

Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting: April 23, 2018

How'd You Find That?!? Tips for Locating Obscure or Hidden Records

Cari Taplin has long been a popular speaker at AGS. And there is a reason for that. Cari's presentations always focus on helping you become a better genealogist. Her April presentation will be no different.

Too many times after you've completed your usual online searches and visits to local libraries, you find yourself left with a proverbial "Brick Wall" problem. So, what can you do?

[Read more](#)

6:30 p.m. Doors Open
7:00 p.m. Presentation begins
Highland Park Baptist Church
[5206 Balcones Dr., Austin, TX 78731](#)

Welcome to the April edition of the AGS Newsletter

Read about the [latest news](#) this month, including how you can contribute to the Jean Marostica Scholarship Fund in her memory. Find out about [AGS sponsored events](#). Learn how you can [volunteer](#). [Publish](#) your work. Find out about [online resources](#). Read about several [Non-AGS events](#) you may want to participate in. Enjoy!

Welcome new members!

Marie Holman, Faye Sigers, and Lori Cantrell

News Articles

IN MEMORIAM - JEAN MAROSTICA

JUNE 29, 1950 – MARCH 30, 2019



We are so very sorry to report the passing of AGS Board Member and longtime volunteer, Jean Marostica. If you ever attended a meeting, you would likely have seen her managing the nametag table at the back of the room. She also managed our website. She did so much in her quiet way. We miss her.

Watch the video at this website for some lovely pictures from her life, and feel free to post a message if you are so inclined: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/austin-tx/jean-marostica-8234623>

In her memory, we are establishing the Jean Marostica Scholarship Fund, which will fund tuition annually at TIGR, the Texas Institute of Genealogical Research, supporting her commitment to Texas genealogy education. Presently, you can send donations to our mailing address (3616 Far West Blvd., Suite 117-247, Austin, TX 78731); we are setting up a way to donate online.

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Registration is open for the AGS Annual Seminar: TELLING YOUR ANCESTORS' STORIES BY USING SOCIAL CONTEXT CLUES

Featuring: Dr. Michael Lacopo
Friday and Saturday, May 17-18

Michael Lacopo is a dynamic and entertainment speaker. Space is limited so don't hesitate to register! Read more about the topics in our "[AGS Sponsored events](#)" section below.

Registration <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/2019-seminar/>

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Social history research can reveal gold!

Sometimes researchers find their family in the most unexpected places. Board member Ann Kippen found her 3rd great-grandparents while reading an obscure online article about agriculture in the Cairngorm Mountains of Scotland. There was a big flood, after which her 3rd great-grandfather's sheep were found stuck - still alive! - in the tops of tree branches. The footnote citation referred to a famous memoir in which her 3rd great-grandparents were characters. This discovery opened up a significant window.

And broke through a brick wall.

Have you found ancestors in an unexpected way? Bring it to sharing during the conversation starters portion of the April meeting, or send it in to newsletter@austintxgensoc.org to share - we'd love to hear about it!

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Save the Date! 2019 Research Trip to the Salt Lake City Family History Center October 13 - 18

Join us for a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, to visit the Family History Library! We will have a more detailed activities schedule in the coming weeks available on the website. For questions and interest contact Beverly Pritchett at Beverlygenea19@gmail.com

Read more about the trip in our "[AGS Sponsored events](#)" section below.

Volunteer

Help with a monthly meeting

Each meeting is supported by members who are willing to help. Can we count on you? Please contact Ann Kippen at akippen@gmail.com if you are interested in helping in a future meeting. Ways to help:

- Greeter - meet folks at the door and hand them the materials for the meeting.
- Food - bring a light snack (crackers and cheese, cold cuts, fruit and veggies, or cookies).
- Setup - you will be given detailed instructions on where the setup materials are - might require some moving of tables and a cart.
- Cleanup - you will be given detailed instructions on where to put things away after the meeting - might require some moving of tables and a cart.

Help with the annual seminar

Volunteers help at our annual seminar in various ways - from support on the day of the seminar (i.e. the nametag table, selling raffle tickets, handing out lunch, etc.) to helping prepare for the day (i.e. getting donated items for raffles, driving the speaker to and from the airport, printing nametags, etc.) This year's seminar is scheduled for May 17 & 18. If you are interested in helping out, please contact our 2019 Seminar Chair, Karen Liston, at mom2mischief@gmail.com.

