



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 4, Issue No. 6

February 2005

Feb 27
5:00 pm
UBC

February Meeting: Second Annual Question & Answer Session

“Finding Aids: Around and Through Those Brick Walls”

Marje Harris and Robert de Berardinis



Back by popular demand, we will be having Marje Harris and Robert de Berardinis answer our questions at the Feb. 27th general meeting. For those members lucky enough to have attended last year’s Q & A, you already know how much fun this session is, in addition to all the good advice and information you receive. This year’s theme will be “Finding Aids around and through those Brick Walls”.

We hope to improve this session with something new. We are asking all members to submit their questions in advance, in order to better utilize the time allotted. We will sort them according to similarity and then turn them over to Marje and Robert. They will then select from the submitted questions and respond with their usual flair and expertise.



Marje has been one of our “Lifeline Librarians” at the Clayton Library for over 21 years. She is also one of our favorite speakers.

Robert’s genealogical research and experience has helped to make him an informed, educated, and entertaining speaker. We look forward to his rare visits and always enjoy the subject.

Please e-mail all questions regarding “Finding Aids: Around & Through Those Brick Walls” (no construction questions please) to Neil Miserendino at psrambling@aol.com or call Dick Warren at (281) 461-1472. With all your questions, please remember the theme, include your name, and provide as many details as possible.

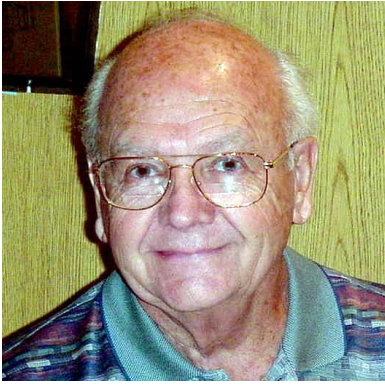
BAGS hope this is to be one of our annual events as it’s so popular with the membership. So come join the fun at our next meeting on February 27th at 5:00PM in the University Baptist Church Chapel.

Inside BAGS ---

- 2 President's Message
- 3 When WAS that photo taken?
- 4 Amendment/ McCoy story
- 5 Calendar of Events
- 6 Featured Ancestors
- 7 Committee Page
- 8 Online Extra (appears in online version only)

Clayton Genealogical
Library, Houston, TX





If you were at our January meeting, you were probably as excited as I was about the upcoming Freeman Library exhibit. Alice Braud-Jones gave a wonderful presentation about how that whole effort is being handled. I certainly was impressed by the planning, attention to details, and overall involvement of the Committee members and other helpers who are making this BAGS project possible. At the January Board meeting I was given a copy of the minutes of the Committee's last meeting. I wish you all could read it because it reflects the extra hard work that these folks have put forth. The planning is certainly obvious.

The other point I would like to make is that these members have been willing to take on the responsibility of caring for some of your precious treasures. I know that these artifacts, in whatever form, are in good hands. Be sure, if you are contributing something to exhibit, that you follow the process that this committee has prepared. Most of all go see the exhibit and tell others about it. Let's show all in the Bay area that BAGS, by presenting this exhibit, is solidly involved in genealogical research and support of community activities.

You will notice that there is in this month's Newsletter, a proposed BYLAW change. This change was in the January Board meeting agenda and is asking that Section 1, Article III - ELECTIONS - be changed to make the term of office for elected Officers from one year to two years. Your Board is asking for a membership vote as per our Constitution. I am writing about this in hopes that this possible change, like any change, be given your careful consideration. I certainly do not want this forum to be used as a means of persuasion for any proposed change, one way or the other. There will be a short discussion of the By-Law at the February meeting and the membership will be asked to vote on this amendment at the March meeting.

Ron

2004-2005 Officer Roster

President -Ron Cox	281-332-3290	president@TxBayAreaGen.org
1 st Vice President – Loren Martin	281-332-2435	lmartin497@aol.com
2 nd Vice President – Dick Warren	281-461-1472	dick@merlins-web.com
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BAGS Newsletter Staff

Editor
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Photographer – Linda Goerland
Distribution – Linda Carrington,
 Carolyn DuBois
5 Gen. Charts – Tammy Frey

Last month I spoke about some of the steps to follow to identify old photographs. To solve the puzzle of who is pictured in the photographs, you need to identify the approximate year the photograph was taken, and can do this by consulting reference books that tell you the history of clothing and fashion. Reference books will allow you to look from the photograph to the book to try to identify what time period the photograph was taken. I have listed reference books that are similar to other aids we use as genealogical researchers. The material in the books listed below was not written for genealogists, they were written as historical documents. This means the books are not tailored to genealogy needs, but can still enable us to identify the time period of the photograph. The University of Houston at Clear Lake (UHCL) has an excellent collection of books that can help us identify historical clothing and fashions. For those readers who do not live near UHCL, here are some books about clothing fashion and styles that can be found on library shelves:

1. Peacock, John. *The Chronicle of Western Fashion: from Ancient Times to the Present Day* (New York: H.N. Abrams Publisher, 1991). The call number is GT511 .P42 1991.

This book contains clothing styles from before the age of photograph, and contains color illustrations with descriptions of the clothing.

2. Cumming, Valerie. *The Visual History of Costume Accessories* (New York: Costume and Fashion Press). The UHCL call number: GT2050 .C86 1998.

This book has a limited use because it is not comprehensive and contains only samples of clothing accessories that were used throughout history.

3. Hansen, Henny Harald. *Costumes and Styles* (New York: Dutton, 1956),

This is an English translation of *Klaededragtens Kavalkade* and has 685 examples of historic costume in color. The UHCL call number: GT510.H33

4. Hill, Margot Hamilton and Bucknell, Peter A.

The Evolution of Fashion: Pattern and Cut from 1066 to 1930 (London, Batsford, New York: Reinhold, 1967)

UHCL call number: GT510 .H5 1967

This book is oversize and may be found on the bottom shelf. It is valuable because it has good descriptions of fashions.

5. Nunn, Joan. *Fashion in Costume, 1200-1980* (Chicago: New Amsterdam Books 2000). The UHCL Call Number: GT580 .N85 2000.

A second, updated version of this book is also available with the title:

Fashion in Costume, 1200-2000.

The contents of this book are black and white sketches of clothing.

6. *Four Hundred Years of Fashion* (London: Victoria and Albert Museum)

This book was created as a group effort with Editor Natalie Rothstein and Madeleine Ginsberg, Avril Hart, Valerie D. Mendes, and others writing the text.

UHCL call number: GT733 .F68 1992

This book contains photographs of clothes on the mannequins in the Victoria and Albert Museum in England.

7. Cassin-Scott, Jack. *The Illustrated Encyclopaedia of Costume and Fashion: from 1066 to the Present* (London: Studio Vista). The UHCL Call number GT730 .C37 1994

This book contains color illustrations of clothing, but I am not sure if the majority of the common people would have dressed as depicted in the illustrations.

8. Laver, James. *Costume and Fashion: a Concise History* (New York: Thames and Hudson, 1995). The UHCL Call number is: GT511 .L39 1995

This book is written in a little different style. The author seems to write a story around the fashions and styles. Some readers may prefer that approach.

The above books can be helpful in identifying your photographs. What would be even better is a reference book written for genealogists.

The Board of Directors is recommending a vote be taken in order to change the length of term of officers from one to two years. The members will have an opportunity to vote on this amendment at the regular March meeting of the Society, March 27, 2005.

ARTICLE III**ELECTIONS**

The existing bylaws state:

Section 1: Timing of Elections

Officers and members of the Board serve at the will of the general membership and will be elected annually according to the following schedule: in March the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee composed of two (2) Board members and three (3) from the general membership.

If the members approve the amendment, this section of the Bylaws will change to:

Officers and members of the Board serve at the will of the general membership and shall be elected to two year terms. Elections shall be held bi-annually according to the following schedule: in March of the election year, the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee composed of two (2) Board members and three (3) from the general membership.

Jasper Redden McCoy**Alice Braud-Jones**

This is the story of my American Revolutionary patriot, and 3rd Great Grandfather, Jasper Redden McCoy:

There is a McCoy family legend of a colorful place with an interesting name; Scapo Swamp, which lies partially in NE Sumter and Lee Counties, South Carolina. It is the story of one of the skirmishes during the American Revolution and my patriot ancestor who served in that war. Redden McCoy, one of the participants of the skirmish and his actions caused the origin of the swamp's existing name "Scapo Swamp".

The legend states that a small group of British soldiers, possibly a dozen or so, were camping in a cabin on a bluff above the Black River, opposite Camp Branch Island. They had been foraging and were presumably assigned to watch the movements of General Francis Marion (aka the Swamp Fox), who was known to periodically camp on the island. With the British soldiers were three female "camp followers".

One night there was a party of sorts in the British soldiers' cabin. Redden McCoy, of highland Scots descent, along with a party of guerrilla type soldiers, stealthily approached the cabin and peered in the window. A fire was burning in the fireplace, lighting the room, and much merriment was being enjoyed. A British officer, who was sitting next to the window, happened to state at that very moment, he "would like to cut the head off McCoy and carry it to the King of England".

As a descendant from a long line of Scots patriots, and Galloglasts, McCoy with sword drawn just outside the window; reached in and beheaded the British officer. A wild scramble ensued and as everyone sought to evacuate the cabin; now surrounded by American soldiers, several met their demise. Others ran, including the three women who escaped into the nearby swamp.

Hence the name "Scape 'Oer" or "Scapo Swamp."

This designation of "Scapo Swamp" is found in an Act of December 21, 1798 (9 SC Stats. at Large, p.385).

Events Calendar	All meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC)
Monday, February 21, 2005	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting; Room LC-210, UBC All BAGS members are invited to attend.
Sunday, February 27, 2005	5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting; Chapel, UBC "Finding Aids: Around and Through Those Brick Walls" Speaker: Marje Harris & Robert de Berardinis
Monday, March 21, 2005	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting; Room LC-210, UBC All BAGS members are invited to attend.
Sunday, March 27, 2005	5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting; Chapel, UBC "German Research" Speaker: Wolfram M. Von-Maszewski Member vote on Amendment (see page 4)

FREEMAN LIBRARY DISPLAY

16602 DIANA LANE

All contributing members are delivering their artifacts at the February General Meeting. The committee will then arrange all these artifacts into an impressive showcase honoring BAGS, for all to see and enjoy during the entire month of March at the Freeman Public Library.

