

Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter P.O. Box 891447

Houston, TX 77289-1447

Volume 7, Issue No. 7

March 2008

Friday, March 28, 2008 at 6:00pm: Trevia Wooster Beverly presents What You Don't Know About the Census

The federal government has taken population censuses every ten years since 1790. Discover those special and often forgotten censuses and special schedules that can put meat on the bones of your ancestor. Trevia Wooster Beverly will discuss the institutional soundex; agricultural, industrial and manufacturing schedules; the dependent, defective, and delinguent class schedules; states censuses and more. You will learn how to discover them, where to find them and how to use them.

Mrs. Beverly is a native of Harris County, Texas, born and reared in the community of Wooster (now an incorporated part of Baytown), founded by



Christine Rose Seminar Saturday May 3, 2008

Group & early registration prices available until March 29

Group and individual registration forms are available online in interactive PDF and Microsoft Word formats at

www.TxBayAreaGen.org/seminars.htm

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Insert: Christine Rose Seminar Information & Registration Form her great-grandfather in 1892. She has traced her own paternal line and that of her husband to England in the early 1600s, and her mother's Acadian family from France to Canada, through the British dispersement back to France and into Louisiana in 1785. Mrs. Beverly is a professional genealogist, amateur historian, cemetery preservationist, speaker and workshop leader, writer and publisher, and book reviewer. She is listed in 1981 and 1990 eds. of Meyer & Filby's Who's Who In Genealogy & Heraldry, in Who's Who of American Women, 1981-82, and Notable Women of Texas 1984-1985. Mrs. Beverly is

Assistant Coordinator and Program Chair for the Angelina College Genealogy Conference. This year's conference is titled "Keys to Discovery". Mrs. Beverly is presenting two sessions during that conference: "FDR's 'New Deal' Genealogy" and "Where to Die? Civil War Hospitals and Prisons". Refer to the BAGS Workshops & Seminars webpage for more details.

Join us for this program on Friday, March 28 at 6:00 pm at the University Baptist Church in the Great Room, 2nd floor.

(16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City-online map)

Bay Area Genealogical Society website - www.TxBayAreaGen.org

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Message from the President

Resa Hennings

I noticed an interesting article in the *Houston Chronicle* about a previously unknown photograph of Helen Keller and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, having recently surfaced.¹ Of course, Helen Keller was the child left blind and deaf after an illness when she was just over one year old. She

was the first deaf blind person to graduate from college and went on to become an author, activist, and lecturer. The photograph is remarkable because experts believe it to be the earliest of Helen and Anne together, taken in 1888 when Helen was 8 years old and the family was vacationing on Cape Cod. The New England Historic Genealogical Society has possession of the photograph and has provided an image online at www.newenglandancestors.org/press.

How many boxes, envelopes, and files full of "lost" information about *your* ancestors are sitting in attics, basements, trunks, or cedar chests just waiting to be found?

In December 1997, twenty boxes of old newspapers, letters, books, clothing, and other artifacts belonging to Clara Barton were found in Washington, D.C. in the attic of the vacant threestory building at 437 7th Street. The building was scheduled for demolition by its owner, the General Services Administration of the Federal Government! The boxes were placed into safekeeping and studied by historians and curators and ultimately revealed much new information about Barton's activities after the Civil War and before she founded the American Red Cross.² (continued on page 3)

www.chron.com/CDA/archives/archive.mpl?id=2008_4526344

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 All rights reserved.

¹ "Historical Discoveries: Rare photo of Keller, teacher surfaces". *Houston Chronicle*. Houston, Texas. March 6, 2008, Section A, page 2. Retrieved online March 13, 2008 from *Houston Chronicle* website:

² "Newly Discovered Artifacts Reveal Clara Barton's Post-Civil War Work in Washington D.C." Press release published by U.S. Department of the Interior: National Park Service, National Capital Regional Office on December 11, 1997. Retrieved online March 13, 2008 from *National Park Service* website: www.nps.gov/ncro/PublicAffairs/PressReleases/yl_Clara_Barton Artifacts Found 11Dec97.html

President's Message (continued from page 2)

There are many locations online where we can search for such long lost information on our own families: *I Dream Of Genealogy*

(www.ldreamof.com), Ancestorville Antiques and Genealogy (ancestorville.com), Cyndi's List Family Bibles

(www.CyndisList.com/bibles.htm), and The Bible Archives

(www.geocities.com/heartland/fields/2403). And be sure to check *eBay* listings under the category "Everything Else", subcategory "Genealogy" (everythingelse.ebay.com). Every day numerous items of historical or genealogical interest are sold.

