Next Meeting: February 28, 2017

Organizing Your Research: Making Molehills out of Mountains
by Cari Taplin, C.G.

Do you LOVE the research part of genealogy but DREAD the next step of data-entry and organizing your findings? You are NOT ALONE!

Organization allows you to better utilize research time. Learn methods for organizing documents and notes, building a better research log, and time management tips.

- The Importance of Being Organized
- Methods for Organizing Files (will demonstrate both paper and digital)
- What to include in any system
- Processing Systems – What do you do when you find a new record?
- Time Management Tips for Genealogists
Cari Taplin is related to Roy Rogers. Or at least that's what her family told her. As a result, she has been working on finding her true heritage since the year 2000. She is a native of Wood County, Ohio, but migrated to Wyoming, Colorado, and now Pflugerville, Texas, which is just outside of Austin. Cari holds the Certified Genealogist® credential, has served in a wide variety of volunteer and leadership positions for several state, local, and national societies, currently serves as the Education Chair for the Austin Genealogical Society, and is on the boards of the Association for Professional Genealogists and the Federation of Genealogical Societies. As the owner of GenealogyPANTS, she provides speaking, research and consultation services. Cari focuses on midwestern states, methodology and researching family legends.

When she’s not working on her genealogy, she is a wife and mother of two/too cute kids.

Social Time 6:30 p.m. / Program 7:00 p.m.
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

Welcome New Members!
Carol Halley, Donna Seago,
Tracy Tipping, Wendy Fielding

Welcome Back, Returning Members!
Lucy DeYoung, Richard Howie,
David and Zita Easterday

It's time to renew your membership!
Use the registration form and send it to us in the U.S. mail with your check, or visit our webpage to register online.

Registration is Open for the 2017 AGS Annual Seminar and Workshops
The AGS Annual seminar is now open for registration! We are excited to offer the Saturday seminar as well as
an option to attend two Friday workshops given by Dr. Thomas W. Jones.

Speaker: Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS

Workshop #1 – Friday, April 28, 1:00 – 2:15 p.m.: Census, Census-Substitute, and Name-List Strategies: Analysis, Interpretation, and Correlation

Workshop #2 – Friday, April 28, 2:45-4:00 p.m.: Correlating Sources, Information, and Evidence to Solve Genealogical Problems

Seminar - Saturday, April 29, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Dr. Jones will present four lectures:

1. Using Autosomal DNA to Solve a Family Mystery
2. Creating a Family History of Lasting Value
3. Finding “Unfindable” Ancestors
4. Five Proven Techniques for Finding Your Ancestor’s European Origin

Price for Seminar: $40 members/$55 non-members
(An optional box lunch for Saturday is offered for purchase at time of registration)
Price per workshop: $25 members / $40 non-members

Seminar and Workshops will be held at the Triumphant Love Lutheran Church
9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin, TX 78759

webinars, websites, and classes not sponsored by AGS. Members of the group may request help with any particular issue they are experiencing with their own research.

Austin Genealogical Society Writing SIG (private group) - AGS Members interested in writing a personal or family history are encouraged to join this Facebook group and attend the monthly meetings (see below for details.)

“Liking” our pages helps get the message out to more people on Facebook! Please “like” posts when you see them to help market our Society.

CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR!
The latest schedule for AGS events is always available on the website here.

AGS DNA SIG
First Tuesday of every month beginning March 7th, 6:30 – 8:30 PM
New permanent location: Poke Joe’s
2121 Parmer Lane, Austin, TX 78727
Three blocks east of Mopac on Parmer Lane

Meetings will be based on the book: Genetic Genealogy in Practice by Blaine T. Bettinger
For more information or to register, click here.

2016 Writing Contest Winners and Awards

Congratulations to all of our 2016 winners!

