



Austin Families Association of America

Newsletter

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

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Jim Carlin
DATABASE CHAIRMAN

2001 National Austin Convention

Pittsfield, Massachusetts was the location of the 2001 National Austin Convention held the weekend of 27 - 29 July. The National Austin Convention is jointly sponsored by The Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA) and by the Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS), the host for this convention.

We meet in various parts of the United States in what could be called a combined reunion of old friends and cousins, sharing of "how to" information, suggestions for battering down "brick walls" and presentations from local genealogists and experts, or introductions to the local libraries.

Everybody began to gather on Friday with greetings, hugs, and general catchup on each other's status. At 2 PM, most of the group visited the new National Archives and Records Administration facility in Pittsfield. A tour of the facility was given by Jean Nudd, Reference Archivist.

The Saturday session began with welcomes by Alice Austin Martin, President of the AFAOA, and Dr. Michael Austin, Director of the AOAGS. Jean Nudd returned with talks on "Holdings at the National Archives Facility in Pittsfield." and "Preparing Yourself to use the Un-indexed 1930 Census." In the latter talk, she gave us a number of strategies for minimizing the task of going line by line through the census records.

Arthur Sikes, Jr. introduced us to the Bennington Museum in Bennington, Vermont, discussing general research resources available at the facility, as well as local resources, regional to Bennington and Vermont.

The afternoon was devoted to an in-depth discussion of the new Austin-Austen Research Center (AARC) that has been established on the World Wide Web by the AOAGS. Dr. Michael Austin described and demonstrated the AARC on-line, showing us the wealth of material already on the site as well as means for submitting new material.

Cheryl Austin Akusis then demonstrated some efficient methods for searching topics on the AARC, and Dr. Michael Austin returned to describe the advantages of the new JPEG 2000 format for

compressing digitized photos. Liz Austin Carlin ended the presentations with her talk: "Using the Internet to find Reliable Sources for your Family History." The rest of the afternoon was spent in workshop activities.

Sunday's session started with Arthur Sikes, Jr. giving a thought provoking presentation on "Who is Anthony Austin." He gave us some rules and suggestions for estimating dates and names for those records that lack this data. Jim Carlin followed by reporting on the status of the AFAOA Austin databases, and Joy Davis, the new Web Master for the AFAOA web site described her complete revision of the site, asked for comments from the users of the site, and appealed for the posting of queries on the site.

Carol R. Austin gave us a presentation of the special collections of the Berkshire Athenaeum located in Pittsfield, and Liz Austin Carlin returned with a talk on "The Progress in Southern Austin Research."

Business meetings of the AFAOA and AOAGS were held after lunch, at which time nominations for AFAOA officers were made and voted on, and next year's convention site selected. After much discussion, the 2002 National Austin Convention will be held in Denver, Colorado. The host for this meeting will be the AFAOA.

Use of the computers for research and photograph scanning continued until 5:00 PM when the meeting room was closed. Others used this time to visit the Norman Rockwell Museum.

The Annual Austin Banquet was held on the top floor of the Crowne Plaza Hotel, with a panoramic view of the beautiful Berkshire mountains. Following opening remarks by President Alice Austin Martin, the invocation was given by George W. Austin of Pittsfield, MA and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Charles W. Austin of Garden Grove, CA. The featured speaker was Author-Historian Dr. Carole Owens of Stockbridge, MA who spoke on "The Guilded Age - the Wings and Turrets of Outrageous Fortune," a talk on the excesses in the local architecture brought about by the great wealth of the movers and shakers of the Berkshire area.

Please see "2001 Convention", page 2

<http://www.afaoa.org>



New Members Welcomed

Ed Austin

2970 St. John's Ave. 6A, Jacksonville, FL 32205

teaustin@aol.com

John H. Austin, b. 1820 VA; d. 1918 VA.

Douglas Houck

801 S. King St. Apt 2303, Honolulu, HI 96813

millerhouck@aol.com

Deborah Austin, b. 1760; d. 1840

Chautauqua Co., NY.

Stanley E. Bradley

7 Library St.

PO Box 534

Dryden, NY 13053-0534

seb@clarityconnect.com

Anthony Austin, b. 1636 Titchfield, England; d. 1708 Suffield, MA.

