



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 6, Issue No. 11

July 2007

Month Meeting: West Virginia History and Research

Speaker: Ginny Toney

Virginia Lee Simms Toney "Ginny" is a native of West Virginia. Ginny met her husband, Bill while attending West Virginia University. She says she "got him" when she made a \$5.00 bet with a sorority sister, that she couldn't get a date with Bill. Ginny told her sorority sister, "Are you kidding? That guy won't know what hit him when I'm done". She was right; they eventually eloped to Maryland. Bill's job required them to move around a lot in their early years, first to Chicago in 1953, then to the Richmond, VA, next to High Point, North Carolina and to Charlotte, North Carolina and then back to New Jersey. In her work career, Ginny was a very successful real estate agent and manager of an office in New Jersey. Ginny and Bill moved from Bergen County, New Jersey to Houston in 1981.



PHOTO BY CLAUDIA GRAFTON

Since moving to Houston, Ginny has devoted her time to family genealogy research. Those years of travel laid the groundwork for her deep interest in early American history and family genealogy. Ginny will share a detailed history of West Virginia along with research tips that are useful for all states. She will go all the way back to Colonial days with accurate and historical facts.

An avid genealogist, Ginny served on the Ad Hoc Committee, creating the Clayton Library Friends, where she is a charter member. She is President, Emeritus of the Clayton Library Friends (CLF), an active member of the CLF in numerous board and committee positions, member of the Lady Washington Chapter NSDAR, Captain James Asbury Tait Chapter of Daughters of the War of 1812, and Col. John Alston Chapter of Colonial Dames of the 17th Century.

Ginny is a fun person to be around and it is even more fun to hear her talk.

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HARPER'S FERRY

July 27, 6:00 pm University Baptist Church

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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:

Editor, P.O. Box 891447,
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newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

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Message from the President

Loren Martin

Recently, I have been pondering both my post July 4th thoughts and my pre August "Show and Tell" meeting thoughts.

On Independence Day, Mary and I watched a series of excellent History Channel programs covering the years of our war of revolution. Besides the programs being very informative, they made me remember our own BAGS June monthly program. At this last meeting Alice Braud-Jones told us about the wonderful deed accomplished by the New Mexico Daughters of the American Revolution to honor one of the World War II Navajo Code Talkers. I then began to think about the tremendous contributions that so many individuals had made in those two military engagements and all of their sacrifices. We are truly blessed for all our ancestors and others have done for us throughout our nation's history!

My mind then wandered to next month when the annual BAGS "Show and Tell" meeting will be held. Each year our members have stepped up and provided wonderfully entertaining and educational presentations. I then realized how truly blessed we are, throughout the years of the existence of BAGS, for the efforts of our fellow members.

I will not be able to attend the Friday, July 27th general meeting; however I am eagerly waiting to see each of your great contributions to this year's August meeting.

Loren



Welcome New Member!

Barbara Moore of Pearland back after a short absence.



Every August is BAGS Show & Tell where you have a chance to share your family history and genealogy. You are the entertainment portion of the program. The evening also includes a potluck supper provided by all the chefs in our society. Believe it, BAGS has many extraordinarily good cooks.

These photos from past meetings show the fun had by all.

Your participation turns a "good night" into a "great night." Come with a smile, a dish and recipe, a story or memory, a friend or two and take this sentimental journey with us, **Friday, August 31st, at 6:00 pm** in the **1st floor Chapel**.



PHOTO BY LEO WALTZ



Basic Genealogy Workshop

by Shirley Lindquist

A 2.5 hour, basic level, hands-on workshop is being developed for beginner genealogists who have minimum or no genealogical research experience. Students will be guided step by step through exercises to complete a pedigree chart, family group sheet, and research log. Organization of research will also be discussed. The workshop will be scheduled for early October if enough interest exists.

Cost to BAGS members is: \$10; non-members is \$15.

For information contact **Shirley Lindquist:**
shirleylindquist@sbcglobal.net

Get Help with Your Genealogy Research: Anecdotes from Previous Bus Trips

by Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Consider taking a bus trip to Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research located in the museum district southeast of downtown Houston. The bus trip details are included in this issue on page 7. 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. On the "new book" shelves I found a book of Cook County, Illinois plat maps. I found my great-great-great grandfather Paul Pratt's plat on this map. It is very interesting to see who lived near him. These were entry lands in this book. It is a good idea to check the "new book" shelves every time that you go to the library because you never know what you will find. It is also a good idea to check individual county shelves you have already researched. Sometimes a new book will find its way to your county shelf since the last time you have looked. Alice Braud-Jones recommended Clayton's Texas death certificates collection on microfilm to Marie Krnavek. Marie found both of her grandmothers' death certificates. One of the death certificates enabled Marie to follow previous generations in other states. It is a good idea just to browse the microform filing cabinets to see what information resources are available on microfilm and microfiche.

