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Each issue of the AGS Quarterly is unique and presents its own challenges. This one was no exception. The end result is a wonderful cross section of works by our peers that is a joy to read.

I’d like to once again thank each of our contributors for their hard work and willingness to share their efforts with others. I’d also like to thank our long time proof reader, Kay Boyd, for her careful eye to detail each issue.

This issue also marks the first since AGS decided to forgo bulk printing and mailing of our publications. While still being printed for institutions and libraries, the Quarterly is now primarily distributed in electronic format. This opens new possibilities beyond static, black and white text.

Please forward any suggestions, as well as any and all submissions, to quarterly@austintxgensoc.org

Sincerely,

Randy W. Whited
Austin's First Daughter

David Bowles

Lured by the promise of two sections of land for eighteen months of military service, Lorenzo Van Cleve had arrived from Louisville, Kentucky, in the winter of 1836. He completed his enlistment in the Texas Army, and in the spring of 1839, rode into the camp of some 200 rowdy laborers living in the thick woods along the north banks of the Colorado River, up river 35 miles from Bastrop.

Lorenzo, learned carpentry and woodworking as an apprentice of a Louisville master furniture craftsman. He was answering a call from Edwin Waller for skilled carpenters to build government buildings in the new capital city. The wood cutters cleared the section of land that had been surveyed by Waller to become the new capital city of the Republic of Texas, only the second city in the new world to be built solely to be a center of government. Unlike Washington D.C., which is totally focused on federal government, Waller had made accommodations for county and city government along with that of the new Republic.

The next step in establishing the town of Austin was to build out the accommodations for the government offices. The only structures that existed when the carpenters started were the primitive cabins of Jacob Harrell and three other settlers who called their settlement Waterloo. According to the Telegraph and Texas Registry on 31 July, 1839, twenty structures had been completed in the first few months.

Lorenzo Van Cleve purchased Town Lot 4 of Block 71 for $181.00 at public auction on 1 August, 1839. He built a shop with bachelor’s quarters on his property in the middle of the block on the north side of West Pecan Street (now known as Sixth). Lorenzo's lot was fortuitously located next to the three lots belonging to Angelina Eberly, where the famous Eberly House would be built.

Now all Lorenzo needed was a proper wife. Of the 856 residents counted during the 1840 census, only sixty-one were females, and most of them were married. The handful of young maidens included twenty-one-year-old Margaret Smith. Her brother James W. Smith, the first Travis County Judge, and his wife Angelina Stamps Smith lived two blocks south of Lorenzo on Pecan Street. Another brother, Harvey Smith, owned three lots across the street, and Thomas W. Smith, her father, was the First Travis County Treasurer.

One can conjure up many ways the young couple may have met, perhaps at Mrs. Eberly's boarding house, which Lorenzo frequented. However they met, Margaret’s father gave his permission for them to marry in a letter dated 21 July, 1840. The couple received the third of six marriage licenses issued in Travis County that year, and the wedding was reported on the front page of the Gazette.

Nine months and one day later, on 14 April, 1841, a baby girl named Elnora Van Cleve—the first baby girl born in the new town of Austin—arrived. The honor of being the first-born child went to Sam Houston Jones, the son of Dr. Anson Jones (later President of the Republic of Texas) and his wife, Mary, neighbors of the Van Cleves on Pecan Street.
Anson Jones and Mary McCory were the second couple to marry in Austin. According to Anson Jones the Last President of Texas, (Herbert Gambrell, University of Texas Press, 1947), their son was born 26 February, 1841, at a quarter past one in the morning.

Elnora never met her uncle, Judge James Smith, as he was killed 22 January, 1841. He was scalped by Comanche Indians a half mile from home, and his son Fayette, Elnora’s cousin, abducted on the boy’s ninth birthday. Her grandfather, Thomas W. Smith, was killed by Indians eight miles from home on 6 August, 1841.

Elnora’s mother Margaret and her grandmother Rebeckah worried constantly that she would be captured by Indians or run over by buffalo that often stampeded down Pecan Street. Growing up in the capital city, she met many who helped establish the Republic and later the State. About the time she started to walk in December of 1842, I am sure she was awakened when next-door neighbor Angelina Eberly fired the famous cannon shot to warn the city that President Sam Houston had sent his men to take the records of the Republic back to Houston in what became known as the Archive War.

I have a vision of the first children of Austin, Elnora Van Cleve and Samuel Edward Jones, playing on the long front porch of the Capitol that her father had built. President Anson Jones’ son was now called Samuel Edward rather than Sam Houston, after his father had a falling-out with Sam Houston.

Shortly before noon on 19 February, 1846, honored guests were in their seats for the biggest event in Texas history, about to take place in front of the primitive frame Capitol. U.S. Army officers escorted President Anson Jones to the center of the front porch of the Capitol, followed by Governor-Elect James Pickney Henderson and by Sam Houston, who received a great ovation from some 1200 people—just about everyone in Austin plus many who came to witness the change of government.

Rather than using his handwritten speech, President Jones chose to say only a few words spoken from the heart. He then slowly lowered the Lone Star Flag of the Republic of Texas, handed it to James Pickney Henderson, and said loudly for the crowd to hear, "The Republic is no more."

Henderson, the first governor of Texas, said a few words as the Stars and Stripes were raised. The Lone Star flag was run up the pole beside the US Flag, and Texas officially became the 28th State in the Union.

Margaret Van Cleve died two months short of 30 years old, leaving Lorenzo with Elnora 9;; Cortes, 8;; Wesley, 6;; Alfonzo, 4;; and Comely, 1. Lorenzo did not remarry, and as she grew older, Elnora assumed the role of mother to the boys. They all resided with her and her new husband Daniel Brown in the 1860 census.

The family Bible, which is in possession of the author, lists fifteen children for Elnora and Daniel Brown. Three died in childhood, and one name is mysteriously marked out with no explanation. The remaining eleven children who survived to adulthood are listed in a document titled Proof of Heirs of Daniel Brown and Elnora Brown, Deceased, filed in the Travis County Courthouse 4 September 1919. They are Lacarrie Brown (who married Dan Props), D. C. Brown, Henry C. Brown, Wanda Brown (who married L.S. Saunders), Harvey Brown, Alfonda Brown, Charlie Brown, Lillie Brown (married John W. Bowles), Sam Brown, T. Earl Brown, and Martha Brown (who married King Heffington).
Elnora and Daniel purchased several parcels of land on the south side of the Pedernales River near the confluence of the Colorado River. The property now is at the end of the Old Ferry Road in northwest Travis County near Briar Cliff Subdivision, off Pace Bend Park Road.

Elnora died on 2 January, 1900, at their home and was buried in the Collier-Gregg Cemetery on private property. Her husband is buried on private property on what was his home place on 23 April, 1919. A centograph has been placed next to Elnora’s grave and the Daughters of the Republic of Texas have acknowledged her with a medallion identifying Elnora as a Citizen of the Republic of Texas.

