



Austin Families Association of America

Newsletter

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DNA Testing - Points the Way

DNA Enables Database Breakthrough

The AFAOA has recently celebrated an historic first in its Austin Family Databases project, thanks to the contributions of Charles Edwin Austin Sr. His database, formerly known as "William and Mildred Austin of Anderson County, TN" has been merged into the "John Austin of Southside VA" (the southwest Virginia counties) database, tripling its size.

Charles E. Austin Sr., a descendant of William Austin of Anderson Co., TN, recently took part in a DNA study conducted by Dan Wharton. Also taking part in this study was a direct descendant of Isaiah Austin whose father was John Austin Jr., son of John Austin of Southside, VA. There exists a great amount of circumstantial evidence that Isaiah was the brother of William, and the definitive results of the DNA study proved this relationship, thus allowing the merger of the two familial lines. Now descendants of "John" would like to explore another "brother's" line and to explore a possible connection to the Austins of Kent Co., England.

How it all Works

We have all heard about DNA testing, where advances in biochemistry have allowed us to convict criminals, free innocent prisoners, determine biological characteristics, etc. by demonstrating a biological similarity (or dissimilarity) between one DNA sample and another. What is compared is the DNA sequence of each sample, and the relationship determined based on whether the two sequences match to a statistically confident degree.

Since each one of us received 23 chromosomes from our mother, and 23 from our father, a sample of our DNA can indicate ancestral relationships. Since only males have a Y-chromosome, and this was inherited from their father, paternal relationships can be established. Both males and females have Mitochondrial DNA, and both inherited this only from their mother. Consequently, maternal relationships can be established.

The question arises, "How do you get a DNA

sample from someone who is dead?" The answer is to use samples from living people whose descendancy back to the deceased person is known.

DNA Testing Applications

The proof that William and Isaiah Austin were brothers is a perfect example of the paternal test method. Two living males, one with a known father-son relationship to one suspected brother, and one with a similar relationship to the other suspected brother must have their DNA tested. If a suitable match occurs within their DNA sequences, then this would prove that the two deceased men were indeed brothers. If one of the deceased men had only daughters as offspring, then there is no way to make this determination.

Suppose a person (male or female) claims that they are your long lost cousin, and they are interested in sharing in your inheritance. Each submits their DNA sample and a maternal DNA test is performed. If a match in the sequence occurs, you two are related through a maternal line.

Other genealogical uses for DNA testing include: 1) Comparing test results against other people's DNA signatures can help find new relatives or ancestors. 2) Families with common or similar surnames can discover how they might be inter-related, specifically, how they might share a common ancestor. They could also find out if they originally came from the same region or country, or what their common immigration path might have been. 3) Likewise, families with similar surnames but with different DNA signatures can prove that their lineage springs from different ancestors.

How to do DNA Testing

The best place to look for information on genetic genealogy is to explore the various links at the Ancestry.com web site:

<http://www.ancestry.com/genetics/>

There, you can read a tutorial on types of tests and their application to genealogy, and you can view a sample of the test results.

Please see "DNA Testing", page 7

<http://www.afaoa.org>



New Members Welcomed

Suzanne R. Ball

2277 West Beach Blvd.
Gulf Shores, AL 36542-6019.
suzy@toball.tv
Allen Jefferson Austin, b. 1803 GA.

Gloria A. Strickland Knittle

RR3, Box 3043
Exeter, MO 65647
rayglo@yahoo.com
John Austin, b. 1760 England.

