



The Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

August 2011

Advancing genealogy through wide-ranging research and education and supporting the preservation of the heritage of Austin, Travis County, and Texas.

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Monthly AGS Meeting

Tuesday, August 23, 2011

(Note this is the 4th Tuesday, not the last Tuesday!)

Program: Member-to-Member —
Helping Each Other

Presented by the Program Committee

6:30 p.m. — Refreshments & Networking
 7:00 — 8:30 p.m. - Business & Program

Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!



Opportunity knocks for you to get help with your most pressing genealogy questions and for you to help other members with theirs.

1. [Click here](#) to email a concise description of any genealogical question you have. Questions may range from the best way to research a particular location to a specific ancestor question creating your "brick wall." Go for it, as our membership is your resource!

2. We will send out all the questions we have received and request our members provide suggestions and solutions. Look for this follow up email and get ready to help others with their questions.



3. At our meeting on August 23rd, we will include all the questions and answers. Everyone who attends the meeting will have the opportunity to discuss the questions and responses and provide other possible "answers"

(Continued on page 2)

to your genealogy questions.

In previous years, members have submitted great questions and great answers. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn and give back to our membership. Don't

pass this one up!

If you have questions, email the program chair at:
programs@austintxgensoc.org

AGS Business

The Board of Directors met in regular session at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, July 26, 2011, prior to the general meeting. The following items were discussed and/or actions taken:

AGS Publicity person Jennifer WHITLEY reported to the Board about the variety of locations she is submitting information about AGS activities. These include numerous publications, both paper and online, including *Texas Monthly*, *Austin 360*, [Facebook](#), and Twitter. The Board is very satisfied with her efforts and complimented Jen on her success in getting more information about AGS available to the public.

The board approved the minutes from the May meeting and accepted the Treasurer's report as submitted.

Program Chair Jane SCHWENDINGER advised that the next meeting will be our 2nd Annual Member-to-Member assistance program for solving members' brick-walls and other genealogical problems. Members may post their questions on the AGS Facebook page or may click here to email questions or state problems to Jane and AGS President Sharon FOLEY.

There was then a discussion regarding registration fees for the November Mini-Seminar. It was agreed that advance registrations will be as it has been previously: \$10 for members; \$15 for visitors. All registrations at the door will be \$15 regardless of membership status.

The next Laptop Saturday is a class on using PERSI scheduled for August 6th at Hampton Branch Library in Oak Hill. Sue Kaufman, from the Clayton Library in Houston, is the presenter.

The next set of AGS Beginner's Genealogy Classes are scheduled for September. Sharon FOLEY stated there is a need for teachers. See [page 4](#) for details.

Jane SCHWENDINGER asked for names for nominees to the Program Committee.

TSGS is holding a partner-sharing meeting August 29th in Boerne at the City Convention Center. Randy WHITED will represent AGS.

Randy WHITED reported for FGS that the Indiana Genealogical Society is seeking donations to support the transcription of pension records from the War of 1812. That society will match each \$50 donation. In addition, Ancestry.com will match Indiana's total contribution. So a \$50 donation becomes \$200! (See more on [page 6](#).)

AGS President Sharon FOLEY appointed Mary TODD to Chair the Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of candidates for the term beginning January 1, 2012. Board members Randy WHITED and Janis TRAYLER were elected to be the Board's representatives on the Nominating Committee. (NOTE: At the general meeting of the Society on this date, Kay BOYD and Sheila SARGENT were elected by the general membership to be the at-large members of the Nominating Committee.)



Editors Note: Correction—In last month's Newsletter we recognized Lori HENDERSON as a winner of a door prize at the June meeting. Lori called to say it was *not* she who won a map donated by the Texas General Land Office.

Our sincere apologies go out to the lady who *did* win the map from the General Land Office, along with a request that you contact the Newsletter Editor and let me know who you are!

Membership

Membership Chair Maud CAIN reported there were 76 members who signed the register at the July meeting. We also had 5 visitors: Sarah and Adam ARNESEN from Austin; Kathy and Roy LEWIS from Austin and Scott THOMPSON.

