# FAMILY FINITEPS





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# Greetings

The nice temperatures of Spring were nice while they lasted. The weather is starting to turn hot.

The CCGS had a busy Spring. We had four great presentations. You can see summaries and pictures inside. Two of these presentations included our first virtual presenters. One from Montana and one from Utah. We expect to be doing this from time to time as it allows for us to expand our pool of presenters. The CCGS also attended the Heritage Museum Texas Handmade Furniture Folkfest on April 12, and the Vintage Oaks Market Days on May 17 as we work to attract new members to the organization.

For the first time, the CCGS also awarded a scholarship to a local high school student in May. Rylee Wunderlich from Canyon Lake High School was picked as the winner. You can read her submitted genealogy project in this issue.

CCGS would like to continue to provide this scholarship in the future. To help with that, the CCGS is now accepting donations to be applied to the scholarship. You can go to <a href="http://ccgstexas.org/donate">http://ccgstexas.org/donate</a> to help with this cause.

Looking forward to the summer, we have several activities planned.

- On Tuesday June 3rd we will have a field trip to Conservation Plaza to take a tour of the historic buildings at that location.
- On Wednesday July 16th we will have a field trip to the Kyle FamilySearch Center to see how they can help with genealogy research.
- And then on Tuesday September 9th, we will once again have our annual picnic in Landa Park. Please RSVP by September 2nd for that event (see .

If you have comments, suggestions, or material for publication, please let us know at suggestions@ccgstexas.org.

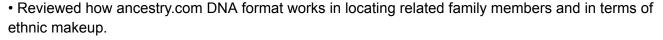
# **Previous Meetings**

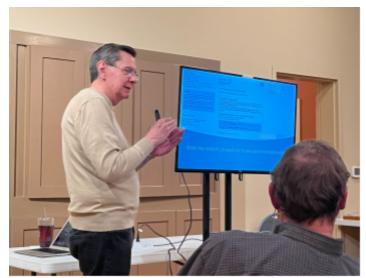
# 11 February 2025 Meeting



Carlos Casteneda presented "Genealogy DNA: How to use it, and what to do with the results." Using examples from his own personal family research and DNA results, Carlos covered a number of topics including:

- · Explained the composition of DNA.
- Reasons why genealogists should take a DNA test, and the potential drawbacks being added to a DNA database.
- Companies that offer DNA testing and he gave a comparison of the various differences, benefits and costs that differentiate companies.
- Explained what indicates the differences in related DNA between close and distant relationships.





Carlos Casteneda

Image: V. Callier



Carlos Casteneda Image: V.Callier

## 11 March 2025 Meeting



Andrea Stahman Burden presented "The Salge Family Cemetery." Andrea is a Senior Archaeologist at ICF Technologies in Austin. She gave an overview of the work at the Salge Family Cemetery and the process for relocating cemeteries in Texas. The Salge Family Cemetery is a historic cemetery located near Clear Springs. The presentation covered discovering, locating, & identifying unknown cemeteries and moving cemeteries

to new locations. She illustrated these topics through her experience in locating and relocating the Salage Family Cemetery. Her presentation featured:

- The legal issues and steps required to relocate bodies to a new cemetery.
- The scientific and archeological issues involved in cemetery relocation.
- A step-by-step explanation of how they work with the families as they move the buried family members.



Andrea Burden Image: V. Callier

Several members of the Salge family attended the presentation.



Andrea Burden Image: S. Hierholzer

# 08 April 2025 Meeting



Angela Breidenbach presented "Building Skills to Preserve Family History." In a first for CCGS, Angela presented remotely to the group. Angela is a published author specializing in historical fiction and creating books around a family narrative. She is also a dedicated genealogist and is the executive director for the International Institute of Genealogical Studies found at <a href="GenealogicalStudies.com">GenealogicalStudies.com</a>.

Her very informative talk addressed some basic starting points in creating narrative stories that focus on family members such as selecting an ancestor, and then focusing on a specific period of the ancestor's life. She touched on how to make your stories more interesting by inserting aspects that touch each of our five senses, as well as adding descriptives in dress, atmosphere, culture, etc. to help bring the story to life. She covered many additional aspects of the writing process including the options available for publication.

