GATA GACC! DNA and Genetic Genealogy Today

Learn how and where we are currently using DNA for genealogy. You can maximize Y-DNA, mitochondrial DNA, and autosomal DNA test results to contribute to your genealogical research goals.

Debbie will do a general introduction to using DNA testing for genealogy. She will discuss using Y-DNA for the direct paternal line, mitochondrial DNA for the direct maternal line, and autosomal DNA for the other ancestral lines. You will learn what DNA testing is and how to obtain the tests. You will learn how to use the test results to maximize the contribution to genealogical research goals and which tests can be used for ethnic studies based on the current technology.

Debbie Parker Wayne is a full-time, board-certified genealogist and genealogical lecturer, experienced using DNA analysis as well as more traditional techniques for genealogical research. Her DNA research focuses on client projects and on research into her own family project which includes yDNA, mtDNA, xDNA, and autosomal DNA studies. Her traditional research focuses on Texas, the Southwest, and the Southern U.S. She has performed research for genealogical television series such as the Canadian series “Ancestors in the Attic”, the PBS series, “Finding Your Roots”, with Henry Louis Gates Jr., and The Learning Channel's, “Who Do You Think You Are?.” Debbie is a Trustee for the BCG Education Fund and the Texas State Genealogical Society's DNA Project Director. She is the course coordinator for the “Practical Genetic Genealogy” course at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh and “Getting Started with Genetic Genealogy” at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy.

Inside this issue:

AGS Board Minutes 2
From the President’s Corner 3
Local Genealogical Opportunities 3
Hospitality Report 8
Board members/officers 8
2014 Programs 8

Special points of interest:

Just AGS member things 4
News Items 5
Good Things Coming Up 6-7
AGS Business: From the Minutes of the Board Meeting

AGS Board Meeting, August 26, 2014

Board Minutes

Members present: Marcia Arn, Inez Eppright, Missy Harris, Patricia Thompson, Carol Mason, Kathy Pemberton, Jane Schwendinger, Don Villoni, and Lisa Smith-Curtean by phone. Members not present: Anne Mamiya, Karin Nelson and Winnie Noelke.

Minutes of the July 2014 AGS Board meeting were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer’s Report

The July treasurer’s report was examined. Discussion followed concerning the fact that the credits and debits did not seem to agree on the Treasurer’s report and bank statement. A vote was taken and the July Treasurer’s Report was not approved.

Bank Statement

Inez Eppright, who does the monthly review, reported that she was unable to reconcile the bank statement.

Membership

Current membership stands at 375. Missy Harris will check with some retirement centers regarding presenting genealogy at some centers.

Programs

The September program will be on DNA. Recommendations are needed and are being solicited from the membership for programs for the calendar year 2015.

Publicity

AGS will not be advertising on KLRU during the Find Your Roots series, but have advised them we would be interested in doing a phone bank. AGS will have a booth at the Texas Book Festival.

OLD BUSINESS

Fort Wayne Research Trip

There has been one cancellation of those registered to attend.

Computer Upgrade Costs

A new battery, Windows 7, more RAM, Malware bytes and increased speed will cost less than $400. Jane would like to transfer AGS information from her computer to the AGS computer so the information would be available if needed. A motion was made to spend up to $400 to upgrade the AGS computer with a new battery, Windows 7, more RAM, Malware bytes and increased speed and to add this as an item in the budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Luncheon Event

AGS will sponsor a luncheon at the FGS Conference in San Antonio, featuring Teri Flack as the speaker.

Website and Quarterly

Lisa Smith-Curtean reported that the move from Host Gator to Go Daddy has been made and we now have a fast and secure website. Lisa was thanked for her hard work in accomplishing the change. The Quarterly deadline was August 16, and she will get it out by the first part of September. Information for the fourth quarter Quarterly is needed starting now.

Introduction to Genealogy Classes

Anne Mamiya and Nancy Stevens will be teaching the classes on September 27th and October 4th at the Hampton Branch at Oak Hill Library. Registration is available on the website.
From the President’s Corner

Time is flying by and more events are rapidly approaching. The outstanding FGS conference has passed and has stimulated my interest in more research. Consider refreshing your skills by attending the Introduction to Genealogy class we are offering members and non-members for free! Hurry and let me know if you’d like to join the trip to Ft. Wayne. Debbie Parker Wayne will be helping us all understand the relationship between DNA testing and genealogy. With these exciting things coming up, I hope to see you all soon.