Since last month's Newsletter, we have added the following new members to the AGS roll:

Tom PATIN, Santa Fe, NM

Karen McLEAN STOUT, New Braunfels, TX

Elaine RUMMEL, Austin TX

We welcome all of you to AGS and hope to meet you soon!

Hospitality

Our appreciation goes out to Martha and Scott CARPENTER for serving as greeters at the last meeting.

Thanks also go out to those who furnished refreshments for last month: Nelda LILLIE, Sue Ann BUNNER, Suzy SNYDER and Mary TODD. A special thank you goes to Kay Boyd for the popcorn!

Arlene ZIRKEL and Chris BOND have volunteered to serve as greeters for the August meeting.

Volunteers bringing refreshments for August are Martha CARPENTER, Karin BRANAMAN and Kay BOYD.

In addition, a special thank you goes out to Sheila SARGENT and Sharon TIEMAN who routinely take care of the refreshment table; and to Jean MAROS-TICA, Loyce McCOLLOUGH, and Anne COOPER who handle registrations, name tags, visitor welcomes, and new memberships.

Call for Nominees to the Board of Directors

2012-2013 Term

As an all-volunteer organization, we have a continuing need to locate members who will offer their skills and talents to help keep AGS an effective organization that well-serves the needs and interests of our membership. There is always a way to participate in the logistics of helping AGS remain a strong and viable society.

The nominating committee is looking for members interested in serving on the AGS Board for a term of two years beginning January 1, 2012. The Board meets monthly before the general meeting and conducts the Society's business and ensures the Society is following the purposes for which it was established. If you are interested in helping AGS with this challenge, please contact a member of the nominating committee: Mary TODD, Kay BOYD, Randy WHITED, Sheila SARGENT, or Janis TRAYLER. The contact information for all committee members is in the AGS Membership Directory online. (See AGS website login information on [page 7](#).)

We will have a number of vacancies on the Board to be filled for the coming year. Please consider how you can help and let us hear from you.

Program Note: The July program, *A Celebration of Family History*, was very well received. A number of inquiries have come in about purchasing a copy of the presentation and we have been provided the following information.

A Celebration of Family History

This inspiring DVD features a tribute to family history through music, stories, and the captivating words of David McCULLOUGH, renowned author and historian,

and President Henry B. EYRING of the First Presidency of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It includes musical numbers by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra at Temple Square, as well as inspiring video presentations showing the impact family history can have on individual lives.

Order the DVD at <https://store.familysearch.org/media.html>. The cost of the DVD is \$4.50.

AGS Calendar of Activities

Tuesday, August 23rd — Regular Monthly Meeting featuring **Member-to-Member—Helping Each Other!**

See [page 1](#) for specific information. [Click here](#) to email us your tough questions and brick wall problems. We'll pass along your problems/questions, see how much information we can gather, then discuss the results at the meeting.



Beginning Genealogy Classes—Fall Course

Saturday, September 17, 2011, and
Saturday, September 24, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Community Classroom at Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, [9508 Great Hills Trail](#), Austin, Texas

AGS offers Beginning Genealogy classes twice a year, in the spring and fall. Each course consists of two class meetings on consecutive Saturday mornings. The total fee for the entire course is \$15.00.

Topics covered include:

- From the Known to the Unknown
- Researching Other Records
- Forms and Charts
- Central Texas Resources

For more information, please email Kay BOYD at Mkdb1405@aol.com. To download a registration form, [click here](#).

Tuesday, September 27th — Regular Monthly Meeting featuring Aaron HOLT, from the National Archives and Records Administration in Fort Worth, will be here to share information about their resources for genealogists.

As a center for historical and genealogical research, the National Archives has both an Archival and Microfilm Research Room for researchers. Their historical records date from the 1800's to the late 1900's, and include letters, photographs, maps, architectural drawings, and other documents received from over 100 federal agencies and courts in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The NARA location in Fort Worth also houses a large amount of Native American information about the Five Civilized Tribes.



Saturday, November 12th — **AGS Mini-Seminar:**
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, 9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin, Texas

Featuring nationally known speaker George G. MORGAN.

