



Austin Families Association of America Newsletter

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

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Austins Invade Richmond

Richmond, Virginia was the location of the 2003 National Austin Convention held the weekend of 20 - 22 June. The National Austin Convention is jointly sponsored by the Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA) and by the Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS), the host for this convention.

Everybody began to gather at the hotel on Friday with greetings, hugs, and general catchup on each other's status. At 3 PM, most of the group toured the Library of Virginia, led by Minor Weisiger, the Coordinator of the Virginia Heritage Resource Center at the library. Later, we all congregated in the Austin suite for a get acquainted reception.

The Saturday session began with welcomes by Alice Austin Martin, President of the Austin Families Association, and Dr. Michael Austin, Director of the AOAGS. Arthur Sikes next presented his approach to probate record research, and Gay Martin discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the methods we use to record our memories, such as in photographs, slides, etc. He also suggested the best ways of preserving those images. (Note: Excerpts from his presentation appear on page 4 of the *Newsletter*).

Conley L. Edwards, Virginia State Archivist, completed the morning's presentations by thoroughly describing the genealogical holdings at the Library of Virginia.

After lunch, Dr. Roger B. Austin of Cambridge, England presented a summary of the book *The Descendants of Thomas Austin of Barbados* that he co-authored with Timothy J. Smellie.

Douglas S. Shipley of El Paso, Texas, in his talk *Slaves in the Family: One Descendant's Quest*,

related how he started with family stories that had been passed down through the generations, and how he logically and systematically clarified, proved or disproved their various "facts."

Liz Austin Carlin ended the Saturday presentations with her talk: "Austin Families in Virginia & North Carolina." The rest of the afternoon was spent in workshop activities.

Sunday's session started with Robert K. Austin of Wilmington, Delaware detailing the treasures from the diary of his great grandfather Isaac Austin. This was followed by Arthur Sikes describing the Great Migration Study Project. Jan Untener next described the progress in northern Austin research, followed by Jim Carlin suggesting some

alternate approaches to using photographs in genealogies.

After lunch, Megan Smolenyak of Williamsburg, Virginia presented *Real-World DNA Testing*. Business meetings of the AFAOA and AOAGS followed, at which time an election was held for AFAOA officers.

The 2004 National Austin Convention site was selected as Salt Lake City, Utah. The host for that meeting will be the Austin Families Association.

On Sunday evening, President Alice Austin Martin opened the annual Austin Banquet. Art Sikes led us in the Pledge of Allegiance, and Robert K. Austin gave the invocation.

The featured speaker was Megan Smolenyak, who spoke on *Remembering our Ancestors*, selected vignettes of memorable Austins, their lives and their contributions to United States history. Dr. Mike Austin, AOAGS Director, then presented the Austin Genealogical Research Award to Sally Austin Day, of Livonia, Michigan.



Old friends enjoying their re-union prior to the Sunday Banquet. Shown l to r: Carol Austin, Charles Austin, Sally Austin Day, Janice Austin Fauver, Beverly Sikes and Betty Austin Shelhamer

<http://www.afaoa.org>



New Members Welcomed

Diana C. Hamlett

802 Oak St., Merkel, TX 79536
clunker@msn.com

Stephen Austin b. 1755 NY; Stephen b. 1797 NY; Abraham b. 1831 NY.

Nellie Louise Austin Nyman

607 S. Euclid Ave, Princeton, IL 61356
(no e-mail)

Richard Austin, b. 1598 England

David Calvin Tipton

701 Field St., Colleyville, TX
dave.tipton@fastsigns.com

*Alfred Charles Austin b. 1826 NC;
Calvin Preston b. 1849, TN.*

William H. Austin

107 Rebels Circle
Winchester, VA 22602
austinw@crosslink.net

*John Austin b. 1729 MD, d. 1823;
Zechariah b. 1763, d. 1830 KY; Baruch b. 1792 MD.*

Janice Austin Fauver

1703 Renell Dr., Sidell, LA 70460
fauver321@aol.com

William Austin b. 1770 MD.

