



# THE AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Next Meeting: July 25, 2017

## Topic Tables – Help with Geographical Research by AGS Members



AGS Members in a past Topic Table Meeting from 2016

Please join us for the July meeting where you will have a chance to interact directly with members of AGS and learn about genealogical research.

The regional tables will be:

- 6 states of New England (Nancy Stevens)
- Southern Atlantic Coast (NC, SC, GA) & TN & KY (Camay Jennings)
- Missouri (Erin Garcia)
- 11 Midwest states (Marcia Arn)
- Texas, PA, VA (Debbie Tipping)
- Eastern Canada (Diane Harvey)
- Western states (No host)
- Southern states (No host)

## What's in the July newsletter?

[Welcome new members](#)  
[Genealogy Conversation Starters](#)  
[Condolences](#)  
[From the President's Corner](#)  
[Upcoming Events](#)  
[Geocache Your Family Tree](#)  
[Family History Microfilm Discontinuation](#)  
[DNA and Genealogy](#)  
[June Meeting Recap](#)  
[Book Sale in July Meeting](#)  
[AGS Education](#)  
[Instructors](#)  
[AGS on Facebook](#)  
[AGS DNA SIG](#)  
[AGS Writing SIG](#)  
[AGS British Isle SIG](#)  
[2017 AGS Calendar](#)  
[2017 AGS Class Schedule](#)  
[Local Genealogy Meetings](#)

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## Clean out your bookshelves and bring them to the July Meeting!

We are planning a book sale for the July meeting. Members can donate books to be sold at the meeting with proceeds going to the Society.

There will also be a book sale. Bring your unwanted genealogy related book or printed material, and we will sell them for between \$1-5. Proceeds will go to AGS.

Social Time 6:30 p.m. / Program 7:00 p.m.

Highland Park Baptist Church

[5206 Balcones, Austin, TX 78731](#)

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## Welcome New Members!

Diane Harvey Anderson

Jacqueline and Gadson Tarleton

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## Genealogy Conversation Starters

*by AGS Membership Chair Debbe Tipping*

For our July meeting, please bring stories about your colorful ancestors - those ancestors that did crazy or colorful things. For example, I will bring my husband's second great grandfather, John Rainey Tipping. At the age of 92 he was allegedly arrested for horse racing down main street to the embarrassment of his daughters. This was in about 1935. There will be posters for you to write your story on or you can bring it with you to tape to the posters at the meeting.

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## Condolences

We are very sad to report the recent loss of Sharon Matthews Tieman. Our condolences to Robert Tieman and the Tieman family.



There will be a table for the books, priced modestly at \$1 to \$5, for genealogy or history books that you no longer wish to keep. Any left over books will be donated to a local thrift store or used book store, unless you request we return them. For questions, contact [newsletter@  
austintxgensoc.org](mailto:newsletter@austintxgensoc.org).

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## AGS 2017 QUARTERLY VOL. 3 DEADLINE AUGUST 20

Click [here](#) for submission guidelines.

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## 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](mailto:education@austintxgensoc.org).

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## AGS on FaceBook

[Austin Genealogical Society](#) - Posts on this site include information about the AGS monthly programs, the annual AGS Seminar, and AGS classes. **"Liking" this page helps get the message out to more people on Facebook!**

The spirit of Sharon Fay Matthews Tieman departed from this earth in the early evening on June 14 to join her beloved mother and father in heaven above. She was dearly loved by all who knew her. She was born to Woodson Browning Matthews and Jimmie Jewell Wilson Matthews on September 10, 1931, in Austin, Texas. She lived her early years in the Rosedale neighborhood growing up as a typical young girl would do in the 1930s and 40s. Sharon graduated from old Austin High School. Upon graduation at midterm in 1949, she enrolled in the University of Texas, where she was a member of the Delta Zeta Sorority.

