



Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

March 2007

www.AustinTxGenSoc.org

Vol. 13

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Society Meeting
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas
Tuesday, March 27, 2007

6:30 P.M. - Doors Open
7:15 P. M. Meeting & Program Begin

Meet & Greet New Friends
Our Help Desk is Open to Assist you with Research Questions
Shop Our Used Books, Pick Up Freebies & Flyers about
Upcoming Events

PROGRAM

"Finding Courthouse Records"

Due to the cancellation by Lloyd Bockstruck, our scheduled speaker, we are pleased to announce that our own Cindy Foreman will be presenting her new talk on "Finding Courthouse Records." We hope she will also tell us about her recent research trip to Washington D.C.

Cindy was born in Detroit Michigan but moved in 1974 to St. Paul, MN. During that time she attained her undergraduate degree from the College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, in Social Studies Education.

Then in August 1982, she relocated to Austin, Texas and since 1991 has been self-employed in the area of investments and insurance. Since 2002, she has been teaching some of the AGS genealogy classes as well as doing presentations to different societies. In October, 2003 she was approved to be an official D.A.R. and she belongs to the local Andrew Carruthers Chapter in Austin, Texas

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AGS February Board Meeting Recap

The Board of Directors of AGS held their monthly meeting at 6 p.m. prior to the general meeting on February 27, 2007. All directors were in attendance except Edna Youngblood, who was out of town.

A committee was appointed to review the financial records for 2006. This is a yearly chore and this year the committee will be headed by Connie Perdue. John Marostica will also be on the committee and Connie will be asking a non-board member to be on the committee.

AGS Bylaws Review Committee has been working to update our bylaws and will be presenting the changes to the general membership in the very near future. Along with our changes, we submitted our bylaws to the Bylaws Review Board of the Federation of Genealogical Societies to get their opinion of our bylaws and make suggested changes and updates. The AGS Bylaws Committee will review these changes and in the next couple of months we will present these changes to everyone for their approval.

The plans for our seminar are well underway. There will be two outstanding national speakers, a number of vendors, along with the opportunity for networking with fellow genealogists. We will be advertising the AGS Seminar at the Williamson County Genealogical Society Seminar next month. We hoping for a wonderful attendance this year.

We continue to meet with the various repositories in town to see how we can establish a working relationship with them. Connie Perdue, Tommy Ingram and Pat Oxley met with representatives from the Austin Public Library and the Austin History Center.

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Board Meeting Recap

At another meeting, Connie and Pat met with Peggy Rudd from the Texas State Library. Also, in attendance at this meeting were Chris LaPlante, the State Archivist, Sandra Pickett, Chairman of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and Martha Doty Freeman, another commissioner on that committee.

We will continue our dialog with these folks until we develop a plan. We are also in discussions with them to try to reach a compromise regarding the Saturday closure of TSL.

Twenty one folks are signed up for the trip to Salt Lake City in October.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Oxley, AGS President

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**AGS Summary Balance Sheet
As of January 31, 2007**

Assets

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	\$ 15,800.30
Other Current Assets	571.01
Total Current Assets	16,371.31

Total Assets \$ 16,371.31

Liabilities & Equity

Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	\$ -1,199.24
Total Current Liabilities	-1,199.24
Total Liabilities	<u>-1,199.24</u>

Equity \$ 17,570.55

Total Liabilities & Equity \$ 16,371.31

**AGS Profit & Loss Statement
January 2007**

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Contributions Rec'd	\$ 80.00
Pass-the-Pouch Collections	59.00
Membership Dues Rec'd	1,260.00
Sales - Earned Revenues	<u>168.29</u>
Total Income	\$ 1,567.29

Expense

Annual Seminar	\$ 763.88
Bank Fees	2.93
Equip. (Purchase/Rent & Maint.)	29.27
Miscellaneous Expense	209.36
Postage & Delivery	117.00
Printing & Copying	139.20
Supplies & Materials	<u>53.97</u>

Total Expense \$1,315.61

Net Ordinary Income **\$251.68**

Other Income/Expense

Other Income	
Interest Earned	<u>5.20</u>

Net Income **\$256.88**

Janis Trayler,
Treasurer

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OTHER SOCIETY NEWS

The Center for American History asked us to complete their set of holdings on the AGS Quarterlies. Additional issues will be provided for this use. The institutions in Austin with complete holdings besides the CAH are Texas State Library and the Austin History Center.

Cemetery Work

Spring is almost here so it is time to adopt a cemetery. Many of the small cemeteries require no more than 1-2 hours to transcribe and the information can be typed up at home. I have several Travis County cemetery books and it is likely that there is an old inventory of the cemetery and all that needs to be done is to update the information.

Grab a partner and make a contribution to Travis County History. Several people are looking for partners to work with in the field. Please contact me, if you would like to make contact with one of these folks.

