



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

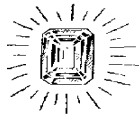
P.O. Box 891447
Houston, TX 77289-1447

Volume 7, Issue No. 5

January 2008

Friday, January 25, 2008 at 6:00pm: Kathryn Black Morrow presents *Stories from Local History: Ellington Field and Its People*

Gems from Genealogists



Major newspapers are now publishing historical information (text and images) in an on-line blog format. Consider using this resource to locate leads to original record sources. For example, J.R. Gonzales of the Houston Chronicle authors the blog "Bayou City History". This blog includes an interview with Kathryn Black Morrow concerning Ellington Field, an article sharing images from personal collections covering Colt Stadium, Astrodome construction, and old area maps.

Dug Up by Kim Zrubek



Kathryn Black Morrow is a working historian and researcher and a BAGS charter member. At the February 2007 BAGS general meeting, Kathryn presented examples of documents she reviewed and indexes she created as a result of a three-year project for Texas Southern University to summarize and index a series of more than 200 original documents pertaining to the

slave trade in early Texas. BAGS members and guests enjoyed her enthusiastic and engaging presentation. Kathryn is back this month to share some of the personal stories she uncovered while researching, interviewing, and documenting the history of Ellington Field. In 2007, Kathryn published her research in a book titled *Defender of America's Gulf Coast, A History of Ellington Field, Texas, 1917-2007*. This presentation should be entertaining to anyone interested in aviation history, Texas history, military history, or local history. Copies of this book will be available at the January BAGS general meeting for purchase.

She established the company, Kathryn Morrow Research, to "provide research, writing, editing and indexing services for authors of historical papers, family histories, graduate theses, and books." Visit her website <http://kathrynmorrowresearch.com> for more information on Kathryn's books, accomplishments, awards, and memberships. Kathryn's specialty is United States history and genealogical research with an emphasis on Texas, Oklahoma, Native American, and African American history. She works on independent grant projects and offers research support for Master's and doctoral papers, as well as book research and supportive writing.

Join us for this program on Friday, January 25 at 6:00 pm at the University Baptist Church (16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City- [on-line map](#)) in the Great Room, 2nd floor.

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Insert: Christine Rose Seminar Information & Registration Form

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Message from the President

Resa Hennings



As I sit here in my library/home office/computer/genealogy room and look around...I shudder. I see those boxes of records, piles of papers, books, loose pictures of great-great so-and-so, unanswered correspondence and know I need to get it all organized. Where to begin? That is my one and only New Year's resolution: get genealogy records in order. Sounds ominously simple, but I'm sure we all know how daunting this endeavor really can be... especially after years of research has amassed a huge collection of paper.

Usually I am a very organized person, ascribing to "A place for everything and everything in its place." That adage does apply to the rest of my house, but the library has gone into overload. Coupled with boxes of BAGS quarterlies, surname databases, membership lists from 2001-2007, etc., it is actually quite frightening. Maybe it's time to put the house on the market? I digress.

Somehow I seemed to be more organized pre-computer days. Then, I would send off via U.S. mail to some courthouse or fellow-researcher about a record or piece of information I needed. I would place the response in a paper file on that particular ancestor/family. Now, today, I have e-mails galore on these same ancestors, good hints and clues on these same ancestors, and do I need a hard copy of each e-mail? (That's some of what is in all those piles.) Or is it enough to record the information in my genealogy program's database and be sure to cite the source? Or is it sufficient to keep the info "filed" on my hard drive? Sure makes for a giant volume of data in my e-mail program and is that good or bad?

One thing I do know about getting organized is to start with baby steps and to be ruthless. To make my 2008 New Year's resolution a reality, I plan to tackle one pile or one-half a pile (depending on how tall it is—and some of them are whoppers—10 or 12 inches high!) at a time, two times a week. (continued on page 3)

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

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President's Message

(continued from page 2)

I will put each piece of paper where it ultimately should be placed, at that time. Handle a piece of paper one time only--that is a "Rule to Live By". If it should go into the trash, do it then! If it should go into an existing paper file, put it there! If it should go into a not-yet-made paper file, type up the label, make the file, and put the piece of paper in the new file, then. Simple.

