

THE AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 19, Issue 5

[http:// AustinTxGenSoc.org](http://AustinTxGenSoc.org)

May 2013

Austin Genealogical Society Meeting Tuesday, May 28th, 2013

ED DORROH

"Your English Ancestors: Upstairs or Downstairs?"

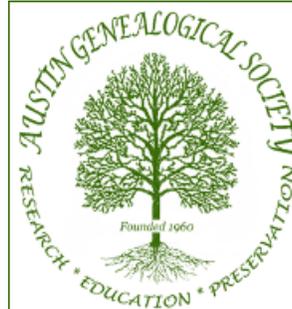
"Your English Ancestors: Upstairs or Downstairs?" is an introduction to finding your English ancestors. Since the most important rule of genealogy is to start with the present and work backwards, we will first talk about census records available from 1841 through 1911 and the mandatory civil registration records of births, marriages, and deaths beginning in 1837. We will then talk about one of the best sources of



BMD and other information in England, the Parish Registers of the Church of England and other churches. Finally, we will talk about the wealth of further information that is available in the County Records Offices in England, most of which, unfortunately, is not available on-line. But, this gives you all a good excuse to visit England!

Ed Dorroh began his family history research in 1997 when he retired from the Lockheed Martin aerospace corporation where he had worked for over 25 years, designing and building spacecraft for NASA's planetary missions.

He is presently researching four family trees: his own, that of his first wife Zelma, now deceased, who was from South Africa, that of his present wife Jean, who is from England, and that of Jean's first husband John Barford, also deceased, who was from England. (continued on page 4)



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

The Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, April 30, 2013, prior to the regular AGS meeting. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as submitted. The following items were discussed.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report for March was submitted and accepted as amended.

Publicity

Information concerning the monthly meeting, the Intro Class, and Brickwall Saturday appeared in the regular locations as well as information regarding the May meeting. Jen Whitley has rewritten the "About Us" page on Facebook and suggested that it could be used on the website and in brochures. The form for ordering baseball tickets is on the website. The deadline for ordering is June 3.

Bank Statement Review

The February and March bank statements were described as accurate by Leslie Inman.

Seminar Planning Committee and Seminar Budget Changes

Discussions and preparations for the September seminar are ongoing. The charge for the seminar will be \$35 for members, \$45 for non-members, \$45 for late registrations, and an additional charge of \$10 for an optional lunch. Non-members and late registrants will receive automatic membership in AGS to the end of the year.

Brickwall Saturday-May 11

As of April 23, five people had signed up. Jacquie Wilson will have helpers to assist her.

Perry Castenadas Library Tour

The tour was a great success. Approximately 25 individuals participated in the tour.

Introduction to Genealogy (Beginner's) Class

The class was well received. There were 17 attendees.

Membership

The current membership count is 304 members. Missy Harris has a committee working on a member-

ship handbook that will be given to new members and also be put on the website.

By-Laws and Conflict of Interest Statement

Carolyn Gresham is continuing to work on these items.

Highland Park Baptist Church Building Usage

Inez Eppright has the new information from the Church Secretary, and we are currently following most of the security procedures and guidelines. The church custodian will continue to take out the trash, but would appreciate us using only one can. The board can use one class room for Board meetings at no additional charge. The board will put the room back as it was prior to the meeting. Periodic announcements will be made to the membership regarding the reserved parking spaces for church staff.

Tote Bag Information and Pencils/Brochures

The cost and quality of those two items will be researched. It was suggested that AGS branded pencils be given out at the baseball game, the seminar, the TSGS conference and the GLO Symposium. There was also discussion regarding looking into the price of fans and handouts for the game.

Writing Class

The class will be conducted on July 27 by Mary Scudder. The charge is \$10 per person, and the class is open to members only. The budget was amended to add the additional cost of the Writing Class in the amount of \$150.

Financial Examination

This item was tabled until the May meeting.



MEET A BOARD MEMBER

Jennifer Whitley's interest in genealogy was sparked on Christmas Day 2009, when her parents gave her her great-grandfather's pocket watch. She joined AGS after taking the Beginner's Course in February of 2010. Since April 2011, Jen has been assisting the society with publicity and communications, and in January 2012 was honored to be elected to the Board of Directors. In her other life, Jen is a private pilot and aviation journalist. For more about her, visit <http://www.jenniferwhitley.net>.



Huge THANK YOU to Cynthia Rodriguez for her longtime help at the membership table. Cynthia will be moving on and leaving us in June. When you pass by her at the May meeting, you may want to extend your personal thanks and best wishes.



Something Fun For You to Do !



