



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 10, Issue No. 1

September 2010

### Friday, September 24, 2010: Sue Yerby presents "That record should exist, let's try the last resort, the FHC."

*Public Invited. Join us at 6:30pm for coffee and socializing.*

**We meet at the University Baptist Church in the Great Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.  
(16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City - [online map](#))**



Sue Yerby

Sue Yerby's all consuming hobby, and often obsession, is genealogy. She has been working on her family research for about 37 years. For over 31 years, Sue Yerby has served as a Family History Consultant for two different LDS Family History Centers (FHC). She has taught continuing education classes in genealogy as well as developed and orchestrated several full day genealogy workshops.

Sue worked as a legal assistant for 12 years. The experience tremendously enhanced her research ability. Sue earned the Professional Genealogist certification in 1999 mainly in preparation for something to do after retirement.

She currently works as a Business Administrator for the University of Houston. Sue enjoys assisting researchers at the LDS Family History Center, but more importantly, she loves teaching others how to find their own family history. "The glow on their face, when they have discovered their first ancestor, is fantastic."

Sue will discuss resources available through local Family History Centers and how to access and order records. Many FHCs are available in the area including Clear Lake City, Friendswood, Galveston, League City, Pasadena, and Pearland. Use [online search](#) to locate a FHC near you.

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#### October Program Speaker is

**Blaine Hedberg, resident genealogical expert  
at the Norwegian American Genealogical  
Center and Naeseth Library  
in Madison, Wisconsin**

**Pick up your copy of the new  
BAGS Quarterly September issue.**

*Membership Renewal Time*  
The new Society year has begun.

## BAGS Officers

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## Message from the President

Tina Medlin-Chatham



TINA  
MEDLIN-CHATHAM

Summer is coming to an end! And that means the hot weather is closer to ending. I look forward to fall (and spring) because the cooler weather makes me feel like getting out and visiting research places. I enjoy visiting the places where my ancestors lived. It's especially exciting when I get to see buildings or places that my ancestors used. I like trying to imagine what they thought or felt when they were there. During my July family reunion in Bessie, Oklahoma, one of my uncles led a group of us in several cars around the countryside showing where my great grandparents lived and farmed. We also visited the remains of the first church that was built by the German settlers (including my family) in the area. It has long ago deteriorated but some parts of the walls remain and the cemetery across the road where some of my family is buried is still maintained. Standing there by the ruins and imagining my great grandparents attending services with their family and friends was very emotional for me. Although my father's family has been here since the 1600's, I'm only the 3rd generation on my mother's side born here in the US. So standing there thinking about what their lives must have been like arriving in a strange new land with new opportunities but a new language and new customs, I'm so grateful for their courage and strength. They gave me the life I enjoy living today! I hope all of you have experiences from your research that remind you of the courage and strength of your ancestors and that those traits are what you use (and need) to research and build your genealogical tribute to them.

Tina

## Welcome New Member!

*We are happy to welcome  
our newest member:*

**Helene Stein of Dickinson**

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)

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## New York State Newspaper Resource Contributed by Shirley Robbins

I broke down and signed up for [Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com). I "met" a couple of cousins and a couple of folks who had family marry in and who have a bit of data on my folks. At any rate, one of these folks put me on to a link to New York newspaper digitized images

([www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html](http://www.fultonhistory.com/Fulton.html)). It is fabulous -- and I've spent far too many hours perusing thru there and getting the low down on things whispered about or not ever talked about. I highly recommend it for folks looking into family in NY. It's free and you can save PDF files to your computer.

[editor's note] The *Old Fulton NY Post Cards website* provides a free online access to search 13.5 million digitized full-page images of New York newspapers published from 1795 to 2007. New images are added every Sunday evening. View the [index](#) for the complete list of newspapers and their published dates available through this resource. Access the index to browse specific newspapers. The website's current design is organized into a left and right vertical panes (or frames). In the left pane is the keyword search

interface. Specify one or more keywords, optionally select one or more search methods, and then press the "Search" button. Be patient and the search results will appear in place of the search interface. Each result entry list the name of the paper, published date, and short text containing the word(s) you were searching. Click on the desired result entry and be patient. The image will load into the

Catch the bus to  
Clayton Library for  
research and socializing  
with BAGS members.



Next trip is

Wednesday, October 13 at 9:15am  
Details on page 6.

### Membership – Is Yours Up-To-Date?

Tammy Frey, Registrar

Our August Show & Tell meeting was an amazing success! The food was fabulous – have you ever seen so many desserts? But even better was the program. So many members had such interesting items and stories to share. We had a great time! I'm already looking forward to next year's Show & Tell!

We are now officially in the new Society year. Many thanks to those who have already renewed their memberships. If you have not yet renewed, it's not too late! As long as your information is the same, you may simply mail in a check or pay at the September meeting. The membership fee has not gone up, which is rather remarkable these days! An individual membership is still just \$20, and a family membership is \$25. That's a great deal for a full year of excellent programs and top-quality publications! We appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you this year.

Don't forget to keep your information updated. It is especially important for us to have your current contact information. However, we also like to know of updates to the surnames you are researching and areas in which you can help individual members or the Society as a whole. You may contact me at [Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org).

right pane but the process may take 1 to 3 minutes. To save the page image, use the right button on your computer mouse and click over the image to access a menu and choose "save the frame" (i.e. image) to your computer. Scroll the left pane down to the bottom to access the search interface again. Specifying a date range is only good for pages published in 1990 or after. The [online help](#) explains what Boolean words and special characters that can be used to improve results found.

## Show & Tell – Great Fun!

Members shared wonderful items and advice at last month's Show & Tell program.

Three good examples of utilizing preexisting research to locate early ancestors: Jeanine Lawrence made a family connection using information published in *Texas First Families* by Texas State Genealogical Society ([copy available](#) at Clayton Library). She also reminded us that cemetery books may include family history information. Susie Ganch found books about her family on [Amazon](#). [editor's note] Locate items by using the search terms "genealogy" along with a geographic location (e.g. **genealogy Kentucky**). You can also find family history related books on [eBay](#) using the same search strategy.

Lowell Brigham reminded us to also use nicknames when searching records. Several online resources provide lists of name/nicknames: [USGenWeb Project](#), [GenealogyToday](#), [Cyndi's List](#), or use [Google](#) using the search terms: **genealogy ethnicity nicknames** (i.e. for *ethnicity* use **german, french, dutch**, etc.)

Keith Stine featured the end product of his project to preserve and pass down family values and history to the next generation. He scanned photos, letters, newspaper clippings to produce a book for each family member: his father, his mother, wife, and son. He used The Bookbindery in Missouri City (281-403-3009, [www.thebookbinderyhouston.com](http://www.thebookbinderyhouston.com)) to produce the bound books. Keith suggested our family histories should include personal letters to future generations capturing our views on life, love, and money.



David Cate attended this year's Federation of Genealogical Societies Annual Conference in

Knoxville, Tennessee. He toured the area and worshiped in churches attended by his ancestors. David is donating the conference class materials to BAGS.

Jane Thompson shared model-sized metal toys (complete with moving parts and electric lights) collected by her father while serving as a scout for the 9th Armored Division in Germany during World War II. Jane and her brother used to play with them as children.



(continued on page 6 & 8)

## October is Genealogy Month!

BAGS is hosting a month long "show & tell" display in the entrance area of the **Freeman Library** in Clear Lake City ([online map](#)). Members are invited to loan family items for this display similar to the items shared at the August Show & Tell program. Polly Swerdlin and Regina Flynn are organizing this project. They will be collecting your item(s) at this month's general meeting (September 24, 2010). Polly needs a couple of volunteers to assist in installing the display at the library in early October.



**Refer to page 7 for other special programming in October.**

### Thanks To Our Generous Supporters!

We want to recognize and to express our deep appreciation to those members who showed their support for BAGS in the '09/'10 Society Year by making an additional donation along with their membership fee. **Thank you! Your support makes a difference!**

#### Patron Level (\$50-\$599)

Rosalva Aulenbacher & Roger Maddox  
Wally & Norma Davenport  
Resa and Eric Hennings  
Bob Loyd  
Loren and Mary Martin  
Jim McLane  
Donald and Laura Pusch

#### Contributor Level (\$30-\$49)

Joe & Dolores Fields  
John Hoover  
Terry Stubblefield

### Correction: Surnames Our Members Are Researching

On page 4 in the July 2010 newsletter, some of Shirley Lindquist's surnames were incorrectly listed as belonging to Maurine Lee. Thank you to Maurine, who noticed the error, and our apologies! It should have read:

**Shirley Lindquist:** Gerome, Maley, Spagnola  
**Maurine Lee:** Schmidt from Poznan, Poland

## 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.**

Monday, September 20, 2010 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210

Friday, September 24, 2010 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting  
Speaker: Sue Yerby presents "That record should exist, let's try the last resort, the FHC."  
In the Great Room on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor at UBC  
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.  
Pick up the new *BAGS Quarterly* September issue

October, all month BAGS show & tell display at Freeman Library

Wednesday, October 13, 2010 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library

Monday, October 25, 2010 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210

Friday, October 29, 2010 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting  
Speaker: Blaine Hedberg will discuss researching Norwegian ancestry.  
In the Great Room on 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor at UBC  
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.

Wednesday, November 17, 2010 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library

Saturday, November 20, 2010 11:00 am – 1:00 pm **Annual Holiday Party in Hope Village Tea Room located at 15403 Hope Village Road in Friendswood ([online map](#)).**  
**Members and guests are invited.**

No general meetings in November and December

Monday, January 24, 2011 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210

Wednesday, January 26, 2011 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library

Friday, January 28, 2011 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting  
Speaker: James Bevill, author of *The Paper Republic*

Wednesday, February 16, 2011 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library

Friday, February 25, 2011 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting  
Speaker: Cary Hall presents "Wanted Dead or Alive, the parent of Eli Hugh Davis"

## Committee News

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

We have scheduled four new trips to the Clayton Library:

**Wednesday, October 13 ,  
Wednesday, November 17,  
Wednesday, January 26, 2011 and  
Wednesday, February 16, 2011.**



We meet in front of the **Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane ([online map](#))**.

The county bus departs at **9:15 am** and leaves the Clayton Library at **3:00 pm** to arrive back at the parking lot before **4:00 pm**. For lunch, bring a sack lunch, use the library's drink and snack machines, walk to the first floor deli at Park Plaza Medical building, or ride the bus to a nearby restaurant.

**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).** Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings. The BAGS website [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org) and the current newsletter always has a current listing of library trips.

If you have not been to the Clayton Library, consider going with our group this fall and see what you can discover about your ancestors. We have several experienced genealogists who go on the bus and may be able to share some helpful ideas with you. The librarians are always available to help you get started finding your ancestors. There is also a packet of information the library provides to first time visitors which is very helpful.

### Show & Tell (continued from page 4)

Charles Sterling shared his research on a "Masonic" rifle owned by his ancestor David Abraham Ragains. The rifle has Masonic symbols embedded all over the rifle. Charles has identified the meaning of each symbol. The family has loaned the rifle to The Grand Lodge of Texas Library and Museum in Waco, TX for display. History and pictures of David Ragains and his rifle are published online under [Texas Masonic History](#) at The Grand Lodge of Texas website.

Lynn Finger is working on a four-generation needlepoint.



Bill Mayo shared 1939 photos of Civil Conservation Corps Camp in Marshall, TX.

Barbara Moore displayed her baby clothes. Beautiful works of stitching, embroidery, and tiny buttons.



Oletia Teas shared an old seed salesman's box with hand colored seed catalog.

### Attendance Report

#### Jeanine Lawrence

For August, 49 members and 3 guests attended the general meeting and 15 members attended the board meeting.

### BAG\$ Report for August

#### Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,328.63
Income	\$651.15
Expenses	<u>-\$295.98</u>
Balance on hand 8/31/2010	\$3,683.80
CD Balance	\$5,259.23

## Free Genealogy Programs

The [Clayton Library](#) is offering a large number of programs in October. Reservations required. Call the library 832-393-2600. The library is located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004 ([online map](#)).