In May of 1952, she married Robert Edward Tieman, a UT engineering student. In the fall of 1953, Sharon joined the ranks of military wives as Robert began active duty with the US Marine Corps Reserve. They had six children, two sons and four daughters. The family was one of the original families in the early years of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in northeast Austin. Sharon and Robert were later divorced, but they remained very close friends, and they kept their family closely intact.

Sharon pursued the history of her parent's families while a longtime active member of the Austin Genealogical Society and travelling to genealogical repositories across the nation.

In March of 1991 and at the age of 60, she embarked upon an adventure that excited her so greatly she felt compelled to repeat it in different, but similar forms for many years to come. She backpacked, yes backpacked, in the inner gorge of the Grand Canyon with a group of other backpackers for five days! Besides the exhilaration of her physical accomplishment, the awesomeness and beauty of the Canyon's majesty inspired her in a deeply emotional manner. Thus, began a love affair with the Canyon that endured all the days of her life.

She is survived by six children, eight grandchildren, one great grandchild and former husband Robert. A complete obituary can be found [here](#).

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## From the President's Corner

**Please "like" posts  
when you see them to  
help market our Society.**

[Austin Genealogical  
Society Members Helping  
Members](#) (pubic 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](#) (closed 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.)

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## CHECK OUT OUR CALENDAR!

The latest schedule for AGS classes, events and meetings is always available on the website [here](#).



**AGS DNA SIG**  
*First Tuesday of*



Anne Mamiya, AGS President  
[president@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:president@austintxgensoc.org)

Earlier this year, the board approved a donation to the Texas General Land Office to assist in the conservation of documents within the Austin City Lots and Outlets Records collections. Our \$2000 donation was matched by the GLO through Save Texas History program, bringing the total amount to \$4000 dollars. Please see this [post](#) from the *Save Texas History* blog to learn about the collection and see some sample documents.

AGS has enjoyed working with the Texas GLO over the past several years. In fact, James Harkins, Director of Public Services – Archives and Records at the Texas General Land Office, will be our speaker for our November Fall Festival. Programs presented by the Texas GLO have been some of our member's favorites. Make sure to mark your calendars!

I can't wait to see you at our July meeting! This will be one of our topic table format meetings. Another AGS favorite! See the first page of the newsletter for more details.

We will also have a short business meeting to elect 2 people from the general membership to serve on our Nominating Committee. This committee is formed each year with the purpose of nominating 6 members for the open director seats that occur at the end of each year.

The nominees will be announced at our September meeting and our election will be held in October.

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## Upcoming Events and Resources

**every month. Next meeting August 1, 6:30 – 8:30 PM**

**Pok-E-Joe's**

[2121 Parmer](#)

[Lane, Austin, TX 78727](#)

*Three blocks east of Mopac on Parmer Lane*

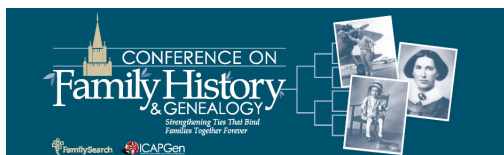
There will be no AGS DNA SIG in July since our regular meeting date falls on July 4th. In August, we will begin chapter 5 of *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*. This chapter covers autosomal DNA (atDNA) which is most commonly tested for genealogy. You do not need to have the book to attend the next meeting on August 1st, but it is advised. If you have tested your DNA or are thinking about it, join us in August. See the AGS website to register and obtain more information.

The book is available from [Amazon](#) for \$36 paperback or \$9.99 for the Kindle edition. If you are a member of NGS, it is available for \$30.06, or \$36.06 for non-members.

[More information](#)



**AGS Writing SIG**  
**Second Thursday of every month - no meeting in December**



**BYU Conference on Family History & Genealogy**  
**Tuesday, July 25 – Friday, July 28, 2017**  
**BYU Conference Center, Provo Utah**

[More Information](#)



**The Williamson County/Cedar Park Organizing Chapter**  
**Informational Meeting**  
**Sunday, July 23, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm**  
**Sunset Room at the Twin Creek Country Club**  
**3201 Twin Creeks Club Drive, Cedar Park.**

Sally Hunt, Organizing Regent, will lead the presentations that will cover the status of organizing the new chapter and information for those who are new and interested in joining the DAR.

