



The Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

June 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

No. 6

50 YEARS & GROW-

Monthly AGS Meeting

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Program: *Member-to-Member Forum—
Breaking Brick Walls With a Little Help From Your Friends!*

Presented by: *AGS Program & Education Committee*

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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June is our MEMBER-TO-MEMBER meeting. Program Chair Sharon FOLEY and AGS President Cindy FOREMAN will serve as moderators for this program, sharing their experience and inviting members of the audience to share their insights or experiences they have had with regard to the questions being discussed.

You are invited to submit your questions ahead of time or you can ask them the night of the meeting. This is a golden opportunity to get help with your brick wall!

This program format has been helpful and fun in past years and it promises to be good this year also. Some really challenging questions have been submitted already, but we would like to have more. Send your questions to Sharon Foley at sharonkfoley@gmail.com or Sara Gredler at sarag@yepmail.net.

Come ready for an informal and informative evening.



AGS Business

The AGS Board of Directors met in regular session prior to the regular meeting on May 25, 2010. Committee and treasurer reports were submitted and approved. The following topics were discussed and actions taken:

Programs & Education: Chairperson Sharon FOLEY would like to have an additional program lined up for an “off-the-shelf” presentation should something happen that would keep a currently-scheduled presenter from attending the meeting as planned. We are still looking for some additional questions to be discussed at the June member-to-member meeting. The plan is in motion for the July 17th mini-seminar.

Membership & Hospitality: Chairperson Maud CAIN reported that 62 people attended the mini-seminar in May with Josh TAYLOR. We have had ten new members since the last meeting. Sharon received a suggestion that we have a speaker at the Austin Newcomers Meetings as a way to increase membership.

Quarterly: Editor Randy WHITED advised he has received four submissions for the next quarterly but needs more. The deadline for this issue is June 10th.

Financial Review Committee: Chairperson Mary TODD submitted her report. After discussion, the report was accepted by the Board. (NOTE: The full report is

included later in this newsletter.) At the recommendation of the committee and in keeping with generally accepted accounting procedures, an individual other than the treasurer and other account signatories was appointed to have access to the monthly bank statements. This individual was Kate ALLEN.

Salt Lake City trip refunds. The Board approved a refund of overpayments made by those individuals who traveled to Salt Lake City in April.

TSGS liaison Kate ALLEN advised the Annual Conference this year will be in Waco on November 4 & 5. The Board discussed the option of supporting the TSGS conference by advertising in the syllabus. Kate will pursue additional information and draft the proposed ad copy at the next meeting.

The Board then discussed how to address the numerous requests directors receive from members asking for various kinds of assistance. Responding to the number of requests can involve a significant amount of time. A number of suggestions were made that may help get a response to these queries in a timely manner. Suggestions include a blog or bulletin board on the website, posting queries in the AGS Newsletter and/or AGS Quarterly, and providing a link to the USGenWeb on the AGS website. No definitive action was taken due to a lack of time.

AGS WEBSITE NEWS

The AGS website continues to expand as each month passes. Webmaster Dona KURTZ has recently added scanned copies of all AGS Quarterlies and they are now available online in PDF format. View the Quarterlies from 1960 to 2004 by clicking the [Quarterly](#) tab. Only members can access the more recent Quarterlies via the [Members Only](#) section of the website.

If you have not yet explored the AGS Website, we encourage you to do so. In particular, I found a list of research facilities that cover 11 Central Texas counties surrounding Austin, including 31 entities: municipal and university libraries, museums, LDS Family History Centers, and the Sophienburg (German) Archives.

The **Members Only** section **login ID is agsmember** and the **password is gene.AGS** (case sensitive).



Membership

Daryl GIBSON's presentation at our meeting on Tuesday, May 25th about writing memoirs and family stories was well done and involved some very enjoyable audience participation . The meeting was attended by 77 members and 7 visitors.



We **Welcome** the following **New Members** since the last report:

Barbara DALBERG
Ann Johnston DOLCE
Ruthann FORD

Ursula GAINES
Robert LIGHT
Kathy & Bill PUCKETT
Patricia (Trisha) THOMPSON
Daniel & Jackie WIRE

Hospitality

Our thanks go out to Cynthia RODRIGUEZ, Maureen McCORMACK and Mary Jane ERMIS for bringing refreshments to the May meeting and to Cynthia RODRIGUEZ for greeting members and guests at the door.

Those scheduled to bring good eats for the June meeting are Eva HUDDLESTON, Linda MILLIGAN, Jim NELSON and Barbara FROCK. Bob TIEMAN will welcome you as you come into the meeting room.

Bits & Pieces

From a TSL press release dated June 3, 2010:

“AUSTIN, Texas – Peggy D. RUDD, director and librarian of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, has announced the appointment of Jelain CHUBB as director of the Archives and Information Services Division and Texas state archivist.

