



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 5, Issue No. 4

December 2005

December Meeting: Holiday Party

Dec 16
6:30 pm UBC

Gems from Genealogists



An advertisement in the November 1995 issue of "Country Home" magazine caught my eye. One page had a young girl standing in front of a tree with a 'family tree' diagram. The caption invited: "From old roots to the newest leaf, celebrate your family by making a family tree" and "visit [abundantforests.org](http://www.abundantforests.org)". I went to [http://www.abundantforests.org/](http://www.abundantforests.org) and the third item down on the left side took me to "Read More"; you'll find some interesting material and activities.

It occurs to me that with Christmas (and other) celebrations coming up that will bring families together, it would be an ideal time to introduce your young child or grandchild into this wonderful world we all so enjoy - genealogy!

Dug up by: Trevia W. Beverley

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"Home for the Holidays"

Preparations for our December gathering are well under way and we are eagerly anticipating one of our favorite social occasions. Our hopes are that if you have decided to attend, you have reserved or purchased your tickets by now. Tickets will not be sold at the door.

This year's event will include a three-course dinner and dessert, musical entertainment by two promising young musicians, Matt Stites (piano) and Marcus Shultz (guitar), in addition to plenty of games and memories shared by all. We have done our best to provide you with a most enjoyable, fun-filled night you will remember for years to come.

Please consider coming a little earlier than 6:30 to stroll around the Great Room and observe each of our decorated theme tables. They're back by popular demand and always add to the festivities.

So gather up all your yuletide spirit, put on your sparkly duds, and come to the University Baptist Church Great Room, December 16th at 6:30 pm for some comfort and joy.

For those of you not attending, best wishes and blessings go out to you for the upcoming year. BAGS will see you soon.



Matt Stites



Marcus Shultz

BAGS Officers

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

1st Vice Pres. -- Alice Braud-Jones
281-380-8920
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 – Carole 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

Bay Area Genealogical Society is ready to embark on an exciting new year! Your BAGS Board, together with your participation, is planning a fun, educational time.

We are looking forward to continuing to have the opportunity to hear excellent speakers at each of our monthly general membership meetings. Our vice-president of programming, Dick Warren, is contacting speakers to address the topics that you have requested, via the member survey that you completed at a monthly meeting. He is always striving to find new speakers and to continue our relationship with the many wonderful local speakers that BAGS has heard in the last four years. Your Board is investigating partnering with other groups, such as Clayton Library Friends, to bring a nationally-known speaker to Houston for a genealogical seminar.

The Newsletter, Quarterly and Yearbook staffs are always trying to improve your publications and provide maximum benefits and genealogy sharing opportunities. Please share your knowledge and information that you find with all of your fellow members and provide articles for these publications.

Your hard-working committee, chaired by Claudia Grafton, is still investigating possible locations for again having Sunday evening meetings. This is a slow, time-consuming process to identify, contact, wait for the various individuals to take our inquiry to their boards or membership, answer their questions and to then present the viable opportunities to BAGS. The committee has contacted over 20 organizations and about half of these locations are still considering our request. Until the BAGS membership votes to change our meeting location, if that is the wish of the majority, we are privileged to have University Baptist Church be our home and allow us to meet monthly on Friday evenings.

We are committed to continue having food and refreshments at our monthly meetings, by trying different methods to support our Hospitality Committee process. Please support these various "on the job" attempts to maximize the benefits and minimize the burden for our monthly social hour that is held in conjunction to our speaker session. For our January monthly membership meeting, we will try a "pot luck" approach (as we do for the August meeting) where everyone who comes will be asked to bring a dish.

Dottie Crabb is working to develop a Book Exchange opportunity for members to donate genealogy books to BAGS that other members can purchase to help advance their own personal family searches. The details are still to be worked out, however your contributions are greatly appreciated.

Mary Martin will continue to coordinate with Harris County to provide their bus transportation for our members to visit the various libraries and other genealogy sites in this area.

I wish to thank each of you, in advance, for your participation and support in making 2006 a great year for BAGS.

By the time you read this, the Christmas Party will probably have already happened. This annual event is an especially fun and interesting time for all members. I hope you were able to attend and enjoy.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Loren



It seems that this year's hot topic in the genealogical community is "Irish Research." In that vein, David Rencher, AG, FUGA, and Director of Records and Information, Family and Church History Department, of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, was one of the featured presenters this year at Samford University's Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research (IGHR). As a six-year alumnus of IGHR, I can state unequivocally that Mr. Rencher is one of the finest, most competent and compelling presenters I have encountered there. His broad-based subject knowledge combined with a near photographic memory and delightful presentation style made the week-long, forty-hour class glide seamlessly by. Not to say that we weren't exhausted at week's end; but it was the kind of pleasant exhaustion that comes with the knowledge that there are many more research avenues awaiting exploration in search of our forbears.

