Austin Genealogical Society (AGS)
Next Meeting: February 24, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

Using FamilySearch to Solve Genealogical Research Problems - a Case Study

The purpose of the Genealogical Proof Standard (GPS) is to show what the minimums are that a genealogist must do for his or her work to be credible. This month’s presentation explains the benefits of the GPS using a case study and resources on FamilySearch.org.

Presented by Cherie Bush
Cherie Bush is a marketing manager for FamilySearch International. She has been a family history enthusiast for many years. She is currently serving as a board member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS).

SAVE THE DATE!

AGS 2015 QUARTERLY Vol. 1
We are looking for your stories! DEADLINE FEB 21
See submissions guidelines on our website: http://www.austintxgensoc.org/quarterly-guidelines/
Want help? Have Questions? quarterly@austintxgensoc.org

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“Like” us on Facebook
http://www.facebook.com/AustinGenealogicalSociety

DUES REMINDER
It is not too late to renew your AGS membership for 2015!
Renew by Feb. 28 to have your information included in the membership directory and to maintain access to the website.
A membership form can be found at the end of this newsletter.
You can renew at the February meeting or on our website: http://www.austintxgensoc.org/membership-application/
AGS Board Meeting, January 27, 2015

Board Members present: Marcia Arn, Jim Bridges, Inez Eprright, Missy Harris, Anne Mamiya, Carol Mason, Karin Nelson, Wynnell Noelke, Jan Pelosi, Kathy Pemberton, Robin Raben, and Patricia Thompson.

Meeting Minutes Summary:
The January 11, 2015 retreat minutes were approved.

Committee Chairs: Carol Mason is the seminar chair. Pat Oxley is the FGS delegate. Karin Nelson is the TSGS delegate. The TSL liaison position is open and Anne Mamiya will appoint someone to fill that position. The Publicity chair position is still open.

AGS Trips: Preliminary investigation of research trips is underway and more will be reported later.

AGS Meeting Speakers: Marcia Arn reported that she is still waiting on confirmation from the June speaker and has a possible speaker for November.

AGS Seminar: Carol Mason advised the seminar will be May 30. Registration will open March 20.

Classes: Intro classes will be at Carver Genealogy Center in two sessions on 2/28 and 3/7.

Membership: Missy reported that membership forms are coming in. We have 10 new members and 140 renewals. Planning is underway for membership recruitment and community outreach. Hospitality will be planning to celebrate the 55th anniversary of AGS.

Publications: Robin is working on finding members to interview and is looking for volunteers to help with the newsletter and quarterly.

2015 Budget: The board approved to increase the honorarium for out of area speakers. Following this, the board approved to accept the 2015 budget as amended.

AGS Board Retreat, January 11, 2015

The Annual Board Retreat is held each January in order to develop a plan and budget for the upcoming year. A summary of the meeting minutes follows.

Board Members present: Inez Eprright, Karin Nelson, Anne Mamiya, Robin Raben, Patricia Thompson, Jim Bridges, Jan Pelosi, Kathy Pemberton, Missy Harris, Marcia Arn, Carol Mason, and Winnie Noelke.

Meeting Minute Summary:
The meeting minutes for October 2014, November 2014, and December 2014 were approved as presented.
The November and December bank statements were reviewed and were in order.
The November 2014 and December 2014 Treasurer’s Reports were accepted as presented.
Informal discussion and Board Member orientation occurred.
It was agreed that the Board will meet at 5:45 p.m. on meeting nights. Board Members will bring snacks to the January meeting.
The 2015 calendar and the Committee structure were discussed.

Discussion was held on the donation and educational proposals submitted by Jane Schwendinger.
After discussion on the 2015 budget, a proposal was made and accepted that $500 be given to the War of 1812 Save The Pensions as a contribution for our February speaker. The donation will be matched by Ancestry.com.
The budget is to be studied and voted on at the January regular board meeting.
FROM THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER

It was so nice to see so many of you at our January meeting! I don’t know about you, but I am happy to get back in our routine of our monthly meetings. It was great seeing all of you and wonderful to hear Sue Kaufman’s presentation on those interesting record collections!

