

DAUGHTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS
ALAMO COLLECTION COMMITTEE
March 19, 2015

The March meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. in the boardroom of the downtown Broadway Bank.

Members attending were Connie Impelman, Chair, GayNell Wells, CeCe Cheever, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, and Kay Myers. Also attending were Advisor Elaine Davis, Library Director Leslie Stapleton, Melinda Tomerlin, Executive Administrator of the Alamo. Members with excused absences were Susan Reidesel, Laura Beavers, Nancy Marion, and Florence Dodington. In the absence of Secretary Marion, minutes of the meeting were recorded by GayNell Wells.

Chairman Impelman offered an invocation and declared a quorum.

The minutes were approved as emailed.

Library Director Stapleton filed the attached report and updates regarding various meetings and visitors to the Library.

“First Saturday” volunteer positions continue to be filled by DRT members for the Alamo Research Center.

Melinda Tomerlin reported on recent notice of changes at the Alamo.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

The Committee will meet again on April 9, 2015 at 10:00 am.

Connie Impelman, Chair

GayNell Wells for Nancy Marion, Secretary

DRT Library Collection
Monthly Report
from
Leslie Stapleton, Director
March 19, 2015

On Tuesday, January 20th I went to the Igo branch of the San Antonio Public Library System to present a talk about the research center and its resources to the Igo Genealogy Group. There were about 20 people in attendance. They were quite interested, and several indicated that they would be making appointments soon to use our resources.

On Saturday, February 7th we were open as an exhibit for First Saturday. In honor of Valentines Day our special display theme was "Making a Tender of my Hand and Heart," which showcased several love letters, photographs, and Valentines from the collection. We hosted 1,081 visitors during the day. We would like to thank Deana Dack, and Tim, Kamala, and Molly Lewis our volunteer docents for the day. We appreciate their time in helping us protect the collection while we showcase it for the public.

On Wednesday, February 18th Ms Tomerlin and Dr. Winders hosted an after-hours tour for about 12 guests. One of them was a direct descendant of Daniel Cloud's brother, who asked specifically if he would be able to see the letter. The group came over and I showed and discussed the Cloud letter. Additionally I showed the Maverick Declaration. The descendant was quite pleased, and I gave him a copy of the transcript of the letter.

On Tuesday, March 3rd we hosted a group of five seventh graders from a private school in Fredericksburg. We led them in a document discussion revolving around several primary resource documents in our collection.

On Friday, March 6th while we remained open as a research facility, we provided a small display of Alamo and Texas Revolution related documents in honor of the anniversary of the battle. Approximately 700 individuals visited the research center to view the items on display.

On Saturday, March 7th we were open as an exhibit for First Saturday. In honor of the anniversary of the fall of the Alamo our entire display was focused on resources documenting the Texas Revolution and the battle of the Alamo. We hosted 1,081 visitors during the day. We would like to thank Tim and Kamala Lewis our volunteer docents for the day. We appreciate their time in helping us protect the collection while we showcase it for the public.

Professional meetings and events attended this past month were the Bexar Library Association (BLA) meeting, at Cox and Smith Law firm in downtown San Antonio, the Grand Opening of the Texas A&M San Antonio library's special collections reading room, and the San Antonio Regional Archivists (SARA) meeting at the McNay Museum.

Copies of photographs and art in the library collections have been reproduced in several recently published books and a copy of each book added to the library collections.

Dr. Donald S. Frazier, of McMurry University, Abilene, reproduced 10 images from the Morgan Wolfe Merrick journal and drawing collection in his book, *Blood on the Bayou*, published by State House Press, a program of the McWhiney History Education Group. Dr. Frazier signed and delivered a copy of his book in March 2015. Lewis Fisher, Maverick Publishing, reproduced the library's early photograph of the Commerce Street bridge, ca. 1861, in his beautiful new book on the San Antonio River titled *American Venice: the Epic Story of San Antonio's River*, and provided a complimentary copy in January 2015.

Dr. Marian Martinello, retired UTSA professor, used a copy of the carte-de-visite of Sadie Thornhill in the Grandjean Collection in her young adult novel, *Chile Queen: Mi Historia*, published by TCU Press. The library received a complimentary copy in February 2015. Mary Carolyn Hollers George reproduced 3 photographs of the River Road Country Day School in her book about Rosengren's bookstore, *Rosengren's Books: An Oasis for Mind and Spirit*, published by Wings Press, in San Antonio. The photographs had been given to the library by Mrs. George from Frank Duane's collection. The library received a signed copy of the book in January 2015.

Imogen Cooper used a photograph from the collections for the National Register nomination of the Trueheart Ranch, in February 2015. The photograph is of a group at the ranch, including Fred Goeth, Trueheart grandchildren, and Adina De Zavala in presentation of a Texas Landmark plaque in 1924.

Stephanie Donowho with Humanities Texas requested a photograph of Mary Ann Adams Maverick for a web article for the Texas Originals program on the Humanities Texas website in February 2015. The article with the photograph is currently on the site.

Richard Kidd of the Hays County Historical Commission is including a copy of the Stephen F. Austin colony map in an educational documentary for Hays County. His request was made in January 2015. Peggy O'Hare, with the San Antonio Express-News, included a photograph of the City Hospital on Morales Street, from the Grandjean Collection, in an article in one of the newspaper's commemorative issues, in February 2015.

Most recently in March 2015 Heather Carlton with the River Restaurants along San Antonio's Riverwalk selected a photograph from the Aniol Collection of an early San Antonio River parade for display in Michelino's Restaurant on the river.