



# Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

August 2007

www.AustinTxGenSoc.org

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**Society Meeting**  
**Highland Park Baptist Church**  
**5208 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas**  
**Tuesday, August 28, 2007**  
**6:30 P.M. - Doors Open**  
**7:15 P.M. - Meeting & Program Begin**  
**Meet & Greet New Friends**  
**Our Help Desk is Open to Assist you with Research Questions**  
**Shop Our Used Books,**  
**Pick Up Freebies & Flyers about**  
**Upcoming Events**

## PROGRAM

### **"RESEARCHING AFRICAN-AMERICAN ANCESTRY PRIOR TO THE CIVIL WAR"**

Please join the Austin Genealogical Society for our Tuesday, August 28th meeting when our speaker will be Karen J. Matheson, Director of the Round Rock Family History Center. The topic will be "Researching African-American Ancestry Prior to the Civil War". The presentation will include research techniques for those interested in learning more about their African-American slave ancestors. We will also discuss how slaves were an integral part of the lives of those with Southern ancestors.

Karen J. Matheson grew up in the Salt Lake Valley of Utah, where she worked as a professional genealogist for Lineage's, Inc. prior to moving to Texas seven years ago. Karen's interest in family history and genealogy began at a young age, when she would hand copy pedigrees and family group records for her mother, and accompany her mother on visits to relatives and cemeteries. Currently the Director of the Round Rock Family History Center, Karen has the opportunity to help others pursue their elusive ancestors!

Tommy Ingram,  
Program Chairman

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## July Board Retreat

On July 14th, the AGS Board held a planning retreat. Ten of the twelve directors were present and much was accomplished.

President, Pat Oxley, announced she had asked Cindy Foreman to convene the nominating committee for this year. The two Board members elected to that committee were Tommy Ingram and Edna Youngblood. Two members will be elected from the general membership at the July meeting.

Proposed by-law changes were presented by Tommy Ingram. The Board approved the proposed changes with a few corrections and additions. The changes will be attached to the August newsletter and they will be voted on at the September meeting. The new by-laws will go into effect with the new Board on January 1, 2008.

Results of the very successful AGS survey were discussed. Nearly 50% of our members participated in the survey and we really appreciate the time you took to do this. The information is being sent to the various committees and suggestions and comments are being taken very seriously and will be instrumental in planning of future classes, programs and trips. Thank you to everyone who took the time to give us your opinions!

In 2008 we are delighted to offer a return trip to the Allen County Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. As you know the library was recently moved into its new home and their collection has doubled in size.

## Board Retreat Report

Continued from page 1

More details will follow around the first of the year. We are pleased to know that this was your number one choice and look forward to another good trip to the home of PERSI. The trip will most likely take place in early October of 2008.

In 2009 the majority of our survey participants wish to go to Little Rock, Arkansas to the FGS Conference and to the various repositories in that area. This is a wonderful opportunity to be able to hear a large selection of national speakers and to enjoy an exhibit hall with over 100 vendors from all over the country.

In 2010 we are pleased to offer a trip to Washington DC to the National Archives and the Library of Congress. This will be an exciting experience for many of us and a grand opportunity to also enjoy the sights of our nation's capital.

Membership renewal forms will be mailed during November. We will continue to offer member discounts for these exciting trips and classes. This renewal form will include the list of 2008 programs. We hope everyone will continue to support AGS.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Oxley  
AGS President

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## Nominating Committee

Every year the AGS President appoints someone to convene the nominating committee for the upcoming election. This year Cindy Foreman has been asked to head that committee. Two members of the committee are elected from within the Board and this year those two Directors are Tommy Ingram and Edna Youngblood. Two members are elected by the general membership at the July meeting, and the two members elected this year are Sharon Tieman and Jean Marostica.

A proposed slate will be presented at the September meeting and the voting will take place at the October meeting. The new Directors take over in January.

## AGS Fall 2007 Beginners Genealogy Classes

**Classes:** Saturday, September 8 - 15 - 22, 2007

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Location:** LCRA Complex, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd., Austin, Texas in the Hancock Building Board Room. Parking Lot on site.

**Fee:** \$15 for all three classes

**Registration:** Advance registration required. Form can be found at < <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/genclass.php>.>

Send registration form and payment to Kay Boyd, 1405 S. Meadows, Austin, TX 78758. For more information contact Kay Boyd at [mkdb1405@aol.com](mailto:mkdb1405@aol.com) or phone (512) 836-7484.

## Brick Wall Saturday at the Austin History Center

The next "Brick Wall Saturday" is scheduled for Saturday afternoon, August 25th from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Austin History Center. The Austin History Center, a division of the Austin Public Library, is at the intersection of 9th and Guadalupe.

