

# Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue No. 3

December 2001

## Next Meeting

Date: December 30, 2001  
Time: 5:30 P.M.  
Place: University Baptist Church  
Great Room  
16106 Middlebrook Dr.  
Houston, TX 77059  
Program: Holiday Dinner Party



## In This Issue

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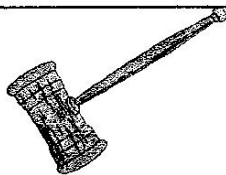
## Holiday Party

Please plan to attend our Christmas party on December 30th. This will take the place of our regular meeting and will be strictly a social affair. Our main purpose will be to get to know one another better. Even though you are asked to come as one of your ancestors, do not think this is a requirement. Come in costume or come as you are. We just want you to attend. In celebration of the season, Jeanine Lawrence will read the genealogy of Jesus. Our committee chairman has some fun things planned and the church's chef promises delicious food.

We will need your reservation no later than **December 20th** so call Wanda Yelverton at 281-326-2079 as soon as possible and let her know how many you will bring. Spouses are invited as our special guests. The cost is \$6.00 per person.

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## Message From The President by Carolyn Hellen



One hundred and sixty-one charter members! I find it astounding that we have so many people in the Bay Area interested in Genealogy. You can't imagine how pleased I am. We are so fortunate to live in an area that attracts people of such high caliber. I am amazed and thankful for the willingness of our members to tackle each and every project with such enthusiasm and creativity. I am so proud of this society and the things that we have been able to accomplish in such a short time. Now that our charter membership drive is over you will soon be receiving your membership cards and yearbook. Our first Quarterly will be available for you to pick up at the December meeting on the 30th.

The Board is searching for ways to cut down on the length of our meeting and has voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes. Copies will be available on the information table for you to read starting in January. The Board also discussed cutting out the member participation each month. However, many members have said they get as much from this segment as from the speakers so we would like to hear your opinion.

Copies of the proposed by-laws should be available at the December meeting and we hope to vote on them at the January meeting. We can then become incorporated.

Please submit any articles concerning genealogy that you find interesting to the Web Master, Stephanie Struby; to

the Newsletter Editor, Carole Varnado; and to the Quarterly Editor, Resa Hennings. They need help in putting out quality publications, and it is our responsibility to ease their burden. If each of you will try to find or write just one article of a genealogical nature that is of interest to you and submit it, their jobs will be so much easier.

I hope that this Christmas will be one of your happiest. For the New Year, I wish you peace, prosperity and luck on finding that ancestor who has been eluding you for so long.

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## Treasurer's Report by Dottie Crabb

We now have 161 charter members and the treasury has a balance of \$1,834.24.

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## Membership Report by Neil Miserendino

65 single memberships

39 Family memberships with 2 members

1 Family membership with 3 members

1 Family with 4 members

1 Family with 5 members

1 Family with 6 members

161 Total as of Dec 9, 2001

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## BAGS Officers

President	Carolyn Hellen	281-486-0406, CRHellen@att.net
1st Vice President	Carolyn Farmer	281-480-6419, cafarmer@wt.net
2nd Vice President	Dick Warren	281-461-1472, dick@merlins-web.com
Recording Secretary	Diane Thompson	281-337-3672, dst@hal-pc.org
Corresponding Secretary	Tammy Frey	281-286-1486, tfrey99@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Dottie Crabb	281-326-4076, dotcrabb1@juno.com
Historian	Karla Chenault	281-282-9805, karlam@prodigy.net
Registrar	Neil Miserendino	281-286-8243, psrambling@aol.com

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## Articles From Our Members

### Library Access Via The Internet

by Tammy Frey

At our October meeting, we learned of the on-line databases which we could access at home via the Internet through Houston Public Library. One of these was "World Catalog" which can be used to locate hard-to-find resources. The Houston Public Library is a wonderful resource; however, don't neglect to check out other library systems that might be available to you. Like the Houston system, many other public

library systems have the same or similar on-line databases available. For example, the Harris County Public Library System has many databases, including "World Catalog." To use the Harris County databases, you need a library card number and a PIN number. One big plus with Harris County is that it is not necessary to reconfigure your browser to use the databases, which can be confusing with the Houston Public Library databases.

Besides databases, many libraries offer on-line services such as catalog search, book renewal, placing holds, viewing your account, reference information, etc.