For additional information on Angela and her work as well as tips go to her website at <a href="mailto:AngelaBreidenbach.com">AngelaBreidenbach.com</a>.

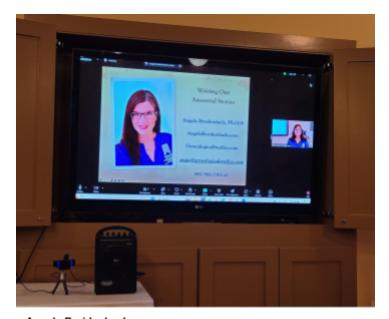




Image: W.Voigt



Angela Breidenbach

Image: W.Voigt

# 13 May 2025 Meeting

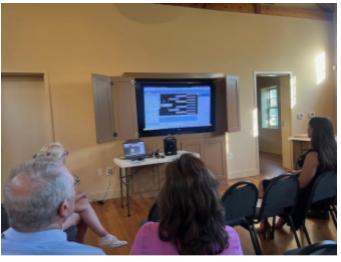




Mark Olsen presented "Introduction to Family Tree Maker." This was presented remotely to the CCGS. Mark discussed Family Tree Maker, highlighting the latest 2024 version, updates,

features and more. The session was very interactive with live examples showing the features of the software. With version 2024 being released just days before the presentation, Mark highlighted the differences between FTM 2019 and FTM 2024 as well as the new features found just in FTM 2024.

Mark and Family Tree Maker graciously provided a Door Prize for the event which was won by Tom Stuhler (a FTM user)!



Mark Olsen presenting remotely

Image: S. Hierholzer

# **Upcoming Meetings**

## 03 June Field Trip



For the June Field Trip, the CCGS will be taking a tour of Conservation Plaza from 9:00 am to Noon on June 3rd. This will be a guided tour of the award winning 19th century German Texas village. We will be able to view 18 historic structures and 5 styles of German Fachwerk. You will get to go inside these amazing structures, view historic artifacts and hear fascinating stories about 19th century German Texan life in Comal County. This is a great way to see and to appreciate the big hardships and small pleasures of life the Germans brought

with them to the Texas Hill Country. Conservation Plaza is located at 1300 Church Hill Dr., New Braunfels, TX 78130.

Afterwards, the group will have lunch a few blocks away at the Root Cellar. Address: 1090 S Business IH 35, New Braunfels, TX, 78130. Phone: 830-632-5114. It is at the old Smokehouse location.

## 16 July Field Trip



For the July Field Trip, the CCGS will be taking a tour of the Kyle FamilySearch Center from 9:00am to Noon on July 16th. FamilySearch Centers offer complimentary access to computers, internet, and subscription family history websites. Visitors to FamilySearch Centers get special access to images of historical records that are only available in centers.

The Kyle FamilySearch Center is located between San Marcos and Kyle at 3751 Trail Ridge Pass, San Marcos, TX 78666. You can either meet the group there, or you can car pool from the Sophienburg Archives parking lot at 8:15am. For those car pooling, please print and fill out a Release Form.

# **August BoD Meeting**

Only the Board of Directors will meet. There is no general membership meeting in the month of August.

# 09 September Picnic



The annual Comal County Genealogy Society Picnic will be held at pavilion #16 in Landa Park from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. CCGS will provide food and drinks. Please RSVP by September 2 at <a href="https://forms.gle/5NUiKUEgwV7iTPna6">https://forms.gle/5NUiKUEgwV7iTPna6</a>

# **Projects**

# New Braunfels: The First Founders Reprint

The definitive two volume set of *New Braunfels: The First Founders* by Everett Fey is out of print. There are no remaining original copies to be sold, and the publisher is no longer in business. The family of Everett Fey, the Sophienburg Archives, and the Comal County Genealogy Society (together the copyright owners) are collaboratively working to bring this classic back into print. CCGS members who have participated include Lynn Thompson, Tina LaFreniere, and Wendel Voigt. The following work has been done or planned to be done:

An existing copy was sacrificed for scanning by having its binding removed.	
☑ Both volumes have been scanned into PDF format (over 1000 pages!)	
☐ Pictures used in the book were located in the Sophienburg and are planned to be scanned.	
☐ The scanned pictures will be inserted into the PDF files. This will provide the best print picture qual	ity.
☐ A new publisher/printer is being sought which can use the PDF files to produce the books.	
Once a printer is selected, a definitive schedule and book price can then be set. It is hoped that the printe	r <mark>ca</mark> n
then provide copies of the book "on demand" instead of needing to do a large (expensive) print run.	

