



Austin Families Association of America

Newsletter

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<http://www.afaoa.org>

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2000 National Austin Convention

In this millennial year of conventions, the 2000 National Austin Convention was successfully completed in Madison, Wisconsin over the weekend of 28-30 July. A total of 45 people were present in the meeting hall representing Austin-Austen families ranging from Hobart, Tasmania to Concord, Massachusetts, Roseville, Minnesota to Ocean Springs, Mississippi. Attendance was excellent, including 23 local people from Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, North Dakota and Minnesota.

Festivities started Friday afternoon with a tour of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (SHSW) library on the University of Wisconsin campus. This was followed by a "get acquainted" reception in the meeting room where new-comers were welcomed, and old friends re-acquainted. Getting right into the swing of things, a goodly portion of the conventioners chose to walk two blocks on W. Johnson St., where both our souls and our stomachs were adequately cared for in the Angelic Brewery restaurant.

We got down to work bright and early Saturday morning with welcomes by AFAOA President Alice Martin, and AOAGS Director Dr. Mike Austin. These were followed by presentations from Nancy J. Emmert of Madison: "Using the Special Collections of the SHSW Library," Dr. Mike Austin: "The Digital Camera in Genealogy Research,"

and by Jim Carlin: "The Austin Research CD-ROM" (see article on page 5).

After lunch, Dr. Mike Austin presented his talk, "The AOAGS Austin-Austen Genealogical Research Center on the Web." Mike described his efforts in designing a bold new Web-based approach to providing rapid access to genealogical data. His system would allow any contributor to place their research into an on-line archive, allowing other users to easily access this data using a rapid textual search capability.

He suggested that besides data uploaded by visiting users, this Research Center could also archive all of the data that the two sister organizations currently have available on the Web, and recommended that the AOAGS and the AFAOA work to explore this possibility.

Brian Austen, our representative from Tasmania then spoke of his research: "Researching

Austens Around the World." Afterwards, people were free to do research at the SHSW Library or to take advantage of the computers or the talents of experienced genealogists available in the meeting hall.

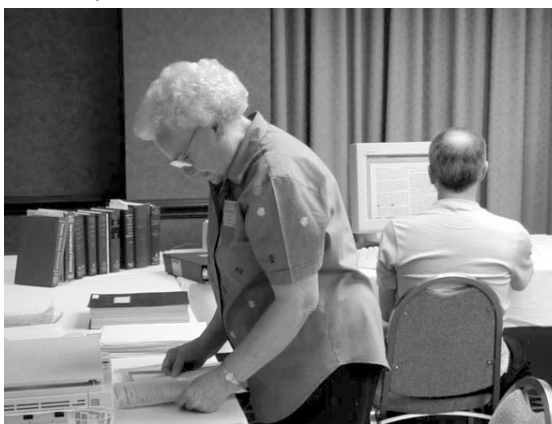
Saturday evening, the group decided to forage along Madison's famous State Street, ending up in the darkened basement of the Tutto Pasta Trattoria where Mediterranean based delicacies overflowed our plates.

Sunday morning sessions included present-
Please see "2000 National Convention", page 3



Austin/Austen Researchers utilizing computers & other research materials during the convention workshops.

(More convention photos on page 3)





New Members Welcomed

Betty R. Hardy

10303 Myrtle St.
Tampa, FL 33617
George Washington Austin

Craig Austin

604 Cardiff Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23455
craig13814@aol.com
Richard Austin, Charlestown, MA

Gerald Hankins Johnston

5340 E. Cholla St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85254-4721
gerald.h.johnston@worldnet.att.net
Mary W. Austin, b. 1780 Pittsylvania Co., VA

Judy A. Thomason

PO Box 1014
Ardmore, OK 73402
thurman1@brighton.net
Susie May Austin, b. 1885 Gainsville, TX

