



# The *Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter*

## January 2010

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

Vol. 16

[www.AustinTxGenSoc.org](http://www.AustinTxGenSoc.org)

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50 YEARS & GROWING

### Monthly AGS Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

*Program: Funeral Records, the Final Event*

*Presented by: Susan D. Kaufman*

Highland Park Baptist Church  
5206 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas

6:30 p.m. — Refreshments & Networking

7:00 — 8:30 p.m. - Program

*Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!*

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Susan D. KAUFMAN is currently Manager of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research for the Houston Public Library. She has been a genealogy librarian for 23 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 in Peoria, Illinois, at the Peoria Public Library.

Sue offers expertise in genealogical and historical reference, collection development, and educational outreach.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. Her genealogical community activities include board positions currently and in the past with local, state and national genealogical organizations in Illinois, Indiana, and Texas. She is a Director on the Board of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, and President-Elect of the Texas State Genealogical Society.

#### AGS Business

The new AGS Board of Directors met in special session on Saturday, December 5, 2009, to discuss plans for the coming year. The first item on the agenda was the

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election of officers. After some discussion, the current officers were re-elected to serve an additional term.

The next discussion centered around the appointment of Committee leaders. The following individuals were then designated as follows:

**Education/Programs:**

Co-chairs — Sharon FOLEY & Sara GREDLER

**Membership/Hospitality:**

Co-chairs — Maud CAIN/Sara GREDLER

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Treasurer Teri FLACK submitted a preliminary treasurer's report for 2009. The final report will be submitted after the close of the fiscal (calendar) year. After the major points to be addressed in the meeting were concluded, the Board was able to complete the 2010 Budget which was then submitted and approved.

The following actions were also approved:

**Website:** Webmaster Dona KURTZ has been working steadily building the new AGS website. Included will be a "Members Only" section. Immediate content will include copies of the most recent issues (five years) of The Quarterly, the most recent issues of the AGS Newsletter (6 months), together with copies of program handouts (when authorization from the speaker is obtained). Other content will be added as deemed appropriate. It was also agreed that we would remove the reference on the website to the Gray Golden Memorial Fund. There has been no activity in the fund for a number of years. At such time as any donations are made to this memorial fund, the information can again be included on the website.

**Newsletter:** After considerable discussion regarding issues around the size and download time of the electronic version of the AGS Newsletter, the Board agreed to support the continued expansion of the style and content. The Newsletter editor and Webmaster will work toward reducing this problem.

**Cemetery** — Kay BOYD

**Newsletter** — Janis TRAYLER

**Quarterly** — Randy WHITED

**Librarian** — Kay BOYD

**Webmaster** — Dona KURTZ

**TSGS Delegate** — Kate ALLEN

**Lifetime Learning** — Inez EPPRIGHT

**Historian** — Mary TODD

The Board will also be looking for someone to take on the job of Publicity Chair.

**Quarterly:** Editor Randy WHITED reported that while he has sufficient content for the December issue, his goal for future editions is to have a good balance between member-contributed family-research content and record transcriptions. An increase in the budget for printing and binding was approved. It was also agreed that the names of individuals making donations to AGS in excess of membership dues will be acknowledged in the Quarterly and on the pre-meeting PowerPoint presentations.

**Library Liaisons:** Teri FLACK volunteered to be the Society's liaison with the Texas State Library. Kay BOYD agreed to liaison with the Austin Public Library/Austin History Center to keep us informed about any possibility of having a genealogy section at one of those facilities.

**AGS Seminar / Saturday Speaker Series:** The Board confirmed an earlier discussion regarding the cost in time, effort, and dollars associated with sponsoring an Annual Seminar in comparison with the dropping attendance levels at the seminar over the past few years. The decision not to have an annual seminar in 2010 was again confirmed, opting instead to have a series of mini-seminars in February, May, and July. After further discussion, the Board decided to charge for these mini-seminars at a rate of \$10 each for members and \$15 for non-AGS members.



**Membership & Hospitality**

Membership renewals were due on January 1st. If you have not yet renewed, please do so before the end of the month. Jean MAROSTICA will begin preparing our new membership directories soon, so distribution of those can be completed by the end of March.