# Membership

# Benefits of Membership

Your membership in the Comal County Genealogy Society provides:

- Meetings featuring guest presenters on a variety of genealogy-related topics.
- The September Picnic in Landa Park, which includes catered food.
- Access to the Family Footsteps published in February, June, and October.
- FREE access to the Sophienburg Archives with the CCGS' collection of local family histories and important research materials.
- Access to the CCGS computer at the Sophienburg Archives with Ancestry.com & Fold3.com subscriptions.

Members at the Prinz and Baron level will be recognized in the Family Footsteps.

Members at the Prinz level will have a research item donated to CCGS in their honor (with their name inscribed) and placed in the Research Room at the Sophienburg Archives.

#### **New Members**

Roy Currington Curt Stiles Kathy Zamora

#### **Premium Members**

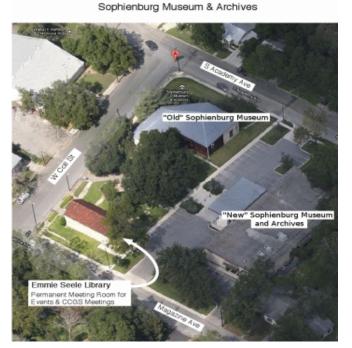
Paul D. Startz - Prinz Peggy Wunneburger - Prinz Stephen Beisser - Baron

## 2025 Calendar

Meetings are held at 7:00 P.M. on the second Tuesday of February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December. Unless indicated otherwise, all General Meetings are held at the

Emmie Seele Faust Building at the Sophienburg Archives, 401 W. Coll St., New Braunfels, Texas 78130.

New Members and Visitors are always welcome.



January Board of Directors meeting only

February 11 General Meeting - Carlos Casteneda - "Genealogy DNA"

March 11 General Meeting - Andrea Burden - "The Salge Cemetery"

April 8 General Meeting - Angela Breidenbach - "Building Skills to Preserve

Family History"

May 13 General Meeting - Mark Olsen - "Introduction to Family Tree Maker"

June 3 Field Trip - Conservation Plaza from 9:00am to Noon

16 July Field Trip - Kyle FamilySearch Center 9:00am to Noon

August Board of Directors meeting only

September 9 CCGS Picnic - 6:00pm to 9:00pm at Pavilion #16 in Landa Park

October 14 General Meeting - Richard Miller, owner of Goldiemay.

**November 11** General Meeting - Kevin Klaus from the Texas General Land Office

December 9 New Officer Installation and Party

# Organization

# Purpose

The purpose of the Comal County Genealogy Society is to create, foster and maintain interest in history and genealogy and to work with other organizations to preserve historical & genealogical publications and records.

#### **Board of Directors**

#### Officers

Office	Officer
President	Wendel Voigt
Vice President	vacant
Treasurer	Simone Hierholzer
Secretary	Vince Callier
Past President	Lynn Thompson

# Image: 1 Vaist

2025 Officers and Directors (left to right)
Vince Callier, Secretary; Lynn Thompson, Director of Publications & Past-President; Wendel Voigt, President & Director of Footsteps; Mary Simone Hierholzer, Treasurer & Director of Membership; Tommy Daum, Director of Publicity; Tina LaFreniere, Director of Genealogy.

#### **Directors**

Director of	Director
Footsteps	Wendel Voigt
Genealogy	Tina LaFreniere
Membership	Simone Hierholzer
Public Relations	Tommy Daum
Publications	Lynn Thompson

All Officers and Directors are members of the Board of Directors.