Please be sure to come to our February meeting as we have another great speaker. Cherie Bush from FamilySearch will be presenting a case study in solving genealogical research problems. Check out the announcement in this newsletter for the details.

Another item you will want to mark on your calendars is our annual seminar. The date is May 30, 2015, and we will be hosting Judy Russell, The Legal Genealogist. You can visit her wonderful blog at LegalGenealogist.com.

If you are interested in attending our 2-part Introduction to Genealogy class, registration is now open. More information can be found in this newsletter and on our website.

As you can see we are off to a great start this year with some wonderful programs! Our committees are hard at work planning more events. Stay tuned for more information.

See you in February!

Anne Mamiya

2015 Board of Directors

Our governing body is a Board of Directors composed of twelve members. Their terms of office are two years beginning January 1st. Officers are elected each year to serve for a term of one year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Terms Ending 2015</th>
<th>Terms Ending 2016</th>
<th>2015 Officers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marcia ARN</td>
<td>James E. BRIDGES</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inez EPPIRIGHT</td>
<td>Missy HARRIS</td>
<td>1st Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne MAMIYA</td>
<td>Karin NELSON</td>
<td>2nd Vice President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol MASON</td>
<td>Jan PELOSI</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wynnie NOELKE</td>
<td>Robin RABEN</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy PEMBERTON</td>
<td>Trisha THOMPSON</td>
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Local Genealogy Meetings & Resources

There are many opportunities to participate in genealogical activities in Austin and in nearby communities. Here are some meetings in which AGS members may wish to participate.

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

**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. http://www.austingensig.com/

**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. Rjenkins7@austin.rr.com

**Texas State Library** open from 9 a.m.–4 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. 1201 Brazos in Austin. Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent to reference.desk@tsl.texas.gov, https://www.tsl.texas.gov/

**Williamson County Genealogical Society** meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at the Round Rock Public Library. Social time at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting at 7:30 p.m. http://www.williamsonctgenealogy.org/

**Austin Public Library Genealogical Resources**
http://library.austintexas.libguides.com/genealogy

Indicates an official AGS activity
AGS 2015 Calendar

**February**
- **C** Introduction to Genealogy Classes
  - Feb. 28/Mar. 7 (Saturdays) 10:30 - 1:30 at the Carver Genealogy Center
  - Sep. 26/Oct. 3 at the Hampton branch library
- **S** AGS Seminar
  - May 30 (Saturday)
  - Speaker Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist

**February 24**
- AGS Meetings, Tuesdays 7 p.m.
- Using FamilySearch to Solve Genealogical Research Problems - Case Study
  - Presented by Cherie Bush from FamilySearch

**March 24**
- Research Strategies for Everyone
  - Presented by AGS Member Teri Flack

**April 28**
- Digging Up the Bones of Your Home
  - Presented by Phoebe Allen
- (No Regular AGS Meeting in May)

**June 23**
- Presenter to be Determined

**July 28**
- Using the Perry-Castañeda Library for Genealogy
  - Presented by Katherine Strickland

**August 25**
- Earning a Living: Your Ancestors at Work
  - Presented by Pat Gordon

**September 22**
- World War I: One Hundred Years of Records
  - Presented by Debbie Pearson from Fort Worth Genealogical Society

**October 27**
- Talking to Elders to Record Family History
  - Presented by Mary Scrudder

**November 24**
- FALL FESTIVAL
  - Presenter to Be Determined

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**AGS News Letter**

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AGS is looking for volunteers—We Want You!

Have you thought you might like to do a little more with the Society, but weren’t sure how to go about it? We have some great opportunities!

