



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 891447
Houston, TX 77289-1447

Volume 1, Issue No. 8

May 2002

In This Issue:

- 2 From the President
- 3 Committee Articles
- 5 Library Master Plan
- 8 Upcoming Events

Next Meeting

Date: May 19, 2002
Time: 5:30 P.M.
Place: University Baptist Church Great Room
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston
Speaker: Gay E. Carter, Reference/Documents
Librarian at Alfred R. Neumann Library
Subject: Hidden Gold: Using a University Library
for Genealogical Research

University of Houston Reference Librarian to Speak at May Meeting

By Dick Warren

Gay E. Carter, Reference/Documents Librarian at the Alfred R. Neumann Library, University of Houston - Clear Lake, will be our guest speaker at the May 19th meeting of the Bay Area Genealogical Society. The title of her speech will be "Hidden Gold: Using a University Library for Genealogical Research." She will explain how to use the reference section of the University of Houston - Clear Lake Library for research in ways that may not have occurred to you.

Gay is a charter member of the UHCL staff, having started work there in 1974. She supervises the library's depository collections for both the Texas and United States government publications.

Gay first became involved in genealogical research in 1970. She has

Continued on Page 7

From the President

by Carolyn Traweek Hellen



I hope you all enjoyed Marje Harris's talk on the special collections at Clayton Library. I have already rushed down to take a look at some of the things she mentioned.

There is a lot of information out concerning the census records and county, state, and family histories, but there is so much more available at Clayton Library. The handout that Marje provided will be a road map to using the special collections. Keep in mind that other libraries have useful genealogical resources also. Gay Carter should have an interesting presentation at the May 19th meeting on using a university library for genealogical research.

Clayton Library is in urgent need of volunteers to cut ends of microfilm and work on boxes. If you have any time you can spare, please call Irene, special projects person at the library, at 713-284-1999. She said she can train you in just a few minutes.

We had a terrific response to our first seminar, which was on Family Tree Maker, and added over a hundred dollars to our account. I have been using Family Tree Maker for about twelve years

now, and I couldn't believe how much I learned in the first half hour. A special thank you to Dottie Crabb, Neil Miserendino, and Carol Moody for their help and to Diane Thompson, Flo Cox, Maryann Clingan, Debbie Thomson, Roy Hellen, and Linda Colthorp for furnishing desserts. Future seminars are planned. At the end of August, we will be offering an advanced class on using Family Tree Maker. Mic Barnette is also going to give a class on using the internet for genealogical research.

The newsletter committee is investigating putting our newsletter on-line. If they find that this is possible, you will be asked to indicate if you would like to have your copy emailed or have it mailed to you, so be thinking about your answer.

See you at the next meeting,

Carolyn

Check out "Random Acts of Genealogical Kindness" at <http://www.raogk.org>. It is a website in which people volunteer to take pictures of cemeteries, etc., in their area and send them to folks far away.

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Consultant, Carole Varnado



Committee News



Five Generation Charts

By John McCall

Every member is encouraged to provide a 5 Generation chart. Please use the following guidelines:

1. Use the typical five-generation chart that is on 8 ½ by 11 paper.
2. It can be typed, computer generated, or written by hand.
3. Ladies, use your maiden name on place number 1 on the chart.
4. Place the name under which you want it filed on the upper right hand corner of the chart.

Please send all charts and questions to John McCall at lassie@wt.net.

Membership Report

by Neil Miserendino

Membership Report as of April 28, 2002:

90 Single memberships	90
47 Family memberships with two members	94
1 Family membership with 3 members	3
2 Family memberships with 4 members	8
1 Family membership with 5 members	5
1 Family membership with 6 members	6
<hr/>	
90 Single memberships	
52 Family Memberships	206

142 Mailings

Member Updates

By Tammy Frey

We would like to offer our sympathy or condolences in support of our fellow BAGS members and can do so if you will let us know of those who are experiencing illness or loss. Please encourage and support these fellow members:

Condolences to:

Roy Hellen on the death of his brother
Stephanie Struby on a death in the family
Joanne Truman on the loss of her mother

Illness or surgery:

Linda Carrington

If you know of a BAGS member who is ill or who has experienced the loss of a loved one and would like for us to send a card, please contact Tammy Frey: tfrey99@hotmail.com or 281-286-1486.

