

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF STEPHEN AUSTIN AND
HANNAH TUCKER OF COPIAGUE, NEW YORK**

Family Group Sheets
submitted to the
Austins of America
Genealogical Society Library
on
8 January 2004
by
Diana Austin Hamlett

Husband: Stephen Austin

Born: June 04, 1797	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Married: June 15, 1817	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died: January 28, 1877	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Father: Stephen A. Austin	
Mother: Mary ("Polly") Brinkerhoff	

Wife: Hannah Tucker

Born: June 04, 1797	in: NY
Died: Aft. January 12, 1879	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Abraham Austin Born: May 20, 1831 Died: June 30, 1901 Married: Abt. 1855 Spouse: Margaret Brush	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
2 M	Name: Thomas Austin Born: March 07, 1818 Died: November 05, 1865 Married: Spouse: Lucy Johnson	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
3 F	Name: Sarah Austin Born: 1822 Died: Aft. December 30, 1878 Married: Spouse: John Long	in: Manhattan, New York Co., NY
4 M	Name: John Austin Born: April 20, 1825 Died: Bef. December 1878	
5 F	Name: Mary Jane Austin Born: September 11, 1827 Died: Bef. December 30, 1878 Married: Spouse: Married: September 16, 1848 Spouse: Henry Ferris	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
6 M	Name: Stephen Austin Born: May 01, 1833 Died: March 18, 1853	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Great South Bay, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
7 F	Name: Hannah Adella Austin Born: 1838 Died: Aft. December 30, 1878 Married: December 28, 1858 Spouse: Peter Ketcham	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY

Husband:	Stephen Austin
Born:	June 04, 1797
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	January 28, 1877
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen A. Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Mary ("Polly") Brinkerhoff - Natural
Census:	1870 Huntington Twn., Suffolk Co., New York
Military service:	War of 1812
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Stephen Austin was born in 1797 and died in 1877. Stephen and his spouse Hannah Tucker are listed in the 1860 Federal Census living in Huntington Town, Suffolk County, New York, with their daughter Hannah Adella, their granddaughter Arabella, and Peter Ketcham. Stephen's occupation is listed as a shoe maker. Stephen and wife Hannah are also listed in the 1870 Federal Census, living in Huntington Town, Suffolk County, New York. Stephen is now a fisherman.

Stephen was a veteran of the War of 1812. He is listed on page 452 in the History of Brooklyn as a Brooklyn Veteran of the War of 1812. He was under the command of Captain Joseph Dean, the Consolidated Regiment of Militia, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel John A. Ditmars, from September 2, 1814, when last mustered, to the 18th of November 1814, in the service of the United States. His wife Hannah is on the List of Pensioners January 1, 1883 in Volume II page 423.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Hannah Tucker
Married:	June 15, 1817
Beginning status:	Married
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY

Marriage Notes

Wife:	Hannah Tucker
Born:	June 04, 1797
in:	NY
Died:	Aft. January 12, 1879
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Address and Phone(s)	
Medical	
Notes	

Child:	Abraham Austin
Born:	May 20, 1831
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	June 30, 1901
in:	Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural
Burial:	June 1901 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1860 Huntington Twn., Suffolk Co., New York
Occupation:	Fisherman, Farmer, and Carpenter
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following are notes from the writings, (June 1989), of Ralph Hausrath, Great Grandson of Abraham Austin and Margaret Brush. Ralph wrote to my sister Dawn Marie Austin the following about Abraham and his descendants:

Sometime in the middle of the last century a carpenter named Abram Austin, (Abraham), who came from the Copiague area, married Margaret Brush, a woman who came from Moriches. He was born in May 1831, and died in June of 1901. she was a bit older, having been born in October 1927. She died May 1913, according to the dates on their tombstones in the Amityville Cemetery.

Abraham was a carpenter and sometimes a Bayman. His four sons seem to have followed in his footsteps. He worked for a time, around 1858, helping to rebuild the Fire Island Lighthouse which has first been erected in 1825. Abram and Margaret lived at the "Old Homestead" as their children called it. It was located on South Great Neck Road, Copiague. The house and probably the barn, too, still stand, I believe. It is located directly opposite the entrance to Schmeelk Place.

Though their three older children left home at early ages to marry and found their own homes, the two younger ones remained at the homestead until after the death of their Mother in 1913. This was because sometime before 1900, their mother had fallen over a kitten, (or kittens) and broke her hip. The result was that she became a cripple for the rest of her life. Her daughter Elizabeth, ("Libby"), who had expected to marry, gave up the idea and remained permanently at the home to care for the old lady. Libby's brother Melvin, already a member of the Life Saving Service, although already engaged to be married, changed plans and made it his life's work to care for the homestead and help his sister with their crippled Mother whenever he was off duty and ashore.

Abram died in 1901 but his widow lived on for 12 more years. After her death, Elizabeth and Melvin, teamed up to build a new house further down South Great Neck Road and the "Old Homestead" became a rental property until Elizabeth sold it in 1942. It went to a Lester Austin, a distant relative, but not a member of Abraham's direct line of the Austin Family.

Abraham was born May 20, 1831 and he died June 30, 1901.

Notes from research of Diana and Dawn Austin, and Steve Henderson.

Abraham Austin and his wife Margaret, (Brush was her maiden name), are listed in the 1860 Federal Census, and their children. Phillip Chichester was also living with them along with Margaret and Whitman Brush. Margaret was probably Margaret's mother. Her mother is 70 years old. Abraham's occupation is fisherman. I also found them listed on the 1880 Federal Census still living in the Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York, just as they were in 1860. Only now Abraham's occupation is carpenter. Their children are with them along with 8 year old John Brush. In the 1900 Federal Census they are still living in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. Abraham is now listed as a farmer.

Along with their children, their grandson, 5 year old Birdsall is also living with them. By 1910 Margaret is listed as a widow, still living in the same town, along with her daughter Libby, and son Melvin. They lived on Great Neck Road in Copiague. Her son Charles was their next door neighbor.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Margaret Brush
Married:	Abt. 1855
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Thomas Austin
Born:	March 07, 1818
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	November 05, 1865
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural

Burial:	Purdy Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
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Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

<i>Notes</i>

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Lucy Johnson
Beginning status:	Married

<i>Marriage Notes</i>

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Sarah Austin
Born:	1822
Died:	Aft. December 30, 1878
in:	Manhattan, New York Co., NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

Marriage Information	
Husband:	John Long
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Child:	John Austin
Born:	April 20, 1825
Died:	Bef. December 1878
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural

Address and Phone(s)

Medical

Notes

Marriage Information

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Mary Jane Austin
Born:	September 11, 1827
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	Bef. December 30, 1878
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

Marriage Information	
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Stephen Austin
Born:	May 01, 1833
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	March 18, 1853
in:	Great South Bay, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural

Burial:	Austin Family Cemetery, Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
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Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

<i>Notes</i>

Marriage Information

<i>Marriage Notes</i>

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Hannah Adella Austin
Born:	1838
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	Aft. December 30, 1878
in:	Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

Marriage Information	
Husband:	Peter Ketcham
Married:	December 28, 1858
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Husband: Abraham Austin

Born: May 20, 1831 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
 Married: Abt. 1855
 Died: June 30, 1901 in: Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
 Father: Stephen Austin
 Mother: Hannah Tucker

Wife: Margaret Brush

Born: October 20, 1828 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
 Died: May 11, 1913 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
 Father: ? Brush
 Mother: Margaret

CHILDREN

1	Name: Stephen Austin Born: March 1860 Died: 1935 Married: Spouse: Sarah Chichester	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
M	Married: Spouse: Emma Married: 1887 Spouse: Sarah Ann Turner	
2	Name: Charles Austin Born: June 1856 Died: 1930 Married: Spouse: Mary E. Austin Married: 1882 Spouse: ?	
M	Name: Edward Clifton Austin Born: August 08, 1857 Died: May 22, 1954 Married: Spouse: Amie Turner Married: Spouse: Ella Chichester	in: Brooklyn, Kings Co., NY in: Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
4	Name: Elizabeth M. Austin Born: February 26, 1863 Died: June 08, 1952	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
F		
5	Name: Melvin Austin Born: January 1865 Died: July 05, 1936	in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
M		

Husband:	Abraham Austin
Born:	May 20, 1831
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	June 30, 1901
in:	Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Hannah Tucker - Natural
Burial:	June 1901 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1860 Huntington Twn., Suffolk Co., New York
Occupation:	Fisherman, Farmer, and Carpenter
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following are notes from the writings, (June 1989), of Ralph Hausrath, Great Grandson of Abraham Austin and Margaret Brush. Ralph wrote to my sister Dawn Marie Austin the following about Abraham and his descendants:

Sometime in the middle of the last century a carpenter named Abram Austin, (Abraham), who came from the Copiague area, married Margaret Brush, a woman who came from Moriches. He was born in May 1831, and died in June of 1901. she was a bit older, having been born in October 1927. She died May 1913, according to the dates on their tombstones in the Amityville Cemetery.

Abraham was a carpenter and sometimes a Bayman. His four sons seem to have followed in his footsteps. He worked for a time, around 1858, helping to rebuild the Fire Island Lighthouse which has first been erected in 1825. Abram and Margaret lived at the "Old Homestead" as their children called it. It was located on South Great Neck Road, Copiague. The house and probably the barn, too, still stand, I believe. It is located directly opposite the entrance to Schmeelk Place.

Though their three older children left home at early ages to marry and found their own homes, the two younger ones remained at the homestead until after the death of their Mother in 1913. This was because sometime before 1900, their mother had fallen over a kitten, (or kittens) and broke her hip. The result was that she became a cripple for the rest of her life. Her daughter Elizabeth, ("Libby"), who had expected to marry, gave up the idea and remained permanently at the home to care for the old lady. Libby's brother Melvin, already a member of the Life Saving Service, although already engaged to be married, changed plans and made it his life's work to care for the homestead and help his sister with their crippled Mother whenever he was off duty and ashore.

Abram died in 1901 but his widow lived on for 12 more years. After her death, Elizabeth and Melvin, teamed up to build a new house further down South Great Neck Road and the "Old Homestead" became a rental property until Elizabeth sold it in 1942. It went to a Lester Austin, a distant relative, but not a member of Abraham's direct line of the Austin Family.

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Notes from research of Diana and Dawn Austin, and Steve Henderson.

Abraham Austin and his wife Margaret, (Brush was her maiden name), are listed in the 1860 Federal Census, and their children. Phillip Chichester was also living with them along with Margaret and Whitman Brush. Margaret was probably Margaret's mother. Her mother is 70 years old. Abraham's occupation is fisherman. I also found them listed on the 1880 Federal Census still living in the Town of Babylon, Suffolk County, New York, just as they were in 1860. Only now Abraham's occupation is carpenter. Their children are with them along with 8 year old John Brush. In the 1900 Federal Census they are still living in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. Abraham is now listed as a farmer.

