



Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

June 2009

Vol. 15

www.AustinTxGenSoc.org

#6

Monthly AGS Meeting Tuesday, June 23, 2009

*Program: "Having Fun With Your Ancestors"
Presented by: Teri FLACK & Sharon FOLEY*

Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas

6:30 – 7:00 P.M. – Social Time

7:00 – 8:30 P.M. – Program

Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!

It's summertime, and our thoughts naturally turn to how we'll spend our leisure time. What? – You think leisure time is a new invention? Think again. Our ancestors were not the dour, cheerless people that photos and some accounts of them would have you believe. They knew how to have fun – sometimes they were unrestrained partiers and sometimes they just had picnics in the park. But, while they were kicking up their heels, eating, drinking, and otherwise having fun, they coincidentally left behind numerous clues and records that can provide you with important details about their lives. Teri and Sharon will share examples of the many activities that lent joy and relaxation to their lives. Come join us for a look at our ancestors at play.



Sharon FOLEY, in her own terms "a Yankee from eastern Iowa," began researching her family roots after being inspired by her husband's cousin who was still actively doing genealogy at the age of 90. That was in 1996 and life has not been the same for her since. A former educator, Sharon has a BA from Coe College, an MS from the University of Iowa, and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi. She taught high school sciences for 23 years and now employs and enjoys applying her teaching and researching skills in her pursuit of ancestors. She and her husband relocated to Austin to be near their daughter and grandsons, but she adds that joining and becoming an active member of AGS has become an important part of her life as well. Sharon currently serves on the AGS Board of Directors as Second Vice President and co-Chair of the Education Committee.



A 6th generation Texan, Teri FLACK has been researching her family history for over 25 years. She is the AGS Treasurer and a member of the Society's teaching faculty. Teri also serves on the Board of the Texas State Genealogical Society as a District Representative and chair of the Records Preservation and Access Committee (RPAC). She is the Texas state liaison to the national RPAC. She's completed the Advanced Methodology Course at the National Institute for Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University and the National Institute of Genealogical Research at the National Archives in Washington, DC. She's a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Genealogical Speaker's Guild. She lectures on a variety of genealogical topics. She holds a B. S. in Education with a History major, an MBA, and a graduate Paralegal Certificate from Texas State University.

AGS Business

Pursuant to the AGS bylaws, a copy of the report of the Financial Review Committee is attached at the end of the newsletter.

The Board of Directors has authorized a contest in connection with the 50th Year Anniversary celebration being planned for next year. The Anniversary Committee is requesting submissions of a logo design and a slogan for this celebration. Winners in each category will receive a free membership for 2010. Please submit your entries to Kay Boyd mkdb1405@aol.com or Barbara Innis bagns@sbcglobal.net not later than Friday, July 31st.

Membership

(by Barbara INNIS)

After what seemed like a long hiatus since our last monthly meeting in March, we gathered on May 26th to hear Dr. Jesus F. DE LA TEJA delightfully untangle the web of "Why Urbano and Maria Trinidad Can't Get Married!" With a keen sense of wit and a background dedicated to good research, he held our attention as he led us back to 18th century Texas, discussing social relations in the late colonial times. He also set the record straight on Juan SEGUIN!

TOTAL ATTENDANCE - 80 and a very special welcome to the following:

New Member – Donna Clark JOHNSON

Renewing Member – Mary Paige HUEY

Visitors

Robert and Sue AUTRY - Leander
Jim DAVIS – Austin

Jonelle MILLER-CHAPMAN - Austin
Ines GARCIA - Austin



Additions to your 2009 Membership Directory

NEW MEMBERS

Michael GAMMEL
6757 US Hwy 271 N
Gilmer, TX 75644
gammel1949@yahoo.com
903 762 6756

Wanda GLASS
8405 Old Bee Caves Rd., Apt. 733
Austin, TX 78735
wanda@fingercpa.com
512 587 2161 (H)
512 327 2266 (W)

RETURNING/RENEWING MEMBERS

Mike & Judy DUNAVANT
2224 Kaiser Dr.
Austin, TX 78748-3432
michael.dunavant@sbcglobal.net
512 286 3705 (H)
512 517 7268 (C)

Linda EDELSTEIN
1439 Dapplegrey Lane
Austin, TX 78727
ledelstein@mindspring.com
512 491 9881

NEW ADDRESS

Jean SHROYER
108 High Plains Trail
Spicewood, TX 78669

Hospitality

(by Elizabeth JOHNSTON)

Thank you to our May Greeters: Cynthia RODRIGUEZ, Angela EISERT, Glenda BLACK, Dona KURTZ, and Carroll PATTERSON. Thanks also go to our Refreshment people, especially those people who stepped up at the last minute: Dona KURTZ, Barbara FROCK, Elizabeth JOHNSTON, Sheila SARGENT, and Cynthia RODRIGUEZ.