Jane Schwendinger

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/

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.

The end of summer brings a flurry of genealogical events happening in Austin and within driving distance. Please see the long and enticing list of possibilities on pages 6-7 of this newsletter.
The Federation of Genealogical Societies presented
The David S. Vogels, Jr. Award For Outstanding Career Contributions to FGS
To Pat Oxley August 2014

The David S. Vogels, Jr. Award is presented to an individual in recognition of outstanding career contributions to FGS. Generally, but not necessarily, given once each year. (Established 9 March 1990.)

This award has not been given since 2006. Pat is richly deserving.

Pat is pictured here with Josh Taylor as she received the award.

In case you missed it, the Sunday, August 31, 2014, edition of the Austin American Statesman had a terrific article titled “Effort to preserve Oakwood Cemetery grows.” Many of you know dedicated AGS member Kay Boyd. What you may not know is that, in addition to her countless contributions to AGS, she has also long been involved with the preservation efforts of Oakwood Cemetery. Did you know that Kay was co-editor of the book, “Austin’s Historic Oakwood Cemetery”? The Statesman article quotes Kay in several places and even gives a brief mention of her Swedish immigrant ancestor who is buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Condolences

We offer our condolences to AGS past president and Life Member, John Miller, on the loss of his wife Carolyn, who died on August 1. Carolyn was 84. She is survived by her husband of 62 years, John Miller, as well as her sons and daughter-in-laws Michael Carroll and Jacqueline Johnson Miller of Tomball, Texas, and Robert Spearman and Karen Fairbrother Miller of Ashburn, Virginia, and four grand-children.

John would appreciate cards of sympathy. He is currently in Room 118 of Emeritus at Spicewood Springs, 4401 Spicewood Springs, Austin 78750. He would also welcome visitors.
Please Take Note

AGS storage space has been moved to a closet. Consequently, our storage space at the church is now much more limited than it was previously. Please do not bring magazines and similar items to be placed and shared on our ‘free’ table each month. If they are not taken the month you bring them, we have no space to store them for another month.

Need Member Input…..

Planning for successful programs begins early. Marcia Arn would like to have your ideas, thoughts, and preferences. What would you like to learn? What have you heard too much of? It helps a great deal to know what YOU, as members, would like to hear. Please send your suggestions to Marcia at mjarn50@hotmail.com. Marcia is happy to receive more than just a topic idea. Feel free to tell her if you’ve heard someone speak on a topic you have enjoyed and provide some narrative regarding your thoughts. It helps the program committee evaluate all of the ideas that are submitted.

Please Take Note

MIND MAPPING

Check behind the member wall on our AGS website http://austintxgensoc.org/ to view Thomas MacEntee’s “Mind Mapping Your Research Plans and Results.” He has generously agreed to share this with us. To quote Mr. MacEntee, “[Mind mapping] is the perfect fit for the way the typical genealogist’s mind operates.” Have a look. It is very interesting and very helpful. His website is: http://hidefgen.com

For those of you who might want further information, Luci Anderson welcomes inquiries regarding her July program. Contact her at gtownscrappy@yahoo.com
Good Things Coming Up

AGS Research Trip to Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana

You have heard it said, SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE!

Contact Jane at president@austintxgensoc.org

This really is your last chance for 2014 to join the group on this trip.

(This is your newsletter editor’s favorite large research library. Just can’t resist putting in a plug for it.)

This is really good news if you have been on the fence about joining the other intrepid researchers who have already signed up to go on this research trip. There are still a few spaces remaining. If you can’t depart or return at exactly the same time as the group plan stands now, the powers that be can work with you on it.

Officially the trip is October 5th -- October 11th, 2014. However, if you would still like to go or are considering it, but can’t clear your calendar for that many days, you are free to join the group for fewer days. If you would like to go and stay longer, that can be arranged, also. How long would YOU like to have for good research time and wonderful camaraderie with this great group?

Lodging at the Hilton Ft. Wayne at the Convention Center for 6 nights.

Tentative cost: $100 deposit. Final payment of $640 single or $301double. Less if you stay fewer days, of course.

Right here in town!