June Rae Austin

3346 North Wood Dr., Flint, MI 48504
junebug40@ameritech.net

Asa Henry Austin b. 1811 NY, d. 1881 MI.

Nancy J. Austin

967 N. Glenhurst Dr., Birmingham, MI 48009

nja641@comcast.net

Robert Austin; John B. b. VT.

Margaret A. Austin

10201 W. Snead Circle North, Sun City, AZ 85351.

(no e-mail)

William Austin b. 1700 Ireland, d. 1778 VA; Richard b. 1730 Ireland, d. NC; Drury b. 1760 Ireland?, d. 1831 TN.

Sally Austin Day

8858 Beatrice St., Livonia, MI 48150
daysend@prodigy.net

Samuel Austin d. 1697 MD; John b. 1697, d. 1734 MD; William b. 1374 MD, d. 1725.

Ruth Marshall Austin

153 Parker Rd. West, Danville, VA 24540
(no e-mail)

*Miles Austin b. 1800 VA, d. 1860 VA;
Robert b. 1822 VA, d. 1879 VA; Joseph b. 1835 VA, d. 1900 VA.*

Kathleen J. Jones

24311 Wabaska St., Newhall, CA 91321
laddandkathy@sbcglobal.net

*Archibald Austin b. 1767 VA, d. 1866 GA;
Sarah b. 1826 TN, d. 1887 AR.*

Marilyn L. Rawls

64 Winegarden Trail, Dundas, Ontario, Canada L9H 7M2

ml.rawls@sympatico.ca

William Austin b. 1700 Ireland, d. 1778 VA; Richard b. 1730 Ireland, d. NC; Drury b. 1760 Ireland?, d. 1831 TN.

Christine E. Austin

2960 S. Boston St., Denver, CO 80231
caustin@du.edu

John Austin b. 1784 VT; Harmon Delos b. 1811 NY.

"Googling" for Genealogy

The Internet is one big encyclopedia if you know how to find the information you are seeking. This is especially true in genealogical research. What databases are on the web relating to my family history research? How do I order records from the British Public Records office? Is there any information on my ancestral towns?

One of the best search engines is *Google* at <http://www.google.com>. Using a search engine is a skill. Often you must judiciously choose key words to assure that sites of interest to you appear on the first page of the search results. Kimberly Powell, a professional genealogist and member of the Association of Professional Genealogists has written an article on how to use the *Google* search engine. It is located at <http://genealogy.about.com/library/weekly/aa052902a.htm>.

From *Nu What's Nu*, Vol. 4, No. 8, 5/12/03

<http://www.afaoa.org>

Salt Lake City in 2004 Here we come!

At the 2003 National Austin Convention in Richmond, members chose Salt Lake City as the site for the 2004 Convention. I am excited! We will have the opportunity to be in our country's greatest genealogical research center and do research in one centralized and well-equipped facility with knowledgeable people to help us!

I have used the Family History Library's website, www.familysearch.org/ many times. I have also driven thirty miles to a local Family History Library (FHL) to order tapes, driven home, waited for the postcard telling me my tapes were in, then driven the thirty miles back to the Library with my fingers crossed, hoping a microfilm reader would be available for the time I needed to review my tapes.

The trips were worth it. I found photographed copies of the wills of some of my Austin ancestors and discovered an additional son in one generation. The travels and marriage of this son explained the relocation and naming of family members of the next generation.

I found a wealth of information in a single document. However, it took two hours of driving time and several weeks of waiting to access this document.

In the FHL in Salt Lake City, I will have immediate access to the films I want, a library with enough microfilm and microfiche readers for many researchers, and the ability to copy the documents I find more easily than I can at my local FHL.

Please, go to the FamilySearch site and read about the wonderful facilities there. I hope that you will become as excited as I am about visiting Salt Lake City.

In the next few newsletters, I will share my preparation plans for that trip. If you have experience or suggestions you would like me to pass on to our members, please contact me.

