celebrate as they would have back then. Gather heirlooms, photographs, journals and letters, and other mementos of the guest of honor and let the memories flow.

8. Create a time capsule.

Many of us have wished that our ancestors would have left us more information about themselves, especially the details that show who they really were. Why not help out future generations by creating a unique time capsule about you or your family. Add photographs, letters, toys, stories about family traditions, anything that says “you.” Your grandchildren will thank you . . . someday.

9. Read a book.

Whether it's the old journal handed down through the generations, your parents' love letters, or just a travel guide about your ancestor's homeland, take a few hours to indulge your imagination and connect with your family.

10. Take a family photo.

How many times do we plan on taking that perfect family photo during the holidays? And often, we watch the busy season pass us by and still, no photo. Why not gather everyone together before the hustle and bustle of the holidays begins and get that perfect group shot? The final product will be great for decking the halls and also a welcome edition to the packages you send to family members who are far away.



The Texas Navies

**TEXAS NAVY ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 8203
GALVESTON, TEXAS 77553-8203**



In 1836 when Texas proclaimed its Independence from Mexico, the small nation was immediately faced with invasion, on land and sea by overwhelming forces from Mexico---a power having many times the population and naval and military resources of the infant Republic of Texas.

The Army of Texas finally triumphed over its larger and much better equipped foe at San Jacinto but historians now agree that one of the most important elements in that great victory was the brief but furious maritime activity of the first Texas Navy. The first Texas Navy, consisting of four hastily purchased and minimally equipped small sailing vessels head quartered at Galveston, prevented the Mexican government from landing a second army on the Texas coast---an army which would have trapped General Sam Houston and his small command between immensely superior forces. During a series of lightening forays in the Gulf of Mexico, the audacious Texas ships INDEPENDENCE, BRUTUS, INVINCIBLE and LIBERTY kept the Mexican coast in an uproar and forced the much larger enemy navy to disperse its strength in order to protect its cities and shipping. The Texans thus prevented Mexican ships from supplying Santa Anna and in the process captured munitions which were then delivered to Houston's army and used to help win the victory at San Jacinto.

Shortly after that triumph, the first Texas Navy was disbanded; its task completed. Mexico refused to acknowledge Texas' independence, and in 1839 began to organize a new and much larger expedition against the struggling and nearly bankrupt Texas Republic. However, the Texas Congress was equal to the occasion, and with six hurriedly acquired vessels, the second Texas Navy was sent to sea under the command of young Commodore Edwin Moore, formerly of the U. S. Navy. Sometimes nearly starving, often maintained by personal credit of its commander and Secretary of the Navy, S. Rhodes Fisher and by its captures of Mexican ships and cargoes, the Texans repeated the tactics of the first Texas Navy on a larger scale.

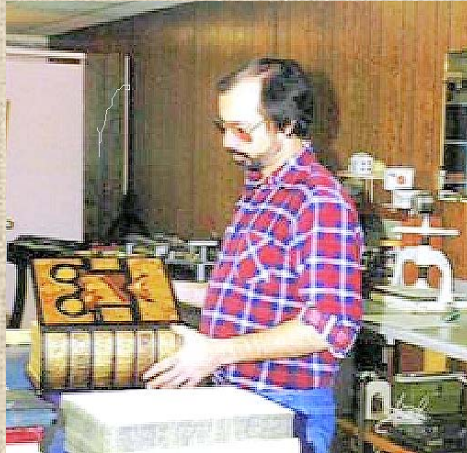
The second Texas Navy harried the Mexican coast from the Rio Grande to Yucatan for three strenuous years and dominated the Mexican fleet which was largely commanded by mercenary officers on furlough from Britain's Royal Navy. Keeping the initiative by seizing and raiding and burning Mexican cities and shipping, and making reckless attacks without regard to odds or size of ships, the Texas Navy kept the enemy government on the defensive; too busy trying to protect its own coast to be able to mount a land invasion of Texas. Finally, fighting off a much larger Mexican naval force off Yucatan---a battle unique because it marked the only occasion on which a sailing war ship engaged and defeated a war steamer---the exploits of the sea-going Texans forced the abandonment of the Mexican invasion plans. The second Texas Navy maintained the sovereignty of the Republic on the high seas without great difficulty thereafter until Texas joined the United States in 1845.

The Texas Navy was then absorbed by the United States Navy. The story of the hardship and savage fighting of those small fleets of battered ships and intrepid seamen was largely forgotten until the third Texas Navy was established as a commemorative organization by Governor Price Daniel in 1958. The headquarters of the third Texas Navy was returned to its original base at Galveston by Governor Preston Smith in January 1970. A move designed to assure the survival of Texas' Naval history, boundaries, water resources and civil defense of Texas are banded together in the third Texas Navy to help preserve the memory of the sea-bourn valor of those who helped create the Lone Star State.

Home / Contact© Texas Navy Association P.O. Box 8203 Galveston, TX. 77553-8203 Phone (409) 762-4444 Fax (409) 762-9011 Communications Officer Admiral Walter Nass Internet Committee: Admiral James Tyson, Admiral David Williams, and Admiral Frank Richard Brown

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James Jackson restoring an old bible

Restoration of an old family bible

Before restoration



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Mended Pages



Kathy and James Jackson
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Profiling Our Guest Speakers

Bill Morgan



He calls himself a second generation amateur photographer. He says, "I got interested in my father's darkroom when I was about 8 years old and started taking pictures with my own camera at about that same age, and, by the time I reached high school, I was convinced professional photography would be my lifelong vocation.

However, I soon discovered that being told what to photograph, or, having to cater to others in order to make a living, was not my cup of tea. Although I sold some photos from time to time, and did some weddings from time to time, I mostly continued to create for my own gratification.

Then, the luckiest break of my life came when I met and married the future mother of my children. Cisly, an artist by nature, added her own creativity to what was now "our" picture taking and darkroom work. Over the next 47 years, together, we have created tens of thousands of pictures and pieces of photographic art.

In 1999, we switched from film to digital photography. Four computers and five digital cameras later, we now spend an enormous amount of time, money, and effort, learning everything we can, taking pictures, restoring old photos, manipulating photos, trying to help others, and generally enjoying what we do."

Bill volunteers his time and expertise to the North West LA. P.C. User Group as leader of the Digital Photo SIG.