



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Aug 28
5:00 pm
UBC

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August 2005

August Meeting: BAGS Annual Show & Tell and Potluck Supper

Gems from Genealogists



The National Park Service of the U.S. government has released an online index to the military services of the Civil War. The Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System (CWSS) can help you discover if your ancestor served in either the Union or Confederate armed forces. For the individual, the searches provide fields for last name, first name, Union or Confederate, State (or Origin), Unit Number, and Function (infantry, artillery, etc.) The Internet address is <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/index.html>

This information may help you if you decide to order military or pension records from the National Archives (NARA). Remember, Confederate pension records are in the respective state archives, not NARA.

Dug up by: Doug Wilson

Every August, BAGS offers our membership the opportunity to share some family history and socialize with each other. In short, you are the entertainment portion of our program. The evening also includes a potluck supper provided by all the chefs (members) in our society.

The show & tell allows members to bring in artifacts, memorabilia, scrapbooks, or just whatever you have that has a story or memories wrapped around it and tell your tale to the group. It could be anything from a small photo with a brief description or something you have that's truly important. We make a willing audience and you should know by now that every family has a great story somewhere. If your family history is lacking, you might share an amusing experience while accumulating your genealogical information. It's all fun and no one will be grading your presentation.

The potluck supper has always been a delicious combination of family favorite recipes and traditional "trademark" dishes that we love sharing and eating. We request that every attending member bring a dish and please include recipe copies.

This is one of two (Christmas party will be here soon) social events we plan each year and they are both eagerly anticipated. The membership participation turns a "good night" into a "special evening". Come with a smile, a dish and recipe, a story or memory, a friend or two and take this sentimental journey with us, Sunday, August 28, at 5:00. Plan to arrive at 4:30 to set up any visual aids. See you there...

Inside BAGS ---

- 2 President's Message
- 3 Newspapers/Travels
- 4 Texas Pioneers Honored
- 5 Calendar of Events
- 6 Featured Ancestors
- 7 Committee Page
- 8 Online Extra (appears in online version only)



Good food and great fellowship at 2004 Show & Tell

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This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Bay Area Genealogical Society, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the people of Harris and Galveston counties, Texas, who have an interest in genealogy.

Articles on genealogy are welcome. Inclusion is based on space available and is subject to editing. Please include permissions with copyrighted material submissions.

Questions or comments on the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to:

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Message from the President

Ron Cox

It's hard to believe, but our BAGS year 2004-2005 is fast coming to an end. If you missed our last meeting, you missed one of the really great programs we have had during this year. We learned a lot about how technology through our DNA is going to help break down some of the brick walls many of us have encountered along our ancestral pathway. One of the more amusing things we learned was that many times, new technology can prove that some of us may have in our ancestry, what is called a "false paternal event". If you don't know what that is or can't figure it out, I'll not tell you. Ask another member who was there. The speaker was great, had a ton of information, and gave a most enlightening presentation.

As you probably know by now, we had a very important happening at this meeting; that being the election of your new board. The slate, put together by the very hard working nominating committee was voted for unanimously by the attending members. Once again, I want to remind each of you that these dedicated officers of the Bay Area Genealogical Society generally never go more than a few days at a time without performing some service for each of us. Those newly elected are either serving another term in their previous office, or they are changing hats but continuing their untiring service. I know I can count on each of you to support them in the many committees, events, projects and other opportunities that BAGS offers.

Remember also that there are many appointed committee chairpersons who work equally as hard and often get little credit.

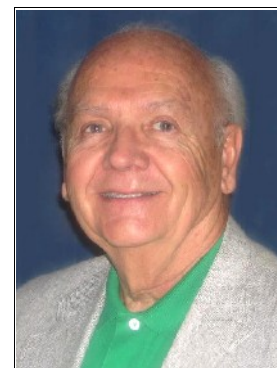
So let's all resolve to support all the board members and when one seeks your help in one task or another, be ready to do your part.



Missouri Statehood

10 August, 1821

Ron



In the first part of my article on finding genealogical records from newspapers in last month's issue of the BAGS Newsletter, I gave you some general information about using reference guides. This month, we'll be looking at some details to help you find those elusive sources.