Anne Austin Ferrell Murchison

P.O. Box 1059
Frankston, TX 75763
anne@annemurchison.com
*Nathaniel Austin, Sr., b. ~1720,
William B. Austin, b. 1759.*

Mary Jane Austin Choate

346 Case Rd.
Brooklyn, MI 49230-8805
*Richard Austin b. 1598 England;
Anthony Austin b. 1636 England;
Nathaniel Austin, b. 1678 MA.*

Audrey Austin Miller

8 Lions Dr.
Drums, PA 18222-2335
Charles E. Austin, b. 1876 NY.

Cletus W. Underwood

3821 Brandonshire Dr.
Springfield, IL 62704
underwood@famvid.com
*Steven "Baldy" Austin, b. 4 Nov 1755
Pittsylvania Co., VA; d. 1850 Hardin Co.,
TN; Saunders A. Austin, b. 1784 and d.
1860 in Hardin Co., TN; Stephen Bally
Austin, b. 1809 and d. 1872 in Hardin
Co., TN; Archibald Austin, b. 1845 and
d. 1914 in Hardin Co., TN; Flossie Aus-
tin, b. 1907 Hardin Co., TN, d. 2000
Springfield, IL.*

Maureen Labenski

112 S. Main St., PMB # 286
Stowe, VT 05672
laberm@mt-mansfield.com
*Richard Austin b. 1598 England
Anthony b. 1636 Eng., Nathaniel b.
1678 MA, Phenix b. 1735 MA.*

Good Puritan Names

by

Wantabe A. Austin

While doing genealogy research in Massachusetts, my wife and I came across an 1824 diary of a seventeen-year-old girl named Temperance Austin of the Richard line. In part it read: "Oh! The shame and embarrassment of it all! Here just three days away from the Senior Prom and I have yet to be asked. Of the twenty-five boys in the class, Obedience has been asked ten times, Submit fifteen times, Freelove twenty-four times and Experience twenty-seven times. Even Discipline was asked out by that weird boy Jim who likes to wear black leather and metal. The only fortune is that I am not alone. My friends Prudence, Mindwell, Sin-denie and Flee-fornication and I will sit together and read the Bible that evening." (Records note that Temperance died unmarried.)

Some of you may scoff at the existence of this diary, but it was found buried under some rocks during a Witch Hunt Tour at the Puritan Amusement Park located just outside Salem. It is a fun park where you can put your little brother in the stocks, play the ever popular game "Whack-a-Quaker", take a trip through the Tunnel of Sin and Depravity and ride the Dunking Chair in the large lake. But I digress.

One or more of the above names can be found in any family tree that has New England roots. The Puritans who initially settled there were a very religious people. Some ninety percent of them had Biblical names, most often John or Mary. In the late 1500's it seems that the Puritans grew tired of Biblical names (at least for women) and began using moral qualities.

It was at this time that the English said, "Enough is enough," and made every effort to kick the Puritans out of England. After the Puritans left, the use of moral virtues for names in England rapidly died out and the best they could do was name female children Camilla and Hortense.

It is most likely that men came up with these "virtuous" names for their children. They were in power, and only men would consider Submit, Silence and Obedience as proper names for women. Other names of "qualities" found during the first three to four generations after the

Mayflower are Increase, Restitute, Innocent, Fearnot, Thankful, Deliverance, Recompense, Desire, Much-Mercede, Safe-on-high, Preserved, Unite, Supply, Charity, and the still popular Faith, Hope and Chastity, the last being popular in name only. Two others, Maybe (maybe what?) and Mahershalhasbaz (who?) have been listed as being virtues, but I have no idea why.

For the most part, women were given such names. While some men were named Content and Increase, we do not find names such as Smellgood, Havejob, or the more necessary Notmoveback-home. Joanne Chatfield, in an article on Women's Names, postulates that Puritan parents desired a religious shield in the form of a name for their daughters because they were thought to be susceptible to sin and possessed fragile wills. This theory can easily be disproved by asking any male who tried to get somewhere on the first date.

The better reason is set forth by a Puritan preacher who has been quoted as saying "A good name is a thread tied about the finger, to make us mindful of the errand we came into the world to do for our Master." Apparently only women needed this reminder. The Puritan men had a good thing going there. Rule 1 – The Church is Supreme. Rule 2 – Men run the Church. Rule 3 – Women listen and obey. Ah, the good old days!

