



The Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter

November 2011

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

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Reminder:
There is no meeting in December.
Our Next meeting:
January 24, 2012

Monthly AGS Meeting

Tuesday, November 22, 2011

Program: Thankful for Our Early Ancestors

Presented by: The Program Committee & Storytellers



Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!

A very special meeting is planned for November to celebrate the Thanksgiving season! First, we will enjoy a full meal prepared and served by our own wonderful AGS members. After we dine, we'll listen as several speakers share stories of their favorite early ancestors. Charming, curious, and colorful, these are the characters who make genealogical research so rewarding.

This will be an entertaining, light-hearted evening and a great chance to get to know your fellow researchers. Please join us to give thanks to our ancestors, as well as to the members, visitors, and volunteers who make this society so special.

The email blast you will receive prior to the meeting will provide an RVSP email address. Please let us know if you will be attending so we can make adequate arrangements for the entrees AGS will provide.

NOVEMBER 22, 2011

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 p.m.

DINNER BEGINS at 7:00 p.m.

HIGHLAND PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

5206 BALCONES DRIVE

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78731



AGS Business

The Board of Directors met in regular session at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, prior to the general meeting. The following items were discussed and/or actions taken:

The Board approved the minutes from the September meeting and accepted the Treasurer's report as submitted.

The following matters were addressed:

Board members agreed to December 10, 2011, as the date for the annual Board Retreat.

Sharon FOLEY advised that Jim COOPER had concerns about the new city library plans that showed no space for a genealogy section. Sharon asked him to try to gather more information. We may want to reactivate a liaison with the Austin City Library.

Jane SCHWENDINGER posed the question of a change in schedules for AGS research trips to Salt Lake City and Fort Wayne, together with day trips to Houston and Dallas: should we sponsor trips once a year or continue with the every 18 month schedule? A discussion was held, but it was decided to include the matter on the agenda for the Board Retreat.

Sharon FOLEY, Jen WHITLEY, Randy WHITED and Carolyn GRESHAM attended the Family History Fair in LaGrange on October 22nd.

Sharon FOLEY announced that Missy HARRIS has agreed to serve as Membership Chair for next year and

Karin BRANAMAN has agreed to handle Hospitality duties.

Randy WHITED reported that he needed Board approval to publish three editions of the "Q" instead of four. He does not have the material for four editions. Discussion was tabled at this time.

A suggestion was offered to offer a one-day writing workshop or an ongoing writing class to be taught by a qualified writing coach at some time in the future. The focus of the instruction would be on how to start writing a family history or writing family stories. The Education Committee will consider this suggestion for the future.

Randy described the website business 1000memories.com. They want to co-host a photograph-scanning event with AGS, and they will provide the scanners and a well-known national speaker. Participants can bring their photographs, get help with scanning them, and then be shown how to post them so that other people of their choosing can view or copy the photos. The Board approved making arrangements for a December 3rd date with the provision that we will scrap it if any important factor does not work out. (See [page 6](#) for specifics.)

Jane SCHWENDINGER shared the list of programs and mini-seminars the Program Committee has put together for 2012. The Board approved the signing of contracts with the two mini-seminar speakers chosen for next year's seminars.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the general meeting of the Austin Genealogical Society on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, the following AGS members were elected to serve a two-year term on the Board of Directors beginning January 1, 2012:

Jim COOPER
Randy WHITED

Teri FLACK
Jennifer WHITLEY

Dona KURTZ
Jacquie Dempsey WILSON

Membership

Membership Chair Maud CAIN reported there were **51** members who signed the register at the October meeting. We also had **3** visitors: Adam ARNESON and Sue McCONNELL from Austin and Charleen MULLENWEG from Pflugerville.

Since last month's Newsletter, we have added the following new members to the AGS roll:

Cindy HUNTER—Austin 78720
Patricia K. COOTEY—San Antonio 78209
Bernadette PHIFER—Austin 78702

We welcome all of you to AGS
and hope to meet you soon!



Hospitality

Our thanks go to Glenda BLACK and Carroll PATTERSON for serving as greeters at the October meeting.

Our thanks also go out to the volunteers who brought refreshments for October: Glenda BLACK, Carroll PATTERSON, Wanda D. GLASS, and Lynn COOKSEY.

We are glad to have Sheila SARGENT back at her job at the refreshment table and again thank Arlene ZIRKEL for helping Sharon TIEMAN while Sheila was recovering.

November will be a Thanksgiving dinner. AGS will provide the entrees and members are requested to bring a vegetable, a salad, or a desert. If you plan to attend and did not sign up for a dish at the October meeting, please contact Maud CAIN at mandacain@aol.com or call her at 512-633-6831.

Membership for 2012 is Now Open!

