January 2017
Volume 23 Issue 01

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THE AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting: January 24, 2017

What You See Is Not What You Get: The History and Nature of Physical Documentary Forgery by David B. Gracy II

David B. Gracy II

After a brief history of documentary forgery, this illustrated talk will touch on motives and means forgers have employed to create physical documents that are not what they are purported to be, on principal terminology that facilitates understanding of the nature and nuances of forgery, and on examples of forged physical documents. At the conclusion, you will examine two sets of documents to test your new knowledge at recognizing items that are and are not genuine.

David B. Gracy II is a historian, archivist, and son of AGS founding member, Alice Duggan Gracy. After

What's in the January newsletter?

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SAVE THE DATE!
2017 AGS Seminar
April 29, 2017
Speaker Thomas W. Jones, PhD, CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS
Thomas W. Jones is an award-winning genealogical

serving as State Archivist of Texas and President of the Society of American Archivists, he joined the faculty of the School of Information, University of Texas at Austin, from which he retired in 2011 with the title of Governor Bill Daniel Professor Emeritus in Archival Enterprise. A Fellow of the Texas State Historical Association with a Texas Tech University doctorate in History, Gracy has written extensively on topics in archives and Texas history. The piece most familiar to Texas historians and Texas students of forgery is "'Just As I Have Written It': A Study of the Authenticity of the Manuscript of Jose Enrique de la Peña's Account of the Texas Campaign," Southwestern Historical Quarterly, CV (October, 2001), 254-291. Presently Gracy is at work on a full biography of cattleman, banker, UT regent, and Austinite George Washington Littlefield with the goal of publication in 2020.

Social Time 6:30 p.m. / Program 7:00 p.m.
Highland Park Baptist Church
5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

Welcome New Members!

Dillon Butvin
Jessica Ehrhardt
Helen Hester
Katherine Little
Virginia Moore

It's time to renew your membership!

Use the registration form and send it to us in the U.S. mail with your check, or visit our webpage to register online.

Award Winning Newsletter

Our newsletter has been awarded a **second place prize** in the 2016 Texas Genealogical Society Writing Contest! You can find the award listed under the Official Periodicals of Partner Societies, sub-group Newsletters. Congratulations to our editor, Robin Raben!
More Information

researcher, writer, editor, and educator.

AGS 2017 QUARTERLY VOL. 1 DEADLINE FEBRUARY 20
Click here for submission guidelines.

AGS Education Instructors

If you are interested in teaching or assisting with a genealogy related class either at a public library or for the next session of LLI (Lifetime Learning Institute), please contact Cari Taplin at education@austintxgensoc.org.

AGS ON FACEBOOK
AustinGenealogicalSociety - Posts on this site include information about the AGS monthly programs, the annual AGS Seminar, and AGS classes.
Austin Genealogical Society Members Helping Members **(private group)** - Posts on this site include genealogy-related topics such as webinars, websites, and classes not sponsored by AGS. Members of the group may request help with any particular issue they are experiencing with their own research.
Austin Genealogical Society Writing SIG **(private group) -** AGS Members interested in writing a personal or family history are encouraged to join this Facebook group and attend the monthly meetings (see below for details.)

2016 Writing Contest Winners

The winners of the 2016 AGS Writing Contest will be announced in the January meeting.

From the President's Corner

Anne Mamiya
President@austintxgensoc.org

Happy New Year! I hope everyone got some well-deserved rest over the holiday break.

In December, the 2017 Board of Directors met and held elections for the 2017 officers. The 2017 officers are:

President: Anne Mamiya
1st Vice-President: Nan Kilkeary
2nd Vice-President: Marcia Arn
Secretary: Debbe Tipping
Treasurer: Erin Garcia

We will also be meeting on January 14 as we hold our annual Board Retreat. This is where we get together for an extended period outside of our normal board meeting to determine our goals and budget for the year.

This should be another great year for AGS! Many activities are already on our calendar and more will be coming soon! Check out the home page of our website to access the calendar of events.

Our first class is being held on Friday, January 13. *Genealogy Concepts, Part 1*. Click here to register This class is also a good opportunity to introduce a friend to the world of genealogy

Our first meeting will be on January 24 and we have a very special speaker, David B. Gracy, II, who is also the

"Liking" our pages helps get the message out to more people on Facebook! Please "like" posts when you see them to help market our Society.

CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR!

The latest schedule for AGS events is always available on the website here.

AGS DNA SIG

The first DNA SIG meeting of the year will be in February at Poke Joes at Parmer & Lamplight, our new permanent location. The exact date and topic will be announced soon.

The purpose of the DNA Special Interest Group is to help participants learn how to use DNA tests for genealogical purposes, share strategies and tools for understanding their results, and how to incorporate genetic genealogy with traditional genealogical research.

