



The *Austin Genealogical Society Newsletter*

September 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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Monthly AGS Meeting

Tuesday, September 27, 2011

Program: **Information of interest to genealogists**

at the

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & RECORDS ADMINISTRATION's

Fort Worth location

Presented by Aaron HOLT, NARA Archives Technician

6:30 p.m. — Refreshments & Networking

7:00 — 8:30 p.m. - Business & Program

Invite a friend or neighbor to come with you!



D. Aaron HOLT, an Archives Technician, is a native Texan who has worked for the National Archives and Records Administration for about nineteen years, the last ten of which have been in the Archives section.

In his presentation at the September meeting, Mr. HOLT will be discussing the free resources available to the public at the National Archives for the Southwest Region located in Fort Worth. He will touch on the mission of the National Archives, their general holdings, military holdings and on their holdings related to the native tribes of the region.

If you have any questions regarding any of these topics, or relating to the new location of the facility, the logistics of accessing information, or other questions, please have those available for Mr. HOLT to answer during the question and answer period.

AGS Business

The Board of Directors met in regular session at 5:45 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2011, prior to the general meeting. The following items were discussed and/or actions taken:

The board approved the minutes from the July meeting and accepted the Treasurer's report as submitted.

The following topics were addressed under Old Business:

President Sharon FOLEY reported in the absence of Jane SCHWENDINGER that Jane is planning a meeting of the Program Committee to begin plans for programs for 2012. Due to Jane's unexpected absence, the discussion was tabled until the September meeting.

The Saturday Session on August 6th taught by Sue KAUFMAN about using PERSI was very well attended.

Mary TODD reported that the Nominating Committee has met and has reached a consensus on six members to be considered for election to the Board of Directors. Three of those individuals have agreed to serve and Mary will contact the other three soon to determine their willingness to serve. The slate of nominees will be presented to the general membership at the September meeting. Election of the new Board members will be held at the October meeting pursuant to the AGS by-laws.

The following topics were discussed under New Business: The speaker for our September meeting is a federal employee and as such is not allowed to accept payment for his presentation to our group. A discussion

was held regarding the option for AGS to make an appreciation donation to a group affiliated with the Archives instead. We will research this option and decide at a later meeting.

A discussion was held regarding institutional memberships and what their needs truly are with regard to publications and access to membership information. This topic will be tabled and placed on the agenda for the next full-day meeting of the new Board of Directors.

Dona KURTZ reported her concern that there are better ways in which to maintain our website. She outlined a model (Content Management System) she believes will work and agreed to research it more, bringing the information back to the Board at the next meeting.

Teri FLACK reported on the TSGS community meeting held in Boerne on August 20th. She reminded the group of the TSGS annual conference on November 4th and 5th in Houston. A number of members of AGS will be speakers at the conference.

Jennifer WHITLEY, our publicity liaison, reported via written report that she has been continuing her efforts to inform the public in a number of different ways of AGS meetings and activities. She is organizing her information to keep track of on-going promotional activities, venue lists and contact information, and metrics that track the effectiveness of her efforts. Her efforts have been showing up in publications such as the Austin Chronicle; Texas Monthly, and Austin360.

Membership

Membership Chair Maud CAIN reported there were 52 members who signed the register at the August meeting. We also had 3 visitors. One visitor did not register, but the others were Nancy SUNDE from Everett, Washington, and Melinda FERRELL from Austin.

Since last month's Newsletter, we have added the

following new members to the AGS roll:

Paul KINDRED, Austin, TX 78745
Sarah AMESEN, Austin, TX 78754
Sally BUSBOOM, Austin TX 78727

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Cathy POOLE, Austin, TX 78736

Bea SNEED, Austin, TX 78758

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

Hospitality

Our appreciation goes out to Arlene ZIRKEL and Chris BOND for greeting members and guests at the

door at the August meeting. Thanks also go out to those who furnished refreshments for last month: Martha CARPENTER, Karin BRANAMAN and Kay BOYD.

Barbara INNIS and Robert TIEMAN have volunteered to serve as greeters for the September meeting.

Volunteers bringing refreshments for September are Wynnette HARRIS, Janis TRAYLER, Cynthia RODRIGUEZ, and Barbara INNIS.

Programs

From Program Chair Jane SCHWENDINGER:

Greetings!

The program committee is beginning to work on programs for next year. Your input is requested! Send me your ideas for topics, speakers, or mini-seminar presenters. You can help us tailor programs that interest you.

Send your thoughts to programs@austintxgensoc.org

Especially valuable is someone you have heard do a great genealogy presentation! We are trying not to repeat the same topic or speaker too often.

Your contributions are appreciated. The program committee can't promise to use all of your ideas but we

promise that we do consider each and every idea that is submitted. We aim to please.



The handouts from Sue KAUFMAN's PERSI presentation are now available in the Members Only section of the AGS website at <http://www.austintxgensoc.org/members/index.php>. These handouts are particularly helpful for genealogists researching at the Allen County Public Library in Ft. Wayne, Indiana.