The following people are our **June Greeters**: Karin BRANAMAN, Chris BOND, and Sara GREDLER. Bringing **refreshments in June** will be Joann TRAVER, James HOLLAS, Karin BRANAMAN, and Martha BERNHARDT. Thank these people for adding to a pleasant evening.

Areas where you can help: One greeter is needed in July, three greeters needed in August, and one greeter is needed in September.

Contact Elizabeth JOHNSTON at elizabethlj@sbcglobal.net or 251-0093 if you can help.

Coming Programs

The Education Committee continues its course of outstanding monthly programs throughout the summer. Next up are the following:

Tuesday, July 28th
Regular Meeting
Topic: *Finding Granddad's War*
Presented: Jeffrey BADGER

Tuesday, September 22nd
Topic: *Tales and Imagery from the Tombstones*
Presenter: Janene JEFFREY

Tuesday, August 25th
Beyond Google Search and Ancestry.com:
Topic: *Unique Online Resources*
Presenter: Sara GREDLER

Educational Opportunities

*Summer is the time for SIGs, Saturday Series, Conferences and Seminars.
So many choices, so little time!*

Thursday, June 11th at 7:30 p.m.

WSGS Monthly Meeting at the Round Rock Library. The speaker is Kevin KLAUS from the Texas General Land Office talking about Texas land records and how they relate to genealogy.



Saturday, June 13th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon
Genealogy SIG: Digital Photography for Genealogists

Presented by James HOLLAS at
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church
9508 Great Hills Trail, in Austin
in the **Community Classroom**
Free **Wi-Fi** access to the Internet

The speaker for this session is James HOLLAS. He will cover choosing a digital camera, how to move pictures from the camera to the computer, some camera tips on how to shoot documents, books, microfilm, photos and even some people. James will also discuss a way to turn slides into digital files and a few other things you will just have to come to the SIG to find out about!



June 27, 2009, AGS continues our **Saturday Series** at the **Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe**, from **10:00 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.** Sharon FOLEY will present "**GenWeb: Genealogy's Door to Counties, States, and Countries.**" Sharon will demonstrate and discuss the use of GenWeb. Bring a problem ancestor and a location and the group will try to 'crack the case' on the spot. There should be time for hands-on practice using GenWeb

at all levels, from international down to county levels.

Although a laptop is not necessary to benefit from this session, feel free to bring one as the library has free Wi-Fi. This help session will provide hands-on time to work on your own family research, as well as working through those technology issues that crop up on us!



Saturday, July 11th from **10:00 to Noon**
Genealogy SIG: DNA for Genealogy
Presented by Robert CASEY
Triumphant Love Lutheran Church (see above for address)

The presentation will cover an overview of how DNA can really add a lot of documentation to your genealogical research.

Robert also provides insights concerning misconceptions about DNA testing and important issues surrounding the analysis of DNA for genealogical purposes. We will also discuss scenarios where DNA does well for genealogists and where expectations are too high.



Saturday, July 11th at 10:00 a.m. Save Austin Cemeteries will present guest speaker Larry D. JONES who will discuss tombstone conservation and repair. Mr. JONES has previously done work on the San Jacinto Monument and the Texas State

Capitol. The program will be at the **Garza Independence High School, 1600 Chicon Street, Room 306, in Austin.** The public is invited to this free event. For more information, go to www.sachome.org.



**Angelina College Annual Conference
July 16th, 17th, & 18th, 2009**

3500 South First Street
Lufkin, Texas
(Hwy 59 South –
two miles south of Loop 187)

topics and speakers scheduled, and is reasonably priced. It also has the unusual distinction of offering CPE and CEU credits. See more information at their website: <http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy.htm>.