For more information, please contact David Bowles at 210-490-9955 or check his website at www.westwardsagas.com.
Daniel BROWN

Travis County Pioneer #08-843
Proven to be in Travis County in 1840 from Kentucky

Generation 1

1. Daniel\textsuperscript{1} BROWN was born 1833 in Fulton, IL, and died 23 Apr 1919 in Spicewood, Travis, Texas. He married Elnora VAN CLEVE 13 Sep 1859 in Helena, Karnes, Texas, daughter of Lorenzo VAN CLEVE and Margaret SMITH. She was born 14 Apr 1841 in Austin, Travis, Texas, and died 2 Jan 1900 in Spicewood, Travis, Texas.

Generation 2

2. Lillie\textsuperscript{2} BROWN (Daniel\textsuperscript{1}) was born 19 Dec 1881 in Austin, Travis, Texas, and died 2 Sep 1965 in Austin, Travis, Texas. She married John William BOWLES. He was born 23 Nov 1873 in Choctaw, Mississippi, and died 8 Jan 1952 in Marble Falls, Burnet, Texas.

Generation 3

3. Malcolm\textsuperscript{3} BOWLES (Lillie\textsuperscript{2} BROWN, Daniel\textsuperscript{1}) was born 24 Jun 1912 in Spicewood, Travis, Texas, and died 24 Jun 2002 in Austin, Travis, Texas. He married Alta PURYEAR. She was born 18 Oct 1918 in Harrisburg, Harris, Texas, and died 19 Mar 1996 in Lubbock, Lubbock, Texas.

Child of Malcolm BOWLES and Alta PURYEAR is:

i. DAVID\textsuperscript{4} BOWLES.
Members Memories and Remembrances

Jean Middlebrooks Shroyer

The following article was inadvertently left out of the prior issue of the Quarterly, which celebrated fifty years of AGS history. -editor

So many things have gone on over time, and time surely flies. Roberta Jenkins was President and Vangee Brigham was Vice President of AGS in 1996 when Marilyn Henley and I first met and became members at the church across the MOPAC location. (I had belonged back in the 1980s, too.) Not long after John Miller arranged for us to move to Highland Park Baptist Church for meetings.

Mary Kay Snell—I remember her name very well. Also Barbara and Gerry Goudreau, who were very dedicated folks for AGS and the Texas State Library collection.

Lucie Clift Price was instrumental in AGS long before I came around, and she published books on records for Travis County, TX. The last time I saw Emma Gene Gentry was at a Lifetime Learning luncheon to thank us for volunteering for this program in beginning genealogy. Richard Robertson was part of that and AGS, too.

I know Dr. Gracy from his authored book on Moses Austin, of which I bought a copy in 1992 at the Austin Family Association (AFM) here in Austin. I lived in Illinois then and traveled down to visit in-laws and attended the AFM meeting.

Ruth and Bill Koehler were members of AGS a long time, Wilena Young and more...Clarice Neal, Juanita Dodgen, etc. AGS was a fun and active group back in the 1990’s.

Thinking about your wonderful turnout at the AGS 50th Anniversary celebration and not having enough tables for attendees to use reminded me of the seminar Marilyn Henley and I held at the church in late 1998 or 1999. Back then the chairs were metal and uncomfortable. Folks had to sit in the rear of Sapp Hall and couldn’t see or hear the speaker. And to boot, the caterer’s helper fell off the back of the truck and hurt himself while unloading the box lunches into the kitchen! I helped take care of him in the kitchen while the rest of the seminar volunteers unloaded the truck and set up. We never let on what was going on in the back of the kitchen! It came about successfully, and no one ever knew what an ordeal we went through at that seminar! Persistence paid off and success! We all pitched in to keep things going! That is friendship, teamwork as I stress to organizations! Good times!

I see Alana Mallard at DRT meetings once a month and Yvonne Beever also at times. We correspond by email, and she is a member of the Williamson County, Texas Historical Commission if anyone needs to ask for help there. I am busy with Travis, Williamson County and Texas State Library lookups and helping patrons who frequent the library during the week. It is rewarding!

I used to drive from Round Rock to downtown Austin to the public library for AGS meetings at night. We had young children at home and in school and didn’t wish to travel nineteen miles to Austin. That was why Carol Verbeek and I began the Williamson County Genealogical Society (WCGS) in 1981. Barbara and Gerry
Goudreau, who were very dedicated folks for AGS and the Texas State Library collection, were also mentors for Carol Verbeek and me. Carol, Loree Neiman, and I held the first meeting at the Chamber that very night and had twenty folks show up to join us. It was great!

While not a past president of AGS, I have served in many capacities. I don’t seek glory for serving on AGS committees or the Board or in an office as I’ve done these things a long time for other organizations, too. I just do this to help others learn about genealogy, records, and research efforts. Also, to find cousins!

If I had to do it again, I certainly would! Genealogy and History are great hobbies to encounter! Some people love golfing, creative needlework and traveling, but to me learning the paths of migration your ancestor traveled and from whence they came is exciting to find! No trading to be done here! I'll stick to genealogy research and finding new cousins!
Austin Genealogical Society Goes ‘Green’

Randy Whited

This article also appeared in the Spring 2011 issue of the FGS FORUM (Volume 23, No 1) – editor

Austin Genealogical Society (AGS) is a typical genealogy organization of the early 21st century. As technology continues to shape all aspects of society around us, AGS has had to work to adapt and improve, or be made irrelevant. Located in the ‘Silicon Hills’ of central Texas, the Society has a core membership base that is well placed to incorporate technology, especially the internet, into its purpose, operations and benefits.

Recently the AGS Board of Directors approved a plan to eliminate the bulk printing and postal distribution of its remaining periodicals. Instead, those materials will now be accessed from the AGS website, the same location past issues are archived. This decision completed the move away from a traditional publishing model for the Society.

Why go green?

A primary factor in eliminating bulk printing is ecological. Annually, AGS used over 400 pounds of paper to produce its Quarterlies for about 300 members. Anecdotally, each issue has been found to be read once before shelving or recycling.

As the content of each issue has focused on a variety of member submissions, fewer Austin-centric tabular resources (directories, census, etc.) have been printed; those have been shifted to the AGS website. The member benefit in question is not the hard-copy receipt of the Quarterly by a diverse membership; rather, the true value is the dissemination of one’s efforts to an audience outside central Texas.

Another substantial reason for the move is simple economics. Almost half of AGS’ budgeted operating expenses were directed towards publication printing and mailing, with increases expected annually. These funds can now be diverted to other services that increase the return for our members’ investment in the Society.

Baby steps

The transition to electronic-only publishing for AGS has been progressing for over fifteen years, since our first web presence in 1996. In 2002, we uploaded a table of contents for the prior ten years of the Quarterly. The following year we expanded those efforts to include a surname index for each issue. Both of these resources made the print copy far more useful for both members and remote researchers alike.

Since that time, we also placed our membership directory on our website behind a member’s only area for privacy concerns. Most recently the Society went entirely digital in the distribution of its monthly newsletter. In each case, the move made sense due to the timeliness of the material and the ability to update throughout the year as needed.

