



Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

January 2009

Vol. 15

www.AustinTxGenSoc.org

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Monthly AGS Meeting **Tuesday, January 27, 2009**

Program: Why Urbano and Maria Trinidad Can't Get Married:
Social Relations in Late Colonial Texas

Presented by: Dr. J. F. de la Teja, State Historian of Texas
and Chairman, Department of History, Texas State University-San Marcos

Highland Park Baptist Church
5208 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas

6:30 - 7:00 P.M. – Social Time

7:00 - 8:30 P.M. – Program

Invite your neighbor to come with you!



Jesús F. de la Teja is chair and professor in the Department of History at Texas State University-San Marcos and president of the Texas State Historical Association. He arrived in New Jersey from Cuba in 1963. In 1981, he came to UT Austin for doctoral work in Latin American history.

Serving as a research assistant to the novelist James A. Michener fostered his fascination with Texas history. He developed an interest in serving the family history community while working in the Archives and Records Division of the Texas General Land Office.

He has published extensively on Spanish, Mexican, and Republic-era Texas. He has published extensively as well as being interviewed for a number of documentaries on Texas history. His work has appeared in *The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Inter-American Cultural History*, the *Journal of the Early Republic*, *Historia Mexicana*, and the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*.

In May 2007 he was sworn in as the first Texas State Historian and he served as the 2007-2008 President of the Texas State Historical Association. He is a Fellow of the Texas State Historical Association and the Texas Catholic Historical Society, a member of the Philosophical Society of Texas, and an honorary admiral in the Texas Navy. In March 2008 he received the Americanism Medal from the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

AGS BUSINESS

Recap from the Board of Directors' Meeting

The newly elected Board of Directors met in special session on Saturday, December 13, 2008, to review AGS plans and activities for 2009. The following actions were taken: Committee appointments: Sharon FOLEY appointed as the Education/Program Chair; Janis TRAYLER appointed as the Financial Review Chair; the Board agreed to split Membership and Hospitality: Membership Chair is Barbara INNIS; Hospitality Chair is Elizabeth JOHNSTON. The President appointed Elizabeth JOHNSTON as the AGS Historian. It was decided that the publication editors (newsletter and quarterly) will endeavor to use these forums as funnels for information from other organizations in the area and also become more involved in TSGS and FGS. Randy WHITED and Teri FLACK will serve as co-liaisons with the Texas State Library.

Plans for the annual seminar on Saturday, May 2nd are well under way. See article

below. We expect to plan a bus trip this year and are also considering a carpool or van rental to the annual TSGS conference in San Antonio on November 6th and 7th.

Kay BOYD and Barbara INNIS will begin planning the AGS 50-Year Anniversary in 2010 and will contact an attorney regarding extension of the AGS charter that expires in 2011.

The Board also established a usage policy with regard to AGS-owned A/V equipment. That policy requires the usage be restricted to AGS current teaching staff and board members and that the equipment is to be used only when representing AGS. The equipment manager is John MAROSTICA and he is responsible for checking the equipment in after each use and verifying that it is in good working order upon return.

Membership

(submitted by Barbara INNIS)

Membership renewals are due by FEBRUARY 1st. Renewing by that date earns benefits:

- You will be included in the Membership Directory.
- You will continue to receive the Newsletter and the Quarterly.
- Your surnames will be posted on the AGS website.

If you have not already done so, please send in your 2009 renewal now by paying online via PayPal or by mailing your check payable to "AGS" to P.O. Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766.

Report on the **AGS Holiday Social** -- December 2, 2008:

While listening to the sounds of the season on CD and reviewing events of the year via video, we sampled holiday finger foods and sweets. Gold Star Nominee submissions were so numerous, and fearing that we would overlook some deserving person, we decided not to do a roll call, but to compare numbers of volunteers in various AGS activities with the greater AGS membership. AGS is very lucky to have so many who give so much of their time on a regular basis. We gave ourselves a hearty round of applause! Door prizes and a delightful presentation by Liz CARMACK on Historic Texas Hotels rounded out the holiday affair. ...and last, but not least, our donations of canned goods to the Capital Area Community Food Bank provided 139 meals to those needing a helping hand.

TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 76

MEMBERS: 65

NEW MEMBER: 1 Elaine POWELL (Welcome, Elaine!)

GUESTS: 9

Allen CAIN, Jeff CARMACK, Liz CARMACK, Paula FERGUSON, Bob FOLEY, Marian ROBERTSON, Alvin ROWLEY, Hubert SYLER, George TRAVER, and Jim VAN CLEAF.



HIGH POINTS FOR AGS MEMBERSHIP ... 2008

- Setting a record attendance of **105** at a monthly meeting!
- Welcoming **55** new members to the AGS family! This does not include institutional memberships.
- Presenting **2** social events: the "June Indoor Picnic with an Italian Flair" and the "December Holiday Social"!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL and VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- Sharon TIEMAN and her 2008 volunteers who greeted and brought refreshments to monthly meetings.
- Our 2008 Membership Committee: Kay BOYD, Claude and June CHAMBERS, Richard FOSTER, Karen HACHMAN, Wynnette HARRIS, Jean MAROSTICA, Sharon TIEMAN, and Arlene ZIRKEL.

GOAL for 2009

Viewing the marvelous lineup of programs and classes for the coming year, we are setting a **NEW GOAL AT MONTHLY MEETINGS: 100!** Come, bring a friend, enjoy food and friendship, and take home new clues for unraveling your genealogical puzzle.



Coming Programs

The Education Committee has developed an outstanding schedule of *monthly programs*. In addition, for those who do not travel at night or those who have other obligations on our regular meeting nights, we have developed a schedule of *free Saturday programs* for 2009. A full list of the programs and special events is posted at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/calendar.php>.

1st in the Saturday Series, February 7, 2008 **Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones**



Houston native Beau SHARBROUGH received a Philosophy BA from Texas A&M in 1977. His programming career began in 1980, and he is presently self-employed. He is the founder of the FGS web site, the GENTECH web site, and the Lexicon Working Group. He is a former president of GENTECH. He has previously worked as a Product Manager for tree products at Ancestry.com, and as Vice President of Content at Footnote.com. Beau writes regularly on technical topics in family history, with an occasional overdose of humor, and maintains the RootsWorks.com website. He is the author of *Gene's Anniversary Scrapbook*.

Mr. Sharbrough's topics will be
Introduction to Footnote
Scanning and Preserving Family Photos
Automated Search Tools

Tuesday, February 24th

Regular Meeting
"Give Me Your Tired & Your Poor:
Researching U.S. Ships' Passenger Lists
Presenter: Karen Matheson

Tuesday, March 24th

Regular Meeting
Topic: "Land Records, More Than Just Land
Deeds"
Presenter: Ed Dorroh

Saturday, March 28th

10:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m.
"Genealogy Potpourri... Internet Lessons,
Practicing, and Brick Wall Solving"
10:00 bring your laptop, or observe.
11:00 bring your brick wall question for
discussion
Location: Hampton Branch Library,
5125 Convict Hill Rd. in Oakhill

Educational Opportunities

AGS Beginner Genealogy Class Sessions

Saturdays, February 21st and 28th

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Refresh Yourself ! Join us for our Beginner's Classes on February 21 and 28. These classes will be held from 9:00-12:00 in the Red Bud Room at the LCRA. The address is 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. The cost is a modest \$15 and includes two classes, the notebook, and relevant handouts. Session 1 includes a variety of topics to get you started thinking genealogy, such as sources, forms, cemeteries, maps, and more. Session 2 goes into detail on such topics as the census, wills, death and marriage records, and newspapers. Contact Kay Boyd email mkdb1405@aol.com to register or for more information.



Genealogy After Hours

Friday, January 23rd

Presented by WSGS & the Round Rock Public Library, 221 East Main Street, Meeting Room A (entrance on Liberty Street). The library will be closed to general patrons and open to all genealogists until 10:00 P.M.

You are welcome to browse the extensive genealogy collection, use the computers and databases (no cost to print from the computers or make copies); attend mini-classes, receive help from experienced researchers or librarians, or confer with representatives of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Williamson County Genealogical Society, Family History Center, and other organizations.

