



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 6, Issue No. 10

June 2007

### June Meeting: "My Heroes: The Code Talker and the Commandant"



#### Speaker: Alice Braud-Jones

Alice Braud-Jones honors her friend Samuel William Billison, Ph.D., a World War II Navajo Code Talker, and General Michael W. Hagee, a former United States Marine Corps (USMC) Commandant. Dr Billison received the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) Medal of Honor in Washington D.C, July 2004. During that visit, Alice and Dr. Billison were fortunate to meet the USMC highest-ranking officer. In a tribute to all military veterans and on the eve of Independence Day 2007, Ms. Braud- Jones pays homage to the "Code Talker and the Commandant."

Alice is a native Texan and an avid genealogist. She has carefully tracked and proven many of her ancestral lines back to the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries through careful study and on-site research at local, national and international repositories. Alice is currently serving as the BAGS 1st Vice President, BAGS Coordinator for the Mt. Olivet Cemetery Transcription Committee, and Clayton Library Friends Board of Directors Secretary. She holds memberships in many genealogical and lineage societies including NSDAR where she serves as a national, state and chapter officer; United Daughters of the Confederacy as a chapter officer; and National Society U. S. Daughters of 1812.

Ms. Braud-Jones served on other boards of directors throughout her 30-year professional career, including a 6-year gubernatorial appointment to the Texas State Board of Examiners, Licensed Professional Counselors, where she was vice chairman of the board. Other experience includes over a decade of service as president, vice president and treasurer of the Houston Area Health Care Coalition. As a firm believer in continuing education, Alice has completed numerous related courses including the National Institute of Genealogical Research (NIGR) and the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. Additionally, she is a 7-year alum of Samford University's Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research (IGHR) and a graduate of their British Institute of Genealogical and Historical Research (BIGHR).

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Samuel William Billison, PhD

PHOTO BY LEO WALTZ



**June 29, 6:00 pm University Baptist Church**

## BAGS Officers

### President – Loren Martin

281-332-2435  
[president@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:president@TxBayAreaGen.org)

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### Registrar – Rose Mary Fritz

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## Newsletter Staff

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**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  
[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

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## Message from the President

Loren Martin

Summer is here! Many of us will have the opportunity to visit locations where our ancestors once lived. Many others will have the opportunity to see relatives and in conversations learn more about our families.

These are excellent chances to collect and record genealogy facts. During your trips, plan to stop at the local courthouses and read the old newspapers. The courthouse records will not only provide the years your ancestors lived in that area, but will also provide personal data (occupation, economic levels, education, honors, public service and even “black sheep” incidents) and present clues to more information. The old newspapers contain articles that are entertaining to read and hopefully provide more family information.

Every relative remembers different things. Many times his or her individual memories include information that will “trigger” someone else to remember something else. These different stories can then be combined to produce a much better picture regarding the whole family.

The more we dig for information, the more information we will find to help fill-in the missing blanks regarding our ancestors. When we record this information, others will be able to use it to help find even more family data. The current information about the family and ourselves will be invaluable for our descendants. Just think of the information you wished our ancestors had recorded years ago and record that today.

Learning about our past ancestors and our present extended family is fun!

Remember to support the cemetery transcribing project, the BAGS cookbook and prepare for our August “Show and Tell” meeting. See you at the Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup> general meeting,

*Loren*



### Welcome New Members!

**Glenn C. Mathis, Sr. of Houston**  
**Regina D. Flynn of Friendswood**



## **"In Search of Unknown Generations"**

### **Angelina College Genealogy Conference Lufkin, Texas**

**Thursday July 19 through Saturday July 21,  
2007**

Featured speakers are Desmond Walls Allen, Trevia Wooster Beverly, Carolyn Earle Billingsley, Emily Croom, Charlie Gardes, Pat Gordon, Don Raney, and John Sellers. The programs topics include Croom's essentials, American Indian research, Confederate military research, female "ancestress" research, land records, and fraternal organizations. Print a registration form or register online. Information on speakers, programs, schedule, map, and East Texas research opportunities can be found at <http://www.angelina.edu/> (Select "Genealogy Conference" from the "Activities & Events" box.) Questions, contact Melvin C. Johnson 1-936-633-5225 or [melvinj@angelina.edu](mailto:melvinj@angelina.edu)



Front row from left Pat Gordon, Trevia Beverly  
Middle row John Sellers, Emily Croom, Charlie Gardes  
Back row Lynna Kay Shuffield, Melvin Johnson,  
Debbie Wayne

## **BAGS Officers 2007-2009**

The Nominating Committee is considering nominees for positions on the BAGS Board of Directors. The BAGS Board meets once a month, for a 1.5 hour meeting on the Monday preceding the general meeting. Please contact Shirley Lindquist at 281-286-4125, or [shirleylindquist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shirleylindquist@sbcglobal.net) with suggested names for nominees or questions about the responsibilities.

## **"Clayton Town Crier"**

A new electronic newsletter is now published by Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research and delivered to you via email. This newsletter will provide information about family history research materials and collections housed at Clayton and exciting genealogical news, programming and events. You must register to receive the newsletter. Locate registration information at the bottom of the webpage: <http://www.houstonlibrary.org/clayton>.



**Clayton Genealogical Library**



**Clayton House**

## Genealogy Research at Federal Depository Libraries?

Did you know the Alfred R. Neumann Library at the University of Houston Clear Lake is a selective Federal and State depository library? The collection located on second level of the library. Gay Carter is the Government Documents Reference Librarian at the Neumann Library. One Monday July 9, 7:00pm at the Friendswood Library, Ms. Carter will discuss the genealogical nuggets her library has to offer.

Federal publications and other information products (e.g. old maps, historical documents) are freely accessible by the public in Federal depository libraries (FDL) throughout the United States. You can locate a FDL using the online U.S. Government Printing Office website (GPO Access) <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/libraries.html>. On this page, either select the state or territory, or enter an area code to retrieve the complete address, phone number, and website for each FDL located in that area.



University of Houston -  
Clear Lake

## Tote BAGS

Purchase a BAGS tote at the June general meeting. Don't miss your opportunity to have one of these great bags to carry your research and advertise our society.



## Events Calendar

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

■Monday, June 25, 2007	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
■Friday, June 29, 2007	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, UBC "My Heroes! The Code Talker and the Commandant" Speaker: Alice Braud-Jones
■Monday, July 23, 2007	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
■Friday, July 27, 2007	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Chapel, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, UBC "West Virginia History and Research" Speaker: Ginny Toney
■Monday, August 27, 2007	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
■Friday, August 31, 2007	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Chapel, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, UBC Members "Show & Tell"

**PERSI: The Periodical Source Index** program at Clayton Library on Thursday, July 12 from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. To find out details and make a reservation, call 832-393-2600. PERSI is a wonderful free online resource for locating people and place references in U.S. and Canada published periodicals. The BAGS Quarterly is one of the titles included in this electronic resource.