Please contact [cedarparkdar@gmail.com](mailto:cedarparkdar@gmail.com) for more information.



**Frances Sprott Goforth Memorial Genealogy Weekend**  
**Finding our Female Ancestors**  
**Friday and Saturday, August 4 & 5, 2017**  
**Walker County Genealogical Society and the Huntsville Public Library**  
**1219 13th Street, Huntsville, TX 77340**

Includes speaker sessions both days, dinner Friday

**Thursday, August 10,**  
**6:30 - 8:30 p.m.**  
**Cafe Express**  
[3418 N Lamar Blvd. Austin, TX 78705](#)

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.

[More Information](#)



**AGS British Isles Genealogy SIG**

**AGS British Isles Genealogy Special Interest Group** meets via email to exchange information. Contact Jane Schwendinger at [janesca@earthlink.net](mailto:janesca@earthlink.net).

**AGS 2017 Calendar**

evening, "lock-in" research time at the library and a silent auction.

[More Information](#)



**FGS 2017 National Conference**  
**Wednesday, August 30 - Tuesday, September 2**  
**David L. Lawrence Convention Center**  
**Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

Hosted by the Federation of Genealogical Societies along with local host Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society, FGS 2017 brings you sessions with a wide variety of topics from many of the nation's top family history experts. Sessions are aimed at strengthening your research skills no matter what your level or area of expertise might be. Advance on-line registration closes at midnight EDT, Monday, August 21, 2017. Advance mailed-in registrations should be postmarked by August 12, 2017 to ensure they arrive by August 21.

[More Information](#)



**38th Annual Texas Hispanic**  
**Genealogical and Historical Conference**  
**September 28 – 30, 2017**  
**Crowne Plaza Hotel**  
**6121 North IH-35, Austin, Texas 78752**

Celebrate 500 years of Tejano history! Includes tours of the Nettie Lee Benson Library at The University of Texas at Austin, the Bullock Texas State History Museum, the Texas General Land Office (GLO), the Texas State Library & Archives Commission (TSLAC), and the Tejano

*Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday (no meeting in December),  
Networking: 6:30 PM /  
Program: 7:00 PM  
Highland Park Baptist Church, [5206 Balcones](#),  
[Austin, TX 78731](#)*

**25-July US Region**  
**Genealogy Topic**  
**Tables by AGS Members**

**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

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**AGS Website**

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

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**AGS 2017 Class Schedule**

*Information about our classes is available [here](#).*

Monument on the Front Lawn of the State Capitol grounds. Speakers, a musical reception and banquet are also included.

[More Information](#)

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## Geocache Your Family Tree

by AGS Member Sarah Shaw

Next time you want to share your passion for genealogy to a younger generation who doesn't seem to be interested, show them the *Find A Grave* app on your smart phone. It's free and has some cool basic tools to engage your tech savvy kinfolk. Use it to geocache family cemeteries, or fulfill photography requests from members who do not live in the area. How many family reunions or holiday get-togethers have there been where there was no one my age and I didn't have much to do? I would have welcomed a side trip exploring a new town.

The two basic features in *Find A Grave* are locating existing memorials and locating cemeteries within your current location. The app does not have all the full features of the *findagrave.com* website, but it has some great features for use in the field. It's a good compliment to the full service website. It's designed to work with the camera feature of your smart phone and syncs with google maps.

To view photo requests based on your present location, have your location settings set to ON in your smartphone application settings. I also set my camera location settings to ON when I use this app. The GPS location becomes part of the camera image/photo properties. To verify that you have the location turned on for an iPhone, go to SETTINGS, select APPLICATIONS, and select CAMERA. Toggle to ON.

