



# The Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

## July 2012

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

Vol. 18

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

No. 7

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Janis Trayler, Editor  
[Newsletter](#)  
[@AustinTxGenSoc.org](mailto:@AustinTxGenSoc.org)

## Monthly AGS Meeting

### Tuesday, July 24, 2012

Highland Park Baptist Church  
5206 Balcones Drive  
Austin, Texas 78759

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

**Program: Preserving Your Family's Documents and Photographs**  
**Presented by: Claudia Wilson Anderson**

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



In her talk, "Preserving Your Family's Documents and Photographs," Claudia Wilson ANDERSON will discuss the preservation of letters, certificates, and photos. She will describe the best environment for historical materials and will talk about appropriate archival housings and conservation methods. Claudia will also provide information on vendors who sell products used in archives to help preserve valuable correspondence, pictures, and photographic negatives.



Claudia Wilson ANDERSON, Supervisory Archivist at the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum, joined the staff of the LBJ Library and Museum 43 years ago in March 1969, shortly after completing a B.A. in Government at the University of Texas at Aus-

tin. In June 2004, she became the Supervisory Archivist. During her years at the Johnson Library, she has worked with President Johnson's pre-presidential papers, White House papers dealing with domestic policy, and Mrs. Johnson's papers. Claudia has a particular in-

terest in collections dealing with the political tensions between Congress and the White House. She, together with Regina GREENWELL, served as co-leader of the team of archivists processing the recordings of President Johnson's telephone conversations.

### **AGS Business: From the Minutes of the Board Meeting**

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, June 26th, prior to the regular Society meeting. The following items were discussed and action taken.

#### **Treasurer's Reports**

The Treasurer's report for May was accepted as submitted.

Treasurer Teri FLACK advised the Board that the mid-year financial reports would be submitted to the AGS Newsletter editor for inclusion in the July newsletter.

#### **Bylaws Revision Committee**

Earle McBRIDE and his committee are scheduled to meet on Wednesday, June 27th, to begin the review and revision process. Committee members are Barbara FROCK, Carolyn GRESHAM, John MAROSTICA, Kay BOYD, and Sharon FOLEY.

#### **AGS Website**

Webmaster Dona KURTZ reports that the website is very nearly done and the prototype has been submitted to the Board of Directors for review and comment. Dona and Parker SHORT, our paid consultant, are working out some issues with the new member online registration form. Membership access will be available soon after this issue is resolved and after the Board has completed its review and comment.

#### **AGS Fall Mini-Seminar**

Program Chair Jane SCHWENDINGER is encouraging everyone to help promote the Fall Mini-Seminar in October featuring J. Mark LOWE. This seminar will

provide FOUR topics rather than the standard three. (See page [four](#) for additional information.)

#### **AGS Member Survey**

Jennifer WHITLEY reported that 158 people responded to the AGS Member Survey. She compiled her report and submitted it to the Board at the June meeting. The Board will review the survey results individually and be prepared to further discuss the results at the July meeting. At that point, the Board will create an action plan. (Note: See more information about the survey on page [seven](#).)

#### **Saturday Series**

AGS Board member Jacquie WILSON will host the next Saturday Series event on July 14th. This session will focus on helping individuals break through brick walls in their research. Janis TRAYLER and Karin BRANAMAN will co-host the event with Jacquie. (See page [four](#) for additional information on this event.)

#### **AGS Quarterly**

Randy WHITED, AGS Quarterly Editor for the past four years, has resigned from that position. The Board extended a unanimous "thank you" for doing an outstanding job as the editor during that time.

The Board unanimously agreed that Lisa SMITH-CURTEAN did an excellent job on the most recent issue of the AGS Quarterly. As a result, AGS President Sharon FOLEY formally appointed Lisa as the new Editor of the AGS Quarterly. All Quarterly submis-

*(Continued on page 3)*

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sions from now on need to be directed to Lisa. Her email is [quarterly@AustinTxGenSoc.org](mailto:quarterly@AustinTxGenSoc.org).

### **Quarterly Exchange**

For many years, AGS has participated in an “exchange” program with a few other genealogical and historical societies and libraries. The original purpose was to provide copies of our Quarterlies to societies or libraries that requested a copy of AGS Quarterlies for their genealogy libraries or public libraries in their locations. The copies of Quarterlies that we received in

return were provided to the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

The Board decided that going forward, we will not participate in the exchange of hard-copy Quarterlies as TSL no longer accepts genealogical society quarterlies and AGS has no place to store them.

Societies or libraries requesting a copy of the AGS Quarterly will be provided an electronic copy at no charge. Printed copies may be obtained by joining AGS as an institutional member.

