

THE AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 20, Issue 6 [http:// AustinTxGenSoc.org](http://AustinTxGenSoc.org) June 2014

Austin Genealogical Society Meeting Tuesday, June 24, 2014

Rescheduled from January

Maps & Online Resources at the Perry-Castaneda Library

Presented by Katherine Strickland

Mapping personal histories.

Katherine Strickland of the UT Libraries will talk about how the Perry-Castañeda Library (PCL) Map Collection can help you create a more complete picture of your past. You will learn how to navigate the Library's website to find and access materials campus wide. Katherine will also point to helpful genealogical reference materials.

Katherine Strickland has worked for the University of Texas Libraries since 2000, and has provided general reference since 2005. She became the PCL Map Collection Library Specialist in April of 2010 and has provided genealogical reference since. She is a member of the Western Association of Map Libraries and the North American Cartographic Information Society. Originally from San Antonio, she has lived in Austin since 1994 and can't imagine ever leaving Texas.



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AGS Business: *From the Minutes of the Board Meeting*

AGS Board Meeting, May 27, 2014

Board Minutes

Members present: Marcia Arn, Inez Eppright, Missy Harris, Leslie D. Inman, Anne Mamiya, Carol Mason, Karin Nelson, Winnie Noelke, Jane Schwendinger, and Don Villoni. Lisa Smith-Curtean attended through phone connection. Member not present: Kathy Pemberton.

Minutes of the April 22, 2014, AGS Board meeting were accepted as submitted.

Treasurer's Report

The April Treasurer's report was accepted as submitted.

Bank Statement

The April bank statement has been reviewed, and it is in agreement with the treasurer's records. It was also reported that money was transferred from the checking account to a money market account.

Membership

There are currently 354 members.

Seminar Report

Treasurer Karin Nelson reported that the cost of Triumphant Love Lutheran Church was less than expected. All expenses have been covered. The raffle was profitable, and AGS made \$221 from the sale of the speaker's books. Twelve to fifteen new members were registered through the incentive offered via the seminar.

OLD BUSINESS

Save the War of 1812 Pensions

The donation has been sent, and the treasurer will advise the board of the number of pages our donation will provide.

Ft. Wayne Research Trip

Fourteen members have expressed an interest in participating in the trip to Ft. Wayne. Email messages have been sent in order to determine room accommodations to help anyone needing to find a room-

mate. The research trip will be opened to members of other genealogy societies.

Book Donations to TSL

Diane Houston, at the TSLA, has been contacted and is still working on a list of books that can be donated by David Gracy in memory of charter AGS member, Emma Gentry.

NEW BUSINESS

Financial Review Committee Report

The report was reviewed. It was very thorough and well done. Discussion followed concerning the report and recommendations made. It was reported that debit cards are held by Jane Schwendinger, Inez Eppright, Karin Nelson and Kay Boyd. Karin is creating a form to document cash receipts which will be included in the Policies and Procedures that she is working on.

Events for Members

Jane Schwendinger requested the board bring ideas for membership events to the next board meeting. Lisa Smith-Curtean recommended webinars.

Board Positions for 2015

A new President will be needed. Discussion followed concerning whether other board members will need to be replaced and how we might find qualified volunteers for the positions. A new newsletter person will also be needed next year. Alyssa Behr was recommended as a good candidate for this position.

Printed Membership Directories

AGS member Jim Cooper, requested that directories be emailed to members. Currently, Jean Marostica is developing a directory with half-page size pages that can be put on the website for members to print if they wish to have a printed directory.

Further Discussions

It was also suggested that we develop projects to invest in that will be beneficial to our members. Leslie Inman reported that she and Nancy Stevens are working on providing free genealogy classes at TSL on the one Saturday a month that TSL is open to the public. They would also provide information on using the library resources.

From the President's Corner

Greetings,

As summer approaches, many will be traveling to other parts of the state, country, and world to visit friends and family. Don't forget to ask those burning questions about your ancestors, as you never know when your last opportunity to obtain valuable information will occur. Travel safely and return with excitement about furthering your knowledge with the help of your Society.

Consider going to Ft. Wayne with AGS this October. More information is available on our website at <http://austintxgensoc.org>. Those who have gone in prior years have not only had a lot of fun, but also have made new friendships and, of course, have returned with an abundance of new ancestral information.

