



# Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 9, Issue No. 4

December 2009

*To You And Your Family, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*



**Members and guests  
enjoying friendship and  
food at the Hope Village  
Tea Room**



## WHAT'S INSIDE

- |                                          |                                                         |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 President's Message                    | 5 Calendar for BAGS                                     |
| 3 Tyrrell Bus Trip, DAR Online Resources | 6 Committee News                                        |
| 4 Resource News You Can Use              | 7 Local Area Event & Classes                            |
|                                          | 8 Tyrrell Bus Trip pictures (only in online newsletter) |

**The regular  
general meetings  
resume in  
January 2010.**

Bay Area Genealogical Society website – [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org)

## BAGS Officers

### President

Tina Medlin-Chatham  
[president@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:president@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### First Vice President

Claudia Grafton  
[VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### Second Vice President

Susie Ganch  
[sganch@verizon.net](mailto:sganch@verizon.net)

### Recording Secretary

Mary Martin  
[lmartin497@aol.com](mailto:lmartin497@aol.com)

### Corresponding Secretary

Lynn Finger  
[lmcharney2@aol.com](mailto:lmcharney2@aol.com)

### Treasurer

Bill Mayo  
[bcmayo@earthlink.net](mailto:bcmayo@earthlink.net)

### Registrar

Tammy Frey  
[registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org)

## Newsletter Staff

### Editor / Composer

Kim Zrubek  
[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### Proofreaders

Alice Braud-Jones  
Shirley Robbins

### Photographers

Neil Miserendino

### Website

**Webmaster**  
Linda Carrington  
[linda@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:linda@TxBayAreaGen.org)

## Message from the President

**Tina Medlin-Chatham**



TINA  
MEDLIN-CHATHAM

It was great to see so many of you at the BAGS Holiday party. It was a great location, the food was great, and I enjoyed the shopping!

For those of you who weren't able to make it, you missed a great party.

I hope everyone has good times with family and friends over the holidays.

While you are with all your family don't forget to brag on all the research you have done and information you have found. It's a great time to share and maybe even get more information and stories from family members. But the best part is the new memories we create each year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all!

Tina



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)

All rights reserved.



## Tyrrell Bus Trip Report

by Mary Martin, photo provided by Lewis Jarman

Last month, twelve members spent time discovering new information at the Tyrrell Historical Library in Beaumont, TX. The building is beautiful and interesting to visit. Rose Mary Fritz and Betty Jo Paar discovered that they were distant cousins on this trip. Exciting! Rose Mary knows many stories about her ancestors. The group enjoyed lunch at the Spindle Top Restaurant. Thank you to Marie Krnavek, Lewis Jarman, and Alice Braud-Jones for helping make this trip possible.



(Left to Right) Lewis Jarman, Leslee Fehlman, Claudia Grafton, Betty Jo Paar, Mary Krnavek, Rose Mary Fritz, Connie Ogden, Annette Bowen, Dorsey & Joe Kastetter, Alice Braud-Jones, & Ray Brown

## DAR Genealogical Research System

National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) provides the general public free access to the DAR Genealogical Research System, an online resource for general research and DAR membership assistance. This system consists of five searchable databases (see tabs): **Ancestor**, **Member**, **Descendants**, **GRC**, **Resources**, and **Library Catalog**.

DAR Genealogical Research System

[Ancestor](#) [Member](#) [Descendants](#) [GRC](#) [Resources](#) [Library Catalog](#)

[Simple Search](#) [Advanced Search](#) [Child Search](#) [Recent](#) [Previous](#) [Rolling Search](#) [Clear Form](#)

**Ancestor Search**  
Search for Revolutionary Era Ancestors

[Overview & Help](#)

\* You must enter a value in at least one of the marked fields.

Ancestor Last Name  \*

Ancestor First Name  \*

State of Service  ⓘ

Ancestor Number  \*

State of Birth  ⓘ Year:

State of Death  ⓘ Year:

Spouse Last/Maiden Name

Spouse First Name

The **Ancestor Database** contains the names of Revolutionary War Patriots whose service and identity have been established by the NSDAR. Included is information on the dates and places of birth and death, names of spouses, residence during the Revolution, rank and type of service, and the state where the patriot served. The contents are updated daily as new membership applications and supplemental applications are approved. **(continued on page 7)**

## Research News You Can Use

### Navy Cruise Books accessible in Ancestry.com

More than 600 Navy cruise books are available exclusively online at Ancestry.com. The contents “represent nearly 40 years of cruises following World War II (1950-1988) and chronicles an estimated 450,000 servicemen deployed at sea during that time. Styled after yearbooks, the cruise books include the names and photographs of individuals who served aboard the ship and highlight not only significant milestones that took place during the cruise, but also the day-to-day life on board ship. While not every Navy cruise was documented in a cruise book, the Navy Department Library has on file an estimated 3,500 cruise books, which Ancestry.com plans to digitize and add to this collection over time.” Original data is from United States Navy. Various U.S. Navy Cruise Books. Navy Department Library, Washington, D.C [Press release “Ancestry.com Publishes for the First Time Online Collection of Twentieth-Century Navy Records”, November 11, 2009.]

Complete resource description is available online: <http://search.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=1250&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0>

**View the database within Ancestry.com for free using a public Internet station in one of the Harris County or Houston Public Libraries (e.g. Freeman Memorial in Clear Lake City, Parker Williams on Scarsdale, or Clayton Library in Houston).**



### Mac OS X Users

Personal Ancestry Writer II (PAWriter II), a freeware program developed by Howard H. Metcalfe for Mac OS X users, is now available. “It combines most of the features of the LDS Personal Ancestral File program (PAF) for the Macintosh (for which all development stopped a few years ago after release 2.3.1), with additional features that generate web pages (in HTML), word processing files (in RTF for, e.g., AppleWorks) and desktop publishing files (in MML for FrameMaker). The generated report files include genealogical dictionaries, registers, ahnentafels and lineages—such as appear on this site—as well as some interesting text files and pedigree charts.” [Howard H. Metcalfe’s website description] Learn more

about the program and install the application at [www.lanopalera.net/Genealogy/AboutPAWriter.html](http://www.lanopalera.net/Genealogy/AboutPAWriter.html)



### Diocese of St. Augustine Archives

A new center for the Diocese of St. Augustine Archives is now open to the public providing the earliest documents detailing the births, confirmations, marriages and deaths of the Spanish residents in St. Augustine from 1594 to 1763, when the British took over Florida. There are records of the diocese's nine bishops and the Spanish colonial government, and microfilm of records on explorations, the attacks of English and French corsairs, the development of slavery and reports on Indian customs and languages. The diocese maintains Episcopal archives (1857-1967) and the parish registers of the Cathedral-Basilica (1594-1881). The archives also handles requests for genealogical research and the history of Catholicism in Florida. Researcher request forms are available online. Otherwise, contact the center at :

34 Aviles Street St. Augustine, FL 32084  
(904) 823-8707 or (904) 806-2131

E-mail: [archives@dosaf.com](mailto:archives@dosaf.com)

Diocesan Archivist is Sister Catherine Bitzer, SSJ

In early 2010, the diocese will dedicate a new museum that will showcase the history of Catholicism in Florida with a semi-permanent exhibit of the Spanish missions of Florida. The expansive gallery spaces will feature a wide array of unique documents, historical artifacts and artwork.

### References:

“Diocesan Archives” page on the Diocese of Saint Augustine website

[www.dosaf.com/index.php?page=about/archives](http://www.dosaf.com/index.php?page=about/archives)

“Bishop Victor Galeone Dedicates Diocesan Archives Center” September 16, 2009 press release on Diocese of Saint Augustine website [www.dosaf.com/index.php?page=top/newsreleases](http://www.dosaf.com/index.php?page=top/newsreleases)

“Catholic documents in oldest US city preserved” article by Ron Word, Associated Press, published online November 11, 2009. Found online at <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory?id=9053686>

## 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 welcome to all events.  
Public invited to visit general meetings.**



***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!***

There will not be a general meeting this month.  
See you in January!

Wednesday, January 20, 2010	9:00 am BAGS bus trip to Clayton Library
Monday, January 25, 2010	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Friday, January 29, 2010	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Speaker: Irene Walters, from Houston's Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, presents "Researching using microfilm and microfiche at Clayton Library" Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
Monday, February 22, 2010	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Wednesday, February 24, 2010	9:00 am BAGS bus trip to Clayton Library
Friday, February 26, 2010	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Speaker: Bruce Lockett discusses his current marine salvage projects. Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
Wednesday, March 10, 2010	9:00 am BAGS bus trip to Clayton Library
Friday, March 26, 2010	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Speaker: Dave Eastman, founder of <i>Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter</i> ( <a href="http://www.eogn.com">www.eogn.com</a> ), presents "Putting the Genes in Genealogy". Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
Friday, April 30, 2010	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Annual BAGS Demolition Day: Breaking down your research "brick walls". Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.

## Committee News

### Bus Trips To Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Plan ahead to catch the bus trips scheduled next year:

**Wednesday, January 20, 2010; Wednesday, February 24, 2010; and Wednesday, March 10, 2010.**



I hope that everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and is looking forward to Christmas. If you have some free time, you might plan which grandmother or grandfather's ancestors you will look for on our next trip in the middle of January. If you haven't been to the Clayton Library, consider going with our group on January 20<sup>th</sup>. We have several experienced genealogists who go on the bus and may be willing to share some helpful ideas with you. The librarians are always available to help you get started finding your ancestors. Clayton Library also gives a packet of information which is very helpful to first time visitors.

