

Genealogical Society Serving Austin Family Researchers

Austins of America

Volume 3

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EDITED BY

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PREFACE

This book is an indexed compilation of the newsletters published by the *Austins of America* Genealogical Society during its first ten years, during which time its membership expanded to make it the largest group of Austin family researchers in the United States. This is the first in a series of such volumes preserving Austin lines and heritage for posterity. It is gratefully dedicated to the authors appearing herein, and to all those members who by contributing their own research to the *Austins of America* library have made the articles herein more complete and accurate.

We are indebted to Pauline Lucille Austin of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, to Sally Austin Day of Livonia, Michigan, and to the other Associate Editors listed herein for sharing their decades of basic Austin research with others. Special thanks to my beloved wife Patricia Biebuyck Austin, who has been instrumental in organizing raw research notes and correspondence into coherent articles, for without her years of devotion and companionship this volume would not have been possible.

— *Michael Edward Austin*

Austins of America

Genealogical Society

August 1999 Newsletter

NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION A BIG SUCCESS

The 1999 National Austin Convention, jointly sponsored by the Austins of America Genealogical Society and the Austin Families Association of America, was held on 6-8 August at the Holiday Inn Capitol in Washington, DC. This year's convention tried a new format. Each morning and afternoon session began with a two-hour workshop," designed to give attendees much more time to meet, exchange data, and receive help in tracing their Austin roots from experienced Austin family genealogists. Each workshop was followed by informative talks:

SESSION I - RESEARCH IN WASHINGTON: "*Genealogical Research at the Library of Congress and the National Archives*" by Charles S. Mason, and "*Research at the D.A.R Library*" by Betty Shelhamer.

SESSION II - AUSTIN RESEARCH: "*Researching the Austins of Maine in the 1850 Federal Census*" by Bonnie Bigolin, "*Documenting Genealogy Sources*" by Liz Carlin, "*Low-Cost Quality Scanning of Your Slides & Negatives*," by Mike Austin & Gay Martin, and "*The Way We Were – An Anthropological Journey Through Time*," by Hal Steiner.

SESSION III - AUSTINS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB: "*Genealogy on the Internet*" by Jim Carlin, "*Searching the Rootsweb and GenConnect Austin Lists*" by Mike Austin, "*Samuel & Hopstill Austin of Boston Status*," by Carol Austin, "*Edith Goes Digital - Transcribing Edith Austin Moore Field Notes*," by Gay Martin, and "*The Austin Computer Project*" by Bill Minnick & Jim Carlin.

SESSION IV - BUSINESS MEETINGS: After the AFAOA and the AOAGS business meetings, Madison, Wisconsin was selected by the attendees as the site for the 2000 National Austin Convention, to be held on 28-30 July.

AOAGS CELEBRATES ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

At the business meeting, Dr. Michael E. Austin, AOAGS Director, noted that this year the Society celebrates its 20th year of service to Austin family researchers. He reported that AOAGS now has a new web site – check it out at: <http://www.aoags.org> – and that our membership has reached an all-time high, with 487 members having received the February 1999 issue of the Society Newsletter, *Austins of America*. That same issue had the

Photos AOA 621-1, 2, 3

Top: Dining at Philip's Flagship seafood restaurant on the Potomac; middle: Research at the Convention; bottom: Convention attendees getting acquainted.

first color photographs ever to appear in the newsletter, and it completes the printing of Volume 2. The Volume 2 Index is over 50% complete, thanks to volunteers Cheryl Austin Akusis, Glenn Matthew Austin, Dr. Margie Crawford Austin, L. Scot Austin, Carol Robinson Austin, Robert & Lois Cody, and Melissa Elizabeth Austin, each of whom tackled the indexing of 50 pages. Special thanks to Patricia Biebuyck Austin who has been indexing the entire book, which covers newsletter pages 311 to 620. High index accuracy will be achieved by correlating her results with those submitted by the other volunteers.

1850 CENSUS PROJECT MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

Perhaps the best news to come out of the Convention was the large number of volunteers for the AOAGS "Austins in the Federal Census of 1850" Project. Besides LOUISIANA (Alice Austin Martin) and MISSOURI (Betty Shelhamer) which were already well underway, members volunteered for DELAWARE (Carol Ann Decker), NEW HAMPSHIRE (Carol Robinson Austin), MARYLAND (Elizabeth Austin Carlin), DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (Millie Austin Welsh) & RHODE ISLAND (Robert Krause Austin).

The Sunday Evening Banquet began with a brief farewell

by Harold Austin Steiner, who was succeeded as AFAOA President by Alice Austin Martin. Robert Krause Austin, who otherwise regaled the Convention attendees with his humor, delivered a very fine Invocation before the meal.

Dinner was followed by an excellent talk "*Some Amusing and Amazing and Adventurous Austins!*" by guest speaker Sandra MacLean Clunies, a Certified Genealogist who resides in nearby Derwood, Maryland. Sandy researched a number of Austin lines while preparing her talk. She discussed some famous people with Austin ties, such as abolitionist Frederick Douglass who married an Austin descendant, and President Rutherford Birchard Hayes who is a descendant of Richard Austin of Charlestown.

More of her interesting discoveries appear on page 632.

The Banquet Program and Convention concluded with the presentation to Bonnie Austin Bigolin of the annual AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Award (page 624).

The rest of pages 622 and 623 were devoted to head shots of the convention attendees.

**BONNIE AUSTIN BIGOLIN
RECEIVES EAGLE AWARD AT THE
1999 NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION**

The prestigious Austin Genealogical Research Award is presented annually at the National Austin Convention by the Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS). More commonly referred to as the "Eagle" award, it was established early in 1997 to "recognize those AOAGS members who have made significant contributions to publishing Austin genealogical research."

The 1999 Eagle was presented to Bonnie Lynn (Austin) Bigolin of Green River, Wyoming, for the publication of her line in a manuscript *Some Descendants of Daniel and Mary (Brackett) Austin of Maine*, submitted to the AOAGS Library on 12 January 1986. Bonnie has been an AOAGS member since 1984, and she has contributed several *Austins of America* articles, including the Maine census article on page 628 of this issue. Her manuscript grew and became the basis for the 1993 Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA) Computer Project book entitled *Some Descendants of Daniel Austin and Mary Brackett of Maine (1772-)*.

Bonnie Lynn Austin was born 6 February 1952 in Rock Springs, Wyoming. She was the youngest of eight children born to Ira Adelbert Austin and Dondena Frances Baker. Her siblings were Shirlee, David, Ruthie, Jeanette, Norris, Jeanie and Barbara. Bonnie was raised in Jamestown, five miles west of Green River. As a child her favorite activity was riding horses. She competed at county fairs in track and barrel racing, horsemanship, etc. The family owned a ranch 15 miles west of Green River, which her grandparents, Norris H. Austin & Anne Birzilla Caldwell, had homesteaded around 1910. Her father Ira continued ranching there until selling it in 1995.

After graduating from Green River High School in 1970, Bonnie then worked as a greenhouse research assistant in the wheat breeding department for North America Plant Breeders, an agricultural research company in Berthoud, Colorado. Several times during growing seasons her team would plant, test and harvest wheat plots in Texas, Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, and South Dakota, taking research notes, and running more tests back at their base.

Bonnie remained with the company until her marriage on 11 March 1977 in Denver, Colorado, to Kenneth Anthony Bigolin, the son of Anthony Bigolin and Esther Oliveri. He was born on 24 February 1948 in Waterbury, Connecticut and raised in Middlebury, Connecticut. He graduated from

Photo AOA 624

**Lynn Austin Bigolin of Green River, Wyoming,
receiving the 1999 Austin Genealogical Research Award
from AOAGS Director Dr. Michael Edward Austin.**

the Univ. of Northern Colorado in Greeley, majoring in history and minoring in anthropology. They moved to Bonnie's hometown of Green River in 1978, where Kenneth has since worked as a car foreman for the Union Pacific Railroad. Their daughters Brittany Suzanne and Brienne Kimberly were born in 1979 and 1981 in Green River, where they currently reside. Bonnie stayed home with the children until they were both in school. In 1986, Bonnie and Ken invested in business property downtown, with several apartments and business offices that they still own and operate. That same year they opened *The Downtown Deli*, which they operated until 1994. Brittany works as a certified nursing assistant and Brienne recently graduated from Green River High School.

Bonnie's personal interests include genealogy and karate. She shares Ken's interests in golfing, home landscaping, and restoring & cruising in their classic '68 Ford Mustangs. Her interest in genealogy arose from watching the 1976 mini-series "Roots" by Alex Haley. She wrote aunts and cousins in Michigan, where her grandfather was born. Denver Public Library was her first research source. Via *The Genealogical Helper* she learned of the AFAOA, which she joined in August 1983. Green River is only a three-hour drive from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and Bonnie takes advantage of its vast resources whenever she can. E-mail, internet, and CD-ROMs have been helpful additions to her genealogical research tools.

In October 1990 Bonnie volunteered to take over from the ailing Janet Austin Curtis as AFAOA Genealogist. Among other duties she compiled updates to Edith Austin Moore's manuscripts on *Joseph Austin of New Hampshire*, *Matthew Austin of Maine*, *John Austin of New Haven, Connecticut*, and Janet's manuscript on *Francis Austin of New Jersey*. Her workload grew with time, so this year her position was split, with Bonnie now handling the northern states, and with Elizabeth Austin Carlin now taking over the southern states.

**THE DESCENDANTS OF
EDWARD HORTON AUSTIN
OF MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS**

*by Helen Harriet Austin Baxter
and Raymond Francis Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 612]

Glenn Matthew Austin's first Air Force assignment was as an Atmospheric Engineering Technician. He was assigned to engineering and testing. His job involved evaluating suggestions, finding parts to replace 1950's technology, revamping technical orders, and compiling tracking information for the System Manager. In February 1991 he received an achievement medal and citation:

Sergeant Glenn Matthew Austin distinguished himself by his meritorious service as an Atmospheric Engineering Technician, Directorate of Logistics, Technical Operations Division, McClellan Air Force Base, California.

Sergeant Austin's initiative and perseverance in monitoring atmospheric assets directly contributed to saving 20,000 dollars and 100 man-hours annually in distribution of over 5000 assets at numerous worldwide locations to meet rapidly changing mission needs. The timely and accurate information he compiled enabled the System Manager to meet four simultaneous taskings, each with less than 24 hour notice, a feat never previously accomplished. His tracking of the 5.1 million dollars sphere inventory greatly enhanced the management of these critically short items.

*GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THIS 15TH DAY OF
FEBRUARY 1991*

JAY J. JAYNES, Colonel, USAF Commander

A Great Friend

After several years in engineering at Technical Operations Division, Glenn was transferred to the maintenance portion for six months. There he gained some hands-on experience with trainer Paul Stermer. Paul, a college graduate, set high maintenance standards and taught Glenn the theory of operations for the various collection systems. Glenn returned to engineering and published a "Universal Foil" technical order in 1987.

Paul mentored both on and off duty, and would visit Glenn in the barracks and make frequent calls to go bowling or fishing. He even encouraged Glenn to join the bowling team. With Paul's advice on using a fingertip ball, Glenn attained a modest average of 187. Paul would also invite the whole engineering and maintenance section on fishing trips. On one trip to Lake Berryessa Glenn was mesmerized as he watched his first large mouth bass jump out of the water, do an acrobatic flip, and return to the water. He forgot to set the hook. Besides fishing and bowling, Glenn practiced scales and "Fiddler on the Roof" songs using the

Photo AOA 625

Glenn Matthew Austin in 1985

recreation center's baby grand piano. He entered a Base talent contest in 1987 and played "Sunrise-Sunset," taking second place.

Down the hall from piano room, was the pool room. Glenn's grandfather had taught him to play as a young boy, downstairs in the basement. He and his brother Mark often challenged their father and grandfather to play eight ball. Glenn eventually purchased his first "Biago Poolstick," and he became rather good at eight ball, taking first place in several tournaments.

Traumatic Experience

Since his parents were still overseas, Glenn planned to spend the Christmas holidays in 1986 with his grandparents in Weymouth, Massachusetts. His brother Mark was supposed to meet him at Boston's Logan Airport. Instead Glenn was met by his cousin Michael Mullen, who explained that Mark had been killed in a car accident. It was a traumatic and yet joyous time. While Glenn had lost his best friend, he knew Mark was now with the Lord. Like the rest of the family, Glenn struggled and grieved over the loss of his brother during the next few months. At Mass one day he heard a beautiful song "Be With Me Lord." He requested a copy of the song so he might learn to play it. The choir director gave him the song, and invited him to join the choir. Glenn participated as cantor and tenor in cantatas, his love for music provided a great joy and inspiration.

director gave him the song, and invited him to join the choir. Glenn participated as cantor and tenor in cantatas, his love for music provided a great joy and inspiration.

Musically Inclined

Glenn always had a fascination for music. He taught himself to play the organ at the age of 6, and tried his hand at the violin. He joined the St. Bernard's Church Choir in Concord, Massachusetts, and he would often sing during the annual hay rides through the town.

At age 19 he started writing his first song called "Love's Too Strong to Break," about courtship and marriage vows to the woman he would some day marry. Glenn showed his song to choir director and pianist Dorothy Griggs. She played the song as written, then observed that he was writing a love song, not marching his wife-to-be down the aisle! When she tried playing the song with greater compassion, it sounded the way Glenn had envisioned.

First Encounters

In 1987 the morning after daylights savings time went into effect, Glenn first met Donna McWilliams. She was ushering, and as he walked into the back of the McClellan AFB church for piano practice, Donna told him that the clocks had changed and he was an hour late!

About a year later, in February 1988 on a Saturday afternoon Glenn went bowling to try out some new tips. He had five strikes in a row going for his first 300 game when a deep voice asked how he was able to bowl so many strikes. Turning around he was surprised to see the girl he had met at the back of church. Glenn explained to Donna the approach and proper release of the bowling ball. With Donna watching he went for his sixth strike, releasing the ball again, but left the ten pin standing... his streak was over. Donna then explained with a big grin she had been bowling for the last 12 years!

Courtship Conspiracy

In May 1988, all choir members were invited to Jamie McArdle's wedding. After the reception Jamie invited close friends back to her parents' home. As Glenn later learned, a conspiracy was afoot. Everyone excused themselves, leaving Glenn and Donna alone. He asked her out for a bowling date, they became best friends and went everywhere together, and Donna joined the choir.

Glenn eventually completed composing his first song. One evening while practicing the piano he told Donna that the woman he married would have to like his song. She asked him to play it, but he said it was not quite ready. Later he played the song without telling her. She agreed with the song's sentiments. In December 1988, Glenn asked Donna to fly to Massachusetts to visit his grandparents and the places where he grew up. While in Weymouth he bought her an Irish "claddaugh" ring with

two hands holding a heart as a sign of their engagement. During their engagement the Air Force merged Glenn's own career field with several others to improve promotion opportunities. Glenn received ten inches of cross training

Photo AOA 626-1

Glenn Austin placed second in a 1987 McClellan AFB talent show by playing "Sunrise-Sunset" on the piano.

Photo AOA 626-2

Donna Marie McWilliams and Glenn Matthew Austin first met at the McClellan Air Force Base Church.

materials on "Sensors." During his first year of study for the Staff Sergeant test, Glenn waded through eight different sensor systems along with the Professional Military Education pamphlet. Glenn took the test, but missed the Staff Sergeant cut-off by a large margin.

Wedding Bells

One evening while Glenn was visiting the McWilliams household, Donna kept urging him to propose in front of her parents. Glenn nervously asked for Donna's hand in marriage, at which time her father replied "Do you just want her hand, or the rest of her too?" Everyone laughed, and wedding plans were underway. On 5 May 1990 Glenn Matthew Austin and Donna Marie McWilliams were married at the Base church by Fr. David J. Baratelli, the Roman Catholic Chaplain. Donna was born on 21 February 1969 at Beale Air Force Base, Yuba County, California, about 10 miles from Marysville. She was the third child of Marvin Raymond & Elmina Barbara Powell McWilliams. At the wedding Dorothy Griggs played Glenn's first song "Love's Too Strong To Break" and Jamie McArdle sang it. Glenn and Donna honeymooned in California wine country, Napa Valley, at Bodega Bay riding horses, and touring redwood forests and hot springs.

Transfer to England

The young couple resided in North Highlands, California. They first lived at 7740 Watt Avenue, then moved a short distance to 3825 Little Rock Drive, just two blocks from Donna's parents. In October, Donna became pregnant, about the same time Glenn was notified of a transfer to Lakenheath Air Base, Suffolk County, England. They arriving there in January 1991, stayed at a German lady's house behind Mildenhall Air Base until they found a house at Thetford, Norfolk County, England. Frequent visits to the Base Hospital made them feel like experts on pregnancy. Glenn witnessed with great joy as their son Christopher was born on 24 June 1991 at the Air Base Hospital. After seven months at Thetford, they moved to West Row, also behind Mildenhall Air Base. The house had three bedrooms and a quaint back yard, with a hornets nest which the health department removed. Christopher, propped up near the window in his Notre Dame shirt, enjoyed watching the ducklings pass by. moved to West Row, also behind Mildenhall Air Base.

Family Visits

Donna's parents visited them in September 1991. They experienced an old Saxon settlement, castle ruins, an old crooked house, and explored the White Cliffs of Dover. After England her parents visited Scotland. In October 1991 Glenn and Donna visited Glenn's parents, sisters

and paternal grandfather in Concord, Massachusetts. Christopher entertained Patricia and Donna while Glenn and his father felled eight trees in the backyard.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 658]

Photo AOA 627-1

Glenn and his father cutting down trees in Concord, clearing the way for a new fountain, pool, and garden with life-size statues of Winter, Summer, and Hebe.

Photo AOA 627-2

Four generation photograph taken in October 1991 in Concord, Massachusetts. Left to right: Michael Edward Austin, Raymond Francis Austin, and Glenn Matthew Austin holding Christopher James Austin.

NOTE: Pages 628-631 have been deleted. They detail the 1850 Census for Maine.

SOME AMUSING AND AMAZING AND ADVENTUROUS AUSTINS!

by Sandra MacLean Clunies

Editor's Note: Sandra was the guest speaker at the 1999 National Austin Convention Banquet. The following is from her handout of the same title, and reflects the great effort she put into her delightful talk. Harriet Newell Austin descends from Robert Austin of Kingstown, Rhode Island, David Austin from John Austin of New Haven.

David Austin's "Millennium Madness" in 1800

David⁵ Austin (*David*,⁴ *David*,³ *David*,² *John*¹) grew up in the White Haven Church in New Haven, Connecticut, where his father was a deacon, and where the pastor was the younger Jonathan Edwards (1745-1801), whose "New Divinity" beliefs greatly influenced the young Austin. David graduated from Yale in 1779 and studied for the ministry. He was licensed to preach on 30 May 1780, but he received no call to a congregation. He then took a tour of England and western Europe from 1781 to 1782, returning to marry Lydia Lathrop of Norwich, Connecticut in 1783; with whom there were no children. David seemed to lose enthusiasm for the ministry and let his preaching license lapse in 1784. There is no indication of how he supported himself for the next few years.

But in 1787, he was suddenly awakened "from his worldly lethargy and aroused to the service of God," re-licensed to preach and accepted as the minister of the Presbyterian church in Elizabethtown, Union County, New Jersey in 1788. He launched a variety of religious publishing ventures, which achieved sporadic success, but the publications usually folded after a few issues. In 1794 he published *The Millennium: or, The Thousand Years of Prosperity Promised to the Church of God*. He interpreted the founding of the American republic as a signal for Christ's imminent return. Becoming obsessed with these themes, on 5 February 1796, he fell "prostrate upon the carpet in the parlour" of the parsonage in Elizabethtown and received a revelation that Christ would return to earth in the month of May 1796. He rushed to publish a booklet, *The Voice of God to the People of These United States*, and frantically preached up to three times a day. But the month of May 1796 passed with no great event, and David Austin's congregation felt he had gone mad and appealed to the Presbytery of New York to dissolve the pastoral relationship. David Austin saved them the trouble by resigning his position in May 1797.

His fanaticism did not soon abate, however, and during the presidential election of 1800 he sent open letters to the King of England, the Pope, and the peoples of Europe and America warning them that the millennium would be happening in Washington, DC. When his father-in-law died in 1807 and left a large inheritance, David and wife Lydia were able to live comfortably for the rest of their lives. His fanatical ideas seemed to diminish over time, and so the New Haven Association agreed to re-license him as a minister. In 1815, he was called to a small church in Bozrah, New London County, Connecticut where he served until his death in 1831.

Some published works have depicted David Austin as being "insane" and "mad," and his published writings have been evaluated as disjointed, and "sometimes incoherent." But he is also described as a colorful though controversial example of how confident some Americans were that their new republic was such a departure from the European system that the future of the United States had to be closely identified with God's millennial purposes for the world. [References 1 and 2].

Harriet Newell Austin – Hydropathic Physician

Harriet Newell⁶ Austin (*Joseph*,⁵ *Joseph*,⁴ *Robert*,³ *Joseph*,² *Robert*¹) was born in 1825 in Killingly, Connecticut, the sixth of eleven children, and moved with her family to Cayuga County, New York. At age 26, she enrolled in the first class of the co-educational American Hydropathic Institute in New York City, completing a three-month course and receiving a medical diploma in December 1851. The next year she joined the staff of James Caleb Jackson's Glen Haven Water Cure, a hydropathic institute on Skaneateles Lake near Scott, New York. Advertisements soon prominently featured Harriet Austin. In 1855, now thirty years old, she was adopted by Jackson, who was a married father, as his "beloved daughter and friend." Harriet maintained her medical partnership with Jackson and his family for nearly forty years.

In 1858, they established another sanitarium in Dansville, New York, called "Our Home on the Hillside." The basis of the treatment was a belief that the internal and external use of "pure" (not mineral) water, combined with fresh air, exercise, simplified diet, and the elimination of the "artificial habits of urbanizing life" would both cure disease and prevent illness. She won approval from the patients and the community, unaccustomed as they were in those times to an independent, self-confident, assertive woman physician.

James Caleb Jackson was also a noted abolitionist and visitors to "Our Home on the Hillside" included such luminaries as Frederick Douglass, Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Horace Greeley and Clara Barton, who made an extended visit to the facility in 1876, and kept a residence in Danville for ten years. In 1882, fire destroyed the main building, and a new fireproof brick facility was built in 1883, called the Jackson Health Resort, where it remained in business until 1914.

Not only was Harriet Newell Austin a pioneering female physician and proponent of preventative medicine, she also advocated women's dress reform, and invented "The American Costume," which shed cumbersome floor-length dresses in favor of a mid-length skirt worn over trousers. While it was very practical, it never gained wide acclaim in her day. Her female cousins thank her today! [References 1 and 3].

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**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
HENRY AND ELIZABETH AUSTIN
OF CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND**

*by Anne Laurie Austin Smith
Pauline Lucille Cackler Israel
and Richard Troy Hobgood Jr.*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 619]

H161-261. JOHN DAVID⁷ AUSTIN (*Benjamin B.*,⁶ *David*,⁵ *Henry*,^{4,3} *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 10 August 1854 in Randolph County, Missouri. He married on 30 October 1872 to Mildred "Dolly" Simms in Huntsville, Randolph County, Missouri. She was the daughter of John Thomas and Eliza Jane (Fray) Simms. John David Austin died on 22 February 1925 in Huntsville, Mildred died on 16 October 1931. They had four children born in Missouri:

H161-2611. MARGARET, *b. 18 February 1874, She m. in Huntsville on 27 January 1895 to Charlie Edward Semple, b. 25 October 1865. He was a druggist, and owned the Semple Opera House in Huntsville, which he converted to a movie house in 1913. They traveled a great deal seeing America. Their daughter Margaret Fray was b. 25 November 1901, she died at age 23 of tuberculosis. Charlie died on 13 September 1945 in Huntsville. Maggie's zest for life went when Margaret died. She was a very gracious lady who devoted her whole life to caring for others. In her nineties people broke into her home while she was staying at her cousins, and stole almost everything she had, including many antiques and valuables. She sold or gave away the rest and moved to a boarding house. At age 99 her skin was still smooth, she was very slender without a dried-up look. She looked much younger than her years. She never wore glasses, her mind remained amazingly clear, and her memory was infallible. She was a perfect lady and very intelligent. She moved to the boarding home because she was unable to keep house herself any longer. Maggie was one of the sweetest and most cultured of ladies. Margaret Austin Semple died in Huntsville on 4 October 1973.*

H161-2612. WILLIAM FRAY, *b. 31 January 1876, he m. Edith Dolen. He died on 29 August 1948 in Washington state. No children.*

H161-2613. FRANK OLIVER, *b. 7 November 1878, he worked with the circus and carnivals all of his adult life. He was a song and dance man, barker, or whatever else he was needed for. He became crippled and sick and was going blind. His sister Maggie Semple cared for him for 19 years. He became completely helpless and had to be cared for like a baby. He d. 20 October 1959. He never married.*

H161-2614. MONTAGUE ['MONTY'], *b. 26 October 1880, he m. Virline Finley. Monty was a professional singer. He was making a stage appearance in Portland, Oregon when he fell ill with the contagious Parrot fever. He was placed in isolation in the hospital, his wife was the only allowed visitor. He d. on 7 November 1931 in Portland, Oregon, she caught the fever also, and d. a month later on 7 December 1931. No children.*

H161-612. BELFIELD KIRTLEY⁷ AUSTIN (*John H.*,⁶ *John Willis*,⁵ *Henry*,^{4,3} *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 10 August 1856 near Madison, Madison County, Virginia. He married on 28 October 1883 in either Henry or Chariton County, Missouri, to Gertrude Wilma Rhodus, who was born 13 October 1863 in Illinois. They resided in Henry County and had five children, but their sons George and Henry died of cholera. During the summer of 1898 they moved near Lakewood, Shelby County, Illinois, where their last child Hubert was born in November that same year. Belfield's brother Henry Austin and his wife were already living near Lakewood. On 29 February 1899 Gertrude died at their home northeast of Lakewood, and was interred in Harmon Cemetery. Belfield died on 15 August 1943 in Shelby County. His obituary read in part:

"To this union six children were born, namely: Mrs. Grace Spracklin of Champaign; Gilbert Austin of Tower Hill; Clarence Austin in defense work, location not exactly known; Hubert Austin of Nebraska; and George and Henry, both preceding their father in death.

"Mr. Austin was a good neighbor in the community in which he lived and a man with outstanding character who had faith in his neighborhood. Besides the children, he leaves 13 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren, and one sister Mrs. Ed. Bowman, Lakewood, and a host of other relatives and friends.

"Funeral Services were held at the Lockart Funeral Home, with Rev. Harmon Etter of Pana officiating. Music was furnished by Mr. & Mrs. Otis Carter, Rev. Silas Wakefield and Mrs. Brumitt, accompanied by Ms. Verna Wakefield. Pallbearers were: George Bauer, Henry Horseman, Dan Plowman, Leverett Russell, John Duckett and A. W. Moore."

Belfield Austin was buried beside his wife Gertrude. They had five children born in Henry County, Missouri and one in Shelby County, Illinois [Ref. 35]:

H161-6121. GRACE BELLE, *b. 5 September 1884, m. on 29 March 1903 in Shelby County, Illinois to George Elias Spracklin. They resided in Champaign, Champaign County, Illinois, where she died on 27 June 1971.*

H161-6122. GILBERT K., *b. 28 January 1886 +*

H161-6123. GEORGE, *b. 16 February 1888, d. 15 July 1889 of cholera in Henry County, Missouri.*

H161-6124. HENRY, *b. 1 March 1890, d. 3 March 1890 of cholera in Henry County, Missouri.*

H161-6125. CLARENCE, *b. 18 July 1891 +*

H161-6126. HUBERT, *b. on 13 November 1898, he was residing in Nebraska in 1943.*

H161-613. HENRY L.⁷ AUSTIN (*John H.*,⁶ *John Willis*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Henry*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 17 October 1861, probably in Henry County, Missouri (see Editor's Note below). Henry married to Anna A. Finks. He died on 22 January 1934 in Shelby County, Illinois. Henry and Anna had two known children [Ref. 35]:

H161-6131. EDNA PEARL, *b. in June 1889, m. H. E. Richardson.*

H161-6132. LILLIE FERN, *b. in December 1895, m. on 8 April 1917 to Otto Frank Hayward. Three children: Noel G. resided in California; Ruby m. Leonard Wheat and resided in Shelbyville, Illinois; John H. resided Charleston, Illinois.*

Editor's Note: Ref. 35 (see *Austins of America* page 620) has his birthplace as Kansas, but this seems unlikely since his family purchased land in Henry County in 1857 and lived there until 1883, when his widowed mother moved to Shelby County, Illinois, and remarried.

H161-614. THOMAS RICHARD⁷ AUSTIN (*John H.*,⁶ *John Willis*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Henry*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 5 October 1868, probably in Henry County, Missouri (see Editor's note above). He married on 23 December 1897 in Sedalia, Pettis County, Missouri, to Celestia Ellen Couch. She was born 6 March 1871 in Sullivan County, Missouri, the daughter of Leander Polk Couch and Sally Mariah Thompson. They resided in Iconium, St. Clair County, Missouri, where Thomas was a molasses farmer and veterinarian. Celestia died on 13 April 1936 in Kansas City, Jackson County, Missouri. Thomas Austin died on 9 February 1937 in Iconium, where he and Celestia were buried in the Smith Bend Cemetery. Their daughter was born in Brownington, St. Clair County [Ref. 28]:

H161-6141. BERTHA MAY, *b. 25 August 1903, m. on 1 July 1927 in Kansas City to Alva Ellsworth Ellis, b. 27 September 1884 at Fuller's Point, Coles County, Illinois. Alva d. 27 February 1950 in Kansas City, Bertha d. there on 14 November 1958. Both are buried at Mount Washington Cemetery in Kansas City. Three ch: Austin Ellsworth b. 22 June 1928; Ruth Ellen b. 20 January 1930; Albert Edward b. 27 July 1932 in Kansas City.*

H161-C31. WALLER BOHANNON⁷ AUSTIN (*Waller Tazewell*,⁶ *Henry Tazewell*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Henry*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born in 1868. He was a dentist, and had his practice in Moberly, Randolph County, Missouri, a town about six miles from Huntsville in the same county. He married in October 1904 in Huntsville to Susie Belle Maupin. They had two children:

H161-C311. SUSIE BELL, *b. 1 February 1916 Missouri, m. on 1 January 1937 to John A. Wilhite,*

two ch: Dorothy Suellen Wilhite, m1. Jerry Warman, m2. — Miller; and John Austin Wilhite b. 11 July 1943 m. 4 August 1973 Nancy Pattinson. Susie Bell was living in Liberty, Callaway County, Missouri in 1972.

AOA Photo 634-1
Henrietta Margaret Austin (1861-1951)

AOA Photo 634-2
James Albert Austin (1862-1957)

H161-C312. WALLER DABNEY, *b. 29 March 1918, he m. Betty Riggs from Higginsville, Lafayette Co. Missouri. Waller was killed in a one-car accident on 2 February 1967. They had a son Stewart Dabney Austin b. 18 December 1949 who m. Lila Sue Ralston, b. 14 June 1953.*

H161-C451. MYRTLE, *b. 1898, d. ae 4 months in Decatur*

H161-C452. PEARL VIRGINIA, *b. 4 March 1900 in the Indian Territory nearby to Ardmore, Carter*

H161-C41. HENRIETTA MARGARET⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston,⁶ Henry Tazewell,⁵ Henry,⁴ Henry,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) never married. Her photograph appears on page 634. For more information on her see page 540.

H161-C42. JAMES ALBERT⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston,⁶ Henry Tazewell,⁵ Henry,⁴ Henry,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) was 11 years old the day his parents crossed into Texas, returning there from Missouri. His photograph appears on page 634. For more information on him see page 540.

H161-C43. JENNIE MAUD⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston,⁶ Henry Tazewell,⁵ Henry,⁴ Henry,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) see her photograph at left. Despite her appearance here, her niece described her as full of fun and teasing: "At one time my sister and I were there, Aunt Jennie let something burn. She turned around to my sister and said, 'look what you did – you burned my bread!' The oat meal went over once, she said we did it. She was strict but always could see fun in life. She was always the joker, with thirteen children to feed and look out for, house full of kin, never a harsh word but fun, in the fields or in the home, we all loved her." For more information on Jennie and her family see page 540.

H161-C44. SALLY OLIVER⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston,⁶ Henry Tazewell,⁵ Henry,⁴ Henry,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) see her photograph at left. For more on her see page 540.

H161-C45. HENRY TAZEWE⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston,⁶ Henry Tazewell,⁵ Henry,⁴ Henry,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) was born 13 October 1870 in Huntsville, Randolph County, Missouri. He moved with his parents to Texas in 1877. He spent several years in Mexico on a ranch before he married on 24 December 1896 in Decatur, Wise County, Texas, to Bertie Livermore. She was born 11 January 1880. The couple moved to the Indian Territory where he had been when he first started out from home. They later moved to Sayre, Beckham County, Oklahoma, where he filed on a farm near Sayre. He was a farmer in his early life, and later a building contractor in Altus, Jackson County, Oklahoma. He owned and operated a service station at the time of his death on 22 February 1945 in Altus. He was a man of few words, voice always low and soft spoken, and was loved by everyone. Bertie died on 30 November 1963, and is buried with Henry in Altus. Henry and Bertie had eight children:

AOA Photo 635-1

Jennie Maud (Austin) Robertson (1865-1928)

AOA Photo 636-1**Henry Tazewell Austin and Bertie (Livermore) Austin****AOA Photo 636-2****Felix Houston Austin and Nancy Ann (Graham) Austin**

County, Oklahoma. She m1. on 23 December 1923 at Sayre to Clarence Worley. He was Asst. Superintendent of the fish hatchery at Medicine Park, Comanche County, Oklahoma. He was killed in a car accident on 6 June 1936. Pearl m2. 30 January 1940 to George Townsley, who served under General Patton. They retired and lived in Lawton, Comanche County, where they attended the Baptist Church. George belonged to Mason Lodge 183 in Lawton. He died on 29 August 1986. Pearl was in the Eastern Star, a member of the Royal Neighbor of America, the Pioneer Club, White Shrine of Jerusalem in Lawton.

She attended college at Denton, Texas. Pearl died in 1987 in Oklahoma.

H161-C453. ANNIE LOU, b. 17 March 1904 in Sayre, m. in October 1920 in Wichita Falls, Texas, to Richard Adams, an attorney. He was killed in California. Annie was a nurse, she had two years of college at North Texas State. She d. 5 July 1927 in Frederick Hospital, Frederick, Tillman County, Oklahoma.

H161-C454. ADA JO, b. 21 April 1907 in Sayre. She m.in Oklahoma City on October 1927 to Joe Hobson. She was a nurse, graduating from Southwestern Hospital in Lawton. He was Vice President of Acme Brick Company in Fort Worth, Texas. She d. in Denton, Texas, on 13 May 1951, and is buried in Altus.

H161-C455. ELWOOD AUGUSTUS, b. 10 July 1909 +

H161-C456. EDNA, b. 22 January 1911 in Altus. She was schooled at Altus, had nursing training at Chickasha Hospital, and was a nurse at Lawton Southwest Hospital. She m. on 21 March 1941 in Lawton to Marcus Johnson. He was in the U.S. Army, serving twice in Germany. He retired as a Warrant Officer. He was the manager of the Harry Russell Lumber Company in Lawton. Two children: Ada Joe born on 15 January 1950, Marsha Marion born on 7 May 1953.

H161-C457. JOHN DAVID, b. 13 March 1918 +

H161-C458. BETTY MAXINE, b. 27 September 1920 in Altus, m1. in 1938 in Altus to LeRoy Pierce. One son: Dale Edward b. 31 January 1940. LeRoy drowned in 1945. Betty m2. on 18 September 1941 to U.S. Army Capt. Harold W. Chaney, who adopted Dale. He served in the Pacific, Philippines, Korea, Hawaii, and Germany where they lived for two years. They retired to Lawton, he worked for the Prudential Insurance. Betty died circa 1988.

H161-C46. FELIX HOUSTON⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston*,⁶ *Henry Tazewell*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Henry*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 11 June 1873 in Huntsville, Randolph County, Missouri. He married on 10 June 1894 in Greenwood, Wise County, Texas, to Nancy Ann Graham, born 7 April 1877 in Greenwood. They had five children in Texas before moving to Oklahoma, where Felix engaged in farming. They belonged to the Church of Christ. They had been residents of Altus, Jackson County, Oklahoma, for 65 years when they celebrated their 75th Anniversary. At that time they had 9 children, 36 grandchildren, 98 great-grandchildren and 18 great-great-grandchildren! Nancy died on 17 October 1969, Felix died on 12 January 1974. They had nine children:

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 647]

SEEKING MY AUSTEN ROOTS IN TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA AND IN COUNTY KENT, ENGLAND

by Brian Edward Austen

A little over twenty years ago I stumbled across an entry in the Tasmanian State Library archives, an immigration reference to Henry, Mary, Annie, Mary, Elizabeth, Harriet, and Henry John Austin. They all came to Launceston, Tasmania, Australia from County Kent (UK) on the ship *SS Potossi* (photo at right), arriving on 11 August 1883. Although I almost missed its relevance, it was the start of a satisfying and challenging journey of discovery, history and hopes, because not for the first or last time the “in” should have been “en” and was my then unknown great-grandfather. Yes, I am an Austen with an “e,” as in Jane, as I often feel the need to quickly add.

And so it was a few months ago that I initially thought I was inquiring about an *Austens of America* organization and had to be reassured that, although it was called the *Austins of America Genealogical Society*, it really covered a variety of spellings. So I have joined up, to learn and to broaden my contacts. But I am firmly interested in the *Austen* family name, even more so now than then, as I have expanding material on Austen trees in the United States, New Zealand, South Africa, England, and Australia, as well as my own Austen branch which I now know is split between Kent and Tasmania.

So I would like to hear from any Austen members of the *Austins of America Genealogical Society* living in the United States. The prospects are both fascinating and challenging, and will give me plenty to occupy my time as I begin to think about retirement from my job with the Australian public service. I also enjoy the opportunity to help others discover their origins and relations.

Like most of “ens” I would like to connect with Jane, the famous writer, and to find out that this does not seem likely is a disappointment. Just maybe though, there is some consolation with a connection with George transported to Western Australia from Rochester in Kent in 1866 for housebreaking. At any rate my great-grandfather Henry Austen’s father was a market gardener from Upton and his father, Abraham Austen, may have been a police Constable at Hereson around 1800.

It is at this point where it all becomes a jigsaw, with most of the pieces still missing. I have just recently discovered that there was a Benjamin Austen born in 1750 at nearby St. Laurence, and is therefore likely to have been a close relative. However, at this time Jane Austen’s forebears were moving from Cranbrook to Sevenoaks, so any connection must have been pre-1750.

AOA Photo 637-1

The *S. S. Potossi* carried Henry & Mary Austen and family to Launceston, Tasmania in 1883.

AOA Photo 637-2

They are pictured above at their first house at Newstead Estate.

But an Ambrose Austen, born in 1757 (the names used present a fascinating challenge: Ambrose at Marden, Jeremiah and Joseph at Ashford, Abraham at Upton / St. Peters, Daniel at Broxhall, Nathaniel at Penshurst) who went to Wooster, Ohio, sometime in the 1790s whose descendents have spread to Ohio, Florida and California (Reference: *Genealogy of Austen and Pearce Families from 1757 to 1911*) at least might have been related to Jane. AOAGS member Barbara E. Austen of Connecticut claims a family resemblance to Jane’s Brothers. Wishful thinking? Perhaps. We may find out in due course.

Hopefully we will also discover the identity of the Harry Austen who, sometime before the end of the 17th Century went to South Africa to teach. He probably also from around Margate in Thanet, but we really do not know yet. Nor have we placed the Canadian Austens.

I am relishing such challenges. And that is without the rest of the several hundred Austens in the US covering at least 35 States and more in the UK. I’d really love to be able to put it all together. And in the process maybe find out a bit more about my own origins, whether we came

AOA Photo 638

First Generation of Austens in Tasmania, Australia. Back row standing: Mary, Henry John, Henry, George. Seated: Harriet Austen, Edward Clayton, Annie (Austen) Clayton, their children Edward and Lily Clayton.

with William in 1066 or Augustine or whether, as one of my marginally interested correspondents from England said, “the name was often taken up by English apprentices in the wool weaving trade so there are no certain blood lines” and my forebears really might have been anyone.

But I do know some of what has happened in Tasmania in the 116 years since 1883. Great-grandfather Henry Austen had two sons by his wife Mary: Henry John and George William. Henry had no children, but fortunately for me my grandfather George William Austen did. He was born in 1888. From the only record I have, it would have been a fairly rudimentary home life (see the house photograph on the previous page), thought no doubt it was optimistic. Great grandfather eventually became the curator of the Launceston Show Grounds until in 1920 he “was squeezed against a fence by a horse” and broke his hip as reported by the Launceston *Examiner* and had to retire (photo of Henry and family was taken circa 1920, a few years before his death in 1925. Son George, the hope for posterity, had green thumbs and became a very good gardener. He married Elsie Rebecca Ella May Bassett, from a small country town known as the Tunnel.

Elsie brought more than the memory of trains and country. She has given all Austen descendants of Abraham Austen in Tasmania an additional claim to historical significance. Her forebears on her mother’s side were convicts, and “first fleeters.”

Her great-great-grandfather John Herbert was transported on the *Scarborough* to Botany Bay in 1788 with the “First Fleet.” After a period serving as a Constable on Norfolk Island, he eventually settled in Tasmania. Her maternal great-grandfather and grandfather were also transported while her paternal grandfather was yet another convict; Peter Bassett spent time at Tasmania’s infamous model prison, Port Arthur.

George and Elsie Austen had four sons, Herbert George, Clifton Eric, Sydney Winford, and Richard Henry, and one daughter, Betty Elizabeth (see photos on next page). With another three generations there are two dozen currently with the surname and birth name Austen in Tasmania. Of more of a challenge, there are at least another 70 Austens in Australia who undoubtedly have other origins — just waiting to be discovered!

639-1. **Marvelous Austin** was b. 23 February 1751/57 in New York. She married Caleb Norton b. 24 February 1749, son of Caleb and — Hoag Norton. Marvelous died on 22 December 1839. Would like her ancestry.

639-2. **Abigail Austin** was born in 1780 maybe Maine, married Stephen W. Doty born circa 1777/80. They had one known child, Mary Jane Doty, who married a Buck. Abigail died on 26 October 1855 and her husband died in 1839/40. They are buried in Ebenezer Cemetery, Morrow County, Ohio. Seeking any census records of Abigail and Stephen living in Morrow County, Ohio.

639-3 **Noah Austin** married Ursula Freeman, both were born circa 1800 in New York. They had five children in New York: Huldah b. ca. 1826; Smith b. ca. 1827 lived in Leipsic, Ohio; Mary Jane b. 1834 m. Alanson Youngs in 1857 in LaGrange County, Indiana. They moved to Ionia County, Michigan; John E. b. ca. 1838 m. Mary Youngs and lived in Ionia County; George b. ca. 1843, in 1914 he was living in Jackson, Michigan. Ursula might have had a brother, Alfred Freeman b. circa 1802 in New York. Seeking Noah's ancestry and descendants.

639-4. **William Austin** was a Tory, he sailed for England to watch over the family interests when the Revolutionary War broke out. Colonists captured the ship and William was sent to Philadelphia to stand trial for treason. His wife's sister was married to Commodore John Barry and rather than have a "traitor" in the family, John Barry saw to it that William left for Virginia where the family were farmers. Not sure on all of this, but history shows that Commodore John Barry was indeed married to an Austin. William might have had a son, Cornelius born in 1832, m. Mary Harlow Gaskins on 28 March 1856 in Hatteras, North Carolina. Cornelius died in 1884 in Hatteras. Need to find out whether this family legend is true, and seeking William Austin's ancestry and descendants.

639-5. **William Alfred Austin** married Catherine Carr or Core, they had one known child: William Hugh born in 1857 in Buffalo, New York. It is also stated that William Hugh Austin arrived in Victoria, Australia in 1867 although no record has been found of his arrival. On 24 January 1880 William Hugh Austin age 23 years, married Catherine Ann Hayes in the state of Victoria. William Hugh died in 1895. He and Catherine Ann had one known child: Thomas Hugh Austin. Thomas moved to New South Wales and married Isabel —. They later moved to New Zealand where my father-in-law Ian Austin was born. Their marriage broke up and Isabel moved back to New South Wales, Australia while Thomas stayed in New Zealand. He died in 1926. Tragically Isabel also died in 1926, and Ian was

raised with foster parents in New South Wales. Seeking the ancestry and descendants of William Alfred Austin.

AOA Photo 639-1

2nd Generation in Tasmania: George & Elsie Bassett Austen with children Sidney Winford, Herbert George, Betty Elizabeth, Clifton Eric, and Richard Henry.

AOA Photo 639-2

Brian Edward Austen, his seated wife Judith Ann, their children Rebecca Amy & John Nicholas Austen.

**AN ORAL HISTORY OF
JAMES NELSON AUSTIN OF VIRGINIA**

by Phyllis Cynthia Young Murray

Editor's Note: Nelson Austin Sr. was born into slavery in Virginia. His family appears in the Madison Township, Cumberland County 1870 census and in the Randolph Magisterial District 1880 census. 1870-1880 census ages imply inconsistent birth years: Nelson Sr. b. 1833-1820, his wife Virginia or "Jennie" 1833-1830, their children: Wilson 1855-1854, Nelson 1857-(was not listed in 1880), Anthony 1859-1860, Kate 1860-1862, James 1862-1864, Bettie 1864-1866, Elisa or "Berie" 1868-1868, Mary 1870, Laura 1872, Cary (male) 1873 & Sam 1876. Nelson Jr. went by "Payton," and Sam by "Sim."

My grandfather James Nelson Austin was born circa 1863 in Virginia. In this article I bring you our family's oral history concerning his life. He died in 1936, exactly two years prior to my arrival. What I know of him has been related to me over the years by my mother, Frazure Austin Young, and aunts Inez Austin Venable and Mary Austin Cook. Of course, I knew his home because I was born there, in Grandfather's own room in Farmville, Prince Edward County, Virginia. I was delivered by Dr. John Baker, who also delivered my mother and her siblings.

Grandfather Austin was tireless. This I have gathered from what my mother and aunts have related to me. His parents were free at the time of his birth. Grandfather did not know slavery, but he did know about working hard on the family's farm in Buckingham, Virginia. The Buckingham property was once owned by the master, an enslaver of Africans. However, as my aunt explained, the master was somewhat benevolent and did not beat the people he had enslaved. My great-grandparents, the Austins, were permitted to remain at this residence as a family and remain intact throughout slavery without the physical scars of slavery, while others enslaved at the same period were known as "tar-backs" or "razor-backs" due to the brutality inflicted upon them by their masters.

While my great-grandfather worked on his master's plantation, my great-grandmother was hired out to cook on another plantation. Finally, after years of forced servitude, the land and house were bequeathed to my great-grandparents. The Emancipation Proclamation of 1863 had freed all slaves in the Confederate States. My great-grandparents continued to work on the plantation after their freedom was granted.

Grandfather's education was very basic. He learned to read signs and count money from a white playmate whom he befriended on a neighboring farm. Grandfather did not attend the one-room schoolhouse set aside for Blacks more than a day. As Aunt Inez explained, "The little white boy taught Papa more than what the black school teacher attempted to teach. Apparently, he could sense the fact that

**AOA Photo 640
James Nelson Austin (circa 1863-1936)**

the separate school system was not equal. Thus, he decided to move on.

Grandfather knew he would have to leave Virginia to receive decent wages. His sister, Laura, was already in New London, Connecticut. Thus he decided to follow her. Once in Connecticut, he was able to work hard and long enough on a farm in Groton, Connecticut. He earned enough money to buy his own home on Ely Street shortly after his return to Farmville.

Grandfather had asked for Grandmother Bessie's hand in marriage before embarking on his long journey up north. Aunt Inez recalls he had asked my great-grandmother to "save Bessie for me." After getting settled back in Farmville, James Austin married grandmother Elizabeth Early in 1907. Three daughters were born on Ely Street: Louise, Inez and Fannie.

Grandfather had learned early on that the wages in the North were greater than those in the South. He also knew that he would have-to prove himself worthy of taking my grandmother for his bride. Grandmother's family was well established and respected in Farmville. Grandmother and her sisters had attended boarding school. Her sister, Hattie Early graduated from the Virginia State

AOA Photo 614**Mary Elizabeth (Early) Austin (1888-1951)**

University and taught in the Virginia Public Schools. Grandmother Bessie remained at home and awaited Grandfather's return. James and Mary had ten children: Louise b. 1907, Fannie b. 1909, Inez b. 1911, Frazure b. 1913, Hattie b. 1914 (died in infancy), Minnie b. 1916, Altomae b. 1918, Mary b. 1922, Martha b. 1923, and James Nelson Austin II b. 1925.

Grandfather James Austin began life anew, with a wife, in Farmville. He worked long hours in the grist mill in town alongside his older brother, Anthony Austin. Grandfather had always said that hard work never killed a man. But when he witnessed the effects of flour mill dust (which had settled on his brother's lungs), he left the mill and worked as a drayman. He had his own horse and seven drays (photo on page 643). A dray is a strong low cart with removable sides for carrying heavy articles.

Anthony Austin suffered a slow agonizing death . . . My aunt stated that Uncle Anthony's wife would not even let him stay in the house, nor did she send him to the sanitarium in Petersburg, Virginia for treatment. Uncle Anthony had to remain in the stable behind the house, away from his family. This was indeed unfortunate for him. This would be Uncle's sad end. He died in a stable, away from the house he had built and paid for in full.

Since Grandfather knew a lot about farming, he had a garden on his property as well as one on property he had leased. There he planted corn, sweet potatoes, turnip, cabbage, tomatoes, and other crops for his growing family. Whatever he didn't use, he sold or gave away. This was part of the spirit of interdependence and cooperation that assured the well being of members of the African-American community. It was live and let live throughout the community.

As Grandfather's young family grew, so did his income. Finally he earned enough to purchase a larger home on Chambers Street. Both homes were only blocks away from Longwood College, an all-white institution.

The College became a source of work for many like Grandfather who wanted to work. Lots of odd jobs abounded. First, there was always garbage to be hauled away. Grandpa Austin always sorted the spoils from the college's dumpster. He would take the edible remains to his

hogs. They were growing quite fat. There were also furnaces to be stoked in the wee hours of the morning. And the furnaces had to be banked at night. There were clothes to be washed and meals to be served. And my grandmother and Aunt Inez helped with the latter.

Away from the college, there were other uses for Grandfather's services, and there were many uses for his horse and dray, too. Grandfather used the horse as he plowed acres of fields and gardens for the folks who hired him. He would use the dray to haul furniture for people as well. In fact, Aunt Inez stated that his dray was comparable to the truck of today.

Whatever had to be hauled, Grandfather would do it. If he had had two horses, like his brother, Uncle Sim Austin, perhaps he would have been hired to use his horses and dray to pull a float in the local parade. Nevertheless, Grandfather had plenty of work in town. Why, even with one horse and a hearse, he could lease it to the neighboring mortician for funerals.

After working six long days and nights, Sunday was his only day of rest. It was time for James Nelson Austin to take his large family to church in his horse and buggy. Everyone went to church. They went to the New Bethel Baptist Church in Mahern, the Tarwally Baptist Church in Buckingham, and the First Baptist Church in Farmville.

As Grandfather's family grew, so did his estate. The house on Chambers Street had a living room, a dining room, two bedrooms, a kitchen and bathroom. There was a stable for the horse which Grandfather built himself. It was almost the size of his home, with plenty of room for the horse and a hayloft. On the grounds there were also a hen house, a wood shed, a coal bin, a smoke house, and stalls for the cows and the pigs.

AOA Photo 642-1**Mary Elizabeth Early during her school days**

Trees were everywhere. Aunt Inez can still recall the beautiful fruit-bearing trees: white peach, plum, yellow peach, blue gage, cherry, pear and quince. Yes, at 87 years of age she can still recall each one because that was where she and her sisters played. It was their playground, and also a pasture for the two to four cows Grandfather owned. And of course the cows provided lots of milk, butter, cheese and cream for the family. "The cows gave milk twice a day. There were big buckets of milk after each milking. The milk was churned, the cream was saved for butter. The remains were used for buttermilk or "claver" as it was called."

There was always plenty of food available year round. Aunt Mary recalls the following: "We always had barrels of flour from the mill. There was sugar delivered in cloth bags and corn meal in cloth sacks. The cloth was later bleached and became rags or pillowcases. Fruits were dried by the sun and vegetables were canned. The potatoes were kept fresh buried under ground until used." Breakfast often consisted of fried apples with ham, bacon or sausage. Hot breads were served three times a day. Biscuits and cornbread was served every morning, grace was said three times a day.

All of Grandfather's children went to school in town. The three oldest daughters went to a private boarding school in Chase City, Virginia. However, once the local High School was completed, all of the younger children attended Robert. R. Morton High School in Farmville, Virginia. Education was very important, and Grandfather continued to work from dawn to dusk to support his family. He didn't mind working, and he took pride in his work. For example, Aunt Inez Venable related the following about how he prepared his hogs for market:

"Pappa would feed the hogs lots of corn meal mush to cleanse them one month prior to killing them around November. First the hair was singed off the slain hogs. They were brought home to be hung and bled. The meat was cut as desired. The fat was cut into cubes, simmered into lard and kept in crocks. The sides were cut for bacon or sold. The two hind legs or hams were packed in a wooden box in salt. A layer of salt, pepper and borax was rubbed into the fresh meat. Then the meat was nailed shut and frozen by the winter's cold. By the spring the fat had already been cut into cubes and used as lard. Now it was time to cure the meat. The meat was hung over a slow burning Hickory log for several months,

AOA Photo 642-2**Fannie, Minnie, Frazure, Inez, and Louise (in back)**

AOA Photo 643-1**James Nelson Austin II ("Jimmie") circa 1927****AOA Photo 643-2 & 3****James Austin & dray; below: his brother Simuel**

during March, April and May. The sides were cut for strips of bacon, and the shoulders or two front legs were roasted. Nothing was spared: the brains, the tongue, the head, the intestines, and the feet found their way to someone's a dinner table."

Everyone in town knew and respected Grandfather, and they knew his work. His hams were known to be among the best in town. It didn't take long for some folks in town to report the fact that the smoked hams missing from Grandfather's shed were being sold by a farmer who didn't have hogs nor hams to sell. Grandfather didn't react. He never let material things bother him.

After Grandfather James Nelson Austin died in 1936, Grandmother Bessie continued to work and care for her children, and for her children's children. The house still stands on Chambers Street. It was a part of the estate of James Austin. It is also a part of history.

In 1963 the schools in Farmville, Virginia, reopened after a four year bitter desegregation battle. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy sent a delegation of teachers and officials to ensure the reopening of the schools and integration thereof. Housing was needed for Kennedy's people, and 610 Chambers Street was home to many of the new teachers. Grandfather would have been proud to know that he had helped. He had made a way out of no-way for himself and now he was still working to ensure equal rights for generations to come.

Grandfather's house remains on Chambers Street, and although it has become home to many, it remains my ancestral home. His story is told so that others will know how desperately difficult it was to work and carve out a niche in America during the Reconstruction Period.

"If a man is fortunate he will before he dies gather up as much as he can of his heritage and transmit it to his children. And to his final breath, he will be grateful for this inexhaustible legacy, knowing that it is our nourishing mother and our lasting life.

---Durant

This family history has been transmitted and unrolled for understanding. The legacy of James Austin, my grandfather, lives on. It is the legacy of unity within the family, the family legacy of self-determination and education; a legacy of responsibility, of creativity and cooperation. And finally it is a legacy of faith, faith in one God: the Almighty Creator of Heaven and Earth. The God that reveals a way, when there is often no way.

QUERIES

644-1. **Melvin Adelbert Austin** and his wife Winifred (Culkin) had eleven children, one was named Thomas Aloysious Austin, born on 22 January 1902 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Seeking Melvin Austin's ancestry.

644-2. **Cornelia Austin** was born in New York state, she married to — Powers, who was born in Vermont, they had one known daughter: Martha Jane Powers born on 6 March 1849 in Mendota, LaSalle County, Illinois. Seeking Cornelia's ancestry and descendants.

644-3. **William H. Austin** was a wagon maker, born in New York. He married Elmira Morgan on 2 July 1856 in Washington County, Indiana, where they appear in the 1860 census with their children: Charles R. Austin and Alpheus S. Austin. The family left before the 1870 census. In 1923 Charles Austin resided in Paoli, Indiana. Searching for other descendants of William H. Austin.

644-4. **Gilbert Austin** was born in 1834, he died in 1888 in Armstrong County, Pennsylvania. He married Christina Stokes, eight children: Alonzo George Washington m1. Ellen —, m2. Sarah —; William McClelland m. Hannah Maria Grey; H. Charles m. Marjorie Wolf; Martha m. Joseph Ross Ridgeley; Minnie m. William Murdock; Eunice m. William Mills; Bertha m. Sidney George; and Hattie m. Edward George. Alonzo had one known child: Orr Wallace Austin born in 1883 and died in 1951. Any information on Gilbert and Christina much appreciated.

644-5. **Robert Austin** was born circa 1767, he died in 1809 at age 42. His ancestors had come from Scotland in 1698 to claim a township in Virginia granted by the King. Their 2400 acres was near Buffalo Creek in the Campbell-Bedford area. Dr. Robert Austin possibly lived in the Colonial home still standing on the 244-acre Cohen estate in Huddleston, Virginia. The last acreage left is a 200-acre farm owned by Sherman Austin who lives in Huddleston. Many of the early Austins went to Edinburgh, Scotland to be educated in medicine and returned to America. Would like to contact Robert's heirs.

644-6. **Thomas Jefferson Austin** and his wife Martha C? were recorded in Temple Hill, Pope County, Illinois in the 1900 census. Thomas b. February 1864, Martha b. February 1867, they were born in Illinois as were their children: Guy b. January 1887, Jessie (female) b. February 1888; Espie? b. April 1893, Gladys b. January 1900. Perhaps Thomas was a brother to my unidentified great-grandmother who records show had family in Temple Hill. She married to George T. Murphy circa 1880, their three children were born in Illinois: Henry Milo b. 1881; Mary Jane b. 1884 (my grandmother) and Gertrude b. 1887. Seeking data on Thomas Jefferson Austin's ancestry, and on his siblings and descendants.

644-7. **Christina Austin** married to Charles Alexander Atkinson. Most of her Austin family had settled in New Brunswick, Canada. It is rumored that they came from German Royalty, but her mother or grandmother was exiled after the King died, since she had only borne daughters. This would have been in the mid-1800's. Would like to find out if any this family tradition is true.

644-8. **George Henry Austin** was born in London in 1883. He married circa 1909 in Detroit, Michigan to Rosina Beatrice Ross, born 22 August 1886 in Canada. They resided in Rochester, New York where George worked for Eastman Kodak. George died there in 1953, Rosina died on 28 November 1964 in Detroit. They had no children. Need George Henry Austin's ancestry.

644-9. **Fred Austin** married to Catherine Bailey, who emigrated from England. Four children: Earl William b. on 29 November 1866 in Charlestown, Massachusetts; Fred; Agnes; and Leona. Earl married on 11 April 1900 to Caroline Melissa Breisch, born 7 July 1877. He died on 1 March 1937 in South Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Caroline died on 17 February 1950. Seeking Fred and Catherine Austin's birth dates and any other information.

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The *Austins of America Genealogical Society* publishes this newsletter to serve present and future genealogists researching Austin family lines. Members are encouraged to submit their Austin line research, queries, genealogical and historical articles for publication. Previously published pamphlets, books, or articles containing Austin genealogical data are also sought for reprinting or review.

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Austins of America

Genealogical Society

FEBRUARY 2000 NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

TO BE HELD IN MADISON, WISCONSIN

The 2000 National Austin Convention, which is jointly sponsored by the Austins of America Genealogical Society and the Austin Families Association of America, will be held on 28-30 July in Madison, Wisconsin. Our hotel is near the State Historical Society Library, which for a century and a half has collected histories of the U.S. and Canada, including political and military affairs, multicultural history, women's history, and genealogical and local history publications. Strengths of the collection are about 20,000 book-length family histories, population schedules for all U.S. censuses, nearly all the vital Wisconsin records before 1907, and many microfilms of several other major genealogical collections. The Library is open between 8 a.m. and 9 p.m. from Monday to Thursday, and from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. The Library is not open on Sundays.

CONVENTION AGENDA

Friday 28 July: Registration from 1 to 5 p.m., Library Tour 5 to 6 p.m., "Let's Get Acquainted" Reception 7 to 9 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday 29-30 July: Speakers and Workshops 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday evening: Reception 6 p.m. Banquet 7 p.m. includes a local Guest Speaker, followed by the presentation of the annual Austin Genealogical Research Award (the "Eagle") to an AOAGS member who has made some significant contribution towards publishing Austin historical or genealogical research.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

The 2000 National Austin Convention registration fee of \$50 includes the Annual Banquet on Sunday evening. Family members or friends who do not care to attend the Speakers and Workshops may still attend the Annual Banquet for \$30.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Arrangements with the Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel at 525 West Johnson Street allow Convention attendees to stay there between 26 July and 1 August (so folks can come early or stay late for research at the State Historical Society Library) at the special rate of \$82 a night for a king or two double beds, children stay free. Telephone 608-251-5511 prior to 27 June 1999 for reservations, be sure to request the "National Austin Convention" rate.

AOAGS LIBRARY DONATIONS

Many thanks to members Clara Kirkendall Lewis of Irving, TX, James D. Martin of Kingstown, WA, James Wayne Bumgardner of Hudson, NC, Pauline Lucille Austin of Cedar Rapids, IA, Bruce Gardner Merivale Austin of London, England, Robert Krause Austin of Wilmington, DE, Lonnie R. Shaffstall of Los Angeles, CA, Carol Robinson Austin of Garden Grove, CA, Harriet Lytle of Salem, OR and many other members for sharing their Austin research with the AOAGS Library.

AOA Photo 645

**The State Historical Society Library Reading Room in
Madison**

QUERIES

646-1. **Ebenezer Austin** was b. ca. 1697, m. Deborah —. He resided in Dighton, Bristol County MA, d. ca. 1754, leaving wife & ch. Nathaniel, Jonathan, Sarah (wife of Edward Perry), and Deborah. Need Ebenezer's parents.

646-2. **James Monroe Austin** was b. 5 October 1816 in Westerly, RI (from his Civil War records). He m. on 13 July 1851 Eleanor [Ellen, Elinor] Schoonover in Wayne County PA, bur. there in Indian Orchard Cemetery. I am seeking parents and siblings of James Monroe Austin.

646-3. **John Austin** was b. circa 1690, he m1. to Indian squaw Saphoney, m2. Hannah Love. Children: John Jr., Richardson Stephen, Joseph, Valentine. John Sr. died ca. 1759 in Cornwall Parish, Lunenburg County VA. (See pages 37-38 for more on John Sr.) Hannah d. before 20 April 1778. Seeking the parents of John Austin Sr.

646-4. **John Austin** signed a marriage bond in 1823 in Madison County KY, his dau. Eliza m. on 6 April 1823 to Daniel M. Nichols of Madison County, they went to Callaway County MO by 1839. In 1850 Eliza was in Schuyler County MO, in 1860 in Grayson County, TX. Need genealogical data on John and his descendants.

646-5. **Ruth Austin** was b. ca. 1790 in RI, m. ca. 1808 West Greenwich, Kent County RI to Henry Crandall, b. West Greenwich, son of Robert and — (Lamb) Crandall. Dau. Amanda b. 25 August 1824 McDonough, Chenango County NY. Henry a farmer, he d. in McDonough, Ruth d. there in 1865. Seek Ruth Austin Crandall's parents.

646-6. **John M. Austin** was born in 1775 in Fishkill, Dutchess County NY, m. there in 1798 Margaret Morse. Known children: John L. Austin m. 28 December 1833 Julia L. French; Harvey S. Austin m. 12 October 1837 in Geneva, Ashtabula County, Ohio to Jane D. Warner; Sarah Austin m. 16 December 1840 to Edward Cowles; Margaret d. 1843 at Geneva, John M. d. there in 1845. Seeking any information on John M. Austin's parents.

646-7. **Margaret Austin** was b. ca. 1576 in Kentshire, England, m. 28 November 1608 in Tilmanstone, Kentshire to John Sturgis, b. 27 April 1578 Worth, Kentshire, son of Edward Sturgis. Margaret bur. 3 April 1622 in Eastry, Kentshire. John bur. 23 January 1624/5 Sturry, Kentshire. Son Edward Sturgis b. 1613 Hannington, Northamptonshire, England. Need Margaret's parents.

646-8. **Arthur Austin** m. Maude Ball, three known sons: Arthur, Albert and Sydney. Family believed originally from Eastbourne, England. Sydney b. 4 August 1871 in London, England, m. Clara Pringle, became a minister in Salvation Army. In 1912 he came to Sault St. Marie, MI, helped start various churches. Children: Christine, Ivy, Sydney Jr. and Daisy. Sydney Austin d. 20 July 1961 in Pontiac, MI. Seeking information on this line.

646-9. **Alexander Austin** married Agnes —. Circa 1800 they were in Ireland, later they resided in South Carolina. Seeking their parents, marriage record, and children.

646-10. **Mahala Austin** was born circa 1834 in Putnam, White, or Smith Counties TN. She m. — Jackson, she d. 1889 in Putnam County. Seeking her parents & siblings.

646-11. **Francis Austin** married Mary —. Seeking proof that they are the parents of the Francis Marion Austin who married Jane Crabtree on 13 May 1862 in Daviess County, KY. Would appreciate any and all information.

646-12. **Frances Henrietta Austin** was b. circa 1842 in Graves County KY, m1. — Lyons, m2. 4 April 1864 to James William Hardesty b. 20 March 1842 in Union Co. KY. Children: Caroline b. 1872 and Ida Helen b. 1882. Would like to determine Frances Austin's parents.

646-13. **David Austin** was b. ca. 1803 in RI, m. 17 July 1826 to Phebe Gray, dau. of Christopher Mitchell and Margaret (Howard) Gray. He was a cooper in Brookville, Hancock County ME (see 1850 Maine Census on page 629 for children). David d. 16 September 1850 in Hancock. I could not find him in the Rhode Island birth records, would appreciate anything on his parents.

646-14. **Peter Austin** was b. circa 1760-70, m. Susanna —, resided in Danby, NY in 1830 & 1840. Ten known ch: John; Harriet m. — Rogers; Byer m. — Townsend; Mary; Abijah; Pamela; Samuel b. 30 January 1802 d. 30 September 1874 Spencer, Tioga County NY, m1. ca. 1822 Joanna Hannah Howard b. 1809 d. 20 July 1842 in Spencer, he m2. Elizabeth Van Woert; Kate b. 1808 m. — Boyer; Esther b. 1809 m. Henry Markle; George b. 1 July 1817. Seeking Peter Austin's ancestry.

646-15. **Caleb Austin** m. Anna Messenger, his son James b. 11 November 1800 Cazenovia, Madison County, NY. James m. Julia Anna Warner, eight ch: Darwin b. 1832, Catherine b. 1834, Pardon b. 1836, Caroline b. 1840, Emeline b. 1843, Judson b. 1845, Norman b. 1848, and Emma b. 1851. James' obituary said he m. three times and had 13 children. Judson & wife Elizabeth res. 1900 in Lysander, Onondaga County NY. I have much data to share on Austins in Madison and Onondaga Counties. Would like the ancestries of Caleb and Anna Austin.

646-16. **George William Austin** was born 23 December 1804 in Rhea County TN, m. in 1836 TN to Anna Rogers or Rodgers, b. 7 August 1811 in Rhea Co. First three ch. b. in AL, others in MS: Mary b. 1836 d. 27 May 1891; Thomas James b. 1838; William P. b. 1840; John M. b. 1844; Margaret Mariah b. 22 January 1846 d. 11 March 1929 in Alvarado, Johnson County, TX; George W. b. 1848; Josiah B. b. 1850; Sara Elizabeth b. 1852. George Sr. d. 15 March 1866 Alvarado, Anna d. there 27 May 1891. Seeking the ancestries of both George and Anna.

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
HENRY AND ELIZABETH AUSTIN
OF CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND**

*by Anne Laurie Austin Smith
Pauline Lucille Cackler Israel
and Richard Troy Hobgood Jr.*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 636]

- H161-C461. CHARLIE HORACE, *b. 19 November 1895 +*
- H161-C462. FITZ HUGH LEE, *b. on 2 November 1897 in Greenwood, Texas. He m. Rena Morse in 1919. Fitz died in Altus. They had one child: Jess Willard Austin b. 1920 in Altus, Oklahoma.*
- H161-C463. WILLIE, *b. 2 December 1899, d. in 1899 in McDill, Oklahoma Indian Territory.*
- H161-C464. JAMES ALBERT, *b. 19 March 1901 +*
- H161-C465. HATTIE, *b. 24 January 1903 in Greenwood, she married on 2 October 1920 to Walter Frederick James, son of Frederick Stephen and Lena (—) James. Walter was born on 20 December 1892 in Newcastle, Garfield County, Colorado. Walter served with Hattie's brother Charlie in Germany in World War I. Walter d. 22 April 1982 in Texas, Hattie d. on 15 March 1985 in Texas. Two children: Jesse L. b. 11 August 1921 Blair, Oklahoma, and William Frank b. 15 October 1922.*
- H161-C466. ERNEST, *b. 4 July 1905 +*
- H161-C467. HETTIE MARIE, *b. 8 January 1908 in Sayre, Beckham County, Oklahoma. She m. 4 April 1924 Charlie Effort Burrow, b. in November 1906, son of Tom and — Burrow of Lawton, Comanche County, Oklahoma. Hettie belonged to Python Sisters Lodge 55, she resided in Amarillo, Texas. Two children: Jack Lews b.7 November 1926 d. 26 January 1927, Ralph Edward b. 19 February 1928 in Lawton and served in the military in the Korean war.*
- H161-C468. ESTHER MAE, *b. 3 April 1910 in Humphrey, Oklahoma. She finished her schooling at Altus, Jackson County, Oklahoma, m.(1) there in 1926 to Wayne Franklin Coston. Esther m.(2) Mr. — Moore. She had one ch: Betty Laverne Coston b. on 22 May 1927 in McBride, Texas.*
- H161-C469. GUY LEWIS, *b. 9 April 1912 +*
- H161-C46A AUDREY BELL, *b. 5 May 1914 Humphrey, Oklahoma, m. 8 July 1930 to Hubert Bench, son of Everett Bench. One child: Bobbie Joyce b. on 13 June 1931.*
- H161-C46B HENRY D., *b. 5 September 1916 +*

AOA Photo 647

Felix Houston Austin (1873-1974), James Albert Austin (1862-1957), Henrietta Margaret Austin (1861-1951), Sallie Oliver (Austin) Moon (1868-1964), Waller Lee Austin (1876-1956), and Bessie Everal (Austin) Branch (1878-1968).

They are all children of Felix Houston Austin and Sarah Elizabeth (Fray) Austin (see *Austins of America* pages 538-541 and 634-636). Their other children – Jennie Maud (Austin) Robinson (1865-1928) and Henry Tazewell Austin (1870-1945) – were both deceased before this photograph was taken in Waller Austin's yard in August 1947.

H161-C47. WALLER LEE⁷ AUSTIN (*Felix Houston*,⁶ *Henry Tazewell*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Henry*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 5 June 1876 in Denton, Texas. He grew up on his father's farm in Sycamore, Wise County, Texas. He was a member of the Church of Christ in Greenwood, Wise County, Texas. In 1916 Waller married a Miss Willie Poss of Greenwood. Waller lived in Wise County for over 70 years, and was known as "Dad" to his relatives and acquaintances. His health became impaired circa 1954, he spent several months in hospitals in Dallas and in Wichita Falls, Wichita County, Texas. Waller died on 24 May 1956 in a Wichita Falls hospital. Funeral services were held at Christian's Chapel in Decatur, Wise County. He was interred in the Oak Lawn Cemetery in Decatur. Waller and Willie had no children.

H173-413. SHIRLEY PLUMER⁷ AUSTIN (*James Shirley*,⁶ *James Boyd*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 16 March 1873 in Clifton Springs, Ontario County, New York. Shirley was a partner in Parrish & Company, members of the New York Stock Exchange. He was an Episcopal Protestant. He married on 15 February 1897 in Meadowville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, to Susie Louise Delamater, born 15 April 1873, daughter of George Wallace and Mary (McFarland) Delamater. Susie died on 3 July 1929 in Pittsburgh, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania and was buried there. Shirley and Susie had two children:

H173-4131. MARY, *b. 31 January 1898, d. 3 February 1898.*

H173-4132. JAMES SHIRLEY, *b. 2 December 1901 +*

H173-573. HOWARD H.⁷ AUSTIN (*James Monroe*,⁶ *William Rupe*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 28 September 1880 in Springfield, Clark County, Ohio. He married first to Louise Whitely Myers of Springfield. Howard was a physician. He enlisted for World War I at Springfield, was stationed at Camp Green, North Carolina, as First Lieutenant in Medical Corps. He married second on 2 June 1915 in Springfield to Marie Clark, born 27 February 1887 in Marietta, Ohio, the daughter of John Wilmont and Laura (Sprague) Clark. Howard Austin died on 16 January 1934 in Springfield, and is buried there. He had two sons born in Springfield, one by each wife:

H173-5731. ROBERT MYERS

H173-5732. JACK CLARK, *b. 2 June 1918 +*

H173-621. WILLIAM⁷ AUSTIN (*William Henry Harrison*,⁶ *Benjamin Naylor*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 7 August 1862 in Hamilton County, Indiana. He was a carpenter-contractor. He married on 4 September 1884 in Clinton, Illinois, to Laura May Bailey, *b. 16 June 1868 in Clinton, daughter of John and Mary Ann (Fox) Bailey.* William died on 29 November

1891 in Clinton, Laura died on 8 December 1905 in Muncie, Illinois, both are buried in Clinton. They had three children born in Clinton:

H173-6211. WILLIAM EARL, *b. 3 February 1887, m. 15 March 1914 in Monticello, Illinois, to Effie Perry b. 1897 in Monticello. William d. 28 November 1929 in Monticello. No Children.*

H173-6212. RALPH ELWOOD, *b. 24 March 1889 +*

H173-6213. NELLIE BYREL, *b. 10 July 1893, m. 10 October 1909 in Clinton to Benjamin Franklin Hutcherson, b. 23 May 1887 in Clinton, son of Stephen and Alvira (Leary) Hutcherson. He was a boiler maker. Three ch: Mary Margaret b. 5 August 1910, Nodene Louise b. 11 September 1913, Benjamin Francis b. 18 June 1916.*

H173-631. CLAUDE LESLIE⁷ AUSTIN (*James Fletcher*,⁶ *Benjamin Naylor*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 8 February 1868 in Preble County, Ohio. He married on 20 February 1890 near Georgetown, Illinois, to Charlotte Underwood, born on 15 July 1868 in Vermilion County, Illinois, daughter of Silas Dinsmon and Mary E. (Haworth) Underwood. Claude was a Quaker, and a merchant. He died on 7 January 1941 in Dallas, Texas, and was buried there. Claude and Mary's first three children were born in Vermilion County:

H173-6311. CHARLES BERNARD, *b. 7 January 1891 +*

H173-6312. FLORENCE MARIE, *b. 24 November 1892, m. 16 November 1910 in Chicago, Illinois, to Harry A. Linne, b. 14 August 1884 in Danville, Illinois, son of Henry and Ann (—) Linne. He died circa 1940-41. Two children: Henry Austin Linne b. 22 August 1911, Betty Lou Linne b. 1 November 1912.*

H173-6313. JAMES RUSSELL, *b. 14 December 1894 +*

H173-6314. KENNETH DEWITT, *b. 20 December 1898 in Linn County, Missouri, d. 31 May 1901 in Georgetown, Vermilion County, buried in Oakridge Cem. in Catlin, Vermilion County.*

H173-632. HOMER MOON⁷ AUSTIN (*James Fletcher*,⁶ *Benjamin Naylor*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 16 November 1870 near Pesotum, Champaign County, Illinois. Homer married on 24 January 1894 at Catlin, Vermilion County, Illinois, to Lenora Ann Clipson, *b. 2 April 1874 in Glenwood, Iowa, daughter of Civil War veteran William Henry and Marantha (Tipton) Clipson.* They were both Methodists. Homer was a practicing physician in Illinois, Iowa, and Ohio from 1902 until his death. He volunteered to serve in World War I on 16 October 1918 at Ford Dodge, Des Moines, Iowa, was commissioned Captain in the Medical Corps, and assigned to duty in the office of the Surgeon General. He was discharged in April 1919. Dr. Austin died on 20 January 1944 in Columbus, Ohio, and was buried in Catlin. Homer and Lenora had five children:

H173-6321. LELAND NORMAN, b. 21 December 1894 in Vermilion, d. 24 December 1894. Buried in Catlin.

H173-6322. LOUIS RAYMOND, b. 11 October 1896 +

H173-6323. RUTH ONNOLEE, b. 15 July 1901 Georgetown, Illinois, she was an art teacher, m. 15 November 1924 in Council Bluffs, Iowa, to Joseph Raymond Underwood, b. 16 Sept. 1896 Cylinder, Iowa, son of Charles Foster and Elizabeth Ann (Sutherland) Underwood. He was County Agent of Scott County. Four ch: Onnolee Anne b. 9 August 1932, Lois Edith b. 5 October 1934, Miriam Jean b. 18 June 1936, Virginia Ruth b. 21 October 1939.

H173-6324. LOIS MARINTHA, b. 8 May 1903 in Hindsboro, Illinois. Professor of nurses' education.

H173-6325. MARVIN FLETCHER, b. 26 November 1906 +

H173-6A3. JOHN BENJAMIN⁷ AUSTIN (*George McKendree*,⁶ *Benjamin Naylor*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 1 April 1897 in Wilmington, Clinton County, Ohio. John enlisted on 22 May 1917 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in an ambulance corps of American students who went over to relieve French ambulance drivers for service in the ranks. He was a member of Section 509 of the U.S.A.A.C., which was associated most of the time with the 166th division of the French Army. He served from 21 February 1918 to 11 November 1918 in the Toul sector, and in the Aisne-Marne, Somme, Oise-Aisne, and Ypres-Lys offensives. He was discharged 4 April 1919. John was married on 16 June 1923 in Cleveland, Cuyahoga County, Ohio, by Dr. Jacob H. Goldner to Genevieve Clark, b. 17 October 1898 in Winchester, Ohio, daughter of J. Lee and Estey (Secrist) Clark. John was a welding engineer, and co-author of *Weld Design* in 1949 and author of *Electric Arc Welding* in 1952. Genevieve was a teacher of English and Expression. They had three children born in Cleveland:

H173-6A31. JOHN BENJAMIN JR., b. 7 February 1925 +

H173-6A32. GEORGE CLARK, b. 23 September 1928, m. 17 March 1951 by Dr. Wells in the First Presbyterian Church of East Cleveland, to Jo Ann Faye Leland, b. 29 June 1929 in Cleveland, dau. of Herbert K. Jr. and Edwina Jane (Good) Leland. George was in Industrial Sales work. One child: Georgia Gene b. 25 December 1951 in Cleveland.

H173-6A33. JAMES LEE, b. 28 July 1934

H173-6D1. JOSEPH WHITE⁷ AUSTIN (*Alpheus Benjamin*,⁶ *Benjamin Naylor*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 2 October 1895 in Cincinnati, Ohio. He enlisted on 28 June 1917 as seaman on aviation duty in the U. S. Naval Reserves, and was licensed as a Naval Aviator on 26 February 1918. Commissioned as Ensign 18 March 1918. Joseph transferred to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve as 2nd Lieutenant on 23 May 1918. He

served in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Hampton Roads, Pensacola and Miami, Florida. He served overseas near Calais, France, from 2 August to 6 December 1918. Transferred to inactive duty on 30 January 1919. Joseph Austin was first married on 6 October 1927 in Cincinnati to Dorothy Helmers, born 1 March 1902 in Bellevue, Kentucky, daughter of Joseph and Rose (Diehl) Helmers. He was a life insurance salesman. Joseph married second on 11 June 1949 in Springfield, Ohio, to physician Margaret Jane Schneider, born 6 July 1905 in Chillicothe, Ohio, the daughter of David and Ella (Schmieder) Schneider. No known children.

H173-741. MARTIN R.⁷ AUSTIN (*George Wesley*,⁶ *David Sharp*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born in Blanchester, Ohio, m. 20 May 1908 in Blanchester by Rev. Amos T. Cowgill, to Edna Pearl Goodwin, born 1 April 1888 near Blanchester, daughter of Edward Martin and Emma (White) Goodwin. Martin died in Montana. Edna died 27 June 1949 in Wilmington, Ohio, interred at Blanchester, where their two children were born:

H173-7411. MARGUERITE, b. 18 March 1909, m. 11 March 1939 in Eden, Ohio, to Frank Braynard Pond Jr., b. 22 September 1913 in Wilmington, son of Frank Braynard and Cleopatra (Ansel) Pond. Two ch. b. near Wilmington: Judith Ann b. 6 June 1941, Susan Jane b. 24 August 1945.

H173-7412. EDWIN GOODWIN, b. 15 February 1911 +

H173-941. ALBERT MILTON⁷ AUSTIN (*Milton Summerfield*,⁶ *David Sharp*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 25 July 1873 in Franklin, Williamson County, Tennessee. He was married in San Francisco, California, on 26 August 1902 by Methodist Bishop John Hamilton, to Florence Peabody of Chattanooga, Tennessee, daughter of Charles Henry and Flora Adelaide (Blair) Peabody. Albert was a lawyer, Florence was a teacher. They had three daughters:

H173-9411. MABEL BESS, b. 3 May 1907 in New York City.

H173-9412. FLORA BLAIR, b. 1 March 1909 in Sparkill, New York, m. 9 August 1935 at Sparkill by Rev. Paul Eddy to Donald Gowen Borg, b. 19 January 1906 in North Bergen, New Jersey, son of John and Hazel Margaret (Gowen) Borg. He was Editor and Publisher of the Bergen Evening Record, Hackensack, New Jersey. Two sons: Malcolm Austin Borg b. 28 January 1938, Gregory Gowen Borg b. 17 March 1939.

H173-9413. HELEN, b. 26 January 1913 in Sparkill, New York, m. 8 April 1933 in New York City to Harry Reed Johnston, born 1 June 1906 in Bellevue, Pennsylvania, son of Harry Kerr and Anne Lindsay (Litten) Johnston. He was a Member of the New York Stock Exchange. Two ch: Joan Austin Johnston b. 20 April 1936, William Reed Johnston b. 8 July 1939.

**EARLY SILENT MOVIE ACTORS
ALBERT AND WILLIAM AUSTIN**

by Michael Edward Austin

Chaplin films was encouraged to submit gags, and Albert Austin always made a pointed effort to

William Austin and his wife Lydia (Jones) Austin were residing at 7½ Norfolk Street in the St. Thomas subdistrict of Birmingham, County of Warwick, England, when their son Albert Austin was born at home on 13 December 1882. On the birth record William Austin was listed as being a drayman. Albert's brother William Crosby Pierce Austin is believed to have been born in Georgetown, British Guiana (now Guyana) on 12 June 1884, although I have not yet verified this. Both Albert and William Austin were involved with early silent films.

Albert Austin

Albert Austin was a tall, handsome, frizzy-haired actor. Early in his performing career in 1914 he arrived in the United States from England with Fred Karno's Music Hall Troupe, just as Charles Chaplin had done earlier. Albert worked on stage for two years before joining Chaplin's Mutual "Lone Star Studio" in 1916. He had met Chaplin a few years earlier when they were serving apprenticeships with Fred Karno. Besides Albert Austin, Charlie Chaplin utilized the talents of other graduates of the Karno's "school," including Eric Campbell, his memorable nemesis in eleven of his Mutual comedies.

Within months of his own film debut in 1914, Charles Chaplin fought to gain control of the production of his films. Chaplin wrote his scenarios and began directing after only a few months. By his second year, Chaplin was casting from his own stock company of supporting players. He relied on Albert Austin, Eric Campbell, Henry Bergman, and his female costar Edna Purviance among others.

Chaplin was thrifty and paid his employees less than the prevailing salaries at other studios. However, while other studios would have paid actors and technicians only while working, Chaplin kept his people on salary year round. This enabled him to work when he felt creative, and to call his cast back for retakes whenever necessary. Chaplin surrounded himself with a coterie of players more like family than employees, who gave delightful supporting performances and stayed loyal to Chaplin throughout the duration of his Mutual contract.

Albert Austin appears in all twelve of Chaplin's Mutual comedies, providing comic character support, beginning with *The Floorwalker* (Mutual) in 1916. Often he played an unwitting dupe or an outraged upper-crust individual to Chaplin's manic antics. He also had the distinction of being Chaplin's favorite partner in his eating scenes. According to one of Chaplin's cameramen, everyone who worked on

AOA Photo 650**Film Strip with Scenes of Charlie Chaplin**

let everyone know which gags he was responsible for. Albert Austin and Eric Campbell socialized with Chaplin outside the studio. Their favorite pastime was attending the fights, a place that was ripe for gag material. After the Mutual contract expired, Austin continued to appear occasionally in small parts in several of Chaplin's feature films, included Chaplin's First National films, such as *A Dog's Life* in 1918 and *A Day's Pleasure* in 1919.

In 1920 Albert Austin was tapped to play leading man to Mary Pickford in her sentimental comedy, *Suds*, for United Artists. He was very good in this role, performing it with his own, naturally handsome face (see scenes from *Suds* at left and right). Albert Austin also appeared in *The Kid* (United Artists) in 1921), and soon thereafter he became an Assistant Director with the Chaplin Company. Later he became a Director, directing child star Jackie Coogan as a foreign orphan in *My Boy* (First National) in 1921 and in the comedy *Trouble* (First National) in 1922. Albert Austin also directed child actor Dinky Dean in *A Prince of a King* (Selznick Studios) in 1923.

Albert Austin surfaces again in the superlative Charlie Chaplin documentary called "*The Unknown Chaplin*" (by Photoplay Productions) in 1982. Austin was integral to the Chaplin Studios productions and public relations, indicated by the appearances that he makes in a number of film out-takes of completed Chaplin offerings and the "behind the scenes" promotional films. These show footage of Albert Austin on film that had been locked away for over 70 years! Charlie Chaplin was fortunate to work with such a professional performer as Albert Austin, and today we are fortunate to have this dedicated comedian's rich, comic gifts captured on silent films.

David Robinson, in his biography *Chaplin* (McGraw-Hill, 1985) relates the last time Austin appeared with his old friend in *City Lights*: Among the pick-up shots that still remained to be done, Chaplin had a pleasant afterthought, devised a piece of slapstick nonsense to play with Albert Austin, a nostalgic tribute to their many adventures together with Karno and Mutual. At a public market at the corner of Vine and Melrose, street cleaners Austin and Chaplin sat down to one of the odorous and onion-scented packed lunches that had so often figured in the early shorts. In this case Charlie, blinded by suds while washing his face, accidentally swaps poor Austin's cheese for soap, and the myopic Austin takes a hearty bite

AOA Photo 651 Film Strip

Scenes from *Suds*: Horace Greensmith (Albert Austin) leaves his shirt at the laundry where Amanda Afflick (Mary Pickford) toils. She dreams of her "Sir Horace" returning to pick up his shirt — and her! One day he returns for the shirt, but not for her. However, by movies' end the couple is re-united through a horse, Lavender, that Amanda had saved from a glue factory.

from a soap sandwich. The film sequence ends as Austin attempts to bawl Charlie out, but he only manages to spout clouds of soap bubbles. It was the last appearance before the cameras of this loyal old collaborator.

Even after *City Lights* in 1931 when Chaplin released him from his employment, he continued to pay Albert Austin a monthly stipend until his death on 17 August 1953 in North Hollywood, California. Many of Austin's silent films are still available today on video tape.

ALBERT AUSTIN THE ACTOR

1916: Austin played in *The Floorwalker*; *The Fireman*; *The Vagabond*; taxi driver in *One A.M.*; *The Count*; client with clock in *The Pawnshop*; *Behind the Screen*; a cook and skater in *The Rink*. **1917:** a clergyman and a policeman in *Easy Street*; male nurse in *The Cure*; a slavick immigrant and diner in *The Immigrant*; a butler in *The Adventurer*. **1918:** a crook in *A Dog's Life*; he played in *Triple Trouble*; a U.S. Soldier, German Soldier, and Kaiser's chauffeur in *Shoulder Arms*. **1919:** played a trombonist in *A Day's Pleasure*. **1920:** Horace Greensmith in *Suds*. **1921:** a man in the shelter in *The Kid*. **1922:** a workman in *Pay Day*. **1923:** he played in *A Prince of a King*. **1925:** a prospector in *The Gold Rush*. **1931:** played a street cleaner in *City Lights*.

ALBERT AUSTIN THE DIRECTOR

1921: *My Boy*; *Bungalow Troubles*. **1922:** *Trouble*. **1923:** *A Prince of a King*. **1925:** *Keep Smiling*. **1931:** Albert Austin was the Assistant Director in *City Lights*.

ALBERT AUSTIN THE WRITER

1933: *The Cohens and Kellys in Trouble*; *Meeting Mazie*; *A Triple Backward*; *Pie for Two*. **1934:** *Ceiling Whacks*; *Where's Elmer?*; *Full Coverage*; *Born April First*; *Good Time Henry*; *Beau Bashful*. **1935:** *There Ain't No Justice*.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 694]

AOA Photo 652

Charlie Chaplin and a heavily disguised Albert Austin fighting sea-sickness in New York Harbor as they arrive at Ellis Island in *The Immigrant* (Mutual, 1917).

QUERIES

652-1. **Harry Austin** was b. ca. 1881, m. Anna Bradley, he was an electrician when son Thomas Lee Austin was b. 29 October 1913. Seeking Harry Austin's ancestry.

652-2. **Freeling Baker Austin** m. to Manda Melvina Gentle or Simpson. Their dau. Rhoda Mahalie b. 10 July 1877 d. 13 October 1933, m. 18 November 1894 Allen Hasell Guthrie. Seeking Freeling Austin's lineage.

652-3. **James Forrest Austin** was b. circa 1856-57, m. Christmas Eve 1877 near Lewistown, PA to Susan Mary Duffy. Twelve ch., two d. infancy. They later moved to McKeesport PA. Seeking James' ancestry and siblings.

652-4. **Nicholas Austin** was b. 24 October 1849 in NY, moved to Milwaukee WI before he m. in June 1875 to Maria W. Friess. Seeking proof that Nicholas' parents were Patricius Austin and Maria Anna Clark.

652-5. **William Austin** m. 29 December 1796 in Canton MA to Elizabeth Tant/Taunt. William died 21 October 1824 in Easton, MA, and is buried there. Seeking the ancestry of both William Austin and Elizabeth Taunt.

652-6. **James Augustus Austin** was b. 20 January 1810, son of James & Margaret (Brown) Austin (family bible, Richard of Charlestown line). Seeking any information on James Austin Jr. and siblings. Did he go back to Virginia? Would like James Austin Jr.'s death date and death place.

652-7. **Enoch Austin** m. 1 October 1831 in Deerfield, NJ to Mary W. Miller b. Upper Pittsgrove, NJ. Both b. ca. 1800-1810. 1840 Salem County NJ census has males: 1 under 5, 1 between 5-10, 1 between 20-30, 1 between 30-40; females: 2 under 5, 2 between 5-10, 2 between 15-20, 1 between 30-40. Seek Enoch Austin's ancestry.

652-8. **Rachel Austin** m. in 1842 to John D. Beck, Jr. They resided in Burlington County, NJ. His family was from Philadelphia PA. They had one child: John Newlin. My father and I also have middle name of Newlin. Could that have been Rachel's mother's maiden name? I would appreciate any information on Rachel Austin's ancestry.

652-9. **William Bryant Austin** m. to Harriet Mattingly, their son George Green Austin was b. on 10 November 1856 at Fort Gates, Gatesville County TX. George d. 17 February 1933 in Powell, TX. He may have m. three times, once to Annie McKinney, by whom he had dau. Evelyn b. 20 June 1894. Need William Austin's parents.

652-10. **Samuel Augustus Austin** from Springfield, MA m. Hanna Jane Dawling of Tallahassee, FL. He was a brick mason, helped build the courthouse at Thomasville GA, where his son Frank Monroe was b. 21 December 1854 and dau. Lettie b. on 26 November 1855. In 1863 they moved to Tallahassee, in 1873 they moved to TX. Need help locating this Austin family in Massachusetts.

Pages 653-657 Continue the 1850 US Census for Maine. These pages deleted, but are available on this web site.

**THE DESCENDANTS OF
EDWARD HORTON AUSTIN
OF MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS**

*by Helen Harriet Austin Baxter
and Raymond Francis Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 627]

Early in 1992 Glenn Austin family moved his family to 7 Lancaster Road, R.A.F. Feltwell, in Norfolk County, England. He worked for the U. S. Air Force maintenance supervision section and was responsible for ten programs. In 1993 he received the Suggestion Monitor of the Year award, and contributed to his squadron's winning of the Daedalean Award. Glenn studied hard and was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. The family took trips, rode bicycles and visited different parts of England. The book *Thomas the Train* ranked high in their son Christopher's library, so the family traveled to train stations collecting characters and videos. Dinosaur Park in upper Norfolk was another favorite spot, displaying over fifty life-size dinosaurs along a forest path, and Christopher became fascinated with dinosaurs. Their second child Anika Rose was born in December 1993 at the R.A.F. Lakenheath Hospital. They remained in England for another year, then in October 1994 were ordered to return stateside, reporting to Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho.

The Amway Experience

Glenn and Donna became interested in selling Amway products in December 1994, and they looked forward to having their own business. Glenn demonstrated products at several bazaars. He and Donna were fervent about Amway's "System," with its motivational books, audio tapes and social functions. Glenn took several trips to North Carolina to visit billionaire Dexter Yeager to get further tips, and Donna flew to New York for ten days of training on cosmetics. The children brought cookies to the airport to greet their Mom, but instead met a strange new woman with short hair and a business suit! Glenn and Donna attended large conventions in Salt Lake City and Knoxville, Tennessee. They listened to business tapes designed to improve their "prospecting" odds, they received Amway catalogs and book of the month. The experience made them more positive, but after three years they concluded they lacked the boldness necessary to "share" the business with other people.

Assignment in Idaho

Arriving at Mountain Home AFB in January 1995, the Austin family was assigned a three-bedroom house on a cul-de-sac. In June little Anika was rushed to a Hospital in Boise, Idaho after she got a nickel lodged in her throat. A week later Glenn's 400-pound upright piano arrived, the livingroom was rearranged to accommodate it. His mother, Patricia Austin (a.k.a. "Nana Pillow") came from

AOA Photo 658

Glenn Austin and with his Vose & Sons Upright Piano

Massachusetts to visit and to help Donna out during the last few weeks of her third pregnancy. Timothy Austin was born in October 1995 at the Air Force base hospital.

A Close Call

In February of 1996, while Glenn and Christopher were skiing on Soldier Mountain, Donna's car skidded on a ice patch and hit the back tire of a semi-trailer truck. The car flipped three times on the medium strip before settling upright. Fortunately the children were unharmed, and Donna was fine except for a few facial injuries. In June 1996 the family moved into a larger four bedroom house. Glenn Austin went on a three-month Air Force assignment to Saudi Arabia in April 1997, while Donna and the children remained in Mountain Home, Idaho.

6000-Mile Vacation

In July 1997 the Austins drove from Idaho to Knoxville, stopping to visit Donna's relatives in Missouri. Uncle Pat and Aunt Margie showed the children how piglets were raised, they liked it except for the pungency of the pens. They enjoyed thick meaty slabs of bacon at breakfast, and cruising on Mark Twain Lake, where Christopher hitched rides on a small raft. Anika with her life jacket was dropped into the water, she emerged in terror with her "eyes popping out of her head." After the Amway convention they visited Glenn's relatives in South Bend, Indiana. His grandfather George Biebuyck had lost his leg a few weeks earlier, so Glenn helped his father and brother-in-law Neil Akusis to install metal posts and railings to enable Grandpa to navigate the steps between

his home and driveway. They all dined in elegance at Tippecanoe – the Victorian era home of the Studebaker family of automobile fame – a fine restaurant in South Bend. They also went with his parents, Aunt Elaine and Uncle Dennis Fountain to a minor league baseball game.

Inspired Song Writer

Glenn Austin wrote a song “Call On His Name” as an anniversary gift for his parents in September 1997. In February of 1998 he went to a Men's Retreat in beautiful McCall, Idaho, and was inspired to write another song “Jesus, My Comfort, My Hope.” In July 1998 Glenn and Donna were Teen Camp counselors, and based on that experience Glenn wrote “Gift For Your Heart.” They welcome visitors to their church, Glenn teaches Sunday School and helps coordinate the Senior Bible Quiz. He is now writing another song entitled “I Praise the Lord”. Donna coordinates the Missionettes program, and directs the Weigh Down Workshop, a program designed to help overweight people while leading them to the Lord. Their three oldest children enjoy the Royal Rangers and the Missionette Programs at Church, while Christopher Austin participates frequently in the Junior Bible Quiz.

Rebekah's Untimely Arrival

Glenn and Donna learned they were to have a fourth child in February 1999. They were concerned, since three earlier pregnancies had ended in miscarriages. After their first ultrasound, the doctor believed the placenta was lying a bit low, which he confirmed several times as the pregnancy went on. In early July Donna was put on bed rest to minimize bleeding. On 26 July she was rushed to the Mountain Home AFB hospital in an ambulance, where doctors labored for five hours to stop the bleeding. Later they moved her fifty miles to St. Luke's Hospital in Boise, Idaho, where she remained for the next four weeks.

On August 13th Donna started hemorrhaging again. Little could be done to stop the bleeding, and her platelets count was dropping, so the doctor decided to take the baby by Cesarean section. On 15 August Rebekah Marie Austin was born, an untimely nine weeks and two days early. She weighed 3 pounds 8 ounces and was 16 inches long. Her lungs were fully developed due to steroid shots Donna had received during the last four weeks of the pregnancy. Rebekah spent the first 49 days of her life in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. In January 2000 at age five months she is 22½ inches long and weighs 9 pounds 11 ounces. Today Rebekah Marie Austin is a healthy little girl.

Glenn Austin has now served in the U.S. Air Force for nearly fifteen years, and he hopes to make it to twenty years before retiring and beginning a new career. He is also

interested in genealogy, and serves as an Associate Editor for *Austins of America*. Glenn has researched the Samuel and Hopestill Austin line. He discovered Hopestill's birth year in the old Massachusetts court records (see pages 91-94), and has been delving into her maiden name (see pages 588-589). Glenn speculates her maiden name was Pearson, Pierson, Person, Parson or Pierson, but he has not proven this. He is also trying to prove his rather fanciful speculation that a Francis Austin fathered Benjamin, Joseph, Matthew, and Samuel, and that they were all born at Wapping Hall, London, England. Glenn is presently compiling an article on the lifestyles of the people living near Samuel and Hopestill in 17th century Boston. Glenn and Donna Austin have four children:

- S213-2515-1313-1. CHRISTOPHER JAMES, b. 24 June 1991 at the R.A.F. Lakenheath Hospital, England.
- S213-2515-1313-2. ANIKA ROSE, b. 10 December 1993 at the R.A.F. Lakenheath Hospital, England.
- S213-2515-1313-3. TIMOTHY EDWARD, b. 26 October 1995 at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.
- S213-2515-1313-4. REBEKAH MARIE, b. 15 August 1999 in Boise, Idaho.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 696]

AOA Photo 659

Glenn Matthew Austin & Donna Marie (McWilliams) Austin with their children (left to right): Anika Rose, Rebekah Marie, Timothy Edward and Christopher James. Photograph taken in Idaho in September 1999.

**STEPHEN FULLER AUSTIN OF TEXAS
DOCUMENTS SOLD AT AUCTION**

by Cheryl Austin Akusis

Author's Note: The following material was gleaned from the Internet. Except where noted, the authors of the materials were not identified.

The life of Stephen Fuller Austin, the "Father of Texas," appears on *Austins of America* pages 291-298. One of his earliest letters still in private hands sold at auction for \$23,000 on 10 January 1999 (see photograph at right). Austin's letters are quite valuable today, and the earliest ones seldom appear on the market. At the same auction the printed certificate of admission to Austin's colony was sold for \$4600. Old Three Hundred grants can be also found, but are not in the same league as the letter described below. A similar item – an autographed receipt signed by Austin at Bexar and dated 13 March 1822 – sold for \$40,000 in 1986, and on 15 November 1997, fourteen of Austin's letters written between 1830 and 1836 were sold for around \$575,000. Here is the catalog description of the letter which was auctioned in 1999:

AUSTIN, Stephen F. (1793-1836). Autographed letter, signed and with rubric, to James Britton Bailey. Brazos River, October 3, 1823. 1 p., 8 vo. Split at folds (loss of only one letter of one word); some browning and light spots; top blank margin rough; lower right blank corner absent (no loss of text). The consignor wishes us to point out that three ink fingerprints (Austin's?) are faintly visible at right margin. Professionally de-acidified and stabilized. Matted in acid-free materials, framed, and under glass, with a small nineteenth-century portrait of Austin. Sound provenance: Present are two letters of provenance from the 1930s, one on letterhead of W. M. Caldwell, Attorney, Houston, Texas, discussing the present letter (including the conjecture that Bailey was a member of pirate Laffite's crew), and a letter to Caldwell from Mrs. Leita Small, Alamo Custodian, returning the Stephen Austin letter to Caldwell and mentioning that it had been on exhibit at the Alamo for some fifteen or sixteen years. One of the most desirable pieces of Texana we have ever handled.

This is an extraordinary and unusual letter entirely in the hand of Stephen F. Austin, the Father of Texas — one of the earliest letters written by Austin from Texas still in private hands. The letter dramatically documents the shift in authority from the Spanish-Mexican period to Austin's dominance as premier impresario of a rapidly evolving Anglo Texas. Austin, asserting powers under his impresario grant, writes to James Bailey denying him admission as a settler in the Austin colony:

AOA Photo 660

Photo of a hand written tattered note – text follows:

You are hereby notified that you cannot be received as a settler in this Colony, and that you will not be permitted to live nearer the Brazos river than the San Jacinto, nor nearer the Colorado than the Guadalupe. Sixty days are allowed you to remove your family and property.

Brazos River October 3 1823

Stephen F. Austin

Mr. Briton Bailey

James Britton Bailey (1779-1832) was known as "Brit." He apparently lived in Kentucky for a number of years and reportedly served in the legislature of that state. However, he acquired a controversial reputation and may have been prosecuted for the crime of forgery before he left the state. One of the most colorful and hardy of the first Anglo settlers in Texas, Brit Bailey continuously "wheeled and dealt" to amass one of the early vast land holdings. Before he died, his estate covered a large portion of what is now Southeast Texas. Bailey was also one of the first Texas "cattle barons," rounding up one of the great herds of longhorn cattle in the region, which pastured from as far as present-day Houston to the coastal country. In his will James Bailey included the unusual request that he be buried standing up, facing west (and, according to legend, with a cocked rifle placed in his hands and a jug of whiskey at his feet).

AOA Photo 661
Printed Certificate of Admission

The source of the animosity between Bailey and Austin is not known, but Bailey was the type of person around whom legends grow. He had a reputation for outlandish, confrontational behavior. One story has it that he once met Austin on the road and proceeded to give him a sound thrashing. It has also been suggested that Austin courted Bailey's daughter against her father's will, or that Austin was the victim of Bailey's propensity for practical jokes. More likely, as the letter suggests, the source of irritation between the two men grew out of the state of confusion with Texas land grants during the transitional period between 1819 and 1821, when Spain relinquished to Mexico her claim to Texas and Mexico.

Bailey preceded Austin to Texas, arriving in late 1818 or early 1819, settling near the Brazos River at what is now Bailey's Prairie. The lands later granted to Austin overlapped those already occupied by James Bailey. Apparently the Spanish government sold Bailey his league and labor (4587 acres) on the east bank of the Brazos (from Brazoria to Bell's Landing), though he may not have been issued a deed. "When Austin came to tell him to move off his original tract, it was Austin who moved instead, in a backward step, looking into the muzzle of Bailey's gun. This was a very unfortunate incident, which rankled in the minds of both men.

Austin probably thought that he had a right to Bailey's land, for he had been given authority by the Mexican Government to settle a colony in that region" (Colson, *Bailey's Light*, pages 36-37). But Brit Bailey's frontier experience, as well as his forthrightness and ability to treat with Mexican officials and Native Americans were necessary and useful to Austin and his colonists. By 7 July 1824, Austin had become accepting enough of Brit Bailey's presence to recognize his squatter's claim to a league and a labor of land, and Austin convened the settlers from the lower Brazos at Bailey's home to take the oath of fidelity to the Mexican Constitution of 1824.

Colonization of Texas Foundation Document

Austin signed admission certificates to his colony (shown above) using the Spanish version of his given name:

Below is the auction catalog description of the document:

AUSTIN, Stephen F. (1793-1836). Printed certificate of admission to Austin's colony for Warren D. C. all, completed in manuscript and signed in full by Austin, commencing: No. [62] El Ciudadano Estevan F. Austin, Empresario, para introducir Emigrados Estrangeros, en las Colonias que le tiene designadas el Supremo Gobierno del Estado de Coahuila y Texas, por los contratos celebrados entre el dicho Gobierno y el mismo Austin al efecto.... Villa de Austin [San Felipe de Austin: G. B. Cotten], December 21, 1829. 19.2 x 19.9 cm. (7-9/16 x 7-7/8 inches). Old tape stains where formerly folded; separations neatly reinforced with archival paper (very minor losses, affecting only a few letters).

This was the first printing of a basic document for Texas colonization, and an early Texas imprint. This document represents one of the four essential steps used in the colonization process, being the impresario's certificate, admitting the immigrant as a member of Austin's Colony. Streeter 9: "Among the 1829 and early 1830 products of the San Felipe press are printed forms for some of the steps in the process of making grants of land to the immigrants. I do not ordinarily list forms, but as these grants were the foundation of the colonization of Texas, it seems suitable that the four essential printed forms used in the colonization process should be entered or noted." Warren D. C. Hall (1788-1867), the colonist named in the certificate, was an early important Anglo settler, accompanying the Gutiérrez-Magee and Mina expeditions, second in command at Anahuac, representative at the Consultation in 1835, Secretary of War during the Texas Revolution, plantation owner, and attorney (*New Handbook*). This is probably the earliest obtainable Texas imprint. Of eight prior Texas imprints, three are not located in any copy; three are known only by one copy; another is known by two copies; four copies of Streeter 7 are located (known forgeries exist).

**A PORTRAIT OF MY GRANDMOTHER
MARY ELIZABETH EARLY AUSTIN**

by Phyllis Cynthia Young Murray

Editor's Note: This article expands on the author's article on pages 640-643, which included earlier portraits of Mary Elizabeth Early Austin and information on her husband James Nelson Austin.

As we enter the new millennium, we would be remiss if we did not pause to acknowledge our ancestors who have passed before us. Thus, I will create a portrait of my revered grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Early Austin, born 12 June 1888 in Keysville, Virginia, based on talks with my mother, Frazure Austin Young, my aunts Mary Austin Cook and Inez Austin Venable, and elder cousin, Margaret Early. I knew Mary as "Grandmother Bessie."

It would take a lot for one person to try and fathom life during the Reconstruction Period for persons of African and Native American descent in the south. It seems fitting to begin with Grandmother Bessie Austin's own mother, Lula Lyle (shown at left). Her mother was the Master's daughter, so Lula lived in the Master's house and enjoyed all its comforts. As my Aunt Inez explained, "White southerners in rural areas did as they pleased both within and outside the law, since the farms or plantations were far removed from one another, and transportation was difficult." This explains much of the way life played out in rural Virginia.

Great-grandmother Lula remained at home and helped around the house. She was very fair skinned and petite. Her asthmatic condition made her health rather fragile. She did not weigh more than ninety pounds, and was excused from hard chores. She dressed like the aristocrats of the day, with rich outer and undergarments. Aunt Mary recalled her seven petticoats, and beautiful size 2 boots of suede and pattern leather. Lula dressed for the life she would lead, the life of a fine lady. At age 19 she married Jno. T. Early (shown at above right), a Native American of both Cherokee and European descent, born in 185?. They "jumped the broom" in a traditional ceremony. John Early, like Lula's father was a tobacco farmer. He was also free. Once married, they lived in the Meherrin, Virginia home John Early had built. It is there they raised their seven children. John Early hired workers to assist with great grandmother's household chores. All of the Early children were educated and prospered. Most of their sons – James, William, John and Phillip Early – became tobacco farmers like their father, who gave each of his sons a parcel of land. The Early daughters – Mary Elizabeth, Josephine and Hattie – acquired their own property through their husbands: Bessie Early Austin resided in Farmville, Virginia, Josephine Early Wilson resided in Mystic, Connecticut, and Hattie Early Morrisey resided in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

AOA Photos 662-1, -2, -3

Small uncaptioned photos of Lula Lyle, John T. Early and Eva Logan

Mary's brother James Early "looked as white as any white man," Aunt Inez recalled. Earlier in life he had worked in a Boston shoe factory, passing for white as a matter of economics, to get the highest pay for his labor, for he needed to buy equipment for his farm. Back in Virginia, even though he did not try to pass for white, he was accepted in the white community as white. He was permitted to sit in meetings with the white tobacco farmers as the prices were set for each year's crop, and he would get the highest price possible for his tobacco.

Mary's brother Phillip Early, relied on another white "relative" to bring his own tobacco to market. Cousin Margaret stated that one of the Lyles would visit the Meherrin home and refer to himself as a relative of Philip's mother, Lula Lyle. The relative would assist with the fair marketing of Philip Early's tobacco. This cooperation among farmers proved that the laws did not always apply as a rule of thumb, especially when white southerners decided to be more humane than the laws allowed. And lest we forget, the white families did have some idea about what part of their family tree extended over into the family trees of members of the African American and Native American communities.

While her brothers prepared to become farmers, Mary and her sisters attended boarding school in Keysville, Virginia. Her sister Hattie graduated from the Virginia Normal & Industrial Institute (which later became the Virginia State University in Petersburg). Hattie married Joseph Morrisey, the first African-American postman in the city of Philadelphia. James Nelson Austin's niece Eva Logan (daughter of Kate Austin and Albert Logan, her photo is at right) graduated from the same Institute in December 1922.