The move was not entirely seamless. Cultural inertia being what it is, a handful of members requested to continue receiving a print copy of each publication. In addition, there were some
minor technical challenges, such as file size and accessibility, which were quickly addressed by the editor. Two years in, the internet-only distribution of the newsletter is a great success and benefit for our members.

Putting our history online

In 2009, the Board of Directors initiated the digitization our entire run of Quarterlies, spanning almost 50 years from our inception in 1960. While performing the task in house was an option, it was decided the best route would be to have the work done commercially. This alleviated concerns regarding technical expertise, availability of volunteer effort and disposition of equipment when completed.

The project suffered a few starts and stops as a vendor was sought to complete the project. In the meantime, AGS volunteers prepped the materials by unbinding all 190 issues, verifying each was free of staples and paper damage, and separating each issue with a cover sheet.

Ultimately a local document scanning service was contracted to perform the scanning and optical character recognition (OCR) for less than 9 cents a page. Coincidentally the total processing cost per issue was close to the cost of printing and mailing a single copy in 2010.

About one week after delivering the documents to the vendor, AGS had a CD in hand. Each issue had been converted into a single Adobe PDF file. This very common format preserves the look of the original document as well as converts the contents into text format.

The entire set was then placed under the Quarterlies section of the AGS website. In addition, new issues are added as they are produced, thus providing a seamless series.

With that move, AGS made this wealth of material accessible from anywhere in the world at any time. The digital copies are even more useful than the originals since the collection is fully text searchable. In terms of portability, reproducibility and ease of use, the electronic edition is the superior product.

Copyright concerns

A primary concern heading into this project was one of copyright. Being mindful of the tremendous creative efforts involved, AGS did not want to infringe on the rights of its Quarterly contributors, past or present.

Some time was spent seeking out existing digitization efforts for precedent and reviewing copyright laws. Our understanding of the legalities suggests there are two copyright holders: the author of the original, individual article and the publisher of the collective work.

Even if there is no signed agreement, the author retains copyright to their submission. It is also assumed that the author is granting one-time publishing rights. Any other use of the individual article requires the author’s permission.

Alternately, the Society’s copyright covers each issue of the Quarterly in its entirety, but not the individual articles. By digitizing and sharing entire issues, rather than individual articles, AGS is providing an archive of this material within the scope of its copyrights.

Reception and next steps

A notice of the original proposal to eliminate print publishing garnered an overwhelmingly positive response. This included hearty endorsements by past AGS Board members, Presidents and Quarterly Editors.
Concerns expressed included the ability for members to opt for hard copies as needed, the reallocation of funds for tangible benefits and file sizes and download times.

The solution to these concerns has been in the form of educating the membership. Quite a number of members were not aware of the existence of the digitization project or the ease in which issues can be accessed. In addition, the PDF file uploaded as each issue is completed is the same file that had been sent to printers; this allows anyone to print a virtually identical product at their convenience.

Going forward, fewer than 15% of members polled have opted to continue receiving a print copy of the Quarterly. Over time the number of print copies to members is expected to decrease as familiarity and comfort with the new model increases. This will represent a savings of several thousand dollars annually by AGS. Part of this savings will be directed into delivering bound copies to more research institutions.

Removing print publication as a de facto component of membership dues better serves local members, distant members and future researchers. For local members, AGS can redirect these funds towards greater fee reductions to Society activities. AGS can, and should, digitize, transcribe and web-host more local records. In doing these things, the Society better serves all of its members and the greater genealogical community.
AGS 2011 Calendar of Events

14 June
Laptop Saturday, Austin History Center
“Breaking Brick Walls”

28 June, 7pm
AGS Monthly Meeting, Texas General Land Office, 1700 Congress Avenue
“Genealogical and Historical Resources at the Texas General Land Office,”
presented by James Harkins, Director of Public Services, TGLO
* 5:30 pm- Guided tour of the Texas General Land Office

26 July, 7pm
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive
Special Event- “Night at the Movies”

6 August
Laptop Saturday, Hampton Branch Library
“Using PERSI”

23 August, 7pm
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive
“Member to Member, ”
AGS Panel Discussion

27 September, 7pm
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive
“NARA Records at Fort Worth + More,”
presented by Aaron Holt

2-8 October
Research trip to Allen County Public Library, Ft. Wayne, Indiana

25 October, 7pm
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive
“From Behind Bars: Using Prison Records in Your Research”

12 November
Mini-Seminar Series, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive
presented by George G. Morgan

25 November, 7pm
AGS Monthly Meeting, Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Drive
“Thankful for Ancestors and Traditions”
The Story of Barnes, Cordills, Kimball and Philpot

Kay Boyd, transcriber

Recently I received a request for some research material. In the process of reading the newspapers from 1871-1873, I found this article that is very complete in the description of the crime, the accused and their fate. Maybe it’s a little too descriptive, but it is a great example of what you might find reading old newspapers. -Kay Boyd

The Daily Journal, Austin Texas, Monday Evening, April 16, 1873

City Items

The Execution

This place has been all excitement for some time past, on account of the contemplated execution of Lawson Kimball and G. W. Barnes, charged with murder and highway robbery, who were to have been executed last Friday, but, it being Good Friday, the Governor reprieved them until to-day.

The crime was committed in July, 1871, near this place and the facts are about thus: Two men by the name of Cordell, started from Hill county, in this State, to go to San Antonio to buy some horses; and on starting, told Lawson Kimball their intention, when he told them he wanted to go there too, so he would accompany them, he being a resident of Hill county also.

They quietly pursued their journey together for some days, when, for some reason best known to himself, Kimball left the party and went another way, and was not seen again and the party reached this vicinity, when he again joined them.

The Cordells had a man driving their wagon by the name of Philpot, and while the Cordells were in town enjoying themselves in company with Kimball, someone went to the wagon and murdered Philpot and carried off all the money the Cordells had brought along to buy horses with.

Despairing of ever recovering their loss they left for home, and chief among their consolers was their friend Kimball, who started back with them, but did not go far before he turned another way and left them.

Maj. W. E. Evans, who was at the time Marshal and Chief of Police of this place, suspected Kimball and had but little trouble in discovering his connection with Barnes, and as suspicious were entertained against both, he (Barnes) was arrested in one of the neighboring counties.

When Kimball was arrested he offered to turn State’s evidence, and said he and Barnes had been concerned in the affair, but though he was for getting the money yet and never intended to commit murder, and that Barnes had gone so contrary to agreement, and when search was made at Barnes’ house the money was found, there clearly proving Barnes’ connection with the while affair. When Barnes found it was clearly proved on him, he made an acknowledgement of the whole affair, but afterwards denied it again.

Kimball, after being confined in jail, lost faith in the promise of the District Attorney, to
protect him as State’s witness, and broke jail and was not again taken for months, but was finally recaptured in the Indian nation, at which time he killed a State policeman by the name of Stewart, and wounded a deputy sheriff by the name of Day.

After being taken he was brought to this place for trial where he and Barnes were both convicted. The case was carried to the Court of Appeals but the transcript of the proceedings in the case was not filed within the time prescribed by law and in the end that court refused to assume jurisdiction in the matter.

