



Genealogy Friends News

Genealogy Friends of Plano
Libraries

Genealogy Friends News
April 2010

P.O. Box 860477, Plano, TX, 75086-0477

[http:// www.genealogyfriends.org](http://www.genealogyfriends.org)

<http://genfriends.blogspot.com/>

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Saturday Seminars

Mark your calendars now for the exciting Genealogy Friends events in 2009 & 2010. Meetings are held in the Program Room at the Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Rd., Plano, TX from 10:15 to 12:30:

Today's Topic:

April 17, 2010—"Fighting Hate Through Film" by Dan Spigel.

Future Topics:

May 15, 2010—Bob McGuire and Ruthie Mathews are going to teach us about Family Keepsakes and Creative Memories

June 19, 2010—Will be announced later

July 17, 2010—Tresa Tatyrek will speak to us about Heritage Quest

August 21, 2010—Will be announced later

September 18, 2010—Kelvin Meyers presents "The Hand That Rocked the Cradle Could Rule the World" and "Skallywags, Rogues, and Ruffs: All Those Ancestors We Don't Talk About"

October 16, 2010—All Day Seminar—Topics will be Court Records, Land Records and Church Records. More info to come soon.

November 20, 2010—Will be announced later

December 18, 2010—Show and Tell—bring your genealogy finds and share them with us

If you have suggestions for programs please submit them to Jean Funk at jeano25@aol.com.

Genealogy Class

“Writing for Genealogists” will be offered on Tuesday nights from 6/8 to 7/27 from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at the Courtyard Campus of Collin College (formerly CCCCD). Learn about writing different formats of research reports, timelines, and narrative compilations. Why not do something with all the information you have collected on your family? Don’t wait until you’ve found everything on your family to write your book. Just getting started, write as you go. It’s a great tool to help you analyze your research findings and share your research.

“Genealogy—Online Research” will be offered from July 21st to August 25th from 6:30 to 9:00 at the Courtyard Center Campus. This class focuses on using websites for genealogy research. Class topics include using Ancestry.com, Footnote.com, Google, FamilySearch.org and websites for different kinds of research – government records, military records, immigration & naturalization, and published records.

The instructor for both classes is Barbara Coakley. To register visit the college’s web site <http://www.ccccd.edu/ce/index.html> or call 972-985-3711.

Websites

Here is a film on You Tube taken from the front of a cable car in San Francisco in 1906.

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=NIN0xRxze9k

Footnote has extended it’s free access to the census collection through the end of April—complete census records from 1860 and 1930 as well as partial census records from 1900, 1910, and 1920. They plan on adding the entire census collection from 1790 through 1930 by the end of the year. You will need to set up a free Footnote account to access the census records. Check it out at www.footnote.com.

Tracing Our Roots Column

The "Tracing Our Roots" column written by Brenda Kellow appears each Sunday in the 'PULSE' or 'ENTERTAINMENT' section of the [Plano Insider](#) newspaper, and in Star Community newspapers throughout North Texas.

Her columns are also available in the column archives at <http://tracingourroots.weebly.com/2009-index.html>

Genealogy Friends Logo Shirts

Be one of the best-dressed genealogists in town.

In addition to the ever popular Gen Friends logo t-shirts and sweatshirts, we now have Henley’s and polo style shirts available. The shirts have a 3” dark green logo printed on the left chest. All shirts are available in toddler through XXXL.

T-shirts (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow and sand) \$15.00

Sweatshirts (white, neutral, ash, light blue, pink, yellow, light green or sand) \$20.00

Henley’s (white, ash or natural) \$20.00

Polo Shirts (white, ash or light blue) \$20.00

Long Sleeved T-shirts (white, natural, ash, light blue, pink, yellow or sand) \$18.00



DDD 1880 Census Schedules

Ancestry.com has added the DDD census schedules from 1880 for California, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and Washington Territory.

DDD schedules—Defective, Dependent and Delinquent classes . 1880 was the only year these schedules were enumerated. There were 7 additional schedules for those individuals that fell into these special categories:

1. Insane
2. Idiots
3. Deaf-mutes
4. Blind
5. Homeless children
6. Inhabitants in Prison
7. Paupers and the indigent

In addition to the individual's name, their race, gender, age and residence were also included. For individuals with mental or physical illness, questions regarding their medical history were asked. For the homeless children, questions about their parents were asked. For the prisoners, details regarding their imprisonment were asked. Here is a link to a list of the questions for each schedule—http://www.slcl.org/sc/pdfs/census_ddd_quest.pdf

If your ancestor has a mark in column 15 through 20 on the 1880 Census check the additional schedules to see if more information was collected.

