

## Bay Area Genealogical Society Board Meeting Minutes

### Monday, February 19, 2007

President Loren Martin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The following fourteen members were present at the meeting: Leo Waltz, Claudia Grafton, Connie Ogden, Shirley Lindquist, Lee Jared, Rose Mary Fritz, Jeanine Lawrence, Loren Martin, Mary Martin, Alice Braud-Jones, Neil Miserendino, Dick Warren, Doug Wilson, and Resa Hennings.

Jeanine Lawrence read from Psalms 125 and led us in a prayer.

The minutes were approved with the following corrections and additions:

1. Under Old Business #2, a correction was made that needed to be corrected. The following sentence should read: *(The amended Articles of Incorporation require that 2/3 of the members present at the meeting where the vote was taken be in favor of the change. Not 2/3 of the membership.)*
2. Under Committee Reports #1, the following change was made to the minutes: *(Mary Carlisle is recovering from a fracture & chip on the head of the humerus bone at the shoulder.)*
3. Under Committee Reports #3, a change was made after the meeting: *(The date was changed to February 9 by request of the Freeman Library.)*
4. Under Committee Reports #6 the following addition was made: *(Alice Braud-Jones is the guest speaker for the June meeting and the topic is "The Code Talker and the Commandant" in memory and recognition of the Navajo Code Talkers and their contribution towards American Independence during WWII, in honor of Independence Day on 4 July.)*

Resa Hennings, Treasurer, gave the following report: The Balance Brought Forward on January 31, 2007 was \$7,221.47. The Income was from: Member Dues \$40.00; Christmas Dinner Tickets \$37.50; Bettag Seminar Reservations \$680.00; and Sale of Lists, etc. \$1.25 for Total Income of \$758.75. The Expenses were from Christmas Dinner \$178.56; Dues Paid \$85.00; Web Domain Renewal \$16.00; Member Services \$21.00; Corresponding Secretary Supplies \$47.81; Newsletter Printing & Postage \$89.68; UBC Room Set-up & Food Service \$45.50; Charitable Contribution to Clayton Library Friends \$100.00, and Speaker Handouts \$9.10 for Total Expenses of \$592.65. This left a Balance on Hand of \$7,387.52. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

### OLD BUSINESS:

1. Doug Wilson does not know of anyone who wants to be the Newsletter Compositor. We have a job description for the position; this person does layout and design of the monthly BAGS Newsletter.
2. Doug Wilson volunteered to do a workshop on the LDS Family Search files. Family Search hopes to get this job finished in eight years. There are 2.4 million records to be transcribed.
3. A student at the Beginning Genealogy Workshop asked for a program on Civil War Research.
4. Another student at the Beginning Genealogy Workshop asked for a program on organizing everything you accumulate.
5. The question was raised as to whose job is it to organize the Workshops.
6. Claudia Grafton suggested that because we are now making money that we should purchase our own system of overhead projector. She recently visited a building in Nassau Bay that seats 100 people. Betty Dunquist bought a projector for \$700.00 to use when she needs one. Maybe, it would be a good idea to have our own projector. **ACTION:** Dick Warren will talk to his son-in-law about purchasing a projector. We should consider the cost versus how much we use the projector. Dick will bring the information to the next meeting. The University Baptist Church has wonderful equipment, but when we are on the road, it would be wonder to have our own projector. We did not have to rent a projector for the Family Tree Maker Seminar because the speaker had her own projector. Claire Mire Bettag has her own projector. Claudia thinks we should think about having

our own equipment. Dick asked if we would pass ideas to him about workshops. Shirley Lindquist suggested one on "Immigration".