An article by H. Edward Deluzan on names and personalities describes studies that show decided tendencies toward psychosis and neurosis among people with unusual and uncommon first names. The condensed version of the findings are that if you give your child a funny name, people will make fun of the child all of his/her life, and the child will become a serial killer. (Note to Alice, should we start screening AFAOA members for this?)

The article goes on to say that bizarre and highly unusual names of children may reflect the psychological states of the parents. It is easy to see this when discussing the Puritans, but what about you readers out there that have children? Did you really name your child Moonbeam or Philodendron?

We have no children, but did name
Please see "Puritan Names" on page 5



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Forty five Austin researchers attended the 2002 National Austin Convention in Denver. A good time was had by all! Even though these annual meetings are attended by only a small percentage of AFAOA members who are willing and able to travel, they benefit the Association in many ways. They provide inspiration to the leadership, who can personally see the benefit of their work to others. They help to create and maintain friendships and productive working relationships, without which the Association could not function. They allow direct access to Austin data, with personal assistance if needed, to those who are able to attend, and often bring local Austins into the work of the group.



A typical exchange of information and research assistance between Austin conventioners

For those of you might be encouraged to attend future conventions, and those who usually attend but were not able to join us this year, I will give you a summary of what we enjoyed. On Friday there was a tour of the Genealogy Department of the Denver Public Library by James Jeffery, Collections Specialist. Many took the opportunity to do some research in that excellent facility while in Denver.

On Saturday Janice Prater, from the library's Genealogy Department, spoke on Library Resources. Herb Davis told us about the Austins who migrated from Vermont to Harmony Mission, Missouri in 1820 and explained the route that they used, which would apply to many families traveling west at that time. Mike Austin instructed us on how to retrieve Austin data and photographs from the Austin-Austen Research Center on the Internet.

Sunday's speakers were Herb Davis on the importance of courthouse and military records, Liz Carlin on use of the Internet

for land records and vital records research, and Art Sikes on how to use the 1880 Federal Census CD. Last, but definitely not least, banquet speaker Fred Jefferies, representing the Colorado Historical Society, gave an interesting presentation on the early history of Denver.



Convention workshops provided adequate time for database access, scanning of photographs, and computer instruction

During the business meeting on Sunday afternoon we heard and discussed reports on the database and Austin Research CD projects and ongoing digitization efforts. Decisions were made to keep dues at \$15 for all members and to pay the balance on the publishing loan for the Richard Austin book.

In addition to interesting speakers, there was plenty of interaction around the computers, books and other records available for research in the meeting room and spirited visiting in our Presidential Suite on the 21st floor, with a wonderful view of the Front Range. Memorable meals out at local restaurants, such as Marlowe's, Maggiano's and the historic Buckhorn Exchange, were definite highlights!

The 2003 National Austin Convention will be held in Richmond, Virginia. Will you be there? Until then, don't forget to send those articles on your Austin ancestors to be shared in the *Newsletter*.

Alice Austin Martin
AFAOA President

AFAOA Donates Richard Book to the Denver Public Library



Alice Austin Martin presents a copy of the Richard Austin book to Janice Prater of the Denver Public Library
(l to r: Jim and Liz Carlin, book compilers, Prater and Martin)

The Story of Ambrose Austen and Family

From Kent, England to Jeromesville, Ohio and Pine Town, Pennsylvania

Ambrose Austen, wife Susannah Beard, and five of nine children, including Charles and his wife Sarah, emigrated to Ohio and Pennsylvania in 1821/22 from Kent, England.

Ambrose was born in 1757. It seems he was a Baptist Minister and served in Surrey, Dorset and Kent, a hop grower at Sevenoaks and probably near Marden as well, and possibly a sheep farmer near Enfield in Middlesex prior to his emigration.

His mother is not known but his father was Thomas. From Thomas' will it is known that there was a sister Sarah, who married a Thomas Clark, and a brother William. Thomas Austen married a second time, to Mary Martin and they had Mary and John. There was also a nephew, John of Penshurst.

