



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 11, Issue No. 2

October 2011

Friday, October 28, 2011: Jane Buck presents "New Avenues in Genetic Genealogy"

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](#))**

The field of genetic genealogy employs DNA testing to reveal relationships between people, both recent and distant. For the past 11 years, Family Tree DNA (www.familytreedna.com) has played a central role in this field by offering the latest technology and the largest DNA database for comparison. Jane Buck will discuss how DNA testing works and how it can be used to trace anthropological origins and reunite families. She will also demonstrate how new scientific breakthroughs have offered many new avenues for making genealogical discoveries. The program covers topics useful for beginners and experienced individuals. Ms. Buck is the Customer Relations Supervisor for

Family Tree DNA. She began her relationship with the company as a customer, and with the help of their services, she was able to break through some brick walls in her genealogical research. Ms. Buck is originally from Alexandria, LA, and received a B.S. in Biology from Millsaps College.

@ October general meeting:

Pick up any 2010-2011 *BAGS Quarterly* issues you may have missed.

Purchase new BAGS Padfolios.

If you contributed items to the BAGS library display, please pick up your items from Polly Swerdlin at the Freeman Library on Thursday, October 27 between 1:00pm and 2:00pm or during the October general meeting.

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**Annual Holiday Party
at Hope Village Tea Room on
Saturday, November 19
from 11:00am to 1:00pm
details on page 4.**

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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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Message from the President

Bill Mayo



BILL MAYO

It is an honor to serve as president during the 10th anniversary of BAGS. In addition to thanking our outgoing president Tina Chatham, I would like to thank all the officers, board members, committees and volunteers not only for the great job that they have done this past year but also for the past ten years. Their efforts have resulted in the great organization that BAGS has

become. Without members volunteering for the various committees and board positions, BAGS could not have accomplished what it has in such a short time. During this time, the BAGS *Newsletter* and the *Quarterly* have both won awards at the Texas level; BAGS has sponsored seminars and workshops; and has had great speakers at the monthly meetings. I would ask that we all continue to strive to make BAGS an even greater organization while having fun doing it.

Bill

New Member

*Please give a warm welcome
to our newest BAGS member:*

**J.O. Yerby from Pearland,
husband of BAGS member Sue Yerby.**

Sometimes saying THANKS just doesn't seem to be enough, but it is the best way I know to express how I feel about serving as BAGS President for the last two years. I enjoyed my time and really appreciate all the support from the members and especially from the board and committee members. All of you worked together and it was a pleasure to serve with you. The BAGS board and committee members (both the outgoing and the incoming new members) work hard all year to make BAGS the best. Thank you all for your time and hard work. And, thank you for the wonderful gift. I will always treasure it. I look forward to working with the new board as past president.

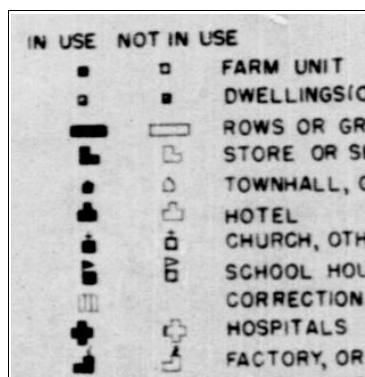
Thanks!

Tina Medlin-Chatham, Past President

Preparing for the 1940 U.S. Census Release

Give a big THANK YOU to Deborah Cole for generously sharing her experience in attending Federation of Genealogical Societies 2011 Conference and supplying copies of handouts from the classes she attended. Over the next few months, the newsletter will include some information and resources she shared during last month's general meeting program.

Researching the 1940 U.S. Census was one of the classes Deborah attended. Beginning April 2, 2012 at 9:00am (eastern time), the public can view and download pages of the 1940 U.S. Census from the National Archives website www.archives.gov for free. The pages are organized by enumeration districts which are geographic areas representing a portion of a city or county. Deborah reported *Ancestry.com* and *FamilySearch.org* are committed to generating a searchable index within six months. If you cannot wait for an index, use the time now to determine where your people of interest lived around April 1, 1940. The goal is to get an address or location and convert it to an enumeration district (ED) number so you will be ready to find them on April 2. Need help? Many resources can provide an address. Consider consulting 1930 U.S. Census, city directories, WWII draft records, Social Security Death Index or application forms (SS-5), death certificates, naturalization petitions or declarations, voter registrations, tax rolls, employment or pension records, and personal letters. Maps of the 1940 U.S. Census EDs are



Portion of a 1940 U.S. Census enumeration map legend

already available online for viewing. The ED numbers are printed on the maps. For example, my father's family settled in Salt Lick, Bath County, Kentucky in the 1800's and there has always been some family representative living there since.