Jan Untener

Membership Renewal

Please notice the renewal date on your address label. Your dues of \$15 per year should be sent to:

Lois W. Cody
336 Pleasant Hill Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45215.



As your new Austin Families Association President I feel that I should introduce myself to everyone who has not met me. My name is Art Sikes, I have been a member of the Association since they held the Annual Meeting in Suffield, Connecticut in 1990. My Austin line is through my mother, Arlene Austin Sikes and is in the Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA line. My children are 11th generation Austin and Sikes' that have all lived in Suffield where I live today.

I have been interested in and have been doing genealogical research for over 30 years, first on the Sikes family and then on the Austin family. My other genealogical interests are all early Suffield & Enfield families up to 1790, and early families of the Connecticut River Valley.

Our annual National Austin Convention in Richmond, Virginia is over, and it was another very successful meeting. I got to meet many old friends and also made some new ones. In and around Richmond are many historical places to visit and many of the attendees took advantage of that and visited the State Capital, Museum of the Confederacy, or just took a walk along the canal that by-passes the rapids in the James River, the reason that Richmond is located where it is today.

A few things were decided at the Austin Families Association Annual Meeting, which is traditionally held at the Convention. First we have set aside money to do a update of our web site. This will give us a new look but more importantly make it easier to do research using our large collection of family databases and records for unplaced Austins (Austin families not yet linked into established Austin lines).

We also decided to make an effort to move the remaining Richard Austin books from storage and get them into libraries where people can have access and use them. This might be a good time to check your favorite genealogy library and see if it has a copy. If it does not, you might consider buying one and donating it. If you don't think you can make such a contribution, let us know the name and address of the library and we will try to make other arrangements.

I would like to thank Alice Martin and all of the retiring officers for doing a truly great job over the last four years. Alice has volunteered to be our Membership Chairperson so she will stay very much involved in the Association.

My address is on the front page of the *Newsletter* if you have any questions and/or comments about the Association please don't hesitate to write to me.

Arthur M. Sikes, Jr.

Origins of the Austin Name

By

Wantabe Ann Austin

One of the speakers at our Convention in Richmond noted that, of four families with the same last name living in a small village in Eastern Europe in the 1700's, DNA testing proved not one family was related to another! This, unfortunately, got me thinking about the origin of the Austin name. Would DNA testing show that all Austin lines are related? If so, this could increase demand for the Big Green Richard Books* by other Austins. An idea well worth investigation!

I started my research at the most authoritative place I could think of – the Austin Families Association website. These people are good. They have a whole section on the origin of the Austin name. They state that the surname Austin is derived from Augustine which is a diminutive of the Latin name Augustus. The Order of St. Augustine became known as the Augustine Canons, shortened to Austin Canons, then later to Austin Friars.

This is a very nice story. While everyone else is named for an occupation, like Cooke; or where they lived, like Hill; or some personal trait, like Stout; we, the Austins, are named for teaching God's word! I quickly searched for the source for this information so that I could boast to those with more mundane names.

For an Association that prides itself on documentation, this "Austin" page is weak. Here are the sources: "It is generally agreed..." and, "Most authorities agree..." I never thought the Association would stoop to the "nine out of every ten Doctors" source method for proof!

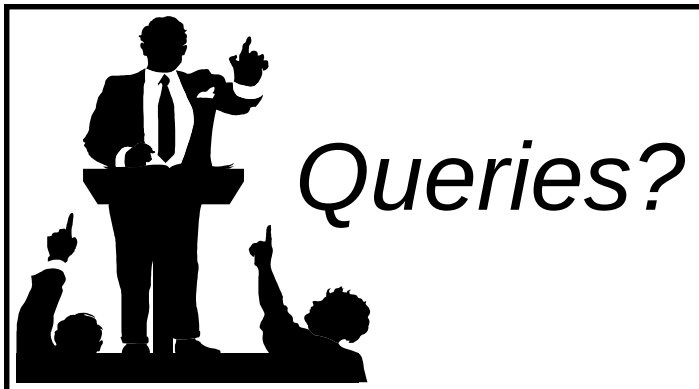
Even if they had asked every authority, this explanation does not make sense. The Order of St. Augustine was founded in 1256. Are they saying there were no Austins before this time? If so, then there is an end date to my genealogical research! When I reach the year 1250, I can quit. I have everybody in my family. I did not believe this, so I was forced to do my own research.

