



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 10, Issue No. 9

May 2011

Friday, May 27, 2011: Ann Dunphy Becker presents "Houston - After the Civil War and before Oil - as seen through photographs."

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](#))**



Ann Dunphy
Becker

Ann Dunphy Becker, a native of Albuquerque, New Mexico, fell in love with Houston when she was just 11 years old. She along with her parents stayed at the Shamrock Hilton for a week. This first look at our city was all it took for her to return again at age 23 and never leave. Ann is married and the mother of two native Houstonians!

Mrs. Becker is a member of the Harris County Historical Commission, Harris County Historical Society, and Lady Washington Chapter, NSDAR, where she serves as Chairman of the Historic Preservation Committee. Ann is a founding member of the Buffalo Bayou Lyceum, a founding member of the Houston

Production Manager's Association and on the board of HoustonHistory.com. She has written several books including: *The Houston Light Guard*; *Houston 1860-1900*; *Gustave August Forsgard (1832-1919)*; and *Justina Latham and her Receipts 1869*.

Come see a slide show and presentation about the early days of Houston.

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- (insert) Dr. Arlene Eakle Seminar
Registration Form

**BAGS membership will
vote changes to the Bylaws at
the May general meeting.**

**Articles are always welcome for
the *BAGS Quarterly*!**

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Message from the President

Tina Medlin-Chatham



TINA
MEDLIN-CHATHAM

As summer approaches and it gets close to family reunion time I thought I would use my next few month's President messages to talk about some of the ideas I use to get things rolling at reunions.

If you are having a reunion and have families attending that don't know each other well or may have never met, it sometimes helps to play games that help them learn about each other. Some of the things I have tried are family bingo and family scavenger hunt.

Family Bingo: Pass out a blank bingo card (you can make one yourself in a word processor or spreadsheet program). Everyone must get someone to sign each square. The rules are it can't be signed by anyone in your immediate family or anyone you came with to the reunion. Also, you must visit for a couple minutes to get to know each other. The first few people (you pick a number) who get their cards completed and back to you get a prize. I use simple dollar store items or even canned food (which can be donated to a food pantry at the end of your reunion) as the prizes.

Family Scavenger Hunt: Create scavenger lists that relate to family, such as find someone born in same year as you, someone who has twins, someone with a middle name of ??? (using your family tree to find information). Be creative. Everyone will have to talk to each other asking questions to try and find a match, and generally this will lead to more conversation.

Good luck with planning your reunions. They are so much fun!



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

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Case Study Resources

Last month Gay Carter provided an entertaining research study on the life of someone very dear to her heart. [editor's note: *The person's name is left undisclosed to preserve the intrigue for future presentations of this program.*]



A search for strategies

Genealogical case studies are fascinating and educational. They can actually improve your research skills and knowledge of the possible information available on specific types of records.

When reading case studies, translate the scenarios, record information, and search processes against your own experience to formulate a workable research strategy for your own ancestors. Many genealogical case studies are published online.

Here are just a few case study resources:

[Case Studies Provide Genealogy Search Tips](#) page on the *Genealogy Search Tips* website provides search tips as well as case studies.

Various case study articles published by Megan Smolenyak² are accessible from the [Genealogical Library: Case Studies/Human Interest](#) page on her *Honoring our Ancestors* website.

There are many case studies available through *Ancestry.com Article Archives* and the *FamilySearch Learning Resources*. Enter "case study" search terms and include a country, state, or county to narrow down the resulting list of articles. Click [here](#) to access the *Ancestry.com* archived articles related to case studies. Click [here](#) to access the *FamilySearch* case study articles.

Blog Favorites

Looking for another genealogy blog to follow for advice or looking for some suggestions on which blog to read? *Family Tree Magazine* published an annotated list of their top 40 favorite genealogy blogs. The list covers technology, heritage groups, research advice, and potpourri topics. Find the list on pages 22-28 of the July 2011 issue.

Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration

Follow the news on [Facebook](#).

Also, the article "Civil War Genealogical Resources, State-By-State" by David A. Norris provides an in-depth look at the resources available for tracing your civil war ancestors. The list includes free and fee based resources. Part one covering Alabama through Nebraska Territory is in the *Internet Genealogy* magazine February/March 2011 issue on pages 16-20. Part two is in the April/May 2011 issue on pages 16-19.

Gone West?

Internet Genealogy magazine February/March 2011 issue published the article "All Aboard! Top Sites For Railroad Records" by Janice Nickerson discussing the history and records available concerning the railroad equipment, workers, and passengers. The mention of passenger lists caught my eye. The two volume set titled *Railway Passenger Lists of Overland Trains to San Francisco and the West* by Louis J. Rasmussen published in 1966 is available at the Clayton Library ([catalog entry](#)). Containing approximately 32,000 passenger names that traveled west between July 28, 1870 and April 23, 1873, this resource could help prove that someone you are looking for moved west. The information is reconstructed from journals, diaries, letters, magazines and newspaper lists. The passenger lists are arranged chronologically, and generally contain departure date, arrival date, or "passed through" date; passenger names; and place of residence. When families were traveling together, an indication of "spouse," or "child," with no name given, will often follow the passenger entry.