## **AGS Business**

**ATTENDANCE REPORT** for the AGS meeting on June 24, 2012: approximately 94 members and guests attended. This includes the following visitors, all from Austin:

Margaret HUBER (who came with her daughter,  
AGS member Nancy Huber WILSON)  
Adrienne WITZEL  
Austin SWEENEY  
Cindy DAUTEL  
Ruthann RUSHING  
Dianne HOLLEY

We hope each of you will visit us again soon.



AGS welcomes the following new members since the last report:

Miles ABERNATHY—Austin 78746  
Sally DREWS—Austin 78759  
Don TEMPLES—New York City 10027  
Peggy & Don Z’BORAY—Austin 78758  
Ruthann RUSHING—Austin  
Susan JONES—Santa Rosa, California  
Sybil PATTERSON—Wimberley

We are so glad to have all of you join us and hope to have many opportunities to get to know you.



**HOSPITALITY REPORT.** Our thanks go out to Martha CARPENTER and Nancy STEPHENS who served as greeters at the June meeting.

Our thanks also extend to Sheila SARGENT who was in charge at the refreshment table, and to Nancy STEVENS, Sharon FOLEY, Barbara FROCK, Kay BOYD, and Nelda LILLY who brought refreshments.

Serving at the registration table were Jean MAROSTICA, Arlene ZIRKEL, Sharon TIEMAN, Nelda LILLY, and Cynthia RODRIGUEZ.

Be sure to thank them all if you get the chance!

Stepping up to assist with refreshments for July are Scott CARPENTER, Martha CARPENTER, Susan TYLER, Kezlie MARKEY, and Janis TRAYLER.

Greeters for July will be Scott and Martha CARPENTER.



**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR’S REPORT**  
by Martha CARPENTER

We only have one volunteer for August. (Thank you, Barbara INNIS!) If you would be willing to bring refreshments for the August meeting, please contact me. We need three more people to ensure we have enough refreshments for the meeting.

There has been some discussion about setting up a **car pool** for those members who are unable to come to the meetings because they don't drive or are uncomfortable driving at night. Please send me your thoughts and ideas on this subject and let me know if you are in

need of a ride to meetings or if you would be willing to pick someone up if they live in your general part of town.

Happy tree climbing,

Martha W. Carpenter  
[mbarker@austin.rr.com](mailto:mbarker@austin.rr.com)

### AGS Activities

**Tuesday, July 24th**— Regular AGS meeting

Program: *Preserving Paper & Photos* presented by Claudia ANDERSON

**Tuesday, August 28th**— Regular AGS meeting

Program: *Trailing Old West History* presented by Mike COX

**2012 Saturday Series — Brick Wall Saturday**  
**THIS SATURDAY: July 14th, 9:00 a.m. - Noon**  
**LBJ Presidential Library (UT Campus)**  
**2313 Red River Street, Austin, Texas**

Would you like to finally break through your genealogical brick walls? Join Jacquie WILSON and other AGS members on July 14th for Brick Wall Saturday.

Jacquie conducts similar sessions every week at the library in Round Rock, so she is an expert in assisting people in breaking through those walls.



If you know in advance that you will attend this session, email Jacquie at [jdemskey62@aol.com](mailto:jdemskey62@aol.com) describing your predicament and she will share your information with Karin BRANAMAN and Janis TRAYLER who will be there Saturday to assist.

These sessions are simply round-table discussions and anyone attending is welcome to share their ideas and experience in helping others to break through those pesky brick walls!

### **Don't Forget to Mark Your Calendars!!**

**Saturday, October 20, 2012**

**AGS Fall Mini-Seminar**

It is not too early to mark your calendar for Saturday, October 20, 2012, which is the date of our Fall Mini-Seminar featuring **J. Mark LOWE**. This Mini-Seminar will be somewhat longer, with the *addition of a fourth session*.

The topics will be:

- Ready-Set-Plan! Developing a One-Step Research Plan
- Planning Around That Brick Wall
- My Ancestor, the Farmer: Shaping a profile for you Rural Ancestor
- Over the Mountain, Across the Plains... Using Electronic Records to Trace Our Ancestors

We hope you will plan to join us at this special presentation in October!



### Other Genealogical Activities

#### ***The Austin Genealogy Special Interest Group***

**Saturday July 14, 2012, 1:00-3:30 p.m.**

Old Quarry Branch Library

**7051 Village Center Drive, (off Far West Blvd.)**

Austin, Tx 78731

#### ***Technical Tips and Tricks***

presented by John MAROSTICA

Tips and Tricks for:

- Scanning negatives and slides
- Photo Stitching
- Finding free instructional videos

As genealogists, we not only have to find the information we need, sometimes we have to figure out how to make use of the information we find! For example, with the right scanner, a box of negatives or slides can be transformed into beautiful photos.