Looking at the 1940 Census enumeration map for that area, I was surprised to find just how much detail was included. The symbols on the map's legend account for different types of buildings either in use or not in use at that time. The map shows the location and type of business and residential structures, military facilities and land use in addition to the geological landmarks, roads and railroads. Now I know on April 2, 2012, I will look for Dad's relatives in ED 6-5.



Portion of 1940 U.S. Census enumeration map of Salt Lick, Bath County, Kentucky (ED 6-5)

Helpful instructions for locating 1940 U.S. Census EDs and ED maps are provided online by the National Archives at ["Start Your 1940 Census Research"](http://www.archives.gov/research/census/1940)

Access a blank 1940 Census form, the list of questions asked, and a list of the symbols used and their explanatory notes online at www.archives.gov/research/census/1940. Questions include the person's detailed employment status as of 1940 and where they lived on April 1, 1935. Five percent of the population was asked supplemental questions covering parents' birthplace, military service, social security participation, usual occupation, number of marriages and children (asked of married women only). Look for an "X" beside the person's name. That indicates the person that furnished information to the census taker.

**FGS 2012 Conference
will be in
Birmingham, Alabama
August 29 - September 1, 2012**

TSGS Annual Conference is Here!

**November 4-5, 2011 at Houston
Marriott South at Hobby Airport.**

The complete conference information and registration form is available [online](#) in PDF format.

You may register and pay online using Paypal by accessing this form:

www.txsgs.org/tsgs_reg_paypal.htm

You may register and pay by mailing a check using this online form:

www.txsgs.org/tsgs_reg.htm



The Thursday, November 3 FamilySearch day at Clayton Library is full. If you are registered for the conference, the FamilySearch handouts will be in your conference bag at registration. If you are not registering for the conference, but only wanted to attend the FamilySearch day, and are unable to because registration is full, handouts will be available at the Clayton Library.

Betty Trapp Chapman is the banquet speaker on Friday, November 3 at 7:00 pm. Her topic will be "A 175 years of Houston's History – the City has come a long way." Ms. Chapman, recipient of the 2011 Mayor's Award for Historic Preservation in the city, has written or edited seven books dealing with Houston's past. She worked to place 60 historical markers along Texas Avenue. [Taken from the Clayton Library Friends website]

Christmas Gift Idea BAGS Padfolio \$20



Available at the October general meeting and TSGS Conference

October is Genealogy Month!

Thank you to Polly Swerdlin, Barbara Moore, and Oletia Teas for organizing and collecting members' items into a large month-long "show & tell" display in the entrance area of the Freeman Library. The library is located at 16616 Diana Lane in Clear Lake City (online map) and is open Mon. and Wed. 10-9; Tues. and Fri. 10-6; Thurs. 1-9; and Sat. 10-5. Pictures of the display are included on page 8 of this newsletter (electronic version only).



Barbara Moore, Polly Swerdlin, Marie Krnavek



**Members and their guests
are invited to**

BAGS Annual Holiday Party

Saturday, November 19

**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***

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.

Wednesday, October 12	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
Monday, October 24	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Friday, October 28	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting - Speaker: Family Tree DNA Meet in the Great Room on 2 nd Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>

Wednesday, November 2	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
Saturday, November 19	Annual Holiday Party in Hope Village Tea Room Members and guests are invited. 11:00 am – 1:00 pm 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)



**No general meetings in
November and December**

Monday, January 16, 2012 (DATE CHANGE)	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Wednesday, January 18, 2012	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
Friday, January 20, 2012 (DATE CHANGE)	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Meet in the Great Room on 2 nd Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>
Monday, February 20, 2012	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Friday, February 24, 2012	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Meet in the Great Room on 2 nd Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>

Committee News

Bus Trips To Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

New Trip Dates:

Wednesday, November 2, 2011

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane ([online map](#)). The county bus departs at 9:15am and leaves the Clayton Library at 3:00pm to arrive back at the Rec Center parking lot before 4:00pm. 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.