The additional schedules are extant for other states as well as those on Ancestry.com. Some have been microfilmed and are available through the Family History Library or the National Archives. Here is a link to an article that lists the locations of the DDD schedules for all states—<http://www.familytreemagazine.com/upload/images/PDF/DDDschedules.pdf>

The DDD schedules might be just what you need to fill in information on that one special ancestor.

Legacy Users Group

The Legacy Family Tree users group meets the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Haggard Library in the Program Room from 10:30 to 12:30.

Contact Joanne Corney at ptxlegacyug@verizon.net for more information.

Publications For Sale

The following are available from Genealogy Friends:

Public Land Survey Systems	\$5
Plano Star Courier Index 1904-1910	\$20
Plano Star Courier Index 1911-1917	\$20
Cemeteries of Collin County, TX	\$40
Collin County, TX Voter Registration Index 1867	\$20
Place Names of Collin County, TX	\$10
Railroads in Collin County, TX	\$10
Military Investigations: Red, White & Blue	\$10
Colonial Ills, Brews & Concoctions	\$10
Library 101: Using Dewey Decimal Sys	\$10
Compiled Newsletters with Index	\$15

Join Genfriends

Time to Renew Memberships! Or if you aren't a member, please consider joining Genfriends. The money we raise is used to purchase materials for the Genealogy Section at Haggard Library.

Individual memberships are \$30 and family memberships are \$50.

Dues year runs from October 1 to September 31.

Researching the Battle of San Jacinto: Texas War of Independence from Mexico

By Brenda Kellow

The history of this state and that of Collin County is interesting and informative. Of course I have an affinity for this state and county as I am a native Texan and Planonian— graduate of Plano High School.

The ten year period of the Republic of Texas is a most exciting era and filled with historic data. So many times I have heard researchers lament that Texas had no early records. Not so. Many records are extant, and more become available all the time. Just watch the Internet. If you have ancestors who lived here during the Republic of Texas, the *Audited Republic of Texas Claims* are invaluable to you, <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/reclaims/repintro.html>.

I found in this series information on my Maryland born great, great-grandfather, Charles C. Stibbens, born May 14, 1810. He fought as a soldier in the Texas Revolution from its commencement at Gonzales in 1835, including fighting for Texas Independence from Mexico at the Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836. He served until the first day of January 1837. Charles C. Stibbens and his volunteers formed the First Volunteer, Company "I." The muster roll of Company I, First Regiment of Volunteers under the command of Col. Millard gives Stibbens as number 22. His service record, number 496, shows he was in Major Leander Smith's company at muster on 5 April 1836. He also served from 20 April to 22 June 1836 in Captain William S. Fisher's company of Velasco Blues at San Jacinto. His name is engraved on the original 1939 bronze plaque at the San Jacinto Monument. His name also appears in, *The Honor Roll of the Battle, The Complete List of Participants and Personnel on Detached Service* (San Jacinto, Texas: San Jacinto Museum of History Association, 1965).



Figure 1 Battle of San Jacinto, April 21, 1836;
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_San_Jacinto

Led by General Sam Houston, the Texas Army engaged and defeated General Antonio López de Santa Anna's Mexican forces in a fight that lasted just eighteen minutes. About 700 of the Mexican soldiers were killed and 730 captured, while only nine Texans died.

On 8 September 1838, Charles C. Stibbens was issued by the Republic of Texas, Donation Certificate No. 534 for 640 acres of land for having participated in the Battle of San Jacinto on 21 April 1836. It was patented to him on 30 October 1841 (Patent No. 45, Vol. 1, Abstract 753, Houston County).¹ This land is located ten miles northwest by west of Palestine. It begins on the northwest corner of John Colton's survey. It is an irregularly shaped piece of land having a triangular top with a notched tail.

On the same date he was also issued Bounty Certificate #4269 for 320 acres for his participation in the military of the Republic of Texas from 16 March until 16 June 1836. This was not patented to him until 23 August 1850

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1. An Act of Congress of the Republic of Texas creating Houston County shows that in the beginning, the county was a very large county, and covered all of the territory now embraced within the bounds together with all of Trinity County and all of Anderson County and a large portion of Henderson County. An 1836 map of the State of Texas gives a clearer understanding of the territory embraced within the original limits of the county.

