

Austin Genealogical Society



Quarterly

Volume XXXX, Number 1

March 1999

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PUBLISHED FOUR TIMES PER YEAR BY THE AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
BEGINNING OUR FORTIETH YEAR OF PUBLICATION
DON'T FORGET OUR ANNUAL SEMINAR SATURDAY, 21 AUGUST, 1999



The AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY is published four times per year in the months of March, June, September and November.

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY has specific addresses for certain purposes. To save time and trouble for yourself as well as for us, please use the appropriate address. See inside back cover for further details. THANK YOU!

EXCHANGE QUARTERLIES--Send quarterlies and correspondence about them (such as change of address or failure to receive ours by the 10th of April, July, October or December) to TEXAS STATE LIBRARY, Tech Services S.S., Box 12927, Austin TX 78711.

CHECKS AND BILLS--Dues, seminar reservations, orders for our Special Publications, memorial gifts, other financial matters: AGS Treasurer, Box 1507, Austin TX 78767-1507.

AGS QUARTERLY--Send material for and correspondence about quarterly to AGS Quarterly, 4500 Hyridge Drive, Austin TX 78759-8054. **EXCEPTION!:** QUERIES should be sent to Queries Editor, 5722 Highland Hills Drive, Austin TX 78731.

PAST ISSUES OF AGS QUARTERLY: Inquiries about availability and cost should be addressed to the AGS Quarterly Custodian, 4304 Lostridge Drive, Austin TX 78731.

MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES: Address inquiries to the AGS Membership Chairman, 2609 W. 49th Street, Austin TX 78731-5636. (Check inside back cover for membership dues, etc.)

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE concerning Society matters goes to AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, P.O. Box 1507, Austin TX 78767-1507.

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Lillian Ramirez
Marilyn Maniscalco Henley
Bob Tull
Lorrie Foster Henderson

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Second Vice-President/Pgm.
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NOTE: BOARD MEETS AT 6:15 p.m. FOURTH TUESDAYS immediately before regular Society meeting.

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Please see inside back cover for further Society information.

The Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly

Volume XXXX, Number 1 March 1999

—We can hear if we listen the words they impart
through their blood in our veins and their voice in our heart.
——Unknown

Comments

BEGINNING OUR FORTIETH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

Our Society is not about to be outdone by everyone celebrating end-of-year/decade/century/millennium events. A glance at the masthead above reveals those four pretty Roman X's (or is it Xes or Xs or Xs'; help, please, Mrs. Rugeley) which mean we are *entering* our fortieth year of publication; let's not celebrate a year too soon like all of us will be doing at the end of this year about the millenium, when it will be one year too early. But it's fine to anticipate.

AGS OFFICERS FOR 1999

At a special called meeting on 12 December 1998 the Board of Directors of AGS elected the following officers for one-year terms during 1999: John Miller, President; Lillian Ramirez, First Vice President; Marilyn Henley, Second Vice President; Kelly Barnhill, Recording Secretary; Lorrie Henderson, Corresponding Secretary; and Dr. Robert Tull, Treasurer. All officers carry over from 1998 and we congratulate them on their election and willingness to continue their sterling efforts on behalf of AGS.

In consequence of his election, President Miller has designated the following chairs: Putnam Monroe, Publications Mailing Officer; Marilyn Henley and Jean Shroyer, co-chairs for the 1999 Seminar; Wilena Young, Newsletter Editor; Clarice Neal, Acquisitions and Texas State Library Liaison; Marilyn Henley, Programs; Jean Shroyer, Publicity; Beryl and Leanna Bergschneider, Quarterly Custodians; Juanita Dodgen, Hospitality; Dana Dupuis, Membership; Helen Rugeley, Quarterly Book Review Editor; Audit, Jim Brinkman; WEB Master, Yvonne Beever; and AGS Quarterly Editor, Bill Koehler.

This is an active and growing group. We've always had the Treasurer's books audited each year and for some time we have had a Web page. Since these are on-going activities the Board has now designated them as committees. Jim Brinkman has agreed to handle the auditing chores and we are pleased to have Yvonne Beever accept responsibility for maintaining and updating our Web page (have you checked www.main.org/ags/ recently?).

(Cont'd on next page)

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AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
C/O EDITOR, 4500 HYRIDGE DRIVE
AUSTIN TX 78759-8054

INTERNET WEB SITE: WWW.MAIN.ORG/AGS/

AGS IS A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION CHARTERED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS

(Cont'd from previous page)

An observation may be in order here. Just a few years ago when your Editor took on these chores, doing any genealogy at all by computer was cutting edge stuff; now most members access the Web, and some are already getting most of their data from the internet. We suspect that in a few more years the internet may almost eliminate mailboxes and walk-in libraries for the genealogy profession. A word of caution about internet material, however: *can it be trusted—is it reliable?* There's already a lot of garbage out there, and downloading data from thin air is not as comforting as seeing it on a County Clerk's counter. Use with caution.

A RECOGNITION OF TWO ILLUSTRIOUS CENTRAL TEXAS FAMILIES

Further along in this issue we are pleased to bring you information about two eminent immigrant families who sank deep roots in the hills once they arrived: the Pflugers and the Palms. The families' most visible legacies are the thriving and almost adjoining communities of Pflugerville and Palm Valley just to the northeast of Austin.

Julia Mellenbruch has prepared a very informative summary about the Henry Pfluger family which will be having its 65th reunion on July 3-4 in (nowhere else but) Pflugerville. Coming from Germany, the Pflugers and the Bohls and the Brakers and the Lieses settled in the Austin area in the 1800's; they had large families and put down deep roots. If your lines cross central Texas at all they could very well intersect these families. Even for those of us not so blessed, Julia's summary makes very interesting reading. Don't overlook it.

The other notable family we are recognizing is the Palm family of Palm Valley, just east of Round Rock. The Palms were from Sweden and played a very important role in area development from the late 1800's. There are three articles on the Palms; the first two were obtained from the manuscript files at the Austin History Center and detail the Palm and Polk (connected through marriage) genealogies. The third article by Ruth Koehler highlights Anna Palm and her great-granddaughter, Blanche Palm Hardt. Blanche was Ruth's aunt; she was a person exceptionally talented in a number of arts and crafts, was born in Palm Valley and lived in San Antonio.

The Austin History Center has a large manuscript file, much of it genealogical. Jane Montz from the Center let us know about this at our January meeting. Her handout identified genealogical resources at the center and is reproduced in this issue. Don't overlook this outstanding resource. By the way, boost the Center; the city keeps threatening to downsize or eliminate it which we think would be extremely regrettable.

WILENA, THANK YOU

If you are observant at all, you will have noticed the significant way in which our monthly newsletter has become even better as time goes by. It has been edited since way back when by Wilena Young, just about the nicest person around. She is always the epitome of courtesy, is always doing things for people beyond duty's strict call, and is one of the few people we have in AGS who remembers just about everything and anything we need to know to keep things humming. The Newsletter used to be a single sheet, front and back; now it is two legal sheets, crammed on both sides with always relevant information, and done in as neat and tidy a style as anyone could want.

We seem never to bother to thank her, and certainly not enough when we do. Please forgive us, Wilena, and please keep those newsletters coming. We'd really come unglued without them. Thanks, and thanks again.

AGS 1999 SEMINAR APPROACHING

On the next page we reprint an advance flyer concerning our 21 August 1999 Seminar featuring Myra Vanderpool Gormley, CG. It will be an all-day affair at Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones.

Registration forms will be in the mail soon. Make your plans now to hear one of the country's really outstanding genealogists in a rare Texas appearance.

NEXT ISSUE IS MEMBER'S OWN

See Page 12 for details on the June issue, where members contribute their information (two pages for individual members; four pages for family memberships or higher. We need your submissions by 15 May, so get busy; we want a big outstanding issue this time.

HANDLING BLM RECORDS ON THE WEB

Ben Boswell handed us a copy of a recent e-mail he circulated to Autry/ey cousins concerning retrieving and handling BLM land records off of the web. For anyone interested in research of this type, Ben's procedure may be of great help. Thanks, Ben; the information is on Page 29.

QUERIES AND MORE QUERIES WANTED

Probably no Board member puts as much interest and love of people into their assignment as does our Queries Editor Lorrie Foster Henderson. When you look at this Quarter's Happy Hunting Ground you will note an extra page of tips she has included to assist in preparing and submitting Queries. We think this page alone almost justifies publishing the Quarterly because it is the sledgehammer which can sometimes break through the stone walls we all encounter as we scrounge for family information. We are very glad that Lorrie is on the job.

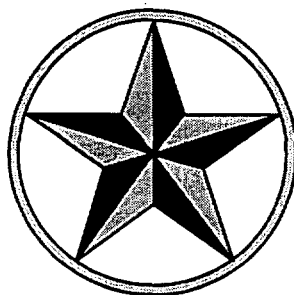
Her tips are not meant to discourage anyone from submitting Queries. On the contrary, we urge you to send your requests in; as a matter of fact they have been somewhat scarce recently. Send away, please.

THANKS FOR SUBMISSIONS

We thank members Richard Robertson and Peter Maxson for their very interesting material included in this issue. Richard has given us additional matter which will appear in a near future issue.

Richard and Peter both responded to our recent invitation to members. The invitation still holds; anyone with information of this type is welcome to send it to us.

The Editor





AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL SEMINAR

SATURDAY, AUGUST 21, 1999 - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
(Registration and Exhibitors: 8 a.m.-Lecture begins: 9 a.m.)

<http://www/main.org/ags/>

HIGHLAND PARK BAPTIST CHURCH - 5206 BALCONES DRIVE
AUSTIN, TEXAS

SPEAKER: MYRA VANDERPOOL GORMLEY, CG

Myra Vanderpool Gormley is a certified genealogist, syndicated columnist and feature writer. She is the co-moderator of the Prodigy® Genealogy community. She is a webmaster, contributing editor, and has written more than a thousand articles on the subject of genealogy. She is a member of many genealogical and historical societies, has been a guest on dozens of television and radio programs, and has received many awards for distinguished work in genealogy.



Lectures:

- ☐ **Getting Your Ox Out of the Ditch:** Look at your research in a new light and learn tricks and common sense methods to solve genealogical problems.
- ☐ **Finding/Identifying Immigrant Ancestors:** Methods of determining exact "old country" origins and finding their ships.
- ☐ **Netting Your Ancestors on the World Wide Web:** A look at what is really out there, including some hidden sources on the internet.
- ☐ **If It Please the Court:** A research plan and a jurisdictional approach to various court records most likely to produce results in knowing your ancestors better.

Please Note:

Advance Registration fee will be \$30 per person, including lunch (\$35 on site.)

AGS Members will receive a registration flyer in the mail in the near future. Registration forms will also be available at the Genealogy Collection, Texas State Library and at the LDS Family History Center on Rutherford. A registration form will be included in the June Quarterly.

For additional information, please contact Marilyn Henley, 512-378-4735, marilyn@ahenley.com, or Jean Shroyer, 512-288-4131, txjean@aol.com

This is one of the few appearances of this noted genealogist in this area in a long time. Make plans now to attend this very interesting and informative Seminar.

AGS Treasurer's Report for 23 February 1999

Robert G. Tull, Treasurer

	SEMINAR	AGS PC	μFILM NDX	BOOK NDX	FRIENDS	GGGG	AGS	TOTAL
BALANCE 1/26/1999	\$2,269.07	\$88.29	(\$1,037.23)	(\$1,185.35)	\$175.79	\$503.76	\$5,081.99	\$5,896.32
<u>RECEIPTS (Deposits)</u>								
Interest for Jan 1999 \$3.19		\$0.05			\$0.10	\$0.27	\$2.77	\$3.19
Life Membership - Betty Huff Bryant							\$300.00	\$300.00
Patron Membership - Reta Moore							\$100.00	\$100.00
Library membership							\$20.00	\$20.00
10 Family memberships							\$300.00	\$300.00
60 Individual memberships							\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
								\$0.00
Microfilm sale Lelia Allen			\$26.50					\$26.50
Research contributions							\$35.00	\$35.00
Contribution - James Hollas							\$20.00	\$20.00
Total Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.05	\$26.50	\$0.00	\$0.10	\$0.27	\$1,977.77	\$2,004.69
<u>DISBURSEMENTS</u>								
P.O. Box 1507 rent for 1999							(\$114.00)	(\$114.00)
P.O. Bulk Mail fee permit 02614							(\$100.00)	(\$100.00)
Tennessee Gen Soc Membership							(\$20.00)	(\$20.00)
TX State Gen Soc Membership							(\$22.00)	(\$22.00)
Clark Travel-bus deposit							(\$100.00)	(\$100.00)
Ginny's - Jan 99 NewsLetter							(\$68.40)	(\$68.40)
Total Disbursements	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$424.40)	(\$424.40)
<u>BALANCE 2/23/99*</u>	\$2,269.07	\$88.34	(\$1,010.73)	(\$1,185.35)	\$175.89	\$504.04	\$6,635.36	\$7,476.61

*based on bank statements, receipts, deposits, and bills rec'd and paid through 2/21/99

Checksum \$7,476.61

Post Office Bulk Mail Balance 1/26/99	\$195.62
Feb NL	-\$38.25
Balance 2/23/99	\$157.37



As a courtesy to the membership the Quarterly periodically publishes the Society Treasurer's Report. The report above is as of 23 February, 1999. The current balance is influenced by the effect of early year dues receipts. Major expenditures during the year accrue from publishing and mailing the monthly Newsletter and this Quarterly. Proceeds in excess of operating margins are devoted to book and material purchases for the Texas State Library, Genealogy Collection on an ongoing basis. The Book Acquisitions Report covering those purchases is on the next page. The Society is a not-for-profit organization.

1998 BOOK ACQUISITION REPORT

Contributions	\$797.50	(\$728.70 in 1997)
Estate Sales	\$596.00	

Total	\$1,393.50
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Books purchased	\$1258.49
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Carried over into 1999	\$135.01
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1998 was a year marked by the Texas State Library being without a Dept. Head for various periods of time and an "austerity program" within AGS finances which precluded any matching funds from the Society. Fortunately this shortfall was offset by proceeds from the sale of books from the estates of Jane Baker and Barbara and Jerri Goudreau. These items were not needed in the State Library and were sold to AGS members at reasonable prices. A total of 30 items were purchased, to complete sets (6 vols for Maryland Calendar of Wills) and the replacement of two worn out and usable volumes, as well as obtaining the books from our Seminar Speaker. The books purchased were in the higher price range than last year as well as having to pay more for postage and handling. Two members- Lorri Henderson and J. V. Pilcher-assisted in the acquisition of two unusual items which are not offered through regular dealers. Many thanks for all the help and assistance in the selection of books our members would like to see in the Library.