## **Committee Chairpersons**

Welcome / Greeting	Marlena Schlather
Cemetery	Connie Krause
Archives/History	vacant
Library	Lynn Thompson
IT / Website	Wendel Voigt

#### Outreach events

CCGS participated in two community events. On April 12, CCGS had a booth at the Heritage Museum Texas Handmade

Furniture Folkfest.



Images: V.Callier

Vince Callier

On May 17, CCGS had a booth at the Vintage Oaks Market Days. For both events a number of people stopped by, learned about the group, and in general talked about genealogy.

# CCGS Scholarship Awarded

Early in 2024, the Board of Directors discussed increasing CCGS' outreach and how to get young people interested in genealogy. Ultimately, the Board of Directors authorized a \$1000 scholarship to be awarded to a graduating 12th grader who attends a high school in Comal County (or any high school in Comal ISD or New Braunfels ISD, even if in an adjacent county).

A scholarship committee was formed consisting of Wendel Voigt, Simone Hierholzer, Vince Callier, Chris Parma, and Lynne' Voigt.

It was also decided that instead of asking applicants to submit an essay, they would instead submit a genealogy project. The project would include producing

documented four generation Ancestor chart and providing a photo of a treasured object (photo, heirloom, or document) with a short description as well as a few sentences on why it is important to them.

The scholarship application submission deadline was March 10, 2025. **CCGS** scholarship received number of а applications. Entries were received from across Comal County including applicants from Canyon Lake H.S., New Braunfels Canyon H.S., Davenport H.S., H.S., Smithson Valley H.S., New Braunfels Christian Academy, and St. John Paul II Catholic H.S..

The winner of the 2025 Comal County Genealogy Society Scholarship is

Rylee Wunderlich of Canyon Lake High School. This fall, she will be attending Texas A&M in College Station.

CCGS awarded her the scholarship at May 13th the meeting. In addition, Mark Olsen provided complementary copy of 2024 Family Tree Maker to Rylee in recognition of her work.

On the following pages you can read her application. think you will find she did an outstanding project.

