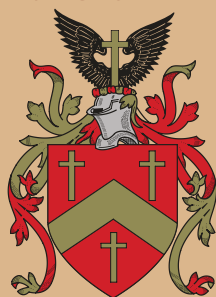


Austin Families Association of America

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2015

Fostering Austin Genealogy & Heritage

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A Log House Named "Lonesome"

Contributed by

Amanda B. Austin, Lynda M. Austin Rouse and William Wyatt Austin III

Located in Burns, Dickson County, Tennessee, along the banks of Beaverdam Creek, the log house called "Lonesome" was built around 1819 and has remained in the William Austin family for 196 years.

Local rocks and stones were used to build the foundation piers and chimneys. The walls of the house were constructed using hand-hewn American chestnut timbers cut from the surrounding woodlands and fitted together with dovetail jointing. The log walls were chinked with clay and sand. The original floor plan included two large rooms joined by a breezeway. One room was the kitchen with its own fireplace and the other was the main living area. The upstairs attics on both sides served as bedrooms. Sometime between 1860 and 1875, the west room and breezeway were torn down and replaced with a small attached kitchen. In 1960 "Lonesome" was renovated and modernized with electric lights, plumbing, a new springhouse, and a large screened-in porch.



This story begins with Lonesome's first owners, William Green "Will" Austin and Delilah "Dicy" Horner Austin. Will was born in Orange County, North Carolina on June 20, 1790 — the 2nd of six children born to William Austin (son of William Austin and Elizabeth Green of Maryland) and Ruth Kelly. Dicy, the daughter of George Wyatt Horner and Elizabeth Fussell, was born in Orange County on December 23, 1800.

The Austins, Horners and Fussells, along with other families, left North Carolina in the early 1800s to settle in the new

state of Tennessee. Will was about fourteen years old and Dicy was four when the caravan began. The arduous journey began in spring when the mountain snow had melted and the wagons had a better chance of safe travel on the rugged trails. Their trip was more than 400 miles of dangerous wilderness and took until autumn to complete. When the trail ended they made rafts to travel up and down the rivers to middleTen-

continued on page 2



www.afaoa.org

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Lonesome Log House, continued from page 1

nessee. Ruth Kelly Austin and her six children arrived safely, but her husband William never saw Tennessee. He died before August 1805 in North Carolina.

These pioneer families settled around Burns, Tennessee in Dickson County near the Harpeth River. In 1808 Will's mother, Ruth Kelly Austin, married David Passmore. David became the "new father" for Ruth's six children. He had a child by his first wife, and then he and Ruth had another

child together, totaling eight children.

Will and young Dicy grew up as neighbors and friends. Will served in the War of 1812, and in 1819 Dicy Horner and Will Austin were married. As a wedding gift, Will's mom and stepfather built a log house for them on Beaverdam Creek and it still stands today.

Will and Dicy had eleven children and acquired 800 acres of land

during their marriage. They had many good years in the cabin, but one year was extremely sad. In 1855 typhoid fever swept through Tennessee and three of their daughters died from the fever. The remaining children grew up and most settled in the Burns community. After Will died (1876) and Dicy died (1884) the property was divided among the eight surviving children. The youngest child, Mary Zenab "Zenie" Austin, and her husband, Josiah Clifton Alspaugh, received the cabin and surrounding land.

Another of Will and Dicy's children, Calvin Franklin Austin, was born in 1836. In 1862, at age 25, he volunteered for the Confederate Army in the TN Infantry-Company K from Dickson County. In 1877 Calvin married Lurana Anderson; they had seven children. Ruth Elizabeth "Betty" Austin was their youngest child. Sadly, Lurana died in 1891, shortly after Betty was born. Calvin was unable to care for the baby and Zenie and her husband took Betty as their own to raise with their children. When Zenie Austin Alspaugh died in 1922, she left "Lonesome" to Betty, her foster daughter.

Betty Austin Kimbro Aston was married twice and had no children, but she loved her nieces and nephews and was called "Aunt Betty" by all. She and her niece, Madge

Alspaugh Gibson, spent summers at "Lonesome" in the mid-1900s. They loved for relatives and friends to visit them and many family reunions were held there. Aunt Betty wanted Lonesome to stay in the Austin family. When she died, in 1994 at the age of 103 she willed the cabin and land to her great nephew, William Wyatt Austin III.

"Lonesome" is one of Dickson County's oldest homes. The Austin-Alspaugh family cemetery - with about 40 graves, many with no marker or marked with stones - is also located on the property.



