Austin Genealogical Society Meeting  Tuesday, March 25, 2014

Get Your Genealogy Research Digitally Organized with Evernote!

Many of us have our genealogy files spread out everywhere -- both online and offline -- as we research. This presentation introduces a simple system to get yourself digitally organized using the very popular Evernote application.

Holding a BA in English from Texas A&M University, Caroline M. Pointer is the founder of For Your Family Story, a genealogy research, social media marketing, and technology consulting business. Additionally, she is the author of the 4YourFamilyStory.com blog which focuses on bringing genealogy and technology together for the researcher. She is also the author of BloggingGenealogy.com which focuses on how to blog for various genealogy-related audiences.

As a social media aficionado since 2009, Caroline has been actively making global connections to help teach others how to bridge the gap to the past with over 10,000 connections on 7 social media platforms interacting on not only the topics of genealogy and family history but also technology, business, social media, motherhood, writing, and history.

Caroline currently serves on the Texas State Genealogical Society Board and Executive Committee as Director for Communications. She chairs the TSGS Marketing Committee, and serves TSGS District 6 as a District Representative. She was recently appointed to the Board of Directors for the Federation of Genealogical Societies; chairs the FGS Outreach Committee; and is a member of the FGS Marketing and Technology Committees. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, Genealogical Speakers Guild, National Genealogical Society, Texas State Genealogical Society, Chaparral Genealogical Society and Library, Clayton Library Friends, and the Family History Information Standards Organization.
AGS Business: From the Minutes of the Board Meeting

AGS Board Meeting, February 1, 2014

The AGS Board met in special session to cover important agenda items from the canceled January meeting.

Members present: Inez Eppright, Leslie Inman, Anne Mamiya, Carol Mason, Karin Nelson, Winnie Noelke, Jane Schwendinger, and Don Villoni. Members not present: Marcia Arn, Missy Harris, Kathy Pemberton and Lisa Smith-Curtean. The minutes of the Board Retreat were accepted as submitted. The following items were discussed.

Treasurer’s Report

The 2014 budget was accepted as submitted. Jane Schwendinger suggested changes to the budget for items associated with programs, copies, bank fees, social events, and equipment. These changes were accepted.

Bank Statement

The December 2013 bank statement has been reviewed, and it is in agreement with the treasurer’s records. A report on the January statement will be given in February.

Programs

The speaker originally scheduled for January, which was cancelled, has been rescheduled for June.

Membership

Missy Harris and Carol Mason are planning an outreach to retirement homes.

Policies and Procedures

Preliminary work has begun on a Policies and Procedures manual. After a discussion, it was decided that the Treasurer should send official information on membership to confirm that dues have been received.

Publicity

Seminar information has been sent to TSGS and it is now on their website. It was recommended that there be a more prominent place on the website for people to “like us” on Facebook and other social media. Jane requested that board members write a blast containing information that AGS members need to see and send it to Jane to pass it on.

OLD BUSINESS

Member Wall-The previous decision to place all Quarterlies behind the member wall was rescinded. Only the last five years will be behind the wall.

Establish Regional Family History Group

An exchange group between all different lineage and heritage groups will be formed. Leslie Inman, Carol Mason and Missy Harris will work on it.

Committee Responsibility Review

Leslie Inman will continue to be the coordinator between AGS and the TSLA.

Remote Facility Review

Goodwill no longer loans out its conference room. Austin has an Asian American Research Center on Cameron Road near Rutherford Lane that has rooms and equipment that can be rented by non-profit organizations.

NEW BUSINESS

Seminar

A discussion was held on who might coordinate tasks needed for the Seminar. A number of people volunteered to help. A list will be compiled of the tasks and the volunteers who will be responsible for these tasks.

Introductory Workshops

The suggestion was made that some workshops be held at public libraries as one-day events and that they be held in locations other than North Austin. A reservation has been made at a South Austin library. There was discussion on library policies vs. paid sites; free material vs. paid for material; registrations vs. walk-ins; and content of workshops ranging from shorter workshops to entice beginners to longer workshops for the more experienced.

Highland Park Baptist Church

The church was contacted about handling access if a sudden emergency arose preventing Inez Eppright from attending a meeting. The church agreed that AGS is a big organization and that it would be beneficial for a second AGS member to have a key and access code. Jane Schwendinger will fill that roll.
Local Genealogy Opportunities

There are many opportunities to participate in genealogical activities in Austin and in nearby communities. The list below includes information on regularly occurring 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 janesca@earthlink.net. This is an official AGS activity.