Winners receiving their awards at the January meeting, L-R: Glenda Lassiter, Judith Morris, James Bridges, Robert Richardson, Quarterly Editor Angela Doetsch, Publications Chair Robin Raben, Phoebe Allen

Category: Articles with a focus on Texas (Travis County and beyond)
Award: 12-month Fold3.com subscription
- First Place: Sergeant James M. Sanford – My Forgotten Texas Ranger by Robert Richardson
- Runner-Up: Joseph Harbour – Texas Colonist 1825 by Alyssa Helen Behr

Category: Articles with a focus outside of Texas (and other geographical areas)
Awards: 12-month HistoryGeo.com subscription and 12-month Newspapers.com subscription
- First Place (TIE): Jabez Corbin, the Land Bank of 1740, and Uncertain Geographical Knowledge by Nancy R. Stevens
- First Place (TIE): Lucky Strikes Can Happen! (One man’s Tracks: Wales>Canada>Michigan>North Dakota>Minnesota>Texas) by Judith C. Morris
- Runner-Up: Lewis Warren Vaughn (1830 – 1907) by Earle F. McBride

Category: Articles pertaining to an educational/historical topic (with a focus on genealogy)
Awards: 2017 Save Austin’s Cemeteries annual membership and a copy of the book, Austin’s Historic

The book is available from Amazon for $36 paperback or $9.99 for the Kindle edition. If you are a member of NGS, it is available for $30.06, or $36.06 for non-members.

Everyone interested in DNA for genealogy is welcome. See you on the 7th to discuss chapter 1.

Meetings will be posted on the AGS calendar.

AGS Writing SIG
Second Thursday of every month except December
Thursday, March 9, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
The group was formed to support members in writing their family histories. We meet once a month and have member discussions, presenters, and a place to share our work and give and receive critiques. Our successes thus far: a self-published book, several blog entries, several memoirs, and a regular article published in the newsletter! Come and get inspired with the rest of us! Open to members of AGS.

Click here for details.
Oakwood Cemetery: Under the Shadow of the Texas Capitol!

- First Place: Three Thomson Brothers of Judges Hill: In memory of John Davol (1917-2016) by Phoebe Allen
- Runner-Up: Mary “Polly” Allen and the Battletown Witch of Elizabeth Daily Graveyard by Ed Cannon
- Runner-Up: Oh No! Who Bleached My Ancestor’s 1862 Gravestone? by Terri Hoover Mirka

Category: Personal Memoirs
Award: 2017 AGS Seminar registration

- First Place: Griff (Sections II-IV) by Glenda Lassiter
- Runner-Up: Grandpa and Mr. Basset by Joyce Arquette
- Runner-Up: Where Were You Born and Raised? by James E. Bridges

A special thank you to our 2016 Publications team! This publication would not be possible without you:

- Kay Dunlap Boyd
- Inez Eppright
- Nan Kilkeary
- Trisha Thompson
- Janis Trayler

There is still time to submit your articles for the March 2017 quarterly. The deadline is February 20th. For more information, visit the website here or email Angela Doetsch here.

From the President’s Corner
Anne Mamiya
President@austintxgensoc.org

AGS British Isles Genealogy Special Interest Group meets via email to exchange information. Contact Jane Schwendinger at janesca@earthlink.net.

AGS 2017 Calendar
Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday (no meeting in December), Networking: 6:30 PM / Program: 7:00 PM
Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

28-February Organizing Your Research: Making Molehills out of Mountains by AGS Member Cari Taplin, C.G.

28-March Tracking Down Your Ancestors Without Leaving Town by AGS Member Teri Flack

25-April Who are the Wends? by Weldon Mersiovsky P,B,D

23-May Have You Found the "Schatz" in Your Family Tree? by Cindy Foreman & Beverly Herring

27-June Forensic Genealogy, Finding the Living by Kelvin Meyer

25-July Building a Family Web Site by Sandra Crowley
I’d like to spend a little time this month making sure you know how to get information about upcoming events. We have a full slate of great events this year and I don’t want you to miss a thing! While we try to send out emails in advance of events, I know you may want to see further out in the year to plan your calendar. Let me share a few tips.

**Classes:** Our Education Chair, Cari Taplin, CG, has prepared a year of classes with a wide variety of topics. All classes are free, but we do require registration to make sure we don’t exceed room capacity and that there are enough handouts available. You can view the full line-up on our website by going to the “Events” menu and then clicking on “Classes”. Each class is displayed with the topic, instructor, date, location and when registration opens. Please check it out and start your education plan!

**Monthly Meetings:** Marcia Arn, Program Chair, along with the program committee have posted all of our speakers and topics for each month’s meeting. To view all of our monthly meetings, go to the “Events” menu and select “Monthly Meetings”. Make sure to think of your friends who may be interested in a specific topic and bring them to a meeting!