Hospitality Committee

By Leslee Fehlman

Many thanks to the following people who brought refreshments to the April 28th meeting: Linda Coltharp, Flo Cox, Donna Maloney, Sue Hall, Betty Pace, Mary Ann Maltby, and Loren Martin. Flo Cox is co-chairing this month for Leslee Fehlman, Hospitality Chairman. Thanks, Flo.



Committee News Continued



From Your Newsletter Committee by Ralph Hall

Ongoing work by your committee continues to produce a very nice-looking, informational newsletter. We hope you agree! Member Linda Coltharp has suggested we explore the possibility of arranging, for members who want it, the receipt of newsletter via email. Members that do not own a computer and printer would continue to receive their copy by regular mail.

This holds exciting promise in several areas. First of all, we know that the cost of every newsletter printed and mailed is steadily rising. Not counting the considerable number of volunteer hours donated each month to this process, actual out-of-pocket costs are currently about \$120/month, or \$1,440/year. Maintaining this level or even reducing it, via the use of email as membership levels rise, could bode well for our Society in the future. Second, for cost reasons, we print your newsletter in black and white only. Color copies are exorbitantly high. The originals we take to the printer each month are so attractive because they are expertly done on a color printer. We always feel depressed seeing those vibrant color photos and borders disappear at the print shop! Copies from your own color printer would really be nice to have. Third, members wanting information a little earlier each month would have access to the email version about a week in advance of normal mail. At any rate, we are now at the point of determining just what is required for us to provide this service and will know soon if the newsletter will be available via our BAGS website. Stay tuned for further developments!

We are also working on a more standardized process for newsletter publishing. "Deadline" dates for submission of information, articles, or reports have been moving targets, as it seems. For the immediate future, please read this column to obtain the deadlines for future submissions. For the June newsletter, your deadline is Wednesday, June 1, 2002. Please make your submissions to Tammy Frey, Managing Editor (281-286-1486) or Nate Grimes, Editor (281-990-0644).

Call for Volunteers by John McCall

Clayton Library has a need for the following volunteers:

1. Shelving of books: The title is descriptive. Hours can be at various times during the week.
2. Assigning microreaders to the patrons: You would assign microreaders to people that request them and keep up with the time that they are on the machine. The need is for Saturday only.
3. 1910 Census Project of assigning an index to this census: The government bureaucracy managed to assign three or four numbering sequences in the same census. This index would help people to find the right numbers to the correct county. This activity can be any day or time the library is open.

All of these jobs need to be coordinated with the librarian and require a small amount of training. To do the training, they want to have as many as possible to train together. If you can spend some time volunteering, please call Irene at Clayton Library: 713-284-1999.

Clayton Library Trips by Jeanine Lawrence

Once a month, BAGS members have an opportunity to ride to Clayton Library on a van provided by University Baptist Church for a donation of \$2. We meet in the church parking lot at 9:00 a.m. and try to return around 4:00 p.m. Bring a lunch to eat in the library's snack room. Drink machines are available.

Seventeen people went on our April trip. Our next trip will be Thursday, June 13th. If you do not know how to get started doing your research, people are available to help you. If you would like to go with us, the sign-up sheet will be on the back table at our next meeting, or call Jeanine Lawrence at 281-334-5100. You will be contacted the week of the trip to see if you can still go with us.

Library Master Plan

by Carolyn Traweek Hellen



Many of you have heard about the new Library Master Plan and have asked about some of the rumors concerning Clayton Library. A number of genealogical societies met recently to discuss the situation. The first order of business was to select a spokesperson to meet with Barbara Gubbin, director of the Library Department of the City of Houston, to find out what information was indeed rumor and what was fact concerning closing Clayton Library on Saturdays and closing early on Mondays and Tuesdays. David Singleton was selected for this position. He is to meet with Ms. Gubbin and will call another meeting to inform the genealogical community of his findings.