Austin Gen SIG meets from 1:00-3:00 P.M. the second Saturday of the month at Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library, 7051 Village Center Drive. This SIG is a part of Computer Club of Austin and is not an AGS affiliated group. 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

Bastrop Genealogical Society of Texas (new name) still meets at 1:00 P.M. on the second Saturday of the month at Pressley Meeting Room, Bastrop Public Library. http://www.bastroplibrary.org/genealogy

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

Keep in mind that the Texas State Library and Archive is expanding its hours of operation to accommodate researchers. The Texas State Archives, Texas Family Heritage Research Center, and the Reference and Information Center – will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. The facility is located at 1201 Brazos in Austin.
WILLIAMSON COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SEMINAR
It’s not too late to plan to attend this event. Walk-ins are welcome.
http://www.williamsontxgenealogy.org
March 15, 2014, 8:45 am - 4:00 pm
First United Methodist Church, 1004 North Mays, Round Rock, Texas.
Speaker: Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. Her topics will include the following.
♦ Forensic Genealogy – CSI Meets Roots
♦ You Will Never Look at Your Old Photos the Same Way Again
♦ The Database Detective
♦ A Different Kind of DNA Talk
For additional information, contact Judy Belle at 512/863-2685 or at clarkhorick@yahoo.com

Our thanks to new AGS member, DIANNE HOLLEY, for submitting this article about our February meeting at GLO

Visiting the State of Texas General Land Office for my first meeting as a member was a knockout! In a well-organized presentation, GLO employees shared what terrific treasures of Texas historical land documents are available as well as the history behind them. The numbers are overwhelming. Consider they have in their repository over 35 million records. While they are scanning 10,000 documents a month, they still have over 25 million to go. As a researcher, this repository is invaluable. Add the fact that, for already digitized documents, I can research and download copies from my computer – in my pajamas if I want! The map collection alone can take your breath away. I’ve already started my gift list from map prints they sell. What’s more, they will scan your stuff for a nominal fee. In case you didn’t get it, I am wowed by having such a wonderful resource of people and documents right here in Austin!

Presented on April 5, 2014 by:
Dr. J. F. de la Teja
Supple Professor and Director
Center for the Study of the Southwest, Brazos 212
Texas State University
For complete information and free registration visit:
www.txstate.edu/cssw
(Dr. de la Teja has been a popular speaker at AGS meetings.)
AGS BOARD MEMBER PROFILE – INEZ EPPRIGHT

Inez was born and raised in central Texas on the farm, located between Lytton Springs and Dale, that was settled by her Great-Grandfather. She attended school in Lockhart and moved to Austin shortly after graduating. Inez says that she has been in and out of Austin all of her life because her grandparents, aunts, and uncles lived here. It was also close to the farm so she could visit her parents often. One of her brothers was already living here, so it must have seemed to be a good place for her to be.

In addition to genealogy, Inez likes to quilt, bead and stitch, and design needlepoint. Other interests are gardening and photography.

Before retiring, she worked for the Right of Way Division of TxDot for 38 years. She has been very involved with Lifetime Learning for about 12 years.

Inez became interested in genealogy in 1977 when a cousin, who had been drafted to help with her husband’s genealogy, suddenly realized she did not know her own family history. She asked Inez to meet her at the Texas State Library one Saturday to help her get started. After doing so, Inez decided that her nieces and nephews might like a little more information on the family so she did a little more research for them. The rest is history!

Inez has had some fantastic finds. She sent a letter to the library in a Tennessee county where her grandparents grew up and married before coming to Texas. She wisely included the surnames of both grandparents. A couple of weeks before her letter arrived at the library, a lady who had been doing her own genealogy had started doing her husband’s genealogy. His surname and her grandfather’s surname were the same, so the librarian gave her the letter Inez had written. It didn’t take long to discover that Inez’s grandfather and her husband’s grandfather were brothers. They invited Inez and her mother to visit them in Tennessee. They took Inez and her mother to cemeteries where relatives were buried, locations where grandparents had lived, and to visit another cousin in a different sibling line of Inez’s grandfather. It was exciting to see the cemetery where her grandmother’s parents are buried and see a railroad bridge that the two brothers helped build.

CEMETERY CORNER

Jane Schwendinger submitted this photo. They visited England and went in search of family stones. She says:

“This is John Cornell’s stone. It was the only stone we found when visiting graveyards in Cambridgeshire and Suffolk England with a family surname. I didn’t know how or if he was really related, but learned he was the brother of my 3rd great grandmother. He was buried in St. Margaret’s in Chippenham, Cambridgeshire, England in 1828 at the age of 33. It is tragic that so many of the gravestones in Cambridgeshire are illegible. We were lucky that this one not only stood out, but was full of information.”

Please submit your favorite gravestone photos to sharonkfoley@gmail.com or Robertlfoley@gmail.com
May 3, 2014, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, 9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin, TX 78759

Maureen Taylor, Photo Detective
Maureen will present the following topics:

§ Identifying & Dating Family Photographs

§ Reading Genealogical & Immigrant Clues in 19th Century Photographs

§ Preserving Family Photographs – 1839 to the present

§ Google Images and Beyond: How Genealogists can Find Photographs On and Off Line.