Renewing by that date earns benefits:

- You will be included in the Membership Directory
- You will continue to receive the Newsletter and the Quarterly
- Your surnames will be posted on the AGS website
- You will receive advance notice and, when offered, discounts on AGS events and activities

Please click [here](#) to access our Membership Renewal Form online and send in your 2012 renewal soon. You may pay online via PayPal or by mailing your check payable to "AGS" to P.O. Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766. (You do *not* have to create a PayPal account to use their free service.)

Membership renewals are due by January 31st.



AGS Calendar of Activities

Tuesday, November 22, 2011 — Regular monthly meeting—Being thankful for our ancestors... and the stories of their lives. Presentation by various AGS members and the Program Committee.

Tuesday, December 27, 2011—NO MEETING

Tuesday January 24, 2012—Regular monthly meeting. Former AGS President Cindy FOREMAN presents ***Genealogical Chaining of Artifacts.***

AGS Programs for 2012

The Program Committee has created a superb lineup of regular monthly programs for next year. They are all geared to help AGS members and visitors further their knowledge and enhance their research. Mark your calendars now for the 4th Tuesday of each month so you won't miss anything!

Jan 24	Genealogical Chaining of Artifacts Cindy FOREMAN	Jul 24	Preserving Paper & Photos Claudia ANDERSON
Feb 28	Get Your Lineage in Line Sylvia NIMMO	Aug 28	Trailing Old West History Mike COX
Mar 27	How do I Organize all of this Stuff AGS Members	Sep 25	Social History of the Confederate States Jackie JONES
Apr 24	Researching the 1940 Census Randy WHITED	Oct 23	Who Do You Think You Are - Austin Personality
May 22	I Bet You Didn't Know That... AGS Members	Nov 27	Fall Festival Austin's <i>Sixth Street</i> Allen CHILDS, M.D., author
Jun 26	Getting the Most from Familysearch.org Karen MATHESON		

2012 AGS Mini-Seminars

In addition to the above exceptional programs, AGS will again sponsor two mini-seminars. You'll want to include these dates when marking your calendars and hear what these two nationally-known speakers have to say!

Lloyd BOCKSTRUCK on April 28th

and Mark LOWE on October 20th

Bits & Pieces

Non-residents of Round Rock can pay a \$25 fee to get a [Round Rock Public Library](#) card. With this library card, the following resources especially for genealogists are available from home!

HeritageQuest Online for home or in-library use
Genealogy Bank for home or in-library use
Fold3 (formerly Footnote) for home or in-library use
Historical Map Works for home or in-library use



Due to illness and computer problems, RAOGK (Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness) will be offline for quite awhile. RAOGK has been active for 11 years with volunteers helping other genealogists get copies of documents, books, and photographs required to prove lineage. We wish them good luck and hope to see them back soon.



(Continued on page 6)

The Austin Genealogical Society's second Mini-Seminar of 2011 is *very* near!



George G. Morgan is the president of Aha! Seminars, Inc., and an internationally recognized genealogy expert who presents at local, state, national, and international genealogical conferences.

George is the prolific author of literally hundreds of articles for magazines, journals, newsletters, in genealogical publications, and at online sites in the U.S., Canada, the U.K, Singapore, and elsewhere. His tenth book, the third edition of his *How to Do Everything Genealogy*, will be published by McGraw-Hill in January 2012.

He is Vice President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies and publicity director of the Florida Genealogical Society of Tampa. He is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, and more than a dozen societies in the U.S. and the U.K.

George and Drew Smith produce The Genealogy GuysSM Podcast on the Internet at genealogyguys.com, the longest running genealogical podcast in the world, with thousands of listeners around the globe.

Saturday, November 12

PLEASE NOTE THE LOCATION

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church

[9508 Great Hills Trail](#) (click for map link)

Austin, TX 78759

Registration at the door will be available, but we ask you to please pre-register if possible so we can have a good idea of how many seats to arrange and how many refreshments to provide. The registration form is located on the AGS website at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/activities/ppminiseminar.php> Register online and pay via PayPal or print the form and send your registration to:

Austin Genealogical Society, Attn: Mini-Seminar #2,
PO Box 10010, Austin, TX 78766-1010.

Doors will open at 8:30

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 8:30 – 9:00 | Registration |
| 9:00 – 9:10 | Announcements & Introduction |
| 9:10 – 10:10 | Locating and Accessing Published Genealogies Online |
| 10:25 – 11:25 | Expand Your Research Reach with Interlibrary Loan and Digitized Book Collections Online |
| 11:40 – 12:40 | Bits about Obits: Reading between the Lines |

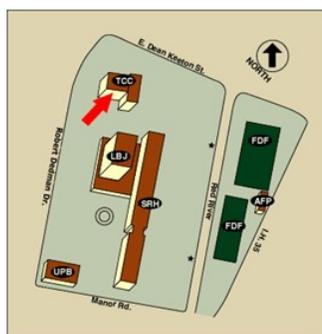
Pre-registration:	At the door:
Members \$10	Members \$15
Visitors \$15	Visitors \$15

SEE YOU THERE!