In 1779 Ambrose married Susannah Beard of Rottingdean in Sussex. She was the daughter of Nathaniel Beard and Mary, the fifth of nine children. The Beards were a well established family of Rottingdean and prominent members of the Society of Friends. It is not known how they met.

Ambrose and Susan's first child, Charles, was born in 1785; then came Nathaniel, Henry, Susannah, Mary, John, Charlotte, Ambrose and Joseph. Family histories suggest that at some time Ambrose purchased Charles a commission in the navy or army, but no confirmation has been found. Charles married Sarah Pearce on 21 June 1813 at St. Marylebone in a double wedding ceremony in which his sister Susan married Sarah's brother, Richard Pearce.

Charles and Sarah, Richard and Susannah emigrated to Pine Township, Pennsylvania, north of Pittsburgh where they took up land on opposite sides of Pine Creek. Richard established a grain mill and Charles a cattle and sheep farm.

Ambrose and the rest of the family went to Jeromesville, Ohio where Ambrose and at least John had property. It appears that John's property at Austinville renamed Funk, was a grant, (perhaps for military service). He married Susan Newman in 1827 and had 11 children and died in 1866, aged 72. The house was passed to son Joseph who sold it prior to his moving to Cleveland in the late 1880s.

At his death in 1743 Ambrose had a number of properties, including a house in Jeromesville which he willed to his daughter Charlotte who had married Sparkes Bird. He was a nephew of General Beall with whom he obtained employment in 1816 on his farm which occupied most of what became Wooster. He also became acquainted with John Driskel a notorious leader of desperados in Green township involved in horse-stealing, arson and house-breaking. It was said that "the boldness of their crimes created terror wherever they appeared."

Joseph grew hops and then took over his father's farm. He took the overland route to San Francisco, California but only stayed a year and returned. He married Catherine Heichell in 1854 and had five children of whom only two daughters survived.

Ambrose Jr. is listed in the 1850 Census with two children, Mary born in 1837 and Lucy born in 1841. He seems to have then disappeared. He may have gone to California as there is an A. Austen listed in Sacramento in the 1860 Census.

Henry, Nathaniel and Mary either returned to England or

stayed in England. Henry married and moved to North Wales where his descendants were listed in the 1881 Census. He was a clerk. Nothing is known of Nathaniel. Mary married a James Graham at Hatfield in Hertfordshire.

From Jeromesville and Pine Creek, descendants of Ambrose and Susannah have migrated to many parts of the United States including California, Washington, Florida, South Carolina, Wyoming, Oregon and New York.

Brian Austen

Interest in Genealogy Leads to Mystery Photo

My one and only grandson, Steven Austin, Jr, turned six years old on May 25th. He is part of the reason that I got involved in genealogy. I always had an interest in it but never started researching my family tree until about a year after he was born. I just wanted him to know his ancestors as much as I had always wanted to. I believe I will never stop researching my family now that I have been doing it for 5 years. There is



always something new to find. I hope my grandson feels the same way some day.

Because of my interest in genealogy it has led me to collecting old photos and old newspapers. I have come upon a few articles about Austin ancestors in papers that are a hundred years old or older. Most of them aren't very large but just the idea that I have actual papers with actual articles about my ancestors just makes me feel like I know them a little bit better. I haven't been as lucky with my photos. I always keep an eye out for photos of Austins but I will collect any photo that grabs my attention. Most of my old photos are tintypes but I do collect any kind.

The only old Austin photo I have is not of an ancestor of mine - at least as far as I know. I bought the photo on Ebay and the only information I have is his name: **John C. Austin**, and what is on the back of the photo which reads "**given to Mrs Forbes by Mr Austin.**" The person I bought it from didn't know anything else about the photo. Can any of your readers identify this person?

Donald Austin, Jr.

Puritan Names

Continued from page 2

our first two Dobermans Salem and Sabbath. Was this a step toward the dark side?

So what was the psychological state of the Puritans when they named their children in this manner? After all, every year at Thanksgiving we watch children's plays of good natured and friendly Puritans sharing dinner with the Indians. I say this is clearly a case of revisionist history. The Indians were lucky to get out alive, if in fact they did. You would not want a Puritan living next door. They were the first religious fanatics with guns in America.

We only have to turn to an Austin, Ann Austin, for proof. Ann Austin and Mary Fisher were Quaker missionaries who came to Boston in 1656. The charitable Puritan authorities had them seized, burned their books, confiscated their bedding and Bibles for the jailer fees, and dispatched them to Barbados on the next ship. They got off easy. Years later the merciful Governor John Endicott succeeded in having the death penalty invoked for any Quaker who returned to the Massachusetts colony after being banished beyond its borders.

Mary Dyer was one of four Quakers hanged on Boston Common, and today a statue of her stands on the Common (One wonders if it shouldn't be hanging on the Common). It is clear that the Puritans naming practices were not successful in reminding them to practice these virtues.

Was Temperance really nice and sober all the time? Was Fearnot killed charging a band of Indians with only a fork? Did Freelove live in a house just outside the city limits to be visited by the Town Elders at night? Probably not. Any man would know that you cannot expect a woman to be silent even if her name is Silence, and I will not even consider the concept of obedience for fear of being hit by my spouse.

Virtuous names may have been a good idea but one that did not work in practice – kind of an early test of truth in advertising for men. Today we might have such names as Shopalot, Spendmore and Nocook for women, but a girl named Experience would still get all the dates.

Next up – **Male Names**, or How many Johns were there on the Mayflower?

AFAOA Database Report

Digital Database Storage

The Association currently maintains two database forms: lineage databases and transcribed databases. Lineage forms are linked Austin lines stored in the format of commercial genealogical software. Transcribed forms are stored in digital word processor format, and result from manual keyboard entry of paper records held in the AFAOA archives.

Lineage Databases:

At the present time, there are 41 lineage databases consisting of a total of 69,809 individuals and 24,722 families linked into various Austin lines, each line leading back to a known Austin immigrant to the United States. There are also 5 databases which contain many separate linked Austin lines, whose lineage has not yet been traced to any United States Austin immigrant(s). These latter databases are called "Unplaced Austins," and contain an additional 24,870 individuals and 8,728 families.

Of these 46 databases, 32 have been placed on the AFAOA web site in a Family Group Sheet format for researchers to use. The others are being readied for the web, but must first acquire a "Data Parent," a volunteer AFAOA member who will take over the task of compiler: one who accepts and coordinates new and corrective inputs, and who produces the necessary database updates.

36 of the 46 databases have had modified register format descendency books made from them and these books converted into Acrobat documents.

The AFAOA has also published the descendency book for the line of Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA, 1638 in a beautiful hardback, bound book format, containing renderings of heirloom photographs, excellent source documentation, and a 3 level surname index.

Transcribed Databases:

A major new addition to the *Newslet-*

Please remember to use the Austin-Austen Research Center. It can be accessed by links from either the AFAOA or AOAGS websites. Much of the valuable research information gathered by both organizations can be found there and it is Acrobat searchable on-line. When you go to the site be sure to read the "Help" information on how to do searches so that your search will be more effective. Although the Research Center is a project initiated by the AOAGS, the AFAOA provides data and financial support.

ter database is the transcription of all of the genealogical data contained in past *Newsletters* dating from November 1953 up to the Summer 1998 issues. This document, as well as entire *Newsletter* issues, beginning with Fall 1998 up to the present, have been converted to Acrobat format.

The contents of all of Edith Austin Moore's Field Notebooks, some 94 notebooks in total, have been transcribed and are also in Acrobat format.

A portion of Janet Austin Curtis' States Notebook Vols. 1 & 2 has been transcribed and converted to Acrobat format. Work continues on finishing the transcription of Vols. 1 & 2, and has started on Vol. 3.

Access to AFAOA Databases

All of the 32 databases that have been placed at the AFAOA web site (www.afaoa.org) have been completely indexed so that users can select specific individuals and obtain data in Family Group Sheet format. Clicking on "Austin Research" located in the left-hand margin will bring the user to a page where one can choose to view Northern, Southern and Unplaced Austin databases.

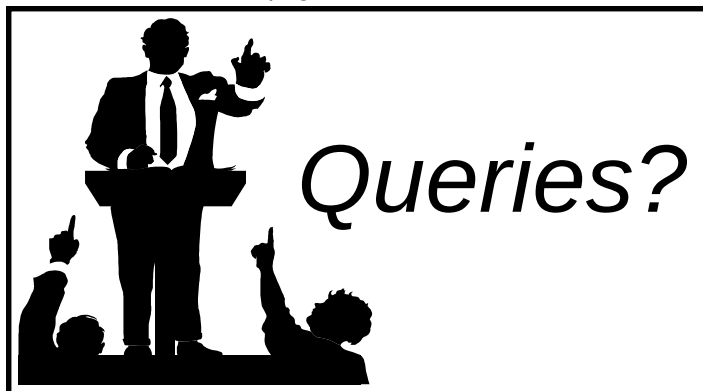
All Acrobat formatted documents have been placed on the AFAOA CD-ROM so that the data can be easily searched using the Acrobat search engine.

In addition, all Acrobat formatted documents have been placed on the Austin-Austin Research Center which provides Acrobat type searches via the Internet.

Purchase of AFAOA Materials

The Richard book (with member discount) and the CD-ROM are both available for sale. Details can be obtained by visiting our web site and clicking on "AFAOA Publications." Alternatively, contact Lois Cody, AFAOA Secretary/Treasurer (see front page for address).

Jim Carlin
Database Chairman



*AUSTIN QUERIES - Please send all new queries to the following addresses. In responding to any of the following queries, please write directly to the submitter, **also sending copies to:***

Jan Austin Untener (Northern Austins)
11307 Harborview Dr.
Cleveland, OH 44102

Liz Austin Carlin (Southern Austins)
23725 Community St.
West Hills, CA 91304-3004

Q12-3,1 - Julie - juju1@sisna.com

I need help on my Austin line back over the Big pond to England. My Great Great Grandmother's name was Elizabeth Austin. She married James Ashurst in Wigan, Lancaster, England on April 29th 1861. I have hit the proverbial brick wall on my Austin line as I have had no luck on finding any links for Elizabeth. Can any of you Austins help with this one??

Q12-3,2 - Jack & Eve Jaeckel - jjaeckel@webtv.net
Looking for information on the parents of Emily/Emeline Austin supposedly born in Shaftsbury, VT (but not listed in their vital records) and married to Daniel Pike of Whitingham, VT around the mid-1800's. They lived in Readsboro, VT and she died Emily Fesch/Fish in Readsboro, VT.

Q12-3,4 - Mike Beymer - mikejbmw@netscape.net
I am looking for information on any of the following:
John Austin, b. abt 1834 NC, m. Patsy Perkins b. abt 1836 NC. Children: William b. abt 1859 NC; Evaline b. abt 1860 NC; George b. abt 1861 NC; Polly Ann b. abt 1868 Polk Co., M), d. OR, m. William Francis Hoffman 15 July 1883. There is another child, George Austin, living with the family in Polk Co. MO in 1870 b. abt 1853 in GA.

Q12-3,5 - Debbie Gilley - gmstgill@terraworld.net
I am looking for the parents of Alice Austin b. abt 1858 in AL, m. 1877 to George Washington Stapp in Boone Co., AR (both living in Marshall Prairie). Parents may have been from Jackson Co., AL. Any help appreciated.