Mary J. Logue

Box 2022, Payson, AZ 85547

paydon@yahoo.com

Coleman B. Austin, b. 29 Jun 1903 IL.

Georgia E. Clasing

96 Blue Bell Road, New Park, PA 17352

geclas@aol.com

Edmund D. Austin, b. ca 1800 Hatteras, NC; d. ca 1850 Hatteras, NC.

Dee Austin Kuerzel

6 Chatham Road, Longmeadow, MA 01106

kuerzeld@mediaone.net

Robert Austin b. 1638 RI.

Paul N. Winslow

30 Wachusett Drive, Lexington, MA 02421

winslow123@aol.com

Richard Austin b. 1598 England.

George W. Austin

100 Springside Ave. Apt. # 3, Pittsfield, MA 01201

gaustin@aol.com

Richard Austin b. 1598 England.

N. Wade Austin

21207 Wilder Ave. Lakewood, CA 90715

wadeaustin@mediaone.net

Benjamin Austin b. 1830 Ireland.

Stephen F. Austin

23 Morewood Dr. Pittsfield, MA 01201

stephan.austin@gcpex.ge.com

James A. Austin b. 1790 Ireland.

Fern Comstock

13023 Mesquite St. Hesperia CA 92345

eckoin@aol.com

Thomas Austin b. 1804 NY.

Linda Austin Jensen

145 Weston Ave. Plainfield, CT 06374

u15732@snet.net

Travis Bowie Austin b. 1917 Ireland TX.

Fred Fisher

218 Avalon Dr., Los Altos, CA 94022

ffisher@nvidia.com

Francis Austin b. 1674 England.

Mary Jane Neal

Choats

Case Rd., Brooklyn MI 49230

Richard, Anthony, Nathaniel b. 1598

England.

Pamela Austin Tole

6102 Bear Branch, San Antonio, TX 78222

ptolesa@aol.com

James A. Austin b. 16 Feb 1846.

Phyllis L. House

231 Bauer Road, Averill Park, NY 12018

timeneggin@aol.com

Samuel Austin, b. 1639 MA

2001 Convention

Continued from page 1

Dr. Michael Austin closed the evening with his presentation of The Austin Genealogical Research Award, also known as the "Eagle", which is presented annually by the AOAGS "to recognize those who have made significant contributions to publishing Austin genealogical research". This year's recipient was Gay G. Martin, Jr. of Ocean Springs, MS, who was recognized for his 4 year project of typing and digitizing all 92 of Edith Austin Moore's Field



Notebooks. This massive collection of research data is now available on the AARC, for on-line searching, and on the Austin Research CD-ROM.

Conventioners at the Sunday Banquet



(Front) Jan and David Untener
(Rear) Beverly and Arthur Sikes, Jr., Grace Hanrahan, Virginia Rossi, Arlene and Arthur Sikes, Sr.,

Now Playing on Your Screen

Joy Davis, AFAOA Web Master invites you to visit the new AFAOA web site. You will find it at <http://www.afaoa.org/> Joy has worked hard to improve the general look and content including an easier to use alphabetical index for your Austin ancestor. She has introduced a new Query page for your use. Please visit, browse about for a while and feedback your comments to Joy

<http://www.afaoa.org>



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As a volunteer organization, we must depend on the talents, enthusiasm and loyalty of our members to accomplish our goals. The challenge to further and preserve our Austin heritage requires a group effort. As a member of AFAOA, you can publish a book or help with its publicity, contribute your personal research to a database or digitize the research of others, write *Newsletters* articles or put on labels, or simply offer your opinions to help in decision making and your encouragement to those who have taken on a task (both more important than you think). Your contribution may be large or small but it is always appreciated.

Special recognition is due to two people who have made large contributions to the work of AFAOA.

Bill Minnick used his computer talents to make AFAOA a pioneer in placing genealogy databases on the Internet. Through his leadership, and with the help of those he inspired, a treasure of Austin research was made available to the world. He originated the position of Database Chairman and, although he stepped down from that position two years ago, he continues to give advice when called upon. Thank you, Bill!