**We Welcome the following New Members:**

Joyce ARQUETTE  
3673 Crazyhorse Pass  
Austin, TX 78734  
512-266-6543  
[jarquette@austin.rr.com](mailto:jarquette@austin.rr.com)

Thomas James BROTHERTON  
12101 Bluebonnet  
Manchaca, TX 78652  
512-291-8642 (H)  
[tbrotherton@austin.rr.com](mailto:tbrotherton@austin.rr.com)

Patricia A. KANE  
13108 Bidwell Dr.  
Austin, TX 78729  
512-335-1158  
[pakane@gmail.com](mailto:pakane@gmail.com)

Cynthia ORR  
P O Box 201765  
Austin, TX 78720  
415-871-7300 (H)  
512-219-1879 (W)  
[cynthiaannorr@yahoo.com](mailto:cynthiaannorr@yahoo.com)

The Del W. and James L. RANDALL Family  
(no information to be published at their request)

**Directory Update:**

Nelda LILLIE—new email address:  
[n.lillie@sbcglobal.net](mailto:n.lillie@sbcglobal.net)



**REMEMBER!**  
**PLEASE GET YOUR DUES PAID BY**  
**JANUARY 31<sup>ST</sup>**

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**Hospitality**

The AGS December Social event held on December 1st was a resounding success. There were a large number of members and guests in attendance. AGS Members brought an abundance of side dishes and desserts and AGS furnished some very tasty smoked turkey and honey ham from Pok-E-Jo's Barbeque. After an opportunity to visit and enjoy the meal, various members shared stories about some of the more "interesting" people each had discovered in their personal family research. It was quite an entertaining evening. Thank you to everyone who brought food. It was an amazing feast and a wonderful time together!



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**Help Wanted:** AGS is looking for a member to help us with publicity for our various events and functions. In particular, we want to advertise our series of Mini-Seminars, our Laptop Saturdays, and, of course, our monthly meetings.

If you would be willing to help with this project, please contact our Education Committee Co-Chairperson Sharon FOLEY at 512-401-6357 or email her at [sharonaf@austin.rr.com](mailto:sharonaf@austin.rr.com). **AGS needs YOU!**

**John & Jean Marostica**  
**Receive The First AGS Volunteer of the Year Award**



On December 1, 2009, Jean and John Marostica were honored at the AGS December Social as the first recipients of the **AGS Volunteers of the Year Award**. Presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their years of service, Jean and John also received a free membership to AGS for 2010.

Jean and John have been members of Austin Genealogical Society continuously since 2000. Their interest in genealogy started in 1993 as John searched intensely for his biological mother and father. Noting John's success in locating his mother, Jean then began her own search for her ancestors.

Soon after joining AGS, Jean was asked to maintain the database of our society's membership information and has done so since that time. Additionally, she maintains the surname listing on the AGS website and handles all the bulk mail for the AGS Quarterlies and other postal mailings. In 2007, AGS converted to an electronic monthly newsletter, and Jean distributes this to our members.

John served as a member of the AGS Board of Directors from 2004 through 2007. He has been consistently involved in teaching beginners' classes that AGS offers twice a year as well as classes for Lifetime Learning. This year, he created a computer genealogy SIG (Special Interest Group) that meets once a month. These SIG meetings provide the community

with speakers who discuss a variety of topics covering many different genealogical and computer interests. Notices of these meetings are posted on the AGS website.

John provides audio/visual support at all AGS monthly meetings and special functions. He also serves as the official Society photographer. In 2007, John began creating pre-meeting PowerPoint presentations that are projected onto the big screen used by the speakers. This draws the interest of those in attendance to the biographical information regarding the evening's speaker, together with a photograph of the speaker and outline of the topic. The PowerPoint presentation includes information about upcoming events and announcements. It also highlights pictures from past AGS events.

Both Jean and John have jointly served in the capacity of the Communications Coordinators of AGS. Jean has produced the annual Membership Directory since 2006. For monthly AGS meetings, she provides membership nametags and a new sign-in roster, and she often sits at the registration table to help register attendees.

Jean and John's dedication has helped the Austin Genealogical Society grow and prosper. Their technical expertise, back-office support, and continuous assistance are some of the most important contributions any society can receive. It is with great appreciation that AGS honors them as **Volunteers of the Year**.