**Seminar:** We have a great seminar planned this year and Dianne Holley, Seminar Chair, has been hard at work with her committee getting ready for registration which opened on February 6! The seminar speaker is Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS, and the seminar will be on Saturday, April 29. New this year are two added workshops to be held on the Friday, April 28. We are giving priority registration for the workshops to AGS members only. Please take a look at these workshops and register before we open them up to the

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**22-August** The Importance of Mapping Cemeteries, Not Just Recording the Names by Dale Flatt

**26-September** More than Daughters: Using the DAR’s Genealogical Research System (GRS) by AGS
Member Teresa Devine

**24-October** I’ve Got My DNA Results. But How Do I Use Them? by Sara Gredler

**28-November** Fall Fest, The Archives Wars by James Harkins

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**AGS Website**
Did you forget your login or password to the Members Only section? Problems renewing a membership?
Contact: webmaster@ austinxgensoc.org

**AGS 2017 Class Schedule**
Information about our classes is available here. All classes are free.

**Saturday, February 25, 10:30-noon**
Searching in Sverige: Beginning Swedish Research - Seth Taplin
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.
Registration is available here and will close on February 22.

This class will explore the basics involved in starting to research Swedish ancestors,
public. This is a great opportunity to learn from the best!
Want to see our calendar at a glance? Just scroll down on our home page to get a monthly view of all of our activities! You can hover over any event to see more or simply click on it to go to the event page.

I hope you make use of these tips so you don’t miss a thing! I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting!

**Upcoming Events and Resources**

**Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin**
Writing Memoirs
Highland Park Baptist Church
$20 for 8-week semester, begins February 15
Eight sessions focused on writing and sharing your family memoirs as part of the Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin's Spring Semester

[More Information](#)

**Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin**
Find Your Ancestors
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church
$3 for copies, begins February 14
Beginners and experienced researchers are welcome. Each session is presented by a member of AGS, covering a variety of topics.

[More Information](#)

using the emigration of Lars Larson in 1865 as a case study. We will cover basic Swedish history, naming patterns, free and subscription resources online, Swedish terminology, and the methodology to follow families through Swedish records.

**Saturday, March 25, 10:30a-Noon**
Taming the Digital Tiger - Dianne Holley
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

*Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts. Registration will open on February 25.*

Understanding and managing your digital process is important to a genealogy project's success. Taming the digital tiger means learning to find, analyze, and file all those images and documents that are the sources of your genealogical evidence. In this simple method, document image storage takes place at your fingertips and is not limited by the size of either your house or your workspace.

In this session you will learn to manage your research process and your documentation without leaving your computer. You will learn how easy it can be to set up a folder hierarchy, save those images and citations, and to process the evidence you discover without losing a thing. You will learn to Tame the Digital Tiger!

**Monday, April 10, 10:30a-**
From Pilgrims to Pioneers: Researching Early New England Ancestors
Saturday, March 18, 2017, 9:00 AM - 6:30 PM
Czech Center Museum, 4920 San Jacinto Street, Houston TX
Hosted by the New England Historic Genealogical Society
Registration fee of $125 includes five lectures, door prizes, lunch, and an evening reception.

More Information

AGS Volunteers - Can You Help Us?
We have many opportunities for our members to participate in support of the Society and our events. Please don't hesitate to contact us if any of the positions below sound interesting or if you have any questions.

Hospitality Coordinator(s)
1-2 hours per month
Duties: Snacks and refreshments are a welcome part of our monthly meetings. We are looking for one or two people to coordinate members who will: bring treats, assist with setting up before the meeting, and clean up after the meeting.
Contact: Debbe Tipping, dtipping@att.net or 512-341-7932

Membership - Monthly Meeting Greeters
Less than 1 hour per month
Duties: Arrive early to our monthly meeting on the day you agreed to greet. Greet people as they arrive. Help visitors and new members check in.
Contact: Jean Marostica, webmaster@austintxgensoc.org

Membership - Monthly Meeting Check-In Desk
Less than 1 hour per month

Noon
Intermediate Genealogy Concepts - Cari A. Taplin, CG
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.
Registration will open on March 10.

Learn intermediate research concepts such as the FAN Club principle (Friends, Associates, Neighbors,) also called “cluster research,” and use of maps to understand and analyze your research. The class will conclude with a case study demonstrating these concepts with real examples.

Saturday, May 20, 10:30a-Noon
Using Google’s MyMaps - Cari A. Taplin, CG
Little Walnut Creek Branch Library
835 W Rundberg Ln, Austin, TX 78758

Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.
Registration will open on April 20.