Some local library systems and their web addresses:

Brazoria County Public Library.....<http://bcls.stic.lib.tx.us>

Chambers County Public Library..... [www.chambers.lib.tx.us](http://www.chambers.lib.tx.us)

Fort Bend County Public Library..... [www.fortbend.lib.tx.us](http://www.fortbend.lib.tx.us)

Galveston County does not have one library web site. Each library has its own:

Friendswood Public Library..... [www.friendswood.lib.tx.us](http://www.friendswood.lib.tx.us)

Helen Hall Public Library, League City.....[www.leaguecitylibrary.org](http://www.leaguecitylibrary.org)

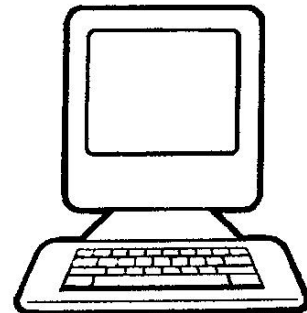
Rosenberg Public Library, Galveston.....[www.rosenberg-library.org](http://www.rosenberg-library.org)

Houston Public Library..... [www.hpl.lib.tx.us](http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us)

Harris County Public Library.....[www.hcpl.net](http://www.hcpl.net)

Montgomery County Public Library..... [www.countylibrary.org](http://www.countylibrary.org)

The Harris County and Houston library systems are the largest, and probably the best in this area, but if you already have a library card for a different library system, check to see what resources are available to you. You might be surprised!



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## Articles From Our Members - Cont'd

### Speaker Notes by Linda Carrington



For those of you who were at the November General Meeting, we heard an interesting and informative talk by Mark Lambert, Special Collections and Government Documents Librarian at the Fred Parks Law Library, South Texas College of Law, in downtown Houston. Mr. Lambert also provided some handouts to help inform us and supply our preservation needs. I am sure we would all like to thank him for taking the time to address our meeting.

While I listened to his talk it brought back echoes from a job I held with the Arizona Historical Society while I was in college. I could hear the archivist, my former boss, saying, "Linda, I hope you don't use pens to write on your pictures at home." "Of course not, David. At least I sure won't from now on." Oops, what was I doing to the kids' pictures last week before I mailed them out to Grandma? I am sure other attendees started making plans to rescue old Bibles and pictures from ziplock bags, and to get those boxes of priceless heirlooms off the top shelf of the closet.

But who is this man we were listening to? Before moving to Texas in 1988, Mr. Lambert was born in Ohio and grew up in Massachusetts. He is a military veteran of the United States Marine Corps and the Texas Army National Guard.

The talk on preservation was based on an education which Mr. Lambert received in Texas. He holds a Bachelors and Masters degree in American History from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He also holds a second Masters Degree in Library and Information Science from UT Austin with a specialization in Archives and Records.

Before being employed by the Fred Parks Law Library, Mr. Lambert was the Archivist at the San Jacinto Museum of History in La Porte, Texas. He has received other archival experience through work at the following locations: UT Law School Archives in Austin; Senator John G. Tower Archives, Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas; Episcopal Church USA Archives in Austin; Museum of Fine Arts Archives in Houston; and volunteer work at the Texas State Archives in Austin.



Wanda Yelverton at the State Archives, Austin, TX on a recent Society trip.

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## Articles From Our Members - Cont'd

### Harris County Genealogy Information

by Stephanie Struby

Looking for genealogy information in Harris County? Try using the online searchable database for the Honorable Beverly B. Kaufman, County Clerk for Harris County. The URL to take you directly to the index of databases is:

<http://63.101.65.71/CoolICE/RealProperty/mastermenu>. If you've never used the databases, the fine people at the County Clerk's office ask that you read the Disclaimer and Overview first.

The following is a list of index record types available on the system. Images of original documents are not available online at this time.

**Real Property** - January 1961 to present.  
**Assumed Names** - January 1978 to present.  
**Uniform Commercial Code** - January 1983 to present.

**Marriage Licenses** - February 1961 to present.

**Informal Marriage Licenses** - January 1970 to present.

**County Civil Court At Law Dockets** - January 1977 to present.

**Probate Court Dockets** - November 1837 to present.

**Miscellaneous Personal Records** - May 1962 to present.

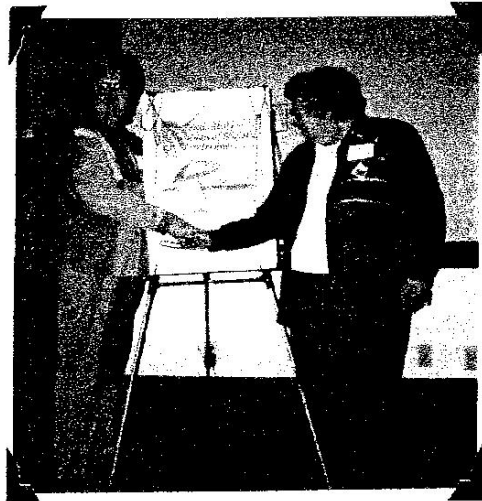
**Vital Statistics** - June 1879 to present.

#### County Civil Settings Inquiry

Users with Netscape Navigator may get unpredictable results with searching the database. It is recommended that Microsoft Internet Explorer be used.