We want to thank the involved members for sharing their heirlooms with the community; we will handle them with the utmost care. Please make sure to visit Freeman in March and enjoy our handiwork and efforts. We welcome your feedback so that next year's Display will be even more divine!

HOUSTON GENEALOGICAL FORUM

P.O. Box 271466, Houston, TX 77277-1466 BAYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER, 6400
BISSONNET, HOUSTON, TX (www.hgftx.org)

APRIL 2, 2005 (Sat) JOHN PHILLIP COLLETTA, PhD, is one of America's most popular genealogical lecturers. He conducts workshops for the National Archives and the Smithsonian Institution.

10:00 am to noon - Regular Forum meeting; Dr. Colletta will be the speaker.

1:00 TO 3:00 pm - Mini Seminar. Dr. Colletta's topics will be: "Only a Few Bones" and "Using Federal Court Records in Genealogy". Registration for non-members is \$40.00, and for members is \$30.00.

TEXAS CITY ANCESTRY SEARCHERS

MOORE MEMORIAL LIBRARY, 1701 NINTH AVE. N, TEXAS CITY

The Texas City Ancestry Searchers has volunteers available to help in family history on Mondays from 5:00pm to 7:00pm; Wednesdays from 10:00am to noon and from 3:00pm to 5:00pm; and on Saturdays from 10:00am to noon.

Hispanic research in the Rio Grande Valley and Mexico, as well as German research assistance is available by appointment. For information or to schedule an appointment, please call (409)938-8053, (409)948-2650, or (409)945-7049.

Committee News

Message from the Registrar

Rose Mary Fritz

You may have noticed that our membership list has been purged of members who have not paid dues for the current fiscal year. We regret having to take this action, but it is now late in the year, which began September 1st 2004. We depend heavily on the income from dues to support the various programs provided by the Society. I would like to ask our active members to do what they can to encourage new membership and/ or renewal of old memberships.

In our world of fast changes we need your help in keeping our membership information current. Please report any changes in address, phone number or email to me at Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

Clayton Library Trips

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

In March the East Harris County Senior Citizens will be scheduling our next four trips to be taken during the next six months. I will put them in the newsletter.

The Society's website, www.TxBayAreaGen.org, always has a current listing of library trips and any changes in information.

If you have any questions or would like to schedule the trips, please call me at 281-332-2435. We will also have sign-up sheets at the meetings for future trips. See you at the library!

Hospitality

Lee Jared

These people contributed to the January food table; thank you!

Pat Bates	Diane Kropp	Dick Warren
Rose Ann Frazier	Kathleen McConathy	
Mary Frederick	Margaret Mitchell	
Garry Garrett	Frank Roth	
Marilynn Hughes	Paula Sinning	

BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$3,533.91
Income	25.00
Expenses	55.20
Balance on hand 1-24-2005	\$3,503.71

Quarterly Update

Susie Ganch

I hope everyone enjoyed the December Quarterly. I thought we had some very interesting articles from our members. I am working on the March Quarterly now and hope to have it published by the end of March. However, I have not received ANY articles from members for inclusion. I hope that you are all working on something and will be sending it to me soon.

I would like to add more locations on our BAGS Heritage Map from stories submitted by you about how your family got to Texas. Also, any other historical or genealogical articles or queries are welcome. Please email submissions to me at sganch@verizon.net (put the word "Quarterly" in your subject line). You may also mail them to me at 2393 Golden Shores Lane, League City, Tx 77573. I look forward to hearing from you.

Harris County Archives

Judy Henderson

It's time to starting thinking about going down to the Harris County Archives for a day to help organize materials. In order to avoid a conflict with the trips to Clayton, I have scheduled one day in March and one in April.

Wednesday, March 2

Wednesday, April 6

We plan to car pool from the parking lot at Clear Lake Bible Church, 602 El Dorado @ Hwy 3. We will leave there at 9 am. and from downtown at 3 pm. Remember to bring a sweater as the archives are cold. We will eat out for lunch.

If these dates are not convenient for you but you would still like to go, you are welcome to join me on one of my regular trips the first and third Wednesdays of the month, subject to change. Please contact me ahead of time.

Please contact Judy Henderson at 281-482-7888 or judy38@hal-pc.org.



Kathryn Black Morrow at
January 2005 Meeting



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 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 e-mail to claudiamg@ev1.net

Next Meeting

Date: 27 February 2005

Time: 5:00 pm

Place: University Baptist Church Chapel
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX

Speakers: Marje Harris & Robert de Berardinis

Subject: Q. and A. Session
"Finding Aids: Around and
Through Those Brick Walls"

BAGS website;
www.TxBayAreaGen.org

**Deadline for
March Issue is
March 5, 2005**