This conference has optional registrations for either two or three days, has a wide variety of



**Fort Worth Genealogical Society's 2009 Summer Seminar
Saturday, August 1, 2009**

Travis Avenue Baptist Church
800 West Berry Street
Fort Worth, Texas

Trevia WOOSTER BEVERLY, a member of the Angelina College (Lufkin, Texas) genealogy faculty since 1998, speaks on the following topics:

1. The Orphan Trains and Other Lost Babes — We'll look for the child apprentices, and orphans, as well as those 'branded' in records such as fornication abstracts, bastard files, etc., and discuss adoption records.
2. Meet Mr. Draper & the Rev. Shane — Explore the Draper and Shane Manuscripts, premier frontier collections.
3. Women and their Records — Kings Daughters & Casket Girls, Maides to Make Wives, America's Witches, Soiled Doves, and Those Harvey Girls.
4. The Natchez Trace Papers — Housed at the University of Texas. Records collected from Southern states, especially Mississippi.

**Mark Your Calendars
for Monday, October 5th!**

AGS is sponsoring another **bus trip to Clayton Genealogical Library** in Houston. Check back here next month for more details or visit the AGS website!

AND

for April 19-25, 2010!

Plans are underway for another research trip to **Salt Lake City!** Details and costs will be available in early October. If you are interested in the trip and would like to be on the list to receive information, please email Pat OXLEY (pat@theoxleys.com) or give her a call at the number listed in the membership directory.

Bits & Pieces



The **operating hours of the Austin History Center** have changed to Tuesday through Sunday, from 10:00 a.m. - 6 p.m. Note: the library is no longer open on Mondays, but is now open on Thursdays and Fridays.



The *new* **North Village Branch** of the Austin Public Library is now open.

2505 Steck Ave., 78757; (512) 974-9960

Monday-Wednesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

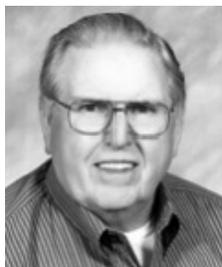
closed Thursday

Friday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

closed Sunday

Condolences



Our condolences go out to the family and friends of AGS member **James Leon MIEARS** who passed away peacefully on Friday, May 15, 2009 after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife, AGS member Linda Joye (Steele) MIEARS; his son, Jason Leon MIEARS and wife, Dawn; two grandsons, Kaleb D. and Kolton J. MIEARS; his brother, Eddie L. MIEARS and wife Virginia; five nieces, numerous great-nieces and great-nephews; other loving relatives and dear friends. Leon was preceded in death by his son, Jeffry Lyle MIEARS; brother, Milton Eugene MIEARS; and his parents, Doil and Ruth (Orrick) MIEARS. Known to most of his friends as "Leon," he was an active member and a Deacon at the First Baptist Church of Pflugerville and was known throughout Central Texas for his beautiful tenor voice in the group, "Aire to the Throne." He was a retired State of Texas employee.

What is an FGS Conference?

Four full days of genealogy know-how! Three more months and family history researchers and others interested in family history and related subjects will be arriving in Arkansas for the 2009 FGS Conference.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies and the 2009 local host, the Arkansas Genealogical Society, invite you to join the more than a thousand genealogists who will arrive in Little Rock, Arkansas this September 2-5 at the Statehouse Convention Center. Your local or state society may bring in one, maybe two nationally known speakers at a time, but this type of event brings in dozens. As if that isn't enough, this conference also showcases some local and regional speakers. Just a fledgling genealogist? We have you covered. Been working on your family for many years – you won't be disappointed. Are you in the business of genealogy doing research for clients or for library patrons? We haven't forgotten you.

Those already registered have checked the conference program online at www.fgsconference.org, made a reservation at one of the conference hotels, decided to fly or drive, registered for the conference, signed up for luncheons and the banquet, and some are coming a few days early or staying after for research and being a tourist. We have already heard about some societies bringing a busload of folks to the conference and others who are doing some car pooling. Smart folks! After the conference, branch out to travel around Arkansas and the surrounding states for research and some good ol' fashioned tourism. It's a very easy interstate drive to Little Rock from many locations and the back roads offer a lot of history and beauty.

The first day of the conference features a slew of lectures specially created for folks involved in running genealogical societies. Learn more about being a board member, editor, webmaster, develop a cemetery transcribing project, learn from others about successful society events, or maybe figure out how to handle problems that crop up.

Never been to a national level genealogical conference before? Once you attend, you will be hooked! The conference blog www.fgsconferenceblog.org contains tips for first time registrants in addition to posts about speakers, lectures, vendors, meal events, and so much more. Check back every so often to see what gets added. When you visit the conference website www.fgsconference.org be sure to investigate all the details included under each of those buttons on the left side of your screen.