Most authorities on the web (at least those in the first five pages of my *Google* search) agree that surnames came into use about 1000 years ago. Before then, people were known by their first and only name. Imagine if you will, walking into ye local village land recorder's office to register your recently purchased land. "I just bought this land from Tim." "Which Tim?" "He just said his name was Tim." "Was it Tim who lives on the hill, or Tim the blacksmith, or Tim of only one arm?" "I don't know, but he did have a lot of mules with him." "Ah! We call him Tim with the Asses, or Ass Tim for short." Given the lack of spellcheck in 1000 AD, it is easy to see how this could have evolved into Austin. It could have happened.

As the population increased and people traveled more, it became necessary to add a last name to distinguish "John who raises chickens" who lived in London from "John who raises chickens" who lived in Bristol. The use of second or surnames probably developed over many hundreds of years. Some small villages may exist today where people never traveled and still have only one name. These villages could be in the mountains

Please see "Austin Names" on page 6

* The "Big Green Richard Book," an Austin Families Association publication: *Richard Austin of Charlestown, Massachusetts, 1638*.



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

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

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

Editor's Note: All queries submitted by members of Austin Families Association to this *Newsletter* will also appear on our web site: <http://www.afaoa.org>

Austin Families Association Publication Donated to the Virginia State Library



Alice Austin Martin, President, donating the book *Richard Austin of Charlestown, Massachusetts, 1638* to Virginia State Library representative, Conley L. Edwards, Virginia State Archivist

Printing Your Valuable Photographs for Posterity

Any picture is a marvel of information, thousands or millions of data points seized in a fraction of a second, usable for decades or centuries. Pictures can be reproduced and shared, and add much to the understanding and enjoyment of family histories. Some pictures are more important than others. The cost and trouble of preservation, including repair and restoration, is often worth it.

Analog photos degrade with time.

All pictures degrade to some extent over the years. Many old photographs have lasted for a century. They are very convenient to share in an album or in a frame.

Problems with analog photos generally stem from their structure and chemistry. Daguerreotypes, used from 1839 to 1865, and tintypes, used from 1850 to 1900, are fragile chemicals on bare metal substrates, protected by glass or varnish.

Typical photographic prints have an emulsion layer, which contains the silver salts and dyes, consisting of purified animal gelatin. It absorbs moisture and dries, cracking and peeling. It is attacked by mold and mildew. Chemicals can then affect the color or black and white information, causing fading and color changes. Recent improvements in papers use coatings over the emulsion layer to help keep out chemicals and light.

Correction of faded or injured pictures is difficult with conventional analog printing, except for slight enhancements in contrast and brightness, or selective cropping. Multiple reproductions of any usable size are expensive. Photos, especially prints, take up a lot of storage volume. They frequently must be stored in inappropriate places and environments.

Proper storage is essential.

Storage sins are the most common in mistreating old photos, whether paper, slides, or negatives. Proper storage will increase the cost, but markedly increase the lifetime.

Proper storage is very complex. Ask for help from a photo store or mail order place. A dry, cool, stable, protected environment is essential. Think of fire, flood, and earthquake. Hazards are numerous. For instance, most of the photo albums available for purchase are made from poly vinyl chloride (PVC), which outgases and fades your photos.

A subtle agent is the ozone generated by copiers and some printers – ozone/oxygen is one of the most reactive chemicals around. Ultra-violet from sunlight and fluorescent lighting fades color prints. Fumes from cardboard, scotch tape, glue, paste, and Styrofoam outgas and bleach information. Other chemical problems are paint fumes, ammonia, sulfur, chlorine, tobacco smoke, auto exhaust, dust, and salt air.