Using photo stitching software, the several photographs of that large document you found in the courthouse or history center, can be turned back into one single, easy-to-read document. And if you know how, you can get e-mail notifications of educational videos from leading genealogical sources.

After the presentations, you can practice scanning, or we can scan some images for you. Just bring the documents or pictures you want scanned and a flash drive to store them on.

John Marostica, Manager

The Austin Genealogy Special Interest Group

512-339-6455

Cell – 512-294-1999

[www.AustinGenSIG.com](http://www.AustinGenSIG.com)

[john.marostica@gmail.com](mailto:john.marostica@gmail.com) or [john@marostica.org](mailto:john@marostica.org)



#### ***16th Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference***

**Thursday, July 19, 2012**

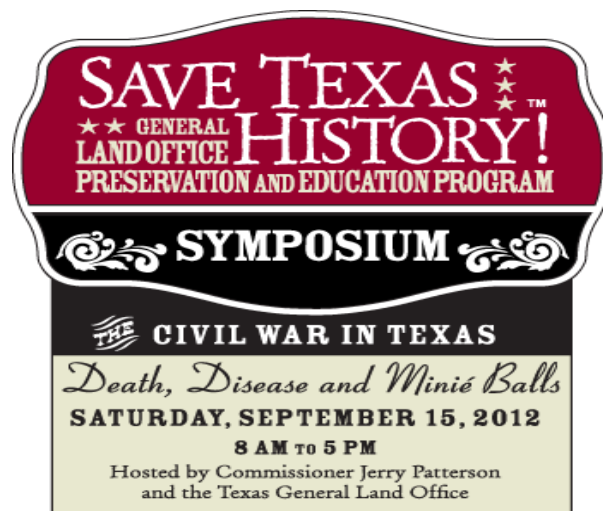
Two Special All-Day Workshops; and

**Friday & Saturday, July 20 & 21, 2012**

Eight speakers offering 24 sessions

Angelina College Campus, 3500 South First Street (Hwy 59 South) – two miles south of Loop 187 in Lufkin, Texas, the hub of the East Texas region, located in the beautiful Piney Woods of East Texas.

[Click here](#) for more information on times, topics, and presenters. [Click here](#) for a registration form.



#### ***3rd Annual Save Texas History Symposium***

The Texas General Land Office is hosting its 3rd Annual Save Texas History Symposium on **Saturday, September 15, 2012 from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.** at the **T h o m p s o n C o n f e r e n c e Center, 2405 East Campus Drive, Austin, Texas.**

This year's theme is The Civil War in Texas. In the morning sessions, you will hear new perspectives on

*(Continued on page 6)*

*(Continued from page 5)*

the Texas role in the War Between the States from Dr. Rick McCASLIN, Dr. Don FRAZIER and Mr. Ed CO-THAM.

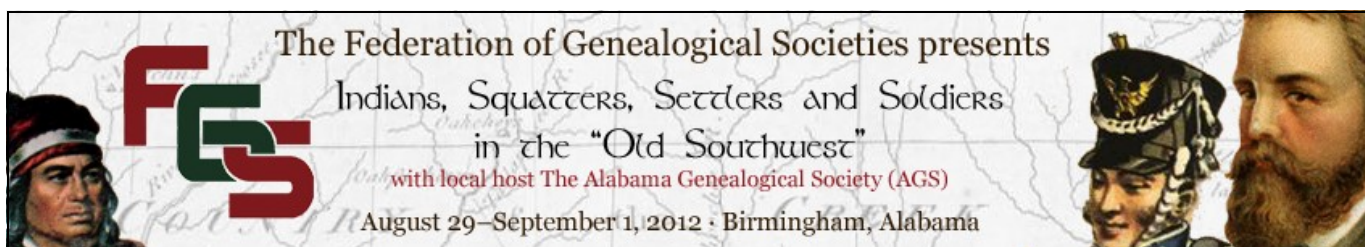
Topics include Union plans for a Texas invasion, the Battle of Galveston, two new genealogy workshops, Tejano involvement in the Civil War, as well as special tours of the Texas State Cemetery.

To see a full agenda for the day, click on the Save

Texas History banner above and scroll down the page.

To register online, [click here](#). To download a paper registration form, [click here](#). Registrations must be received by **September 10, 2012**. Special hotel room rates are available.

For additional information about the “Save Texas History” program, go to [www.savetexashistory.org](http://www.savetexashistory.org) or call **512-463-3289**.



