



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 11, Issue No. 7

March 2012

### Friday, March 30, 2012: Gay Carter presents “More Than Headlines: Finding and Using Newspapers in Genealogical Research”

*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](#))**

Gay E. Carter will show the different types of information that can be found in newspapers, how newspapers have helped in making research breakthroughs, as well as talk about the many free and subscription websites that can aid in searching old newspapers.

Ms. Carter is the Reference/Documents Librarian at the Alfred R. Neumann Library, University of Houston–Clear Lake (UHCL). The library has been an official [Federal Depository Library](#) for selected U.S. government publications since 1980 and a [Texas Depository Library](#) for Texas state publications since 1988. She supervises the depository collections and is active in the Government Documents Round Table of the Texas Library Association. Ms. Carter holds a Master of

Library Science degree from Texas Woman's University. She has been with UHCL since it “opened its doors” in 1974 and became a government documents librarian in 1980. Engaged in genealogical research for almost 31 years, she is a member of several genealogical organizations that include BAGS and is an alumna of the Samford University Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR).



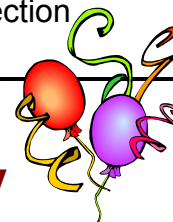
Gay E. Carter

You can access the UHCL Government Documents Collection listing [online](#) and the UHCL Archives & JSC History Collection Archives Catalog [online](#).

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### BAGS 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Come join us in celebrating this anniversary at the April general meeting. The program will include a presentation by Emily Croom, a reflection of the society's history, and honor the founding members. Cake and punch will be served and door prizes will be given.

## BAGS Officers 2011-2013

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The Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter is a monthly publication of the Bay Area Genealogical Society, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to assisting members in genealogical research and education.

Articles on genealogy are welcome. Inclusion is based on space available and is subject to editing. Please include permissions with copyrighted material submissions.

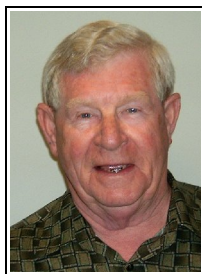
Questions or comments on the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to:

Editor, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447, or [newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

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## Message from the President

Bill Mayo



BILL MAYO

When you examine most calendars, you realize that March is a very busy month for many of us. On March 11th we began Daylight Savings Time and have to set our clocks forward one hour. Our Irish friends celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17th; I suspect that I may have some Irish in me since I love corned beef and cabbage. The Spring season begins on March 20th; many

of us are looking forward to this after the drought we experienced last year. These are some of the most common events occurring this month. However, when I look at some of the multitude of calendars that I receive in the mail, I find other interesting tidbits of information; on March 3rd, 1931 the "Star Spangled Banner" was made the U.S. National Anthem and on March 12th, 1912 the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. was founded.

The Texas General Office 2012 Map Calendar identifies many historical events that occurred during the month of March. On March 2, 1836 Texas declared its independence from Mexico; on March 6, 1836 the Alamo fell to the Mexican army; and on March 27, 1836 the Goliad Massacre occurred. Another interesting fact that I had forgotten was that it was not until March 30, 1870 that Texas was readmitted to the Union although the Civil War ended in 1865. These are only a few of the events that occurred in Texas history during March. For those interested in the history of their home states, you might check to see if their state publishes a similar calendar.

Be sure to attend our monthly BAGS meeting on March 30th and to mark April 27 on your calendars for the 10th Anniversary Celebration of BAGS.

Bill



## BAGS Joins the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project

BAGS joined forces with genealogy societies and organizations around the country as part of the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project. Indexing records from our state, we will be an essential part of this monumental grass-roots effort that will put one of the richest genealogical data sets in the world online, complete and free of charge forever.

### Project Background

On April 2, 2012, images of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census will be released for the first time. Unlike previous census years, images of this census will be made available as free digital images. Upon its release, the 1940 U.S. Census Community Project, a joint initiative between Archives.com, FamilySearch, findmypast.com, and other leading genealogy societies and organizations, will coordinate efforts to provide quick access to these digital images and immediately start indexing these records to make them searchable online with free and open access.

This initiative aims to publish a free, online searchable name index of the 1940 U.S. Federal Census. This online index will be free forever, offering family history researchers a rich genealogical data set for their ongoing use. The index created by the project will allow the public to easily search every person found in the census and view digital images of the original census pages where he or she is listed.

Interest in the 1940 U.S. Census is both significant and sentimental because it documents what is often referred to as "The Greatest Generation" of U.S. citizens. As a group, these are individuals who:

- Survived the Great Depression
- Fought in the Second World War
- Innovated technology (TV, Microwave)

There are many people alive today who will be able to find themselves in the 1940 U.S. Federal Census. Others will be able to readily connect with relatives they knew personally or through family stories. Imagine the great resource this will be to current and future society members!

### Thank You Rewards

As a special thanks for our society's involvement in the 1940 U.S. Census Project, the Project Team is providing indexing thank you rewards. Thank you rewards are given for the number of names indexed

per month by both societies and individuals. Societies will be tiered by size to ensure a level playing field.