Bonnie Bigolin responded with energy and enthusiasm when her research and organizational abilities were needed. As Genealogist during the past eleven years, besides helping others with their Austin research, she has organized the AFAOA archives, spent countless hours entering data for the original database project, and published research on her own Austin line, as well as recruiting and encouraging compilers for many other lines. A few years ago, finding herself with less time and the demands of increased interest in Southern Austin research, Bonnie asked for help. Since the by-laws do not provide for an "assistant genealogist", this became an appointed position and, in that manner, Liz Carlin began to share Bonnie's responsibilities last year. This year the official title has been shifted to Liz, and Bonnie has said that she will help Liz until another "assistant" is found. She will continue to transcribe and research as time permits. Thank you, Bonnie!

Also a special thanks to Anna Austin for four years of service as vice president and two years of mailing out the *Newsletter*. Thank you, Anna!

I am excited about the Internet debut of the Austin-Austen Research Center (AARC), pioneered by Dr. Michael Austin. We have a large amount of research material in digitized text format that was made available last year on a CD-ROM, with limited distribution. Now we have the opportunity to share our research in a different way and we have placed all of this material in the AARC. There is a link to this site from the "Austin Research" page on the AFAOA web site. Check it out!

Happy researching

Alice Martin

<http://www.afaoa.org>

AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Minutes of Business Meeting

August 29, 2001 – Pittsfield, MA.

President Alice Martin opened the meeting at 1:10 P.M. Since the minutes of last year's meeting had been posted around the room during the weekend, they were not read. Gay Martin moved that the minutes be accepted. Carol Austin seconded. Motion passed.

Lois Cody gave the following Treasurer's report:

General Fund :

Beginning Balance	\$11,460.81
Income	1,858.35
Expenses	- 941.41
Ending Balance.....	\$12,377.75

Publishing Fund:

Beginning Balance	\$ 478.00
Income	488.15
Expenses	- 526.33
Ending Balance.....	439.82
Convention Fund Balance.....	2.55
Bank Balance, as of July 17, 2001	\$12,820.12
Balance due on Publishing Loan:	\$6,693.32

Beverly Sikes moved that the report be accepted. Treasurer's report was accepted.

The association has 314 paid up members. Six attendees joined at the convention.

Vice Presidents Carol Austin and Art Sikes were introduced. Vice President Anna Austin and Genealogist Bonnie Bigolin were unable to be present.

OLD BUSINESS:

Alice reviewed the status of AFAOA's involvement in the Austin-Austen Research Center web site. Last year we voted to contribute financing and data for the web site, as a joint sponsor. Since then, by mutual agreement with Dr. Michael Austin, it was decided that AOAGS will be sole owner and operator of the site and equipment and will therefore pay all start-up expenses. However all available AFAOA text materials have been placed in the Research Center, and AFAOA members will have full print and copy privileges along with AOAGS members. The AFAOA web site will remain the location for the Austin databases.

Status of the Descendants of Richard Austin book sales: 212 sold, 234 remaining.

Bonnie Bigolin has asked to be relieved of the Genealogist's position. She is willing to archive our records and will assist the elected genealogist by continuing to answer queries on the Northern Lines for the next year, while someone is being sought to take over that job.

NEW BUSINESS

Alice explained the need for help in publicizing the Richard book to sell the remaining copies. It was decided to send out fliers to libraries. Dr. Mike Austin will include fliers with his

Please see "AFAOA Minutes", page 5

A DECADE OF PROGRESS

A Report from the AFAOA Genealogist

At the AFAOA Convention in Suffield, CT in 1990 I volunteered to fill the position of AFAOA Genealogist being vacated by Janet Curtis. Many boxes of letters, notebooks and miscellaneous records were transported from Janet's home in Albuquerque NM to my home in Green River WY, where they were photocopied, organized, sorted and filed.

Volunteers were called upon to begin the tedious jobs of indexing some 15+ notebooks, with 200-500 pages each, which had been compiled by Janet Curtis. Over the next five years volunteers came through with the near completion of the indexing project.

The result of our work was 12 large file drawers full of correspondence from Austin researchers, some going back into the 1940's, and wonderful indexes for the notebooks, so doing searches for our members became much more efficient and less times consuming.