Along with their children, their grandson, 5 year old Birdsall is also living with them. By 1910 Margaret is listed as a widow, still living in the same town, along with her daughter Libby, and son Melvin. They lived on Great Neck Road in Copiague. Her son Charles was their next door neighbor.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Margaret Brush
Married:	Abt. 1855
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Wife:	Margaret Brush
Born:	October 20, 1828
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	May 11, 1913
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	? Brush - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret - Natural
Burial:	May 1913 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1860 Huntington Twn., Suffolk Co., New York
Address and Phone(s)	
Medical	
Notes	

Child:	Stephen Austin
aka:	Capt. Steve
Born:	March 1860
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	1935
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Burial:	Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1900 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Military service:	United States Life Saving Service
Occupation:	House Carpenter, Fisherman, United States Life Saving Service
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters written by Ralph Hausrath to my sister Dawn Marie Austin. He was Stephen's nephew.

Stephen Austin, the third child of Abram and Margaret, was a big, handsome man of commanding presence and widely respected for his boating skills as well as his ability as a builder of houses. The Brooklyn Eagle once a well-known newspaper of Long Island, called his rescue of the crew of the steamer Roda in February of 1908 "The most heroic rescue this year on the coast." For some years he was the skipper, or "Keeper" of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station Crew. In addition he was a boat builder, Bayman, sometimes a house builder, and had once run a restaurant in partnership with his brother Edward. A popular man in the community and a good story teller, he was also no stranger to adversity.

He had married before he was 20 to a girl known as Sarah and son had two sons, Ira Austin and Walter Austin. Ira was born in 1879 and Walter in 1881. Stephen had joined the Life Saving Service around this time and so was home infrequently. The marriage did not last and the couple were soon divorced. Sarah was a Chichester. I believe she moved to Brooklyn. Years later, after Stephen's death in 1935, she brought a court action to try and break his will, but was not successful.

Stephen next married another Sarah. She was Sarah Turner of Farmingdale, sister to brother Ed's wife, Ann. Stephen and Sarah Turner Austin had one daughter, Ethel Mae Austin, born September 20, 1896. At this time Stephen had a fine house on Baylawn Avenue, Copiague where the family lived. Again, he was away at his post on the beach much of the time. One day in October 1903 Sarah Ann Turner Austin took her own life by drinking poison. Ethel Mae, (my, Ralph Hausrath, mother), watched as her mother drank down a bottle of liquid, w2alked to the back door and flung the bottle out into the yard, and then collapsed. The six-year-old child then ran down on the docks to find her Uncle Ed who was working on a boat nearby. It was after this tragedy that Aunt Libby, (Elizabeth), took over the upbringing of my mother at the "old homestead".

Around the time of his wife's death, alcohol became a major problem for Stephen. Whether it had been an incipient problem before, or whether heavier drinking was a result of his other problems, I, (Ralph Hausrath), never knew. But in any case, it became a major factor in this life for the next 10 or 12 years. He sold the Baylawn Avenue house and dissipated much of the proceeds of the sale in a week-long orgy of drinking. Though he managed to continue as the head of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station and, in fact, won considerable acclaim for his work at the Roda wreck in 1908. there was little let up in the heavy drinking while off duty.

Somewhere in these years he married again---to Emma, the German girl that his sister, Elizabeth, had hired to help care for his crippled mother. At one stage, he insisted on buying a piano for my mother who was then being raised at the "old homestead" and having her take lessons to learn to play it. Then he began to show up late at night and far from sober and insisting that Ethel play the piano for him. The resulting scenes upset his crippled mother and Elizabeth.

As my mother grew older, she was sometimes dispatched to see that he got home safely to the cottage on the Baylawn side of the creek where he then lived with Emma. Once, in crossing the creek in his boat, he upset the skiff pitching himself and his daughter, Ethel, into the creek on a chilly night. Both survived but the family's patience with his behavior began to run thin for a time. Eventually, he left his job in the service---sometime before World War I and without a pension. He ahd finally been called on the carpet for his drinking.

He next renounced drink, then turned to boat building and commercial fishing, regained respectability, and began, in a small way, to build and market houses in the area. He was fairly successful in these enterprises. However, all his problems were not over. Life with Emma was often stormy though they did remain together until his death in 1935. On occasion, when he had made money on the sale of a house, she would insist that he deposit

half the profit immediate into her individual bank account. Once she left him alone for a lengthy period of time while she took a steamer back to Germany to visit her old home. Following her return, he built a new house on Baylawn Avenue, they rented the cottage and moved into the new house and lived there until his death. Emma and Stephen had one child, but it was stillborn.

"Captain Steve" also had to cope with untimely deaths of his sons within a short space of time. Walter, who had married and lived in Freeport, dropped dead one day on the village dock when he was but 45. He had been a vigorous man who had served in the Life Saving crews and had spent much of his life on the water. His death was a great shock. Two years later, son Ira, who lived on Schmeelk Place, Copiague, caught pneumonia and died. Ira was but 50 when he died.

Many a time when I was a small child living with my parents in our Copiague house on Austin Place, I'd look out the window at night and see a lantern light moving through the swamp maples and wild cherry trees that grew along the creek bank some hundred yards or so to the west of the house. It was a sign that "Captain Steve" and Emma were coming to visit us. They had crossed the creek by boat, tied up to a tree on our side, and were walking up the winding path through the woods.

Once in the house, he'd remove his coat and hat, perhaps take off his rubber boots, which he usually wore if it was wet or had been snowing, find a comfortable chair, and light up his pipe. I'd climb up on his lap and the story telling would soon begin.

He'd talk of the Roda, the Seth Low, the Bodo, and innumerable other shipwrecks that he'd been at or known about. He'd tell of fishing adventures on the bay while eeling, or oystering, or blue fishing. He'd describe a schooner he'd once owned, or describe how the bay men used to cut and store bay ice to be used in packing summer catches. And he'd tell of surf boats that started out on rescues only to be hurled back on the beach by big "combers" whose crests broke with such force that the boats went completely out of control of the trained rowers that manned them.

Soon Convinced that a Bayman's life was the life for me, (Ralph Hausrath), I begged to go with him on his eeling expeditions during the summer months. For eight successive years, he took me. Usually it was a three-day jaunt at a time aboard his 24-foot whaleboat which had a large hold forward for the eelpots and other gear and a comfortable cabin aft which housed the motor and our living space.

We had many adventures including one storm with winds of up to hurricane force. Once a fire flared up in the cabin because of the kerosene stove, but he soon put it out after heaving the blazing stove overboard. We chased a real six-foot shark with spears, jacked at night with the eel skiffs we towed behind and son on. "Uncle Ed", my grandfather's brother, often accompanied us in his own boat. On one trip my grandfather found 18 cases of good whiskey on the bay bottom. It had apparently been lost by a rum-runner being chased by the Coast Guard. However, I did not share in this find, which was later sold for \$900 because I had broken my wrist and was not allowed to go that time.

In 1935 when I, (Ralph Hausrath), was 17 he died. His will left most of his property to my mother. I got the boats and much of his gear. I later sold many of those items and used the proceeds to pay for my first year of college at Washington and Lee University.

The following notes are from research done by Diana and Dawn Austin:

Stephen Austin, (Captain Steve), was born March 1860 and died in 1935. His obituary was in the New York Times, January 12, 1935. It states that he was retired Coast Guardsman. It said he died at age 75, and was in government service since he was about 25 years old. He was keeper of the Jones Beach Station for 13 years. The obituary also states that he was the son of Abraham and Margaret Brush Austin. His widow was Mrs. Emma Austin and he had a daughter, Mrs. Allan Hausrath, two brothers and a sister survived him.

In the 1860 Federal Census Stephen is listed as the son of Abraham and Margaret Austin. He is living in the household with his parents and siblings. He is less than a year old. His father is a fisherman. They are living in Huntington Twn., Suffolk County, New York.

In the 1870 Federal Census Stephen is listed as 10 years old and living with his parents. Stephen is in school. His father Abraham is a house carpenter. Whitman Brush is living with them and is a paper carrier. The family lives in Huntington Town, Suffolk Co., New York.

In the 1880 Federal Census Stephen is listed as Head of Household, 20 years old, wife Sarah, 19 years old, and son Ira 1 year old. His occupation was a laborer.

In the 1900 Stephen is listed as head of household, wife Sarah, but this is another Sarah, (Sarah Ann Turner). Stephen and his first wife Sarah, (Chichester), divorced in 1886. (New York Times article December 19, 1935- Woman 75 Fights Divorce of 1886), Stephen and Sarah Ann had a daughter Ethel Mae, listed in their household as being 3 years old. Ira and his wife Lucinda live with them, as does Ira's brother Walter. Stephen's occupation is the United States Life Saving Service. They live in Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. Sarah Ann Turner drank poison in abt. 1906 and killed herself.

In the 1910 Census we find Stephen Austin and wife Emma. Stephen is now a fisherman, on the Great South Bay. They are living in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. No one else is listed in his household.

Stephen and Emma are listed on the 1920 Federal Census living in the same area. Stephen is now a house

carpenter. His brothers, Charles, Edward, and Melvin, along with his sister Elizabeth, known as Libby, are his neighbors.

In the 1930 Federal Census. He is still listed as living in BabylonTwn., Suffolk Co., New York. Stephen is listed as head of household, with his wife Emma. His occupation is carpenter. They live on Merrick Road in Copiague.

We also found an article in the Amityville Record, 2002, about Shipwrecks off Amityville's Shores. One of the Wrecks was the Roda, February 13, 1908. It was a 350' Steamer out of Huelva, Spain. The Roda carried a cargo of copper ore. The weather was bad and the Roda became stranded between the beach and the inner sand bar. It states how Captain Stephen Austin was the Keeper of the Jones Beach Station. The wreck was within Captain Steve's jurisdiction and he and his crew of Surfmen took on the rescue. . Captain Beaven of the Steamer Roda, wrote a letter of thanks to the rescue crew which is on file with the official reports at the National Archives.

Another record with the archives involving Captain Steve was the wreck of the Louis V. Place, February 07, 1895.

There are also articles in the Long Island Forum Magazine. In particular there is one in the February 1978 issue, written by Ralph Hausrath, about the Wreck of the Louis V. Place. It also shows a picture of Captain Steve. Under the picture it says: Captain Stephen Austin Keeper of the Jones Beach Station circa 1900-1910.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Sarah Chichester
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Child:	Charles Austin
Born:	June 1856
Died:	1930
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Census:	1860 Huntington Twn., Suffolk Co., New York
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Writings from Ralph Hausrath, nephew of Charles Austin, to my sister Dawn Marie Austin in June of 1989.