Did you know you can create your own maps using Google’s My Maps? Many of us use Google Maps for travel or locating a place. My Maps allows users to create custom maps which makes it a fantastic and easy-to-use research and analysis tool. Maps can be shared with others making it a great way to present your research to family and friends. This
Duties: Arrive to our monthly meeting early on the day you agreed to check in members. Help members, visitors, and new members check in.
Contact: Jean Marostica, webmaster@austintxgensoc.org

Publications Review Team
1-6 hours per month, first week of the month (newsletter)
1-8 hours per quarter, last month of the quarter (quarterly)
Duties: Do you have an English teacher or editor hiding inside of you? The publications team could use your help! If you’d like to be on the review team, we could use your help to find those misspelled words or incorrect grammar usage, or just feedback with suggestions for improvement on general content and formatting. You are welcome to review the newsletter or the quarterly or both!
Contact: Robin Raben at newsletter@austintxgensoc.org or Angela Doetsch at quarterly@austintxgensoc.org

Newsletter
1-8 hours per month – or more or less than that - it’s up to you!
Duties: Do you like to write or are you up to date on latest news and events in genealogy? We always accept content from members. Perhaps you’d like to write an article every now and then (or every month) on a genealogical topic, on a book or website review. Or if you are in a good genealogical grapevine then let us know about upcoming events, webcasts, TV shows or anything

webinar will give an overview of My Maps, examples for why and how it can be useful for genealogy, and will go in-depth to demonstrate to the audience exactly how to create custom maps, including inserting lines, shapes, images, text, and more.

Monday, June 12, 10:30a-Noon
Using FamilySearch.org - Dianne Holley
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757
Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.
Registration will open on May 12.

FamilySearch.org – it’s all about the records and this genealogy site is FREE – the world’s largest free genealogy website is as close as your internet-connected computer. In this class you will learn how to begin to use this site to support your research. From family trees to census records to church and tax records, and much, much more, learn how and why this source is a genealogy researcher’s best friend.

Saturday, July 1, 10:30a-Noon
Georgia Headrights and Bounty Land Grants: From Scandal to Settlement - Teresa Devine
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757
Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.
genealogical. You can decide to be a regular contributor or a one-time wonder.
Contact: Robin Raben at newsletter@austintxgensoc.org

Publicity - Austin Genealogical Society Facebook Page “Likers” and "Clickers" 
Less than 10 minutes per month
Duties: "Visit", "Like" and "Click" on the AGS page and posts on Facebook. Why? We want people to know what we have to offer. The more "visits", "likes", and “clicks on links” we receive, the more free advertising we receive on the pages of those who have liked our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/AustinGenealogicalSociety/
Contact: If you are interested in helping with this, no contact is needed just keep visiting, clicking on links and liking posts on the AGS Facebook page. Thank you!

Publicity Chair(s)
2-4 hours per month
Duties: We need to “get our name out there” into the community. This position coordinates with others helping with publicity.
Contact: Debbe Tipping, dtipping@att.net or 512-341-7932

Publicity – Community Calendars
1-2 hours per month
Duties: There are multiple free community calendars available in the Austin and Travis County areas. This person or people will post monthly meetings, monthly classes, and our seminar to these free community calendars.
Contact: Debbe Tipping, dtipping@att.net or 512-341-7932

Publicity – Community Newsletter Liaison(s)
1-2 hours per month
Duties: Many libraries and historical organizations have newsletters that we could advertise in or write short articles about genealogy in. This person or people will contact the organizations in Austin and Travis County to explore the possibility of placing an ad, item of interest, or article within their newsletters and create these items.
Contact: Debbe Tipping, dtipping@att.net or 512-341-7932

Registration will open on June 1.
The acquisition and control of land has played a major role in American history not only on a national level but for states and individuals as well. One of the earliest problems faced by Georgia was the inability to attract men who were willing to settle on the land, create homes, and produce crops. Georgia passed its first headright law in 1777, which was intended to facilitate the transfer of land ownership to individuals to “strengthen the state.” However, the headright grant process was fraught with problems and after years of scandal, fraud, speculation, and political embarrassment, Georgia passed the Land Lottery Act in 1803. Seven lotteries were held to distribute land from the Creek and Cherokee, leaving behind a genealogically rich record.

Saturday, September 16, 10:30a-Noon
Land Workshop Pt. 1 – Metes and Bounds - Cari A. Taplin, CG
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.
Registration will open on August 16.