We all have a "brick wall" (an ancestor who stubbornly refuses to give up their life story to you) - what's yours? Come and discuss your brick wall challenge with other genealogists. Please prepare a question related to your research problem, be able to summarize the work you've done, and the group will suggest some possible new directions for your research. Then stay on and listen to other's Brick Walls. You may have just the answer to their genealogy problem. There is no charge for this service and we even provide refreshments!

## Texas State Library Update

As many of you are probably aware, due to pending renovations at the Texas State Library (TSL), the days for access to the Genealogy Collection changed in October 2006 from Tuesday thru Saturday to Monday thru Friday. In January 2007, the AGS Board wrote a letter to the Texas State Library and Archives Commissioners asking to reinstate the Saturday hours.

We also met in February with Peggy Rudd, Director and Librarian, Chris LaPlante, Director of Archives and Information Services (this is a Division of Texas State Library of which the Genealogy Collection is a part), Sandra Pickett, Chairman of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and Martha Doty Freeman, member of the Commission. (The seven members of the Commission are appointed by the Governor. Among their duties are to appoint and supervise the Director and Librarian, review and approve the Library's strategic plans.)

Chris and Peggy explained that the Saturday closing was done to prepare the materials to move during the future renovations. They wanted to have all the employees working on the same day so they could be shifted as needed to help with the move.

We discussed a compromise of opening the library at least one Saturday and discussed "lock in" Saturdays. We also discussed the availability of a room on Saturdays for the brick wall sessions and this also led to the idea of a "lock in" at other times. We have not heard back on these proposals but we are going to attend the Commission Meeting on August 6th to present the matter in person. We will keep you posted on the results of this meeting.

Please note there will be other changes to service, besides hours, at TSL that have and will occur. Per the TSL web site, due to the nature of construction projects, dates are subject to change. Bookmark this page, <<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/renovation/index.html>>, for up-to-date information on the renovation and how it will affect your research.

## Library Update

Continued from page 2

Specific to the Genealogy Collection, on October 1, 2007, genealogy services will relocate to Room 300, where the following resources will be available:

**Vital statistics indexes (micro format only)**  
**Federal census indexes (printed and micro format)**  
**Selected county records (micro format only)**  
**County tax rolls through 1921 (micro format only)**  
**Access to Heritage Quest**

The book collections of Genealogy and Reference/ Documents Collections, as well as the Texas State Archives, will be unavailable during this renovation as they will be stored offsite. Although they do not know how long that situation will exist, it is hoped that it will not last for the entire renovation period which is two years. There will be a few core items, such as Filby's, that will remain onsite, but the majority of the printed materials will be the indexes to the federal censuses. They also anticipate that the CD-Roms will be available.

Connie Perdue

## Renovation of the TSL & Archives Commission

The Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building, home of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, is getting a facelift! This is good news for both our patrons and our staff, as the 46-year old building has been in great need of renovation.

We expect construction work on the two-year renovation to begin in September 2007, but some important changes are afoot now that may impact your research with us. Please read on!

We are pleased that we'll be able to stay open throughout most of the renovation, however, services will be limited, and much of our collection will be moved offsite. As with any construction project, unexpected events may cause us to close for certain brief periods.

We urge researchers to call ahead when planning a trip to our facility. The number is (512) 463-5455. Unfortunately a portion of our collection will be inaccessible during the renovation.

Bookmark [www.tsl.state.tx.us](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us) and follow the Renovation News link, which includes a timeline and will be kept current with news about our services throughout the two year project.

Thanks for your patience and understanding as we bring our facilities into the 21st Century.

**Dates to Remember from the TSL Web Site @ <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/renovation/index.html>**

**August 1, 2007** - Limited access to the Texas State Archives and materials within the Reference/Document Collection will begin. Official state records stored offsite will be available for research with notice. Call ahead so we may accommodate you or refer you to other sources. (512) 463-5455.

## October 1, 2007 - Genealogy Collection

Details: In Library Update article by Connie Perdue

**November 1, 2007** - The Archives Room will relocate to Room 300. Note that official state government records will be accessible throughout the renovation progress, although researchers should expect longer turnarounds as items may be offsite. Call ahead.

## Preservation Tip of the Month by Becky Schipper

When consulting old documents, place them flat on the table or desk where you are working. They should be kept away from the edges of the work surface and also be supported on a blotter or heavy acid-free paper that is larger than the item itself. Make certain that your hands are clean and dry before beginning, and handle any paper object as gently and infrequently as possible. If the object must be consulted frequently, place it in a Mylar sleeve to protect it from further deterioration. Source: Genealogy Gems, # 41, July 31, 2007

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## Welcome New Members

Don & Shirley Villoni

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## Get Well Greetings

Our longtime member, Jerry Barton is having health problems. We all wish him a speedy recovery and we are thinking of him.

