



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 5, Issue No. 1

September 2005

NOTE CHANGES

Friday, Sept 30

6:00 pm

UBC Great Room

September Meeting: Revolutionary War

Gems from Genealogists



A significant proportion of U.S. residents have at least one ancestor who arrived by ship at the port of New York City. Ships arriving between 1830 and the opening of Ellis Island in 1892 came to Castle Garden. Microfilms of the ships' manifests have been available but until recently were only partially indexed.

Now, www.CastleGarden.org has indexed 10 million records covering the whole date range. Searches can be made using only first and last name or optionally may include place of origin, occupation, or ship name. Output will include all these fields and the arrival date. With these data, you can find the image of the manifest on the microfilm records at Clayton Library, since they are filmed in arrival date order.

Dug up by: Doug Wilson

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"American Revolutionary War Pensions"

Kim Morton

This month we're welcoming a new speaker to BAGS. Mr. Kim Morton is a retired teacher and has been involved in doing genealogy research since 1988. He has given presentations to genealogy groups throughout the Houston area and is a member of several national genealogical societies. Kim currently serves as the genealogist for the Pineywoods Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. In this position he has approved over 300 applications, all of which are in print at the Clayton Library. Kim is a direct descendant of 26 Revolutionary War patriots and he actively researches over 120 surnames in his direct lines. He is a former Clayton Library Friends board member and has also co-authored "Census Secrets of the Rich and Famous", a book owned by Ancestry.com.

Join us on our new day (Friday-September 30), time (6:00), and location (Great Room – second floor) at the University Baptist Church and welcome Kim to BAGS. Kim is very often at Clayton doing his research and also offers a wealth of information regarding certain states, in addition to the Revolutionary War. It should be an interesting and informative night. See you there!

Katrina and the Three R's

Readin', Ritin' and 'Rithmetic. The three R's have been a symbol of education throughout our country's history. But the effects of Hurricane Katrina are so profound that scholastic excellence alone will not provide the answers we need.

I participated in a worship service conducted by Seabrook United Methodist Church, First Baptist Church of Seabrook, and about 30 of the evacuees from Louisiana. The pastors and Louisianians told of the community's discovery of the real excellence of outrageous generosity and radical hospitality in overcoming the misfortunes of the storm. We have new skills, a new "three R's" -- Remembrance, Recovery, and Rebuilding.

I hope you have found ways to interact with the new folks among us, to enrich and to heal. In the days ahead, perhaps you will find a way to use your genealogical skills to rebuild the lost records, or prevent the loss of data that families will need.

God bless us all,
Doug Wilson

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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

I don't mind telling you that this final message from me as your president has reached these pages with great difficulty. I had hoped to put down some inspiring, elegant words that would fill your spirits with energy and motivation to continue the long and sometimes difficult genealogical trek. I waited too long. I should have done it last week and I'm sure our editor agrees. It was too long waiting because the terrible tragedy that has suddenly swept our land weighs heavily on me as I'm sure it does on you. Human suffering is always difficult. But this time it was too close. Not in some far away land, though not any less tragic for those people. But this was next door - we feel it's our kin. We have to bear the sorrow and do what each of us can. I suspect that that is pray, contribute what we can, and look to what has to be a brighter future.

While physical things are not important unless they relieve some of the suffering, I feel compelled to say something. Much of what many of you may have needed in your research of your family history may no longer exist. We don't yet know what records were destroyed in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. I hope they were well preserved. I fear not.

As most of you already know, a major change has occurred in the day and time of our monthly general meetings. They will now be held on Friday evenings at 6:00 in the University Baptist Church Great Room. This change was not an arbitrary decision of your Board. The church needed for us to make the change.

So last, let me say, with some sadness, that I have so enjoyed being your president this past year. We held together and had some wonderful programs and exhibits. New members were acquired, and the pimento cheese sandwiches were the best yet.