Have you ever wondered how to draw those land descriptions from the Metes & Bounds survey system? This system was used primarily in the original thirteen colonies and so is mostly found when
Grant Coordinator(s)
1-3 hours per month
Duties: It is important to our society to support other organizations who share our common goals. We need people who can find these groups in our area, make contact with the groups to learn about them, and evaluate their mission and our bylaws to come up with recommendations to the board. These can be recommendations for a monetary donation or to partner with that organization to complete a project.
Contact: Debbe Tipping, dtipping@att.net or 512-341-7932

Message Board Moderators
1-2 hours per week depending upon volume
Duties: Did you know that in the Member’s Only section of our website we have the ability to create message boards by topic for our members? Do you have an area of research specialty? Would you be willing to create a board, answer questions posted, and monitor conversations posted in that board?
Contact: Debbe Tipping, dtipping@att.net or 512-341-7932

Web page help(ers) with WordPress
1-3 hours per month
Duties: Help with maintaining our web page by keeping page content up to date and adding new material as needed
Contact: Email Anne Mamiya (president@austintxgensoc.org) and Jean Marostica (webmaster@austintxgensoc.org) links to your WordPress webpages or blogs

Long Distance and Within Texas Research trip coordinator(s)
More information about these positions will be available in our next newsletter.

dealing with land in the east.
This workshop will describe the system and then take the students through some real examples teaching them how to draw the land shapes as described in old deeds.

Saturday, September 23,
10:30a-noon
Land Workshop Pt. 2 –
Rectangular System - Cari A. Taplin, CG
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX
78757

Registration is required for
this class to insure there are
enough handouts.
Registration will open on
August 16.

Have you ever wondered how
to draw those land
descriptions from the
rectangular survey system?
This system was used in the
Federal Land states to survey
and sell the land to private
citizens. This workshop will
describe the system and then
take the students through
some real examples teaching
them how to draw the land
shapes as described in old
deeds.

Saturday, October 28,
10:30a-noon
DNA for Beginners -
Instructor TBD
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX
78757

Registration is required for
this class to insure there are
enough handouts.
Registration will open on
September 28.

This class will go over some
of the basics needed to get
Google Search Engine(s) - There are more than Just One!

*By AGS Member John F. Marostica*

Everyone thinks of Google as a search engine; one that can find anything – especially genealogical information – anywhere around the world, at any time. Nice thought.

In reality, Google is a distributed computer system. That means that Google does not exist on one computer (server); it has computers and servers all around the world. Google is essentially the largest supercomputer in the world.

That being said, search results come from your locality. After all, if you ask Google for restaurants, you don’t want it to return the addresses of restaurants in France! You want your search results to be local. That’s the reason you have to specify geographical information in your genealogical search requests. That helps Google get you the information you ask for.

That means that Google searches ‘locally’; it tries to get you the information you need from the nearest source – started with DNA testing for genealogical purposes.

**Saturday, December 9, 10:30a-Noon**

*How to Teach a Genealogy Class – Panel and Workshop*

North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

*Registration is required for this class to insure there are enough handouts.*

*Registration will open on November 9.*

This will be a panel discussion and workshop for anyone interested in learning how to teach their own genealogy class. There will be a short lecture, a panel discussion with local genealogical speakers, and then a workshop period to help attendees develop their ideas for teaching a class or get tips on public speaking.

**Do You Have a Brick Wall? A Genealogical Question?**

Feel free to send it in for the newsletter to newsletter@austinxgensoc.org or post it to our Facebook page, “Austin Genealogical Society Members helping Members.”

**Local Genealogy Meetings and Resources**

*Austin Gen SIG,* meets from 1:00–4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of the month at Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., Austin. Part of the Computer Club of Austin. Click here for website.
that also keeps the results coming fast (about 463,000,000 results in 0.90 seconds, for example).

What if you want to get ‘local’ data from another country? For example, how do you tap into Germany’s local information? After all, genealogical records are, for the most part, archived records. Google is designed help find those hard to locate, archived records. And the on-line, archived records are usually in the country that created them. So would it make sense to search in, say, Italy, for Italian records on websites in Italy?

There is a search engine for that! Well, actually, Google currently has 192 different country search engines. For a current list, see the List of Google Search Engines by Country/Region published in the GenealogyInTime Magazine’s newsletter.

