



Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

January 2008

www.AustinTxGenSoc.org

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Monthly AGS Meeting Tuesday, January 22, 2008

Program: FamilySearch and Beyond

Presented by: Karen Matheson

**Highland Park Baptist Church
5208 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas**

6:30 P.M. – Doors Open

7:00 P.M. – Meeting & Program Begin

**Meet & Greet Old Friends & New
Stop by the Help Desk to assist you with research questions.**

Shop our used books.

Pick up freebies & flyers about upcoming events.



**Mark your calendars for the Austin Genealogical Society
Annual Seminar
Saturday, April 26, 2008, at the Norris Conference Center.
More below.**

"FamilySearch and Beyond"



Karen J. Matheson has been doing genealogy and family history research for more than 16 years. She was born and raised in Salt Lake City, Utah, where she was employed as a professional genealogist by

Lineages, Inc. before her move to Texas in the year 2000. Karen has been a presenter several times at both the Williamson County and Austin Genealogical societies. She is currently a board member of WCGS. Karen continues to help others research their ancestry by serving as the director of the Round Rock Family History Center.

"FamilySearch and Beyond" - Karen's presentation will discuss how to effectively use the website FamilySearch.org to aid in your research. The presentation will discuss a way for researchers to get personally involved in current projects such as FamilySearch Indexing, followed by a preview of projects being developed by FamilySearch Labs. Come learn what's going on in the genealogical world, how you can

access more resources, and how you can "give back" to the genealogical community.

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	Terry Flack
Inez Eppright	Tommy Ingram
Cindy Foreman	Barbara Innis
Alana Mallard	Elizabeth Johnston
Connie Perdue	Robert Sage
Janis Traylor	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, suggestion, or concerns,
please share those with us.

Educational Opportunities

Seminar

ADD TO YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION LIST

Attend the AGS 2008 Annual Seminar

Saturday, **April 26, 2008** at 9:00 a.m.

Norris Conference Center at Northcross Mall

This year's speaker is Susan Kaufman, Manager of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research in Houston. Susan will speak on Newspapers, Convicts to the Colonies, PERSI, and the Allen County Library.

Early registration is \$40 which includes lunch, door prizes, seminar materials, and a full day of genealogical camaraderie.

For more information, please visit our website at www.AustinTxGenSoc.org or email pat@theoxleys.com.

Programs

The Education Committee has printed bookmarks listing the programs for the entire year. Be sure to pick one up at the hospitality table at the monthly meetings. Meanwhile, here is the list through March:

Tues. Jan. 22 "FamilySearch and Beyond" presented by Karen Matheson – more information on page one

Tues. Feb. 26 "Using Local Research Libraries: Center for American History, Perry Castaneda, Round Rock Library" by the AGS staff

Tues. Mar. 25 "Dowsing for the Dead" by Paul Smith

Other Learning Opportunities:

Brick Wall Saturday – **January 26** from 1-4 at the North Village Library at Anderson Lane and Burnet Road. Bring your most nagging research question and AGS volunteers will try to help by providing new suggestions to break through your brickwall. If you have no brickwalls, then please join the volunteers to help others with what has worked for you!

Lifetime Learning Institute's genealogy classes will begin **Wednesday, January 30, 2008** from 10:00 A.M. -- 12:00 Noon at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 West 15th Street (78701) and will run for eight weeks. Course catalogues can be obtained from any Austin Branch Library. The cost per class is \$15.00 if paid in advance or \$20.00 if paid at the first class. There is an additional \$5 charge for copies. Make checks payable to "LLI" and mail with the registration card to Lifetime Learning Institute of Austin, c/o Concordia University at Austin, 3400 North IH 35, Austin, TX 78705.

This series of classes will provide new ideas to find information and help you brush up your genealogy skills. Each session is presented by a different member of the Austin Genealogical Society. Topics to be covered are: 1) Introduction & overview of genealogical research; 2) Researching library records; 3) Using Gedcom files; 4) Heritage Scrapbooking; 5) Working with newspapers, city directories and census records; 6) Steps on publishing your family history; 7) The Genealogical aspects of objects; and 8) Using wills and probate.

Saturdays, **Feb. 9, 16, and 23** from 9-12 AGS sponsors Beginner's Genealogy Classes. Cost for materials is \$15. Location will be announced in the next newsletter or go to the website for additional information.

AGS Annual Seminar – Saturday, **April 26**. See information above

Other Activities:

Oakwood Cemetery Workday

Save Austin's Cemeteries will continue work on documenting the stones in this historic cemetery. Weather permitting, we will record the names, stone condition and measurements of the tombstones on **Saturday, January 19** from 1-3 pm. Come out and enjoy working with others interested in cemetery preservation. Contact Kay Boyd at 837-8474 for more information.

Membership

Membership renewals are due by February 29. Renewals after that date may not be included in the AGS Membership Directory. If you have not already done so, please send in your membership for 2008 now.