Mr. Singleton shared a letter from Ms. Gubbin that addressed the allegations posted on *Housnitch* (www.housnitch.com) and sent to Council Members and others. In her letter, Mrs. Gubbin said that there is no plan, nor has there ever been one, to "dissolve our Central Library and our historic Julia Ideson Building." The Julia Ideson Building contains the "Texas Room" where many papers, manuscripts, and books are kept. Ms. Gubbin further stated that the Texas Room and the Archives will remain in the Julia Ideson Building as part of the Central Library complex.

Several at the meeting gave a first-hand account of how volumes of books, papers, and other items are being sold by the library at a fraction of their cost. One of our past speakers had purchased a remarkable deal for only \$20.00. The staff was told to take what they wanted of things

being dispersed from Central Library because they were going to be disposed of. Another speaker received a wonderful first edition free. So regardless of what "white-washed" information is being fed to the public, there are things going on that are not up to par. For those of you who are not familiar with the Library Master Plan, you may read it on the Library's web site at www.hpl.lib.tx.us. On the home page, click on "about the library" and then on "strategic master plan."



More information will be made available to you as it is acquired. I would hope that the members of the Bay Area Genealogical Society would be willing do their part in any letter writing campaign, etcetera, needed to inform the Mayor and the City Council members of our thoughts regarding negative changes for Clayton Library.



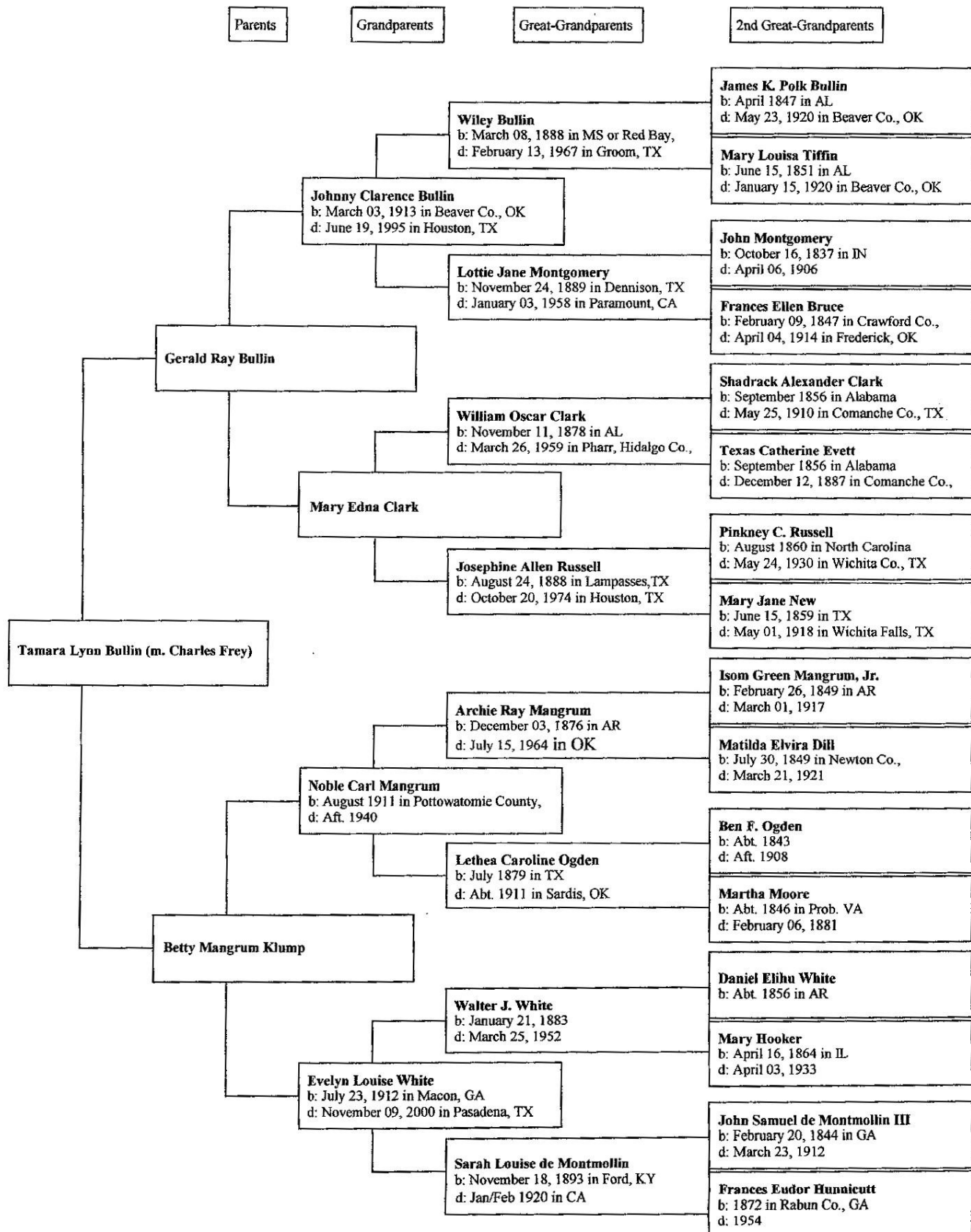
What Time is it Please?