The URL for the main page of the Honorable Beverly B. Kaufman, County Clerk of Harris County, is:

<http://www.co.harris.tx.us/cclerk>



Janice Brown, of the East Texas Genealogical Society, congratulates Carol Moody of BAGS, on winning the door prize at the Texas State Genealogical Society convention in Tyler, Texas.

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## Committee News

### Letter from the Editor

by Carole Varnado

Many thanks to Kay Cherry for all her help in putting together this newsletter.

I want to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday Season. Please submit those articles you find that might be of interest to our society. Happy New Year and Happy Ancestor Hunting!



## Cookbook Project

Since you will be looking through your cookbooks this month for your best recipes, this would be a good time to copy them for the Society's Heritage

Cookbook. You can put off writing the information about your ancestor until after the first of the year but start gathering your recipes now. Kathryn Morrow and Gay Carter will be collecting and organizing your recipes. More details later.

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## Freeman Memorial Library Project

We need a chairman for a community genealogical project for Freeman Memorial Library. This project will entail sorting through the files on the history of this area, dividing them by community, and assigning articles to members to be retyped. If you are a history buff, a good organizer, community minded or just plain willing to help, please call Carolyn Hellen at 281-486-0406 at your convenience.

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## Surname Database Project

by Carolyn Farmer

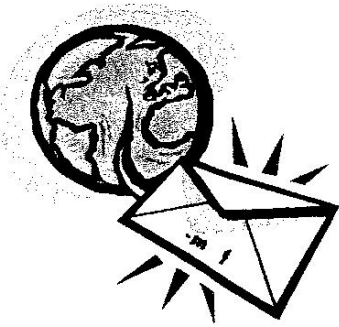
I would like to thank those members who have submitted surname lists to me. Please keep them coming and be sure to follow the format below. Call or email me with any questions you may have (281-480-6419 or [cafarmer@wt.net](mailto:cafarmer@wt.net)).

**Your Name, Address, Phone, Email (across top or bottom of page)**

<u>SURNAME</u>	<u>STATE/S</u>	<u>TIME FRAME/S</u>
Benson (40)	IN/IL	1830-1856
Benson (40)	TX	1856-Present
Kerr (18)	IN	1860-1940

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## Committee News - Cont'd



### E-mail

by Mary Ann Clingan

Some of you still aren't receiving your Email concerning the Bay Area Genealogical Society and I have found out one of the reasons. Some of your servers will not accept Email with a lot of addresses unless the person who is sending the Email is already in your address book. If you are not getting the group messages, you might try putting my Email address in your address book.

It is [Clingan@hal-pc.org](mailto:Clingan@hal-pc.org). If you still don't receive the group messages call me and check on the address I have for you.

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### Queries

*Corrected from Nov. issue:*

DYKES - Seeking information on DYKES (DIKES/DYCHE), Peter, b 1814 in TN, married MOUNCE, (MOUNTS), Nancy, b 1820 KY. Both died in Pulaski Co, KY. Carolyn FARMER, 281-480-6419, or [cafarmen@wt.net](mailto:cafarmen@wt.net)



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**Society members at Clayton Library: Left to Right: Pat Overlay, Mary Martin, Carol Moody, Flo Cox, Leslee Fehlman, Jean Ponder, Janet Ponder, Janet Hovery, Jeanine Lawrence, Jackie Wittschen, Nina Connley, Marilynn Hughes, Delores White, Polly and Doug Wilson, Lawrence Lohse, and Carolyn Hellen.**



The University Baptist Church Genealogy Group sponsors a monthly trip to Clayton Library using the church van. We leave the church at 9 am and return by 4 pm. Our next trip will be Thursday, January 10, 2002. Anyone is welcome to go with us for a donation of \$2. Call Jeanine Lawrence at 281-334-6100 to reserve a seat on the van.



## Index of Queries from Past Issues

No	SURNAME	V.#	DATE	PG
1	ADAMS	1,1	10/2001	5
16	AXEM-AXSOM-AXSIOM	1,2	11/2001	5
41	BENNEFIELD	1,2	11/2001	6
18	CHERRY	1,2	11/2001	5
19	CLIFTON-CLIFFTON	1,2	11/2001	5
21	CLINTON	1,2	11/2001	5
24	DAVOULT-DEVOLT	1,2	11/2001	5
25	DYKES-DIKES-DYCHE	1,2	11/2001	5
2	EVETTS	1,1	10/2001	5
27	FOSNAUGH-FASNACHT	1,2	11/2001	5
3	FRENCH	1,1	10/2001	5
29	FRY-FREY-FRYE	1,2	11/2001	5
23	GATLIN	1,2	11/2001	5
40	HAHN	1,2	11/2001	6
22	HANKS	1,2	11/2001	5
33	HIGHSMITH	1,2	11/2001	6
30	HOCHSTETLER	1,2	11/2001	5
4	JOHNSTON	1,1	10/2001	5
31	KERBY-KIRBY	1,2	11/2001	6
5	LEMON	1,1	10/2001	5
34	LEWIS	1,2	11/2001	6
17	MATHIS-MATTHEWS	1,2	11/2001	5
6	MAYNARD	1,1	10/2001	5
6	MAYNARD	1,1	10/2001	5
7	McCOMB	1,1	10/2001	5
8	McCONATHY	1,1	10/2001	5