***Congratulations, John and Jean!***



**UPDATED AGS WEBSITE**

Have you been to the AGS website lately? Webmaster Dona KURTZ has been working steadily for months on a new design in honor of our 50-year anniversary. Check it out at [www.AustinTxGenSoc.org](http://www.AustinTxGenSoc.org). And when you see her, let Dona know what you think about it.

Now there is also a "Members Only" section which requires a login ID and password. The login ID is "agsmember" and the password is gene.AGS (case sensitive). Go on in and take a look around.



AGS Calendar of Activities

January 23 — Laptop Saturday Session

January 26 — AGS Monthly Meeting (see page 1)

February 6 — AGS Mini-Seminar (details below)

February 13 & 20 — AGS Beginners Genealogy Class (details below)

February 23 — AGS Monthly Meeting  
Writing a Good Story presented by Daryl GIBSON

March 23 — AGS Monthly Meeting  
How Disease, Disaster, and Hard Times Changed our Ancestors' Lives presented by Teri FLACK

April 19 to 25 — AGS Researchers travel to Salt Lake City

April 27 — AGS Monthly Meeting  
Judges' Hill Historic District presented by Phoebe ALLEN



AGS Educational Opportunities



**Laptop Saturdays begin.** AGS sponsors *free* workshops at various Austin Public Libraries. The first of the series is scheduled to be on:

**Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>**

Ancestry.Com - Linking and Working "In the Cloud"  
Presenters: Cindy FOREMAN and Sara GREDLER  
**1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** at the APL Hampton Branch,  
[5125 Convict Hill Road](#)  
Austin, (Oak Hill) Texas



**AGS Beginners' Genealogy Classes**  
Refresh yourself, inspire yourself, or attend for the first time to hone your skills! Teachers are Teri FLACK, Nancy STEVENS, and Dona KURTZ. The classes start on:

**Saturdays: February 13 & 20  
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Cost:** \$15 for materials  
Triumph Love Lutheran Church  
Community Classroom  
9508 Great Hills Trail  
Austin, TX 78759



**PRESENTING THE 2010 MINI-SEMINAR SERIES**

For three Saturdays in 2010, AGS is bringing in nationally-known speakers for a series of Mini-Seminars. These mini-seminars replace the AGS Annual Seminar. There will be a modest charge for these Mini-Seminars of \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. (This is updated from information reported in last month's newsletter.) We hope you will be able to attend all of these special events. The first is scheduled for:

**Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Guest Speaker: Jana BROGLIN  
Highland Park Baptist Church  
[5206 Balcones Drive](#)  
Austin, Texas



**AGS is proud to present Jana BROGLIN, as the speaker for our**

**February Mini-Seminar.** Jana Sloan BROGLIN, CG<sup>sm</sup> a native of northwest Ohio, is a professional genealogist with over thirty years of experience. She has spoken at local, state, regional, and national conferences. She is a lecturer and freelance writer. Over thirty publications on Kentucky resulted in her being named a "Kentucky Colonel". Currently, Jana is serv-

*(Continued on page 6)*



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ing as Vice President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies and she is a past trustee of the Ohio Genealogical Society.

**9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**— Understanding the Probate Process; See Ya in the Funnies; Hookers, Crooks, and Kooks!

**1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**— “The Proof is in the Pudding” - a bonus topic geared for advanced genealogists by discussing the Genealogical Proof Standard

The lunch break will be from about 12:30-1:30. If you are planning to stay for the afternoon session, feel free to brown bag it and stay at the church, or you can go out for a quick lunch nearby.

*We hope to see you there!*

### Other Educational Opportunities

**Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Sixth Annual Hill Country Family History Seminar**

**9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Boerne Convention and Community Center  
820 East Adler Rd.  
Boerne, Texas

There is a *registration fee* for this seminar.

Featured Speaker: Curt WITCHER, Manager of the Genealogy Department at the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, IN. For more information, contact Gwen ADRIAN at 830-249-2085 or visit their website at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txgskc)



**Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Austin Genealogy SIG**

**1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church  
Community Classroom  
9508 Great Hills Trail  
Austin, TX 78759

<http://www.austingensig.com>

*Free*

Featured Speaker: Sylvia L. NIMMO  
Topic: Working Online with Maps and Place Names



**Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Williamson County Genealogical Society's  
Annual Seminar**

Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Program: **8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

First United Methodist Church  
2004 North Mays  
Round Rock, TX

There is a *registration fee* for this seminar.