See you at the meetings-



Citizenship Day
September 17

Ron



George Washington's family tree is awe inspiring. While recently volunteering at the Clayton House, I looked at the vertical files. First let me explain that the Clayton House is part of the Clayton Library complex and primarily houses family name specific files in book format. But, also in the Clayton House there is a vertical file, which contains large papers; the majority of which are large family pedigree charts which have been donated to the Clayton Library by individuals. One family pedigree really caught my attention; it was the pedigree of our first President of the United States, George Washington. We all learned in school that he had no descendants, which is true; but he did have ancestors and his siblings had many children. The Washington family pedigree continues to this day. The reason that I am in awe of the pedigree is because parts of George Washington's family tree goes back 10 generations before the pedigree ever reaches George Washington. I looked at the pedigree chart and saw that the first ancestor lived from 1422 to 1471, and there were three generations in America before George Washington was even born!

Such information is amazing news to many of our readers. Some of us have one branch of our family trees that we cannot even trace for three generations in America and I would venture to say that the majority of our members cannot trace any of their ancestral lines back 10 generations. Finally, the overwhelming majority (if not all) of our members cannot trace any ancestors back to the 1400s. Starting at number one as the first known ancestor, I will number each generation to show you a sample of George Washington's family tree. Because I am only listing males, the only surname in this sample is "Washington".

1. John 1422-1471
2. Robert
3. John

4. Lawrence (died about 1584)
5. Robert (born 1544)
6. Lawrence
7. Rev. Lawrence (lived about 1602-1652)
8. John (first generation in the Americas)
9. Lawrence
10. Augustine
11. George (Our first President)
12. The Washington pedigree continues through children of George Washington's nephews and nieces. For example: George A. Washington was the son of Colonel Charles Washington – one of George Washington's brothers.
13. George Fayette
14. William

Caution; I never saw any of the original records, so I am relying on the research of one individual, named below, who created the pedigree not making any mistakes. Never do this for your own family tree. If you want to be more diligent and confirm this information, below are the credits as they are written on the George Washington pedigree chart located in the vertical file at the Clayton House.

Produced by J. E. Cobb Jr. Col. USA (Ret)
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 The Durant Publishing Co.
 1208 Tatum Drive
 Alexandria, VA 22307



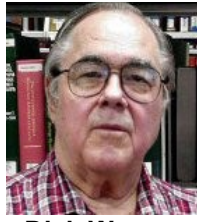
BAGS Officers-Elect 2005-2007



Loren Martin
President



Alice Braud-Jones
1st Vice-President



Dick Warren
2nd Vice-President



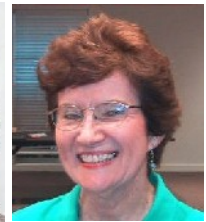
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Mary Martin
Recording Secretary



Shirley Lindquist
Corresponding Sec'y

A VERY FOND FAREWELL

In the two years I served as your Editor, I learned many lessons about the workings of our newsletter and, along the way, learned a great deal more about myself. It was sometimes like therapy for me and offered me valuable lessons in discipline, patience, frustration, coupled with an abundance of fun and laughter. I enjoyed the challenges and, ultimately with each completed issue, the satisfaction of being a part of a thorough and competent staff. Each printed page included our thoughts, time, and efforts but also our hearts, souls, and spirit. Just as you shared your stories with us, we shared our best with you and I'm proud of all of us.

A special thanks to Leo Waltz for originally establishing the impressive and professional e-newsletter prototype that we now have. The BAGS newsletter can progress in any direction thanks to the good, solid beginnings that Leo initiated for us. The future looks bright.

My hope for Linda and her staff is that they enjoy the experience and put their own personal stamp on each issue. I know each member personally and I'm confident BAGS has an exceptional staff that will take this newsletter to new heights.

Safe Journey - Go with God

Claudia M. Grafton



Events Calendar

Meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC)

Members are invited to attend all meetings

- Monday, September 26, 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
"American Revolutionary War Pensions"
Speaker: Kim Morton
- Monday, October 24, 2005 4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
- Friday, October 28, 2005 6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, **Great Room, 2nd Floor** UBC
"German Research with Updates from Germany"
Speaker: Wolfram M. Von-Maszewski

BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Annual membership fees are now due. (<http://www.txbayareagen.org/>)

University Baptist Church has been expanding its programs and will no longer be able to provide a meeting room on Sunday for BAGS. They have a growing list of programs and activities and will need the use of all their rooms on Sunday. They have offered us a room to meet on Friday night and until the BAGS Board and Membership has had an opportunity to review our options and vote on our future meeting time and location, the Board has scheduled Friday night meetings for the rest of this year. The General Meeting information is as follows:

September 30	6:00 pm	Great Room
October 28	6:00 pm	Great Room
November 18	6:00 pm	Great Room
December 16	6:00 pm	Great Room.