Join Jacquie Wilson for BRICKWALL SATURDAY, May 11, 2013, 10:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Austin Public Library, Yarborough Branch

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings to all of our members from Salt Lake City. A group of thirty AGS members traveled here this year to smash through their brick walls. Pat Oxley did a great job of organizing our trip as our hotel is not only very comfortable, but also a very short walk to the library. While I have not had success answering several of my genealogical questions, I found many connections requiring further research. I am certain that when 4PM Saturday comes, everything will fall into place, and I can leave the library when it closes at 6PM with my research complete. Did you know that I am an eternal optimist? If you have the opportunity to visit the Family History Library in the future, jump at the chance. The staff and volunteers are more than happy to assist with any issues.

Certainly you have noticed the terrific variety of activities offered this year. Take advantage of as many as you can as you will undoubtedly benefit in some way. It takes a tremendous amount of effort to carry out all that AGS offers its members, and I would like to thank everyone who volunteers their knowledge, time, and energy to make it all happen. Volunteering for AGS gives you an opportunity to not only get to know members better, but also to be involved in decision making that enhances our Society.

I'm looking forward to the May meeting, marking the beginning of the second half of the year. Time has flown by, and it will soon be time to attend the baseball game and then our seminar. Get involved, have fun, and enjoy sharing with your fellow members. See you on May 28th or at the Brick Wall Saturday on the 11th.

(continued from page 1)

Ed has traced most of his own family tree back six or seven generations in this country, the earlier generations emigrating primarily from the British Isles. Zelma's family has been difficult to trace since South Africa does not allow public access to census records, but fortunately her parents were only second generation South Africans who emigrated from England. For the last five years, he has been tracing the trees of Jean and John. Several of those lines now go back to the late 1600s.

For his children, he has scanned his ancestors' photographs onto CDs, written brief histories and interesting stories about them, and written his own "childhood memoir" in hopes of someday interesting them in their roots.

He is a past president of the Ocean Springs (Mississippi) Genealogical Society and is presently a member of both the Austin Genealogical Society and The Williamson County Genealogical Society. He has taught classes for beginners and has given land records talks on several occasions.

He and his wife, Jean, presently share their time between Round Rock, Texas, and Bury St. Edmunds, England, as they each have children and grandchildren in their respective countries.

Local Genealogy Opportunities

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.

Austin Genealogy Special Interest Group 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. <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

Bastrop Genealogy Society meets at 1:00 P.M. on the second Saturday of the month at Pressley Meeting Room, Bastrop Public Library. <http://www.bastroplibrary.org/genealogy/bastrop-genealogical-society-monthly-meeting.html>

Burnet County Genealogy Society meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month at 1:15 in the meeting room at the Herman Brown Free Library on the square in Burnet. <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txburnet/BCGS.html>

Kingsland Genealogical Society meets the 2nd Tues. of each month at 2 pm in the Kingsland Library which is a branch library of the Llano Public Library.

Join our own Jacquie Wilson for BRICKWALL SATURDAY, May 11, 2013, 10:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Austin Public Library, Yarborough Branch

TIDBITS

- If any AGS members are traveling through of Cumberland Gap, Tennessee on June 6, 7, and 8, 2013, you might want to stop by for the 3rd annual Genealogy Jamboree, hosted by the Cumberland Gap Volunteer Fire Department. It's FREE. For more information go to: www.genealogyjamboree.com.
- Janis Trayler sent in this suggestion. Family Tree Magazine has a free e-newsletter. Just go to <http://www.familytreemagazine.com/enews> and sign up. You will get a message giving directions for receiving the newsletter at that address.



GOT



???? SEND IT IN!



Members are encouraged to provide interesting hints, links to good websites, good articles, and other brief items that may benefit fellow AGS members.

Military Ancestor Project.

We had a great response to our call for photos of your ancestors who served in WW II. In all, 36 different family members' photos were dropped off at the April meeting. We have some who were killed in action, those who served in the Army, Navy, Coast Guard, WAVES and Nursing Corp. You have one more chance to have your family member honored in the display by bringing a COPY of their photograph and any accompanying letters or awards that you want to share with the others at the June meeting. Contact Kay Boyd: mkdb1405@aol.com



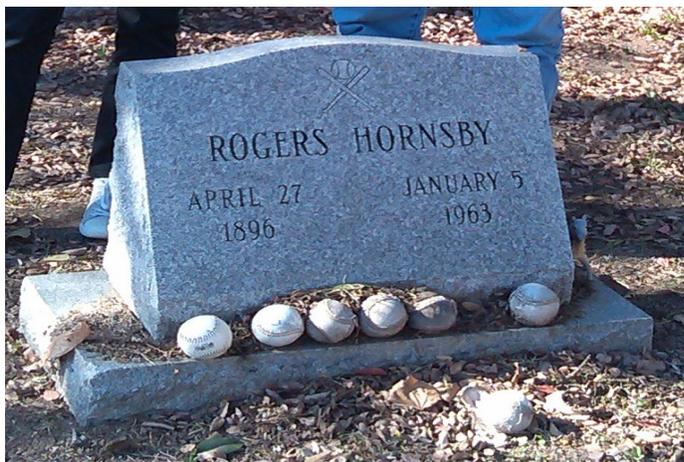
2013 Board of Directors

Term Ending 2013:	Term Ending 2014:
Inez EPPRIGHT	Carolyn GRESHAM
Teri FLACK	Missy HARRIS
Dona KURTZ	Leslie INMAN
Randy WHITED	Anne MAMIYA
Jennifer WHITLEY	Karin NELSON
Jacquie WILSON	Jane SCHWENDINGER