The questions and answers from last month's meeting are posted on the Members Only section of the AGS website.

Odds & Ends

From Kay BOYD:

AGS recently acquired some books from a researcher cleaning out his library. These are a long shot, but the titles are listed if you can use them. They will be available at the next AGS meeting on September 27. After that, they will be passed on to another group.

- PAINE family Records, PAYNE, PAINE, PAYN, Vol. 1, 1880, 250 pp, reprint
- GOES family Tree, 2001, includes BUNCE, HUBBARD, PAULDING, MYRICK, FTM

- THURSTON Genealogies, 1835-1892, Maine, 700 pp, reprint
- History and Genealogy of the PERLEY Family 1906, 700 pp, reprint
- John BULL of Perkiomen, PA 1674-1950, 400 pp, reprint
- Genealogy of David JONES (Emigrant born 1709 in Wales) 180 pp, reprint

If you have any books you want to put on the table at the next meeting, please come early and do so!

AGS Calendar of Activities

Beginning Genealogy Classes—Fall Course

Saturday, September 17, 2011, and

Saturday, September 24, 2011

9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Community Classroom at Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, [9508 Great Hills Trail](#), Austin, Texas

AGS offers Beginning Genealogy classes twice a year, in the spring and fall. Each course consists of two class meetings on consecutive Saturday mornings. The total fee for the entire course is \$15.00.

Topics covered include:

- From the Known to the Unknown
- Researching Other Records
- Forms and Charts
- Central Texas Resources

For more information, please email Kay BOYD at Mkdb1405@aol.com. To download a registration form, [click here](#).

Tuesday, September 27 — Regular Monthly Meeting. Aaron HOLT from the National Archives and Records Administration in Fort Worth will be here to share information about NARA's resources for genealogists.

As a center for historical and genealogical research, the National Archives has both an Archival and Microfilm Research Room for researchers. Their historical records date from the 1800's to the late 1900's, and include letters, photographs, maps, architectural drawings, and other documents received from over 100 federal

agencies and courts in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. The NARA location in Fort Worth also houses a large amount of Native American information about the Five Civilized Tribes.



Tuesday, October 25, 2011 — Regular Monthly Meeting. Karen MATHESON will present: Behind Bars: Using Prison Records in your Research



Saturday, November 12 — AGS Mini-Seminar

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Triumphant Love Lutheran Church, 9508 Great Hills Trail Austin, Texas (78759)

Featuring nationally known speaker George G. MORGAN. His topics will be:

- Locating and Accessing Published Genealogies Online
- Expand Your Research Reach with Interlibrary Loan and Digitized Book Collections Online
- Bits about Obits: Reading between the Lines

Pre-registration will begin on September 27th. [Click here](#) for more information about the seminar.

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

Other Educational Opportunities

Lifetime Learning Genealogy Beginning Classes

Tuesdays, eight classes **beginning September 13** through November 1

10:00 a.m.—noon, Triumphant Love Lutheran Church,

9508 Great Hills Trail (78759)

Brush up genealogy skills, for beginners and seasoned researchers. Each session is presented by a member of the Austin Genealogical Society, covering a variety of topics. There will be a \$3 charge for copies.

Saturday, October 1 — Save Texas History Symposium

Presented by the Texas General Land Office at the **AT&T Executive Conference & Education Center 1900 University Avenue, Austin, TX**

Registration is \$40, if received before September 16. After that date, registration will be \$50.

Click [here](#) for additional information including the registration form, a full listing of the forums, classes, and activities of the symposium..



Saturday, October 8—The Austin Genealogy SIG meeting features a **Brick Wall Workshop** led by **Leslie Inman**. **1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Old Quarry Library**. The goal of the workshop is for people to bring their brick wall problems and get member help or information on how to solve their mysteries. Visit <http://austingensig.com> for more information.



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.

Registration is limited to 30 participants.

Parking is usually available in the Capitol Visitors Parking Garage at 1201 San Jacinto, one block to the east of the Zavala Building. There is no charge for visitors who arrive after 5:00 p.m.

6:15 — Doors open & sign-in begins (Doors will lock again at 7:00 p.m.)

6:30 – 11:55 — Research time in Texas State Archives, Texas Family Heritage Research Center, and the Reference and Information Center

7:45 — Light refreshments in Lobby

11:45—Microfilm and photocopy rooms close

12:00—Building secured

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



Saturday, October 22 — Fayette County Family History Fair

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.**

FREE

Click [here](#) for more information on speakers, topics, and vendors, or for more information, call 979-968-4963 (Leave a message).



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 (who was our speaker at the mini-seminar last May).

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.

