Austin Families Association of America

Newsletter

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http://www.afaoa.org

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1999 NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

Now is the time to begin making your plans to attend the National Austin Convention in our nation's capitol, Washington, D.C. The convention will again be co-sponsored by the Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA) and the Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS).

Last summer, in Salt Lake City, the convention attendees voted to hold this year's convention in the Washington area for the express purpose of meeting their fellow Austin researchers from all over the United States, particularly our cousins from the South.

There is also the great wealth of research facilities in the Washington area, and many of the attendees are planning their travel so that their stay will overlap the convention weekend (6, 7, and 8 August). This will provide them with time during the weekdays either preceding or following the convention to take advantage of these facilities to further their research into their Austin as well as their other family lines.

For those of you who have never attended a National Austin Convention, you will get the chance to meet many dedicated people who have been involved in genealogical research for many years now. Their contributions have established a number of databases devoted to specific Austin immigrants to this country.

Many of these databases contain significant numbers of individuals, their marriages, and their progeny. Most of this has been documented as to the sources for this information. A number of these databases have been presented to the genealogical world via the World Wide Web (see address above in mast head), allowing any person with a computer and an on-line connection, the capability of downloading information on specific Austin individuals right there at their desk in their home.

These databases have also been combined into the Master Austin database now containing in excess of 35,000 individuals. This database can be accessed via the AFAOA Genealogist Bonnie Bigolin, who for a nominal fee, can do look-ups, can answer queries, do research, etc.

The combined experience and knowledge of these people and their willingness to share their data with convention attendees is but one of the more valuable facets of convention attendance. There are informal workshops where computers provide immediate access to the Austin Master Database, or where people can help others with specific genealogical research, or even with computer problems that one might be experiencing.

Many times a person with a so-called "brick wall" situation discovers a cousin there at the convention with the missing link that they have spent years searching for.

Speakers at the convention are selected from outside experts in the field as well as from AFAOA or AOAGS members who have been pursuing a particular genealogical specialty. The outside speakers are generally associated with a specific library or genealogical service. Their topics are usually meant to acquaint researchers with the information available at their facility, and the most efficient way to gather and utilize this information.

One AFAOA speaker spoke about his study of gravestones, what their various forms are, what the symbols mean, how to safely photograph them, and photos of some very unusual stones that he had encountered.

Other speakers have detailed their efforts in publishing a formal book for one Austin immigrant, including page constraints, computer problems, publisher interface, printing, and distribution.

Dr. Michael Austin, Director of the AOAGS, brings his computer scanning equipment and spends the weekend (almost) scanning priceless photographs of ancestors brought in by convention attendees. The result is the permanent digital preservation of these photographs, and the building of a large Austin photographic database.

Finally, there is the commraderie established between conventioneers which produces a feeling of family, and which results in the convention actually becoming more of a reunion rather than a formal convention. With individuals living in all parts of the United States (some even beyond our national borders), the convention gives everyone the chance to once again link up with the Austin clan.

New Members Welcomed

Brian E. Austen
440 Strickland Ave.
Hobart, Tasmania, Australia 7004
austenbjjr@trump.net.au
Abraham b. ENG.

Charles E. Austin
9322 Seasons Dr.
Chattanooga, TN 37421
Charles_Aust@email.msn.com
William ca 1750/60 VA, Hezekiah b. 1787 VA, Jonathon b. 1823 TN, William B. b. 1855 AL, Ned Elric b. 1902 AL.

Kathryn A. Silver
RR #1 Box 382
Sand SPrings, OK 74063-9412
ssok98@aol.com
ELijah, Nathan B. b. 1880 VA

Andrew E. Austin
9721 W. Calusa Club Drive
Miami, FL 33186-1507
aeaustin@ix.netcom.com
William ca 1700 Wales, James ca 1740/45 VA, Reuben b. 1770 VA, William E. b. 1817 VA, Orville E. b. 1861 TN, Will Ross ca 1893 TN

Glyn D. Austin
793 Homes St.
Memphis, TN 38122
roseglyn@bellsouth.net
____*Austin ca 1790 TN m. Ellen Green.*

Brenda L. Casey
1177 Briar Down Lane
Burton, MI 48529
Barb_bie@hotmail.com
Asa Henry b. 1811 NY, Henry Asa b. 1846 LA, Darwin S. b. 1876 MI, Robert D. b. MI.