GPS information can now be added to an existing *Find A Grave* memorial from your smart phone. What's nice is that you can add the information directly to the existing memorial. Normally an edit request is required to edit an existing memorial, but not when you add GPS information. You can either choose to upload the GPS information only if a grave photo already exists, or you may add a new

*All classes are free.*

**Saturday, September 16,  
10:30a-Noon**

**Land Workshop Pt. 1 –  
Metes and Bounds -**

**Cari A. Taplin, CG**

North Village Branch  
Library

[2505 Steck Ave. Austin,  
TX 78757](#)

*Registration is required  
for this class to insure  
there are enough  
handouts. Registration will  
open on August 16.*

Have you ever wondered how to draw those land descriptions from the Metes & Bounds survey system? This system was used primarily in the original thirteen colonies and so is mostly found when dealing with land in the east. This workshop will describe the system and then take the students through some real examples teaching them how to draw the land shapes as described in old deeds.

**Saturday, September 23,  
10:30a-Noon**

**Land Workshop Pt. 2 –  
Rectangular System -**

**Cari A. Taplin, CG**

North Village Branch  
Library

[2505 Steck Ave. Austin,  
TX 78757](#)

*Registration is required  
for this class to insure  
there are enough  
handouts. Registration will  
open on August 16.*

photo. The GPS information will be uploaded after a prompt.

I use this tool for graves that still have temporary markers. So many times, these markers are destroyed and a permanent headstone is never purchased. With this app, I can upload the GPS coordinates that will be part of the memorial on *Find A Grave*. Transcription projects, such as one done by AGS, compliment this app. While we can use official records to create a memorial, if there is no headstone or other record of burial, no one knows where to find someone unless they have someone from the cemetery office locate the plot.

The second part of the app provides cemetery locations and it is also connected to google maps. A few years ago, I had a request from someone who wanted to visit a relative's grave. I had to give this long description of how to get there and then how to locate it within the cemetery. How nice it would have been to have the GPS coordinates instead? I recently used it to answer a person's request for directions to a Travis County cemetery.

So next time you go on the family trip and the teenagers get bored, why not take a short break and explore your location by using GPS at the local cemetery? You can always create records for the friends and family that want to locate their long lost relatives. You can find the app at *findagrave.com*. Membership is free. Happy trails.

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## Family History Microfilm Discontinuation

### ***Press release from FamilySearch***

On September 1, 2017, FamilySearch will discontinue its microfilm distribution services. The last day to order microfilm will be on August 31, 2017.

The change is the result of significant progress made in FamilySearch's microfilm digitization efforts and the obsolescence of microfilm technology.

- Online access to digital images of records allows FamilySearch to reach many more people, faster and more efficiently.

Have you ever wondered how to draw those land descriptions from the rectangular survey system? This system was used in the Federal Land states to survey and sell the land to private citizens. This workshop will describe the system and then take the students through some real examples teaching them how to draw the land shapes as described in old deeds.

**Saturday, October 28,  
10:30a-Noon**

**DNA for Beginners -  
Randy Whited**

North Village Branch  
Library

[2505 Steck Ave. Austin,  
TX 78757](#)

*Registration is required  
for this class to insure  
there are enough  
handouts. Registration will  
open on September 28.*

This class will go over some of the basics needed to get started with DNA testing for genealogical purposes.

**Saturday, December 9,  
10:30a-Noon**

**How to Teach a  
Genealogy Class –  
Panel and Workshop**

North Village Branch  
Library

[2505 Steck Ave. Austin,  
TX 78757](#)

*Registration is required  
for this class to insure*

- FamilySearch is a global leader in historic records preservation and access, with billions of the world's genealogical records in its collections.
- Over 1.5 million microfilms (ca. 1.5 billion images) have been digitized by FamilySearch, including the most requested collections based on microfilm loan records worldwide.
- The remaining microfilms should be digitized by the end of 2020, and all new records from its ongoing global efforts are already using digital camera equipment.
- Family history centers will continue to provide access to relevant technology, premium subscription services, and digital records, including restricted content not available at home.
- Digital images of historical records can be accessed today in 3 places on FamilySearch.org under "Search".
- Records include historical records indexed by name or organized with an image browse.
- Books include digital copies of books from the Family History Library and other libraries.
- Catalog includes a description of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, etc.) in the FamilySearch collection.

