



# Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

## March 2009

Vol. 15

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

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### **Monthly AGS Meeting** **Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

**Program:** "Land Records: More Than Just Land Deeds"  
**Presented by:** Ed Dorroh

**Highland Park Baptist Church**  
**5208 Balcones Drive, Austin, Texas**

**6:30 - 7:00 P.M. – Social Time**

**7:00 - 8:30 P.M. – Program**

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



Ed DORROH began his family history research in 1997 when he retired from the Lockheed Martin aerospace corporation where he had worked for over 25 years, designing and building spacecraft for NASA's planetary missions.

He is presently researching four family trees: his own, that of his first wife Zelma, now deceased, who was from South Africa, that of his present wife Jean who is from England, and that of her first husband John BARFORD, also deceased, who was from England.

He has traced most of his own family tree back six or seven generations in this country, the earlier generations emigrating primarily from the British Isles. Zelma's family has been difficult to trace since South Africa does not allow public access to census records, but fortunately her parents were only second generation South Africans who emigrated from England. He has only recently begun tracing the trees of Jean and John. He has thus far exhausted the census and birth, marriage and death records there and is now beginning to search church records. He hopes soon to be able to give a talk on researching English records!

For his children, he has scanned his ancestors' photographs onto CDs, written brief histories and interesting stories about them, and written his own "childhood memoir" in hopes of someday interesting them in their roots.

He is a past president of the Ocean Springs (Mississippi) Genealogical Society and is presently a member of both the Austin Genealogical Society and the Williamson County Genealogical Society. Ed has taught classes for beginners and has given land records talks on several occasions.

He and his wife Jean presently share their time between Round Rock, Texas, and Bury St. Edmunds, England as they each have children and grandchildren in their respective countries.

## **AGS BUSINESS**

At its regular meeting prior to the general meeting in February, the following matters were discussed by the Board: designation of a financial examination committee; renewal of the AGS charter; welcome to new Board member; completion of recording of three more cemeteries; the new AGS poster board created by Elizabeth JOHNSTON; the deadline for submissions to the Quarterly is March 10<sup>th</sup>; and the announcement to the membership of the death of Tommy INGRAM.

The Board of Directors welcomes its newest member, Dona KURTZ. Dona was appointed to complete the term of Tommy INGRAM for the remainder of this year. Dona joined AGS in February 2006 and attended an AGS Beginners' Class that spring. Originally from Waxahachie, Texas, she moved to Austin 10 years ago to go to UT, where she was an American Studies major. She was unable to find a job that would let her follow her desire to research American history and culture, but luckily she found genealogy as a hobby. Dona likes cemetery research because visiting a cemetery is more tangible than looking at paper or microfilm records. One of her struggles with genealogy is finding good ways to share her research with family members. When she is not doing genealogy, she works in Human Resources at the College of Liberal Arts at UT. Dona is a welcome addition to the board and we look forward to working with her.



The AGS 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Committee will meet again on March 26<sup>th</sup>. If you have ideas or want to be part of this special committee, please contact Kay BOYD or Barbara INNIS. Watch this space again next month for a report on their March meeting.

Anniversary Committee members Glenda Hunt BLACK and Carroll PATTERSON are researching the history of Austin as we prepare for our 50th Anniversary. They are in charge of collecting information that will be displayed. This month they are again collecting copies of photos and stories ... now from **1970-1980**. If you have any such articles, stories, or photographs, and would be willing to share these, please contact Carroll or send them to her at Carroll Patterson, 2905 Stoneway Dr., Austin, TX 78757.

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## **Membership**

(Reported by Barbara Innis)

After having to cancel the January meeting due to bad weather, we more than made up for that loss in February. At that social opportunity (thanks to Elizabeth JOHNSTON and her HOSPITALITY group) and learning experience (thanks to Sharon FOLEY and her PROGRAM committee), we welcomed the following to our

### **FEBRUARY MEETING:**

#### **VISITORS - 9**

Joyce ARQUETTE - Austin  
Harvey JONES - Austin  
Trish KANE - Austin  
Virginia and Roy MONTGOMERY - Austin  
Sylvia L. NIMMO - Georgetown  
Susan RUSSELL - Spicewood  
Pat and Jerry SULLIVAN - Austin

#### **NEW MEMBERS - 6**

Carol FISHER  
Joe FISHER  
Lynn B. HAMILTON  
Missy HARRIS  
Jane SCHWENDINGER  
Jim SCHWENDINGER

Our MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE GOAL for 2009 is 100 people  
**TOTAL ATTENDANCE AT THE FEBRUARY MEETING = 105 ... Yippee!**



**NEW NAMES ADDED TO AGS MEMBERSHIP ROLE in February:** Steve EISERT (Cedar Park), Joan LAWRENCE (Georgetown), and Cynthia Couch RODRIGUEZ (Leander).

**NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED AT AGS BEGINNING GENEALOGY CLASSES in February:** Ashley O'BRIAN, Jeff and Sharon WISE.

A very warm welcome to all of these new AGS friends and fellow researchers!



***BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THE 2009 MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY!*** Jean MAROSTICA is making the final entries to the new Membership Directory in time for printing and distribution to AGSers THIS MONTH. When you receive your copy, please check to verify your information is correct. If it is not, please contact the Membership Directory Editor (Jean MAROSTICA, [agsnewsletter@sbcglobal.net](mailto:agsnewsletter@sbcglobal.net)) or the Membership Committee Chair (Barbara INNIS, [bagns@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bagns@sbcglobal.net)) Each year Jean works quietly behind the scenes receiving member information, checking for permission to print, and double-checking for accuracy. It is a labor of love and we owe her a big round of applause for producing this very helpful way to stay in touch with each other. **MANY THANKS, JEAN!**



Our thanks go to Shirley ROBERTS, Maud CAIN, and Jean MAROSTICA for furnishing the refreshments for the February meeting. Volunteering to bring refreshments to the March meeting are: Shirley MEYER, Barbara INNIS, Maurine ATWOOD, and Sharon TIEMAN. Greeters for March will be Dale and Pete LANGSTON and Board member Janis TRAYLER.

On hand to support us at the Russell Baker mini-seminar on April 4<sup>th</sup> are:  
*Refreshments:* Lynn LECROPANE, Maureen McCORMACK, Pat THOMAS, and Sylvia MARTINS  
*Greeters:* Karin BRANAMAN and Board member Randy WHITED.

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### **Coming Programs & Educational Opportunities**

The Education Committee has developed an outstanding schedule of *programs*.

**Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m.**

#### **There is More to Google than Text Searches**

By Cindy FOREMAN and Harold HUDNALL  
Hampton Branch Library, 515 Convict Hill Rd., Oakhill

Unless you are among the handful of family historians who have never used the Internet, you have probably searched for genealogy information using Google. More than likely, you have limited your searches to text searches and you have probably been successful. Ancestral data can be buried on obscure web pages, but they can't hide from Google's powerful search spiders.

But text searching is not Google's only strength. Are you aware that you can also search for images? There may be photos of your ancestors on the Internet you may not have uncovered using genealogy search engines. There may also be documents you have not found that may help you to successfully prove a relationship. Google

also has a news archives search feature. The news archive search allows you to search a variety of different historical records including newspapers and legal abstracts.

At the Saturday session on March 28<sup>th</sup> we will demonstrate these and other features of

Google that will help you with your genealogy. We will even demonstrate a new web browser from Google. Bring your laptops if you have one, but having a laptop is not necessary in order for you to learn and benefit from this presentation



### **AGS Mini-Seminar - presenting**

Russell Baker  
Arkansas State Archivist, Little Rock, Arkansas.  
**April 4, 2008 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**  
**Highland Park Baptist Church**  
**5206 Balcones Drive, Austin, TX**

Mr. Baker will speak on Religion on the American Frontier

Lecture I. The rise and development of religion on the American frontier.

Lecture II. Locating, using, and understanding American church records.

Lecture III. Anabaptists, Quakers, Shakers, and more: Religious records from the fringe.

RUSSELL P. BAKER, archivist, lecturer, historian, teacher, and author, is a native of Arkansas. He attended the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and received a B. A. in History in 1967. In 1985 he received his Masters degree in Public History from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Since 1970, he has been employed by the Arkansas History Commission and State Archives in Little Rock and is now that institution's Archival Manager. He is currently Arkansas' senior archivist. Over the years, he has also taught history and archival courses at several public and private Central Arkansas colleges and universities.

Mr. Baker is the author of several award-winning historical and genealogical

publications. His *Historical Directory of Arkansas Post Offices 1832 – 1971* and *Arkansas Township Atlas*, recently revised and reprinted, are modern classics. He is the author of a number of articles for the new on line *Encyclopedia of Arkansas* and is a frequent lecturer on modern family history research theory at regional and national genealogical conferences. He is a former member of the Society of American Archivists and a current member of the Academy of Certified Archivists. He has been a certified archivist since 1989. He is a life member and past president of the Arkansas Genealogical Society and has served on its board of directors for more than three decades.