They murdered Joseph Philpot on the 22nd of July 1871 by shooting him in the right breast under the right nipple inflicting a wound an inch wide and ten inches deep, killing him instantly. They were convicted on the 23rd of October, and sentenced the 7th of March to be hanged on the 11th of April, but were reprieved as above stated.

Appearance of the men

Kimball is nearly six feet high with rather a long face, large blue eyes, dark skin and brown hair and traded in homes and other kinds of stock, and when visited in jail made the following statement

“I was born in Alabama but have been away from there sometime. I have been in the State only two years and made my home in Wise county. I was for a long time in the Indian Nation and moved from there to this State. I am a married man and have two children and am now twenty-nine years old. My family are now in Brenham, but their home is in Louisiana. I am charged with being implicated in the murder and robbery of Philpot, but I deny ever having had anything to do with it, and I knew nothing of it till after it was done.”

How was it you gave in testimony for the State?
“Well, I thought it would be best for me, and gave in testimony at the preliminary trial. I have been in jail now fourteen months, and am suffering from rheumatism. When arrested the last time the reason I resisted was, the men who came to arrest me said they wanted to search the wagon, and did not say anything about arresting me, and they having no uniform on I mistook them for a herd of thieves and as they insisted on searching, I made ready for war and the firing commenced on both sides. I shot and killed a policeman by the name of Stewart with my shotgun and wounded another many by the name of Day. The party then went off, and I left there too, but stopped about a mile away, where I was when the party came back and told me they had authority to arrest me. I made no further resistance, but surrendered myself up.”

Do you feel ready to die?
“Well, yes; I have no fears as to dying, but think my sentence is an unjust one.”

Have you made any provision for your family?
“Yes, I have provided for them”

Barnes is not so large a man as Kimball, has a small black eye, black hair and a round face, and is twenty-four years old.

“I was born in Tishamingo county, Miss., where I have a mother, two sisters and two brothers; I am not married; have lived in Texas for six years past, and have been engaged as a farmer; I am charged with the killing of one Philpot, but deny the charge.”

Did you not at one time acknowledge your guilt?
“Well, yes, but was frightened into doing so, thinking, perhaps, it would be for the best; but it is not true.”
Kimball seemed defiant, but Barnes was penitent, and does not seem a bad man at heart. Barnes is one of those men it is hard to tell anything about.

The Execution

From an early hour this morning the subject of absorbing interest and town talk was the hanging to take place of these men for the murder of Philpot. By 8 o’clock quite a crowd had, in spite of the cool north wind and wet ground, assembled in the neighborhood of the scaffold, and by 12 o’clock at least one thousand witnesses were situated as knitted their convenience or ideas of good observation points suggested.

At about 12:15 a carriage left the prison bearing the murderers to the gallows, and a crowd that had been assembled around the court house made a frantic rush for the gallows, pedestrians viewing with those on horseback in anxiety to reach the place first.

On ascending the gallows the prisoners walked with a firm step, through there was a restlessness of the eyes that bespoken nervous trepidation. Kimball, on reaching the platform, executed a sort of dancing shuffle, doubtless intended for effect upon the crowd. Barnes was dressed in a spotted shirt, with grey trousers and a blue cloth jacket buttoned over his breast. Kimball had on a thin striped shirt, a pair of course, yellowish pants and a dark woolen jacket. Kimball solaced himself with a chew of tobacco, and all through seemed as unconcerned as though he were about to cross the river instead of leaving these for the shore of eternity.

To the query had they anything to say, the prisoners replied no! And the attendants proceeded to fastened them preparatory to the execution. Their arms were pinioned to the elbows and the black caps drawn down over their faces, and Deputy Sheriff Stokes then proceeded to read them their death warrant.

At 12:51, to the second, the trap was dropped, amidst a breathless hush of the crowd. Barnes must have met his death speedily, for there was no painful death struggle, and the fall was about eight feet. Not so with Kimball; the knot in the rope slipped, and his body had to be lifted to a standing position while the rope was readjusted and he again dropped. Seven minutes of awful suspense were consumed in trying readjustment. Kimball’s neck in the second fall was dislocated at the atlas, producing instant death. Barnes’ neck was broken in the fall at the second cervical vertebra, and then passed from earth at the hands of avenging justice two men for a crime that at the time sent a shudder through the whole community. After the bodies had been suspended for about thirty minutes, they were cut down, examined by Dr Carrette, placed in the pine coffins previously prepared, and then carried in a wagon to the graveyard where they were buried.
Now You Tell Me, My Father’s Memoir

Richard Robertson

My dad wasn’t in a Family Memoirs Writing Class. But he was an active and prolific letter writer. I have many letters he wrote to me while away at college and in military service. And I have a collection of postcards he sent to his family in the early 1900's.

In the absence of memoirs we rely on oral history from our loved ones and I did learn some things about his past from sketchy stories. But he was not loquacious and in my senior years I have yearned to know more about his early life. Help has come from my late mother by way of my niece, Cordelia, daughter of my late sister.

Mother was an amateur genealogist when letter writing was the principal means of gathering family information and she wrote and saved carbon copies of the mass volume of correspondence generated. She also saved all manner of newspaper clippings, bulletins, photos, letters received, books and paraphernalia. My sister inherited all of these and they ended up in her cottage at Grace Presbyterian Village in South Oak Cliff. Cordelia, “Dee Dee”, periodically finds something in all the boxes etc that she thinks I might want and brings it to me. And some of these “treasures” are mind-boggling rich. The WWI Diary of my father revealed more than I could have ever imagined about him, his experiences, and a personal story of the War.

Recently she brought a new “treasure” from the past. It was a 3” thick, 11 ¼ by 12 ¼, heavy duty cardboard file box with the word “Letters” on the spine. These file boxes were commonly used in offices and homes for many years before the computer age. Inside were many treasures, including love letters from my dad to my mother, correspondence to mother’s Aunt Sue and our young family, and the makings of my dad’s memoir to me!

I knew that my dad was the only one of eight siblings of Norwegian Farm family Wisconsin parents who went to college. And I knew that he first went to school at Galesville, Wisconsin. Ten years ago I contacted the archivist office of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America seeking any information as to his attendance at Gale College. They were able to send me a copy of a picture of the class of 1913 and a list of members of the class of 1910, both including him. That was the extent of anything I had relating to Gale College other than old snapshots that were either there or at Park Region Luther College where he attended in 1913-14.

Galesville, Wisconsin is in western Wisconsin, just across the Mississippi river from Minnesota. It is in Trempealeau County which became somewhat famous when, in 1886 a
Methodist preacher name D.O. Van Slyke wrote a book entitled “Found at Last. The Veritable Garden of Eden” in which he describes that area as the place that answers the Bible description better than anything yet discovered. His statue is near the town square and there is currently an organization entitled the Garden of Eden Preservation Society.

The town as well as the college was named after Judge George Gale. It was chartered in 1854 and first operated by the Methodist Episcopal Church, then the Presbyterian Church, and in 1901 transferred to the Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church. In 1910 it was probably more like a junior college as we know about them. In 1939 it was closed permanently after mounting debts.