Terri L. Wilson
7934 E. Hwy. 86
Franktown, CO 80116
twilson@ai.com
Caleb b. 1777 of NY, George b. 1806 NY, James A. b. 1829 OH, James A. b. 1855 IL, Alfred D. 1896 IL

Wanda Austin Wyss
4705 Big John's Place
Jonesboro, AR 72404
Henry b. 1862, George E. b. 1898 TN, Howard Junior b. AR.

Merlyn O. Austin
129 Valley Road NW
Atlanta, GA 30305
mernaust@aol.com
John b. 1647 CT, John b. 1677 CT, John b. 1704 CT, Amos b. 1752 CT, Amos b. 1790 CT, Amos b. 1820 NY, Melvin O. b. 1866 NY, Milon A. b. 1901 WI.

Gary L. Austin
11897 El Capitan Way
Ballico, CA 95303-9734
(No ancestor information available)

Ellis Island Project

(Excerpted from the San Francisco Examiner, 2 Feb 1999)

Climbing the family tree will take a lot less clawing as soon as a nonprofit foundation finishes a more than $15 million project to post Ellis Island immigration records on the internet.

By helping people to access information instantly that previously was buried in a bureaucratic quagmire, the project will revolutionize genealogical research for many of the more than 113 million Americans who already actively pursue their family histories.

Officials at the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation in NY estimate that more than 40% of Americans can trace their European ancestry back to Ellis Island.

By the end of next year, the foundation hopes, people will be able to enter any information they know about a progenitor and the program will search more than 20 million records for a match. The software will even be able to tolerate misspellings. If a match is found, the researcher can choose to print out a photo of the ship and a copy of the original manifesto that marked the immigrant's arrival.

The database - which organizers say could be ready by the end of 2000 will catalog records of almost 20 million immigrants who flooded the tiny NY Harbor island. Until now, those documents have been stored at the National Archives and Immigration and Naturaliza-

Please see "Ellis Island," page 4

Repository Holdings Washington, D.C.

(This information is excerpted from: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1999 Research Programs and Tours)

The DAR Library

Open: Mon.–Fri. 8:45 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Closed: Sat. Open: Sun. 1-5 p.m.
Major collections of printed genealogies and town and county histories. Lineage books of members and DAR applications. Thousands of typescript volumes with family, church, cemetery and town records from all over the United States. Finding aids for using unpublished material in the collection. Analytic index for books, periodicals and for special projects.

The National Archives

Open: Mon. & Wed. 8:45 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Tue., Thurs., & Fri., 8:45 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Sat. 8:45 a.m. – 4:45 p.m. Closed: Sun.
United States Census Records, 1790-1920. Federal Land Records for 30 States, 1800-1974, Bounty Land Warrants Application Files, 1775-1855. Homestead applications. Military Pension application files, 1775-1934. Compiled Military Service Records. Confederate and Union Service Records. Passenger lists, Customs and Immigration records, 1820-1954. Native American records. Records of all federal departments and agencies.

The Library of Congress

Open: Mon., Wed. & Thurs. 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m. Tue., Fri. & Sat. 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Closed: Sun.
U. S. Local History and Geneal. Reading Room, with specialized card catalogs for genealogies and local histories. International geneal. and local history resources. City directories, 1785 – present. (An inventory of the collection is in the Local History and Geneal. Reading Room); NY Telephone Directories, 1878-1959. Manuscript Reading Room. Newspaper and current periodical reading room (newspapers from all over the U.S. from the 18th – 20th centuries are on microfilm). Geography and Map Reading Room (includes many types of U. S. maps from the early 19th century; Eastern European atlases and gazetteers). LDS Family Search Workstations.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As the 20th century dawned in 1899, America was at the end of a century that had justified a viable policy of manifest destiny. A united nation from sea to shining sea was a reality. This new nation had faced the crucible of a blood bath of brother against brother and survived to bind its wounds and take the first stumbling steps of a social revolution.

National energy was focused on the work place and technology was growing beyond bounds. And as December 31st of 1899 approached I wonder if the people had this same sense of impending doom.

If I read my history right, I don't think so. Despite social deficits, the future of the 1900's shone like a beacon. Why are things so different now? Daily the media serves us dire predictions of all the bad things that are going to happen when we step into the Y2K. We have friends who are actually buying and storing food, water and other emergency items in anticipation of the chaos of the new millennium madness.