**Hospitality Host or Hostess**

Wanted: Someone to manage the food/beverage table each month. This includes greeting the volunteers as they bring snacks and checking the beverage supply throughout the meeting. The Hospitality Committee would love to have two or three members for one or more months to "host" the table, replenish napkins and visit!

Contact Missy Harris at missy_harris@att.net.

**Newsletter Reporters**

Wanted: Someone to own a regular “column” for the AGS Newsletter each month. Submissions are due by the first of the month. Columns include genealogy in the media, local/national events, member appreciation, or an idea you’d like to propose.

Contact Robin Raben at newsletter@austintxgensoc.org.

**Quarterly Editor**

Wanted: Someone to act as editor of the AGS Quarterly. The quarterly is published four times a year, and is composed of articles submitted by the Society Members. The Quarterly Editor will ensure articles are correct for grammar, spelling and footnote standards. Knowledge of Microsoft Word required.

Contact Robin Raben at quarterly@austintxgensoc.org.

AGS Members Get Discounts!

Interested in DNA research? FamilyTreeDNA offers a discount to AGS members who sign up through the AGS Group Project. [https://www.familytreedna.com/](https://www.familytreedna.com/)


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**Query—Can You Help?**

Elizabeth “Liz” Nitschke Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030, e-mail: erootrot@usa.net would like to find “cousins” and descendants of Edith Nitschke (1872-1907) and husband, Joseph C. Robinson. Their children according to 1900 Austin, Travis Co., census were:

- Willie Robinson (1892-1967)
- Joseph C. Jr. (1895-1976)
- Jack Robinson born 1897
- John born circa 1902
- Sam born circa 1905

Liz would also like to hear from the AGS member who asked her about this family at the FGS Conference In San Antonio.

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The German Texan Heritage Society would like to know: ARE YOU ONE?

The German Texan Heritage Society would like to locate descendants of the Trustees, Teachers, and Students of the German Free School. We are especially interested in photographs and biographical information of the Trustees, Teachers, and Students.

Please contact Liz Hicks, genealogy editor, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030; e-mail: erootrot@usa.net or phone: (713) 944-1118.

Descendants will be recognized at the 2015 GTHS Conference Sept. 3-5, Austin, TX.

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Have something that is newsworthy?

Do you have a favorite website, blog or other resource that you find useful? Or an event that might be of interest to our readers? Or a request for help with your ancestor research? Please let us know!

Please send any items of interest to our newsletter editor, Robin Raben (newsletter@austintxgensoc.org).
Texas Genealogical Exhibits and Events

Resources for African American Genealogy at the Texas State Library and Archives Commission
For more information, please watch the TSLAC YouTube Video.
Date: February 14, 2015
Time: 9:30-11:00
Where: Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, 1201 Brazos Street, Austin
Fee: Free, although advance registration is required
Registration is limited to 30 participants.
To register, please e-mail reference.desk@tsl.texas.gov or call (512) 463-5455.

Genetic Genealogy Analysis and Tools
The Dallas Genealogical Society is excited to announce that registration is now open for this Spring Lecture on March 21, 2015.
Noted professional genealogist Debbie Parker Wayne will begin with a brief review of genetic genealogy basics and advice about choosing a DNA testing company. The remaining sessions will provide in-depth information about tools and applications for mitochondrial DNA, Y-DNA, and autosomal DNA studies. Each session will include a real-life case study which uses the latest tools and techniques to analyze these DNA types.

Williamson County Genealogical Society Annual Seminar
Saturday, March 21, 2015
Fee: $50 for non-WCGS members
Speaker: George G. Morgan, president of Aha! Seminars, Inc. and an avid genealogist.
For more information, see http://www.williamsontxgenealogy.org

Thanks to Carol Mason for providing this poem... food for thought!