Rewards for societies will include an all expenses paid onsite mini-conference, subscriptions to genealogical websites, goody bags for society members, laptops and other equipment. Individuals will be eligible for rewards such as iPads, all-in-one printers, t-shirts and entertainment tickets.



### How Do You Start?

Get started now in 3 easy steps:

1. Download and install the FamilySearch indexing software. A [video tutorial](#) will show you how.
2. Create a FamilySearch account. A [video tutorial](#) will show you how. (Refer to account details on page 4)
3. Associate yourself with BAGS when you first sign into the indexing software. A [video tutorial](#) is available to assist you. (Refer to account details on page 4)



**[Download the software and get started!](#)**

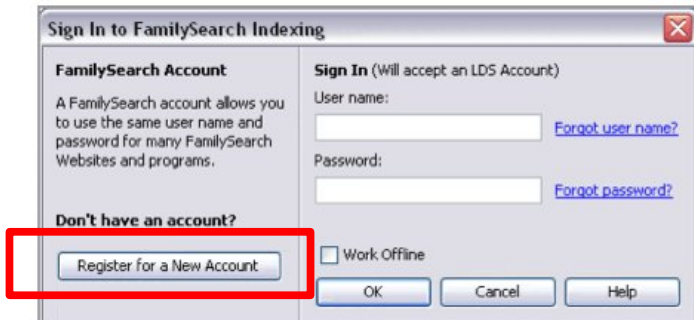
The videos and software can be accessed from the website <http://the1940census.com> under the "Get Started" section.

Remember that every name you contribute is indexed by another person and checked by a third person, called an arbitrator. So do your best, but don't be nervous about submitting a batch.



## Details for FamilySearch Account & First Indexing Sign In

You may already have a FamilySearch or LDS Account if you have registered for another program that uses these newer accounts, such as new.familysearch.org, the FamilySearch research wiki, and the LDS Stake and Ward website. Users who already have a FamilySearch or LDS Account will not need to register again. If you do not have an account, click **Register for a New Account** on the sign-in window.



FamilySearch Indexing Software Sign In Screen

After you have registered, sign in by entering your user name and password, and click OK.

The first time you sign in, a license agreement appears. Read the license agreement, and click the box next to I agree, and then click OK.

On the Profile Information screen, select **Another group** and then select the group “**Bay Area Genealogical Society – Texas**” from the drop-down list and also enter your phone number.



## FamilySearch Indexing: Helpful Training Resources To Use

**First**, watch a quick [video](#) introducing FamilySearch index terms, user interface, and demonstrates how you index a record.

**Second**, complete the 20 minute interactive (no audio) “[Indexing Tutorial](#)” to learn some of the details in using the indexing software to properly index information found in the image records. You will understand how to handle cases where fields or records are unreadable or partially readable, and when to leave off punctuation.

**Third**, watch a recorded 45 minutes webinar “[Intro to Indexing](#)” demonstrating the entire registration and indexing process.

**Register** on <http://the1940census.com> receive updates and training materials via e-mail.

**Try** indexing a test batch of the 1940 US Census to help you better prepare for the launch of the actual census on April 2. Because the *\*SIMULATION\** 1940 US Census batches are for demonstration and training purposes only, arbitrators are asked to arbitrate them only as much as it takes to get comfortable and familiar with the project and its instructions.

**Attend** 1940 U.S. Census training sessions at the Friendswood Public Library in April – see page 7 for details.

**Refer** to the online [User Guide](#) (PDF format) to learn even more about the FamilySearch indexing software.

In “Unexpected Ways To Find Your Ancestors,” Megan Smolenyak reminds us to:

- Learn to spell badly (e.g. person’s given, middle, surname)
- Don’t assume
- Swab, spit or swish (i.e. participate in DNA testing)
- Sweat the small stuff
- Step away from the computer (i.e. you still need to travel to find clues)
- Map it out
- Question what you “know”

The article was published 2/6/2012 online at [TheHuffingtonPost.com](http://TheHuffingtonPost.com)

## BAGS Events 2012 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 26	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Friday, March 30	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – <b>Speaker: Gay Carter, Reference/Documents Librarian at the Alfred R. Neumann Library, UHCL presents “More Than Headlines: Finding and Using Newspapers in Genealogical Research”</b> Meet in the Great Room on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>
Monday, April 23	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Wednesday, April 25	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
Friday, April 27	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – <b>Come celebrate BAGS 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Emily Croom is the guest speaker.</b> <b>Meet in the Chapel on 1<sup>st</sup> Floor at UBC</b> <b>Arrive at 6:30 pm for refreshments</b>
Monday, May 21	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Wednesday, May 23	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
Friday, May 25	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – <b>Speaker: Melodey Hauch presents “The Importance of Cluster Genealogy”</b> Meet in the Great Room on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>
Monday, June 25	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Friday, June 29	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting Meet in the Great Room on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>
Wednesday, July 18	9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
Monday, July 23	6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
Friday, July 27	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting - <b>Speaker: Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, PhD discusses the life of suffragist Emma Smith DeVoe.</b> Meet in the Great Room on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor at UBC <i>Arrive at 6:30 pm for coffee and socializing.</i>
Friday, August 31	7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting : <b>Annual Show &amp; Tell</b> <b>Meet in the Chapel on 1<sup>st</sup> Floor at UBC</b> <b>Setup starts at 6:00pm. Pot luck dinner begins at 6:30 pm</b>

