



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 5, Issue No. 2

October 2005

October Meeting: German Research

Oct 28 6:00 pm
UBC Great Room

Gems from Genealogists



An interesting article about saving historical archives and records after Katrina is located at <http://www.csmonitor.com/2005/0928/p12s01-lihc.html>.

Since Rita came to call there will be other areas of Louisiana with libraries and documents in peril -- as well as in Texas.

If you have genealogical books and periodicals you no longer use and your local genealogy collection already has copies, hang on to them. A little later there will surely be a genealogical collection that could use them --- and you would be able to take off an income tax deduction. Perhaps individual genealogical societies could become the organizers for such a project.

Dug up by: Trevia Wooster Beverly

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“German Research with Updates from Germany”

Wolfram M. Von-Maszewski



Born and raised in Europe, Von received his BA and MA degrees in anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin and did additional work in American studies at the University of Colorado and in genealogy through Brigham Young University. He has produced several publications: *Index to the Trail Drivers of Texas*, *The Volkfest in Brenham, Texas*, *A Sojourn in Texas, 1846-47* (a translation of the experience of an early German traveler in Texas),

German Emigration Ships to New Orleans, 1865-1869 and most recently *Voyage to North America, 1844-45* (a translation with notes of Prince Carl of Solms' Texas diary; Solms coordinated the movement of German settlers into Texas and became the founder of New Braunfels). His current project is the translation and compilation of letters and diaries by a group of German-Texans who served in Waul's Texas Legion in the Civil War.

Mr. Von-Maszewski was president of the German-Texan Heritage Society for several terms and in the year 2000 he was invited to Germany to speak on emigration as well as the commercial relationship between the port of Bremerhaven, Germany, and the port of Galveston in the 1800s.

Professionally, Mr. Von-Maszewski is a Certified Genealogical Records Searcher (CGRS) and the manager of the Genealogy and Local History Department at George Memorial Library in Richmond, Texas.

BAGS Officers

President – Loren Martin
281-332-2435
president@TxBayAreaGen.org

1st Vice Pres. -- Alice Braud-Jones
281-480-6944
genealijonz@houston.rr.com

2nd Vice Pres. -- Dick Warren
281-461-1472
dick@merlins-web.com

Recording Secy. – Mary Martin
281-332-2435
lmartin497@aol.com

Corresponding Secy. – Shirley Lindquist
281-286-4125
slindquist@houston.rr.com

Treasurer -- Resa Hennings
281-326-4936
resa@resa.us

Registrar – Rose Mary Fritz
281-337-5495
registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Newsletter Staff

Editor
Linda Carrington

Compositor
Doug Wilson

Proofreaders – **Barbara Stanley**
Alice Braud-Jones

Photographers – **Linda Goerland**
Neil Miserendino, Leo Waltz

Distribution – **Lee Jared**

5 Gen. Charts – **Carol Varnado**

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:

Editor, P.O. Box 891447,
Houston, TX 77289-1447, or
lmc62@houston.rr.com

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Message from the President

Loren Martin

As we begin a new year for BAGS, I would like to first express my appreciation for the honor you have given me by electing me to lead our society. Being a charter member of the society, I am well aware of the many benefits that we have received because of the excellent participation and accomplishments of many dedicated members. To these individuals, I say "Thank you!"

Now I ask for help from every member to make our society even better! Each individual can participate in whichever manner appropriate for them - volunteering your time to committee or board activities, increasing your membership fee, sharing information in the newsletter and quarterly, proof reading these publications, answering the call to bring refreshments to our meetings or helping to implement any other improvements to strengthen BAGS. Please give of yourself so that many others can receive benefit from our society.

We have the privilege of belonging to a fine genealogical society and the opportunity to make it an excellent, model genealogical organization. I am looking forward to working with each of you in helping BAGS to grow. The first important issue that we need to resolve is the question of time and location of our future general meetings. After the first of the year, as you know, we have three options:

- permanently change the BAGS meeting time to Friday evenings at University Baptist Church,
- permanently change the BAGS meeting time to Saturday mornings at University Baptist Church, or
- find a new location that will provide a Sunday evening meeting room large enough for 75 – 100 attendees and hopefully with kitchen facilities. (If we select this option, we would need someone to assume the responsibility to be the liaison person to coordinate all activities between BAGS and the new facility.)

Claudia Grafton has kindly agreed to chair the committee to investigate option 3 above. Please contact her with information regarding suggestions and/or possible locations. Many members have expressed strong feelings regarding each of the above options. Therefore, the entire general membership will be surveyed, via e-mail, regarding their preference, to help the Board to determine their final recommendation. If you have e-mail access, please contact Claudia at: claudiamg@ev1.net with your preferences. Unfortunately there is not one perfect choice that will meet all our members' preferences.