From the November Meeting:

Attendance: 73 members plus 5 visitors

Visitors: Becky Broadbent, Andrea Burkhart, Dale Bulla, Laura Hensley, and George Traver.

New Members since November 1st:

Andrea Burkhart, Lisa Edelstein, Denise Girard, Frances Parten, Joann Traver and Eddie Wells

New Life Member: Charles E. Clinger

We are looking for a few good people to bring refreshments to monthly meetings and to serve as greeters. If you would like to help fill these needs, please contact Barbara Innis at the next meeting or put your name on one of the sign-up sheets that will be available.

Research Trips

Monday, **May 12** Bus Trip to Dallas Public Library – more information on this will be available soon

October 5 through 11, 2008. AGS sponsors a trip to the Allen County Library, Fort Wayne, Indiana. This repository is the country's largest PUBLIC genealogy library. It is world-renown for its collection of easily accessible periodical materials. This is a rare opportunity to do research with your fellow AGS members. Details about pricing will be available at the January meeting and in the February newsletter.

At our annual seminar, Sue Kaufman will present a 20-minute DVD tour of the library. Sue worked at Allen County for a number of years, but she also volunteered recently at the library during the 2007 FGS conference held in Ft. Wayne, so she knows the ins and outs. She will give additional information and also take your questions about this facility on Saturday, April 26th in her fourth session at the seminar.

If you'd like to hold your spot for the trip to Ft. Wayne, please contact Pat Oxley at pat@theoxleys.com or call Pat at 512-733-5993. The deposit is \$50 (Please make your check out to "AGS.")

Words of Thanks

I would like to thank the AGS Board and Members for the opportunity to serve as your President for the past three years. It's been so much fun to work with all of you and make such wonderful friends. I would also like to thank all of you for the gifts given to me at the November meeting -- the lovely supply of AGS mugs (grin) and the subscription to footnote.com, and of course the roses!

I want to especially thank those who served on the Board during my time as President. You all made me look good and until you serve on the Board you have no idea how much work is involved in those little details that make things go smoothly.

I will continue to serve AGS as the Seminar Chair and the Destination Research Trip Coordinator. These are two jobs that I especially enjoy.

Happy New Year to Everyone!
Pat



Dear Pat, Board and Members,

I would like to express my appreciation for the wonderful retirement party given for me. I will always remember the beautiful table setting with the cake and flowers that

reflected the societies' thanks. The cards and notes from members will be among my most treasured memories.

I was delighted with the beautiful engraved clock that was presented to me, and each time I look at the time (which is often), it will always remind me of the years I enjoyed as editor of the AGS Newsletter.

Thanks for the memory book that was started for me; I will be adding the pictures from the party along with some items saved through the years.

Genealogy has brought me much happiness and being an active member of AGS has been a big part of it. Through the years, I have also enjoyed being a board member, and serving several times on the seminar committee.

My Best Wishes for the continued success of AGS,
Sincerely Yours,
Wilena
Wilena D. Kennerly Young

Texas State Library – Update

An Update on the Renovations and Fundraising Campaign for the Texas State Library and Archives from Erica McKewen, Communications Officer, Texas State Library and Archives Commission

The Texas State Library and Archives Commission has received its first major fundraising gift for the renovations to the Texas State Archives, a gift of \$1 million from a family foundation in Texas. We're very excited about the potential for this gift. The Friends of Libraries & Archives of Texas is spearheading the effort to raise a total of \$10 million to augment the funding made available by the Texas Legislature. The Friends have established a building fund account to pay for such things as 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 legislative appropriation.

Preparations for the renovation of the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building continue. Genealogy, Archives, and Reference materials began their move offsite on December 3. It will take several weeks to move all the materials. Beginning December 17, all of our public services (except the Library Science Collection) will be operating out of Room 300. We expect the construction project to begin in January, after the Texas Facilities Commission finalizes an asbestos abatement contract. What a way to start the New Year!

2008 promises to be full of excitement mixed with a little anxiety and maybe even some discomfort as staff and services are relocated within the building and construction progresses. At the end of the road will be a beautiful new building in which to work and serve the people of Texas. Hang in there!

Austin History Center

The Austin History Center, at 8th & Guadalupe, has dedicated three computers for the use of the library database. These cannot be used for email, so there is usually no waiting period to access the machines. This database includes the Library edition of Ancestry.com that contains most of the ancestry collections but not the family tree data. This includes the immigration information, newspaper collection and others.