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txwcgs/Seminar.htm>

Featured Speaker: Megan Smolenyak SMOLENYAK

Topics:

Trace Your Roots with DNA,  
Beyond Y-DNA,  
Remembering our Ancestors, and  
Cases That Made My Brain Hurt!



**February 16, 23, March 2, 9, 17, 23, April 6 & 13**

**The Lifetime Learning Institute sponsors**

**“A Genealogy Sampler”** for folks over fifty!

Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church

Community Classroom

9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin, TX 78759

*Class Fee: \$20*

[www.liaustin.org](http://www.liaustin.org)

Brush up your genealogy skills with this series of classes! Each session is presented by a member of the Austin Genealogical Society. Topics will include The Basics; Census Data and City Census; Genealogy Software; Emigration Port; and Digital Photography for Genealogists. *There will be a \$5 charge for copies of forms and handouts.* Check the website for more details.

<http://www.liaustin.org/classes/fall-2009/tuesday-am>



**AGS—50 Years & Growing!**

Each year with AGS is a special year, but 2010 is a milestone because we are celebrating *FIFTY* years of learning, researching, discovering our roots, all in the company of others who are also passionate about family history.

Each month in 2010 we will be doing something to recognize our milestone and January kicks off the first of the **surprises**.

*All NEW and RENEWING members for 2010 will receive an AGS 50th Anniversary Tote Bag with the anniversary logo. These commemorative tote bags will be distributed at the Laptop Saturday Session on January 23rd and at the regular meeting on Tuesday, January 26th.*

*If you have not renewed your membership already, you will want to do it NOW!*

**Historically Speaking**

During 2010, we will feature excerpts and information from the recorded history of the Austin Genealogical Society since its inception in 1960.

The following is taken from a letter dated June 13, 1960, from Jno. A. Gracy to ... “Members of the Genealogical Group”

“Our next meeting is to be held in the auditorium of Austin City Library at 9<sup>th</sup> and Guadalupe Streets on Thursday night June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7 p.m. The Auditorium is reached by the door under the East entrance. No re-

freshments can be served and no charge for admission. We have enjoyed two meetings at Mrs. Alice D. Gracy’s home and she was elected Temporary Chairman and desires to be relieved of this responsibility.”

(Note: the Austin City Library is now known as the Austin History Center)

**Weather Alerts**



Given the inclement weather that sometimes happens around Austin in the winter and spring, we encourage you

to check the [AGS website](#) if you are concerned that weather may postpone or cancel an AGS event or meeting.



**SLC Research Trip**

Are you scheduled to travel to Salt Lake City in April? Since we are making our own travel reservations, Pat OXLEY has requested that everyone let her know your scheduled arrival date and departure date. Also, if you are sharing a room, confirm to her the name of your roommate.

Final deposits for rooms at the Plaza are now due. Deadline for the full amount of the hotel room deposit is April 1st. Pat is out of town during all of March, so contact her soon. [pat@theoxleys.com](mailto:pat@theoxleys.com) or 512-733-5993.



**Financial Statements**

The financial statements for the Austin Genealogical Society are published twice a year: in January and July.

**Austin Genealogical Society  
 Profit & Loss Statement  
 January 1 through December 31, 2009**

<b>INCOME</b>	
2009 Annual Seminar Receipts	5,335.00
09 Bus Trip - Clayton Library	2,385.00
Classes	360.00
Contributions Rec'd	1,755.00
Donations - Miscellaneous	168.50
09 Membership Dues Rec'd	3,550.00
10 Membership Dues Rec'd	2,280.00
Misc Income ( Family Tree DNA commissions; Lifetime Learning; Pioneer Certificates)	541.90
Misc. Collections	27.55
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>16,402.95</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>16,402.95</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Education	
2009 Annual Seminar	4,668.29
2010 Saturday Series	295.20
Classes	168.99
Speaker Copies	80.17
Speaker Expenses	179.10
Speaker Fees	700.00
<b>Total Education</b>	<b>6,091.75</b>
Membership Expenses	
50th Anniversary	368.80
Membership Expenses	61.83
Socials	266.49
<b>Total Membership Expenses</b>	<b>697.12</b>
Operating Expenses	
Bank Fees: PayPal discounts	82.04
Board Dinner	60.60
Equipment (Pur/Rent/Maint)	164.65
Gen. Operating Expenses	74.40
Ofc. Supplies and Materials	26.49
Permits & Licenses	180.00
Postage & Delivery	685.34
Printing & Copying	2,788.71
Professional Services	262.50