When approved by priesthood leaders, centers may continue to maintain microfilm collections already on loan from FamilySearch after microfilm ordering ends. Centers have the option to return microfilm that is available online or otherwise not needed. As more images are published online, centers may reevaluate whether to retain microfilm holdings.



## DNA and Genealogy

### Preparation for Blaine Bettinger's Seminar in May 2018

*by AGS Member Debbe Tipping*

In May 2018, Blaine Bettinger will lead our Saturday seminar and host two workshops on the day before. He is

*there are enough handouts. Registration will open on November 9.*

This will be a panel discussion and workshop for anyone interested in learning how to teach their own genealogy class. There will be a short lecture, a panel discussion with local genealogical speakers, and then a workshop period to help attendees develop their ideas for teaching a class or get tips on public speaking.

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### Do You Have a Brick Wall? A Genealogical Question?

Feel free to send it in for the newsletter to [newsletter@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:newsletter@austintxgensoc.org) or post it to our Facebook page, "Austin Genealogical Society Members helping Members."

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## 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.

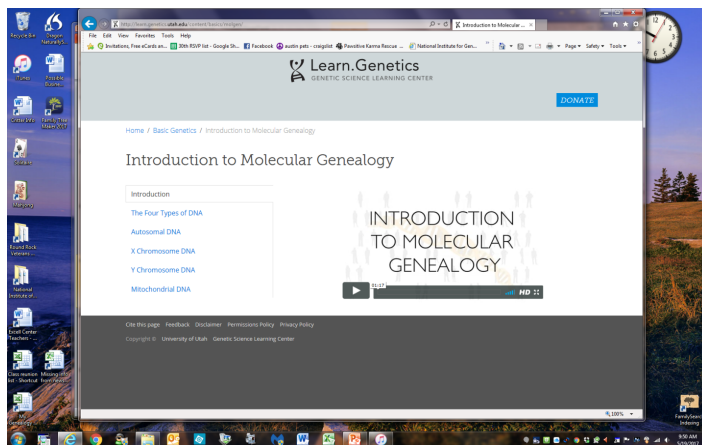
**Texas State Library** is open

an expert in the field of DNA and Genealogy research. He started [The Genetic Genealogist](#) blog in 2007. He is the author of *The Family Tree Guide to DNA Testing and Genetic Genealogy* and co-author with Debbie Parker Wayne of *Genetic Genealogy in Practice*, a genetic genealogy workbook offered through the National Genealogical Society.

DNA is genealogy's newest tool to help solve relationship issues in our family trees or verify our family trees. Over the next year, I will write a series of articles introducing DNA and its use with genealogy. Blaine looked over and made suggestions for the topics to make sure the material is relevant to prepare for the seminar in 2018.

Let's start at the beginning. **How** does DNA help with genealogy research? There are six videos that beautifully explain the basic concepts for DNA and genealogy. Each video is less than three minutes long.

<http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/content/basics/molgen/>



Webpage for accessing DNA Videos

These videos show you how DNA can be one more useful tool for genealogy research. DNA reports can be another record set we use to prove (or show) relationships between our ancestors.

How is DNA being used to prove relationships? There are two ways DNA is used with genealogy today. First, a DNA sample is submitted and the test results are out there for people to find. That statement is a bit simplistic; let me explain the two ways people can find matches this way. You can have your DNA results compared to everyone

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 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.