Dicy Homer Austin

LONESOME PIONEER PARK

William Wyatt (Bill) Austin III of Seattle, great-great-grandson of William and Dicy Austin, has announced that the historic Lonesome log cabin and grounds are being donated to the town of Burns to be developed into the Lonesome Pioneer Park.

Plans include restoration and preservation of the cabin and creation of a public area where families can enjoy nature and learn about the pioneer history of Dickson County, Tennessee. The park will include a picnic pavilion and trails for walking and creek exploration. The funds to build and operate the park will be raised by a new group called Friends of Lonesome (FOL), through memberships, events, and grants. Burns will then use those funds exclusively for the park. FOL will also operate the park with volunteer docents and guides.

The groundbreaking and dedication of the park will occur at noon on June 20, 2015, followed by a tour of the park. Festivities begin at 11am with music and refreshments.

FOL has a Facebook page at [facebook.com/FriendsofLonesome.BurnsTN](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsofLonesome.BurnsTN)

*For more stories about these Austin families, their journey from North Carolina, the good times at Lonesome and how Lonesome got its name, visit www.ausfam.com/lonesome and be sure to read **The Lonesome Story**, written by William Wyatt Austin, Jr. with Ruth Elizabeth Austin Kimbro Aston (published in 2001).*

Information on the family's Austin ancestry can be found in the William Austin of Kent County, Maryland database at www.afaoa.org.

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Our upcoming 2015 AFAOA Convention in St. Louis promises to be another wonderful gathering of Austins - to learn more about our heritage, find another piece of our family puzzle, to meet a new cousin and to enjoy each other's friendship and kinship. Austins know how to have fun together!

Seeing the preview of the article in this newsletter about the "Lonesome" Log Cabin, I am pleased we can share this Austin family's caring for their homestead through the generations. Now the family no longer lives in the state and is giving it to the town of Burns, Dickson Co., TN with plans to develop a Pioneer Park on this historic site. Not many of us have evidence of our pioneer family's homestead. However I am thinking perhaps my ancestor's log cabin would have looked similar. So, I am living vicariously through this Austin family's story... and sending a check to the Friends of Lonesome ... because they are "family".

We should each write what we know about our own family's story: share it with family members, with your community, with the Austin Families Association of America. Some of you have already done this.

Another place where a family story should be recorded: your county's Genealogy Web or Gen Web site, which you can find by typing the name of the county and state, followed by Gen Web, into the search engine you use. Some counties have more information than others, and all are work in progress, so be sure your family is included there. We know that women's names were often left off documents, so remember to give great grandmother's name if you know it, and Aunt Sara's maiden and married name...

Life gets fragmented in this global village of air travel and digital communication. Your family history can be lost in three generations if it is not written and shared. Whether you make a typed copy and have it bound at the local copy store, self-publish, or get a publisher, make this the year you do it. And let me hear about it.

Now, send those convention registrations and make your reservations! I hope to see you in St Louis!

Jane Austin Bruckner

Genealogist's Report

Using continued research and input from other researchers, frequent updates are made to our Austin databases. When these updates are made, the date is added to the database list and the most recent are marked with a star. When you visit the AFAOA website take a look at that list, to be found at "Austin Projects"—"Research", and notice the revision date of those databases of interest to you. The most recent have been:

Jason Lee Austin of Mundy Twp, Genessee Co., MI

Thomas Austin of Albany Co., NY

Thomas & Esther Austin of NY

John & Ann Austin of Albemarle Co., VA

Thomas Austin of New Kent Co., VA

William & Nancy Austin of Franklin Co., VA

Unplaced Northern Austins

Unplaced Southern Austins

Soon to be released is an update to *William Austin of Kent Co., MD*.

Liz Austin Carlin

database SPOTLIGHT

Jason Lee Austin of Mundy Twp., Genessee Co., Michigan

Compiler: Everett L. Austin

Jason Lee Austin was born 11 Jun 1800 in Connecticut, and died 1 Oct 1888 in Mundy Township, Genessee Co., Michigan. He was one of the first permanent settlers in Mundy Township. He married first Eunice Page (born 1 Aug 1802 in Rocky Hill, Hartford Co., Connecticut and died 22 Mar 1864 in Mundy, Michigan). Together, they had 8 children. After Eunice died, Jason married Rosanna Whitman 30 Dec 1866 in Midland, Michigan. She was born 1847 in Michigan and died 22 Mar 1864 in Mundy, Michigan. With Rosanna, Jason fathered 3 more children.