This is extremely tedious work—it truly is looking for a needle in a haystack. We just never know, however, when information on an ancestor of ours is out there, waiting to be found.

On the other hand, if you have a "box of goodies" on a family that is not yours, be sure to publicize the items in your possession to help locate those individuals who would be interested in the material.

5-Generation Charts Can Be Helpful! by Shirley Robbins

When I joined BAGS, I submitted my 5-generation chart. It was published in the BAGS Newsletter and BAGS Quarterly. As a result of publication, the chart was accessible in the online archives. I received a letter, sent to the society as a result of that online mention. I have now met a 2nd cousin, once removed, of whom I had been unaware. We are having email chats and sharing information. This cousin is just beginning to be involved in genealogy. She is 72, and has gone back to college to complete her degree (as she said, "better late than never"). Many thanks to BAGS for helping us to find each other. Please consider providing a new or updated 5-generation chart for publication in the BAGS Quarterly. Member Eleanor Caldwell is the contact. Maybe you too will find a new relative.

Yearbook Photos Are Needed by Neil Miserendino

The latest edition of the *BAGS Yearbook* is available. Copies were distributed at the BAGS February general meeting and will be available at the BAGS March general meeting. Photographs were not available for several members. Some of those photos were lost when my computer had a problem between backups. For those members, only their contact information is included.

I am soliciting your help in making next year's edition even better. If you would like to include your photograph in next year's edition, ask to have your photograph taken at a BAGS general meeting. Or, send a photo either by e-mail to **psrambling@aol.com** or by regular mail to the BAGS address (P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447). The members whose photographs did not appear in this year's edition of the *BAGS Yearbook* are:

Coffman, Shirley
Conrad, David A.
Conrad, Bonnie E.
Conrad, Ashley
Corbin, Carolyn
Corbin, George
Czigan, Ruth
Davenport, Wally
Davenport, Norma
Davidson, Ann
Derrick, Loretta
Douglas, Joan S.
Forman, Royce G.
Forman, Ernestina C.

Harp, Betty
Hawley, Signe
Karrick, Chester Preston
Lava, Betty A.
Morrow, Michael
Parks, Rosemary
Pryor, Gwen
Ratcliff, Betty Gene
Rolingson, Bob
Rolingson, Martha Ann
Swartzell, Gene
Stewart, Janice
Terrell, Christina
Wittich, Gail

NEW GROUP RATE AVAILABLE for May 3, 2008 Christine Rose Seminar

For groups consisting of 4 or more people, register together by March 29, 2008 and get the rate of \$30.00 per person.

Special group registration form is available online at www.TxBayAreaGen.org/seminars.htm

"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.

Reading Early American Handwriting by Kip Sperry, Associate Professor of Family History at Brigham Young University, published 1998 by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc.

This book is available at Clayton, Friendswood, and Texas City libraries. Locate similar books in a library catalog by using the subject search term "palaeography".

This book is a good introductory resource for learning to read and interpret early American documents written in English. Foreign language documents are not covered. Common word spellings, capitalization, and punctuation were not consistent until the 19th century. Often initials were used for given names in records including the 1850-1880 U.S. population census schedules. A single letter, colon ":", or other punctuation mark was used to denote when a word had been abbreviated. Included is a list of shortened forms and abbreviations of common words and given names found in these documents. Handwriting style and letter form variation examples are provided for capital and lowercase letters, Arabic numbers, and Roman numerals. I learned a lowercase letter "s" could have been written as a backward lowercase cursive "f". Great Britain, the American colonies, and other British possessions converted from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar after September 2, 1752. That day was followed by September 14, 1752 (skipping September 3-13, 1752) to make up an eleven-day calendar adjustment. Also, the first of the year moved from March 25 (Julian calendar) to January 1 (Gregorian calendar).

An appendix provides 188 pages illustrating facsimiles of early American documents side-byside with corresponding transcriptions for you to practice reading and interpreting. The samples include town, church, court, land, and probate

records. Studying these examples may help you acclimate to the various handwriting styles, abbreviations, and terminology used during that time. Related Early British and Scottish Handwriting online resources:

"Palaeography: reading old handwriting 1500 -1800: A practical online tutorial" provided by The National Archives: UK Government Records and Information Management website: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/palaeography (last accessed March 16, 2008)

"Online Tuition in the Palaeography of Scottish Documents [1500-1750]" provided by The Scottish Archive Network Ltd. website: www.scottishhandwriting.com (last accessed March 16, 2008)

Everton's Genealogical Helper magazine published bi-monthly by Everton Publishers.

This magazine provides how-to articles. research guides, Internet resource reviews, book reviews, genealogy news, gueries, and products. You can find issues of this magazine at the Clayton Library in Houston, Rosenberg Library in Galveston, and Brazoria County Historical Museum in Angleton.

Tour Clara Barton's Home

Located in Maryland, the Barton home served as national headquarters for the American Red Cross, a dormitory for Red Cross staff, and a warehouse for relief supplies. Take a virtual tour of her home, exploring all three levels and twelve restored rooms, the main hallway, the second floor hallway and a storage closet while listening to Clara Barton provide room descriptions. Access the online tour at www.nps.gov/clba/photosmultimedia/virtualt our.htm

The National Park Service furnishes a teaching lesson plan about Clara Barton based on the National Register of Historic Places registration file, "Clara Barton National Historic Site," is available online at

www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/wwwlps/lesson s/27barton/27barton.htm.

March 2008

BAGS Events Calendar

BAGS meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC) located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 (Clear Lake City) – online 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, 2 nd Floor, UBC
 Program: Trevia Wooster Beverly on "What You Don't Know About The Census" Register for Christine Rose seminar to get the early registration price. Pick up your copy of the new BAGS Yearbook
9:00 am BAGS bus trip to Clayton Library
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. Group and individual registration and program information are available on the BAGS Workshops & Seminars webpage and included as an insert in this newsletter issue.
9:00 am BAGS bus trip to Clayton Library
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.
9:00 am BAGS bus trip to Clayton Library
6:00 pm BAGS Board Meeting, Room LC-210, UBC
 6:00 pm BAGS General Meeting, Great Room, 2nd Floor, UBC. Program: Casey Edward Greene, Head of Special Collections, Rosenberg Library on "Trimming the Family Tree: Genealogical Sources in the Rosenberg Library."

Local Area Genealogy Events & Resources

FREE Genealogy Workshop

April 19 from 9:00am to 12:30pm at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 505 Deseret Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546 (online map).

Open to the public and admission to the workshop is free. A free lunch is provided to those that pre-register by calling 281-996-9346. Otherwise register that day between 8:30 am and 9:00 am. Three class sessions available. Classes offered are:

- Beginner Basics How Do I Get Started?
- Census Research
- Personal Ancestry File Computer Software
- African American Research
- Hispanic Research
- Internet Research

Clear Lake Association of Senior Programs (CLASP) "My Hero: General Sherman" by Betty Crockford

Tuesday, April 8, 2008 at 10:30 am in the Bay Area Community Center, 5002 NASA Road One, Seabrook, TX 77586 (location A on online map).

Sherman was much more than a fierce adversary. General Sherman is usually vilified by Southerners, but not by this Atlanta native, who explains his colorful history pre-Civil War, as well as his "March to the Sea" to cripple the Confederate rebellion. **Program is free, open to the public. Registration required.** For more information and RSVP, call 281-283-2019. See complete class and lecture series schedule online at www.uhcl.edu/clasp.

RootsWeb Domain Change

While navigating within the *RootsWeb.com* resource, you may notice the URL has changed from **www.rootsweb.com** to

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com. According to RootsWeb Newsroom

(bigfile.rootsweb.com/newsroom)

announcements, redirection will be provided so

you can continue to access and navigate RootsWeb.com website without any adjustments. This resource is to remain free and offer the same features and support.

Clayton Library Programs

DAR Lineage Help Day Saturday, April 19, 2008 at 10:00 am

Local DAR chapter representatives will be available to help with the lineage application process at the Clayton Library. **Free, no reservations needed. For adults.** For more information call the library at 832-393-2600.

A First-Timers Visit to the LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City, UT Thursday, May 8, 2008 at 2:00 pm Get helpful tips for your first trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. Free, but registration required; call 832-393-2600. For adults and teens.

National Archives Announces Extended Research Room Hours

The National Archives will restore its evening and weekend hours in its Washington, DC and College Park, MD research rooms for the FY 2008 with hopes of securing funding to continue extended hours beyond FY 2008. Effective the week of April 14, 2008, the extended hours will be Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 9 am to 9 pm and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. Hours on Monday and Tuesday will continue to be 9 am to 5 pm. For more information, contact the National Archives Public Affairs staff at 202-357-5300.

Source: Press Release dated February 1, 2008 retrieved online March 13, 2008 from *National Archives* website:

www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2008/nr08-60.html

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

Twelve people attended the March 4 Clayton Library bus trip. There are four new trips to the Clayton Library scheduled for Wednesday, April 9; Tuesday, May 20; Tuesday, June 17; Wednesday, July 16; Wednesday, August 6; and Tuesday, September 16. 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.

Are you interested in visiting another library such as: Tyrell Historical Library in Beaumont, TX; Rosenberg Library in Galveston, TX; or Stephen F. Austin Library in Nacogdoches, TX?

If you have questions or want to attend a Clayton Library bus trip, please call Mary Martin at 281-332-2435, or e-mail Mary 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.

Membership Report

Tammy Frey, Registrar

Is your contact information up to date? It is important that we have your latest address, phone number, and e-mail address so that we are able to contact you with current BAGS information. If you have an addition, a change, or a correction, please let us know at Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

Writing Your Family History Class Shirley Lindquist

Doug Wilson and Susie Ganch presented an excellent seminar on February 16, 2008. The participants were excited about the step-by-step course and provided rave reviews on the concise and easy to understand instruction. Each participant was given a CD containing a copy of the screen presentation, details on outlining, citing sources, writing tips, short biographical essays examples, and links to additional online training materials.

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



BAG\$ Report

Ed Harris, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$7,566.16
Income	\$0.00
Expenses	<u>-\$463.15</u>
Balance on hand 02/29/2008	\$7,103.01



JIM NONUS, DRESSED AS JEAN LAFFITE, AND RENEE BALL AT BAGS GENERAL MEETING FEBRUARY 29, 2008

WANT TO READ MORE ABOUT JAMES CAMPBELL? MEMBER ROSE MARY FRITZ PUBLISHED AN ARTICLE "JAMES CAMPBELL AND HIS FAMILY" IN THE BAGS QUARTERLY, Vol. 5, No. 3, June 2006, p 83.

IMAGES OF CLARA BARTON'S ARTIFACTS RECENTLY FOUND:

WWW.NPS.GOV/ARCHIVE/NCRO/PUBLICAFFAIRS/PRPHOTOS.HTM

CLARA BARTON AROUND 1878. SHE IS WEARING A RED CROSS PIN GIVEN TO HER FOR HER SERVICE WITH THE GERMAN RED CROSS DURING THE FRANCO-PRUSSIAN WAR.





GRAND ARMY AND WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS MEDAL PRESENTED IN 1886. MISS BARTON ACCORDED HONORARY MEMBERSHIP. MARKED ON FRONT, "F.C.L. WOMANS RELIEF COPRS 1883", INSCRIBED ON REAR, "PRESENTED TO CLARA BARTON BY FOURTH NATIONAL COMMITTEE W.R.C. SAN FRANCISCO CA AUG 2 – 7 – 1886."

SOURCE: PICTURES OF CLARA BARTON AND MEDAL FROM NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. WWW.NPS.GOV/CLBA/PHOTOSMULTIMEDIA/PHOTOGALLERY.HTM

BAGS



REMINDER

Next General Meeting Friday, March 28, 6:00 pm Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC Deadline for April Issue is Saturday, April 5, 2008



"BAGS" Presents Christine Rose CG, CGL, FASG Saturday, May 3, 2008 University Baptist Church 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX (Clear Lake City - online 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 March 29, 2008) NEW group rate, \$30.00 per person, for 4 or more people registering together by March 29, 2008.

Check the BAGS website at: www.TxBayAreaGen.org for 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 online map

	<u>Membe</u>	ers Non-Members
Early Registration (Received By 03/29/20	08) \$40.00	\$45.00
Regular Registration (Received By 04/25/20	08) \$45.00	\$50.00
Registration at the Door (No Lunch)	\$50.00	\$55.00
Name:	E-Mail	
Address:	Telephone:_	<u>()</u>
City, State: <u>I belong to</u>	the:	Genealogy Society
 # Member Early Registrations # Non-Member Early Registrations # Member Regular Registrations # Non-Member Regular Registration 	(By 3/29/08) X (By 4/25/08) X	\$45.00 = \$.00 \$45.00 = \$.00
Box Lunches:\$8.00 each (includes sandwide)#Turkey#Roast Beef	ch, chips, cookie, & #Tuna	coffee or tea) #Veggie
\$.00	Registration Lunch BAGS Contributio	on

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

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