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### **Conferences and Seminars**

There is always more to know and learn as we continue our quest for more knowledge of and about our ancestors. One of the following conferences and seminars may be just the help you need! **\*\*\*SEE PAGE 7 FOR THE AGS ANNUAL SEMINAR FLYER\*\*\***

On **Saturday, March 14**, the **German Texan Heritage Society** is hosting an all day seminar at **Trinity Lutheran Church, 2 Ritchie Rd.**, in **Woodway**, Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the program runs until 3:30 p.m. **Pre-registration costs \$35** for GTHS members and **\$40 for non-members**; add **\$5 if paying at the door**. Lunch is included. Download a registration form at [www.germantexans.org](http://www.germantexans.org) and mail in a check, or call 866-482-4847 to register with a credit card. Contact Van or Mary MASSIRER at (254) 486-2366 or [vmassirer@yahoo.com](mailto:vmassirer@yahoo.com) with questions.



The **Williamson County Genealogical Society** is hosting its **Annual Seminar on Saturday, March 21<sup>st</sup>** from **8:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the **First United Methodist Church, 2004 North Mays in Round Rock**. The advance registration fee is \$40. Registration at the door begins at 8:00 a.m. and is \$45. The registration fee includes morning snacks, lunch, and the syllabus. Registration forms are available by calling call 512-863-2685 or 512-869-1560 or online at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txwcgs/Seminar.htm>. See last month's newsletter for more information. **Editor's Note:** If you plan to register at the door, call in advance before you drive to Round Rock. This seminar was almost filled as of the February AGS meeting.)



**March 28, 2009**

Nuevo Leon Restaurant

**1501 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St., Austin**

Luncheon (Buffet) **11:30 a.m. –12:30 p.m.**

Speaker & Book signing **12:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

The Tejano Genealogy Society of Austin, founded over 30 years ago as the *Sociedad Genealogical de Austin*, has established a policy of promoting authors who write about Tejano history. In this endeavor, we are happy to invite the public to our first event featuring Dr. Jerry Thompson who will speak about, sell, and sign copies of his book---"*Cortina, Defending the Mexican Name in Texas.*"

Please RSVP no later than March 23 to Geneva Sanchez at [joegen@austin.rr.com](mailto:joegen@austin.rr.com).



### **Federation of Genealogical Societies National Conference**



The Federation of Genealogical Societies invites you to its annual conference for the nation's genealogists. Hosted by FGS and the Arkansas Genealogical Society, the conference will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas, September 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>. The theme for this year's conference is *Passages through Time*.

#### **Why should you make plans to be there?**

- More than 160 educational presentations with well-known speakers from all over the U.S.
- Lectures that appeal to beginning, intermediate and experienced genealogists
- Sessions for professional genealogists
- A large exhibit hall with exhibitors and vendors
- Vendors loaded with genealogy and history books, magazines, databases, software, maps, CDs, magazines, journals, and more
- The host hotels, the Peabody and the DoubleTree Hotel, are wonderful
- The Statehouse Convention Center is connected to the Peabody Little Rock
- Shopping, historic sites, libraries, and more in the city
- Daily meal functions with exciting speakers and time for networking

- It's easy to drive to Little Rock on several highways and Interstates
- **AND** You save \$50.00 off the full registration price if you register by June 2, 2009

#### To learn more

- Check the FGS Conference Website at [www.FGSConference.org](http://www.FGSConference.org)
  - View the continually expanded Conference Blog at [www.FGSConferenceBlog.org](http://www.FGSConferenceBlog.org)
  - Check the many topics and speakers at [www.FGSConference.org](http://www.FGSConference.org)
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### Bits & Pieces

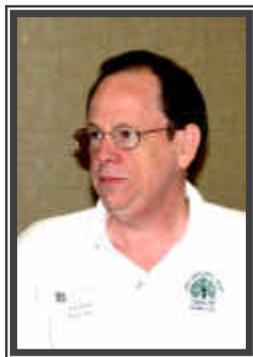
#### Home Town Gal Makes Good!

Former AGS President Pat OXLEY has assumed the position of President of the Federation of Genealogical Societies after the resignation of elected president Mark Lowe in January of this year. Pat began her service to FGS in 2002 as a volunteer. She chaired the Exhibit Halls for the 2004, 2006, and 2008 FGS national conferences. In May 2005, Pat was appointed to the FGS Board as a Director and was elected to the Board later that year for a three-year term beginning in January 2006. She served on and chaired the FGS Conference Planning Committee and the FGS Booth Committee and served on the FGS 30th Anniversary and Membership Committees. In January 2008 Pat was asked to fill the position of Vice President of Administration and was elected to that position during the 2008 FGS elections for a term beginning in January 2009.