Originally in the AFAOA archives, this database has recently been updated with the research of Darryl Pepin and Everett L. Austin. In 2005 Everett submitted a DNA sample which placed him with Jonah Austin of Taunton, MA and Robert Austin of Kingston, RI. A subsequent 37 marker YDNA test established that Robert Austin was the earliest known ancestor of this line. More research is needed to determine the link path from Jason Lee to Robert.

Austin Families Association of America Newsletter

MAY 2015

NEW MEMBERS

And their Earliest Known Austin Ancestors

Allyn K. Austin

3N351 Howard Ave., Elmhurst, IL 60126;
akaustin@outlook.com; Freeman b. 1800 Delaware City NY;
Henry b. 1834 Medina OH; Allyn Pardy b. 1884 Leon WI; Kent
Forbes b. 1915 Chicago IL

Andrew Y. Austin

1916 S. Nome St., Aurora, CO 80014; ayaustin73@comcast.net;
"John of New Haven CT"; David b.1671 CT; David b.1703 CT;
David b.1732 CT; John P. b.1774 CT; Andrew Y. b.1803 CT;
Charles W. b.1870 TX

Robert Michael Austin

161 12th Place SE, Vero Beach, FL, 32962;
bobgila@bellsouth.net; "Richard of Charlestown MA", Anthony
b.1636 Eng, Anthony b.1668 MA, Caleb b.1718 MA, Josiah
b.1768 CT, Seneca b.1798 VT, Wm. Burnet b.1847 KY, Seneca
Burnett b.1896 KS

Betty Grimes Bengtson

1280 E. Paseo Paxon, Tucson, AZ 85718; "William & Ruth of
NC"; Charles b. 1726 Ire.; John b. 1759 GA; William b. 1800 GA;
William Alfred b. 1832 GA; Nancy Emma (Clack) b. 1869 GA

Mary Anstee DeLisio

2401 Powers Rd., Clyde, NY 14433;
mdelisio@rochester.rr.com; "Robert of Kingston RI"; Jeremiah
b.~1662 RI; Jeremiah b.~1692 RI; Jeremiah b.1730 RI; Elijah
b.1758 RI; Clark b. ~1799 VT; Benjamin Wheeler b. 1842 VT;
Earl Wayne b.1825 NY, Mildred (Helstrom) b. 1910 NY

Sue H. Edwards

8202 Sherwood Green Ct., Brentwood, TN 37027;
shedwardstn@gmail.com; Moses b. 1750; Aaron b. 1778 NJ

Winford Calvin Fowlkes

99 Stonewall Jackson Trail, Martinsville, VA 24112;
wcfowlkes@centurylink.net; "Thomas of New Kent Co. VA", Richard
b.~1624 Eng, Richard b.~1660 VA, John, Joseph b.~1727 VA,
Champness b.1769, John W. b.~1805 VA, Robert b.~1825 VA,
John Calvin b.1859 VA, Willie Mellicent (Fowlkes) b. 1896, VA

David R. Neithamer

2601 Whippoorwill Hollow, Midland, MI 48642;
daveliz3@chartermi.net

Linda Austin Thomas

36561 Deferno Rd., Clayton, NY 13624;
thomaszizizit@gmail.com; "Maine Austins": Daniel b. 1792/94
ME, Alfred b. 1838 Skowhegan ME

Please help us keep our records up to date. Send any address or
email changes and updated ancestor information. Look for your
membership renewal date on your address label.

Alice Austin Martin, Membership Chairman



Meet Our Association Officers

John Clinard — Vice President

Born in Rome, GA, I am a Tennessean. I grew up in
Greeneville, graduated from UT in Knoxville, and married
Lil, an Austin girl from Greeneville. I worked most of my ca-
reer as an engineer at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory,
then retired to East Tennessee.

My father's ancestry was German, with the early name
of Kleinert. The Clinard family migrated from Pennsylvania
to North Carolina, then to Robertson County in middle Ten-
nessee. Both my father and grandfather were Presbyterian
ministers.

My mother's side includes a Native American link to the
famous Buffington and Fields families, early traders with
the Cherokee in South Carolina and Georgia. My 4th great-
grandmother, Missouri Buffington, was half-blood Chero-
kee. She was murdered by gold prospectors, over a cow,
along with two of her sons. As a result her husband, a full-
blood Cherokee, moved the remainder of the family down
the Coosa River from Rome, Georgia to Weogufka, Alabama
to escape the "Trail of Tears"

I spend my spare time on activities like golf and oil
painting and, of course, genealogy. Lil is also an artist, fo-
cusing on watercolors.