Coming later this year, in addition to the monthly meetings, are another Introduction to Genealogy class and a PERSI class. The Introduction to Genealogy class is a great refresher course for those who have been doing genealogy for some time. The PERSI class, conducted by Sue Kaufman, is invaluable for those going to Ft. Wayne.

I'll close my blurb by again thanking all who volunteer to facilitate the operation of the Society. We have a great and growing Society and can keep it great and growing with the addition of more volunteers. Consider offering your time and talent. You, as well as our Society, will certainly benefit from your contributions.

Jane Schwendinger

There are many opportunities to participate in genealogical activities in Austin and in nearby communities. The list below includes information on regularly occurring meetings in which AGS members may wish to participate.

AGS British Isle Genealogy Special Interest Group meets via email to exchange information. Contact Jane Schwendinger at janesca@earthlink.net. This is an official AGS activity.

Austin Gen SIG meets from 1:00- 3:00 P.M. the second Saturday of the month at Old Quarry Branch, Austin Public Library, 7051 Village Center Drive. This SIG is a part of Computer Club of Austin and is not an AGS affiliated group.
<http://www.austingensig.com/>

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. Rjenkins7@austin.rr.com

Williamson County Genealogical Society meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at the Round Rock Public Library. Social time at 7:00 with the meeting at 7:30.

<http://www.williamsontxgenealogy.org/>

Keep in mind that the Texas State Library and Archive is expanding its hours of operation to accommodate researchers. The Texas State Archives, Texas Family Heritage Research Center, and the Reference and Information Center will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. the second Saturday of each month. The facility is located at 1201 Brazos in Austin.





Places to “Surf” During the Hot Summer Months

If you have Irish ancestors New County Antrim and County Down Church of Ireland Records are now online. It is a paid site but might be worth a look. Some of the records were as early as 1720.

www.rootsireland.ie Irish Family History Foundation

If you enjoyed the program about Evernote, here is an excellent article:

<http://olivetreegenealogy.blogspot.com/2014/04/using-evernote-to-make-virtual-binders.html>

Some miscellaneous cemetery sites that are very good:

<http://www.mesacemetery.com/> City of Mesa, Arizona in Maricopia County.

<http://www.ogdencity.com/en/community/cemetery.aspx> Ogden Utah, City cemetery

http://www.sterlingcolo.com/?page_id=78 Riverside Cemetery, Sterling, Colorado

<http://www.phillipsburgks.us/index.aspx?nid=114> Fairview Cemetery, Phillipsburg, KS

<http://tscpl.org/history/mount-auburn-cemetery-files-now-available-online> Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Topeka, KS

<https://www.gainesville.org/alta-vista-cemetery> Alta Vista Cemetery, Gainesville, Georgia

When was the last time you visited our very own AGS website?

<http://austintxgensoc.org>

The AGS website provides a wealth of helpful information. Don't forget to take advantage of one of the great benefits of membership.

Non-members can access cemetery records, Austin and Travis records, older AGS Quarterlies, our newsletters, and more.

The “members only” section is rich with material that is helpful in doing research. You'll find newer and current AGS Quarterlies, handouts from many of our monthly meetings, our mini-seminars, and our Saturday Series, as well as membership information and the membership.



I want to thank my wonderful friends from AGS for all your cards and notes during my chemo therapy and stem cell transplant. They just warmed my heart, and I appreciate them more than I can ever tell you. I am healing slowly, but they tell me to have patience and expect it to take 3-6 months to feel like myself again. As you know, I like to be on the go. My Mama used to say, "there is a reason I didn't name you Patience!" She knew me well! Love and Hugs to all of you, *Pat Orley*

Condolences



Condolences to AGS member Maud Cain on the loss of her grandson, Matthew. Matthew Allen Cain, 34, of Austin, Texas, passed away unexpectedly on May 27, 2014. He was born in Austin, Texas, on January 2, 1980, to Jeffrey G. Johnson and Lori Allyn Cain. Matt proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps, serving a tour of duty in Iraq. Matt is survived by his daughter Syreena Cain of California, his father Jeff Johnson of Austin, Texas, and sisters Shea Johnson, Andrea Wilson-Smith, and Cori Bergeron (Brandon), all of Grass Valley, California, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his mother Lori Cain. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, May 31, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. at the Vanderveer Street Church of Christ, 102 S. Vanderveer Street, Burnet, Texas. An informal "come and go" will be held on Saturday from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at 803 Sunny Oaks Court, Pflugerville, Texas. Arrangements by Edgar Funeral Home, Burnet, Texas. From Austin American Statesman, May 31-June 1, 2014.

