



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 10, Issue No. 2

October 2010

Friday, October 29, 2010: An Evening of Norwegian Genealogy with Blaine Hedberg

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

**We meet at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel on the 1st floor.
(16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City - [online map](#))**

Interested in Norwegian culture, history, and genealogy? BAGS is proud to host Blaine Hedberg who is the Naeseth Chair for Research and Publication for the Norwegian American Genealogical Center (NAGC) and Naeseth Library located in Madison, Wisconsin (www.nagcnl.org). Mr. Hedberg is an international leader in Norwegian genealogical research. The NAGC & Naeseth Library is among the world's leading resources for Norwegian and Norwegian-American genealogy. Through collections, research, outreach, and publications, this center continually builds upon its role as the most comprehensive source of information about Norwegian immigrants, their ancestors, and their descendants. Bygdebøker are a genre of Norwegian local history literature containing information about rural districts and the people who lived within those districts. It has long been thought the combined collection of Bygdebøker at the NAGC & NL and those held at the University of Wisconsin – Memorial Library, in Madison, Wisconsin, provide the most extensive collection in such close proximity to each other outside of Norway. This program is free. Visitors are welcome. No registration required. Park in the lot nearest to Middlebrook Drive and use the entrance facing that street.



Blaine Hedberg

WHAT'S INSIDE

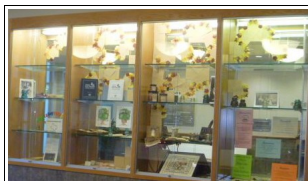
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- 8 (online version) BAGS Freeman Library Display



November

Annual Holiday Party at Hope Village Tea Room on Saturday, November 20 from 11:00am to 1:00pm details on page 4.

Catch the bus to Clayton Library Wednesday, November 17 at 9:15am details on page 6



Thank you Polly Swerdlin, Regina Flynn, Barbara Moore, Jeanine Lawrence, Susie Ganch, Lynn Finger and Bonnie Conrad for creating a wonderful display promoting genealogy research and BAGS. During the month of October, stop by the [Freeman Library](#) in Clear Lake City ([online map](#)) to view this display located in the entryway. Additional pictures of the display are published on page 8 of the online version of this newsletter.

BAGS Officers

President

Tina Medlin-Chatham
president@TxBayAreaGen.org

First Vice President

Claudia Grafton
VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org

Second Vice President

Susie Ganch
sganch@verizon.net

Recording Secretary

Mary Martin
lmartin497@aol.com

Corresponding Secretary

Lynn Finger
lmcharney2@aol.com

Treasurer

Bill Mayo
bcmayo@earthlink.net

Registrar

Tammy Frey
registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Newsletter Staff

Editor / Compositor

Kim Zrubek
newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

Proofreaders

Resa Hennings
Shirley Robbins
Geraldine Smith

Photographer

Neil Miserendino

Website

Webmaster

Linda Carrington
linda@TxBayAreaGen.org

Message from the President

Tina Medlin-Chatham



TINA
MEDLIN-CHATHAM

We have some great things coming as we get close to closing out the calendar year. Be sure to check all the information in the newsletter for details of upcoming events. I'm really excited about our October meeting. Blaine Hedberg is a well known genealogist affiliated with the Norwegian American Genealogical Center in Wisconsin. And coming in November, our BAGS Holiday Party. Once again it will be at the Hope Village Tea Room. I know everyone who attended last year really enjoyed it and look forward to visiting there again. Hope to see you all at both of these great events.

Tina

In Memoriam

A long time member,
Constance "Connie" Ogden passed away
Saturday, September 25, 2010.

Connie actively participated in BAGS and the
George Washington DAR Chapter.

Our prayers go out to her family.

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.