Charles Austin, the oldest of Abram sons, was the one least know to me, (Ralph Hausrath). He married a woman named Mary who was know to me as "Aunt Mame." Past 70 when I first became aware of him, he seemed to me to be a very quiet man and rather reclusive. He, too, had served in the Life Saving Service and had been a Bayman. I remember him as having a full beard. Perhaps he had earned a service pension, I don't know.

Charles had the plot of land closest to Montauk Highway. His site, like those of the other Austin's on South Great Neck Road, ran westward all the way to the edge of the creek. There, tied up to the shore, Charles had a houseboat when I was a boy. Unlike the boats of his brother, it was a small, square-ended barge upon which had been erected a room high enough to stand up in. This room was not quite as long or wide as the barge itself and so allowed a bit of deck space forward and aft and tiny walkways on each side. Inside he had it fitted out with a kerosene stove, shelves, and a bunk and, I think he had a small built-in ice box. When Charles wanted to go "out in the bay" as he occasionally did in the summer, he would get one of his brothers, all of whom owned conventional power boats at the time I'm talking of, to hook on his houseboat and tow him out to some sheltered anchorage near one of the bay islands. Behind his houseboat he would tow his eel skiff which he used to get about in the selected area if he wanted to eel or clam. He might carry stores enough to last a week or two. After he had stayed his allotted time, a brother or friend would come and tow him home. Occasional, if Charles had dug enough clams or caught enough eels to want to market them, he might row ashore with the eel skiff, dispose of his catch, and row back across the bay with new stores for and extended stay on The water. I remember the north shore of Cedar Island was on of his favorite spots.

Charles and Mary had three children: Mabel, Charles, and Edith.

His son, known in the family as "young Charles", died in the 1920's. I've heard that the cause was spinal meningitis. I do not remember if the son had married or had any children of his own. I do remember that although the son was fully grown at the time of his death, he was still living in the home of his father and mother. Daughter Mabe married a house painter and decorator, Josh Skidmore, and lived on Great Neck Road, Copiague until her death in 1979. Skidmore died a year or so later while living with a sister in Islip. Edith married and Englishman who had come to Long Island. I believe the name was Orgil. They lived on a side street near Great Neck Road School in Copiague. I know they had a daughter and possibly more children, but I lost track of them sometime after World War II.

"Aunt Mame", widow of Charles Austin, senior, died in 1952. Her house was razed shortly after her death and the land was taken to be part of the existing shopping center, as I, (Ralph Hausrath), understand it.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	?
Married:	1882
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Child:	Edward Clifton Austin
Born:	August 08, 1857
in:	Brooklyn, Kings Co., NY
Died:	May 22, 1954
in:	Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Burial:	May 24, 1954 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1860 Huntington Twn., Suffolk Co., New York
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from Ralph Hausrath, (letters he wrote to my sister Dawn Marie Austin in 1989).

Edward, second son of Abraham and Margaret, lived to be 96. His life span was the longest that I know of in the family. He, too, had served many years in The Life Saving Service and was pensioned off. He had been stationed somewhere near East Rockaway Inlet. Hence he did not have to cross the Great South Bay to get to his post. He once told me, (Ralph Hausrath), he had often ridden a bicycle from his home in Amityville to reach his duty station near the inlet. He still rode his bicycle when he was past 70 as he came frequently from Amityville to visit his sister and brothers in Copiague. He also kept his boat tied up on the Austin land down on Howell Creek. The boat was a big, old Chesapeake Bay type skipjack which had been shorn of its mast and sails to be powered instead by a big, hand-cranked "one-lunger" gas engine that rested on its beds plum in the center of the cabin.

when Ed wanted to take the boat out, he'd first have to check over the engine to make certain the gas was on and that there was a good spark, maybe turn it over a few times to be sure she was firing, then go up on deck and cast off all his lines so the boat lay drifting, headed down-creed, go back in the cabin and spin the flywheel by hand cranking until she caught and started up, rush back up on the deck and grab the tiller to steer her clear of any obstacle, because there was no clutch and when she started, she went ahead at full speed immediately. he managed to do all of this quite well for a number of years that he had the boat as I remember.

He was a handsome, always-neatly -groomed man with a nicely trimmed handlebar mustache who never looked dishevelled---even when engaged in such a messy job as skinning a keg of writhing, live eels.

In his latter days, Uncle Ed was one of the stars of the Amityville Decoration Day parade, riding with the honored and aging Spanish-American War veterans in one of the autos reserved for this group. By virtue of the fact that he had served with the Life Saving Service during the time of that war, he rode with these veterans.

In the 1920's and early 1930's, Edward often worked together with his brother Stephen, (my, (Ralph Hausrath), Grandfather, on the bay. When my grandfather would announce that we were going out eeling, Ed would provision his boat for a three-day stay on the water and follow us out. The brothers would select the area to be fished, then work together to get the bait for the eelpots that would be set that night. Ed's boat and my grandfather's boat each carried 100 or more eelpots in its hold. And each boat towed a small skiff astern as the small boats were used in catching the bait and in setting and later retrieving the eelpots which were buoyed and set out for a mile or more through the fishing area. As I usually went along on these trips with my grandfather and as the cabin of my grandfather's boat had bunks for two people, Ed went into his won boat. The arrangement allowed for more eelpots to be set and thus the possibility of a bigger catch. They often worked together like this as a team. I am told that when they were younger they had once operated a restaurant in the city as partners. And Steve and Edward had married sisters.

Edward had first married Ann Turner of Farmingdale who became the mother of Birdsall Austin, his only son. But Ann died at an early age. Consumption was the cause, I believe. Her death caused Elizabeth Austin to take over the upbringing of Birdsall for a time at "the old homestead". Edward then remarried to Ella Chichester and had two daughter by her, Mildred and Edna.

Although hospitalized briefly for TB in 1936, Edward recovered, then underwent major surgery around the time of World War II, survived to see his Grandson released form Japanese captivity, and lived on to the start of his 97th year. He was an avid Bayman to the end. When I, (Ralph Hausrath), last visited him during an illness in the 1950's, his wish was "to take a little trip out in the bay on your boat."

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Amie Turner
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Child:	Elizabeth M. Austin
Born:	February 26, 1863
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	June 08, 1952
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Burial:	June 11, 1952 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1880 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Writings, June 1989, to my sister Dawn Marie Austin from Ralph Hausrath, nephew to Elizabeth ("Libby"). "Aunt Libby" as Elizabeth was widely known to the people of the neighborhood also took on the added chores of raising another nephew, Birdsall Austin, and later raised a niece, Ethel Mae Austin, because of the early deaths of the Mothers of these two children. These added responsibilities were taken on while the Libby's crippled Mother was still alive. She had found it necessary finally to hire help to aid her in caring for the household and so had hired a German immigrant girl from the nearby village of Breslau, which is now known as Lindenhurst.

Though Elizabeth had visions of somewhat different life when she went to business school in Brooklyn and then subsequently took a job for a time as a school teacher in Copiague, she had been forced into this housekeeping role after her Mother's fall. And after the old woman's demise in 1913 and after the nephew and niece had grown and left her and after she had moved into her new house, she continued a life of serving others. She kept house for Melvin until his death, later provided a home for me, (Ralph Hausrath), for several years when my parent Were in Chicago, then lived on alone into World War II when she could no longer care for the big new house and so sold it. A devout Christian, she read her Bible daily and continued to make the best of whatever fate brought her, roomed with various relatives in her old age and finally went into the County Home and died in the Central Islip State Hospital in 1952.

Marriage Information	
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Marriage Notes

Child:	Melvin Austin
Born:	January 1865
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	July 05, 1936
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
<hr/>	
Burial:	July 08, 1936
	Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
<hr/>	
Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

From writings in June of 1989, by Ralph Hausrath to my sister Dawn Marie Austin. Ralph was Melvin's Nephew.

Melvin Austin served his full 30 years in the Life Saving Service and then was pensioned off. (The USLSS became part of the US Coast Guard in 1915.) Despite the fact that he had gone off to many wrecks over the years, it was said that he never learned to swim. (Surfman depended much more on their cork life jackets than on their swimming ability, especially as most wrecks occurred in the winter when waters were icy.)

All of the Austin Men in those days had their own personal boats. The Life Saving Service Station were strung along the outer beach on the South Shore and to get to their duty posts at Short Beach, Jones Beach, Gilgo, or Oak Beach the men had to cross the Great South Bay. This was usually accomplished by ice scooters, sailboats, rowing skiffs, or motor launches.

Melvin once bought a new motor launch for this purpose from the Palmer Company, a boat building plant in Connecticut. It was a graceful, round-bottomed boat decked over forward and with a unique "fantail" stern that boats of that era sometimes had. It was about 20 feet long. The launch was powered by a one-cylinder make-and-break engine and ran on either gasoline or naphtha. He had to journey to Cos Cob Connecticut to pick up the new boat which ran across Long Island Sound to somewhere near Huntington where he had her hauled out of the water and loaded on a trailer after which she was trucked across Long Island to be launched again in Howell Creek, Copiague.

Named the "Ethel Mae", in honor of my Mother, (Ralph Hausrath's Mother), the boat was used by Melvin to commute back and forth to his duty station which was for a long time at Short Beach, near Jone's Inlet. After he retired from the service, the boat was hauled out and stored for years in a boat house near his dock in back of the "Old Homestead". But by the time I, (Ralph Hausrath), was big enough to want more than a rowboat, she was again launched and became mine to use until Melvin's death in 1936, when Elizabeth, ("Aunt Libby"), sold the boat. By this time I had gone away to college.

At an earlier time when Melvin had owned a bigger, high-sided boat, he had fallen overboard while anchored out in the bay in fairly deep water. He was alone and there seemed to be no help nearby. Though not a swimmer, he had managed to grab the boat's anchor line as he tumbled in. But he found it impossible to climb back aboard the big-sided boat. However, he pulled out his ever-present pocket knife, cut the boat's anchor cable and then clung to the apart made fast aboard the boat while wind and tide drifted his boat into shallower water where he could stand up and then clamber back aboard.

He was the only one of Abram's children who ever acquired an automobile and learned to drive. He had a Ford Touring car, a Model T., in the early 1920's, then later bought a Chevrolet. He taught me, (Ralph Hausrath), to drive the Chevrolet when I was about 14. He used the car to drive to Amityville every week to do the grocery shopping for his sister.

