



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 12, Issue No. 4

December 2012

To You And Your Family, Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!



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Annual Holiday Party 2012
Members and guests enjoying
friendship and food at the Hope Village Cafe
More pictures on page 4.

**The regular
general meetings
resume in
January 2013.**

Message from the President

Bill Mayo

BAGS Officers 2011-2013

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BILL MAYO

Happy Holidays!

In Memoriam

Our prayers go out to BAGS Member Gloria Dupuy whose husband Henry C. Dupuy passed away on November 29, 2012.

BAGS Charter member Philip Charles Van Nordstrand of El Lago, TX passed away at the age of 91. Announcement was published in the *Houston Chronicle* on December 2, 2012. Our prayers go out to his 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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U.S. Congressional Record as a resource?

Have you ever considered looking for genealogy information in the United States Congressional Record? This record begins in 1789 with the first Congress and continues to the present containing documents and reports prepared for or by the House, Senate, and subcommittees. The materials cover pensions, military and naval matters, claims of election fraud, public works projects, immigration and naturalization, land grants, taxation, Indian affairs, foreign relations, post offices, railroads, and many types of monetary claims made by individuals and businesses. This primary source material documents the U.S. political, industrial, social, cultural, military, and ethnic history. There are many non-government agencies (e.g. DAR, Boy Scouts, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion) that submit an annual report Congress. Groups of people collectively submit a memorial to Congress requesting aid, land grants, or consideration on an issue. These documents will include a long list of names of those participating in the request. Private citizens submit relief actions to Congress in cases of reimbursements for goods or services provided, reinstate of a military rank, immigration issue, or pension claim. This record also includes reports generated from congressional investigations on incidents such as sinking of the Titanic, Bleeding Kansas, women's suffrage, emancipation issues, Ku Klux Klan activities after the Civil War.

HeritageQuest™ online resource provides a portion of this record for free through your local Texas public library. The name of this resource within HeritageQuest™ is called *U.S. Serial Set*. The contents include the entire Congressional record from 1789 to 1838 and then genealogical related selections up to 1969. You can perform a full-text keyword search against these documents and reports using a person's name, a place name (e.g. city, county, state, region, territory, waterway), or a subject (e.g. tribe name, event). Use quotations to search exact phrases such as "Bath County," or "Bleeding Kansas." From the results, you can directly access pages that contain the matches called "hits", browse the entire document page-by-page, download the document, and print pages. For example you may find an ancestor: 1) in 1841 living in St. Louis, Missouri petitioning as part of a group for a land grant to help construction of the Mount

Carmel and New Albany Railroad; 2) in 1844 living in New York requesting ratification of a treaty for commerce and navigation between the United States and the Republic of Texas; 3) in 1860 living in Galveston petitioning with a group to build a second light house; 4) in 1872 at Camp Floyd in the Utah Territory as a miner petitioning to NOT become a State; 5) in 1952 as a World War II veteran living in New York requesting nonimmigrant temporary visitor pass for his Japanese fiancée.

The Congressional record is a wonderful genealogical and historical resource! **Contact your local public library to learn how to access HeritageQuest™ within the TexShare resource.** The complete record of Congress from 1817 – 1980 is available as a full-text keyword searchable database at the Alfred R. Neumann Library within the University of Houston at Clear Lake (see the database listing [online](#)).

Ellis Island - Closed

Due to conditions created by Hurricane Sandy (October 2012), the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island are currently closed. The Statue of Liberty withstood the winds and did not sustain any damage. However, the Island's utilities, backup generator, and power systems were destroyed. The passenger and auxiliary docks were severely damaged and brick pathways have been uprooted around the Island. With lack of infrastructure support to maintain a climate-controlled environment, more than 1 million historical artifacts and documents from the Ellis Island Immigration Museum have been moved. Most of the items were relocated to the National Park Service Museum Resources Center in Landover, Maryland. The Mudder Museum collection from Ellis Island's Ferry Building has been moved to the Harpers Ferry Conservation Center in West Virginia.

You can still search digitized passenger records and take a virtual tour online at www.ellisland.org

Information from news releases off National Park Service website: "[Ellis Island Museum Collection Moved to a Stable Environment](#)" and "[Hurricane Sandy Recovery.](#)"

2012 Holiday Party Pictures



Bill and Bettie Robinett



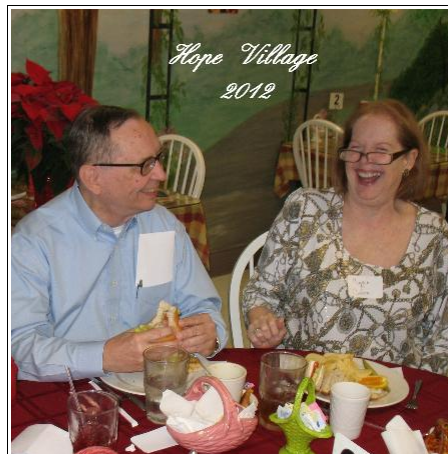
Shirley Weaver and Tammy Frey
(David Cate in the background)



Sharon and Glen Cress



Resa Hennings



Loren Martin and Claudia Grafton

Names of the people that appear in the pictures on page 1 of this issue.