Topics:

- Locating and Accessing Published Genealogies Online
- Expand Your Research Reach with Interlibrary Loan and Digitized Book Collections Online
- Bits about Obits: Reading between the Lines

Other Educational Opportunities

Saturday, August 27th—Migration and Southern U.S. Research

Featured Speaker: Dr. Arlene EAKLE, PhD
Presented by the [Clayton Library Friends](#) at the Clayton Library Guest House Meeting Room
5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas
For registration information, fees, and form, click [here](#).

10:30 a.m.— Registration, coffee, etc.

10:45 a.m.— Program

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Questions and Answers

Featured Speaker: Dr. Arlene EAKLE discusses:

1) Migration Patterns from the British Isles to the Southern United States before 1850. Includes People Differences: English, Irish, Scots, Welsh

2) Appalachian Triangle: Eastern Tennessee, North-western North Carolina, Southeastern Kentucky, South-western Virginia

3) Naming Patterns: Your Key to Ancestral Origins in the Southern United States

4) Tracing a Southern Pedigree—Research strategies, finding aids, indexes, and under-used sources to by-pass burned courthouses



Saturday, October 1st — Save Texas History Symposium

Presented by the Texas General Land Office at the **AT&T Executive Conference & Education Center 1900 University Avenue, Austin, TX**

Registration is \$40 if received before September 16. After that date, it will be \$50.

This is going to be a great day to celebrate Texas history and to learn more about the resources of the General Land Office, as well as hands-on activities that tie into what the General Land Office does every day.

Click [here](#) for a PDF copy of the registration form which includes a full listing of the forums, classes, and activities of the symposium. You can register online by clicking [here](#).

Saturday, October 15th—SAGHS Annual Seminar

The San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society has changed its annual seminar from November to October 15th . This year's guest speaker is Maureen TAYLOR, the photo detective. Make your plans now to take advantage of this unique presentation. Future issues of the AGS Newsletter will contain more information as it becomes available.

Research Trip to Fort Wayne, Indiana

Did the deadline for registering for the Fort Wayne trip get by you? Have you had a change of mind, or heart, or circumstances and now find you can go, but thought it was too late? Not so!



Trip coordinator Pat OXLEY advises that there are still some rooms available. You'll need to contact Pat at pat@theoxleys.com and let her know you want to join us on what promises to be a fun-filled research

opportunity.

Details of the trip can be found on the AGS website at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/activities/trips.php#allencounty>. We hope you can join us!

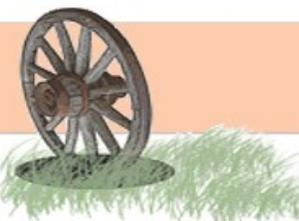


The website for ACPL has a great deal of information that will help you plan your trip. Visit them at <http://www.genealogycenter.org/Home.aspx>.



The Federation of Genealogical Societies
Pathways to the Heartland
with local host The Illinois State Genealogical Society

September 7-10, 2011
Springfield, Illinois



There's Still Time To Register!

This year's FGS conference is just around the corner. Our own Pat OXLEY, FGS president for the past few years, is at the helm of the ship and has been working hard with the Illinois State Genealogy Society to ensure a smoothly run, well attended, successful conference.

Registration is open until August 20th. After that date, registration will be taken at the door.

Complete information can be found on the conference website: <http://www.fgs.org/2011conference/>.

Registration information can be found at <http://www.fgs.org/2011conference/registration/>.

AGS Member wins a free registration to the FGS Conference in Springfield, Illinois

This year, all societies who publicized the conference in their newsletters were entered into a drawing for a free FGS conference registration. In April, AGS's name was drawn out of a box by Lorie THORNTON, of Tennessee, to receive the free registration. In order to be sure the registration would not be wasted, AGS President Sharon FOLEY sent out an email blast to the membership requesting members who wanted to go to the FGS Conference in Springfield send in their names.

In May, a drawing was held and the lucky winner of the FGS Conference registration was Jacquie DEMPSKY WILSON, AGS member from Pflugerville. Congratulations Jacquie, and we hope you have a great time in Springfield.!