Recall that I used a book at Clayton Library to locate historical New Jersey newspapers (Directory of New Jersey newspapers, 1765-1970 / [edited by] William C. Wright, Paul A. Stellhorn. Clayton Library Call number: [974.9 D598 NJ](#)). Here is an excerpt from that book in the section on the city of Dover, New Jersey

DOVER ADVANCE sw/trw

NjD (pm) Mar 9, 1903-Mar 12, 1906; Mar 10, 1930-May 1965

NjMoCoC (nm) Jan 2, 1912-May 21, 1914; Jan 8, 1923-Dec 31, 1953;

I referred to the "abbreviations and locations section" to find that "sw" - means published semiweekly. "trw" meant the paper was later published three times a week. The NjD and NjMoCoC are abbreviations of locations where we may be able to access copies of the newspaper. In this example "NjD" is the Dover (City) Free Public Library and "NjMocoC" is the Morris County Clerk in Morristown. I, of course, went to the library since newspapers are more accessible at the library than the

county clerk's office. The abbreviations "(pm)" and "(nm)" meant "positive microfilm" and "negative microfilm" respectively. The "pm" told me ahead of time that I would be reading the newspaper on a microfilm reader.

Here are the general steps to follow to find a newspaper reference book:

1. Use the computer catalog either online at home (<http://catalog.houstonlibrary.org/search~S1/>) or at a Clayton computer terminal
2. Use a "Keyword Search" with your state and the word "newspaper"; only look for books at Clayton Library.
3. Record the title of the books and the library call numbers.
4. Find the newspaper reference books in the library.
5. Use the books to tell you where you can get old copies of newspapers.

A similar technique may be used in planning a visit to other libraries that have online catalogs. For example, a keyword search of the Family History Library Catalog (http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp) at Salt Lake City for "New Jersey newspaper" yields 176 references.

When in Fort Wayne, Indiana ...

It's a Small World After All! Two Texas genealogical excursion groups planned a summer visit to one of the great resource libraries; the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Each was unaware of the other's plan, so imagine their surprise running into familiar faces, miles from home. The home of PERSI was host to four BAGS members that day!

*Shirley Lindquist, Oletia Teas,
Dottie Crabbe, Bill Teas, and
a BAGS non-member*

PHOTO BY BILL TEAS



On April 30, 2005, Warren Hall Bevil and his wife Margaret Malinda Elizabeth. Mahulda Melvenia Beatty were honored with a medallion from the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. They were placed on the grave sites in the Hart's Mill Cemetery near Woodville, TX. Warren Hall Bevil was the first Bevil child born in Texas, then part of Mexico, August 10, 1826, at Sandy Creek (now Jasper, Tyler County). He was the son of John Randolph Bevil, who helped write the Constitution of the Republic of Texas, and Francis Boynton Bevil. John moved to Texas between 1824 and 1826. John was previously honored with a similar medallion. Warren died in Woodville, TX, January 23, 1865.

Warren and his siblings were listed on the 1835 census of the Bevil District of Texas. The grave of a brother, Joseph Francisca Bevil, has not yet been located.

"Hulda" was born December 7, 1831 in Georgia, and was the daughter of Thomas Beatty and Mary Jane McHenry. Thomas was also a pioneer resident. He brought his family to Texas before 1843 when his daughter Eliza was born. Hulda died November 11, 1908 in Woodville, TX.

Warren and Hulda's great-great-grand daughters Eugenia Letbetter, Jane Bevil Honovich and Oletia Teas and third great grand daughter Gennie Liles set the marker during the annual spring cemetery clean-up.

Mrs. Eugenia Letbetter, Sandra Hargrove and others are working to have the cemetery recognized as a Texas Historic Burial Ground. Oletia Teas is a member of Houston Genealogical Forum and Bay Area Genealogical Society.



Left to right: Eugenia Letbetter, Gennie Liles, Jane Bevil Honovich, and Oletia Teas



PHOTOS BY BILL TEAS



Note new date and time of the September meeting!!!