Congratulations, Pat. We know you will do an outstanding job as always!

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### In Memoriam TOMMY INGRAM



Tommy INGRAM, 53, long time resident of Austin, Texas passed away February 24, 2009, due to AIDS related illness. Born June 8, 1955 in Odessa to Quinville and Isabel Mayfield INGRAM, Tommy came to Austin in the mid 1970's to study music at the University of Texas. He later worked in the restaurant and convenience store industries before finding his true calling in the printing and desk-top publishing business. He was the long-term manager of Hallmark Printing, before completing his career at Ginny's Printing. Tommy had a knack for using words and for working with people. He found his passion in classical music, raising roses and studying his genealogical roots.

Tommy was President of the Austin Genealogical Society in 2008. He began the researcher assistance programs of "Help Desk," "Dear Genie," and "Brickwall Saturdays." Tommy attended the beginner education classes faithfully to share his knowledge with those beginning their research.

Tommy was preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his two half-sisters, and many cousins, especially AGS member Richard FOSTER of Austin.

A celebration of Tommy's life will be held at 1:00 p.m. on March 14, 2009 at Metropolitan Community Church of Austin, 8601 South First Street, Austin, Texas. His ashes will be buried at a later date in the Ingram family cemetery outside of Cisco, Texas.

Tommy's family and friends thank the wonderful staff and volunteers of Doug's House and Hospice Austin who took such loving care of Tommy during the last month of his life. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Tommy's memory to Doug's House/Project Transitions, PO Box 4826, Austin, TX 78765 or OutYouth Austin, 909 E. 49½ Street, Austin, TX 78751.

# ***Austin Genealogical Society Annual Seminar - May 2, 2009***

**ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 304 E 7<sup>th</sup> ST., AUSTIN, TX 78701**

Map and Directions at  
[www.austintxgensoc.org/seminar.php](http://www.austintxgensoc.org/seminar.php)

Registration & vendors at **8:30 a.m.**, Program begins at **9:00 a.m.**

**New location, Two speakers, Lunch prepared by an in-house chef,  
and Many great door prizes!**

**Rick SAYRE**, Certified Genealogist, is a longtime researcher, lecturer, and writer. His areas of interest include urban research methodology, mapping tools for genealogists, military records, immigration, the Ohio River Valley, and Western Pennsylvania. Rick has given presentations to a variety of genealogical societies relating to the above areas of interest, and he contributes articles to a variety of genealogical publications. He is member of NGS, APG and numerous genealogical societies, and is past vice president of the APG National Capital Area chapter.

**Pamela BOYER SAYRE**, Certified Genealogist and Certified Genealogical Lecturer, is director of education and publications for the National Genealogical Society and vice president of the APG National Capital Area chapter. She is co-author of *Online Roots: How to Discover Your Family's History and Heritage with the Power of the Internet* (Nashville, Tenn.: Rutledge Hill Press, 2003) and *Research in Missouri* (Washington, D.C.: NGS, 1999, 2007). She has spoken at genealogy conferences and seminars in twenty-nine states.

- Topics:**
1. *Did He Serve? Researching Military Service Records*
  2. *Territorial Papers of the United States*
  3. *Getting to Know You, Getting to Know More About You*
  4. *Google Earth for Genealogists*

Early registration forms and fee of \$48 per person for AGS members and \$53 for non-AGS members (which covers materials and lunch) must be received by April 20, 2009, to ensure publication of your information in the program booklet. Make checks payable to "AGS" or register and pay online via PayPal. Send checks and registration to AGS, P. O. Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766-1010. For additional information contact: Cindy FOREMAN, 512-342-2288, [cindy@foremanassociates.com](mailto:cindy@foremanassociates.com) or Sharon FOLEY, 512-401-6357, [sharonaf@austin.rr.com](mailto:sharonaf@austin.rr.com).

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## **EARLY REGISTRATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Up to six surnames and locations you are researching may be published in the program:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

**2009 Board of Directors**

**Term ending 2009:**

Teri FLACK  
Barbara INNIS  
Dona KURTZ  
Elizabeth JOHNSTON  
ROBERT SAGE  
Randy WHITED

**Term Ending 2010:**

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

**2009 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  
Doors open at 6:30; Program at 7:00  
Highland Park Baptist Church  
5208 Balcones Drive  
Austin, Texas  
Visitors Always Welcome!

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