



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 12, Issue No. 9

May 2013

Friday, May 31, 2013: Sue Yerby, SPG, discusses Court House Research

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](#))**

Sue's program is entitled "How to use the local courthouse to locate your family, or..... the family member who burned it down." Learn what you may expect to find in a courthouse search and what may not be there. A courthouse search is not just limited to births, deaths and marriages. Your ancestors did many other things that may appear in the courthouse. If you're lucky you may even have a horse thief or two in your line.

Sue Yerby's all consuming hobby, and often obsession, is genealogy. "It is like a potato chip, you can't find just one ancestor and quit." She has been working on her family research for over 40 years. Sue is a member of DAR, a Board member for the Clayton Library Friends, and a member of the National and Texas Association of Professional Genealogists. For over 31 years, Sue has served as

a Family History Consultant at LDS Family History Centers (FHC). She has taught continuing education classes in genealogy as well as developed and orchestrated several full day genealogy workshops. Sue worked as a legal assistant for 12 years. The experience tremendously enhanced her research ability. Sue earned the Professional Genealogist certification in 1999 mainly in preparation for something to do after retirement. Sue loves teaching others how to find their own family history. "The glow on their face, when they have discovered their first ancestor, is fantastic." Many FHCs are available in the area including Clear Lake City, Friendswood, Galveston, League City, Pasadena, and Pearland. Use [online search](#) to locate a FHC near you.



Sue Yerby

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SAVE THE DATE !!

**Saturday, October 12
from 9:00am to 4:00pm**

**BAGS is hosting a seminar featuring
John Philip Colletta, Ph.D.
More details on page 6.**

Message from the President

Bill Mayo

BAGS Officers 2011-2013

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BILL MAYO

With the record low temperatures that we have been having, it is hard to believe that summer will be here next month, and I suppose we will all be wishing for the cooler nights again.

Summer is a time of vacations and family reunions for many of us, which in turn provides an opportunity to do more genealogical research and/or to share what we have learned with other family members. One aspect that we often forget

is that of oral histories; many of our older family members have a wealth of family information as well as family lore that should be preserved for future generations. With all the technology that we have today, it is probably one of the easiest ways to preserve our history.

While I was in Nacogdoches County this past weekend, I met with the Chairman of the Nacogdoches Historical Commission to discuss the dedication of a Texas Historic Cemetery Marker in June for the Brewer Cemetery. During our discussion, he provided me with the program of a marker dedication ceremony that he had participated in 2012. After reading the program, I realized that one source for genealogical research that I had not heard discussed previously was that of Historical Markers. Historical markers honoring pioneer families may contain family history that you might not find elsewhere, and these markers are common in most states.

The Nominations Committee is preparing a slate of officers for the election in August. As I understand, the committee is still looking for volunteers. Please contact one of the committee members to volunteer to serve on the board. Another critical position that must be filled is that of editor of the *BAGS Quarterly*; if a volunteer is not found soon, it will no longer be published.

Bill

Welcome Our Newest Member!
Lawrence Higgs from Houston

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

All rights reserved.

Free Online Newspaper Resource

Advantage Preservation is one of a number of companies that provides digitization (scanning) of paper materials and hosting them on the Internet by organizing the images on a website and providing a search interface. A number of libraries and institutions across the United States have engaged this company to digitize their local newspapers, some issues dating back to the 1850s. A few city directories and county census were digitized as well. These images are not included in Ancestry.com. In general, you would find one of these archives by researching a library or institution of interest and discovering they had a database of digitized materials. However in this case, you can get a complete list of the institutions and the links to their archives using Google. Access Google.com, and enter the following search terms exactly

site:advantage-preservation.com



The list of results spans three pages. Each entry represents a digital archive created by one library or institution. This is good news for researchers that have ancestors from:

Iowa in or around the towns of Brimfield, Cascade, Cherokee, Coon Rapids, Elgin, Estherville, Fayette, Greene, Hartley, Jefferson, Pocahontas, Malvern, Mapleton, Marion, Mount Vernon, Rolfe, Sanborn, Spirit Lake, Storm Lake, and West Union