Austin Genealogical Society Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2007	
	Dec 31, 07
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Wells Fargo	
AGS Operating Acct ... 6054	4,173.75
CD	5,147.69
Savings Acct...5879	8,078.50
Total Wells Fargo	<u>17,399.94</u>
Total Checking/Savings	17,399.94
Other Current Assets	
Bulk Mail	179.75
Inventory Asset	-8.00
Undeposited Funds	180.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>351.75</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>17,751.69</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>17,751.69</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
Sales Tax Payable	81.76
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>81.76</u>
Total Current Liabilities	81.76
Total Liabilities	81.76
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	89.03
Retained Earnings	17,313.67
Net Income	267.23
Total Equity	<u>17,669.93</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>17,751.69</u>

Austin Genealogical Society Profit & Loss Statement - 2007	
	Jan - Dec 07
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Bus Trips	1,385.00
Classes (incl LTL)	680.24
Contributions Rec'd	1,172.00
Envelope Collections	530.00
Membership Dues Rec'd	
07 Dues	2,805.00
08 Dues	<u>2,810.00</u>
Total Membership Dues Rec'd	5,615.00
Misc. Income	931.15
Sales - Earned Revenues	7,095.40
Total Income	17,408.79
Cost of Goods Sold	
Cost of Goods Sold	<u>1,713.00</u>
Total COGS	<u>1,713.00</u>
Gross Profit	15,695.79
Expense	
Charitable Donations	330.00
Education	
Annual Seminar	1,834.00
Prof Services (Speaker Fees)	325.00
Program Exp (other)	449.05
Program Exp (spkr copies)	<u>123.33</u>
Total Education	2,731.38
Membership Costs	
Membership Expense	51.60
Socials	<u>839.01</u>
Total Membership Costs	890.61
Operating Expenses	
Bank Fees	
Bank Service Fees	33.90
PayPal discounts	12.31
Bank Fees - Other	<u>-8.73</u>
Total Bank Fees	37.48
Equip.(Purch/Rent and Maint)	52.25
Miscellaneous Expenses	769.82
Postage and Delivery	680.77
Printing and Copying	3,289.18
Rent - Meeting Rooms	4,516.80
Rent - P O Box	132.00
Society Memberships	65.00
Supplies and Materials	<u>422.77</u>
Total Operating Expenses	9,966.07
Record Preservation	14.60
Research Trip Expenses	
07 SLC Trip	76.31
Bus Trip Expenses	
07 Bus trip	<u>1,609.57</u>
Total Bus Trip Expenses	1,609.57
Total Research Trip Expenses	1,685.88
Total Expense	15,618.54
Net Ordinary Income	77.25
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest Earned	189.98
Total Other Income	189.98
Net Other Income	189.98
	<u>267.23</u>

Condolences

Former member *Tommy Lee Miles* passed away on Nov. 30, 2007 Tommy Lee Miles was born in Quanah, Hardeman County, Texas on April 9, 1927 to Mano and Clara Jo Norton Miles. He graduated from Southwestern University in Georgetown, TX in 1947 then served five years at the American Embassy in Amman, Jordan, then 20 years at St. David's Hospital in Austin, followed by 12 years at the University of Texas power plant.

Clifford Herbert Zirkel, Jr. 89 years old, retired Methodist minister, passed away on December 28, 2007. Mr. Zirkel received his Bachelor of Arts from the University of San Antonio in 1938 then his Masters of Divinity in 1946 from Yale Divinity School. He then served as Director of the Wesley Foundation (the Methodist Student Center) at Louisiana State University. Mr. Zirkel returned to Texas in 1951 to begin his ministry as a Methodist preacher serving in McAllen, Edna, Guiseley, England, Mission, Corpus Christi and Austin. After serving 36 years in the ministry, Clifford retired in 1986. He is survived by his wife, AGS member Arlene Zirkel, and a large extended family.

Tex Yuma Middlebrooks passed away January 6, 2008 in Fredericksburg Texas. Mrs. Middlebrooks was born on February 17, 1926 in Yuma, Arizona to Steven A. and Else L. Heinrich. Her father was an ex-Texas Ranger

who's affection for both Texas and Arizona resulted in her unique given names. She married Juedon D. Middlebrooks in 1942 shortly before he shipped out to serve in the Air Force in the Pacific in WWII. After her husband's retirement from the Air Force in 1961, she was a long time resident of Austin, Texas and Tucson, Arizona. Mrs. Middlebrooks was preceded in death by her husband Juedon, two sisters, and an infant brother. Mrs. Middlebrooks is survived by daughter and son-in-law Carol Jean and Les Shroyer (AGS members) of Castell, Texas and other extended family.

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Note from the (new) Newsletter Editor

Well folks, that's it for this newbie's first AGS Newsletter. I hope you will find the information here helpful in keeping you informed about what's happening in our very active society as well as what's happening in the lives of our members.

I beg your patience as I tenuously feel my way through this new challenge while being more and more in awe of Wilena's 30 years of dedicated work as our previous newsletter editor. My hat's off to you, Wilena!

Here's wishing each of you a year filled with many incredible research successes.

Happy Trackin',
Janis Trayler, Newsletter Editor

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. 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 the Austin Genealogical Society to avoid publishing personal information that is considered private. Any mention of commercial products within this newsletter is for information only and does not imply recommendation or endorsement by AGS unless otherwise stated.

January 1, 2008
Janis Trayler, Editor

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