I know from past experiences that I have a tendency to get side-tracked, though, as I put things in their proper place. I'll start reading an e-mail, for example, that I received from a distant "new" cousin about James Alston Weems (our 3ggf) and get swept into "genealogy mode" instead of "cleanup mode" and start analyzing: "James and his family were in the 1860 Macon Co, TN Census; only his wife Nancy and their 5 ch were in the 1870 Wayne Co, IL Census; James and Nancy and the 2 youngest ch were in the 1880 Marion Co, IL Census. Where was James in 1870? He didn't die until 1908. We know he was a Tennessean who joined the Union Army in KY. And we know he deserted 20 Nov 1862 near Atlanta. Was he hiding out in 1870?" ...oops, wait, I'm supposed to be putting piles into files...how did I get in Atlanta?

With the help of divine intervention I force myself to turn off the analytical process. I keep a very large "Reminder" tablet nearby. When I come across good questions, points to be further researched, a letter that needs to be answered...I'll write that down on the tablet and move on to attacking the piles. If I discipline myself to keep focused, I will be successful. But it is a challenge. Ask me in January of 2009 how I'm doing. *Resa*

"Writing Your Family History" Class

"Writing Your Family History" on Saturday, **February 16, 2008 from 9:00am to 11:30am, in Room 226 at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive (Clear Lake City) - [on-line map](#)**. Topics covered in the class include: outline and organization, and the main components of a family history, such as chronology, text, footnotes, source citation, bibliography and index. **Registration deadline is Monday, February 11, 2008.**

**Class fee: \$10.00 for members
\$15.00 for non-members.**

Register at the January 25 general meeting, or mail a check to:

Carole Varnado, 3711 Canary Grass Lane, Houston, TX 77059

Local Cemetery Transcriptions

Spread the word to local and national researchers tracing family members that once lived in Galveston County area. Members from local genealogical societies including BAGS, Galveston, League City, and Texas City are busy photographing and documenting all of the cemeteries in Galveston County for the purpose of family history research. They have taken over 20,000 photographs and are searching cemetery and local records to generate information for unmarked graves. Access free of charge, a [compiled list](#) of cemeteries published on the Galveston County TXGenWeb website (www.rootsweb.com/~txgalves) under the "Cemeteries" link. When transcriptions or photos are available, the cemetery name in the list is represented as a hypertext link to another set of web pages. In the next few months, BAGS expects to begin publication of their work in the Mt Olivet Cemetery.

Welcome To Our New Members!

We are pleased to welcome new members Shirley Coffman of Pearland and Mamie Atkinson of Houston to BAGS! Mamie is the mother of our wonderful BAGS Quarterly editor, Susie Ganch.

"Library Corner" highlights resources available at our local area libraries. Please contact the newsletter editor if you would like to share a specific local library resource that was particularly helpful to your research.

They Came In Ships: A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record, 3rd edition by John P. Colletta, Ph.D. published by Ancestry Publishing in 2002.

Dr. Colletta teaches at the National Archives and Smithsonian Institution, Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (Birmingham, AL), and Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (Salt Lake City, UT).

This book explains how to use the wealth of material available to locate a particular individual's arrival information. Learn how the diverse data on a passenger list can be interpreted to expand your knowledge of your family history. The provided bibliography reflects the current state of both traditional and electronic resources. Separate strategies and sample research scenarios are presented to locate arrival and ship information recorded prior to 1820, and that recorded since 1820. A Federal law in effect on January 1, 1820 required a Federal record of passengers arriving at U.S. ports from foreign countries at port of entry. "For a complete, state-by-state listing of ports and border-crossings stations, along with an account of the arrival records that exist for each one, the years the lists cover and their indexes, see chapter 2 of the Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives" (available at Clayton, George Memorial, Texas City, and Rosenberg libraries) or the National Archives on-line resource information at <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/immigration/passenger-arrival.html>. There is not a central depository for pre-1820 passenger lists so you may not find the original record. Specific bound works and indexes found in libraries and special collections are recommended to locate a printed version of the original record. For example, local newspapers in the port of call cities reported on vessels entering and departing the harbor. Anything news worthy would be printed, including weather conditions, threat of

contagious disease, tonnage, merchandise off-loaded, and passengers disembarked. Library of Congress provides a list of on-line historic and current newspaper archive resources at <http://www.loc.gov/rr/news/oltitles.html>.