In ancient times, Ireland was divided into five provinces; in order of creation they were: Leinster, Munster, Connaught, Ulster and Meath. Meath was later disbanded leaving only the four. An excellent read on this subject is Edward Rutherford's historical novel, *The Princes of Ireland*. Rutherford is also the author of *Sarum*, *London*, *Russka* and *The Forest*. Although his characters are often fictional, he is well known for the depth of his historical research.

John Grenham's *Tracing Your Irish Ancestors, The Complete Guide, 2nd Edition*, is the genealogist's reference book for Irish research and was used extensively throughout the course. Included in Mr. Rencher's syllabus, of course, is an exhaustive listing of his various source citations, reference works, etc. Samford University Library has an excellent collection of Irish records, but you don't have to go to Birmingham, AL or Salt Lake City, UT to locate most of these sources. They reside in our own Clayton Library's shelves, drawers, CDs and bins. Packed to capacity with current, comprehensive resources to delight even the

most discerning Irish research enthusiast, Clayton's holdings will provide a virtual panacea of primary reference works. Look for yourself at: <http://www.hpl.lib.tx.us/clayton/>. With the key-word search "Ireland", there are over 370 books, manuscript, maps, CDs, software, etc., to begin your inquiries. Naturalization, probate, land and church records are going to provide invaluable clues to your Irish ancestors and many are available at Clayton. Do not miss the estate records, poor law union books and school records, which also provide pertinent information. And certainly do not overlook occupational records such as those in the Royal College of Physicians, Garda Museum, King's Inn Library (all in Dublin), Guild Hall in London, and individual private records collections.

Oh, by the way! One message loudly broadcast in the class was that Irish genealogical research is best performed in reverse compared to that of other geographical locations. Due to destruction of many Irish records resident in the Public Records Office of Dublin in 1922, the time utilized in the four standard genealogical research steps are divided in the following proportions:

- Investigate the existence of records (30%)
- Learn the history of the record source (20%)
- Determine the availability of the record (40%)
- Search the record (10%)

National Archive of
Ireland -- Dublin



We are in need of original articles from our members for our quarterly. Please submit articles about your family history, any local history, or genealogical research. We can also use your Bible records, vital records (such as birth certificates, marriage certificates and death certificates), and cemetery transcriptions. If you have a favorite historical or genealogical poem or anecdote, we can use them for fillers.

If I receive any "How I Got to Texas" articles, we will continue that series. At this point, I do not have any Texas articles for the December Quarterly. If you send them by December 15th, I can use them in the December Quarterly.

Please email your submissions to me at sganch@verizon.net or mail them to me at 2393 Golden Shores Lane, League City, Tx 77573.

,,, and At a Really Good Price

Some of us will remember when Richard S. Lackey's "Cite Your Source" was first published, and became the 'bible' for documenting family histories and genealogical records. Then in 1997 Elizabeth Shown Mills' "Evidence! Citation Analysis for the Family Historian" was published.

Now that almost all of us are using computers for genealogy, Ms. Mills offers a really neat tool – "QuickSheet. Citing Online Historical Sources." Published in the form of a laminated 4-page folder, the QuickSheet offers a series of sample citations showing the correct, easy to identify online sources such as databases, census images, and digital books and articles. Convenient for desktop use at home or in the library, the QuickSheet will answer those unanswered question from standard citation guides.

Based on the premise that a website is the online equivalent of a published book in its own right, and has the same characteristics as a printed publication, Ms. Mills has given us rules and models for common record types such as passenger lists, vital records, newspapers, etc. The QuickSheet will show you how to cite author/creator/owner of a website, title of the website, place (URL), date posted, and so forth. In addition to the Models for Common Record Types, the QuickSheet also offers Basic Templates.

All in all, a neat tool at a very reasonable price: 8-1/2" x 11", 4 pp. folded for \$5.95. It is published by Genealogical Publishing Company (2005) where you may order online at <http://www.genealogical.com/>.

There are times, of course, when a specific online site gives the citation they prefer you to use. One such is "The New Handbook of Texas Online" at <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/>.

Review by Trevia Wooster Beverly
Tejas Publications & Research, Houston, Texas

FORUM Magazine

FORUM magazine brings up-to-date national and local news of importance to family historians. Offering more than 180 pages per year in four issues, FORUM informs and educates through consistently high-impact, top-quality reporting. Articles about exceptional sources, major repositories, and research strategies aim at increasing your awareness and skill level.