The good, the bad, the ugly - Texas has its share. Our state's history is filled with stories of larger-than-life individuals whose illicit quests for fame and fortune shaped present day Texas. Juan Cortina, John Wesley Hardin and, of course, Santa Anna, are just a few. And for each villain, a hero exists. Stalwart Texans, such as James Earl Rudder, exemplified courage right here at home and on far away battlefields.

Making Waves on Land and Sea: Legends and Controversy in Texas History promises to be a day you’ll remember, filled with the true stories of Texas villains and heroes.

Mark your calendar for September 20 and register today!

Sign up here!
http://www.cvent.com/events/save-texas-history-symposium-2014/event-summary-9e89e41684384e8fb6844f6cc65b632f0.aspx
Are You Writing Your Stories Yet?

After the “Your Family History as a Short Story” program presentation by Mary Scrudder at the July meeting, can we all assume that YOU are writing your stories? Longtime AGS member Richard Robertson has a follow-up recommendation for you. Lifetime Learning has a class titled “Writing Your Family Memoirs.” Classes will begin on September 17th at 10 am at Highland Park Baptist Church. Charge is $20 for the semester. Class members write their stories and read them in class. A book is assembled at the end of the semester of the stories for those who want to be “published.” Check the website http://www.lliaustin.org/, pick up a catalog at the library, or show up to register.

Introduction to Genealogy Classes

This two-part series will help beginners get started and is guaranteed to provide even experienced researchers with some new ideas to get you moving again on the trail of those elusive ancestors.

The classes will meet on September 27 and October 4, from 10:30 - 1:30, at Austin Public Library Hampton Branch at Oak Hill, 5125 Convict Hill Road.

To register, please go to our website: http://austintxgensoc.org/
For more information, you may contact president@austingensoc.org

The Dallas Genealogical Society presents its 2014 Fall Lecture on Saturday, September 27. The speaker is Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist. Her topic is, “Genealogy and the Law: From the Past to the Future.” There are four talks on the subject. Visit www.dallasmgenealogy.org for more details.

Kerrville Genealogical Society October 11 Seminar

Genealogy and Technology

“New Ideas, New Technologies To Learn About Your Ancestors”

The speaker, Caroline M. Pointer, will present four sessions. For registration information, call: 830-377-3172.

Fort Bend County Library Celebrates Family-History Month

ANNUAL Genealogy Symposium Saturday, October 18, from 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

John Philip Colletta, Ph.D., will share his knowledge, experience, and insight on a variety of topics designed to help family-history buffs explore different avenues of genealogical research. The program is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, however, and reservations are required. To register online at the library’s website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us), click on “Calendar,” select “George Memorial Library,” and find the program. Participants may also register by calling the library’s Local History and Genealogy Department at 281-341-2608.
HOSPITALITY REPORT

August Greeters were Martha Carpenter, Scott Carpenter, and Carol Mason.

Sign-in Table volunteers were Jean Marostica, Gary Pemberton, and Shirley Villoni.

The refreshment table was served by Sheila Sargent.

Refreshments were provided by Sharon Foley, Wynnell Noelke, Susan Erickson and Glenn Harrison.

Attendance at the August meeting was 53, including 4 visitors, 2 new members, the speaker, and 46 members.

New members are Marilyn Roberts, Deborah Glen, and Carolyn Victor.

Visitors at the August meeting were: Donna Valdes, Gail Yawn, Faye Sigers, and Barrie and Mollie Allison Dwaynea

September greeters will be Chris Bond and Shirley Meyer.

September refreshments will be provided by Carolyn Gresham, Jo Ann Hornung, and Chris Bond

2014 PROGRAMS

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

Sep 23  GATA GACC! DNA and Genetic Genealogy today -Debbie Parker Wayne

Oct 28  How Lineage Societies Help You Realize Your Family's Part in History

Nov 25  Fall Festival-How Austin Came to Be-Teri Flack

2014 Board of Directors

Term Ending 2014: Term Ending 2015
Missy HARRIS Marcia ARN
Patricia THOMPSON Lisa SMITH-CURTEAN
Anne MAMIYA Inez EPPRIGHT
Karin NELSON Carol MASON
Jane SCHWENDINGER Wynnie NOELKE
Don VILLONI Kathy PEMBERTON

2014 Officers

President Jane SCHWENDINGER
1ST Vice President Anne MAMIYA
2nd Vice President Marcia ARN
Secretary Inez EPPRIGHT
Treasurer Karin NELSON
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