The BAGS Board is still scheduled to meet the Monday before the General Meetings and the public is invited.

BAGS would like all its Membership to investigate their own church, organizations, or community facilities to determine any alternatives. Remember to ask about accommodations (for about 70 to 100), kitchen facilities, and any kind of fee. You may report any follow-up information to Claudia M. Grafton at claudiamg@ev1.net or at (281) 337-1054. Thank you for your effort.

HARRIS COUNTY ARCHIVES

Members participating in the Harris County Archives project meet Judy Henderson on Wednesday, October 3 at 9:00 am at Clear Lake Bible Church parking lot (El Dorado @ Hwy 3) to carpool to Archives. [<judy38@hal-pc.org>](mailto:judy38@hal-pc.org)

TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

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

THE HOUSTON GENEALOGICAL FORUM AND THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

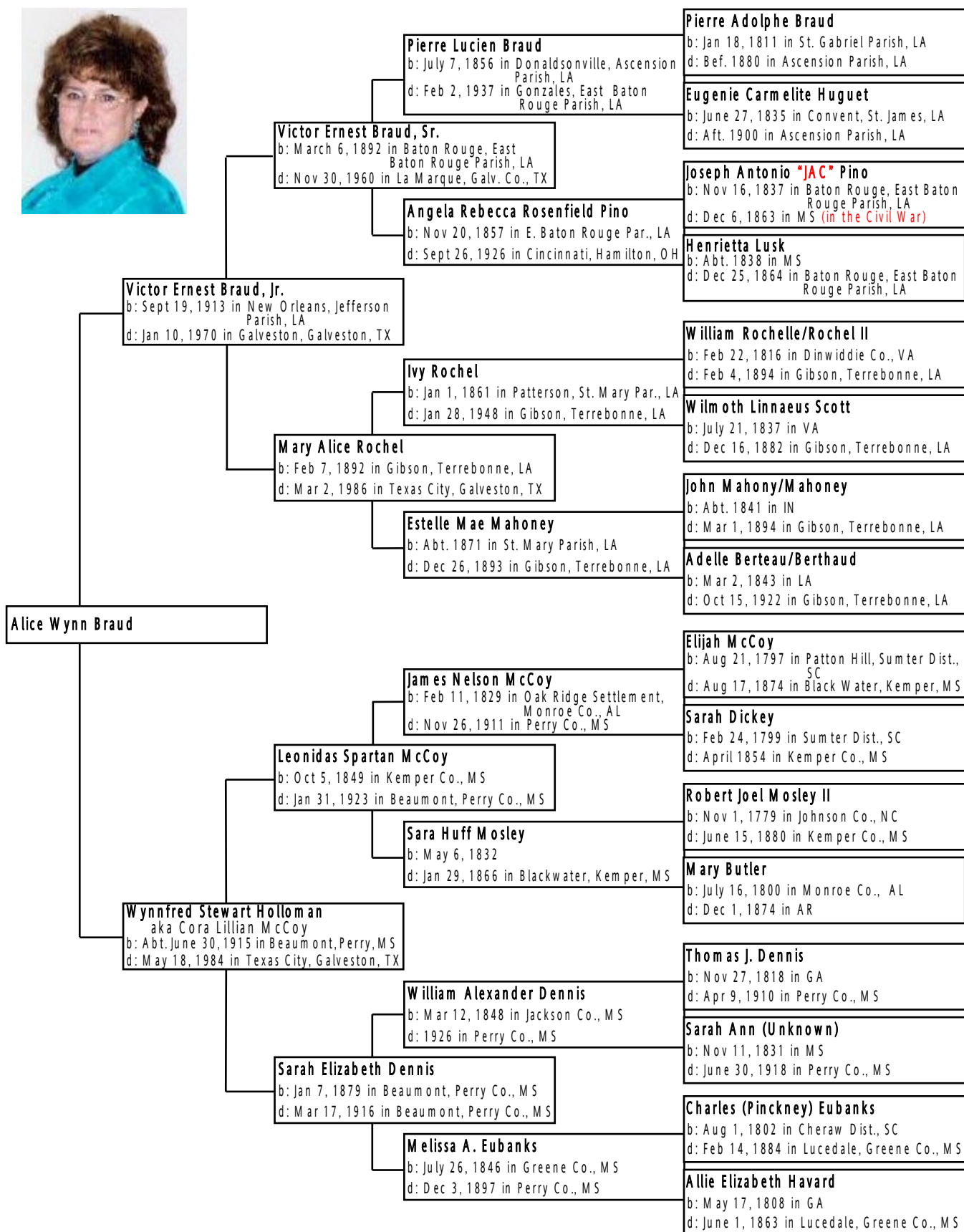
Seminar – Irish Research, Houston, TX, Saturday, October 22 (<http://www.hgftx.org/>)