### ***2012 Annual Conference for the Federation of Genealogical Societies***

**Wednesday, August 29—Saturday, September 1, 2012, in Birmingham, Alabama**

Genealogists from around the country and around the world, those who are members of genealogical societies and those who are not, are ALL INVITED to attend the 2012 Annual Conference for the Federation of Genealogical Societies. This year’s conference, set for August 29 – September 1, 2012, is being held in Birmingham, Alabama, and is co-hosted by the Alabama Genealogical Society. The theme is “**Indians, Squatters, Settlers, and Soldiers in the ‘Old Southwest’.**”

This year’s conference offers genealogists an outstanding venue and setting for a superb genealogical education and research experience.

Nearly 160 educational presentations by leading genealogical experts are available at the FGS 2012 conference in Birmingham—all designed for the beginning to expert genealogist! We are sure you will agree that the presentations being offered cover a wide array of topics and interests.

For more information and registration information, check the FGS conference website by clicking the logo or using <http://www.fgs.org/2012conference>.

### ***Bits & Pieces***

For a limited time, Fold3 and AGS have added another value to your society membership. Fold3 is the Web’s premier collection of original military records, hosting online source documents to help with your research.

For a limited, time, you can receive a discount on an

annual, all-access Fold3 membership. Take advantage of this offer while it lasts!

[Click here](#) to go to the Fold3 website and enroll at this discounted price, a \$30 savings off of the current price of \$79.95.

### **New AGS Website is now AVAILABLE.**

By the time you receive this Newsletter, you may have already received an email blast advising the new AGS Website ([www.AustinTxGenSoc.org](http://www.AustinTxGenSoc.org)) is open. As of this writing, it is set to be activated within a few days!

After investing considerably more time and effort than was originally anticipated, Webmaster Dona KURTZ advises that our new website is now up and running.

As with all newly initiated websites, it is possible to miss potential problem areas, so if you come across something that does not seem to work right, please let Dona or another Board member know as soon as you can.

The login for the Members' Only section will be changed soon, but for now the login remains ags2011 and the password is still aU5t!n.

*Many thanks* go to Dona for going the extra mile to get this major task accomplished!

### **Member Survey results**

As mentioned in the AGS Business report on page two, Survey Master Jennifer WHITLEY reported that 158 individuals participated in the recent Member Survey. If you are one of those who participated, *thank you*. If you did not, we are sorry not to have your input and comments. However, with over 330 current AGS members, the Board believes a participation level at just under 50% was very good.

The Board is currently reviewing the survey results and will be discussing these results with a view as to what areas will receive action plans in the short-, mid-, and long-terms.



The survey results will be available to all members with the introduction of the new AGS website. (See article above.)

Some results you might find interesting...

- 92% of respondents said their primary reason for doing genealogy is to preserve their family history
- 34% said they want to give back to the genealogy community through volunteering
- 28% have in excess of 1000 hours of genealogy experience

### **AGS Quarterly News**

Newly appointed Quarterly Editor Lisa SMITH-CURTEAN reports how much she appreciates having received several very nice emails regarding the last AGS Quarterly! She has also received some great articles and Family Group Sheets with photos for the next issue and is looking forward to working on the next issue which should be out the second week of August.

Lisa says that when submitting information for the Quarterly, she prefers we use MS Word, Word Perfect,

Rich Text Format, or Notepad as these formats make the files much easier to work with. In addition, although end notes are preferred, footnotes are also acceptable. It is, however, important to cite your sources and label/identify all photographs.

The deadline for the next issue is July 20, 2012. Please email your information to Lisa at [L.Smith1974@yahoo.com](mailto:L.Smith1974@yahoo.com) or [quarterly@AustinTxGenSoc.org](mailto:quarterly@AustinTxGenSoc.org).

**Mid-Year Financial Reports**

**Austin Genealogical Society  
 Profit & Loss  
 Jan. 1 through June 30, 2012**

**INCOME**

Bus trip receipts	2,684.00
Contributions Rec'd	270.06
Education (Classes, Mini-Seminars)	1,205.00
Membership Dues Rec'd	4,650.00
Misc Income (Lifetime Learning; Pioneer Certificates; TSGS preservation grant)	60.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>8,869.06</b>