In his last years, he took care of the "new House" that he and Elizabeth had built after the passing of their Mother. He did the gardening as well as the shopping and kept busy every winter working in the shop he had built next to his garage where he wove eel pots which are used by fishermen to trap eels. Woven out of shaved down rattan and oak splints, much as baskets are made, they were in great demand by eel fishermen from Jamaica Bay to Shinnecock Bay. He made hundreds each winter and was always sold out before warm weather because of the fine quality of his work. In the summers, we'd tune up the motor on the "Ethel May" and go fluke fishing or spearing eels every now and then.

He died of cancer in 1936.

Marriage Information	
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Marriage Notes

Husband: Stephen Austin

Born: March 1860 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died: 1935 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Father: Abraham Austin
Mother: Margaret Brush
Other Spouses: Emma, Sarah Ann Turner

Wife: Sarah Chichester

Born: 1861 in: LI, NY
Died: Bet. 1881 - 1888 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY

CHILDREN

1 M	Name: Ira Chichester Austin Born: January 1879 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY Died: May 07, 1928 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY Married: October 26, 1898 Spouse: Lucinda Cheshire
2 M	Name: Walter Austin Born: 1881 in: NY Married: Spouse: Olive ?

Husband:	Stephen Austin
aka:	Capt. Steve
Born:	March 1860
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	1935
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Burial:	Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1900 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Military service:	United States Life Saving Service
Occupation:	House Carpenter, Fisherman, United States Life Saving Service
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters written by Ralph Hausrath to my sister Dawn Marie Austin. He was Stephen's nephew.

Stephen Austin, the third child of Abram and Margaret, was a big, handsome man of commanding presence and widely respected for his boating skills as well as his ability as a builder of houses. The Brooklyn Eagle once a well-known newspaper of Long Island, called his rescue of the crew of the steamer Roda in February of 1908 "The most heroic rescue this year on the coast." For some years he was the skipper, or "Keeper" of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station Crew. In addition he was a boat builder, Bayman, sometimes a house builder, and had once run a restaurant in partnership with his brother Edward. A popular man in the community and a good story teller, he was also no stranger to adversity.

He had married before he was 20 to a girl known as Sarah and son had two sons, Ira Austin and Walter Austin. Ira was born in 1879 and Walter in 1881. Stephen had joined the Life Saving Service around this time and so was home infrequently. The marriage did not last and the couple were soon divorced. Sarah was a Chichester. I believe she moved to Brooklyn. Years later, after Stephen's death in 1935, she brought a court action to try and break his will, but was not successful.

Stephen next married another Sarah. She was Sarah Turner of Farmingdale, sister to brother Ed's wife, Ann. Stephen and Sarah Turner Austin had one daughter, Ethel Mae Austin, born September 20, 1896. At this time Stephen had a fine house on Baylawn Avenue, Copiague where the family lived. Again, he was away at his post on the beach much of the time. One day in October 1903 Sarah Ann Turner Austin took her own life by drinking poison. Ethel Mae, (my, Ralph Hausrath, mother), watched as her mother drank down a bottle of liquid, w2alked to the back door and flung the bottle out into the yard, and then collapsed. The six-year-old child then ran down on the docks to find her Uncle Ed who was working on a boat nearby. It was after this tragedy that Aunt Libby, (Elizabeth), took over the upbringing of my mother at the "old homestead".

Around the time of his wife's death, alcohol became a major problem for Stephen. Whether it had been an incipient problem before, or whether heavier drinking was a result of his other problems, I, (Ralph Hausrath), never knew. But in any case, it became a major factor in this life for the next 10 or 12 years. He sold the Baylawn Avenue house and dissipated much of the proceeds of the sale in a week-long orgy of drinking. Though he managed to continue as the head of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station and, in fact, won considerable acclaim for his work at the Roda wreck in 1908. there was little let up in the heavy drinking while off duty.

Somewhere in these years he married again---to Emma, the German girl that his sister, Elizabeth, had hired to help care for his crippled mother. At one stage, he insisted on buying a piano for my mother who was then being raised at the "old homestead" and having her take lessons to learn to play it. Then he began to show up late at night and far from sober and insisting that Ethel play the piano for him. The resulting scenes upset his crippled mother and Elizabeth.

As my mother grew older, she was sometimes dispatched to see that he got home safely to the cottage on the Baylawn side of the creek where he then lived with Emma. Once, in crossing the creek in his boat, he upset the skiff pitching himself and his daughter, Ethel, into the creek on a chilly night. Both survived but the family's patience with his behavior began to run thin for a time. Eventually, he left his job in the service---sometime before World War I and without a pension. He ahd finally been called on the carpet for his drinking.

He next renounced drink, then turned to boat building and commercial fishing, regained respectability, and began, in a small way, to build and market houses in the area. He was fairly successful in these enterprises. However, all his problems were not over. Life with Emma was often stormy though they did remain together until his death in 1935. On occasion, when he had made money on the sale of a house, she would insist that he deposit

half the profit immediate into her individual bank account. Once she left him alone for a lengthy period of time while she took a steamer back to Germany to visit her old home. Following her return, he built a new house on Baylawn Avenue, they rented the cottage and moved into the new house and lived there until his death. Emma and Stephen had one child, but it was stillborn.

"Captain Steve" also had to cope with untimely deaths of his sons within a short space of time. Walter, who had married and lived in Freeport, dropped dead one day on the village dock when he was but 45. He had been a vigorous man who had served in the Life Saving crews and had spent much of his life on the water. His death was a great shock. Two years later, son Ira, who lived on Schmeelk Place, Copiague, caught pneumonia and died. Ira was but 50 when he died.

Many a time when I was a small child living with my parents in our Copiague house on Austin Place, I'd look out the window at night and see a lantern light moving through the swamp maples and wild cherry trees that grew along the creek bank some hundred yards or so to the west of the house. It was a sign that "Captain Steve" and Emma were coming to visit us. They had crossed the creek by boat, tied up to a tree on our side, and were walking up the winding path through the woods.

Once in the house, he'd remove his coat and hat, perhaps take off his rubber boots, which he usually wore if it was wet or had been snowing, find a comfortable chair, and light up his pipe. I'd climb up on his lap and the story telling would soon begin.

He'd talk of the Roda, the Seth Low, the Bodo, and innumerable other shipwrecks that he'd been at or known about. He'd tell of fishing adventures on the bay while eeling, or oystering, or blue fishing. He'd describe a schooner he'd once owned, or describe how the bay men used to cut and store bay ice to be used in packing summer catches. And he'd tell of surf boats that started out on rescues only to be hurled back on the beach by big "combers" whose crests broke with such force that the boats went completely out of control of the trained rowers that manned them.

Soon Convinced that a Bayman's life was the life for me, (Ralph Hausrath), I begged to go with him on his eeling expeditions during the summer months. For eight successive years, he took me. Usually it was a three-day jaunt at a time aboard his 24-foot whaleboat which had a large hold forward for the eelpots and other gear and a comfortable cabin aft which housed the motor and our living space.

We had many adventures including one storm with winds of up to hurricane force. Once a fire flared up in the cabin because of the kerosene stove, but he soon put it out after heaving the blazing stove overboard. We chased a real six-foot shark with spears, jacked at night with the eel skiffs we towed behind and son on. "Uncle Ed", my grandfather's brother, often accompanied us in his own boat. On one trip my grandfather found 18 cases of good whiskey on the bay bottom. It had apparently been lost by a rum-runner being chased by the Coast Guard. However, I did not share in this find, which was later sold for \$900 because I had broken my wrist and was not allowed to go that time.

In 1935 when I, (Ralph Hausrath), was 17 he died. His will left most of his property to my mother. I got the boats and much of his gear. I later sold many of those items and used the proceeds to pay for my first year of college at Washington and Lee University.

The following notes are from research done by Diana and Dawn Austin:

Stephen Austin, (Captain Steve), was born March 1860 and died in 1935. His obituary was in the New York Times, January 12, 1935. It states that he was retired Coast Guardsman. It said he died at age 75, and was in government service since he was about 25 years old. He was keeper of the Jones Beach Station for 13 years. The obituary also states that he was the son of Abraham and Margaret Brush Austin. His widow was Mrs. Emma Austin and he had a daughter, Mrs. Allan Hausrath, two brothers and a sister survived him.

In the 1860 Federal Census Stephen is listed as the son of Abraham and Margaret Austin. He is living in the household with his parents and siblings. He is less than a year old. His father is a fisherman. They are living in Huntington Twn., Suffolk County, New York.

In the 1870 Federal Census Stephen is listed as 10 years old and living with his parents. Stephen is in school. His father Abraham is a house carpenter. Whitman Brush is living with them and is a paper carrier. The family lives in Huntington Town, Suffolk Co., New York.

In the 1880 Federal Census Stephen is listed as Head of Household, 20 years old, wife Sarah, 19 years old, and son Ira 1 year old. His occupation was a laborer.

In the 1900 Stephen is listed as head of household, wife Sarah, but this is another Sarah, (Sarah Ann Turner). Stephen and his first wife Sarah, (Chichester), divorced in 1886. (New York Times article December 19, 1935- Woman 75 Fights Divorce of 1886), Stephen and Sarah Ann had a daughter Ethel Mae, listed in their household as being 3 years old. Ira and his wife Lucinda live with them, as does Ira's brother Walter. Stephen's occupation is the United States Life Saving Service. They live in Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. Sarah Ann Turner drank poison in abt. 1906 and killed herself.

In the 1910 Census we find Stephen Austin and wife Emma. Stephen is now a fisherman, on the Great South Bay. They are living in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. No one else is listed in his household.

Stephen and Emma are listed on the 1920 Federal Census living in the same area. Stephen is now a house

carpenter. His brothers, Charles, Edward, and Melvin, along with his sister Elizabeth, known as Libby, are his neighbors.

In the 1930 Federal Census. He is still listed as living in BabylonTwn., Suffolk Co., New York. Stephen is listed as head of household, with his wife Emma. His occupation is carpenter. They live on Merrick Road in Copiague.

We also found an article in the Amityville Record, 2002, about Shipwrecks off Amityville's Shores. One of the Wrecks was the Roda, February 13, 1908. It was a 350' Steamer out of Huelva, Spain. The Roda carried a cargo of copper ore. The weather was bad and the Roda became stranded between the beach and the inner sand bar. It states how Captain Stephen Austin was the Keeper of the Jones Beach Station. The wreck was within Captain Steve's jurisdiction and he and his crew of Surfmen took on the rescue. . Captain Beaven of the Steamer Roda, wrote a letter of thanks to the rescue crew which is on file with the official reports at the National Archives.

Another record with the archives involving Captain Steve was the wreck of the Louis V. Place, February 07, 1895.