AGS QUARTERLY UPDATE: The next issue of the AGS Quarterly will be in your inbox soon. Are you going to wonder why there is yet another article by someone who seems to have something published in every issue? If so, that's because the Editor includes articles, charts, submissions of all kind that MEMBERS send to him. So if you would like to see something different or an issue that has submissions by "not-the-same-people-every-month," then do YOUR part and send in your Bible pages, family group sheets, letter sent home by Grandpa, recipes from your Grandmother, etc. You don't have to be a true writer to submit your family group sheets!

Quarterly Editor Randy WHITED is *always* looking for stories, case studies, family group sheets or pedigree charts. Virtually anything submitted in the way of family information is acceptable as we are trying to use more membership submissions than transcribed records.

Bits & Pieces

“CREMAINS” Question (posted on another site):

Does anyone know of a website/database that records where the ashes of individuals have been scattered, particularly when no stone/marker has been placed?

Answer:

[Www.Findagrave.com](http://www.findagrave.com) allows you to record the disposition of cremains. Under Burial, select "Other" (Ashes scattered, Body donated, Body lost, etc.), click "Continue." On the next screen, you can record detailed information as to the whereabouts of the body or cremains. I have done this with several family memorials.

Elizabeth O'NEAL - <http://www.littlebytesoflife.com>

From: Trevia Wooster BEVERLY, Houston, Texas



Online ordering for microfilm from the Family History Library is now available throughout the state of Texas. Online ordering provides researchers the opportunity to order from home, and to pay for microfilm rental with a credit card or from a Pay Pal account. You will be able to track the progress of your order, and you will also be sent email notifications telling you when the order has been processed, shipped, and received at the local Family History Center. Microfilms will still be viewed and maintained at the Family History Centers, and you can specify which FHC you would like them shipped to. Locate the film number in the FHL catalog,

then go to www.familysearch.org/films to order it online!



And speaking of [FamilySearch](http://www.familysearch.org), have you been to their website lately? It has a new look and feel. To learn more, click on the "What's New" space on the right side of the screen. Did you know you can narrow searches by marking the box that says "Show only collections with images." It is under the category at the bottom called "Availability." And the easiest way to get back to the home page ... click the logo in the upper left corner of any page!



Kay BOYD offered a wonderful website if you are doing research for ancestors in South Carolina. The South Carolina Department of Archives has a website that has a wealth of information. Check it out at: <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/onlinearchives/SearchResults.aspx>. Call Kay if you have any questions or want more information! 512-836-7484

AGS WEBSITE INFORMATION

The login and password for the Members' Only section of the [AGS website](http://www.familysearch.org):

login: ags2011 password: aU5t!n

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

In Memoriam



Our sympathies go out to the family of AGS member **Beryl D. BERGSCHNEIDER**, 84, of Austin, Texas, formerly of Rochester, Minnesota, who died at his home, surrounded by his loving family, on Saturday, August 20, 2011. He was born on March 5, 1927, in Levasy, Missouri, to Herbert BERGSCHNEIDER and Gladys RYAN BERGSCHNEIDER. He grew up in Buckner, Missouri, with his brother and two sisters.

After graduating from Buckner High School in May of 1945, Beryl was drafted into the Army and upon his discharge, he attended college at the University of Missouri in Columbia where he met his wife, Leanna LINHART BERGSCHNEIDER. They were married there on June 3, 1951.

Beryl earned a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Missouri in 1952 and went to work for IBM soon thereafter. He worked for them for 54 years in a number of locations, the last of which was Austin, where he retired. He loved the challenges of his work at IBM.

Beryl and Leanna celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June. He was dedicated to his children and grandchildren and supportive of their interests and activities. Beryl was a long time member of Northwest Hills United Methodist Church and was active in the Garden Club of Austin, Austin Genealogical Society, and was program chair for Austin Computer Club for many years.

Click [here](#) to access the full obituary which was published in the Austin American-Statesman on August 22, 2011.



Sympathies are also extended to the family of former AGS member **Anna Houston PRICE**, 61, of Austin who died July 29. Burial was at the Travis County International Cemetery. Arrangements were handled by Austin-Peel & Son.

Anna was very active on the AGS Board of Directors from 1999 through about 2002 and was involved with our Cemetery Project for Travis County that was started in 1999. She also handled publicity and programs for a time. Anna had suffered a number of serious health issues for the past few years and although she was not able to attend AGS meetings, her love of genealogy did sometimes lead her to one of her favorite places on occasion: the Texas State Library and Archives.

Editor's Corner:

The slate of nominees for six members to serve on next year's Board of Directors will be offered by the Nominations Committee at the September meeting. The election will be held at the October meeting. There are any number of ways you can be a contributing member of AGS. Please consider offering your skills, talents, and/or time toward helping us maintain the great programs and smooth operations of the Society. Have you in the past or do you now belong to another society? Is there anything that organization did or does that you believe would be helpful in making AGS better? The Board would love to hear from you about those ideas.

Until next month, stay safe and

Happy Trackin',

Janis

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follow us on
Facebook!



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.*

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