



# Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 3, Issue No. 11

July 2004

## July Meeting: Kathryn Black Morrow will speak on "Seeing What Isn't There; How to Ask Questions as You Research"

July 25  
5 pm,  
at UBC

Bay Area Genealogical Society is proud to announce that Kathryn Black Morrow will be our July guest speaker.

Kathryn and her husband live in Clear Lake, but her family of four children and seven grandchildren is scattered worldwide, from Germany to Guam.

Ms. Morrow is a historian and professional genealogist with 35 years experience. She has done extensive on-site research at archives in Raleigh NC, Birmingham and Montgomery AL, Oklahoma City OK, Denver CO, Salt Lake City UT, Dallas TX, and Clayton Genealogical Library in Houston.



In 1980, Kathryn was chosen as a delegate from Oklahoma to the World Conference on Records held in Salt Lake City. She was a co-founder and archivist for the Railroad Depot Museum and President for the Harrah Heritage and Historical Society in Harrah OK. Under her leadership, a permanent collection of artifacts and photos for display in the museum was established at the University of Oklahoma, and sufficient historical information was compiled to produce a book.

From 1990 until 1997, Kathryn served on the Landmark Designation Commission for the City of Longmont CO, assisting in the preservation and designation of historic buildings. She also volunteered as a grant reader for the Colorado State Historical Society.

Kathryn received a B.A. in Modern Languages from Oklahoma City University in 1981, and an M.A. in History from the University of Houston-Clear Lake in 2003. Her Master's thesis was a History of Ellington Field, which was published as a series of articles in our BAGS quarterlies this last year. In 2003, Kathryn was asked to evaluate and index the Heartman Collection of slave documents at Texas Southern University. Most recently, Kathryn was asked by the French Consulate in Houston to be the historian for the international observance of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary D-Day ceremony, held June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

You are cordially invited to join the Society in welcoming one of our local stars, Kathryn Black Morrow, at the July 25<sup>th</sup> meeting at 5:00 PM, in the Chapel at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive in Clear Lake City. For more information about the meeting or the society, please call Dick Warren 281-461-1472.

### Inside BAGS —

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At the June meeting all of the amendments passed. The website and By-Laws will be updated, and all the members will receive the changes in the next edition of our yearbook.

Congratulations to the Nominating Committee: Shirley Lindquist (Chair), Resa Hennings, Valerie Horn, Carol Varnado, and Doreen Brubaker. Owing to their prompt and efficient work, we are announcing the nominees for officer positions:

- President - Ron Cox
- 1st Vice President - Loren Martin
- 2nd Vice President - Dick Warren
- Recording Secretary - Mary Martin
- Corresponding Secretary - Shirley Lindquist
- Treasurer - Resa Hennings
- Registrar - Rose Mary Fritz

BAGS thanks the Nominating Committee for a job well done. The nominees were introduced at the June meeting and the members will vote on the 2004-2005 slate of officers at the July meeting.

We have also filled two Committee positions in our organization. Lee Jared will assume the duty of Hospitality Chairman, and Barbara Stanley is taking on the position of BAGS Librarian. We are fortunate to have them!

We are seeking input from the membership about next year's programs. What are your areas of interest? The two planned programs we have include preserving photographs and a question and answer session. The coordinator for programs is Dick Warren (See contact information in the Officer Roster below). Dick does an amazing job, and always tries his best to serve the members with programs that will assist and entertain.

A possible new feature in the newsletter is to fill in the address page (top of page 8), with your family photos. If you have photographs that you want to share with the membership, please contact the newsletter staff. Please note; the pictures will only appear in the on-line edition of the newsletter.

For those who are curious as to why I did not seek re-election, I unexpectedly had a job opportunity in the middle of my term that would have obligated me to travel during the year. I did not take that position, but I want the flexibility to accept any such position in the future without worrying that I would let the membership down by resigning in the middle of a term.

I will continue to serve the Society in other capacities. One of my duties next year will be the generation of the yearbook for which I will be typing the draft. I am searching for assistance in proofreading and layout of the yearbook. Please feel free to talk to me at our meetings or call me at 281-286-8243.

Resa Hennings is stepping down as Editor of the Quarterly. She has held that position for three years, since the inception of the Society. We need someone to take her place in ample time that the December issue can be distributed at that month's meeting.