2013 Officers

President	Jane SCHWENDINGER
1st Vice President	Carolyn GRESHAM
2nd Vice President	Jacquie WILSON
Secretary	Inez EPPRIGHT
Treasurer	Teri FLACK

If you have ideas, suggestions, or concerns, please feel free to share those with us.



CEMETERY CORNER

Since June is our baseball “event” month, we thought it fitting to include the gravestone of a native Texan Baseball Hall of Famer – Rogers (“Rajah”) Hornsby. The Rajah achieved many records and awards in baseball, including 7 batting titles, 2 MVP awards, and a two-time winner of baseball’s Triple Crown. He played, coached, and managed in major league baseball from 1915 through 1937. His uniform number was retired by the St. Louis Cardinals, for whom he played and managed at times during his long career. His grave is located near Hornsby Bend, Texas, in eastern Travis County. This is an interesting old cemetery. Drive out for a visit sometime. We visited in December and took this photo. (Sharon & Bob)

AGS at Round Rock Express

Mark your calendars! On Wednesday evening, June 12, AGS will be the featured non-profit at a Round Rock Express baseball game ... and you're invited!

To help spread the word about genealogy and our society, we'll have a booth on the main concourse, a live interview broadcast on the field during the pre-game show, and a special PA announcement at the end of the third inning.

And for our members, we're able to sell reduced-price reserved seats to the game for only \$7.00. Plus, the Express has reserved a section of the stadium where we can all sit together. Come join us to support your society — and enjoy a baseball game, a hot dog, and the wonderful camaraderie of your AGS friends!

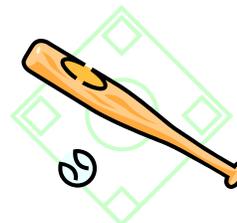
You may purchase tickets online via credit card or Paypal account, or print the form on our website and send a check (made out to the Austin Genealogical Society) to Austin Genealogical Society, PO Box 10010, Austin, Texas 78766-1010. Please visit:

<http://austintxgensoc.org/activities/round-rock-express/> The deadline for receiving your payment is June 3, so if you're mailing a check please, ensure adequate delivery time.

Gates open at 5:30 p.m., we'll be interviewed at 6:30 p.m., and the game starts at 7:05 p.m. We'll be sitting in Section 111, and the Express is scheduled to play the Albuquerque Isotopes that evening. For more information on the Dell Diamond, including directions, parking, and seating charts, visit their website.

If you have any questions, either beforehand or on the day of the game, please contact Jennifer Whitley at communications@austintxgensoc.org or 512-350-7058.

See you at the ballpark!



HOSPITALITY REPORT

Greeters for the April meeting: Shirley S. Meyer and Lucy Duncan

Refreshments: provided by Robin Raben, Shirley Roberts, Linda Miears, Shirley S. Meyer, Ann Cooper, and Mary Jane Ermis
Sheila Sargent presided over the refreshment table.

Registration Table: tended by Ann Cooper, Jean Marostica, Cynthia Rodriguez

Attendance Report for April: 90

VISITORS:

Becky Broadbent (past member)

Cherie Bush

Virginia Montgomery and now a new member

Kathleen McRill: surnames: Barton, MO, Turley, MO, and McRill, ILL

Vivian Spence: surnames: Bynum

May greeters will be: Cathy and Bill Puckett

May refreshments will be provided by: Mary Todd, Arlene Zirkel, Betty Jean Steinke, Jacquie Wilson and Linda Milligan

Tuesday, May 28

**“Your English Ancestors: Upstairs or
Downstairs?” presented by Ed Dorroh**

Tuesday, June 25

“World War II Research” presented by
Lisa Sharik

Tuesday, July 23

“Digital Legacy, Preserving the Past for
The Future” presented by Roberta
Pryzbylski

Tuesday, August 27

“Member-to-Member” Special Topic
Tables—AGS Members

Tuesday, September 7

Seminar presented by Lisa Alzo

Tuesday, September 24

“Social Media: Cousin Bair and
Partners in Crime” by Randy Whited

Tuesday, October 22

“Texas Archive of the Moving Image”
Presented by Elizabeth Hansen

Tuesday, November 26

Fall Festival—“I Bet You Didn’t
Know That” presented by AGS members

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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