Everyone interested in DNA for genealogy is welcome.

Meetings will be posted on the AGS calendar.

son of AGS founding member, Alice Duggan Gracy. Please refer to the first page of the newsletter to learn more about this great program!

As a reminder, the AGS membership year runs on the calendar year. Please remember to renew your membership for 2017 if you haven't already done so. You may renew online, by mail, or at our January meeting.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again!

Meet the 2017 AGS Board and Officers

Read our bylaws to learn more about the duties of the Board of Directors and Officers of AGS,

Terms ending 2017:

Marcia Arn, Program Chair / Second Vice-President
Marcia was born & raised in Iowa City, IA, moving to Austin in 1987. She became interested in genealogy about 1984 when her husband's boyhood friend, who happened to be Marcia's 3rd cousin, visited them and they started talking about their common family. In Iowa she worked in an accounting job, then did daycare when her last two of four children were young. In Austin, she worked for UT, the first two years in an accounting job at Texas Student Publications, then the next 23 years in the Dean's Office of the McCombs School of Business. Her youngest daughter is interested in genealogy now too, and is an excellent researcher. Marcia will be working on proving her lines for DAR and the Mayflower Society. Marcia has served two terms on the AGS Board as Program Chair / Second Vice President.

AGS Writing SIG
Second Thursday of every month except December
Thursday, January 12, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
The group was formed to support members in writing their family histories. We meet once a month and have member discussions, presenters, and a place to share our work and give and receive critiques. Our successes thus far: a self-published book, several blog entries, several memoirs, and a regular article published in the newsletter! Come and get inspired with the rest of us! Open to members of AGS.

Click here for details.

AGS British Isles Genealogy Special Interest Group meets via email to exchange information. Contact Jane Schwendinger at janesca@earthlink.net.

AGS 2017 Calendar
Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday (no meeting in December), Networking: 6:30

Teresa Devine

Teresa began dabbling in family history research more than ten years ago, but didn't get serious about genealogy until 2011 when her oldest living paternal relative passed away taking her memories of the family with her. Teresa realized that family stories can easily disappear unless someone purposely works to save them. She specializes in southern U.S. research, serves on the Lineage Research committee for the Andrews Carruthers DAR chapter, and her daughters were recently accepted into the Mayflower Society based on Teresa's research. She is a member of the Williamson County Genealogical Society and a board member for the Austin Genealogical Society.

Erin Garcia, Treasurer

"I love two things about AGS: even though I do not have any Texas ancestors, the speakers and programs are always relevant and I learn so much from them. Second, I love being around other people who do not roll their eyes when I start talking about genealogy."

PM / Program: 7:00 PM Highland Park Baptist Church,5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731

24-January *What You See Is Not What You Get: The History and Nature of Physical Documentary Forgery* by David B. Gracy II

28-February *Organizing Your Research: Making Molehills out of Mountains* by AGS Member Cari Taplin, C.G.

28-March *Tracking Down Your Ancestors Without Leaving Town* by AGS Member Teri Flack

25-April *Who are the Wends?* by Weldon Mersiovsky P,B,D

23-May *Have You Found the "Schatz" in Your Family Tree? by* Cindy Foreman & Beverly Herring

27-June *Forensic Genealogy, Finding the Living* by Kelvin Meyer

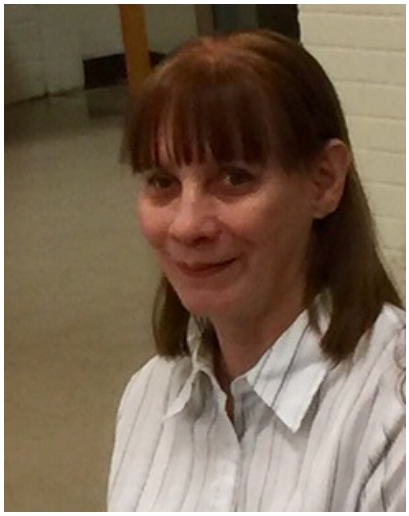
25-July *Building a Family Web Site* by Sandra Crowley

22-August *The Importance of Mapping Cemeteries, Not Just Recording the Names* by Dale Flatt

26-September *More than Daughters: Using the DAR's Genealogical Research System (GRS)* by AGS Member Teresa Devine

24-October *I've Got My DNA Results. But How Do I Use Them?* by Sara Gredler

28-November Fall Fest, *The Archives Wars* by James Harkins



Jean Marostica

If you have attended an AGS meeting or annual seminar over the past several years, then you have already met Jean Marostica at the nametag table. She is instrumental in keeping the attendance and guest lists in order as well as maintaining the AGS website.