7. We need to have a head count for Friday, March 23 for the dinner preceding the Claire Mire Bettag Seminar. The "Monumental Platter" Group I costs \$21.95 which includes tax and tip. The Group II Selection costs \$24.00. **ACTION:** Alice Braud-Jones will e-mail this information. We have to do group menus to have a private room; the room holds 35 people. Alice will talk to those interested from the Clayton Library Friends tomorrow. Six are interested in the dinner from BAGS. The time of the dinner is 6:30 p.m. We chose to have the Group I selection of dinners.
8. We will have the following door prizes for the Claire Mire Bettag Seminar. (1) Neil has a set of Russian Nesting Dolls. (2) BAGS Tote Bag (3) Membership in BAGS – Eleven board members voted to have a membership as a door prize by e-mails to Alice. Claudia will make a sign or banner. (4) Set of three books from the Clayton Library (5) a book on the Plymouth Massachusetts Colony from Clayton Library (6) another book from the Clayton Library (7) Dick has received three Family Tree Maker software door prizes and one book "The Source" that Emily Croom said that she would donate as a door prize. Emily Croom is the only vendor that we have to date. (8) Alice wrote 16 letters to publishers asking for a donation last week. She used the BAGS Post Office Box address. Alice has made name tags for everyone who has signed up for the Claire Mire Bettag Seminar. Rose Mary has three more people who have registered making a total of 68 which puts us at the "break even" point. We have five more weeks before the seminar. Someone asked if Sarah Jackson has been notified; she is the Harris County Archivist. This would give us widespread publicity. Name tags for those who have registered are complete and ready for printing, labels for notebooks are complete and the program sample is complete. Ms. Bettag's handouts were received a week ago. Alice has sent an e-mail to all BAGS and CLF board members as well as several individuals who serve as committee chairs or members of CLF to join us at dinner with Ms. Bettag on Friday, 23 March at 6:30 p.m. at the Monument Inn by the San Jacinto Monument. This will be a Dutch treat dinner and menu is dependant upon those who sign up to attend.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Resa Hennings brought a newspaper article to our attention about the tearing down of the "West Mansion". The land is being split into smaller pieces of land. Resa asked if BAGS could or should do anything. Shirley and Doug felt that it was not the type of problem that a genealogy organization would get involved in. Most of the board was also opposed. The article was in the paper on February 15, 2007.
2. Leo Waltz suggested that we have a "BAGS Kit" with handouts for community events. Leo showed us the handout that he used when he spoke to a senior group at the Freeman Library. Leo's handout has a list of speaker subjects that we have had in the past. The first two pages of the handout are static, and the second two pages are flexible.
3. Alice said that when she spoke to the League City Genealogical Society, a member of theirs commented that we have some of the best publications in the U.S.A.; this man is a member of several organizations.
4. We recruited two new members from Leo's presentation for the Beginning Genealogy Class.
5. Shirley asked where we should store the kits to be used for our community events, and who is going to keep the kits? Jeanine said that we could store them at the Church. The Society will provide the BAGS Tote Bag to store the kits.
6. Loren will announce the dates Wednesday, March 7 and Saturday, March 31 for the Clayton Library Volunteers training at the next general meeting.
7. On February 27, Alice will do a seminar on the "Code Talkers. She needs 35 kits for the seminar.
8. On Saturday, April 14, there will be a "San Jacinto Battle" Symposium.
9. Trevia Beverly Wooster will hold a six week class at her home on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. She can have ten people; the cost is \$75.00 each.

10. We need to nominate a volunteer who will be in the book of "The Federation of Genealogical Societies". Think about it; the volunteer will be recognized April 17.
11. Alice reported that no one volunteered to help with the vendors. Emily Croom is our only vendor. Alice made a motion to waive the \$50.00 fee vendor fee for Emily Croom. Connie Ogden seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor; the motion passed.
12. If you are not planning to continue in your office or as committee chairman for the years 2007 – 2009, try to find someone to replace you. **ACTION:** The Nominating Committee will start next month.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Corresponding Secretary, Shirley Lindquist, reported that no new illness or death notes were sent. A "Thinking of You" card was sent to Norma Parnell who is still in the hospital. Mic Barnett has colon cancer; Leo Waltz has the address.
2. Member Services Chairman, Shirley Lindquist, reported that a Beginning Genealogy Class was held on February from 9:30 – 12:00. Eleven people attended. Several BAGS board members were in attendance including Carole Varnado, Kim Zrubek, and Connie Ogden to assist with questions, answers, etc. Alice Braud-Jones was the Lead Instructor and Doug Wilson was the Co-Instructor. Alice developed an excellent curriculum with hand-outs for the participants. Both the curriculum and hand-outs could be used for future classes. The fees collected were \$88.00 and the expenses were \$94.24. Alice said that next time we should plan for 3 to 3 ½ hours. We could do two classes. Doug said that we could do three or four classes. Alice suggested that we charge \$10.00 next time. The students asked some very good questions. Doug said that the key thing would be to have a 40 page handout which could be put on a CD. Leo, Doug, and Shirley could decide what they could set up for future classes. Doug photographed the group. A topic recommended for a future class is: Civil War Records.
3. The Hospitality Team is needed to greet visitors, explain the meeting layout, agenda, and the meal at the general meeting on February 23. The team is made up of Shirley Lindquist, Connie Ogden, and Neil Miserendino. Connie thought that people were delighted to be welcomed. Shirley said that we should keep this up for three or four months. **ACTION:** Alice, Connie, and Doug will help at the next meeting.
4. Library Committee Chairman, Shirley Lindquist, reported that the library display at the Friendswood Library was removed by Carole Varnado and Shirley Lindquist on January 30. The League City Library asked us to do a display for them. **ACTION:** Shirley is going to refer it to the League City Genealogical Society.
5. Leo Waltz presented a BAGS talk with slides and handouts on February 19 to the 50+ Program at the Freeman Library. Two people at that talk attended the Beginning Genealogy Course.
6. Jeanine Lawrence, Meeting Room Chairman, reported that the January attendance at the Board Meeting was 16. There were 67 people at the Society Meeting (61 members and 6 visitors). The Sales Income for January 26 was from the Clear Lake History Map 45 cents; State Booklets \$3.30; and Quarterlies \$1.00 for a Total of \$4.75. Resa Hennings has thought of buying reams of paper to give to BAGS Board Members for what they use. Jeanine gives the money that she collects for copies of information to Resa and Resa will write a check.
7. Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar, reported that we have 165 members. We have four new members: Melody M Hauch, Dianna Wisdom Miller, Vernon Gillette, and Eleanor V. Caldwell. Rose Mary had one renewal. She thanked Doug Wilson for printing the membership cards; the cards were well received. **ACTION:** She will continue to add names to the cards.
8. Jeanine Lawrence reported that Melody Hauch had done research for the League City Cemetery. She has 150 obituaries. **ACTION:** Jeanine will give this to Susie Ganch for the "Quarterly".
9. Dick Warren, Second Vice President in Charge of Programs, reported that Kathryn Black Morrow will tell us about her book and present a program on "A Part of Texas History – The Texas Slave

