

**Bay Area Genealogical Society  
General Meeting Minutes  
Friday, August 31, 2012**

At 6:30 pm President Bill Mayo welcomed everyone to the annual Buffet Dinner and Show & Tell meeting of BAGS.

Sergeant-at-Arms, Lewis Jarman, led us in the "Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America" and the "Pledge to the Texas Flag".

Jeanine Lawrence said a prayer.

**BUFFET DINNER:** Members and guests participated in a Buffet Dinner of Barbecue meats and Potluck dishes.

President Bill Mayo called the General meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

1. Members were reminded that it is time for their membership renewals and were encouraged to fill out their membership forms to be included in the BAGS Member Annual Member Directory.
2. BAGS Quarterlies: The New Quarterlies are out. Some older editions are still available free.
3. The next Bus Trip to Clayton Library is scheduled for October 16, 2012.

**SHOW & TELL: Please pay particular attention to this part as I may have missed a speaker and would be happy to add more particulars if you recall them.**

1. Melodey Hauch presented some World War II memorabilia.
2. Shirley Lindquist showed some old photographs.
3. David [Last Name?] talked about some Masonic items.
4. Ray Brown brought a collection of books related to a Mine War in West Virginia which was described as the largest insurrection in the U.S. after the Civil War.
5. Bill Mayo presented on one of his ancestors that was a bookbinder.
6. Mary Martin showed Bible Records and old pictures that she copied in various colors, lightened and darkened and enlarged to preserve the images for long term.

**PROGRAM:**

Linda Reynolds presented a program on Basic Preservation of Archival Objects and Materials as well as our Family Treasures. Linda is the Archivist at Stephen F. Austin University in Nacodoches. She directs the East Texas Research Center in the Ralph W. Steen Library. The mission of the East Texas Research Center is to collect preserve and make available to the public items pertaining to the East Texas

geographical region including manuscripts, documents, maps, books and other archival materials that emphasize eastern Texas life.

Through her years of experience as an archivist, she offered the audience several tips and examples of good and bad preservation methods. She cited the impact that natural disasters can have on both archival materials and family history heirlooms. However, one of the worst disasters are the human disasters especially not having an Estate Plan for your family heirlooms. This is how heirlooms end up in estate sales, antique stores or worse yet in the garbage. Ms. Reynolds recalled an example of how she was called to recover archival quality heirlooms that were being thrown in a dumpster.

Ms. Reynolds warned us about the dangers of storing our family treasures in garages and attics. She encouraged us to store items in air conditioned spaces out of the sunlight. “Where would you put your kids?” That is where to store archival items in your home.

Other tips included: do not clean a tintype; Do no harm; do not use lamination, tapes or paper clips; keep originals in storage; make copies for framing and display; do not use sticky “magnetic” albums; un-waxed dental floss will remove photos in “magnetic” albums; cassette tapes should be stored with the tape down; make multiple copies of photos and documents and distribute to other family members; how to humidify a rolled photo; black paper items will crumble; use gloves; use photo wipes.

## **CLOSING:**

**INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS:** Bill Mayo asked visitors to introduce themselves and he thanked them for attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m. ???

Respectfully submitted,

*Nick Címíno*

Recording Secretary