Illinois: Galva

Montana: Havre Hill

New York: Clyde

Ohio: Niles, Johnstown

Oklahoma: Guymon

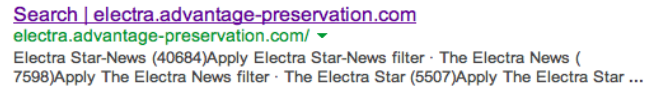
Pennsylvania: Waynesboro

Texas: Electra

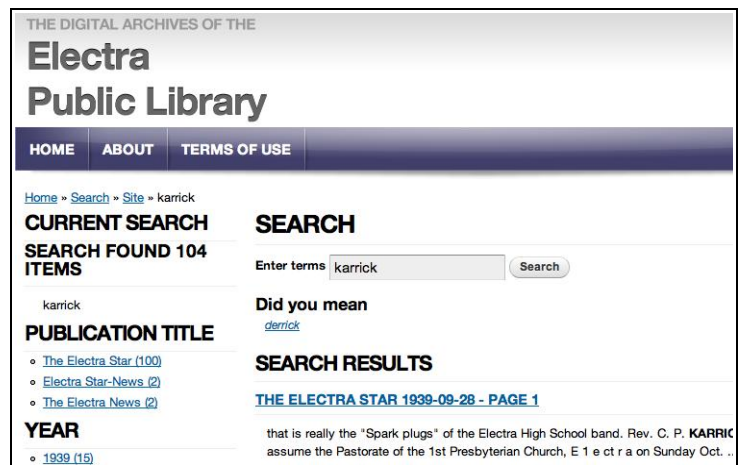
I was excited to discover Electra Public Library located in Electra, Texas was in this list. The library had digitized images of several local newspapers dating back to 1907 and the 1930 US Census for the county. My father grew up in Electra, so of course I

had to test the resource.

From Google's list of search results, I clicked on “Search | electra.advantage-preservation.com”.



The next page had a search field where I entered the surname **Karrick**. The first match was an article covering the family’s move to Electra and my Grandfather assuming the new role as pastor at the Presbyterian Church on October 8, 1939. The article included his and his wife’s education and work history. Secretly, I think my grandmother wrote the article and submitted it to the newspaper.



You can narrow down the list of search results by choosing a specific year, month, or publication on the left side of the page. So take a look. These archives are open and free for the public to access. A library card is not needed. Images can be printed or downloaded for personal, non-commercial use only. For details, look at the “Terms of Use” section for the specific archive. Keep in mind that more institutions could be added to this list in the future. So check periodically for newly added archives.




Memorial Day
*In memory of
those who have
died in service to
our nation.*

Digital Public Library of America

DPLA (<http://dp.la>) offers a free online search interface to over two million digitized items (photographs, maps, manuscripts, newspaper clippings, books, audio recordings, moving images) created and maintained by large digital libraries, museums, archives, and repositories across the US. Search across all these resources using key words and narrowing the results by location, subject, or time. Each result provides a link to view or listen to the digitized item.



Try using search terms such as **genealogy**, **Indian census**, **World War I**, **World War II**, **Civil War**, **“War of 1812”**, **American Revolution**, **immigration**, **naturalization**, **African American**, **obituaries**, **funeral rites**, or a **county name**. The returned results list can be narrowed down by choosing a specific format, location, and subject on the left side of the page.

There are over 50,000 newspaper obituary clippings from Gordon County, Georgia. There are 1899, 1903, and 1904 census books enumerating the Cherokee Indian families living in North Carolina around Big Cove, Birdtown, Cherokee County, Graham County, Nantahala, and Yellow Hill. These census books exist at the NARA facility in Atlanta, Georgia but have been digitized and can be seen online by clicking on the **“View Object”** icon. 

Page through names of men listed in the book *Records of the Massachusetts volunteer militia called out by the Governor of Massachusetts to suppress a threatened invasion during the war of 1812-14*. In this case, the **“View Object”** icon link accessed a book on the *Internet Archive* website. On the left is **“View the book”** section. Click on **“Read Online”** or one of your favorite formats (e.g. PDF, EPUB, Kindle, etc.) to view the contents of the book. Listen to Hjalmer A. Ray’s oral history documenting his parents’ experiences immigrating from Finland, their life in Cape Ann, Massachusetts, and work in granite quarries.