We too are leaving a century during which America has shaped the world in a manner not seen since the Roman empire. We have been tested by two world wars and rightly or wrongly we are now the leader of the world. We experienced and survived an economic depression that would have been the death knell for many a lesser nation.

From, these negatives we have grown and our technology has released the bonds of earth and reached the stars. All has not been roses, however. Much more needs to be done.

Our social revolution has not kept pace with the technology evolution. If there is one blemish on the facade of America as it faces the new millennium it is the deteriorating social conditions that force us to look at man's darker side rather than look upward towards the stars.

As the millennium approaches, how can we translate all this to the Austin Families Association of America? First we will narrow our sights and look at only the last decade of the 20th century. In 1990, we held our annual meeting in Suffield,Connecticut. At that time I had been President for five lackadaisical years. I use this adjective purposely because prior to 1990 I was heavily involved in non-Austin activities and had little time for AFAOA affairs.

All this changed in Suffield. During the business meeting a quite unassuming young man whom I had never met rose and offered a proposal to put the Austins on the map using the evolving computer technology.This was a surprise to a membership rooted in conventional methods of doing genealogy. But for reasons still not clear, I saw Bill Minnick's proposal as Divinely inspired and we gave him the green light and authorized the necessary resources to do the job.

The wisdom of this decision is obvious. At this same meeting it became painfully apparent that Janet Austin Curtis' health had deteriorated to such a low point she could no longer be effective as Genealogist. With sad feeling we began a search for someone to carry on Janet's years of devoted work for the AFAOA.

Another young person rose and offered to accept the mantle of AFAOA Genealogist. I had never met Bonnie Bigolin but her verve and personality was so impressive we appointed her to what is probably the most visible position in the AFAOA. Again the wisdom of this decision is obvious.

As I began my revitalized and hopefully more productive tenure as President I quickly identified another critical problem area. If an organization is to be truly first class and a leader in the field then it needs a professional, informative newsletter. Solving this problem has not been a straight forward process. It has been like evolution. Now, in the waning days of this wonderful decade of the 90's, the newsletter problem is solved. Jim and Liz Carlin, the current co-editors, are like pure gold. The AFAOA *Newsletter* can now take its place at the top as an example for other organizations to follow. These good people and their achievements in the last decade of the century are the stuff legends are made of. For that reason I believe the AFAOA is on the threshold of a new century of greatness.

As it pertains to genealogy and history, Y2K should not be a specter but a springboard to utilize and further the talents of the competent and energetic AFAOA people who have brought us to the pinnacle we stand on today.

I would be remiss it I didn't acknowledge that the organization is more that the few people I have lionized. We are a organization of many people with varied interests and capabilities. Each member is an important cog that makes the AFAOA the success it is today.

I feel paternal pride that during my fourteen years as president every member - past and present has contributed to and harvested from this revival of Austin genealogy and history. But, if you leave fruit on the vine too long it withers. People do the same thing. As President I have been proud and enjoyed being part of the fabulous 90's, but now is the time for others to carry the AFAOA banner into the next millennium. As my term as President draws to a close, I want to express my personal appreciation to each member and wish you the best of luck in your genealogical endeavors. We have done great things in the 90's but to quote a famed vaudevillian of yesteryears — "You aint seen nothing yet!" Hope to see all of you in Washington, DC in August.

Hal Steiner
AFAOA President

ILLINOIS RECORDS CLOSED

The Illinois State legislature recently passed an act restricting access to public records to only those with a private investigator's license.

The current interpretation means that a genealogist, regardless of where they reside, must have a Private Investigator's License before requesting birth, marriage, death, obituary, or estate records.