From the Austin History Center......Announcing a great addition to the Austin Public Library's database subscriptions! The Austin History Center now has access to ProQuest Historical Newspapers: The Austin American Statesman (1871-1975). You can log in with your APL card number or use it on any Library location's public computers.
The paper has had different title names over time. To see exactly what the database searches for various years, click 'Publications' on the main search screen page. Enjoy!

ProQuest
Teach Me Genealogy - tmgenealogy.com
National, International and Media Events

Are You Going to the Global Family Reunion?

On June 6, 2015 a Global Family Reunion (GFR) is being held in New York City. It promises to be an event like no other, with presentations by entertainers, authors and scientists and a lot more. The GFR is building the world’s biggest family tree (currently at 77 million people) and is hosting this event, benefitting organizations which battle Alzheimer’s disease. Speakers include filmmaker Morgan Spurlock, President George H.W. Bush and Barbara Bush (via video), Comedy Central star Nick Kroll, NPR host Ophira Eisenberg and former Obama administration member Cass Sunstein. To find out more, check out their website at http://globalfamilyreunion.com.

Thanks to Bea Sneed for informing us about this event!

Who Do You Think You Are?

The television show, “Who Do You Think You Are?”, will launch on TLC on Sunday, March 10, 2015 instead of in February as originally announced. Celebrities featured this season include Julie Chen, Angie Harmon, Sean Hayes and Bill Paxton.

Need a genealogy TV fix until then? Watch the Who Do You Think You Are? Channel on YouTube for free: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnQVyreu6Zof2RtGPRjYu8A

NEW SOCIETY LAUNCHES at http://surname-society.org

The founding members are delighted to announce the launch of The Surname Society - the online society for individuals, groups and associations with an interest in surname studies, regardless of their location in the world, the surname they are studying, or their level of research expertise.

Focusing on single surname studies, the society meets the needs of researchers in the world of family history and genealogy as it evolves in the 21st century. The Surname Society’s vision is to connect like-minded people by providing facilities which enable members to share knowledge, data and good practices with others. The society allows members to register both worldwide and limited studies and is entirely online. Collaboration is facilitated and encouraged as it is the core ethos of The Surname Society.

A truly global organization from the outset, the committee members are located around the world from Australia to England, Spain and Canada and in the first week since its announcement to those who completed the online questionnaire, the society has almost one hundred new and enthusiastic members.

So, what are you waiting for? Take a look at the website and if you are interested, join! For more information, visit http://surname-society.org, email info@surname-society.org and/or follow them on Twitter: @surnamesoc
JANUARY HOSPITALITY REPORT

Attending: 99 Members plus 6 guests

Guests:
- Visiting from the Florida Genealogy Society were Jim Bradley, MJ Bradley and Kanalyn Heimlich.
- Marcia Shults of Austin
- Carol McCollum

Thank you to those who supported the January meeting!

**Food Providers:** Jim Bridges, Carol Mason, Trisha Thompson and Winnie Noelke.

**Greeters:** Barbara Innis and Kay Boyd.

**Nametag Table:** Jean Marostica, Gary Pemberton, Adeliza Tiffany, Arlene Zirkel, Ann Elbert and Jeff Shirah.

The volunteers for the February 24 meeting will be:

**Food Providers:** Mary Root, Carolyn Gresham, Linda Milligan, Glenda Black.

**Greeters:** Mary Todd and Jean Shroyer.
Member Appreciation
Julia Mellenbruch

By Robin Raben

Julia Mellenbruch originally joined AGS around 1988. In the past, she has been an Officer (Secretary) and served on the board several years. We met at the end of January and what follows here are the highlights of that discussion.

Q: How did you hear about the Austin Genealogical Society?
A: You know, I had a friend who was President of the Genealogical Society, and I had gone to some of the meetings but I had never joined. She came to me and said that she’d like for me to come to this meeting because she knew that my mother-in-law was a Mennonite, but not a practicing one. She and her family had come to Pennsylvania in the 1700’s. My friend knew that my husband was interested to know more about the Mennonites. They were going to have a speaker from Pennsylvania so we offered to have the speaker stay with us. Well of course then they asked if I didn’t want to join and I did. So that’s how I joined the organization.