### Gems from Genealogists

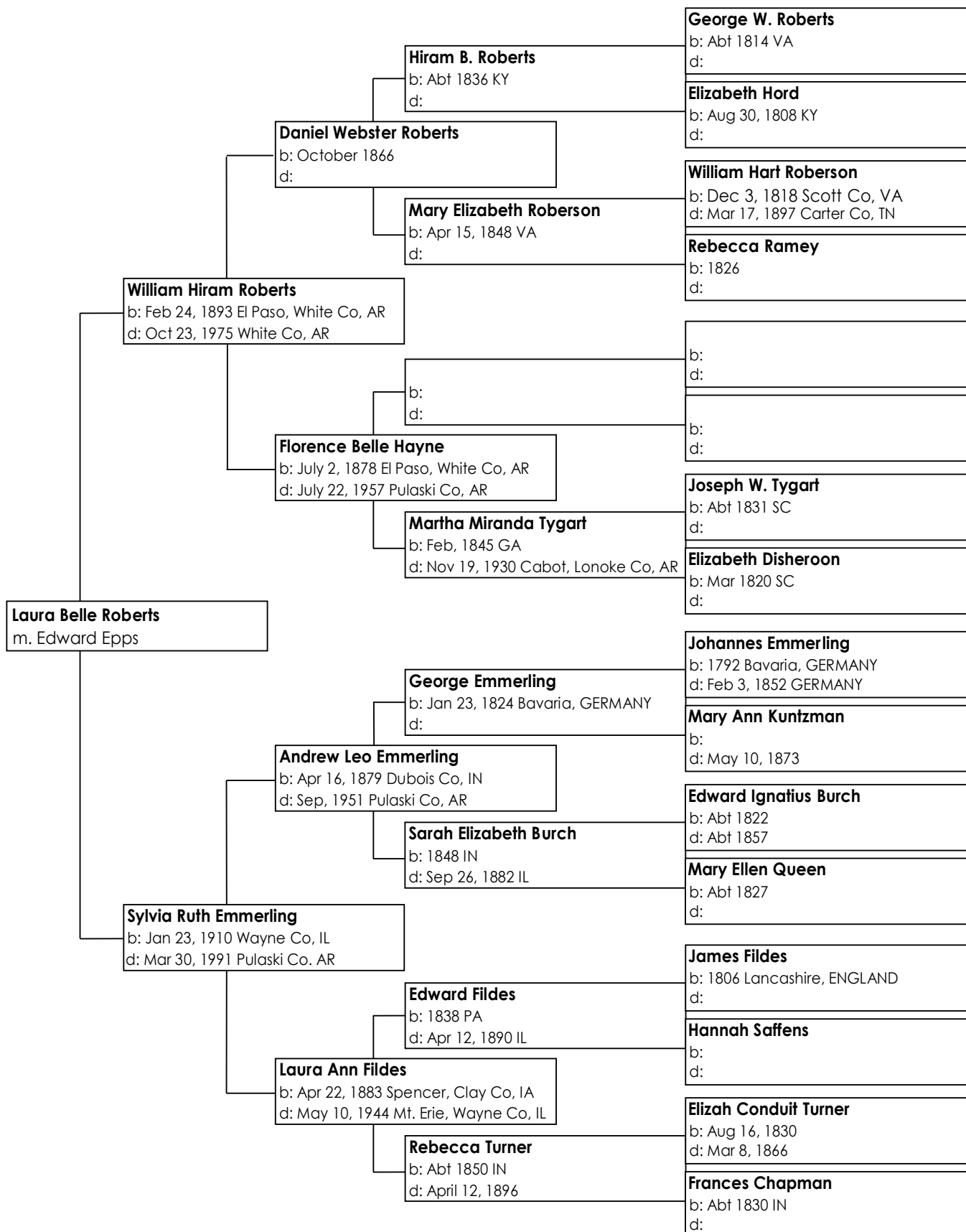


Caring guides for you treasures (e.g. books, photos, paintings, clothing, videos) that address handling, storing, cleaning, and recovering are available from American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works for free in print (contact: (202) 452-9545, ext.10) and online (<http://aic.stanford.edu/library/online/brochures/index.html>). Also on this website, you will find a valuable resource for disaster response and recovery. (<http://aic.stanford.edu/library/online/disaster/index.html> )

*Dug up by Kim Zrubek*

A calendar of BAGS events, workshops, and lectures in the surrounding area is posted on the BAGS website [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org) under "Meetings" and "Workshops & Seminars".

# Ancestors of Laura Belle Roberts





## Committee News

### Trips to Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Come join us on a trip to the Clayton Library on **Monday, July 9**. We have one other trip scheduled for this summer on **Wednesday, August 22**.

We meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Street. The county bus departs at 9:00 am and leaves the Clayton Library at 3:00 pm to arrive back at the parking lot before 4:00 pm. If you have any questions or would like to go with us on any of these trips, please call Mary Martin at 281-332-2435, or email Mary at [lmartin497@aol.com](mailto:lmartin497@aol.com). Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings.

The BAGS website, [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org), always has a current listing of library trips. Occasionally, we are able to plan an extra trip if a spot becomes available; it will be listed on the website as soon as it is scheduled. Bring a sack lunch and join us to see what you can discover about your ancestors! We had 18 genealogy researchers go with us to the library in May. We learn a lot from each other chatting on the bus and in the library. Maybe, one of the other researchers will have a clue to help you find information about your family.



Clayton trippers – March 2005

### BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$8,214.20
Income	+\$84.50
Expenses	-\$1,687.51
Balance on hand 5/31/07	\$6,611.19

### Membership

Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar

Membership applications for new or reinstating members can be found on the BAGS website. You may take your application to the next BAGS meeting or send a completed application form 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

Members, please notify me at [Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org) of any changes in name, address, email or phone number. We may need to contact you with important information.

### Wanted: 5-Generation Charts

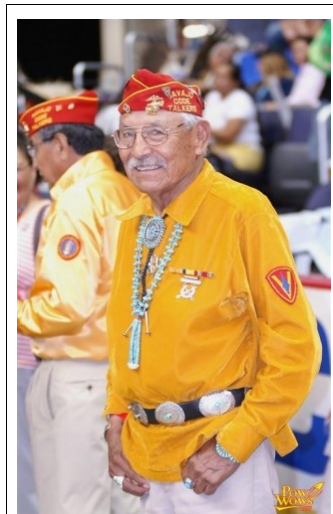
Publish your new or updated generation chart in the BAGS Newsletter. Provide Carole with your family information and she will create the newsletter chart. You will have the opportunity for final approval before publication. Send to Carole Varnado, 3711 Canary Grass Lane, Houston, TX 77059 or email to [cvarnado@houston.rr.com](mailto:cvarnado@houston.rr.com).

### Wanted: Newsletter Composer

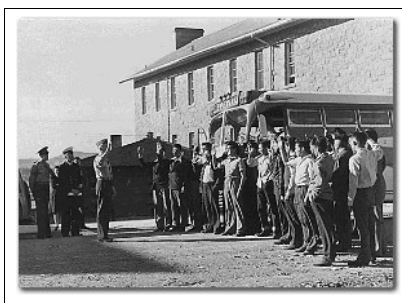
If you have one week available every other month, please consider serving as our newsletter compositor. Design and lay out the newsletter from articles and events gathered by the editor. Two compositors will share the job, responsible for publishing alternating months. The job requires Internet access and publishing software. Training and software suggestions will be provided. Contact Kim Zrubek, editor [newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org).



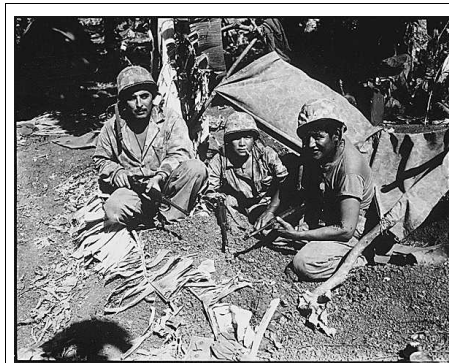
## Navajo Code Talkers



Monument  
Valley Park



The First 29



On Saipan

# BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



## REMINDER

General Meeting  
Friday, June 29, 6:00 pm  
Great Room (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) UBC

Deadline for  
July Issue is  
July 7, 2007