What can we do with old photos?

At this time, the conversion of things like old photos from analog to digital, is labor intensive and requires some extra hardware and software, but is straightforward and offers correction opportunities. However, think back ten years to your computer software and hardware. Almost all of the information that you stored in digital format is useless except when you

Please see "Photos" on page 6

Daniel Harmon Austin, Missionary to the Osage Indians

Daniel Harmon Austin was born February 2, 1779 in Winchester, Litchfield Co., CT, the son of David Austin and Mary Harmon, and the great-great grandson of Anthony Austin of Suffield, CT. Daniel was a third cousin to Stephen Fuller Austin, "the Father of Texas" and a third cousin to Sophia Birchard, the mother of President Ruth-erford Birchard Hayes.

Daniel married Lydia Jane Hovey September 28, 1805 in Waterbury, Washington Co., VT. He was a private in the 4th Regiment of the Vermont Militia during the War of 1812.

In 1821 Daniel and Lydia were selected from over 100 applicants to be included in a "Missionary Family" of about 23 adults and 16 children who were sent to establish the first Protestant mission for the Osage Indians in what is now western Missouri. This group was commissioned for service by the United Foreign Mission Society, directed by leaders of the Presbyterian, Congregational, and Dutch Reformed Churches in New York.

The Austins and their five children left New York on March 7, 1821. On August 25, after a long and perilous journey including serious illness and some deaths, the group arrived on the bank of the Little Osage River near the present town of Papinsville in what is now Bates County, MO. Harmony Mission was soon established in response to a request from Osage leaders to U.S. President James Monroe.

The highlights of this journey and the experiences at the mission are related in the "Mission Journal" kept by Rev. Nathaniel Brown Dodge, superintendent of the mission. Daniel was listed in the "Missionary Herald" as an assistant missionary, mechanic, steward, millwright and carpenter, and he had much to do with the erection of the buildings at Harmony. He built a water mill and later a horse-powered mill for the mission.

The mission was closed in 1836 after the Indians were moved for a while and feedback your comments to Joy into Kansas. Daniel then moved to Little Osage (Balltown),

and became one of the first settlers of that area, where he built the first mill in what is now Vernon County, on the Osage River. It was a water mill used first to grind corn and later equipped to saw lumber.

The locality was first called Austin's Mills, then Ball's Mills and later, Balltown. This mill was the nucleus of the settlements on the Osage and of those in the northern part of the county.

Near Austin's Mill, Daniel constructed a fine, strong bridge across the Osage River. It was built mostly of walnut and other hardwood lumber and was covered and sided like those with which he was familiar in New England. The mill and bridge were

destroyed during the Civil War. In 1835 Daniel helped construct the first school house in Vernon County. This log building was also used as a church.

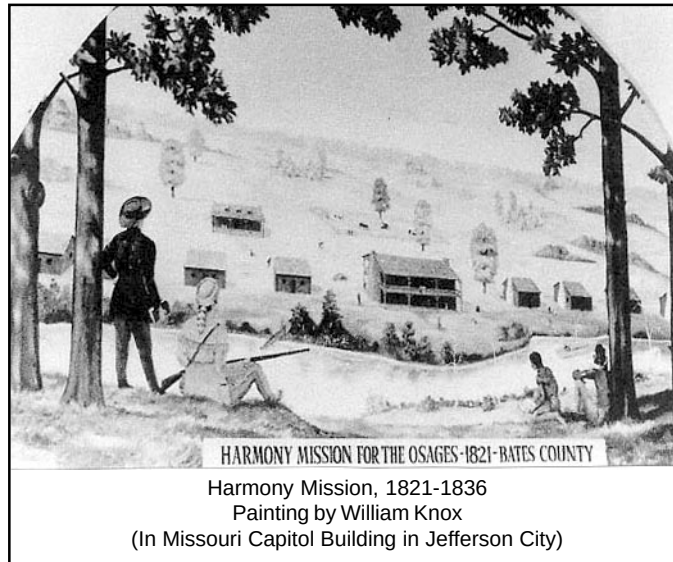
[Excerpted from the book *Austin Genealogy, Some Descendants of Richard Austin, England and America, 1598-2003*, compiled by Dean Ross Park and Shirley (Harris) Park; Tulsa, Oklahoma; 2003.]