Publish

The AGS Quarterly is accepting submissions for the 2019 Summer Edition. **Deadline is MAY 24.** We share copies of the Quarterly with several institutions to preserve in their collections, including: The University of Texas @ Austin - Texas State Library Genealogy collection, Familysearch library in Utah (some of our editions appear in their online collections,) Allen County Public Library Genealogical Periodicals in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, and the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) library in Washington, D.C. Preserve your research today - send in an article for the AGS Quarterly to quarterly@austintxgensoc.org.

The AGS Newsletter includes short articles of interest - are you working on a project that others might want to know about? Perhaps you've had an exciting find in your family tree? Send in an article for the newsletter (or "just the facts, ma'am" and we can help turn your facts into an article) to newsletter@austintxgensoc.org.

Have you found an interesting product or method for publishing your family tree or history? Share it with us at newsletter@austintxgensoc.org.

AGS Sponsored Events

ANNUAL SPRING SEMINAR 2019

TELLING YOUR ANCESTORS' STORIES BY USING SOCIAL CONTEXT CLUES

Austin Genealogical Society

Featuring: Dr. Michael Lacopo

Friday and Saturday, May 17-18

Hours of diligent searching of official documents often leaves empty holes and

frustration, as you feel like there is nowhere else to look for your ancestors. Becoming more aware of the social context of the world your ancestors were living in leads to a new perspective, and often fresh sources to dig for those missing relatives.

Join us in Austin at the sleek and modern conference facilities at the University of Texas at Austin's north research campus, UT Commons, on Friday afternoon and a full day on Saturday, May 17 and 18 for six exciting topics.

Friday 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

- Incorporating Social History into Your Research
- Medical Genealogy: A Primer of Diseases That Killed Our Ancestors and Epidemics They Lived Through

Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- Deconstructing Your Family Tree: Re-Evaluating the Evidence
- I Am Poor, Obscure, Plain and Little: Researching the Invisible Ancestors
- Magnificent, Magical, Mesmerizing Manuscript Collections
- She Came from Nowhere ...: A Case Study incorporating Social History

Registration Fees:

Friday - \$35 AGS members/\$45 nonmembers

Saturday - \$65 AGS members/\$80 nonmembers

\$15 Saturday box lunch optional.

Register now as space is limited!

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/2019-seminar/>

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AGS April Meeting

April 23, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

How'd You Find That?!? Tips for Locating Obscure or Hidden Records

Cari Taplin has long been a popular speaker at AGS. And there is a reason for that. Cari's presentations always focus on helping you become a better genealogist. Her April presentation will be no different.

Too many times after you've completed your usual online searches and visits to local libraries, you find yourself left with a proverbial "Brick Wall" problem. So,

what can you do? Here's what - You push beyond the routine and dig for obscure and hidden records that you missed. In April, Cari will be our guide to locating those hard-to-find records. She will reveal exactly what these obscure but valuable records are, and more importantly, how to find them.

So after the April presentation when your usual searches don't turn up what you need, pull Cari's methods out of your genealogical tool kit and discover those hidden records that will help you get the answers you need.



Speaker Cari A. Taplin, CG

Cari, a Certified Genealogist®, has been active in genealogy for the past 19 years. In addition to being a frequent speaker at AGS, she has served in a wide variety of leadership positions for state, local, and national societies and is currently serving on the board of the Association for Professional Genealogists, and is Vice President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies.

Cari Taplin is a native of Ohio. After spending time in Wyoming and Colorado she now lives in Pflugerville. As the owner of [GenealogyPANTS](#), she provides speaking, research, and consultation services. When she's not working on genealogy, she is a wife and mother of two/too cute kids.

Highland Park Baptist Church, [5206 Balcones Dr., Austin, TX 78731](#)

6:30 p.m. Social time

7:00 p.m. Presentation begins.

April Volunteers:

Set-up: Betty Jean Steinke, Carolyn Cobb

Clean-up: Debbie Ulczynski, Joyce Campbell

Snacks: Shelley Augustin, Chris Bond, Carolyn Cobb, Betty Jean Steinke

Greeter: Joyce Campbell

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April Conversation Starter: What Was Your Most Significant Find While Researching Social History?

You've exhausted all the online databases. You've pulled up every vital record, every census in existence. Your family tree has grown many flourishing branches, but with some maddening dead ends.

So you've decided it's time to take a deep dive into social history. You're curious to learn about your ancestors' world - the landscapes, the costumes, the customs. The entertainments they enjoyed, the diseases that plagued them. The historic events that impacted them.

You've turned to local libraries and bookstores, to online newspapers and obscure scholarly articles. You're chasing keywords on google. You're scouring bibliographies and footnotes.



Then suddenly, unexpectedly, you strike gold! You knock down a brick wall!