Submitted by Carol Garrett Moody

Before 1883, more than 50 time zones existed in the United States. Each town determined its time based on the noon position of the sun. With the development of the railroad and the need for accurate travel schedules, this lack of a standard time system caused chaos.

Canadian engineer Sir Stanford Fleming proposed a solution. Fleming's system of 24 world time zones was adopted by the American Railway Association on Nov. 18, 1883 and was authorized by Congress in 1918.

Ancestors of Tamara Lynn Bullin (Frey)



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 \$10 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. ☐ Check here for Renewal

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Reference Librarian at May Meeting Continued

been a member of the Houston Genealogical Forum since 1986 and served as 2nd vice president and membership chairman during 1988-89. She joined the Clayton Library Friends organization when it was first formed and has held many positions with them. Gay is an alumnus of the Samford University Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research.

Not only is she a speaker, Gay is also a writer. She has contributed articles on various topics to the *Friends Newsletter* as well as a column on medical genealogy to the *Houston Genealogical Record*. An article she wrote on using university libraries for genealogical research appeared in the *Family Tree Magazine*. She authored essays on Phyllis Eisenstein and Vonda McIntyre for the 3rd edition of *Twentieth-Century Science Fiction Writers* (St. James Press, 1991) and co-authored an essay on naming systems for the 2nd edition of *Handbook for American Women's History* (Sage Publications 2000.)

For a very informative evening, you should plan to attend our next meeting on May 19th to hear this noted speaker.

**Deadline for June
Newsletter is
June 1, 2002**

We are on the Web!

Check out the BAGS website at:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txbags/baygen.html>.



This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Bay Area Genealogical Society. All officers are volunteers. Articles on genealogy are most welcome. Inclusion is based on space available and material is subject to editing. Mail to: BAGS, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447 or email to nategeneal@aol.com or tfrey99@hotmail.com.



Upcoming Events Calendar

May 19, 2002	BAGS General Meeting at 5:30 pm; University Baptist Church
June 13, 2002	Trip to Clayton Library, leaves UBC at 9 a.m.
June 17, 2002	BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
June 22, 2002	Texas Genealogy and Family History Fair, Huntsville, Texas.
June 23, 2002	BAGS General Meeting at 5:30 pm; University Baptist Church
July 11, 2002	Trip to Clayton Library, leaves UBC at 9 a.m.
July 15, 2002	BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
July 21, 2002	BAGS General Meeting at 5:30 pm; University Baptist Church
July 25-27, 2002	Sixth Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference, Lufkin, Texas.
Aug. 8, 2002	Trip to Clayton Library, leaves UBC at 9 a.m.
Aug. 19, 2002	BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
Aug. 25, 2002	BAGS General Meeting at 5:30 pm; University Baptist Church
Nov 1-2, 2002	Texas State Genealogical Society Conference in Galveston, Texas