Their are also articles in the Long Isalnd Forum Magazine. In particular there is one in the February 1978 issue, written by Ralph Hausrath, about the Wreck of the Louis V. Place. It also shows a picture of Captain Steve. Under the picture it says: Captain Stephen Austin Keeper of the Jones Beach Station circa 1900-1910.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Sarah Chichester
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Wife:	Sarah Chichester
Born:	1861
in:	LI, NY
Died:	Bet. 1881 - 1888
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Burial:	Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1880
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

I found an article in the New York Times, 1935 how Sarah (Chichester) Austin was contesting her and Stephen Austin's divorce of 1886. She was trying to make claim to her part of Stephen's \$150,000.00 Estate.

Child:	Ira Chichester Austin
Born:	January 1879
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	May 07, 1928
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Sarah Chichester - Natural
Burial:	1928 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1880 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Occupation:	United States Life Saving Service, Carpenter and Fisherman
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters Ralph Hausrath wrote to my sister Dawn Marie Austin abt. 1989.

Ira Austin was born in 1879 and died in 1928. I was about 10 when Ira died and id not know him very well though I did visit at his house on Schmeelk Place, Copiague now and then. I remember him as a rather chubby, friendly man who worked as a carpenter and as one who headed a large family.

I knew that his mother, Sarah, and my grandfather, Stephen, had been divorced when he was but a boy, but I did not know much about his upbringing. As a young man, I Ira had done as many of the Austin men before him had done---he had joined the Life Saving Service. However, he was the only one of the family I know of who had been in service on Long Island's North Shore. His station had been at Eaton's Neck, a finger of land that juts out into the Long Island Sound near Northport. Though the sound was a somewhat protected body of water between Connecticut and Long Island and was not subject to the heavy seas that so often pounded the South Shore beaches, it was very heavily traveled because of steamers and other traffic going from the Port of New York to the many New England ports and could become the locale of many shipping mishaps when the nor'easters rolled in.

I have been told that it was while on duty on the North Shore, Ira met his future wife, Lucinda Cheshire. Known to me years later as "Aunt Lucy, " she became the amiable mother of a large household. The five children of Ira and Lucy were, Viola, Myrtle, Walter, Stephen, and Florence. By the time I, (Ralph Hausrath), was in high school, Viola, Myrtle, and Walter had already married and left the parental home on Schmeelk Place, Copiague. I think Stephen moved out also about this time leaving only Florence still at home. For a time, I know Stepehn lived in a cottage down on Howell creek near the end of Austin Place where I lived. I think he had married and had a wife living there with him, but I am not sure. Ira had died by this time and Lucy and Florence were still at Schmeelk Place. I do not know much more of the happenings there until after World War II when I heard Florence ahd married and that Lucy had moved into a smaller house on the Schmeelk Place property were she was then living with an Edward Schmitz. Florence married a man name Stine, I believe , and they lived in the big house that had once belonged to her parents.

Research notes from Diana and Dawn Austin:

Ira Chichester Austin is listed as being 1 year old on the 1880 Federal Census. He is living with his Father and Mother, Stephen and Sarah, (Chichester was her maiden name), Austin. His father's occupation is laborer. They lived next to Abraham and Margaret Austin, Stephen's parents. On the other side lived a cousin, Thomas Austin and his wife Melissa. Ira is listed in the 1900 Federal Census, taken June 14, 1900, in his Father, Stephen's household. They lived in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. Ira is now married. His wife, Lucinda, is listed in the household as daughter-n-law. The Sarah listed as wife to Stephen is Sarah Ann Turner, Ira's stepmother. His Father divorced Sarah Chichester in 1886. His half sister Ethel Mae is also listed, along with Walter, his brother, and Alexander Henry, a boarder. Ira and his Dad are both in the United States Life Saving Service now. Also found on the 1900 Federal Census, taken June 04, 1900 is Ira and Lucinda Austin living int the Village of Northport, Town of Huntington, New York. His occupation is United States Life Saving Service. Probably when he was to be stationed at Eaton's Neck, where his son Walter was born. 1910 Federal Census lists Ira, Lucinda and their children living in Huntington Town, Suffolk Co., New York. Ira's occupation still listed as United States Life Saving Service. The 1920 Federal Census is the last to find Ira listed. He died in 1929 due to complications from pneumonia. In 1920 he and his wife live in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., New York. Three of his five children are still living at home. His occupation is now listed as carpenter. In the 1930 Federal Census Lucinda is listed as a widow. She lives on Schmeelk Place in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., New York.

Family Group Sheet

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Lucinda Cheshire
Married:	October 26, 1898
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Child:	Walter Austin
Born:	1881
in:	NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Sarah Chichester - Natural

Census:	1900 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
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Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters Ralph Hausrath wrote to my sister Dawn Marie Austin in abt. 1989.

Walter Austin (1881-1926), Captain Steve's ;younger son, lived in Freeport in the 1920's. He had married a woman from that general area of Nassau County and they had one son Lester, (perhaps Stephen Lester) who seemed to be about eight years older than I, (Ralph Hausrath), was. Walter's first wife's name was Olive. I heard her family was from Baldwin.

Though Walter and his family sometimes came to visit my parents at our house in Copiague, and though we reciprocated occasionally, we did not get to know each other very well. Walter died unexpectedly of a heart attack when I was about eight years old.

I remember Walter as a big man, one who was talkative and interesting, and one who was fairly popular with my father and mother. Once, when we visited at Freeport, his son Lester, stepped a big sail on a farm wagon (usually horse-drawn) that he had rigged out with a tiller to steer, and we climbed aboard to literally sail down the street in front of Walt's house with a good tail wind. It was an exciting ride.

Walter I learned form my grandfather and other relatives, had served in the Life Saving Service for a time at a South Shore Station, had been a carpenter, had done some boat building, and at one point, had captained a small schooner that had operated from some point on the Long Island shore to a destination up the Hudson River. I think he was transporting cargo for Standard Oil at this time.

It is Walter's son, Stephen Lester Austin, known to me as Lester Austin who still lives on Long Island.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Olive ?
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Husband:	Ira Chichester Austin
Born:	January 1879
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	May 07, 1928
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Sarah Chichester - Natural
Burial:	1928 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1880 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Occupation:	United States Life Saving Service, Carpenter and Fisherman
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters Ralph Hausrath wrote to my sister Dawn Marie Austin abt. 1989.

Ira Austin was born in 1879 and died in 1928. I was about 10 when Ira died and id not know him very well though I did visit at his house on Schmeelk Place, Copiague now and then. I remember him as a rather chubby, friendly man who worked as a carpenter and as one who headed a large family.

I knew that his mother, Sarah, and my grandfather, Stephen, had been divorced when he was but a boy, but I did not know much about his upbringing. As a young man, I Ira had done as many of the Austin men before him had done---he had joined the Life Saving Service. However, he was the only one of the family I know of who had been in service on Long Island's North Shore. His station had been at Eaton's Neck, a finger of land that juts out into the Long Island Sound near Northport. Though the sound was a somewhat protected body of water between Connecticut and Long Island and was not subject to the heavy seas that so often pounded the South Shore beaches, it was very heavily traveled because of steamers and other traffic going from the Port of New York to the many New England ports and could become the locale of many shipping mishaps when the nor'easters rolled in.

I have been told that it was while on duty on the North Shore, Ira met his future wife, Lucinda Cheshire. Known to me years later as "Aunt Lucy, " she became the amiable mother of a large household. The five children of Ira and Lucy were, Viola, Myrtle, Walter, Stephen, and Florence. By the time I, (Ralph Hausrath), was in high school, Viola, Myrtle, and Walter had already married and left the parental home on Schmeelk Place, Copiague. I think Stephen moved out also about this time leaving only Florence still at home. For a time, I know Stepehn lived in a cottage down on Howell creek near the end of Austin Place where I lived. I think he had married and had a wife living there with him, but I am not sure. Ira had died by this time and Lucy and Florence were still at Schmeelk Place. I do not know much more of the happenings there until after World War II when I heard Florence ahd married and that Lucy had moved into a smaller house on the Schmeelk Place property were she was then living with an Edward Schmitz. Florence married a man name Stine, I believe , and they lived in the big house that had once belonged to her parents.

Research notes from Diana and Dawn Austin:

Ira Chichester Austin is listed as being 1 year old on the 1880 Federal Census. He is living with his Father and Mother, Stephen and Sarah, (Chichester was her maiden name), Austin. His father's occupation is laborer. They lived next to Abraham and Margaret Austin, Stephen's parents. On the other side lived a cousin, Thomas Austin and his wife Melissa. Ira is listed in the 1900 Federal Census, taken June 14, 1900, in his Father, Stephen's household. They lived in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. Ira is now married. His wife, Lucinda, is listed in the household as daughter-n-law. The Sarah listed as wife to Stephen is Sarah Ann Turner, Ira's stepmother. His Father divorced Sarah Chichester in 1886. His half sister Ethel Mae is also listed, along with Walter, his brother, and Alexander Henry, a boarder. Ira and his Dad are both in the United States Life Saving Service now. Also found on the 1900 Federal Census, taken June 04, 1900 is Ira and Lucinda Austin living int the Village of Northport, Town of Huntington, New York. His occupation is United States Life Saving Service. Probably when he was to be stationed at Eaton's Neck, where his son Walter was born. 1910 Federal Census lists Ira, Lucinda and their children living in Huntington Town, Suffolk Co., New York. Ira's occupation still listed as United States Life Saving Service. The 1920 Federal Census is the last to find Ira listed. He died in 1929 due to complications from pneumonia. In 1920 he and his wife live in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., New York. Three of his five children are still living at home. His occupation is now listed as carpenter. In the 1930 Federal Census Lucinda is listed as a widow. She lives on Schmeelk Place in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., New York.

Family Group Sheet

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Lucinda Cheshire
Married:	October 26, 1898
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Wife:	Lucinda Cheshire
Born:	April 01, 1881
in:	New York
Died:	May 14, 1965
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Burial:	1965 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1900 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Lucinda, to all her Great Grandchildren "Granny", was a petite woman in height and weight. Very sweet. The house her and Ed Schmitz moved into was very warm, neat and cozy. It was located on Schmeelk Place right behind her daughter Florence's house. A few houses down lived her son Walter, my Grandfather. We would visit Granny and Ed quite often. It was always a pleasure to go to their house. Granny loved to cook and make relishes and pickles.