Many of our members are easily qualified to edit the Quarterly. Some of the necessary skills are: proofreading, grammar, punctuation, spelling, and layout. Please talk to Resa Hennings or Neil Miserendino for more information. Sadly, if no one comes forward to take the job, we will have no Quarterly.

2003-2004 Officer Roster		
President - Neil Miserendino	281-286-8243	president@TxBayAreaGen.org
1st Vice President - Resa Hennings	281-326-4936	resa@resa.us
2nd Vice President - Dick Warren	281-461-1472	dick@merlins-web.com
Recording Sec - Mary Martin	281-332-2435	lmartin497@aol.com
Corresp. Sec - Shirley Lindquist	281-281-4125	slindquist@houston.rr.com
Treasurer - Linda Goerland	281-326-1476	egoerland@pdq.net
Registrar - Ron Cox	281-332-3290	registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

BAGS Newsletter Staff	
<i>Editor</i>	Claudia Grafton
<i>Composition &amp; Layout</i>	Leo Waltz
<i>Proofreader</i>	Barbara Stanley
<i>Distribution</i>	Leslee Fehlman Linda Carrington
<i>5 Gen. charts</i>	Tammy Frey

I was traveling on business to Russia and one of the forms asked for my patronymic. A person near me asked: "What is a patronymic?" I replied "A patronymic is a name based upon your father's name. Many surnames originated as a patronymic."

The practice of naming people after their father was widespread throughout the European world and is common in other parts of the world today. In the past, some names that originated as a patronymic became fixed as surnames. The surnames that are based upon patronymics may be identified because those surnames have either a prefix or a suffix that means "son of."

English speakers can easily identify that many names ending in the suffix "son" originated as a patronymic. The "son" suffix is common among the Lowland Scottish, English, and Nordic countries (examples are Robertson, Johnson, Jackson, and Anderson). The suffix "sen" is actually a variation of the suffix "son" (as in Jensen or Andersen).

The Irish have their own unique variation when they use the prefix O' in front of a name, the O' originally meant "grandson of." You should easily recognize these names as being Irish: O'Neil, O'Shaunassy, O'Reilly, O'Sullivan, O'Brien, and O'Connor. Other Irish surnames based upon a patronymic use the prefix "Mc" for "son of" (as in McDuffy). The Highland Scottish uses the prefix "Mac" (as in MacDonald).

The Italian patronymic-based names use several variations of one prefix. The variations are: D', Di or Del. You should recognize these Italian surnames as being based upon a patronymic: D'Angelo (son of Angelo), De Marco (son of Marco), Di Gregory, Di Gregorio, and Del Russo.

The Spanish surnames created from a patronymic origin use a short suffix. The most common suffix we know is "ez." Examples are

Fernandez; the son of Fernando, or Hernandez; the son of Hernando.

While many French surnames are based on patronymics (a famous example is Charles de Gaulle - Charles, the son of Gaulle), it is even more common in France to only use the patronymic name without any prefix or suffix. One example of a patronymic French name of this type is Jean Landry, the name means Jean (or John), the son of Landry.

Polish uses "owicz" as one suffix that signifies "son of" (Aronowicz - son of Aron). Some variations of this suffix are required to make the name more pronounceable to a Polish speaker ("wicz" or "ewicz").

An Arabic patronymic may use the prefix "Bin." The now infamous Osama Bin Laden is translated as Osama, the son of Laden.

In Russia, a patronymic is used in addition to a surname. Sergey Ivanovitch Romanov would be Sergey, the son of Ivan Romanov. He is commonly known as Sergey Ivanovitch. Regarding females, the word Matronymic (or Matranyic) means "daughter of." An example could be Elena Ivanova Putin. Elena, the daughter of Ivan Putin is known as Elena Ivanova.

### Humor Corner

Occupayshun, Cencus Taker

"I am a cencus takers for the city of Bufflow. Our city has groan very fast in resent yeers & now in 1865, it has become a hard & time consuming job to count all the peePhill. There are not many that con do this werk, as it is nesessarie to have a ejudashun, wich a lot of pursons steal don not have. Another atribeart needed for this job is god speling, for meny of the peePhill to be counted can hardle speak inglish, let alon spel there names!"

