

Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

Next Meeting: October 23, 2018

The Ultimate Brick Wall: Tracing Your Lost Female Surnames by Rob Richardson

If you are like most genealogists, nothing is more frustrating than having an unresolved gap in your family tree. More often than not, that gap is caused by a lost female surname. And in not knowing who these women were and where they came from, we lose part of our heritage. We lose their history. We lose their stories. And we lose a chain of other surnames and stories tied to the wife's family.

Solving surname puzzles isn't easy. It takes focus, organization, and all the resources one can muster. In our October presentation Rob Richardson will show you how to organize your research and where to locate resources that can lead to a successful surname discovery. Rob will provide you with a "Find-That-Surname" checklist that will carry you through a series of steps to (1) logically organize your search, (2) develop theories concerning the surname based upon available evidence, and then (3) provide steps to take to prove the surname is correct, including use of DNA test results.

[Read more](#)

Welcome to the October edition of the AGS Newsletter

Read about the [latest news](#) this month, including finding out who's on the ballot for the 2019-2020 Board elections, and how an AGS member is helping to commemorate the ending of WWI. Find out about [AGS sponsored events](#). Learn how you can [volunteer](#). [Publish](#) your work. Find out about [online resources](#) (did you know Google Chrome can help you with labeling DNA?). Read about several [Non-AGS events](#) you may want to participate in. Enjoy!

Welcome new members!

Tracie McFadden Burns, Marsha Hawkins, Kathy McMaster,

News Articles

AGS 2019-2020 Board elections. Candidates to fill vacancies in the 2019-2020 board have been selected. Every year, six positions on the board are completing their two-year term and may either commit to another two-year term or replacements will be found. The membership will vote in our October meeting. The candidates are:

James Bridges*
Carol Darst
Nan Kilkeary*

Karen Liston
Elizabeth Price
Rob Richardson*

**renewing Board members*

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AGS Member helping Texas commemorate the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI



The Travis County Historical Commission is leading a local team as part of the Texas World War I Centennial organization and National World War I Centennial Commission, committed to commemorating the role of Texas and Texans in the Great War. AGS member Terri Mirka is helping by conducting extensive genealogical research to identify WWI veterans buried in Travis County (with over 2,100 located so far), leading the local USA Flag placement project, and providing marketing assistance as part of the Travis County WWI Centennial Committee.

For a listing of local events with online links, online research resources, and WWI Veteran Burials, visit <https://www.sachome.org/events/TravisWWI-100.html>. For questions, contact Terri at TravisWW1@sachome.org.

Call for Volunteers! The non-profit organization, *Save Austin's Cemeteries*, will place USA flags at the grave sites of WWI Veterans in Travis County for Veterans Day (November 11) and needs volunteers to help with their placement

(November 3-10) and retrieval (November 14-18). Hours tbd. Email Terri if you'd like to help: TravisWW1@sachome.org.

<https://www.texasworldwar1centennial.org/>

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Blaine Bettinger has a new ebook

Blaine Bettinger, our 2018 Seminar speaker, has released a new eBook, *Understanding and Applying Your DNA Test Results*.

- A guide for how atDNA tests (the most common type of DNA tests) work, plus what your results will look like
- Information on what you can reasonably expect your results to tell you, plus the truth about ethnicity estimates and how to use DNA to burst down brick walls
- Additional resources for analyzing your results with other online tools, plus resources for learning more about genetic genealogy

Only available at <https://www.familytreemagazine.com/store/understanding-and-applying-dna-test-results-ebook>.

Volunteer

Fall Fest is just around the corner...are you ready for some Turkey? Fall Fest is the November AGS meeting which includes a pot-luck meal (always yummy) along with a fun speaker. We could use volunteers to help with the setup of the tables and the clean up after the meeting. If you are interested, contact Lise Doss via newsletter@austintxgensoc.org.

Publish

AGS Quarterly is accepting submissions for the 2018 Winter Edition. Deadline is November 17. 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.

AGS Sponsored Events

October AGS monthly meeting: The Ultimate Brick Wall: Tracing Your Lost Female Surnames

October 23, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

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

Speaker: Rob Richardson



If you are like most genealogists, nothing is more frustrating than having an unresolved gap in your family tree. More often than not, that gap is caused by a lost female surname. And in not knowing who these women were and where they came from, we lose part of our heritage. We lose their history. We lose their stories. And we lose a chain of other surnames and stories tied to the wife's family.

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So, retrieve that bit of Sherlock Holmes buried within you and follow the clues that lead to your third great grandmother's missing name. With diligence and organization, you can find that name and fill that gap. Rob will show you how.