Patricia Pangman

18 Dunwich Drive
St. Thomas, Thomas ON NR 4T9
(No lineage information given)

Fred Landstrom

3394 Gregory Road
Orion, MI
(No lineage information given)

Shirley E. Johnson

9 South Meadow Lane
Madison, WI 53705
sejohns2@facstaff.wisc.edu
Lavinus Anson, b. Dutchess Co., NY

Patsy Plum Branch

2805 Meadow Drive
Chesapeake, VA 23321
mbranch@ibm.net

Charles W. Austin

9726 Mirage Circle
Garden Grove, CA 92844
Samuel Austin, sp. Hopestill, b. 1644 Boston, MA

Robert A. Cody

336 Pleasant Hill Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45215

Darwina Austin

11443 Mintola Ave.
Flint, MI
austin@blclinks.net
*Asa Austin, b. 7 Apr 1811 Onondaga, NY; d. 23 Mar 1881
Romeo, Macomb Co., MI; m. Caroline Adelia Riley, b. 28
Mar 1824, d. 23 Mar 1854 Shelby, Macomb Co., MI; other
spouses: Phebe Anndice, Christiana Lewis*

Myron F. Foster

1202 Bluff St.
Beloit, WI 53511
abacusmf@aol.com
*Ancil Carmi Austin, b. 1829 Oneifa Co., NY; d. 14 Feb 1913
Martin Co., MN; m. 16 Mar 1856 Charlotte Wood, b.
Winnebago Co., IL; d. 3 Mar 1928 Leaf River, Ogle Co., IL*

Gertrude L. Hall

70 N. Walbridge Ave.
Madison, WI 53714
*Francis Erastus Austin, b. 23 Jul 1820 Chautauqua Co.,
NY; d. 2 Jan 1895 Lodi, Columbia Co., WI; m. 25 May 1844
Ripley, Chautauqua Co., NY Mahala Anne Osborn, b. 13 Dec
1825 Chautauqua Co., NY; d. 13 Dec 1915, Lodi, Columbia
Co., WI*

Vicki Vipond

429 Eldridge Ave. W.
Roseville, MN 55113-6638
*Phineas Herrick Austin, b. 8 Jul 1790 Vermont; d. 19 May
1866, IL; m. 14 Feb 1814 Rutland, VT Sebra Miller, b. 25 Jul
1799 Rutland, VT; d. 11 May 1866, IL*

AFAOA Book Review

by Marjorie S. Elmore

Stephen F. Austin, Empresario of Texas
by Gregg Cantrell
Published by Yale University Press, 1999
ISBN 0300076835

In 1987, David B. Gracy II brought together scattered Austin records presenting new perspectives in his book *Moses Austin, His Life*. Last fall the Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA, 1638 family line was again learnedly authored, this time by Gregg Cantrell with Stephen F. Austin, Empresario of Texas. Stephen is, of course, the son of Moses who carried on his father's aspiration to colonize Texas.

A handsome book of 493 pages, it is surprisingly well illustrated for its time period with sketches and photos not only of Stephen Fuller Austin but of his contemporaries. The scholarly notes and sources cover pages 385 to 478. An ample index completes the volume.

Please see "Stephen F. Austin", page 7

Editor's Note:

The wonderful article on the life of Perry Lucius Austin, 1844-1920 appeared on page 8 of the Spring 2000 Newsletter. Unfortunately, the editor's filing system failed him and he was unable to state the source of the article. The mystery has now been solved. Perry Lucius Austin was introduced to us in the article prepared by L. Scot Austin whose Austin line is John Austin of Stamford, Connecticut. Our apologies to you Scot, and thank you for your contribution.

2000 National Convention

Continued from page 1

ations by AFAOA Vice President Arthur Sikes, Jr. on his "Suffield Families Project" (see article on page 6), Jim Carlin described the AFAOA Web site, and Liz Carlin reported on



Dr. Mike Austin addresses the convention

"Progress in Southern Austin Research." The afternoon session was devoted to the business meetings of the two organizations, and the choice of the 2001 National Austin Convention site. Places nominated were Seattle, Los Angeles, Salt



AFAOA President Alice Austin Martin and Guest Speaker Nancy J. Emmert

Lake City, and Pittsfield, Massachusetts. After much discussion and a number of votes, Pittsfield was selected.