“In her new position, Chubb will oversee the commission's three public service areas: the Texas State Archives, the Reference and Information Center and the Texas Family Heritage Research Center. As state archivist, she is responsible for ensuring that permanent records documenting Texas' history as a colony, province, republic and state are preserved for future generations. She also is charged with leading efforts

to expand public access to historical documents, photographs, maps and other materials and integrating primary source materials into educational curricula. Her strong background in electronic archives will prove an asset as the commission begins planning for digital archives.

“Chubb says she's impressed by the knowledge and commitment of commission staff members and is eager to work with them. ‘The renovation of the building has energized everyone,’ she says. ‘New surroundings create new opportunities and the dynamic for change. And working with Texas history is something I've always been interested in.’”

Click [here](#) to see the full text of the press release.

AGS Calendar of Activities

June 22— AGS Monthly Meeting

June is our **Member-helping-Member** program. If you have brick walls that are keeping you from going forward with finding your ancestors, this format could be just the help you need in breaking through. The depth of knowledge and experience held by members of the Austin Genealogical Society is amazingly wide and deep. In order for us to use our time as efficiently as possible, we would like to have as many questions as possible in advance of the meeting. It may be that we have similar situations and can address more than one question at a time.

But if you don't come up with a question until you hear something at the meeting that sparks a recollection of a problem you're dealing with, we encourage you to sound off at that time and pose your quandary at the meeting.

Either Sharon FOLEY (sharonkfoley@gmail.com) or Sara GREDLER (saragk@yepmail.net) is looking forward to receiving your questions and creating a plan for tackling them at the June meeting. You will not want to miss this super opportunity!

AGS Educational Opportunities

PRESENTING THE THIRD and final of the 2010 MINI-SEMINAR SERIES

AGS is proud to present Geoff RASMUSSEN as the speaker for our July Mini-Seminar. There is NO CHARGE for members and the program is also FREE for non-members. Although you may register at the door, pre-registration is appreciated.

PLEASE R.S.V.P. to membership@austintxgensoc.org

Pre-registration helps to ensure the committee can arrange to have enough tables set up and plenty of snacks for everyone prior to the program and during the short breaks! We hope you can join us for this special program.

Saturday, July 17th — 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Highland Park Baptist Church

[5206 Balcones Drive](#), in Austin



Geoff RASMUSSEN, of Surprise, Arizona, holds a degree in Genealogy and Family History and was awarded the Young Family Historian of the Year Award. The father of four budding genealogists, Geoff has served as director and vice-president of the Utah Genealogical Association. Geoff is a dynamic, humorous speaker who likes to interact with his audience. He is the author of numerous books, articles, and training videos. He develops the Legacy Family Tree software. He met and proposed to his wife in a Family History Center.

Geoff will speak on the following topics:

Genealogist's Guide to Working with Digital Images

Timelines and Chronologies-Secrets of Genealogical Success

12 Step Checklist to Using Your Genealogy Computer Program

Legacy Genealogy Program



Other Educational Opportunities

June 12, 2010, 1:00—3:00 p.m.

Austin GenSIG

<http://www.austingensig.com/>

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church

9508 Great Hills Trail, Austin

“GEnealogical Data COMmunication (GEDCOM) files: What they are and how to use them” presented by John Marostica

Come join us as we take an in-depth look at the easy to create and use GEDCOM files.

Topics of discussion:

- * How to create GEDCOM files with your software
How to read/import GEDCOM files
- * About GEDCOM Viewers
- * About Creating Websites using GEDCOM files
- * We will take a very quick look at what's inside of a GEDCOM file and get an idea how they work.
- * And much more...

Contact John for more details at
John.Marostica@gmail.com



Saturday, June 26, 2010

The Central Texas Area Museum Presents:

The Annual Summer Genealogy Workshop 2010

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

Salado, Texas

\$35 Registration

Seminar Topics:

Back to Basics

Go West Young Man (& Woman)

Grandmother Had No Birth Certificate

Turner, Texas Ranger

Alternatives to the U.S. Census

Armchair Traveler

Visit their website at <http://www.ctam-salado.org/Genework/genework.html> for more information and registration.



July 15, 16, & 17

**14th Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference
POSSIBILITIES & PROBABILITIES
Lufkin, Texas**

This annual conference always has top-notch presenters and a wide variety of courses from which to choose. With way too many courses to list and some in the same time slot, the hard part is choosing just one to attend! The speaker list includes Pat GORDON, Kelvin MEYERS, Trevia Wooster BEVERLY, Emily CROOM, Charlie GARDES, Don RANEY, Barbara Brixey WILEY, and John WYLIE.

For specific information about this conference, visit the website at: <http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy/genealogy.html#Sessions%20&%20Times>



Bridging Generations: 50 Years of the Texas State Genealogical Society 2010 Conference

November 5-6, 2010

Waco, TX

Save the Date! More information coming in future newsletters.

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs

Texas State Genealogical Society

P. O. Box 7308, Tyler, TX 75711



AGS — 50 Years & Growing!