**GROSS INCOME**

**8,869.06**

**EXPENSES**

Awards & Prizes	0.00
Charitable Donations	0.00
Education & Program Costs	1,470.94
Membership Costs	11.70
Operating Expenses	
Publicity	89.00
Bank Fees: PayPal discounts	108.07
Equipment Expense	0.00
Ofc. Supplies and Materials	42.71
General operating costs	16.23
Postage & Delivery	325.16
Printing & Copying	427.53
Website update	750.00
Society Memberships	100.00
Software & Peripherals	57.88
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,916.58</b>
Pioneer Certificates	18.72
Bus trip expenses	2,153.53
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>5,571.47</b>
Net Ordinary Income	3,297.59
Other Income - Interest Earned	17.55
<b>NET INCOME</b>	<b>3,315.14</b>

**Austin Genealogical Society  
 Balance Sheet  
 As of June 30, 2012**

**ASSETS**

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Public Employees Credit Union	10,630.53
Wells Fargo	14,491.59
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>25,122.12</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>25,122.12</b>

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

**Liabilities**

Current Liabilities	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**EQUITY**

Retained Earnings	21,806.98
Net Income	3,315.14
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>25,122.12</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>25,122.12</b>

**FamilySearch indexers** more than met the challenge of indexing and arbitrating 5 million records between July 1st & 2nd. The final total was more than double that amount!  
[Read more ...](#)

Many of the records indexed were for the **1940 U.S. Census**. This census is now 82% indexed. [Read more...](#)

There are plenty of records still available to be indexed. Interested? [Click here!](#)



### **Editor's Corner**

Summer is upon us and again we are desperate for rain. But the flip side of the coin is we can research or organize all those piles of files and folders! Now that we've reached July, we realize that the year is more than half done, and if you are like me, I haven't gotten done nearly as much as I'd planned for on New Year's Day. <Sigh>

I hope you will check out the new AGS website and let Dona know how it works for you and if you have any problems finding your way around on it. She has put in a ton of time and effort working on this transition. Thank you, Dona!!

The Member Survey is full of information and you will want to check it out when you get a chance. One of the things *I must thank you all for* your response to question #5 ("... how valuable you consider ... other benefits of AGS membership") in which the Newsletter received a 93% favorable rating! I am so pleased you find the Newsletter helpful and informative.

The survey also indicated 53 individuals who are interested in volunteering. If this includes helping in some way with the Society's needs, please identify yourself to us and let [Martha CARPENTER](#) know!

Equally as important, eight people indicated an interest in being Editor or Co-Editor of the Quarterly or Newsletter. Please let *me* know who you are. We should talk!

Until next time, stay cool and ...

Happy Trackin',

[Janis](#)

Click the icons to  
Follow us on Facebook ...



Or let us hear from you  
with a Tweet!

### **AGS Regular Meetings** **2012 Program Schedule**

Tuesday, January 24th

"Genealogical Chaining of Artifacts" presented by  
Cindy FOREMAN

Tuesday, February 28th

"Get Your Lineage in Line" presented by Sylvia  
NIMMO

Tuesday, March 27th

"How Do I Organize All This *Stuff?*" presented by  
AGS Member Panel

Tuesday, April 24th

"Researching the 1940 Census" presented by Randy  
WHITED

Tuesday, May 22nd

"I Bet You Didn't Know That" presented by AGS  
members Jane SCHWENDINGER and Sharon  
FOLEY

Tuesday, June 26th

"Find Success with FamilySearch" presented by  
Karen MATHESON

**Tuesday, July 24th**

**"Preserving Paper and Photos" presented by  
Claudia ANDERSON**

Tuesday, August 28th

"Trailing Old West History" presented by Mike  
COX

Tuesday, September 25th

"Social History of the Confederate States"  
presented by Jackie JONES

Tuesday, October 23rd

"Who Do You Think You Are" LIVE—featuring a  
well-known Austin personality as researched and  
presented by a group of AGS members

Tuesday, November 27th

Fall Festival— Special Program on "Austin's *Sixth  
Street*" presented by Dr. Allen CHILDS

***2012 Board of Directors***

<b>Term Ending 2012:</b>	<b>Term Ending 2013:</b>
Karin BRANAMAN	Jim COOPER
Earle McBRIDE	Teri FLACK
Sharon FOLEY	Dona KURTZ
Missy HARRIS	Randy WHITED
Jane SCHWENDINGER	Jennifer WHITLEY
Janis TRAYLER	Jacquie WILSON

***2012 Officers***

President	Sharon FOLEY
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Janis TRAYLER
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Jane SCHWENDINGER
Recording Secretary	Jacquie D. WILSON
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.*

Published monthly except December  
Janis Trayler, Editor  
[newsletter@AustinTxGenSoc.org](mailto:newsletter@AustinTxGenSoc.org)

**Austin Genealogical Society**  
**P. O. Box 10010**  
**Austin, TX 78766-1010**

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

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 78759

***Visitors Are Always Welcome!***

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