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## Condolences

**Paul W. Smith**, 80 , retired funeral director of Austin, died Thursday, July 12, 2007. He is survived by his wife, Tommie. Burial was in Cottonwood Cemetery, Bryson, Texas. Mr. Smith was the author of several books and online Texas cemetery records.

**Bonita Thomas**, 76, AGS member, died unexpectedly on Tuesday, July 31, 2007. She was a retired nursing instructor. Survived by sister, Patricia Thomas and brother Mike Thomas and family. A memorial service was held Sunday, August 5th at First English Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas.

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## Webb Family Reunion held in McLennan County

Descendants of Alfred Joshua and Mary Elizabeth Moore Webb, pioneer family of McLennan County, Texas, met on Saturday, July 14, 2007 at the fellowship hall of the First Baptist Church, Robinson, Texas, near Waco. Four families of their eight children were represented with over 65 in attendance for the first reunion.

The Webbs came from Georgia, first to Northeast Texas about 1851 and obtained a land grant from the State of Texas. In 1868 they moved to McLennan County and settled in the area now know as Downsville, Texas. The Webbs are buried in Robinson Cemetery, along with Alfred's parents and many of their descendants and Moore relatives.

**Austin Genealogical Society  
Profit & Loss - June 2007**

Ordinary Income/Expense		
Income		
Membership Dues Rec'd	<u>90.00</u>	
Total Membership Dues Rec'd.		90.00
Misc. Income		391.00
Sales-Earned Revenues	<u>160.37</u>	
Total Income		641.37
Cost of Goods Sold		
Cost of Goods Sold	<u>127.00</u>	
Total Cost of Goods Sold		<u>127.00</u>
Gross Profit		514.37
Expense		
Education		
Program Expense (spkr. copies)	<u>22.52</u>	
Total Education		22.52
Membership Costs		
Membership Expense	8.40	
Socials	<u>690.00</u>	
Total Membership Costs		698.40
Operating Expense		
Bank Fees	<u>10.00</u>	
Total Bank Fee		10.00
Postage and Delivery		225.02
Printing and Copying		33.60
Rent - Meeting Room	<u>150.00</u>	
Total Operating Expenses		418.62
Research Trip Expenses		
Bus Trip Expenses ( 07 Bus Trip)	<u>282.22</u>	
Total Bus Trip Expenses		<u>282.22</u>
Total Research Trip Expense		<u>282.22</u>
Total Expense	<u>1,421.76</u>	
Net Ordinary Income		- 907.39
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Interest Earned	<u>3.64</u>	
Total Other Income		<u>3.64</u>
Net Other Income	<u>3.64</u>	
Net Income		<u>- \$ 903.75</u>

**Austin Genealogical Society  
Balance Sheet As of June 30,2007**

**ASSETS**

Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
Wells Fargo		
AGS Operating Acct...6054	4,712.02	
CD	5,000.00	
Savings Acct...5679	<u>8,058.28</u>	
Total Wells Fargo		<u>17,770.30</u>
Total Checking/Savings		17,770.30
Other Current Assets		
Bulk Mail	276.02	
Inventory Assets	41.00	
Prepaid Rent	200.00	
Undeposited Funds	<u>41.00</u>	
Total Other Current Assets		558.02
Total Current Assets		<u>18,328.32</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>\$ 18,328.32</u>

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Research Trip Travelers Deposits		
07 SLC Trip	<u>2,175.00</u>	
Total Research Trip Traveler Deposits		2,175.00
Sales Tax Payable		<u>17.22</u>
Total Other Current Liabilities		<u>2,192.22</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>2,192.22</u>
Total Liabilities		2,192.22

Equity		
Opening Balance Equity		89.03
Retained Earnings		17,313.67
Net Income		<u>- 1,266.60</u>
Total Equity		<u>16,136.10</u>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY** \$18,328.32

Janis Trayler,  
Treasurer

**NEW BOOKS: TSL Genealogy Collection**

(Only the Dewey Decimal System call numbers for the state, subject or country are listed. Some titles may be abbreviated to conserve space.)

**FAMILY HISTORY: 929.2**

Remember Who You Are! : The ancestors & Descendants of John Dunkley, & Green B. L. Dunkley  
Two Hundred Years of Roye History  
William Cox of Muhlenberg Co. KY & his Descendants  
**TEXAS: 976.4**

The Brazos County, Texas Cemeteries: List of Persons Interred in Brazos County, Texas to 1988  
Cemeteries of Panola County, TX 1814-2000: an Index of Burials Including Some Cemeteries from, Bordering Counties & States  
History of the Texas Society, National Society DAR

For more detailed information on books in the TSL Genealogy Collection, go to the Library Catalog of Texas State Agencies @ <[www.tsl.state.tx.us/catalog](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/catalog)>. Click on New Material & Library Info. From the New Material List click on TSLAC Genealogy. New books are usually displayed on the shelves just inside the entrance to the Genealogy Collection.