The previously announced series of seminars on ethnic research has been canceled because of scheduling difficulties

SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Ancestors of Alice Wynn Braud (Jones)



Committee News

Library Trips

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Our scheduled dates to the Clayton Library are:

Wednesday, September 21

Tuesday, October 25

Wednesday, December 14

I sometimes get a call offering additional trips. I then notify Leo and he posts the information immediately on the website. He has been great keeping our trips posted and up to date, and I thank him very much. . Always check www.TxBayAreaGen.org for all of our scheduled trips to the library. During the last six months, we were fortunate to be able to schedule two extra trips. The full schedule for the next six months will be posted in the October Newsletter.

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 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 always have sign-up sheets at the general meetings.

Hospitality

Lee Jared, Coordinator

Thanks to all Good & Generous Cooks!

I've received many nice compliments lately regarding our "Sunday Suppers". Delicious and good looking! I didn't do it. I did the phoning and crossed my fingers each month that everything would turn out for the best. Well, if nice words are true, it worked and I owe many thanks to the 62, yes sixty-two, people who furnished a dinner for on the average of 75 hungry folks at this last year and a half's BAGS Meetings.

It has been a great chance to get to know many of you good people better. Thank you again,

Lee Jared

BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$2,490.30
Income	\$95.50
Expenses	-\$291.00
Balance on hand 08/22	\$2,294.80

Membership

Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar

Let's give a warm welcome to new member Rita Baker of Pearland. She is researching Presley, Foster, Armstrong and Hayes.

Your 2005-2006 membership fees were due September 1st. Individual membership is \$20 and family membership \$25. We are accepting membership renewals for 2005-2006 by mail or at our regular meeting on September 30th. If you choose to renew by mail, please fill out a new application form which can be found on the BAGS website. Send the completed application form and check to: BAGS Registrar, 5001 Casa Grande, Dickinson, TX 77539-7504.

Our bylaws provide that "any member whose dues remain unpaid on the last day of October will be dropped from the membership rolls as of that date". Membership can be reinstated by late payment of dues but without inclusion in the society's Yearbook.

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

BAGS Quarterly

Susie Ganch, Editor

The September Quarterly is ready for print and we will have them at the October meeting. There are more interesting histories from our members. This was going to be the last issue with "How I Got to Texas" articles. However, several members asked that we continue it so they could get their Texas stories in. So, we will keep it going and I look forward to getting many more of your "Texas" articles. We also have more Bible records for this issue and the conclusion of "Mother's Story," which began in the last quarterly. In addition to your Bible records, I would also like to publish your cemetery transcriptions and copies of your ancestral vital records...marriage certificates, birth certificates and death certificates.

I think that all of these are good research material for other Genealogists looking for families of which we may have just the information they need. 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.



Members Offer a
“Show & Tell” Time
Experience.
Records and
Artifacts
Generously Shared.



PHOTOS BY LINDA GOERLAND

REMINDER
General Meeting Friday
September 30, 6:00 pm, Great
Room (2nd Floor) UBC

Deadline for
October Issue is
October 7, 2005

BAGS website:
www.TxBayAreaGen.org