Child:	Walter Udell Austin
Born:	September 07, 1904
in:	Eaton's Neck, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Died:	July 28, 1978
in:	Zerbe, Schuykill Co., Pennsylvania
Relationship with Father:	Ira Chichester Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Lucinda Cheshire - Natural

Burial:	July 1978 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Census:	1930 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Occupation:	Worked for Grumman in Bethpage, Long Island, New York
Religion:	Protestant
Retirement:	Grumman's in Bethpage, Long Island, New York

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

Walter Udell, was tall to average in height and build. He was born at the Eaton's Neck, where his father Ira was stationed in the United States Life Saving Service. He was an intelligent hard working man. He was always doing something. He loved boating, eeling, and fishing. While living on Schmeelk Place, I remember the smoke house in the back yard. He would tell me how he would smoke eels, fish and of course meat. Every year, Walter and Helen would cook a big Thanksgiving Dinner. Walter would cook the turkey and make the giblet gravy, while Helen fixed all of the trimmings. He worked for Grumman in Bethpage on Long Island.

Walter Udell Austin is listed on the 1910 Federal Census living with his parents, Ira and Lucinda (Cheshire) Austin, along with his siblings: Viola, Myrtle, Stephen and Florence. Walter was 5 years old. His father was listed as being in the United States Life Saving Service. They lived in Huntington Twn., Suffolk County, New York. In the 1920 Federal Census Walter Udell is still with his family, He is now 15 years old. His Father, Ira's occupation is now listed as carpenter. His sister Myrtle was a saleslady, for a dry goods store. His brother Stephen still lives at home, but Viola and Florence have married and moved. They live in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. By the 1930 Federal Census, Walter is listed as being head of household, his wife is Helen, (Helen Duerr was her maiden name), and having a son named Walter who was 4 years old. Walter's occupation is carpenter. His father, Ira C. Austin, died in 1929 due to pneumonia. Walter and Helen are listed as living on Baylawn Avenue, Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. They had one child, my Father, Walter Ira Austin, born October 05, 1925.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Helen I Duerr
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Viola L. Austin
Born:	November 05, 1900
Relationship with Father:	Ira Chichester Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Lucinda Cheshire - Natural

Census:	1930 Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., LI, New York
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Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical	
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Notes	
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Marriage Information	
Husband:	Russell Trembly
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes	
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Child:	Myrtle Austin
Born:	Abt. 1903
in:	LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Ira Chichester Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Lucinda Cheshire - Natural
Census:	1930 Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The first thing that comes to mind when I think of Aunt Myrt, is walnuts at Christmas time. Every year at Christmas time her and Uncle Clint would come to my parents house for a visit. We would receive a gift and a card. Inside the card would be a walnut shell with a quarter or fifty cents inside the walnut shell. A simple thoughtful gift that began a tradition for me. To this day, I will tape a walnut shell in a small child's card with a little money inside of it.

Marriage Information	
Husband:	Edward Haff
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Child:	Stephen I. Austin
Born:	November 03, 1906
Died:	June 1985
Relationship with Father:	Ira Chichester Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Lucinda Cheshire - Natural
Military service:	WWII
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Uncle Steve.....A jolly and intelligent man. He always brought a smile to your face, even when the chips were down. He and his wife Wanda lived in Amity Harbor, Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, Long Island, New York. They had one daughter Wanda. The family lived across the canal from my family.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Wanda
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Family Group Sheet

Child:	Florence Austin
Born:	Abt. 1922
Relationship with Father:	Ira Chichester Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Lucinda Cheshire - Natural

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

<i>Notes</i>

Marriage Information	
Husband:	Clair Stine
Beginning status:	Married

<i>Marriage Notes</i>

Husband: Walter Udell Austin

Born: September 07, 1904
Died: July 28, 1978
Father: Ira Chichester Austin
Mother: Lucinda Cheshire

in: Eaton's Neck, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
in: Zerbe, Schuykill Co., Pennsylvania

Wife: Helen I Duerr

Born: December 06, 1904
Died: July 28, 1969
Father: Jacob Duerr
Mother: Ida Rose Schmeelk

in: Far Rockaway, Long Island, New York
in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York

CHILDREN

I

Name: Walter Ira Austin

M

Born: October 05, 1925

Married:

Spouse: Marguerite Grace Koehler

in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York

in: Saint Martin of Tours Church, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY

Husband:	Walter Udell Austin
Born:	September 07, 1904
in:	Eaton's Neck, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Died:	July 28, 1978
in:	Zerbe, Schuykill Co., Pennsylvania
Relationship with Father:	Ira Chichester Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Lucinda Cheshire - Natural

Burial:	July 1978 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Census:	1930 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Occupation:	Worked for Grumman in Bethpage, Long Island, New York
Religion:	Protestant
Retirement:	Grumman's in Bethpage, Long Island, New York

Address and Phone(s)	
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Medical

Notes

Walter Udell, was tall to average in height and build. He was born at the Eaton's Neck, where his father Ira was stationed in the United States Life Saving Service. He was an intelligent hard working man. He was always doing something. He loved boating, eeling, and fishing. While living on Schmeelk Place, I remember the smoke house in the back yard. He would tell me how he would smoke eels, fish and of course meat. Every year, Walter and Helen would cook a big Thanksgiving Dinner. Walter would cook the turkey and make the giblet gravy, while Helen fixed all of the trimmings. He worked for Grumman in Bethpage on Long Island.

Walter Udell Austin is listed on the 1910 Federal Census living with his parents, Ira and Lucinda (Cheshire) Austin, along with his siblings: Viola, Myrtle, Stephen and Florence. Walter was 5 years old. His father was listed as being in the United States Life Saving Service. They lived in Huntington Twn., Suffolk County, New York. In the 1920 Federal Census Walter Udell is still with his family, He is now 15 years old. His Father, Ira's occupation is now listed as carpenter. His sister Myrtle was a saleslady, for a dry goods store. His brother Stephen still lives at home, but Viola and Florence have married and moved. They live in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. By the 1930 Federal Census, Walter is listed as being head of household, his wife is Helen, (Helen Duerr was her maiden name), and having a son named Walter who was 4 years old. Walter's occupation is carpenter. His father, Ira C. Austin, died in 1929 due to pneumonia. Walter and Helen are listed as living on Baylawn Avenue, Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. They had one child, my Father, Walter Ira Austin, born October 05, 1925.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Helen I Duerr
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Wife:	Helen I Duerr
Born:	December 06, 1904
in:	Far Rockaway, Long Island, New York
Died:	July 28, 1969
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Relationship with Father:	Jacob Duerr - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Ida Rose Schmeelk - Natural
Burial:	July 1969 Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Census:	1910 New York City, Queens Borough, 5-WD, Queens, New York
Occupation:	Secretary for Tax Assessor in Twn. of Babylon
Religion:	Protestant
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Helen is listed with her Father, Jacob Duerr, and her Mother, Ida Schmeelk, on the 1910 Census in New York City, Queens Borough. It also lists her siblings. She was a tall slender woman with brown hair and brown eyes. On the 1920 Census, she is living with her Mother and siblings, in the 36th Election District, NYC, Queens Borough. Her mother is listed as being widowed In the 1920 Census. On the 1930 Federal Census she is married to Walter Austin and living in Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, Long Island, New York.

Helen worked as a secretary until she was in her 60's for the Tax Assessor in the Town of Babylon. Helen died of cancer. It started as breast cancer and spread to the bone.

Child:	Walter Ira Austin
Born:	October 05, 1925
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., Long Island, New York
Relationship with Father:	Walter Udell Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Helen I Duerr - Natural
Census:	1930 Babylon Town, Suffolk County, Long Island, New York
Military service:	United States Army Air Force
Namesake:	Walter for his Father, and Ira for his Grandfather
Occupation:	Tin Knocker, and Draftsman
Religion:	Protestant
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

Walter Austin was born at home on Baylawn Avenue in Copiague, Suffolk County, Long Island, New York. He married Marguerite Grace Koehler in Saint Martin of Tours Church in Amityville. Walter, nickname "Walt", and Marguerite, nickname "Margie", have eight (8) children, six (6) boys and two (2) girls. Before living in Amity Harbor, Copiague, they lived on Kramer Drive in Lindenhurst. Walter graduated from Amityville High School, and was in the United States Army Air Force during WWII as a Flight Engineer. He worked as a "Tin Knocker"- Installing forced warm air heating and air conditioning systems. In later years he became a Draftsman. Walter then made the blue prints for the heating and air conditioning systems. He enjoys trapping, hunting, fishing and boating.

Walter is listed with his parents, Walter and Helen Austin, on the 1930 Federal Census for New York. He was 4 years old. They lived on Baylawn Avenue in Copiague, Babylon Twn., New York. A visitor named Mildred A. Johnson was listed in the household. His father's occupation was carpenter.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Marguerite Grace Koehler
Beginning status:	Married
in:	Saint Martin of Tours Church, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, NY

Marriage Notes

Husband: Stephen Austin

Born: March 1860 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Married: 1887
Died: 1935 in: Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Father: Abraham Austin
Mother: Margaret Brush
Other Spouses: Sarah Chichester, Emma

Wife: Sarah Ann Turner

Born: May 16, 1868 in: NY
Died: October 08, 1903

CHILDREN

1	Name: Ethel Mae Austin	
	Born: September 20, 1896	in: NY
F	Died: March 1980	in: Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., LI, New York
	Married:	
	Spouse: Allen G. Hausrath	

Husband:	Stephen Austin
aka:	Capt. Steve
Born:	March 1860
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	1935
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Burial:	Unknown Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1900 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Military service:	United States Life Saving Service
Occupation:	House Carpenter, Fisherman, United States Life Saving Service
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters written by Ralph Hausrath to my sister Dawn Marie Austin. He was Stephen's nephew.

Stephen Austin, the third child of Abram and Margaret, was a big, handsome man of commanding presence and widely respected for his boating skills as well as his ability as a builder of houses. The Brooklyn Eagle once a well-known newspaper of Long Island, called his rescue of the crew of the steamer Roda in February of 1908 "The most heroic rescue this year on the coast." For some years he was the skipper, or "Keeper" of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station Crew. In addition he was a boat builder, Bayman, sometimes a house builder, and had once run a restaurant in partnership with his brother Edward. A popular man in the community and a good story teller, he was also no stranger to adversity.

He had married before he was 20 to a girl known as Sarah and son had two sons, Ira Austin and Walter Austin. Ira was born in 1879 and Walter in 1881. Stephen had joined the Life Saving Service around this time and so was home infrequently. The marriage did not last and the couple were soon divorced. Sarah was a Chichester. I believe she moved to Brooklyn. Years later, after Stephen's death in 1935, she brought a court action to try and break his will, but was not successful.

Stephen next married another Sarah. She was Sarah Turner of Farmingdale, sister to brother Ed's wife, Ann. Stephen and Sarah Turner Austin had one daughter, Ethel Mae Austin, born September 20, 1896. At this time Stephen had a fine house on Baylawn Avenue, Copiague where the family lived. Again, he was away at his post on the beach much of the time. One day in October 1903 Sarah Ann Turner Austin took her own life by drinking poison. Ethel Mae, (my, Ralph Hausrath, mother), watched as her mother drank down a bottle of liquid, w2alked to the back door and flung the bottle out into the yard, and then collapsed. The six-year-old child then ran down on the docks to find her Uncle Ed who was working on a boat nearby. It was after this tragedy that Aunt Libby, (Elizabeth), took over the upbringing of my mother at the "old homestead".