6:00 - registration & refreshments

6:30 – orientation

6:50 – door prizes

7:00 to 10:00 P.M. – research & conferences



Lifetime Learning Classes

The Lifetime Learning Institute (providing programs for adults ages 50 and older) is offering its Spring program of genealogy classes beginning **Wednesday, January 28th** and continuing each Wednesday through March 18th. Classes are held at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 West 15th Street, from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Topics include:

Introduction and Overview of Genealogical

Research – Jean Shroyer

DNA – Sharon Foley

Using Genealogical Software – John

Marostica

Citing Sources – Cindy Foreman

Wills and Probate – Cindy Foreman

Newspaper Research – John Marostica

Before You Visit a Library – Sharon Foley

Using Interviews for Genealogy – Inez

Eppright

Conferences and Seminars

There is always more to know and learn as we continue our quest for more knowledge of and about our ancestors. One of the following conferences and seminars may be just the help you need!

Saturday, February 7, 2009

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (registration @ 8:15)

5th Annual Hill Country Family History Seminar

Boerne Convention & Community Center

Speaker: George K. Schweitzer, PhD, ScD

Topics:

- The Civil War
- German Genealogical Research
- Genealogy in the Southeastern U.S.
- Dr. Schweitzer's Problem Solving

Bits & Pieces

AGS has started a new category of records on the Society's website: Historic obituaries gathered from Austin and Travis County researchers. The newspaper pieces need to be about someone who was born in, lived in, or died in Travis County and who died at least 50 years ago. We hope adding these obituaries will bring new people to our website and hopefully new cousins to our members. Only AGS members can submit information.

Do not send articles that already appear online at other sites. Submit your information as full text or excerpts if you prefer. Whenever possible, please include the newspaper title, date, and page number.

Send submissions to Kay Boyd to be formatted and tagged so that the submitter can be identified if someone wants more information or wants to contact the submitter. Check out <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/agsrecords.php> to see what we are doing. Contact Kay via email at mkdb1405@aol.com or by phone at 512-836-7484.



NO PHISHING!

Spam alert: Please remove AGS from e-mail addresses to send.

If you spent any time on the AGS website, you have seen the above notice in a number of different places. And if you have ever tried to email someone from a link on the AGS website but the email bounced, the above may be the reason. It is a common practice for Spammers to search organizational websites such as ours for email addresses they can add to their lists. In an effort to thwart these "phishing" activities, all email addresses on the AGS website have "AGS" inserted somewhere within the email address. You must delete the "AGS" from the email address before you hit "send" or your email will bounce.



The New Jersey State Archives announces the initial posting of our database indexing the earliest land surveys and warrants of the East and West New Jersey Proprietors. As many of you know, these records have become available through accession and deposit at the State Archives during the last decade, making over three centuries of hitherto privately held colonial records readily accessible to the public. Here is the link to their databases page: www.njarchives.org/links/databases.html



AGS Annual Seminar

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, May 2nd, 2009. You will not want to miss our annual seminar as we present Pamela & Rick Sayre who will speak on four helpful topics that we are confident will add a new dimension to your research. And this year, we have a new location in central Austin. *

Look for this spot in future newsletters for additional information.



Condolences

Roger Malcolm Bowles, 71, died peacefully at home on November 20, 2008. Roger was born on March 17, 1937, a fifth generation native of Travis County. He is survived by Sandy, his wife of forty-seven years, and by their daughters Melanie, Carla, and Robin and their families of Austin and Travis County. He is also survived by his brothers, AGS member David Bowles of San Antonio and Mitch Hovden and wife Elaine of Lubbock.

Lois Virginia Metzke Herring, 85, passed away November 21, 2008, in Austin. Daughter of A.J. "Dutch" Metzke and Elizabeth Love Greer Metzke, she married L.B. "Red" Herring on December 16, 1945. She is survived by her seven children including AGS member Mary Pat Drummond, 18 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren.