At the Austin, TX convention in 1991 Bill Minnick opened our eyes to the possibilities of computers. He lit the fire of enthusiasm in all of us attending and the Austin Computer Project was born!

By the 1992 convention in San Jose, CA Bill had everyone excited about the computer project and members started volunteering to compile the already known Austin lines. In 1995 the AFAOA Web site was created - the first genealogy databases on the Internet!

Over the next few years, more research and data entry was done and draft copies of many Austin lines were produced in soft books and disk versions. More than thirty Austin lines, in family group sheet format are now available on the Internet.

However only one of those lines has been brought along to professional completion. After several years of dedicated work, in 1998 Jim & Liz Carlin published a beautiful hard-cover book, *Some Descendants of Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA, 1638* that these descendants will treasure now and in years to come.

In 1997 Gay Martin volunteered to transcribe the 92 research notebooks of AFAOA founder Edith Austin Moore, a project that has taken four years. In 2000 the first *Austin Research CD-ROM* was

produced, containing these notebooks, all of the descendant books and more. This same information has now been made available on the Internet.

At the 2000 National Austin Convention in Madison, WI, Liz Carlin volunteered to assist me as the Southern States genealogist for AFAOA, taking on a large portion of the genealogist duties, while I continue to work on the Northern lines.

Now, in 2001: Photocopying done, filing done, indexing done, many databases started, many draft books created, one book published, searchable databases on-line, the Edith Austin Moore notebooks transcribed, transcription of the Janet Curtis notebooks in progress, a searchable research CD. We have accomplished a lot!

In 1991 about 30 to 40 pieces of correspondence were received every month, most of them needing a response. In 2001 written correspondence has fallen off to 4 to 5 per month, while e-mail correspondence has become the overwhelming choice of the times. Large envelopes stuffed with Austin genealogy notes, charts, etc. seem to be a thing of the past.

It's now tidbits e-mailed back and forth, hardly taking the time to get the name of the person you are sharing information with. I miss the return label on those old envelopes, its nice to know where your correspondence is from.

Don't get me wrong, I absolutely love using my computer with genealogy, searching all the wonderful web pages available on-line, the enormous amount of data one can store and search on a little CD. I would not want to go back, even 10 years, in the evolution of genealogy tools.

But I also want to have hard copies of our family lines available, something we can hold, pass down to our children, grandchildren and so on. And so it is with dismay that, at this time, I cannot say that even one additional line is close to being published in the same manner than the Richard Austin book was. Why?

Here are a few thoughts on possible reasons: 1) We have no time to devote from our busy lives; 2) We have lack of confidence to use the ever changing computer; 3) We find ourselves so caught up in the quick searches on the Internet, finding info on our various lines, that we are not focusing on one project at a time;

4) We are confident that someone else will do the work for us - and probably many other reasons.

It is my hope that each of these Austin draft books will not just sit in our computer databases, but will find their way to the printed page in an honored way, such as the Richard Austin book.

Work needs to continue on the Austin descendant books, adding details, stories, photos, editing etc., so that one day the database is not only available on the Internet, floppy disks and CD, but in a heart-felt, hard-copy on the family coffee table.

I encourage our members to continue exploring the genealogy on the Internet, but at some point we need to come back to focusing on one or two projects at a time and build on that project until it is done.

The need for continued work on the databases to get them updated and ready for the web version, the need to digitize the various Austin notebooks, the need for focused record research, such as "Adopt a State" and the 1850 Austin Census project - are all needs recognized by our members as a whole. Thank you, to our volunteers who are out there sharing their spare time to further the quality of AFAOA.

Bonnie Austin Bigolin

P.O. Box 1094
Green River, WY 82935

On Having the Last Word or Two

* * *

Here lies Lester Moore
Four slugs from a 44
No Les no more
(*Boot Hill, Tombstone, AZ*)

* * *

Here I lie snug as a bug in a rug
* * *

Here lies Ezekial Aikle
Age 102
The Good Die Young
(*Dalousie, Nova Scotia*)

* * *

She lived with her husband 50 years
And died in the confident hope of a
better life
(*Burlington, VT*)

* * *

Here lies Ned
There is nothing more to be said -
Because we like to speak well of the
dead.