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(Patent 518, Vol. 5, Abstract 78, Houston County). This land is situated adjoining the previously mentioned grant. The property is a square leaning westward on its southwest corner. Its east southeast line fits against the north-west angle of the aforementioned Stibbens property. Highway 287 runs through these two pieces of property at their connecting point. The property lies between two creeks. On the West is Lake Creek and on the East is Keechie Creek.

Furthermore, he was issued a Class 2 Certificate for one-third League of land, Certificate No. 945, for being a single man who arrived in the Republic of Texas subsequent to the Declaration of Independence and previous to August 1836. In other words, he was a Citizen of the Republic of Texas. (Patent #54, Abstract #714-753-754, Harrisburg County.) It was dated 7 September 1838. Charles refers to these 1,476 acres of land as his headright. The location of this acreage is seven miles southwest by west of Palestine. Crooked Creek and its many branches are located on this property. The main tributary of Crooked Creek takes a southerly route while inside Charles's land. After Crooked Creek leaves the property, it crosses Highway 294 and turns westward to empty into the Trinity River. Highway 1990 runs through the northwest tip of the property. Charles's headright is a couple of miles southwest of Magnolia. There is a cemetery located in the south central portion on this property situated east of Crooked Creek and lying on the North west bank of Wilson Lake. It is so noted on the land plat in the Anderson County Courthouse. Some of his children are buried there, at the corner of the property owned by his father-in-law, William Creekman. His other land was situated in the Tennessee Colony area of Anderson County.

During the years, Stibbens traded some of this land awarded to him by the Republic of Texas for service as a veteran, a soldier of the Battle of San Jacinto, and as a citizen of the Republic. On 25 April 1840, Stibbens sold one third or 492 acres of his 1,476 acre headright to George M. Casey. The next year Mr. Casey transferred the land to William Lane. The land again changed hands in 1845 when it was acquired by Elias Griswold. Mr. Griswold entered into an agreement with Stibbens in 1849 to trade Stibbens' land in the headright for an equal portion of his 640 acre tract. Mr. Griswold died before this transaction could take place. But all was not lost. Upon Mr. Griswold's death, the Court ordered the administrator, S. A. Miller, to transfer back to Stibbens the land out of his headright. Stibbens in turn was instructed to give title to the estate of Mr. Griswold for 320 acres out of his 640 acre tract given to him for being in the Battle of San Jacinto; plus 172 acres of his headright. Therefore, with the exception of the 172 acres removed for the Griswold estate, on 29 April 1850, the headright was back in the hands of Charles C. Stibbens.

All the land given him was physically located in Anderson County. In 1838, the government of the Republic of Texas operated from Harrisburg County and/or Houston County. With the passing of time, the seat of government became Austin. Houston County was broken into various new counties, one of which is now Anderson, County. Therefore, it is important to remember that the physical location of the Stibbens property remained static, only the county names changed. See an 1838 map of Texas for a better understanding of the changes

Stibbens settled in Anderson County before moving to Collin County in the late summer of 1870—after the Collin County census was taken but before the Anderson County census was taken in his area. His wife Elizabeth Creekman Stibbens received a couple of land grants in the southeast part of Collin County, granted to widows of deceased soldiers.

Charles C. Stibbens died in Collin County March 31, 1879, and he is buried in the southeast part of this county, and his grave is marked by a Texas Historical Marker.

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On the Texas State Library's site, it describes the Republic Claims series of Comptroller's records as including four groups of "claims for payment, reimbursement, or restitution submitted by citizens for services rendered to the Republic of Texas government during the period 1835 through 1846. It also includes records relating to Republic pensions and claims against the Republic submitted as public debt claims after 1846. The files include supporting documents such as vouchers, financial accounts, military records, receipts, notes, or letters. These historic records from the Republic era have been microfilmed to preserve the highest image quality, and the entire series has been meticulously indexed by staff in the Archives and Information Services Division."

If you have an interest in the early pioneers of the Republic, you will want to examine the *Claims*. The filming was made possible by two generous grants from the Summerlee Foundation to the Texas State Library and Archives. The claims include the payments, reimbursements, and compensations submitted by citizens of the Republic of Texas government during the period from 1835–1846. They include supporting documents such as vouchers, financial accounts, military records, receipts, notes, and letters. Digital images are linked within the index. They do offer high-quality microfilmed copies. On researching the site I found it provided the reel and frame location of more than 48,500 indexed names. The microfilm reels are available through interlibrary loan if you don't want to personally visit the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. I've been researching from the digital images online.