He did not leave after that graduation and obviously continued with the predominant curriculum of a junior college of liberal arts. The November Pennant indicates he is the President of the Junior Class and has a full page article written by him entitled “Gale College Fifty Years Ago.” He gave a brief history, subjects taught, places from whence students came, and credentials of the faculty. Apparently my socially shy father was rather outgoing in his younger years. A write-up of one program said “A good program was given by the Juniors, the class President Mr. Robertson giving us an address of welcome in the brogue of a newcomer... Mr. Robertson was toastmaster and conducted his duties in the Norwegian language. All the toasts were given in Norwegian, which was very appropriate on such an occasion.”

I had always wondered where he got the nickname “Deacon.” I knew it was at some time when he was in college because when he was later at St Olaf College he received a post card addressed to “Deacon, Northfield, Minnesota” which I still have. So the Pennant article regarding “The Juniors of 1912” calls him “Deacon.” Also in that class was Paul Bjerring, his lifelong friend who later operated a farm in Wisconsin that we visited in 1935. We have some Gale College 1910 Richard Robertson Art Hanson and “Deacon” letters between the two of them in the early thirties when Paul had built a radio on which he hoped...
to hear the broadcast attempt to reach Europe from WFAA in Dallas when my mother was one of the soloists. Now I know the connection. Another connection I discovered was classmate Arthur Hanson whose name was written on the back of a picture with my dad. We now know the picture was at Gale College.

As a senior, Dad became the Editor of the Pennant and graduated as the Valedictorian. His speech was published and said what is normally expected at graduation. In part he said “......Fellow members of the class of ’13, after these days of toil comes the parting time. To part with you is like leaving brothers and sisters. Our companionship at Gale is at an end. It has certainly been a most pleasant and agreeable one. As we are leaving the doors of the school behind and entering upon our future, we feel how inadequate words are in expressing our appreciation of what the school has done for us.......” Etc, etc. Interestingly the “Graduates Directory” lists his ambition as “Mechanical Engineer”, a far cry from “Banker” in 1910 and his ultimate career as a Tax Auditor.

Thanks to my Mother’s sense of history and family, the Gale College era of my Dad has been revealed. He went on to Park Region Luther College, graduated from St Olaf College, and went to Law School at the University of Wisconsin. Would that I had recordings of some of his stories from those days!

![Class of 1913](image-url)
### Person and Travel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person and Travel</th>
<th>Date, page and column</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A J Larmour, P C Taylor, A W Terrell, John P C Whitehead, J H Houghton and wife and Francis William Taylor, pianist, returned; Col and Mrs Charles Anderson leave, Miss Aukaus, Mrs Bissell, Mrs C S Lewis and Miss Shepherd will travel to New York</td>
<td>1879, May 25, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R A Chadwick and wife, Alderman Metz and mother and T W Folts return; Mr Loe leaves for Galveston</td>
<td>1879, May 27 2:2, 3:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pardue and family left for New York</td>
<td>1879, May 28, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Clark and wife [M P (xxx) Clark] left for Waco, Cora Dunham left for San Antonio</td>
<td>1879, May 29, 4:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Gok was employed by Mr Paggi, left for New Mexico</td>
<td>1879 May 30, 4:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Sauer and Mrs Thompson gone north for the summer, Lee Shryock and Max Fehrmann returned</td>
<td>1879, May 31, 4:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrie Campbell left for Galveston</td>
<td>1879, Jun 1, 4:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Killough left for Palestine</td>
<td>1879, Jun 1, 4:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prof Cotton left for Houston, will return next fall</td>
<td>1879, Jun 1, 4:5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Wright and Mrs Tate left for Detroit</td>
<td>1879, Jun 3, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judge Denny returned from Rio Grande</td>
<td>1879, Jun 3, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T D Jones, C C Mitchell and J P Jones have gone rusticating</td>
<td>1849, Jun 5, 4:3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A J Evans left for Waco, John D Templeton returned, E W Edgar returned, P R DeLashmutt to go East</td>
<td>1879, Jun 8, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allie Jackson returned</td>
<td>1879, Jun 10, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F W Hamilton left for Leadville</td>
<td>1879, Jun 11, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm Brueggerehoff and wife left for Hot Springs</td>
<td>1879, Jun 13, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mrs Cohen gone to Galveston, Bettie Johnson returned from there</td>
<td>1879, Jun 14, 4:4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mr. Newton and family leave for Detroit, James Spence left for Scotland, Edward F Cullen goes to N Y</td>
<td>1879, Jun 17, 4:3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Charles Heidenheimer arrived from Galveston, Mrs. Phil Meyer left for Europe, John Bremond and family will leave for North, several families left for Pedernales for fishing trip, Mr Driskill and family left for Kansas, Emil Potosky left for N Y, Mrs. Haynie and daughter Maggie Haynie returned from San Antonio, Winter Goodloe and family and Newton Walton and family left together for a vacation

1879, Jun 18, 4:3
T H Bowman of State Dept gone to Galveston
Mrs Thomas Pilgrim left for Washington City, John S Myrick left for Baltimore
Wm J Horton to go to N Y
C G Hubbard going to Chicago, Tom Jones returned from Llano, Robert S Grant to go to N Y, C C Chaplin to address Freemansons in Mexia, Cadets Guy Carleton and Britton Davis home from West Point, N P Strayhorn and W S Johnson returned from Colorado

W T Castles left for Houston. Mrs Pierson to go to Montreal, Mollie Whitis returns from Pennsylvania, Thaddeus Bell, son of Judge James H Bell returned from Philadelphia, Mr Van Devere and wife go to New Jersey

Mr and Mrs Van Devere leave, George B Zimpelman left for El Paso, Gen J B Jones and wife left for Palestine
Mrs Walter Tips returned from trip, Gen J B Jones and wife returned with Miss Tilly Anderson
John A Webb left for North, Kittie Crow to visit her father's ranch
Mrs M Wilson to go to Chicago
J B McGill in Brown county
Mrs Caldwell and daughter Mrs Pope went to Waco, Vincent Chambers goes to Muscatine, W. H. Bell to go to frontier, John McDonald to go to Paris, E. H. Quick to move to Galveston
Adolphus Rutherford returned from Georgia, C C Mitchell, Jack Johns and Charles Thorn return from Llano, O R Erwin returned

H Melasky and Joe Day returned, E W Carleton returned from San Antonio, Wm Brueggerhoff back from East, Mrs E E Erwin, Mr Jeff Erwin and wife , Lillie Erwin, Bessie Greenwood, John Calloway and John Evans returned from 2 weeks in San Gabriel

Kate McDill went to Chicago, Grace Greenwood returned from Waco, Lena Bahn returned from Bastrop, families of Major W M Walton and Winter Goodloe returned from vacation, Charley W Green, son of John A Green, returned from Ann Arbor, Michigan