Clarice Neal Book Acq. Ch.
Jan 1999

Clarice Neal

PFLUGER 150TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION
JULY 3 - 4, 1999

by Julia Mellenbruch

On July 3-4, 1999, the 4,000-member Henry Pfluger family will hold its 65th reunion in Pflugerville, Texas in celebration of 150 years in Texas.

Events on Saturday will include a morning tour of historic homes in the Pflugerville area, a luncheon at the Bohls home in Bohls Heritage Park with domino games in the afternoon, and nostalgic old time reunion activities in Pfluger Park in the evening. Sunday events scheduled are an early morning memorial service at the Henry Pfluger, Sr. gravesite on Wilbarger Creek; and beginning at 10:30 a.m at Pfluger Hall, there will be family booths to view, a barbecue lunch, special activities for children during a program and business meeting, and lots of visiting with family members from far and near.

THE PFLUGERS ARRIVE IN TEXAS

Conrad and George Pfluger, oldest sons of Henry Pfluger, Sr. arrived at Port Indianola, Matagorda Bay, Texas, early in the spring of 1849, en route from Altenhausengen, Hessen, Germany to the home of their mother's brother, Uncle John Liese, who lived on a farm two miles east of Austin, Texas. The rest of the family, including Henry, Sr. ("Henrikus" in Germany), his second wife Anna Christina, two daughters: Catherine Elizabeth and Marie, and three sons: Ludwig, William and Henry, Jr., left Germany in October, 1849, traveled by sailboat for 13 weeks and arrived in Galveston in January, 1850. It took them two more weeks of travel by oxcart to reach Austin.

HENRY PFLUGER, SR. PURCHASES FARM AND RANCH LAND

Henry had been a successful farmer in Hessen, but he had suffered financial losses during a political upheaval in 1848. However, he did bring with him \$1,600 in cash with which he purchased a farm approximately two miles east of Austin. John Liese had served in the Texas Army under General Sam Houston in 1836-1837 and had received a 960-acre bounty grant five miles east of the present town of Pflugerville. In 1853, Henry Pfluger, Sr. sold his Austin farm and purchased this tract, known today as the Liese tract. According to church records in Altenhasungen, John Liese returned to Germany.

THE PFLUGER FAMILY GROWS

Four more children: John, Charley, August, and Elizabeth were born to Henry and Anna in Texas. All of them married, with the exception of August, who died from a fall off a horse at age 24. The girls married William Bohls (Catherine Elizabeth), Frederick Franz Schmidt (Marie), and August Braker (Elizabeth). Today there are more than 4,000 living descendants of Henry Pfluger, Sr.

THE ANCESTRAL HOME IN GERMANY

The Pfluger family had left a comfortable home in a well-developed community to accept the hardships of pioneer life in Texas. Henry's sister and her husband George Gerhold purchased this home. While traveling in Germany, family members have continued to visit with the descendants of the Gerholds who still live in this home and have kept it in excellent condition.

CHARLEY PFLUGER MOVES WEST

Nine of Henry, Sr.'s children remained in the central Texas area. Only one, Charley, exhibited a pioneer spirit and moved with his family to the western part of Texas - first to Kimble County, then to Hamilton County, and finally settled at Eden, near San Angelo. The Pfluger name is one of pride in San Angelo. Lee Pfluger, whose Historic City Center Project Inc. purchased and restored the Cactus Hotel, a former Hilton Hotel, now provides space for offices and fund raisers for nonprofit organizations. Lee has been a leader in the beautification of down town San Angelo. Other Pflugers have also contributed to civic projects in the area.

THE PFLUGERS HELP ORGANIZE A CHURCH

The sons of Henry Pfluger, Sr. were involved in the organization of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Pflugerville, which is celebrating its 125th Anniversary this year. Pfluger family descendants have continued to play an important role in the activities of this church. Vital statistics of many family members may be found in the carefully preserved church archives. The adjoining cemetery is the final resting place of many Pfluger descendants and their spouses, some of whom had not lived in the community for many years.

PFLUGER FAMILY CAREERS

Traditionally the Pflugers engaged in farming , ranching and real estate. As education became available to succeeding generations, some of them also became involved in other careers, such as those in business, health, religion, and education. A few have entered politics on the local level and one descendent, Edmund Kuempel, has served for a number of years as a representative in the Texas Legislature. Many have chosen engineering and others are currently involved in the technology industry. Some have used their talents in music, art and drama as either a vocation or an avocation.

PFLUGERS VALUE EDUCATION

Education has been a high priority among Pfluger descendants, as they have served on local school boards and given their support to Texas Lutheran University, Seguin, Texas, as well as public educational institutions.

PFLUGERS AND THE MILITARY

Although the Pflugers and many other German immigrants in the middle of the 19th century resented the compulsory military service which was imposed upon them by the ruling princes, the Pfluger descendants, since their arrival in Texas, have always served faithfully, when called, in all areas of military combat. In the 1949 edition of the History of the Pfluger Family, 139 Pfluger descendants and spouses are listed as veterans of wars including the Mexican War, Civil War, Spanish American War, World War I and World War II. Since then there have been many more who served in the Korean conflict, Vietnam, the peace keeping in Europe, Japan and Korea and in Desert Storm.

PFLUGERVILLE IS BORN

The name Pflugerville began in 1893 when the first post office was established in a store owned by, Louis Bohls, a grandson of Henry, Sr. Another grandson, Albert Pfluger, platted the town and began to sell lots in 1904. Pfluger descendants have continued to promote the welfare of the community. In 1975, Gladys and Leon Pfluger donated the first land for Pfluger Park. To honor Henry Pfluger, Sr. and his descendants, the family erected Pfluger Hall in 1986, to be used by the community. The Hall was donated to the Pflugerville Volunteer Fire Department for maintenance and administration, reserving July 4 for the annual Pfluger Family Reunion. Bohls Heritage Park, including the Bohls home, was set aside by the children of Otto Bohls, Sr. when the farm was sold for the development of Bohls Place.

PFLUGER FAMILY REUNIONS

The first Pfluger Family Reunion was held in 1934 in the Fritz Pfluger Grove, now known as Pfluger Park. The first Pfluger Family History was published for this occasion and was dedicated to Charley Pfluger, the youngest and only surviving son of Henry Pfluger, Sr. A reunion has been held each succeeding year (except one year during World War II). The last History of the Pfluger Family, including genealogy, was published in 1995. Records are kept up-to-date at each reunion. Roger Pfluger is entering the genealogy records on the WEB.

A Pfluger Family Reunion is an annual Pfluger Family Homecoming in Pflugerville, Texas

Pfluger Family Reunion Officers for 1998-1999:

President - Vernagene Hebbe Mott

Vice-president - Roger Pfluger

Secretary - Nancy Hanson Mellenbruch

Treasurer - Jackie Weiss Porter

Reporter - Jean Pfluger

Records Keeper - Willard Hebbe

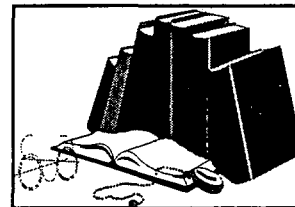
Pfluger Hall Representatives - Erwin Pfluger and Roger Pfluger

(Retiring Representative - Dr. Werner Pfluger)

HAPPY HUNTING GROUND

Send your proofread information to Lorrie F. Henderson, 5722 Highland Hills Drive, Austin TX 78731-4244, (512-451-2312).. Cutoff date is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication. Include at least one first name, date and place per query. Please use names of months and the two capital letters for states. Letters may be edited to our format. Queries are free but if a reply is desired, we would appreciate your including a SASE. We would also request receiving 10c/page plus postage or a modest donation upon receipt of a reply.

Note: Editorial comments, if any, are in *italics*.



WADE/ HUDSON Writing for help on the **WADE** family; especially **TINSLEY WADE, SR** and his family and origins, and **BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WADE** in the period 1870-1893, including m. to **MARGARET ("MAGGIE") LAWRENCE** [m. found 8 June 1892*], "Ben" was b. in Austin, TX 28 May 1870 to Tinsley D. and **JEANETTE HUDSON WADE**; the latter were b. in Missouri, and Tinsley was the eldest son. The family was in Tom Green Co., TX at 1900 census. **Brian J. L. Berry, 2404 Forest Court, McKinney, TX 75070-4018; Tel/Fax(972)562-1058.**

*in Travis Co., TX.



DILLON /NORTON Want to know if **HARRIET CROSS DILLON** lived in TX in 1860-1880 era, and if a possible relative, **DORA D. NORTON** lived in TX in early 20th century. **Larry Wallerstein, 3230 S. Barrington Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90066; ph (310)397-1298.**



DAVIS Looking for grandmother's parents: **LULA ELIZABETH DAVIS** b. Runnels Co., TX 2 April 1887; parents from Alabama.

Georgia Gail Wooldridge Endinger, P. O. Box 245, Roff, OK 74865-1245; ph c/o Jorja Enterprises, 1-888-483-9792; Fax (580)456-7013; (420 East Pontotac Street... 74865-0245).



HERNANDEZ/ RIVERA Looking into the history of mother's (possibly Indian) side of the family. Inquirer b. 6 June 1944, Austin, TX, to **FRANCISCO** and **MICAELA RIVERA HERNANDEZ**. Maternal grandparents were **LAZARO** and **CONCEPCION RIVERA**, whose 8 children (one of whom died at age 18 years) were: **AMALIA, CASIMIRA, AURORA, BASILIA, ARTURO, ARMANDO, RICARDO, and MICAELA**. Greatgrandmother on grandfather's side is reported by relatives to have been North American Indian. [Referred, among others, to "The Source, a Guidebook of American Genealogy," Chapter 14, pages 221-572, "Tracking Native American Family History" by Curtis B. Witcher and George J. Nixon.] **Dolores Hernandez DeCamp, 230 N. Hebbard St., Joliet, IL 60432-2635; ph (815)726-2030; Dragonfly Trading Company.**



BOURKE/DOHERTY Hoping to find another "cousin" who is also "stuck." **JOSEPH WILLIAM ("WILLIE:" AKA WILLIAM JOSEPH) BOURKE/ BURK**, ggg grandfather, b. 1830, NY, d. after 1900, possibly Twin Sisters, Brazos Co., TX; m. before 1884 **CATHERINE R. DOHERTY, d/o LEMUEL DOHERTY**; Catherine b. 16 Dec 1838, d. 25 Mar 1917, Grant Co., IN. Children: **SARAH LOUISA (1854-1857), FRANKLIN HENRY**

(1856-1863), **CLARIA FLORENCE** (1858-1.909), **CHARLES EDWARD** (1859-1941), **JOSEPH LEMUEL** (1861-1863), **WILLIAM THEADORE** (1865-1930); (many more details not here included). Willie was in 34th Indiana Infantry, Civil War, member of regimental band; said to have lost his memory and remained in TX on muster out, Nov 1865. **Mark E. Skeldon, P. O. Box 740, Oak Hill, WV 25901.**



KUCHEROSKY (sp?) Want to learn more about the following and their lives: **BENA KUCHEROSKY**, b Austin, TX 17 March 1810 [*Date or location seems incorrect. Ed.*]; parents, **AUGUSTINE & TRESSA KUCHEROSKY**; he was from Bohemia. **Lisa King, 23340 Maple St., Newhall, Ca 91321, (805)259-2687.**



FERRELL/ WRIGHT Looking for any information on: **WILLIAM FRANKLIN FERRELL** b. 11 May 1881, Austin, TX to **WILLIAM & ANNIE WRIGHT FERRELL**. Annie Wright b.28 March 1852, Miss; divorce papers? **Clara Ferrell Clark, 602 w. 2nd St, LaPorte, TX 77571.**



DAVIS/ GRAHAM Looking for information on **JOHN DAVIS** b. 1815 IL, came to TX ca 1833. Son of **JOSEPH DAVIS** b. 1790 SC. John & Joe lived in Burnet Co., TX on 1850 Census. Joe supposed to have owned land in Travis Co., TX, also. John m. **MARGARET REBECCA GRAHAM** ca 1844; where? John & "Becky" lived in Burnet Co., TX through the rest of their lives. **Audrey Evans Beaty, P.O. Box 1205, Bastrop, TX 78602-1205; ph (512) 321-4202.**



WHALEY/ SIMMONS John Thomas **WHALEY**, my great grandfather, b. 1 Apr 1860, prob. in TN. Married **Sarah Ella SIMMONS** 22 July 1886, Bryan, Brazos Co. TX. He d. 15 Nov 1892; she d. 17 Jun 1893. Both are buried in Steep Hollow community, Brazos Co. Any information regarding this family will be appreciated. **padams@summitsoftware.com (Paul Adams)**



TIPS FOR WRITING QUERIES:

- 1) Politeness counts! Ask, please don't demand.
- 2) Make your request to the point; ask one or two direct questions.
- 3) A Self-Addressed-Stamped-Envelope is much appreciated.
- 4) Offer to reimburse for copying and postage or send a moderate donation to cover anticipated expense.
- 5) Make your letter legible!!! This writer has received queries recently printed so dimly that she was tempted to return them unanswered with the note, "Send a readable letter if you wish an answer." She has also been unsure about an address or two, so write legibly or print it if you don't type!
- 6) Allow several weeks for an answer, and don't send a second letter until a month has expired. Remember, the person answering the inquiry waits for someone else who picks up the mail no more often than weekly (and usually more) to deliver it to her to research, then write back. Mail is often just distributed at monthly meetings.
- 7) We don't have all the answers in Austin for every place in Texas. If you have access to the Handy Book or The Source, check to see if there is a county court house, historical or genealogical society closer to the location of your family. If there is none you can find, or you simply want your inquiry to go out in our Quarterly, we will gladly print it for you, and look up what information we can easily find in the Texas State Library, and/or send you resource suggestions.

- 8) Offer (if feasible) to share the information you have with others researching the same families. You might be more likely to get a response if your query is printed in this column!
- 9) Include enough dates, names, and other vital information to help anyone answering your query, either directly to you, or through a response to it being edited and printed in this column.
- 10) If you have complicated research to request, our Society is not equipped to perform it. We can send you a list of paid researchers compiled by the Texas State Library, Genealogy Collection (or you may request it from there), with the understanding that we have no means of checking their credentials, and have no part in the arrangements you make with them.
- 11) Include the date and your address on your letter, please; not just on the envelope, which can get separated from your letter.
- 12) This writer very much enjoys the basic research she is able to do for you at the Texas State Library, Genealogy Collection, or pointing you to resources that can help. She even learns a thing or two doing it, and sometimes even stumbles onto something about the families she is involved with, so "Keep those letters coming!"

Thank you for letting me have my say!