A private investigator is a person who, for a fee or other valuable consideration, engages in the business of obtaining information relating to the identity or whereabouts of any person. Anyone obtaining information for genealogical purposes is not exempt from the regulation. (LAWGS Newsletter, Jan. 1999)

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 a copy to:***

Bonnie Bigolin
P.O. Box 1094
Green River, WY 82935-1094

Q9-1,1 - Harold Bradley, 15444 Mesquite Ave., Victorville, CA 92394.
Looking for ancestry & siblings of Asa Austin b. 1762, who came with Samuel Wiswell, from Worchester, MA to Townshend, VT about 1780. They first came to Putney through Brookline, VT. Asa m. Dec 1782 in Putney, Windham Co., VT to Mary Wiswell, sister of Samuel Wiswell. Asa Austin served in the struggle for American Independence and was a Lt. of a militia company in Townshend. Asa d. 18 Apr 1816 in Townshend, VT. 10 children b. Townshend, VT: Asa, Jr. b. ca. 1784, m. Martha T. Gleason; Rebecca b. ca. 1786; Hulda b. ca. 1788; Polly b. ca. 1790; Levina b. ca. 1791; Phebe b. ca. 1794; James b. ca. 1796; Leonard b. ca. 1799; Dr. John b. ca. 1802 m. Minerva Priest; Dr. Horace B. b. ca. 1804.

Q9-1,2 - Keith Young, 107 Pringle St., Tewksbury, MA 01876.
Need further info on Warren H. Austin who mar. Jane B. Fullinton 9 Sep 1827 in Hancock, ME. At least 3 children b. Ellsworth, ME: Almatia b. 1835 m. Isaac Lord; Adeline b. 1838 m. Charles Carroll Coburn; Warren H. b. ca. 1842 m.
Margaret Burley. Warren H. Austin II had dau. Anne Eliza Austin b. Mar 1865 Ellsworth, ME, d. 29 Oct 1911 Lamoine, ME, m. Walter A. Young 1 Mar 1884 Lamoine, ME.

Q9-1,3 - Arnie Krause, 1611 Arlington Ave. Saskatoon, Saskatachewa, Canada S7H 2Y6.
Need ancestry of Samuel John Austin b. ca. 1760 VA, then as an UEL to (French Lake) area of NB, d. July 1824 Grand Point, Queens Co., NB, m.(1) __?__ bef 1783, m.(2) Eve Gabel 23 Nov 1788 Gage Town, NB, dau. of David Gabel & Catherine Rhinehart. Samuel John was a Loyalist from Virginia, the only Loyalist of seven brothers. He was enrolled for the journey in Richard Squires Militia company (Bell p26) and travelled on the 'Grace' to St. John, NB with the July 1783 Fleet (Bell p 25). Children: David Hurley b. ca. 1791 NB; Samuel John Jr. b. 1792 NB; Sarah Eve b. bef 28 Feb 1796; Elizabeth b. bef 5 Aug 1797; Catherine b. ca. 1800; Nathaniel James Priest b. bef 9 Mar 1800 NB; Justus Earl b. 1801 NB; John Edward b. 1803; Phoebe Ann b. 4 May 1804; Margaret Eve b. bef 4 Mar 1810; Charlotte Amelia b. bef 4 Apr 1812.

Q9-1,4 - Grace K. Austin, P.O. Box 356, Ransomville, NY 14131.
Searching for information of any kind about Henry H. Austin b. 1792 Poughkeepsie, Dutchess Co., NY, d. 1878 Woodstock, Ontario, CAN; m. Mary Jane Ross b. 1805 Armagh, IRE, d. 1875 Woodstock, CAN. Children: William Wallace b. 1828 CAN; Elizabeth A. b. 1828 CAN; Harriet H. b. 1832 CAN m. Mr. Hilles; Harry H. b. 1836 CAN; Minerva M. b. 1839 CAN; John H. b. 1841 CAN; Edwin Rufus b. 1837 CAN. Except for Edwin all children perhaps remained in Canada. Somehow related to: The Titus, DeLong, Lossing and Stover families who left Dutchess Co., NY for Canada back in 1809-1812. Our line of descent: Henry H. Austin[1] 1792, Edwin Rufus[2] 1837, William H.[3] 1878, Alfred[4], Norman[5].

Q9-1,5 - Bonnie Bigolin, P.O. Box 1094, Green River, WY 82935.
Need ancestry & siblings of Justus/Justin Austin b. 1808 Rumford, Oxford Co., ME, d. Jan 1863 Peru, ME, m. 18 Nov 1833 Rumford, ME to Lydia Hall b. 1809 ME. They had at least 4 children b. ME: Elbridge Gerry Hall b. 24 May 1834 Peru, ME, m. Emma A. Knight; Rosamond b. 29 Sep 1838 Peru, ME; William A. b. 1839 ME m. Judith B. York; Sidney A. b. 1848 Westbrook, ME m. Martha J. Robinson.