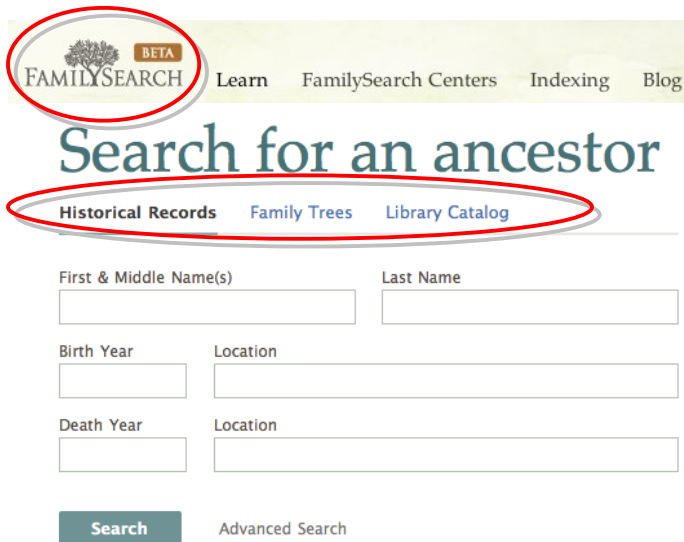
Questions or comments on the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to:

Editor, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447, or newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

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Free Resources at *FamilySearch* and your local FHC

At last month's meeting, Sue Yerby provided an entertaining and informative program on the resources available through online *FamilySearch* and local LDS Family History Centers. Sue's research mantra is "There has to be a document. There just has to be. It is just either not published, not transcribed or indexed online, or I have not looked in the correct place ... Yet!" Keep looking! During this year with the help of volunteers, the images and indexes for over 7 million records were added to *FamilySearch* resources. Each year there will be more! Periodically check the *FamilySearch* resources for newly indexed records or information pertaining to your family research.



The new beta-version of **FamilySearch**

(<https://beta.familysearch.org>) provides access to 470 worldwide historical record collections by surname, place, date, or category. Some collections include the digitized record images that can be saved to your computer and printed. Alternatively, browse the collection list and narrow down choices by time period, locations and/or category. The camera icon indicates an image of the original record is available. Choose a record collection to search within that specific collection.

For example the *Texas Deaths 1890-1976* record collection includes images of the Texas death certificates. I found the death certificate for my great grandfather James Aaron Moore, a physician who died of influenza during the epidemic in 1918. The certificate lists his birth date, where he is buried,

names of his parents and their birth places as remembered by James' wife. Searching the surname Moore with death year 1918 returned 34,710 matches. I reduced the search results to 215 by using the advanced search to choose "match all terms exactly" and set 1918 +/- value to 0. Adding the first name James to the search reduced the results to 3!

Search the [Family History Library online catalog](#) to identify microfilms important to your research. Search by "place" and enter one broad word (e.g. Kentucky). In the left sidebar, narrow the results by selecting time period, record category, availability location and/or language. Choose a specific entry and review the notes, subject list and language (i.e. English) information within the title's details for hints on the film's contents. If this title has been microfilmed, a "Film Notes" section will be included. That section contains the film number needed to order that film at your local FHC at a cost of \$5.50 per roll to use within the FHC for one month. Family History Centers (FHC) are open to the public. **(continued on page 4)**

Family History Centers Located Near You

Alvin: 2700 Lehi Ln, Alvin, TX ([online map](#))

281-585-3033 Hours: Wed 7pm-9pm, Thurs & Fri 8:30am-12pm and Sat 8am-10am. Closed: All observed holidays and two weeks at Christmas.

Clear Lake City: 1802 Gunwale Rd, Houston, TX ([online map](#)) 281-488-4406 Hours: Tues by appointment only, Wed 6:30pm-9pm, Thurs 11am-8pm and Sat 9am-3pm. Call ahead before coming to confirm that the center is open. Closed Holidays.

Friendswood: 505 Deseret Dr, Friendswood, TX ([online map](#)) 281-996-9346 Hours: Tues 10am-2pm & 6pm-9pm, Thurs 10am-2pm, Fri 11am-3pm and 2nd Sat only 11am-3pm. Closed Thanksgiving week, two weeks at Christmas.

Galveston: 3300 77th St, Galveston, TX ([online map](#)) 409-744-7938 Hours: Tues and Sat by appointment only and Wed 7pm-9pm.

League City: 4655 S Shore Blvd, League City, TX ([online map](#)) 281-535-3034 Hours: Tues - Thurs 7pm-9pm and Sat 10am-12pm.

Pasadena: 4202 Yellowstone Dr, Pasadena, TX ([online map](#)) 281-991-8479 Hours: Tues 10am-6pm, Tues 6:30pm-8:30pm and Sat 10am-1pm. Closed public holidays.

Clayton Library: 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, TX ([online map](#)) 832-393-2600 Hours: Tues & Thurs 10am-6pm, W 10am-8pm and Fri-Sat 10am-5pm. Order microfilm and other materials directly from the Family History Library and view them on-site at Clayton Library.



**Members and their guests
are invited to**

BAGS Annual Holiday Party

Saturday, November 20

**from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the
Hope Village Tea Room**

(4541 FM 2351, Friendswood, TX [online map](#))

**Entrance to the tea room is located on
the south side of FM 2351 between Hope Village
Road and the Lord of Life Lutheran Church.**

*We had a great time last year. Come join us to
enjoy the holiday spirit and a pleasant lunch with
friends among the designer Christmas trees,
wreaths and holiday decor.*



Lunch is dutch. Meals cost \$6-\$15.
Choose from a variety of soups, salads,
sandwiches, and desserts.

***Benefits The Hope Foundation
for Retarded Children***



The Family History Centers (FHC) have purchased licenses to several electronic databases and provide free access within a FHC to the public. Here are a few of those resources you can use for your research. Just another reason to visit a local Family History Center.

Within ***The American Civil War Research Database*** you can research the individuals, regiments, and battles of the American Civil War with indexed searchable information on 4.3 million soldiers and thousands of battles, together with 16,000 photographs. It contains all of the more than 4,600 known regimental rosters, 3,461 regimental chronicles, 1,010 officer profiles, pension index records, 1860 census records, GAR records, Roll of Honor records, Medal of Honor records and regimental histories. Information has come from personal items, graveyards and newspaper reports.

The American Civil War: Letters and Diaries knit together more than 400 sources of diaries, letters, and memoirs, to provide fast access to thousands of views on almost every aspect of the war. This extraordinary electronic collection includes 100,000 pages of re-keyed and indexed text, including 4,000 facsimile pages of previously unpublished manuscript material.

19th Century British Library Newspapers provides images of more than 2 million pages from 48 top national and regional newspapers in Victorian Britain.

Genline.com (also accessible at Clayton Library) offers access to original Swedish Church Records from the 1600s to 1930s including births, marriages, deaths, household examinations books, clerical registrations and movement in and out of the parishes.

Godfrey Memorial Library provides an extensive collection of city and business directories. Unique digitized in-house content includes 4,000 genealogies, biographies, memoirs and funeral sermons. Provides access to 19th century newspapers, African American newspapers and *London Times* digital archives.

(continued from page 3)

The **[Research Wiki](#)** provides “how to” advice for researching government, church, and public records in a specific country, state or county.

The **[Research Courses](#)** provide free online “sit & listen” video courses on the basic methods and key resources for genealogy research in specific countries (e.g. England, France, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, United States).

Click on **[Blog](#)** for the latest news and feature articles concerning research resources available.

Want to be an indexing volunteer? Just click on **[Indexing](#)** to get started.

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.**

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 Chapel on 1st Floor at UBC. Park in the lot nearest to Middlebrook Dr. and use the entrance facing that street. Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing. Pick up your copy of the September <i>BAGS Quarterly</i>

Wednesday, November 15, 2010	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
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. Entrance to the tea room is located on the south side of FM 2351 between Hope Village Road and the Lord of Life Lutheran Church. (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 <i>The Paper Republic</i>

Wednesday, February 16, 2011	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library
Monday, February 21, 2011	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
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

Catch the bus to Clayton Library on one of the following dates:



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. Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings.

The BAGS website 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.