NEW MEMBERS and AGS 50th ANNIVERSARY TOTE BAGS make a great combination! If you're new to AGS and haven't gotten your souvenir tote bag, be sure to pick one up at the June meeting--or any monthly meeting.

THE SEARCH IS ON FOR 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION DISPLAY ITEMS. *CAN YOU HELP?*

AUSTIN DISPLAY: PHOTOS, NEWS CLIPPINGS, INTERESTING ITEMS 1960-2010. Please contact

Carroll Patterson (carrollpatterson@austin.rr.com) or Glenda Black (gblack@austin.rr.com)

for more information.

AGS DISPLAY: Single or group photos taken at meetings, on research trips; handouts; publications; or souvenirs. Mary Todd (westy42@austin.rr.com) would like to hear from you.

Historically Speaking

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

Cuties in the Newsletter or Quarterly

A reader made an amusing comment about our new cover design. She thought the bare limb of the "family tree" might represent a skeleton in the closet that a researcher discovered and hence did not enfoliate that branch further...." *Quarterly* XVI, #2, June 1975.

Did you hear about the Genealogist who finally traced his family back to 1325? **REMARK-**

ABLE, RIGHT? Then his mother finally told him his father was adopted. *Iowa Genealogical Society* 1987. *AGS Newsletter*, Vol. V, no number, November 1987.

If you are having trouble getting a family group sheet back from a relative, make one out as completely as possible, but make the wife 10 years older than you think she is. This almost always works! Source: *Rocky Mtn. Buckeye* via several other publications. *AGS Newsletter*, Vol. 2, #6, June 1996, page 3.

News about The Quarterly

The Spring issue of the AGS Quarterly was one of, if not *the* best ever. There was a wide variety of information included in a number of categories. The **deadline for the next Quarterly is June 10th**, so there is still time to submit your information for the next issue. Stories, family group sheets, historical records, abstracts or transcriptions of old documents or records are all welcome. And don't forget about the contest. Everyone who submits something for publication is automatically entered.

Early issues of the AGS Quarterly are now posted on the [AGS Website](#). More recent issues (from 2000 forward) are also posted, but are in the Members Only section.



Odds & Ends

The inaugural **Save Texas History Symposium** will be in Austin, Texas on Saturday, November 6, 2010. The topic of the symposium will be "Discovering Spanish and Mexican Texas."

Hosted by Commissioner Jerry Patterson and the Texas General Land Office, the symposium will be held at the Stephen F. Austin Building, 1700 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

The registration fee is only \$25 per person. Call 1-800-998-4GLO or email archives@glo.state.tx.us to register. The registration form is online at http://www.glo.state.tx.us/OC/savetxhist/pdf/SymposiumRegistration_FINAL.pdf

Guest speakers include Texas State Historian Dr. Light Cummins, former Texas State Historian Dr. Frank de la Teja, and Dr. Felix D. Almaraz. Click [here](#) to read more about the Save Texas History Symposium.

There will be plenty to do at the symposium:

- * Survey downtown Austin with a real-life survey team
- * Learn tips to research your family tree

- * Visit the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum
- * Tour the Texas General Land Office Archives - See original signatures of Stephen F. Austin and other Texas heroes
- * Make handcrafted paper from old fashioned materials
- * Print your own map on an antique iron hand printing press

The Texas General Land Office Archives was created after the Texas Revolution when Sam Houston directed the first land commissioner, John P. Borden, to collect all available land records defining the new Republic. These valuable documents, now housed in temperature- and access-controlled vaults, are used daily by genealogists, historians, archeologists, surveyors and anyone interested in Texas history. For more information about the Texas General Land Office Archives go to <http://www.glo.state.tx.us/archives/archives.html> .

For more information about what you can do to help save Texas history, go to <http://www.glo.state.tx.us/OC/savetxhist/index.html>

News Flash:

Board member Kate ALLEN is working out the final details of an agreement with Footnote.com whereby members of the Austin Genealogical Society can access a unique link to their website and receive a **50% discount** (from \$79.95 down to \$39.95) for a full-access initial or renewal annual membership to Footnote.com. AGS members will have access to this link for approximately 60 days.

Not only will members receive this great discount, but in the month of June, Footnote.com will donate 20% of the sales AGS produces in the month of June back to the Society. Watch for an email blast with the access information! We will also get it posted in the Members Only section of the website as soon as we have the final details worked out.

2010 Board of Directors

Term ending 2010:	Term Ending 2011:
Kay BOYD	Kate ALLEN
Inez EPPRIGHT	Maud CAIN
Sharon FOLEY	Teri FLACK
Cindy FOREMAN	Dona KURTZ
Sara GREDLER	Mary TODD
Janis TRAYLER	Randy WHITED

2010 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
(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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***Promoting genealogy through research,
education, and preservation.***

50 YEARS & GROWING