Thanks to Brenda Hay

<http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~tracers/thefunny.htm>

## Scrapbooking Class - Doug Wilson

On June 28th, BAGS members attended a scrapbooking class sponsored by "Memories by Monique" with Bobbi Anastacio as our instructor. We were provided with the materials to complete 2 facing pages, using the 6 to 8 photographs we each brought.

Bobbi stressed the importance of using the right tools and materials to avoid damaging the photos. She explained in detail, the process of selecting and cropping photographs, choosing card stock to complement photos, and arranging, matting, and mounting the graphic elements and adornments. Bobbi emphasized that the pages not overwhelm the photos (and vice versa). She believes our artistic considerations should make facing pages go well together, and encourages everyone to make journaling and scrapbooking an integral part of preserving family memories.

BAGS members attending were Nancy Irle, Mary Martin, Neil Miserendino, Paula Sinning, Polly Wilson, and Doug Wilson, as well as guest Paula Stites, and all expressed satisfaction with the pages made, and with the quality of instruction.



## Message to the Houston Area Genealogy Community from Mic Barnette

Hi Everyone,

The Houston Chronicle has had their annual shake-up of editors, and the "Houston" section now has a new editor, Jessica Danes. My genealogical column in the Chronicle has not run in four weeks and was taken offline this past weekend. Ms. Danes says she wants to gauge the response of the readers.

This column has run in the Houston Chronicle just over 10 years. It has been located in the last year and a half, quite successfully, in the Saturday edition of the "Houston" section. This section contains many items of personal interest, and goes anywhere the Chronicle goes-Worldwide. It is an ideal location and where the column really needs to continue running.

It was a year ago last Spring when I asked for your support. It overwhelmed the editors with the response they received from Houstonians, Texans, and out of state readers and supporters. Last year's rally should have held the editors off

for a while, but now we need to inform Ms. Danes. So, here we go again, and the more responses the Chronicle receives, the stronger our message!

If you would like the column to continue in the Chronicle, please call or write both the Reader Rep (James T. Campbell) and the "Houston" section editor (Jessica Danes). Our emails are listed below. You may send this message, or a message of your own, to your genealogical friends and each society to which you belong.

James T. Campbell [readerrep@chron.com](mailto:readerrep@chron.com)  
Jessica Danes [Jessica.Danes@chron.com](mailto:Jessica.Danes@chron.com)

I would appreciate any comment you might have and would appreciate receiving a blind copy of any emails you send at [mic@barnettesbooks.com](mailto:mic@barnettesbooks.com)

Thanks for your support now and in the past,

Mic Barnette

## Events Calendar

All meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC)

Monday,  
July 19, 2004

4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting; Room LC-210, UBC  
All BAGS members are invited to attend.

Sunday,  
July 25, 2004

5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting; Chapel, UBC  
Election of Officers for 2004-2005  
Kathryn Black Morrow will speak on  
"Seeing What Isn't There; How to Ask Questions as You Research"

Monday,  
August 23, 2004

4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting; Room LC-210, UBC  
All BAGS members are invited to attend.

Sunday,  
August 29, 2004

5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting; Chapel, UBC  
BAGS Members will present their Annual "Show & Tell" ↴

The August meeting will be a combined Member "Show and Tell" and "Pot Luck Supper" program. This is the annual event where we share our food and fancy with all our old and new genealogy friends and guests. For the "Pot Luck", bring your favorite dish or a traditional recipe. It can be the one that everyone talks about, or the one that is easy to do and tastes good too. For "Show and Tell", bring your favorite story told by, or about a family tree member. You could share a story about a "Black Sheep" ancestor (some are really juicy), or the project where, by a technique, you worked your way around a very high brick wall. Show how a Scrapbook brought an ancestor to life, or give us the history of a town through land and legal documents. Oh, and don't forget that pictures, props, and period dress, helps to accent your story. The coordinator for the program is Dick Warren. You may contact him at 281-461-1472, e-mail - [dick.warren@merlins-web.com](mailto:dick.warren@merlins-web.com), or talk to him at the July Board or General Meeting.