Anne Mamiya, President

"This will be my 5th year serving on the board and 3rd as President. Every year brings new volunteers and ideas to our Society. I have really enjoyed watching people come into a new position and put their creativity and skills to use. I have learned from them as I hope they have learned from me. I encourage anyone with ideas or skills they think would benefit AGS to let me or another board member know. It certainly takes a team to run an active society!"

AGS Website

Did you forget your login or password to the Members Only section? Problems renewing a membership?
Contact: webmaster@austintxgensoc.org

AGS 2017 Class Schedule

Information about our classes is available here.

Friday, January 13, 10:30a-12p
Genealogy Concepts Pt. 1 - Cari Taplin
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

Learn how to get started (or get a refresher) on some basic genealogical concepts such as: 5-steps to quality genealogy research, developing a beginning researching plan, gathering and organizing information, and genealogical websites to use. This class is great for beginners or seasoned genealogists alike!

Saturday, February 25, 10:30a-12p
Searching in Sverige: Beginning Swedish Research - Seth Taplin
North Village Branch Library
2505 Steck Ave, Austin, TX 78757

This class will explore the basics involved in starting to research Swedish ancestors, using the emigration of Lars Larson in 1865 as a case study. We will cover basic Swedish history, naming

Cari A. Taplin, C.G.
Cari has been on the board and serving as the Education Chair for AGS since 2016. She is a professional researcher. More about Cari is available on her website: genealogypants.com

Terms ending 2018:

James E. Bridges
James is serving his second term on the AGS board, and also served as First Vice-President of AGS in 2016. He co-founded the AGS Writing SIG in 2016. He is a frequent contributor of articles to the AGS Quarterly.

Dianne Holley
"I am excited to be a newbie on the Austin Genealogical Society's Board of Directors and to help carry on the tradition of excellence created by previous and continuing Board members. I love it that AGS provides multiple opportunities for sharing, learning and yes, schmoozing about my favorite topic."

patterns, free and subscription resources online, Swedish terminology, and the methodology to follow families through Swedish records.

We will be posting the schedule of remaining classes for 2017 on the AGS website soon.

Do You Have a Brick Wall? A Genealogical Question?
Feel free to send it in for the newsletter to newsletter@austintxgensoc.org or post it to our Facebook page, "Austin Genealogical Society Members helping Members."

Local Genealogy Meetings and Resources
Austin Gen SIG, meets from 1:00–4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of the month at Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library, 7051 Village Center Dr., Austin. Part of the Computer Club of Austin. Click here for website.

Austin Legacy Users Group meets on the third Saturday of the month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Querencia at Barton Creek, 2500 Barton Creek Blvd., Austin. Click here for website.

Texas State Library is open from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of each month.1201 Brazos in Austin. Questions concerning Second Saturdays may be sent here. Click here for website.

Williamson County Genealogical Society meetings are held the third

Nan Kilkeary, First Vice President
"I'm excited to have the opportunity to help our terrific organization serve our members in their search for ancestors! There's so much we can do . . . if we just have the people to do it (hint . . . volunteer!). AGS is truly one of Austin's premier groups."

Rob Richardson
"In the board meetings that I attended late this year as a 'newbie' member, I was impressed by the Board's commitment to providing AGS members with resources and strategies to make their family history research more effective and insightful. Moreover, I found that significant part of the board meetings focused on how to make those tools more interesting and accessible to the AGS membership. In 2017, I would like to contribute to that ongoing effort by exploring how AGS might offer members easily available on-line "how-to" blogs and videos, highlights of the SIG meetings, and if possible, videos of the monthly speaker series for review by our members."

Thursday of each month at the Round Rock Public Library, 216 E Main Street, Round Rock. Social time at 7:00 p.m. with the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Click here for website.

Austin Public Library Genealogical Resources
Click here for website.

Did you know?
You can change your contact information or surnames on your profile page on our website? Click on the "membership account" button at the top right corner after you've logged in.
austintxgensoc.org

What's on the AGS Website?
Have you ever wanted to look at a handout from a meeting you attended but just can't find it? Never fear - we post them on the Members Only page of our website!
austintxgensoc.org/members-only/#handout

2017 AGS Board of Directors

Terms ending 2017:
Marcia Arn
Teresa Devine
Erin Garcia
Jean Marostica
Anne Mamiya
Cari Taplin

Terms ending 2018:
James E. Bridges
Dianne Holley
Nan Kilkeary
Rob Richardson

Jean Shroyer
Jean has been a member since the 1980's and has served on the AGS Board in the past. "One will support AGS if they do genealogy and have the addiction, wish to be further instructed with classes and how to's, listen to interesting speakers.I think it is great I was asked to serve once again on the AGS board. I hope I can submit something to help foster its growth for others."