Have you ever made a significant discovery while conducting social history research? Did you stumble upon another ancestor, or an entire generation? Did you find out something about your family that, for better or worse, changed your view of who they were?

Perhaps you were able to link events or people you'd never thought to connect before. And that revelation opened a fresh research track.

Join us at 6:30 pm on April 23rd at Highland Park Baptist Church for a half-hour of snacks and socializing. At 7:00 our speaker Cari A. Taplin, CG, will present "How'd You Find That?! Tips for Locating Obscure or Hidden Records."

See you there!

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May DNA SIG Meeting

Wednesday, May 7, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Po-Ke-Jo's Barbecue, [2121 W Parmer Lane, Austin, TX 78727](#)

This SIG (Special Interest Group) focuses on how DNA is being used for genealogical research. Everyone is welcome. You don't need to have tested your DNA to come and learn. May's meeting will be a review of My Heritage DNA Tools.

(Registration to be added to website soon):

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/may-dna-sig-meeting/>

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May Writing SIG meeting

Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of every month (no meeting in December).

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

SOUTH AUSTIN IN MAY, La Madeleine Bakery and Cafe Sunset Valley, [5493 Brodie Ln, Sunset Valley, TX 78745](#)

The purpose of the Writing SIG is to support members in writing family histories and genealogical articles. We meet once a month and have dinner together while we discuss genealogical topics. Those of us that are ready read aloud our latest work. Come and get inspired with the rest of us! Open to members of AGS. You are welcome to purchase dinner (at your expense) but that is not required. We will meet in the small room at La Madeleine, rotating between the north and south side of town.

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/may-writing-sig-south-austin/>

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AGS / AGE Fourth Saturday Class**Ancestry.com DNA Results – Getting Started**

Presenter Dianne Holley

Saturday, April 27, 10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Austin Groups for the Elderly, Austin Computer Lab, [3710 Cedar St., Austin, TX 78705](#)

You received the email that your Ancestry.com DNA results are ready. Now

what do you do?

Join us in this class designed for the true beginner in getting started with their Ancestry.com DNA results.

What you should know:

- Basic computer skills that include: keyboard familiarity, mouse uses (both left and right-click buttons), and Windows 7 or newer navigation/software application interactions.
- You must have taken the Ancestry.com DNA test and received your results. You should know your Ancestry.com username and password so that you can log in at the lab and follow along.

What you will learn:

- An understanding of what your Ancestry.com results mean
- How to use their provided tools to review and manage your DNA information – Your DNA Story, DNA Matches, and DNA Circles (if applicable).
- How to manage your privacy and sharing settings

Been here before? Even so, a reminder or a repeat is a good idea. Our attendees tell us they, "...always learn something new!"

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/ags-age-fourth-saturday-class-ancestry-com-dna-results-getting-started/>

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Understanding and Applying the Genealogical Proof Standard

Presenter Carol Joiner

Saturday, May 11, 10:30 a.m. - Noon

Little Walnut Creek Branch Library, [835 W Rundberg Ln., Austin, TX 78758](#)

This presentation discusses what the Genealogical Proof Standard is, why it was created and how it can improve your research. Each step is explained in detail and this is followed by a real world example.

Registration opens April 25.

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/understanding-and-applying-the-genealogical-proof-standard-by-carol-joiner/>

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Save the Date! 2019 Research Trip to the Salt Lake City Family History Center October 13 - 18

Join us for a trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, to visit the Family History Library! We will have a more detailed activities schedule in the coming weeks on the website. For questions and interest contact Beverly Pritchett at Beverlygenea19@gmail.com

Rooms have been set aside for AGS members at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel:

- Deluxe Double Queen \$103 / night
- Standard Double Queen \$93 / night

(taxes not included in prices above - 13.67%)

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/2019-fall-research-trip-family-history-library-salt-lake-city/>

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April meeting recap

Topic: A Simple Recipe for Writing Your Family History by Devon Lee

Speaker: Devon Lee, FamilyHistoryFanatics.com

Thanks to the following for their help:

Nametag: Gary and Kathy Pemberton

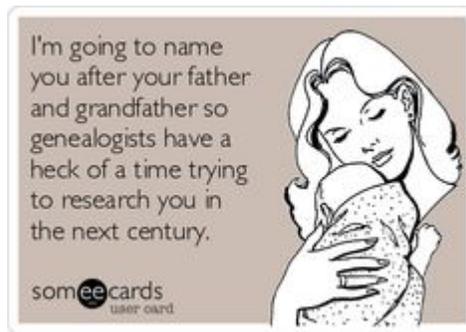
Snacks: Nan Kilkeary, Shelley Augustin, Diana & Louie Sellers, Jim Bridges

Greeter: Mary Todd

Audio-visual setup: John Marostica, Beverly Pritchett

Set-up: Nan Kilkeary

Clean-Up: Diana & Louie Sellers, Charlie Jamison



Non-AGS Events

National Genealogical Society Family History Conference

May 8-11

St. Charles, Missouri

The upcoming NGS 2019 Family History Conference will be held in St. Charles, Missouri, and will offer the best and most expansive series of lectures to advance your research. St. Charles is easily accessible with a small-town feel and an abundance of history.