Lorrie Foster Henderson

Corresponding Secretary, AGS



REQUIREMENTS FOR ANCESTOR LISTING PAGES

Reminder: Next Issue is June Members' Ancestor Listing Pages

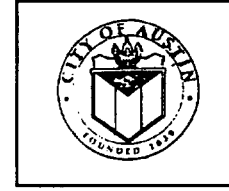
We want to remind members of AGS that the upcoming June issue is mainly devoted to presenting members' submissions covering their genealogical research and interests. Because the number of new members (and submissions) is growing, it becomes necessary to re-state the Quarterly requirements for such submissions:

1. Members are limited to a maximum of two full pages for each individual membership (\$20) or four full pages for each family (\$30) or higher membership category. Check your membership category before you submit. If more than the permitted number of pages are sent, the Editor will use his discretion as to which excess pages are omitted. Material should be on 8 ½ x11 size paper.
2. Pages may be handwritten, typed, or computer-generated but must be as black as possible and legible. The copy submitted will have to be reproduced at least twice before printing and at each step some quality is lost. The Editor assumes no responsibility for lack of readability if this requirement is not met. Please also retain a 1-inch margin on all sides of each sheet to allow for header, footer and binding areas.
3. The material should be of the submitter's choosing but preferentially should be genealogical or historical in nature. The submitter is completely responsible for content, accuracy and freedom from copyright infringement. AGS assumes no liability for these matters.
4. Months should be spelled or abbreviated; no numbers should be used. Dates should be in genealogical format: DAY, MONTH, YEAR.. The name and address of the submitter should be on each page of material. The Editor reserves the right to format and/or edit the material so that it will be printer-ready.
5. Material should be sent to the Editor at 4500 Hyridge Drive, Austin TX 78759 **no later than 10 May 1999.**

Please don't let these requirements keep you from sending in material. You probably already are preparing your information in much the requested fashion. Thanks both for your consideration and for the material which you will be sending.

The Editor

THE ARRIVAL OF THE PALMS IN TEXAS¹



"On the morning of November 22, 1848, a party of Swedish immigrants landed at the foot of Main Street in Houston from the steamboat Reliance. They had left Sweden early in July, by sailboat to Boston, thence to New York. From there they came to Texas in the schooner Stephen F. Austin and landed at Galveston, thence by steamboat up Buffalo Bayou to Houston.

"That was the only way to reach the interior of Texas. Indians and wilderness walled us in on the north. Traveling was slow in those days; only a few miles of railroad in America then, and no telegraph communication. The only transportation was by horseback, stage coach and prairie schooners.

"The party of immigrants consisted of two families, Anders Palm, his wife and six sons; Gustav Palm, his wife and four children and the mother of S. M. Swenson, the first Swede in Texas, also three maid servants, and six men servants, mechanics and a boy. None of them could speak English. The Palms had a brother, Sir Swente Palm, in La Grange. S. M., Swenson, their nephew, then resided on a plantation near Richmond, Fort Bend County.

"S. M. Swenson had made arrangements with B. A. Shepherd to send a rider to inform him when the long expected party arrived.

"Thus some days elapsed before the prairie schooner and mules arrived, during which time we were comfortably quartered at the Washington hotel at the foot of Main street, and nearly every man and boy in Houston visited us, and like Artemus Ward said: 'Saw the show for nothing and it did not cost them a cent'. Houston has never before or since seen the like.

"The two horse wagons and harness we brought from Sweden attracted much attention. So did our large chests of clothing and implements, and also our big double barrel muzzle-loading shotguns that every man had brought along to defend us against Indians and to kill buffaloes with---both of whom were plentiful in the interior.

"The party arrived at the Swenson plantation in due and ancient form, and the men folks worked in the cotton and corn fields and also cleared much land which was intended to be uncle Anders' plantation, but that patriarch died and was buried the first year, which sorely distressed us all.

"We had been badly shaken up by fever and ague and at the death of Uncle Anders, we scattered from the tall timber to open ground; some went to work in Austin County, others to La Grange in Fayette, and later to Travis and Williamson counties."

The preceding paragraphs concerning the arrival of the Palms in Texas is taken from an article written by Mr. G. A. Forsgard, the boy who came over with the two families. It was written in 1913 and published in the Houston Chronicle. He was 81 years old at the time. This account is also in Dr. August Anderson's "Hyphenated", and I have taken this recording from his book.

¹Copied from the Manuscript Files, Austin History Center, Austin, Texas, Public Library

After the death of Anders Palm, his widow and her six sons moved from Richmond in Fort Bend County to New Ulm in Washington County. There is an interesting story told in the account of their sojourn in this place. S. M. Swenson, who was destined to become the first Swedish born millionaire in America, was visiting the family. My great-great grandmother Anna Palm was complaining that she had not had a cup of decent coffee in a long time. In fact, that they had not had a coffee bean in the house for six months. Swenson was deeply moved and assured her that she should have plenty of coffee and she was to send her son August in the queer little Swedish wagon to San Felipe and bring it home. The gift was a 165 pound sack of the finest coffee. It was green coffee and had to be roasted and ground as needed. All coffee was sold green in those days. While on this visit Swenson, who was a nephew to Anders Palm, advised that the family move to still higher and more healthful ground. He advised them to sell their land at New Ulm and move up to a valley on Brushy Creek, east of Round Rock in Williamson County. This valley is now known as Palm Valley.

The primary reason for making this move was to get out of a malaria infested locality and find a more open and more healthful home site. For another reason, Swenson was opening a big mercantile establishment in Austin. Also, Swenson's sister and her husband William Dyer, were going to settle at Kenney's Fort, which was later called Dyer's Fort or Dyer's place. The proximity of this fort was reassuring, even though there had not been any Indian raids in the last few years. However, there was always the possibility of a raid.

They moved to Palm Valley in 1853. In addition to the mother there were the six sons and some of the men and women who had come from the old country with the party. The sons were John, August, Carl, Andrew, William and Henry.

They found the land to be all that they had dreamed that it would be; healthful, fertile, and well watered. It was a broad valley covered with curly mesquite grass with groves or "mottes" of live oak trees scattered over it. There were two never-failing streams and in the spring of the year the whole landscape was covered with bluebonnets which later became the state flower. For the first two years the party camped and lived in their wagons and tents. Fire was stored at night as live coals in the foot of an enormous hollow oak tree. It was easier to take the coals out of the ashes than it was to kindle a new fire with flint and tinder. Brushy Creek supplied fine soft water for drinking and household use. The men in the party made a seine of wild grape vines and willows with which they could take all the fish they needed and at any time. This was a welcome addition to the food supply. Needless to say, the seine was carefully stored after each use. Wild game was plentiful but the boys were not permitted to waste powder and lead on turkeys, quail, squirrels and rabbits. These had to be trapped. Only deer, bear, cougars and buffaloes could be hunted and shot. The Indians had just recently been driven out of the country and there was no great amount of fear of raiding parties. There was an abundance of pecans, walnuts, wild plums, dewberries and wild grapes. The men immediately upon arrival began clearing of land for farming and laying the foundations for a house which took a long time to build.

Livestock was allowed to roam at will on the open range. Any land put under cultivation had to be fenced with high rail fencing. The hogs grew extremely fat during the fall and winter on the pecans and acorns and when the family wanted fresh pork a huge kettle and barrel of water were placed in the wagon. The hogs were butchered wherever they were found and the meat taken home. The kettle and barrel were used for the hot water in which to scald and scrape the hair off the hogs. Corn was the source of bread and it was difficult for people who had been used to wheat and rye to get used to eating corn bread. But in time this was remedied by the growing of wheat and oats in addition to the corn. Anna Palm, the matriarch of our branch of the family, deserves the highest measure of admiration, respect, esteem and gratitude. With spartan determination she set

about learning a new language, new customs and a new way of life. Pioneer days were full of hardship, disappointments, tragedies and sacrifice. Her youngest son, Henry, died in early youth. Her second son, August, was sent to Austin where he worked as a clerk in the mercantile establishment of his uncle, S. M. Swenson, and later became a wealthy merchant in his own right. All the boys had the best schooling possible for the times and conditions, and fortunately all five of them responded with a will and vigorous enthusiasm. They came from a family which realized the importance of education as a tool for a better way of life. No doubt they were encouraged in this by their kinsman Sir Swante Palm, who was a polished scholar. He was a great reader and spoke five languages. At his death he willed his library of ten thousand volumes to the University of Texas. This was the first important gift to the struggling University and the books were so badly needed that all the books in English were placed in the general library. The books in French, German, and Italian were kept in a separate library. His books in Swedish were given to the Texas Wesleyan College, a Lutheran School at Austin.

The country was thinly settled. In 1850 Austin had a population of 639. Some of the near neighbors of the Palms (about 15 or 20 miles away) were the Atwoods. William Atwood came from Tennessee and settled on a tract of land northeast of Austin. He received 1,400 acres as his land grant. He and his wife prized their new home highly because of the abundance of wood and wild honey. Also there was a fine spring and creek on the property. I never saw the Atwood homestead because it had been destroyed by fire before I was born. However, I have seen other frontier homes which were like great grandfather Atwood's. It was a log cabin with a loft and shed room. The walls were cedar logs with auger holes bored through them for the purpose of sighting a rifle at Indians, should they attack. The holes were covered with removable blocks of wood on the inside of the building. Later he built a large house modeled on a combination Texas ranch style architecture blended with Southern Colonial. All the house timbers were hand hewn. The huge barn was of hand hewn timbers.

Many interesting things happened to them in the first years. Great grandfather Atwood put some of the rich black prairie land under cultivation in order to grow corn. He always kept a rifle handy while doing this and took a gun with him whenever he went any distance from the house. One morning he killed a cougar near the house which measured nine feet from nose to tip of tail. That was a big cat. They never suffered from a lack of fresh meat, as deer and buffalo were plentiful to say nothing of wild turkeys, ducks, geese, quail, rabbits and squirrels. It was three years before they were able to grow wheat and have flour in the house, in addition to the staple of corn meal. Salt was very scarce and high and had to be hauled 300 miles. Great grandfather Atwood was the first man to have his cattle brand recorded in the Archives of Travis County.

Great grandmother Atwood lived to be 95 years old and, as a small boy, I remember her as a quiet and gentle little old lady. We boys were delighted with her stories of frontier life.

This is a true happening. One night in the summer the family was awakened by a terrific barking and baying of the dogs and the bawling of the cattle which were kept penned near the house. Great grandfather Atwood jumped out of bed and slammed shut the doors. In doing so, he stepped on his son Rufus who was sleeping on the floor. Rufus let out a loud yell. Nothing further happened but sleep was out of the question. About daylight they heard loud halloes at a safe distance. It proved to be a courier who had come to warn them of an Indian raid. That very night, their neighbors, the Reuben Hornsbys, had been massacred and the trail of the raiders led by the Atwood place. It is thought that the outcry of Rufus had frightened the Indians away. In less than two hours the family was on its way to a fort on the Colorado river, where the women and children remained for two years, while the men were out "pacifying the Comanches". It was not until I was

grown that I realized the true significance of what the dear old lady meant by "pacifying the Comanches." There were not any of that tribe left. It was a war of extermination.

My grandmother Adelia Atwood Palm often told me about the return journey from the fort. She was too young to remember the flight to the fort, but she did remember the return because it was in the spring and the whole country side was covered with wild flowers. She had a pet fawn and two dogs and she had a great time playing behind the wagon as it rolled along and gathering the flowers. Upon their return home, they found things about the same as they had left them in their hurried departure. As nearly as I can ascertain, this event took place in 1845, and the return was in 1847. Anyway, the Comanches never raided that section of Texas after that date.

In the Atwood family, there were Adelia, Octavia and Molly. If there were any other children I do not remember hearing about them. At the outbreak of the Civil War, Rufus Atwood and Andrew Palm rounded up all the Atwood and Palm cattle, except the milk cows, and drove them about 60 or 70 miles away from home and left them on the west bank of the Pedernales River. This was an uninhabited section of country, and a natural country. It had fine grass, timber and brush, and plenty of running water. They knew the cattle would be safe here until after the war was over, and would not be a nuisance to any farmers.

After this drive was completed, Rufus Atwood rode his horse all the way to Tennessee and volunteered in a troop of Confederate cavalry. He never came back. After going through 21 battles, he was captured at Chickamauga and taken to Chicago and placed in a prison camp. There he died with the measles. Later, after the war was over, great grandfather Atwood had the remains brought to Austin and interred in the family cemetery lot. All five of the Palm boys served in the Confederate army and came through the conflict without injury. My great uncle Andrew Palm used to tell most interesting stories of his experiences in bringing medical supplies from Mexico to Austin. After the southern ports were blockaded by Union ships, the chief supply of medicines for the Confederacy came from Mexico. It was a long tedious trip by wagon train and they had to be on guard constantly against bandits and outlaws.

After their return from military service, it fell to Andrew Palm's lot to get some men together and go after the Palm and Atwood cattle and return them to the home range. He was the only one who knew where the cattle had been left. Of course they found the cattle to be perfectly wild and none of them were branded or ear-marked, except the members of the original herd. The men spent several months rounding up and branding all of the unbranded stock. They branded on a percentage basis of the original herds, which was a fair and equitable way of determining how many belonged to each family.

Soon after their return, the first cattle drives from Texas north to the rail points in Missouri and Kansas began. The wild longhorn steers at one time dropped in price to a dollar a head, range delivery. Texas had too much land and too many cattle at that time. There were several herds driven north, and Palm Valley was used as a holding ground for some of the first drives. Andrew Palm and his brothers drove several herds from Palm Valley to Missouri and later to Kansas. He told many interesting stories of their experiences and hardships. One of the most amusing occurred on the last drive into Kansas. The herd was strung out in a long thin line, swimming a swollen river in southern Kansas, when the herd boss noticed some small fields of corn on the north bank. He ordered Palm and two other cowboys to hurry forward, swim their horses across the river and turn the herd from the settlements. Before the boys could reach the head of the herd, a woman came out of a sod shack and began shooing away the cattle with a red petticoat. She drove them away all right. The herd stampeded and it took the boys two weeks to gather it together. They never did get all of it.

On all the trips the herd boss had to give beeves to the different Indian tribes for the privilege of crossing the tribal lands without molestation or harassment. The Indians liked to steal horses at night and the guards were always redoubled while passing through the Indian territory. This area was known as the Indian Territory and afterward became the state of Oklahoma.

During the ten years following the close of the Civil War, Texas, like the balance of the south, was governed and ruled by Federal troops, unscrupulous northern adventurers known as "Carpetbaggers", and the ex-slaves. When this form of government was abandoned, the state reverted to native Texan rule and began an era of expansion and growth.

August, John, Andrew and William Palm acquired large farms in and adjacent to Palm Valley. They were not large as land grants were in Texas at that time, but they were from 400 to over 700 acres each. Carl Palm did not choose farming as a career and became a salesman for the Bremond Mercantile Company in Austin. John Palm met and wooed a young lady in Missouri. His suit was successful and they built a home in Palm Valley. August did not live on his farm, but engaged in mercantile business in Austin and Round Rock and at one time was considered a very wealthy man. However, he lost most of his fortune in one of the "panics" or depressions in the '70S.

