



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 12, Issue No. 10

June 2013

### Friday, June 28, 2013: Lynna Kay Shuffield discusses Cemetery 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](#))**

A native Houstonian, Lynna Kay is a former Major in the State Military Forces of Texas and a graduate of the U.S. Marine Corps (USMC) Command and General Staff College in June 1998, U.S. Army Military Police Officers Basic & Advance Schools and the Combined Arms & Services Staff School (Reserve Component). Life Member, National Guard Association of Texas. She is President and Registrar for the Oran M. Roberts Chapter 440 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, Registrar for the Texas Star Chapter of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and a volunteer field genealogist and genealogy consultant for the Daughters of the American Revolution as an at-large member.

In 2004, the Texas State Genealogical Society also honored her as Volunteer of the Year, the highest award that is presented to a genealogist in Texas each year. Lynna Kay publishes a weekly column *Our Loose Ends*. Her website <http://lksfriday.com> lists the books she wrote, compiled or edited. She lectures frequently to genealogy and historical societies, and veteran groups on military and war dead research, and cemetery preservation.



Lynna Kay  
Shuffield

#### WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 President's Message
  - 3 Genealogy Help Line and Wiki, October Seminar Lectures Announced, May Program Recap
  - 4 Genealogy Roadshow, Naming Patterns, April Program Recap, *Quarterly* Needs You!
  - 5 Calendar for BAGS
  - 6 Committee News, Need a 2<sup>nd</sup> VP
  - 7 Local Area Events & Classes
- (insert) Registration Form for John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. Seminar

**Pick up your copy of the  
*BAGS Quarterly* June 2013 issue  
at the general meeting.**

#### 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 3.**

## Message from the President

Bill Mayo

### BAGS Officers 2011-2013

**President**

Bill Mayo

[president@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:president@TxBayAreaGen.org)

**First Vice President**

Shirley Lindquist

[VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org)

**Second Vice President**

Alice Braud-Jones

[vicepres2@txbayareagen.org](mailto:vicepres2@txbayareagen.org)

**Recording Secretary**

Nick Cimino

[ncimino@hotmail.com](mailto:ncimino@hotmail.com)

**Corresponding Secretary**

Annette Bowen

[annette.bowen@gmail.com](mailto:annette.bowen@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Loren Martin

[LMartin497@aol.com](mailto:LMartin497@aol.com)

**Registrar**

Deborah Cole

[registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org)

**Newsletter Staff****Editor / Compositor**

Kim Zrubek

[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

**Proofreaders**

Resa Hennings, Chester Karrick

Shirley Robbins, Geri Smith

**Photographer**

Neil Miserendino

**Webmaster**

Linda Carrington

[linda@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:linda@TxBayAreaGen.org)



BILL MAYO

Summer has officially arrived, and we do not need a calendar to know it. At least we are having "April" showers along with the heat. Of course, we now have to keep an eye on the tropics for the next several months. Regardless of the heat and the possibility of storms, I still enjoy the long days of summer sunshine.

I was glad to see that so many came to the May Meeting to hear Sue Yerby's program on "Courthouse Research." After her program, Tim Martin gave a little insight into courthouse research in Japan. Although I have done research at several courthouses during the past, I learned some new techniques from Sue that I will put into use when I visit courthouses in Georgia at the end of this month.

The nomination committee is still searching for a volunteer to fill the post of 2nd Vice President, and an editor is still needed for the *BAGS Quarterly*. Please consider volunteering for one of these positions. Both of these positions are important to the success of BAGS.

More material is needed for publication in the *BAGS Quarterly*. Please take the time to write articles on your ancestors for publication in the Quarterly. If more material is not received, BAGS may need to produce a Journal twice a year instead of the Quarterly.

Be sure to attend the June meeting to hear Lynna Kay Shuffield's program on "Cemetery Research." I am sorry that I will not be able to attend since I will be attending a family reunion in Georgia and trying to do a little research while I am there.

Bill

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](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

All rights reserved.

## May Program Recap

Sue Yerby shared advice to make a courthouse research trip more successful. She discussed the different types of records you could find, recommended search techniques, and how to handle the situation if the courthouse had a fire in the past. She reminded us that the “books” represent the clerk’s record. They are not the original wills, marriage certificates, and court records. She recommends asking if there are other original records available. At a courthouse, member David Zwahr asked and received an original marriage certificate because the county had already microfilmed the records and did not plan to keep the originals. President Bill Mayo stressed pulling records for all variant spellings of your surnames to compensate for misspellings made by clerk or indexer. Tim Martin, Mary and Loren Martin’s son, shared his knowledge of the Japanese system of records he had discovered while stationed in Japan serving in the US Navy. The government in one city maintains the official record for all the generations of a family. This family registry is called koseki. Recording an official marriage is the act of absorbing one koseki into another. Find a family koseki and you will find a wealth of genealogical history. Learn more about locating a family koseki from the [online article](#) “How to Obtain Your Family’s Koseki” published on the *Japanese Genealogy Bog*.