AFAOA Database Report

Significant progress has been made in distributing Austin research data which has been collected and processed by the AFAOA. To date, we have linked lineage data on 38 Austin lines consisting of 79,306 individuals and 24,039 families.

We have transcribed 92 of Edith Austin Moore's field notebooks, are preparing transcriptions of Janet Austin Curtis' States Volumes, as well as other documents in the AFAOA archives. We have formally published one hard bound descendency of Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA.

We have placed most of this data on the World Wide Web in two searchable forms: as user selected Family Group Sheets, and in a searchable descendency report format at the Austin/Austen Research Center. We have placed this same data on the AFAOA CD-ROM.

Besides the preparation of the data for the Web or CD-ROM, much effort has been devoted to obtaining volunteer transcribers, and compilers who take on the responsibility of maintaining and updating the databases, a process which may involve their own research as well as the processing of contributions from other Austin researchers. A current list of compilers follows:

Brian Austen - Ambrose of OH
 Scott Lynch - Caleb of NY
 Bonnie Bigolin - John of ME
 Jan Untener* - John of CT
 Carol R. Austin* - Jonah of MA
 Carol R. Austin - Joseph of NJ
 Bonnie Bigolin - Matthew of ME
 Jim Carlin - Richard of MA
 Don Challis - Robert of RI
 Philip Austin - Robert of ME
 Carol R. Austin - Samuel of MA
 Art Sikes*, Jr. - Stephen of NY
 Liz Carlin - Thomas of NY
 Bonnie Bigolin - Unlinked ME
 Liz Carlin - Bartholomew of VA
 Dan Whitley - Henry of MD
 Liz Carlin - Nathaniel of SC
 Garrett A. Rowley - John of VA
 Helen C. Austin - John of AL
 Eual J. Austin - Larkin K. of TN
 Richard C. Austin - Wm. & Ruth NC
 Liz Carlin - Hatteras, NC Families
 Joyce Henzel** - William of MD

Archivist Assistant - Mary J. Austin
 Michigan Austins - Brenda Casey
 JAC States Notebook Vols. 1 & 2 - Kathi Koble
 Unplaced Austins Vol. 1 - Bonnie Bigolin
 Early NC Censuses - Bob Handy
 Transcriber - Myron Foster
 Transcriber-at-large - Gay G. Martin

*New Volunteers - thank you.

**In negotiation

Finally, we have many more projects waiting in the wings. If you feel the urge to volunteer to help out, please e-mail or write the Database Chairman.

Jim Carlin

<http://www.afaoa.org>

AFAOA Minutes, Continued from page 3.

AOAGS newsletter. Art Sikes moved to transfer \$2000 from the General Fund to the Publishing Fund, to be used for publicity and for book donations to selected libraries. Jan Untener seconded. Motion passed.

Alice asked for volunteers for various positions. The following responded:

Database Compiler – Janice Untener

Transcriber – Myron Foster

Mail newsletters - Jan Untener

Volunteers are still needed to help with book publicity and to assist the Genealogists.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Officers are elected for two years, with two term limits. (The genealogist has no term limits.)

Liz Carlin, representing the nominating committee, presented the following slate for election:

President- Alice Austin Martin

Vice Presidents- Arthur M. Sikes, Jr., Carol R. Austin, Jan A. Untener

Secretary/Treasurer- Lois W. Cody

Genealogist- Liz Austin Carlin

There being no other nominations, Gay Martin moved the nominations be closed. Jim Carlin seconded. Officers were elected by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned.

* * *

In a joint session with the AOAGS, three sites were proposed for the 2002 National Austin Convention, to be hosted by AFAOA – Seattle, Salt Lake City, and Denver. After two votes, Denver was selected. Meeting adjourned.

Richard Austin of Charlestown Book Donated to the Berkshire Athenaeum

The Berkshire Athenaeum, located in Pittsfield, MA, is a major repository of indexed collections of Western Massachusetts history and genealogy. This was one of the major reasons for holding the 2001 National Austin Convention in Pittsfield.