Q12-3,6 - LaVerne Lindsey - BOB1LAV@aol.com
I am interested if there is a list of the slaves who lived with and

worked for the family and descendants of Stephen F. Austin, great, great, great grandson of Richard Austin. Please contact me for any help or leads available. *We are unaware of any slave lists associated with Stephen or descendants - Liz/Jim Carlin, Richard Book compilers.*

Q12-3,7 - Dorothy Austin Vanover jv@purplemountain.net
I am looking for the parents of Elihu Austin, b. 1815 in TN or KY. He married Matilda b.1818 in KY and they had children, John Franklin b.1850 in Shelby Co. IL, Martha b. 1837, Margaret b.1842, Caroline b.1845, Charles b.1854 and Jacob b.1850. They lived in North Missouri at some time and then Arkansas. I have hit a dead end on this and would appreciate any information that you might have.

Q12-3,8 - Leigh Leonard Smith - Ahaterrasgirl@aol.com
Does any one have information about James Austin transported into Accomack County, VA 8-16-1664 by Thomas Tunill or Robert Austin transported into Accomack County, VA 3-16-1665 by Henry Bishopp?

Q12-3,9 - Sharon Smith - mummsi@msn.com
I am looking for the parents of Addie Marie Austin. I know that Addie was born in Weybridge, Addison County, VT on Aug. 15, 1865, and was married to John H. Robbins in Hague, NY. They had 6 children, one of which was my maternal grandmother, Maud Robbins. I have not be able to find out who Addie's parents were, or if she had any siblings. Any help would be appreciated.

Q12-3,10 - Diane Austin - dianeaustin@hotmail.com
I need your help finding parents for Richard Henry Austin, b. TN, c. 1815. I've reached the head-banging stage and don't know where to go from here. I don't know when he left TN, whether as a child or as an adult, but he came to TX from Jackson, Hinds Co., MS, where the Austins had apparently lived for some years. They owned a large parcel of property across the street from the state capital, which they donated to the state for a park.

Richard Henry Austin came to TX about 1840 or 1841. He married Margaret Elizabeth Scott in Harrison Co., TX, 23 Dec 1841. She died c. 1850 in childbirth; he remarried 11 Dec 1851, to Margaret E. Alexander. He died about 1853 in Harrison Co., TX, and the court awarded guardianship of his minor sons, Howell C. and Hiram G. Austin to one of their maternal uncles; the baby girl he had with his second wife was awarded to her mother. He's buried beside his first wife in the Scott family cemetery in Scottsville, Harrison Co., Texas (near Marshall). Buried not far away are Darling P. Austin and William C. Austin. I assume these to be brothers of Richard Henry, but I have no conclusive proof. Thanks very much!

Thank You Susan!

A special thanks to Susan Joy Lewis (New AFAOA Member listed in the Winter 2002 Newsletter edition) who has recently volunteered to be compiler for the John Austin of Monongalia, WV database.

Suffield's Anthony Austin (1632 – 1708)

And the Part He Played in the Founding Of the United States of America

Aside from those of Anthony's progeny documented in THE AUSTIN WARRIORS, part 1, I would call your attention to perhaps the most remarkable family of all his sons . . . that of Nathaniel, the youngest, born in Suffield, CT in 1678. He had four sons; Nathaniel (1704), Thomas (1705), Aaron (1716), and Daniel (1720).

These four grandsons of Anthony's had a total of 15 sons who participated in the Revolutionary War. Indeed, two of their sires, Nathaniel and Aaron, answered the Lexington Alarm – they being members of the Militia in 1775, with Daniel's entry of 1779.

So, we deal now with the 15 great grandsons of Anthony's, with elaborations on their service where documentation exists.

Nathaniel (1704) moved into Sheffield, Massachusetts (Berkshire County) and of his seven sons, six fought as members of the Berkshire Regiment; Nathaniel (born 1734), John (1738), Joab (1740), Levi and Judah (twins 1743), and Elijah (1746).

Thomas (1705) had five sons, four of which served. All except Seth were born in Suffield, CT; Thomas (1742) was a Sergeant in the 4th Connecticut Line and fought through the entire war plus wintering at Valley Forge 1777-78. His brothers were all Minute Men: Samuel (1746), Seth (1748, born Salisbury, CT), and Nathaniel (1754). Nathaniel was wounded in the left hand and "upon his head" Sept. 19, 1777 at Stillwater NY.