Speaker: Rob Richardson

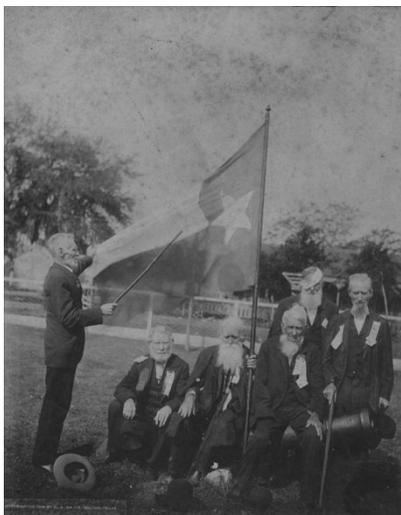
Rob Richardson is now completing his second year on the AGS Board where he is currently the Chair for AGS Monthly Presentations. He became interested in genealogy in 1987 after receiving a hand-drawn family tree from a relative – later determined to be full of errors. It turned out that, sadly, Rob was not related to a signer of the Declaration of Independence. But it was the work Rob did validating that tree that triggered his love of genealogy. Rob is a graduate of the University of Texas with a degree in chemistry and Texas A&M with a

graduate degree in environmental chemistry. Rob worked as a consultant at an Austin-based environmental services company during his 40-year career, working principally with the EPA, DOD, and semiconductor industry.

http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/tracing-your-lost-female-surnames/?instance_id=561

October meeting: Conversation Starter

Who Were Your Veteran Ancestors?



As we approach Veterans Day on November 11, 2018, our thoughts turn to our loved ones and ancestors who served in the military.

Did any of your ancestors fight in the Battle of Bunker Hill or at Gettysburg?

Did they serve in the trenches of the Western Front or on battleships in the South Pacific?

Perhaps one of your female ancestors was a proud member of the Army Nurse Corps!

Share their service on our AGS Veterans Timeline, which will be back by popular demand.

Join us for a half-hour of snacks and socializing on October 23rd, beginning at 6:30 pm. We are all looking forward to Rob Richardson's talk "The Ultimate Brick Wall: Tracing Your Lost Female Surnames."

See you there!

October meeting volunteer reminder:

Set Up: Sam Martin and Caroline Sinclair

Clean Up: Jaime Hadley & Marcia Arn

Greeter: Robin Raben

Snacks: Marsha Patterson, Diane Holley, Susan Tyler and Shelley Augustin

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November DNA SIG meeting

First Wednesday of every month. Next meeting November 7, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Meeting at Pok-E-Joe's [2121 Parmer Lane, Austin, TX 78727](#) three blocks east of Mopac on Parmer Lane.

Each month we review a chapter from *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy*, by Blaine T. Bettinger. It is available on Amazon in paperback and Kindle editions: <https://www.amazon.com/Family-Guide-Testing-Genetic-Genealogy/dp/1440345325>

Everyone is welcome. You don't need to have tested your DNA to come and learn.

http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/dna-sig-november-7/?instance_id=531

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November Writing SIG meeting

Second Tuesday of every month (no meeting in December). Next meeting November 13, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Meeting at Cafe Express (we meet in the small room by the kitchen), [3418 N Lamar Blvd, Austin, Texas 78705](#)

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 and those of us that are ready will 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 share the cost for the room (\$5 a person.)

http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/ags-writing-sig-11-2018/?instance_id=509

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AGS / Austin History Center Genealogy Workshop

October 19, 11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

[Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe St., Austin](#)

Austin History Center and the Austin Genealogical Society join the Genealogy Network of Texas, hosted by the West Waco Library and Genealogy Center, for a day-long genealogy workshop. Our own **Teresa Devine** and **Dianne Holley** will be speakers.

<https://library.austintexas.gov/event/genealogy-workshop-512471>

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Saving Your Stories For Future Generations

October 20, 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

[North Village Library Branch, 2505 Steck Ave., Austin](#)

Georgetown genealogist Tracie McFadden Burns of Backtrackers Genealogy will help you think about your memories in different ways, showing you how to use FindAGrave, MyHeritage, Ancestry, the new global family tree of FamilySearch, and even YouTube to tell about your family and their history in ways they will access, use, and maybe even remember.

http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/saving-your-stories-for-future-generations/?instance_id=563

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Hogg family cemetery lot clean-up - there will be another trip to Oakwood Cemetery in downtown Austin to keep the Hogg family cemetery lot maintained. The date has not been finalized but will happen after the first freeze hits Austin - we assume sometime in December. Oakwood Cemetery, is located at [1601 Navasota St., Austin, TX 78702](#). If you are interested in helping out, contact James Bridges.

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September monthly meeting recap

There were 79 in attendance at the meeting, including 6 visitors.

Helping at member sign in table was Gary & Kathy Pemberton - thank you!

Thanks to the crew for help with setup/food/cleanup: Diane Harvey Anderson, Diana & Louis Sellers, Glenda Lassiter, Susan Shaw, Gayle Boyce, Elizabeth Price, Teresa Devine, Susan Tyler and Dawn Orsak.