The following account of August Palm's life is taken from a work called "Texas and Texans", published by the American Historical Society in 1914. It was written by Frank W. Johnson, a leader in the Texas Revolution for independence from Mexico, and Eugene C. Barker, Ph D., professor of American History at the University of Texas. They were assisted by William W. Winken, Texas State Librarian. August B. Palm was my grandfather.

"August B. Palm, whose name has been identified with Austin and the Lone Star State, won fame in the business world of Texas as a planter, a pursuit from which he retired but a few years ago. But especially is he to be mentioned in this historical and biographical work because of the excellency of his services to the state and nation during the reconstruction period following the civil war. No man in Austin displayed a finer spirit or one better calculated to bridge with kindly thought the great gulf that divided northern and southern parts of our country at that time, than did August B. Palm, and that credit should be awarded where credit is so manifestly due is wholly in accord with the spirit and purpose of this work.

"August B. Palm was born in Besthult, Sweden, August 19, 1834, a son of Andrew Palm, a civil engineer in the king's service. Bringing his family with him, Andrew Palm came to Fort Bend County, Texas, in 1848, but soon after the immigration of this family to America the father died. Not long afterward August B. Palm came to Austin. He was one of six brothers, three of whom are now deceased, the other two surviving sons being Andrew Jackson and William Swante Palm. John, Carl, and Henry Palm are the three who have passed away. All of these six sons, with the exception of Henry, fought through the Civil War in the Confederate service.

"August B. Palm received his educational training to the age of fourteen in private schools in Sweden and after coming to Texas attended the State Military College at Reutersville, at that time under the principalship of Colonel Forshay. When the war came on he promptly enlisted with his brothers and served throughout the conflict.

"Then it was that the fine enthusiasm and spirit of the man shown forth the brightest. The war had so crippled the state that Morgan Hamilton, State Comptroller, announced that it would be necessary to close the state institution

for the blind and the insane asylum, owing to the total lack of any funds with which to carry on the work, his plan being to send all inmates back to the homes from which they came. Mr. Palm was then engaged in the mercantile business in Austin, and he promptly came to the front with an offer to supply all the needs of the two institutions in the way of supplies, but it developed that without \$50,000 to pay the salaries of the officials and attendants, the places could not be kept up. Here again did Mr. Palm step into the breach, and wiring to his first cousins, the Swensons of New York City, he asked for \$50,000. They sent the money without question, the sum coming in checks signed by the Swensons, ranging in size from fifty cents to fifty dollars, and payable in gold. Mr. Palm deposited the check book with State Treasurer, Samuel Harris, with instructions that it be used for the maintenance of the asylums for the blind and insane only. One year later, the Treasury being in somewhat better shape, the loan was returned to Mr. Palm, but instead of gold the payment was made in United States currency, a circumstance that caused a heavy loss to the benefactor of the public because of the fact that currency at that time was worth only seventy-two cents on the the dollar. Mr. Palm, like the true sportsman that he has ever shown himself to be, pocketed his loss without protest, feeling amply repaid in the knowledge that he had been the means of helping a class of people utterly without means of helping themselves in any way and at all times at the mercy of the public.

"Early in the conflict which raged between North and South, Mr. Palm joined the Confederate Service, becoming a member of Fred Moore's company, Flornoy's Regiment, and was detailed to furnish supplies. When Galveston was demanded to surrender he joined his company at Virginia Point, across the bay, and on the following day was ordered to go up in the country for supplies. He labored valiantly in the cause which he espoused, and endured the untold hardships of the struggle.

"After the close of the war, many men of prominence in Texas, and especially in Austin, left the state, fearing imprisonment. But Mr. Palm was not one of these. Though he had been an ardent Secessionist and had fought with valor throughout the war, when the struggle was finally ended, he placed himself strongly upon the side of the union thereafter, applied his every energy to the business of reconstructing a new South. Among those men who felt that it would be the better part of valor to leave Texas, was Captain W. H. D. Carrington, but Mr. Palm, who was a warm personal friend of General Reynolds, secured from the latter a permit that released Captain Carrington from the possibility of apprehension, so that he was able to remain in Austin, and thereafter he joined Mr. Palm to a large extent in the worthy work of the period.

"Mr. Palm also did much to promote a friendly feeling in the city toward the United States government. One instance was of a banquet given in his home to the United States officers and their families. No effort was spared to make the function an agreeable and pleasant one, and though feeling against the officials ran high in the city, all those invited to the banquet accepted, recognizing in Mr. Palm's action an honest attempt to smooth out the situation in some degree. In this admirable spirit did this patriot continue his work of establishing feelings of friendliness toward the government in Austin, and in no city of the South today exists a more wholesome and honest spirit of loyalty than is everywhere apparent here. All his life that has been spent in Austin and Texas has been redolent of a fine spirit of devotion to his adopted country, which has had its unconscious reflection in the activities of those who were, unknowingly, influenced by him and his work.

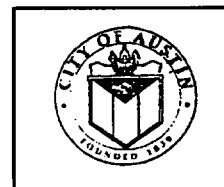
"Gustave and Swante Palm, two uncles of the Austin resident, were other early settlers of Texas. Gustave came over with his brother Andrew, the father of August B. Palm, Swante having arrived a few years prior to that time. All were prominent in early Texas affairs and their families are still justly recorded as among the first families of Texas.

"August B. Palm was the first man to plant cotton in Williamson County, Texas and he erected the first cotton gin on his seven hundred acre farm. Today Williamson County is the banner county of the state, in the production of cotton, and Mr. Palm was known for years as one of the most extensive planters within its borders. He retired from the business in 1908 and has since limited himself to other interests in that city that was always the center of his activities in a public way.

On the 26th of June 1861, Mr. Palm married Miss Adela Belle Atwood of Travis County, Texas. She is the daughter of W.W. Atwood, who came from Bolivar, Tennessee, to Texas in 1838 and was long identified with the affairs of Travis County. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Palm are the following: Rufus Atwood, a well known farmer and stockman; Mary Josephine; Adela Belle, the wife of Dr. Henry L. Hilgartner, of Austin; and Irene, the wife of Captain L. S. Morey, of the United States Army, now in the Philippines.

Compiled by Rufus Atwood Palm Jr

ANCESTRAL LINE
of
MRS. A.B. PALM of AUSTIN, TEXAS¹



The origin of the Polk family is obscure. There is an old tradition of the origin of the name in its original form of Pollock, which is of doubtful authenticity. The branch of the Pollock family from which the Polk family traces its descent was represented in the reign of James Sixth of Scotland and First of England, by John Pollock, a gentleman of some estate in Lanarkshire, not far from the present city of Glasgow.

At that period there was much turmoil and strife in both Church and State, and John Pollock, a staunch Presbyterian, left Scotland and joined the colony of Protestants then established the Province of Ulster in the north of Ireland. Little more is known of John Pollock other than he lived to a ripe age, was of zealous presbyterian principles, and of a strenuous temper, fully confirming the family motto AUDACITER et STRENUE, "Boldly and Stoutly."

ROBERT POLLOCK, the progenitor of the Polk family in America, was a son of John Pollock. He was a subaltern officer in the regiment of Colonel Tasker in the Parliamentary army against Charles I., and took an active part in the campaigns against Cromwell. He married Magdalen Tasker, who was the widow of his friend and companion in arms, Colonel Porter, and one of two daughters of Colonel Tasker, then Chancellor of Ireland, of Bloomfield Castle on the river Dale. She it is said was of French descent, and inherited from her father the estate of Moning or Moneen Hill, which is described in her will as "lying in the kingdom of Ireland, in the Barony of Raphoe, the County of Donegal and Parish of Lifford".

Robert Pollock left Ireland between 1672 and 1680, (the exact date is not known) with his wife and family, and emigrated to America, landing at "Dames Quarters", Somerset County on the Eastern Shore of Maryland in the colony of Lord Baltimore.

Soon after this emigration the surname Pollock began to be written Polk, and it so appears in that form in the will of his widow. Grants of land on the Eastern Shore were made to Robert Pollock or Polk and his sons, and a tract of one hundred acres lying in Somerset County on the North side of Manokin river, known as "Polk's Folly", was patented to Robert Polk March 7th 1687, as his homestead. The old homestead is still in possession of the family. Among the relics preserved is an old clock brought from Ireland by Robert Pollock. It stands in the hall of the dwelling house, is eight or nine feet high, with great leaden weights of ten or twelve pounds each. In addition to keeping the hours, it keeps the day of the month and the phases of the moon, and is a repeater. Another

¹Copied from the Manuscript Files, Austin History Center, Austin, Texas, Public Library

relic preserved is an old mahogany liquor case which originally contained fifteen square bottles, each holding over two and a half gallons or about forty gallons in all. All of these bottles have been cracked, and most or them lost, only two or three were left in the possession of Colonel Wm. G.T. Polk of Princess Anne, to whom the property belonged at the time of his death.

How many children Robert and Magdalen Polk had when they came to America, is not positively known. Evidently the first five of them were born in Ireland. According to the latest and most reliable data collected, their children's names were as follows:

1, Robert; 2, David; 3, Martha; 4, Joseph; 5, James; 6, Ephraim; 7, John; 8, William; and 9, Anne. Robert, the oldest son was the ancestor of Governor and United States Senator Trusten Polk of Missouri. Ephraim, the fifth son was the ancestor of James Knox Polk president of the United States, and Leonidas Polk, Bishop of the Episcopal Church and Lieutenant General in the Confederate army.

II WILLIAM POLK, 1st, the seventh son of Robert and Magdalen Polk was born about 1862, was twice married: first to Nancy Knox Owens a widow, second to Widow Gray. The records show that of Robert and Magdalen's sons William has the greatest number of descendants, with Ephraim being the next. Most of the descendants of William are living in Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, California and other of the Southern and Southwestern States. The descendants of Ephraim are mostly found in Delaware, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and other Western States. The children of William Polk 1st and his wife Nancy Knox Owens were as follows: 1, Charles; 2, William; 3, Elizabeth; 4, James; 5, David, and 6, Jane. There is no record of any children of the second Marriage.

III WILLIAM POLK 2nd, The second son of William Polk 1st and his wife Nancy Knox Owens, was the progenitor of the southern branch of the family. He was born in Somerset County Maryland about 1695, moved to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he married Margaret Taylor.

In 1753 he moved to North Carolina, settling west of the Yadkin in what is now Mecklenburg County, and where he died about twenty-five years before the Revolutionary war. His was an exceedingly prolific family, including many distinguished men and women. His descendants are living in nearly every if not all of the Southern States, others live in the states of New York, Pennsylvania, California, and other Northern and Western states. The children of William Polk and his wife Margaret Taylor were: 1, William; 2, Charles; 3, Debora; 4, Susan; 5, Margaret; 6, John; 7, Thomas; 8, Ezekiel.

Ezekiel the youngest son was the grand-father of President James Knox Polk.

IV EZEKIEL POLK, the fourth son of William Polk and his wife Margaret Taylor, was born near Carlisle Pennsylvania about 1732, moved with his father and brothers to North Carolina in 1753.

He and his brother Thomas were among the prime movers in the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence, which was promulgated by the citizens of Mecklenburg County on June 20, 1775, more than a year before the Declaration of Independence of the United States in Philadelphia.

Before the Revolution he was elected sheriff of Tryon County, During the Revolution he was Captain in Colonel William Thompson's regiment, known as the 3d South Carolina Mounted Infantry, and rendered valiant and distinguished services to his country. He moved from North Carolina to Tennessee at an early date. He is mentioned in the history of Maury County Tennessee as early as the year 1811, and in the settlement of Hardeman County in West Tennessee in the year 1819. In the last named county, he with his son William, and his sons-in-law Colonel Thomas J. Hardeman and Thomas McNeal, were among the first settlers.

He was married three times: first to Mary Wilson; second to Bessie Davis (by this marriage there were several children who died in infancy). His third wife was a widow, -Mrs. Sophia Lennard.

There were eight children born to Ezekiel Polk and his first wife Mary Wilson Polk:- 1, Thomas; 2, William; 3, Matilda; 4, Samuel; 5, John; 6, Louisa; 7, Clarissa; 8, Mary. By the third marriage of Ezekiel Polk and Mrs. Lennard, there were four children; 9, Charles Perry; 10, Benigna; 11, Eugenia; 12, Edwin.

Samuel, the third son of Ezekiel and his wife Mary Wilson Polk, was the father of President James K. Polk.

V. LOUISA POLK, second daughter of Ezekiel Polk and his wife Mary Wilson, was born in Bolivar Tennessee.

She was twice married, first to Charles Neely, second to Dr. C.C. Collier, died and was buried in Bolivar Tenn.

There were four children born to Louisa Polk and her first husband Charles Neely to wit:- 1, Mary C.; 2, Rufus P.; 3, Adela; 4, Jackson J.; by second marriage to Dr. C.C. Collier there were three children, to wit:-- 5, Thomas; 6, William; 7, Fanny.

VI MARY M. NEELY, oldest daughter of Charles Neely and his wife Louisa Polk, was born in Russellville Alabama January 16, 1811, married June 29, 1829, W.W. Atwood, resided near Austin Texas where she died Jul. 19, 1896, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery; her husband died Jan. 2, 1871 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Children:-- 1, Mary Josephine; 2, **Adela B.**²; 3, Rufus Neely; 4, Jane Brown (died in childhood); 5, Octavia Polk; 6, Charles Joseph.

Compiled by
? W. Polk
San Antonio, Texas
1910?

²Adela Belle (Mrs. A.B. Palm)—Ed.

ANNA PALM OF PALM VALLEY

by Ruth Hardt Koehler

On one of my first trips to the Barker Texas History Center shortly after moving to Austin in 1985, there was an exhibit on Swante Palm who had given the University of Texas his personal library in February 1897. His gift of 10,000 volumes, which required several wagon trips, was the first major benefaction to the University library which increased the library's holdings by 60 percent. Since I had an Aunt Blanche whose maiden name was Palm and who had married my father's youngest brother, Benjamin F. Hardt,¹ I had always wondered just how she fit into the Palm family. She and Uncle Ben had apparently met while attending Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas.

Since she, my uncle and their only child Karen, who was 21 when she was killed by a drunken driver while returning from her honeymoon, are all buried in the Palm Valley Cemetery, I started a Palm file.

One of my friends went with me to the cemetery; I took pictures of the headstones and stuck them away in the file. Then, not too long ago, I was browsing in an antique store and ran across a book, Women in Early Texas, which included Anna Palm of Palm Valley. This book was published in 1975 by the Austin Chapter of the American Association of University Women, in celebration of International Women's Year and the American Revolution Bicentennial. I took it home and stuck it in a bookcase.

In December of 1996, Round Rock had a Historic Homes Tour for the first time in thirty years.² The Palm House Museum, Palm Valley Lutheran Church, and Palm Valley Cemetery were among those on the tour. It was time for more research.

Anna Hurd Palm was born, educated and married in Berkeryd, Sweden.³ Her husband was Anders Palm, a brother to Swante Palm, and a civil engineer in the King's service. She bore him six sons: John, August, Carl, Andrew, William, and Henning [Henry]. Their orderly life in Sweden was to be interrupted by letters from her husband's nephew, Swante Magnus Swenson, telling of his success in America. He had left Sweden for New York in 1836. Soon after the Independence of Texas, he came to Columbia, Texas where he first found work in a store. After a few years, he found work driving a supply wagon to the plantations of East Texas. There he met Dr. Long who asked him to manage his plantation. A few years later, Dr. Long died and Swenson later married his widow and became a man of wealth and owner of slaves, although he was outspoken against slavery. He increased his land by buying large tracts of land and selling to settlers at higher prices. Swenson acquired 182 acres east of Austin which he called Govalle, which means good grazing in Swedish. The Swedes were among the first foreigners to settle in the hills of Central Texas.⁴

In 1847, he visited his home in Sweden and convinced his uncles to come to Texas. Since Swante Palm had come earlier, I am sure it was easier to persuade them to come. So in July 1848, the families left Sweden in a small sailing vessel. Their party consisted of Anders Palm and wife Anna and their six sons; Gustave Palm and wife and children; Swenson's mother, three maid servants; six man servants, a mechanic; and a boy.⁵ They first landed in New York where they were transferred to a schooner which took them to Galveston. From there, they went on a steamboat which arrived at the foot of Main Street in Houston on November 22, 1848, after four months of travel from Sweden. When S. M. Swenson was notified of their arrival, he sent a prairie schooner and mules to bring his relatives and others of the party to his plantation near Richmond in Fort Bend County.

The land which was intended for Anders and Anna Palm was being cleared by the Palm family when

¹Koehler, William M. and Ruth Hardt, *Henry Christian Hardt, A Genealogy, 1639-1992*, (Aus-Tex Printing: Austin, Texas), p. 523, 579

²Ward, Pamela, *Opening doors to the past*, (Austin American-Statesman), December 13, 1996, p. B11

³LeVesconte, Amy, *Anna Hurd Palm (1809-1878)*, ed. Evelyn M. Carrington, PhD., *Women in Early Texas*, (Jenkins Publishing Company, the pemberton press: Austin, 1975), pp. 196-200

⁴Bateman, Audray, *Folk Life Festival to celebrate ancestries*, Waterloo scrapbook, (Austin American-Statesman), October 3, 1986, p. C5

⁵The young boy who came in the party was G. A. Forsgard.

Anders died of a fever and was buried in Fort Bend County. Anna, now a widow with six children in a new country, a new language, and new customs, first moved to New Ulm in Washington County, seeking a more beautiful land. On one of his visits, Swenson suggested that the family move to higher land in the valley of Brushy Creek near Round Rock where he owned large tracts. It was relatively free of malaria and near Kenney's Fort which would protect them from the Indians. In 1853, Anna and her family, and some of the young men and women who had migrated with her moved to the area which is now named after her, Palm Valley. The area was close to water, trees, and plenty of grass. Squirrels, rabbits, turkeys, and quail, as well as fish, were plentiful. Wild grapes, plums, berries, walnuts, and pecans were also plentiful.

During the first two years they camped in their wagons and tents while the land was cleared for farming; and fenced to protect it from live stock and wild hogs. Each night they stored their live coals so that they would not have to start all over with flint and tender the next morning.

It was a real thrill when they were able to raise their own wheat and oats to make bread in place of the corn to which they were not accustomed.

In 1861, all of Anna's sons, except Henning who was too young, enlisted in the Confederate Army. In 1863, Henning died. When Anna was asked where he should be buried she answered, "Under the tallest oak tree, there." When her sons returned from the war, she wrote her nephew Swenson who was then in New York, and asked him to donate the ground where Henning was buried along with enough land for a cemetery, church and school. Education was important to this family, encouraged perhaps by their uncle Swante Palm, a polished scholar. Swenson authorized his uncle, Swante Palm, to do this. A wooden frame building, constructed from lumber brought from Austin, was completed in 1872. This was the original Palm Valley Lutheran Church, although they had held church services as early as 1861 in a combination log cabin/school. The current building was built in 1894 and contains the original hand carved pews. The ceiling had been covered with wallpaper and when it was removed to be replaced, a beautiful wood ceiling was uncovered. The Swedish language was still in use until 1941. Prior to that they had alternated between Swedish and English for about ten years.

On our tour of the Palm Valley Church, it was our good fortune to meet Mr. & Mrs. Lambert Peterson who just happened to be the docents on duty. When I explained my personal interest in Palm Valley, imagine our surprise when he said that he had grown up on the farm next to my Aunt Blanche and knew the family well. When I started asking questions, he said, "That's right. My father and I went fishing with Mr. Palm many times." I told him that one of my favorite Christmas presents had been a little doll with a trunk filled with handmade clothes made by Aunt Blanche. He smiled and said that would be her. While employed in San Antonio after graduation from college, I got to know her father Henry, and her two sisters Elizabeth and Allene⁶ and families, who were all living there at the time. As a child, I remember that she was the only aunt who always brought her knitting when Uncle Ben came to visit and hunt with my father. By the time they were living in San Antonio, she had started weaving. I can still see her sitting at her loom. Later, after my uncle's death and her marriage to Alex S. Hellman, she was to have fifteen looms and teach weaving and stitchery at the Witte Museum and McNay Art Institute, and to have her work shown in numerous shows throughout the country.⁷ She was also one of the first in San Antonio to introduce the hobby of macrame. She said that she had learned to tie knots as a child helping her father make his fishing nets so it came easy.

So, just how was my aunt, Anna Blanche, of Swedish descent related to Anna Hurd Palm? She was her great granddaughter. She was the daughter of Henry Palm who was the son of Sven William Palm, one of the six sons who came to America with Anna. Their legacy, along with many other ethnic groups, helped shape our Lone Star State.

15 January 1997
Austin, Texas

⁶Koehler, Ruth Hardt, (Personal files): Elizabeth married Frank C. White; Helen Allene married Jay Glass.

⁷Vollmer, Cynthia, *Ancient Art to Be on Exhibit At S.A. Handweavers Guild Show*, San Antonio Express/News, November 3, 1968, p. 8-F

Austin History Center
Austin Public Library
810 Guadalupe
(512) 499-7480

GENEALOGICAL SOURCES AT THE AUSTIN HISTORY CENTER

START WITH THESE SOURCES:

- Online Catalog AHC's books and biography files are cataloged in the Austin Public Library's catalog. Access remotely at: <http://library.ci.austin.tx.us/MARION>
- Card Catalog Name index for many older business and professional directories and for many older cumulative biographies; subject and name index for articles in selected periodicals issued in the 1970's and for selected published histories of the local area.

Archives Catalog Indexes many of the most popular collections in our archives.

Austin American-Statesman Indexes For dates and formats see Indexes on page 3 of this handout.

ANNUALS AND DIRECTORIES

Cactus. A 378.005 Ca

Student annuals of the University of Texas. 1894 - 1985, with some gaps.

High School and Junior High School Annuals.

Austin and Travis County area. The years collected differ with each school.

Austin. Telephone Directory A 976.411 Au 76t
1922-

Austin, Texas City Directory A 976.411 Au75d
1872-1996

Criss-Cross Directory of Austin A 976.411 Au76 Cr
1957-

BIRTH RECORDS

Early Texas Birth Records, 1838-1878. (2 vols.) A 929.3 Gr

CEMETERY RECORDS

Cemeteries of West Travis County A 929.376431 Ha

List of gravestones in 37 small cemeteries in far western Travis Co. Compiled in 1977.

Cemeteries of the Western Hill Country of Travis County, Texas A 929.2764 Tr

Tombstone inscriptions for 31 cemeteries. Includes name index. Compiled in 1991.

City of Austin Cemetery System Interment Report A Av Microfiche AuPW

Biannual updates of Interment Reports of city cemeteries. Dates of interment from 1800's to present. Alphabetical by name of deceased. Cemeteries included: Oakwood, Oakwood Annex, Mt. Calvary, Memorial Park, Evergreen, Travis Country International, Highland Park, State Cemetery, and Jewish Memorial.

CEMETERY RECORDS (CONTINUED)

Travis County Cemeteries: Travis County 19th Century Pioneers. A 929.2764 Tr

List of interments for people born in 19th Century and buried in selected Travis Co. Cemeteries.
Includes name index. Compiled in 1986.

Travis County Cemetery Records. A 352.72 Ru

Tombstone inscriptions for 24 very small cemeteries. Includes 6 cemeteries in Blanco Co.
Includes name index. Compiled in 1964-65.

CENSUS RECORDS

*The First Census of Texas, 1829-1836: To which are added Texas Citizenship
Lists, 1821-1843 and other Early Records of the Republic of Texas*

The 1840 Census of the Republic of Texas

Republic of Texas: Poll Lists for 1846

The State of Texas Federal Population Schedules; Seventh Census of the United States, 1850

*United States Census Office. Seventh Census, 1850; Population Schedules: Texas (Slave schedule), Travis
County and others. Microfilm*

Travis County, Texas. The Five Schedules of the 1860 Federal Census

United States Census Office. Ninth Census, 1870; Population Schedules: Texas, Travis County. Microfilm

Austin, Texas. Census, 1875. United States Census Office. Tenth Census, 1880; Population Schedules;

Texas, Travis County. Microfilm

1890 Travis County, Texas Census: Uniquely Reconstructed and Annotated

United States Census Office. Twelfth Census of Population, 1900. Microfilm

Understanding the Census A 304.60723 La

CITY TAX RECORDS

Tax Rolls, 1903-43. Microfilm (AR 1991-16)

Alphabetical by name. Gives legal descriptions of property, amount of tax, and sometimes lists
original grantee.

DEATH RECORDS

Bartholomew Diary. A 818 BaD

An account of daily events in Austin for the period 1853-1923 by Austin businessman, Eugene
Carlos Bartholomew. Deaths of locals are included. Index has been created for these deaths.

Travis County Probate Minutes, 1840-1852. (Concerns wills) Microfilm

Travis County Probate Minutes, 1894-1930. Microfilm

Travis County Probate Record, 1840-1916. Microfilm

Travis County Probate Index, 1840-1887. Microfilm

Travis County Index to Probate Minutes, 1870-1926. Microfilm

GENEALOGICAL BOOKS

Collecting Dead Relatives A 929.10207 Ga
Further Undertakings of a Dead Relative Collector A 929.10207 Ga
Genealogical Records in Texas A 929.10720764 Ke
The Source: a Guide Book of American Genealogy A 929.1072073 So
You Can find Anyone: A Complete Guide of How to Locate Missing Persons A 363.2336 Fe
You, Too, Can Find Anybody A 362.8 Cu

INDEXES

Austin American –Statesman

1871-76: printout
1878-83: card index
1884: online and printout
1884-1955: no index
1956-73: card index
1973-February 1981 printouts
1981-1992: on-line and printouts
1989 - present. *Austin American-Statesman Archives* at: <http://archives.statesman.com>
Full-text search. Full-text articles can be accessed from this site free of charge at the Austin History Center.

Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly. November 1960-present.

Indexed by name. Includes lists of Travis County cemeteries, baptisms and burials of St. David's Episcopal Church (late 1800's), and some Travis County marriage records.

Biographical Gazetteer of Texas (6 vol.) A 929.3764 BiAp

A finding aid for information about prominent individuals. Provides the name, a birth or death date, and the title and page number of the publications where the biographical sketch can be found.

Index to Applications for Texas Confederate Pensions A 929.3764 Ki

Provides the names, county of residence, and pension numbers for 65,014 approved, rejected, and Confederate Home pensions. Access remotely at: www.tsl.state.tx.us/lobby/cpi/cpindex.htm

MARRIAGE RECORDS

Bartholomew Diary. A 818 BaD

An account of daily events in Austin for the period 1853-1923 by Austin businessman, Eugene Carlos Bartholomew. Local marriages are included. Index has been created for these marriages.

Travis County Marriage Records, 1833-1902. A 976.431 Go

Travis County, Texas Marriage Records, 1840-1882. A 929.3 Pr

Travis County Marriage Records, 1840-1939. Microfilm

Travis County Index to Marriage Records, 1840-1939. Microfilm

TRAVIS COUNTY RECORDS (NOT ELSEWHERE LISTED)

Some Early Travis County, Texas Records. A 929.376231 Su

Records of General Land office of Texas having to do with wills, land ownership, lawsuits, and other assorted records. Indexed by name.

Travis County Central Appraisal District, 1983-1992. Microfiche.

Travis County Civil Minutes, 1876-1894. Microfilm *

Travis County Index to County Court Civil Minutes. (To vols. C-I) Microfilm.

Travis County Criminal Minutes, 1876 - 1886. Microfilm.

Travis County Deed Record, 1847-1882. Microfilm.

Travis County Deeds, 1882-1886. Microfilm.

Travis County Direct Index to Deeds, 1842-1893. Microfilm.

Travis County Reverse Index to Deeds, 1842-1893. Microfilm.

Travis County Transcript of Deed Record, 1837-1849. Microfilm.

Travis County Inquest Records.

From Justices of the Peace, dates vary from court to court, range from 1887 to 1977. Records completed if circumstances of person's death were mysterious or no doctor was in attendance.

Travis County, County Clerk Naturalization Record, 1892-1907. Microfilm

Index to Naturalizations, 1890-1906. Microfilm

Travis County School Census Rolls, 1913-1970.

Austin and Travis County school records in sections according to school district. Each section is arranged alphabetically by student name including address, guardian, age, and sex of student. For some years, white student census rolls are recorded on white paper, and student of color census rolls are recorded on colored paper.

Travis County Tax Rolls, 1840-1910. Microfilm.

SEE ALSO

Austin Public Library, Shelflist, August 21, 1985. A 016.9764 Au

Lists more Travis County Records that might be of interest.

This is Texas. A 976.400922 Th

Biographical sketches of many prominent Austinites, 1838 - 1977.

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Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Friday - Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Using BLM GLO Records

To: "AUTRY-L@rootsweb.com" <AUTRY-L@rootsweb.com>
From: babosjr@onr.com (Ben Boswell)
Subject: Using BLM GLO Records

Dear Autry-Autrey Cousins,

This describes a method for filling in the original purchasers of federal land for all of the tracts within a given section. While this does not guarantee simultaneous ownership, it might be valuable to learn who owned adjacent tracts.

The website for the Bureau of Land Management General Land Office Records is <http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/>

This site requires the visitor to type in his/her Zip Code before searches may be made. Sometimes if the visitor is slow to move from one screen to another a request to reenter the Zip Code is made.

Once past the entry point, the next page lists 11 states east of the Mississippi River for which online records are available in some form. The form I like best is the one available for Alabama records. I have not looked at all of the other states available, but for Illinois the visitor is linked to another site for which the process does not lend itself to being able to reconstruct the original land purchases for a given section.

When I click on Alabama as my state of choice, I get a search screen in which I can enter as much information as I know in order to get a focused search or I can enter less information to get a broader search. I started by entering my ancestor's last and first names well as the county in which I already knew he had purchased land in. I clicked on the Title Search. This produced a short list of four properties giving the Township, Range, and Section as well as the portion of the section purchased along with the number of acres. {For instance: WI/2NE meaning the west half of the northeast quarter of the section; or SWSE meaning the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of the section. They do not show it as SWI/4SE.J} Then I go back to the previous search page.

I want to reconstruct the original land purchases for one of the sections in which my ancestor purchased land. This time I enter only the county, the township, the range, and the section (no names). I click on the Genealogical Search this time, and I get a screen showing all the names of the people who originally purchased land in this section from the federal government. This list also includes the date of purchase and the Accession Number for each purchase. I print out this screen. Then I go back once again to the search page. I do not change the search criteria. I then click on the Title Search. The resulting screen gives me the descriptions of the parcels sold in the section and an Accession Number for each sale. I print out this screen.

Now with these two print outs I match the Accession Numbers to see who purchased which parcels. I then draw up the section showing the parcels originally sold and print the names of the purchasers inside the various parcels.

Of course this does not necessarily produce a diagram frozen in time since purchases may have been spread out over a period of several years.

I repeated the process for all sections that I was interested in. It is probably a good idea to do the same for the sections that surround the section that you know your ancestors had land in order to get a bigger picture.

Note: I also searched all spellings of the surname that I was familiar with. In my case the surname was spelled Autrey for 2 purchases and Autery for 4 other purchases.

I hope this will prove to be a help at least in some cases.

Ben Boswell

Recollections of May Lea McCurdy

At a recent family gathering, a grand-son-in-law raised the question: What is it about Family that gives us that special feeling - of stability and personal worth, of security, of being cherished and of belonging to something important?

I answered quickly: It isn't by words but by the way members of the family act - their everyday life patterns and habits, actions and reactions.

Some later thought led me to embroider this answer. Some words may be involved, but they are not directed to the question. They are "asides", things overheard or spoken in a different context.

For example, there is an overheard remark about a grandfather: "His word is as good as his bond. There's not a dishonest hair in his head." Another about a father: "You know if he does it, it will be done right." This reinforced by observing the systematic way he works on the car, that satisfied final twist he gives the screwdriver or wrench.

But mostly that special feeling comes from your personal experience in the family - being "looked after," having interest taken in what you wear, hearing Grandmother's oft repeated remark: "I wouldn't take a million dollars for you. You are SOMEBODY here."

You see the sharing of eggs and milk, butter and garden "truck" with less fortunate members of the family and of the neighborhood and you realize: This family takes care of its own.

You see the grandmother's loving preparation of food, the mother's cleanliness and order, the aunt's attention to the cherished decorative items and her tasteful arrangement of them. It grows on you that this house and this family are valued, that its members feel an obligation to support it and are willing to forego the search for personal pleasure to fulfill their obligations here.

Then when you are given chores, you find not only a sense of responsibility but also a feeling of belonging. You too have a share in this family.

It is with all this in mind that I set down some recollections of how it was - and is - in Our Family. I hope the young members of the Family will gain a new sense of "who they are", for it is in the Family that they first come to BE.

The roots of my families go back to Great Britain and Europe on the Lea side:

- to William Lea, born in 1654 in Virginia, whose grandson, James, married Anne Herndon, great-grand daughter of Edward Digges, governor of Virginia Colony - James, the great grandfather of Preston Jarnagin Lea, father of my grandfather, Preston Major Lea;

- to William Witt, Huguenot from La Rochelle, France, who in 1699 settled at Manakintowne, about 15 miles from Richmond, VA. - the grandfather of Mary Witt, Preston Jarnagin Lea's Grandmother;
- to Jacob Peak, born in Werttemberg., Germany, great grandfather of Mary Henderson Peck, Preston Major Lea's mother;
- to Christiana Griffin born about 1758 in Wales, great grandmother of Lida Garner, my grandmother.

On the Guthrie side,

- to John Guthrie, son of a Scottish Covenanter, who fled for his life to Ireland and married Jane Stuart of Scotland's royal house, great great grandfather of Jacob Lehre Guthrie and his wife (and first cousin) Amanda Guthrie, parents of my grandfather, Edgar Lehre Guthrie;
- to Jacob Lehre, born in Werttemberg, Germany in 1726 and to his wife Mary Duff, born in 1736 in Berne, Switzerland., these the grandparents of Jacob Lehre Guthrie.

England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, France, Germany, Switzerland - a varied heritage,



Grandfather Edgar Guthrie



Grandmother Cassie Guthrie

I was born August 8, 1902, in my grandparents' home in Corsicana, Texas.

The beginning of the twentieth century was a momentous time to be born. In this small Texas town, most of the home conveniences we now take for granted were still to come - telephone, electric lights, indoor plumbing, gas for cooking and heating, hot and cold water in the kitchen and a host of others. This was still the "horse and buggy" era in an agriculture-based society but on the brink of fantastic

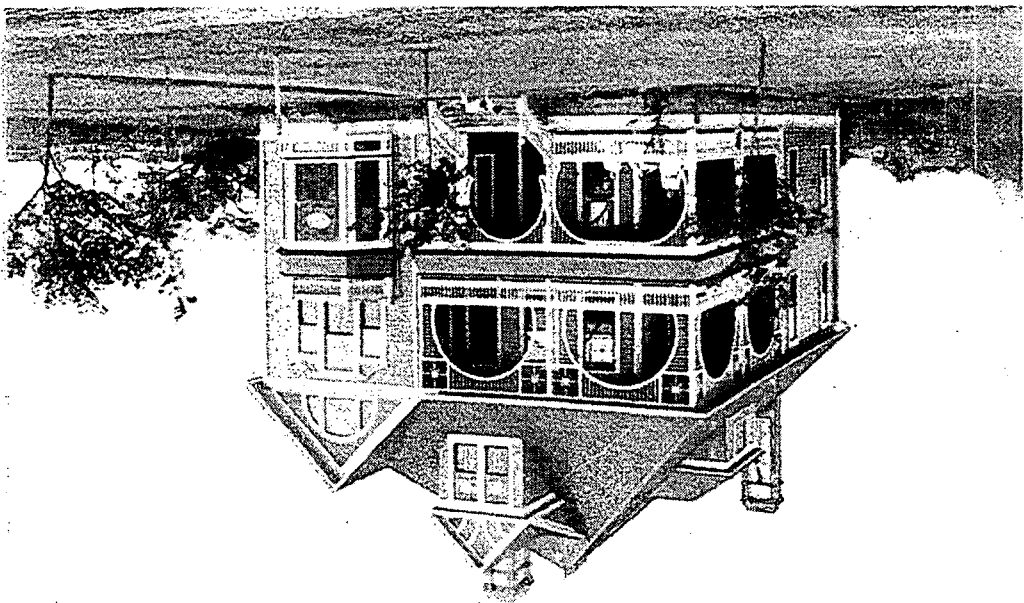


May Lea at 4 months

scientific and
technological
advance.

The house
where I was
born had two
stories, high
ceilings, eight
large rooms,
seven fireplaces
(our only winter
heat), front and
rear galleries
both upstairs
and down, and
an expansive
attic under a

Corisana home shortly after construction. Left to right: Lida, May Lea, Willie Myrtle Lea, May



steep-pitched roof pierced front and back with gabled double windows. Three generations lived here. It was my grandparents' home and furnished shelter, warmth, food and unbounded affection for the children and grandchildren who came and went as circumstances dictated.

This is a story of memories - the things I remember - and the things I remember my elders remembering. I remember that my grandfather could remember the Civil War. He told about the Yankees coming through Tennessee, breaking open their barrels of molasses and ripping open the goose-down-filled feather beds, and the youngsters of the family hiding in the attic,

My grandmother told stories of her grandparents coming to Texas in an ox-cart. One day the oxen ran away and her grandmother began dropping the children off the back of the cart into the sandy road lest the cart turn over and they be hurt.

Grandmother remembered the Civil War, as a small child watching the young men go away and seeing some of them come back. She was a staunch member of the Daughters of the Confederacy but always spoke with respect of Abraham Lincoln. In my childhood the Confederate flag was still flown upon occasion and the sound of "Dixie" brought rebel yells into the throats of young and old alike.

So it might be said that the earliest boundary of these recollections is the Civil War. As this is written, none are left alive who themselves can remember it. But many now living have memories of the memories of our grandparents and thus encompass vivid recollections of this great American struggle in our memory experience and find our attitudes strongly colored by

them.

When I was born, everybody depended heavily on the local farmer, and most people had close connections with farming and related activities - ginning, milling and the like. Almost everybody had a home garden, growing corn, beans, peas, carrots, squash, beets, lettuce.



Two Year Old May Lea and Chickens

I remember the plowing, planting, weeding, harvesting of our home garden and the canning and eating made possible thereby. I remember the chickens in the back yard, the chicken house, whitewashed every spring; the big two-story barn with stalls for horses and cow, room for buggies, harness, hay, cotton seed; the mice we stirred up in the hay loft, the cats who ate the mice, and the kittens; the mountains of fire-wood in the barn lot to feed the seven hungry fireplaces. The children of the neighborhood built fortifications atop this wood pile. Every fall the pile was renewed

when a gasoline-driven saw was brought in to cut up the long logs of cord wood which had been laid in. It was fun to hear the long rasping wail of the saw as it bit into a big log, punctuated by the put-put-put of the little engine between bites, and to see the growing pile of sawdust and watch the chunks of wood flip over onto the mounting woodpile.

My grandmother was no housekeeper but was the most marvelous cook in the world and a very dynamo in providing the ingredients for her cooking. She engineered and managed the garden, the chickens, the milk cows. I remember her greasing the heads of the young chickens to get rid of mites, plucking and drawing the chickens for roasting or frying. There were beans to be snapped, peas to be shelled, milk to be strained, butter to be churned, bread to be kneaded and baked, fruit to be canned or made into jelly. There was cornbread, hot biscuits and rolls, plum and black berry jelly, crab apples, canned peaches, chicken and dumplings made from the wings and backs of the fried chicken. There was ice cream made in the hand-turned freezer which I always gave a few turns to earn the right to lick the dasher when the freezing was done.



June 1905-May Lea and her mother



Grandfather Preston Major Lea and Grandmother Lida Garner Lea-50th Wedding Anniversary in 1925

I remember one Christmas when the gas went off and the kitchen stove stood cold on Christmas morning. My grandmother cooked Christmas dinner for 17 on the kitchen fireplace - roasted the turkey, made mashed sweet potatoes with browned marshmallow topping, baked biscuits in the old Dutch oven and supplied all the usual trimmings topped off by hot plum pudding with hard sauce.

Christmas was always a busy wonderful time, with the usual family gathering seated at the big oak table, four feet wide and twelve feet long. My memories about table decorations are very dim - candles perhaps and greenery. But the eye-catching thing was the bounty of food spread there.

The living room's 10 foot ceiling provided space for a giant Christmas tree- cedar always, this being the local evergreen. No shipping of Christmas trees in those days. You cut your own on your own farm or that of a neighbor. The tree was set up in the corner away from the fireplace. There were no strings of electric lights, but candle-holders were clipped to the branches and short red candles inserted. Strings of pop corn, some tinsel loops, bright balls of red and green decorated the tree. When the candles were lighted, someone stood by to watch against fire. I am sure only the freshness of the tree prevented a catastrophe.

Stockings were hung by the fireplace. One year all the grownups hung their stockings too, and much merriment attended the selection of small items to put in the eight or ten adult socks and stockings which joined two red Christmas stockings for the two youngsters.

My grandfather, reared on a farm, got up about 4:00 o'clock in the morning to get the fires started in the many fireplaces, to grind the coffee in the old iron coffee grinder attached to the pantry wall, and to put on the breakfast cereal to cook for two or three hours. He preferred cracked wheat.



Edgar Guthrie, Cassie Guthrie, Walter B. Guthrie, May Lea Guthrie, Mary Lea Guthrie

Travel in those days was quite limited. On Sundays we might go by horse and buggy to see grandparents or great-grandparents living in the country. If it was chilly, I would be tucked under a warm lap-robe which had painted on it a large picture of a Civil War battle - soldiers in blue and gray fighting amid bursts of shells with flags flying over all.

My first stay away from my Mother overnight was at my paternal grandfather's farm. This grandmother, too, was a great cook. I remember, instead of a refrigerator (or ice box they were called in those days) screened shelves with a metal tray on top which held water. Cloth laid in this water and extending down over the sides of the shelves below provided some cooling through the evaporation of the water.



May Lea in the bluebonnets

There was a water tank on the farm and a dog named Hector who would fetch a stick thrown into the tank. Bluebonnets grew on the hillsides high enough so that when I sat in them, only my head showed above the flowers.

There were no paved roads, no cars, in my early life. (The main street of the town was "paved" with cypress blocks.) I can dimly

remember a train trip to Galveston with my father and mother. I cried in fear of the huge rolling waves and preferred to play with my doll and eat the funny little round soup crackers no bigger than a quarter.

The only child in a family of grown-ups, I played much alone and my games were highly imaginative. The attic under its steep-pitched roof was a favorite place to play. A large part of it was floored over, but one area had the floor joists exposed; and it was a daring thing to step from one joist to another without stepping through the ceiling below. The enormous central chimney, off which five fireplaces opened on the two floors below, rose through the center of the attic and out through the highest point of the roof. Rain falling on the roof shingles gave me an indescribable feeling of comfort and safety, and it was a delight to curl up on an old mattress in the attic and read through the rainy afternoon. All sorts of discarded household items were stored here - an old quilting frame, an old-fashioned baby buggy, an ancient sewing machine, a gun with fixed bayonet, reported to be a Civil War relic, a large chest with top and sides covered in red carpeting, two or three trunks with rounded tops, old books, old magazines going back to the 1890's, a stuffed barn owl, a wooden box full of sea shells - the star fish was at least a foot across and the conch shell roared like the ocean when put to an ear. The attic was a Mecca for all the grandchildren who came to visit through the years and in later years the attic was emptied bit by bit as these children, grown-up, would return to carry off the things they remembered best from childhood.