Last week my cemetery partner, Sunny Williams, taught me the best, cheapest and easiest way to make a tombstone readable. Put dirt on the inscription. Even if the stone is upright, you can toss enough dirt into the text to make it easy to read and photograph. Forget the chalk, shaving cream, flour or any other item you have been carrying around for cemetery use. Dirt is easy to brush off and no harm is done to the stone.

Sell Your Books

At our seminar on May 5th, AGS will have a table to sell genealogy books that our members no longer need. This is a great way to clean out your library and possibly buy some books others have read.

If you have any books that you would like to add to this collection, please contact Kay Boyd or bring them to the meeting on March 27th. The monies from this sale will go into our education fund to continue to offer great classes to our members.

Pioneers

If you have an ancestor who was in Travis County by 1880, you or anyone in your family should qualify for a Pioneer Certificate. The certificates are \$20.00 and will make a nice gift for any family member. Application forms are available at our monthly meetings or at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/PioneerCertificate.php>.

❑ UPCOMING EVENTS

Brick Wall Saturday, March 24th

The next "Brick Wall Saturday" is scheduled from 1- 4 p.m., Saturday, March 24th at the North Village Branch of the Austin Public Library. The library is located at Burnet Road and Anderson Lane in the North Village Shopping Center.

We all have "brick walls" (an ancestor who stubbornly refuses to give up their life story to you) - what's yours? Come and discuss your brick wall challenge with other genealogist. Please prepare a question related to your research problem, be able to summarize the work you've done, and the group will suggest some possible new directions for your research. There is no charge for this service and we even serve refreshments!

Tommy Ingram

Beyond the Basic Class: Saturday, April 14th

Topics: "Federal Land Records" & "How to Prepare for trip to a Genealogy Library". Time & Place: 1-3 p.m. Carver Museum Theater, 1165 Angelina, Austin, Texas.

Family Event

Tabor/Ellison Family Reunion & Dedication Ceremony Confederate Memorial Day, Sunday, April 15, 2007 At Clear Fork Cemetery in Caldwell Co., Texas

If you plan to attend the event, please contact M. C. Forister by April 1st, at mcforister@netzero.net or at (512) 441-2791, for more information or to make your reservation for the luncheon. M. C. will be asking for donations for the luncheon and headstones.

AGS Seminar: Saturday, May 5th

AGS will once again be hosting a full day of lectures, vendors and networking with your fellow genealogists. Our seminar will be held at the Norris Conference Center on Anderson Lane. For more details, pick up a flyer at the meeting, or download a registration form at our AGS web site. www.austintxgensoc.org/.

May 22nd Regular Meeting

"Dawes Rolls & Beyond: Researching the Five Tribes"
Marjorie Lowe, Certified Cherokee Nation Teacher

Trip to Clayton Library, Houston, , Monday, June 4th

We will charter a bus for a trip to Clayton Library. If you have never been there, Clayton is one of the largest genealogy libraries outside of Salt Lake City. The fee for the trip is \$40 for AGS members and includes a breakfast snack and boxed supper.

A registration form can be picked up at our meetings or at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/bustrip.php>. Contact Kay Boyd at 836-7484 or mkdb1405@aol.com if you have any questions about this research trip.

Beyond the Basic Class: Saturday, June 16th

Topics: "The Biology of DNA" & the "Pros & Cons of using DNA in Genealogy Research". Time & location to be announced.

AGS Annual Picnic Catered BAR-B-Que Dinner Tuesday, June 26th

Now is the time to begin thinking about sharing some of your genealogy with others. Some suggestions are:

A poster board about one of your families, with names and pictures, etc. Memorabilia passed down from your family. Books written about your family or notebooks with family information. You might want to come dressed as one of your ancestors.

Later you will have a chance to reserve a table for your exhibit or a 1/2 table to share with someone. Look for more information in the next newsletter! Tickets will be available soon.

Edna Youngblood

Computer Genealogy Workshop, - Saturday, July 21st

Yarborough Branch, Austin Public Library, 2200 Hancock Drive, 10:00 a.m.

Salt Lake City Research Trip

Twenty one people have already signed up for our 3rd research trip to Salt Lake City. The trip is scheduled for Sunday, October 7 - Saturday, October 13, 2007. There are still plane seats left and rooms, but be sure to sign up soon.

This is a wonderful way to get to know your fellow AGS members and friends. If you have never been to the FHL in Salt Lake, we will give you some orientation pointers to help you prepare for the trip. For more information, please e-mail Pat Oxley at pat@theoxleys.com or call Pat at 733-5993.