Q: What do you see as a benefit from being in the Society?
A: You get a lot of help. And you meet people who are interesting and you find out about their backgrounds.

Love of Languages

Besides her native language of English, Julia speaks German, Spanish, and Portuguese! She was taught German by her grandfather as a child—he never allowed her to mix German and English!

Q: What advice would you give to someone who is just starting in genealogy?
A: I would tell them to be sure to get whatever things are available to begin with and not try to do too much at one time. And then make a list of things that you want to find out. You have to decide which branch of the family you are going to start working on, and then find out where they lived. You can go to the library and get that information, but I think going to the place where they lived or where they were buried gives you a different feeling entirely.

2 Pfluger Connections: Family History

Henry Pfluger Sr. came over from Germany with his family, and one of his daughters was Catherine. Catherine married William Bohlsen (later shortened to Bohls). Julia’s mother was the granddaughter of Catherine and William.

Henry Pfluger Sr. also had a boy named George. George married Dorthea Sternberg. Their daughter Ida married John H. Klattenhoff, they had a son Fred. Fred married Julie Marie Bohls. These were Julia’s father’s ancestors.

The original land for the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Pflugerville and the adjoining cemetery was given by William and Catherine Bohlsen.

Julia’s Career—Highlights

Julia worked for the NYA (FDR’s National Youth Administration) during her first years at UT. She worked for a professor of government, translating newspapers about the Spanish Civil War (1936-39).

Her career was teaching Spanish. She taught at Austin High School and was the first Coordinator Foreign Languages for AISD. She also created a new fifth level (advanced) class.

She still meets people all the time from her teaching years. One boy who is now probably in his late fifties or sixties, told her “You were my teacher 55 years ago.”

In the early 60s, she and her husband moved to Brazil for two years. She had to take a leave from Austin High during this time, but she says the time away was well worth it. During this time she taught English classes. She made her students angel food cake which they just loved!

She has done volunteer work since retirement, including 29 years as a Docent at the LBJ Library!

Julia’s Education—Highlights

Her early education (up until her Junior Year in High School) was spent in a small, two room school in Los Angeles, Texas. This school was later expanded to three rooms! She spent her Senior Year at Taylor High School during the Great Depression, graduating in 1933.

She went for two years to Texas Lutheran. She got her Bachelors Degree at the University of Texas, graduating in 1937. She belonged to Delta Kappa Gamma. She received a Fulbright Fellowship to study in Colombia (South America.) She earned her Masters Degree in Education (M.A.) from the University of Texas during the early 1950s.

World Traveler

Look at all the places she has been!

South America: Colombia, Brazil, Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands, Peru, Chile, Argentina

Central America: Panama, Guatemala, Costa Rica

Canada: British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia

US: All states except Rhode Island

Caribbean: Puerto Rico, St. Thomas, Aruba, San Blas, British West Indies, Haiti

Asia: Russia, Cambodia, China, Pakistan, Bulgaria, Turkey, Israel, Ukraine

Pacific Islands: New Zealand, Fiji Islands

Mexico: Yucatan, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz, Mexico D.F., Taxco, Queretaro, Guanajuato, Guadalajara, Morelia, Nuevo Leon, Tamaulipas, Chihuahua, Irapuato, San Luis Potosi

Europe: Spain, Germany, Luxembourg, France, Austria, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Italy, Hungary, England, Denmark, Norway, The Netherlands, Greece, Ireland, Bulgaria

Australia

Africa: Kenya

Julia provided an article, “Pfluger Family 150th Anniversary Reunion,” in the AGS Quarterly, Volume XXXX, Number 1 March 1999. You can find it on our website under Publications: Link to PDF.