Research Tips

Gay Carter provided the following tips during last month's program.

Newspapers are a great resource for leads in 20th century research but are not necessarily accurate. Access newspaper resources such as *Ancestry.com*, *ProQuest*, and *NewspaperARCHIVE* through University Houston Clear Lake Neumann Library, Houston Public Libraries, Harris County Libraries, and local Family History Centers.

Search *Google* and *Google Books* every month using *Google News Archive Search* (<http://news.google.com/archivesearch>) which provides an easy way to search and explore online historical archives.

For someone living in the U.S. that died after 1962, the Social Security Application (SS-5 form) can help identify the person's full name, birth date, an employer, and parents' names including mother's maiden name. Read the [online article](#) "U.S. Social Security Records for Genealogist" published in the *FamilySearch Wiki* for the process of locating a person's SS-5 form.

Updating The BAGS Bylaws

Claudia Grafton, Chairman, Resa Hennings, and Tammy Frey

The Bylaws Committee of the Society has been working on updating the Bylaws. While the original document was good and useful to the Society, over the years different questions and issues have come up. With this in mind, it was felt that the Bylaws should be reviewed and fine-tuned to reflect the Society as it is today.

After much consideration, the Board of Directors approved and recommends to the Membership an update of the Bylaws which you should have received via e-mail or USPS. A vote of the General Membership to accept this update will be taken at the general meeting on Friday, May 27, 2011.

One recommended change in the Bylaws is that the seven articles of the Constitution have

been incorporated into the Bylaws -- an accepted practice for organizations such as ours. Previously, it was separate from the Bylaws. (Note: The Constitution is not in the current Yearbook; you would have to look back a few yearbooks to see it.)

Another change is that the Committees and their duties are not individually and specifically named in the Bylaws. This allows each new Board the flexibility to establish the Committees needed for their term. However, a listing of each year's Committees and their duties will still be in the Yearbook, just not formally included in the Bylaws.

The Committee's goal has been to streamline our governance documents into one that is easy to read and to the point. We have removed some redundancies and included items missed in earlier editions (such as the President voting to break a tie). Overall it is the same document, just smoothed out a bit.

Hurricane Preparedness



... or just general preparedness against any research destroying event. Seriously consider how you can create a digital archive of the research documents and photos that are important to you. If you do not know where to start, ask for a BAGS member to help. One option is to perform the digitization yourself using a scanner. Read the article review on the latest personal scanner hardware and software published in *Internet Genealogy* magazine February/March 2011 issue on pages 37-41 titled "Scanners and Scanning: A Review" by Tony Bandy. A second option is to hire a company to perform the digitization. Search for companies in the yellow pages by looking under the categories: "Video Tape Duplicating & Transfer" or "DVD & CD Duplication & Transfer." Once you have the digital archive, send copies to family or friends located across the country for safekeeping. Another option is to store the digital copy on an online resource (called cloud storage – learn more from Google search: free cloud storage provider).

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, 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**
Speaker: Ann Dunphey Becker presents "Houston - After the Civil War and before Oil - as seen through photographs."
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
-
- Wednesday, June 1, 2011** **9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library** (details on pg. 6)
- 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?" in period dress as William Barrett Travis and David Crockett.
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** (details on pg. 6)
- 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**
Speaker: Linda Jamison presents "The Orphan Trains"
Meet in the Great Room on 2nd Floor at UBC
Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.
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- Wednesday, August 3, 2011** **9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library** (details on pg. 6)
- Monday, August 22, 2011** **6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210**
- Friday, August 26, 2011** **7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Annual Show & Tell with Potluck Dinner in the Chapel on 1st Floor at UBC.**
Park in the lot nearest to Middlebrook Dr. and enter the Chapel Door. Setup begins at 6:00 pm. Potluck dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

Committee News

Bus Trips To Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator

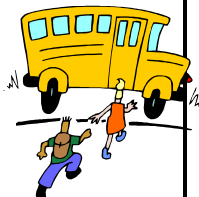
Catch the bus to Clayton Library on one of the following dates:

Wednesday, June 1

Wednesday, July 6

Wednesday, August 3

Wednesday, September 14



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.

Membership

Tammy Frey, Registrar

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.



Attendance Report

Jeanine Lawrence

For April, 42 members and 4 visitors attended the general meeting and 12 members attended the Board meeting.

The Annual TSGS Conference is coming to Houston!

November 4-5, 2011 the Texas State Genealogical Conference will be held at the Marriott Hotel near Hobby Airport.

Help is needed in planning and working this conference.

If you are interested in being part of this event, contact Claudia Grafton via email at VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org

BAG\$ Report for April 2011

Bill Mayo, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$2,919.29
Income	\$84.00
Expenses	-\$152.05
Balance on hand 4/30/2011	\$2,851.24
CD Balance	\$6,303.34

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](#)).

GATA GACC! DNA and Genetic Genealogy Saturday, June 4 from 10:30 am to 11:45 am

Debbie Parker Wayne, CG, presents an introduction to using DNA for genealogy. Reservations are required.

Maternal Lines: Using Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) and Paternal Lines: Using Y-DNA Saturday, June 4 from 1:15 pm to 2:30 pm

Debbie Parker Wayne, CG, presents an intermediate session about using DNA for genealogy. Reservations are required.

Using Family Finder Results Saturday, June 4 from 2:45 pm to 4:00 pm

A representative from Family Tree DNA will discuss the latest developments in DNA for genealogical purposes. Reservations are required.

EXHIBIT: Binding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries - African Americans in Civil War Medicine Now through June 18, 2011 in the Clayton House.

This is a six-banner traveling exhibition that explores the African American men and women who served as surgeons and nurses during the American Civil War. The exhibition was developed and produced by the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health with research assistance from the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. More information can be found online at www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/bindingwounds/index.html

FamilySearch Indexing

Monday, June 13 at 10:30am at 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. Program is free.

Living History: Attack on Pearl Harbor

Tuesday, June 14 at 4:00pm at the Friendswood Public Library ([online map](#))

George Hemingway and Mary Kerr share their accounts as survivors of the attack ([online flyer](#)). Program is free.

Clayton Library Friends Host:

On Saturday, August 13 at 10:30am, Stephen Sloan from Baylor University will present "Library of Congress Oral History Project: interviewing your family members for posterity" at the general meeting.

Arlene H. Eakle, Ph.D. Seminar on Saturday, August 27 at 10:30am. Dr. Eakle is president and founder of The Genealogical Institute, Inc. Registration form is included in this newsletter and is [online](#). Topics include: 1) Migration Patterns from the British Isles to the Southern United States Before 1850 including people differences: English, Irish, Scots, Welsh; 2) Appalachian Triangle: Eastern Tennessee, Northwestern North Carolina, Southeastern Kentucky, Southwestern Virginia; 3) Naming Patterns: Your Key to Ancestral Origins in the Southern United States; and 4) Tracing a Southern Pedigree—Research strategies, finding aids, indexes, and under-used sources to by-pass burned courthouses.

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

BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



REMINDER

Next General Meeting is
Friday, May 27 at 7:00 pm
Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC
Socializing at 6:30 pm

Deadline for
June Issue is
Saturday, June 4, 2011



Clayton Library Friends presents
Arlene Eakle, PhD

Saturday, August 27, 2011
Clayton Library Carriage House
5300 Caroline St., Houston, TX

\$25.00 Donation - CLF Members until August 15, 2011
\$35.00 for Members after August 15, 2011 (No lunch available)
\$35.00 Donation - Non-Members until August 15, 2011
\$40.00 Non-Members after August 15, 2011 (No lunch available)

\$10.00 for Optional Box Lunch from "Picnic Box"
Includes sandwich or salad box lunch with sides and drink

10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Registration, coffee, etc.
10:45 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Program
(Various topics including migration patterns, people differences,
Appalachian triangle, naming patterns and more)
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Questions and Answers

Registration is Required!

-----CUT HERE AND KEEP TOP PORTION-----

Registration Form

Clayton Library Friends
Arlene Eakle, PhD - Seminar

Enclosed is check # _____ for: \$25.00 CLF Member Recommended Donation
 \$35.00 CLF Member Registering after 8-15-11
 \$35.00 Non-CLF Member Recommended Donation
 \$40.00 Non-CLF Member Registering after 8-15-11
 \$20.00 CLF Membership Fee
 \$.00 Additional Donation Amount
 \$10.00 for **Optional box lunch**

A variety of sandwich and salad box lunches ordered from the "Picnic Box" will be available for those who elect box lunch option. I prefer a **Sandwich Box Lunch** **Salad Box Lunch**

Total of check made payable to Clayton Library Friends and included herewith: \$ _____ .00

Name: _____ **Address:** _____

City : _____ **St.** _____ **Zip:** _____ **Tel:** _____

E-Mail: _____ **Member of CLF: Yes** _____ **No** _____

Note: If you checked and paid membership fee, please obtain a membership form from website www.claytonlibraryfriends.org and include it with this registration and payment

Mail Registration Form and Donations to: **CLF – Eakle Seminar**
P. O. Box 271078,
Houston, TX 77277-1078