The claims of another citizen of the county allegedly fought at the Battle of San Jacinto also. His name was George W. Smith. Smith's participation in the Battle of San Jacinto is yet uncertain according to the lineage society, Descendants of San Jacinto, due to a lack of evidence proving this fact. The society says it cannot make a distinction between the several George Smiths living at that time. The information within these documents may provide the necessary proof his descendants so desperately need.

The microfilm is available in the Genealogy Collection of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, over the Internet, and by interlibrary loan through our local library. You may borrow up to six rolls at a time. When ordering microfilm for the *Audited Republic Claims* series you must provide the Interlibrary Loan person with the necessary reel numbers and include the OCLC number, #37449683. If you have access to the Internet, a comprehensive and friendly online 'User Guide to the Collection' is available to explain the process for browsing this electronic collection at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/repclaims/repintro.html>. The index lists the subjects' names alphabetically and gives the corresponding microfilm reel and frame numbers where the subject appears in one or more claims files.

From the comfort of your home you can search the database for your ancestor just by going to the "Search by Name" form and typing in his last name and then his first name. When I typed in Charles C. Stibbens, after about 30 seconds another screen gave the following information, and two spellings of the last name:

Stibbens, Charles C.	Stebbins, Charles C.	PE	N/A	240	553	579		81743
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When I clicked on the icon I found there were many entries dealing with his certificates and pension records.

Whether I clicked on the "N/A" or on the "icon," I received almost the same images. Some of the digitized images I found on the hyperlinked "icon" were the following:

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- Lives in Anderson County;
- Soldier of the Republic of Texas in 1836;
- Belonged to Co "T" 1st Regiment of Volunteers commanded by General Burleson;
- Fought in Battle of San Jacinto;
- Few living who knew him as a soldier;
- 30 Oct 1841 Mirabeau B. Lamar then President of the Republic of Texas issued his patent #45.

January 1851
 Deare Sir I write to Beg your assistance in getting me some money now due me in Austin as pension money granted by Legislatur the 16 of June last
 I have been a citizen of Anderson County the last 25th ^{years} but now of Collin before I left Anderson County I proved my Claims to a pension and sent it to Ausalin and Directed my Certificate to be sent to Mc Kinstry but it has not been sent
 I am an old Soldier of the republic of Texas and fought at the Battle of San Jacinto April 21 1836 and therefore my name is on record I received my Donation land for that Battle in ^{the} year of the Republic which is also on Record at Austin
 I have been advised to write to you as the most proper one to attend to this matter for me for which I shall be your humble Servent

Charles C Tibbens

Gen. No 212 sent to Calista Anderson Co.
 Dec 1851

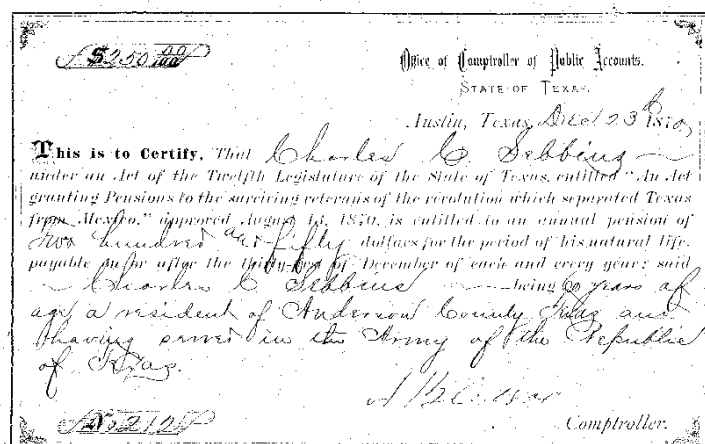
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From this record I found:

- It was written in 1871;
- Asks for his soldier's pension, passed by the legislature in Austin on June 16, 1870;
- He was a citizen of Anderson County for the past 25 years [Anderson Co. formed in 1846];
- before moving from Anderson he directed his pension be sent to McKinney, Collin County but it is yet to be done;
- An old soldier;
- Fought in the Battle of San Jacinto and name on record;
- Battle Donation land received in 1846 and is on record;
- Certificate #212, sent to Palestine in Anderson County;
- Copy of handwriting and his signature.



The State of Texas
County of Anderson.

Hon A Bledsoe
Comptroller
Austin
Texas.

