



Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

April 2008

Vol. 14

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

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Austin Genealogical Society Annual Seminar

**Saturday, April 26, 2008,
Norris Conference Center
in Northcross Mall
2525 W Anderson Ln # 365
Austin, TX 78757**



Susan D. Kaufman, MLIS, is manager of the Clayton Library, Center for Genealogical Research, Houston (TX) Public Library. She has been a genealogy librarian for 18 years including six years at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, the nation's largest genealogy collection in a public library. She began her career as the genealogy librarian at the Peoria (Illinois) Public Library.

Ms. Kaufman has been involved in genealogical librarianship and genealogical societies since 1987. She offers expertise in genealogical/historical reference, collection development, and educational outreach. Her collection development skills include being able to acquire one-of-a-kind resources, government documents and other hard to find research materials. She has worked with local, state and national genealogical societies both as a board member and as a presenter at conferences. Currently, she is a director for the national Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) board. This past year she was selected as National Conference Co-Chair for the FGS National Conference annual conference held in Boston in August 2006.

Seminar Topics

Newspapers

Primary sources are the building blocks of research. Newspapers are reflective of the thoughts, morals, events, and times of the communities and the society they represent. Although content can vary, and information might have a specific "agenda", finding that vital piece of information, a vital record, a list of immigrants, or even just the "goings on" of the community your family was a part of offers a greater insight and a picture of and into their lives. Read history as it happens,

learn about the location, the people and the events during and from the time your ancestors saw it happen.

Convicts to the Colonies

Prior to 1776 the colonies that became the United States accepted transported criminals to populate the land. Not all were for heinous crimes but some were transported to the colonies rather than to the gallows. There are documents rich in names of ordinary individuals that offer a glimpse into the conditions in which two countries were dealing with population growth, one as an emigrating country, one as an immigrant country. A survey of the records discussing this group of individuals, the convicts transported to the British colonies of America, will be offered.

PERSI: The Periodical Source Index

PERSI is the largest and most widely-used index of genealogical and historical periodical articles in the world. (Periodicals are simply publications produced regularly as part of a series—magazines, newsletters, journals, etc.) There is an amazing amount of genealogical information and knowledge that is published in these periodicals every year. Created by the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana, under the editorship of Michael B. Clegg, **PERSI** is widely recognized as essential for high-quality genealogy research. This growing database has become the largest dataset of its kind, containing over 1.7 million references to helpful articles. As a former librarian at this wonderful library, Sue will give us the ins and outs of this collection.

The Allen County Library

This renowned collection includes more than 350,000 printed volumes and 513,000 items of microfilm and microfiche. Patrons of the department also have *free access* to major online databases (i.e. Ancestry.com, America's Genealogy Bank, HeritageQuestOnline.com, NewEnglandAncestors.org, ProQuest Obituaries, WorldVitalRecords.com & Footnote.com.)

Sue will show a DVD tour of the new facility in Ft. Wayne. This will be followed by some additional details and a question and answer period. Everyone who ever plans to research at this library will enjoy this session. This will also be of particular interest to anyone contemplating joining AGS on our research trip to Ft. Wayne in October.

Registration

Early registration is \$40 and has been extended to April 15th. Registration at the door will be \$45. The cost includes lunch and material. *Your early registration must be RECEIVED by us not later than Tuesday April 15th in order for your contact information and research surnames to be included in the syllabus.* There are still some seats left for this annual fun and informative event. Your registration fee includes 4 lectures, a nice box lunch, networking with your fellow genealogists and an exhibit hall. For more information visit our website: www.AustinTxGenSoc.org and go to the seminar link. You can register online through PayPal or you can print a registration form and mail it with your check to the address provided. *We hope to see you there!*



April 26th is also an AGS NO TAX day! This is an excellent time to take advantage of buying your AGS denim or polo shirts or an AGS fleece jacket and pay no sales tax!

**The next monthly AGS Meeting will be
Tuesday, May 27, 2008**

**Program: Using Maps in Your Genealogical Research
Presented by: Teri Flack
More information in next month's newsletter.**



A Note from the President ...

A special thank you is due to each of you who attended our March meeting. As you know, our attendance surpassed our February meeting – we reached a long-time goal of at least 100 people in attendance! I believe it is a testament to the hard work of Cindy Foreman, the Program/Education Chair and her committee – they have planned a series of programs of interest to us all.