Debbe Tipping, Secretary
"I have been a member of AGS for a little more than a year. I am looking forward to learning more about AGS as a board member and am happy to serve as the board's secretary this year."

Did You Know About the Members' Table?

You might have noticed a table at the back of the room manned by a couple of smiling faces. Have you stopped to check it out? The Members' Table is a great place to stop, visit, network, leave your brick wall questions, your ideas for future meetings, questions you might have or information you want to share. The table is always

Jean Shroyer
Debbe Tipping

2017 AGS Officers

President Anne Mamiya
1st VP Nan Kilkeary
2nd VP Marcia Arn
Secretary Debbe Tipping
Treasurer Erin Garcia

Got something for the newsletter?
Submissions are welcome - due the first day of the month for each submission.
newsletter@austintxgensoc.org

"hosted" and separate from the check-in/nametag table. Stop by at the next meeting!

Ethnographic Maps

By AGS Member John F. Marostica

The word ‘map’ can have different meanings to different people or in different situations. When I was young, a map was a highway map. My parents had them in the car for when we went on vacations.

As a genealogist, I learned about city, state and county maps as well as landowner maps and even insurance maps.

Maps not only show us where people and places are located, but help us put things in perspective by showing us the locations of people and places in relation to the surrounding area. Even topographical maps help us see why people settled in areas (availability of water), or obstructions to travel (like mountain ranges).

There are many other types of maps that can be very useful in your genealogical research. Cadastral maps, transportation maps, even population density maps can be useful to you in your research.

A new type of map I recently discovered is the ethnographic map. An ethnographic map shows the geographic distribution of ethnicities. As you can see on the map below, ethnic populations are color coded to

show the areas where they lived.

The ethnographic map below was found in the David Rumsey Map Collection and is from the Times Atlas. The map is from the year 1900. If you "click" on the map, you will be taken to the corresponding map in the David Rumsey Map Collection. If you move your mouse over the map, a slider bar will show up in the bottom of the map that you can use to enlarge the map. You can also scroll to the bottom of the “Media Information” box on the left side of the screen and "Full Image Download" link to save the map to your computer.

Pub Title:

The Times Atlas ; (New Edition). Containing 132 Pages of Maps, and comprising 196 Maps and an Alphabetical Index to 150,000 Names. Published at the Office of The Times, Printing House Square, London, E.C. 1900.

The following map is an enlargement of the area outlined in red on the ethnographic map of Europe. The "Explanation of Coloring" (Section cut and pasted in the lower left of the picture enlargement) shows that the brown area indicates the Greeks and the gray color indicates the Albanians.

Notice all the islands in the Aegean Sea, along the coast of Asia Minor, Crete and Cyprus. As for Albanians, notice the areas in and around Greece and the spots in Asia Minor. Did you know all the areas where the Greeks settled? At least in 1900 – what could other maps show? Could ethnographic maps help reveal (or confirm) ethnic migration patterns? What else could you learn?

While ethnographic maps will not yield names or addresses for your ancestors, they can, if detailed enough, show you areas of ethnic habitations that you may not have known about. And knowing about these areas can give you new areas to search or possible reasons why your ancestors were where you found them.

Ethnographic maps from the 19th century can be found at the University of Chicago library. The David Rumsey Map Collection also has several ethnographic maps. You can view the maps in detail and download them to your computer for further viewing and study.

Who knows, these maps may be able to help you find your ancestors…

Upcoming Events and Resources

RootsTech 2017
Salt Lake City, Utah
February 8-11
Keynote speakers LeVar Burton ("Roots", "Star Trek", "Reading Rainbow") and Buddy Valastro ("Cake Boss"), over 200 breakout sessions for all levels of experience, Expo hall with hundreds of exhibitors.

More Information

Found it on the Internet! Census Dictionary!

If you've ever come across an abbreviation on the US

Census and wondered what it meant, or if you interpreted it correctly, here's a neat page: genealogy.about.com/od/us_census/f/abbreviations.htm

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A Look at the 2016 AGS Fall Fest

Topic: Texas Rangers
Presented by: Mike Cox

It would be impossible to remember and thank everyone who helped set up and take down the Fall Fest last November -- it went smoothly and everyone helped -- men and ladies. Even though it was a stormy, wet night it was well-attended by nearly 80 people!

The sides and desserts brought were bountiful and delicious! My only suggestion for next year -- please let us know that you are attending -- we had people not replying until the last day! We were barely able to serve everyone barbecue!! There were very few leftovers of any kind. Thank you, everyone, for bringing your treasured recipe items or deli favorites! So much fun! While we didn't introduce everyone, your spouses and guests were so very welcome!

Missy Harris, 2016 Hospitality Chair

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