John Wooldridge back from Kendall county
Henry Barnhart returned from San Antonio, G W Bird, Bertram and Moeller left, Mrs A M Jackson, daughters, Florence Jackson and Clara Jackson and Lida Smith left for Missouri, E H Quick leaves
J J Walter returned from Gillespie and Mason counties
Kittie Crow returned
Judge Terrell and Gen Shelley to Georgetown, Mr Wise gone fishing, Walter Caldwell and Tom Collins left together 1879, 15, 4:3

Dr Rutherford on boarder quarantine, Vincent Chambers in Iowa 1879, Jul 16, 2:2

Dr Grant’s professional tour 1879, Jul 16, 3:2

Mr Vineyard and wife have returned, are living in Honey Church, Rev T B Lee and wife are back, Dr Frank Rainey left for Palestine 1879, Jul 16, 4:3

F B Forster left for Galveston, Stilwell H Russell returned, Mrs. Dave Wooldridge returned from New Orleans, H W Moeller left for Galveston, families of Mr. J C Cooper and Mr. Bloor left for Pittsburg 1879, Jul 17, 4:4

James Tulley to Ft Concho, Dudley Wooten to Georgetown, John Nagle returns from Leadville 1879, Jul 18, 4:3

J C Gaither to Falls Co, Atty Gen McCormick to visit old home, Hon R Q Mills and Miss Lillie A Anderson in Corsicana, Comptroller Darden to New York 1879, Jul 19, 4:2

Mrs J S Myrick returned from So Carolina, Mr C G Hubbard left for New York and Boston, Wm Bell with Bertram and Moeller returns from frontier 1879, Jul 20, 4:4

W F Castles returned from Houston, J P C Whitehead, attorney for Mr Nalle, went to Georgetown, T B Cater left for Lampasas for his health, C W White and Misses Bruch to Lampasas, H. B. Barnhart returns from Lampasas 1879, Jul 22, 4:3

A H Crow to New York, Capt Grant and family to New York, Hannah Landa and Miss Palm went north, Madame and Monsieur Carlin to Europe, Gen Shelley, J F Oatman, A W Terrell went to Georgetown, Ernest Krohn to Europe, Abe Williams to the frontier, W F North to Paris 1879, Jul 23, 4:3

J B Jones left, Dennis Corwin returned from Georgetown, D W Jones goes to New York, Robert Grant went to Ohio. 1879 Jul 24, 4:4

Mrs C R Beaty and daughter Mittie Beaty return from Sour Lake. 1879, Jul 25, 3:3
Descendants of Col. Stephen Edward Monaghan UNDERHILL

Jo Ann Rowley-Minhoto

1-Col. Stephen Edward Monaghan UNDERHILL
    born 9 Nov 1841, Dunse/Duns, Berwick County, Scotland
    bap. 11 Oct 1842, Dunse/Duns, Berwick County, Scotland
    died 6 Feb 1904, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    buried 7 Feb 1904, Austin, Travis County, Texas in Texas State Cemetery
+Bessie Gaines LIPSCOMB
    born 18 Oct 1846, Gay Hill, Washington or Fayette County, Texas
    died 8 Aug 1910, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    buried 10 Aug 1910, Austin, Travis County, Texas in Texas State Cemetery
    married 25 Aug 1868, Washington County, Texas
    parents William Bibb LIPSCOMB and Elizabeth (Mrs Hunt) ?WF-WMB-LIPSCOMB

. . 2-Emily Gordon UNDERHILL
    born 23 Aug 1870, Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama
    died 5 Jun 1919, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    buried 6 Jun 1919, Austin, Travis County, Texas in Oakwood (old) Cemetery
+Lewis Jury HOLT
    born 22 Nov 1873, Alabama
    died Dec 1939,
    married 30 May 1898, Travis County, Texas
    parents William Bolling HOLT and Ada Elvira HOLT

. . . 3-Mildred Gordon HOLT
    born 27 May 1898, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    died 25 Aug 1981, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    buried Capital Memorial Park, Pflugerville, Travis County, Texas
+Clarence Alvin ROWLEY Sr.
    born 31 Aug 1895, Peoria, Peoria County, Illinois
    died 7 Apr 1978, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    buried Capital Memorial Park, Pflugerville, Travis County, Texas
    married 10 Mar 1917, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    parents Ezra Haas ROWLEY and Sadie GOEBEL

. . . . 4-Clarence Alvin ROWLEY Jr.
. . . . 4-James Melborn ROWLEY Sr.
    born 24 May 1920, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    died 23 Apr 1999, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    buried Capital Memorial Park, Pflugerville, Travis County, Texas
. . . . . . 4-Evelyn Miriam ROWLEY
. . . . . . 4-Gene Gordon ROWLEY
    born 21 Aug 1926, Austin, Travis County, Texas
    died 24 Feb 2006, Austin, Travis County, Texas
buried Capital Memorial Park, Pflugerville, Travis County, Texas

. . . 2-Nellie UNDERHILL
  born 15 Oct 1878, Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama
  died 1 Feb 1961, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  buried Aft 1 Feb 1961, Austin Memorial Park Cemetery, Austin, Travis County, Texas

. . . +Thomas Alexander BAGNAL
  born 22 Mar 1875, Elmira, New York
  died 8 Apr 1946, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  buried Austin Memorial Park Cemetery, Austin, Travis County, Texas
  married 3 Oct 1896, New Orleans, Orleans County, Louisiana
  parents John BAGNAL and Mary BURNS

. . . . . . . 3-Thelma BAGNAL
  born 31 Aug 1898, Texas
  baptized 26 Dec 1898, Austin, Travis County, Texas
  died 26 Mar 1980, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas

. . . . . +Sidney Patrick STUBBS
  born 9 Apr 1897, Texas
  died 16 Aug 1978, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  married Abt 1923, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  parents Theodore Baytog/p STUBBSSrand Kate CONNOLLY

. . . . . . . 4-Norma STUBBS
  born 14 Dec 1927, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  died 24 Jun 2009, Yuba City, Sutter County, California
  buried Galveston, Galveston County, Texas in Calvary Cemetery

. . . . . 4-Jack STUBBS
  born 8 Mar 1930, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  died 26 Jan 2000, Houston, Harris County, Texas
  buried Galveston, Galveston County, Texas in Calvary Cemetery

. . . . . 4-Sidney P. STUBBS Jr.
  born 12 Dec 1924, Galveston, Galveston County, Texas
  died 10 Jun 1994, Yuba City, Sutter County, California
  buried Galveston, Galveston County, Texas in Calvary Cemetery

. . . . . . . 4-Thomas Bagnal STUBBS

. . . . . . . 3-Mary Ellen BAGNAL
  born 1903
  died 7 Jun 1973, Austin, Travis County, Texas
  buried Aft 7 Jun 1973, Austin Memorial Park Cemetery, Austin, Travis County, Texas

. . . . . . . 3-Thomas BAGNAL

. . . . . . . 3-Nellie BAGNAL
  born Feb 1901, Austin, Travis County, Texas
  died 16 Dec 1901, Austin, Travis County, Texas
2-Percy Walker UNDERHILL
born 23 Aug 1869, Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama
died 23 Apr 1943, Austin, Travis County, Texas
buried Aft 23 Apr 1943, Austin Memorial Park Cemetery, Austin, Travis County, Texas.

