



# The *Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter*

## October 2011

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

Vol. 17

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### **October Meeting**

**Election of Six Members to the Board of Directors**

## **Monthly AGS Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 25, 2011**

*Program: Behind Bars: Using Prison Records in your Research*

*Presented by: Karen J. Matheson*

6:30 p.m. — Refreshments & Networking

7:00 — 8:30 p.m. - Business & Program

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



"Behind Bars: Using Prison Records in your Research" From the simple to the sensational, whether your ancestor was a "black sheep" or just a little gray, Karen will show you how to find information for your ancestors who may have spent time behind bars.



Karen Matheson has been doing genealogical and family history research for more than 20 years, and currently works as a professional genealogist. She worked for Lineages, Inc. in Salt Lake City for two years before moving to Texas.

Karen served five years (2004-2009) as the Director of the Round Rock Family History Center. She is currently serving as the President of the Williamson County Genealogical Society and as Vice President for the Lone Star Chapter of the APG.

Karen enjoys mentoring, teaching, presenting, and sharing her enthusiasm for family history with others!

### **AGS Business**

The Board of Directors met in regular session at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, prior to the general meeting. The following items were discussed and/or actions taken:

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

The following topics were addressed under Old Business:

Dona KURTZ reported that she has contacted individuals at the University of Texas seeking a volunteer (i.e., an intern) to assist us with implementing the Content Management Service on our website. As yet, she has not received a reply, but will follow up with her contacts.

Missy HARRIS advised the Board that she has been advised TSGS will award only one grant this year and the winner will be announced in November.

Mary TODD reported that the Nominating Committee reviewed and interviewed the list of nominees and has nominated Jennifer WHITLEY, Jacquie DEMSKY WILSON, and Jim COOPER to fill three vacancies. The committee also endorsed the reelection of current Board members Randy WHITED, Dona KURTZ, and Teri FLACK. In accordance with the bylaws, the elec-

tion of new Board members will be held at the October meeting.

There was a discussion of the November meeting, which will be two days before Thanksgiving Day. Refreshments will be coordinated by Maud CAIN and the program will have "Thankful for Your Ancestors" theme.

Jane SCHWENDINGER announced that the Program Committee will be meeting to begin discussion of next year's programs, but it will be just a beginning of brainstorming sessions.

The Board agreed that membership for 2012 will open on November 1st. Membership dues for 2012 were discussed in depth. The Board agreed to charge a nominal amount to print and mail hard copies of the AGS Quarterly to members who want delivery in that format. Janis TRAYLER moved and Missy HARRIS seconded that the dues for 2012 membership remain at \$20 for individuals and \$30 for family memberships, but that a fee of \$5 per year will be charged to mail printed copies of the Quarterlies. Membership brochures and the website will state that electronic delivery of the *Quarterly* will be the standard for delivery of these publications for 2012 and mailing paper copies of the "Q" will incur the additional \$5 per year.

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### **Membership**

Membership Chair Maud CAIN reported there were 77 members who signed the register at the September meeting. We also had 9 visitors. The out-of-state visitors were:

Phyllis BROWN from Salem, Oregon  
Nancy SUNDE from Everett, Washington  
Charleen "Charlie" MULLENWEG from Pflugerville

The following are all from Austin:

Kathryn CASE	Melinda FERRELL
Charlene GEREN	Faye Anne HUNT
Cindy HUNTER	Dorothy WILLIAMS

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

*(Continued on page 3)*

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John Philip AUSTIN — Orillia, Ontario, Canada

Catherine & Charles BAILEY — Austin 78750

Andrea WILLIAMS — Driftwood 78619

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

### Hospitality

The members who served as greeters at the September meeting were Barbara INNIS and Robert TIEMAN and we extend our appreciation to them.

Our thanks also go out to the volunteers who brought refreshments for September: Wynnette HARRIS, Janis TRAYLER, Cynthia RODRIGUEZ, and Barbara INNIS.

We also appreciate Arlene ZIRKEL for helping Sharon TIEMAN at the refreshment table while Sheila SARGENT is out ill.

Those scheduled to bring refreshments for the October meeting are: Glenda BLACK, Carroll PATTERSON, Wanda D. GLASS, and Lynn COOKSEY.

Greeters scheduled for the October meeting are Glenda BLACK and Carroll PATTERSON.