Editor's Note:

John told the interesting story of "Archibald Austin of
Virginia"—introducing us to Joseph Austin, Wealthy Pruitt
and Edward Riggs—in the November 2011 AFAOA Newslet-
ter. At the 2013 Austin Families Convention in Austin, Texas
he spoke about "John and Nathaniel Austin: sons of Richard
Austin of Southside Virginia." John has been a dedicated re-
searcher on this line for quite some time. His research
helped to enable the combination of the *White County
Austins of TN* and the *John Austin Sr. of Southside VA* data-
bases to form *Thomas Austin of New Kent Co., VA*.

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Austin-Austen DNA Project

Out of the 66 Austin family databases maintained by AFAOA, 38 of them contain over 500 names each and only 21 of those have had DNA testing with at least 2 tests completed. There are 8 with just one test and 9 with no tests at all. Two or more tests with a close match are needed to give evidence of a common ancestor.

Why haven't we tested two members from each family line? The first possibility is that the current generations of that line may no longer contain any male Austins ("daughtered out"). Remember, the Y-Chromosome is passed from father to son only. The second possibility is that we have not found a male willing to be tested, even with free testing being provided by the Association to determine the DNA for these larger groups. If privacy is a concern, the test can be done without the name being used except in the project administrator's files.

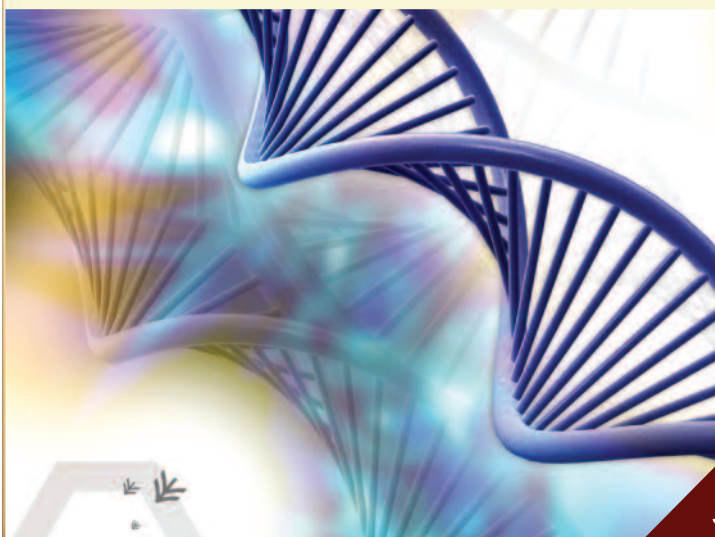
Ideally, another person being tested in the same family line should not be closely related to you. He should not be your brother or uncle or even first cousin. If you are in a family line that goes back 8 generations then even your 6th cousins would have the same common ancestor.

We would like your help to find more candidates for testing, to determine the DNA of all of these larger databases. Free testing may be provided. If you belong to one of these lines and are an eligible male Austin please consider a test.

For more information look for "DNA" on the Projects page of the AFAOA website. Contact me if you have any questions and I can explain the details.

Art Sikes

DNA Testing by Database			
5/26/2015			
Database Name	Lived/Location	DB Size	Tests done
Robert	Rhode Island	16,759	14
Richard	Charlestown, MA	14,032	7
Samuel	Boston, MA	13,076	7
Thomas	New Kent Co., VA	8,644	13
Jonah	Taunton, MA	6,209	4
William & Ruth	North Carolina	5,070	8
John	Monongalia Co., VA	4,848	4
Joseph	Dover, NH	4,013	3
William	Kent Co., MD	3,807	9
Nathaniel	Greenville, SC	2,808	4
Henry	Calvert Co., MD	2,509	3
John	New Haven, CT	2,446	4
Hatteras Austins	Hatteras Bank, NC	2,236	3
Francis	Evesham, NJ	1,906	0
John	Greenwich, CT	1,842	3
Miles	Franklin Co., VA	1,744	1
John & Charity	Monongalia Co., MD	1,282	2
William & Elizabeth	Craven Co., SC	1,268	1
Solomon & John	North Carolina	1,219	1
Larkin	Wayne Co., IL	1,138	4
Thomas & Elizabeth	New York	1,092	0
Caleb	Oneida/Lewis, NY	1,060	0
George	Chester Co., PA	1,012	0
Bartholomew	Virginia	1,007	2
John & Ann	Albemarle Co., VA	1,006	2
Benjamin	Rhode Island	1,005	0
William W.	Hanover Co., VA	1,002	1
Matthew	York, ME	966	1
Ambrose	Ohio	850	1
John	North Carolina	796	4
Nathan	Massachusetts	724	0
William & Nancy	Franklin Co., VA	708	0
Thomas	Rhode Island	699	0
Sylvester & Joseph	Michigan	605	4
Edward	Rhode Island	572	2
David & Jeremiah	New York	556	1
John	Maine	544	1
Thomas & Rebecca	Nelson Co., VA	501	0
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		111,561	114