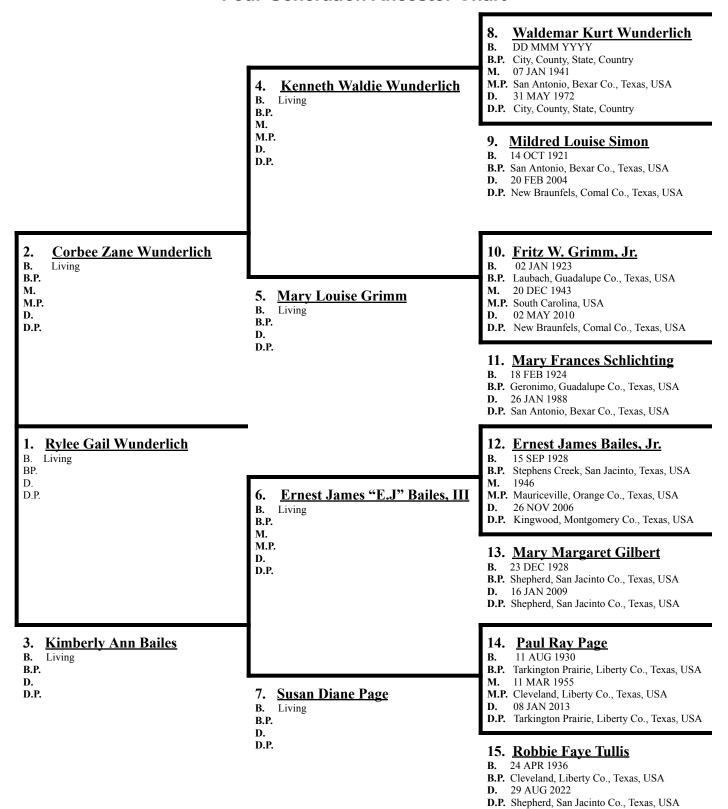


Rylee Wunderlich Images: S. Hierholzer



Wendel Voigt and Rylee Wunderlich

#### **Four Generation Ancestor Chart**



# Four Generation Ancestor Chart Documentation and Notes

- 1. Rylee Gail Wunderlich
  - Living
- 2. Corbee Zane Wunderlich
  - Living
- 3. Kimberly Ann Bailes
  - Living
- 4. Kenneth Waldie Wunderlich
  - Living
- 5. Mary Louise Grimm
  - Living
- 6. Ernest James "EJ" Bailes, III
  - Living
- 7. Susan Diane Page
  - Living
- 8. Waldemar Kurt Wunderlich
  - Sources Kenneth Waldie Wunderlich, son, funeral program for Mildred Louise Simon Wunderlich, wife, Spring Branch & Western Comal County by Brenda Anderson-Lindemann
  - Went by Waldie K. Wunderlich
  - Parents Hugo and Pauline (Leismann) Wunderlich
  - Descendent of Joachim Pantermeuhl, German immigrant that originally settled Rebecca Creek Community in 1854
  - Rancher
  - Two Sons Kenneth Waldie Wunderlich and Ronald "Ronnie" K. Wunderlich
  - Buried at Smithson Valley Community Cemetery in Spring Branch, Texas
- 9. Mildred Louise Simon
  - Source Funeral program for Mildred Louise Simon Wunderlich
  - Parents Gustav and Elizabeth (Schultz) Simon
  - Baptized and confirmed at Grace Lutheran Church of San Antonio
  - School Cafeteria Cook for Comal ISD for 41 years with positions at Sherwood School, Bulverde Middle School, and Smithson Valley Middle School
  - Member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Bulverde, Texas
  - Buried at Smithson Valley Community Cemetery in Spring Branch, Texas
- 10. Fritz W. Grimm, Jr.
  - Sources Mary Louise Grimm Wunderlich, daughter & funeral program for Fritz W. Grimm, Jr.
  - Parents Fritz and Lena (Schlueter) Grimm, Sr.
  - Baptized at Cross Lutheran Church in Seguin
  - Confirmed at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Seguin
  - Member of St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Braunfels 1997-2010

- Married Mary Frances Schlichting in South Carolina in 1943 before his deployment to Germany during World War II
- Three Children Mary Louise Grimm Wunderlich, Kaye Lynn Grimm Edwards, and Glenn Ray Grimm
- Carpenter and Textile Mill Worker
- Buried at Guadalupe Valley Memorial Park in Seguin, Texas

#### 11. Mary Frances Schlichting

- Source Mary Louise Grimm Wunderlich, daughter
- Parents Alvin and Mamie (Roberts) Schlichting
- Attended Business School
- Worked in the business office of Mission Valley Textile Mill and Winn's Variety Store
- Worked for 25 years as secretary for Comal County Extension Office
- Buried at Guadalupe Valley Memorial Park in Seguin, Texas

#### 12. Ernest James Bailes, Jr.

- Sources Kimberly Ann Bailes Wunderlich, granddaughter & Susan Diane Page Bailes, daughter-in-law
- Parents Ernest James & Minnie Lee (Harrell) Bailes, Sr.
- Logger, Dairy Farmer, Rancher, and Owner/Operator of Milk Freight Business
- Three Children Margaret Jeanette Bailes Bullock, Carolyn Annette Bailes Engle, and Ernest James "E.J."
   Bailes
- Member of First Baptist Church of Shepherd
- Buried at Farley Chapel Cemetery in Shepherd, Texas

#### 13. Mary Margaret Gilbert

- Sources Kimberly Ann Bailes Wunderlich, granddaughter & Susan Diane Page Bailes, daughter-in-law
- Parents Tib and Birdie Blanche (Everitt) Gilbert
- Member of First Baptist Church of Shepherd
- Buried at Farley Chapel Cemetery in Shepherd, Texas

#### 14. Paul Ray Page

- Sources Susan Diane Page Bailes, daughter & funeral program for Robbie Faye Tullis Page
- Parents Dan Davis and Era Noveline (Morriss) Page
- Joined the army in 1952 and served in Korea during the Korean War
- Dairy Farmer, Rice Farmer, Logger, and Rancher
- Two Children Michael Ray Page and Susan Diane Page Bailes
- Buried at Ryan Cemetery in Tarkington Prairie, Texas