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German Free School 150th Anniversary Celebration October 11-13, Austin, Texas

The German-Texan Heritage Society [web site: www.GermanTexasns.org](http://www.GermanTexasns.org) is planning a big Oktoberfest party, evening reception, and live auction to celebrate the founding of the German Free School (1857). The GTHS headquarters are located in the original school building located at 507 E. 10th St., Austin, Texas.

GTHS is looking for descendants of the Trustees, Teachers, and Pupils, to be recognized and to help celebrate this event. If you think your ancestor may have been associated with the school, which operated in Austin, 1857-approx. 1881, please contact: Liz Hicks, genealogy editor, German-Texan Heritage Society, P. O. Box 684171, Austin, Texas 78788-4171.

Elizabeth "Liz" Nitschke Hicks

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Visitors Welcomed to our February meeting

Brian Boswell	Doris Walker Gayle
Jack M. Howard	Harold & Billie Loftis

Welcome New Members

John Buffington	Imelda Canales
Claude & Bobbie Chambers	Janice Culp
Carolyn Gresham	Elizabeth Root Jones
Susan Kaufman	Aleta A. Krauss
Peter Langston	Linda & Leon Miers
Lewis R. & Doris Reeves-Marquardt	Carroll Patterson (Life Member)
Patty Mc New	Cari Peabody
V. Gail Seale	Vanessa C. Schatz
Kathy Tice	

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To Serve the Public Better: A New Home for Our State Archives and Library

In 2009 the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC) will celebrate 100 years of service to the people of Texas. For almost a century we have cared for some of our state's most priceless resources - permanently valuable records that document the history and culture of Texas as a province, colony, republic, and state.

Over the century, we have been given additional responsibilities to:

- ❑ Support state and local government records management so that our state's history can continue to be told in its records instead of being destroyed by untrained guardians or natural disaster;
- ❑ Expand and nurture the network of public libraries.
- ❑ Promote cooperation among all types of libraries and administer the statewide resource sharing consortium, TexShare;
- ❑ Administer the Library Systems Act and the Federal Library Service and Technology Act; and
- ❑ Meet the reading needs of Texans with disabilities.

As the needs of the people of Texas have diversified, so have the programs and services of the Library and Archives Commission.

As we plan for a new century of service to Texas, we have found our flagship building, the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library, increasingly inadequate to support the needs for a modern research facility.

Most state buildings in the Capitol Complex constructed around the same time have been extensively renovated; however, no substantial improvements have been made to the Lorenzo de Zavala building since opening in 1961.

In modernizing and renovating the Lorenzo de Zavala building, the agency plans to add environmentally controlled space for the storage of archival materials (the agency currently has no space for current archival acquisitions and has stored almost 30,000 cubic feet of permanently valuable records at the State Records Center); to combine public service areas for improved public access to collections and staff; to update wiring to support 21st century technology and telecommunications; to modernize space for the processing of archival materials for inclusion in the agency's collections and digitization, and to offer better public access to and space for support and volunteer services.

In response to our budget request for the 2006-2007 biennium, the 79th Legislature approved \$15,531 million in bond funds for the expansion and renovation of the Zavala building. The construction project would progress while the building remains open and staffed for business. Plans call for the building to expand on the southeast and northeast corners, filling in the base of a "T" shaped building to create a solid rectangle. The new construction would be completed first, allowing the use of that space for the relocation of services and staff so that existing areas of the building could be renovated.

Over the past year as we have begun to work with architects, engineers, and construction managers, the amount in hand has proven inadequate. Therefore, we are requesting an additional 21 million in bond funding from the 80th Texas Legislature for the construction project.

There is a great deal of work that must be done to prepare for a construction project of this magnitude. I made the decision to alter the hours during which the Genealogy Department was open after discussions with the architects and engineers who are working on our construction project. We must prepare our collections (Texas State Archives, Genealogy Collection, Reference and Documents Collection), so we can vacate spaces that will be renovated and then move collections back into new and renovated areas. Staff must inventory and clean records containers, re-box materials when containers are in poor condition; re-house prints and photographs; among other activities. By synchronizing the hours that all three of our public service units are open, we can more effectively utilize staff to continue assisting patrons while others are working on projects in the storage area.

In addition, since we plan to combine all of our public service areas, we must begin cross-training staff now. The challenge is more easily met if all public service staff work the same hours.

We are committed to provide quality service to our patrons in a secure and efficient manner throughout the construction project. We understand that this change in hours inconveniences those who wish to use the Genealogy Department on Saturdays, though Monday visitors are glad to see the Genealogy Department open then. As with most changes, there are both negative and positive results.

We will continue to share our resources with our remote users throughout Texas. The TexShare databases, especially HeritageQuest, provide genealogists with an amazing array of information. Staff continues to respond to requests for birth, marriage, divorce, and death records information via telephone, surface mail, and e-mail. Patrons may leave requests for assistance on the agency's answering machines at any time and expect a same or next day response.

