



German-Texan Heritage Society

German Genealogy Seminar – March 14, 2009

Founded 1978

SPEAKERS

Liz Nitschke Hicks is a fourth-generation Texan, descending from German ancestors of Austin, Washington, and Travis Counties. She is the genealogy editor for the German-Texan Historical Society, a past president of Clayton Library Friends, and the founder and manager of the Angel Program for CLF. She has written several articles on using genealogical records that have been published in the *CLF Newsletter*. Liz is also a past contributing editor for “Tree Talk,” the publication of the Cherokee County Genealogical Society.

Joshua Haaland is an editorial assistant in the Baylor University Institute for Oral History. He holds a BA in History from Willamette University and is currently a second-year master’s student in history at Baylor. His ultimate goal is to earn a doctorate in medieval European history. Joshua is also interested in German-Texan history, has studied the treatment of German-Texans during World War I, and has conducted oral history interviews of people from Aleman, a small, German-heritage community in Hamilton County.

Michael L. Toon earned a BA in History and Speech from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1971. After working in the Kilgore schools for five years as a speech and hearing therapist, Michael earned an MA in History from SFA. He then worked for several years for the Texas Youth Commission and earned a Master of Library and Information Science Degree from the University of Texas in 1985. He was employed by the University of Texas Library System for a brief period before he came to Baylor University, where he currently is a member of the faculty and serves as Librarian for the Texas Collection.

Andy Harwell is a graduate of Baylor University, where he earned a Bachelor of Business Administration. He was elected County Clerk of McLennan County in 1994 and continues to serve in that position. Andy is very active in civic affairs and serves on numerous boards and committees at both the local and state levels. In addition, he has instituted several modernization programs in his office, helping to move the office toward paperless operation. In 2000, Andy was nominated County Clerk of the Year by Area V of the County and District Clerks Association of Texas.

Bill Buckner is a fifth-generation Texan who received a BS in Music from Southwestern University and an MS in Library Science from the University of North Texas. Bill is a sought-after speaker for service and historical organizations and is currently working with the Central Texas Area Museum in Salado as a speaker and moderator for its semiannual genealogy workshops. Active in state and national professional library associations, Bill has served as chair of several genealogy committees. With over 18 years of professional experience as a librarian, he has worked for the last 10 years at the Waco-McLennan County Library and currently is the Manager of the Periodicals/Genealogy Division.