Partners providing content accessible through DPLA include ARTstor, Biodiversity Heritage Library, David Rumsey Map Collection, Digital Commonwealth, Digital Library of Georgia, Harvard Library, Kentucky Digital Library, Library of Congress, Minnesota Digital Library, Mountain West Digital Library, New York Public Library, National Archives, Smithsonian, South Carolina Digital Library, University of Illinois, and University of Virginia.

DPLA is funded by Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Arcadia Fund, Institute of Museum and Library Services, John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and National Endowment for the Humanities.

The content in this resource will continue to grow. So have fun with it and revisit it periodically!

Need a 2nd Vice-President for next year

The Nominations Committee is working to fill one last officer position on the BAGS Board. The position is the 2nd Vice-President, in charge of programs, to start in September. This is not a time consuming position. Lists of some speakers are provided to call to schedule for months ahead. Much of the responsibility can be completed at the beginning of the BAGS year. The job includes contacting and reserving the speakers, obtaining and providing a biography and photo to the newsletter editor, following up with speakers several months in advance to assure they are on schedule, making hotel reservations for out of town speakers as required, arranging for the appropriate audio and visual equipment for the meetings, introducing the speaker at the general meeting and coordinating any payment or honorarium for presentation to the speaker following the meeting. The current 2nd Vice-President will offer additional tips about the speakers, and other officers can make recommendations. This can be a fun opportunity, and you’ll get acquainted with some speakers, as well, as the officers on the board. Won’t you consider volunteering?

For more information, contact Shirley Lindquist, 1st Vice-President at: shirleylindquist@sbcglobal.net .

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.**

May

- Entire Month** BAGS Display on exhibit at the La Porte Branch Library (one of the Harris County Libraries) located at 600 South Broadway, La Porte, TX ([online map](#)). Library hours are Mon 1-9, Tue – Thu 10-7, Fri 1-6, and Sat 10-5.
- Tuesday, May 28 (date change)** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Wednesday, May 29** 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
- Friday, May 31** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Sue Yerby, SPG, will discuss Court House Research

June

- Monday, June 24** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, June 28** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Lynna Kay Shuffield will discuss cemetery research

July

- Entire Month** BAGS Display on exhibit at the Alvin Library
- Monday, July 22** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Tuesday, July 23** 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
- Friday, July 26** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Greg Boyd, author of the Family Maps series of Federal Land Patent books and creator of the Boyd Map Viewer software program and its accompanying Texas Land Survey Map series

August

- Thursday, August 22** 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)
- Monday, August 26** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, August 30** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Annual “Show & Tell”

October

- Saturday, October 12** 9:00 am – 4:00pm Seminar featuring John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. (www.genealogyjohn.com) at UBC

Committee News

Bus Trips To Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

The bus leaves for Clayton on the following dates:

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

Thursday, August 22, 2013



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.

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.

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 trips.

Need A Ride...Or Willing To Share A Ride...To BAGS Meetings

*Not driving at night?
Willing to share?
Too far to drive alone?
Want company?*



Give us a call, we'll match you up!
We know who lives nearby...

Your Telephone Committee:

Polly Swerdlin: 281-814-4606
pmswerdlin@gmail.com

Leona Cook: 832-864-3043
lbcook@hal-pc.org

BAGS October 12 Seminar featuring Dr. Colletta



Dr. John Philip Colletta is one of America's most popular genealogical lecturers.

Knowledgeable, experienced and entertaining, he resides in Washington, D.C. He has worked at the Library of Congress and taught workshops at the National Archives. Today, Dr. Colletta is a faculty member of the Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research at Samford University (Birmingham, Ala.), the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy, and Boston University's Certificate in Family History program.

John Philip Colletta, Ph.D.

More details concerning the seminar to be announced. The registration form is included in the newsletter.

Invite your friends!

Membership

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 BAGS Registrar Deborah Cole by email at registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

Attendance Report

Deborah Cole

For April, 42 members and 5 visitors attended the general meeting and 9 members attended the Board meeting.

BAG\$ Report for April 2013

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$1,923.50
Income	\$36.00
Expenses	-\$148.50
Balance on hand 4/30/2013	\$1,811.00
CD Balance	\$6,386.12

Local Area Events & Classes

Clayton Library Orientation

Saturday, June 15 from 10:30am to 11:45am

Learn about the vast family history research resources at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research. No reservations needed. Program is free. The library is located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston ([online map](#)).

Quick Start Your Genealogy! Overview of Genealogical Research Tools

Saturday, June 15 at 1:30pm to 3:30pm

This program will cover using the Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org, and the Houston Public Library catalog. The program is at the Clayton Library located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston ([online map](#)). Reservation is required. Call the library at 832-393-2600. Program is for adults and teens.

“Constructing Images from the Past”

Friday & Saturday, July 19 & 20 in Lufkin, TX

The 2013 Angelina College Genealogy Conference hosts eight speakers presenting 24 sessions. There will be exhibitors and vendors. Two optional all-day workshops are offered Thursday, July 18 from noon to 4:30pm. Choose one from either: Trevia Wooster Beverly's presentation *Coming to America: Immigration & Naturalization* or John Seller's presentation *Putting Meat Back on Their Bones*.

The conference is held on the Angelina College Campus located at 3500 South First Street, Lufkin, TX ([online map](#)). **Best rates are before June 1.** Details about the conference programs, schedule, and registration can be found online at www.angelina.edu/genealogy/genealogy.html

Road Scholar

Monday June 3 at 4:00pm at the Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX ([online map](#)).

Road Scholar (www.roadscholar.org) offers educational travel experiences for adults. These programs include an extraordinary range of topics, formats, and locations in every US state and in more than 150 countries. There are travel programs include genealogy related topics of African American studies, country studies, history & culture, Jewish studies, language study, Native American studies, and regional studies. Sandy McHone, a Friendswood resident and Road Scholar Ambassador, will share her experiences with participating in this program for several years. The program is free and open to the public.

HeritageQuest Classes

HeritageQuest is a free online resource available through the Texas public libraries. The resource offers full images of 1790-1930 US Census, American Revolutionary War pensions, family and local history books, Freedmans' Bank Records, US Serial Set, and also offers PERSI (Periodical Search Index) putting people in touch with articles published in Quarterlies by genealogy societies across the country. Same class is offered on the following dates at the Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX ([online map](#)).

Monday, June 17 at 3:30pm

Monday, July 15 at 3:30pm

Monday, August 12 at 10:30am

2013 Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference

August 21-24, 2013 in Fort Wayne, Indiana

This year's conference theme is "Journey through Generations." Register online at www.fgsconference.org by July 1, 2013 for an early-bird discount. The local hosts are the Allen County Public Library and the Allen County Genealogical Society of Indiana.

During the month of May 2013, The BAGS informational display is at the La Porte Branch Library (one of the Harris County Libraries) located at 600 South Broadway, La Porte, TX ([online map](#)). Library hours are Monday 1:00pm to 9:00pm, Tuesday thru Thursday 10:00am to 7:00pm, Friday 1:00pm to 6:00pm, and Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm.



BAGS has a brochure. If you know of an organization that could benefit from having some copies, contact Polly Swerdlin.



REMINDER
Next General Meeting is
Friday, May 31 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



Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS)

Presents

John Philip Colletta, PhD

Seminar Registration Form

Saturday, October 12, 2013 - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

University Baptist Church, 1st Floor Chapel
16106 Middlebrook Drive
Houston (Clear Lake City), TX



Name of Registrant: _____

Address: _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

e-Mail: _____ **Telephone:** _____

Member of: _____ **Genealogical Society**

Early Registration Fee = \$30.00 Per Person

Postmarked on or before September 30, 2013

Box Lunches: \$10.00 each (includes sandwich, chips, cookie, coffee or tea)

(Check one) Turkey Roast Beef Tuna Veggie

\$ 30.00 Early Registration
(before Sept. 30)

\$.00 Lunches

\$.00 BAGS Contribution

Total Enclosed: \$.00

Late Registration or Registration at the Door is \$40.00 per person.

NO LUNCH available for late or at the door registrants.

Questions??

Go to www.txbayareagen.org or E-mail: genealijonz1@comcast.net

Return Form to:

BAGS Registrar, P.O. Box 891477, Houston, TX 77289-1447