The NGS Family History Conference, 8–11 May 2019 is your opportunity to choose from more than 150 lectures presented by many nationally recognized speakers, explore an exhibit hall filled with more than 80 exhibitors, and network with more than 2,000 genealogists. Every NGS conference has a different theme with a new program top to bottom—so there is always more to learn and discover. Register now for the Family History Conference.

<https://conference.ngsgenealogy.org/>

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TIGR: 2019 Texas Institute of Genealogical Research

June 10-14

Crowne Plaza Hotel, [6121 N Interstate Hwy 35, Austin, TX 78752](#)

Join TxSGS (Texas State Genealogical Society) for the 2019 Texas Institute of Genealogical Research slated June 10-14, 2019 at the Crowne Plaza Austin. This year's event adds a second track. In addition to a track focusing on Texas Research Essentials, coordinated by Kelvin Meyers, a second track is coordinated by J. Mark Lowe and will focus on Advanced Southern Research Techniques.

Learn more about Lodging & Venue, schedule and facult and make your reservations: <http://www.txsgs.org/2019-tigr/>

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**Adventure Skaraborg presents
EXCLUSIVE GENEALOGY TRAVEL PACKAGE TO SWEDEN
August 27 - September 5**

Walk in your forefather's footsteps. You will visit where they lived and hopefully meet relatives of today. This is a travel package that allows participants to find their roots in Sweden combined with touring Swedish historical and cultural highlights with their own guide. The travel package also includes four days in the capital of Sweden, Stockholm.

When the participant has decided to go on the family tour, a local genealogist and guide in Sweden help to find her/his roots based on the information and family records the traveler has of the family in Sweden. All the genealogy work will be made prior to when the travelers board the airplane with destination Gothenburg Landvetter airport in Sweden.

The cost of the trip is \$ 4,400 for a double room (\$500 extra cost for a single room) including a local genealogy researcher, housing, transportation and more. The price is exclusive of travel insurance and round trip airfare.

<http://adventureskaraborg.com>

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**October 11-13
2019 Family History Conference**
Texas Genealogical Society
"Blazing Family Trails"
Omni Houston Hotel Westside, [13210 Katy Fwy, Houston, TX 77079](https://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/omni-houston-hotel-westside)

<http://www.txsgs.org/2019-conference/>

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Austin Gen SIG
[Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., Austin](https://www.austintexas.gov/department/austin-public-library)

Genealogy interest group with interesting speakers and topics, meeting monthly. Join us as we explore, discuss and learn together...

<http://www.austingensig.com>

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Austin Legacy Users Group

Meets on the third Saturday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

[Querencia at Barton Creek, 2500 Barton Creek Blvd., Austin](#)

<http://austinlug.weebly.com/>

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George Washington Carver Genealogy Center

4th Saturday Genealogy Class and Seminar

[1165 Angelina St, Austin, TX 78702](#)

- **Genealogy Basics:** Every 4th Saturday of the month, 10 AM - 11AM (exceptions July, November & December). This class teaches the basics of genealogy research. It requires that participants have basic computer experience and know how to perform basic computer searches.
- **Genealogy Seminar:** Every 4th Saturday of the month, 1 PM – 2 PM (exceptions July, November & December). Every month the Center invites a presenter to cover a genealogy related topic.

<http://www.austintexas.gov/genealogycenter>

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Texas State Library and Archives Commission

Open during the week from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., and from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of each month.

[1201 Brazos St., Austin](#)

Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent to

reference.desk@tsl.texas.gov.

<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/genfirst.html>

Genealogy Online

Austin Public Library Genealogical Resources (online)

<http://library.austintexas.gov/database/genealogy-and-people-search-guide>

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Index to genealogical resources and family search tips.

<https://www.genealogyinc.com/>

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Do you have a useful online resource for genealogical research? Send it to

[newsletter@austintxgensoc.com!](mailto:newsletter@austintxgensoc.com)



AGS Classes



AGS SIGs



AGS Online



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