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### **Board of Directors Election to be Held in October**

At the September general meeting, Mary TODD, chair of the Nominating Committee, submitted the following proposed slate of nominees to serve on the 2012 Austin Genealogical Society Board of Directors: Jennifer (Jen) WHITLEY, Jacquie DEMSKY WILSON, James L. (Jim) COOPER, Randy WHITED, Dona KURTZ and Teri FLACK. A short introduction of each nominee is included below.

Additional nominees may be nominated from the floor; however, any one so nominated must first agree to being nominated prior to the general meeting. The election will be held at the October 25th meeting.

Listed in alphabetical order, the nominees on the proposed slate are:



James L. (Jim) COOPER - Jim was born and raised in Austin with an appreciation for family and local history. With a BBA from UT, as a CPA, he worked as a financial administrator. He has traveled to various libraries, courthouses and cemeteries to gather information for his extended family tree, and

has attended numerous seminars, conventions and workshops. Jim believes his business experience, 20 years of

AGS membership, and previous service as auditor would be beneficial to the AGS Board.



Teri E. FLACK has served on the AGS Board as Treasurer since January 2008. She's a 6th generation Texan who has been researching her family history for 30 years. Teri retired from state government after serving as Special Advisor to the Commissioner of Higher Education

and Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education. She holds an Education degree and MBA from Texas State University. Teri is currently studying for a Master's in Public History at Texas State University.



Dona KURTZ has been a member of AGS since 2006 and is currently in her third year on the Board of Directors. Dona's primary contribution to the society and the Board has been as the webmaster, a position which

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she has held for the past two years. She maintains and updates the website, which provides information to AGS members about current society events and programs as well as other items of interest to the genealogical community.



Randy W. WHITED, a life-long Texan and an avid genealogist for over 25 years, is an active volunteer with multiple genealogical organizations at the local, state, and national level. A member of the Austin Genealogical Society since 2005, Randy has served as a teacher, presenter, Board member, and for the last four years as the Editor of the TSGS award-winning AGS Quarterly.

Randy graduated from the University of Texas with a BA in Astronomy. He resides in Pflugerville, Texas, with his wife and twin daughters.



Jennifer WHITLEY's interest in genealogy was sparked on Christmas Day 2009, when her parents gave her her great-grandfather's pocket watch. She joined AGS after taking the Beginner's Course in February 2010. Since April 2011, Jen has been assisting with online publicity and communications and would be honored to continue that work with the Board. In her other life, Jen is a private pilot

and aviation journalist. For more about her, visit <http://www.jenniferwhitley.net>.



Jacquie DEMSKY WILSON says her passion for genealogy started 40 years ago. She remembers "bothering" her grandmother with "Who is who?" and "How are we related?" questions. Other than AGS, Jacquie is also a member of the Williamson County, TX, and Hudson County, NJ, Genealogical Societies.

Jacquie has lived in Texas for over 25 years. She received a B.A. in History from Stockton College and a M.A. in Library Science from Texas Woman's University. She is employed at the LBJ Library and serves as the "Genealogy Advisor" at the Round Rock Library.

### *Bits & Pieces*

We thank AGS member Greg NOEL for sending in an email about a free website that others may be interested in. This site provides approximately 12,000 Revolutionary War pension applications of southern soldiers. The site is <http://southerncampaign.org/pen/#f>. It is *free* and easy to navigate. Greg reports that the applications can be printed easily.

Greg states he worked for about three hours and not only confirmed what he already had, but found additional information, together with two applications he did not have previously.

### *AGS Calendar of Activities*

**Tuesday, October 25, 2011** — Regular monthly meeting — Karen MATHESON will present "Behind Bars: Using Prison Records in your Research."

**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. Stay tuned for more information!

## The Austin Genealogical Society proudly presents our second Mini-Seminar of 2011



**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 Guys<sup>SM</sup> Podcast on the Internet at [genealogyguys.com](http://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!**

### **Note from the AGS President**

Your AGS Board is working on plans for next year and, as always, we welcome your skills and talents. Randy WHITED, the current Quarterly editor, is looking to undertake additional challenges for AGS next year and is seeking a co-editor or a replacement.

This position primarily requires soliciting and compiling the submissions, and performing general editing

of spelling, grammar, and punctuation. An existing process and template is in place and Randy is willing to explain and demonstrate the how-to's. We know that the right person is out there. Let me know who you are. Please contact me at [sharonkfoley@gmail.com](mailto:sharonkfoley@gmail.com) or call me at 401-6357 to discuss it further.