We are evaluating several service options in the short-term such as occasionally extending hours for the Genealogy Department into the evening and a Genealogy Department "Lock in" as has been done successfully by some public libraries. As we look to the completion of our renovated building in the future, we will re-evaluate our public service hours.

I had the opportunity to meet with AGS President Pat Oxley and Connie Perdue last week to discuss the change in hours for the Genealogy Department. We also explored ways in which we could work together more effectively. Partnerships are important to us, and I look forward to continuing dialog with the leadership and members of the Austin Genealogical Society.

Governor Price Daniel dedicated the Lorenzo de Zavala State Archives and Library Building on April 10, 1962. In his dedication remarks, Governor Daniel, who had spearheaded the construction project, spoke eloquently of his vision for the building as a monument to our great state's history.

"It is my hope and belief that this building and its contents will be a constant inspiration to those who study and visit here. This is a measure of its real importance to our State and to our people."

Through expansion and renovation, we can extend the useful life of this grand old building for another 20 years. We are excited about the opportunities that a new and renovated building will afford us, and offer our deepest appreciation for your patience and support as we build a 21st century research facility for your continued use.

Peggy D. Rudd,
Director and Librarian
Texas State Library &
Archives Commission

Genealogical Standards & Guidelines Standards For Sharing Information With Others

Recommended by the National Genealogical Society

Conscious of the fact that sharing information or data with others, whether through speech, documents or electronic media, is essential to family history research and that it needs continuing support and encouragement, responsible family historians consistently---

- ❑ respect the restrictions on sharing information that arise from the rights of another as an author, originator or compiler, as a living person, or as a party to a mutual agreement.
- ❑ observe meticulously the legal rights of copyright owners, copying or distributing any part of their works only with their permission, or to the limited extent specifically allowed under the law's a "fair use" exceptions.
- ❑ identify the sources for all ideas, information and data from others, and the form in which they were received, recognizing that the unattributed use of another's intellectual work is plagiarism.
- ❑ respect the authorship rights of senders of letters, electronic mail and data files, forwarding or disseminating them further only with the sender's permission.
- ❑ Inform people who provide information about their families as to the ways it may be used, observing any conditions they impose and respecting any reservations they may express regarding the use of particular items.
- ❑ require some evidence of consent before assuming that living people are agreeable to further sharing of information about themselves.
- ❑ convey personal identifying information about living people-like age, home address, occupation or activities- only in ways that those concerned have expressly agreed to.
- ❑ recognize that legal rights of privacy may limit the extent to which information from publicly available sources may be further used, disseminated or published.
- ❑ communicate no information to others that is known to be false, or without making reasonable effort to determine its truth, particularly information that may be derogatory.
- ❑ are sensitive to the hurt that revelations of criminal, immoral, bizarre or irresponsible behavior may bring to family members.

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❑ **NEW BOOKS: TSL Genealogy Collection**

(Only the Dewey Decimal System call numbers for the states, subject or country are listed. Some titles may be abbreviated to conserve space).

FAMILY HISTORY: 929.2

Pauline's Pathways: Hambrick, Coleman, Moore, Rackley

Trails Through Time: Harrison, George, Lenard, Hamby

GEORGIA: 975.8

A Resource Guide to Georgia Marriage Records
Jackson County, Georgia Newspaper Clippings,
Jackson Herald, February 1881 to December 1882

TEXAS: 976.4

Genealogical Records

TEXAS: continued

Jefferson Texas Cemeteries: Oakwood, Mt. Sinai,
Oakwood memorial, Cedar Grove (Marion County)
Morris County, Texas Cemeteries

TENNESSEE: 976.8

Abstracts of Obituaries Published in the Mulberry Gap
Association of Missionary Baptists

INDIANA: 977.2

The Tri-State Packet of the Tri-State Genealogy Soc.
Sycamore Leaves: Wabash Valley Gen. Soc. Newsletter

ILLNOIS: 977.3

Illiana Genealogist

For more detailed information on these and other books
in the TSL Genealogy Collection, go to the Library Catalog
of Texas State Agencies@ <[www.tsl.state.tx.us/webcat/
index.html](http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/webcat/index.html)>.

AGS Newsletter Statement

The Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter and the editor have attempted to make the information in this newsletter as accurate as possible, by obtaining it from sources believed to be accurate and reliable, and to identify the sources. The information contained herein is for the personal and/or educational use of AGS members only and is provided in good faith without any express or implied warranty. It is the policy of AGS to avoid publishing personal information that is considered private.

Any mention of commercial products within this newsletter is for information only, it does not imply recommendation or endorsement by AGS unless otherwise stated.

3/1/07

"Keep Searching"

Wilena D Young, editor
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