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**GENEALOGITIS**

There is a new disease these days for which there is no cure, So, if it gets a grip on you "You've had it," that's for sure.

This genealogitis, at least that's what I call it, has no known vaccination that can ever quite forestall it.

It strikes the rich, it strikes the poor. The old & young alike, & every nation feels its sting, when the bug makes a strike.

In fact, I'm struck with it myself, I know whereof I speak, this stuff has kept progressing' till it almost makes me weak.

Some symptoms of this dread disease are buying old books, & you'll find yourself in graveyards & dusty attic nooks.

You write all kinds of letters for no stone is left unturned. Sometimes, for only postage stamps, a gold mine is returned.

Just let me say, in closing, that when all is said & done, this malady has brought me joy & such a lot of fun.

By Ruby Price, Oklahoma  
Yesterday, Vol. II, # 2 ,  
Summer 1978

## Web Sites You Can Use

LDS Family History Library  
<http://www.familysearch.org>

Library of Virginia  
<http://www.lva.lib.va.us>

UK & Ireland Genealogy  
<http://genuki.org.uk>

Irish Immigration  
<http://adminstaff.vassar.edu/sttaylor/FAMINE/>

Historical Data Information  
<http://www.dmarie.com/timecap/>

Bentley Library, Univ. of Michigan Library System  
<http://www.bentley.umich.edu>

Michigan County Histories  
<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/m/micounty/>

Maryland Archives (more than MD)  
<http://www.mdarchives.state.md.us/>

South Carolina Archives  
<http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>

War of Rebellion Index  
<http://moa.cit.cornell.edu/moa/browse.monographs/waro.html>

Immigration before Ellis Island  
<http://www.castlegarden.org>

The US GenWeb Project  
<http://www.usgenweb.com/>

Dallas Public Library Catalog  
<http://catalog.dallaslibrary.org/>

The Handbook of Texas Online  
<http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/>

Clayton Library Catalog - <http://hpl.lib.tx.us/clayton/>

Roots Television - <http://www.rootstelevision.com/>

Allen County Public Library  
<http://www.acpl.lib.in.us/genealogy/index.html>

Archives of Maryland Online  
<http://aomol.net/html/index.html>

Genforum (Surname-based Forums)  
<http://genforum.genealogy.com/>

State & Other History Timelines  
<http://www.e-referencedesk.com/resources/state-timeline/>

Texas General Land Office  
<http://www.glo.state.tx.us>

Old Newspaper Articles  
<http://news.google.com/archivesearch>

Ship/Immigration History  
<http://www.norwayheritage.com>

Texas Births 1903-1997  
<http://content.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=8781&ti=0>

Texas Deaths 1903-2000  
<http://www.ancestry.com/search/db/asp?dbid4876>

For Swedes Only!  
<http://www.jbgf.se/index.htm>

List of Other Sites  
<http://www.cyndislist.com/whatsnew.htm>

Civil War Soldiers & Sailors System  
<http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss>

(Texas) Confederate Pension Search  
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/pensions/index.html>

Find A Grave  
<http://www.findagrave.com/>

NC/TN/SC Records, Military, Marriages  
<http://members.tripod.com/~rosters/>

Online Searchable Death Indexes  
<http://home.att.net/~weemonster/deathrecords.html>

Civil War Confederate Regt. from Texas Counties  
<http://www.tarleton.edu/~kjones/txcounty.html>

TexasShare/Heritage Quest (password)  
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/texshare/pl/index.html>

Epidemic Timeline  
[http://hawkshome.net/misc\\_items/events/epidemic\\_timeline.htm](http://hawkshome.net/misc_items/events/epidemic_timeline.htm)

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## Second Cousin ??

You can also think of it like this: Your first cousins are the people in your family who have the same grandparents as you. Your second cousins are the people in your family who have the same great-grandparents as you, but not the same grandparents. Your third cousins have the same great-great-grandparents as you, and so on. Also, you can easily find relationship calculators online to help you if you get stuck.

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### **AGS Newsletter Statement**

The Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter and the editor have attempted to make the information in this newsletter as accurate as possible by obtaining it from sources believed to be accurate and reliable and to identify the sources. The information contained herein is for the personal and/or educational use of AGS members only and is provided in good faith without any express or implied warranty. It is the policy of AGS to avoid publishing personal information that is considered private. Any mention of commercial products within this newsletter is for information only, it does not imply recommendation or endorsement by AGS unless otherwise stated.

8/1/07  
**"Keep Searching"**  
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