## Need Help?

Consult the FamilySearch Research Wiki. *What is a wiki?* A wiki is an online repository of information (website) that consists of many pages of content created and edited by everyday users. In the case of the FamilySearch Research Wiki, fellow genealogy researchers (you, me, FamilySearch volunteers, etc.) contribute their advice and knowledge on specific records, geographic locations, and tools. *Want to begin researching records located in a foreign country?* Start by reading the research advice for that country in this wiki located under “Find records by Place” and choose the country. Access the Research Wiki at [www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](http://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Main_Page) To learn more about how this wiki can help you, visit the help page [www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Help:Tour](http://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Help:Tour)

## BAGS October 12 Seminar featuring Dr. Colletta



John Philip Colletta, Ph.D.

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.

The seminar includes lectures on the following topics:

*Records of the Federal Courts 1789-1911:  
Drama in Your Ancestors’ Lives*

*Lesser-Used Federal Records: Sources of Rich  
Detail about Ancestors’ Lives*

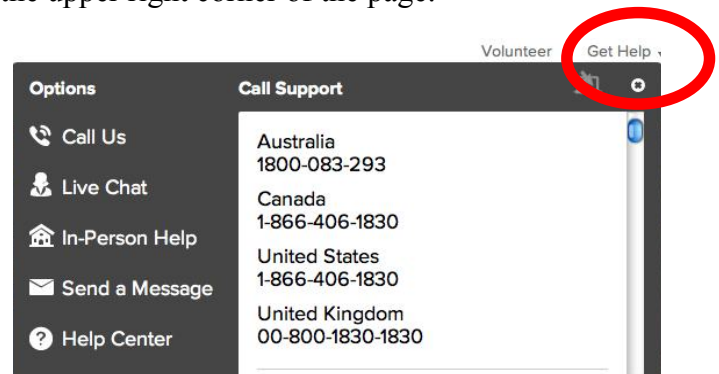
*The Library of Congress: An Introduction and  
Overview*

*Private Archives: What They Are and How to  
Use Them*

**The registration form is included in this newsletter. Invite your friends!**

## NEW Help Line

FamilySearch is now offering free help by phone, email, or chat. Access the FamilySearch website at [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) and click on “Get Help” in the upper right corner of the page.



## What are you wearing?

Melvyn Douglass, FSA Scot, discussed Scottish clans at the BAGS April general meeting. He reminded us that the 1746 *Act of Proscription of the Highland Garb* declared wearing a tartan or kilt illegal in Scotland. After 35 years, the act was repealed by King George III which revitalized the clan “feeling” and use of Highland dress. Today’s clan societies provide expertise in the history and genealogy research of an area. Find the name of your Scottish family tartan in the book *Tartan for Me! Suggested Tartans for Scottish, Scotch-Irish, Irish, and North American Surnames With Lists of Clan, Family, and District Tartans* by Dr. Philp D. Smith Jr. which is available at the Clayton Library. He has written a companion *Tartans For the Irish! Suggested Tartans for Irish and Ulster Scots Names*. Dr Smith is Past President of the American branch of The Scottish Tartans Authority, based in Crieff, Perthshire. This organization’s website provides a tartan search for Scottish and Irish surnames and returns an image, the name and a short history of the tartan, clan, and families it represents. The information is based on Scottish governmental archives. Access

[www.tartansauthority.com/tartan-ferret](http://www.tartansauthority.com/tartan-ferret) and click on the **Surname** tap to search for your family’s tartan. Wales Tartan Centres offer a Welsh family name tartan finder at [www.welsh-tartan.com/tartan-finder.php](http://www.welsh-tartan.com/tartan-finder.php)

Dr. Smith and William H. Johnston authored a three volume series of books entitled *Tartan: Abbotsford to Yukon* illustrating over 1,200 tartans in full color.

What is your tartan color?

Mine (I think) could be Carrick Htg (alternate name: Carrick Green) pictured here for the Carrick family and clan.



## Naming Patterns

An excerpt from Emily Anne Croom’s book *Unpuzzling Your Past* was published in the Genealogy.com newsletter *Genealogy Pointers* May 7, 2013 issue. Access the online newsletter in PDF format ([click here](#)) and scroll down to the article “Clues in Names” to learn about surname and given naming patterns. The first or middle names of children can often help you discover the family members of previous generations.

## Genealogy Roadshow

PBS is adding a new series *Genealogy Roadshow*, combining history and science to uncover the fascinating stories of diverse Americans. The program will air Mondays, September 23-October 14 from 9:00pm to 10:00pm (Eastern Time). This season will feature participants from four American cities: Austin, Detroit, Nashville, and San Francisco. An episode will be taped in front of a live audience on Sunday, June 23 in Austin. Participants explore unverified genealogical claims, passed down through family history, that may (or may not) connect them to an event or historical figure. Experts in genealogy, history and DNA will use family heirlooms, letters, pictures, historical documents and other clues to hunt down more information. These experts will enlist the help of local historians to add color and context to the investigations, ensuring every artifact and every name becomes a clue in solving the mystery. Follow the show's progress at each location:

Austin: [www.klru.org/grshow](http://www.klru.org/grshow)

Detroit: [www.dptv.org/grshow](http://www.dptv.org/grshow)

Nashville: [www.wnpt.org/grshow](http://www.wnpt.org/grshow)

San Francisco: [www.kqed.org/grshow](http://www.kqed.org/grshow)

[Excerpt from online [PBS press release issued May 9, 2013](#)]

## The Quarterly Needs YOU !



We are looking for someone to serve as the *BAGS Quarterly* Editor starting September 2013. In a nutshell, an editor identifies, requests, and develops content for the publication. The layout and electronic publishing tasks can be shared with other members that have word processing skills. Please contact President Bill Mayo or Melodey Hauch, the current *BAGS Quarterly* Editor, if you or someone you know is interested in more information. Melodey will happily answer any questions concerning details of this position and will be available for on-the-job training for as long as necessary.



## 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.**

### June

- Entire Month** BAGS Display on exhibit at the Helen Hall Library located at 100 W. Walker St., League City, TX ([online map](#)). Library hours are Mon-Thurs 10-9, Fri-Sat 10-6, and Sun 10-5.
- 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

- Entire Month** BAGS Display on exhibit at the Freeman Library in Clear Lake City
- 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” with BBQ Potluck Dinner

### September

- Monday, September 23** 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210
- Friday, September 27** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker: Ron Lucas will discuss Civil War Fire Arms.

### October

- Saturday, October 12** 9:00 am – 4:00pm Seminar featuring John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. ([www.genealogyjohn.com](http://www.genealogyjohn.com)) at UBC
- Friday, October 25** 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting

## Committee News

### Bus Trips To Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

The bus leaves for Clayton on the following dates:

**Tuesday, July 23**

**Thursday, August 22**



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](mailto:lmartin497@aol.com). Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings. The BAGS website [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://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](mailto:pmswerdlin@gmail.com)

Leona Cook: 832-864-3043  
[lbcook@hal-pc.org](mailto:lbcook@hal-pc.org)

### BAGS Board needs a 2nd VP

We are looking for someone who would like to schedule the monthly program speakers from January 2014 to September 2015. The current 2nd Vice-President, and other board members, will provide all the information needed to complete this task. The position actually begins in September 2013. However, programming for the months of September through December 2013 have already been scheduled. This is a unique opportunity, with very little time commitment! We need you! If you are interested, please contact Shirley Lindquist by email [shirleylindquist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shirleylindquist@sbcglobal.net), or talk to her at the June 28th BAGS General Meeting.

### 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](mailto:registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org).

### Attendance Report

Deborah Cole

For May, 45 members and 2 visitors attended the general meeting and 6 members attended the Board meeting.

### BAG\$ Report for May 2013

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$1,811.00
Income	\$146.50
Expenses	-\$120.50
Balance on hand 5/31/2013	\$1,837.00
CD Balance	\$6,386.12

## Local Area Events & Classes

### City Directories

**Saturday, June 29 at 10:30am to noon**

Have you ever wondered why people use city directories in genealogy? Learn how they can be useful in your research, how to use them effectively and where they may be found today. 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](http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy/genealogy.html)

### Spacewalker: My Journey in Space and Faith

**Thursday, July 11 at 7:00pm at the Friendswood Public Library ([online map](#)).**

Record-setting and frequent flyer Jerry L. Ross will speak about his book and experiences as an astronaut. Colonel Ross is a veteran of seven US Space Shuttle missions and holds an individual world record for the most spaceflights flown. He is an Indiana native, a graduate of Purdue University, a retired United States Air Force officer.

### HeritageQuest Classes

HeritageQuest is a free online resource available through the Texas public libraries. The resource offers original images and a search interface to access 1790-1940 US Census, American Revolutionary War pensions, family and local history books, Freedmans' Bank Records, and the US Serial Set. PERSI (Periodical Source Index) is also included which puts 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, 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](http://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 June 2013, The BAGS informational display is at the Helen Hall Library located at 100 W. Walker Street, League City, TX ([online map](#)). Library hours are Monday-Thursday 10:00am to 9:00pm, Friday-Saturday 10:00am to 6:00pm, and Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm.



### REMINDER

Next General Meeting is  
Friday, June 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 at  
[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto: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](http://www.txbayareagen.org) or E-mail: [genealijonz1@comcast.net](mailto:genealijonz1@comcast.net)

Return Form to:

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