

Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter P.O. Box 891447

Houston, TX 77289-1447

Volume 7, Issue No. 6

February 2008

Friday, February 29, 2008 at 6:00pm: Jim Nonus presents Laffite...A Lifelong Obsession

Jim Nonus is a fifth-generation Galvestonian, BOI (born on the island). At a very early age, his head was filled with pirate dreams and the visits to the old Maison Rouge site at 14th and Water Street, Galveston, TX, were never enough. In the late 1960's, while working at the University of Texas Medical Branch on the east end of Galveston Island, he had the chance to

pass the site daily. Jim started collecting every book he could find on the Laffites. and made many trips to New Orleans in search of the Laffite saga. In 1995 Jim



one persona of the Jean Laffite

February 29 is the early registration deadline to attend the

Christine Rose Seminar scheduled for

Saturday May 3. 2008

Registration form is available in this newsletter and on-line in interactive PDF, plain PDF, and Microsoft Word formats at

www.TxBayAreaGen.org /seminars.htm

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 President's Message
- 3 James Campbell Article
- 4 French Research Aids
- 5 Calendar of BAGS Events
- 6 Local Area Events & Resources
- 7 Committee Page
- 8 Online Extra (appears in online version only)

Insert: Christine Rose Seminar Information & Registration Form

Nonus, along with Dale Olson and a handful of others, founded the Laffite Society of Galveston (www.thelaffitesociety.com). In July of last year he decided it was time to serve as its president and was elected to that position. Jim's connection to the Laffite story runs deep and he has used his sixth sense to help uncover the mysteries of the past. Once, while visiting the New Orleans Notarial Archives (<u>www.notarialarchives.org</u>) he asked Sally Kay Reeves, the archivist, if she had any Jean Laffite signatures. Her reply was "No; only those of Pierre." Jim used his sixth sense to uncover a misspelled "Jean Laffite" in an index and then turned to the signed document and said, "You have one here!" Mr. Nonus is currently working on a romantic non-historical musical about Laffite as he continues to search for period newspapers, maps and publications about the Laffite family. As a result of various society members' research, a timeline was constructed and published on their website (shown above) reflecting the activities of Jean Laffite and associates from 1772 to 1814. The Laffite Society generally meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm in the Trolley Station Building, 2021 Strand, Galveston, Texas. For more information, contact: The Laffite Society, P.O. Box 1325, Galveston, TX 77553-1325.

Join us for this program on Friday, February 29 at 6:00 pm at the University Baptist Church in the Great Room, 2nd floor. (16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City- on-line map)

Bay Area Genealogical Society website - www.TxBayAreaGen.org

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Message from the President

Resa Hennings

This month's message will serve to update the membership on some of the BAGS' doings...

are permitted by law to make investments.

At the February board meeting, BAGS Board of Directors voted unanimously to place some of the funds residing in our checking account into Certificates of Deposit. Toward that end, we have purchased 2 CDs in the amount of \$2,500 each, with maturity dates laddered at 3 and 6 months. As a non-profit organization we may not have a checking account that draws interest, but we

One of the tenets of our Society's purpose, as outlined in the bylaws, is "educational." For several years the board has discussed this concept and it has been decided by unanimous vote to give a scholarship. A Scholarship Committee has been formed consisting of Loren Martin as Chairman, Ron Cox, Kathryn Morrow, Christina Terrell, and myself. We will investigate various ways to set up the scholarship, how to establish funding, consider what sort of recipient it should be geared to, frequency of scholarship award, and sort the myriad details necessary to launch a new scholarship.

With respect to board and committee members: this is an extremely critical time for our society. We are losing three key people, two of who need immediate replacements.

- Recording Secretary, Nancy Irle, has resigned. Renee Ball has agreed to accept this position.
- Our long-time Webmaster, Leo Waltz, is also leaving.
 Any member who has some hands-on experience in this area should really come forward now. Leo will work with his replacement.
- Last, but certainly not least, Quarterly Editor Susie Ganch will relinquish that position after Volume 7 is completed.
 Any of you who enjoy gathering copy, editing, page layout, etc., should seriously consider this position.

It is crucial that each member of BAGS realizes the Society's work does not just "get done" miraculously. Members are encouraged to participate at all levels. Please take your turn now and help out.

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.

February 2008

Questions or comments on the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to:

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Another Side to the Laffite Story

"A Buccaneer Family in Spanish East Texas: A Biographical Sketch of Captain James and Mary Sabinal Campbell" by W.T. Block published in *Texas Gulf Historical and Biographical Record*, XXVII, No. 1, 1991.

Available at Clayton library and on-line at www.wtblock.com/wtblockjr/james.htm

James Campbell served in the U.S. Navy on the U.S.S. Constitution and U.S.S. Constellation during the War of 1812. After the war, he met Jean Laffite and served as one of his lieutenants for several years. His biographical sketch published by W.T. Block provides another side to the Jean Laffite story. Block's references include the Lamar Papers, Campbell's Pension File, and personal memoirs published in the Galveston Daily News (see citations below). Campbell settled in Texas City and was buried on Virginia Point on private property. In 2004, the United States Daughters of 1812 Francis Fleshhart Chapter #367 in Texas City, Texas honored James Campbell's service in the War of 1812 by placing a U.S. government marker in the La Marque Cemetery. The tombstone was installed at the grave site of Campbell's daughter, Mrs. Solomon Parr, as a substitute location. Several BAGS members are officers and members of the Francis Fleshhart Chapter. The National Society United States Daughters of 1812 societies and chapters are listed on-line (www.usdaughters1812.org/chapters.htm). Membership is available to women age eighteen and over who can offer satisfactory proof that they are lineal descendants of an ancestor who. during the period of 1784-1815 inclusive. rendered civil, military, or naval service to the U.S., rendered material aid to the U.S. Army or

Navy, or participated in the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The following is a list of interesting resources cited by W.T. Block:

*J. Campbell War of 1812 Pension File.*No. WC-30-345 in the National Archives

"Information Derived From James Campbell, Now Residing On Galveston Bay," June 10, 1855 in *The Papers of Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar* (a.k.a. Lamar Papers) by Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar, Volume 4, part 2, pages 18-23. Published by Pemberton Press, Austin, Texas in 1968. Edited from the original papers in the Texas State Archives by Charles Adams Gulick, Jr. [and others]. (Available at Clayton and Rosenberg Libraries)

Mary S. Campbell, "Buccaneers-The Memoirs of Mary Campbell," by Mary S. Campbell in *Galveston Daily News*, on May 25, 1879. (Available at Rosenberg Library)

"Privateer honored with marker" by T.J. Aulds in *The Galveston Daily News* on November 7, 2004. (Available at Rosenberg Library and online in <u>HTML</u>)

Jean Laffite Collection, no date, # 76-0007. Two boxes containing general research, bibliography and articles at Galveston and Texas History Center in Rosenberg Library.

In Memoriam

Ed Epps, husband of BAGS member Laura Epps, passed away Wednesday, January 16, 2008. Our prayers go out to Laura Epps and her family.

Welcome To Our New Members!

We want to welcome new members Janice Stewart of Texas City and Gene Swartzell of Houston to our society.

Be sure to give them a warm BAGS welcome!

"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.

Research Outline: France by Family History Library, published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah in 1996.

Available as a FHL book call # 929.1 F21ro; on FHL fiche # 6068531; and on-line at Family Search Website: Search - Research Helps page as <u>HTML</u> or <u>PDF</u> at www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/RG/images/3 4715 France.pdf

This 43-page research outline provides a detailed introduction to the major records available for French ancestor research: cemeteries, census, church records, civil registration, emigration, immigration, naturalization, gazetteers, historical geography, military records, notarial records, and probate records. The outline discusses general search strategies and provides a table mapping your information need to a specific record group. Each record group discussion includes examples of key search terms you can use with the on-line Family History Library (FHL) catalog (www.familysearch.org) to locate French resources. Directories of French libraries. published periodicals, and historical societies are provided. Language aids, surname and given name conventions, and calendar issues are also discussed. The FHL published a French genealogical word list providing English translations to assist in reading records (citation below). France and areas under French rule used the French Republican calendar instead of the Gregorian calendar between October 24. 1793 and December 31, 1805 for dating government records. Using a different calendar system affected records in areas such as modern Belgium, Luxembourg, parts of the Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Egypt, Malta, Reunion, Louisiana, Guiana, and some Caribbean islands. FHL published a quide (citations below) explaining the French Republican calendar and providing a chart to

convert dates between the two calendars.

These resources can be accessed through a local LDS Family History Center (FHC). The locations of several centers in the Houston-Galveston area are listed on page 6 of this newsletter issue. These centers are open to the public and are staffed with volunteers to assist in answering research questions.

French: Genealogical Word List by Family History Library, published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah in 1990. (Available as a FHL book call # 929.1 F21wL; on FHL fiche # 6105236; and on-line at Family Search Website: Search - Research Helps page as HTML)

French Republican Calendar: research outline by Family History Library, published by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Salt Lake City, Utah in 1990. (Available as a FHL book call # 929.1 F21ro; on FHL fiche # 6001732; and on-line at Family Search Website: Search - Research Helps page as HTML)

Conversion tables: French Republican calendar, Gregorian Calendar, an aid for family research in France and Germany by John A. Dahl, published by Salt Lake City, Utah in 1972. (Available as a FHL book 944 A1 no. 106).

BAGS Cookbook

Got any French food recipes to share? The committee is in need of recipes in the following categories:

- appetizers
- bread
- candy
- cookies
- meat
- poultry
- seafood
- soup
- diabetic

Please share your recipes. Deliver them to the next BAGS general meeting, or send them to Mary Martin via E-mail at lmartin497@aol.com or USPS mail at 110 Greenridge Circle, League City, Texas 77573.

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.

 6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC 6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC Program: Jim Nonus on "LaffiteA Lifelong Obsession" Early registration deadline for Christine Rose seminar in May. 9:00 am BAGS Bus trip to Clayton Library 6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC 		
 Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC Program: Jim Nonus on "LaffiteA Lifelong Obsession" <u>Early</u> registration deadline for Christine Rose seminar in May. 9:00 am BAGS Bus trip to Clayton Library 6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC 		
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6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2 nd Floor, UBC		
 Program: Trevia Wooster Beverly on "What You Don't Know About The Census" 		
6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC		
6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2 nd Floor, UBC		
 Program: "Demolition Day - Breaking down those brick walls" Informal workshop for you to get assistance on your genealogy questions and problems. 		
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.		
6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC ** Date change due to Memorial Day		
6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2 nd Floor, UBC		
 Program: Bruce Lockett on Civil War shipwrecks in East Texas rivers. 		
6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC		
 6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC. Program: Casey Greene on Galveston's Rosenberg Library collections and history. 		

Local Area Genealogy Events & Resources

League City Historical Society U.S. African-American Troops In The American Civil War

Thursday, February 28 at 7:00 pm (Social begins at 6:45 pm) in the West Bay Common School Children's Museum at 210 N. Kansas Street, League City, TX 77573 (on-line map). For more information telephone the museum at 281-554-2994. All are welcome.

Mark Lardas, League City historian and freelance writer, will speak about the African-American troops in the American Civil War. Mr. Lardas holds a degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. He is the author of African-American Soldier in the Civil War 1863-1866, (Osprey Publishing, December 2006) as well as other books covering the history of American frigates, Native American Civil War soldiers, and the Space Shuttle. Several of these books are available at the League City and Friendswood Public Libraries, and Amazon.com.

Seminar hosted by Brazosport Genealogical Society (BGS)

Saturday, March 1, 2008 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Lake Jackson Civic Center at 333 Hwy 332 in Lake Jackson, TX (on-line map). Registration starts at 8:30am.

Trevia Wooster Beverly is the featured speaker. She will address four topics: research tips; Internet resources; newspapers value other than obituaries; and cemetery research. Seminar cost is \$20 for BGS members' and \$30 for non-members. Bring a lunch or purchase one there. Registration for non-members includes a one-year membership to BGS.

The registration form is available on the BAGS website on the "Workshops and Seminars" page (www.rootsweb.com/~txbags/seminars.htm).

For more information, email Jo Anne Alcorn at <u>jo.anne.alcorn@brazosport.edu</u>.

Clayton Library Program

Convicts to the Colonies - Colonial Prisoners Transported from Great Britain

Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 2:00pm

Prior to 1776, the colonies that became the United States accepted transported criminals to populate the land. Come and find out about the genealogical records that exist covering this group of individuals. Free. Registration required; call 832-393-2600. For adults and teens.

LDS Family History Centers

LDS Family History Centers are branch facilities of the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. These centers are located worldwide and provide public access to most of the microfilms and microfiche in the Family History Library to help people identify their ancestors. Everyone is welcome to use Family History Center resources. The published days and hours are subject to change. Call to confirm the center's schedule.

Friendswood, Texas FHC at 505 Deseret Dr in Friendswood, 281-996-9346.

Hours: Tues-Thurs 10am-2pm, Tues 6pm-9pm, Fri 11am-3pm, 2nd Sat 11am-3pm

Galveston, Texas FHC at 3300 77th St. in Galveston, 409-744-7938.

Hours: Wed 7pm-9pm

League City, Texas FHC at 4655 S Shore Blvd in League City, 281-538-1283.

Hours: Tues-Thurs 7pm-9pm, Sat 10am-12pm

Clear Lake, Texas FHC at 1802 Gunwale Rd in Clear Lake City, 281-488-4406. Hours: Wed 6-9pm, Tues & Thurs 11am-8pm, Sat 9am-3pm

Alvin, Texas FHC at 2700 Lehi Lane in Alvin, 281-585-3033. Hours: Wed 7pm-9pm, Thurs 8:30am-12pm & 5pm-7pm, Fri 8:30pm-12pm, Sat 8am-11am

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, March 4. We will be scheduling some new trips to the library early in the month of March. I will have the webmaster post the trips as soon as they are confirmed.

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 Imartin497@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 whether you are a repeat visitor or if you have never gone with our group to the library. We have a good time sharing a sack lunch, chatting with each other and exchanging information. Sometimes, a fellow member can give us a lead to an ancestor. It has happened to me!

Attendance Record

Jeanine Lawrence, Meeting Room Chairman

In December, 44 members and 16 guests attended the general meeting and 15 members attended the board meeting.

In January, 56 members and 5 guests attended the general meeting and 10 members attended the board meeting.

BAG\$ Report

Ed Harris. Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$8,024.80
Income	\$0.00
Expenses	<u>-\$458.64</u>
Balance on hand 01/31/2008	\$7,566,61

Membership Report

Tammy Frey, Registrar

This past month has brought five new or renewed memberships to BAGS. Our current membership total is now 175. We have some great programs coming up, so bring your friends! If you missed Kathryn Morrow last month, you missed a wonderful presentation. This month's speaker, Jim Nonus, promises to be excellent as well. So treat yourself and your friends to a great evening. Food, an interesting speaker, great company...what more can you ask for?

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.

Please Volunteer Your Help Is Needed

- Assistance with the Christine Rose Seminar – contact Alice Braud-Jones
- Successor to Leo Waltz as the BAGS webmaster – contact Resa Hennings
- Successor to Suzie Ganch as the BAGS Quarterly editor – contact Resa Hennings
- Assistance with the Mt. Olivet Cemetery Transcription Project – contact Alice Braud-Jones
- Submit your favorite recipes for the BAGS cookbook to Mary Martin
- Share a ride with a BAGS member contact Jeanine Lawrence



U.S.S. CONSTITUTION AND H.M.S. JAVA. PHOTOGRAPH OF A PAINTING DATED DEC. 23, 1812. DETROIT PUBLISHING CO. NO. M 20017

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS, PRINTS AND PHOTOGRAPHS DIVISION, DETROIT PUBLISHING COMPANY COLLECTION.



OTHER
JEAN LAFFITE
PERSONAE



SOURCE: WIKIMEDIA commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Ima ge:Jean laffite.jpg

BAGS



REMINDER

Next General Meeting Friday, February 29, 6:00 pm Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC Deadline for March Issue is Saturday, March 8, 2008



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

Early Registration (Received By 02/29/200 Regular Registration (Received By 04/25/200 Registration at the Door (No Lunch)	,	\$45.00 \$50.00	
Name:	E-Mail		
Address:	Telephone:_(_)	
City, State: <u>I belong to</u>	the:	Genealogy Society	
 #Member Early Registrations #Non-Member Early Registrations #Member Regular Registrations #Non-Member Regular Registrations 	(By 2/29/08) X (By 4/25/08) X	\$45.00 = \$.00 \$45.00 = \$.00	
Box Lunches:\$8.00 each (includes sandwich, chips, cookie, & coffee or tea)#Turkey#Roast Beef#Tuna#Veggie			
<u>\$.00</u> I	Registration Lunch BAGS Contribution	n	

Questions: Go to: www.txbayareagen.org or

E-mail: VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org

Return Form to:

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