Loren

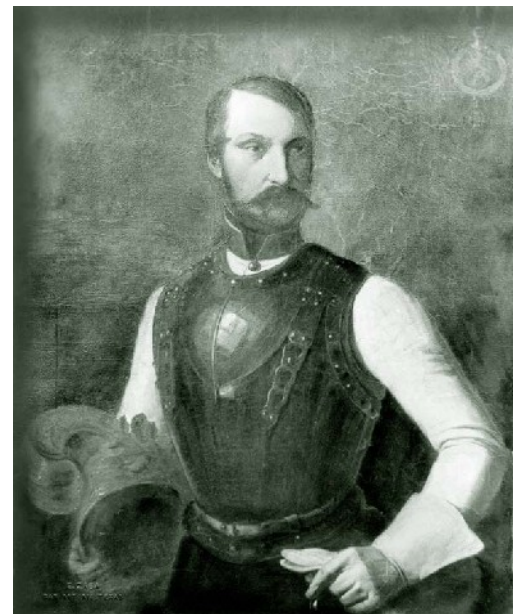
There are some missing pieces in the results of our genealogical research. The missing pieces are personal stories about the people we are researching. I know many of our BAGS members have personal stories, but are you writing them down or recording them for future generations? Is there a family story that is not permanently recorded? Has there been a special event in your life recently that should be written down?

The recent threat to Houston by Hurricane Rita should have provided many stories that can be written for posterity. Have you recorded how you prepared and what you did if you stayed to wait out the hurricane? If you evacuated, then you can write about the problems you experienced. Some of the BAGS Board members have written down their experiences; what about you and your family members? What I have written about the period when Hurricane Rita threatened is posted on our website. If you would like to add your stories please give them to our Webmaster, Leo Waltz or email to him at Leo.Waltz@prodigy.net. You can provide valuable information to future genealogists and family members by writing about the special events of your life.

On a different topic, I can no longer be a monthly contributor for this newsletter. I was planning articles for the next year and actually hoped to get ahead and have several months of articles ready for publication but my planning has not worked out. I have recently concluded that I have to cut back on some activities. I realize that this is an abrupt announcement and when I first made this decision, I wondered if I should give several months notice, but realized that giving a long notice is not of any advantage to the organization. We knew about the opening for our Newsletter Editor for months and that position took months to fill. Now that the need for another writer for the newsletter is urgent, I feel a replacement will be easier to find.

Actually, it is not necessary for just one person to write the research articles for our newsletter. The Bay Area Genealogical Society currently has more than 170 members. If each member were to write only one article for this newsletter, we would have more than ten years worth of articles. If only ten percent of the members were to contribute articles, then each person would write less than one article in a year. Additionally, there are members who are much more knowledgeable on some topics than I.

For example, I do not need to research early American or Colonial American records, but we have members who do research the early American records. Similarly, there are many other members who have specialized knowledge in areas of genealogy that I have not written about. They should be happy to share their knowledge and experience through this medium. Please consider making a much needed contribution to our organization by sharing your knowledge through an article for the BAGS Newsletter.



German-
American Day
October 6

Prince Carlo of
Solms-Bavaria

In the history of the BAGS Quarterly, we have received wonderful articles from our members and everyone has enjoyed reading one article or another and discovering the ancestry of our members. Now, we need your articles, Bible records, vital/statistical records, cemetery transcriptions, family records, and any historical articles of interest. Our members and other genealogists might consult our quarterly for information to research their own families and their history.

Our “How I Got To Texas” stories continue as well as the “If I Could Spend A Day With An Ancestor” series. I know many of you have

stories to share with subscribers and those who read our quarterlies. At the present time, we have no articles for the December BAGS Quarterly. What a shame it would be to have no quarterly for December!

Hopefully, this will inspire some of you to send in material for publication. We need to include your family in our quarterly publication. Won't you contribute?

Please email submissions to sganch@verizon.net or mail to Susie Ganch, 2393 Golden Shores Lane, League City, TX 77573.

Committees for 2005-2006

Loren Martin

The Bay Area Genealogical Society is indeed fortunate to have many volunteers to step up to the responsibilities that make the Society a success. I want to recognize and thank these members for their commitment to us for the year ahead:

- Mary Martin – County Coordinator
- Neil Miserendino – E-Mail Communications
- Barbara Moore – Hospitality
- Carol Varnado - Historian
- Jeanine Lawrence – UBC Meeting Room Coordinator
- Claudia Grafton - Member Services
- Linda Carrington, Doug Wilson, Lee Jared, Barbara Stanley, Alice Braud-Jones - Newsletter staff
- Linda Goerland - Photographer
- Leona Cook, Gloria Dupuy - Publicity
- Susie Ganch, Barbara Stanley, Annette Bowen, Lynda Cox, Tina Medlin-Chatham, Allan Ganch– Quarterly staff
- Geri Higgs - Scrapbook
- Bill Teas – Sergeant at arms
- Diane Kropp and Paula Sinning – Welcoming
- Leo Waltz - Web Master
- Neil Miserendino - Yearbook Editor

BAGS Annual Holiday Dinner Party

HO HO HO! Here it comes again! Our annual holiday gathering will be Friday, December 16 in the Great Room at University Baptist Church!

This year promises to have all the “comfort and joy” of last year’s gathering, including our fabulous catered meal, each table decorated by a member or group, Christmas musicians, and the “Pass the Santa’s Hat” storytelling from the members. We hope this year’s event will provide BAGS members, speakers, and friends with a night to remember.

More specific information about our special night will be made public at the October General Meeting. Members may also check on the BAGS website after November 1 or in the November newsletter. Event tickets may be purchased and tables reserved at the BAGS General Meeting on Friday, November 18.

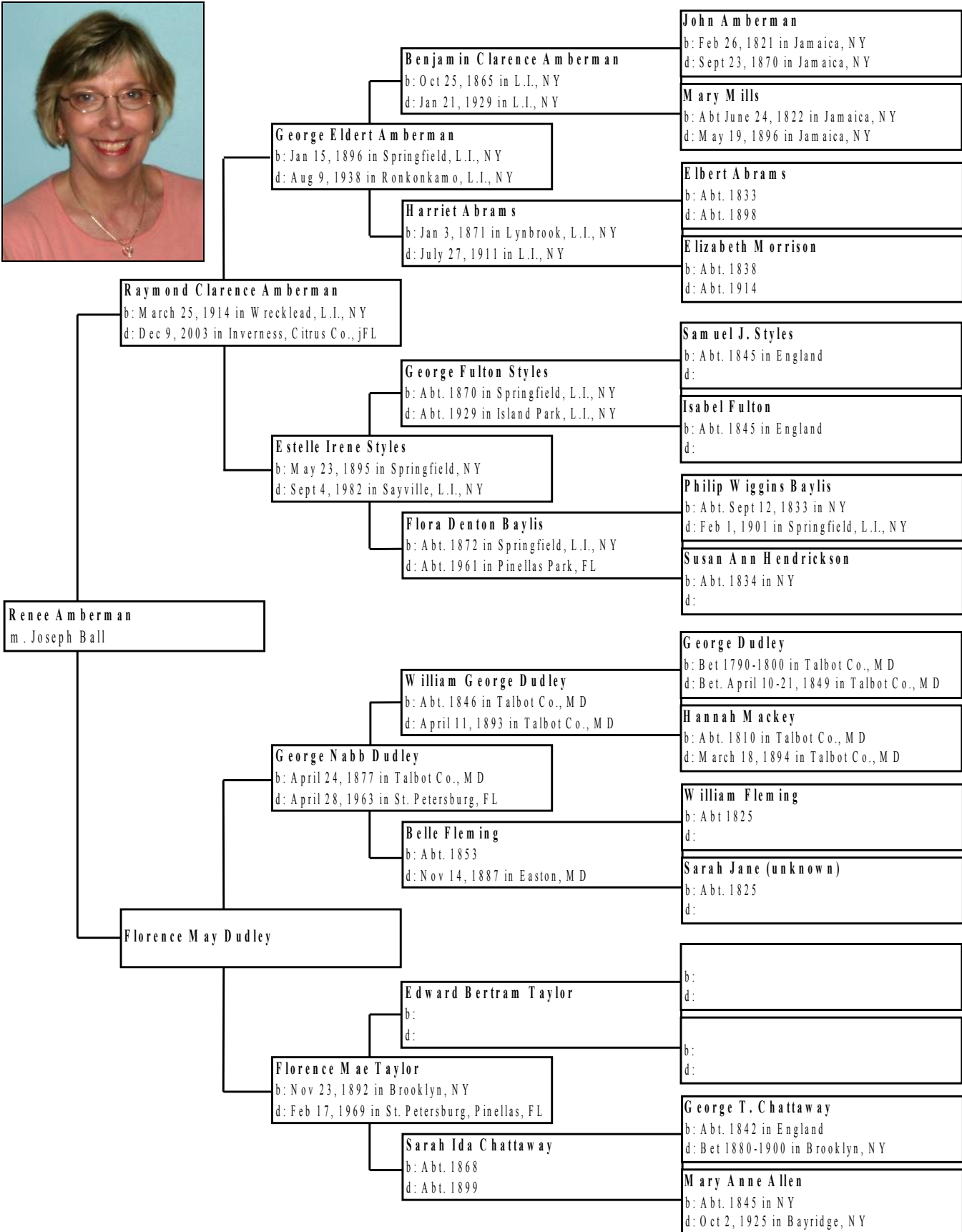
Please contact Claudia M. Grafton at (281) 337-1054 or claudiamg@ev1.net with your ideas, comments, or suggestions to the Christmas Committee for consideration.