Operating Expenses continued	
Rent - Meeting Rooms	600.00
Rent - P O Box	110.00
Society Memberships	25.00
Software & Peripherals	146.67
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>5,206.40</b>
Records Preservation	5.80
Research Trip Expenses	2,175.79
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>14,176.86</b>
Net Ordinary Income	2,226.09
Other Income - Interest Earned	195.98
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>2,422.07</b>

**Austin Genealogical Society  
 Balance Sheet  
 As of December 31, 2009**

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Public Employees Credit Union	10,443.01
Wells Fargo	14,455.77
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>24,898.78</b>
Other Current Assets	396.38
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>25,295.16</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Current Liabilities	
SLC Research trip traveler deposits	3,160.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,160.00</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	
Retained Earnings	19,713.09
Net In- come	2,422.07
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>22,135.16</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp;          EQUITY</b>	<b>25,295.16</b>





**Texas State Library and Archives Report**

(by Teri FLACK)

The Texas State Library and Archives continues with renovations to the Lorenzo de Zavala Building. The renovations are expected to be completed later this year. If you haven't been to the library lately, some of the renovations are already visible. In July 2009, the Reference, Archives, and Genealogy public service areas were relocated back to the first floor from the third floor where they have been housed since the renovations began. In October 2009, the Welcome desk in the lobby was staffed; all patrons and visitors must sign in at the Desk to gain access to the building. Because the remainder of the library is continuing to be renovated, the library still has only limited access to the genealogy collection.

When completed, there will be a new look and some significant changes to the layout of the Genealogy

area, which has been renamed the Texas Family Heritage Research Center. The Center will be located on two levels and share space with the Reference Section. The microfilm readers/printers will be located on the first floor, while printed materials will be housed on the second floor. On the second floor, you'll also find new carrels with electrical outlets. One new feature: because space is at a premium, the library will be using moveable shelving to house non-Texas-related books. A stairway located in the Center will enable researchers to go between the two floors; the central elevator will also provide access.

Currently, the Library's hours are limited to 8-5 Monday through Friday. The Library has not announced any changes to those hours once the renovations are completed.

**Bits & Pieces**

The North Carolina State Archives has recently announced that their newspaper digitization project is now available online.

"In 2009, the North Carolina State Archives completed a project to digitize newspapers from its collection that were, up until that time, only available on microfilm. These materials include papers dating from 1751-1890s from cities like Edenton (1787-1801), Fayetteville (1798-1795), Hillsboro (1786), New Bern (1751-1804), Salisbury (1799-1898), and Wilmington (1765-1816) - a total of 23,483 digital images that are keyword searchable. The project was made possible by a LSTA grant provided by the State Library of North Carolina."



Ready to take a look? Their website address is:

<http://www.archives.ncdcr.gov/newspaper/index.html>

**Editor's Corner**

Thanks for reading through Volume 16, Issue # 1 of the Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter ... the first issue of our 50th Anniversary year. There are a number of special activities planned for this year and we hope each of you will be able to join us at one or more of these during the coming months.

As you can see, there are a number of changes in this edition of the Newsletter. You will notice additional changes as the year goes on and as we work to make the Newsletter more informative, interesting, entertaining, and helpful to our members.

To all of you, the Directors send their very best wishes for a happy, healthy, safe, and successful 2010.

Until next time...

Happy Trackin'!

Janis



### *2010 Board of Directors*

#### **Term ending 2010:**

Kay BOYD  
Inez EPPRIGHT  
Sharon FOLEY  
Cindy FOREMAN  
Sara GREDLER  
Janis TRAYLER

#### **Term Ending 2011:**

Kate ALLEN  
Maud CAIN  
Teri FLACK  
Dona KURTZ  
Mary TODD  
Randy WHITED

### *2010 Officers*

President	Cindy FOREMAN
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Kay BOYD
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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 feel free to share those with us.*

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

Visitors Always Welcome!

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**Austin Genealogical Society**  
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*Promoting genealogy through research,  
education, and preservation.*

**50 YEARS & GROWING**