BAGS Display at Local Libraries

by Shirley Lindquist

The Library Display Committee is planning the BAGS displays for the Freeman Library for the month of September and the Friendswood Library for the month of October. The theme will be "Our Women Ancestors". Please think about the items that you may lend to these exhibits. **Shirley Lindquist** will announce the collection of your items at the July general meeting.

Mt Olivet Cemetery Transcription Project - Status Report

by Alice Braud-Jones

Transcription teams are continuing their work to collect transcriptions. We are proud to announce that the mausoleum is finished and about two-thirds of the cemetery is finished. As expected, this summer's rain and heat have slowed down this process.

Neil Miserendino is chairing the electronic data entry process. His team would appreciate your assistance as they begin data input in a format compatible with publishing.

Upon completion of the initial data entry, Resa Hennings and Claudia Grafton will oversee the "verification" process that includes validation of each entry for accuracy and addition of new burials. Claudia, Resa and I would appreciate your assistance and know that we can count on BAGS members to support this worthwhile project which will provide valuable genealogical data for years to come.

Have you signed up for the BAGS Cemetery Transcription Team?

If not, now is the time to contact one of the above parties to participate .

Events Calendar

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

■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, 1st Floor, UBC “West Virginia History and Research” Speaker: Ginny Toney
■Wednesday, August 22, 2007	9:00 am BAGS Bus trip to Clayton Library
■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, 1st Floor, UBC Members “Show & Tell”

Daughters of the Republic of Texas

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas are hosting a seminar in San Antonio at their library in the Alamo complex on September 29, 2007. The speaker is Dr. George Schweitzer who is well known in the industry for his period dress and incredible knowledge. The cost is \$50.00 per person and registration may be handled via their website at: <http://drtl.org>.

At the Libraries...

Saturday July 21, 2007 starting at 10:00 am in Clayton Library

Members from area Daughters of the American Revolution chapters will be available for free help with preparation of lineage papers for joining the DAR. No reservations needed

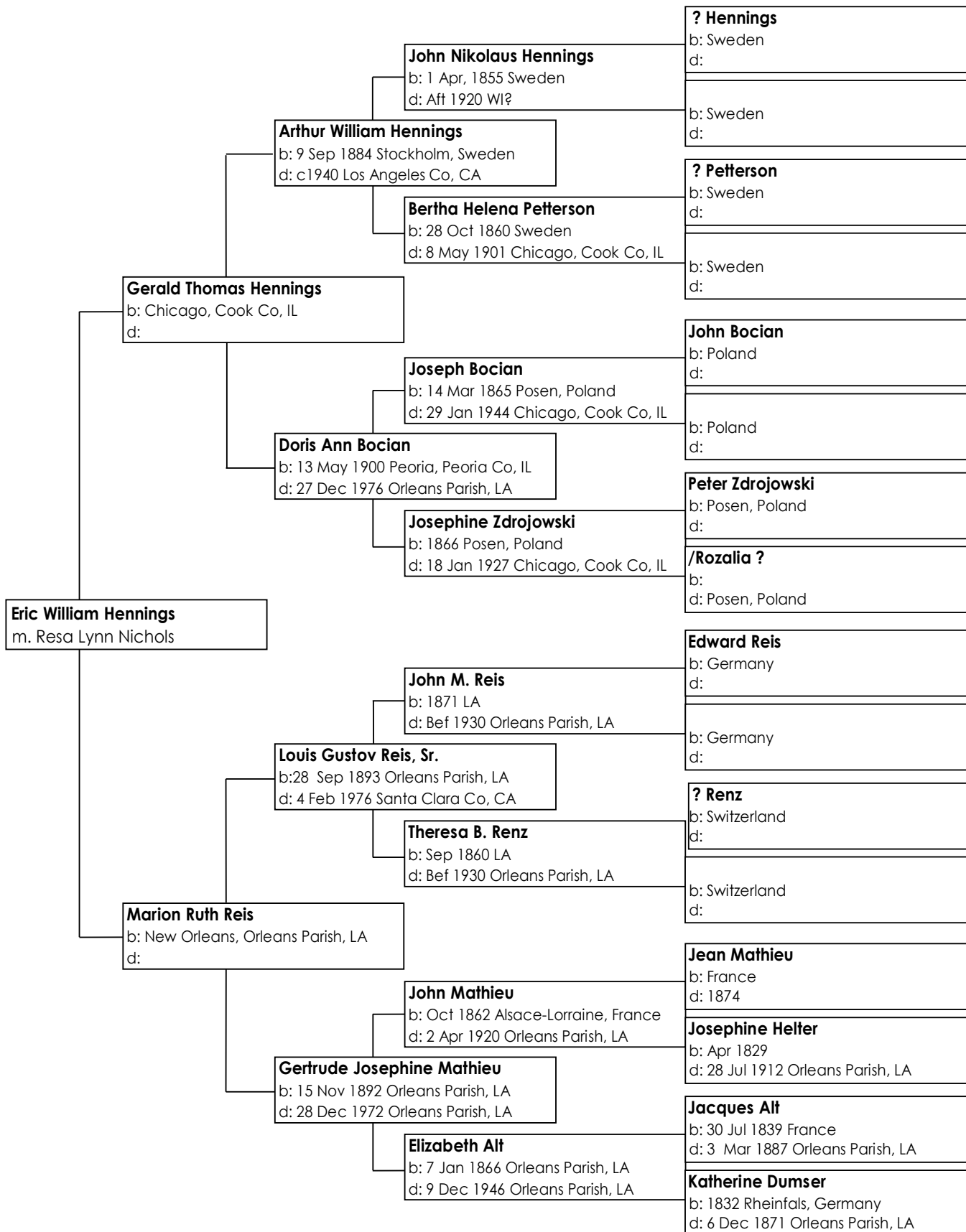
Thursday August 9, 2007 starting at 2:00 pm in Clayton Library