A social hour preceded the 58th Annual Banquet where now old friends gathered and reflected on the success of the convention and the fun place that the City of Madison had turned out to be. Alice Martin then welcomed us all to the 58th Annual Banquet, and to the after-dinner talk given by Nancy J. Emmert "Adventures in Genealogy."

Dr. Mike Austin then made his annual presentation of the AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Award (more com-



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The 2000 Austin Convention combined the fun of reuniting with old friends, meeting new friends, learning and sharing. Whenever Austins, no matter how distantly related, get together they seem to have a good time! There was some productive research done in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin Library, especially by those who were able to arrive a day early or stay afterwards, but the meeting room was where the action was – from the time the computers were set up on Friday afternoon until the room was reluctantly cleared on Sunday evening.

Searching through the extensive AFAOA and AOAGS databases, several attendees made connections into established Descendancies and many found additional information on their Austin ancestors. Books, notebooks, manuscripts and pictures were examined. Enthusiastic speakers described library and Internet research opportunities. Of course, we also found time to enjoy some of the excellent restaurants on nearby State Street.

Pittsfield, in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, was chosen as the site of next summer's reunion. There is a lot of Austin history to explore in that region, beautiful scenery and a branch of the National Archives. What more could you ask for? Plan now to enjoy a weekend next year with your Austin "cousins".

Between now and then, investigate the CD-ROM offered in this newsletter – an inexpensive and fun way to access more Austin information than you thought existed. Watch the AFAOA and AOAGS web sites for announcements of exciting new developments in on-line research. Continue digging for your Austin roots and then share what you find with others.

Alice Austin Martin
AFAOA President

monly known as the "Eagle Award"). The award is presented annually, at the National Austin Convention banquet, to an Austin family researcher who has made significant contributions in publishing Austin histories or genealogies.

The award this year was presented to Pauline Lucille Platner Austin of Marion, Iowa, for her many contributions to Austin family genealogical research and her numerous publications. She has been involved in genealogy for almost 50 years now, and is especially interested



Please see "2000 National Convention", page 6

AFAOA Genealogists Reports

Northern Lines

At the 1999 Washington DC Convention, we voted to split the genealogist duties between two AFAOA genealogists. Liz Carlin became the Southern States Genealogist and Bonnie Bigolin became the Northern States Genealogist. A successful transfer of all the southern state Austin notebooks and databases to Liz Carlin has been completed.

Orders for the Richard Austin book continue to come in. Orders for the other Austin computer books & disks have dropped off quite a bit this year. We have discontinued sales of the database format versions, pending discussion at this 2000 convention, regarding some problems we have been experiencing with their distribution.

The Northern States Austin lines currently on our AFAOA website are: John Austin of ME (Bonnie Bigolin, compiler); Joseph Austin of NH (Carol R. Austin, compiler); Matthew Austin of ME (Bonnie Bigolin, compiler); Richard Austin of MA, (Jim & Liz Austin Carlin, compilers); Robert Austin of RI, Don Challis, compiler); Samuel Austin of MA, (Carol R. Austin, compiler); Thomas Austin of NY, (Liz Austin Carlin, compiler); Maine Unlinked Austins, (Bonnie Bigolin, compiler).

Northern lines in preparation for the website are: Caleb Austin of NY, (Scott Lynch, compiler); Francis Austin of NJ, (Bonnie Bigolin, compiler); John Austin of New Haven, CT (Margaret Chapman, compiler); John Austin of Stamford, CT, (L. Scot Austin, compiler); Jonah of MA, (Dennis Austin, compiler); Robert Austin of ME, Phil Austin, compiler); Sylvester Austin of MI/IN; (Bonnie Bigolin, compiler).