Mt. Olivet Cemetery Transcription Project Progress Report

by Neil Miserendino

The Mt. Olivet transcription project has completed the electronic transcription of the St. Gregory section. After the electronic transcriptions are verified, those records will be published in the BAGS Quarterly starting in January 2012. The transcriptions were completed by Neil Miserendino and Tammy Frey and were based on the information gathered on the April 2011 workday.

TSGS Conference Volunteering

If you are interested in helping before or during the conference, contact BAGS member Claudia Grafton.

BAG\$ Report for September 2011

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,907.50
Income	\$1,154.75
Expenses	<u>-\$1,687.78</u>
Balance on hand 9/30/2011	\$3,374.47
CD Balance	\$6,330.20



Help get the word out about BAGS!

Do you have a neighborhood newspaper in which we could list our meeting dates and speakers? Please forward the name of the paper and its e-mail address to Publicity Chair, Resa Hennings, at resa@resa.us, or call her at (936) 588-6752.

Free Local Events

Lineage Help Nights

Each Wednesday in October from 5:30pm to 7:30pm at the Clayton Library, 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas ([online map](#)). Need help with your genealogical Lineage Society Application? Visit our experts on lineage research each Wednesday night in the Clayton Library Main Library for a FREE consultation.

Funeral Records: The Final Event

Saturday, October 22 from 3:00 – 4:00pm at Clayton Library. Death generates the final record of a persons life. Various records will be discussed including digital collections, printed, and microfilmed sources, as well as alternatives to traditional burials. Reservations are required. Call the library at 832-393-2600.

Book Mending and Repair Class

Tuesday, October 25 from 2:00 to 4:00pm at Clayton Library. Become a "book doctor." Learn tips and techniques that will help you assess the damage to your books and make "quick fixes" at home. Reservations are required, class is limited to 15 people. Call the library at 832-393-2600.

A Nation of Immigrants: US Naturalization and Genealogy

Saturday, October 29 from 3:00 to 4:00pm at Clayton Library. In this talk we will discuss the history of naturalization laws and requirements in the United States and how this affected your ancestors and their naturalization. We will also discuss using naturalization records for genealogical research, what you may find, and how to find it. Reservations are required. Call the library at 832-393-2600. Adults/Teens.

Memories of a Texas Ranger by Sgt. Haskell Taylor, Texas Ranger retired

Monday, November 14 from 10:00 to 11:30am at Melvin Knapp Center, 2424 South Park Avenue, Pearland ([online map](#)). Sponsored by [CLASP](#).

Ghosts of the Past: The Blue & Gray of League City

Saturday, October 29, 2011 (rain or shine) 1:00pm-5:00pm



Costumed "ghosts" will enlighten you with tales of the lives of Civil War veterans buried in the Fairview Cemetery, League

City. Presented by the [League City Historical Society](#). Start at the West Bay Common School's Barn Museum, 210 N. Kansas ([online map](#)), to purchase tickets and see the exhibits. For more information call Museum at 281-554-2994 or access the [online PDF flyer](#).

Discovering the Civil War

Now through April 29, 2012 at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, 5555 Hermann Park Drive, Houston ([online map](#)). There is an admission fee. Exhibit consists of National Archives records (letters, diaries, photos, petitions, and patents), artifacts from the private collection of business man Houstonian John L. Nau, III, and items salvaged from the USS Westfield, scuttled by Union sailors in the January 1863 Battle of Galveston and excavated in 2009. The original copy of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation will be on display for 6 days only between Thursday, February 16, 2012 and Tuesday, February 21, 2012.

Clayton Library needs volunteers

Volunteers needed to staff Welcome Desk at Clayton House:

Wednesdays 12-2

Saturdays 12-2 (1st and 2nd Saturdays only)

[\(more information available online\)](#)

Volunteers needed to help shelf books:

Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat (times flexible)

[\(more information available online\)](#)



2011 BAGS Display at Freeman Library



BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



Celebrating 10 years

REMINDER

Next General Meeting is
Friday, October 28 at 7:00 pm
Great Room (2nd Floor) UBC
Socializing begins at 6:30 pm

Have any news to share?

Send information to the
editor for the November by
Saturday, November 5, 2011.