Excerpter's Note: Daniel and Lydia Austin had eight children. Their sixth child, Phebe Austin, is the great-great grandmother of Shirley Park. Their eighth child, Sarah Elizabeth Austin, is the great-great grandmother of Joy Davis (webmaster of the Austin Families Association web site) making Shirley and Joy fourth cousins. Joy's father, Gordon Davis and his brother Herbert Davis, contributed information to Shirley's research and book.

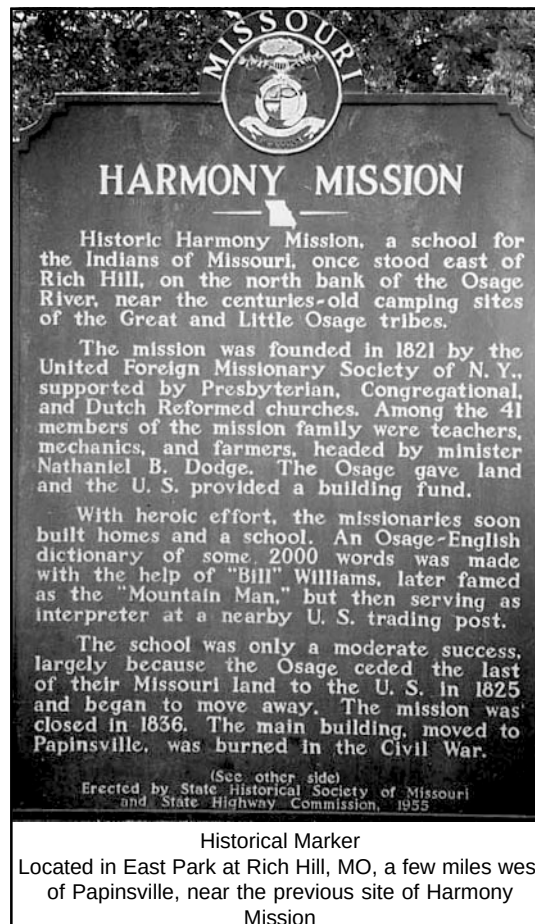
Alice Austin Martin

Now Playing on Your Screen

Joy Davis, AFAOA Web Master invites you to visit the AFAOA web site at <http://www.afaoa.org/> Browse about



Harmony Mission, 1821-1836
Painting by William Knox
(In Missouri Capitol Building in Jefferson City)



"Photos"

Continued from page 4

can find an old computer in operating condition.

5.25 inch floppies come to mind. Your CD that you burn today will almost certainly not be usable ten years from now – it will not fit in the computer. Many computers do not have 3.5 inch floppy drives now. Software changes yearly, and backwards compatibility is perhaps deliberately limited. Stay abreast of trends and changes, and change formats as required.

Digital photos now commonplace.

Digital formats for pictures are suited to different formats. GIFF is good for high contrast monochrome, and JPEG (JPG) is best for photos. Variations of JPG are appearing on the market, and promise to offer more compression with greater fidelity. Don't be greedy about the degree of compression of your JPG since compression ratios of more than 20:1 cause some data losses.

When thinking about storing your digital data, think about sharing it with another computer or with other people. That way a catastrophe won't wipe out priceless and irreplaceable information.

CD's and DVD's are robust and long lasting, but need some care. Store in the original plastic cases. Use care on both surfaces – the top is a thin and delicate varnish layer that can be mechanically or chemically damaged. But don't be concerned. Your CD's will probably outlast your hardware and software.

Printing your photos is complex.