As always, we are looking for additional lines supported by a compiler/contact person. In order for additional Austin lines to go on-line on our web page a volunteer person to act as compiler, researcher and contact person is a must.

Correspondence via US Mail continues to slow down, while e-mail traffic continues on the increase. Approximately 20% US mail and 80% e-mail. Of the e-mail contact regarding Austin genealogy, approximately 30% is from current members and 70% from non-members. The non-member traffic is mainly through our AFAOA web page.

Throughout the year I have continued to respond to search requests of our members and to non-members as my time permits. Being able to refer non-members to our webpage and the online databases as well as to our Southern States genealogist has helped to free up time for me. This allows me more time to pay attention to updating and maintaining the different databases I that have volunteered to compile and be contact person for, on our web page.

Bonnie Bigolin

Southern Lines

Consistent with the decision at the 1999 Washington DC Convention, genealogist responsibility for the Southern States was assumed by Liz Austin Carlin. All materials pertaining to this region were successfully transferred from Bonnie Bigolin who now retains genealogist responsibility for the Northern States.

Considerable effort has been expended in updating existing Southern Austin lines and presenting new ones on our AFAOA website. This included identifying new people to serve as compilers and contact points for research, additions and corrections to these databases. Originally, there were four lines on the website: Henry Austin of Calvert Co., MD, William Austin of Kent Co., MD, John Austin Sr., of Southside, VA and a collection of miscellaneous lines gathered together into the "Unlinked Southern" database.

Today, the website presents indexed and searchable versions of the following databases: Henry Austin of Calvert Co., MD* (Dan Whitley, compiler); William Austin of Kent Co., MD* (Welda Clemens,** compiler); Bartholomew Austin of Southside, VA (Liz Austin Carlin, compiler); John Calhoun Austin of Lawrence Co., AL (Dr. Helen Cook Austin,** compiler); Larkin K. Austin of Smith Co., TN (Eual J. Austin,** compiler); Thomas Austin of MD and WV (Linda Austin West,** compiler); and John Austin, Sr. of Southside, VA* (Garrett Rowley,** compiler).

*Complete revision of the existing database.

**New compiler

Southern lines in preparation for the website are: Nathaniel Austin of Greenville, SC, Nathaniel & John Austin of White Co., TN, Philip Austin of Orange Co., NC, Thomas Austin of Currituck, NC, Thomas Austin of Halifax Co., VA, William Austin of Hyde Co., NC, William Austin of Hanover, VA, William Austin of Anderson Co., TN, and Richard Austin of Anson Co., NC. Various contributors have been identified and their data has been archived but more work must be done to coordinate these inputs, to properly combine them, to enlist a compiler to take over each database, and finally to delete the living people before they can be placed on the website.

Another major item of work was the splitting of the "Unlinked Southern" database into individual linked Austin families. Neglecting lines with less than 12 linked people, 86 separate lines have been identified, the largest of these being Richard Austin of Anson Co., NC with 896 linked individuals in the database.

The majority of out-going correspondence has been via e-mail, and has been averaging about 10 messages per week. The source of queries seems to be evenly split between those coming from our AFAOA website, and those posted on the Rootsweb Austin List. All queries generally include some research on the part of the genealogist using AFAOA paper materials, digital searches of the extensive AFAOA databases, or else use of library resources (census, war records, etc.). Although most of these queries have originated from non-members, membership in the AFAOA has always been encouraged.

Liz Austin Carlin

**The deadline for the Newsletter
Winter Issue is Saturday, 16 December
2000. Please send all articles to the
Editors.**

Coming Soon - The AFAOA CD-ROM

The AFAOA has set forth in the bylaws, the following goals:

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

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.

Edith Austin Moore, Janet Austin Curtis and many others have contributed multiple file cabinets of Austin genealogical data over the 58 year history of the AFAOA. These data archives are currently located with Bonnie Bigolin, our Northern genealogist, and with Liz Austin Carlin, our Southern genealogist. They use this archive data on a daily basis to do research and to provide answers to Austin queries.