Most of our clothes were made at home. Usually once a year a "sewing woman" came in by the day to help with the family sewing. I learned early to sit on the floor and pump the Singer sewing machine pedal with my hands while my Mother sewed. Later on I could sew a simple seam on the machine, but I never mastered the intricacies of needlework by hand. Grandmother was an expert at embroidery and button holes and could mend a hole in a linen tablecloth to perfection. Mother tatted and knitted and crocheted.

Before there was a telephone, the grocer used to come by in his cart and write down our order for groceries, then go back to his store, fill the order and bring it back to us. Later when we had a telephone, he would call every morning to ask what was needed and send it out.

There were no radios, no TV's. Movie houses arrived in my early childhood, though I seldom saw a movie. But there was a Carnegie library and my Aunt was one of the librarians. She guided me into many wonderful books. I always got books for Christmas and birthdays. My taste ran to Cooper's Leatherstocking Tales, Kipling's Jungle Books, and tales about King Arthur and his knights and about Robin Hood. The great variety of books for children available today was non-existent then, and my voracious reading led me to all the adult books in our book cases. Stoddard's Lectures opened the world of travel. Shakespeare's Plays were there along with Ivanhoe, Scottish Chiefs, Ben Hur, Graustark, Prisoner of Zenda. All were read and re-read. Adult conversation flowed around and over me unnoticed and unheard.

Toys were few and as far between as Christmases. I never cared for dolls, but we made paper dolls by cutting them out of the Sears and Wards catalogs and played with them by the hour. I remember an Early Christmas when I received a barnyard set with all the appropriate animals - a pink pig and a brown and white cow stand out in my memory. This started a collection of animals, and I soon acquired fifty or more of varying sizes and materials. This was the animal kingdom; the horse was king and the others stood in ranks before him. Another favorite game was spools. Emptied of the sewing thread, they were painted - gold for the king (a very large spool), silver for knights, green for Robin Hood's men. There were ranks and ranks of them, and the game went on for hours.

Out of doors there were trees to climb, a picket fence to walk on the top rail like a tight-rope walker, a barn loft, the woodpile, the barn lot deep in clover to run in, as well as another lot which grew high in broom weed where I could be an Indian and stalk imaginary game.

School was only a few blocks away and everybody walked to school, pupils and teachers, winter and fall and spring, rain or shine or snow. No parking problem, no cars, no parking lots, dusty streets, rough brick sidewalks, a "branch" to cross where the bridge sometimes was covered with water after a heavy rain. Early days of school were sometimes painful. I was shy and cried easily; and, although learning was easy and I enjoyed it, I stood in awe of teachers and was uneasy with classmates after my early years as "only" child.

Having been read to often, I found learning to read a great pleasure. My



May Lea—3rd from left

progress was such that I was promoted to the "high first" before the semester was over. My first grade teacher was a sweet, gentle person, very patient and kind. The high first teacher was not like that at all - rough and ready. I remember sitting in my seat doing arm exercises with tears running down my face. When I went home and wept some more, Mother arranged for me to be de-promoted, much to my relief. The second grade teacher was another dear person and a friend of my Aunt Margaret. School became and remained a stimulating, rewarding experience for me.

May Lea Guthrie McCurdy lives at Westminster Manor in Austin, Texas. Reared in Corsicana, Texas, she moved to Wichita Falls during her high school years. She graduated from The University of Texas Phi Beta Kappa in 1923. In 1924 she married John A. McCurdy, who in 1926 became the Executive Director of the UT Ex-Students Association. She edited the Alcalde at various times during the 1930's and in 1950 became the Assistant Librarian for the City of Austin. Sometime after her retirement in 1967, she began writing family stories.



Compiled by son-in-law Richard Robertson, July 1998

C:\MyFiles\Recollections\MayLea.wpd

THE DISTAFF SIDE: A CASE STUDY

In the 1970s, I was employed by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and had occasion to research the Fulton Mansion, a very fine French Second Empire villa on Aransas Bay, near Rockport built in the 1870s for George and Harriet Smith Fulton. As part of the research, I contacted scores of descendants of Col. and Mrs. Fulton. The head of the family was Caesar Fulton, a great-great grandson who had a few major pieces of furniture but very little information, other than items he read in books and magazines. His cousin Linda Beaman Scull (b. 1923), however, was the daughter of a daughter of a daughter of the Fultons, and she was a fountain of information. She had Mrs. Fulton's fine Battenburg lacework, Victorian toys and wonderful ephemera. She knew the many family stories and minutiae, such as the names of the servants and pets, all decades before her time. The lesson to me was that family history often travels much better in the female line, and the influence of *maternal* ancestors may well be stronger than *paternal*.

In June issues of the *A.G.S. Quarterly*, I have documented the ancestral male lines of my four grandparents. But recently, as a genealogical exercise and out of curiosity, I thought I would follow the female lines to see what could be learned there, both in genealogy and family history. Some generalities emerged:

☉ The male line is easier to follow, often with a single book documenting centuries of one family. Tracing the female line takes a certain amount of hopping around. A book was just written on the topic, Christina Kassabian Schaefer's *The Hidden Half of the Family: A Sourcebook for Women's Genealogy* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1999).

☉ Men are typically better documented in newspapers, and public and private records. Few ancestresses were employed and raising families aside, they made their mark through civic, church and philanthropic endeavors or the arts. Their obituaries are usually not very informative.

☉ While Swiss Kägys and Huddles are on the "Migrater" side (see chart) and a dram of Dutch, French and Sephardic Jewish blood is found elsewhere, it is otherwise a predictably English, entirely Protestant lineage. All forbears I have found arrived before the American Revolution.

☉ Two lines were likely farmers from the 19th century back, and a third ("Undiscovereds") was largely uncharted. But the fourth and longest line were prosperous "Connecticut Yankees." I was surprised how far three lines could be traced. Grandfather was evasive about the fourth, "Unknown" line -- were they uninteresting or rascals? Great-grandmother Goodrich liked to think her maternal line went directly to Benjamin Franklin, until she learned he and his wife were not married until some years after their children were born.

☉ One line has a matronymic: Great-great grandfather Hatton was born in Virginia, and his youngest daughter was named Emma Virginia in honor of his birthplace. Since then, five generations of "Virginias" have succeeded, and I hope my niece will carry the tradition. American men frequently name sons for themselves, but American women rarely do. I wonder why?

☉ Possessions often follow the female line. The "Virginias" have all had a diamond ring. The "Connecticut Yankees" saltbox house and land continued in the family largely in the female line from 1634 until sold by my great aunt in 1927, and furniture, other heirlooms and even house parts from that direction remain in the family.¹

☉ Three lines followed the typical Westward movement, from Virginia, Kentucky and Pennsylvania to Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and finally Texas. My sister reversed

¹ The Yankee line also passed on a propensity of twins, with at least four sets and possibly several more in a direct female line over a 200 year period.

the trend by moving to Canada. While we perceive that mobility is a 20th c. phenomenon, many ancestors moved frequently, for many for the same reasons people move today.

✪ At least two sides (the "Virginias" and the "Yanks") produced very strong women. Emma Hatton Goodrich, who at age 6 saw her father shot by Bushwhackers during the Civil War, was a schoolteacher (the only salaried ancestress I could find), church leader (the Goodrich Methodist Church in Norman, Okla. was named for her), early member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, poet and artist (neither did she do well) and busybody. Her daughters Nell DeGolyer and Pearl Porter were staunch club women, much involved in the League of Women Voters, Planned Parenthood and other worthy causes. Typically women made their mark through civic and church work. The "Yankee" women were not to be taken lightly either - Connecticut bluestockings who exerted a *strong* influence on younger generations.

SOME PERSONAL THOUGHTS ON GENEALOGY IN THE 21ST CENTURY

When I looked through family genealogies, it seemed as if families were very predictable. Most family members married once, unless widowed, and then typically to persons of similar social, ethnic and religious persuasion. Among my direct ancestors, I can find only one divorce (in 1847!), and no acknowledged illegitimacy. Families were large and formal adoption was rare. Wives took their husbands' surnames, and non-traditional relationships were politely ignored. All very "Father Knows Best."

But things are not as simple as they used to be. Take a good look at what constitutes families. Divorce is common, marriage does not always proceed children and there is more evidence of genealogical spice. That first marriage nobody really wants to remember. The fact that Cousin Lydia has been married five times. Aunt Caroline's "roommate" of 35 years. The acknowledged half-Vietnamese child of Henry's Army days. Not all of these are shouted from the rooftops. But family gatherings are unquestionably more diverse than they used to be. Even the gene pool is expanding: my second cousins have married an Iranian, an (East) Indian and a Japanese-American.

A recent country song called "I'm My Own Grandpaw" amused genealogists, and many of us have our own complex relationships. Aunt Dorothy DeGolyer married three times and her second husband, ever fond of his ex-in-laws, married his third wife at his ex-mother-in-law's house, with his ex-wife-family in attendance. I'm closer to some relatives-by-divorce than their exes. Of my combined 25 siblings and first cousins, 16 have married one or more times. But those have had a cumulative 15 divorces. The role of stepchildren in families vary greatly; in some cases they are closer than one's blood children and in others they may be strangers. My partner's mother (Mary) married a widower (Surry), and her daughter Randolph wed a man with children and a step-grandchild (Colleen). Is Colleen Surry's step-step-step great-grandchild, as a stepdaughter's stepson's stepdaughter?

Common law spouses have long been recognized in legal systems, and some argue long term same sex relationships also deserve recognition.² Interestingly, that bastion of British propriety, *Debrett's Peerage*, now lists natural children as well as the legitimate offspring; in a country where a third of all children are, for better or worse, born to parents not married, that may be realistic.³ Adopted children in most ways have the same rights as blood children, but often are not eligible for hereditary organizations. More adopted children are seeking their birth parents and vice versa. Should they be addressed in genealogies? Or children given up for adoption?

² John Taylor, my Life Partner of 24 years and I have had remarkable acceptance by both families, and I make mention of him in genealogies. He was a pallbearer at my mother's funeral, and I've been known to introduce his mother as my mother-in-law.

³ Illegitimate children of Scottish peers may succeed to titles if their parents eventually marry. Other peerages not.

The Jefferson family has recently been confronted by D.N.A. documentation that the President sired at least one child by his slave Sally Hemings⁴. Admitting her descendants to the Monticello Association and acknowledging their right to be buried in the family graveyard is not as much a racial as a legitimacy issue. My Life Partner's sister, a past president of the Association, raised the question also of burial at Monticello of us in non-traditional relationships with descendants.⁵

Rules of surnames have changed. A bride no longer necessarily takes her husband's name. She may retain her maiden name, or hyphenate that and her married name. Occasionally the reverse occurs, when husbands hyphenate. Austin writer Marion Winick's husband had a difficult time with his family and a complex surname; upon marriage, he took his wife's surname.⁶ It may be complicated with the naming of children too. I once worked with a archaeologist. It was not surprising that she did not take her husband's name, but when their daughter was born she was given her maternal grandmother's maiden name's as a last name. The use of family surnames as middle names is a nice way of recognizing one's distaff forbears and their families. It has been somewhat more common with the naming of sons than of daughters.

My understanding is that some women reject patronymics altogether, and take the name of a favorite female in the family. Anne Smith may adopt her mother's first name, Rachel, as a surname, or matronymic. In other cultures, I believe Finnish women never take their husband's surnames and Spanish women keep names in a very civilized manner. Anne Smith, wife of John Jones and daughter of William and Jane Doe Jones, is Anne Smith y Doe de Jones. That way, both her own and her mother's maiden names are preserved as well as her husband's and father's. In social use, I would address an envelope to John & Anne Smith Jones; Anne keeps her maiden name and both democratically surrender middle initials. Some would disagree.⁷

So, as we approach a new millennium, there are many complex issues for genealogists to consider. Consistency and veracity seem of paramount importance to me, recognizing the changes that have affected nearly all of us. It will clarify our world to future genealogists, and include those who in practice if not always by law are our true families.



⁴ Hemings was evidently a half-sister to Jefferson's late wife, Martha, as both were daughters of John Wayles.

⁵ Will my ashes have to be tossed over the fence to join Jack there some day, or will the decades-long relationship be recognized?

⁶ European aristocrats have taken the names of heiress wives or mothers for many centuries, with a hyphen or in their entirety. In Britain, Jones and Smith are the surnames most often hyphenated, such as Armstrong-Jones.

⁷ Women deserve equal (or higher) billing than their husbands in some public ways. When I worked for the Texas Historical Commission, we received a National Register nomination for the Warren A. Bacon House on Broadway in Lubbock. On closer investigation, not only did Mrs. Bacon live in the house decades longer than her husband, but her inheritance bankrolled it to begin with. I submitted the nomination to the Keeper of the National Register as The Warren and Myrta Bacon House. The Keeper's office telephoned and said "Do we have to?" I said "Yes." But now I notice my system appears in their guidelines. Today I would probably call it the Myrta Hunt Bacon House, in recognition of Mrs. Bacon's senior association with the property.

The Virginias

Mary (Molly) Franklin (1782-1875)
of Lawrence Co., Ky. & Monroe Co., Missouri
m. Nimrod Canterbury

I

Sidney Canterbury (1812-1880),
of High Hill, Montgomery Co., Mo.
m. Jonah Berget Hatton,
a native of Virginia

I

Emma Virginia Hatton (1857-1942),
of New Florence, Mo. & Norman, Okla.
m. Dr. Hugh Gideon Goodrich

I

Nell Virginia Goodrich (1887-1972)
of Montclair, N.J. & Dallas, Tex.
m. Everette Lee DeGolyer

I

(Nell) Virginia DeGolyer (1913-1988)
of Dallas & Godley, Tex.
m. John Sherman Maxson

I

Peter Flagg Maxson (b. 1947), of Austin, Tex.
and, with two others,

Virginia Lee Maxson (b. 1942)
of Guelph, Wellington Co., Ontario, Canada
m. Hon. Jock Gordon Buchanan-Smith, Ph.D.