I decided to do a search in Austria. The list gave me the URL for Austria’s search engine (http://www.google.at/) and indicated that there was an English version of the site.

My first question was, “Where is the English version of the site?” The chart indicated that there was one, but “Österreich” did not look English to me. I then looked a bit lower and saw, “Google.at angeboten auf: English.” I clicked on the word “English” to get the English version of the site.

Austin Legacy Users Group
meets on the third Saturday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Querencia at Barton Creek, 2500 Barton Creek Blvd., Austin. Click here for website.

Texas State Library is open from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. 1201 Brazos in Austin. Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent here. Click here for website.

Williamson County Genealogical Society meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at the Round Rock Public Library, 216 E Main Street, Round Rock. Social time at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Click here for website.

Austin Public Library Genealogical Resources Click here for website.

Did you know?
You can change your contact information or surnames on your profile page on our website? Click on the “membership account” button at the top right corner after you’ve logged in. austinxgensoc.org

What’s on the AGS Website?
Have you ever wanted to look at a handout from a meeting you attended but just can’t find it? Never fear - we post them on the Members Only page of our website! austinxgensoc.org/members-only/#handout
Now start searching! You will find the results for your country in the search results, mixed with the local search results. To view results only from your country of interest, go to "Advanced Search" under "Settings" and set the "Region" to the country you are searching in. The results will be filtered to show only results from the country search engine you are using.

“This most people don’t realize that the choice of Google search engine has a profound impact on the search results that are delivered to you. Choose the right Google search engine when searching for your ancestors and you will get good results. Choose the wrong one and you will almost certainly come up empty handed. In this article, we show you how to choose the right Google search engine.” — GenealogyInTime Magazine

AGS Members Teach Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin Classes

Richard Robertson: Writing Memoirs

Richard Robertson has been hosting this Writing Memoirs offering through the Lifetime Learning Institute for some time and reports that many AGS members have attended along the way. The sessions are described in this excerpt from the Lifetime Learning Institute Spring Semester catalog:

"You wish you knew your ancestors' stories. If you don’t write your family stories, your grandchildren will also have to wish. Here's an opportunity to dip into your memory and write your stories to share and save for the younger
generations of your family. Don't let your stories be lost! We write them at home, read them to the class, and can contribute them to the Class Book. This is not a class on how to write. No instruction is given, but we learn from each other."

$20 for 8 weeks
10:00 - Noon on Wednesdays, Starts February 15
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones Drive, Austin, TX 78731
Registration here

**Inez Eppright: Find Your Ancestors**

Inez Eppright has been coordinating this course for many years. Members from AGS present different genealogical topics. Are you interested in presenting? Contact Inez at junez@att.net! This course has been a great way to introduce genealogy to people as well as a refresher for those already building their family trees. It is also a way to introduce students to AGS. The Spring Semester catalog describes the class:

"Exploring records to learn about your ancestors—who they were, where they lived, what they did—has never been easier or more exciting. The Austin Genealogical Society exists to encourage and support such searches, using methods old and new. Beginners and experienced researchers are welcome. Each session is presented by a member of the society, covering a variety of topics."

$3 for copies
10:00 - Noon on Tuesdays, Starts February 14
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church
9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin, TX 78759
Registration here

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**Book Review by AGS member Dianne L. K. Holley**

*Voices of Revolutionary America, Contemporary Accounts of Daily Life*, Carol Sue Humphrey, Ed.
Greenwood
An Imprint of ABC-CLIO, L.L.C.
Santa Barbara, California
Edited by Carol Sue Humphrey, Ph. D., and published by Greenwood Press in 2011, *Voices of an Era, Voices of Revolutionary America: Contemporary Accounts of Daily Life* gives us wonderful insight into the lives and times of our American ancestors as they were giving birth to our country. Everything in this book speaks education: from the introductory “How to Evaluate Primary Documents,” to a timeline of the events that these documents represent, to the documents themselves.

Divided into 8 sections, each one represents different facets of life. “Disruption and Continuation of Daily Life” offers multiple newspaper accounts of everything from obituaries and weddings to lost and found animals and more. Other sections cover health, religion, slavery and ultimately war and conflict, all during the time-period 1760 to 1783.

The reader is introduced to each section with a thoughtful paragraph that sets the historical context. Next comes “Keep in Mind While You Read” assisting the reader in evaluating the document itself. In many instances “Definition Fact Boxes” define key terms, and sidebars “…clarify some topic related to the document.” The author ends each section with a discussion and a set of questions to further stimulate the reader. If all that wasn’t enough, she offers “Topics and Activities to Consider” with lists of suggested projects, books, websites and more.