Indiana Genealogical Society Matches Donations For FGS *Save the Pensions* Campaign

In recognition of the importance of the FGS efforts to digitize the pension records for the War of 1812, the Indiana Genealogical Society has issued a **\$10,000 Match Challenge**. IGS will MATCH any donation up to the first \$10,000 that is made before **August 31, 2011**. That means that if you give \$10, IGS will also give \$10; if you give \$100, IGS will give \$100. Ancestry.com recently announced it will also match ALL donations, meaning that any donation you make to the \$10,000 Match Challenge will actually be QUADRUPLED!

Any donation will help - even a \$5 donation means 40 more pages will be digitized!

Visit the [Indiana Genealogical Society website](#) for more information on this project.

How To Donate

Donations can be made online through PayPal: <https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr>

Or send a check payable to Indiana Genealogical Society (please indicate "War of 1812" on the memo line) to:

Indiana Genealogical Society
Attn: Save the Pensions
P.O. Box 10507
Ft. Wayne, IN 46852-0507

Bits & Pieces

Missy HARRIS, our TSLA liaison, reports that the **Texas State Library** is switching from Ancestry Library Edition to Ancestry Institution. As an Ancestry partner, TSL has access to Institution free of charge. It will contain the same basic files, but there is also a “Collaborate” option, allowing access and searches of message boards, OneWorldTree, and family trees.



Quarterly Editor Randy WHITED is looking for stories, case studies, family group sheets or pedigree charts. Virtually anything submitted in the way of family information is acceptable as we are trying to use more membership submissions than transcribed records. Of course, there is the writing contest that is currently under way, too. The contest is open to all AGS members. The categories are:

- Original research (well researched, proper source citations, analysis of data)
- Entertaining stories (a pleasure to read, draws the reader’s attention)
- Compilations (transcriptions, extractions, etc.)

If you have a story or information you’ve been working on or planning, now is a great time to send it in!

Editor’s Corner:

I have a short space this month, so will just say... MEMBER-TO-MEMBER ... get those questions and problems in! Read page one again for the information!

PLEASE consider how you can be a contributing member of AGS by offering your skills, talents, and time toward helping us maintain the great programs and smooth operations of the Society. We would love to hear from you if you are interested in serving on the board of directors, as a committee chair or committee member, or in any other way. Successful organizations don’t just happen by accident! We Need You!

Until next month, stay cool, and

Happy Trackin’,

Janis

TSGS WRITING AND WEBSITE COMPETITION

Did you have a book published in either 2010 or 2011? If so, you are eligible to submit it in the TSGS Writing Awards competition.

Do you have your own genealogical or family history web site? There are also awards given for those.

[Click here](#) to see a list of writing and website categories open to the TSGS competition.

[Click here](#) for additional information regarding time deadlines and submission requirements for the writing awards.

[Click here](#) for additional information regarding time deadlines and submission requirements for the website awards.

Winners in all of these categories receive cash awards.

AGS WEBSITE INFORMATION

The login and password for the Members’ Only section of the [AGS website](#):

login: ags2011 password: aU5t!n

You can have the website “remember” the information so that you do not have to enter it every time.

Click the icon to
follow us on
Facebook!



2011 Board of Directors

Term ending 2011:	Term Ending 2012:
Kate ALLEN	Karin BRANAMAN
Maud CAIN	Earle McBRIDE
Teri FLACK	Sharon FOLEY
Dona KURTZ	Missy HARRIS
Mary TODD	Jane SCHWENDINGER
Randy WHITED	Janis TRAYLER

2011 Officers

President	Sharon FOLEY
1 st Vice President	Janis TRAYLER
2 nd Vice President	Jane SCHWENDINGER
Recording Secretary	Kate ALLEN
Treasurer	Teri FLACK

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

Monthly Meetings on 4th Tuesdays
(except December)
Social time at 6:30; Program at 7:00
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones Drive
Austin, Texas

Visitors Are Always Welcome!

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***Promoting genealogy through research,
education, and preservation.***