I

Rachel Virginia Buchanan-Smith, b. 1975

The Migrants

Anna Taylor
of Shenandoah Co., Virginia
m. Andrew Hite (1758-1819)

I

Catherine Hite (1801-1886)
of Bloomfield Township, Seneca Co., Ohio
m. John Kägy

I

Rachel Kägy (1834-1914)
of Iuka, Marion Co, Ill.
m. Benjamin Huddle

I

Narcissus Kägy Huddle (1863-1938)
of Norman, Okla. & Pompton Plains, N.J.
m. John William DeGolyer

I

Everett Lee DeGolyer (1886-1956)
m. Nell Virginia Goodrich (above)

The Connecticut Pankees

Mary Nichols (d. 1728)
of Hartford, Conn.
m. Ephriham Turner

I

Mary Turner
of Hartford, Conn.
m. John Skinner

I

Deliverance Skinner (1730-1799)
of Hartford, Conn.
m. Jared Seymour

I

Delia Seymour (1752-1830)
of Hartford, Conn.
m. Judge Jonathan Bull III

I

Cornelia Bull (1791-1833)
of Hartford, Conn.
m. her 2nd cousin James Dodd
(who m. 2ndly her sister Elizabeth)

I

Mary Elizabeth Dodd
of New York City & East Chester, N.Y.
m. Morris Earle

I

Ellen Fannie Earle (1852-1920)
of Hartford & Paris, France
m. Charles Noël Flagg

I

Marion Flagg (1887-1972)
of Dallas & Athens, Tex.
m. Harry Irl Maxson (below)

I

John Sherman Maxson (1912-1989)
of Dallas & Godley, Tex.
m. (Nell) Virginia DeGolyer (above)

The Undiscovereds

_ Anderson, of Pa.
m. _ Murray

I

_ Murray, of Ill.
m. Henry Rich (b. Va.)

I

Isadora Rich (1862-1910)
of Galveston, Tex. & Toronto, Kan.
m. Willis Edward Maxson

I

Harry Maxson (1885-1967)
m. Marion Flagg (above).

Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca

Some Historical Notes About Texas' First Immigrant

Most people who have had U.S. history will recall that a Spaniard named Alvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca was lost for some period of time early in the Spanish exploration era; even born and re-born Texans may be barely familiar with the details. The story is historical rather than genealogical but this doesn't keep it from being fascinating; to have survived in an alien and hostile wilderness for over eight years as he did almost defies belief. The person we generally know as Cabeza de Vaca (translation *Head of (a) Cow*) is recognized as the first European to have journeyed across almost the entire North American continent, and thus to have seen interior Texas and northern Mexico. This extraordinary person endured years of privation and survived to write of the experience in an engrossing journal.

Following Columbus' journeys of discovery into the Caribbean area, and the Spanish conquest of Mexico by Cortés in 1519, any number of expeditions of exploration were undertaken in the name of the Spanish crown. A concurrent expedition in 1519 by Alonzo Alvarez de Pineda traced the Gulf coastline from Florida to Vera Cruz. He was the first European to see Texas but he never touched land. Another expedition with intentions of exploring what we now term the Gulf Coast was headed by Pánfilo de Narváez, more of a Don Quixote than a true leader (Cortés had gouged one of his eyes in an earlier incident and he was intending to get back to Mexico to even the score) His second-in-command was Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, who throughout the ill-fated expedition had trouble with Narváez' leadership. It is likely Núñez was considerably more capable than his commander but had to follow orders, questionable though they might have been.

The expedition, starting out with some 400 men and eighty horses, landed on the west coast of Florida in April 1528. Having lost all their ships and horses to weather and Narváez' incompetency, the group managed to build five barges to try to move westward along the coast, hoping to reach Mexico and safety. Bit by bit the party inched along, losing men and boats to the ever-present and hostile Indians and to disease and the severities of the weather. Finally, on what he remembered to be November 6, 1528, Cabeza de Vaca and the survivors in his boat became wrecked on Galveston Island. Survivors from one other boat were eventually found, some ninety in all, now dependent on the land and its natives for their existence. As far as can be determined they were the first Europeans to land in Texas.

These survivors were essentially enslaved by the coastal Indians. More and more died off; finally only Cabeza de Vaca and three others were left. He identifies one of them in his journal as Estevanico, a black, probably a Moor or Arab slave from Africa. They decided to break away from their coastal captors and headed overland to the west and south. Somewhere in that direction lay Mexico City. They didn't think it was as distant as it actually was but in any case they hoped to be able to reach some Spanish outpost. Their clothing had become so tattered they went naked, like the natives. Frequently they almost froze; Cabeza de Vaca was the very first person to write about a Texas norther.

They were always hungry. It seems strange to us today that in that environment food was very scarce. Even the natives of interior Texas continually bordered on starvation. As did the natives, the four ate mostly nuts and "tunas" (the fruit of the prickly pear) for days on end. They moved from tribe to tribe, ever westward. The Indians, not knowing what to make of these (comparatively) light-complected strangers, accepted them as shamans or medicine-men and insisted on their curing the sick and ailing. Cabeza de Vaca relates that they could only pray and make the sign of the cross over each ailing person, yet time and again the Indians said the person would get better, and thus their reputation as healers grew and spread ahead of them. Their survival depended on this reputation; otherwise the Indians would have killed or abandoned them.

The group's route continues to be hotly argued by professional historians. One belief is that they apparently moved up the Colorado to around the Austin vicinity, then south to below San Antonio (the prickly pear were more plentiful), then on into west Texas. They crossed the Rio Grande and continued west until they had almost reached the Pacific; then they turned south, knowing Mexico City and

Spanish settlements now had to be in that direction. Finally, in March 1536, after 8 years of wandering, they encountered a Spanish military party in the vicinity of present-day Culiacán (then the northernmost Spanish settlement). To quote Cabeza de Vaca: "I overtook four of them. They were dumbfounded at the sight of me, strangely undressed and in company with Indians. They just stood staring for a long time, not thinking to hale me or come closer to ask questions." We can only imagine.

Cabeza de Vaca had significant post-Texas experiences. He returned to Spain, and was in 1540 appointed governor of the Rio de la Plata province in South America. Because of his vast experience with Indians in Texas, he was most considerate of the plight of the natives in that province, so much that the Spanish authorities sent him back to Spain in chains in 1543. He was finally tried by the Council for the Indies in 1551, adjudged guilty and banished to Africa. Only the patient perseverance of his wife finally got the king's attention. He was pardoned and given a pension by the king. He died in honor in 1557, truly a man for all seasons.

Cabeza de Vaca published a first edition of his North American saga as *La Relación* in 1542. He also wrote an even longer account of his experiences in South America. Written from memory (he had no pockets to carry a pen and notepad!), the *La Relación* is filled with perceptive observations of the geography, flora, fauna and peoples of the country he traversed. He identified by name over 23 Indian tribes. How he could remember and correctly identify (much less spell) their names years afterward is incredible, considering that he was relying on a memory of up to 14 years under conditions of stress we can only faintly visualize. Anthropologists and botanists have found little fault with his observations.

There is nary a harsh word to be found in the entire journal. Not only extraordinarily durable physically, the man was a very intelligent, perceptive and understanding person. For one thing, the Spanish party he encountered was a raiding party intent on capturing and enslaving Indians, a common practice then. Before he left Mexico he strongly influenced the authorities to cease such practices.

The origin of his surname is genealogically interesting. Cabeza de Vaca was his mother's surname, having been granted as a title of honor to a peasant ancestor in the battle of Las Navas de Tolosa against the Moors on 12 July, 1212. It seems this ancestor detected a hidden mountain pass and marked it with a cow's skull so that the Christian forces could find it and attack the Moorish forces by surprise. King Sancho of Navarre thereupon granted this unique title to the peasant. Álvaro Núñez adopted this surname in preference to his father's, de Vera. Genealogists recognize that this was a common European practice, particularly if the maternal line was more notable. When we mention him we tend to handle his name as if the given name was Cabeza and the surname de Vaca but this is incorrect. He seems to have preferred to be called simply by his surname, Cabeza de Vaca.

We have no information on his progeny but if anyone is descended from Cabeza de Vaca they assuredly have an exceptional and illustrious ancestor to identify with.

WMK

Note: Much of the above information was derived from the following three sources:

1. *Cabeza de Vaca's Adventures in the Unknown Interior of America*, translated and edited by Cyclone Covey. Printed by University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque NM. ISBN 0-8263-0656-X. Available at the Austin Public Library.

2. *Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, The Journey and Route of the First European to cross the Continent of North America, 1534-1536* by Cleve Hallenbeck. Printed by Kennikat Press, Port Washington NY. ISBN 0-8046-1377-X. LC #78-123490. Available at the Texas State Library.

3. *Spanish Texas, 1519-1821*, by Donald E. Chipman. Printed by University of Texas Press, Austin TX. ISBN0-292-77659-4.

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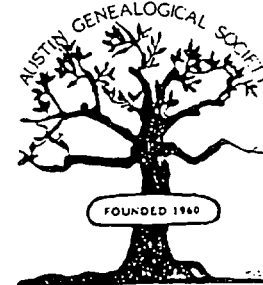
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Austin TX



TREATY OAK



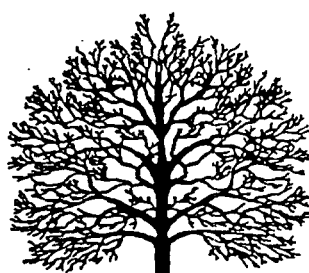
We are all saddened by the plight of "Treaty Oak." Its name is derived from a long-standing tradition that treaties between Native Americans and early Anglo settlers

were signed beneath its magnificent branches, even if no written proof has been found. We who live in the city and state that surround the lofty landmark are touched that people all over the nation have expressed sorrow about the threat to the life of the ancient tree whose branches spread over one hundred and ten feet.

Many of our readers know that the logo of Austin Genealogical Society is based on Treaty Oak. As explained in Volume XVI, page 1 of our Quarterly, the search for an appropriate cover design came to a happy conclusion in 1975, when Mrs. Maydell McDerment skillfully sketched "the iron work in front of a niche in the south foyer of the Capitol, in which reposes a copy of the Texas Declaration of Independence." The metallic scrollwork, featuring a conventionalized version of the 500-year-old live oak (*Quercus virginiana*), had been designed and crafted by Fortunat Weigl and his sons Herbert and F.L., about 1928. Our Society decided to adopt it as our symbolic "family Tree."

Because of the difficulty of creating thousands of tiny branches and leaves without special tools, the artisans produced only a skeletal representation of the then-flourishing Treaty Oak. We genealogists naturally interpreted the bare limbs as branches of the family tree that had almost died out. Little did we know that they were sadly prophetic of the future of Treaty Oak itself!

Tree lovers, Texana buffs, and genealogists everywhere now join in hoping that Treaty Oak, both literally and symbolically, will survive this catastrophe and flourish for centuries to come.



Founded 1960

AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 1507
AUSTIN TX 78767-1507

GOODBY TO AN ICON!

While the future of the actual Treaty Oak is still in doubt, there is no doubt about its future as a representative logo of the Austin Genealogical Society. Readers may have noticed that it no longer stands on the front cover of the AGS Quarterly, the monthly Newsletter, the Membership Handbook, or the stationary. It still bravely holds on, on the back cover of the Quarterly and a few last stationary pages, but will soon be gone altogether, replaced by a generic tree from the internet. Thus, we give way to the "Age of Communication."

JFH
January, 1999

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The Austin Genealogical Society

GENERAL INFORMATION

PURPOSE: Austin Genealogical Society was organized in 1960 as a not-for-profit corporation chartered by the State of Texas. Its purposes are to collect and preserve genealogical and historical information about the people of Texas, particularly pertaining to the City of Austin and to Travis and surrounding counties; to instruct and assist members in genealogical research; and to publish public and private records of genealogical interest. In addition, the AGS supports the Genealogical Collection, Texas State Library by donations of books and other genealogical material. Gifts and bequests to AGS are tax-deductible to the full extent permitted by law.

MEMBERSHIP is open to all upon payment of annual dues. Classes: Individual: \$20; Family (two in the same household): \$30.00; Patron of AGS: \$100.00; Lifetime: \$500.00 (\$300 if over 65). All classes entitle one copy of each Quarterly and monthly Newsletter, as well as two pages apiece (a total of four pages for Family or higher whether one or two people submit listings) in the Ancestor Listing issue (June). **After 1 July**, dues are \$10.00 for the balance of the year, but you will only receive the publications produced after the date you join.

DUES FOR EXISTING MEMBERS ARE PAYABLE on or before JANUARY FIRST of each year for the ensuing year. If dues are not received by 1 February, the name must be dropped from the mailing list. If membership is reinstated later and Quarterlies and Newsletters have to be mailed individually, postage must be charged. (Back Quarterlies are supplied only IF available--very few extras are printed). Send payment to **AGS Treasurer, P.O. Box 1507, Austin TX 78767-1507**.

MEETINGS of the general membership begin at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except August and December. Members are encouraged to come as early as 6:30 to socialize with each other. **MEETING PLACE:** Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Dr.. Take Northland (FM 2222) exit off Loop 1 (Mopac). Go west one block to Balcones Dr, then left 1 ½ blks. The Church and parking lot are on right. **VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.** The Board of Directors meets at 6:15 in a separate room.

BOOK REVIEW POLICY: Books on appropriate subjects related to genealogy will be reviewed, but **CANNOT** be reviewed in AGSQ on the basis of advertising alone. If a review copy is received by the Review Editor at 2202 W. 10th. St., Austin TX 78703 by the first of February, May, August or October, it will be reviewed in the next Quarterly, space permitting. It will then be placed in the Genealogy Collection, Texas State Library, available to all patrons.

CHECK RETURN POLICY: Members and other payees must pay AGS the cost of any returned check (currently \$5.00) over and above the charge their bank may impose.

AGS QUARTERLY is issued about the middle of March, June, September and November. Contributions are welcome, subject to editing for style/size. Contributor is completely responsible for accuracy and any copyright infringement. AGS assumes no responsibility for content of submitted material. See inside front cover for address.

ANCESTOR LISTING PAGES (June issue of Quarterly) must reach the Editor at 4500 Hyridge Drive, Austin TX 78759-8054 by the TENTH OF MAY. They must be **BLACK and LEGIBLE**, whether typed, hand-written, computer-printed or in superior calligraphy. Months must be **SPELLED** or abbreviated, not in figures. **DATES SHOULD BE SHOWN** in accepted genealogical style, that is, DAY, MONTH, YEAR (4 no;s.). Allow space for binding at inner margins of facing pages; i.e., your first page will be a left-hand page. Carefully check horizontal pages (reading in the 11-inch direction). Otherwise, the Editor has to position some pages upside down to prevent loss of data in the stapling-punching process. **NO 8 1/2x14 sheets, please!**

You may submit Lineage or Family Group charts, Ahnentafels, narratives, cemetery inscriptions, Bible records, census data, queries, or a combination of material, just so it is not under copyright. **BE SURE** to proofread your material for accuracy and clarity so we will not publish faulty or incorrect data. Put name and address of submitter **on each page** in legible form (not blind embossed). Consult a recent June Quarterly for suggestions. Remember that reproductions are dimmer than originals so try to provide good quality originals.

REMEMBER: Individual membership secures two facing pages.
Family or higher membership allows you four pages.

DEADLINES for everything in the Quarterly except book reviews: 10th of February, May, August and October. Material sent addressed only to AGS Box Number may not reach Editor in time.

The AGS Internet Page is at www.main.org/ags

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