Shoeboxology: Discovering the Family Secrets Hidden in Your Shoebox



1000memories.com has developed a great way to organize, share, and discover the old photos and memories of your family and friends. Its purpose is to help bring together in one place the albums, scrapbooks, and photo-filled shoeboxes in our lives out of the closet and into an online, shareable space where they can be remembered and celebrated. This is a new way to scan, share, and learn about your old family photos and documents.



Saturday, December 3rd from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
At the Thompson Conference Center
on the edge of the University of Texas campus

- 1:00 Genealogy clues in your family Shoebox with D. Joshua TAYLOR
- 1:45 Tutorial on how to use 1000memories.com
- 2:00 - 4:00 Scan your photos and share discoveries --
... Unlimited scanning, completely free!

Click on the map above for a larger picture.
Convenient parking (lot 40) is located at
The intersection of Red River and
Dean Keeton (26th) Streets.

Hosted by the Austin Genealogical Society and



(Bits & Pieces Continued from page 4)

From Kay BOYD: "Do you have ancestors from Tennessee? FamilySearch.org has Probate Court Books on line. You cannot do a name search but each book is indexed. Almost like going to the courthouse. Click [here](#) to see for yourself!"



Request for Assistance: We are still interested in having some assistance for the current Quarterly. Editor [Randy WHITED](#) will be taking on additional responsibilities for AGS and FGS next year and wants to find either a co-editor or a replacement. Please let [Sharon FOLEY](#) or Randy know if you are interested in helping. Please see last month's AGS Newsletter for additional information. Click either name to send an email to them.

Unwelcome News. The Social Security Administration is removing "protected" death information from their Social Security Death Index. Death certificates with a date of death within the past 25 years are protected records. If you live in Texas, you can order the records of your immediate family members. If you live outside Texas, you must be the surviving spouse of the deceased, a parent of the deceased or the funeral director of the funeral home on the record.

Request for Submissions: Randy is also urging all AGS members to submit family information for publication in the Quarterly. There is a lot of available space in the Q for the 4th quarter that needs to be filled. Please help complete this year's final issue with short stories about your parents or grandparents. If you have an impish nature, how about a story about some mischief you and your cousin got into when you were young! All stories are welcome, even rough drafts! THANKS!

In Memoriam



Our condolences are extended to the family and friends of former AGS member **Donna ARABIE** who passed away on September 16, 2011.

Born October 16, 1948, in Huntsville, Texas, to Elaine (LEE) DENTON and her then husband, Sherman, Donna's family moved to Sulphur, Louisiana in 1949, Houston in 1951 then back to Sulphur in 1957. Soon after graduating from Sulphur HS in 1967, Donna met Brian ARABIE, whom she married in December of that year.

Donna is survived by daughter, Robin LAKOSKI and her husband, John; son, Brett ARABIE and his wife, Heather; grandchildren Samantha and Lance LAKOSKI, and Sarah and Brian ARABIE; sisters Vicki RAY (and her husband, Jim) and Peggy THOUSAND (and her husband Dwight).

Over the last ten years, tracing her family's genealogy became a passion. Donna attended many AGS meetings, was very active, and served on the Board of Directors in 2000.

See the full obituary published in the [Austin American-Statesman](#) on September 18, 2011.

Editor's Corner:

Thank you for taking the time to read the AGS Newsletter. This is our last issue for the year. I appreciate so much your comments, contributions, compliments, and even complaints. My goal is to help keep you informed of what's happening with the business-end of the organization, along with not only AGS programs and activities planned for the future, but other activities and opportunities you might be interested in to further your research or education. If you learn or hear of something that you think will be helpful in accomplishing these goals, please send me an email at Newsletter@AustinTxGenSoc.org. One of the things genealogists and family historians do best is share!

I encourage you to attend the Mini-Seminar in a few days. There will be plenty of room so even if you decide at the last minute, GO! Mr. Morgan is an entertaining speaker with a lot of good information to help you make progress in finding those elusive ancestors.

Until next time, happy holidays, stay safe and as always,

Happy Trackin',

Janis

Click the icon to
follow us on
Facebook!



AGS WEBSITE INFORMATION

The login and password for the Members' Only section of the [AGS website](#):

login: ags2011

password: aU5t!n

You can have the website "remember" the information so that you do not have to enter it every time.

2011 Board of Directors

Term ending 2011:	Term Ending 2012:
Kate ALLEN	Karin BRANAMAN
Maud CAIN	Earle McBRIDE
Teri FLACK	Sharon FOLEY
Dona KURTZ	Missy HARRIS
Mary TODD	Jane SCHWENDINGER
Randy WHITED	Janis TRAYLER

2011 Officers

President	Sharon FOLEY
1 st Vice President	Janis TRAYLER
2 nd Vice President	Jane SCHWENDINGER
Recording Secretary	Kate ALLEN
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

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 Are Always Welcome!

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

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