Ten years ago, Bill Minnick started the Austin Computer Project with the aim of getting at least some of this data into a form easily accessible by the genealogists and others doing research, as well as to create a vehicle whereby world-wide users could also gain access to this data via the Internet.

Bill established a team of compilers, people who acted as points of contact to receive data, updates, corrections, etc. from researchers working the various Austin lines, thereby establishing corresponding Austin databases. Today, this effort has resulted in 33 separate databases, with work continuing on at least 6 more Austin lines identified so far.

Bill established 2 methods for distributing the digital data created by the Austin Computer Project, by descendancy books, and via Family Group Sheets created real-time on the Web. Descendancy books are Modified Register formatted documents which are based on the databases, and have been sold (to cover our reproduction and binding costs) to Austin researchers as paper documents or on floppy disk. Direct access to our data via the Web has been provided to the user since 1996. In 1998, the association published the hard cover bound volume version of the Richard Austin database, and this book is also available for purchase, again at very reasonable cost (please see page 8).

Today, we have taken advantage of the Acrobat portable data format (pdf document) provided by the Adobe Corporation. This is essentially another form of publishing and distributing our digital data. The major advantage of this format is the extremely rapid search capability, a feature which allows one to search for a string of text in many documents, not just one at a time.

Once the genealogists saw this format demonstrated, it was not very long before they insisted on access to this new method. Dr. Mike Austin, Director of our sister organization, the Austins of America Genealogical Society was the first to put Acrobat data together on a CD-ROM, and to provide users with the Acrobat indexing capability. This served as the prototype of the AFAOA CD-ROM version 1.00 which includes the following:

1) Descendancy books for 33 Austin lines in pdf format with search capability, as well as word processor formats (Microsoft Word doc and rtf - the latter capable of being read and searched by most modern word processors).

2) Edith Austin Moore field notes - 69 notebooks (so far)

Please see "AFAOA CD-ROM", page 7

Pass It On

Today I read in our local newspaper that a man had found a cloth bag full of family history, including family data, original wills, and other official papers, about 150 years old, in an old cedar closet. He donated the papers to the local genealogical library, for all to access. It struck me that this type of sharing is one of the basic goals of AFAOA - or any other organization concerned with genealogy and family history.

Think about it. These families mentioned in the papers are some of the original settlers of this area. If 150 years means eight generations, and the descendants of only one couple averaged four per generation, there will be 65,536 distant cousins who could be directly interested. Surely the place for such information is not in a cloth sack!

We are all interested in our ancestors, not only the raw data such as born/married/lived/died, but the personal aspects - a peek into their thoughts, a little insight into the lifestyles - is precious to find.

Three reasons why we don't find more information:

The first is arithmetic. Eight generations back we all have 256 direct ancestors. Their descendants, following the logic above, could number 65,000. If our selected ancestor was really good about such things, he should have made 65,000 copies of everything and put it in his cloth sack - probably difficult in the days before the copy machine - and made sure that his children divided the stuff and passed it on. If all of the ancestors had done this, we would happily have 256 little bags, and much of the joy of searching would not exist.

The second is the way we think of our daily lives. Often we think that the things we do and think and feel are not important enough to be of interest to anyone else, and thus we do not write them down. Surely this is the case for many of our ancestors, some of whom could not write, and some of whom mistrusted any records as being intruded on by the government. Remember, writing things down is the only proven way to share with future generations. Many times children don't begin to listen until after we begin to forget...

The third problem is the storage and protection of information that we do want to keep and share. The local papers were especially valuable because they were from a period when local courthouse fires lost vital records and tax information three different times. Also, storage methods often result in physical deterioration of the papers, due to rot, mildew, or insects, as well as of course fire. A major cause of loss is the lack of interest when younger generations are cleaning up the estate.

OK - So what can we do about this?