So you better watch out...cause he knows if you've been naughty or nice – so invite your friends, buy your tickets, and be good for goodness sake!!

Events Calendar

<p align="center">BAGS Meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC) Members are invited to attend all meetings</p>	
•Monday, October 24, 2005	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
•Tuesday, October 25, 2005	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library Contact Mary Martin 281-332-2435
•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
•Saturday, October 29, 2005	SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY Patricia Law Hatcher, Speaker, San Antonio, TX http://www.rootsweb.com/%7Etxsaghs2/calendar.htm
•Saturday, November 5, 2005	11:00 am to 2:00 pm 6th Annual City of Houston SE Recreation Center’s Organizational Fair at Almeda Mall. BAGS will have a table here along with other local clubs.
•Saturday, November 5, 2005	HOUSTON GENEALOGICAL FORUM Mini-seminar, Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck, Speaker, Houston, TX http://www.hgftx.org/
•Saturday, November 12, 2005	AUSTIN GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Emily Croom, Speaker, Austin TX http://www.austintxgensoc.org/
•Monday, November 14, 2005	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
•Friday, November 18, 2005	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC Subject to be Announced
•Monday, December 12, 2005	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
•Wednesday, December 14, 2005	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library
•Friday, December 16, 2005	6:00 pm BAGS Annual Holiday Dinner Party Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC
•Tuesday, January 17, 2006	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library
•Tuesday, March 14, 2006	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library

Ancestors of Renee Amberman (Ball)



Committee News

Trips to Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

We have four trips to Clayton Library scheduled through March of next year. Please see our Events Calendar on page 5 for those dates.

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. for Clayton Library and leave the 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 e-mail me at lmartin497@aol.com. We will also have sign-up sheets at the meetings. We have an interesting time searching for ancestors, and we enjoy each others company riding on the bus and exchanging ideas.

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

Five Generation Charts

Carole Varnado, Coordinator

Please join me in sending a big "Thank You" to Tammy Frey for handling the Five Generation Charts from the beginning of BAGS until now. I have taken over this job and I look forward to working with everyone. Please remember to send your Five Generation Charts to me at cvarnado@houston.rr.com or 3711 Canary Grass Lane, Houston, TX 77059. They can be handwritten or typed.

BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$2,294.80
Income	\$545.00
Expenses	-\$317.56
Balance on hand 9/30	\$2,522.24

Membership

Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar

Please welcome new member Eric William Hennings.

BAGS membership renewal applications are being accepted now. Those who renew before October 31st will have their names in the coming Yearbook. Those who renew late will **not** have their names in the Yearbook and will be dropped from the membership rolls.

RENEW NOW ! Send a completed application form (found on the BAGS website) and your check for \$20.00 - a single membership or \$25.00 - family membership to:

BAGS Registrar

5001 Casa Grande

Dickinson, TX 77539-7504

Harris County Archives

Judy Henderson, Coordinator

This Fall has been a busy time for all of us – getting back into a routine from the summer and then the upheaval and chaos of Rita. As a result, in September and October BAGS members were not able to go to the archives and work.

Now is the time to reset your calendars and mark the first Wednesday of the month for the day to meet and go work at the Harris County Archives for Sarah Jackson. The specific dates for the rest of the year are November 2nd and December 7th.

Please contact Judy Henderson at 281.482.788 or judy38@hal-pc.org.

Hospitality

Lee Jared, Coordinator

Many thanks to these people who provided refreshments at the September BAGS meeting:

Leslee Fehlman Mary Martin
Claudia Grafton Frank Roth
Resa Hennings



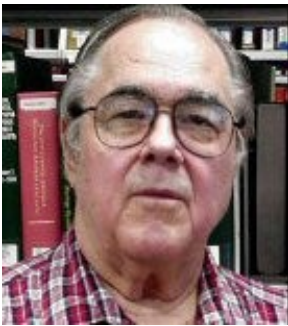
Resa Hennings
Treasurer

Rose Mary Fritz
Registrar

Alice Braud-Jones
1st Vice-president

Mary Martin
Recording Secretary

Loren Martin
President



Dick Warren
2nd Vice-president

BAGS Officers Sworn In At September 2005 Meeting



Shirley Lindquist
Corresponding Secretary

REMINDER

General Meeting Friday
October 28, 6:00 pm, Great
Room (2nd Floor) UBC

Deadline for
November Issue is
October 29, 2005



BAGS website:
www.TxBayAreaGen.org