I encourage each of you to attend our annual seminar on Saturday, April 26th. Our guest speaker is Susan D. Kaufman, the manager of Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research in Houston. Sue presented more than one program here at AGS – she is entertaining and educational (I won't go so far as to say "You'll laugh and you'll cry," but you get my point) – this will be a day well spent.

As you know, I think one of the marks of a good program is the presence of food – and lunch is included in your fee. (If you don't want yours, I can probably take it off your hands.) The registration form is online at the AGS website and you can even use PayPal

to pay the registration fee if you choose. I recommend that you register today if you haven't already done so.

Pat Oxley, our Seminar Coordinator, has been busy collecting special door prizes for the drawing – but you must be present to win one. And don't miss the chance to visit the vendors Pat has lined up – it's a good opportunity to pick up some genealogy-related materials without paying shipping charges. I don't know about you, but I prefer to buy in person rather than on-line – I'm old-fashioned that way.

Remember that there is no regular monthly meeting in April – the church requires the use of the building this month. Our May 27th Program is "Using Maps in Your Genealogical Research," presented by AGS member Teri Flack. I don't recall an AGS program on this topic and I'm looking forward to her presentation.

I'm looking forward to seeing you.
Tommy Ingram, President
Austin Genealogical Society



Membership

(Contributed by Barbara Innis, Membership Committee Chair)

From the Meeting on March 25th:

WE DID IT!!!!

Attendance: 105 *THANK YOU* to all who attended. It has been our goal for a long

time to have 100 people in attendance at a regular meeting. We came very close in February with 95, but in March, we made it!

Visitors: 8 Catherine Crowder, Al Endsley, Carolyn Endsley, Louise Harris,

Bob Marshall, Christa Marshall, Sherri Russell, Harriet Starkey.

Welcome to New Members. The following people have joined AGS since our last meeting: Carolyn Alflen, Allen County Public Library, Margaret Francis, Susan Goldsworthy, Jeanne Jacques, Elizabeth R. Jones, Anne Kohler, Vinson Lockwood, Charles & Margie Swearingen, Aleta Krauss, Ethel Howerton, and Melody & Huey Long.

Special thanks go to those bringing refreshments for the March meeting: Terri Mirka, Maud Cain, Joann Traver, and Sharon Tieman.

Special thanks also go to our greeters for March: Maud Cain, Sheila Sargent, and Bob Tieman. We also thank those people who signed up to be greeters at future meetings.



THE ANNUAL AGS INDOOR PICNIC is on the calendar for **Tuesday, June 17.** [*Editor's comment:* Please note the 17th is NOT our usual 4th Tuesday. Due to a scheduling conflict with the church facility, the AGS picnic is on the *third* Tuesday of June.] This year's theme is Italian! The meal will be catered by the Olive Garden.

Program: "Show and Tell" by AGS Members--that's YOU!

- * Family History Research
- * My Brick Wall Nightmare
- * My Favorite Ancestor(s)
- * The Black Sheep in the Family
- * Other ideas....

Tickets are \$8 each (same as last year) and will go on sale beginning April 26th at the AGS Seminar. If you want a vegetarian entre, please be sure to let us know at the time you purchase your ticket. We will also begin taking reservations for "Show and Tell" tables (or ½ tables) at the AGS Seminar. There is no fee for the table, but you do need to reserve your space. For additional information, please contact Barbara Innis, 340-9932, bagns@sbcglobal.net.



Cemetery Saturday

The first Saturday of each month has been designated a "Cemetery Workday." We had our first workday on Saturday, April 5 and thank you to all of the volunteers who came out and helped.

The Oakwood Annex is a large cemetery downtown at 16th and Comal, so it will be an ongoing project. There is a lot of work to be done there with about 12,000 stones to read. If you (and or a friend) want to do some work on your own schedule, we can provide the listing of people buried in the area and you can verify the names and add

the dates from the tombstones. This work can be done anytime at your convenience. I have found that 2 hours of field work is quite adequate before all of the names and dates start running together. All you need is a clipboard, mechanical pencil and a bottle of water.