The selection of printer, cartridge, and paper can create pictures which fade in less than a year, or pictures that last 75 years or more. Typically an expensive printer is not necessary, and ink and paper can be changed when archival prints are desired. Cost of a single archive quality 8 x 10 can range up to \$1.00. The definitive web site for hardware selection is <http://wilhelm-research.com>.

Another solution is to go to external services, either locally, a photo shop or kiosk, or to a large central supplier by mail or by internet transfer.

The most common developing process for both color and black and white is called C41 – it can be found on the film canister. This yields an inferior negative as far as

permanence goes. Tri-X, TX or Tmax black and white film will give longer lasting negatives.

Recently improved papers, such as the Kodak Duralife, have a plastic coating protecting all sides of the print and promise 60 year lifetimes. The Kodak ofoto web service, where you can upload your JPG's and receive the prints in the mail, costs for an 8 x 10 inch about \$4, with a 20 x 30 for \$23.

Ofoto and kiosks generally use the C41 process, but can give good prints. Ask for archival paper. Kodak has an excellent series of websites and can send some great information. Ed Austin, a member of the Austin Families Association, works for Kodak and can guide you to experts in the field.

Do a Google search for permanence of photos, and you will be inundated with a tangle of data. Because this subject will change often, keep up to date.

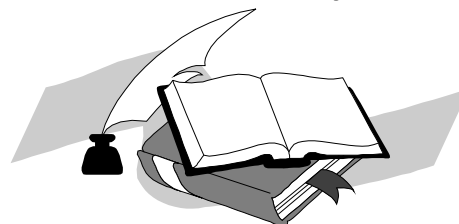
Backup your digital data.

Because digital photos are so easy and inexpensive to backup, there is no reason to lose the data. Checking the write speed compatibility of your CD or DVD system is important. The error rate can vary with the brand and type of substrate and perhaps the type of data.

You have a responsibility.

If you have photos from the past, you are the steward of the information, which may be appreciated by living relatives as well as your descendants. This information will not last forever, and should be evaluated periodically. Organization of photos into albums or boxes, identification of people and dates/places, and protection is critical. Then pick the important ones, digitize them, correct them, save them, and share them. Contact your cousins for additional pictures, borrow them and archive them. Send your information to relatives for their enjoyment, as well as the safety of the data. The future generations will appreciate your efforts.

Gay G. Martin



<http://www.afaoa.org>

"Austin Names"

Continued from page 3

of Italy, the northern parts of Russia, or remote areas of Minnesota.

We do know from my extensive research that in 1200 AD people were still using only first names. From the *English Gazetteer of Markets and Fairs* in 1516 we find the following entry: "Augustin', John son of, recorded 1194, forum, when John son of Augustin' owed 32s. 4d. on his land and his houses in the high market (*in alto foro*) to Aaron the Jew of Lincoln." Although there is no mention of mules, perhaps Austin came from this Augustin, and had nothing to do with the Austin Canons. To be fair, however, in Margery Kempe's (c1373 - after 1438) spiritual biography, often called the first autobiography in English, we find: "lerk, a Frer Austyn, in hys owyn hows at Lynne..." Could Lerk really be Lerk Austin, the father of all Austins? Do we now have to start selling a Big Green Lerk Austin Book? We will investigate this in future articles.

A Reminder

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

At the National Austin Convention



Dr. Mike Austin presented the 2003 AOAGS "Eagle Award" to Sally Austin Day for her contributions to Austin Research

AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Business Meeting

June 22, 2003 – Richmond, Virginia

President Alice Martin opened the Austin Families Association meeting. Since the minutes of the 2002 meeting were on display in the meeting room, they were not read. Carol Austin moved that they be accepted. Beverly Sikes seconded. Motion passed.

Alice introduced the officers and chairpersons in attendance, Vice Presidents Carol Austin, Jan Untener, and Art Sikes, Secretary/Treasurer Lois W. Cody, Database Chairman Jim Carlin, Southern Genealogist Liz Carlin, and Northern Genealogist Jan Untener.