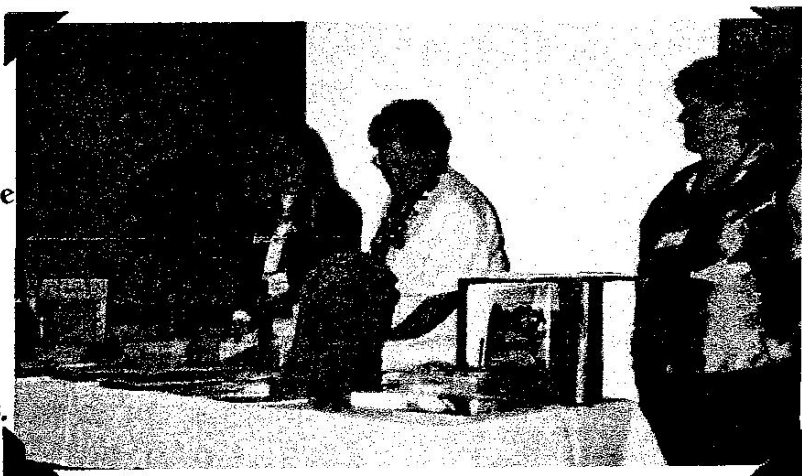
Please submit your queries to the newsletter editor including:  
SURNAME(s), dates, location, and information requested.



## Index of Queries from Past Issues - Cont'd

No	SURNAME	V.#	DATE	PG
35	McLAIN	1,2	11/2001	6
9	MILLER	1,1	10/2001	5
10	MITCHELL	1,1	10/2001	5
43	MOREHEAD	1,2	11/2001	6
38	MORRIS	1,2	11/2001	6
26	MOUNCE-MOUNTS	1,2	11/2001	5
11	PAUL	1,1	10/2001	5
12	PEDDY	1,1	10/2001	5
13	PEVEY	1,1	10/2001	5
36	RENO	1,2	11/2001	6
37	REYNOLDS	1,2	11/2001	6
32	RIGSBY	1,2	11/2001	6
39	SCOTT	1,2	11/2001	6
20	SHEETS	1,2	11/2001	5
14	SMITH	1,1	10/2001	5
28	STEBELTON-STEEPLETON	1,2	11/2001	5
42	SWOVELAND-SWOVERLAND	1,2	11/2001	6
15	TRAWECK-TRAWECK	1,1	10/2001	5
44	WEAGLEY	1,2	11/2001	6

Left to Right: Paula Parke, Carolyn Hellen, and Terry Smith Bowers at the Texas State Convention. Paula explained tools needed for tombstone rubbings.



## Upcoming Events Calendar



Dec 30, 2001	BAGS Holiday Party, 5:30 p.m, University Baptist Church
Jan 10, 2002	Van Trip to Clayton Library leaves at 9 a.m., University Baptist Church. For more information, call Jeanine Lawrence at 281-334-6100.
Jan 27, 2002	BAGS Monthly Meeting, 5:30 pm, University Baptist Church
Jan 28, 2002	BAGS Board Meeting, 4:30 pm, University Baptist Church
Feb 24, 2002	BAGS Monthly Meeting, 5:30 pm, University Baptist Church
Feb 25, 2002	BAGS Board Meeting, 4:30 pm, University Baptist Church
Nov 1-2, 2002	Texas State Genealogical Society Conference in Galveston, Texas

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Newsletter Committee: Linda Carrington, Kay Cherry, and Carole Varnado, Editor

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**Deadline for Jan.  
Newsletter  
is Jan. 5, 2002**

**We are on the Web!**  
**Check out the BAGS website at:**  
**[www.rootsweb.com/~txbags/baygen.html](http://www.rootsweb.com/~txbags/baygen.html)**

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### Bay Area Genealogical Society Membership Form

If you are interested in joining the Bay Area Genealogical Society, please fill out this form and send it with your check for \$5 for full-time student, \$20 for individual, \$25 for family or \$30 for Businesses and Organizations. Make your check payable to **Bay Area Genealogical Society** and send to: Registrar, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447. If you have any questions about the society, please call our president, Carolyn Hellen, at 281-486-0406.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_