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Experience the Gateway Arch, the Riverfront, & Historic Downtown St. Louis.

Discover magnificent views from the top of **the Gateway Arch** — an iconic monument symbolizing the city's role as early settlers pioneered westward years ago. See both the history and culture surrounding the city—from 630 feet high in this architectural wonder.

Watch an award-winning documentary, "**Monument to the Dream**", showing how the Gateway Arch was completed, from early concepts to the installation of its final section.

Visit **the Old Courthouse**, which was built between 1839 and 1862. Through special exhibits, learn about St. Louis' role in early settlers' movement into western America.

Journey back in time with a **riverboat cruise**. Relax to the sound of paddle wheels churning the waters of the mighty Mississippi River and enjoy the best view of the city skyline.

The **Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France**, was the first cathedral west of the Mississippi River. The current structure (built 1831–1834) is located near the Gateway Arch and the historic riverfront of St. Louis.

Take a **walking tour of Downtown St. Louis** to see the sights, learn the history, or simply appreciate the art and architecture of the oldest part of the oldest American city west of the Mississippi.

Some Research Opportunities in St. Louis

Central Library — 1301 Olive Street

<http://central.slpl.org/>

The St. Louis Public Library dates to 1865 as the Public School Library Society of St. Louis. Today the system consists of 15 branches and the downtown Central Library, which was built with a substantial gift made in 1901 by Andrew Carnegie. A \$70 million restoration and renewal of the historic Central Library was completed in December 2012.

The History and Genealogy Department contains an extensive collection of materials covering Missouri, Illinois, and those states east and south of Missouri whose population had the most influence on Missouri's population.

St. Louis County Library — 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

<http://www.slcl.org/genealogy>

Founded in 1998, the History and Genealogy Department of the St. Louis County Library is a major research destination.

The department's collections offer unique genealogical and historical sources emphasizing the St. Louis metropolitan area, the state of Missouri, and states and foreign countries that fed migration into Missouri. The department offers substantial holdings for New England states, the original 13 colonies, and a growing collection of sources from foreign countries. Military history and sources for research on various ethnic and national groups are well represented.

Missouri History Museum - Library and Research Center — 225 South Skinker Blvd

www.mohistory.org/lrc-home

The index of the extensive genealogy and local history holdings at the Library and Research Center contains references to personal and corporate names (primarily St. Louisans and St. Louis businesses) that appear in selected library, archives, and photograph collections. The archives collection contains manuscript material including papers of individuals and families such as letters, diaries, and reminiscences; records of clubs, societies, businesses, and institutions, including minute books, account books, and correspondence; and records of some local government agencies, including court records, tax records, licenses, and voter registrations.

The National Archives at St. Louis - National Personnel Records Center — 1 Archives Drive

www.archives.gov/st.louis

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) is the central repository of personnel-related records for both the military and civil services of the United States Government. It is home to certain civilian personnel records that document service at the Works Progress Administration, the Federal Bureau of Prisons, the Department of State, and other Federal agencies.



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AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION CONVENTION ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — October 2–4, 2015

Thursday & Friday, October 1 & 2 — Early arrival activities — Friday evening social hour.

Saturday & Sunday, October 3 & 4 — Speakers and workshop time — Sunday evening banquet.

Convention Hotel: Drury Plaza Hotel at the Arch,
2 South 4th Street, St. Louis, Missouri

Convention Room Rate: \$151 per night. Included: free hot *Quickstart* breakfast, free 5:30 *Kickback* (hot food buffet and cold beverages every evening), free Internet and long-distance calling in rooms. Parking is \$16 per night.