Consistent with the importance of this library, it was decided to donate a copy of the AFAOA publication "Some Descendants of Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA, 1638" to the library.



Lois Cody and Liz Austin Carlin
 present the book to a library representative



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

Bonnie Bigolin (Northern Austins)
P.O. Box 1094
Green River, WY 82935

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

Q11-3,1 - Leora A. Austin, PO Box 303, Rossville, IN 46065-0303
Seeking parentage and any information on JOSEPH P. AUSTIN b. 1827 MI; d. 13 Mar 1876 or 1878. His first marriage was on 1848 in Marshall Co., IN to Abbey E. Jackson, 1829-1858. Their children were Emily, Charles Prosper, Sarah G. and Rosella. Joseph married a second time in 1858 in Starke Co., IN to Delilah Dial, 1836-1918. Their children were Alice Delilah (who married a Jessup) and Joseph Dial. Joseph's third marriage was in 1866 in Boone Co., IN to the widow Matilda Hester Ann (Van Cleave) Jolly 1829-1899. Their children were Oscar and Aulty. Joseph may have had 2 more children, John and George. Matilda was buried at Nezperce, Lewis Co., ID.

Q11-3,2 - Leora A. Austin, PO Box 303, Rossville, IN 46065-0303
Seeking information on WILLIAM AND DEBORAH AUSTIN. in the 1830 census they were living in St. Clair Co., MI. Their known children are Joseph, William, Jonathan, Abigail (Crawford), Elcey, Polly and Lucy. Perhaps Jane (Case) and Mary Ann (Keys) may also have been their daughters. Part of the children were born in MA, Polly was born in OH. William, Sr. d. 1832 and Joseph d. 1834.

Q11-3,3 - (anonymous) - beachbumz@olynet.com
Searching for the parents of HIRAM AUSTIN, baptized June 13, 1819, Brimfield, MA, MARY AUSTIN, baptized June 13, 1819, Brimfield, MA who married ORLANDO SMITH, May 1, 1833, Monson, MA, SARAH DOW AUSTIN, born July 17, 1819 and baptized, September 5, 1819, Brimfield, MA who Married ORSON HENRY, August 5, 1839 in Palmer, MA, and HANNAH AUSTIN, wife of LYMON HOWARD, intentions September 14, 1839, Palmer, MA.

Q11-3,4 - James F. Austin - JimMarijoA@cs.com
Seeking ancestors of NATHAN W. AUSTIN, born circa 1784 in or near Cambridge, Washington Co., NY. Married SARAH KING 1808 in Cambridge. Sarah was born circa 1787 in CT. Nathan's father (name unknown) served in the American Revolution. Nathan was a veteran of the War of 1812. Nathan was a farmer in Freedom Township, Henry Co., OH. Children of Nathan and Sarah: Hannah, b. 5 April 1809, Cambridge, m. Charles Marsh; Marinda, b. ca 1811, Cambridge, m. Joseph Kline; Josiah, b. 17 December 1814, Cambridge, m. Arvilla Barnum; Franklin, b. 29 December 1816, Springwater, Livingston Co., NY; m. Harriete Hively; Mary, b. circa 1826-1827, Springwater, m. Jacob Keazer; and Levi, (died as a young man).

Q11-3,5 - Judy Chadman - JudyChadman@webtv.net
I am the daughter of LUCY ELIZABETH AUSTIN. She was born in MI and her mother I believe was from KS and went to MI. Lucy married Sylvester Chadman. Lucy is 94 years old and living in a nursing home in Las Cruces, NM. I am seeking info on where Lucy's (older) grandmother came from. Lucy's mother had nine children, three of which are still alive.

Q11-3,6 - Yvonne G. Craig - witnwhimsy2@aol.com
I am looking for information about Alvira Elizabeth Austin. Born 8 June 1841? died 1909? Born in Dresden, Stuben Co., NY? Married to Edmund Waterhouse.

Q11-3,7 - C.J. & Sharon Molesworth - cjsranch@prodigy.net
We are looking for SUSANNAH AUSTIN b. 6/18/1792, daughter of William Austin. She married Jared G. Calkins 5/27/1810. Both of them were born in Danby, VT and were married there. They had 10 children.