Imagine being in the midst of more than a thousand people who want to talk genealogy. Want to share knowledge. Wish to help you around a brick wall. Desire to learn more about land records. Understand military record and will tell you about them. Know how to find African American ancestors. Learn more about Mississippi and Oklahoma genealogical resources. Are well versed in record at state archives and the National Archives. Your opportunity for all this is at hand.

Almost 200 lectures, workshops and other presentations await your inquiring mind. Register by July 1, 2009 and save \$50.00 off the full conference registration.

Paula Stuart-Warren, CG
National Publicity Chair, FGS/AGS 2009
FGSPublicity@fgs.org

2009 Board of Directors

| Term ending 2009: | Term Ending 2010: |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Teri FLACK | Kay BOYD |
| Barbara INNIS | Inez EPPRIGHT |
| Dona KURTZ | 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 feel free to share those with us.*

Monthly Meetings on 4th Tuesdays
Social time at 6:30; Program at 7:00
Highland Park Baptist Church
5208 Balcones Drive
Austin, Texas

Visitors Always Welcome!

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

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Janis Trayler, Editor

newsletter@AustinTxGenSoc.org

Deadline for submitting material for publication is the
1st of the month unless otherwise stated.

Report by the Financial Review Committee
of the financial records of the Austin Genealogical Society
for the year 2008

The review committee met on the afternoon of Monday, May 11, 2009, to examine the records of the Austin Genealogical Society for fiscal year 2008. The committee reviewed the bank statements, statement reconciliation reports, and supporting documentation.

For **bank reconciliations**, the committee verified the following:

- Ending balances on the reconciliation were compared to the bank statements, outstanding checks, and other reconciling items;
- Bank reconciliations were completed within 30 days of bank statement ending dates;
- Outstanding or reconciling items were cleared in subsequent month(s)
- Balance in the bank account at the beginning of the year plus total deposits minus total disbursements balances with the ending bank account balance at the end of the year.

For **Bank Statements**, the committee

- Determined there were no cash corrections on the bank statements during the year;
- Verified that cleared checks contained signatures of individuals authorized to sign checks;
- Compared the check register amounts to the balance sheet.

For **Receipts**, the committee reviewed receipts for February, March, May, July, September and December as follows:

- Traced deposits to bank reconciliations and bank statements and verified for accuracy;
- Compared deposit receipts to deposit slips, bank statements, and bank reconciliation to verify agreement;
- Verified that receipts were presented for deposit in a timely manner.

For **Disbursements**, the committee reviewed a representative sample of payments made (months of February, April, June, August, October, and December).

- Canceled checks were reviewed to ensure agreement of payee name, endorsement, and check amount;
- Disbursements (checks, debit card receipts, journal entries for adjustments, etc.) were verified with supporting documentation;
- Bank withdrawals for use as cash-box change were traced to verify that the change fund was later re-deposited into the bank account.
- It was also confirmed with the treasurer that voided checks were shredded.

Miscellaneous:

- From a review of the bank records, it does not appear to the committee that we were required to file any 1099-M forms for 2008.
- The treasurer confirmed that IRS form 990 was timely filed.
- A review of the records shows that state sales taxes are due on an annual basis and those were timely paid.

- A review of the income and disbursements compared to the 2008 budget shows that although some specific categories did exceed their budgets, the overall expenditures for the society did stay under the allotted budget for the year.

Exceptions:

The committee noted the following exceptions:

Comments:

| | |
|---|---|
| Although all debit receipts were tendered and identified, some debit submission forms were not signed. | Signatures are being obtained |
| Two debit receipts were submitted without debit forms (although other supporting information was provided). | Allowed, as at the time of presentation to the treasurer, the submitter's printer was broken. |
| Some register balances shown on reconciliation reports were not accurately reflected on the monthly balance sheets. | It appears the differences are related to timing of the printing of the reports, as ending balances for the year are in sync. |

Overall Findings

The committee finds the financial records to be fundamentally accurate and in good order.

Recommendations:

The committee makes the following recommendations:

- A procedure should be developed for tracking items AGS purchases for resale.
- Voided checks should probably be marked appropriately and kept with the bank records as supporting documentation.
- Future review committees should be specific in their request to the treasurer as to the type of documentation, reports, and information to be submitted for review.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Janis Trayler, Chair

/s/ Carroll Patterson

/s/ Dale Langston