About 20 books and products, such as CD Roms, are expertly reviewed in each issue. "News in Brief" alerts you to national and international happenings that impact your research. Features such as "Record Access" and "Ethnic/International" help you discover new sources and the current availability by state, ethnic group, or country.

"Family Associations" highlights three or more surname groups each quarter and you get the inside scoop on new electronic aids and their research potential when you read "Digitools". A "State Reporting" column announces society indexing and transcribing projects, both online and in print. Each issue's "Calendar of Events" shows up to 50 institutes, seminars, and lectures throughout North America. It is arranged by date with a location cross-index.

There are even "self-help" columns for society volunteers, such as "The Writer's and Editor's Craft," with subjects such as contracts, copyright, and content. "Society Spotlight" lets you tell others what your society has done.

Since BAGS is a member of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, BAGS members are entitled to a discounted subscription rate of \$15.00 per year, a \$3.00 savings over the regular rate. To order online, visit the FGS website, www.fgs.org.

Submitted by Alice Braud-Jones

Events Calendar

BAGS Meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC) Members are invited to attend all meetings	
■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	6:30 pm BAGS Holiday Party, Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC (Advance sale tickets only!)
■Wednesday, January 4, 2006	9:00 am Harris County Archives trip, meet @ Clear Lake Bible Church, El Dorado @ Hwy 3, contact Judy Henderson, 281-482-7888 or judy38 <at> hal-pc.org
■Tuesday, January 17, 2006	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library
■Monday, January 23, 2006	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
■Friday, January 27, 2006	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC "Immigration and Passenger Lists" Speaker: Marj Harris
■Wednesday, February 8, 2006	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library
■Tuesday, March 14, 2006	9:00 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library

Bus Trip Opportunities

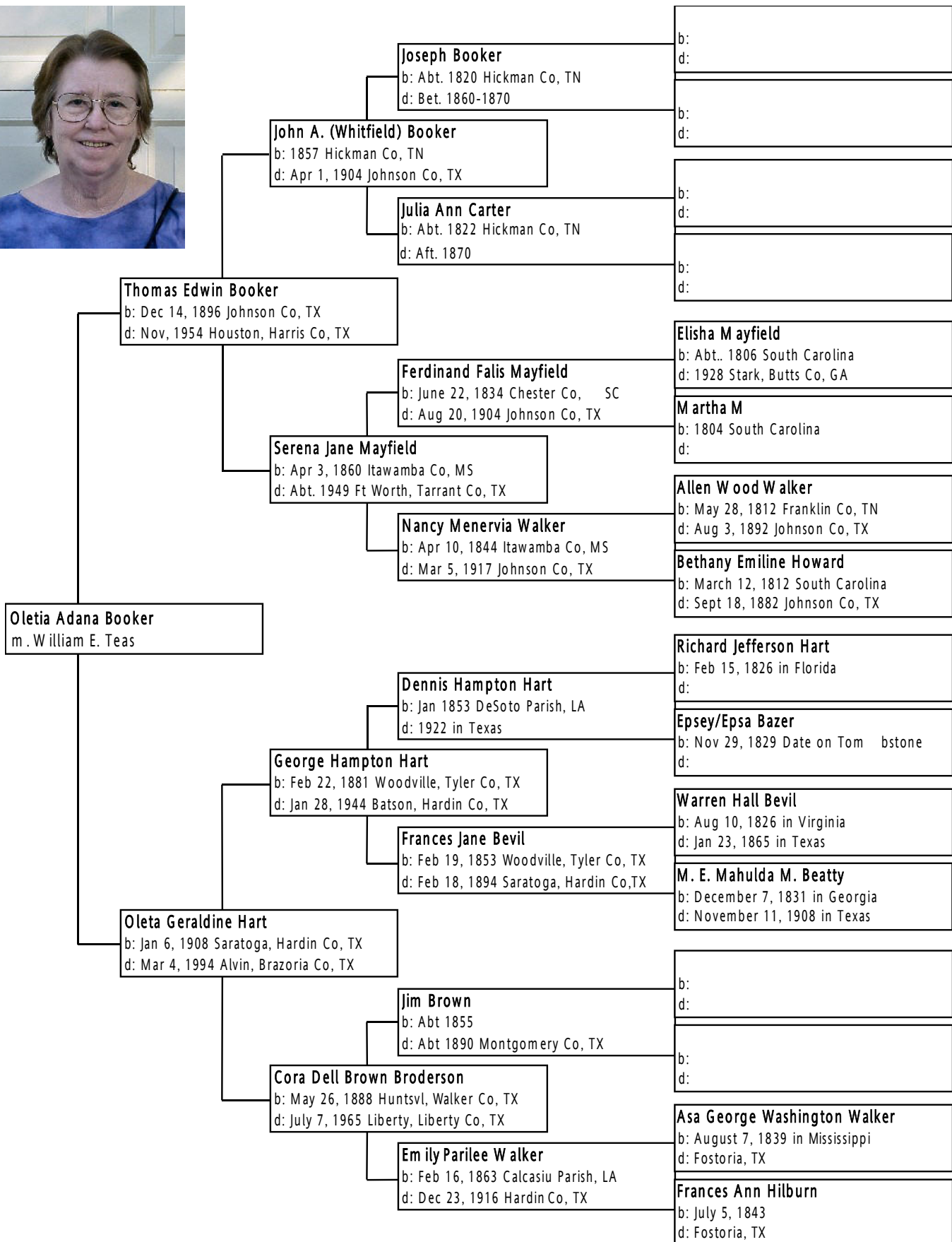
There are several members of BAGS who are interested in going to the George Memorial Library in Richmond, TX. If we can get nine people who will commit to attend a trip to this library, we can use one of the currently scheduled dates as a trip to the George Memorial Library; either Wednesday, February 8, 2006 or Tuesday, March 14, 2006.