Q11-3,8 - Christina Powers - cdpowers@ptialaska.net
Searching for JOSEPH AUSTIN married to Sirena Baldwin. Joseph and Sirena were in Cape Girardeau or Scott Co. MO around 1815. Joseph is found in the 1840 Alexander Co. Census. 3 daughters married Thompsons in Alexander Co. around 1850. Any help would be appreciated.

Q11-3,9 - Karen Faulkner - tuffcat@telplus.net
I am looking for information on CHARLES AUSTIN. He was born May 16, 1853 in Amity, ME and we believe his parents were James and Statina Austin. Charles married Effie Rollins. Charles died Sept 4, 1951 in Carmel, ME. Any help will be appreciated

Q11-3,10 - Gertrude Davis - GerAly@aol.com
Looking for ANCIL AUSTIN b. Mar. 1829 upstate NY. probably Oneida Co. Brother Solomon Austin b. 1825 near Utica NY. Mother Susan or Susannah Brundage. Her parentage unknown. Particularly interested in Austin descendants married to Coburns and Johnsons as well as descendants of Carmi Austin, son of Ancil. One daughter of Carmi in Los Angeles area during WWII. Two sons last heard of in Colorado. Wish to contact descendants of William Austin, son of Solomon. Members of their large family believed to be in ND and WY. Ancestry of Charlotte Wood, wife of Ancil Austin leads back to 1733 arrival from England of later loyalist Jacob Wood and to Jacques Gallarneau in Quebec in the 1600's. .

Harris Monroe "Red" Austin - CPO, USN

Let nobody disagree, Harris Monroe "Red" Austin was always someone who was "bigger than life." Born in 1920 in Nebraska, Harris grew up to accomplish much it seems, two marriages, five children, a glorious career in the United States Navy serving his country in 3 wars, awarded 14 medals with 16 battle stars, worked with the Atomic Energy Commission, raised cattle in Nevada, served as Deputy Sheriff (corrections) for the County of Coos, Oregon, and researched his family's genealogy, discovering that Richard Austin of Charlestown was his ancestral line.

It was Harris who went to England and discovered the records that showed Richard was from Tichfield. He also found the passenger list of the Bevis, the ship that Richard and his family sailed to Boston, and transcribed it. He also did extensive research of military records of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 and privately published "The Austin Warriors."

He contributed this valuable source material as well as his personal information for the 1998 re-issue of Edith Austin Moore's book, "Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA, 1638."

He was so proud of his Austin roots that he arranged to be buried in the Old Center Cemetery in Suffield, Connecticut, right alongside of his 8th generation forebears Anthony Austin and his wife Esther Huggins, his black gravestone now towering over the older stones.

Harris died 20 Jan 1999 in Fredericksburg, Maryland, as a result of respiratory failure resulting from pneumonia, complicated by Alzheimer's disease. A peaceful end perhaps to his long career, but such an ordinary death when considering how near to death he came during his Navy days.

A recent program on the History Channel stated that Harris once served on the submarine Cochino which was lost in the North Sea on what was supposed to be a "training" mission, but was actually a spying mission to listen in on Russian communications, and to secretly log ship arrivals and departures from the Russian Naval Base at Murmansk. The program specifically identified "Harris Red Austin" as the communications specialist, a "stranger" newly assigned to the sub's normal crew, and whose presence gave rise to the scuttlebutt amongst the crew that this was not going to be a training mission at all.

The Cochino (USS 345) and its sister sub the Tusk (USS 426) left their home port in England on 13 Aug 1949. Both were diesel powered on the surface and battery powered under the water. They made their way into the North Sea and were on station on 24 Aug 1949. Their mission and the mystery surrounding it can best be defined by the introduction to the book "Blind Man's Bluff" by Sherry Sontag and Christopher Drew:

"No espionage missions have been kept more secret than those involving American submarines. Only presidents and a select few have known the truth about submarines that have for

decades silently roamed the oceans in a dangerous battle for information and advantage. Even the families of the men onboard had no idea what their husbands, sons and brothers were doing, and anyone who went looking for the truth behind these mysterious missions found only a veil of silence."