Do you have family photograph you wish you knew more about?
Maureen can help! Maureen Taylor is an internationally recognized expert on photograph identification and genealogy, bringing together her knowledge and skills in history and research into family stories while giving insight into the invention and development of photography itself. Maureen has been featured in the Wall Street Journal, The View, The Today Show, Better Homes and Gardens, The Boston Globe, Martha Stewart Living, MSNBC and The New York Times. Maureen helps people solve a range of photo-related mysteries, from dating a Civil War era daguerreotype to organizing gigabytes of family photos from a digital camera. Maureen finds clues in photographs as if she were a private detective out to solve a case. She discovers stories behind family pictures by sometimes following the most mundane clue: a hat, the shape of a woman’s sleeve, or a sign in the background.

Charges for Seminar
$35 members                      $45 non members
$10 optional lunch               $45 registration received after May 1st

For More Information Go To: www.Austintxgensoc.org
Austin Genealogical Society
Seminar—May 3, 2014
Presenting: MAUREEN TAYLOR
THE PHOTO DETECTIVE

Maureen Taylor is an internationally recognized expert on photographic identification and genealogy, bringing together her knowledge and skills in history and research into family stories while giving insight into the invention and development of photography itself. She finds clues in photographs as if she were a private detective.
Maureen has been featured in numerous publications and on many television broadcasts.

Seminar Topics
Identifying and Dating Family Photographs
Read Genealogical and Immigrant Clues in 19th Century Photographs
Preserving Family Photographs – 1839 to the Present
Google Images and Beyond: How Genealogists Can Find Photographs On and Off Line

Registration is also available online at AustinTxGenSoc.org with PayPal or credit card through May 1, 2014
Pre-registration is $35 for AGS member, $45 for non-members. Optional box lunch is $10.
You may also bring your own lunch. Light refreshments will be served in the morning.
COMPLIMENTARY BAGS AVAILABLE TO THE FIRST 100 REGISTRANTS
Registration at the door will be $45. For further info, contact president@austintxgensoc.org

Registrations by mail must be received by April 22, 2014.
__________________________________________________________
Name ___________________________ Phone ___________________________ Email ___________________________

Address ___________________________ City ___________________________ State Zip ___________________________

Seminar Attendees will have their contact information (name, email, phone) printed in the syllabus along with up to 4 surnames if registration received by April 22, 2014. Please indicate here with a check mark if you do not wish to have your contact information published.

I do not want my contact information published

Surnames (list up to four surnames)
1. ___________________________ Location ___________________________
2. ___________________________ Location ___________________________
3. ___________________________ Location ___________________________
4. ___________________________ Location ___________________________

Registration Fees
AGS Member: $35
Non-Member: $45

Indicate Amount ($ _______)

Seminar Special: 2014 AGS Membership for NEW members: $15
(Optional Join AGS at 25% off the regular price and take advantage of the AGS member seminar price above)

Optional Box Lunch (includes sandwich, chips, and cookie): $10

You may also bring your own lunch — Beverages will be provided
Please select your sandwich choice: ___Tuna Salad ___Chicken Salad ___Vegetarian

Make checks payable to AGS. Your check is your receipt.

Mail to: AGS, Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766-1010
HOSPITALITY REPORT

The hospitality report will return next month.

2014 Board of Directors

Term Ending 2014: 
Missy HARRIS
Leslie INMAN
Anne MAMIYA
Karin NELSON
Jane SCHWENDINGER
Don VILLONI

Term Ending 2015:
Marcia ARN
Lisa SMITH-CURTEAN
Inez EPPRIGTH
Carol MASON
Marcia ARN
Kathy PEMBERTON

2014 Officers

President 
Jane SCHWENDINGER

1ST Vice President 
Anne MAMIYA

2nd Vice President 
Marcia ARN

Secretary 
Inez EPPRIGTH

Treasurer 
Karin NELSON

Officers were officially named on 1/12/14

2014 PROGRAMS

Your program committee, led by program chair Marcia Arn, is excited to present the scheduled programs for our monthly meetings in 2014.

Mar 25 Using Evernote to Organize Your Genealogical Research-Caroline Pointer
May 27 Effectively Using Family Search for Research-Dave Anderton
June 24 Maps & Online Resources at the Perry-Castaneda Library-Katherine Strickland (rescheduled)
Jul 22 How to Write Short Stories About Your Family History-Mary Scrudder
Aug 26 Creative Memories-Scrapbooking-Luci Anderson (This just added.)
Sep 23 GATA GACC! DNA and Genetic Genealogy today -Debbie Parker Wayne
Oct 28 Document Analysis 101-Karen Matheson
Nov 25 Fall Festival. How Austin Came to Be-Teri Flack
Monthly Meetings on 4th Tuesdays
(except December)
Social time at 6:30; Program at 7:00
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones Drive
Austin, TX 78759
VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME