



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

P.O. Box 891447
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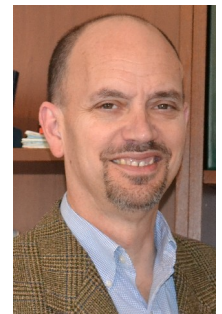
March 2011

Friday, March 25, 2011: Nick Cimino presents “How to trace your ancestors in Italy”

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

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

Nick Cimino began conducting his genealogical research in 1989. He retired in August 2010 and has devoted himself to further exploration of genealogical and historical adventures. He and his wife have direct ancestry in 25 of the 50 states and collateral relatives in 15 more, all of which he has researched. His Italian research has been primarily conducted in U.S. archives and libraries. However, he and his wife are planning a trip to Sicily this fall to visit the land of their ancestors in the Siracusa Province.



Nick Cimino

Plan to pick up the latest issue of the Quarterly at the meeting. Members have been submitting excellent articles, so keep up the good work. Melodey Hauch, Quarterly Editor, is looking for new articles now to use in the June issue.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 President's Message
Welcome New Members
- 3 Software Reviews,
Immigration Records,
Family History Center locations
- 4 Digitizing Photos,
U.S. Civil War 150th Anniversary,
Finland Research Resources
- 5 Calendar for BAGS
- 6 Committee News
- 7 Local Area Events, Conferences, &
Classes

Consider Volunteering for the Officer Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is tasked to present the slate of 2011-2013 officers to the current Board of Directors at the May 2011 Board meeting. Two current Board members will serve on this committee. Based on the BAGS Bylaws, we need three members from the general membership to serve on this committee. If you are willing to serve on the nominating committee, please contact Tina Medlin-Chatham by phone 281-479-6455 or email at President@TxBayAreaGen.org.

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
Geri Smith

Photographer

Neil Miserendino

Website

Webmaster

Linda Carrington
linda@TxBayAreaGen.org

Message from the President

Tina Medlin-Chatham



TINA
MEDLIN-CHATHAM

Happy Spring! This is my favorite time of year. Not too cool, not too hot, just right for prowling around in a cemetery. And, here in Texas, seeing the beautiful wild flowers (especially bluebonnets) along the way. It is so great to belong to a group of people who can understand the cemetery part! I used the cold weather to stay home, warm and cozy and catch up on getting information I had collected into my genealogy software. Now it's time to get

out and enjoy the weather and find more information. I hope all of you are enjoying the warmer weather and also finding new and exciting information to add to your family trees.

Be sure to attend all the BAGS meetings. I always learn something new from every speaker we have.

Tina

Welcome New Members

Theo and Vicki Camlin of Pearland

*Be sure to extend a warm welcome
to our newest BAGS members!*

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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Software Reviews

TopTenREVIEWS, Inc. published an online matrix comparison of the top ten applications available for Windows computers titled [2011 Genealogy Software Review](#) and six applications available for Mac computers titled [2011 Best Mac Genealogy Software Comparisons and Reviews](#). The reviews include ratings, data entry, data management, views, reports, charts, online integration, reporting, publishing, help, and support.

The *Internet Genealogy* magazine December/January 2011 issue published an article "Genealogy Software For The Apple Mac" by Edward Zapletal (pages 8-11) where he reviews the following software products available for Mac users: Family Tree Maker Mac 2010, GEDitCOM II ver 1.5, Genealogy Pro ver 2.2, GenScribe, GRAMPS, Heredis Mac X.2, iFamily for Leopard, MacFamilyTree, MyBlood, Personal Ancestry Writer II, and Reunion.

Immigration Records

Diane L. Richard published the [online article](#) "How To Find Immigration Records & Passenger Lists" on *Archives.com* dated August 13, 2010. This article provides a research flowchart and summary of the different immigration scenarios that could have occurred. This may help you think outside your current research box.

Step instructions and tips on locating immigration records within *Ancestry.com* dating from 1600s up to the 1900s are provided in the article "Ocean of Records" by David A. Fryxwell on pages 43-47 in *Family Tree Magazine*, January 2011 issue.