+.Blanche J. SULLIVAN
born 1869, New Orleans, Orleans County, Louisiana
died by 1900
married 3 Nov 1890, Orleans Parish, Louisiana

3-Edward M UNDERHILL "Jr"
born 31 Jul 1891, Virginia
died 26 Dec 1951, McLennan County, Texas
buried Galveston, Galveston County, Texas in Calvary Cemetery

+Anna ?MOTHER-LRICKELMAN

3-Percy Walker UNDERHILL Jr
born 13 Nov 1892, Louisiana
died 15 Dec 1969, San Diego, San Diego County, California

3-Lucille B UNDERHILL
born Aug 1895, Louisiana

+.Oliver A ROWSEY
born Abt 1896, Arkansas
died 3 Dec 1957, Bell County, Texas
married Bef 1920, Texas

+.John HAMMERMAN Jr.
born 5 Dec 1892
died 25 Aug 1972, Houston, Harris County, Texas
married 1Sep 1920, Houston, Harris County, Texas

+.Will M WARD
born Abt 1891, Louisiana
married Aft 1920

2-Walter/Walker Lipscomb UNDERHILL
born 27 Nov 1874, Mobile, Mobile County, Alabama
died 13 Sep 1949, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas
buried Aft 13 Sep 1949, Houston, Harris County, Texas in Washington Cemetery

+.Georgia C CROWDER
born 15 Jan 1875, Caddo Parish, Louisiana
died 3 May 1963, Houston, Harris County, Texas
buried Aft 3 May 1963, Houston, Harris County, Texas in Washington Cemetery
married Abt 1902
parents George W CROWDER and Mary Elizabeth BALDWIN

2-5th-child UNDERHILL born 1872 or 1876
The Funeral of La Du Jim

La Du Jim, a Chinaman, thirty-one years of age, died in this city, of dropsy, and was buried in the city cemetery yesterday afternoon about one o’clock. As this was the first Chinese funeral on record in our city, a reporter of the Statesman was present to note the quaint ceremonies. Rushes were burned slowly from the time of death until the burial, at deceased’s late residence. As soon as the remains were placed in the coffin, the deceased’s personal apparel and all his money were also placed in it. In the funeral procession, besides a nice hearse and fine carriages, was a conveyance containing the bedstead, bedding, wash tub, chairs and personal effects of Jim, and when the grave was reached, and the corpse was being taken from the hearse, the goods were piled up together near the grave and set on fire and burned up. After this a basket was produced containing a baked chicken, piece of cooked fresh pork, a teapot full of tea, a tin bucket full of rice, a bowl, a cup, a flask of whiskey and two chop sticks. The contents were deposited at the foot of the grave, and the coffin lowered. Rushes and wax candles were then stuck in the ground around the foot of the grave, as was the head board and a lot of Chinese paper, with characters inscribed on each piece. The head board was about five feet high and six inches wide. The rushes, paper and candles were lit, and, while burning, one Chinaman took a piece of wax and held it to a candle until it was heated and then rubbed it over the Chinese characters on the head board, and another opened the whisky, poured some in the cup and bowl, and then sprinkled it around all the things at the foot of the grave. When the light had burned to the ground, all the things at the foot of the grave except the head board were deposited in the grave, at the foot, and then all walked about six paces from the grave and stood with their backs to it till it was filled in, after which, they took their carriages and returned to the city. Nothing that was taken to the graveyard returned to the city, not even the basket that contained the eatables. The head board was placed at the head of the grave as a mark for the last resting place of La Du Jim. Austin Daily Statesman, Wednesday, April 26, 1882, p4.

An Impressive Burial

The Remains of Jos Jacobs Laid to Rest in the Silent City

The funeral of Jos. Jacobs, which took place yesterday morning, was one of the most impressive ever held in the city. During Mr. Jacobs’ illness he was tenderly watched over by the Knights of Pythias of Austin, he being a member of the local lodge of that order.

When death overtook him, his remains were placed in charge of the uniform rank of the Knights of Pythias, under the regulation of which rank two members, in full uniform stood guard duty constantly over them day and night until the hour of the funeral arrived.

Yesterday morning at 10 a.m. the last sad rites were begun by Rabbi Levi, who in an
eloquent and touching discourse opened the services, after which the body in charge of the uniformed rank Knights of Pythias, was conveyed to its final resting place.

The funeral cortège was long and imposing. Headed by the Capital City band, the Austin Volunteer Fire department, of which organization Mr. Jacobs was an active member, led the way to the Jewish cemetery. Following them and immediately in front of the hearse marched the Uniformed Band, Knights of Pythias, while around the hearse was a body-guard, composed of fireman and Knights.

At the grave the services were conducted by Chas H. Shaw, acting prelate of the Knights of Pythias, according to the impressive ritual of that order.

In the death of Mr. Jacobs, Austin loses an energetic and upright citizen the Knights of Pythias, the Austin fire department and the Knights of Honor a faithful and loyal member and to the sorrow brother of the deceased heartfelt sympathy is extended. Austin Daily Statesman, Monday, November 28, 1898. P3

Mrs. Garland Funeral

One of the most remarkable funerals ever witnessed in Austin took place at the First Presbyterian church yesterday afternoon. Reference is made to the funeral of the late Mrs. E. M. W. Garland, who had long been a member of that church. The west side of the auditorium was filled with colored people, the old friends and former pupils of Mrs. Garland, with a large delegation from Tillotson college. The center of the church was given to the Mexicans, the younger pupils of the school taught by the deceased sitting near the coffin as chief mourners, while the east side of the church was filled with white friends. The services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. R. B. Wright, assisted by Rev. M. R. Gaines, the president of Tillotson college. The pallbearers were Messrs. J. M. Vredenburgh, Ira H. Evans, J. M. Peacock, J. W. Graham, Frank Heierman and John Granger.

The Mexican friends followed the hearse on foot to the cemetery. In addition to the usual services at the grave, a devout Mexican woman offered prayer in Spanish and the Mexican children sang the hymn “Is My Name Written There” in the same language. The body was buried on a lot belonging to the family of the late Judge James H. Bell. There was something intensely pathetic about all the services. Evidently the large number of people of difference races present desired to show their honor to the memory of a noble self-sacrificing Christian woman. Austin Daily Statesman, Monday, February 3, 1902, p6.
The Second World War produced some of the most horrific American casualties in the history of the United States military, second only to the internal bloodletting of the Civil War. Between 1941 and 1945, some 405,333 U.S. servicemen died either directly from combat (291,557 deaths) or other causes (113,842 deaths from accidents or disease occurring in non-combat zones). Another 670,846 servicemen were wounded, and 30,314 went missing. Shortly after the war, the United States War Department rendered an accounting of all known Army and Army Air Corps casualties. In early 1946, it published a series of state casualty lists under the collective title, *World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing Army and Army Air Forces Personnel*. These state booklets, now part of the holdings of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), provide information about individual servicemen, including numerous residents from Austin, Texas, who paid the ultimate sacrifice during the greatest war of the twentieth century.

