

# AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY QUARTERLY

2016 Vol. 57 No. 2



Austin Genealogical Society  
PO Box 10010  
Austin, Texas 78766-1010

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**Red Star Cough Cure and St Jacobs Oil advertisements**

*The Austin Weekly Statesman 27 May 1886 Thurs pg. 5*

# Austin Genealogical Society 2016 Writing Contest

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Every article published by a current member of AGS in an issue of the AGS Quarterly will be automatically eligible for entry into our 2016 writing contest. The details are listed below:

## Contest Criteria

- Article must be published in the AGS Quarterly during the calendar year 2016.
- Article must include 500 words or more written by the author (not including words in transcriptions or family trees.)
- Articles considered will include original research, case studies, educational columns, essays and narratives on a genealogical subject.
- Articles must be submitted by a member of AGS in 2016, and winners must be a member at time of the award announcement in 2017.

*Entries will be judged on research quality, overall impact and interest, and clarity in writing.*

## Judging categories will include:

- Articles with a focus within Travis County
- Articles with a focus within Texas outside of Travis County
- Articles with a focus outside of Texas and other geographical areas
- Articles pertaining to an educational/historical topic with a focus on genealogy
- Personal Memoirs

## 1st place Articles in each category will be awarded\* from the following prizes:

- One Year Fold3 subscription
- One Year Newspapers.com subscription
- One Year HistoryGeo.com subscription
- 2017 AGS Seminar
- 2017 Save Austin's Cemeteries annual membership and a copy of the book, *Austin's Historic Oakwood Cemetery: Under the Shadow of the Texas Capitol*

*\*Articles will be judged by a committee and prizes will be awarded for the highest score in each category. A minimum of two submissions per category needed to qualify.*

We look forward to reading your submissions this year!

## QUARTERLY SUBMISSIONS AND INQUIRIES

Quarterly Submissions and inquiries can be sent to the Editor via email at:  
[quarterly@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:quarterly@austintxgensoc.org)

Contest rules and quarterly guidelines can be found on our website:  
[www.austintxgensoc.org/quarterly-guidelines](http://www.austintxgensoc.org/quarterly-guidelines)

The AGS Editor reserves the right to edit all contributed materials for style, grammar, and length.

It is the intent of AGS to avoid publishing personal information that is considered private, to identify author ownership for copyright purposes, and to publish accurate information through direct verification, identification of information source, or author's declaration.

## From the Editor

Greetings AGS Members,

Newspapers can be a fascinating source for family histories and genealogical information. While I was researching on newspapers.com last week, I came across amazing articles that mentioned my grandfather Doetsch and grandfather Barsi when they were young men.

The first article I found was about my paternal grandfather Robert “Bob” Doetsch. The article was from 1939, when he was a freshman attending St. Edward’s University in Austin, Texas. He was a guard on the Tigers’ basketball team. The article made note that the star players, or “prizes,” and even the coach all hailed from Indiana, and that they were “counting heavily on Doetsch, a good ball handler and a sharpshooter.”<sup>1</sup> This was fascinating to me that so many of these young players made the trek from Indiana to Texas. Even though I already knew that my grandfather was from Indiana, it would have been priceless information if I were facing a brick wall.

The second article I found was about my maternal step-grandfather, (my biological grandfather passed away before I was born) Anthony Barsi. The article mentions my grandfather, a Master Sergeant, who was en route from the Panama Canal aboard the USS General Harry Taylor<sup>2</sup> for a tour of duty in the Pacific to combat the Japanese forces. While aboard, something unexpected happened; President Truman announced the Japanese surrender over the ship’s loudspeaker.<sup>3</sup> Can you imagine the relief of the soldiers and crew, and the rejoicing that must have taken place? My grandfather is quoted expressing the celebration in the article, “And don’t you think everybody aboard that ship wasn’t wild when we learned we were turning to the United States.”<sup>4</sup> The article ends with a biography of my grandfather’s service in the army, and where he resided in Wheeling, West Virginia. The last paragraph was especially chilling, and something I never knew about his service, “his unit was stationed for a time at the Nazi horror camp of Buchenwald, treating released prisoners.”<sup>5</sup> I shudder to think what he witnessed while he was there.

In this issue, you will find articles that highlight similar discoveries and adventures taken while exploring family history.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to this quarterly issue. It is through your efforts that this publication continues to remain a source of the genealogical history of Austin and Travis County, and beyond. We truly couldn’t do it without you, so please continue to submit your family histories and memoirs, transcriptions, historical biographies, and narrative articles!



**Angela Doetsch**

quarterly@austingensoc.org

**Turn Back to New York.**  
The captain told the men apparently there had been a mistaken impression as to the destination of the ship, which was now “New York, New York.” The ship arrived in New York Tuesday night after coming back through the canal.  
Curl was in Italy for eight months.  
Master Sgt. Anthony Barsi, formerly stationed at Camp Atterbury, also arrived here on furlough this week after being rescheduled to the United States.  
Barsi, husband of Mrs. Audrey Barsi, employee of Gause cafe, is a member of the 84th Field hospital, which was aboard the S.S. General Taylor bound for the Pacific when the Japanese surrender was announced.  
**Everybody Goes Wild.**  
“And don’t you think everybody aboard that ship wasn’t wild when we learned we were turning to the United States,” he declared.  
The ship was 12 hours out of Panama when the order came to head for the United States. The ship had sailed from Marseilles, France, on Aug. 7 with the soldiers aboard slated for Pacific duty without furloughs in the States.  
Barsi said that President Truman’s announcement of the Japanese surrender was relayed through the ship by loudspeaker. The following day the ship’s captain announced that the vessel would put into the United States.  
A resident of Wheeling, W. Va., Barsi served overseas seven months after being stationed at Atterbury two years. He was post provost-sergeant there. He was in England, France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany.  
His unit was stationed for a time at the Nazi horror camp of Buchenwald, treating released prisoners.

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/129083305/>

*The Republic (Columbus, Indiana),  
Sat, Aug 25, 1945, Page 2*

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.newspapers.com/image/44825631/> Abilene Reporter-News (Abilene, Texas), Tues, Jan 10, 1939, Page 12

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.navsource.org/archives/09/22/22145.htm>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.newspapers.com/image/129083305/> The Republic (Columbus, Indiana), Sat, Aug 25, 1945, Page 2

<sup>4</sup> Ibid

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

## Lucky Strikes Can Happen!

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*One Man's Tracks: From Wales to Texas*

**By AGS Member Judith 'Judy' Cartwright Morris**

Shortly before my mother passed away in 1993, I began collecting genealogical data about my own maternal family line. It soon, albeit belated, dawned on me, that I really knew virtually nothing about my mother's paternal family line, the Grumbles. After the death of my mother, I discovered that they were one of the Pioneer Families of Travis County, while Texas was still a Republic. I'll always wonder if my mother knew that! Her 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfather was John J. Grumbles, followed soon after by his father, Benjamin Grumbles. Both were living in Austin before the end of the Republic in 1846.

For several years, I researched only my own family lines, not giving much thought to the family history of my husband, Tom. Family history has always been my hobby, and we were both married previously. Our children are from our first marriages, and I felt his ancestors would be of little interest to my own children, should they finally become interested in their own roots.

However, one day, Tom casually mentioned that his own paternal grandfather, who died only a few months after Tom was born, was born in Canada, and that his family had originated in Wales. He knew nothing more about his paternal roots; no names, and no places! In a momentary, wild excess of generosity and curiosity, I suggested I might be able to help; little dreaming what excitement would follow.

The lead up to all of the excitement casually began with a visit to Marshall, Texas, in about 1997 where many of Tom's maternal, and even a few paternal relatives live. We wandered over to an annex of the Harrison County Courthouse after lunch one day and walked up to the clerk's window with the hope of finding a death record for Tom's grandfather. Looking back, had we been at home in Austin when the thought occurred to us, we might have gone to the Department of Vital Statistics a couple of miles from our home to see if there was a death certificate even filed! We knew his name and that he had been born "somewhere" in Canada, but that was all we had to go on. The clerk pulled out several shoeboxes (yes, shoeboxes) from beneath the counter. The boxes were packed with 4x6 index cards of death records, and soon enough we had what we were looking for, Tom's grandfather's death record. John Thomas Morris was born in 1870 in Blanchard Township, Ontario, Canada, to parents, John Morris and Hannah Sadler.

Soon after, we took our first trip to Canada to learn more, but could not find Blanchard Township on a map. We consulted a library in Toronto that held historic maps and located the Township, a bump in the road just outside of St. Mary's, Perth County, Ontario.

Off we drove to St. Mary's. In the St. Mary's Historical Museum, we found census records on microfilm. In almost no time, we found John Morris, his wife Hannah, and their five children in the 1871 Canadian Census in Blanchard, Perth County, Ontario. <sup>1</sup> Tom's grandfather, John, was the youngest at eight years old, and was listed as being born in Ontario. The record said that John Morris was a farmer, and Welsh. Hannah was English and both were Wesleyan Methodists. We later learned that Hannah's family was from North Yorkshire, England, where we've also visited several times since, but she was born in Ontario a few years after the family emigrated from England. This was an exciting find, but still left us with a bit of a sinking feeling that finding John's birthplace in Wales would be like searching for the proverbial "needle in a haystack." This was made even more evident, particularly since John Morris is one of the most common names in Wales, like Tom Jones would be in the States! At that time, we still felt unarmed with sufficient information. Even to think, in that one day we'd allotted ourselves, to search for potential obituaries, burials or any other records of the family in or around St. Mary's and Blanchard Township. We did, however, feel proud of ourselves for simply finding where the family was in 1871, and confirming names, estimated ages, occupations,



religions, and their countries of origin. We strolled to the picturesque courthouse, had a very pleasant chat with the City Manager, and enjoyed a leisurely lunch in a nearby café before heading home!

Back in Austin, I fiddled and fidgeted for several months with various internet records, feeling pretty hopeless. But late one evening in early 1999, as I was more or less idly scrolling through some of the less official, data-driven, genealogical websites, I saw a query on one of the sites, possibly GenForum or GenSearch, from someone named Sadler who was researching her own Sadler roots. She was searching for descendants of her 2<sup>nd</sup> great-aunt, Hannah Sadler, and her husband, John Morris. Better than that, she even listed the names of all five of their children, which matched exactly with those we'd seen in the 1871 Census; and that was only the start, it just kept getting better! She had the date and place of John and Hannah's marriage, named the village in Wales where John was born, and had the names of his parents, who were buried in Oshawa, Ontario! She also had tons of information about the Sadlers of North Yorkshire in England, who'd immigrated to Ontario a couple of years before Hannah was born; icing on the cake. This researcher, Tom's 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin once removed, had been researching her Sadler tree for over 20 years, and Hannah's descendants were the only ones she hadn't located yet. I screamed in excitement to Tom, who happened to be in the shower, "there's a cousin in Canada looking for you!"

After many excited e-mail exchanges, we began planning our first trip to both North Yorkshire and to Llansilin, North Wales that September. Llansilin was originally part of county Denbighshire, then became part of county Clwyd, and now is in county Powys.<sup>2</sup> One of my first thoughts was to locate the Anglican Church in the village and see if it was still there and functioning; Silly question! The earliest part of the still active church dates from the 13<sup>th</sup> century, although there was a church on the site from much earlier times. Most of the current building dates from the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. The online records of The Church in Wales, (the name differs slightly from The Church of England) pointed me to the name of the then current Vicar. I wrote him a letter asking if he knew if there were any Morris family members active in the parish or buried in the churchyard, and a few details about why we were searching for them. I received a most interesting reply with some bits of Morris family history, including information about when Maurice Morris, Tom's great-grandfather, had emigrated from Wales to Canada. The vicar also provided the name and contact information of one of Maurice's other descendants, Mary Morris. Mary was the Vicar's Warden! She was a spinster interested in genealogy and from a long line of the Morris family in his parish. Mary Morris turned out to be Tom's fourth cousin, the eldest sister of the cousin whose family and farm we have since been so very welcomed into. Even at the "distant" fourth cousin level, there are still obvious family and personality traits that we all enjoy pointing out and joking about.



**Tynewydd, Llansilin, N. Wales, photo 2015**

*Photo courtesy of AGS Member Judith  
Cartwright Morris*

The search has become so interesting and fruitful that since 1999, we've visited with an estimated 75 of Tom's cousins, both in Canada and in Wales. A few have even visited us here in Austin, Texas. Some of the high points of our lives have been spending three to four weeks at a time with these families. We cherish the time spent with the Morris cousin's family at Tynewydd, their large, working sheep and dairy farm. Tynewydd translates to "The New House" in English. The farm is located in rural Wales, just across the border from Shropshire, England, and includes a restored 16<sup>th</sup> century, Grade II Listed home.<sup>3</sup>



**St. Silin's Church, Llansilin, N. Wales  
(recent painting)**

*Courtesy of AGS Member Judith Cartwright Morris*

We also enjoy our time spent participating in the life of Tom's ancestral village and two ancestral churches, St. Silin's in Llansilin, and St. Oswald's, which is just across the border about six miles further east, in Oswestry, Shropshire, England. Shropshire is the nearest market town, and just across the border from Llansilin. On our visits, we alternate Sundays between the two churches where some of the cousins are still active. Only a few grew up speaking Welsh, although their parents did. Many ancestors are buried in the cemeteries in both churchyards. We've also been privileged to visit and enjoy tea in a big family kitchen with some of the cousins who live at Lloran Uchaf, a 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century, Grade II Listed farmhouse. Lloran Uchaf is also located outside of Llansilin, and is where Tom's great-

grandfather and 2<sup>nd</sup> great-grandfathers were born.

Last year, at St. Oswald's because they've become so familiar with us over the years, we were very honored when the head usher invited us and one of Tom's sons who was with us that trip, to carry the elements to the altar when the Holy Communion service began. After the service, the choirmaster even invited us to join in their choir practice! We sang in the choir the following Sunday and have been invited to do it again our next visit. I think we passed our audition! Since our first visits, two of Tom's sons, a daughter-in-law, and grandchildren have also gone with us to visit in Llansilin. Later this year, my 13-year-old granddaughter will be going with us. She is already getting "pre-acquainted" through email with one of Tom's younger female cousins who is exactly her age. A nearby granddaughter also lives on the sheep and dairy farm of the fourth cousin with whom we stay. Culture shock, anyone? We've also visited several times with other cousins in the 14<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse where Tom's 2<sup>nd</sup> great and great-grandfathers were born.



**St Oswald's Church, Oswestry,  
Shropshire, photo 2015**

*Photo courtesy of AGS Member Judith Cartwright Morris*

Only a month after returning from that first visit to Wales in 1999, we were in Canada again, meeting



**Lloran Uchaf, Llansilin, N. Wales,  
painting circa 1910**

*Photo courtesy of AGS Member Judith Cartwright Morris*

a number of Tom's third and fourth cousins there who are also descendants of Tom's 3<sup>rd</sup> great-grandparents. We were very excited to share our photos and new information about the Morris family in Wales, and to learn that several of them had already met Mary Morris and some of the other cousins in Wales years ahead of us! There's so much more we've learned in our many visits, some in the history section of the very nice public library in Oswestry, where Cousin Mary Morris volunteers, and in the parish records and churchyard in Llansilin. We have discovered photos of ancestors in the albums of the Welsh cousins, and even found in the Oswestry library a death notice printed in a newspaper from Oshawa, Ontario, Canada, announcing the death of Tom's great-grandfather, Maurice Morris.





Mr. and Mrs. John Morris, Oct 1861,  
Pickering, Ontario, Canada  
*Photo courtesy of AGS Member Judith  
Cartwright Morris*

Also, serendipitously included in one of the family albums was a wedding photo of Tom's great-grandfather John Morris and his bride Hannah Sadler in 1861, which had made its way back across the Atlantic from Ontario to Llansilin, the very same wedding photo which Hannah Sadler's 2<sup>nd</sup> great-niece in Ontario had already shared with us. This was yet even more proof, had there been any doubt, that we were in the correct Morris family.

We've found many additional records since the original door was opened for us by our Sadler cousin in Ontario; obituaries and/or graves of Tom's great-grandparents, several 2<sup>nd</sup> great-uncles, and the three sisters of his grandfather, buried in Michigan, and their other brother, buried in Vancouver, B.C., and much, much more. Although we haven't found any definite living Sadler cousins in Yorkshire, the large immigrant family brought even their in-laws with them to Canada, we've spent many happy hours in and around the villages, towns and farmland where they lived, hiking in the scenic hills along the coastline, and visiting several of the churches and graveyards named in their baptismal, marriage, and burial records.

There's one more intriguing twist in this journey of discovery. We will need to backtrack just a bit to the Morris family. One grave particularly intrigued us when we were in Marshall, Texas. We'd never paid much attention to it until after our first trip to Wales. The grave was that of John "Papa" Morris who died in 1908. The tombstone is next to Tom's grandfather, John Thomas Morris. We wondered how and why Tom's great-grandfather, John, who had emigrated with his father, two brothers, and a cousin from Wales to Canada at the age of nine, (his mother and two younger siblings would follow seven long years later,) but never lived in Texas, wound up in the family plot at Greenwood Cemetery in Marshall. So, we searched microfilm copies of old Marshall Newspapers from 1908, and found these two notices transcribed below:

Marshall Messenger, Monday, October 12, 1908:

**Mr. Morris Dies**

The remains of Mr. Morris, father of J. T. Morris, arrived from Bonham on the 101 this afternoon, and were interred in Greenwood cemetery.

Marshall News Messenger, Tuesday, October 13, 1908:

**Morris Obsequies:** The remains of Mr. John Morris reached here from Bonham on No. 105 [or 101?] last evening, accompanied by his son, J. T. Morris, manager of the A. F. telegraph office here. Mr. Morris was born in Wales in 1839 and moved to Canada at the age of nine years. For a number of years Minneapolis was his domicile [sic] and his home at the time of his death. Mr. Morris was on a business visit to Bonham when stricken with typhoid fever. The deceased was a Mason and lifelong member of the Methodist church. The deceased leaves a widow and five surviving children, three daughters and two sons. Interment was had in Greenwood cemetery last afternoon. The floral offerings from the local telegraphers were many and most beautiful. To the bereaved relatives The Messenger extends condolence.

Naturally, we decided we needed to visit Bonham, Texas, to see what the newspaper there had to say about his 1908 death. We found a couple of very detailed articles describing Mr. John Morris' time spent in Bonham.<sup>4</sup> He had been on an inspection trip there to check on the gas plant, which he and his two stepsons in Minneapolis had purchased. John's first wife, Tom's great-grandmother, Hannah Sadler, had died in Ontario in 1878, and John had since re-married, eloping from Ontario to Kalamazoo, Michigan. His second wife was also a widow with two sons. On this particular trip, he was stricken with typhoid fever and died. Conditions were not conducive to transporting his remains all the way back to Minneapolis for burial, so the second best choice was the closer town of Marshall where his youngest son, John Thomas Morris, resided, the only child of John and Hannah, who had settled in far-away Texas. We discovered in one of the Bonham newspaper articles that John's second wife from Minneapolis, and one of his stepsons, had traveled to Bonham to make the arrangements.

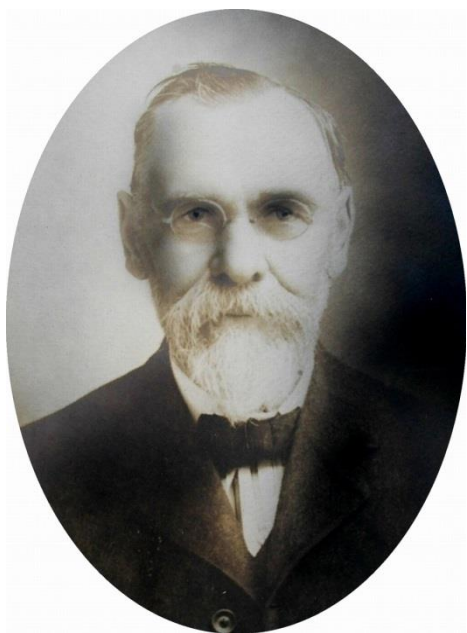
Further research uncovered Tom's great-grandfather John's 1890 United States citizenship papers which had been filed in Pembina County, North Dakota. An extensive microfilm

search of old newspapers from St. Thomas, Pembina

County, revealed many articles covering several years describing the comings and goings of John and his second family's lives and business ventures, prior to his last move to Minneapolis. We were very pleased to learn that John had been well liked and known wherever he went. Death notices were also found in the newspapers in St. Thomas, North Dakota, and St. Mary's, Ontario.<sup>5</sup>

Although we all may often find ourselves discouraged about the inevitable "dead end" or "brick wall" in our genealogy research, we've learned that even one unexpected or seemingly trivial tidbit of information can lead to another, and another. From our many adventures, we now have a pedigree chart showing Tom's paternal pedigree back to his 3<sup>rd</sup> great-grandfather. There's definitely hope out there that mysteries can be solved!

May all researchers have the good fortune we've had!



**John Morris, 1839-1908**

*Photo courtesy of AGS Member Judith Cartwright Morris*

## MORRIS' OBSEQUES.

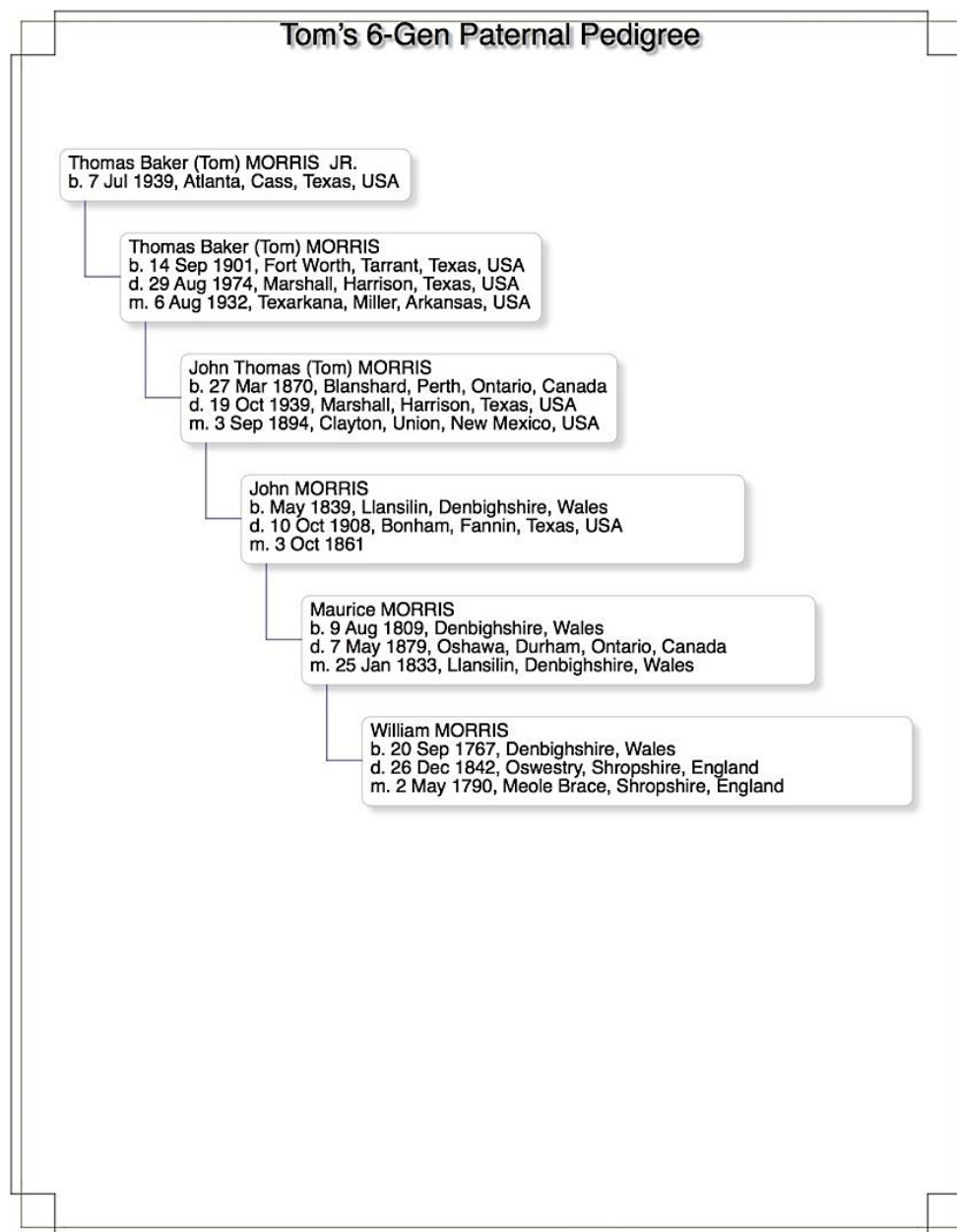
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Interment was had in Greenwood cemetery last afternoon. The floral offerings from the local telegraphers were many and most beautiful. To the bereaved relatives The Messenger extends condolence.

**Newspaper Obituary for John Morris  
from the Marshall News Messenger, 13  
Oct 1908**

*Courtesy of AGS Member Judith  
Cartwright Morris*



### Six-Generation Paternal Pedigree of Tom Morris

*Judy Morris is a 7th generation native Austinite via her maternal line (oldest Travis County ancestor Benjamin Grumbles,) and with paternal ancestry proven to her own satisfaction, so far, to 1784, in North Carolina, and interesting leads proven, to the satisfaction of others, to the 1600s in Maryland, and hence to the 1500s in Nottinghamshire. Aside from genealogy research, other favorite activities include choral singing for over 60 years, crocheting, yoga and generally staying fit, travel (not often enough!) with light doses of UDC, DAR, UT Retired Faculty-Staff Assoc., and of course, AGS! She graduated from McCallum High School, and was a Spanish major at UT, thinking of becoming a Spanish teacher or bilingual secretary, but marriage intervened and Spanish is limited mainly to reading and listening.*

<sup>1</sup> <https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:M478-6RN>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.geni.com/projects/Counties-of-Wales-United-Kingdom/14323>

<sup>3</sup> \* Editor's Note: "A listed building, in the United Kingdom, is one that has been placed on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Listed\\_building](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Listed_building)

<sup>4</sup> Bonham Daily Favorite, Friday, October 9, 1908; Bonham Daily Favorite, Monday, October 12, 1908; St. Thomas Times (St. Thomas, North Dakota), Friday, October 16, 1908; and St. Mary's [Ontario] Journal October 22, 1908.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid

# Don't Believe Everything Grandma Tells You

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**By AGS Member Joyce Arquette**

When I was very young, I vaguely remember being told by my great-grandmother, Elizabeth Bean Mosty, and my grandfather, Harvey Mosty, that we were related to someone famous in Texas history.

That someone was Judge Roy Bean.

Now, for those of you who aren't from Texas, aren't familiar with Texas history, who haven't seen the movie "The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean" starring Paul Newman, or haven't heard "Law West of the Pecos" mentioned, you may not know who Judge Roy Bean was. Judge Roy Bean was born in 1825, died in 1903, and was famous, or infamous, in Texas history.

My great-grandmother was a Bean from Lampasas and we all believed she was kin to Judge Roy Bean. I think she claimed he was her half-brother. Throughout my life, my brother's, and all of my cousins' lives, we bragged to all who would listen about being kin to the famous Judge Roy Bean.

After I retired I became interested in my genealogy and began researching the connection of my family with Judge Roy Bean. I attended several genealogy classes and workshops, and with the help of my son, we became best friends with FamilySearch.org & Ancestry.com. There we found the beginnings of the Bean family.

In about the year 1635, William Bean was born in Inverness Shire, Scotland. He migrated to the United States with his wife, Margaret. They lived and died in St. Stephens Parish, Northumberland, Virginia. One of their sons, William Bean, was born in 1655 in Virginia, and another son, John Bean was born in 1675 in the same locale. John Bean's son, William Bean, was also born in Northumberland, Virginia, followed by his son, Captain William R. Bean.

Captain William Bean served in the Revolutionary War, and in 1769, he and his wife were among the first white permanent settlers in Tennessee. His son, Russell, was the first white child born in Tennessee. On Highway 23, on the outskirts of Johnson City, Tennessee, is a historical marker beside the highway noting the birth of the first white child born on Tennessee soil. There is interesting history regarding Bean Station and a marker erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution in Chattanooga honoring Bean Station.

Next in the line was Jesse Bean, born in Virginia, followed by Richard Henderson Bean who was born in 1799 in Tennessee. Richard Henderson Bean married Elizabeth Denton, and they had a son named Mark Bean. His father, Richard, died in 1859 in La Grange, Texas. Mark Bean fought in the Civil War, and then moved to Lampasas, Texas, where he married Isabella Huling. They had a daughter, Elizabeth Bean, who was born in 1861 in Lampasas, Texas. Mark Bean died in Lampasas when he was only 30 years old. His wife, Isabella Huling, continued to live in Lampasas with several other members of the Bean family. Her daughter, Isabella, married Lee Anthony Mosty in 1881, and they moved to Kerr County, Texas. Harvey Mosty, my grandfather, was one of their many children.

Well, that's the brief synopsis of the Bean family and my relatives. I know you're thinking, "Well, when does Judge Roy Bean come into the picture?" After all of the research and hope, it turns out that Judge Roy Bean was not a relative and actually belonged to the San Antonio clan of Beans and not the Lampasas clan of Beans. I later found out there was no blood relationship, at least no close relationship, among the various Bean clans. So, the moral is "Don't believe everything your grandmother (or great-grandmother) tells you about the family."



# Our Cousin “Wild Bill” Longley

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## *Tales of a Gunslinger in Texas*

By AGS Member Angela Doetsch

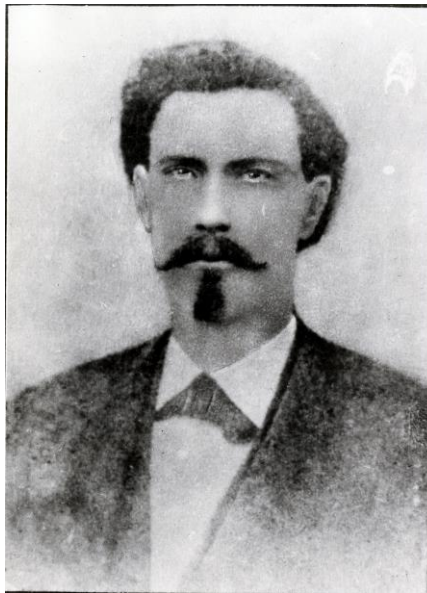
“Devil’s Pass Hell’s Half Acre, September the 41st, 7777 [sic] (probably 1877): ...I shall alone tread the living land destitute of friends...for I am a wolf and it is my night to howl.”<sup>1</sup>

” . . . He was always large for his age. Six feet tall from his fifteenth year, his weight at maturity was to be two hundred pounds so magnificently proportioned as to make him look slender. He was the idol of the boys at Evergreen’s field schoolhouse. Dark-eyed, dark-haired, his Indian-like face could smile or lower in the same minute. He rode like a Comanche. He could not remember when the “hogleg” shaped butt of the Colt’s pistol was not familiar to his hard big palm.”<sup>2</sup>

“Longley is a tall, well-made young man of 26 years of age, black hair and eyes, and of very pleasing address, has not a repulsive feature in his face.”<sup>3</sup>

The quotes above are all written descriptions about a man born William Preston Longley, known to those once close to him as Bill. Bill, the son of a preacher, would become known as “Wild Bill,” one of the most infamous and notorious gunslingers in Texas history.

When researching my Longley line, I learned that I had an ancestor who was cousins with an infamous Texas gunslinger. Some of you may know what it feels like to stumble upon an ancestor who has been less than an ideal citizen. In fact, I am willing to bet that most of us have someone in our family tree who committed a crime, or some notorious act. I am not ashamed to admit I have found a few. No family is perfect, after all. Here we will learn a little bit about a boy who became a man, much too fast, a boy with a quiet upbringing whose world suddenly turned upside down.



**Wm. P Longley**

From the photographic archives of the  
Western History Collections,  
University of Oklahoma Libraries,  
Rose Collection, Number 2139

Bill was born a child of the Texas frontier on 6 October 1851 near Mill Creek in Austin County, Texas. By the young age of two, his parents moved the family to Old Evergreen in Washington County, Texas. Old Evergreen was near modern day Lincoln which is now a part of Lee County.<sup>4</sup> “Old Evergreen took its name from a grove of picturesque and primeval live oaks.”<sup>5</sup> The largest of these oaks was known as the “court house oak,”<sup>6</sup> and it was here that the local authority carried out their justice. This oak would be a great influence in Bill’s future.

Bill’s parents were Campbell and Sarah Ann Henry Longley. His father, Campbell, is often described as a quiet and humble man. He was a minister dedicated to the Campbellite faith. Campbellite is an oftentimes offensive term used to describe a group of “prominent leaders of the Disciples of Christ movement of the early 19th century”<sup>7</sup> led by Thomas and Alexander Campbell.<sup>8</sup> Bill had been raised in this faith, having been baptized and set on a devoted path as his father before him.

When the Civil War broke-out, Bill was only a young boy, but he soon understood the rage and dissension of the secessionists in the area when his father voted on the Union ticket. This singular event triggered a furious spark in a young boy that would forever change history. “Like all wars, the Civil War (aka War between the States, or War of Northern Aggression) brought about great social changes in our country. The aftermath of the war was much to blame for the era of outlaws and

gunfighters which ensued in the south due to its changed economic status and to the occupation by the Union Army. Campbell's son would soon become an infamous gunslinger, one of the first, in the Reconstruction period after the War; A gunslinger known as "Wild Bill" Longley.”<sup>9</sup>

Bill had a striking presence and a fierce independence about him which naturally appealed to the young in Old Evergreen. He was a natural leader and they were drawn to him in droves, even though he was barely 14 years of age. The townsmen would gather round the court house gallows oak (which still stands there this day)<sup>10</sup> which provided a place for shade and a place for discussing the many grievances of the disgruntled older white men of the area. The most common topics of outrage were of the carpetbagger, and the recently freed younger generation of Negroes whom they felt were “drunk with liberty and license.”<sup>11</sup> Bill would gather here with his schoolmates and supervise the younger children while they played games like “One-Eyed Cat” and “Bull Pen.”<sup>12</sup> He would also listen attentively to the townspeople who gathered here, day-in and day-out. Even though he did not realize it then, these meetings would fuel the fire and kick-start his future gunslinger’s path. He would soon embark on an outlaw spree of murder and mayhem that would last for nearly a decade, ending with an estimated body count of 32 men. With this newly-gained hunger for change, Bill dropped out of school and began hanging out with the proverbial wrong crowd. He had also taken to drinking whisky and brandy, and developed a fondness for the gun. A pair of Dance .44 revolvers were soon to follow.



**A Dance .44 Caliber Revolver**

[http://www.civilwar.si.edu/weapons\\_dance.html#](http://www.civilwar.si.edu/weapons_dance.html#)

His crimes began towards the end of 1866, when “a burly negro applied the fighting epithet”<sup>13</sup> towards his father, Campbell Longley, in Bill’s presence. It is said that Bill caught up to the man, disarmed him, and “emptied both six-shooters into a small spot six inches across on the side of a goods box simultaneously.”<sup>14</sup> The man attempted to flee on his horse, but he was shot in the head. Bill had taken his first life and exacted his first revenge. Longley would continue disarming young Negroes, taking their pistols, rifles, horses, and money away, even if it ended in killing. His next murders followed soon after a failed attempt to disarm a group of Negroes in the “Yegua bottom”<sup>15</sup> section of the country with his partner Johnson McKeown. Two were killed and another wounded on this day.

One night, Bill and Johnson went to a party in Lexington, heavily armed and mounted. “Longley charged into the crowd” “and his two six-shooters barked with such effect that two Negroes were killed outright, and several others wounded.”<sup>16</sup> Longley began to gain the reputation as a man who would kill without hesitation.

By early 1868, Bill had decided to “go out West.”<sup>17</sup> he worked for a man named John Reagan, “a large stock owner”<sup>18</sup> in Karnes county, and joined up with the infamous Taylor boys/clan. The Taylor clan was involved with “one of the longest and most vicious feuds in Texas history...the Sutton-

Taylor Feud.”<sup>19</sup> “Creed Taylor, the patriarch of the Taylor clan, was a rough-and-ready old frontiersman. He had been a Texas Ranger under Captain John Coffee Hays who was probably the most formidable fighting man in Texas between 1836 and 1849. Creed’s sons were chips off the block. Around them, they gathered a group of kindred souls.”<sup>20</sup> Longley was among those souls. Near Yorktown, however, he was chased down by federal lawmen and was involved in a shootout where he killed a “sergeant of the Sixth Ohio Regiment.”<sup>21</sup> Longley went on the run to Arkansas.

In Arkansas, he befriended a horse thief named Tom Johnson, and while bunking down in his home, faced what eventually seemed to be his match. One night, Johnson’s home was surrounded by vigilantes, and they were both apprehended. They were taken out to the woods in the dead of the night and both men were hanged. The vigilantes also fired several rounds into both men. Johnson died while hanging, but Bill was miraculously saved. “One of the shots hit Longley in the belt by which he carried his gold, but it did no harm. The second shot cut the strands of the rope, and Longley’s immense weight of 200 pounds soon caused the rope to give way and he fell to the ground unconscious.”<sup>22</sup> One of Johnson’s younger brothers found the men in the early hours of the morning. When Bill was well enough, he took to revenge and killed seven of the hanging party.

Cullen M. Baker caught word of Bill’s criminal career, and convinced him to join the Baker Gang. The Baker Gang helped him to catch more of the lynching party, including the man who fired the shots into Johnson. He ran with Cullen Baker until the early summer of 1868, when he decided to return home.

When he returned to Texas, Bill told the story of his hanging, escape, and subsequent revenge. He also boasted that he had “killed several Negroes” along the way. The account of his hanging and rescue were conveyed in his own words through correspondence with the local papers. Personal letters written to the local newspapers, filled with fantastical accounts of his exploits and confessions to his crimes, would eventually become the most popular sources for his cross-country crime spree.

It was around this time that General J.J. Reynolds of Austin, Texas, offered a \$1000 bounty was issued for his capture . . . dead or alive. Many reported that Bill joined up with another man, or men, and continued to steal horses and kill if that is what it took. It was at this point that he changed up his modus operandi, or MO,<sup>23</sup> as he killed three or four white men along the way. The color of a man’s skin no longer seemed to be a motive for his crimes.

He headed out once again, this time for Salt Lake City to visit family. Along the way he met up with a cattle rancher, a man named Rector, who employed him as a herder. He as headed to Kansas. This partnership didn’t last long, as he had irreconcilable differences with Rector and eventually shot and killed him. Longley continued to head north, first to Kansas then onto Salt Lake City.<sup>24</sup>

He made it all the way to Kansas where it is rumored that he killed a few more men. Some were told to be the result of skirmishes, others out of drunken rages over gambling losses, some out of greed, and some may have been for no apparent reason at all. He stayed in a place called Abilene and ironically took on the role of deputy sheriff for a short while. This gave Longley the authority to arrest and kill, and also to share in the bounties for these men. One night, probably after a few drinks, he got into an argument with one of the locals. The story goes that the other man started jabbing at him for being from Texas. As a result, Longley shot the man.<sup>25</sup> He took to the run again, but was soon captured for his crime. He was taken into custody, but he had made many a friend as a deputy sheriff, and still maintained the charisma of a natural born leader. Longley ended up bribing the guard for his release. This did not last long, as he was soon re-arrested. Comically, he was once again released by sweet-talking his way out.<sup>26</sup> Since the law was fast on his trail, Longley began wearing a disguise as he started out towards Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Along the way, he joined a mining expedition that was headed for the Black Hills where he assumed a fake name and gained employment with a quartermaster named Gregory. Bill began a lucrative venture in the stealing and trading of mules to the locals, something that must have come to him as second nature by this point. The captain soon realized his plundering and confronted Longley, who shot him. He made yet another escape and was tracked down by a trail of blood from his feet as he left the scene of the crime. Before the soldiers could escort him back to the fort, Wild Bill escaped yet again.

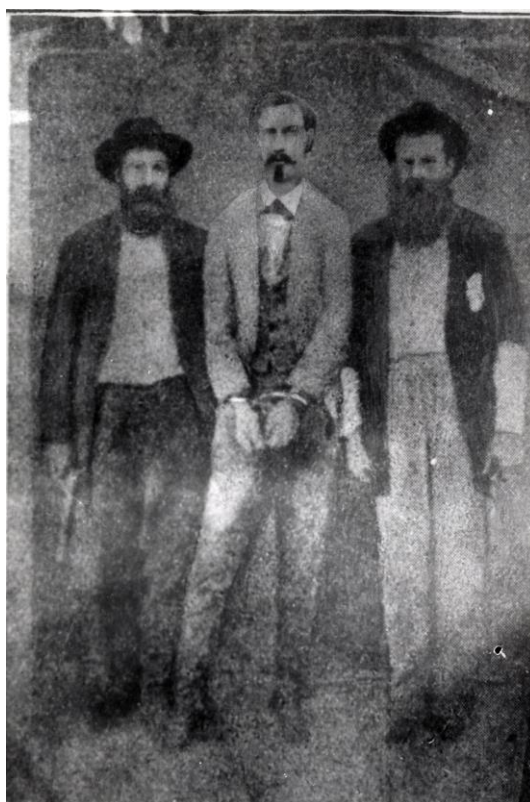
Longley came upon a camp of Native Americans, possibly Snake or Bannock, and he proposed an alliance with them. They may have trusted him based on his already native appearance, or with promises of a lucrative business venture. They say he joined with one of the tribes for a short time and participated in raids and killing United States soldiers.<sup>27</sup> He returned across the plains, through Kansas, killing along the way. "In Morris county, Kansas, near a little town called Parkersville he got in a game of cards with a man by the name of Charlie Stuart."<sup>28</sup> They got into a fight and Longley "sent one ball into Stuart's heart and one into his head." Stuart's father put up a new bounty upon his head, this time in the amount of \$1500.

He was soon arrested and jailed again. His captors claimed the reward, but before they left town, they asked to see the prisoner. The captors quickly disarmed the sheriff, and to everyone's surprise, broke Longley out. They all rode off and split the reward money. Bill returned to Texas where he committed his final acts of mayhem.

Upon his return home on 1 April 1875, Bill caught word that a man named Wilson Anderson had killed one of his cousins. Bill, and his brother James Stockton Longley, "gunned Anderson to death while Anderson was plowing a field, and the two brothers fled north to Indian Territory"<sup>29</sup> to avenge his cousin's death. Wild Bill had struck again. It was later discovered that his cousin was actually bucked from a horse while drunk and that Anderson did not murder his cousin at all. This discovery prompted his brother, James, to turn himself in for the crime.<sup>30</sup> This did not stop Bill, and he continued committing acts of murder.

"In November 1875, Longley killed George Thomas in McLennan County, and then rode south to Uvalde County, where, in January 1876, he killed William "Lou" Shroyer in a stand up gunfight."<sup>31</sup> There are reports of Longley sharecropping in Delta County, Texas, where a \$500 reward was issued for the murder of Reverend Roland Lay,<sup>32</sup> and of Bill hiding out as far as DeSoto Parish, Louisiana.

He could not hide forever and escape his inevitable fate, and was captured on 6 June 1877. He was tried on 5 September 1877, in Austin, Texas, for his many crimes. Judge Turner found him guilty of all counts held against him. The judge sentenced Bill to death by hanging at the gallows in Lee County.<sup>33</sup>



**Bill Burrows, Bill Longley, and Sherriff Mast,  
1878**

From the photographic archives of the Western  
History Collections, University of Oklahoma  
Libraries, Rose Collection, Number 2140



The day of his hanging was dark and filled with clouds, but at noon the clouds broke and the sky parted. A crowd of 4000 men, women and children (mostly Negro) gathered to witness his public hanging. Bill was brought to the gallows “with a light fantastic tread, a bright smile on his countenance, and a lighted cigar in his mouth.”<sup>34</sup> Longley addressed the crowd briefly, saying: “Well, I haven’t got much to say, I have got to die. I see a good many enemies around me, and mighty few friends. I hate to die, of course; any man hates to die but I have learned this by taking the lives of men who loved life as much as I do. If I have any friends here, I hope they will do nothing to avenge my death; if they want to help me, let them pray for me. I hear that my brother is in the crowd. I hope he ain’t, but if he is, I hope he will not take anybody’s life to avenge mine. I have done enough of that. I deserve this fate. It’s a debt I owe for my wild, reckless life. When it is paid it will be all over with. I hope you will all forgive me; I will forgive you; whether you do or not, may God forgive me. I have nothing more to say. Good bye everybody.”<sup>35</sup> And with that, on 11 October 1878, at 2:23 P.M., William Preston Longley succumbed to his fate. He was only 27 years old.

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*Disclaimer: Most of what has been written about Bill Longley and his crimes was conveyed to the local newspapers by word of mouth and by his own hand. Many of these crimes have not been corroborated. Some of this article will be construed as fiction by some, but the truth of Bill Longley’s crimes remains unknown. Thanks to the 17 Oct 1878 article “Last of Longley” printed in The Austin Weekly Statesman and the website put together by cousin Doris Ross Brock Johnston ([Our Texas Family](#)) for valuable research information on Bill Longley.*

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<sup>1</sup> These are the words of William Preston Longley written by his hand in a letter to his cousin, Jim Brown in 1877: <http://ourtexasfamilycom.ipage.com/Longley-Patterson-Campbell/Longley-WildBill.html>

<sup>2</sup> From Breed of the Border-Bill Longley:

<http://ourtexasfamilycom.ipage.com/Longley-Patterson-Campbell/Longley-WildBill.html>

<sup>3</sup> The Galveston Daily News, 7 Jul 1877, Sat, Page 1: <https://www.newspapers.com/image/20742140/>

<sup>4</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln,\\_Texas](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lincoln,_Texas)

<sup>5</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 17

<sup>6</sup> Ibid

<sup>7</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Campbellite>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> <http://ourtexasfamilycom.ipage.com/Longley-Patterson-Campbell/Longley-WildBill.html>

<sup>10</sup> <http://texasforests.tamu.edu/websites/FamousTreesOfTexas/TreeLayout.aspx?pageid=16098>

<sup>11</sup> From Breed of the Border-Bill Longley:

<http://ourtexasfamilycom.ipage.com/Longley-Patterson-Campbell/Longley-WildBill.html>

<sup>12</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 18

<sup>13</sup> Ibid

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

<sup>15</sup> Yegua Creek begins in Lee County at the junction of East and Middle Yegua creeks in Somerville Lake (at 30°19' N, 96°45' W). It flows east as part of the Burleson county line for almost thirty-one miles to its junction with the Brazos River in southeastern Washington County (at 30°23' N, 96°18' W). Handbook of Texas Online, "Yegua Creek," accessed May 24, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/rby03>. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>16</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 18

<sup>17</sup> The Austin Weekly Statesman (Austin, TX) 17 Oct 1878, Thu, First Edition, Page 1:

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/49689202/>

<sup>18</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 19

<sup>19</sup> [http://texasranger.org/dispatch/Backissues/Dispatch\\_Issue\\_08.pdf](http://texasranger.org/dispatch/Backissues/Dispatch_Issue_08.pdf)

<sup>20</sup> Ibid

<sup>21</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 20

<sup>22</sup> Ibid

<sup>23</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modus\\_operandi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Modus_operandi)

<sup>24</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 21

<sup>25</sup> The Galveston Daily News (Galveston, Texas) 7 Jul 1877, Sat, Page 1 <https://www.newspapers.com/image/20742140/>

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<sup>26</sup> The Austin Weekly Statesman (Austin, TX) 17 Oct 1878, Thu, First Edition, Page 1:

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/49689202/>

<sup>27</sup> Ibid

<sup>28</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 22

<sup>29</sup> <http://www.legendsofamerica.com/tx-billlongley.html>

<sup>30</sup> Ibid

<sup>31</sup> Ibid

<sup>32</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 25

<sup>33</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 27

<sup>34</sup> Ibid

<sup>35</sup> Frontier Times Volume 3, Number 9, June 1926, Page 28



**The gravesite of William Preston (Bill) Longley**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Angela Doetsch*

### *Section II: A Child in Texas*

**By AGS Member Glenda Lassiter**

*In Section I of this memoir (printed in the December 2015 edition of the AGS Quarterly,) the narrator recounted Griff's audio taped recollections of his early childhood in the newly founded Texas town of Jermyn (founded in 1902,) the death of his father when Griff was only six in 1914, and the family's subsequent struggle for survival.*

"Gordon! Gordon Oscar Griffiths! Come here right now!" His mother's voice was seldom raised above the quietly resonant nasal twang common to Texas women. Although her voice was generally low in tone and volume, her slow flattened drawl was clear and emphatic. Someone listening to her voice would be stilled by her calm manner, captivated and focused on her words. Trotty was always understood.

Griff's mother Cora was usually known as "Trotty" because of her constant activity and industry as she went about her unending tasks of running a farm and raising four children on her own. In Griff's recollections years later, she was never just sitting quietly. If she were sitting at all, her hands were busy with mending, peeling potatoes, or skillfully performing one of the hundreds of other household duties her nimble fingers found to do. Never idle, she was always intent on making her world and her family's world all it could be.

Now, with her voice raised insistently calling his name, Griff could hear her only too clearly. He was sitting beside a pile of firewood in the back of the house, just sitting and thinking about all that was happening. Abruptly, his quiet brooding was interrupted by the sound of his mother's voice calling his name. He was instantly propelled toward the back door that she was just closing.

"Gordon, you know your Grandma Allen is moving in today. Don't forget I'm going to start work next week. You have to help."

Griff's mother had done something that was unbelievable to him. After church last Sunday, she had approached Mr. Jones, who owned the Jones Brothers Dry Good Store, and had asked him if she could work there. In 1914, the idea of a single widowed woman with children working in a store was unthinkable; especially his own mother. Mr. Jones had looked down into the clear blue eyes of this energetic woman who had four children to feed, leased acreage to farm and pay for, a house to keep up, and no husband. He hired her.

Grandma Allen was Cora's widowed mother. In 1871, J. M. Allen had come to Texas. Earlier, when he was 19, he had enlisted in the Union Cavalry in Tennessee during the Civil War. He was wounded and received a medical discharge and a promissory note for 20 acres of land in Texas. Texas seemed to be the land that the federal government was most willing to give away at the end of the war.

J.M. Allen had used his promissory note to acquire land about two miles from Willow Point outside of Jacksboro, Texas. This area had been devastated by Indian raids until Fort Richardson was built there in 1870, the year just before his arrival, and settlers were now pouring into the newly secured area. In Willow Point, he met and married Sarah Ann Elton Bloodworth, a widow with five sons and one daughter. Griff observes about his grandfather, "I can't imagine what kind of love that could have been for him to even date, much less marry, a widow woman with six kids." But J.M. Allen and Sarah Ann did indeed marry and had five more children, one of whom was Cora Margaret Allen, now nicknamed "Trotty."

Griff's parents lived with the Allens when they first married to help take care of J.M. until he died. Oscar and Cora then moved just a few miles from Willow Point to Vineyard in Wise County. Griff was born there in 1908; his older brother Loyd in 1901; his sister Ruby in 1905; and his little brother



Cledys in 1911. Now that Griff's father had died, Grandma Allen moved in with Cora and her four children to help care for her grandchildren.

Griff recalls these events: "After my daddy died, Grandma Allen, my mother's mother, gave her house to her daughter, brought her bedroom suite, and moved into the house with us.

"My Grandma Allen took care of my little brother Cledys and me while my mother worked at Jones Brothers Dry Goods store, earning about a dollar, or a dollar and a half a day. My mother worked all the time. We still continued to farm the thirty acres of land Dad had rented.

"People just couldn't be any poorer than we were. I don't know how we got by, except that when Grandma Allen moved in with us, she still got Grandpa Allen's Civil War pension. She'd buy the groceries. Then, in addition to working, Mother kept about six cows. I started milking when I was seven. Mother would skim the cream off the milk and take it to Jones Brothers Dry Goods Store where she worked and would sell it. People bought it to make butter.

"All the time I was growing up in Jermyn, my mother made sure I always had work to do. There was no time to play. She got jobs for us somewhere or other for fifty cents a day, chopping cotton or pulling weeds. We kept jobs if we didn't have something to do on our own farm. There was no money to spend on anything and very little to spend it on, except, when I was older, every month or so, they'd set up a tent in town for a picture show."

Since children started school at age seven, Griff was at home with Grandma Allen for a year while his mother worked. During that year his grandmother taught him how to read and do his multiplication tables. He received quite a shock when he started first grade.

The day was sunny and clear on the September morning in 1915, when Grandma Allen walked her seven-year-old grandson to the school in Jermyn. The warm clear weather was known as Indian summer by people living in North Central Texas. This was a term originated in regions inhabited by Native Americans, possibly denoting the warm and hazy conditions from September through November when American Indians hunted, or attacked. This area of the Great Plains, formerly known as the Comancheria, had been the domain of the enormous society of Comanche Indians up until the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. It was many years later, when the young boy as a man became fascinated with that period of history. He would eagerly read the novels of Zane Grey and Louis L'Amour, in which the great horsemen of the Plains raced freely across these now fenced properties. The thundering hooves were now only a distant echo as Grandma Allen and the boy wended their way toward the schoolhouse.

It was not a long walk because Griff's father had built their house only one block from the then newly-constructed school. The school was a big, one story, white clapboard building that could have easily been mistaken for a church except that, instead of a cross, the peak of the roof was crowned with a bell tower, and the bell was now loudly announcing that it was time for school. Two doors stood like twin sentinels forming the entrances to the school. Each door opened into identical, but separate classrooms, one for the younger students, aged seven through twelve, the other for older students.

Griff was walking excitedly beside his grandmother, his curly red hair shining, and a huge grin across his expectant face. He was dressed in his church clothes for this first day of school as his regular clothes were too worn for this momentous occasion. His mother had bought him some new high-topped, lace-up shoes at Jones Dry Goods Store where she worked and got a discount on purchases.

Outside the door to the lower school, twenty younger students stood shyly, while the older boys, including Griff's older brother Loyd, teased and mimicked them. Loyd had even told Griff that the teacher might tell him that he didn't belong in school because he wasn't smart enough. Big brothers are like that; Griff had told himself.



The rough-housing instantly stopped when the two young women teachers came into the school yard to greet the students. No horsing around was allowed at school. After lining up, the two groups entered the two separate classrooms and were seated in the tracks of wooden double desks; the girls were on one side of the room and boys on the other, with the first grade students in the front desks.

Griff was eager to participate in every activity, raising his hand to volunteer to read and to go to the chalk board to work math problems. He was exhilarated when he walked the block home for lunch. When he returned to his front seat after lunch, however, the young pretty teacher pulled him aside. She was still smiling as she said, "You don't belong here." His heart sank. Loyd had been right; he wasn't smart enough. Tears were welling up in his eyes. "The front seats are for students who don't know how to read. You will have to move back with the second grade students because you know how to read, and you even know your multiplication tables." Now Griff really thought he was going to cry from joy! He couldn't wait to tell Loyd that he'd already been promoted to the second grade on the first day of school.

Going to school for Griff was a daily intermission from the never-ending grind of tending the farm, working in the field; not only on his family farm, but hiring out to work in the fields of others, milking the cows, and helping Grandma Allen take care of the house. His mended overalls and red curly hair could be seen early and late in the fields as he worked picking cotton, plowing, planting, and wrestling nature to bring in crops. Years later, his working bareheaded in the sun left its mark in dozens of skin cancers on his face and scalp. As he labored on, his mother continued to put in long hours at the dry goods store to make ends meet. But they managed, and he seldom missed a day at school because of unfinished chores.

Johnny Tate, a boy about his age whose family farm was far out in the country, moved in with Griff's family so he could go to high school. Having another teenager in the house to help with the work, and to be his friend, was a great boon to Griff. This was especially true when Griff's brother Loyd, seven years older, graduated from high school. Loyd got a job as a United States Post Office mail carrier, married a young woman named Alma, and bought himself a half-section of land to farm.

However, Loyd and Alma soon "took off" to Wichita Falls, Texas, 54 miles to the northwest, leaving Griff to take care of Loyd's land. Griff and Johnny Tate worked that land for a year, in addition to working the Griffitts farm, making a profit from the cotton and wheat they raised.

Griff recalls the incident some 70 years later: "We farmed that half-section of land all year for Loyd. For all this work, Johnny Tate and I got 'what the little boy shot at' – nothing. Loyd took all the money for the crops and for the sale of the land, and Mama let him take it. Johnny and I just did all the work. That's what we did. I always did think Loyd should have paid us for at least farming the land and raising the cotton and wheat." <sup>1</sup>

Big brothers are like that.

Meanwhile at school, Griff's life was prospering. He did so well that he was double-promoted again and skipped the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. So, he went through a ten grade school in eight years and graduated from high school when he was 15 years old, in 1923.

To be continued...

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<sup>1</sup> \*Editor's Note: "In U.S. land surveying under the Public Land Survey System (PLSS), a section is an area nominally one square mile, containing 640 acres" [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Section\\_\(United\\_States\\_land\\_surveying\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Section_(United_States_land_surveying)); therefore a half-section of land would be 320 acres. 320 acres would be quite a challenge for anyone, much less two young teenagers to farm in the 1920s!

# Oh No! Who Bleached My Ancestor's 1862 Gravestone?

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By AGS Member Terri Hoover Mirka

*Article originally printed in the Save Austin's Cemeteries (SAC's) Spring 2016 Newsletter (used with permission of the author)*

It must have been bleach...applied with harsh scrubbing. How else could that formerly gray-and-black-stained gravestone suddenly have a pristine white look of a new marble monument? The stone had been cleaned several times over the years using the traditional method of water, non-ionic soap, and a gentle brush, but it still had many stains.

As it turns out, Paul Ridenour, a cousin from Dallas, had discovered the benefits of D/2 Biological solution, and thoroughly sprayed the marble monuments during several visits to Oakwood Cemetery, and the family monuments now look almost new. After seeing his results, I had to learn more about D/2 Solution, and experiment with the product myself, as I was still skeptical as to how cousin Paul could have gotten the results without harsh chemicals and scrubbing.

## **D/2 Biological Solution: What the Manufacturer Says (<http://www.d2bio.com/>)**

Here's a summary of what the manufacturer claims about D/2:

- Is a biodegradable, easy-to-use liquid that safely removes stains from mold, algae, mildew, lichens and air pollutants – without the use of harmful acids, salts or chlorine;
- Leaves no harmful residue, will not etch metal or glass, and is safe around plants;
- Removes staining from a variety of surfaces including natural stones such as marble, granite, limestone, sandstone, slate; masonry surfaces such as brick and cast stone; concrete; wood; aluminum and vinyl siding; and canvas.

I needed valid endorsements, and scientific proof to be convinced though. D/2's website claims "it has been used to clean millions of buildings and monuments – from the White House to Arlington Cemetery."<sup>1</sup> The real proof behind this claim was readily available and documented:

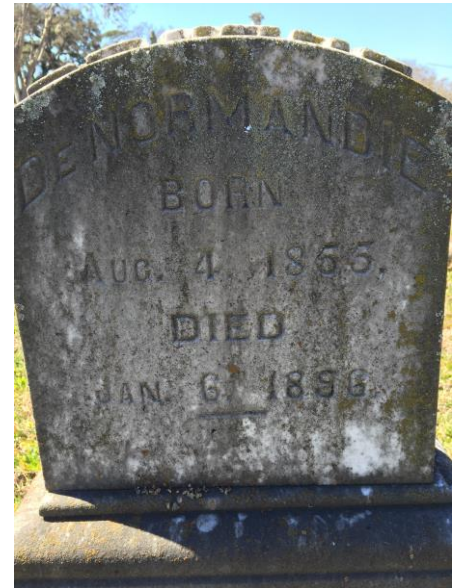
- The U.S. National Cemetery Administration lists D/2 as its preferred cleaner following a seven-year study to evaluate marble cleaners.
- The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which maintains more than 3.5 million white marble headstones, selected D/2 as its preferred cleaner following a separate six-year study by the National Park Service.

I was sold after uncovering this secondary research, so now it was time to conduct my own experiment!

## How to Clean with D/2 Biological Solution <sup>2</sup>

### *Quick Result Method:*

1. Take a pre-cleaning picture of the dirty monument to document the results. (*see picture 1*)
2. Make sure the stone is safe to clean. If the surface is crumbling or flaking, then you could cause damage. "Do no harm!"
3. Rinse the stone with water before applying D/2. (This step is not currently listed on D/2's website, but is recommended by several experts, including SAC's own Dale Flatt!)
4. Apply D/2 with a hand pump sprayer (garden style pump sprayer,) roller, or soft brush.
5. Allow undiluted D/2 to remain on the surface 10-15 minutes. (*see picture 2*)
6. Apply additional D/2 as necessary to maintain a wet surface.
7. Gently scrub with a wet soft nylon or natural bristle, wooden-handled brush. **Do not use a metal brush.** Work from the bottom of the stone upward to prevent streaking.
8. Lightly mist with water and continue scrubbing.
9. Rinse thoroughly with clean, potable water
10. Let dry and take another picture. (*See picture 3*)



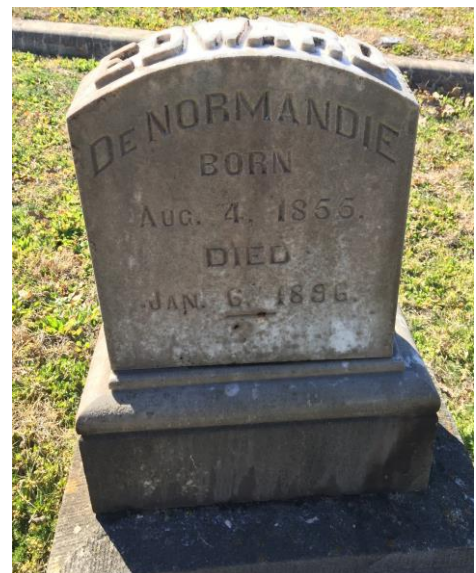
**Picture 1: Pre-Cleaning: Marble Gravestone from 1896, which had never been cleaned**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*



**Picture 2: D/2 turned the stone an orange-ish color after it was applied, showing the product is at work on the stains!**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*



**Picture 3: Gravestone after using the "quick result method," but with only a brief amount of gentle scrubbing.**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*



### *No Scrub/No Rinse Longer-Term Method:*

1. Using a sprayer (pump-up, low pressure, or other,) wet the entire surface with D/2;
2. Allow to air dry. D/2 works with the elements and results occur within one week to one month, depending on severity of the stains. (See Picture 4)

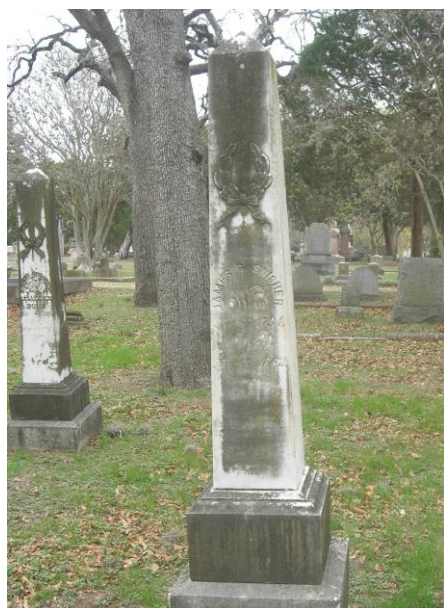
### **Notes and Maintenance**

- D/2 should be used at temperatures of **45°F or above**. Re-apply if rain occurs within 12 hours of application.
- You can use both methods described above, doing an initial quick cleaning and then re-soaking with D/2 to let D/2 work with the elements over time. (*Results of the combined approach are shown in Picture 4*)
- Heavy growth can be detached by manual scraping using wooden or plastic tools immediately after application of D/2.
- For badly stained stones, you may need to re-apply after a month and/or use several iterations of the quick clean method.
- After initial treatment of substrate, a once-a-year light spraying will help maintain a clean, stain-free surface.



**Picture 4: Gravestone one month later after using the “quick result method” twice plus the “no scrub longer-term method”**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*



**1862 Monument before D2 2006**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*



**1862 Monument after D2 cleaning April 2016 \***

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*

\*NOTE: Medallions were installed in 2014 by the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to honor service during the Texas Revolutionary War and to the Republic of Texas. James Gibson Swisher, who was a businessman and farmer in Austin from 1846-1862, was one of the leaders at the Siege of Bexar and a signer of both the Texas Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the Republic of Texas. More information about these medallions can be found at <http://www.drinfo.org/preservation/memorial-medallion>



### Where to Buy D/2 – Try It Out Yourself!

D/2 is currently available in one and five gallon containers, and 55-gallon drums. You will need to put the solution in a spray bottle or larger hand-pump sprayer for application.

As of April 2016, the manufacturer for D/2 lists 10 distributors for their product under “where to buy.” The Texas distributor is Cemetery Preservation Supply [www.gravestonecleaner.com](http://www.gravestonecleaner.com). This company has set up coupon code OAKWOODAUSTIN for a 10% discount for readers of this newsletter and plans to release a smaller bottle of D/2 (than the gallon size) and a cleaning kit in the near future.

Please visit <http://www.d2bio.com> for detailed information about the D/2 Biological Solution product, the studies conducted, and how to use D/2 including a video demonstration.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.d2bio.com> accessed 26 April 2016

<sup>2</sup> Ibid



**James Swisher & John Milton Daughters of the Republic of Texas Grave Markers,  
Austin, Texas, Oakwood Cemetery**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Terri Hoover Mirka*

## On the Road

### *A Spotlight on Texas Historical Markers*

By AGS Member Angela Doetsch

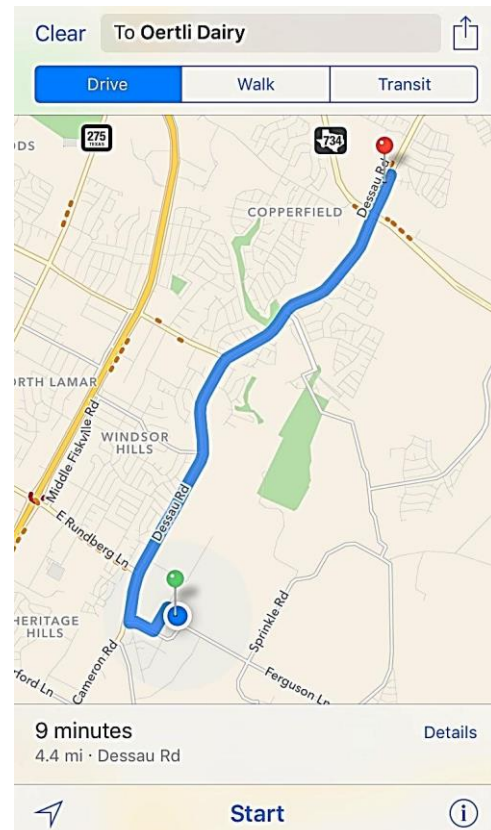
Since the last quarterly, I have discovered a tool that has helped greatly in my search. Ok, let's call it what it is, an addiction, with locating Texas Historical Markers. If you are "smart phone" savvy, there is a free application (app) you can download that will make it easy to find markers while you drive your day-to-day routes. I found the app in the iPhone app store by searching "Texas Historical Marker Guides." There are a few to choose from. I selected the top app named *Texas Historical Marker Guide* by Gregory Moore. This is the app I will be referencing below. If you are an Android user, there are a few to choose from in the Google Play store as well.

This marker guide app picks up on your location and gives you a breakdown of nearby markers. The nearby markers are broken up into categories that narrow down markers in your proximity by county, city, and zip code. If you have undertaken the daunting task of finding all the markers in a particular area, there is a separate section for recent dedications/recently updated/added. You can also search by categories like "Pre-Centennial Markers" or "World War I Memorials." The app allows you to "check-in" at a marker's location, forever keeping a tally of the marker(s) you have been to. If you come across a marker with something particularly interesting to you, possibly a marker with one of your ancestor's history, you can set it as a favorite for ease of future reference. For example, I recently found out that a marker had been placed on the former land of a once family-owned dairy farm, the Oertli Dairy. Now that I know where it is on the map, I can go visit it in person!

Once you find a marker you would like to know more about, you can select it by name, then access a transcription of the marker's narrative. You can view the GPS coordinates on the native map application on your smartphone, and even obtain driving directions to most. If you have already been to the marker and uploaded a photograph from your smartphone camera, you will be able to view the photo(s) in that section. If not, you have the option to take a photo when you arrive, and upload it at the site.

General details are also given for the marker, such as the category (contemporary markers, early markers & monuments, Centennial Era Markers, etc.) Other details include its design, such as the aluminum plate markers we most often see, its designation, dimensions, type, and program that initiated the marker's existence.

Once you reach a marker of interest to you, you can also report on the condition of the marker, or if it is missing, (it happens, folks!)



**Directions to the Oertli Dairy farm marker**

*iPhone screenshot courtesy of AGS member  
Angela Doetsch*

Even though I like to visit these markers in person, another great perk of the app is that you don't have to leave the comfort of your living room if you don't want to. All of the basic information is there for you to read right then and there!

This quarterly issue, we will be focusing on historical markers that coincide with historical events and figures impacting Texas history during the months of April, May, and June.

### **Know of a Historical Marker you would like to feature in an upcoming quarterly?**

Send an email to: [quarterly@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:quarterly@austintxgensoc.org)

## **APRIL**

### ***Albert Sidney Johnston-1904***

6 April 1862 marks the day that one of the greatest generals for the Army of the Confederate States fell in the Battle of Shiloh during the Civil War. <sup>1</sup> “In Austin 1861 Jefferson Davis appointed Johnston a general in the Confederate Army and in September assigned him command of the Western Department. Johnston issued a call for men and formed and drilled an army, but it lacked men and organization, had a huge area to defend, and could not control the rivers that were vital to military success in the region.” <sup>2</sup> Albert Sidney Johnston was originally buried in New Orleans, and later re-interred at the Texas State Cemetery. <sup>3</sup>

### **Where is it?**

The Texas Historical Commission Marker is located in the Texas State Cemetery at 909 Navasota Street in Austin, Texas. The marker is not one of the typical aluminum style markers; instead, it is one of the most notable sculptures from local sculptor, Elizabet Ney. There is even a biography on Elisabet Ney included in a category on the app for the Albert Sidney Johnston marker. Elizabet Ney built a studio in 1892 in the Hyde Park area of Austin and began seeking commissions from the state legislature and notable citizens.” <sup>4</sup> The studio is now a part of Shipe Park off of Avenue G. The Albert Sidney Johnston sculpture is listed among Ney's most notable works.



**Albert Sidney Johnston gravesite sculpture by  
Elizabet Ney**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member Angela Doetsch*

*The monument marker inscription reads:*

“By the State of Texas In the year 1904

“Brigadier General in the Army of the Republic And also Secretary of War; An officer in the Army of The United States in the War with Mexico; and a General in the Army of the Confederate States. Fell at Shiloh April 6, 1862 while in command of the Confederate Forces In Defense of the Rights of Self Government and of the Constitution”

[Foot Stone]

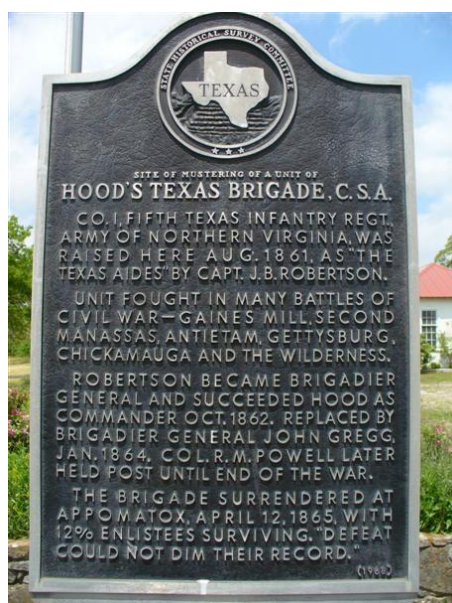
“Albert Sidney Johnston  
“Gen Army of Mississippi  
“Confederate States Army  
“Feb 2 1803 ~ Apr 6 1862”



## MAY

### *Hood's Texas Brigade, C.S.A.-1910, 1968*

6 May 1864 marked one of the most valiant and emotionally charged days in what is now known as the most destructive war fought on United States soil: The Civil War. On this day, "Confederate general Robert E. Lee ordered the celebrated Hood's Texas Brigade to the front, and they in turn ordered him to the rear. During a critical moment of the fierce Battle of the Wilderness, as the Southern battle line was crumbling, Lee, commander of the Army of Northern Virginia, was heartened to see the Texas Brigade, under the command of John Gregg, arrive on the field as reinforcements. With a cry of "Hurrah for Texas!" Lee ordered them forward against the Union army and, carried away by his enthusiasm, began to lead them into the charge. The Texans, unwilling to risk their idol in battle, stopped and gathered around him, yelling "Lee to the rear!" and held onto his horse until he withdrew. The Texas Brigade suffered severe losses, but the Union army was once more fought to a standstill." <sup>5</sup>



**Hood's Texas Brigade historical marker in Independence, Texas**

<http://www.waymarking.com/gallery/image.aspx?f=1&guid=7ed740b5-5566-40c0-ab52-c3ea4fcc7405&gid=3>

### **Where is it?**

There are two Texas Historical Commission Markers commemorating Hood's Texas Brigade. The first is a monument created by sculptor Pompeo Coppini. Coppini was a sculptor from Italy who came to Texas in 1901 to work for Frank Teich on the Confederate Monument at the Texas Capitol. <sup>6</sup> After the completion of the Confederate Monument, Coppini was commissioned to create other monuments, including the Hood's Texas Brigade. It is located on the grounds of the Texas State Capitol. The second Texas Historical Commission Marker commemorating Hood's Texas Brigade is located at the old town of Independence, Texas. It is one of four markers in the square that are surrounded by several buildings dating back to the Republic.

*The monument marker inscription at Independence reads:*

"Site of mustering of a unit of

"Hood's Texas Brigade, C.S.A.

"Co. I, Fifth Texas Infantry Regt., Army of Northern Virginia, was raised here Aug. 1861, as "The Texas Aides" by Capt. J. B. Robertson.

"Unit fought in many battles of Civil War - Gaines Mill, Second Manassas, Antietam, Gettysburg, Chickamauga and the Wilderness.

"Robertson became brigadier general and succeeded Hood as Commander Oct. 1862. Replaced by Brigadier General John Gregg, Jan. 1864. Col. R. M. Powell later held post until end of the war.

"The brigade surrendered at Appomatox [sic], April 12, 1865, with 12% enlistees surviving. Defeat could not dim their record." (1968)



## JUNE

### ***Susanna W. Dickinson (1814-1883)***

“Susanna Wilkerson Dickinson (also spelled Dickerson), survivor of the Alamo, was born about 1814 in Tennessee, perhaps in Williamson County.”<sup>7</sup> Susanna was married five times throughout her life, where she suffered through tragedy and loss, abuse, and adultery; all except the fifth and final marriage to Joseph William Hannig. Joseph was a native of Germany, and “They soon moved to Austin, where Hannig became prosperous with a cabinet shop and later a furniture store and undertaking parlor”<sup>8</sup>

#### **Where is it?**

The Texas Historical Commission Marker is located at 1601 Navasota St, Austin, Texas, in Oakwood Cemetery.

#### ***The marker inscription reads***

“Almaron and Susanna Dickinson settled in Gonzales about 1835 as members of DeWitt’s colony, present with her daughter, Angelina, when The Alamo fell in March 1836. Susanna witnessed the deaths of Almaron and the other Texans. She was released by Mexican General Santa Anna after the battle, and with an escort made her way to Sam Houston with news of The Alamo. She married Joseph Hannig in 1857 and lived in Austin until her death. Recorded – 1993”



**Portrait of Susanna Dickinson, Given to McArdle When She Was Mrs. Hannig The McArdle Notebooks, Archives and Information Services Division, Texas State Library and Archives Commission**

*tsl.access.preservica.com/file/sdb%3AdigitalFile%7C83b854ae-3b63-436b-a97f-dac87a601211/*



**Susanna W. Dickinson Historical Marker**

*Photo courtesy of AGS member  
Angela Doetsch*

#### **Want to know more?**

To learn more about becoming a sponsor or to apply for an official Texas Historical Marker for your community, visit the Texas Historical Commission website here:

<http://www.thc.state.tx.us/get-involved/training-consulting#markers>

State historical markers have been placed across Texas as part of a preservation project maintained by The Texas Historical Commission (THC.) Since the program’s inception in 1962, markers can now be found in all 254 Texas counties and total an impressive 3678!<sup>9</sup> Texas State Historical Markers “commemorate diverse topics, including: the history and architecture of houses, commercial and public buildings, religious congregations, and military sites; events that changed the course of local and state history; and individuals who have made lasting contributions to our state, community organizations, and businesses.”<sup>10</sup>

Texas Historical Markers can not only be great sources of historical information; they can also lend you clues about your genealogy.

<sup>1</sup> Handbook of Texas Online, Jeanette H. Flachmeier, "Johnston, Albert Sidney," accessed May 24, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fjo32>. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Modified on March 13, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

<sup>4</sup> Handbook of Texas Online, Emily F. Cutrer, "Ney, Elisabet," accessed May 24, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fne26>. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Modified on April 5, 2016. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>5</sup> <https://texasdaybyday.com/index.php?status=success#sthash.5J24cZIL.dpuf>

<sup>6</sup> Handbook of Texas Online, Caroline Remy, Jean L. Levering, Eldon S. Branda, rev. by Kendall Curlee, "Coppini, Pompeo Luigi," accessed May 24, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fco67>. Uploaded on June 12, 2010. Modified on September 9, 2015. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>7</sup> Handbook of Texas Online, Margaret Swett Henson, "Dickinson, Susanna Wilkerson," accessed May 24, 2016, <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/fdi06>. Uploaded on June 12, 2010. Modified on March 24, 2016. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.thc.state.tx.us/preserve/projects-and-programs/state-historical-markers>

<sup>10</sup> Ibid



**Photograph of unidentified children found in Elgin, Texas**

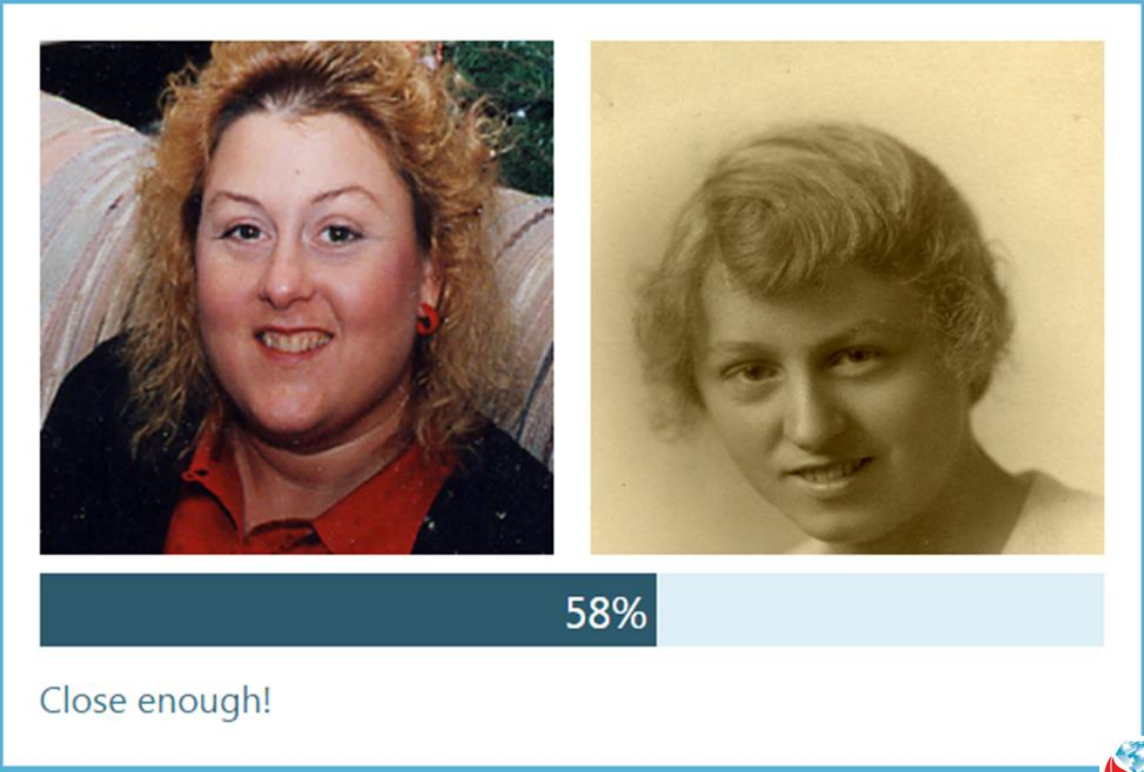
*Photo from the private collection of AGS member Angela Doetsch*

## Compare Look-Alikes in Your Family with Free Facial Recognition Tool

Reprinted with permission from Lisa Louise Cooke's *Genealogy Gems* blog at [www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com), home of the free *Genealogy Gems* Podcast.

September 1, 2015 by [Lisa](#)

*Who are the look-alikes in your family? A new free facial recognition web app compares your pictures to see just how strong those family resemblances are!*



58%

Close enough!

**New Free Online Tool**  
**Compares Your Family Look-Alikes!**

[www.GenealogyGems.com](http://www.GenealogyGems.com)

Recently I saw an article online that practically begged me to read it: “[22 Photos Which Prove That Your Genes are Amazing](#).” It shows a series of “photographs of people who, despite belonging to different generations within their families, are as alike as two peas in a pod.” (Take a look! Those photos are pretty cool!)

Of course, that got me thinking about the look-alikes in my own family, and I had to find and compare their pictures. I came across these two sets of look-alikes. Unfortunately, their faces are not posed or angled the same direction, but when I look at those faces, I am struck by their physical resemblance to each other.





Bill's sister (left) and her Grandmother's sister (right)



My sister (left) and her Great Grandmother (right)

This kind of service is trending in mobile apps too (even for your pets!), though most of the available apps help you find your celebrity look-alike.twins or not test.

Who are the look-alikes in your family? Why not take a screenshot of your results at Twins or Not and [share it with us](#)—and on your favorite social media site?

## Resources

[Tools to Highlight Your Great Genealogy Finds](#)

[“My Name is Jane:” Heritage Scrapbook Celebrates Family Tradition](#)

[Use Forensic Genealogy Tools: New Technology Sheds Light on History](#)



That got me wondering...is there a free online tool that will let us use facial recognition technology to compare two faces? I got Googling...and there is!

Microsoft's [Twins or Not facial comparison web app](#) recently launched. It's so new they're still refining it. But it works and it's super easy to use. I fed in my first two lookalikes and the results came up as a 58% match: pretty astounding for a three-degree difference in blood relation (from a grand-daughter two generations up to her grandmother, then one person over to her sister). The second match wasn't quite as strong: just 39%. That's still pretty striking for four degrees of difference on the family tree!

I was curious about how the look-alike relatives shown in that article would rank in Twins or Not. So I clipped a couple of photos from there and ran them through. Below is the stunning result: a 100% match (which is no surprise—these babies are SO alike).



I think this would be a really fun post to share with friends and loved ones! Will you share it by email or on social media? Thanks!

Filed Under: [01 What's New](#), [Apps](#), [Memory Lane](#), [Photographs](#), [Technology](#)

Tagged With: [family resemblance](#), [look alikes](#), [twins or not](#)



### About Lisa

Lisa Louise Cooke is the Producer and Host of the Genealogy Gems Podcast, an online genealogy audio show at [www.GenealogyGems.com](#). She is the author of the books *Genealogy Gems: Ultimate Research Strategies* and *The Genealogist's Google Toolbox*, and the Google Earth for Genealogy DVD series, an international conference speaker, and writer for *Family Tree Magazine*

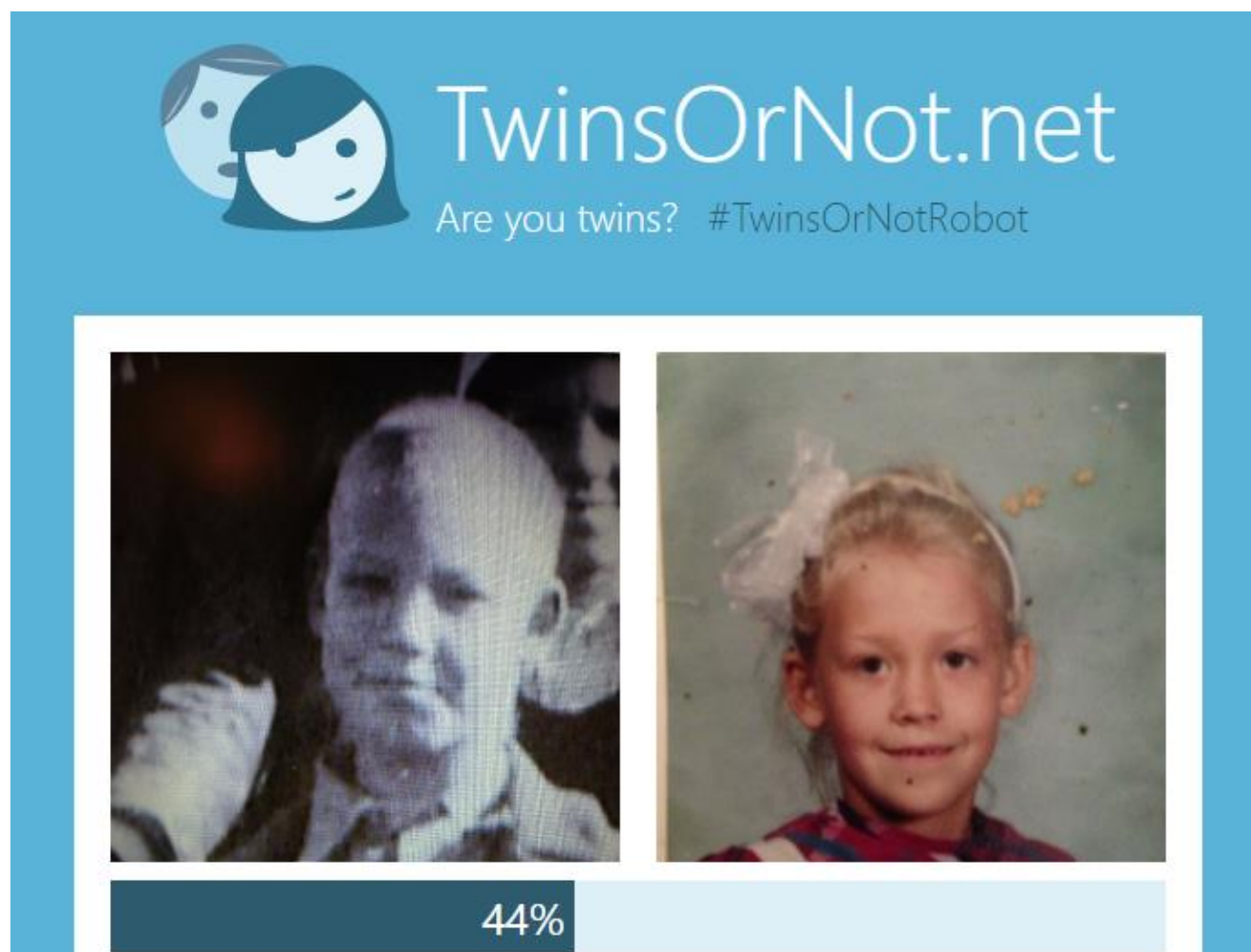


### **A Note from the Editor: A Case Study on Comparing Look-Alikes:**

I was fascinated by Lisa Louise Cooke's article on comparing look-alikes in your family with the use of Microsoft's facial recognition tool, so I decided to put it to the test. I have always considered myself a perfect "mix" between my maternal and paternal lines, with facial attributes from both my mother and father. My brother has always held a striking resemblance to my father, and we have always joked that aside from the period clothing, you wouldn't be able to tell them apart at age ten. One of my cousins, eerily so, looks like a mirror image of my grandmother's brother, Leo Blanton.