Non-AGS Events

Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG)

SLIG virtual program: Advanced Evidenced Analysis Practicum

Saturdays, October 13 - November 18

Work through one complex study case per week on your own time schedule, in the comfort of your own home.

<https://ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=535>

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Williamson County Genealogical Society

How the National Archives Can Help You - The Researcher

October 18

Social time at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

[Round Rock Public Library, 216 E Main Street, Round Rock, Texas.](#) Room A

<https://williamsontxgenealogy.org/>

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SAG&HS Workshop with Kelvin Meyers

Saturday, October 20

[Cross Roads Church, 8102 Midcrown Drive, San Antonio, Texas](#)

The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society features Kelvin Meyers giving four presentations:

- Probate: More than a Will
- The Hand that Rocked the Cradle Could Rule the World
- Are Your Ancestors in the Draper Manuscripts
- Introduction to Forensic Genealogy

The event also includes a quilt raffle, duplicate book sale, and lots of door prizes.

Location: Cross Roads Church, [8102 Midcrown Drive, MidCrest, Texas 78239](#) (Northeast of San Antonio)

<https://txsaghs.org/>

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Waco Library Genealogy Lock-In

Friday, October 19

10:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Registration begins at 9:30 a.m.

Waco-McLennan County Library, [5301 Bosque Blvd., Suite 275, Waco, TX 76710](#)

Speakers include: **Judy G. Russell**, JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist, **Kevin Klaus**, Information Specialist Texas General Land Office (GLO) Archives and Records, **Ari Wilkins**, Library Associate at Dallas Public Library, **Kathy Huber**, Manager, Genealogy Center, Tulsa City County Library and **Drew Smith**, Assistant Librarian, Academic Services, USF Tampa Library, co-host *Genealogy Guys* Podcast.

Event is free.

<http://calendar.wacolibrary.org/event/3588780?hs=a>

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Board for Certification of Genealogists Live Webinar

Free Day of Quality Genealogical Education

October 19, starts at 10:00 a.m

Five live webinars throughout the day starting at 10:00 a.m. with last webinar

starting at 4:30 p.m. Speakers: Jeanne Bloom, C.G., Elissa Scalise Powell, CG, CGL, Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG, CGL, Tom Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, and Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL (The Legal Genealogist).

<https://familytreewebinars.com/BCG>

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Austin Archives Bazaar

October 28, 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saengerrende Hall (Scholz Garden)

[1607 San Jacinto Blvd, Austin, TX 78701](https://www.austinarchivesbazaar.org/)

Come discover the amazing archival resources available in Austin and Central Texas! **Visit us at the Austin Genealogical Society table while**

you are there.

<http://www.austinarchivesbazaar.org/>

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TXGS Family History Conference

Journey Through Generations

November 2-4

Omni San Antonio Hotel at the Colonnade

[9821 Colonnade Blvd., San Antonio](https://www.txsgs.org/featured-events/2018-family-history-conference/)

Learn from leading family history speakers and educators. Visit companies and organizations providing products and services that will benefit your research. Connect with old friends and make new ones. Leave TxSGS 2018 with a renewed enthusiasm for family history and ready to tackle those challenging research projects.

<http://www.txsgs.org/featured-events/2018-family-history-conference/>

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Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG)

Elevate your Genealogical Education to New Heights

13-18 January 2019

[Hilton SLC Center, Salt Lake City, Utah](#)

SLIG 2019 opens with a networking social on Sunday and closes with the Completion Banquet on Friday evening. Courses run Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:00 pm; some will include homework, consultations, or labs outside those times.

<https://ugagenealogy.org/cpage.php?pt=524>

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Austin Gen SIG

[Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., Austin](#)

<http://marostica.org/WP/>

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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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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/>

Genealogy Online

Austin Public Library Genealogical Resources (online)

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

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New Chrome Extension Helps Color Code DNA matches

For users of the Google Chrome web browser only, DNA Match Labeling adds colored dot labeling to AncestryDNA matches. DNA Match Labeling adds a table of eight colors (red, blue, green, yellow, pink, orange, gray, and black) at the top of each page, where the user can enter text defining the color.

<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/dna-match-labeling/kgkhfloclmjcbgilbdhjkmmaohlemfci>

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Do you have a useful online resource for genealogical research? Send it to newsletter@austintxgensoc.com!

Photos above courtesy of the Texas Portal to History:

C.A. Major. Last Known Veterans of the 1836 Texas Revolution, photograph, 1906; Goliad.

(texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph78797/: accessed September 30, 2018), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, texashistory.unt.edu; crediting Bee County Historical Commission.

[Photograph of Cowboy Pumpkin], photograph, Date Unknown;

(texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph405747/: accessed September 30, 2018), University of North Texas Libraries, The Portal to Texas History, texashistory.unt.edu; crediting Hardin-Simmons University Library.



AGS Classes



AGS SIGs



AGS Online



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