Please contact Kay Boyd mkdb1405@aol.com or Robert Sage rsage@austin.rr.com if you are interested in working on this or any other cemetery in Travis County. We have cemeteries on FM 812, Decker Lane and the city of Manor that need to be recorded. (Submitted by Kay Boyd.)

Educational Opportunities



AGS Board member Randy Whited presents *DNA Testing in Genealogy: What Biology Can and Cannot Tell You About Your Ancestry* at the Williamson County Genealogical Society meeting on April 10th at 7:30. Location is Allen R. Baca Center, 301 W. Bagdad, Round Rock, Texas, Building 2, Small Meeting Room 1.

If you live in the Lake Travis area, stop by the **Lake Travis Community Library** at 9:00 a.m. on **Fridays** for impromptu **genealogy workshops** with Katherine Scattergood. The library will be open only for the genealogy workshops at this time.



Texas State Library

Per the latest Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas newsletter, TSL has received a \$1 million pledge from the Jean and Price Daniel Foundation, Inc., toward the \$10 million capital campaign to renovate the aging headquarters of the Texas State Library and Archives. The Friends want to raise \$10 million to pay for such things as archival shelving, both movable and freestanding, furniture for patrons and staff, equipment, energy efficient lighting, recording booths for the Talking Book Program, a conservation lab, and other items that are not covered by the initial \$15.5 million legislative appropriation.

The Friends are seeking its first development director. This part-time

position will work with the Friends board of directors and the state librarian to define a strategic direction for the fundraising/capital campaign of the Friends. This new opportunity is made possible because of the Tocker Foundation's generous support and assistance. The foundation will fund the salary of the development director in the interim until the Friends can secure more permanent funding from other sources. If you want to know more about the Friends and/or to donate to the capital campaign, please visit their website at <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/friends/>.

The current society journals from 2007 forward are being displayed currently at the Texas State Library.



2008 Research Trips

SPRING BUS TRIP TO DALLAS on **Monday, May 12**. This year, for the first time, there will be *two* pick-up locations. Anyone interested in genealogy is welcome to join us, but there is a limit of 50 riders. The bus will pick up riders in Austin at the LDS Pick up location in Austin is the LDS Church on Rutherford Lane. We will load at 6:15 and leave promptly at 6:30

a.m. The second stop is at the Outlet Mall in Round Rock. We will load there at 6:45 and leave the Round Rock location at 7:00 a.m. On the return trip, we will leave the Dallas Library promptly at 5:00 p.m. and arrive at the boarding locations at about 8:00 and 8:30 p.m. respectively.

The cost has not gone up since our last trip to Dallas. It is still \$50 and includes a light

breakfast and a boxed supper. (Lunch is on your own.) The deadline for signing up and paying for the trip is May 1st. Reservation forms are available on the AGS website at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/bustrip.php>. Please be sure to note on the registration form the location at which you will be boarding. Checks should be made out to AGS and mailed to Kay Boyd, 1405 S. Meadows, Austin, TX 78758.

To date, 30 people have paid and 12 are on the "pending" list. Please let Kay know if you are planning to travel with the group and have not paid as the capacity of the bus is only 50 people. You will be able to enjoy a full day of research at the Dallas Genealogy Library. Some of the holdings of the library are viewable at www.dallaslibrary.org/CHS/cgc.htm. Contact Kay Boyd at 836-7484 or mkdb1405@aol.com for more information.

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY Fort Wayne, Indiana

This year, AGS is sponsoring a research trip to the Allen County Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. This will be our second trip to this wonderful facility, but they have moved into their new building since our last visit. Mark your calendars and get your deposits in! Here are the details:

Sunday, October 5 - Saturday, October 11, 2008

The hotel package is \$350 (double occupancy)* and includes 6 nights at the Fort Wayne Inn, 6 breakfasts at the hotel, a dinner banquet with Curt Witcher, Director of the library, as our speaker, transportation and tips to/from the airport and hotel in Ft. Wayne, snacks and drinks for our hospitality suite. Airfare is \$372 plus \$15 ticketing plus taxes (*Single occupancy is \$605 for the hotel package.)