### The Federation of Genealogical Society 2004 National Conference

September 8-11 in Austin Texas. The Texas State Genealogical Society and the Austin Genealogical Society are Co-hosting this Conference, and the goal is to bring a National Conference to Texas for all levels of genealogy. We have not had a national conference in Texas since 1997.

For more information, visit the conference web site at [www.fgs.org/2004conf/FGS-2004.htm](http://www.fgs.org/2004conf/FGS-2004.htm) or call 1-888-FGS-1500 toll-free.

Postal mail: Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940.

For questions about this event you may contact Betty Dunquez at [Bdunquez@aol.com](mailto:Bdunquez@aol.com), and the TSGS District Representative is Darwin Gilmore (281-332-1395) for local information or inquiries.

### 8th ANNUAL ANGELINA COLLEGE GENEALOGY CONFERENCE Thursday - Saturday, July 22 - 24, 2004

Local Speakers include: Trevia Wooster Beverly, Pat Gordon, Don Raney, Bev Odom, Robert deBerardinis, Emily Croom, John Sellers

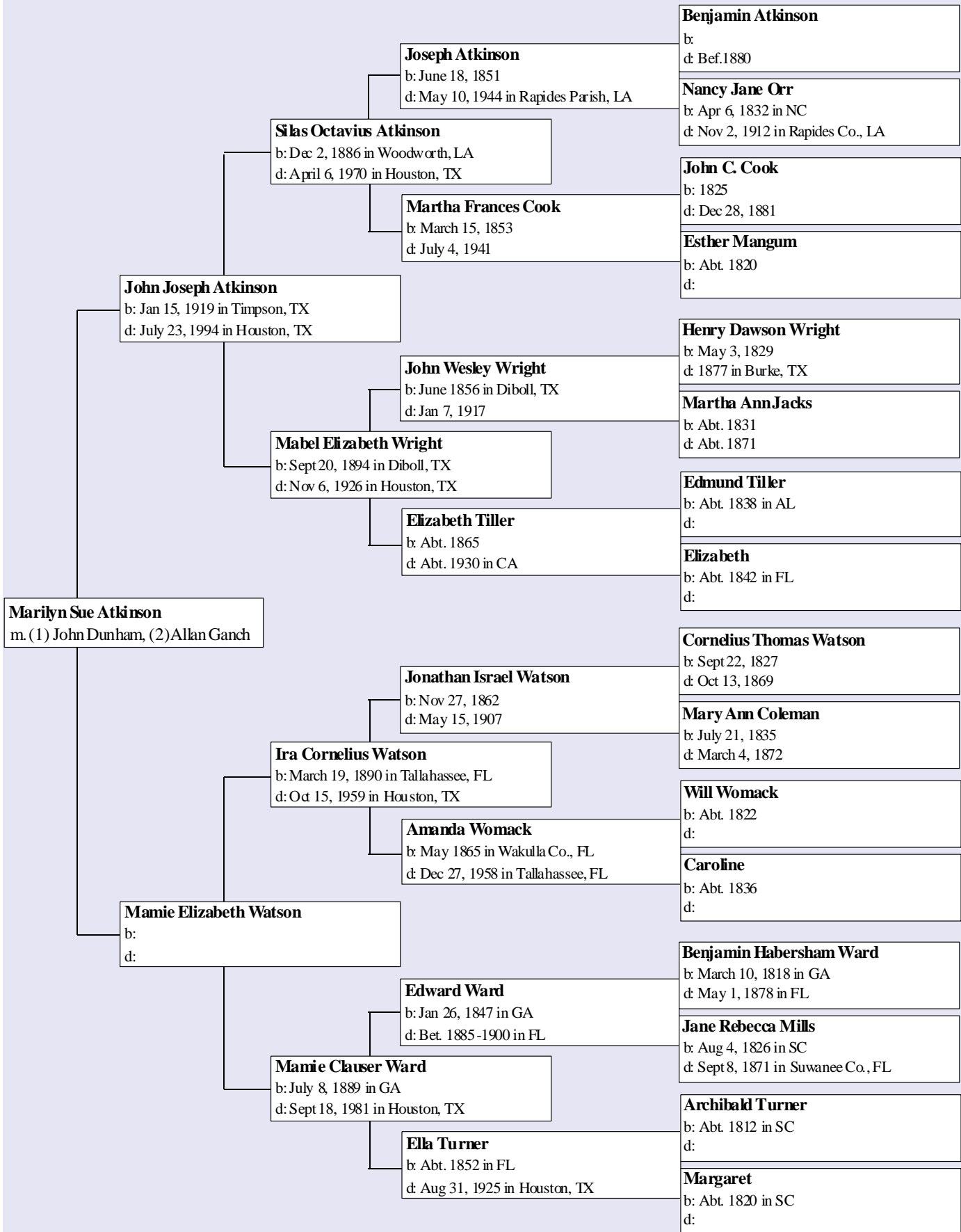
**It is now too late to request information or register by mail, so phone or email.**