A former member of AGS, **Betty Siros Burns**, 87, passed away December 1, 2008, in Austin. Her parents were August Siros and Jewell Bedingfield Siros. She was married to William "Bill" Burns for 62 years before his passing in 2000. She is survived by three sons and one daughter, six grandchildren, one great grandchild, her sister Chili Hawes, and three nephews.

Condolences are also extended to the family of Charles Clinger on the recent death of his daughter-in-law.



Get Well Wishes are sent out to Lorrie Henderson as she continues her recovery from a recent surgery.

President's Corner by Cindy Foreman

2009 looks to be one of the most promising for scheduled programs, visiting guest speakers, and the May 2nd annual AGS seminar. In general, genealogical societies are reportedly decreasing in size. However, over the past two years, AGS has slowly grown in meeting attendance, as well as in membership numbers. A large part of our increasing numbers is due to the quality and variety of our programs.

This year the program committee has planned an extra seven programs -- local Saturday events to assist our members with their research. This program is called the "Saturday Series." Information on the first two is mentioned above. We hope many of you will join us for this extra benefit provided by the program committee. Information on the entire series is on the AGS website.

This year I encourage each of you to attend both the FGS Conference, held in Little Rock, AR September 2 – 5, as well as the 49th annual Texas State Genealogical Society's Conference to be held in San Antonio on November 5 - 8. You can receive a broad range of information by attending

these genealogical conferences, together with meeting other genealogists, hearing nationally known speakers and authors, seeing the newest software programs, and learning new ways to research.

AGS has not yet scheduled a group trip as we have done in the past to St. Lake City and Ft. Wayne, IN. Pat Oxley, the new FGS President for 2009, who usually organizes the travel and hotel accommodations will be unable to do so this year. So if you have any interest in going to the FGS Conference and would enjoy traveling with others, please contact me by email at cindy@foremanassociates.com.

Austin Genealogical Society Profit & Loss Fiscal Year 2008	
INCOME	
2008 Research Trip -- Ft. Wayne	10,625.00
Annual Seminar Receipts	3,898.00
Bus Trips - Dallas	2,340.00
Classes (incl LTL)	375.00
Contributions Rec'd	640.00
Donations - Miscellaneous	10.00
Envelope Collections	252.60
Membership Dues Rec'd	6,320.00
Misc Income	1,377.08
Sales - Earned Revenues	426.00
Total Income	26,263.68
Cost of Goods Sold	344.49
Total COGS	<u>344.49</u>
GROSS PROFIT	25,919.19
EXPENSE	
Cemetery project	55.41
Charitable Donations	964.92
Education	4,803.60
Membership Costs	1,016.50
Operating Expenses	4,592.69
Records Preservaton - Historian	39.98
Research Trip Expenses	<u>12,501.15</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	23,974.25
Net Ordinary Income	1,944.94
Other Income - Interest Earned	<u>212.51</u>
NET INCOME	<u><u>2,157.45</u></u>

Austin Genealogical Society Balance Sheet As of December 31, 2008	
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Public Employees Credit Union	10,183.12
Wells Fargo	9,155.25
Total Checking/Savings	19,338.37
Other Current Assets	<u>309.01</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	19,647.38
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	0.00
EQUITY	
Retained Earnings	17,489.93
Net Income	<u>2,157.45</u>
Total Equity	<u>19,647.38</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>19,647.38</u></u>

From the editor...

AGS is certainly raising the bar this year on the activities and programs available to our members. We hope you will take full advantage of as many programs as possible. I hope 2009 will be your most successful research year ever. Happy New Year and ...

Happy Trackin',
Janis Trayler

2009 Board of Directors

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

Term ending 2009:	Term ending 2010:
Teri FLACK	Kay BOYD
Tommy INGRAM	Inez EPPRIGHT
Barbara INNIS	Sharon FOLEY
Elizabeth JOHNSTON	Cindy FOREMAN
Robert SAGE	Sara GREDLER
Randy WHITED	Janis TRAYLER

2009 Officers

President	Cindy FOREMAN
1 st Vice President	Kay BOYD
2 nd Vice President	Sharon FOLEY
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.*

Monthly Meeting: January 27, 2008

6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Highland Park Baptist Church
5208 Balcones Drive
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