The first thing is to research the information available to you and to your family members. Inventory it, copy it, and protect it in more than one place. Make your younger family members aware of the assets, and mention it in your will.

The second thing we all can do is to share the information we have with all those who may be interested. Sharing with close members of your family is natural and good. However, remember your thousands of cousins out there that share your

Please see "Pass It On", page 6

Pass It On

Continued from page 5

heritage. You do not know all their names, even if you are Art Sikes and your family hasn't moved from Suffield, CT since time began. Putting the information in a local library can help, especially if the family has traditionally been based in the same location for a long time, but most families have migrated as the country expanded, and many families bring together different ethnic groups and geographical routes.

In the past, and continuing today, the most common way of sharing information is to publish it. The book or periodical can be reproduced and placed in several locations, typically libraries and historical reference sites. Then it is up to your unknown cousin to visit the facility and research the available information.

Family associations such as AFAOA and AOAGS can be a major help, putting together cousins who have each done part of the work, publishing numerous books, and gathering data in central locations.

Recently, the explosion of electronic data sharing has expanded the ways we can find and retrieve information. CD-ROM's hold great quantities of information, are easy to search, and inexpensive to reproduce and share. Searching the web for groups who have data available is efficient and inexpensive. However, there is one great drawback to these new techniques:

The data must be put into digital format first.

The raw information may be in a variety of formats, often handwritten, on aging paper, and sometimes copied or micro-filmed multiple times. So far, the best way to get information into the computer age is to transcribe it - to type it using good old-fashioned eyes and fingers.

Just about all the information we can retrieve electronically has been manually transcribed, often by volunteers. There are untold amounts of data just in the various libraries, local and regional, filed as books, manuscripts, pamphlets, and loose papers. There are wonderful bits in closets, attics, basements, and barns, destined for oblivion if not rescued. If these data are transcribed, they become easy to share and reproduce, and are perfect for including in massive searchable data bases. The AFAOA and AOAGS are both working on CD-ROM data bases, mostly geared to Austin and related lines, that are currently available. Internet sites will offer real-time searchability in the near future.

The AFAOA needs you!

The AFAOA archives have a great deal of data, often in volumes not duplicated anywhere else, that are begging to be transcribed. You may have information at home or in your family that is not in any other place. Not much is needed - a computer, word processor, and a little time. Volunteer and our genealogists will try to set you up with something that may fit into your own research; in any case, the task will be interesting and rewarding, and cousins and un-cousins alike will be grateful for generations to come. Call today!

Gay Martin

Please contact AFAOA Genealogist Bonnie Bigolin, PO Box 1094, Green River, WY 82935-1094,

Sikes/Sykes Families Association

Editor's Note: The following information about Art Sikes was taken from the Foreword of his book: RICHARD SIKES and HIS DESCENDANTS, the FIRST SEVEN GENERATIONS. Art is an AFAOA Vice President.

Arthur M. Sikes Jr., was born 18 Nov 1944, the son of Art Sikes Sr. and Arlene Austin of Suffield, CT. He is the 10th generation in the Sikes family and in the Austin family to live in Suffield.

Art Jr. grew up with forty-three first cousins, mostly on his father's side of the family. Every other year the families would all get together for a reunion. At one point young Art discovered that no one had compiled a comprehensive list of the vital statistics for all of these people, so he took it upon himself to visit his aunts and uncles and gather this information to distribute at the next reunion. Over the next twenty years he added family stories to this data, and researched and accumulated information on the Sikes ancestral line.

It was not until 1990 that Art became more deeply interested in his mother's Austin family. That year the Austin Family Association held a meeting in Suffield. Art joined the group and was so impressed with what they were doing, that he thought the Sikes family would benefit from the formation of such an organization. After working for a year to see how much interest there would be in such a project, he initiated the formation of the Sikes/Sykes Families Association in August, 1991.