Around the time of his wife's death, alcohol became a major problem for Stephen. Whether it had been an incipient problem before, or whether heavier drinking was a result of his other problems, I, (Ralph Hausrath), never knew. But in any case, it became a major factor in this life for the next 10 or 12 years. He sold the Baylawn Avenue house and dissipated much of the proceeds of the sale in a week-long orgy of drinking. Though he managed to continue as the head of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station and, in fact, won considerable acclaim for his work at the Roda wreck in 1908. there was little let up in the heavy drinking while off duty.

Somewhere in these years he married again---to Emma, the German girl that his sister, Elizabeth, had hired to help care for his crippled mother. At one stage, he insisted on buying a piano for my mother who was then being raised at the "old homestead" and having her take lessons to learn to play it. Then he began to show up late at night and far from sober and insisting that Ethel play the piano for him. The resulting scenes upset his crippled mother and Elizabeth.

As my mother grew older, she was sometimes dispatched to see that he got home safely to the cottage on the Baylawn side of the creek where he then lived with Emma. Once, in crossing the creek in his boat, he upset the skiff pitching himself and his daughter, Ethel, into the creek on a chilly night. Both survived but the family's patience with his behavior began to run thin for a time. Eventually, he left his job in the service---sometime before World War I and without a pension. He had finally been called on the carpet for his drinking.

He next renounced drink, then turned to boat building and commercial fishing, regained respectability, and began, in a small way, to build and market houses in the area. He was fairly successful in these enterprises. However, all his problems were not over. Life with Emma was often stormy though they did remain together until

his death in 1935. On occasion, when he had made money on the sale of a house, she would insist that he deposit half the profit immediately into her individual bank account. Once she left him alone for a lengthy period of time while she took a steamer back to Germany to visit her old home. Following her return, he built a new house on Baylawn Avenue, they rented the cottage and moved into the new house and lived there until his death. Emma and Stephen had one child, but it was stillborn.

"Captain Steve" also had to cope with untimely deaths of his sons within a short space of time. Walter, who had married and lived in Freeport, dropped dead one day on the village dock when he was but 45. He had been a vigorous man who had served in the Life Saving crews and had spent much of his life on the water. His death was a great shock. Two years later, son Ira, who lived on Schmeelk Place, Copiague, caught pneumonia and died. Ira was but 50 when he died.

Many a time when I was a small child living with my parents in our Copiague house on Austin Place, I'd look out the window at night and see a lantern light moving through the swamp maples and wild cherry trees that grew along the creek bank some hundred yards or so to the west of the house. It was a sign that "Captain Steve" and Emma were coming to visit us. They had crossed the creek by boat, tied up to a tree on our side, and were walking up the winding path through the woods.

Once in the house, he'd remove his coat and hat, perhaps take off his rubber boots, which he usually wore if it was wet or had been snowing, find a comfortable chair, and light up his pipe. I'd climb up on his lap and the story telling would soon begin.

He'd talk of the Roda, the Seth Low, the Bodo, and innumerable other shipwrecks that he'd been at or known about. He'd tell of fishing adventures on the bay while eeling, or oystering, or blue fishing. He'd describe a schooner he'd once owned, or describe how the bay men used to cut and store bay ice to be used in packing summer catches. And he'd tell of surf boats that started out on rescues only to be hurled back on the beach by big "combers" whose crests broke with such force that the boats went completely out of control of the trained rowers that manned them.

Soon convinced that a Bayman's life was the life for me, (Ralph Hausrath), I begged to go with him on his eeling expeditions during the summer months. For eight successive years, he took me. Usually it was a three-day jaunt at a time aboard his 24-foot whaleboat which had a large hold forward for the eelpots and other gear and a comfortable cabin aft which housed the motor and our living space.

We had many adventures including one storm with winds of up to hurricane force. Once a fire flared up in the cabin because of the kerosene stove, but he soon put it out after heaving the blazing stove overboard. We chased a real six-foot shark with spears, jacked at night with the eel skiffs we towed behind and son on. "Uncle Ed", my grandfather's brother, often accompanied us in his own boat. On one trip my grandfather found 18 cases of good whiskey on the bay bottom. It had apparently been lost by a rum-runner being chased by the Coast Guard. However, I did not share in this find, which was later sold for \$900 because I had broken my wrist and was not allowed to go that time.

In 1935 when I, (Ralph Hausrath), was 17 he died. His will left most of his property to my mother. I got the boats and much of his gear. I later sold many of those items and used the proceeds to pay for my first year of college at Washington and Lee University.

The following notes are from research done by Diana and Dawn Austin:

Stephen Austin, (Captain Steve), was born March 1860 and died in 1935. His obituary was in the New York Times, January 12, 1935. It states that he was retired Coast Guardsman. It said he died at age 75, and was in government service since he was about 25 years old. He was keeper of the Jones Beach Station for 13 years. The obituary also states that he was the son of Abraham and Margaret Brush Austin. His widow was Mrs. Emma Austin and he had a daughter, Mrs. Allan Hausrath, two brothers and a sister survived him.

In the 1860 Federal Census Stephen is listed as the son of Abraham and Margaret Austin. He is living in the household with his parents and siblings. He is less than a year old. His father is a fisherman. They are living in Huntington Twn., Suffolk County, New York.

In the 1870 Federal Census Stephen is listed as 10 years old and living with his parents. Stephen is in school. His father Abraham is a house carpenter. Whitman Brush is living with them and is a paper carrier. The family lives in Huntington Town, Suffolk Co., New York.

In the 1880 Federal Census Stephen is listed as Head of Household, 20 years old, wife Sarah, 19 years old, and son Ira 1 year old. His occupation was a laborer.

In the 1900 Stephen is listed as head of household, wife Sarah, but this is another Sarah, (Sarah Ann Turner). Stephen and his first wife Sarah, (Chichester), divorced in 1886. (New York Times article December 19, 1935- Woman 75 Fights Divorce of 1886), Stephen and Sarah Ann had a daughter Ethel Mae, listed in their household as being 3 years old. Ira and his wife Lucinda live with them, as does Ira's brother Walter. Stephen's occupation is the United States Life Saving Service. They live in Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. Sarah Ann Turner drank poison in abt. 1906 and killed herself.

In the 1910 Census we find Stephen Austin and wife Emma. Stephen is now a fisherman, on the Great South Bay. They are living in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. No one else is listed in his household.

Stephen and Emma are listed on the 1920 Federal Census living in the same area. Stephen is now a house carpenter. His brothers, Charles, Edward, and Melvin, along with his sister Elizabeth, known as Libby, are his neighbors.

In the 1930 Federal Census. He is still listed as living in BabylonTwn., Suffolk Co., New York. Stephen is listed as head of household, with his wife Emma. His occupation is carpenter. They live on Merrick Road in Copiague.

We also found an article in the Amityville Record, 2002, about Shipwrecks off Amityville's Shores. One of the Wrecks was the Roda, February 13, 1908. It was a 350' Steamer out of Huelva, Spain. The Roda carried a cargo of copper ore. The weather was bad and the Roda became stranded between the beach and the inner sand bar. It states how Captain Stephen Austin was the Keeper of the Jones Beach Station. The wreck was within Captain Steve's jurisdiction and he and his crew of Surfmen took on the rescue. . Captain Beaven of the Steamer Roda, wrote a letter of thanks to the rescue crew which is on file with the official reports at the National Archives.

Another record with the archives involving Captain Steve was the wreck of the Louis V. Place, February 07, 1895.

Their are also articles in the Long Island Forum Magazine. In particular there is one in the February 1978 issue, written by Ralph Hausrath, about the Wreck of the Louis V. Place. It also shows a picture of Captain Steve. Under the picture it says: Captain Stephen Austin Keeper of the Jones Beach Station circa 1900-1910.

Marriage Information

Wife:	Sarah Ann Turner
Married:	1887
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Wife:	Sarah Ann Turner
Born:	May 16, 1868
in:	NY
Died:	October 08, 1903
Census:	1930 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Address and Phone(s)	
Medical	
Notes	

Child:	Ethel Mae Austin
Born:	September 20, 1896
in:	NY
Died:	March 1980
in:	Copiague, Babylon Twn., Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Relationship with Father:	Stephen Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Sarah Ann Turner - Natural
Census:	1930 Irvington Town, Essex County, New Jersey
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters written by Ralph Hausrath to my sister Dawn Marie Austin. Ralph was Ethel's son.

Ethel M. Hausrath (1896-1980), the only daughter of Captain Stephen Austin and Sarah Turner Austin, was a woman of persevering and independent spirit who worked in the women's wear business until well into her 70's and died while living alone in her own house when she was 83.

Born September 20, 1896, she was brought up by her Aunt Elizabeth Austin after her mother died when she was but six years old. she was educated locally and later attended business school in Brooklyn. It was while commuting on the Long Island Rail Road that she met her future husband, Allan C. Hausrath of Central Islip. He, who had studied accountancy, was then working in New York City, commuting daily.

They married in 1916 and lived for a time in the large new house that Melvin and Elizabeth Austin had built on South Great Neck Road. During World War I the Husband was employed by the American Red Cross and was sent to Washington, D. C. She accompanied him there. By this time they had one son, Ralph Allan, born Jan. 9, 1918. When the war ended, they returned to Long Island and soon bought a house on Austin Place, Copiague from Birdsall Austin. Ethel later accompanied her husband to Chicago, Il, Newark, NJ, and to Providence, RI where his work as a department store controller took him. Meanwhile they had a second son, Gordon Lewis Hausrath, born June 14, 1924.

Returning to Long Island, where they still owned the Austin Place house, Ethel and her husband established a small dress shop about 1936 in the Village of Amityville. Known as the Park Avenue Shop, it was located on that street opposite the Village Triangle. The store flourished during the war and for some time afterwards. Ethel was the proprietor until it closed in 1956, an event brought about after her husband suffered a serious heart attack during a period of business decline in the village as a result of the new shopping center competition of the postwar period. She then went to work in a store in one of the new Massapequa shipping centers and remained in that job until well into her 70's. After the closing of the Park Avenue Shop, her Husband went to work for Abilities, Inc., a Nassau firm that employed the disabled, as a cost analyst. later, he worked for the Nassau County Office for the Aging, retiring when he was 80. He died a year later. Ethel continued to live at the Austin Place address until her death, which occurred when she was 83. By this time, she had five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

A woman who always dressed stylishly, she was quite extrovertive and always involved until her final illness. She was fond of recalling family history and had a very good memory, sometimes recalling events from the days when she had spent summers at her father's Life Saving Station "on the beach" when she was a small child.