Aaron (1716) had six sons, all of whom fought. Aaron (1745) attained the highest rank of any Austin in the war, having promotions from a Lieutenantcy in April 1775 to Lieut. Col. in February 1781. Samuel (1747) was a cavalry soldier. His claim to fame was as a member of General Washington's "Life Guard" in the retreat through New Jersey and thus he received "one year's pay" from the father of our country.

Cyrenus/Cyrenius (1750) was a Sergeant in Col. Hooker's Regiment of Militia and is the only known Austin to succumb to smallpox. His death was among many occurring from various plagues in the Rev. War. Nathaniel (1752), as a member of the Minute Men, was bounced around from the cavalry (5th Light Horse) units under four different Captains, and under two Colonels and two majors – seven months of service in 1776-77 and a possible fifth hitch in 1778.

Eusebius (1758) of Torrington was with the 9th Connecticut Line for three years from March 1, 1777 to March 1, 1780. In later life, he became a physician and surgeon. A disability ultimately caused him to forego his chosen profession as he stated: "The Marsh fever, (that) I endured while serving in the Revolutionary War in 1776, attended with nervous sensations and a partial lockjaw. I became unable to pursue the duties of my profession by suffering a trembling in my hands which has increased as I have advanced in age."

Finally, we come to Eliphalet (1760), also of Torrington. He served a total of ten months – seven of them as a private in 1777 and the remainder as a Sergeant with the 5th Light Horse in the summer of '78, serving alongside one or two of his brothers. It should be noted here that Aaron (1716) had a total of 14 children and each of the older boys enlisted and I believe that

all of them in Minute Man classifications were in the 5th Light Cavalry at one time or another. It is also interesting to note that Eliphalet, in later years, moved to Ohio and was the founder of Austinburg in that state.

Daniel (1720), the fourth son of Nathaniel (1704) answered the call to arms at the age of 60 in July 1779 by linking up with his nephews in the 5th Light Horse. This was to stem the efforts of British General Clinton who opened the campaign of 1779 in June and attempted to bring on a major battle with Washington by burning and pillaging several towns in Connecticut (New Haven, Fairfield, Norwalk, etc.). Thus the American guards detachments and all able men responded to the challenge. Daniel, who had a houseful of girls, never had a boy old enough to participate in the early stages of the war and in 1779 his oldest, Cyrus, was but 15 years of age. Daniel once again jumped into the fray in 1781 with the States Guards unit in New Haven with service of 5 months 10 days.

All told, then we have 18 members of this family's male line in the war. How many from the female line is unknown because of the difficulty in following their husband's offspring.

Harris Monroe (Red) Austin Vancouver, Washington, 1989

Editor's Note: Some of Harris M. Austin's (1920-1999) more secret military exploits were featured in the Fall 2001 Newsletter. He privately published his extensive research of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, in his book, AUSTIN WARRIORS, Parts 1 and 2.



Some Descendants of Anthony Austin's son Nathaniel in Denver: (l to r) Alice Martin, Lois Cody, Art Sikes, Jr., Barbara Wessel, Dorothy Bowers and Liz Carlin.

DNA Testing, Continued from page 1

A DNA sampling kit "The Ancestry GenetiKit" exists, but is currently being updated. The kit will eventually be available for on-line ordering at the Ancestry.com web site. The kit consists of a swab which is used to collect a sample of cells from inside of the cheek. The swab is then sealed and returned to a DNA laboratory, and the test results mailed back in a few weeks. There is a charge for this service.

The results will not reveal your health or disposition for any disease. They will not create a unique personal fingerprint that could be used to identify you. The company will place the DNA signatures into an ever growing database of genetic populations, which can then be accessed by subscribers to fill in the gaps in their family genealogies.

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



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Forty-five people attended the National Austin Convention in Denver.

Can we count on you next year in Richmond, Virginia?

Photograph by Sue Osborn who appears kneeling in the lower row to the left.
Somehow she got us all together at one time!

<http://www.afaoa.org>