Events Calendar

Meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC)
Members and guests are invited to attend all meetings

- Monday, August 22, 2005 4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
- Sunday, August 28, 2005 5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Chapel, UBC
"The BAGS Annual Show & Tell and Potluck Supper"
- Monday, September 19, 2005 4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
- **Friday, September 30, 2005** **6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room (2nd floor), UBC**
Installation of New Officers
Speaker: To be announced

BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Annual fees are due for 2005-2006, Houston, TX, Thursday, September 1, 2005
(<http://www.txbayareagen.org/>)

THE FEDERATION OF GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES and THE UTAH GENEALOGICAL ASSOCIATION

FGS/UGA Conference, Salt Lake City, UT, September 7-10
(<http://www.fgs.org/2005conf/FGS-2005.htm>)

THE HOUSTON GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY AND THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

Seminar - The Records of Early Texas 1715-1836, Houston, TX, Saturday, September 24
(<http://www.hgftx.org/>)

TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Annual Conference, Lubbock, TX, October 21-22 (<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txsgs/>)

THE HOUSTON GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY AND THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

Seminar – Irish Research, Houston, TX, Saturday, October 22 (<http://www.hgftx.org/>)

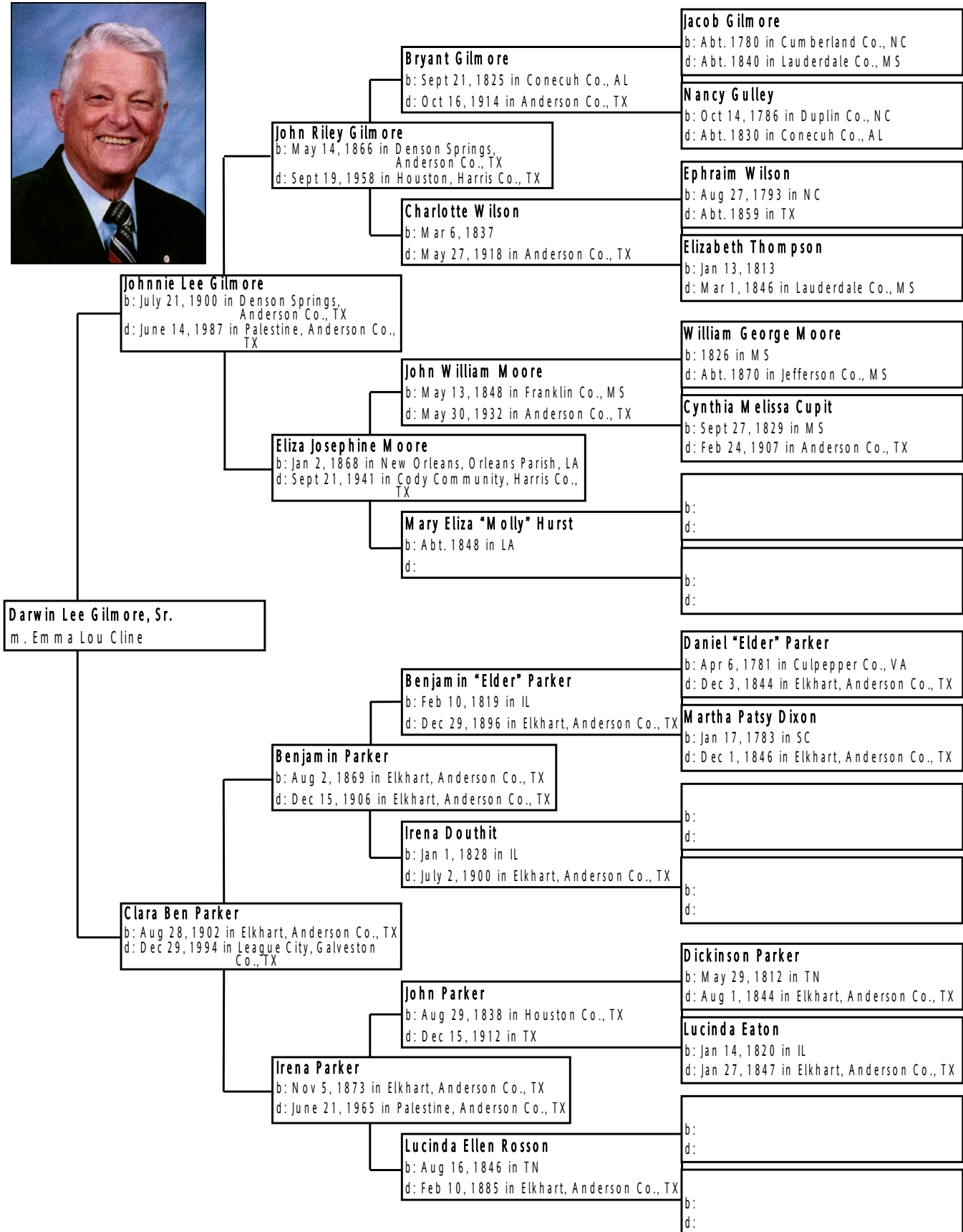
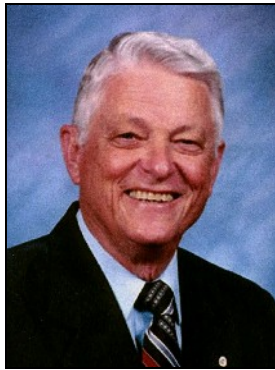
SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Seminar – Colonial records/Patricia Law Hatcher, San Antonio, TX, Saturday, October 29, 2005 (<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txsaghs2/>)