## Committee News

### Bus Trips To Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

The NEW DATES are:

**Wednesday, April 25**

**Wednesday, May 23**

**Wednesday, July 18**

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. A current listing of library trips is published in each newsletter and on the BAGS website [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org).

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



### Volunteer Opportunities!



- We need a Telephone Committee Chairman!
- We need a Members Services Chairman!
- *Are you familiar with Family Tree Maker? Interested in assisting other members with "how to use" questions?*
- *Want to help members who have research questions?*

If you are interested,  
contact Bill Mayo, BAGS President.

### Attendance Report

Jeanine Lawrence

For February, 46 members and 4 visitors attended the general meeting and 13 members attended the Board meeting.

### Mount Olivet Transcription Project

by Neil Miserendino

I wish to thank Annette Bowen for transcribing the first part of the Saint Edith Stein section. She transcribed a little over 250 records that will be published in a future *BAGS Quarterly*.

### BAG\$ Report for February 2012

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,136.93
Income	\$149.50
Expenses	<u>-\$171.00</u>
Balance on hand 2/29/2012	\$3,115.43
CD Balance	\$6,344.27

## Local Area Events & Classes

### 1940 U.S. Census Indexing Training Sessions

Want to help create a free searchable index for the 1940 U.S. Census? Come to any one of the following introduction training sessions at the Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood ([online map](#)) These sessions will cover how to begin and use the indexing software. If you have a portable computer, bring it.

**Wednesday, April 4 at 1:00pm**  
**Tuesday, April 10 at 1:00pm**  
**Tuesday, April 24 at 1:00pm**  
**Monday, April 30 at 10:00am**

### BAGS On Display...

Information promoting genealogy and BAGS is on display at the following libraries in the coming months thanks to the efforts of Polly Swerdlin. ***If you are interested in creating a couple of posters for the BAGS display at the Seabrook library, contact Polly.***

**March 2012:** Helen Hall Library, 100 W. Walker St., League City ([online map](#))



BAGS Display At Helen Hall Library on the 2nd floor  
(more pictures on page 8 of online newsletter)

**April 2012:** Evelyn Meador Branch Library at 2400 North Meyer Avenue, Seabrook ([online map](#))

**May 2012:** Parker Williams Branch Library at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd, Houston ([online map](#))

**September 2012:** Freeman Branch Library at 16616 Diana Lane, Houston ([online map](#))

**October 2012:** Friendswood Public Library at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood ([online map](#))

**Thanks Polly!**

### Webinar: Tips & Tricks for Indexing the 1940 Census

Attend one of the webinars scheduled for **7:00pm** on the following dates

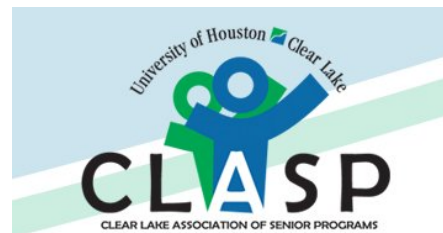
**Wednesday, April 18, 2012**

**Wednesday, April 25, 2012**

**Wednesday, May 2, 2012**

Fifteen minutes before the webinar start time, go to <http://meetingplace.ldschurch.org> and enter the Meeting ID **8496** and click the "Attend Meeting" button. Follow the prompts to enter the Meeting ID and join the meeting. First-time users should run the [Browser Test](#) to verify they can participate in a web meeting. Space is limited, please join early.

**CLASP  
Programs**



**"The Civil War Blockade Runner Acacia"** presented by Michael Bailey, Director of the Brazoria County Historical Museum on Monday, **April 9 from 10:00 to 11:30am** at Melvin Knapp Center, 2424 South Park Avenue, Pearland ([online map](#))

**"History of the Four Presidents of the Republic of Texas"** presented by Tom Green, SRT on **Friday, May 4 from 10:30 to noon** at Freeman Branch Library, 16616 Diana Lane, Houston ([online map](#))

**"Memories to Memoirs" (3 sessions)** **Mondays, May 7, 14, and 21 from 10:00am to 11:30am** presented by Dion McInnis, Associate Vice President For University Advancement, UHCL at Melvin Knapp Center, 2424 South Park Avenue, Pearland ([online map](#))





**BAGS Display at the  
Helen Hall Library  
in League City, TX  
during March 2012**



# BAGS

Bay Area Genealogical Society



*Celebrating 10 years*

## REMINDER

Next General Meeting is  
**Friday, March 30** 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 at  
[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)