As an example, Temperance Smith, a minister’s wife, recounts running a household while her husband is “…ordered to march to Ticonderoga.”

In the Introduction, the editor reminds us that “…during this time goods normally acquired from Great Britain became scarce as trade declined during the war….even
supplies produced in the colonies could be difficult to obtain as the fighting and movement of the armies interfered with the normal trade routes throughout the country…. As the wife of a pastor, her responsibilities included not only her own children, but also orphans and young men studying for the ministry who depended on the local pastor for help to survive. At the time, Pastor Smith marched off to war, 22 people (not including the servants) lived in his house.”

Feeling that she should be focused on her husband during the prayer hour, instead, she “…was often wondering whether Polly had remembered to set the sponge for the bread, or to put water on the leach tub, or to turn the cloth in the dying vat, or whether wool had been carded for Betsey to start her spinning wheel in the morning, or Billy had chopped light wood enough for the kindling, or dry hard wood enough to heat the big oven, or whether some other thing had not been forgotten of the thousand that must be done without fail….” This is but a small example of the first-person accounts that place the reader in a time very different from our own.

The book concludes with biographical sketches of notable persons, a glossary to help understand meanings in the time-period, a bibliography that seems to go on for days, and a brief index.

Author, editor and contributor to books and periodicals, Ms. Humphrey, an Oklahoma Baptist University history professor, has gone far beyond simply transcribing the broad brush of letters, journals, newspaper articles and diaries presented in this book. Its 270 pages provide great insight into the people and the time. For anyone who seeks to understand and/or write about this time-period, this book is invaluable. Happily, each document is also sourced at its end. Though slightly oversized, this is a beautiful book and it will fit quite comfortably on my bookshelf.

Austin Genealogical Society 2016 Year-End Financial Reports
# Austin Genealogical Society
## Profit & Loss
### Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2016

### INCOME
- Donations Rec'd: 0.00
- Contributions Rec'd: 462.38
- Education (Seminar): 4,523.00
- Membership Dues Rec'd: 4,255.00
- Misc Income (Lifetime Learning; Pioneer Certificates; TSGS preservation grant): 446.11

**Total Income:** 9,686.49

### GROSS INCOME: 9,686.49

### EXPENSES
- Charitable Donations: 458.54
- Education & Program Costs: 6,889.68
- Membership Costs: 299.28
- Awards: 615.34
  
**Operating Expenses**
- Publicity: 0.00
- Bank Fees: PayPal discounts: 176.19
- Board Expenses: 0.00
- Equip (Purch/Rental & Maint): 32.50
- Office Supplies and Materials: 0.00
- General operating costs: 0.00
- Postage & Delivery: 146.42
- Printing & Copying: 332.24
- Rent - P.O.Box: 170.00
- Society Ilmemberships: 100.00
- Software & Peripherals: 276.90

**Total Operating Expenses:** 1,234.25

- Pioneer Certificates: 0.00

### TOTAL EXPENSE: 9,497.09

- Net Ordinary Income: 189.40
- Other Income - Interest Earned: 28.66

**NET INCOME:** 218.06
Hospitality Report, January Meeting

**Topic:** What You See Is Not What You Get: The History and Nature of Physical Documentary Forgery

**Presenter** David B. Gracy II

**Attendance:** 60 people
**Guest:** Susan Garcia
Thanks to our volunteers!

Assisting with the nametag table: Gary Pemberton, Kathy Pemberton and Ann Elbert (not pictured)

AGS President, Anne Mamiya, facilitates the meeting.

The 2017 AGS Board Members

L-R: James Bridges, Nan Kilkeary, Rob Richardson, Marcia Amr, Teresa Devine, Debbe Tipping, Dianne Holley, Jean Marostica,
2016 Quarterly award winners were announced by Angela Doetsch, Quarterly Editor, and Robin Raben, Publications Chair. L-R: Judith Morris (winner), Rob Richardson (winner), Angela Doetsch, Robin Raben, Phoebe Allen (winner)

2017 Seminar Chair Dianne Holley announces this year's Seminar dates and content.
Debbe Tipping announces the opportunities to volunteer with AGS.

Programs Chair Marcia Arn introduces the speaker.