Marriage Information	
Husband:	Allen G. Hausrath
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Husband:	Stephen Austin
aka:	Capt. Steve
Born:	March 1860
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Died:	1935
in:	Copiague, Suffolk Co., LI, NY
Relationship with Father:	Abraham Austin - Natural
Relationship with Mother:	Margaret Brush - Natural
Burial:	Unknown Amityville Cemetery, Amityville, Suffolk Co., LI, Ny
Census:	1900 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Military service:	United States Life Saving Service
Occupation:	House Carpenter, Fisherman, United States Life Saving Service
Address and Phone(s)	

Medical

Notes

The following notes are from letters written by Ralph Hausrath to my sister Dawn Marie Austin. He was Stephen's nephew.

Stephen Austin, the third child of Abram and Margaret, was a big, handsome man of commanding presence and widely respected for his boating skills as well as his ability as a builder of houses. The Brooklyn Eagle once a well-known newspaper of Long Island, called his rescue of the crew of the steamer Roda in February of 1908 "The most heroic rescue this year on the coast." For some years he was the skipper, or "Keeper" of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station Crew. In addition he was a boat builder, Bayman, sometimes a house builder, and had once run a restaurant in partnership with his brother Edward. A popular man in the community and a good story teller, he was also no stranger to adversity.

He had married before he was 20 to a girl known as Sarah and son had two sons, Ira Austin and Walter Austin. Ira was born in 1879 and Walter in 1881. Stephen had joined the Life Saving Service around this time and so was home infrequently. The marriage did not last and the couple were soon divorced. Sarah was a Chichester. I believe she moved to Brooklyn. Years later, after Stephen's death in 1935, she brought a court action to try and break his will, but was not successful.

Stephen next married another Sarah. She was Sarah Turner of Farmingdale, sister to brother Ed's wife, Ann. Stephen and Sarah Turner Austin had one daughter, Ethel Mae Austin, born September 20, 1896. At this time Stephen had a fine house on Baylawn Avenue, Copiague where the family lived. Again, he was away at his post on the beach much of the time. One day in October 1903 Sarah Ann Turner Austin took her own life by drinking poison. Ethel Mae, (my, Ralph Hausrath, mother), watched as her mother drank down a bottle of liquid, w2alked to the back door and flung the bottle out into the yard, and then collapsed. The six-year-old child then ran down on the docks to find her Uncle Ed who was working on a boat nearby. It was after this tragedy that Aunt Libby, (Elizabeth), took over the upbringing of my mother at the "old homestead".

Around the time of his wife's death, alcohol became a major problem for Stephen. Whether it had been an incipient problem before, or whether heavier drinking was a result of his other problems, I, (Ralph Hausrath), never knew. But in any case, it became a major factor in this life for the next 10 or 12 years. He sold the Baylawn Avenue house and dissipated much of the proceeds of the sale in a week-long orgy of drinking. Though he managed to continue as the head of the Jones Beach Life Saving Station and, in fact, won considerable acclaim for his work at the Roda wreck in 1908. there was little let up in the heavy drinking while off duty.

Somewhere in these years he married again---to Emma, the German girl that his sister, Elizabeth, had hired to help care for his crippled mother. At one stage, he insisted on buying a piano for my mother who was then being raised at the "old homestead" and having her take lessons to learn to play it. Then he began to show up late at night and far from sober and insisting that Ethel play the piano for him. The resulting scenes upset his crippled mother and Elizabeth.

As my mother grew older, she was sometimes dispatched to see that he got home safely to the cottage on the Baylawn side of the creek where he then lived with Emma. Once, in crossing the creek in his boat, he upset the skiff pitching himself and his daughter, Ethel, into the creek on a chilly night. Both survived but the family's patience with his behavior began to run thin for a time. Eventually, he left his job in the service---sometime before World War I and without a pension. He had finally been called on the carpet for his drinking.

He next renounced drink, then turned to boat building and commercial fishing, regained respectability, and began, in a small way, to build and market houses in the area. He was fairly successful in these enterprises. However, all his problems were not over. Life with Emma was often stormy though they did remain together until

his death in 1935. On occasion, when he had made money on the sale of a house, she would insist that he deposit half the profit immediate into her individual bank account. Once she left him alone for a lengthy period of time while she took a steamer back to Germany to visit her old home. Following her return, he built a new house on Baylawn Avenue, they rented the cottage and moved into the new house and lived there until his death. Emma and Stephen had one child, but it was stillborn.

"Captain Steve" also had to cope with untimely deaths of his sons within a short space of time. Walter, who had married and lived in Freeport, dropped dead one day on the village dock when he was but 45. He had been a vigorous man who had served in the Life Saving crews and had spent much of his life on the water. His death was a great shock. Two years later, son Ira, who lived on Schmeelk Place, Copiague, caught pneumonia and died. Ira was but 50 when he died.

Many a time when I was a small child living with my parents in our Copiague house on Austin Place, I'd look out the window at night and see a lantern light moving through the swamp maples and wild cherry trees that grew along the creek bank some hundred yards or so to the west of the house. It was a sign that "Captain Steve" and Emma were coming to visit us. They had crossed the creek by boat, tied up to a tree on our side, and were walking up the winding path through the woods.

Once in the house, he'd remove his coat and hat, perhaps take off his rubber boots, which he usually wore if it was wet or had been snowing, find a comfortable chair, and light up his pipe. I'd climb up on his lap and the story telling would soon begin.

He'd talk of the Roda, the Seth Low, the Bodo, and innumerable other shipwrecks that he'd been at or known about. He'd tell of fishing adventures on the bay while eeling, or oystering, or blue fishing. He'd describe a schooner he'd once owned, or describe how the bay men used to cut and store bay ice to be used in packing summer catches. And he'd tell of surf boats that started out on rescues only to be hurled back on the beach by big "combers" whose crests broke with such force that the boats went completely out of control of the trained rowers that manned them.

Soon Convinced that a Bayman's life was the life for me, (Ralph Hausrath), I begged to go with him on his eeling expeditions during the summer months. For eight successive years, he took me. Usually it was a three-day jaunt at a time aboard his 24-foot whaleboat which had a large hold forward for the eelpots and other gear and a comfortable cabin aft which housed the motor and our living space.

We had many adventures including one storm with winds of up to hurricane force. Once a fire flared up in the cabin because of the kerosene stove, but he soon put it out after heaving the blazing stove overboard. We chased a real six-foot shark with spears, jacked at night with the eel skiffs we towed behind and son on. "Uncle Ed", my grandfather's brother, often accompanied us in his own boat. On one trip my grandfather found 18 cases of good whiskey on the bay bottom. It had apparently been lost by a rum-runner being chased by the Coast Guard. However, I did not share in this find, which was later sold for \$900 because I had broken my wrist and was not allowed to go that time.

In 1935 when I, (Ralph Hausrath), was 17 he died. His will left most of his property to my mother. I got the boats and much of his gear. I later sold many of those items and used the proceeds to pay for my first year of college at Washington and Lee University.

The following notes are from research done by Diana and Dawn Austin:

Stephen Austin, (Captain Steve), was born March 1860 and died in 1935. His obituary was in the New York Times, January 12, 1935. It states that he was retired Coast Guardsman. It said he died at age 75, and was in government service since he was about 25 years old. He was keeper of the Jones Beach Station for 13 years. The obituary also states that he was the son of Abraham and Margaret Brush Austin. His widow was Mrs. Emma Austin and he had a daughter, Mrs. Allan Hausrath, two brothers and a sister survived him.

In the 1860 Federal Census Stephen is listed as the son of Abraham and Margaret Austin. He is living in the household with his parents and siblings. He is less than a year old. His father is a fisherman. They are living in Huntington Twn., Suffolk County, New York.

In the 1870 Federal Census Stephen is listed as 10 years old and living with his parents. Stephen is in school. His father Abraham is a house carpenter. Whitman Brush is living with them and is a paper carrier. The family lives in Huntington Town, Suffolk Co., New York.

In the 1880 Federal Census Stephen is listed as Head of Household, 20 years old, wife Sarah, 19 years old, and son Ira 1 year old. His occupation was a laborer.

In the 1900 Stephen is listed as head of household, wife Sarah, but this is another Sarah, (Sarah Ann Turner). Stephen and his first wife Sarah, (Chichester), divorced in 1886. (New York Times article December 19, 1935- Woman 75 Fights Divorce of 1886), Stephen and Sarah Ann had a daughter Ethel Mae, listed in their household as being 3 years old. Ira and his wife Lucinda live with them, as does Ira's brother Walter. Stephen's occupation is the United States Life Saving Service. They live in Babylon Twn., Suffolk County, New York. Sarah Ann Turner drank poison in abt. 1906 and killed herself.

In the 1910 Census we find Stephen Austin and wife Emma. Stephen is now a fisherman, on the Great South Bay. They are living in Babylon Town, Suffolk County, New York. No one else is listed in his household.

Stephen and Emma are listed on the 1920 Federal Census living in the same area. Stephen is now a house carpenter. His brothers, Charles, Edward, and Melvin, along with his sister Elizabeth, known as Libby, are his neighbors.

In the 1930 Federal Census. He is still listed as living in BabylonTwn., Suffolk Co., New York. Stephen is listed as head of household, with his wife Emma. His occupation is carpenter. They live on Merrick Road in Copiague.

We also found an article in the Amityville Record, 2002, about Shipwrecks off Amityville's Shores. One of the Wrecks was the Roda, February 13, 1908. It was a 350' Steamer out of Huelva, Spain. The Roda carried a cargo of copper ore. The weather was bad and the Roda became stranded between the beach and the inner sand bar. It states how Captain Stephen Austin was the Keeper of the Jones Beach Station. The wreck was within Captain Steve's jurisdiction and he and his crew of Surfmen took on the rescue. . Captain Beaven of the Steamer Roda, wrote a letter of thanks to the rescue crew which is on file with the official reports at the National Archives.

Another record with the archives involving Captain Steve was the wreck of the Louis V. Place, February 07, 1895.

Their are also articles in the Long Isalnd Forum Magazine. In particular there is one in the February 1978 issue, written by Ralph Hausrath, about the Wreck of the Louis V. Place. It also shows a picture of Captain Steve. Under the picture it says: Captain Stephen Austin Keeper of the Jones Beach Station circa 1900-1910.

Marriage Information	
Wife:	Emma
Beginning status:	Married

Marriage Notes

Wife:	Emma
Died:	Unknown
Census:	1920 Babylon, Suffolk Co., LI, New York
Address and Phone(s)	
Medical	
Notes	