Phone: 1-936-633-5206

Fax: 1-936-633-5478

E-Mail: [fkanke@angelina.edu](mailto:fkanke@angelina.edu) or [abrowning@angelina.edu](mailto:abrowning@angelina.edu)

# Ancestors of Marilyn Sue Atkinson (Ganch)



# Committee News

University Baptist Church Representative Jeff Newford stopped by the June BAGS Board Meeting. Jeff talked about the many community activities and services in which UBC is actively involved. He also thanked our organization for the generous donation to the church. You're welcome Jeff, and Thank You UBC.

## Hospitality

Thanks to the following people for bringing food to the June meeting:

Leona Cook	Neil Miserendino
Sharon Cress	Robert Mitchell
Ann Davidson	Barbara Stanley
Bill Davidson	Glenda Warren
Martha Fetterman	Dick Warren
Geraldine Higgs	

## Quarterly

Pick up the latest Quarterly at the next meeting if you have not already done so. The Quarterly needs your input! Please submit original articles, family histories, anecdotes, queries, research tips, Letters to the Editor... whatever you have that will be of interest to the membership. Send them to Resa Hennings at: 439 Bayou View Drive, El Lago, TX 77586 or [resa@resa.us](mailto:resa@resa.us).

## From the Registrar

Please send any changes or new information regarding name, email, phone number, or address, to

Ron Cox, Registrar  
Bay Area Genealogical Society  
P. O. Box 891447  
Houston, TX 77289-1447

or send an e-mail to:

[Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org)

- Old genealogists never die, they just lose their census.
- Genealogy is not fatal, but it is a grave disease.
- "Sure, a real job would be nice, but it would interfere with my genealogy!"

## Trip to Clayton Library Planned

Mary L. Martin, County Coordinator

Our next trip to the Clayton Library will be on Tuesday, August 17, 2004. We will meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Street.

We won't know when the next trips will be until sometime in September when we schedule them with Harris County. I hope that we will be able to schedule a trip in October.

On Tuesday, June 29, nine Society members went to the George Memorial Library in Richmond. I think that most of us had a good day finding things at this library. Everyone seemed to be very busy. Carolyn Hellen and I enjoyed looking at a seven-volume set of marriage records from Virginia. Carolyn found piles of books to look at from Virginia. I had not realized how many books that this library has on Virginia. They have one of my favorite books that shows the township maps for all of the counties in the U.S. They also have a three-volume set of books that tells the origins of surnames. I discovered that the Clayton Library also has the surname set of books. I found a book on naturalizations in Philadelphia that had my great-great grandfather, Peter Gray, listed in it. Now, I have the address to write for more information. Oletia Teas found some information about a letter waiting at the post office for one of Bill Teas' ancestors in some Ohio books about newspapers. We had a very nice driver who stopped at a Burger King so we could get some drinks or other refreshments. The driver said that it rained very hard four different times while we were working in the library. I'm not sure that many of us noticed the rain; fortunately, the ride home was not too wet.



**ONLINE EXTRA**



See article on page 4.



# Next Meeting

## Election of Officers For 2004-2005

Date: July 25, 2004  
Time: 5:00 PM  
Place: Chapel, University Baptist Church  
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX  
Speaker: Kathryn Black Morrow  
Subject: "Seeing What Isn't There; How to Ask Questions as You Research"



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. If articles are copyrighted, then please include permissions with the submittals.

Mail to: BAGS Newsletter, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447 or email to [claudiamg@ev1.net](mailto:claudiamg@ev1.net)

**BAGS website:**  
[www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org)



**Deadline for August Issue is August 7, 2004**