Hotel Reservations: A block of rooms is reserved, at the convention rate, for the nights of September 30–October 4. The convention rate will also apply two days before and two days after the block dates, but on a space available basis. Reservations must be made by Saturday, August 29 to be guaranteed a room at the convention rate. After August 29 all reservations will be on a space available basis at the prevailing room rate.

Hotel reservations can be made online at

www.druryhotels.com.

- Select *Reservations*, then *Group Reservations* from the drop-down menu.
- Enter our Group Number, which is **2239314** and *Verify Group Number*.
- Enter desired dates, number of rooms and people and accessibility preference (if any) where indicated.
- View *Available* and select *Room Type*. Fill in *Guest Information*.

Reservations can also be made by calling **1-800-325-0720**. Refer to the Group Number **2239314**.

Convention Registration: The convention registration fee is \$70 per person, which includes all meetings, materials, the Friday social hour and the Sunday night banquet. The fee is \$45 per person for family or friends who wish to attend only the social hour and banquet.

Registration forms, with checks payable to AFAOA, should be sent to the Convention Registrar:

Lois Cody, 336 Pleasant Hill Drive,
Cincinnati, OH 45215.

The Drury Plaza Hotel, St. Louis, MO A Historical Perspective

The *Drury Plaza Hotel at the Arch* is not your ordinary hotel. It is in fact made up of three distinct buildings: the International Fur Exchange Building, the Thomas Jefferson Building and the American Zinc Building. All are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The International Fur Exchange Building was built in 1919 and was the home of the world's largest and most important fur trading auction floor. Sealskin had become one of the desirable furs for women's coats, and after obtaining a substantial government contract for Alaskan Pribilof seal-skins, Funsten Brothers consolidated with the F. C. Taylor Co. to form the International Fur Exchange. The building was designed by St. Louis architect George W. Hellmuth, and cost an estimated \$750,000. Furs were traded in the building until the 1960s.

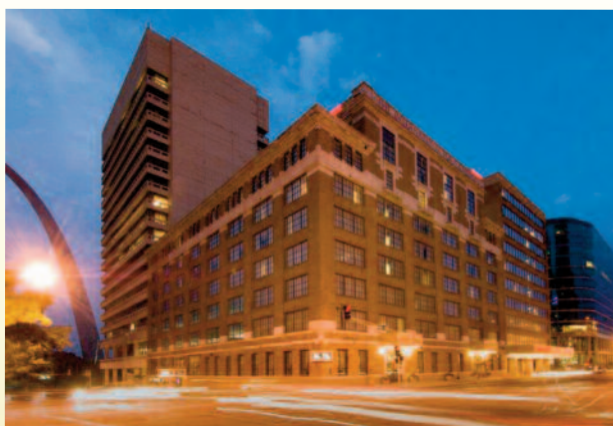
The ten-story Thomas Jefferson Building Annex was

added to the International Fur Exchange in 1957 by the Caradine Hat Company. The building was home to both the hat manufacturing company and Southwestern Bell Telephone's accounting operations for more than 25 years.

The American Zinc Company Building was built in 1967 and is one of only three buildings remaining in America that employs the Vierendeel truss structural

style. The four-story modern style building is suspended atop two steel structural beams and is clad in the same brushed stainless steel as the world-famous Gateway Arch.

The buildings were designed to reflect period architecture, including the original matching millwork on the 24 massive support columns along the top of the walls. There are nearly 15,000 pieces of Waterford crystal used throughout the building for chandeliers and light fixtures. Historic elegance is built into every feature of the Drury Plaza Hotel, blending memories of the past with events of the present.



Austin Families Association of America

527 Front Beach Dr. #3
Ocean Springs, MS 39564

PLEASE NOTICE
THE RENEWAL
DATE ON YOUR
ADDRESS LABEL.

YOUR CHECK FOR
DUES - \$15 PER
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2 YEARS - MADE
PAYABLE TO
"AUSTIN FAMILIES
ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA" SHOULD
BE SENT TO:
LOIS W. CODY
336 PLEASANT HILL DR.
CINCINNATI, OH 45215

Address Service Requested

Austin Families Convention October 2-4, 2015 St. Louis, Missouri



Gateway Arch

www.gatewayarch.com/experience

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If so, we will send you your newsletter by email in Adobe Acrobat format (pdf). You can then save it to your computer, where it will be available in full color to read and refer to, share with family or print copies of the whole or special parts. And web addresses are active links.



www.afaoa.org