Thank you,  
Sharon Foley

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### **Other Educational Opportunities**

#### **Saturday, October 15—SAGHS Annual Seminar**

The **San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society Annual Seminar**, October 15th. This year's guest speaker is **Maureen TAYLOR, the photo detective**. Make your plans now to take advantage of this unique presentation. Cost is \$50 if registered by October 6th. Click [here](#) for more information.



**Friday, October 21 — The Texas State Library and Archives Commission** will host another **Genealogy After Dark** event from 6:30 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. Click [here](#) for more information and a registration form.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [geninfo@tsl.state.tx.us](mailto:geninfo@tsl.state.tx.us) or 512-463-5455.



**Saturday, October 22 — Fayette County Family History Fair** (Free event)

EXPLORE YOUR FAMILY TREE this fall as the Fayette County Genealogical Society presents their annual **Family History Fair** from **9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** at the **Fayette County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall, Hwy. 77, La Grange, Texas.**

Click [here](#) for more information on speakers, topics, and vendors.

**Saturday, October 29— The Austin Public Library presents its annual Archives Clinic** at the **Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe Street** (next to the John Henry Faulk Central Library), **from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

Feel free to bring your special materials and get advice on topics ranging from organization to preservation of papers, photographs, scrapbooks, home video and audio recordings, electronic records, and other documents. Click [here](#) for additional information.



**Friday & Saturday, November 4 & 5—Texas State Genealogical Society's 51st Annual Conference**

Thursday November 3—Pre-conference Workshop

There are too many classes to list in this space for Thursday and Friday. The featured speaker for all of the Saturday sessions is Paula Stewart WARREN.

For a complete list of days, dates, times, locations, speakers, Awards Banquet and conference registration information, see the TSGS conference website at <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs/TXSGS-New/Pages/Conference.htm>.

The conference is being held at the Marriott Houston Hobby Airport.

### *In Memoriam*



Our sympathies are extended to the family and friends of former AGS member **Betty Jean McCarty McANELLY**, 85 years a proud Texan and Austinite, who died peacefully at Hospice Austin's Christopher House on September 22, 2011, after a brief critical illness. She was born Betty Jean McCARTY, on September 18, 1926, at her home on 1507 East First Street in Austin, Texas, the only child of Nona BALLINGER McCarty and Thurber Mark McCARTY. Betty graduated from Stephen F. Austin High School in 1944 and from The University of Texas at Austin in 1948 with a Bachelors of Business Administration degree. She married Robert Coleman McANELLY in August of 1951. Betty had a lifelong devotion to researching and promoting Texas and local history and genealogy. Betty served in a number of positions in a variety of historical, heritage, and genealogical organizations during her lifetime. This includes a number of years as a member of the Board of Directors of the Austin Genealogical Society during its early days.

Betty was preceded in death by her husband of 29 years, Robert C. McANELLY. She is survived by daughter Carol McANELLY JOHNSON and husband Neal of Austin, son Robert Dennis McANELLY and wife Suzanne of Independence, MO, daughter Phyllis McANELLY BARRON and husband Craig of Austin, and four beloved grandchildren: Ryan Christopher JOHNSON, Kirsten Bethany JOHNSON, Brittany Elizabeth JOHNSON, and Jordan Benjamin BARRON.

Click [here](#) to view or sign the Cook-Walden online guestbook. Click [here](#) to view the full obituary published on October 1<sup>st</sup> in The Austin American Statesman.



Our condolences are also extended to the family and friends of former AGS member **Mae Belle Mills Borth** who passed away on September 26, 2011. She was born in Del Rio, Texas, on October 11, 1926, to William Oliver and Eleanor McREYNOLDS MILLS. After attending Trinity University in San Antonio and the University of Texas in Austin, she married John BORTH of Austin in 1948, who preceded her in death in 2003. Her survivors are daughters, Shelli CHILDERS and husband Robert of Odessa, Sherri HAGOOD and husband Walter of Austin; brother, W.O. MILLS and wife Susan of Pandale; sister, Barbara Mills BALLEW and husband Gaines of Edmond, Oklahoma, four grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Click [here](#) to view or sign the Cook-Walden online guestbook. Click [here](#) to view the full obituary published on September 29th in The Austin American Statesman.

### **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.

Click the icon to  
follow us on  
Facebook!



***2011 Board of Directors***

<b>Term ending 2011:</b>	<b>Term Ending 2012:</b>
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 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Janis TRAYLER
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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.*

Monthly Meetings on 4<sup>th</sup> 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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***Promoting genealogy through research,  
education, and preservation.***