Records" on Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sarah Jackson will present a program on "Harris County Archives: A Review of County Holdings" on March 30<sup>th</sup>. On April 27<sup>th</sup> James Hodges PhD will present a program on "General Sam Houston". Susan Kaufman will present a program on "The Family, the Pets and the Genealogy: Natural Disaster Preparedness" on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Alice Braud-Jones will present a program on "My Heroes! The Code Talker and the Commandant" on June 29<sup>th</sup>. On July 27<sup>th</sup> Ginny Toney will present a program on "West Virginia History and Research". August 29<sup>th</sup> will be the annual "Members Meeting – Personal Genealogy Show and Tell".

10. Claudia Grafton reported about the inscribed pavers being purchased for the Clayton Library as a fund raiser. BAGS could do one for \$250.00; there are larger ones for \$500.00. We will wait until we get the PR material.
11. Claudia Grafton, Cookbook Chairman, reported that she had a meeting with Resa Hennings, Mary Martin, and Alice Braud-Jones. The other members of the committee are Paula Sinning, Carole Moore?, and Lee Jared. We are slowly getting some recipes submitted. The Committee is going to talk to members face to face. Neil Miserendino volunteered to be on the Committee. The publication of the Cookbook will be towards the end of the year. Claudia would like to have some work done by local artists in the cookbook.
12. Neil Miserendino, E-mail Chairman, reported that he will help Rose Mary update the e-mail portion of the Registrar's database. The "Yearbook" is on schedule for Friday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Resa took the "Yearbook" to the printer today.
13. Neil Miserendino reported that he will meet with the director, Gus Hollis, of the Mt. Olivet Cemetery on Monday, March 26 at 10:00 a.m.
14. Connie Ogden, Telephone Committee Chairman, reported that they did not make telephone calls last month as directed by the Board. They will call about the Claire Mire Bettag Seminar; sign up by March 17<sup>th</sup> and they will get a cheaper rate. If they sign up by mail and it is postmarked March 17<sup>th</sup>, they will get the discount. **ACTION:** Call all members that have not signed up yet.
15. Mary Martin, County Coordinator, reported that we had 16 people go on the trip to the Clayton Library on Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. We collected \$38.00 in donations to send to the East Harris County Senior Citizens Group for use on their bus program. We had 11 people go on our trip to the Clayton Library on Thursday, February 15. We collected \$19.00 in donations to send to the East Harris County Senior Citizens Group for use on their bus program. Our next bus trip in on Tuesday March 6. We will be able to make selections for the next six months during the first and second weeks of March.
16. Resa Hennings, Chairman of the Appointment Advisory Committee, has talked to several people about filling Doug Wilson's position as Newsletter Compositor.
17. Tammy Frey, Publicity Chairman, sent the following report by e-mail. She has sent out publicity information for the upcoming General Meetings and for the Claire Mire Bettag Seminar. She made some phone calls and sent out special notices for Kathryn Morrow's talk and attempted to get an article published, however, she didn't know if it was published or not. She was not notified if it was published.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Leonard Martin  
Recording Secretary