Going To Texas: Five Centuries of Texas Maps presented by the Center for Texas Studies at Texas Christian University, published by TCU Press in 2007.

Spanning a time period from 1548 to 2006, sixty-four historic maps express the knowledge, traditions, politics, and economics of a specific time and place. The accompanying essays provide context and insight into the variety of reasons family members were drawn to Texas. This book raises the awareness of Texas maps located in the Museum of the Big Bend, Sul Ross University, and Yana and Mary Davis map collection. The Texas General Land Office is charged with maintaining over 35 million historic maps and documents spanning three centuries of Texas history. Plate 64 on page 113 is an image of the Great Military Map of Texas published by the Texas General Land Office in 2006 and available for purchase. This map features major fortification sites in Texas, and includes illustrations of significant military events dating from 1685 to 1916.

Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers Who Served in Organizations from the State of Texas are available on microfilm (NARA M323, description) at the George Memorial Library, location listed on page 6 in the "2008 Genealogy Fair" article.

Use the available bound indexes to determine which microfilm reel to access. The service records typically contain (1) card abstracts of entries relating to the soldier as found in original muster rolls, returns, rosters, payrolls, appointment books, hospital registers, Union prison registers and rolls, parole rolls, and inspection reports; and (2) the originals of any papers relating solely to the particular soldier. Browse the bound indexes for other Civil War states to identify family members that served (their rank and unit), and surname spelling variants.

BAGS Events Calendar

BAGS meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC) located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 (Clear Lake City) – [on-line map](#).

Members are invited to attend all meetings.

Monday, January 21, 2008	6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
Friday, January 25, 2008	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2 nd Floor, UBC Speaker: Kathryn Black Morrow Pick up your BAGS <i>Quarterly</i> January issue
Tuesday, February 5, 2008	9:00 am BAGS Bus trip to Clayton Library
Saturday, February 16, 2008	9:00 am to 11:30 am “Writing Your Family History” Class, Room 226, UBC. Refer to details on page 3.
Wednesday, February 20, 2008	9:00 am BAGS Bus trip to Clayton Library
Monday, February 25, 2008	6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
Friday, February 29, 2008	6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2 nd Floor, UBC
Tuesday, March 4, 2008	9:00 am BAGS Bus trip to Clayton Library
*** Saturday, May 3, 2008 ***	8:30 am – 3:30 pm BAGS Presents Christine Rose, a Family History Seminar at University Baptist Church. Registration and program information are on the BAGS Website and on an insert in this newsletter issue.

HeritageQuest Workshop at League City Library

HeritageQuest is an online database available free to Texas library users. It contains over 20,000 family and local history books, Revolutionary War records, U.S. Census information, and periodical article citations. Learn how to access and use this resource at workshops held at the [Helen Hall Library](#), 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573 ([on-line map](#)).

Individual workshops begin at 10:30 am and are scheduled for January 16, February 20, March 12, and April 16, 2008. Workshops are free. Call the library at 281-554-1101 to register.

[Clayton Library Programs](#)

DAR Workshop

Saturday, February 2, 2008 at 10:00 am

Learn how to prepare your membership application for the DAR. This is the second session of a three-part DAR program. Registration required; call 832-393-2600. For adults and teens.

African American Genealogical Research

Thursday, February 14, 2008 at 2:00 pm

Learn the basics of researching your African American ancestor. Tips for finding your heritage using basic and some more unusual genealogical sources will be presented. Registration required; call 832-393-2600. For adults and teens.

Local Area Genealogy Events

Antiques Round Table

Monday, February 4, 2008 at 1:00pm in the library boardroom at [Helen Hall Library](#), 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573 ([on-line map](#)). Bring an item to share. Discuss tips for identifying and valuing antiques. This round table meets 1st Monday each month.

NSDAR Genealogist Lynne Brooke speaking at the [Clayton Library Friends General Meeting](#)

Saturday, February 9, 2008 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm in the Auditorium at the Holocaust Museum, 5401 Caroline Street, Houston, TX 77004 ([on-line map](#))

Lynne Brooke is supervisor of “supplemental applications” at NSDAR headquarters in Washington, D.C. She will speak on “Heritage Society Application Proofs: What the Experts Use, What’s Acceptable, and What’s Not.”

Guests are welcome. Parking is available at the Holocaust Museum lot, on the street, or at the Clayton Library parking lot (immediately across Caroline from the museum), or numerous paid lots in close proximity.

History Club

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 in the theater at [Helen Hall Library](#), 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573 ([on-line map](#)). Jim Haley, author of numerous books on Texas History, reviews his latest publication, [Passionate Nation: The Epic History of Texas](#). A book signing to follow. Join the History Club on the 2nd Tuesday each month.

Assistance Available

Interested in beginning family history work? Volunteers are available to assist you at the [Moore Memorial Public Library](#), 1701 9th Avenue North, Texas City, TX 77590 ([on-line map](#)) on Wednesdays 10am to 12pm and 3pm to 5pm, and Saturdays 10am to 12pm.

2008 Genealogy Fair in Sugar Land

Saturday, February 23, 2008 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Sugar Land Community Center on 226 Matlage Way, Sugar Land, Texas 77478 (across from the Sugar Land Post Office) [on-line map](#). The fair is sponsored by the Alexander Hodge Chapter #49, Sons of the American Revolution and the **entry cost is free**. Visit with representatives from over 50 local historical organizations, museums, and vendors as well as lecturers speaking on historical topics. Learn how to get started tracing your ancestors. Many organizations will also be selling crafts or period gifts relative to the time period they represent. For more information contact: Lance H. Salge by e-mail salge@texas.net or phone 281-265-0733. The brochure and press release are posted at the [BAGS Website](#) on the Workshops & Seminars page.

After visiting the fair in Sugar Land, consider doing some family research in the [Genealogy and Local History Department](#) at the George Memorial Library located at 1001 Golfview Drive, Richmond, TX 77469 which is approximately 10 miles south of Sugar Land. [Driving directions](#) starting from the fair in Sugar Land. Refer to the “Library Corner” article on page 4 for example of resources available.

The Master Genealogist SIG

This group will meet the 3rd Saturday each month (**January 19, February 16, and March 15, 2008**) at 1:30 PM in Room D at the [Parker Williams Library](#), 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. Houston, TX 77089-5743 ([on-line map](#)). **This group is open for beginners to advanced users and the cost is free.** There will be instructions, discussion and handouts. Jerry Woodman will also give an overview of TMG v7. For more information call 409-744-4359, 281-337-1054, 713-946-7555 or e-mail Betty Dunquez at bdunquez@aol.com.

Please contact the newsletter editor if you would like to share the date, time, and location of a free genealogy event occurring in the Houston area.

Committee News

Trips to Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Come join us for a trip to the Clayton Library on Tuesday, February, 5; Wednesday, February 20; and Tuesday, March 4. January is here, and it is time to start a whole new year of genealogical research.

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 e-mail her 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. Think about joining us and bring a sack lunch if you have never gone with our group to the library. We will have a good time seeing where we can find our ancestors and sharing information riding the bus and at the library during this new year.

BAGS Quarterly

Susie Ganch, Editor

A new issue will be available for pickup at the BAGS January general meeting. This issue contains another installment of the Fairview Cemetery series by Melodey Hauch and Heather Wooten covering the Italian immigrants, and the Diary of the Journey to Texas – continued from the last issue.

BAG\$ Report

Ed Harris, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	8,359.02
Income	\$448.75
Expenses	<u>-\$782.97</u>
Balance on hand 12/31/2007	\$8,024.80

Membership Report

Tammy Frey, Registrar

At the December Holiday Party, we had several people join the society. Another has joined since then. This brings our membership total to 170. BAGS meetings are a great place to meet people who share a common interest. Bring your friends and family members to a meeting with you. We are always excited to see new faces!