Meet in front of the **Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane ([online map](#))**. 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. You may wish to bring a sack lunch. The library has drink and snack machines in the snack room.

If you have any questions or want to reserve seating, please call Mary Martin at 281-332-2435 or e-mail Mary at [lmartin497@aol.com](mailto:lmartin497@aol.com). The BAGS website [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org) and the current newsletter always has a current listing of library trips.

### Attendance Report Jeanine Lawrence

34 members and 2 guests attended the annual holiday party.



### BAGS Publicity Resa Hennings



It's important that we keep the greater Bay Area informed of when and where BAGS meetings are held and who the monthly speakers will be. Please let me know if your local neighborhood, subdivision, or area newspaper does not have such a listing. If you will call me (281-326-4936) or send me an e-mail ([resa@resa.us](mailto:resa@resa.us)) containing the name of the publication and its telephone number or e-mail address, I will make arrangements for BAGS to be included.

### BAG\$ Report for November Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,626.41
Income	\$195.00
Expenses	-\$5.28
Balance on hand 11/30/2009	\$3,816.13
CD Balance	\$5,214.42

Note: The beginning balance reported for September was in error by \$144.40; it should have been \$3,303.51 instead of \$3,159.11. This November report corrects that error.

### BAG\$ Report for October (Revised) Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,281.01
Income	\$895.45
Expenses	-\$550.05
Balance on hand 10/31/2009	\$3,626.41
CD Balance	\$5,214.42

### BAG\$ Report for September (Revised) Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,303.51
Income	\$485.25
Expenses	-\$507.75
Balance on hand 10/31/2009	\$3,281.01
CD Balance	\$5,213.06



## DAR Genealogical Research System (continued from page 3)

The **Descendants Database** is an index of more than 7.1 million names found on the lineage page of almost 500,000 DAR applications and supplementals. These names are searchable by the name of an ancestor who fought in the Revolution or by the name of a descendant. The patriot and descendants are linked so that once you find an ancestor you can look at the descendants and vice versa. The patriot's information and the descendant's (applicant's) national membership number are included for easy reference to published lineage books. The contents are updated daily as DAR member volunteers continue to index approximately 4,500 names per day. The purpose of this database is to help those looking for a DAR Patriot line to identify the best possible record copy to order. Contact and ordering details are online at [www.dar.org/library/record\\_copy.cfm](http://www.dar.org/library/record_copy.cfm)

The **GRC Database** is an every name index of the GRC Books housed in the DAR Library. Currently, volunteers to the Genealogical Research Committee (GRC) have indexed 20% of the books and have entered more than 20 million names. These typescripts contain a tremendous amount of unique genealogical material, much of it gleaned from gravestones, family Bibles, and personal collections. DAR members gather together information accessible to them where they live, through family connections or in their own genealogical papers. The members' information is assembled at the state level in the form of a report and submitted to the GRC office. In the course of a year, approximately 300 new reports arrive at the GRC office of the DAR Library for addition to the collection. The GRC Reports themselves are being digitized and will be completed in the fall of 2009. Researchers may view the digital images at the DAR Library's Seimes Technology Center. The images are not available at the present time online outside of DAR headquarters. Researchers may order copies of pages in GRC Reports by contacting the DAR Library's Search Service. Contact and ordering details are online at [www.dar.org/library/search.cfm](http://www.dar.org/library/search.cfm).

You can find more information about these databases at [www.dar.org/library/online\\_research.cfm](http://www.dar.org/library/online_research.cfm), or go directly to [http://216.36.105.133/DAR\\_Research/Search](http://216.36.105.133/DAR_Research/Search) to start searching.

## Research Orientation at Clayton Library Saturday, December 19, 2009 at 10:30 am

Learn about the vast family history research resources at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, named "One of the 9 genealogy libraries you need to visit before you die" (Family Tree Magazine July 2008) on this tour of the facility. Library is located at 5300 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77004 ([online map](#)).



## Book Sale at Friendswood Public Library Now through Wednesday, December 30, 2009 during regular library hours (Mon. – Thurs, 10am – 9pm; Fri – Sat, 10am – 6pm).

Library will be closed December 24th-26th. Materials for sale include books, audio books, music, VHS movies, magazines, and encyclopedia sets. The book sale is sponsored by Friends of the Library. All proceeds go toward supporting library programming. Library is located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX 77546 ([online map](#)).



Melodey Hauch showing her certificate from TSGS for **2009 1st place manuscript writing award**.



Images of the BAGS bus trip to the Tyrrell Historical Library, Beaumont, TX on November 18, 2009. Photos provided by Lewis Jarman.

# BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



## REMINDER

There will not be a general meeting in December.

Deadline for January Issue is Saturday, January 2, 2010