The *World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing* was based on information compiled by the Strength Accounting Branch of the Administrative Services Division in the Adjutant General’s Office of the War Department. Intended mainly for the benefit of next-of-kin, but also for consumption by public officials, the press, broadcast radio, and patriotic organizations who would “find these lists of value in establishing or checking honor rolls in their communities,” the lists contained the latest data available on military casualties sustained between May 27, 1941, the date when President Franklin D. Roosevelt declared a state of national emergency in response to the growing war in Europe, and January 1, 1946. Realizing that mistakes and omissions would likely occur during the accounting process, the Casualty Branch of the Adjutant General’s Office, as well as various Machine Records Units, carefully checked and proof-read the compiled data to reduce errors to a minimum. Because the casualty reports were released so soon after the end of the war, however, the War Department realized they were preliminary in nature; they therefore intended to publish a final compilation at a future date.

Most of the persons listed as missing in the state reports had disappeared less than a year prior to the publication of the *Honor List*. The War Department anticipated that some of the missing would return and others declared dead as more information became available. The physical search for missing persons, which went on during the war, was expanded after the collapse of enemy resistance, but the War Department still proved reluctant to assure next of kin that any missing personnel was still alive at the time the casualty lists were published. The loss of official records during the war, such as at Corregidor in 1942 and during the counteroffensive following the Battle of the Bulge in 1944–45, compounded verification efforts. Also, Red Cross workers and other civilians serving with the Army were excluded from the official tabulations, since
reporting procedures for civilians differed from that for military personnel.\footnote{iii}

In compiling the actual data, the War Department followed specific guidelines regarding the types of information to include (or exclude). The Department elected not to publish the home town of the deceased individuals. Instead, they listed the dead by county of residence, based on the home address provided by the serviceman at the time of enlistment.\footnote{iv} If a soldier gave no personal address, but instead listed a beneficiary, next of kin\footnote{³} either of whom had to be a near relative—or an emergency contact who was a close friend, then he was listed in the respective county of the submitted address. In cases where soldiers (such as temporary aliens) provided no permanent or emergency address, the individual was listed under the location of his local draft board. Regular Army personnel who moved from place to place per the requirements of their service were often listed as residents of the District of Columbia. When it proved absolutely impossible to determine a county of residence, such individuals were listed under the heading “State at large.”\footnote{v}

The World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing is part of the Records of the Adjutant General’s Office, 1917– (Record Group 407), and is held in the custody of the Archives II Reference Section (NWCT2R), Textual Archives Services Division, at the National Archives at College Park, Maryland. Digital copies of the publications for all fifty states are also located online. On the National Archives web site, the Honor List of Dead and Missing can be accessed through the Archival Research Catalog (ARC) database at www.archives.gov/research/arc by searching ARC identifier 305276, which directs researchers to an archival description of the textual records as well as a tab to load the digital copies. Researchers may also follow a direct link to the digital casualty information on NARA’s World War II Records page at www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2. Elsewhere, the Honor List is also available (free of charge) on the Access Genealogy web site at www.accessgenealogy.com/worldwar.

The published volumes are arranged by state and then by county, then alphabetically by the name of the deceased. Including only servicemen who died in the line of duty, the casualty lists provide basic information about each deceased soldier, including his name, serial number, grade, and type of casualty. Servicemen who perished in combat—including those bombarded in prison camps while being held as prisoners of war, or shot trying to escape—were designated as “killed in action” (KIA). Persons wounded who later died were listed as “died of wounds” (DOW), while those who suffered other fatal battle injuries (as opposed to wounds) were labeled “died of injuries” (DOI). Deaths from sickness, suicide, homicide, or accidents that occurred outside combat areas (including training and maneuver deaths) were identified as “died non-battle” (DNB).\footnote{vi} The entries unfortunately do not identify the individual’s combat unit, or date and location of death.

The casualty lists also did not distinguish between branch of service (Army or Army Air Forces), but the serial numbers of the deceased provided some useful clues. Enlisted men received a seven or eight-digit serial number, while other personnel were assigned prefixed numbers. Regular Army enlistees who entered the service prior to the draft received a seven-digit or lower serial number beginning with 6 or 7. Others who enlisted in the U.S. Army at the start of hostilities bore eight-digit numbers beginning with 1, while men called into federally recognized National Guard units were
assigned eight-digit numbers beginning with 2. Selective Service inductees or enlistees received an eight-digit number that started with 3 or 4. Prefixed serial numbers for other enlisted personnel started with a designated letter: O for male commissioned officers; W for male warrant officers; T for flight officers in the Army Air Forces; L for commissioned officers in the Women’s Army Corps; V for WAC warrant officers; A for WAC enlisted women; R for hospital dieticians; and M for physical therapy aides.

According to the *Honor List*, Texas contained 4.78 per cent of the national population in 1940, just prior to U.S. entry into World War II. Texas contributed 5 per cent of its population to the total number of men who enlisted or were inducted into the U.S. Army. Of that number, 2.91 per cent (15,764) failed to return from the war, representing 4.72 per cent of the Army’s total dead and missing. Travis County suffered 231 casualties during the war, included 113 killed in action, 10 died of wounds, 83 non-battle deaths, 1 missing, and 23 who were also declared dead under Public Law 490, which permitted missing persons to be reclassified as deceased if there was “an absence of presumptive proof of continued existence.” Enlisted privates sustained the greatest losses (86 dead), followed by officers (78 dead, including 64 lieutenants, 10 captains, 1 major, and 3 lieutenant colonels) and noncommissioned officers (13 corporals, 41 sergeants, and 8 technicians died). Five members of the Army Air Forces also died, including 2 flight officers and 3 aviation cadets. Pfc. Evelyn McBride of the Women’s Army Corps represented the only female from Travis County killed in the war.

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iii Ibid.

iv The War Department selected the county as the basic level of organization for two reasons: 1) information media (chiefly newspapers) typically circulated at the county level, and 2) draft boards were located on a county-population basis. See Ibid.

v Ibid.

vi Ibid.

vii Ibid.

viii Ibid. Missing persons reclassified as deceased received a “finding of death” (FOD) designation, which allowed the administrative aspects of death to take place (such as the probate of wills, payment of debts and life insurance, and distribution of government benefits).
### WWII Army and Army Air Forces Casualties:

**Travis County, Texas**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Serial Number</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Type of Casualty</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abadie, Robert A.</td>
<td>6296091</td>
<td>Staff Sergeant</td>
<td>FOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alley, Archie D. Jr.</td>
<td>O-709716</td>
<td>First Lieutenant</td>
<td>DNB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allison, Oscar A.</td>
<td>38159596</td>
<td>Corporal</td>
<td>DNB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson, Rufus C.</td>
<td>O-665754</td>
<td>1st Lieutenant</td>
<td>DNB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anderson, Van M. Jr.</td>
<td>38454057</td>
<td>Sergeant</td>
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