Book and Magazine Event

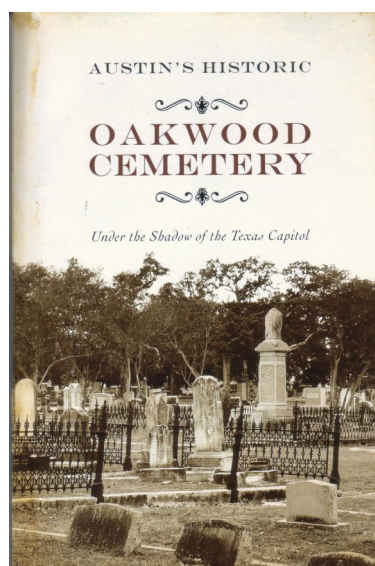


Please continue to bring in your book and magazine donations for a book and magazine fundraiser sale that we will have in the next few months. Donations have been slim. We will set the date for the sale when we have a nice assortment of donated items.

Good Things Coming Up

The 2014 German-Texan Heritage Society Annual Meeting will be held August 8-9, in historic Comfort, TX, VFW Bldg.626, Front St. The Conference will feature informative speakers, a Friday evening social, Folk Opera next to the Treue der Union Monument, cemetery and historic site tours (with docents), plus welcome bags and door prizes. For additional information and registration, please visit the GTHS website: <http://germantexans.org/annual-meeting/> or call (512) 467-4569 or 1-830-625-3075 (toll free).

SAVE AUSTIN'S CEMETERIES



Mark your calendar for Saturday, July 12, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Save Austin's Cemeteries invites everyone to a Book Bash to introduce their book *Austin's Historic Oakwood Cemetery Under the Shadow of the Capitol*. The book will be on sale for \$15.00, and this will be a tax free day for buyers. Refreshments and tours will be offered. More details will be available in next month's newsletter.

FGS Conference 2014

The 2014 FGS Conference is practically in our back yard. It is being held August 27th through August 30th in San Antonio. This is too good to miss. For complete information check out the official website:

<https://www.fgsconference.org/>



**Report by the Financial Review Committee of the Financial Records
of the Austin Genalogical Society for the year 2013**

The AGS Financial Examination Committee met on Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at the Old Quarry Branch of the Austin Public Library. We adjourned to a nearby coffee shop due to the unavailability of the meeting room.

The Committee was provided the Society's records in a portable file case, with one folder of records for each month of the year. Also included was a folder containing year-end reports. Generally, the folders' contents included the following items:

Bank Statements

Bank Statement Reconciliation Report

Bank Deposit Summaries itemizing Check Deposits and PayPal deposits

Debit Transaction Forms covering AGS Debit Card expenditures

General Transaction Reports covering PayPal deposits and PayPal fees

Copies of Invoices paid by AGS checks, along with copies of cancelled checks

Monthly Profit and Loss Report

Miscellaneous other items, some prepared for Board review covering seminars and other activities

In addition, information was obtained from the AGS President regarding actions taken in response to recommendations made by the Financial Review Committee members completing the CY 2011 and CY 2012 examinations.

Following a discussion of a general process for the examination, each monthly folder was examined in detail by a committee member. The examination included the following actions:

Comparison of deposits against the bank statement

Comparison of expenditures against the bank statement and verifying existence of invoices or other documentation to support the expenditures

Reconciliation of the bank statements with the AGS checking account and savings account, using the verified deposits and expenditures

Confirmation that expenditures were allocated to regular AGS account categories

Review of (1) recommendations made by Financial Review Committee members in the two prior years and (2) the actions taken by AGS leadership in response to the recommendations.

REVIEW RESULTS — Several items of interest were noted during the review:

The AGS checking account is maintained with Wells Fargo. All checks were accounted for with two "VOID" checks registered. No "VOID" check was found in the files for check number 2013, issued on November 14, 2013.