As you might expect, Fort Wayne is a second tier city, so there is not much in the way of competitive airfares. We will be traveling on American Airlines, leaving Austin around 10 a.m. and arriving in Fort Wayne (via Chicago) mid-afternoon. On Saturday

we will depart Fort Wayne at 4 p.m. and arrive home (via Chicago) at 8:30 pm.

To reserve your spot, please send a \$100 check (payable to "AGS") to Pat Oxley, 2012 Red Oak Circle, Round Rock, TX 78681. You can email Pat (pat@theoxleys.com) or call (512-733-5993.) Please specify single or double occupancy, your roommate, and IF you want a plane ticket. Please also include all your contact information: Name, address, phone number, email, etc.

Be sure to come to the AGS seminar on Saturday, April 26th when there will be a video tour of the library given and more details about researching there. See more at <http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/index.html>.

Need Some Lookups?

A volunteer organization known by its abbreviation RAOGK (**Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness**) may be able to help. RAOGK was established in 1999 as a resource for networking among researchers. RAOGK links researchers who need documents from a distant location with others able to obtain them. RAOGK is a global volunteer organization. With volunteers in every U.S. state and many International locations, we have helped thousands of researchers. Our 4000 volunteers take time to do everything from looking up courthouse records to taking pictures of tombstones. All they ask in return is reimbursement for their expenses (never their time) and a THANK YOU.

This Lincoln, Nebraska, based organization is administered by Bridgett and Dale Schneider. Both are former employees of RootsWeb.com and MyFamily.com. The site is solely funded by contributions from appreciative users and sales from its two online stores. In Travis County, Earle McBride is the only AGS member of 9 RAOGK contacts. You can reach Earle at: efmcbride@mail.utexas.edu. Their website is www.raogk.org.

Profit & Loss	
January through March 2008	
Income	
Seminar Receipts	2,605
2008 Bus trip	1,300
Classes	150
Contributions Rec'd	215
Envelope Collections	6
2008 Membership Dues	3,320
Misc. Income	91
Sales receipts	117
Total Income	7,804
Cost of Goods Sold	178
GROSS PROFIT	7,626
Expenses	
Cemetery project	3
Charitable Donations	500
Education	387
Membership	3
Operating Expenses	
Bank fees	13
Misc Expenses	-32
Permits & Licenses	175
Postage	255
Printing / Copying	933
Room rental	250
Society memberships	25
Research trip advances	1,215
Total Expenses	3,727
Net Ordinary Income	3,899
Interest Earned	4
Net Income	3,903

Balance Sheet	
As of March 31, 2008	
ASSETS	
Operating Account	8,719
Certificate of Deposit	5,148
Savings Account	8,082
Bulk Mail	340
Inventory Asset	-8
Prepaid Rent	350
Undeposited funds	20
TOTAL ASSETS	22,651
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
08 Ft. Wayne traveler deposits	1,250
Sales Tax Payable	8
Total Liabilities	1,208
Equity	
Retained Earnings	17,490
Net Income	3,903
Total Equity	21,393
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	22,651

Notes from the Newsletter Editor:

Well, that's the end of this 4th edition. Thanks for taking the time to read it through. I hope you found some useful information here and that you will let us know if you have any ideas on how it can be improved. As I said in the last edition, if you are having trouble viewing this online, please let us know so we can address your issues.

I hope to see many of you at the Seminar on the 26th.

Until next time... Happy Trackin',

Janis Trayler, Editor
newsletter@austintxgensoc.org

2008 Board of Directors

The members of the Board of Directors for the Austin Genealogical Society for 2008 are:

Term ending 2008:	Term Ending 2009:
Kay Boyd	Teri Flack
Inez Eppright	Tommy Ingram
Cindy Foreman	Barbara Innis
Alana Mallard	Elizabeth Johnston
Connie Perdue	Robert Sage
Janis Trayler	Randy Whited

2008 Officers

President	Tommy Ingram
1 st Vice President	Kay Boyd
2 nd Vice President	Cindy Foreman
Recording Secretary	Inez Eppright
Treasurer	Teri Flack

*We are here to serve the members of the Society.
If you have ideas, suggestions, or concerns, please
share those with us.*

INSIDE:

News about coming AGS events:

April 26 – Annual Seminar

May 12 – Research Trip to Dallas

June 17 – Annual AGS Indoor Picnic

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