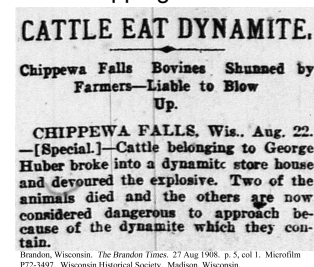
### **Got something for the newsletter?**

Submissions are welcome - due the first day of the month for each submission.

[newsletter@austintxgensoc.org](mailto:newsletter@austintxgensoc.org)

## **Research Distractions**

Ever find yourself being pulled away from that hunt for your ancestor in a newspaper by an interesting headline? Here is one that caught the eye of Debbe Tipping:



Clipping from Brandon,

else that submitted a test at the company you used to see who happens to be related. If other testers submitted their family tree, you can compare trees. You can also submit your DNA results to a surname project to see if you match with others with the same surname. The surname projects also collect family trees, so you may be able to add a generation or two if there is a match.

Before you run out to purchase a DNA kit, let me offer you the, "but wait, there's more." We share our family trees on several online sites, hoping to find ancestors and cousins. Sometimes we find someone. Sometimes we do not. The same holds true with this DNA testing strategy: there is no guarantee there will be a match. An example is the DNA results from my husband's Taylor family. FamilyTreeDNA has a Taylor surname group using Y-DNA test results. They have 635 Y-DNA test kits submitted to date. There are 26 kits that show no relationship to the Taylor family. There are 256 kits with no match to another kit (40.3%). For many of the families I am researching, there is no surname DNA project available to submit DNA results. Just like submitting trees online, there is no guarantee for matches with DNA test kit submissions.

The second way DNA is used with genealogy is to prove or disprove a relationship. You can use DNA tests from carefully selected descendants to prove that an ancestor belongs on your tree. My great-great-grandmother was divorced because she had an extramarital affair. Her husband and lover both stated in the divorce proceedings that she told them my great-grandfather was not the biological child of her husband. The dates her lover gave for their interludes do not match up with my great-grandfather's birth. I am working through the family trees of both men to look for living male descendants to test. There is no surname group for either of the men, so I have to ask direct descendants if they are willing to take a test so I can see if one of them is the father of my great-grandfather.

If you are interested in more about DNA, we have a DNA SIG (Special Interest Group) that meets the first Tuesday of each month. They are studying the book *Genetic Genealogy in Practice* by Blaine Bettinger and Debbie Parker Wayne. In August they will discuss chapter 5. [Click here for more](#)

Wisconsin. *The Brandon Times*, 27 Aug 1908, pg. 5, col 1. Microfilm P72-3497. Wisconsin Historical Society. Madison, Wisconsin.

It reads: "Cattle belonging to George Huber broke into a dynamite store house and devoured the explosive. Two of the animals died and the others are now considered dangerous to approach because of the dynamite which they contain."

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information: [http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/ags-dna-special-interest-group-8-2017/?instance\\_id=434](http://www.austintxgensoc.org/event/ags-dna-special-interest-group-8-2017/?instance_id=434)

If you have any questions, please email me at [dtipping@att.net](mailto:dtipping@att.net). Until next month, happy hunting your family tree!

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## June Meeting Recap

**Topic:** Forensic Genealogy, Finding the Living

**Speaker:** Kelvin L. Meyers

### April Meeting Attendance

62 attendees, with visitor Dianne Anderson.

### Thanks to our June volunteers!

Technical setup and support - John Marostica

Set Up - Shelly Augustin and Rob Richardson

Nametag table - Judith and Tom Morris

Snacks - Gayle Boyce, Nan Kilkeary, and Kay Boyd

Clean Up - Kay Boyd

### Sign-Ups for July Meeting

Set Up: Shelley Augustin & Lewis Barba

Clean Up: Anne Mamiya and Robin Raben

Greeter: Gayle Boyce

Snacks: Chris Bond, Shirley Meyer, Max Trenck, and Marsha Patterson

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