Publications

Julia has published three books on her genealogy. She also assisted on another book, published by Kent Bohls, with research she was able to do while visiting Germany on the Bohls and Pfluger families.
# AGS 2014 Financial Statements

## Austin Genealogical Society
### Profit & Loss
**Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2014**

### INCOME
- Donations Rec’d: 448.30
- Contributions Rec’d: 850.00
- Education (Seminar): 4,983.70
- Membership Dues Rec’d: 6,305.00
- Misc Income (Lifetime Learning; Pioneer Certificates; TSGS preservation grant): 540.00

**Total Income:** 13,127.00

### EXPENSES
- 2014 FGS Conference: 170.50
- Charitable Donations: 1,000.00
- Education & Program Costs: 7,257.26
- Membership Costs: 343.01
- Emma Gentry Donation: 250.00
- Operating Expenses:
  - Publicity: 605.35
  - Bank Fees: PayPal discounts: 211.58
  - Board Expenses: 18.02
  - Equip (Purch/Rental & Maint): 576.63
  - Office Supplies and Materials: 50.38
  - General operating costs: 41.91
  - Postage & Delivery: 87.63
  - Printing & Copying: 159.49
  - Rent- P.O.Box: 146.00
  - Society Memberships: 100.00
  - Software & Peripherals: 434.93

**Total Operating Expenses:** 2,431.92

- Pioneer Certificates: 3.64
- 2014 Ft Wayne Research Trip: 5.23

**TOTAL EXPENSE:** 11,461.56

### GROSS INCOME
**13,127.00**

## Austin Genealogical Society
### Balance Sheet
**As of December 31, 2014**

### ASSETS
- Current Assets: 0.00
- Checking/Savings:
  - Public Employees Credit Union: 10,722.78
  - Wells Fargo: 15,884.94
- Total Checking/Savings: 26,607.72

**TOTAL ASSETS:** 26,607.72

### LIABILITIES & EQUITY
- Liabilities:
  - Current Liabilities: 0.00
  - **Total Liabilities:** 0.00

### EQUITY
- Retained Earnings: 24,907.34
- Net Income: 1,700.38
- **Total Equity:** 26,607.72

**NET INCOME:** 1,700.38
Austin Genealogical Society
Membership Form

☐ New member
☐ Renewal of 2014
☐ Returning Member (prior to 2014)

Membership Dues

☐ $20 Individual  ☐ $500  Lifetime Membership
☐ $30 Family Membership  ☐ $300  Senior Lifetime Membership (age 65 + over)

Supporting Donation (in addition to dues above)

☐ Friend of AGS  add $20
☐ Sponsor of AGS  add $30
☐ Patron of AGS  add $80

$________ TOTAL DUES & DONATION

Volunteers make a difference! Please mark any of these projects you are willing to assist us with – and Thank You!

☐ Seminar Committee  ☐ Hospitality and Refreshment Planning
☐ Program Committee  ☐ One-time Special Event Volunteer
☐ Education Committee or Instructor  ☐ Membership & Registration
☐ Speaker  ☐ Publicity

Member Information

Name: ______________________________  Spouse (if member): ______________________________
Email: ______________________________  Spouse email: ______________________________
Mailing address: ______________________________
Home Phone: ______________________________  Your Cell Phone: ______________________________
Spouse Cell Phone: ______________________________

May we list this information in our membership directory?  ☐ yes  ☐ no

Surnames: list up to eight surnames and locations for posting on the AGS website, or indicate “no changes”.

Surname 1: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 2: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 3: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 4: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 5: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 6: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 7: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________
Surname 8: ______________________________  Location: ______________________________

☐ No changes to surname listings

Please mail this form with your payment to:
Austin Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766-1010
Monthly Meetings on 4th Tuesdays
(except May and December)
Social time at 6:30 p.m.; Program at 7:00 p.m.
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones Drive
Austin, TX 78731
VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME