

The Barton Historical Society Meeting of 2012

President Terry Barton called the meeting to order shortly after 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the Wingate Wyndham Hotel in Longview, Texas. He made introductions and expressed gracious thanks to Evelyn Banda and Peggy Nouri for the organization and arrangements of this year's meeting.

Bette Pitman gave a brief report, submitted by Harold Turner, on findings of cemetery locations and residences of Bailey Barton's family members in South Carolina.

Terry gave his updated report on our Barton DNA project, always with very interesting findings while maintaining appropriate confidential data.

Following a lunch break, the afternoon Business Session included the reading and approval of minutes from the meeting held in October, 2010, and the explanation of a virtual Board Meeting concluded in May 2011 to amend the Barton Historical Society By-Laws. (See text of the amendment at right.) A treasurer's report was not available due to the last minute absence of the treasurer.

However, due to a general understanding of available funds, it was proposed and authorized for the purchase of 15 DNA kits while on sale for utilization in the Barton DNA project.

Peggy Nouri reported that the Barton Recipes project is seeking additional recipes before the book can go to press.

There was extensive discussion relative to a research trip to England with an invitation for additional participants. Please contact either Terry Barton or Peggy Nouri.

Approval was given for the planning of the next reunion to be in the Tigerville, South Carolina area in October, 2013, to be followed by a reunion in Arkansas in April, 2015.

A Nominations Committee report offered a slate of new officers to include Peggy Nouri, President; Terry Barton, Vice President, Kathy Barton Gerwig, Secretary; and Deborah Lee, Treasurer. No additional nominations from the floor, so slate was elected by acclamation.

Terry Barton expressed sincere appreciation to Gary Barton for his five years of service as editor of the newsletter, and for his continuation as manager of the Barton Database.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:45.

Another genealogy website – MyGenShare.com – is coming, and although at this time I cannot attest to its merits, it looks promising as another venue for research.

You can go to that site now and sign-up for their launch date.

Amendment to the By-Laws
Approved: 16 May 2011

Article IV – Board of Directors
Add Section 6 – Vacancies

When an elected officer vacancy on the Board exists mid-term, the President shall appoint an interim replacement to fill out the particular elected officer's term.

As July 4 draws near,
our day of celebration of
American Independence,
let's all reflect
upon the contributions and
sacrifices of our
Barton ancestors and
their families.

Ten Years! Wow. When I look back, there are so many memories! So many friends – some I've seen many times and some I've only known by email. Some I still think of as "new" friends, many that I've known long enough to share memories with, and some that I treasure as my "old" friends. Sigh – and some to whom I've had to pay my last respects and say "goodbye".

My tenure has been an interesting, busy, productive and challenging time of change. Since its very beginning, Barton Historical Society (BHS) had been the domain of the Barton families of Tyger Baptist Church and their close kin – cousins who met on the same Sunday every August at Tyger Baptist Church. I was lucky to have been at Tyger for the last few gatherings done in the traditional way – and I treasure those memories.

I came to be involved with BHS at a transitional time, as the local folks at Tyger were no longer in a position to host a gathering every year. So, the agreement as I came into office was that we would make two key adjustments. One, we would recast the Barton Historical Society focus so that we clearly stated that we serve all Barton families – everywhere. (I think all Bartons were already welcome – we just made it very clear) And, two – we would move our Annual Reunion meetings around. For the past 10 years, we've done just that. Our various endeavors all clearly state that we serve all Barton families. And – we have certainly moved the Annual meetings around. We've met at Tyger Baptist Church, Look-Up Lodge, and Greenville in South Carolina; at Pine Log United Methodist Church, Mt Tabor United Methodist Church (Everett Springs) and Red Top Mountain in Georgia; at Natural Bridge in Alabama; and in Austin and Longview in Texas. The best part of going to all those different locations is that we've gotten the chance to meet many cousins that we wouldn't have otherwise have met and we've seen many special Barton homes and places while we were there.

In addition to our reunions, Barton Historical Society has added a number of public faces during my time as President:

Our **Barton Surname DNA Project** was one of the earliest DNA projects, starting in 2001, and has grown to include over 300 members. We have identified 20 Barton families that are assigned their own Lineage number - and have over 50 more Barton men waiting for their "match" so that their family can also be recognized as a "Lineage". About 1/3 of our members belong to Barton Lineage I – which includes the founding Tyger Barton families and many others. Some of those other Barton families in Lineage I know their roots back to Lancashire, England – defining the place of origin for Lineage I – a knowledge that seems to have been lost to the American families of Lineage I for many generations. We hope to make similar advancements for the other Barton Lineages over time. BHS's Sponsorship program has been a key part in our success – providing a portion of the cost for the first representative to test for every new family that joins us.

The **Barton Database** collects information on all Barton families. Through the years, our database has grown to include over 56,000 names with richly documented sources. This endeavor has been the brainchild and passion of Gary Barton (Barton Lineage VII), who has carefully added so many families, documenting the sourcing as he went.

The **BHS Newsletter** predates my tenure – being started by Jean Brockman in 2000. It has been a valued and visible part of our Society during the 21st Century, as it has passed from Jean to Kathie Leckie, to Gary Barton, and now to Sterlin Barton, our current Editor. While he was serving as Editor, Gary Barton compiled and abstracted our Newsletters through 2006, along with those wonderful Barton Bulletins which were published from 1959 to 1989 – putting them on a DVD.

The **BHS Website** has been continuously online since 2000 at www.bartonsite.org.

The **Barton One Name Study** gives us additional visibility and credibility through the Guild of One Name Studies – an English organization which includes almost 8,000 one-name studies.

I have been privileged to serve under two Chiefs of the Clan. Ruth Barton Coleman was our Chief from 2001-2005 and Bette Barton Howard Pitman has been our Chief since 2008. These two ladies have awed me with their Barton knowledge and their gentle sweetness. They have been a very special part of my time as President. I thank them and each of you for helping to make the Barton Historical Society such a special organization.

Now, it's time to move on and give our support to the new President of BHS – Peggy Barton Nouri. Please join me in helping to make Peggy's tenure as President productive, special – and fun!

Terry Barton
President, 2002-2012