Four checks were written for over \$1,000 each, and each check contained two signatures as required by the AGS By-laws.

There are two accounts with the Public Employees Credit Union (PECU), a savings account and a \$10,000 certificate of deposit. The status of these accounts was shown in General Journal Entries, in Balance Sheet Reports, and in Quarterly Statements.

Required reports to (1) the U.S. Department of the Treasury for Tax-Exempt Organizations and (2) to the State of Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts for Sales Taxes were properly filed.

An IRS Form 1096 was properly filed for the stipend paid to Lisa Alzo for the September 2013 seminar.

There continued to be several instances of duplicate payments for membership fees, and appropriate action was taken to refund member payments or reverse PayPal charges.

AGS leadership had taken several actions to address recommendations made in the past two financial reviews.

In summary, the CY 2013 financial records are complete, thorough, and have been maintained in an orderly manner. The use of the Check Request Procedure has been properly followed, and the use of the Debit Card appears to have been responsibly used.

The Committee offers the following recommendations for consideration by AGS leadership:

Improve the documentation of cash receipts at member meetings by developing and using a simple, one-page form to be turned in to the treasurer, along with the cash and checks, after completion of the event. Although not involving large amounts of cash and checks, this issue was also a concern in the last two financial reviews.

Maintain documentation of AGS members with account access and debit cards. Such information should be confirmed with the Wells Fargo and PECU at least once each year and documentation be maintained by the AGS president. This issue was also a concern in the CY 2011 financial review.

Develop procedures and forms for future financial examination reviews. This would help ensure complete examinations of AGS finances. The procedures and format used in the CY2011 review are good models. This issue was also a concern in the CY 2012 financial review.

Include a review of prior year recommendations in future financial reviews. Over the past two years several excellent recommendations that strengthen AGS accountability have been made by Financial Review Committee members. The status of prior year recommendations should be included as an area of interest in future financial reviews.

COMMENDATION

Teri Flack completed five years as AGS Treasurer on December 31, 2013, and she is commended for her special skills and dedicated efforts in maintaining the financial records in excellent condition. She has made a significant contribution of personal time and effort to AGS Board and members that is very much appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Todd

Karin Nelson

David J. MacCabe, Chair

HOSPITALITY REPORT

Our greeter for May was Cynthia Orr.

Refreshments were provided by Sharon Tieman, Susan Tyler, and Sheila Sargent.

Sign-in Table: Robin Raben, Shirley Villoni, and Jean Marostica.

The refreshment table was served by Sheila Sargent.

Attendance at the May meeting was 77.

Visitors at the May meeting were Rosalinda Salinas, Abel V. Salinas, and Ann Elbert.

June Greeters will be Glenda Martin, Lori Henry, and Robin Raben.

June Refreshments will be provided by Kathryn Roberts, Inez Eppright, Pat Guelker, and Betty Jean Steinke.

2014 Board of Directors

Term Ending 2014:	Terms Ending 2015
Missy HARRIS	Marcia ARN
Leslie INMAN	Lisa SMITH-CURTEAN
Anne MAMIYA	Inez EPPRIGHT
Karin NELSON	Carol MASON
Jane SCHWENDINGER	Wynnie NOELKE
Don VILLONI	Kathy PEMBERTON

2014 Officers

President	Jane SCHWENDINGER
1ST Vice President	Anne MAMIYA
2nd Vice President	Marcia ARN
Secretary	Inez EPPRIGHT
Treasurer	Karin NELSON

2014 PROGRAMS

Your program committee, led by program chair Marcia Arn, is excited to present the scheduled programs for our monthly meetings in 2014.

June 24 Maps & Online Resources at the Perry-Castaneda Library-Katherine Strickland (rescheduled)

Jul 22 How to Write Short Stories About Your Family History-Mary Scudder

Aug 26 Creative Memories-Scrapbooking-Luci Anderson

Sep 23 GATA GACC! DNA and Genetic Genealogy today -Debbie Parker Way

Oct 28 Document Analysis 101-Karen Matheson

Nov 25 Fall Festival-How Austin Came to Be-Teri Flack

Monthly Meetings on 4th Tuesdays
(except December)

Social time at 6:30; Program at 7:00

Highland Park Baptist Church

5206 Balcones Drive

Austin, TX 78759

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

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