The first Richard Sikes book had two purposes: the first was to get into print the research Art had done on the family so far so that it could be shared by others; the second was to get the Sikes/Sykes Families Association name into as many Genealogical Libraries as possible so that the Association would grow and survive. What Art thought would be a two year undertaking, to add one additional generation to the original book, turned out to be a seven year project, and the data is still coming in. The Association web page and the Internet in general, has helped in making contact with people interested in the Sikes/Sykes family. The URL for the web site is: <http://sikes-sykesfamilies.rootsweb.com>.

2000 National Convention

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in Vermont and New York Austins. She is now preparing her husband George William Austin's family line for publication. Pauline also finds time in her busy schedule to serve as Associate Editor for the AOAGS publication *Austins of America*.

Dr. Mike Austin also presented a plaque to Brian Austen of Hobart, Tasmania for having traveled the furthest EVER to a National Austin Convention.

Alice Austin Martin then declared the Convention adjourned, sine die.



Pauline Lucille Platner Austin

AFAOA CD-ROM

Continued from page 5

digitized by Gay G. Martin over the last 3 years.

3) Portions of Janet Austin Curtis' States Notebook. There is much more of her material, but it just hasn't been digitized yet.

4) AFAOA Newsletters starting with the Fall 1998 issue, the first issue to be saved in digital format.

The CD-ROM will be available only for a PC computer, a Macintosh version is left for the future. It will require the purchaser to download and install the search version of Adobe Acrobat Reader on their machine (the program can be down-



loaded at no cost from Adobe), and instructions and a link to Adobe are included on the CD to accomplish this.

The CD-ROM is currently priced at \$5.00 which covers production, packaging and postage. Please order through the AFAOA Secretary-Treasurer Lois Cody, 336 Pleasant Hill Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45215-2040.

Stephen F. Austin

Continued from page 2

Thanks to Cantrell's style, the chronicle flows readily from when Austin was born in 1793 to his death in 1836 at 43 years of age. The drama of frontier life evolves with as many twists and turns as high suspense fiction, yet always focusing on Austin's characteristics.

The reader is guided first through his formative days aptly called "A Foundation for Greatness." Thirteen chapters follow our subject through the weighty responsibilities thrust upon him as a youth to a period in the American Southwest where those forged principles are tested time and time again.

It is indeed fortunate that so many of Austin's letters have been archived, making us the beneficiaries of this man and this period. His trip from San Antonio to Mexico City in 1833 was so exacting - by mule, storm-tossed schooner and stage-coach - that it seems incredulous today.

Jacket price for this recommended book is \$29.95. Many bookstores and on-line sellers offer as much as a 30% discount.

NOTES:

1. Mr. Gracy, Professor in Archival Enterprise, Univ. of Texas was our distinguished guest speaker at the 1991 AFAOA Convention held in Austin, TX.
2. Mr. Cantrell, also known as Mr. Richardson, is professor of History at Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, TX.

Researching New England - Suffield Records

These Suffield records are representative of the types of records that might be found in other early New England towns.

Art Sikes (23 Jul 2000)

"Hampshire Records of Births, Marriages and Deaths, 1638 - 1696" Privately kept by William & John Pyncheon covering the towns of Springfield, Westfield, Northampton, Hatfield, Hadley, Suffield, Enfield, and Brookfield.

"Suffield, Births, Deaths, & Marriages, 1674-1749" Vol. 1 [old] This is the original town record book. It contains records of births, marriages, deaths, marriage intentions, stays, and earmarks. [Vol. 2 and Vol. 3 continue these records until 1904]

"Suffield Vital Records, Town, Cemetery, Family, and Miscellaneous Records" Compilation by Judge William L. Loomis. Loomis was the town clerk 1856, 1859-61, 1864-69, & 1878-1900. Information is from town records, church records, some published genealogies and local histories, correspondence with other town clerks, and other people interested in genealogy.

"Barbour Collection Connecticut, Vital Records Suffield, 1674-1850" The Barbour collection is a state wide collection of data from town records done in the 1930's.