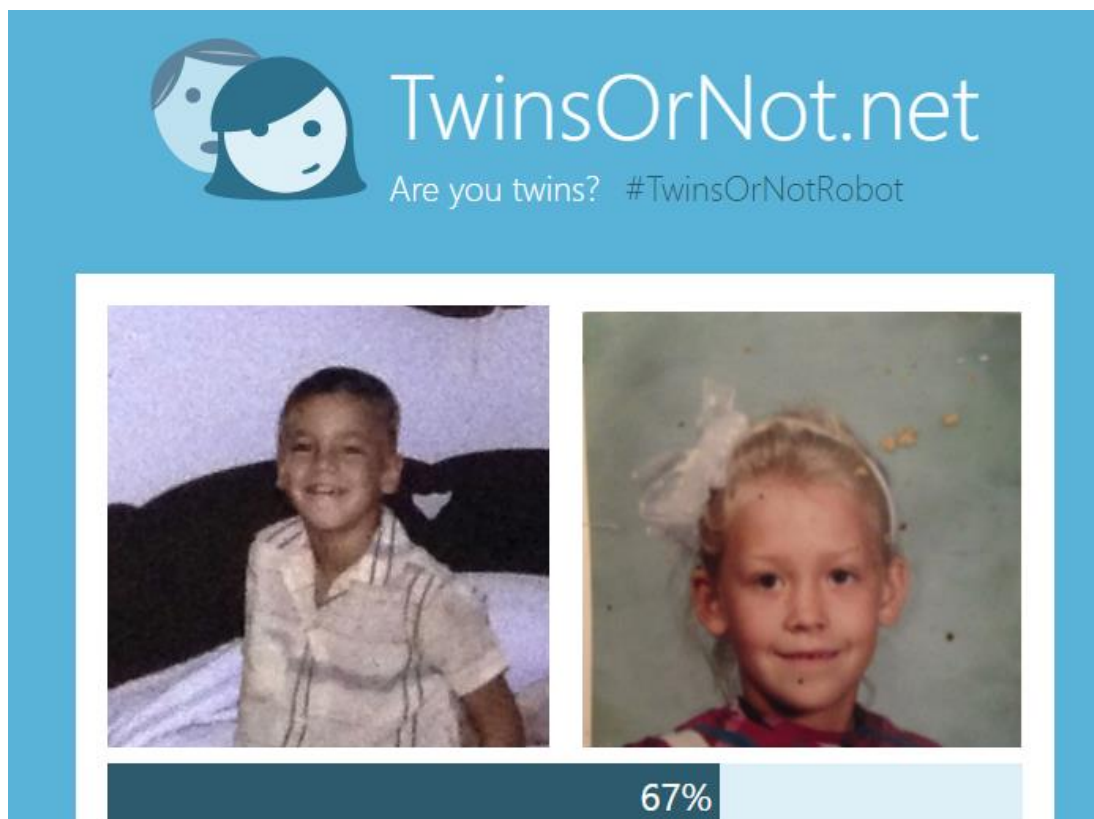
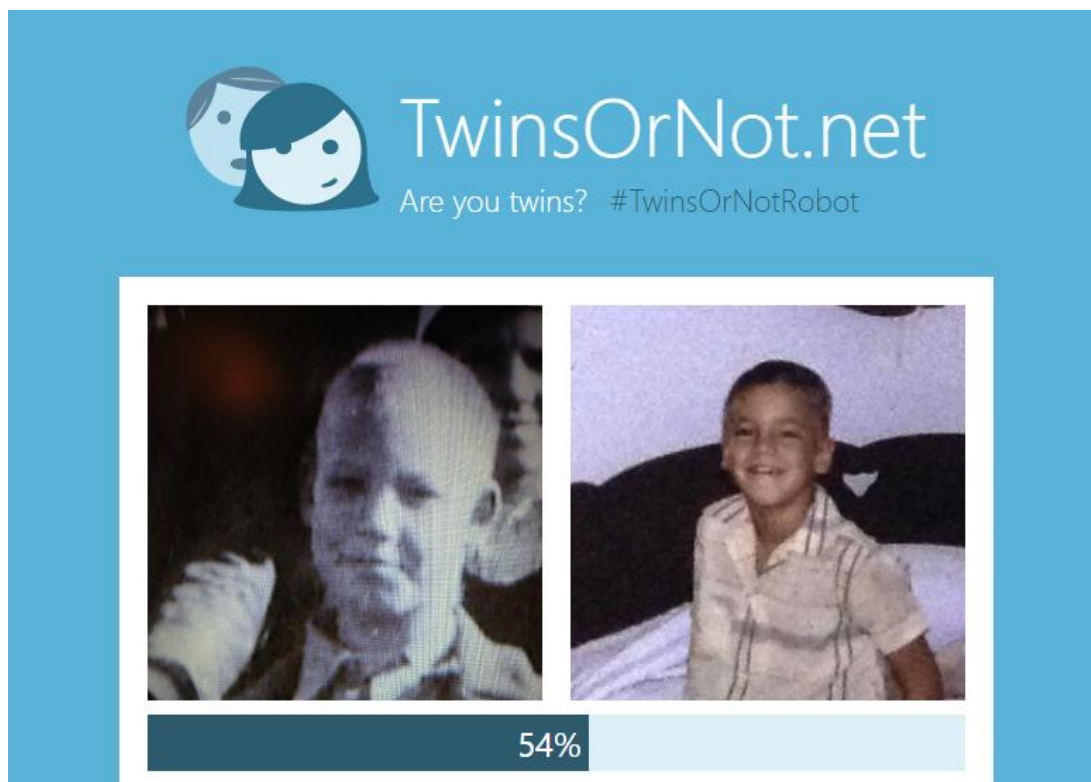
A few months ago, I was researching my grandmother's maternal line, and came across a photo of her uncle Troy Hefner's family taken in 1936. The photo was of Troy, his wife Frankie Udell McKay Hefner, and their eight children. Scanning the faces, I came across the last face, and my jaw dropped to the floor. There was a young boy of about ten years old and he had my face! It was amazing. If I were to cut off all of my hair, and dress in a pair of overalls and go back in time to when I was myself ten, we could be twins.

Here are the results of that photo in a comparison to one of me at around the same age.



The results came in at a 44% match. Not bad, considering we aren't facing the same direction and we are of the opposite sex.

Just for fun, I decided to take a photo of my father and compare it to the same photo, and the results were even better, 54%. Well, naturally, this led me to compare results with my father, and we are a whopping 67% match; I guess that means I look like my father after all.



## Pioneer Families of Travis County, Texas

The Austin Genealogical Society will issue a pioneer certificate to those who can prove their ancestors lived in Travis County, Texas, prior to the close of 1880. To qualify for the certificate, you must be a direct descendant of people who lived here on or before December 31, 1880, proved with birth, death and marriage certificates; probate, census and military records; and obituaries and Bible records.

Applications for Pioneer Families of Travis County can be found at:

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/pioneers/> or from Kay Dunlap Boyd, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.

Each application is \$20 and the certificates make nice gifts. You don't have to be a Travis County resident or a member of Austin Genealogical Society, although membership in the Society is another fine bargain at \$20 a year.

<b>Austin Genealogical Society</b>	
<b>Travis County Texas</b>	
<b>Pioneer Families Certificate</b>	
	
This is to Certify that	
_____	
is a descendant of	
_____	
who was living in Travis County, Texas	
before the close of	
_____	_____
Certificate No.	President
_____	_____
Date	Pioneer Families Chairman
	_____
	Registrar

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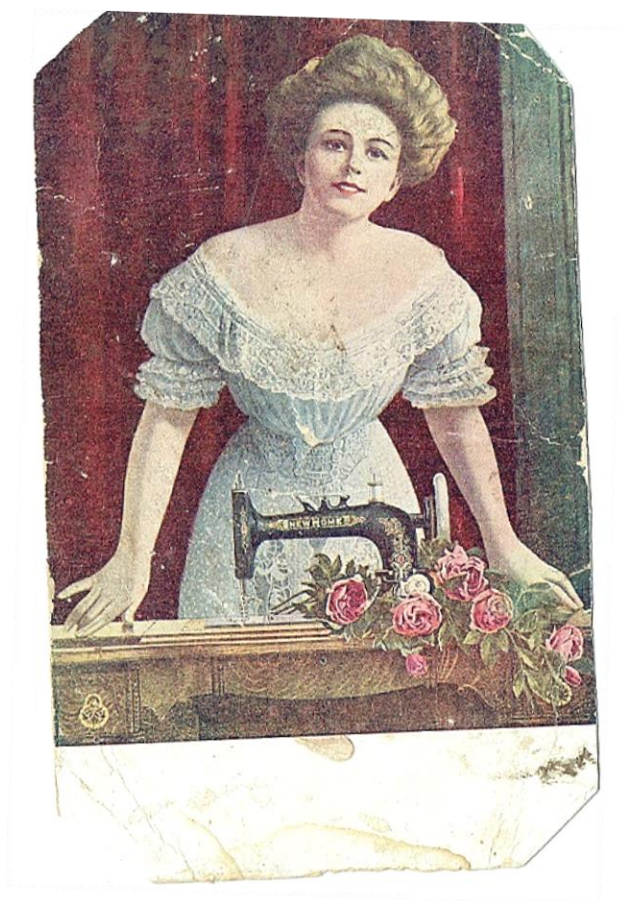
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**Vintage Postcard**

*From the private collection of AGS member Angela Doetsch*

## 2016 AGS Calendar of Events

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AGS meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month, from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm (except December.) Meetings typically include time to get acquainted with other researchers, announcements and notification of upcoming activities. Meetings also feature a speaker on a genealogical topic.

### **June 28**

African American Research, History and Resources at the George Washington Carver Genealogy Center

*Presented by Cynthia Evans*

### **July 26**

Jumping the Pond in the 19th Century: 19th Century Immigration from Europe to North America

*Presented by Nick Cimino*

### **August 23**

Software for Genealogists

*Speaker TBD*

### **September 27**

Member Topic Tables

*AGS Members*

### **October 25**

HistoryGeo.com: Unlocking the Past with Original and Early Landowner Maps including New Features

*Presented by Gregory Boyd (Arphax)*

### **November 22**

Fall Fest Potluck Dinner: Texas Rangers

*Presented by Mike Cox*

(No Regular AGS Meeting in December)

## Austin Genealogical Society General Information

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**PURPOSE:** The purposes for which this Society is organized are: To promote an interest in genealogy. To investigate, collect, record, publish and deposit in libraries, archives, and digital or electronic repositories the genealogical and historical materials of Texas, with particular focus on items pertaining to the City of Austin and/or Travis County. To educate its members and the general public in the use of historical and genealogical reference materials. To support genealogical libraries, archival collections, and access to and preservation of records that will benefit the research efforts of the Society.

**MEMBERSHIP** is open to all upon payment of annual dues. Classes: Individual: \$20; Family (Two in the same household): \$30; Lifetime: \$500 (\$300 if over age 65). All classes are entitled to one electronic copy of each issue of the Quarterly and the monthly Newsletter. **After July 1, dues are \$10 for the balance of the year**, but you will receive only the publications produced after the date you join. Membership includes a copy of the annual Membership Directory, which is published each spring.

**DUES FOR EXISTING MEMBERS** are payable on or before January 1 of each year for the ensuing year. If dues are not received by February 1, membership may be discontinued. Send dues payments to **AGS Treasurer, P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010.**

**MEETINGS** of the general membership begin at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month except May and December. Members are encouraged to come at 6:30 p.m. Meeting Place: **Highland Park Baptist Church, 5206 Balcones Dr.** Take Northland (RR2222) exit Loop 1 (Mopac). Go west one block to Balcones Dr., then left a half block. The church and parking lot are on right. Visitors are always welcome. The Board of Directors meets at 5:45 p.m.

**CHECK RETURN POLICY** Members and other payees must pay AGS the cost of any returned check (currently \$5) over and above the charge their bank may impose.

**AGS QUARTERLY** is issued March, June, September and December. Contributions are always welcome, subject to editing for style and length. Contributor is completely responsible for accuracy and any copyright infringement. AGS assumes no responsibility for content of submitted material.

**SUBMISSIONS** for the Quarterly must reach the Editor at P.O. Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010, or [quarterly@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:quarterly@austintxgensoc.org) by the deadlines below, preferably by electronic means, either in an e-mail or as an attachment to an e-mail. When an electronic version is not possible, typing, handwriting or printing must be in black ink and legible. Months must be spelled or abbreviated, not in figures. Show dates in accepted genealogical style: day, month, and year. Leave 1-inch margins at both sides and at top and bottom, and hand number pages on the back of each page. Carefully check horizontal pages (reading in the 11-inch direction) so that one-inch margins are on top, bottom and both sides so no information is lost in stapling. No 8 ½ x 14 sheets, please. You may submit lineage or family group charts, narratives, memoirs, letters, cemetery inscriptions, Bible records, census data, queries or a combination of material, just so it is not under copyright.

**Proofread** and **verify** your material for accuracy and clarity so we will not publish faulty or incorrect data. Consult a recent AGS Quarterly for suggestions.

**AGS QUARTERLY DEADLINES:** Quarterly submission guidelines and due dates are available on the Austin Genealogical Society website:

<http://www.austintxgensoc.org/quarterly-guidelines>.

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