#### 15. Robbie Faye Tullis

- Sources Susan Diane Page Bailes, daughter & funeral program for Robbie Faye Tullis Page
- Parents Robert Bruce "R.B." and Margaret Irene (Daniels) Tullis
- Homemaker, Bookkeeper, and Walmart Greeter
- Buried at Ryan Cemetery in Tarkington Prairie, Texas

# **Treasured Object**



#### **Description**

This photograph features the home of Hugo and Pauline Wunderlich, located in western Comal County (now considered Spring Branch) on the banks of Rebecca Creek and the Guadalupe River. The picture was taken in 1905 and includes the original home and various outbuildings including a cistern, smokehouse, and two barns (the second of which is partially hidden the barn nearer the house).

#### **Importance**

This century old farmhouse, that has been in my family for generations, is where I've been raised. On the kitchen wall that once held the smokestack of the wood stove, hangs a small chalkboard that often holds sayings like "Hands to work. Hearts to God." or "Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically as something done for the Lord and not for man. – Colossians 3:23". These are more than simple words, they are a testament to the work ethic, faith, and family values held by my ancestors. My family continues the tradition of ranching by raising commercial beef cattle, while also caring for the land and buildings. The farmhouse has seen a few upgrades since the picture was taken in 1905, but it is still very modest. The house now boasts three bedrooms that are shared by our family of five. The outhouse still sits on the backside of the house, but the added bathroom is actually one of the largest rooms in the house. The windmill in the picture is still standing, but a submersible pump added shortly after my family moved into the house made it no longer necessary to plug in the well pump and set a timer to see that you didn't overflow the cistern. The cistern proved too unstable just a few years ago, leading to the addition of a concrete holding tank. The smokehouse on the left still stands and occasionally gets used to dry and smoke homemade deer sausage. The barn in the back still holds hay for livestock and show animals. Single pane windows, little insulation, pier and beam construction, and a lack of central heat and air makes the house cold in the winter and hot in the summer. However, my family generally spends enough time working outdoors that we aren't all that phased by it. I couldn't imagine having grown up any other way, and I'm so grateful for the lessons this house taught me that are so eloquently portrayed by the words on the chalkboard in the kitchen.

# Find Us on the Internet

#### Website

https://ccgsTexas.org



#### Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/CCGSTexas



#### Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/ccgstexas/



# **Footsteps Contributors**

#### **DIRECTOR OF FOOTSTEPS**

Wendel Voigt

#### **EDITOR**

Wendel Voigt

#### **CONTRIBUTING EDITORS**

Vince Callier, Simone Hierholzer, Tina LaFreniere, Lynn Thompson, Lynne' Voigt

#### ATTENTION!

If you have an interesting poem, story, translation from a newspaper, or article about your ancestors, or your research has turned up something that you think is interesting, please consider sending it to us to publish in the "Footsteps." Persons submitting published materials will be listed as a contributing editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit submissions as necessary. Please make sure all submissions are either ready in rich text format or camera-ready. Please send submission your to footsteps@ccqstexas.org

# Online Membership



After September 1st, you can renew your membership for 2026 by either filling out the Membership Application found at the end of this publication or you can go to <a href="https://ccgstexas.org/membership">https://ccgstexas.org/membership</a> to renew online.

# Membership Application

# Comal County Genealogy Society P. O. Box 310160, New Braunfels, TX 78131-0160

Name:						
Family Mem	nbers:					
			Phone:			
City:			S	tate:		Zip+4
Maiden Nan	ne:				Email:_	Zip+4
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Family:	\$25.00	(	) New	(	) Renewa	ral entremental en
Baron:	\$50.00	(	) New	(	) Renewa	ral entremental en
Prinz:*	*A Research	item w	vill be don	ated	to CCGS in	your honor (with your name inscribed) and
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Meetings ar	e held at the	Soph	ienburg	Arch	ives, 401	West Coll St, New Braunfels, TX.
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I/We are res	searching the	e follov	ving sur	name	es:	





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