Some form of a short circuit in the after battery room created the first explosion on board the Cochino at 1046 hours, 25 Aug 1949. This was followed by a series of intermittent explosions which created additional short circuit connections to the batteries such that one bank of batteries was now rapidly charging another bank, a process which produces more hydrogen gas than can be exhausted. The crew fought a losing battle to stop the process, eventually signaling the Tusk to come to their assistance ("CT1 Austin" noted in the log as the signaler).

Because the seas were running with 14 foot waves, bringing the two boats together was very dangerous. Six crewmen on the Tusk were lost in this process, washed overboard by a wave and thrown into the 47 degree water. A civilian technician on the Cochino, seeking medical supplies for the crew injured in the explosions, was also lost in a futile attempt to reach the Tusk in a life raft.

Eventually, the two boats were lashed together, and a gang-plank arranged between them. People would wait until the two boats, bobbing and rolling in the heavy sea, were level and the gang plank out of the water, then dash across to safety.

The wounded were brought across first, then the crewmen,



the officers next and in the tradition of a true skipper, the Captain as the last man to leave. It was now 0030 hours on the 26th, and the lines to the Cochino were cast aside. The boat settled to starboard and gently slid under the sea stern first. The 76 crewmen who were rescued were treated to dry clothing, rest, and the best of care by the crew of the Tusk, many of whom shared their personal possessions, and their bunks in the best tradition of Naval loyalty and comradeship. The Tusk immediately headed at full speed to Hammerfest, Norway, some 200 miles away, and to safety.

From Harris' own correspondence, he described his Naval career as follows:

"Enlisted Aug 1939, retired 1960, attained rank of Chief Petty Officer. Served in WWII and Korean wars in Naval Intelligence, and as a communications specialist on numerous ships, submarines and on-land assignments."

Now, some 52 years later, we learn of one facet of his life, one that was certainly exciting, and one that, knowing Harris, was probably very difficult for him to keep secret.

PLEASE NOTICE THE RENEWAL DATE ON YOUR ADDRESS LABEL. YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES OF \$15 PER YEAR SHOULD BE SENT TO LOIS CODY, 336 PLEASANT HILL DR., CINCINNATI, OH 45215-4231

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We Need Your Feedback!

OK, so we have been doing this *Newsletter* thing now since the Fall of 1998, and we have had fun doing it. So far, we have placed in the Newsletter what we think is appropriate to a genealogy group's *Newsletter*, news about the organization, details about the conventions and reunions, names and contact information regarding our new members, and biographic articles about Austins in various parts of the country.

We have also included "How To" articles, and have included numerous genealogical or historical links on the World Wide Web which you can explore on your own. We have printed your queries to help you in contacting others who may be exploring the same Austin family line that you are.

We have placed in the pages of the *Newsletter* (admittantly blatantly) appeals for you the reader to consider attending our convention-reunions, to run for an executive office in the organization, to volunteer to help compile databases, transcribe archival material, and to buy the Richard book or the CD-ROM.

Perhaps (perish the thought) we have over-done this.

We have tried to stay away from publishing pure genealogical data such as an excerpt of marriages from the Vital Records of Taunton, MA, or the 1850 Census listing for Austins in Rome, GA, because the viewpoint is narrow and probably not that useful to the majority of you readers.

In the column to the right is a partial list of features which could be considered as being appropriate to this *Newsletter*. We are certain that there are other features that you would like to see included, so add them to the list as well.

Please indicate to us your vote on each of these by listing the feature number and a numeral (from 0 to 10, where 0 means least usefull to you and 10 means most usefull to you). An example would be:

1-5; 2-8; 3-1; 4-10; 5-6; 6-3; 7-9; 8-8; 9-2; 10-3; 11-2; 12-7.

Please send this simple list to us by e-mail or snail mail.

<http://www.afaoa.org>

1. Convention details/news.
2. AFAOA Organization news (bylaws, officer's and/or committee reports).
3. President's Message.
4. Austin-Austen biographies/articles
5. How to articles (methods, hints...)
6. New members lists.
7. Queries.
8. Promotional (Richard book, CD-ROM).
9. World Wide Web links.
10. Photos.
11. Book Reviews.
12. Research trip reports.

Thank you, The Editors