A mini-education session is provided to explain using the online Houston Public Library (HPL) catalog for genealogical research. The Clayton Library catalog is included in the HPL catalog system. To find out details and make a reservation, call 832-393-2600.

Monday August 13, 2007 at 1:00 pm in Friendswood Public Library

Judie Fite King, Friendswood Family History Center Director, will discuss new information resources available through the family history center.

Ancestors of Eric William Hennings



Committee News

Trips to Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Come join us on a trip to the Clayton Library 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. Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings.

The BAGS website, 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 and 17 went with us in July.

Quarterly

Susie Ganch, Editor

You will be receiving the June Quarterly at our July meeting. I enjoyed the articles submitted and I think you will too. Now, I need articles for the September quarterly. Please submit your original articles about your family or anything to do with area history. Also, if you have a family Bible with birth and death records or cemetery recordings, please submit a copy for publication in the Quarterly. Don't forget to submit your "How I Got to Texas" articles. We are almost finished with that series and you don't want your family to be omitted from our BAGS Heritage Map. Queries are welcome also and are good ways to reach out for answers to your dead-end ancestor trails. You may email your submissions to me at sganch@verizon.net, or mail them to me at 2393 Golden Shores Lane, League City, TX 77573. You may also give them to me at one of our meetings.

Membership

Rose Mary Fritz, Registrar

A new year in the Society's life begins September 1, 2007. Those who join in July or August will receive credit for dues payment for the 2007-2008 year. For continuing members, please pay dues early and avoid the rush.

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 of any changes in name, address, email or phone number. We may need to contact you with important information.

Wanted: Newsletter Compositor

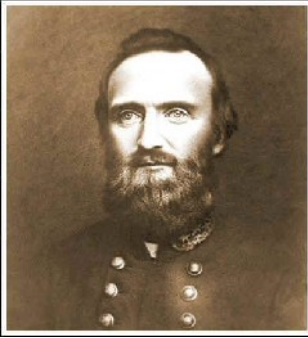
If you have one week available every other month, please consider serving as our newsletter compositor. Design and lay out the newsletter from articles and events gathered by the editor. Two compositors will share the job, responsible for publishing alternating months. The job requires Internet access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

BAG\$ Report

Resa Hennings, Treasurer

Balance brought forward	\$6,611.19
Income	\$-0-
Expenses	<u>-\$483.09</u>
Balance on hand 6/30/2007	\$6,128.10

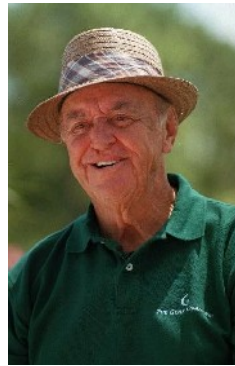
FAMOUS WEST VIRGINIANS



THOMAS "STONEWALL" JACKSON



PEARL BUCK



SAM SNEAD



CYRUS VANCE



BOOKER T WASHINGTON



MARY LOU RETTON



JOHN D ROCKEFELLER IV



CHARLES "CHUCK" YEAGER

BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



REMINDER
General Meeting
Friday, July 27, 6:00 pm
Chapel (1st Floor) UBC

Deadline for
August Issue is
August 11, 2007