Q9-1,6 - Marion G. James, 171-63rd St., Niagara Falls, NY 14304.
Looking for proof/disproof that Lockwood Austin b. 1797 Putnum Co. NY, m. Agitty Lewis, is the son of Lockwood Austin b. ca. 1774 Putnum Co., NY & Susan Mead from the John Austin of Grenwich, CT descendancy. Lockwood & Agitty Austin had a son Ambrose b. ca. 1832 Green Co., NY m. Mary Jane Fitzpatrick b. IRE.

Ellis Island

Continued from page 2

tion Service in the clunky microfilm format.

The first phase of the project was to collect and digitize records and install computers at the museum. Now, putting the information on the Internet has become a top goal as well.

A demonstration of the system showed that a reseacher can enter information in any or all of 11 fields, which ask for personal information such as the subject's name and country of birth, and immigration, like the subject's port of entry.

Foundation spokeswoman Peg Zitko said the project got off the ground when a nationwide network of Mormon volunteers agreed to digitize the microfilm information for free. Thousands of volunteers have logged more than 2 million hours; they've entered 3/5's of the data so far.

A spokesman for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Salt Lake City said the project was important to the church's mission. "We've always been involved in genealogy," said Dan Rascon, "because linking to our family helps us understand who we are and what we may become."

Information on the project may be found at www.ellisisland.org on the internet.

The <u>deadline</u> for the *Newsletter*
Summer Issue is August 19, 1999
Please send all articles to the Editors.

THE AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

BYLAWS

Attached is a copy of the current bylaws of the AFAOA. Please read them carefully and send your proposed amendments to us by 1 June 1999. Based on member's input, we will write the bylaws revisions to be proposed for adoption at the convention in August 1999. Please send to:

Doris Steiner
Bylaws Chairperson
FAX: 702 294-0480
P.O. Box 12354
Las Vegas, NV 89112-0354

ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Austin Families Association of America, Inc, hereafter referred to as the Association.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

Section 1. To gather, preserve and disseminate Austin genealogies and Austin family histories.

Section 2. To establish a specialized database of Austin information that can assist genealogists and family members to learn as much as possible about their Austin heritage.

Section 3. To help foster wider acquaintances and long-term friendships among the members of all branches of the Austin families.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Any person who bears the name Austin or any of its various spellings or any person who is directly related to an Austin by birth or manage may become a member in good standing of this Association upon payment of the appropriate annual dues.

Section 2. A member in good standing is one who pays Association dues as prescribed by these bylaws and participates in Association activities.

Section 3. To hold office in the Association or vote in the annual election, a member must have been in good standing the previous year and must be current in his or her dues.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP DUES

Section 1. Annual dues are based on the needs of the Association and are proposed, discussed and approved at the national convention by all members in attendance.

Section 2. Annual dues shall be a single fixed amount and shall be the same amount for a couple (husband and wife) as for one person. There shall be one vote per paid dues.

Section 3. Additional members of a family who are eighteen (18) years and older may also pay annual dues and have a vote in the Association.

Section 4. Membership shall commence upon receipt of dues and shall be in effect for one (1) year.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1. National Conventions.

a. A national convention of the Association shall be held annually.

b. There shall be no fixed date for holding a national convention except it shall be held at a time that is in the best interest of the Association. It is highly desirable that an Association National Convention be held in conjunction with a meeting or reunion independently scheduled and sponsored by a local branch of an Austin family.

c. The national conventions shall be held in different parts of the country and be hosted by a member of the Association who resides in or near the location chosen for the meeting.

d. The members present at a national convention shall select the site of the next national convention.

Section 2. Regional Meetings.

The Association shall be divided into three geographical regions; Eastern, Central and Western. Regional meetings shall be held at the discretion of the members residing in that region. A secretary shall be elected at a regional meeting and he or she shall prepare and submit a written report to the president and the secretary-treasurer for inclusion in the official records of the Association.

Section 3. Special Meetings.

The president, when authorized by a majority vote of the executive committee, may call a special meeting of the Association, provided at least thirty (30) days notice is given to the membership. The purpose of such a meeting shall be to conduct urgent business that may arise between national conventions.

Section 4. Quorum.

The members in good standing present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Section 5. Proxies.