Membership

Tammy Frey, Registrar

Our new society year kicked off last month. **To be included in the BAGS Yearbook, your membership renewal must be received by the end of October.**

If your picture was not in last year's yearbook, or if you are a new member, please either submit a photo or ask to have your photo taken at a meeting so that your picture can be included in the new Yearbook.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.



Attendance Report

Jeanine Lawrence

For September, 60 members and 9 guests attended the general meeting and 10 members attended the board meeting.

Visit the BAGS Boutique during the general meeting to purchase BAGS cookbooks and tote bags.

They make good Christmas gifts.

BAG\$ Report for September

Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,683.80
Income	\$752.80
Expenses	<u>-\$495.64</u>
Balance on hand 9/30/2010	\$3,940.96
CD Balance	\$5,276.09

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](#)).

****The Irish Are Coming.....Back Registration form and program information available online at www.claytonlibraryfriends.org 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

Genealogy Basics Boot Camp
Saturday, November 20 at 1:00pm

Understanding the Census: Tips & Tricks to Locate Hard to Find Ancestors
Saturday, November 20 at 3:00pm

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.



Ghosts of the Past

**Saturday, October 30, 2010
(rain or shine) 1:00pm-5:00pm**

Costumed "ghosts" will enlighten you with tales of the lives of early Immigrants of League City.

Presented by the [League City Historical Society](#) at the Fairview Cemetery in League City, TX. For more information call Museum at 281-554-2994 ([online PDF flyer](#)).

"Party on the Pavers"

Saturday, November 13 at 10:00am

Clayton Library Friends host program by FamilyHistory DNA and celebrate the end of the paver project. Plan to come to the CLF general meeting for a great program and stay for the festivities which will begin shortly thereafter.

Clear Lake Association of Senior Programs

"The Battleship Texas" by Steven K. Howell, Executive Director Battleship Texas Foundation on Thursday, October 21 at 5:30pm in University of Houston-Clear Lake Bayou Building, Garden Room 1510 ([online map](#)). No reservations required. Free parking is available in Lot R. For special accommodations or more information, call 281-283-2021.

"World War II: Tales of an 8th Air Force Fighter Pilot" by John B. Lee on Friday, November 5, 2010 at 10:30am in Freeman Library, 16616 Diana Lane ([online map](#))

"My Heroes: The Code Talker, the Commandant and the DAR" by Alice Braud-Jones, DAR, CLF and BAGS on Monday, November 8 at 9:30am in Melvin Knapp Center-Pearland, 2424 South Park Avenue, Pearland ([online map](#)).

These two programs are free and open to the public. Registration is required. For more information and RSVP, call 281-283-2019. See complete class and lecture series schedule online at www.uhcl.edu/clasp.



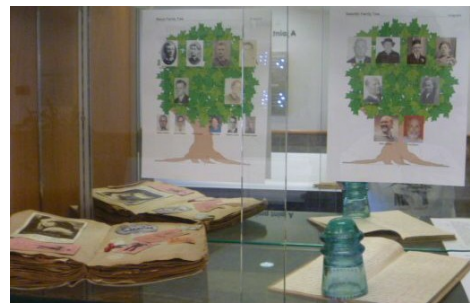
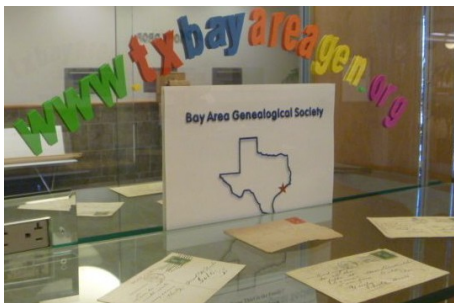
**Texas State Genealogical Society
2010 Annual Conference in Waco, TX**

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 and then click on the "Conference" link.



October 2010 BAGS Display at Freeman Library. Pictures available [online](#).



BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



REMINDER

Next General Meeting
Friday, October 29 at 7:00 pm
Chapel (1st Floor) UBC
Socializing at 6:30 pm

Deadline for
November Issue is
Saturday, November 6, 2010