MY ANCESTORS AND EVERTON PUBLISHERS

Genealogy retreat, Salt Lake City, UT, November 14-19, 2005
(<http://www.myancestorsfound.com/retreats.htm>)

Ancestors of Darwin Lee Gilmore



Committee News

Trips to Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Our next trip scheduled to the Clayton Library is:
Wednesday, September 21

We will meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Street. We will depart in the county bus at 9:00 am. and leave the Clayton Library at 3:00 pm. We are usually back to the parking lot before 4:00 pm. If you have any questions or would like to schedule the trips, please call me at 281-332-2435, or we will have sign-up sheets at the general meetings.

We were fortunate to have an extra trip scheduled on Tuesday, August 2. We had a good time riding to the library on this trip and sharing information with each other. We are on a waiting list to get trips if there are open spaces in the county's bus schedule. These trips get scheduled with very little notice, so check the website occasionally to see if an additional trip has been scheduled. If you haven't been to the library with us before, we hope that you will think about joining us. .

The Society's website, www.TxBayAreaGen.org, always has a current listing of library trips. Join us and see what you can find.

Hospitality

Lee Jared, Coordinator

These members contributed the tasty goodies for the snack supper at the July 2005 general meeting:

Sharon Cress	Ann Little
Susie Ganch	Patsy McCall
Dean Glenn	Barbara Moore
Linda Goerland	Oletia Teas
Gail Hunter	

Thank you very much!

BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$2,477.26
Income	\$35.45
Expenses	.\$353.91
Adjust/voided check	+\$331.50
Balance, 07/25/2005	\$2,490.30

Quarterly

Susie Ganch, Editor

I am currently putting together the September BAGS Quarterly. I still have room for another "How I Got to Texas Story." I would also like to publish your Bible records or cemetery transcriptions. Genealogists now and in the future will look for family information on our pages; the more we can put in them, the more useful the BAGS Quarterly will be. We have had some wonderful articles submitted for our quarterlies, but I am running out of material.

Without material from our members, we don't have a quarterly. Please search your material, write an article, or submit copies of your Bible records or family vital records. Also, don't forget the "If I Could Spend a Day with an Ancestor" series. You may email them to me at sganch@verizon.net, mail them to me at 2393 Golden Shores Lane, League City, Texas 77573, or give them to me at a general meeting.

Membership

Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar

Let's give a warm welcome to new members Billie Thornhill Hayley and Jerry D. Hayley of Houston.

We are winding up our current membership year and will begin the new fiscal year on September 1st. **Your 2005-2006 membership dues are due September 1st.** We will be accepting membership renewals by mail or at our next meeting on August 28th. If you choose to renew by mail, please fill out a new application form which can be found on the BAGS website (<http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org/>)

If you have a friend who is interested in BAGS membership, please direct them to the BAGS website. Send the completed application form and check to: BAGS Registrar, 5001 Casa Grande, Dickinson, TX 77539-7504. Better still, invite them to a meeting where they can join.

Members, please notify me at Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org of any changes in name, address, E-mail, or phone number.



From Polly's Kitchen

Do you know what these are? Will your great great grandchildren know?



Deadline for
September Issue is
September 3, 2005

BAGS website:
www.TxBayAreaGen.org