Members, please help us keep our information up to date. If you have any changes in or corrections to your information, such as address, e-mail, phone number, or other, notify us at Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

7th Annual BAGS Holiday Banquet

“Bless Us, Every One” - December 2007

Text & photos submitted by Doug Wilson

The 2007 BAGS Annual Holiday Party provided 60 members and guests with an opportunity to enjoy an evening of good dining and good fellowship. We were honored by the attendance of our society's founder, Carolyn Hellen and her husband Roy, visiting from Alabama. Entertainment was provided by the ukulele band “Stars and Stripes”, a group of UBS folks who “brighten a corner” with old time music.





Bay Area Genealogical Society

"BAGS" Presents

Christine Rose

CG, CGL, FASG

Saturday, May 3, 2008

University Baptist Church

**16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX
(Clear Lake City - [on-line map](#))**

8:30am - 3:30 pm

Christine Rose is a Certified Genealogist, Certified Genealogical Lecturer, and Fellow, American Society of Genealogists. Her lecturing experience includes national conferences (National Genealogical Society, Federation of Genealogical Societies), and many regional and local seminars including New York Genealogical and Biographical Society in New York City; seminars in Chicago, Illinois; San Francisco, California; and Long Island, New York. In addition, she served on the faculty of the Institute of Genealogical Research in Washington, D.C., and has been on the faculty as an instructor and a coordinator of Samford University's Institute of Historical and Genealogical Research since 1992. Christine was elected Fellow, American Society of Genealogists in 1988. This honor is bestowed by peers based on the quantity and quality of publications and is limited to only 50 at any one time. She has also been awarded the prestigious Donald Lines Jacobus award for two genealogies, and received top reviews for the book she co-authored, *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy*. She has authored more than 15 additional books, including *Courthouse Research for Family Historians*.

Christine is a past VP for the Federation of Genealogical Societies, past VP for the Association of Genealogical Societies, and is presently a trustee of the Board for Certification of Genealogists. She has been interviewed on CBS evening news (San Francisco, California), W.H.O. (Des Moines, Iowa), and others. She has also been the subject of extensive news articles in the Des Moines Register, the San Jose [California] Mercury-News, and others.

Program Topics

Estates: A Goldmine!

Abstracting and Transcribing – The Techniques and Legalese

Military Records for Problem Solving

Solving the Problem "On-site" in 25 Hours or Less

Members \$40.00

Non-Members \$45.00 (Received by February 29, 2008)

Check the BAGS website at: www.TxBayAreaGen.org for seminar information and registration details

Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS)

Presents

Christine Rose, CG, CGL, FASG

Seminar Registration Form

Saturday, May 3, 2008

University Baptist Church

16106 Middlebrook Drive

Houston (Clear Lake City), TX 77059

[on-line map](#)

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>
Early Registration (Received By 02/29/2008)	\$40.00	\$45.00
Regular Registration (Received By 04/25/2008)	\$45.00	\$50.00
Registration at the Door (No Lunch)	\$50.00	\$55.00

Name: _____ E-Mail _____

Address: _____ Telephone: (____) _____

City, State: _____ I belong to the: _____ Genealogy Society

# _____	Member Early Registrations	(By 2/29/08)	X	\$40.00	=	\$ _____	.00
# _____	Non-Member Early Registrations	(By 2/29/08)	X	\$45.00	=	\$ _____	.00
# _____	Member Regular Registrations	(By 4/25/08)	X	\$45.00	=	\$ _____	.00
# _____	Non-Member Regular Registrations	(By 4/25/08)	X	\$50.00	=	\$ _____	.00

Box Lunches: \$8.00 each (includes sandwich, chips, cookie, & coffee or tea)

_____ Turkey # _____ Roast Beef # _____ Tuna # _____ Veggie

\$ _____ .00 Registration

\$ _____ .00 Lunch

\$ _____ .00 BAGS Contribution

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ .00

Questions: Go to: www.txbayareagen.org or
E-mail: <mailto:VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org>

Return Form to:

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



*December 2007
BAGS Holiday
Banquet*



BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



REMINDER

Next General Meeting
Friday, January 25, 6:00 pm
Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC

Deadline for
February Issue is
Saturday, February 9, 2008