There shall be no votes by proxy at any meeting of the Association.

ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS

Section 1. The elected officers of the Association shall be a president, three (3) regional vice presidents, a secretary-treasurer and a genealogist.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected at an Association Convention for a term of two (2) years. The term of office shall begin at the time of election.

Section 3. With the exception of the genealogist, no elected officer shall serve in the same position for more than two (2) consecutive terms.

Section 4. An elected officer who has served fifteen (15) months or more of a term shall be considerd to have served a full term.

Section 5. Any elected officer may be removed from office for cause. To rescind the election of the officer in question requires a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote by the membership.

Section 6. Duties of the President.

a. The president shall preside at all regular and special meetings, executive committee meetings and social functions of the Association.

b. With the exception of the nominating committee, the president shall create and appoint standing and special committees to work for the good of the Association. The president shall be an ex-offico member of all committes except the nominating committee. The appointive positions shall include but not be limited to the following: auditor, by-laws chairman, chaplain, data processing chairman, *Newsletter* editor, public relations chairman and parliamentarian.

c. The president is obligated to attend all national and regional meetings.

d. The president shall present a State of the Association report at the annual national convention.

Section 7. Duties of the Vice Presidents.

a. The vice presidents shall, in order of seniority as vice president in the association, perform all the duties of the president in his or her absence or inability to serve.

b. The senior vice president shall fill the office of the president should said office become vacant.

c. Each vice president shall be assigned specific duties by the executive committee.

d. Perform other duties as assigned by the president.

Section 8. Duties of the Secretary-Treasurer.

I. As the Secretary:

a. Keep the official record of all business meetings of the Association and the executive committee. The records shall be transcribed into a bound ledger with consecutively numbered pages leaving sufficient margins on both sides of the text for corrections and amendments.

b. Provide the president with a copy of all minutes within fifteen (15) days after the adjournment of any regular, special or executive committee meeting.

c. Shall read the minutes of the previous regular and/or special meeting(s) and provide copies of these minutes for the membership at the next regular meeting.

d. Conduct the correspondence of the Association as directed by the president.

e. Perform other duties as assigned by the president.

II. As the Treasurer:

a. Shall receive the membership dues and deposit them in a bank approved by the executive committee.

b. Keep an accurate and up-to-date record of all monies collected and disbursed.

c. Require voucher(s) from any Association member who requests reimbursements for expenses incured while conducting Association business. These vouchers shall be retained for the annual audit.

d. Prepare a quarterly special report in duplicate, one for the record and one for the president. These quarterly financial reports shall be part of the official records of the Association and must contain as a minimum, an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements made during each quarter. This report shall be completed fifteen (15) working days after March 31st, June 30th, September 30th, and December 31st. The financial statement submitted for December 31st shall include an official year-end financial summary.

e: Submit books for audit at the close of each fiscal year, or at the request of the executive committee.

f. Provide the president, the *Newsletter* editor and the chairman of the membership database with all changes in membership, including those delinquent in dues, and any other pertinent information necessary to keep an accurate membership list.

g. Be a member of any committee formed to raise or disburse Association funds.

h. Perform other duties as assigned by the President.

Section 8. Duties of the Genealogist.

a. Serve as sole custodian of the Austin database. No part of the Austin database shall be disseminated to any other genealogical or historical organization without the express permission, in writing, of the executive committee.

b. Serve as the Association focal point for accumulating new data for the Austin database.

c. Answer queries from members and non-members concerning Austin family members past and present.

d. Is authorized to charge a nominal fee for these services to cover postage, reproduction costs and compensation for time spent researching files. The fee shall be approved by the executive committee.

e. Use the Austin database to prepare genealogies and family information sheets pertinent to Austin family members. When appropriate, this data should be published in a journal or similar document devoted to genealogy and/or family his

tory.

f. Present an oral report (with a written copy for the official record) at the annual convention. This report shall cover, as a minimum, the number and types of queries, the number successfully answered, the state of the Austin database and recommendations on how to improve the service.

g. Perform other duties as assigned by the President.

ARTICLE VII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The executive committee shall consist of the elected officers and the immediate past president.

Section 2. The duties of the executive committee is to conduct the business of the Association between the biennial conventions. Discussion and coordination of Association matters may be done by letter or telephone. Actions that require a vote by the executive committee may be handled by canvassing the committee members by telephone to obtain a voice vote. Such votes will be documented and made part of the permanent records of the Association.

ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS AND INSTALLATION

Section 1. Nominations.

a. Three (3) months prior to the annual convention, the executive committee shall appoint a nominating committee consisting of at least three (3) members in good standing. The nominating committee shall elect its own chairman.

b. The chairman of the nominating committee, or a representative who must be a member of the committee, shall present the committee's slate at the annual convention.

c. Members of the Association shall be given the names of the nominating committee in the *Newsletter* and those members unable to attend the annual convention may contact the nominating committee to submit names of candidates for office.

d. Nominations shall also be accepted from the membership at the annual convention.

Section 2. Elections.

a. Elections shall be held at the annual convention of the Association.

b. If there is more than one (1) candidate for an office, the election shall be by ballot. If there is only one (1) candidate for an office the election may be by voice vote. A majority vote shall elect.

c. Only Association members in good standing may vote in an election. There shall be no voting by proxy.

d. An election committee shall be appointed by the president to count the ballots.

Section 3. Installation.

The installation of Association officers shall take place at the annual convention at which they are elected.

ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote at an annual convention, or at a special meeting called for that purpose, provided the proposed amendment(s) have been presented at a previous meeting or published in the official Austin *Newsletter* at least thirty (30) days prior to the voting.

ARTICLE X
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised shall apply to all questions, procedures and parliamentary law not specified in these bylaws.

These Bylaws were adopted 3 August 1991 & amended 9 August 1998

LDS FAMILY SEARCH COMING SOON

The Salt Lake LDS Family History Library, has informally announced the Beta testing of Family Search (FS) on line. Full on-line operation of the site is expected some time in Spring or Summer. Go to **http://www.LDS.org**, click on Media Resources, then News Updates, then on the press release: Family Search Internet Genealogy Service for the latest official information.

When it comes on line, the URL is supposed to be: **http://www.familysearch.org**. As a minimum, the on-line version of the FS program will give the user access to the Ancestral File and Family History Library Catalog, with additional records coming soon.

Some public libraries also have FS which, with FHL CD ROMs, includes the IGI, Ancestral File, Family History Library Catalog, Social Security Death Records, Korean and Vietnam war death records, and Scottish Church Records.

For those of you not familiar with the various searches, the IGI is the International Genealogical Index. It includes, in alphabetical order, all of the names that have been sent to the Temples to have ordinances performed in their name.

The Ancestral File (AF) is Gedcoms of group and pedigree sheets sent in by members and non-members. The name and address of the submitter is included and hopefully will allow you to contact others working on your line.

The material in the AF is only as good as the research that went into it and some of it is pretty bad. Check it out before you 'adopt' it. The AF is best used as a map of possibilities each of which must be individually researched and verified or discarded. You can add additions to a file, or submit a new file.

The Family History Library Catalog is a listing of every book, film and fiche available at the Salt Lake City LDS Family History Library. This allows us to find what is available for each locality, world-wide. It includes the FHL call numbers and a description of what is included in the film/fiche or book.

(1999 National Austin Convention Flyer appeared here)

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Instructions:

1. Please tear off this whole page from back of ***Newsletter***.

2. Fill out the form with the necessary information. NOTE: Please write names as you want them to appear on your name tags.

3. Send completed registration form and your check, before **July 25, 1999** to:

Alice (Austin) Martin

105 San Souci Avenue

Ocean Springs, MS 39564.

AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
Jim & Liz Austin Carlin, *Newsletter* Editors
P.O. Box 1094
Green River, WY 82935-1094
http://www.afaoa.org/

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Address Service Requested

PLEASE NOTICE THE RENEWAL DATE ON YOUR ADDRESS LABEL. YOUR DUES OF $15 PER YEAR SHOULD BE SENT TO BONNIE BIGOLIN, PO BOX 1094, GREEN RIVER, WY 82935-1094

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TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL:_____

PLEASE LIST YOUR EARLIEST AUSTIN ANCESTORS (WITH PLACE AND DATE) :

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I understand that the **Registration Fee is $50 per person**. This fee includes all convention materials and the Sunday banquet.

Enclosed is my check, payable to "**Austin Convention**", for:

(# of people) _____ x $50 = $_____

Thankyou - and we'll see ya there!