REPORTS

• Treasurer and Membership

Treasurer Lois Cody gave the following report for YTD 2003:

General Fund

Beginning Balance	\$9,452.23
Income	981.78
Expenses	-1,531.94
Balance as of June 18, 2003	\$8,902.07

Publishing Fund

Beginning Balance	\$ 220.78
Income	130.00
Balance as of June 18, 2003	\$ 350.78

Bank Balance as of June 18, 2003 \$9,252.85

The balance of the Publishing Fund loan, \$5,493.32, was paid to Liz Carlin in 2002.

There are presently 265 members in the Association.

• Databases

Jim Carlin reported that there are 42 databases on the Association's Web site. These databases contain about 85,000 individuals in 33,000 families. Nine databases were placed on the web for the first time. Seven databases need compilers.

• Austin Families Association Research CD-ROM

Included on the CD are: 36 descendency books, Edith Austin Moore notebooks (A through 92), partial transcriptions of Janet Austin Curtis' State Notebooks, the Association's *Newsletters*, extracted transcripts from October 1957 to August 1998 and the complete *Newsletters* from 1998 to the present time. 138 disks have been sold.

• Genealogists

Liz Carlin reported on need for more compilers and the importance of updating the databases as changes or corrections are known.

OLD BUSINESS

• Some Descendants of Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA

There are still about 200 unsold books. Planned publicity from last years meeting did not get started for various reasons. A flyer will be developed and Carol Austin will send it to libraries. Mike Austin will include it in his next newsletter.

• Austin - Austen Research Center

Expenses for AARC have risen. Liz Carlin moved to increase our support to \$700 per year. Jan Untener seconded. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

• Website

The executive committee recommended that our website be updated to make it more easily accessible and the front page more attractive. We would like to index the contents. To accomplish this the software needs to be upgraded and probably more programs added. Gay Martin moved that we spend up to \$4000 for software to do this. Bob Cody seconded. Motion passed.

• Election of Officers

The nominating committee of Jim and Liz Carlin and Jan Untener presented the following slate of officers to be voted on for a two year term – President – Art Sikes; Vice Presidents – Bonnie Bigolin, Betty Shelhamer, Jan Untener; Secretary/Treasurer – Lois Cody; Genealogist – Liz Carlin. Robert K. Austin moved to accept this slate by acclamation. Gay Martin seconded. Motion passed.

• Restrictions on CD-ROM Contents

Mike Austin made a motion that we make the full contents of the Austin Families Association Research CD-ROM, which includes data on living persons, available on the AARC to AFAOA and AOAGS members only. Such members would be required to indicate their acceptance of an agreement that use of the information would be for their personal genealogical research only. Dave Untener seconded. Motion passed with three opposed.

Alice thanked Mike for organizing the convention.

Robert K. Austin thanked Alice for her terms as president.

Robert K. Austin moved for adjournment. Meeting adjourned.

In a joint meeting with AOAGS, three locations were suggested for the 2004 National Austin Convention. They were: Salt Lake City, Utah; Seattle, Washington; and Hartford, Connecticut. During discussion, Mike Austin withdrew Seattle. Salt Lake City was selected. Hartford may be considered for 2005 when we move back to the east.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois W. Cody
 Secretary/Treasurer

PLEASE NOTICE THE RENEWAL DATE ON YOUR ADDRESS LABEL. YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES OF \$15 PER YEAR SHOULD BE SENT TO LOIS W. CODY, 336 PLEASANT HILL DR., CINCINNATI, OH 45205

AUSTIN FAMILIES ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICA
545 Front Beach Dr.
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
<http://www.afaoa.org/>



Address Service Requested

Richard Cousins Gather at the Convention



It is traditional now - each year, at the National Austin Convention, the descendants of Richard Austin of Charlestown, MA pose for a group picture. Shown l to r: Eric Weissner, Art Sikes, Jr., Amy Weissner, Lois Cody, Judith Austin, Robert Austin, Alice Martin, Betty Shelhamer, Shirley Park, Liz Carlin, George Austin and William Austin. How about the descendants of Samuel next year?