Mary Elizabeth Early herself had another mission. She left the private boarding school to assist her mother at home with her younger siblings. She was only age 19 when she married in 1906 to James Nelson Austin (born circa 1863 in Virginia), by whom she had ten children:

- N51. LOUISE, b. 22 July 1907, m. on 15 April 1930 Samuel Thurmond Allen, b. 18 January 1903 in Oxford, North Carolina, son of June and Betty (Clemens) Allen. He d. 16 September 1874 in Montclair, New Jersey. Louise d. 9 November 1986 in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Ch: Samuel Jr. b. 6 December 1930 (US Army overseas), Kathryn b. 30 September 1938, Austin b. on 1 September 1945.
- N52. FANNIE KATE, b. 8 March 1909, m. in 1931 to Isaac Howard Booker, b. 3 June 1906 Cumberland, Virginia, son of Warren and Annie (—) Booker. Fannie d. 1988, Isaac d. in his 70's at home in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Children: Isaac Howard Jr. b. 26 August 1932 (served In US Army in Europe) and James b. on 5 October 1933.
- N53. INEZ ELIZABETH, b. 7 July 1911, m. 12 March 1938 to Cornelius Venable, b. 3 September 1911 Washington DC, son of John and Jenny (Dykes) Venable. He d. 25 February 1993 New York City, Inez resides there. No ch.
- N54. FRAZURE DELANE, b. on 7 January 1913, m. on 28 September 1935 to Claude Monroe Young, b. on 23 November 1912 in Farmville VA, son of Richard and Josephine (James) Young. He d. on 4 January 1997 in Mount Vernon, New York. Frazure Young now resides in Orlando, Florida. Ch: Loretta Delane b. on 16 April 1936, Claude Marvin b. 21 July 1937 (US Navy Reserve for 8 years), and Phyllis Cynthia b. on 3 November 1938.
- N55. HATTIE, was born in 1914, she died at a young age.
- N56. MINNIE VIRGINIA, b. on 12 November 1916 (Family Bible), m. 18 March 1937 Robert Edward Darben, b. 1 January 1916 in Brooklyn, New York, son of Robert Edward and Miriam (Hatchet) Darben, he was one of the Tuskegee Airmen in WW II. Robert d. 5 April 1992 in Bloomfield, New Jersey. Minnie d. 29 May 1961 in Montclair, New Jersey. Ch: Barbara b. 11 August 1939.
- N57. ALTOMAE CLAUDIA, b. 7 April 1918, m. February 1941 to Herman Cox, b. on 4 July 1905 in Brooklyn NY, son of John and Laura (—) Cox. He d. August 1983 in East Orange, New Jersey. Altomae resides in Roselle, New Jersey. Ch: Inez b. 3 November 1952, Hermoine b. on 15 February 1954, Herman Jr. b. on 8 June 1962.
- N58. MARY VIRGINIA, b. 22 March 1922, m. circa 1938 to Cleophus Cook, b. 22 December 1914 New London, Connecticut, son of Cleophus Darrow and Epher Maude (Bartlett) Cook, served as Flagman in Navy WW II, d. 8 July 1972 West Haven, Connecticut. Mary resides in East Orange, New Jersey. Ch: Charlene b. 10 January 1942, Cleophus b. 25 February 1943, James b. 28 April 1944.
- N59. MARTHA JAMES, b. 11 July 1923, her middle name reflects her mother's fear she would never have a son. She m. in 1941 to Herman Brown, b. 19 May 1919 in Hampden Sydney, Virginia, son of Herman and Minnie (—) Brown. Herman d. on 15 April 1974 in Hampden Sydney, Martha d. 30 March 1997 E. Orange, NJ. Ch: Altomae b. 31 March 1942, Samuel b. 25 February 1953.
- N5A. JAMES NELSON II, b. 7 February 1925 in Farmville,

Virginia. He attended St. Paul College in Lawrenceville, Virginia, m. 10 October 1949 to Lydia Beatrice Carter, b. 14 June 1925 Bladen County, North Carolina, dau. of John and Callie (Spaulding) Carter. Beatrice attended St. Augustine College in Raleigh, North Carolina. The couple now resides in Fort Worth, Texas. Ch: James Nelson III b. on 16 May 1951, Iris Patricia b. on 14 November 1952, and Renard b. on 13 January 1956.

AOA Photo 663

Mary Elizabeth Early Austin and son James Nelson Austin II, who served in the Army in World War II.

Dear Jimmie,

I received your November 28, 1944 letter. Was glad to hear from you, and to know you were well and getting along nicely. Mary and Martha are looking for you to stop by Farmville. You don't know yet what time you will get your furlough do you? Minnie wrote to you. Robert (Darben) has gone to get his final discharge, Martha said Lawrence White has his discharge. James Brown is in camp in NC. All send love. I heard from your Aunt Joe. Her son Johnny (Wilson) is home from overseas. Bernard (Wilson) the youngest son is year over seas.

Robert got a 45 day leave but his commanding officer sent him a telegram Saturday to come at once and get his final discharge. He had to leave right away. He had started to work at the shipyard. All send love. Write soon.

Love from mother Bessie

My Grandmother Bessie always referred to her husband James as "Mr. Austin," both in public and at home. My Great-grandmother Lula modeled her devotion to her family as she traveled 17 miles to be present for the birth of each of the Austin children.

My mother Frazure Delane Austin was married on 25 September 1935 in New York City to Claude Monroe Young. Claude was born in Farmville, a son of Richard Young and Josephine (James) Young. He was baptized in the First Baptist Church and educated in the Farmville Public School System. They established a business raised three children, and moved to Mount Vernon, New York in 1950. My father died on 4 January 1997 at the Shalom Nursing Home in Mount Vernon. My parents had wanted to name me Phyllis Wheatley Young, but Grandmother Bessie chose the name Phyllis Cynthia. She always called me "Cynthia," and when I was age 15 she changed my parent's attitudes about dating.

Grandmother Bessie, as she was affectionately called by members of the family, showed me how to knit and crochet. She infused me with her love for reading and writing. The most indelible memory I have of Grandmother Bessie is one of her complete engrossment in reading and writing. She was constantly reading the Bible or writing letters on fine linen stationery in her leisure moments. Later I learned that she was writing these long letters to her son, James Nelson Austin, Jr. who was serving in the U.S. Army during World War II. (see photograph and 1944 letter at right). Uncle Jimmie was not only the youngest of the ten children, he was her only son. It must have been a difficult time for Grandmother as she struggled with the possibility of losing her only son in combat. But the joy of his safe return outweighed any hardship his absence had created.

Grandmother Bessie Austin visited us during the War. One of her favorite hymns was "*One Day at a Time, Sweet Jesus.*" So many mothers must also have lived one day at a time as the war took its toll. Grandmother always kept busy. She had been a classic homemaker as her children grew strong. There were always hot rolls on the dinner table and hardy meals for her growing family. Bessie canned fruit preserves and vegetables. As my earlier article (see page 642) described, there was always plenty of food available year round.

One vivid remembrance I have of Farmville, Virginia, is going with Grandmother Bessie Austin to the market to select a chicken for dinner. The poor chicken did not have a chance. Grandmother picked the chicken up and rung his little neck. After paying for it, she brought it home to prepare for dinner. Prior to that incident, I had only envisioned Grandmother Austin as a very timid and retiring person. However, that was the way things were

done in Virginia. The women had to be lady-like, but at the same time they needed to be strong and courageous enough to take care of the business at hand.

I did not learn until recently that Grandmother Austin did not "spare the rod." Each child received their share of discipline with the switches (branches) he or she had selected from the garden. Fortunately for Grandmother, there were a wealth of switches growing in the backyard. Aunt Inez remarked that the picture of Uncle Jimmie Austin in his Eton suit (see page 643) was taken directly after he had received a spanking.

Grandmother Bessie Austin managed very well as the quintessential homemaker, the consummate mother, the revered Grandmother. She was also progressive in her day. She was a member of the church, and involved in the its various committees. She also found time to become an active member of the National Council of Negro Women. The women of her community met in the homes of members of each church or civic group. Everyone got to know who's who in town as well as all the news in Farmville. [Note: Farmville was established in 1798. It is located in south central Virginia and is an educational center with Longwood College (1884) and Hampden-Sydney College (1776). This five-county trading post, with its agricultural and diversified industries, is the birthplace of Confederate Brig. General Joseph E. Johnston.]

My Aunt Inez stated that Grandmother Austin's friends seemed surprised to learn that she was working outside the home. But Mary Elizabeth Austin wanted the luxury of electricity, plus the convenience of a washing machine and an additional bathroom at home. She also saw the advantage of having a propane gas stove. Hence, the gas stove would be used in the summer because it didn't generate as much heat as the coal and wood burning stove. Grandmother Austin decided to work toward that end. Finally, with the new source of income and careful management of the household budget, Grandmother was able to realize her dream. She even hired Ms. Lena Johnson, a seamstress, to make the girls' dresses with matching bloomers. Grandmother selected the fabric and took it to Ms. Johnson. "Each of the bloomers had a pocket for a fancy handkerchief," Aunt Mary Austin Cook mentioned with delight.

Grandfather Austin did not interfere with Grandmother's decision to work. With several of her daughters to help her at home, she managed to cook the meals for the prominent Baldwin Family of Farmville and take in washing from the teachers who boarded locally. Aunt Inez prepared some of the meals at home. All of the children helped deliver the small baskets of linen to the teachers of Longwood College, which was formerly known as the Virginia State College for White Women.

When Aunt Inez Austin began to work outside the home, she saved the money from the first few weeks of work to purchase a \$10.00 barrel of flour from the grist mill, which lasted quite some time. Aunt Inez deferred an opportunity to go to Hampton College so the family's youngest children – Mary Elizabeth, Martha, and James Nelson Austin Jr. – could be sent to boarding school, giving Bessie a little respite for the years ahead.

When Grandfather James Nelson Austin died in 1936, Grandmother Bessie had already raised her own ten children, three grandchildren (Samuel Allen, Howard and James Booker) and six nieces (Susie Lyle, and Sarah, Lillie Mae, Margaret, Josephine and Garnel Early), a nephew (Fred Early) and a local orphan (Callie Dent), and many others who were in need. The concept of family had been indelibly placed in the heart of Bessie Austin by her mother Lula Lyle Early, and she never stopped working and caring for her family. She worked 'in service' in Virginia and occasionally in Montclair, New Jersey, until she died on 27 July 1951 in Montclair.

The legacy that Grandmother left is not found in stocks and bonds. It is found in her exemplary life of hard work

and devotion to her family. Her life reveals how a mother's faith and trust in God enabled her to remain strong in mind and body as she persevered against the odds. It also shows how firmly the African and Native American women had established an ethic of hard work outside the home prior to the economic liberation of all women in America. As we enter the new millennium, Grandmother Mary Elizabeth Austin Early is with us in mind and in spirit. She lives on through us, the Austin women, as we continue to make our way on the well traveled path before us.

This portrait of my grandmother is now complete. I will absorb myself within its texture, my arms will become the frame. And I will call the portrait Grandma Bessie. She brings to my mind a statement made by President Andrew Jackson when describing his own mother:

"She was gentle as a dove and brave as a lioness. The memory of my mother and her teachings were, after all, the only capital I had to start life with, and on that capital I have made my way."

— Andrew Jackson

QUERIES

665-1. **James Edmund Austin** married Amanda Sophia Johnson. They lived in North Leyton, England, before coming to Canada in early 1900s. Two known children: Dorothy b. circa 1910 in Toronto? and Leonard George b. 1912 in Toronto. Dorothy married — Coffin and then — Charles. She resided in Las Vegas and Vancouver in the 1950s. Any information on her would be most helpful.

665-2. **William Austin** was born in Vermont, his wife Hanna Pratt was born in New York state. They had two known daughters: Jane and Mary E. Austin. Mary was born on 2 November 1850 in Homer, Cortland, County, New York. The two girls were living in Homer in the 1870 census with a Schufelt family. Mary married in 1896 in Binghamton, New York, to Alexander Mooney. Would like any information available on this family.

665-3. **James Alfred Austin** was born 21 April 1855 in St. Clair County, Illinois. He married 5 December 1903 to Belle Donna Bickers, born on 8 September 1878 in Newton, Jasper County, Illinois. He died on 5 August 1928, she died 3 June 1909. Their son Amyle Alfred Austin was born 27 September 1904 in Mattoon, Coles County, Illinois, and married on 4 June 1929 to Myrtle Staeffler, born 14 June 1907 in Hardwick, Rock County, Minnesota. Amyle died on 11 May 1982. His son James Robert Austin was born 16 December 1929 in Luverne, Rock County, now resides in San Francisco, California. Would like to learn about James Alfred Austin's ancestry.

665-4. **Martin Clifford Austin** was born in Canada on 23 October 1900, believed to be the youngest son of a John Austin. He came to the United States at age 13. Correspondence from his aunt Marie Austin in Canada ended circa 1946. Any information greatly appreciated.

665-5. **Thomas Austin** was born 25 October 1825, m. Virginia Miller born 24 July 1837. He died 2 October 1890, she died 15 October 1911, both are buried in the Judd-Miller Cemetery at Charlie, Kentucky, just outside of Louisa, Lawrence County. They perhaps came from Ohio. Seeking any information on Thomas or Virginia.

665-6. **Edward Austin** married Martha (—), they had children: Eugene, Delbert, Edward, Clara, Dovie/Dovey, and Lily (their birth order is unknown). Lily was born in Dorchester, Virginia, she was married to Roy Samuel Shanks. Lily died in Norton, Virginia. I am seeking any information on this Austin family and their ancestors.

665-7. **Melvin A. Austin** was born 15 May 1861, either in New York (census record) or in Pontiac, Michigan (according to a family baby book). He married first to —, they had a son Ernest, and perhaps other children. Melvin was married second in Pennsylvania to Winifred Culkan, had eight children: Mabel, Claire, Nellie, Elmer, Florence, Mary, Francis and Thomas A. Austin, born 22 January 1902 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. Melvin died 29 May 1928 in Wilkes-Barre, I need his ancestry.

AUSTIN VITAL RECORDS FROM OTTER TAIL COUNTY, MINNESOTA

by Carol Robinson Austin

BIRTH RECORDS

Mary M. Austin born 15 November 1872, daughter of Martin V. Austin b. NY, merchant, and Mary U. b. OH.

— **Austin** b. 24 February 1879, son of Blanchard and Rosinda.

Horatio Nelson Austin b. 28 Dec. 1882 [Index: Bk B Pg 81 Line 37]

Frank J. Austin b. 17 June 1883, son S. A. b. NY and Sarah b. MN.

Wilbur B. Austin b. 27 May 1884 in Amor Township, son of Stillman B. Austin b. NY and Lucinda — b. IA.

Vernon Eugene Austin b. 30 October 1884 in Amor Township, son of Phineas Herrick Austin b. MN and Melina Evelyn Davis b. MN.

Susan C. Austin b. 10 January 1885, daughter of Otho A. Austin b. IN and Grace — b. Norway

Fannie Izora Austin b. 12 March 1888, second child of Otho Alva Austin bookkeeper age 32 b. Waveland IN and Grace Christie P. Green age 22 b. Sweden.

(male) **Austin** b. 4 August 1888 [Index: Book D, Page 255 Line 32]

— **Austin** b. 6 June 1890, son of Otho Alva Austin and Grace Green. [Index has birth date as 20 June: Book A, Page 102, Line 15].

Earl Theodore Austin b. 10 April 1893, son of Otho Alva Austin and Grace Green.

— **Austin** b. 17 Sept. 1894, son Otho Alva & Grace (Green) Austin.

Harold Delay Austin b. 26 April 1898, fifth child of P. H. Austin age 38 farmer b. MN and Molina E. Davis age 32 b. MN

Harold Austin b. 26 April 1898 in Amor Twp., son of Phinneas Herrick Austin age 38 b. MN and Molina E. Davis age 32 b. MN.

Goldie Austin b. 8 April 1923, 6th child of Clyde R. Austin age 30 and Oval Anderson age 26.

Ardee Lowell Austin b. 23 November 1924 in Perham, first child of Harold Austin age 26 and Vernie Adelaide Lautenhiser age 26.

Alexander Joseph Austin b. 19 August 1931 in Fergus Falls, first child of John Austin age 27 b. ND and Elma Kulzer age 28 b. MN.

Cynthia Diane Austin b. 27 August 1957 in Perham, dau. of Harry Charles Austin age 34 b. MN & Fairlee Johanna Adams age 33 b. ND.

MARRIAGE RECORDS

P. H. Austin m. Malina Davis 26 March 1881 at S. B. Austin's. Parents: S. B. and Rosa Austin, James Davis.

Rosa E. Austin m. John C. Shaffen 21 November 1882.

Daniel Austin m. Adline Honle 6 April 1886 in Virndale.

Mary Margaret Austin m. 28 Aug. 1893 [unfound, Index has 1993]

Floyd H. Austin m. Sadie A. Francis 2 Sept. 1896 in Fergus Falls.

S. B. Austin m. on 19 January 1899 in Perham to Viola Barnhart, 2nd marriage for both, was Viola L. Harrison.

George L. Austin m. Alice M. McCullough on 14 March 1900 in Fergus Falls.

Susan Christa Austin m. on 2 December 1906 in New York Mills to George Orlo Wilcox of Ward County ND.

Fannie Izora Austin m. Peter William Telin on 16 November 1913 in New York Mills.

Harry Austin of Ronson County ND m. 26 September 1917 in Fergus Falls to Hilda Larson.

Ralph Howard Austin of Newton m. 16 June 1926 in Fergus Falls to Leona Alice Macomber of Homestead. Witness: Mrs. Grace Austin.

George L. Austin of Rosholt, Roberts County SD m. on 17 June 1936 in Fergus Falls to Gyda V. Baglo of Fergus Falls.

Karen Marjorie Austin of Perham b. 18 September 1943 m. 21 December 1963 in Perham to Donald Oscar Wierima of Menahga b. 19 February 1940.

Lloyd Charles Austin of Perham b. 6 September 1949 m. on 7 July 1969 at Battle Lake to Kathleen DeLoris Carlson of Perham b. 13 June 1948. Consent by father Harry C. Austin.

Lori Lea Austin of Fergus Falls b. 4 February 1957 m. on 27 December 1975 in Fergus Falls to Kerry Wayne Harthun of Fergus Falls b. 17 November 1954.

Genevieve Grace Austin of Pelican Rapids b. 14 August 1951 m. 25 September 1976 at Hamar Lutheran Church to Rodney Allen Anderson of Dundas, Rice County MN b. 4 August 1949.

Cynthia Diane Austin of Perham b. 27 August 1957 m. on 23 July 1977 at Immanuel Lutheran in Dent MN to Marlin Lyle Harthun of Dent b. 5 June 1955. Witness: Karen (Austin) Wierima (see above).

Jeffrey Lynn Austin of Fergus Falls b. 19 May 1958 m. on 10 March 1979 in Bethlem Lutheran Church to Karen Lynn Pikop of Fergus Falls b. 2 May 1959.

DEATH RECORDS

Kate J. Austin, married, b. 6 April 1875 IA, d. 12 September 1927 Rush Lake, age 52y 5m 6d, father Martin Rinderknecht b. Holland, mother Margareth Goetze b. PA.

LeRoy Burdette Austin, single, b. 10 June 1913 IA, d. 11 January 1931 Perham Twp., age 17y 7m 1d, Huntington's Chorea and tonsillitis, parents Charles Austin and Katie Renderich.

Charles W. Austin, widowed, b. 13 April 1866 MN, d. 2 April 1933 age 66y 11m 19d, parents George Austin and unknown.

George Austin, married, b. 29 May 1889 MN, d. 16 August 1940 age 41y 2m 17d, common labor, father Charles Austin b. SD mother Kate J. Rinderknecht b. IA.

Mrs. Augusta Burau Austin, widow, b. 2 August 1872, d. Elizabeth Twp. 3 May 1942 age 69y 9m 1d. Daughter of August Burau b. Germany and Eleanor — b. Germany. Her husband William Milton Austin d.1924.

Alexander Einar Austin, b. Milnor ND, son of John Austin b. Norway.

Florence E. Austin, b. 25 September 1894 MN, d. 15 December 1974 Pelican Rapids, father Emil Werden, mother May Schutte, widow of Glenn F. Austin.

Stillman B. Austin, married, b. VT, d. 30 July 1886 Amor, age 64y 11m 3d. Heart disease.

Rosinda Austin, married, b. IA, d. 27 February 1896 age 41y 8m 8d, La Grippe, daughter of Legrand J. and Catherina J.

Theodore D. Austin, b. Stanford NY, d. 12 Feb. 1898 ae 84y 6m 16d.

Susan Austin, b. 18 September 1818 PA, d. 30 October 1901 age 83y 7m 12d, father Henry, mother Christ.

Louise Mariosa Austin, widow, b. VT, d. 25 October 1908 of old age in Maplewood, age 82y 5m 15d. Age 21 at marriage, 6 children. Parents David and Charity Cartwright.

Olina Austin, b. 21 December 1856 WI, d. 14 August 1916 in Dalton, age 59y 8m 8d, dau of Ole Nelson & Saave Nelson, both b. Norway.

Otho A. Austin, married, b. 2 March 1856 IN, d. 12 December 1924, age 68y 9m 10d, parents Theodor Austin b. NY & Susan Kelley b. PA.

William Milan Austin, married, b. 10 October 1868 VT, d. 26 July 1924 in Fergus Falls of pulmonary TV and diabetes, age 55y 9m 16d, Oil company agent, father Milan Austin, mother Martha Grant.

Phineas H. Austin, married, b. 9 October 1859 MN, d. 18 March 1924 Perham Village of pneumonia, age 64y 5m 9d, father Stillman Austin b. NY, mother — Koburn b. Ireland.

THE 1853 POCKET DIARY OF ISAAC AUSTIN

*transcribed by his great-grandson
Robert Krause Austin*

R22B-821. ISAAC AUSTIN⁷ (Peter,⁶ Shadrach,⁵ Joshua,⁴ Anthony,^{3,2} Richard¹) was born on 29 August 1828 in Muhlenburg, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. He married 17 January 1850 in Muhlenburg to Barbara Bencoter, born 27 January 1829 in Muhlenburg, the daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Harned) Bencoter. Isaac kept diaries for many years, his earliest that I have was for 1853. This was still several years before he was to become Reverend Austin, but Isaac's religious fervor was very apparent even then. Sundays were spent in forenoon and afternoon prayer meetings with his neighbors. To the right is the youngest known photograph of Isaac Austin. The year it was taken is unknown, but it was probably a few years after this 1853 diary was written. Isaac's diary refers to Peter, John and Margaret Austin, his father, uncle and aunt. On 12 January 1853 he wrote that "B weaned Miner B," referring to his wife Barbara and their first child Miner Bencoter Austin, born on 11 January 1851. As if farming corn, buckwheat, oats, rye, and potatoes did not keep him busy enough, Isaac Austin also served his community by collecting taxes, repairing roads and fences, and interviewing prospective school teachers. Those who read his brief daily entries will see his deep faith, and better appreciate his hard, dawn-to-dusk workdays on his 19th century farm. Isaac's Austins descendants should take pride in their devout and industrious ancestor.

**AOA Photo 667
Isaac Austin**

Saturday, January 1 – I was at home during the day. Attended meeting in the Evening. The Good Lord was with us at Bloomingdale Chapel.

Sunday, January 2 – Attended meeting at Bloomingdale Chapel. Brother Bacon preached in the forenoon from Revelations 2 Chapter 10th verse. Class after preaching. The Lord was with us and [we asked him] to Bless preaching in the evening by brother S. B. Laycock from Joshua 26th Chapter 18th verse.

Monday, January 3 – Went to Wilkes Barre to see about the trial with Mr. Young concerning his teaching school; also to take up other appeals.

Tuesday, January 4 – Was at Wilkes-Barre and attended court in the forenoon. Saw Reese Evans placed in the prisoners box charged with the murder of Mr. — Reese. He looked very pale. Judge Lessop his attorney said the jury had not been lawfully chosen; he was remanded to prison.

Wednesday, January 5 – Was at home. Inspected Isaac Bellas for school teacher.

Thursday, January 6 – Was at home. Michael Harned and his wife came to see us in the evening.

Friday, January 7 – I was at home chopping wood; inspected Tom F. Case. Father and Mother Bencoter and C. C. Bencoter and his wife were here visiting in the evening.

Saturday, January 8 – Went to Shickshinny and bought a load of coal for to use in the Chapel. Inspected Jn. Bellas and James Johnson in the evening.

Sunday, January 9 – Attended meeting at the McKendree Chapel. Bro. Thomas

Barnhardt preached Nelson Bonham's daughters funeral sermon. Text Job 1st chapter 21st verse. Class after preaching. Brother Woodward made life member Miss[ionary] Society and recommend for local Keeny? Pfe?

Monday, January 10 – Arose at six o'clock. Very beautiful morning. Hauled manure on corn ground. Sent a letter to Mallery Wolf. Went to rest at 9 o'clock.

Tuesday, January 11 – Arose at 6 o'clock. All well. Praised the Lord for it. Hauled manure. Mended m[y] shoe and read in the evening in Christian Advocate Journal and in the scriptures. Retired at 9 o'clock.

Wednesday, January 12 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Praise the Lord for our health and all that we enjoy. Collected school tax. Very stormy through the day. Snowed hard. B[arbara] weaned Miner B. Retire at 11 o'clock.

Thursday, January 13 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Snowed last night. Shoveled roads today and chopped wood. Retired at 10 o'clock.

Friday, January 14 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Fixed sled in the forenoon. Went to mill in the afternoon. Took two bushels buckwheat to be chopped. Brought home five bushels chaff. Retired to rest at nine.

Saturday, January 15 – Arose at seven. Was at home during the day. Chopped wood. Lewis Bencoter was here in the evening; promised to go to W. B. [Wilkes-Barre].

Sunday, January 16 – Arose at six o'clock. Was at home all day. It was a very cold day. Isaac Gregory's wife was buried.

Monday, January 17 – Arose at 6 o'clock.

Chopped wood in the morning. Started to Wilkes-Barre at eleven o'clock. Arrived there at six o'clock. Very fine day.

Tuesday, January 18 – Arose at five o'clock at Wilkes-Barre. Went to see Phebe Kester and S. F. Santee. Started home at noon. Arrived at 6. Brought load coal for P. Austin.

Wednesday, January 19 – Arose at six o'clock. Attended to S. D. Went to John Austin's with my team after timber for Peter Austin. Broke new

sled. Went visiting to father Benscoters in the eve.

Thursday, January 20 – Arose at 6 o'clock. Tried to do my duty. Hauled timber in the forenoon and wood in the afternoon.

Friday, January 21 – Arose at 6 o'clock. Hauled timber in the forenoon. Collected school in the afternoon.

Saturday, January 22 – Arose at 6 o'clock. Went to Town Hill to Quarterly Meeting. John A. Gere the Presiding Elder was there. Brother Bacon complained that the young preachers for not visiting enough without any reason for the change.

Sunday, January 23 – Arose at six o'clock at Brother Wm. Emorys. Went to Love Feast at nine o'clock. I felt my Lord precious to my soul. Preaching at eleven o'clock John A. Gere. Text the first Epistle of Peter second chapter twenty first- second- and third verses. Communion after preaching. Took dinner at Ben Fireman.

Monday, January 24 – Arose at seven o'clock. Hauled saw logs for Peter Austin in the forenoon. Went to shop in the afternoon. Went visiting in the evening to John Harneds.

Tuesday, January 25 – Arose at six o'clock. Hauled saw logs for Peter Austin. Cold and snowed.

Wednesday, January 26 – Arose at five.

Monday, February 7 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went with Brother Barnhart to see Nelson Bonham in the forenoon. Chopped wood in the afternoon. Dorcas Wolf was here visiting. Retired at nine o'clock. All well. Praise the Lord.

Tuesday, February 8 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Praise the Lord for his Goodness. Went to see Levi Arnold in the Morning. Cleaned rye in the forenoon. Hauled wood in the Afternoon. Retired at nine. All well.