Charles C. Bibbins a citizen of the County of Anderson and State of Texas his leave to state. That he was a Soldier of the Republic of Texas in the year 1836, and belonged to Captain Felix Company 3rd Regiment of Volunteered Commanded by the Government that he was present at and in the Battle of San Jacinto in 1836. That there are now but few who were present in that Battle, and that he does not know of any living witnesses by whom he can prove the fact of his presence at said Battle - That in the year 1841 on the 30th day of October, it being the sixth year of the Independence of the Republic of Texas, Mirabeau B. Lamar, then President of said Republic of Texas issued to the said Charles C. Bibbins his certain Patent in the name of the Republic of Texas, Number 115

Certificate Number 212

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State of Texas } Personally appeared before me
 Collin County } C. C. Stephens, personally known
 to me, and by these presence
 I do hereby Certify that he is still
 living and yet remains a State
 Pensioner so far as I know
 T. E. Goodner
 Co Judge Collin

State of Texas } Personally appeared before me
 Collin County } C. C. Stephens, personally known
 to me, and by these presence
 I do hereby Certify that he is still
 living and yet remains a State
 Pensioner This Feb 12th 1879
 W. D. Burge Clerk
 County Court Collin Co Texas

Alive on February 12, 1879, one month before his death on March 31, 1879 in Saint Paul, Collin County, Texas.

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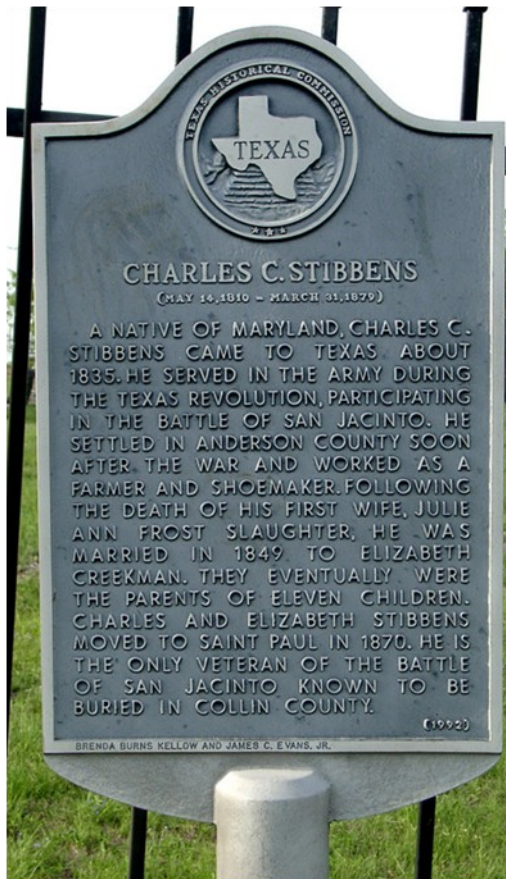


Image of his Texas Historical Marker and Tombstone with Military and Citizen Medallions.

There are many too many digitized records for Charles C. Stibbens to make an attempt to show them all here. The following is just a few.

Just from these digital copies I was able to document his arrival in Texas; his military service through many legal letters and with military musters; Republic of Texas bounty, donation, and Class Two certificates granted him for military service, his service in the Battle of San Jacinto, and as a citizen of the Republic of Texas for 11 years; lived in Anderson County, ter statehood in 1846; lived in Magnolia [south of Palestine], Anderson County for 25 years; owned land in Tennessee Colony in Anderson County; applied for his soldier's pension in Anderson County in 1870

and had it transferred to McKinney in Collin County that same year where he began receiving it; arrived in Saint Paul, Collin County in the late summer of 1870; and verify he was alive in Collin County just one month before his death; obtained his handwriting and his signature. I also obtained his wife's pension request and land grants in Collin County.

So, yes Virginia, there are extant records when Texas was a part of Mexico, during the fight for Independence, during the Republic, from Statehood and from the beginning of each county in Texas.

For more on this man and his family see my published book, *Charles C. Stibbens, Soldier of the Battle of Jacinto and Citizen of the Republic of Texas*, Brenda Burns Kellow, 1992. I am currently working on the second edition of this book.

The Texas State Library and Archives is located at 1201 Brazos St. in Austin. It is open Tuesday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Because of the renovation currently in progress, they will be able to be open throughout most of it, but beware that many records are now offsite.

You may request interlibrary loans through our Genealogy Library. There is no charge for interlibrary loan service.