You can now access
Ancestry.com
(Library Edition)
for free at your local
Family History Center

Family History Centers Located Near You

Alvin: 2700 Lehi Ln, Alvin, TX ([online map](#)) 281-585-3033 Hours: Wed 7pm-9pm, Thurs 8:30am-12pm, 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.

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

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 and two weeks at Christmas.

Galveston: 3114 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, Thurs 6:30pm-8:30pm and Sat by appointment only. Closed public holidays.

Digitizing Photos?

Are the photographs you are scanning faded or have a beige or reddish cast over them? A photo editing software tool can be used to “clean up” the digital image of a photograph by manipulating the color and contrast assignments. This type of tool can also provide features to digitally correct tears and mildew spots. Picasa (picasa.google.com) and Picnik (www.picnik.com) are two free photo editing tools offered by Google for used on both Windows and Mac computers. The article “Picture Perfect” by Diane Haddad and Christy Miller in *Family Tree Magazine* January 2011 issue on pages 11-15 provide step-by-step instructions using Picasa to remove fading, reddish casting, tears, and spotting on a digital photo image.

Want more information on how to scan photographs? Your local library will carry books covering scanning and photo editing. Search the library catalog by the subject terms 'photography digital techniques'. Here are a few online resources discussing the basics of scanning photographs for e-mail, printing or archival purposes.

[How to scan Genealogy Photos for Archiving](#)
by Natalie D. Cottrill on *ProGenealogists.com*
(archival)

[Getting Started Scanning](#) by Sue Chastain on
About.com Guide (good introduction)

[A Few Scanning Tips](#) by Wayne Fulton
(comprehensive)

[Introduction to Photo Scanning](#) by Hewlett-Packard Development Company (examples are tailored to the HP products)

Roots in Finland?

‘Need to “Finnish” Your Genealogy Research?’ by Diane L. Richard in *Internet Genealogy* magazine December/January 2011 issue, pages 17-21 discusses online resources available for researching ancestors from Finland. The article covers church records, passport and passenger records, published newspapers between 1771 and 1900, and translation resources. This magazine is available at your local library.

The 150th anniversary (sesquicentennial) of the United States Civil War begins April 12, 2011

The hostilities began when Confederate forces attacked a U.S. military installation at Fort Sumter in South Carolina on that date.

“When President Lincoln planned to send supplies to Fort Sumter, he alerted the state in advance, in an attempt to avoid hostilities. South Carolina, however, feared a trick; the commander of the fort, Robert Anderson, was asked to surrender immediately. Anderson offered to surrender, but only after he had exhausted his supplies. His offer was rejected, and on April 12, the Civil War began with shots fired on the fort. Fort Sumter eventually was surrendered to South Carolina.”
[From “Time Line of The Civil War, 1861” available [online](#) within the Library of Congress *American Memory Collection*.]

Commemorative Sesquicentennial news and planned events in individual U.S. States can be accessed from the

***Civil War Trust* website**

www.civilwar.org/150th-anniversary

and the *Civil War Traveler* website

www.civilwartraveler.com/150/index.html

To help celebrate this major event in United States history, the Clayton Library is planning to host a traveling display from the National Institutes of Health entitled “Binding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries – African Americans in Civil War Medicine” (May 9 – June 19, 2011). At the same time the library will be offering panel discussions, Civil War research source lectures, and special events. Stay tuned for more details when available.

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, March 21, 2011** **6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210**
- Friday, March 25, 2011** **7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting**
Speaker: Nick Cimino presents “How to trace your ancestors in Italy”
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
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- Monday, April 25, 2011** **6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210**
- Friday, April 29, 2011** **7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting**
Speaker: Gay Carter, Reference/Documents Librarian at the Alfred R. Neumann Library, UHCL
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
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- Monday, May 23, 2011** **6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210**
- Friday, May 27, 2011** **7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting**
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
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- Wednesday, June 1, 2011** **9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library**
- Monday, June 20, 2011** **6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210**
- Friday, June 24, 2011** **7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting**
Speakers: Eric and Glenda Sandifer present “Who Were the Huguenots?”
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
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- Wednesday, July 6, 2011** **9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library**
- Monday, July 25, 2011** **6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210**
- Friday, July 29, 2011** **7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting**
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.

Committee News

Bus Trips To Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator

New dates have been scheduled for bus trips to Clayton Library. The dates are:

Wednesday, June 1, 2011

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Wednesday, August 3, 2011



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 Rec Center 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 have a current listing of library trips.

If you have not been to the Clayton Library, consider going with our group 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.

*Pick up your copy of the
BAGS Yearbook 2010-2011
at the next general meeting.*

Membership

Tammy Frey, Registrar

We had a great meeting in February! Cary Hall's presentation was both educational and quite entertaining as she took us through her ancestor search. We always enjoy Cary's enthusiasm for genealogy. There were six visitors at the meeting, two of whom joined. In addition, we had a renewal, which brings our membership to 162. Also attending the meeting were Nick Cimino and his wife, Robin. Nick will be speaking in March on Italian research, so if you know of anyone with possible Italian ancestry, be sure to bring them to the meeting! See you there!

It is important to keep our information up to date. If you have any changes in or corrections to your contact information during the year, please notify us at Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

*Interested in serving as the
Telephone Committee Chairperson?
Contact Tina Medlin-Chatham*

Attendance Report

Jeanine Lawrence

For February, 38 members and 6 visitors attended the general meeting and 12 members attended the Board meeting.

BAG\$ Report for February 2011

Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,222.52
Income	\$101.00
Expenses	-\$90.54
Balance on hand 2/28/2011	\$3,232.98
CD Balance	\$6,290.18

Local Events

Free Genealogy Programs at Clayton Library

Class reservations required. Call the Clayton Library at 832-393-2600. The library is located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004 ([online map](#)).

Genealogy Basics Bootcamp

Saturday, March 26 from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

Interested in your family history, but not quite sure where to start? Found some information, but need to know what else is available? Join the Bootcamp for an exercise in genealogy research resources! This session focuses on starting genealogical research by examining basic tools, such as the pedigree chart, and basic research strategies. Learn about the different genealogical materials available to researchers and how they lead to other sources.

Organized or Trashed? Let's Get Organized!

Saturday, March 26 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Do you search but still can't find that elusive document when you need it? Do you make copies and discover that you already had it? Learn the most important reason why you need to organize your work. The second part of the presentation is a class discussion of ways to organize. Bring an example of your organizational system to share with others in the class.

Clayton Library Orientation

Saturday, April 16 from 10:30 am to 11:30 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.

Modern Military Records presented by Craig Scott, CG

Saturday, March 19, 2011 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Bayland Community Center on 6400 Bissonnet, Houston ([online map](#))

Sponsored by Houston Genealogical Forum, this program will cover researching records of the Spanish American War, World War I and II, Indian Wars, and "records you may not know."

Cost:

HGF Members \$20, at the door \$25
Non-Members \$25, at the door \$30

For more information, refer to the HGF website www.HGFTX.org

FamilySearch Indexing

Monday, April 18 at 1:00pm in the Friendswood Public Library ([online map](#))

Learn about the current FamilySearch volunteer indexing projects. Discover how easy the online process is to index key information from digitized historical records. The indexed information is verified and then published in the FamilySearch.org database to help make historical records from around the world, available for everyone on the Internet.

"Splitting the Blanket" presented by Emily Croom

Saturday, May 14 at the Clayton Library Friends General Meeting.

This program covers finding records from divorce in your family research. Registration is at 10:15 am with the meeting beginning at 10:30 in the Clayton Library Carriage House Meeting Room ([online map](#)).

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Houston, TX 77289-1447

BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



REMINDER

Next General Meeting is
Friday, March 25 at 7:00 pm
Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC
Socializing at 6:30 pm

Deadline for
April Issue is
Saturday, April 2, 2011