Picture 1 (L-R): Sue Ann McCown, Jeanine Lawrence
Mike McCown

Picture 2 (L-R): Resa Hennings Eleanor Caldwell,
friend, Sue Ann McCown,
Mike McCown

Picture 3 (L-R): Gloria Dupuy and Laura Epps

Picture 4 (L-R): Ann Fogelman, Annette Bowen,
Shirley Lindquist

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Page 1 Pictures Key

Did You Know?

Several agencies have been caretakers for the Statue of Liberty. The U.S. Lighthouse Board cared for the statue as the first electric lighthouse or "navigational aid" 1886 - 1902, followed by the War Department 1902 - 1933 and since 1933 she has been cared for by employees of the National Park Service. – National Park Service website

BAGS Events 2013 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.

No general meeting in December, 2012



January 2013

- Wednesday, January 16** 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
- Monday, January 21** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, January 25** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Trevia Beverly presents “A Harvey Girl or a Soiled Dove”

February

- Wednesday, February 13** 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
- Monday, February 18** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, February 22** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Casey Greene, Head of Special Collections of the Galveston Library

March

- Monday, March 18** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, March 22 (date change)** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Lynne Brooke former DAR genealogist and Jane Powers, a member of over 100 Lineage Societies present “*Researching and Proving Your Ancestors for Lineage Societies*”

April

- Monday, April 22** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, April 26** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Melvyn Douglass, President of Highland Games Association, discusses Scottish Clans

May

- Tuesday, May 28 (date change)** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, May 31** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Sue Yerby, SPG, discusses Court House Research

Committee News

Bus Trips To Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Plan to catch the bus on:

Wednesday, January 16, 2013

Wednesday, February 13, 2013



These research bus trips to the Clayton Library depart from 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.

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.

Membership

Deborah Cole, Registrar

If you have any questions, feel free to email Deborah Cole at registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

Attendance Report

Bill Mayo

For November, 26 members and guests attended the annual holiday party. A board meeting was not held.

Hope You Have A Merry



HELP WANTED

BAGS will need a new Quarterly Editor starting with the December 2013 issue which will be the first issue published for Society year 2013-2014. Please consider taking this important position in our society. Training and hand-holding will be provided. Ask Melodey Hauch, current Quarterly Editor, any questions you have about what this job entails.



BAG\$ Report for December 2012

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,381.69
Income	\$100.00
Expenses	<u>-\$175.00</u>
Balance on hand 12/31/2012	\$3,306.69
CD Balance	\$6,381.12

Local Area Events & Classes

Free Programs at Clayton Library

These programs are free and open to the public. The library is located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston ([online map](#)).

Library Orientation

Saturday, January 19 from 10:30am to 11:45am

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. No reservations needed.

Daughters of the American Revolution Day

Saturday, January 19 from 10:30am to 4:00pm

Ever wonder how to join the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)? Representatives from local DAR chapters will be at Clayton Library for consultation and research help in preparing lineage papers for submission to DAR. No reservations needed.

Researching War of 1812 Ancestors

Saturday, January 26 from 10:30am to 12:00pm

An overview of resources found in the books, microform, periodicals, and online researching for your War of 1812 ancestor will be presented. Reservations required, call the library at 832-393-2600 to sign-up.

"A Complete Guide to Records of the French in North America: Acadia, Canada, Louisiana and the Caribbean 1509-1811"

Saturday, February 2 from 10:00am to 1:00pm

Presented by Robert de Berardinism during the Houston Genealogical Forum meeting at Bayland Community Center located at 6400 Bissonnet, Houston (between Hillcroft and Beechnut, [online map and directions](#)). For more details: www.hgftx.org or call the GeneaLine (713) 968-9750.

Crossing the Wide Blue Seas: Passenger Lists of Our Ancestors

Thursday, February 7 at 7:00pm

Presented by Irene Walters, from Clayton Library, during the Galveston County Genealogical Society meeting in the Moody Mansion Museum located at 2618 Broadway St, Galveston, TX ([online map](#)). In this talk she will discuss how to find evidence of your ancestors on passenger lists. The society is celebrating their 35th year anniversary during 2013.

Tarheels in the Family Tree by Helen F. M. Leary, CG Emeritus, FASG, FNGS.

January 18-20, 2013

Free webinar is hosted by the North Carolina Genealogical Society. After January 20, the webinar will be available, without cost to members, in the "members only" section of the NCGS website: www.ncgenealogy.org. A version on compact disc will be available in the NCGS online bookstore at that website.

Ms. Leary tells the story of North Carolina's geographic genealogy. She provides information, with wit and humor, that the serious genealogist needs to determine the location of records for their family. North Carolina has been the home to many families as they filtered down from the north, south and east on their way west, or remain for many generations. The information in this webinar will be helpful to all Southern genealogy researchers.

Houston Family Search Genealogy Conference

Saturday, April 17 from 8:00am to 4:00pm

Free conference will be held at the Friendswood Stake Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints located on 505 Deseret Drive, Friendswood, TX ([online map](#)). For all information on classes, presenters and registration is available online at www.HoustonFamilySearch.com

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REMINDER

Next General Meeting is Friday,
January 25, 2013 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