"Headstone Inscriptions Town of Suffield, Connecticut" This state wide collection known as the **"Hale Headstone Collection"** was done during the 1930's, the Suffield Book is dated Dec, 1937.

"Records of the Old Cemetery Suffield, Conn." by Samuel G. Lathrop, 1948.

"Records of the Congregational Church in Suffield, Conn., 1710-1836" This is part of series of Vital Records that were put into book form by the Connecticut Historical Society, this one is dated 1941. It includes Church membership, Marriages, Baptismal, Transfers.

"Delphina Hammer Clark Property Records" In order to trace the ages of all the old homes in Suffield, Delphina Clark used Suffield Land Records, and Suffield Probate Records.

"Congregational Church West Suffield, Conn." by Rose Sheldon Newton, 1994. .

"A Catalogue of Members of the Second Baptist Church, of Suffield, Conn." From it's Organization May 22, 1805, till Jan 1, 1882. There is also a supplement list the runs from 1864 to 1939.

"Documentary History of Suffield, in the Colony and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, 1660-1749", by Hezekiah Spencer Sheldon, 1879. This covers the early town history including all the original town records, early family sketches, and lots more.

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 45215-2040

AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA
336 Pleasant Hill Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45215-2040
<http://www.afaoa.org/>

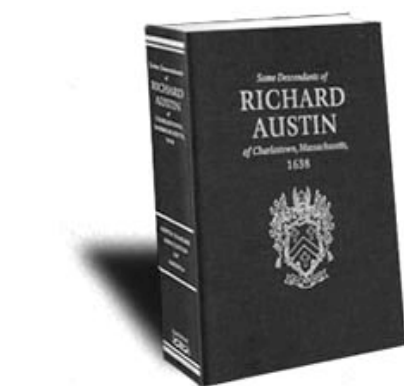
POSTAGE PAID
BULK RATE
PERMIT # 220
POCATELLO, ID
83201

Address Service Requested

Status Report of the Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA, 1638 Book Sales

Sales of the book Some Descendants of Richard Austin of Charlestown, Mass., 1638 continue. Orders have come in from people visiting the AFAOA web site, as well as from people who have read the reviews in publications produced by the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, by the National Genealogical Society, the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, the Connecticut Society of Genealogists, and Everton Publishers.

The following libraries have either received the book as donations from one of their patrons, or else have purchased the book directly: The Library of Congress, and the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution Library, both in Washington, DC; LDS Family History Center, Salt Lake City, UT; State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Madison, WI; NEHGS Library, Boston, MA; Everton Publisher's Library, Logan, UT; Kent Memorial Public Library, Suffield, CT; Sutro Branch of the California State Library, San Francisco, CA; Vermont Historical Society Library, Montpelier, VT;



Los Angeles Central Public Library, Los Angeles, CA; Augusta Genealogical Society Library, Augusta, GA; Onandaga County Public Library, Syracuse, NY; Dallas Public Library, Dallas, TX; Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Portland, OR; Connecticut Society of Genealogists, East Hartford, CT; National Genealogical Society, Alexandria, VA; Allen County Public Library, Fort Wayne, IN; Connecticut State Library, Hartford, CT;

New York Public Library, New York, NY; and Public Library of Nashville/Davidson County, Nashville, TN.

A total of 197 books have been sold or donated, about 45% of those printed. About 60% of the initial costs of publication have been recovered.

Since many books are still left in inventory, and their rate of sale has slowed somewhat from the initial orders, we could hardly justify urging potential buyers out there to hurry and buy their book before they are all gone. However, it seems that a prudent suggestion of including the purchase of a book or two on the Christmas list would be in order.

The quickest way of doing this is to send your check for \$60 total (book price to AFAOA members is \$55 + \$5 S & H; book price to non-members is \$65 + \$5) to Lois W. Cody, 336 Pleasant Hill Drive Cincinnati, OH 45215-2040.

The compilers continue to maintain the underlying Richard Austin database. Please send corrections and updates to the Newsletter Editor, Jim Carlin.