Wednesday, February 9 – Arose at six o'clock All well. Hauled wood in the forenoon. Fixed flax brake in the afternoon. Mended shoes in the Evening. The good Lord was with me During the Day for which I praise his name. Retired on 9. All well.

Thursday, February 10 – Arose at six o'clock All well. Cleaned rye oats and chopped wood in the forenoon. Hauled wood in the after noon. Charles Brader was at my house in the evening. Retired at twelve. All well.

Friday, February 11 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. The mercy of the Lord is still extended unto us, for this I praise his name. Barbara went to see her folks. I went and helped her home. Retired at nine. All well.

Saturday, February 12 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to Bradley Harrison's to see them and to get his o'clock. Hauled saw logs for myself in the fore noon. Went to the shop in the afternoon had one Karl? Mead? Very cold day.

Thursday, January 27 – Arose at six o'clock hauled saw logs for myself in the forenoon.

Took Levi Arnolds sled home in the afternoon. Cold day.

Friday, January 28 – Arose at seven o'clock. Hauled saw logs and examined Jonathan Harned for school teacher. Fixed my sled. Visited John Santee at father's in the evening.

Saturday, January 29 – Arose at seven o'clock. Went to Plymouth after a load of coal for Peter Austin. Alexander Harned came to my house in the evening and stayed til morning.

Sunday, January 30 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well for which I feel thankful to my Heavenly Father. Went to McKendree Chapel to class. None there. Went to Bloomingdale Chapel in the afternoon. Brother DeMoyer preached text.

Monday, January 31 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to shop. Got a cockpit on my sled. Examined Ellen M. Wesley. She is a poor scholar.

Tuesday, February 1 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Went Hubler's Mill and to Town Hill and brought Demoyer home with me. Jacob Whuter, Monemia Benscoter, Mary Davenport was at my house visiting at night. Demoyer stayed all night.

Wednesday, February 2 – Arose at 7 o'clock. All well. Took Brother Demoyer visiting and I collected school tax. Wm Turpin & his wife and Arvilia [Amelia?] C. Carl was at my house visiting in the Evening. Examined Miss Carl for school Teacher.

Thursday, February 3 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Took Demoyer visiting. I collected school tax. Went to Abram Garthwait visiting in the Evening. Returned at one o'clock.

Friday, February 4 – Arose at seven o'clock. Took Demoyer visiting. I collected school tax. J. Gregory, W Benscoter, J Santee and their wives and father and mother was at my house at night.

Saturday, February 5 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Rainy Day. Went and took Demoyer to Town hill the straw went fast to Day. Came home by the Mill Brought my grist. Brought my grist. Poor sleighing.

Sunday, February 6 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Rainy Day. Snow all gone. Went to McKendree Chapel. No preacher. Came home. Went to see Levi Arnold. Brother Barnhart stayed with us all night.

Monday, February 7 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went with Brother Barnhart to see Nelson Bonham in the forenoon. Chopped wood in the afternoon. Dorcas Wolf was here visiting. Retired at nine o'clock. All well. Praise the Lord.

Tuesday, February 8 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Praise the Lord for his Goodness. Went to see Levi Arnold in the Morning. Cleaned rye in the forenoon. Hauled wood in the Afternoon. Retired at nine. All well.

Wednesday, February 9 – Arose at six o'clock All well. Hauled wood in the forenoon. Fixed flax brake in the afternoon. Mended shoes in

the Evening. The good Lord was with me During the Day for which I praise his name. Retired on 9. All well.

Thursday, February 10 – Arose at six o'clock All well. Cleaned rye oats and chopped wood in the forenoon. Hauled wood in the after noon. Charles Brader was at my house in the evening. Retired at twelve. All well.

Friday, February 11 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. The mercy of the Lord is still extended unto us, for this I praise is name. Barbara went to see her folks. I went and helped her home. Retired at nine. All well.

Saturday, February 12 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to Bradley Harrison's to see them and to get his quarterage, but did not get it. His father is going to pay it. Examined A. VanHorn for Teach[er]. Retired at nine.

Sunday, February 13 – Arose at six. All well. Miner was sick in the forenoon. I went to Brother Woodworths after some vermifuge [medicine to expel intestinal worms] to give him. Went to McKendree Chapel to hear Barnharts farewell Text.

Monday, February 14 – Arose at six. All well. Hauled saw logs to the saw mill and [hauled] skantling home [scantling is a small piece of lumber: a stud]. We are all well yet praise the Lord for health of Body and peace of mind.

Tuesday, February 15 – Arose half past six o'clock. All well. Chopped saw logs in the forenoon. Started to Town Hill in the after noon. Went as far as Brother Harrison['s] then returned. Retired half past nine.

Wednesday, February 16 – Arose at two o'clock. All well. Alexander Bonham came here for me to go for the Doctor for Aunt Margaret Austin. I went for warmer. His child died yesterday. Then went for hayden

Thursday, February 17 – Arose at six o'clock All well. Went to see Margaret Austin uncle J wife. She was very sick but is getting better. Returned in the evening. Retired at ten. All well.

AOA Photo 668
Isaac Austin's Pocket Diary
1853

AOA Photo 669
Pages from Isaac's 1853 Pocket
Diary

Friday, February 18 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Hauled Saw Logs to father Benscoter saw mill. Went to the Centre School House to Spelling School in the Evening. Stayed at Benscoters all night.

Saturday, February 19 – Arose at five o'clock Well. Came home and went to mill. And collected School Tax. Retired at Ten. Miner unwell.

Sunday, February 20 – Arose at seven o'clock Miner was unwell. Therefore Barbara could not go to Meeting. I went. John A. DeMoyer preached his farewell at McKendree. Text Revelations 3d ch 21st v. The Good Lord was with us To bless our needy Souls.

Monday, February 21 – Arose at six. Miner sick. I went to John Austins and hauled Saw Logs for laths to lath my house upstairs. Returned in the evening. Miner has the Sore Mouth. Retired at Ten o'clock.

Tuesday, February 22 – Arose at six. Miner yet unwell. I thrashed wheat during the day. It rained today. There is a donation visit at the parsonage for J. A. Demoyer and Thos. Barnhart. Retired at 9.

Wednesday, February 23 – Arose at six o'clock. Miner sick and has very sore mouth. I thrashed wheat today. Seymour Monroe was here in the Evening to have me sign my name for Amy Bacon to teach School. Retired at Eleven.

Thursday, February 24 – Arose seven o'clock. All well but Miner, he is some better. I finished thrashing wheat today. Held prayer meeting at J M Gregorys in the evening five of us present. The good Lord Blessed us. Today was very cold

Friday, February 25 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. I carried the Remainder of a Stack of hay in the Barn; Retired at Nine.

Saturday, February 26 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Cleaned Timothy seed till noon, then went and help[ed] establish the line between me and Samuel Bonham. Three rods from the Old line. Retired at ten.

Sunday, February 27 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. I felt the Lord precious to my soul. Went to McKendree Chapel to General class Meeting. Brother Woodworth led the class, we had a good Meeting. Came home and me and wife went to see Dorcas Wolf. She looked very bad. I do not think she will get well; held prayer Meeting at Richard Harneds in the Evening.

Monday, February 28 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Bless the Good Lord for

his goodness to our souls and bodies. I cleaned Timothy seed in the forenoon. Went to Father Benscoters and to Jonathan Harneds school in the afternoon. Forbid Albert Rees of coming to school.

Tuesday, March 1 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. I am Blessed with all needed Blessings. Truly the Lord is good. I wrote an order for Monema Benscoter and thrashed one hundred sheaves oats. Took up an order given Wm Culp

Wednesday, March 2 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Bless the Lord for all his Mercies toward us. I thrashed One Hundred and Seventy five Sheaves Oats. Retired at Ten.

Thursday, March 3 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. I thrashed Seventy five Sheaves of Oats and fixed the fence and put the pigs in the field. Held prayer Meeting at J M Gregorys in the Evening.

Friday, March 4 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. I went to Shickshinny and from there to Blanchards cree[k] collecting School Tax. Took Dinner at Mr. Jessops. Came home in the Evening. Retired half past 9.

Saturday, March 5 – Arose at six. All well. I thrashed One hundred Sheaves of Oats and chopped Sunday wood. And cut straw to last

till Monday. John Arnold was here and paid his School Tax.

Sunday, March 6 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting. Miner Goss preached the funeral sermon of Brother Woodworths child. Returned by father Benscoters. Prayer Meeting at my house in the Evening. The Good Lord was with us to Bless.

Monday, March 7 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. I put away my seed Buckwheat and took three bushels Buckwheat & four bushels rye to Mill to be chopped and Two Bushels wheat for flour. Give my note for buggy dated March 4.

Tuesday, March 8 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to see Dorcas Wolf. She was no better. Broke flax all day. I feel thankful to my Heavenly father for his goodness to me and my family. Read in the scriptures.

Wednesday, March 9 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Dressed flax during the day. Went to see Dorcas Wolf. She had a bad spell today but was better when I was there. I wrote letter for Margaret in the evening to E P [E D?]

Thursday, March 10 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. I thrashed fifty sheaves oats in the forenoon and to Mill in the afternoon. Leah Harned and Phebe Kester was here visiting. I held prayer meeting at J M G.s [John M. Gregory's] in the Evening.

Friday, March 11 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Me and John Gregory thrashed Eighty five sheaves of oats. Snowed all day long.

Saturday, March 12 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. I thrashed oats in the forenoon and chopped wood and cut Straw in the afternoon.

Sunday, March 13 – Arose at half past Six o'clock. All well. Class Meeting at my house. We had a Joyful Meeting. The good Lord was with us to encourage us and Bless. We Rejoiced in hope. Went to see D. Wolf.

Monday, March 14 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Gave James Johnston an order for Teaching School. Cleaned up Eighty Two bushels of Oats. Mended my Shoe in the Evening.

Tuesday, March 15 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. I was to see Dorcas Wolf. She was no better. I was at Lot Finks store then went to Davenport after nails. Bought ten pounds. Paid him Two Dollars.

Wednesday, March 16 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. I thrashed Seventy five Sheaves of oats in the forenoon. In the afternoon helped Michael Reese fix my house. Retired at 9.

Thursday, March 17 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. I Thrashed One hundred and twenty five Sheaves. Held prayer Meeting at J. M. Gregorys in the Evening, nine present. We [had] a good meeting.

Friday, March 18 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to see Dorcas Wolf in the morning. Then went to Election and collected School Tax. Took supper at The Searches.

Saturday, March 19 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. I thrashed One hundred Sheaves of oats and Chopped wood and cut Straw. Went to see

Dorcas Wolf in the Evening. She was no Better.

Sunday, March 20 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree to Meeting. Brother Wadsworth preached. We had a good meeting. Held prayer meeting at fathers in the Evening. The good lord was with us.

Monday, March 21 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to see Dorcas Wolf. Sang and prayed with her. She is seeking Religion. I thrashed seventy five Sheaves of Oats. Went to see Dorcas in the Evening. Retired at ten.

Tuesday, March 22 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. I thrashed One hundred and Twenty five Sheaves of Oats. Went to see Dorcas. Elizabeth Hoppers was here to see us.

Wednesday, March 23 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. I thrashed One Hundred Sheaves of Oats. Went to see Dorcas Wolf in the Evening. She was no Better. Retired at nine.

Thursday, March 24 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. I thrashed Twenty five Sheaves of Oats then went to T G Lambs Auction. Collected school Tax and Bought one Whitewash Brush and one st[ove] pipe collar.

Friday, March 25 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Finished thrashing Oats and cleaned up Eighty two Bushels of oats.

Saturday, March 26 – Arose at six o'clock. Met the school directors in the afternoon.

Sunday, March 27 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to see Dorcas Wolf. She was no better. Held class at my house in the forenoon. The good Lord was with us. Was at Bloomingdale in the afternoon. No preac[her].

Monday, March 28 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Hauled Boards and siding from Ann Harrisons for Fathers House. I Love the Lord for all his Mercies to me. Praise his Holy name.

Tuesday, March 29 – Arose at Five o'clock. All well. Hauled one Load of lumber from A. Harrisons and one from S. Masters for Peter Austin. O Lord Bless Me with all needed Grace.

Wednesday, March 30 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to John Austin's. Brought load boards in the forenoon. Went to see Dorcas Wolf in the afternoon. She died about Twelve o'clock at night. We must all die.

Thursday, March 31 – Arose at six. All well. Went and Brought load Skantling [scantling] from S. Master.

Friday, April 1 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to the Burial of Dorcas Wolf at Twelve o'clock. The preacher did not come. There was a large funeral.

Saturday, April 2 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to John Austins in the forenoon and Brought load of Lumber. Chopped wood in the Afternoon.

Sunday, April 3 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting to Hear Franklin Dison preach his first sermon here. The good Lord was with us and we felt refreshed.

Monday, April 4 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to the shop in the forenoon. Chopped wood in the afternoon. Rainy Day.

Tuesday, April 5 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Cleaned up 63 Bushels rye, thirty three Bushels s_i_.

Wednesday, April 6 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to John Austins and Brought load lumber in the forenoon and went to Lot Finks with oats in the afternoon.

Thursday, April 7 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to mill in the forenoon. Worked on the Road in the afternoon. John Gregory and his wife was here in the Evening.

Friday, April 8 – Arose half past five. All well. Went to see Levi Arnold then to B. Gregory's and settled up and paid him off. Hauled stone in the afternoon. B's mother was here.

Saturday, April 9 – Arose at six. All well. Collected School Tax.

Sunday, April 10 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Went to see Levi Arnold in the morning. Held class meeting at my house at Ten o'clock. The Lord was with us in power, filled our souls with Joy. Went to the Baptist Church in the afternoon to hear the funeral sermon of Dorcas Wolf preached by Elder Hall.

AOA Photo 972

Barbara (Benscoter) Austin
(1829-1899)

Monday, April 11 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Hublers mill in the forenoon. Met the School Directors in the afternoon.

Tuesday, April 12 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Abraham Vanhorns and Brought load lumber for P. Austin in the forenoon. Mended Horse Collars in the afternoon. Rainy Day.

Wednesday, April 13 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to John Austins. Brought a load of Lumber for Peter Austin.

Thursday, April 14 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Commenced fencing a lane into my house. Rainy day.

Friday, April 15 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. All well. Worked on the road. Daniel Bean supervisor.

Saturday, April 16 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Worked on the Road. Finished my Road Tax for this year.

Sunday, April 17 Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting in the forenoon. Br. Ire preached first time here. Held prayer meeting at fathers in the afternoon at 4. Good mee[ting].

Monday, April 18 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to the shute [sic] for a load of coal for Peter Austin.

Tuesday, April 19 Arose at five o'clock. All well. Hauled Timber for P. Austin.

Wednesday, April 20 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Sprouted [potatoes] and mended my shoes in forenoon. Went to father Benscoters [for a] spell in the afternoon.

Thursday, April 21 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Planted out apple trees in the forenoon. Fixed Waggon in afternoon.

Friday, April 22 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Shickshinny. Took load straw.

Saturday, April 23 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Lot Searches and Took Load hay for Peter Austin.

Sunday, April 24 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting and Class Meeting at my house at ten o'clock. Snowed in the afternoon. Went to Bloomingdale Chapel in the Afternoon.

Monday, April 25 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Fixed fence and hauled rails. Wet day.

Tuesday, April 26 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Fixed fence in the forenoon. Helped P. Austin frame in the afternoon. Fine Day.

Wednesday, April 27 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Dr. Warner was here to see Barbara. I hauled rails and fixed fence. Pleasant Day. Retired at Nine.

Thursday, April 28 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to mill and Brought P. Austin load skantling [scantling, studs used in house framing] in the forenoon. Ploughed for oats in the afternoon. First this year.

Friday, April 29 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed. It rained in the afternoon.

Saturday, April 30 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Cleaned flax seed in the forenoon. Sowed flax in the Afternoon and some oats.

Sunday, May 1 – Arose at half past four. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting in the forenoon. F. Dison preached. Held prayer meeting in the afternoon. The Saviour was with us.

Monday, May 2 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed the garden in the forenoon. Oats ground in the afternoon.

Tuesday, May 3 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed oats ground.

Wednesday, May 4 – Arose at four o'clock. Went to Seyberts after plaster. Came home at nine o'clock in the evening.

Thursday, May 5 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Helped P. Austin raise his house in the afternoon.

Friday, May 6 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to mill in the forenoon and I hauled Manure in the afternoon.

Saturday, May 7 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Met the School Directors in the afternoon. Bro. Dison was here. Wm. F. Case was here and stayed all night.

Sunday, Mary 8 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to sabbath school at half past eight Held Prayer Meeting at my house at twelve. The [Lord] Blessed us and made us happy. Praise his Holy name.

Monday, May 9 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Mended my shoes. Inspected E. Harding.

Tuesday, May 10 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Father Benscoters in the forenoon, to John Austins in the afternoon.

Wednesday, May 11 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Fixed fence.

Thursday, May 12 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Took potatoes out the hole in the forenoon. Ploughed and sowed oats in the afternoon.

Friday, May 13 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Sowed Oats and harrowed. Brother I. Eyer & his wife was here and stayed all night. 674 sheaves on this piece.

Saturday, May 14 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to quarterly meeting. Brother Sargent preached. Quarterly conference voted against camp meeting. I for it.

Sunday, May 15 – Arose at four. All well. Went to love feast at Pine Grove at [which] I we had a happy time. My soul was very

happy in Jesus. Br. Sargent preached then administered the sacrament.

Monday, May 16 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed and sowed oats.

Tuesday, May 17 – Arose at four. All well. Ploughed and sowed oats.

Wednesday, May 18 – Arose at four. All well. Ploughed and sowed oats.

Thursday, May 19 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Took Ten Bushels potatoes to Shickshinny.

Friday, May 20 – Arose half past four o'clock. Ploughed and sowed oats.

Saturday, May 21 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Finished sowing oats. Commenced plowing for corn. Went to Lewis Benscoters visiting in the Evening.

Sunday, May 22 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Returned home. Held class at my house. We had a good meeting. The Good Lord was with us.

Monday, May 23 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed for corn. Wrote Miss Wesleys Article.

Tuesday, May 24 – Arose half past four. All well. Ploughed for Corn.

Wednesday, May 25 – Arose at five. All well. Ploughed for corn.

Thursday, May 26 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went and got my seed corn and made fish line for [father] Benscoter.

Friday, May 27 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Harrowed corn ground. Inspected Caroline Gurney [Lurney?]. Gave her a certificate But told her plainly that we would not pay her for Teaching School in North West D.

Saturday, May 28 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Marked out corn ground. Miner had the phthisic [throat or lung infection] all night

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 676]

QUERIES

672-1. James Austin was born on 19 October 1832 in Belford, Ireland. He married Anna Graham, they had ten children, one was my grandmother Mary Catherine Austin. James Austin died in Vinton, Iowa on 7 June 1899. I would like to know who his parents were.

672-2. John Charles Austin was married to Jane Crane on 4 May 1840, either in Jersey City, New Jersey, or in Wethersfield, Connecticut. Would appreciate anything on this couple's ancestry. My own grandmother was an Austin and my grandfather was a Crane.

672-3. Lorenzo Dow Austin was born 13 August 1817, perhaps in Newburgh, Ohio. He married to Elizabeth Andrews, born 23 July 1818 in Greenwich, New York. Lorenzo died on 15 February 1887 in Burr Oak, Kansas, Elizabeth died in Onaga, Kansas on 23 April 1900. Need help regarding Lorenzo/Larenzo Dow Austin's ancestry.

672-4. Lillian Frances Austin was born on 13 September 1896 in Bennington, Vermont, daughter of Arthur Austin b. 18 February 1875 in Vermont and Ruth (Houston) Austin b. in New York. Arthur d. 18 January 1911 in Cohoes, New York. Lillian m.(1) Frank A. Ward on 15 April 1914 in Binghamton, New York. They divorced on 23 June 1921 in Albany, New York. What happened to Lillian, did she remarry? Were there any children from the first or subsequent marriage?

672-5. Joseph H. Austin was born in 1810 in Virginia, he married on 7 November 1831 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, to Delilah Catherine Hankins, born in 1810 in Virginia. Three known children: John H. b. 1835, Daniel Johnson b. 1836 and James b. 1837. Joseph and Delilah were in Pittsylvania County in 1840 census, in Franklin County, Virginia in 1850 & 1860 census, and in Putnam County, West Virginia in 1870 & 1880 census. The only Joseph Austin in 1830 census was in Monongalia County, Virginia (now West Virginia) and he is not the same one. Need ancestry and sibilings of Joseph H. Austin.

672-6. Ambrose Austen was born on 19 June 1757 in England, where he married on 18 November 1779 to Susannah Beard, born on 3 December 1759 in England. Their nine children were born in England: Charles b. 2 August 1785; Nathaniel b. 16 June 1787; Henry b. 1788; Susan b. 1792, Mary b. 4 May 1793, John b. 28 May 1794, Charlotte b. 31 December 1798, Ambrose b. 22 January 1800 and Joseph b. 7 April 1802. In the 1820's Ambrose and Susannah, with their children and spouses, came to America. Henry Austen stayed in England, he married Ethel Weild, lived in Sevenoaks, County Kent. Susannah d. 9 August 1839 in Jeromesville, Ashland County, Ohio, Ambrose died there 29 January 1843. I am seeking proof of Ambrose's birth in London or Marsden, England, and any information on his parents and sibilings.

672-7. Thomas Austin married Martha Smith, their son Thomas was born in Chester, Massachusetts, in October 1864, married 1894 in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, Emma Pease, born in 1866 in Connecticut. Their son Thomas Austin was born in Pittsfield in March 1900, but he was adopted at a young age and his name changed to Pettit. Seeking the earlier generations of this Austin line.

672-8. Nathan W. Austin was born around 1784 in Cambridge, Washington County, New York, married in 1808 in Cambridge to Sarah King, born circa 1787 in Connecticut. Nathan was a War of 1812 veteran, his father served in the American Revolution. Nathan was a farmer in Freedom Township, Henry County, Ohio. He and Sarah are there in the 1850 census (but not in 1860). Children: Hannah b. 5 April 1809 Cambridge m. Charles Marsh; Marinda b. circa 1811 Cambridge m. Joseph Kline; Josiah b. 17 December 1814 Cambridge m. Arvilla Barnum; Franklin b. 29 December 1816 in Springwater, Livingston County, New York, m. Harriet Hively; Mary B. b. circa 1826-27 Springwater, m. Jacob Keazer; and Levi (his birthdate unknown, he died as a young man). Seeking Nathan W. Austin's ancestry.



The Austins of America Genealogical Society publishes this newsletter to serve present and future genealogists researching Austin family lines. Members are encouraged to submit their Austin line research, queries, genealogical and historical articles for publication. Previously published pamphlets, books, or articles containing Austin genealogical data are also sought for reprinting or review.

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Austins of America

Genealogical Society

AUGUST 2000 NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

The 2000 National Austin Convention was held on 28- 30 July in Madison, Wisconsin, jointly sponsored by the Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS) and the Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA). Daily workshops helped attendees with Austin questions, and several talks were given: *Using the Special Collections at the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin* by Nancy J. Emmert of Madison; *The Digital Camera in Genealogy Research* by Michael E. Austin of Concord MA; *Austin Research CD-ROM* by James H. Carlin of West Hills CA and Gay G. Martin of Ocean Springs MS; *Researching Austens Around the World* by Brian E. Austen of Hobart, Tasmania; *Suffield Families Project* by Arthur J. Sikes Jr. of Suffield CT; *The AFAOA Web Site* by James H. Carlin; *Progress in Southern Austin Research* by Elizabeth Austin Carlin of West Hills CA.

AOA Photos 673-1, -2, -3

Top: Guest Speaker Nancy Emmert's presentation.
Middle: Rosalie Austin researching her Austin roots.
Bottom: Reception before the Sunday evening Banquet.

NOTE: Page 674 (deleted) contained individual pictures of the attendees to the 2000 National Austin Convention in Madison, Wisconsin.

AOAGS ANNOUNCES NEW RESEARCH CENTER

On Saturday afternoon Dr. Michael E. Austin, AOAGS Director, presented the Society's plans for implementing a new Web-based "Austin-Austen Research Center" (see the article on page 688). He gave a live internet demonstration of a working prototype of the Center, showing how Austin family researchers could easily submit their documents, and quickly locate and retrieve documents submitted by others. The Research Center will also make extensive information from the computerized AOAGS files available on the Web. Convention attendees were quite impressed by the demonstrated search capabilities. Dr. Austin encouraged AOAGS and AFAOA members to participate in this new endeavor by submitting their own Austin data to the Center, and he invited the AFAOA to become one of its Sponsors. The AFAOA formed a committee to study its possible future participation in the Center, which will become operational in 2001.

THE BERKSHIRES CONVENTION

Following the AOAGS and AFAOA business meetings, Convention attendees voted to hold the 2001 National Austin Convention in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, largely because of the nearby National Archives Records Center. Pittsfield is in the heart of the Berkshire mountains, an area which provides a wide variety of "Culture in the Country." Events and places of most interest include the Music Festival at Tanglewood (the summer home of the

NOTE: Top half of page 674 had the balance of the photos (deleted) of the attendees to the 2000 National Austin Convention in Madison, Wisconsin.

Boston Symphony Orchestra); Norman Rockwell Museum; author Herman Melville's home; the 15-acre Berkshire Botanical Garden; the mansion designed by author Edith Wharton; sculptor Daniel Chester French's estate with his models for the Lincoln Memorial; Barrington Stage Company; Berkshire Opera Company; Berkshire Theatre Festival; Shakespeare & Company; Stockbridge Cabaret-Dinner Theatre; Stockbridge Chamber Concerts; Hancock Shaker Village; Contemporary Artists Center; Theater Barn; Williamstown Theatre Festival; the list goes on... the area truly does provide "Culture in the Country!"

BUSINESS MEETING

At the AOAGS Business Meeting, Dr. Michael E. Austin announced that the comprehensive indexing of *Austins of America -Volume 2* was completed, and thanked those volunteers who worked long and hard to complete this task: Cheryl Austin Akusis, Glenn Matthew Austin, Dr. Margie Ray Austin, L. Scot Austin, Carol Robinson Austin, Robert & Lois Cody, and Melissa Elizabeth Austin. The hard covered book is a collection of *Austins of America* newsletters published by AOAGS from August 1989 to February 1999. The book will be available early in 2001.

ANNUAL BANQUET

AFAOA President Alice Austin Martin welcomed everyone to the Annual Banquet on Sunday evening. Dinner was followed by a talk "*Adventures in Genealogy*" by Guest Speaker Nancy J. Emmert, who resides in Madison. Then AOAGS Associate Editor Brian Edward Austen from Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, was presented a plaque to recognize his having come the greatest distance ever to attend a National Austin Convention (see photographs on page 687). The Banquet Program and Convention concluded with the announcement by AOAGS Director Dr. Michael E. Austin that Pauline Lucille Platner Austin of Marion, Iowa was the recipient of the annual AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Award (see page 681).

THE 1853 POCKET DIARY OF ISAAC AUSTIN

Transcribed by his great-grandson

Robert Krause Austin

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 671]

Sunday, May 29 – Arose at six o'clock. Miner unwell. Went to McKendree Chapel to Sunday School and preaching in the forenoon. Brother Woodward held prayer meeting at my house in the after noon. Went to Vanhorns in the Evening.

Monday, May 30 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Planted corn. Barbara's Mother and Austin Bencoter was here visiting in the afternoon.

Tuesday, May 31 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to get cradle made in the forenoon. Sheared sheep in the afternoon.

Wednesday, June 1 – Arose at half past four. All well. Ploughed potato ground.

Thursday, June 2 – Arose at five o'clock. All [well]. Ploughed potato ground in the forenoon. Harrowed in the afternoon.

Friday, June 3 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Planted potatoes in the forenoon. Went and helped W. E. Fowler raise his Barn in the afternoon.

Saturday, June 4 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Took load Hay to Shickshimny for Peter Austin.

Sunday, June 5 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house in the forenoon. Went to Bloomingdale Chapel in the afternoon

Monday, June 6 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Commenced ploughing for Buckwheat.

Tuesday, June 7 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Took load of Oats to Shickshimny.

Wednesday, June 8 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed for Buckwheat.

Thursday, June 9 – Arose half past four o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Took load Oats to Shickshimny in the afternoon.

Friday, June 10 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Went to Stephen Wolfs spell in the afternoon.

Saturday, June 11 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed for Buckwheat.

Sunday, June 12 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to Sunday School and meeting. Brother Hoyhawort Preached.

Monday, June 13 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed for Buckwheat.

Tuesday, June 14 – Arose half past three o'clock. All well. Sowed six acres plaster and ploughed. Went giging in the Evening.

[Editor's Note: "gigging" is traveling in a gig, a light two-wheeled one-horse carriage].

Wednesday, June 15 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed for Buckwheat.

Thursday, June 16 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed for Buckwheat.

Friday, June 17 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed for Buckwheat.

Saturday, June 18 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed Buckwheat Ground.

Sunday, June 19 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house in the forenoon. Went to the funeral of Brother Evers child in the afternoon.

Monday, June 20 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Finished ploughing Buckwheat Ground.

Tuesday, June 21 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Finished the lane from my house into the road.

Wednesday, June 22 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Fixed waggon wheel in the forenoon. Took it to the shop in the afternoon.

Thursday, June 23 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to shop in the forenoon. Helped set the tire on my waggon in the forenoon. Ploughed corn in the afternoon.

Friday, June 24 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Took load hay to Lot Search.

Saturday, June 25 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed corn. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting at six o'clock. Brother preached and came home with me and stayed all night.

Sunday, June 26 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree to Lovefeast at nine o'clock. Preaching at eleven... also at five in the Evening. The good Lord was with us during the Day.

Monday, June 27 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed corn in the forenoon. Went to the Constable Sale at Wm. Roberts in the afternoon. Had the constable levy on their cow in favour of Browns Township.

Tuesday, June 28 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed and hoed corn.

Wednesday, June 29 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Hoed in plastered corn.

Thursday, June 30 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Plastered corn in the forenoon. Hoed corn in the afternoon.

Friday, July 1 – Arose at four. All well. Invited spare hands.

Saturday, July 2 – Arose at four. All well. Butchered a veal in the forenoon. Had chopping spell in the afternoon.

Sunday, July 3 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house at eleven o'clock the good Lord was with us to Bless us praise God.

Monday, July 4 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to the Blacksmith Shop in the forenoon. Hoed corn in the afternoon.

Tuesday, July 5 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. pl ploughed corn & potatoes. Finished hoeing my corn the first time. It is small.

Wednesday, July 6 – Arose at four o'clock. All

well. Ploughed potatoes in the forenoon. Harrowed Buckwheat ground in the afternoon.

Thursday, July 7 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Harrowed Buckwheat ground in the forenoon. Sowed Buckwheat in the afternoon without cross ploughing the grain. Rolled in plaster.

Friday, July 8 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Sowed Buckwheat in the forenoon. Went to Lot Searches and go new cradle in Afternoon.

Saturday, July 9 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Finished harrowing in Buckwheat for 1853.

Sunday, July 10 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting.

Monday, July 11 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Commenced mowing.

Tuesday, July 12 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed and spread hay.

Wednesday, July 13 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed and spread hay.

Thursday, July 14 – Arose at three. Went to mill in the morning. Brought wheat flour hauled six load of hay from the swamp.

AOA Photo 676

Reverend Isaac Austin (1828-1905)

Friday, July 15 – Arose at four. All well. Commenced Harvesting. Hauled in Hay four loads from the Swamp.

Saturday, July 16 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mended my boots in the forenoon. Hauled load hay. Killed sheep in the afternoon.

Sunday, July 17 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house at 11 O'clock. Went to Bloomingdale in the afternoon.

Monday, July 18 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Harvested all Day. I.G. P.A. P.S. helped me.

Tuesday, July 19 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Pulled grass and spread hay in the forenoon. Harvested in the afternoon.

Wednesday, July 20 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Harvested.

Thursday, July 21 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Hoed potatoes. Hauled load hay.

Friday, July 22 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Hoed potatoes.

Saturday, July 23 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Hoed potatoes. Finished harvesting. Went to the Shop.

Sunday, July 24 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to meeting in the afternoon.

Monday, July 25 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed in the forenoon. Hauled rye and went to the Store in the afternoon.

Tuesday, July 26 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed in the [blank].

Wednesday, July 27 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed. It rained in the middle of the day.

Thursday, July 28 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed in the afternoon. Spread and hauled hay in the afternoon. Barbara was confined in the Evening. [Editor's Note: Their daughter Emaline Austin was born this day].

Friday, July 29 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Mowed and hauled hay.

Saturday, July 30 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Finished hauling in my grain and hauled some hay.

Sunday, July 31 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house at Eleven o'clock. The good Lord was with us to Bless our needy Souls.

Monday, August 1 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Mowed all day. It rained some.

Tuesday, August 2 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Finished mowing in the forenoon. Raked hay in the afternoon. Mrs. Amy & H. A. Gregory was here to supper.

Wednesday, August 3 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Finished haying.

Thursday, August 4 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Hauled wood.

Friday, August 5 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Commenced plowing for rye.

Saturday, August 6 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Helped P. Austin & I. M. Gregory straiten their line in the afternoon.

Sunday, August 7 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel for meeting in the forenoon. Held prayer meeting at I. M. Gregorys in the afternoon. The Good Lord was with us.

Monday, August 8 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went and got a work girl in the forenoon fixed to go to Wilkes Barre in the afternoon.

Tuesday, August 9 – Arose at three o'clock. All well. Went to Wilkes Barre. Returned same day.

Wednesday, August 10 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Cut one piece of oak and mended my Boot.

Thursday, August 11 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed.

Friday, August 12 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Went to S. Wolfs in the afternoon and fixed to go to Wilkes Barre.

Saturday, August 13 – Arose at three o'clock. All well. Went to Wilkes Barre to see Col. Wright about my land.

Sunday, August 14 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house at Eleven o'clock. The good Lorded Blessed us with the outpouring of his spirit.

Monday, August 15 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to see R. Montgomery about my Land. Stayed all Night.

Tuesday, August 16 – Arose at four o'clock. Returned home. Did not get my business fixed.

Wednesday, August 17 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the afternoon. Went to N. Bonhams spell in the afternoon.

Thursday, August 18 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Mended my Boot and ploughed. It rained some to Day.

Friday, August 19 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed and raked oats.

Saturday, August 20 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Finished ploughing five acres and raked oats. Mrs Wesley & Maning Benscoter was here.

Sunday, August 21 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree Chapel to Meeting. Rev Disan preached. Went to father Benscoters for Dinner.

Monday, August 22 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Raked Oats.

Tuesday, August 23 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Raked and hauled in Oats. Mr. Case was here.

Wednesday, August 24 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Fixed wagon. Shod the horses to go to Berwick for lime for P. Austin.

Thursday, August 25 – August 25th. Arose at half past four o'clock. All well. Went to Briar Creek to Camp Meeting. Stayed all Night.

Friday, August 26 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Came to the lime kiln. Loaded 21 bushels and came home.

Saturday, August 27 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Commenced plowing in John Gregorys field.

Sunday, August 28 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house in the forenoon at Eleven o'clock. The Good Lord was with us to Grace and love. Went to Townhill Church in the Evening. 9 forward for prayer.

Monday, August 29 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Raked Oats.

Tuesday, August 30 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Raked Oats in the forenoon, went to Henry McCaen spell in the afternoon.

Wednesday, August 31 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Raked Oats in the forenoon. Finished hauling in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 1 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Ploughed.

Friday, September 2 – Arose at half past five. All well. Ploughed.

Saturday, September 3 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Burnt New ground in the afternoon.

Sunday, September 4 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went McKendree Chapel in the forenoon. Held prayer meeting at I. M. Gregory in the afternoon. We rejoiced in hope of a glorious Resurrection.

Monday, September 5 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Plastered at Fathers House in the afternoon.

Tuesday, September 6 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Plastered at Fathers House.

Wednesday, September 7 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Plastered at Fathers House.

Thursday, September 8 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Harrowed in the forenoon. Went to the Shop in the afternoon. Mistake plasterer at Fathers House.

Friday, September 9 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Harrowed in the forenoon. Went the Shop.

Saturday, September 10 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed in the forenoon. Went to the delegate Meeting in the afternoon.

Sunday, September 11 – Arose at Seven o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house. The Good Lord was with us to Bless & comfort us. Went to the grave yard in the afternoon.

Monday, September 12 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Ploughed.

Tuesday, September 13 – Arose half past five o'clock. Ploughed.

Wednesday, September 14 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Thrashed seed rye.

Thursday, September 15 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Thrashed seed rye.

Friday, September 16 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Plastered and Harrowed in the forenoon. Went the Shop in the afternoon.

Saturday, September 17 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Thrashed in the forenoon. Harrowed in the afternoon.

Sunday, September 18 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Sanhorns School House to Meeting. Praise the Lord he was with us to comfort Our hearts. Went Again in the Evening.

Monday, September 19 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Thrashed in the forenoon. Sowed rye in the afternoon. Went to meeting in the Evening. Two mourned at the altar. Mason Gregory Died Shadrach Gregorys son.

Tuesday, September 20 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Fixed Board on the wagon. It rained. Went to meeting in the Evening.

Wednesday, September 21 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Cut Buckwheat in the forenoon. Harrowed in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 22 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Harrowed. The Lord is merciful to Me. Bless his Holy Name.

Friday, September 23 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Harrowed in Rye in the forenoon. Cut Corn in the afternoon.

Saturday, September 24 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to quarterly Meeting to Bloomingdale Chapel. The presiding Elder preached from Hebrews 4 chap 14th verse. The good Lord was with us. Next quarterly Meeting at McKendree Chapel Dec 17 & 18.

Sunday, September 25 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to love feast and preaching at Bloomingdale Chapel. The Lord Blessed the Word in strengthening the Members. Went again in the Evening. One soul converted. Glory Be to God.

Monday, September 26 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Butchered in the forenoon and Buckwheat in the afternoon. Went to VanHorns School House to Meeting in the Evening. Two Souls converted. Three more at the altar. Glory be to the Lord.

Tuesday, September 27 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Cut Buckwheat. Went to Vanhorns to meeting in the Evening. Seven mourners at the altar and one converted. Bless the Lord o my soul and all that is within me praise his Holy Name.

Wednesday, September 28 – Arose at half past five. All well. ~~Hauled poles off my new~~

~~ground~~ mistake. Cut Buckwheat. Went to Vanhorns to meeting in the Evening.

Thursday, September 29 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. ~~Hauled poles off my new ground~~ mistake. Cut Buckwheat in the forenoon. Corn in the afternoon. Went to Vanhorns to meeting in the Evening.

Friday, September 30 – Arose at half past five o'clock. all well. ~~Commenced plowing my new ground~~ mistake. Finished cutting Buckwheat. Worked on my new ground.

Saturday, October 1 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. ~~Ploughed on my new~~ mistake. Worked on my new ground.

Sunday, October 2 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Bloomingdale to Meet. Love Feast at 5 o'clock. The Good Lord was with us to Bless us. Glory to God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for his mercy to me. Went to Vanhorns in the Evening the dro' Meeting Rrak hp

Monday, October 3 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Hauled poles on my new ground.

Tuesday, October 4 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Hauled poles on my new ground. Went to Bloomingdale to Meeting in the Evening.

Wednesday, October 5 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Hauled poles on my new ground.

Thursday, October 6 – Arose at five o'clock. Hauled poles on my new ground. Went to Bloomingdale to Meeting in the Evening.

Friday, October 7 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Commenced plowing my new ground.

Saturday, October 8 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Ploughed on my new ground.

Sunday, October 9 – Arose at Seven o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house at Eleven o'clock. The God of our Mercies was with to Strengthen Our Hearts. Glory to His Name.

Monday, October 10 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Ploughed and picked Brush. Broke my plough twice today the last time spoiled it.

Tuesday, October 11 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Finished plowing my new ground. Went to father Benscoters in the Evening.

Wednesday, October 12 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Sowed my wheat in the forenoon. Thrashed Buckwheat in the afternoon.

Thursday, October 13 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Harrowed in the forenoon. Thrashed Buckwheat in the afternoon.

Friday, October 14 – Arose at half past five o'clock. All well. Finished Harrowing. Thrashed Buckwheat.

Saturday, October 15 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Finished Thrashing Buckwheat. Went to meeting in the Evening. I Henry Benscoters School House I EHD Stayed at father Benscoters all night.

Sunday, October 16 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to meeting to McKendree Chapel. Bro. Parks preached. Went to H. Benscoters School House in the Evening.

Monday, October 17 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Husked corn. Put my fattening hogs in the pen and picked Winter Apples. Went to Meeting in the Evening.

Tuesday, October 18 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Picked Winter Apples.

Wednesday, October 19 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Picked Winter Apples in forenoon. Went to I Benscoters spell. Went to Meeting in the Evening.

Thursday, October 20 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Picked cider Apples.

Friday, October 21 – [blank]

Saturday, October 22 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Went to G. W. Benscoters Vender. Bought a grindstone.

Sunday, October 23 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Held prayer Meeting at my house. The good Lord was with us. Held prayer meeting at the rock school house at three o'clock. The Lord Blessed us. Glory be to God.

Monday, October 24 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Caned Buckwheat. The snow fell about six inches deep.

Tuesday, October 25 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to mill.

Wednesday, October 26 – Went Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went the store.

Thursday, October 27 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Lathed at my house.

Friday, October 28 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Gathered some Apples and met the school directors.

Saturday, October 29 – Arose half past five o'clock. Picked Apples.

Sunday, October 30 – Arose half past five. All well. Went to meeting at McKendree Chapel. The good Lord was in his house To Bless his people.

Monday, October 31 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Picked Apples.

Tuesday, November 1 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Ground Apples And Laid up a Cheese.

Wednesday, November 2 – Arose half past five. All well. Made cider.

Thursday, November 3 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Went to B Harveys to hear Deposition taken in favour of John Young.

Friday, November 4 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Made cider in the forenoon. Dug

potatoes and went to J Harneds in afternoon.

Saturday, November 5 – Arose at four o'clock All well. Worked at the cider. Finished making cider.

Sunday, November 6 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Held prayer meeting at my house. The good Lord was with us to Bless us. Praise his holy Name.

Monday, November 7 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Lathed at my house. Went to mill hauled pumpkins.

Tuesday, November 8 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Lathed at my House.

Wednesday, November 9 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Lathed at my House.

Thursday, November 10 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Plastered for Michael Reese.

Friday, November 11 – Arose half past five o'clock. All well. Dug potatoes.

Saturday, November 12 – Arose at six o'clock. Cleaned Buckwheat in the forenoon. Dug potatoes & went to I Benscoters. W. F. Case was here all Night.

Sunday, November 13 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree to Meeting in the forenoon. To Dodsons in the Evening. Dison stayed with needs.

Monday, November 14 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Took Back a Counterfeit Bill to Hiram Labor.

Tuesday, November 15 – Arose at four o'clock. All well. Plastered for M Reese.

Wednesday, November 16 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to help raise a shed for I Benscoter.

Thursday, November 17 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Dug potatoes in the forenoon. Cleaned the Horse Stable in the afternoon.

Friday, November 18 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Cut wood in the forenoon. Dug potatoes in the afternoon. Finished digging potatoes. The[y] was not very good.

Saturday, November 19 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Hauled wood and went to John Austins for Lumber.

Sunday, November 20 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Held Class Meeting at my house and at the Rock School House. The Good Lord was with Me.

Monday, November 21 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Finished Cleaning Buckwheat. Had ninety four Bushels and a half.

Tuesday, November 22 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Thrashed in the forenoon. Went for nails in the afternoon.

Wednesday, November 23 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Lathed in the forenoon. Husked Corn in the afternoon.

Thursday, November 24 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Husked Corn.

Friday, November 25 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Finished husking corn and built crib.

Saturday, November 26 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Finished hauling in Corn.

Sunday, November 27 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to Pine Grove to Meeting in the forenoon. To Vanhorns in the Evening.

Monday, November 28 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to the funeral of Elias Dodson. Brother Disan preached the Funeral Sermon at the Baptist Church.

Tuesday, November 29 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Hauled in my Corn Stocks.

Wednesday, November 30 – Arose at seven o'clock. All well. Made pair Shoes.

Thursday, December 1 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Mended mended [sic] my Boots.

Friday, December 2 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to Joel B. Culvers.

Saturday, December 3 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Hauled Wood.

Sunday, December 4 Arose at six o'clock. All well. Held class meeting at my House. Went to the Rock School House to Class Meeting.

Monday, December 5 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Went to the shop and examined Miss Fairchilds.

Tuesday, December 6 – Arose at six o'clock. All well. Chopped wood.

Wednesday, December 7 – Arose at four o'clock. Went to Robt Montgomery.

Thursday, December 8 – Arose at six o'clock. Got Deed for my Land on the hill. Returned home.

Friday, December 9 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Examined Joseph Roberts for School Teacher.

Saturday, December 10 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Went to the Shop and to the Centre School House.

Sunday, December 11 – Arose at Seven o'clock. All well. Went to McKendree to meeting. Bacon preached.

Monday, December 12 Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to Wilkes Barre and returned.

Tuesday, December 13 – Arose at Six o'clock. All well. Cleaned Wheat and lathed.

Wednesday, December 14 – Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went to the Shop and Took Apples out of the hole.

Thursday, December 15 Arose at four o'clock. All well. Went to Wilkes Barre with load apples.

Friday, December 16 – Arose at five o'clock. Returned home.

Saturday, December 17 Arose at five o'clock. All well. Went Jacob Wolfs and to Quarterly Meeting. Went to meeting in the Evening.

Sunday, December 18 – [blank]

Monday, December 19 – Archiback Richmond R.I. one dollar No. 2304 the Pychan Bank Mass, one dollar No. _____

Tuesday, December 20 – L. S. Muehler the bank of Chemung N.Y. five dollars No. 9664

Wednesday, December 21 – Many are the blessings conferred on poor fallen man yet how unthankful is man for the blessings received instead of returning.

December 22 to 24 – [blank]

Sunday, December 25 – Hebrews 12th Chap first clause of the 25th verse.

Monday, December 26 – [blank]

Tuesday, December 27 – Peter Nevel Bank of Port Levin? No. 7774 Bank of Gioga 7834 Z. B. Moore Susquehanna Valey Bank 3581

Wednesday, December 28 – John Hoover Hunterdon County Bank N.J. 10847 A Davenport Manufacturers and And Mechaneck Bank Phladelphia 500 No 13026

Thursday, December 29 – Somerset County Bank two dollars No 7073 Nathan Roberts The Union Bank NY one dollar No. 1884

Friday, December 30 – Jacob Wheeler Hunterdon County Bank N.J. five dollars No. 1000. David Beal Mechanecks and Traders Bank Jersey City two dollars No. 1296

Saturday, December 31 – Susan Search Danville Bank five dollars No. 7675.

AOA Photo 679

Miner Benscoter Austin (1851-1914), first child of Isaac & Barbara Austin.

FIVE JONATHAN AUSTINS RESIDING IN ORANGE & WINDSOR COUNTIES, VERMONT

by Pauline Lucille Platner Austin

Author's Note: This article attempts to clarify some of the confusion surrounding the five different Jonathan Austins living in Orange and Windsor Counties, Vermont. Three are known to descend from Samuel and Hopedill Austin of Boston line (see *Austins of America* page 8). The remaining two Jonathan Austins are presently unplaced.

Jonathan Austin #1

S246. JONATHAN⁴ AUSTIN (*Zebediah*,³ *Thomas*,² *Samuel*¹) was born on 10 June 1742 in Methuen, Massachusetts. He married circa 1766 to Hannah Charles, daughter of John and Abigail (Bliss) Charles. Jonathan and Hannah had eleven children recorded in Methuen:

- S246-1. SARAH, *b. 2 April 1767*
- S246-2. HANNAH, *b. 14 February 1768*
- S246-3. JONATHAN, *b. 25 February 1770 +*
- S246-4. DANIEL, *b. 9 August 1771*
- S246-5. BENJAMIN, *b. 25 March 1773*
- S246-6. OLIVE, *b. 21 November 1774*
- S246-7. CALEB, *b. 17 November 1777*
- S246-8. DORCAS, *b. 18 January 1779*
- S246-9. PERSIS, *b. 29 January 1781*
- S246-A. ALICE, *b. 27 February 1783*
- S246-B. CHARLOTTE, *b. 19 September 1784*

Jonathan Austin enlisted in 1776 in the Revolutionary War, serving in Capt. James Malone's Company. On 1 April 1786 Jonathan Austin, housewright of Methuen, Massachusetts, purchased a tract of land at New Boston, New Hampshire, from Livermore Langdell [Deeds book 16 page 190]. On 10 April 1786 Jonathan Austin sold the property to John Wilson. [Deeds book 19 page 248]. In 1789 the family moved from Methuen to Frankestown, Hillsborough County, New Hampshire, taking up residency on the Nehemiah Rand farm previously owned by Richard Batten. The house occupied by him stood about 100 rods north east of the Rand House [Rev. W. R. Cochrane's 1895 book *History of Frankestown, New Hampshire*.] In the Frankestown 1790 census Jonathan Austin was head of a household with two males over 16, one male under 16, and five females. Jonathan Austin appears on the 1793 tax rolls of Frankestown [see Cochrane page 142]. The Jonathan Austin Jr. listed on that tax roll is likely his son. On 9 June 1794 Jonathan Austin of Frankestown bought Lot #43 from Thomas Cochrane [Deeds book 34 page 132]. Jonathan sold the above property to Obediah Morse Jr. on 18 June 1794 [Deeds book 36 page 209]. Various land deeds list Jonathan Austin's trade as a housewright and carpenter. His wife Hannah died circa 1794. A 1794 land transaction in Frankestown, appears to have taken place after her death, since her name does not appear

on the deed as was customary. In a Bradford, Orange County, Vermont, land deed (Book 3 page 66) dated 18 March 1796, Jonathan Austin, resident of Bradford, purchased 40 acres of land from Daniel Heath of the same place. The deed mentions Daniel Heath and Joseph Wallace as tenants. Jonathan Austin Sr. married second to Susannah Dodge of Amherst. Hillsborough County, New Hampshire. A land deed from Susanna Austin (nee Washer & widow of Samuel Dodge) at Amherst dated 11 March 1797 to her son David Dodge of Boston [Amherst Deeds book 42 page 374] listed her residence at Amherst, proves their marriage took place before that date. Jonathan and Susanna Austin do not appear in either the New Hampshire or Vermont for 1800, but on 13 September 1802 Jonathan Austin and wife Susanna of Tunbridge, Vermont, deed land to David Dodge of Amherst [book 56 page 24]. No death record for Jonathan Austin, Sr. has been found, but he may have died before 1810, since he does not appear in the 1810 census. Susanna Austin died on 3 March 1825 at her daughter's home in Chester, Windsor County, Vermont.

Jonathan Austin Jr. #2

S246-3. JONATHAN AUSTIN⁵ JR. (*Jonathan*,⁴ *Zebediah*,³ *Thomas*,² *Samuel*¹) was born at Methuen on 25 February 1770. His marriage on 19 March 1793 at Frankestown, New Hampshire to Hannah Batten was recorded at Salem, New Hampshire. Hannah was born 16 July 1763 in Salem, the daughter of Richard and Lydia (Styleman) Batten. The 1806 Land Deeds of Bradford, Orange County, Vermont show that Jonathan Austin Jr. of Salem, New Hampshire purchased a parcel of land from Jonathan Howe described as "bounding Jonathan Austin's farm now occupied by Daniel Heath and Joseph Wallace." Jonathan Austin Jr.'s land transactions at Corinth and Bradford list his occupation as a carpenter. Land deeds show he resided in Pelham, New Hampshire until 1806, when he purchased a church pew at Bradford. The Bradford 1810 Census lists Jonathan Austin Jr. and wife Hannah with seven children. 2 males under 10, 2 males 10 to 16, 1 male 26 to 45, 2 females under 10, 1 female 10 to 16, 1 female 26 to 45. Circa 1815 Jonathan Austin Jr. removed from Bradford, possibly to New York. No further information has been found on Jonathan Austin, Jr. Hannah died 28 August 1849 in Lowell, Massachusetts. Known children:

- S246-31. EDWARD W., *born circa 1795*.
- S246-32. ABIEL, *b. 1797 d. 22 February 1813*
- S246-33. JONATHAN W., *b. 15 November 1800 +*
- S246-34. LOUISA
- S246-35. JEREMIAH

Jonathan W. Austin #3

S246-33. JONATHAN⁶ W. AUSTIN (*Jonathan*,⁵ *Jonathan*,⁴ *Zebediah*,³ *Thomas*,² *Samuel*¹) was born on 15 November

1800 in Massachusetts or in Pelham, New Hampshire. Little is known about him other than he married on 6 December 1827 at Bradford, Orange County, Vermont to Lydia Moore, daughter of John. There is a 3 March 1815 land deed [book 4 page 366] recording a contract instrument with his son Edward W. Austin for yearly payments. A 2 December 1829 deed [Book 4 page 367] records the release with payment in full. Jonathan W. is said to have removed to New York and then to Michigan. His son Edward W. went via Indiana to Dundee, Illinois.

Jonathan Austin #4

Jonathan Austin of Rockingham, Rockingham County, Vermont married on 12 November 1795, at Alstead, Cheshire County, New Hampshire to Mehitable Peterson, the widow of Andrew Peterson. She was born 14 August 1756 in Tolland County, Connecticut, the daughter of Elijah Benton and Mehitable Chamberlain. Mehitable had 8 children by her first husband Andrew, and was listed as being of Lebanon, New Hampshire on their marriage record. The 1798 Langdon, New Hampshire town records show that Jonathan Austin had the school, church minister and town taxes abated at the town Meeting. The Langdon 1800 Census lists Jonathan Austin as head of household, with 1 male over 45, 3 females under 10, 2 females 10 to 16, and 1 female over 45. Mehitable died 5 July 1814, and was buried in Center Cemetery in Vershire, Orange County, Vermont. Rev. James W. Woodward's Church Records and the Norwich, Vermont Town records, record the death of a Mr. Austin in June 1814 or 1815 at age 70 years of dropsy. His age makes it likely that he was Mehitable's husband. He was likely buried in an unmarked grave near Mehitable's gravestone, which is engraved "Wife of Jonathan Austin."

Jonathan Austin #5

Jonathan Austin of Norwich, Windsor County, Vermont, appears first in the marriage records at Chelsea, Orange County, Vermont on 3 July 1808 when he married Sarah Goodwin. Their parents are unknown, their son Hiram was born before 1810. The 1810 census of Norwich, Windsor County enumerates Jonathan Austin's family: 1 male under 10, 1 male 10 to 16, 1 male 25 to 45 and 1 female 16 to 25. The male 10 to 16 implies Jonathan might have had a child by a former marriage. His wife Sarah died prior to 1814. At Norwich on 3 October 1814, Jonathan Austin married Priscilla (Armstrong) Johnson, widow of John Johnson and daughter of John Armstrong. They were married by James W. Woodward, minister. An ear mark registered in 1812 with the town clerk referred to him as Jonathan Austin Jr. of Vershire, Vermont. One concludes he was a farmer, but little else is known of him. Any additional information on these Jonathan Austins would be appreciated by the author.

AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Reward Awarded

AOA Photo 681-1

Pauline Lucille Platner Austin with her son Rickey George Austin. Pauline was the recipient of this year's AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Award.

The AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Award, often referred to as the "Eagle" Award, was established in 1997 to "recognize those AOAGS members who have made significant contributions to publishing Austin genealogical research." Pauline Lucille Austin has served as an AOAGS newsletter Associate Editor for many years, and has contributed a great deal of her Austin family research to the AOAGS files. Her biography and a partial list of her many genealogical publications appears on page 554.

Pauline Austin resides in Marion, Iowa, only a half-hour drive from her son Rick and his wife Christine. Since she could not attend the 2000 National Austin Convention in Madison, Wisconsin, Dr. Mike Austin and his wife Patricia drove to Marion. They surprised Pauline with the 2000 AOAGS Eagle Award at a small cookout which was organized by Rick and Chris Austin and Pauline's cousin Onalee (Paul) Arnold, and her husband Milton. Milton at age 75 still manages to cultivate 500 acres of corn and soybeans and to fatten young cattle for market!

AOA Photos 681-2, -3, -4

Christine (Sweeney) Austin, Milton & Onalee Arnold

NOTE: Pages 682-686 contain the 1850 US Census for Connecticut and have been deleted. They are available elsewhere on the web site.

QUERIES

687-1. **J. C. Austin**, fought for the Union in the Civil War. We have his sword which states 31st Regiment and the letters ITI or JCJ. His grandson Carl Eugene Austin had a son John Philip Austin. Some family was from Hale and Marion, Iowa. Seeking J. C.'s ancestry.

687-2. **Emmaline Austin** married William Morrison, as published in Morrison bible, in Dublin, Ireland. She was my ggg-grandmother. Her sister Susan Austin married to Governor Bailey and her sister Mary Austin married to Jack Galbraith. Trying to locate their parents.

687-3. **David C Austin** was born on 26 June 1801 in Oswego (city or county?), New York. He m1. Martha (—), m2. Margaret Ferguson. He moved to Pennsylvania ca. 1840, he died there 13 September 1850. Children: Amanda (m. Chase), David B./P. (m. Webb then Fitch), Lewis M. (m. Newman), Maria (m. Herdman), Margaret (m. Ross), Sarah Jane (m. Hunter), Julia, Almira (m. Kunkle), Elizabeth, Gertrude Mehetable (m. Brunges). Seeking the ancestry and descendants of David C. Austin.

687-4. **Samuel Augustus Austin** of Springfield, Massachusetts moved to Thomasville, Georgia. He was a brick mason and helped build the courthouse in Thomasville, Georgia, where his son Frank Monroe Austin was born on 21 December 1854 and his daughter Lettie Austin was born 26 November 1855. In 1863 the family moved to Tallahassee, Florida where Samuel's wife Hanna Jane Dawling was originally from. In 1873 Frank and Lettie moved to Texas, she married Jacob Allen Barrett. Need to locate the roots of this Austin family in Massachusetts.

687-5. **John B. Austin** was born on 15 May 1816 in Berkshire Township, Vermont, his middle name may have been Brayton. He married to Orilla Cleaves, born on 8 January 1822 at Windsor, Minnesota. John died after 1870 in Wisconsin. Orilla died after 1880. Their children were born in Minnesota: Edwin J. born 1840, Ernestine born 1843, Ezra born 1845, Arabella born 1848, and Emma Josephine born 1853. The family moved to Hixton, Wisconsin. Emma married William Henry Thomas and lived in Carthage, Missouri. Seeking John's parents.

687-6. **Percy Joseph Austin** was born circa 1865 in New Jersey. He earned his living taking photographs, especially on trans-Atlantic ship crossings. He met Lily Gosling in Liverpool where she was a beauty contest contestant, either in Liverpool proper or a seaside resort area near Liverpool by the name of Morecombe. They had five children born in England. Percy traveled back and forth to earn a living. He

was not that affluent and it led to an early death for poor Lily. Their son Edward Austin was born 14 November 1895 in Liverpool. Seeking the Austin family from New Jersey that Percy Austin stems from.

687-7. **William/Willie McKinley Austin** was born circa 1898 in Tennessee. He married Ethel Soards from Lamb, Kentucky, moved to Lebanon, Indiana, and to California. He died in 1960's or 1970's. Seeking William's parents.

687-8. **William Austin** married Nancy Ann (—), they resided in Franklin County, Virginia, where he died before 1805. Their son David was born circa 1765. He appears in 1810 and 1820 census of Franklin County, and in 1830 census of Patrick County, Virginia. Need parents and birthplaces of both William and Nancy, their children's names, any other information on their family.

AOA Photos 687-1, -2

Top: AOAGS Associate Editor Brian Edward Austen from Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, addressing the 2000 National Austin Convention held 28-30 July in Madison, Wisconsin. His topic: "Researching Austens Around the World."

Bottom: Brian Austen receiving a plaque from Dr. Michael E. Austin in recognition of his having traveled the greatest distance of anyone ever to attend a National Austin Convention.

NOTE: Pages 688 & 689 (deleted) were devoted to the Austin-Austen Research Center which is no longer in operation.

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
HENRY AND ELIZABETH AUSTIN
OF CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND**

*by Anne Laurie Austin Smith
Pauline Lucille Cackler Israel
and Richard Troy Hobgood Jr.*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 649]

H173-961. JASON MCVAY⁷ AUSTIN (*Cyrus Brooks,*⁶ *David Sharp,*⁵ *William,*⁴ *Thomas,*³ *Samuel,*² *Henry*¹) was born 30 May 1886 in Columbus, Franklin County, Ohio. He was an Episcopalian. On 25 September 1909 Jason was appointed 2nd Lieutenant in the Coast Artillery Corps, Regular Army. Later he transferred to Field Artillery. He served on the Atlantic coast, Pacific Northwest, the Philippines, and the Mexican border. Jason was married to Alice Ruth Doyen in the Navy Yard Chapel in Bremerton, Washington on 16 April 1913 by Bishop Keator of Olympia, Washington. Alice was born 19 May 1894 in Brooklyn, New York, the daughter of General Charles Augustus Doyen and Claude (Faye) Doyen. During World War I, Jason was a Lieutenant Colonel serving in France with the 8th Field Artillery. He retired at that rank on 15 December 1922. Jason and Alice had three sons and five daughters:

H173-9611. JASON MCVAY JR., *b. 21 November 1915 +*

H173-9612. CLAUDE FAY, *b. 5 August 1917 Washington, DC, married on 25 December 1937 in Baltimore, Maryland to John Bass, born 12 July 1912 in Baltimore, son of August J. Sr. and Delia (Von Klatt) Bass. He served in the U.S. Maritime Service during World War II as a Purser on ships supplying North Africa and Italy.*

H173-9613. RUTH RAYMONDE, *b. 4 January 1919 in Delaware, Delaware County, Ohio. She m. on 6 March 1943 in Baltimore, Maryland to Donald Melvin Thompson. Donald was b. 11 January 1918 in Baltimore, son of Walter C. and Mary (Bateman) (McLain) Thompson. He served during World War II as a Captain in the Army Air Corps. He was a navigation specialist on duty with the Air Transport Command, and took ships all over the world: Europe, British Isles, Africa, India, and China. He made 78 crossings of the Atlantic Ocean.*

H173-9614. ALICE DOYEN, *b. 16 August 1920 at Camp Pike, Arkansas. She m. on 12 August 1944 in Jackson, Hinds County, Mississippi to Robert Lewis Lowe. Robert was b. 15 August 1921 in Centralia, Lewis County, Washington, the son of Marion L. and Louella M. (Reynolds) Lowe. He served as an Army Ordnance Specialist in the U.S. and the Pacific. Two children b. Aberdeen, Washington: Kathleen Doyen b. 12 August 1947, Christine Louella b. 30 May 1950.*

H173-9615. MARSHALL MCVAY, *b. 7 December 1921 at Camp Bragg, North Carolina. He married on 6 January 1945 in Wayne, Pennsylvania, to Anna May Shutts, born on 20 June 1922 at Radnor, Pennsylvania. A teacher, she was the daughter of*

Samuel Harnish Shutts and May Elizabeth (Kauffman) Shutts. He was a 1st Lieutenant in the U. S. Marine Corps, 2nd Regiment, 2nd Division. He served from Saipan to the Occupation of Japan, and was later placed on Officers' Reserve. Three ch. b. Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania: twins Patricia Harnish and Nancy Brooks Austin b. 18 December 1947, and Mary Marshall b. 15 March 1951.

H173-9616. EMILY MCVAY, *born on 5 April 1924 in Baltimore, Maryland. She m. on 23 November 1944 in Baltimore to Raymond James Geyer, b. 21 November 1919 in Baltimore, the son of George Strickler and Gertrude (Burns) Geyer. Raymond served in the U.S. Army between July 1941 and February 1946, attached to Special Services. Most of his time was spent at Camp Lee, Virginia and at Fort Dix, New Jersey.*

H173-9617. ROBERT MCVAY, *born 27 March 1925 in Baltimore, Maryland. He enlisted in the Navy and was stationed at Great Lakes, Illinois. He later joined the Army and took advantage of an appointment to West Point. He had Basic Training in artillery at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and in infantry at Camp McCall, North Carolina. He served with the 13th Airborne-Glider Infantry, was discharged in July 1946.*

H173-9618. ELIZABETH MCVAY, *born on 1 March 1927 in Washington, DC. She m. on 31 August 1946 in Baltimore, Maryland, to William Robert Ernst, b. 2 January 1927 in Baltimore, son of John H. and Martha (Unglaub) Ernst. He was a coxswain in the U.S. Navy during World War II, serving on sub-chasers in Southwest Pacific and Philippine waters. Their three children were all born in Baltimore: Barbara Ann b. 26 November 1947, John William b. 19 August 1949, Robert Michael b. 15 January 1952.*

H173-981. EDGAR COVELL⁷ AUSTIN (*Gilbert Purkhiser,*⁶ *David Sharp,*⁵ *William,*⁴ *Thomas,*³ *Samuel,*² *Henry*¹) was born 21 February 1886 in Wellston, Jackson County, Ohio. He was a pharmacist. Edgar married on 15 March 1915 in Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, to Nettie May Roe, b. 30 June 1886 in Marietta, Washington County, Ohio, daughter of Philip Martin and Emma Jane (Hawkins) Roe. A registered nurse, Nettie was Assistant Superintendent of Nurses at Children's Hospital in Cincinnati. She died 20 March 1948 in Cincinnati, Ohio and is buried there. Two children born in Cincinnati:

H173-9811. RICHARD VINCENT, *b. 30 August 1917, he was a commercial artist. He m. 14 June 1942 in Denver, Colorado, to Laura Alma Taylor, b. 20 August 1920 in London, Kentucky, the daughter of William J. and Sylvania (Ledford) Taylor. Richard entered the U. S. Army on 19 February 1942, serving as a surgical technician in the*

Medical Corps. He was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant OMC on 30 May 1943, and was a 1st Lieutenant OMC when discharged on February 1945. One child: Sandra Louise Austin born 26 August 1946 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

- H173-9812. RUTH LOUISE, born 25 May 1921, she m. on 5 July 1943 in Cincinnati to Raymond Ellwood Riedinger, b. 27 October 1918 in Cincinnati, son of Roy R. and Hilda (Timmerman) Riedinger. He enlisted 29 May 1942 at Patterson Field in Dayton, Ohio, graduated the Officers' Candidate School in Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, on 19 January 1943 as 2nd Lieutenant, U. S. Army Signal Corps. Raymond had pilot training at Sikeston, Missouri in March 1944, and received his Navigator's Wings in 1945 at Monroe, Louisiana. He was discharged on 16 March 1946. One child: Lawrence Steven Riedinger b. on 27 March 1949 in Cincinnati.

EIGHTH GENERATION

H152-2221. HARRY GILLIAM⁸ AUSTIN (*Henry M.,⁷ Henry Meirs,⁶ Eggleston F.,⁵ Henry,⁴ Samuel,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) was born 28 August 1920 in Hale Center, Hale County, Texas. He married on 5 June 1943 in Plainview, Hale County, to Irena May Kennedy, known as "Virginia" (see photograph at right). Irena was born 4 May 1925 in Hale Center, the daughter of Ernest and Myrtle (Horlacher) Kennedy. They had three children before they divorced on 30 January 1953 in Amarillo, Texas. Harry remarried to Ann ——. Virginia remarried to Marion Allen Shaffer (see H152-2222), who adopted the three Austin children and changed their surnames to Shaffer on 9 September 1960 in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Harry Gilliam Austin died at age 46 on 16 October 1966 in Biloxi, Harrison County, Mississippi. He was buried in Big Spring, Howard County, Texas. Children:

- H152-2221-1. BEVERLY DARLENE, b. 28 August 1946 in Plainview, she m.(1) February 1967 in Donaldson, Arkansas, to Sam Stewart. No known ch. before divorce. Her dau. Lesly Allen Shaffer was b. 23 June 1970 in Malvern, Hot Spring County, Arkansas. Beverly m.(2) September 1970 Travis Dickey, son of Harry and Novelle Dickey, no known ch. before divorce. She m.(3) to Larry Coulter in September 1976, no known children before divorce. Beverly m.(4) on 4 August 1979 to James Williams, b. 26 May 1941 in Emory, Rains County, Texas, son of Chester and Ollie Ethel Williams. He died 15 July 1986 in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, at the age of 45, they had no known ch. Beverly had several children.

- H152-2221-2. HARRIET ARLENE, b. 10 October 1947 in Plainview, m. 2 January 1968 in Donaldson,

AOA Photo 691-1

Harry Gilliam Austin and Irena (Kennedy) Austin

Arkansas, to Bobby Babb. Three children b. in Hot Springs, Garland County, Arkansas: Lisa Suzette b. 10 July 1968, James Robert b. 17 July 1970, Jodie Allison b. 5 September 1978.

- H152-2221-3. RANDALL ERNEST, born on 3 August 1949, his surname was changed to Shaffer in 1960. He m.(1) on 11 May 1970 to Mary (Willingham) Hedgepath in Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas, one ch: Rhoda Shaffer b. 1 September 1971. Randall m.(2) Barbara —, b. on 16 August 1948, she d. 3 August 1987 in Hot Springs at age 38. No known children.

H152-2222. FRANCES ORTEL⁸ AUSTIN (*Henry M.,⁷ Henry Meirs,⁶ Eggleston F.,⁵ Henry,⁴ Samuel,³ Samuel,² Henry¹*) was born on 2 January 1923 in Hale Center, Texas. She married on 1 March 1947 in Lamesa, Dawson County, Texas to Marion Allen Shaffer, born 24 May 1919 in Shamrock, Wheeler County, Texas. They divorced 26 June 1955 in Lubbock, Texas, no issue. Allen married second Irena Austin, former wife of H152- 2221 Harry. Frances remarried to Virgil Bell (at right), their daughter Barbara Bernice was born on 1 January 1951, they adopted Frances' half-sister Mattie Watson's child Robin Marie, born on 6 December 1955. They later divorced.

AOA Photos 691-2, 3

Uncaptioned headshots of Frances Ortel Austin and Marion Allen Shaffer

AOA Photo 692

Mildred Christine (Austin) with her husband Tilford “Tip” Edwards Jr., with their daughters Susan Gail Edwards and Patricia Ann Edwards. The photograph is believed to have been taken in 1958.

H152-2223. MILDRED CHRISTINE⁸ AUSTIN (*Henry M.*,⁷ *Henry Meirs*,⁶ *Eggleston F.*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 27 May 1926 in Hale Center, Hale County, Texas. Mildred was married on 5 April 1947 in Buffalo Gap, Taylor County, Texas, to Tilford Edwards, Jr. Tilford, called “Tip,” was born on 23 June 1921, the son of Tilford and Nora (—) Edwards. Mildred and Tilford had two daughters together: Susan Gail Edwards born on 4 June 1948 in Abilene, Taylor County, and Patricia Ann Edwards born on 20 September 1949. Mildred and Tilford were divorced in Hobbs, Lea County, New Mexico, in 1961. She died on 6 February 1993 in Fort Worth, Tarrant County, Texas, and was buried in the Greenwood Cemetery in Fort Worth. Tilford Edwards Jr. died on 29 January 1994 and was buried in the Calvary Cemetery in Galveston, Galveston County, Texas.

H152-2224. MARVIN ELWOOD⁸ AUSTIN (*Henry M.*,⁷ *Henry Meirs*,⁶ *Eggleston F.*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 5 October 1928 in Hale Center, Hale County, Texas. His father died when Marvin was only four years old. The Great Depression left his widowed mother destitute, and Marvin, his sister Mildred and his brother Robert were sent to the Hendrick Home for Children in Abilene, Texas, on 20 June 1939 when it first opened. He remained there through grade school, junior high and Abilene High School, where he ran track and lettered in his sport. In 1951 he joined the Marines and was stationed in San Diego, California. After his discharge in 1953 he worked for an airline in Kansas for a short time. before joining the Air Force. He was stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, where he was a sergeant. In 1954 he joined the Park and Recreation Department in Dallas, Texas. He worked at the Samuel Grand Recreation Center, the Beckley Saner Recreation Center, and he opened and was the co-Director of the Martin Weiss Recreation Center in 1956.

Marvin Elwood Austin married Margie Ray Crawford on 25 August 1956 in the Little Chapel in the Woods on the campus of the Texas Women’s University in Denton, Denton County, Texas. Margie was born on 1 February 1934 in Argyle, Denton County, the daughter of Ray Austin Crawford and Esther Viola Bounds. She was active in 4-H as a young girl, winning an all-expense-paid trip to Chicago in November 1951. She graduated from the State College for Women (now Texas Women’s University) with a B.S. in Health, Physical Education and Recreation, and a M.Ed. in Elementary Education. She has an allelevel teaching certificate and has taught all grades. While teaching in Dallas in 1955, she recalls

receiving a parent’s note asking that her daughter be excused from participation in track because she had “very close” veins.

Margie Austin coached volleyball at Arlington High School, her team won the state championship in 1970. She was a counselor at Lamar High School in Arlington from 1973 to 1987. Margie earned her doctorate in Educational Administration from Nova University at Fort Lauderdale, Florida in 1987. She retired after 30 years in Texas Public Schools from Venture School, an alternative school, as counselor and assistant principal.

Since her retirement, Margie has substituted in many long-term assignments with the Arlington Independent School District. In 1997 she was Executive Director for H.O.P.E. (Helping Our Pupils Excel), a free tutoring group for children in the 4th to 8th grades. She is currently President of the Board of Directors. She is a coordinator of the Teen Outreach Program in Arlington, with grant monies from the Texas Depart of Public Health. She is a District Manager for Primerica Financial Services, a member of Citigroup.

AOA Photo 693-1 & 2**Marvin Elwood Austin (1928-1995) with his dog Rex.****Below: His widow Dr. Margie Ray (Crawford) Austin photographed at the 2000 National Austin Convention.**

Marvin loved horse races. Once at Ruidoso Downs in Ruidoso, New Mexico, Margie had a hot tip on "Bugs Alive in 75." It was about time for wagering to close and the \$2 lines were long, so she chose the \$50 line. Marvin passed and said to her, "What are you doing in that line?" She replied, "The line is shorter." He answered, "Hell, I guess it is!" Bugs lost, and Margie recalls "it was a long trip home." Marvin died on 29 June 1995 in Arlington, Texas, and was buried in Argyle, Denton County, Texas. He and Margie had three sons:

- H152-2224-1. MELWOOD RAY, *b. 30 August 1957 +*
- H152-2224-2. MARSHALL COIT, *b. 31 August 1958 +*
- H152-2224-3. MAXWELL TONY, *b. 7 June 1960 +*

H152-2225. ROBERT FORRESTER⁸ AUSTIN (*Henry M.*,⁷ *Henry Meirs*,⁶ *Eggleston F.*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 11 June 1931 in Hale Center, Hale County, Texas. Like his older brother Marvin, Robert Austin grew up in the Hendrick Home for Children in Abilene, Texas. On 1 January 1951 Bobby was driving a pickup north of Abilene on his way to fight a fire at the Hendrick Ranch in Lueders, Texas. The road was slick, the truck skidded off the road and hit a culvert. He was killed instantly. Robert Austin was buried in Abilene.

AOA Photo 693-3**Uncaptioned photo of Robert Forrester Austin**

H152-2231. BEULAH MAY⁸ AUSTIN (*Walter Trousdale*,⁷ *Henry Meirs*,⁶ *Eggleston F.*,⁵ *Henry*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born on 1 May 1905 in Hale Center, Hale County, Texas. Her mother died at her birth, so Beulah was raised by her grandmother Mary Frances (Gilliam) Austin in Hale Center. Beulah May Austin married in May 1929 in Pasadena, Los Angeles County, California, to Fitz Benson. Fitz was born 7 August 1900 in Hale Center, and died there on 2 July 1953. They had two children born in El Paso, El Paso County, Texas: Ellis Ann Benson born 3 June 1933 and Fitz Erwin Benson born 25 February 1939. Beulah May died on 9 April 1996 in Lubbock, Lubbock County, Texas.

H155-7231. GEORGE BYRON⁸ AUSTIN (*George Washington*,⁷ *Thornton Christian*,⁶ *William Dickerson*,⁵ *William*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Samuel*,² *Henry*¹) was born 25 April 1913 in Charleston, Illinois. He married 28 December 1935 in Murphysboro, Illinois, to Thelma Maxine Gibbs, born 9 June 1914 in Charleston, daughter of John Wesley Gibbs and Oather Childress. They had two daughters born in Charleston:

- H155-7231-1. SANDRA JEAN, *b. 28 December 1936, m. — Jones, they reside in Springfield, Illinois.*
- H155-7231-2. JUDITH ELAINE, *b. 11 October 1941, m. — Brooks, they reside in Springfield, Illinois.*

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 710]

EARLY SILENT CINEMA ACTORS**ALBERT AND WILLIAM AUSTIN**

by Michael Edward Austin

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 652]

William Crosby Pierce Austin

William Austin was born 12 June 1884. Like his brother Albert, was both tall and handsome at 6' 1". His first film was *Common Sense* in 1920. He appeared in three films with Clara Bow, whose vitality and sexiness defined the liberated woman of the 1920's. They were together in *It* in 1927, in *Red Hair* in 1928, and in *Paramount on Parade* in 1930. William plays Monty Montgomery in *It*. After reading an Elinor Glyn article describing "It" (sex appeal), he studies his face and concludes that he indeed has "It" (top photo). Monty dines with Betty Lou (Clara Bow) at the Ritz (second photo), and is with young reporter Gary Cooper (third photo). Unlike his brother, William survived the arrival of sound. His 75 films are listed below, he was uncredited in those with an asterisk.

We have not yet researched William Austin's personnel life, and thus have found no record of his marriage. He perhaps married before 1922, since a Laurence W. Austin (see next page), who was born circa 1922, claimed to be William's son, although some express doubt about this claim, believing that Laurence Austin the Silent Movie Theater entrepreneur and showman may have fabricated his background to help promote his theater. When he died, Laurence Austin was survived by a sister, a niece and two nephews. Thus, if his claim is true, then actor William Austin must have fathered at least two children. He died on 15 June 1975 in Orange County, California.

ACTOR WILLIAM AUSTIN FILMOGRAPHY

1920: Reggie Barrett in *Common Sense*. **1922:** Wilber in *The Cowboy King*; Peter Carter in *Handle with Care*; Reggie in *Rich Men's Wives*. **1923:** Mr. Belknap-Johnson in *Ruggles of Red Gap*. **1924:** Lord Harrowby in *The Reckless Age*; Archie in *The Garden of Weeds*; George Sears in *In Love With Love*. **1925:** Dr. Harry Oldershaw in *Who Cares*; Theodore Van Felt in *Head Winds*; Dal Brown in *Seven Days*; Arthur Rockmere in *The Best People*; Riggs in *The Fate of a Flirt*. **1926:** Henry Fuller in *What Happened to Jones*; Eric Lancefield in *The Far Cry*; André's assistant in *Fig Leaves*; G. Horace Crumbleigh in *Collegiate*; Mortimer Allison in *West of Broadway*; Alfred Wimbledon in *The Flaming Forest*; Harold Crosby in *Her Big Night*. **1927:** Monty Montgomery in *It*; Louis Carruthers in *One Hour of Love*; he played in *Duck Soup*; Algy in *Ritz*; Detective Hall in *The World at Her Feet*; Mr. Spangle, Ph.D. in *Swim Girl, Swim*; George Bagnall in *Silk Stockings*; Banning-Green in *Honeymoon Hate*. **1928:** Percy Penfield in *What a Night!*; Raymond of Boston in *Drums of Love*; Dr. Eustace Gill in *Red Hair*; Engineer in *The Fifty-Fifty Girl*;

AOA Photo 694**Film Strip – Various scenes featuring William Crosby Pierce Austin**

Percy Jones in *Just Married*; Aubrey Weems in *Someone to Love*. **1929:** Sylvester Wadsworth in *The Mysterious Dr. Fu*

Manchu; Mr. Z. in *Illusion*; Professor Willow in *Sweetie*; Lord Wrench in *The Marriage Playground*. **1930**: Jasper Hickson in *Embarrassing Moments*; Mr. Poffley in *The Man from Blankley's*; Guest Star in *Paramount on Parade*; Sylvester Wadsworth in *Return of Dr. Fu Manchu*; James Raleigh in *The Flirting Widow*; Basil Pistol in *Let's Go Native*; Eustace in *Along Came Youth*. **1931**: Jellicott in *A Tailor Made Man*; Richard Bentinck in *Corsair*. **1932**: Wilberforce Strangeways in *High Society*; Lord Tony Probus in *Don't Be a Dummy*; Duke in *Rule 'Em and Weep*; Englishman in *County Hospital*. **1933**: Harris in *Three Men in a Boat*; Duke of Cleves in *The Private Life of Henry VIII*; Gryphon in *Alice in Wonderland*. **1934**: played in *One to Every Bachelor*; Cyril Glossop in the *Gay Divorcee*; Englishman* in *Imitation of Life*. **1935**: Salesman in *1,000 Dollars a Minute*; Arthur Summers in *The Goose and The Gander*. **1936**: Sneed the butler* in *The Garden Murder Case*; played* role *In His Steps*. **1937**: Constable Holly in *Renfrew of the Royal Mounted*; Bob's butler* in *Live, Love and Learn*; a bit part* in *Every Day's A Holiday*. **1938**: Mr. Martingale the Floorwalker in *Dr. Rhythm*. **1939**: Stranger in *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*. **1940**: Hotel Manager* in *The Doctor Takes a Wife*. **1941**: Spectator in *Charley's Aunt*. **1943**: Critic* in *Holy Matrimony*; Alfred* butler and chauffeur in *The Batman*. **1944**: Detective Gannett in *The Return of the Vampire*; Assistant Hotel Manager* in *Once Upon a Time*; reporter in *National Velvet*. **1946**: a clerk in *Murder in the Music Hall*. **1947**: William played in *The Ghost Goes Wild*.

Laurence W. Austin

Laurence W. Austin was born circa 1922, probably in California, since he claimed his father was silent film star William Austin. Laurence was intensely interested in silent films himself, and he became a longtime friend of John and Dorothy Hampton. John was a rural Oklahoma youth when he fell in love with silent movies. He worked for theaters in Oklahoma City before he and his wife moved to the Los Angeles area in the late 1930s. A pioneer collector, John used his personal silent film collection to establish the 250-seat *Silent Movie* theater in 1942, when silent movies had already been passé for 15 years. Within a few months, it closed while Hampton, a Quaker, went to prison as a conscientious objector during World War II. In 1946 the Hamptons reopened the theater at 611 North Fairfax Avenue in Hollywood, California, operating it until John's health failed in 1979. He died in May 1990 before he could re-open the theater. Laurence W. Austin, who for three years had been presenting silent films at a Mormon church in Studio City, persuaded John's widow Dorothy Hampton to let him take over the theater as a memorial to her husband. In January 1991 Laurence reopened the theater

with Cecil B. DeMille's "The King of Kings," a stately and remarkably-restrained film for DeMille, which remains one of the screen's most straight-

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 700]

AOA Photos 695-1, 2, & 3

Laurence Austin (1922-1997) Standing in front of the Silent Movie Theater in 1993. The theater is shown below as it appeared in the 1940s, and again after it was closed in 1997. It was re-opened on 5 November 1999.