George Memorial Library is a very nice library with several good collections. It has non-current government records and indexes for Austin, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Matagorda, Waller, and Wharton counties. It also has a very nice Civil War Collection and the 1930 Censuses for Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, Oklahoma, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee,

Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia. Additionally, there are American Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Application files and books from many Texas counties as well as those from other states. These are just a few of the items in their collection. About half a dozen readers and a copier are located in the genealogy room of the library. You may recall that our October speaker, Wolfram Von Maszewski is in charge of the genealogy department of the George Memorial Library. He has considerable knowledge about German research.

If you are interested in going to this library, please let Mary Martin (lmartin497@aol.com) know which date is best for you so it can be scheduled.

Ancestors of Oletia Booker Teas



Committee News

Trips to Clayton Library

Mary Martin, Coordinator

Our trips scheduled to the Clayton Library are:

Wednesday, December 14, 2005,
Tuesday, January 17, 2006,
Wednesday, February 8, 2006, and
Tuesday, March 14, 2006.

We will meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Street and depart in the county bus at 9:00 am. We will depart the Clayton Library at 3:00 pm. and be back to the parking lot before 4:00 pm. If you have any questions or would like to attend any of our trips, please call me at 281-332-2435, or email me at lmartin497@aol.com. There will also be sign-up sheets at our monthly meetings.

Our BAGS 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!

Membership

Rose Mary Fritz, Coordinator

Let's welcome new member Betty J. Leonard of League City. She is researching Cartwright and Graham in Indiana, and Rope, Kain, Thompson and Brown in Ohio.

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

Thanks to all the BAGS members who renewed their membership in a timely fashion. If you are not one of these, you can renew your membership by sending a completed application form (found on the BAGS website) and your check for \$20.00 for single membership or \$25.00 for family membership to:

BAGS Registrar
5001 Casa Grande
Dickinson, TX 77539-7504

Better still, take your renewal application to the holiday dinner on Friday, December 16th and share in the Holiday cheer!

Hospitality

For our November meeting, thanks to Lee Jared for coordinating and to all who donated for the dinner table – Shirley Brasseaux, Joy Hampton, Geri Higgs, Jeanine Lawrence, Carole O'Neal, Hattie McKinley, Mary Pearson, Shirley Robbins and Carole Varnado.

A donation basket was available for all to help defray the costs for the UBC room set-up and the plates, utensils, napkins and beverages. To everyone who contributed, thank you.

For our January meeting, everyone who attends is asked to bring a 'pot luck' dish to share. The donation basket will again be available for those who do not bring a dish and those that wish to help defray the related costs.

Email

Neil Miserendino, Coordinator

I am upgrading the email for the Bay Area Genealogical Society. I have created a PRIVATE group in Yahoo to send emails to the membership. (There is a limit to how many people can be added to the group in one day.)

If you have not already accepted the invitation to join the txbayareagen group in Yahoo, you will receive an invitation.

Please follow the directions to join the txbayareagen group in Yahoo so we can provide better service to the members of the Bay Area Genealogical Society.

BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$2,960.54
Income	\$1,874.53
Expenses	<u>-\$362.36</u>
Balance on hand 11/21/05	\$4,472.71



Holiday Party 2004

REMINDER
Holiday Party Friday
December 16, 6:30 pm,
Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC

Deadline for
January Issue is
January 7, 2006

BAGS website:
www.TxBayAreaGen.org