*\*\*Cemetery Walk, Applying for the Official Historic Texas Cemetery Designation and Beyond*  
Saturday, October 2 from 10:00am – 2:00pm

*Ante-Bellum Slave Plantation Records*  
Friday, October 8 at 10:00am

*Texas State Convict Record Ledgers 1849 - 1954*  
Friday, October 8 at 11:30 am

*From Battlefields to Homefires: Photography in the Civil War* Friday, October 8 at 1:30 pm

*South Carolina Research: The Leonardo Andrea Collection* Friday, October 8 at 3:00 pm

*Lineage Day*  
Saturday, October 9 from 10:00am to 4:00pm

*Preserving Family Heritage and Stories Using Digital Storybooking/Scrapbooking*  
Friday, October 15 at 1:00pm

*\*\*The Irish Are Coming.....Back (see insert)*  
Saturday, October 16 from 10:15am to 3:30pm

*Build Your Family Tree Site*  
Friday, October 29 at 10:30am

*Continue Building Your Family Tree - Build Your Google Bookshelf* Friday, October 29 at 12:00pm

*Heritage Quest Database Research*  
Friday, October 29 at 1:30pm

*Fun Findings on Family Search*  
Friday, October 29 at 3:00pm

*\*\*Oral Histories: Communities, Classrooms, Connections*  
Saturday, October 30 from 10:00am to 3:30pm

## The Cradle in Galveston, Texas

**Wednesday, October 27 at 2:00 pm  
at Friendswood Public Library ([online map](#))**

Linda Johnson Cooper, committee chairman of The Cradle, will discuss how and where The Daughters of The Republic of Texas began, DRT projects, membership benefits & the application process.

## *An Evening with George Washington: Step back in time to 1776...*

A fundraiser for the The League City Historical Society **at 6:30pm on Thursday, October 7, 2010** at Butler's Courtyard 122 Michigan Avenue, League City, TX ([online map](#)). Event includes dinner, entertainment and silent auction. For information call 281-557-5551 or view [online flyer](#).

Meet George Washington - portrayed by Mark Collins, internationally known performer in movies, television, and on stage, as he transports listeners back in time to an era when a people were on the verge of a great revolution.



## Texas State Genealogical Society 2010 Annual Conference in Waco, TX

**November 5-6, 2010**

at the Hilton Waco,  
113 S University Parks Drive ([online map](#))

Featuring Barbara Vines Little, CG of Orange, VA and Teri Flack of Austin, TX. Barbara Vines Little specializes in Virginia and West Virginia record sources. Teri Flack specializes in Republic of Texas ancestry research

**Speaker information, registration form, schedule and hotel information are available [online](#) in one PDF document or access TSGS website at [www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs](http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsgs) and then click on the "Conference" link.**

**While you are in Waco, consider visiting the following research resources:**

[New West Waco Library and Genealogy Center](#)  
[Texas Collection at Baylor University](#)  
[Red Men Museum and Library](#)  
[The Grand Lodge of Texas Library and Museum](#)  
[Texas Ranger Hall of Fame Museum](#)  
[Texas Sports Hall of Fame](#)



Jane Thompson shared her great grandmother's hair receiver used to store hair for making pincushions, dolls, pillows, and ratts. Below are Jane's WWII model toys.



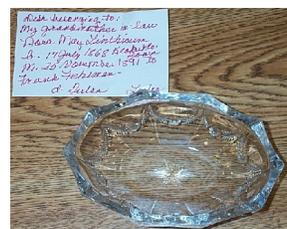
Oletia Teas with 1910 photos of the Teas Nursery on Bellaire Blvd (then a dirt road) in Houston, TX.

Wanda Yelverton's baby dress and a picture of her mother.



Keith Stine's family history preservation project.

Leslee Fehlman's grandmother's glass dish complete with written family history.



# BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



## REMINDER

Next General Meeting  
Friday, September 24 at 7:00 pm  
Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC  
Socializing at 6:30 pm

Deadline for  
October Issue is  
Saturday, October 2, 2010

# The Irish are Coming.....back!

Clayton Library Friends

Presents

Scots/Irish Genealogical

Seminar

Brian Trainor and Fintan Mullan

Ulster Heritage Society

Saturday, October 16, 2010

10:15a.m. – 3:30p.m.

at Clayton Library – Carriage House

located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004 ([online map](#)).

**Donation:**

\$30.00 until September 15<sup>th</sup>

\$40.00 – September 15<sup>th</sup> - until October 10<sup>th</sup>

Optional Lunch - \$10.00 with registrations received by Oct.10

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Lunch Sandwich Choice: (circle one)**

Turkey, Roast Beef, Veggie, or Tuna

**ON**

White or Wheat

Amount Included: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks to: Clayton Library Friends and note “Irish Seminar”

Mail Registration To:

Clayton Library Friends, P. O. Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078

For More Information Contact: [president@claytonlibraryfriends.org](mailto:president@claytonlibraryfriends.org)

