



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 13, Issue No. 8

April 2014

### Friday, April 25, 2014: Sue Yerby discusses Family History Portal Resources

*Public Invited. Join us at 6:30pm for coffee and socializing.*

**This meeting is at the University Baptist Church (UBC) in the Great Room, 2nd floor.  
(16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City – [online map](#))**



SUE YERBY

*Why is it so expensive to research genealogy online?* You do have other options! Your closest Family History Center (FHC) offers the public **free** access to several popular fee-based websites. The most notable of these is *Ancestry.com*. Of course you can't wear your jammies with the feet in them to the FHC, but the price difference between \$300.00 and free is substantial. Come April 25 to find out exactly how many other sites can be accessed for free at the FHC.

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 Board member for the Texas State Genealogical Society and for Clayton Library Friends, a DAR member, 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 Friendswood,

Galveston, League City, Pasadena, and Pearland. Find a FHC near you by entering a city and state on their center locator website <https://familysearch.org/locations/centerlocator>

The general meeting program on Friday, May 30 will feature Gale French discussing how to use the online resource Google Earth in your genealogy research.

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#### Any news to share?

Send information to the editor  
[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

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#### New African-American Research SIG on page 3.

*Plan to pick up your copy of the new  
Society Yearbook at this meeting.*

**Need a ride to the meeting?  
Contact Polly Swerdlin**

## BAGS Officers 2013-2015



### President

Shirley Lindquist

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

### First Vice President

Melodey Hauch

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

### Second Vice President

Kim Zrubek (2014)

[VicePres2@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:VicePres2@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### Recording Secretary

Deborah Gammon

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

### Corresponding Secretary

Annette Bowen

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

### Treasurer

Loren Martin

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

### Registrar

Bob Wegner

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

## Newsletter Staff

### Editor / Compositor

Kim Zrubek

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

### Proofreaders

Chester Karrick, Shirley Robbins, and Geri Smith

### Photographer

Neil Miserendino, Bill Mayo

### Distributor

Neil Miserendino

### Webmaster

Linda Carrington

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

## Message from 2<sup>nd</sup> VP & Newsletter Editor

Kim Zrubek



KIM ZRUBEK

I have served as your newsletter editor since October 2006, following Linda Carrington who has since served as your webmaster. I am not a good editor but I can collect, organize, and arrange information on pages. My goal is to always include information and events that would appeal to beginner, intermediate, and advanced genealogy

researchers. Our Society's members have a diverse set of research knowledge and experiences. My hope is that the newsletter can be used to communicate research needs and successes. Creating and delivering the monthly newsletter is a team effort requiring photographers to capture events, proofreaders to catch mistakes, a webmaster to publish the issue on the BAGS website, and a distributor to delivery the issue via email to all members. A BIG Thank You to the team: Linda Carrington, Chester Karrick, Bill, Mayo, Neil Miserendino, Shirley Robbins, and Geri Smith. You are encouraged to send me research news and upcoming events relating to history or genealogy for publication in the newsletter. Please send input by email to either the official email address [newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org) or its alias [bagsnews@gmail.com](mailto:bagsnews@gmail.com) which both route to the same inbox.

Currently, I am also serving as your 2nd Vice President which is responsible for selecting programs and speakers for the Society's general meetings. If you would like to recommend a speaker or request a program that the entire group would enjoy, please send me the information.

My parents (Chester & JoAnn Karrick), mother-in-law (Marcia Zrubek), and I enjoy researching family information and discussing the possible scenarios that may have occurred to cause the family movements and changes. Dad has been actively writing a narrative based on the information he has uncovered. Are we related to you? Some of our surnames are Babcock, Church, Hoevet, Karrick, Loykasek, McCarty, Moore, Riddle, Robb, Schondelmaier, Slavic, Suttles, Teape, and Zrubek.

Come visit me at the Friendswood Public Library where I work full time providing IT services and filling in at the circulation and reference desks. Stuck in your research? Come discuss your research issue, I might be able to help connect you with someone or a resource that can help.

Kim Z.

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)

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## BAGS Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

These sessions are free and the public is invited.



### Beginning Genealogy & African-American Research SIG

Hosted by the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church and BAGS. Nick Cimino and guest speakers will provide instruction on how to begin researching your family's ancestry. Charts and ideas for beginning your research will be provided. Throughout the classes, there will be an emphasis on "The Six Phases of African-American Research." Classes will be held on the 2nd Monday each month in the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church located at 1725 Texas 3, League City, TX ([online map](#)). The class dates are:

**Monday, April 14 at 7:00pm**

**Monday, May 12 at 7:00pm**

**Monday, June 9 at 7:00pm**

**Monday, July 14 at 7:00pm**

**Monday, August 11 at 7:00pm**

**Monday, September 8 at 7:00pm**

Seating is limited, and there will be handouts, so please register to attend. Bring family information as you know it now, a notebook and pen or pencil.

To register, call or email Polly Swerdlin, BAGS Member Services Coordinator, at 281-814-4606 or [pmswerdlin@gmail.com](mailto:pmswerdlin@gmail.com).

### UK & Ireland Research SIG

Nick Cimino will be presenting these programs at the Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood ([online map](#)).

**Tuesday, May 6 at 2:30pm to 4:00pm – Civil Vital Records (BMD)**

**Tuesday, June 3 at 2:30pm to 4:00pm – Church/Parish records.**

April 1 was the first meeting for this SIG and the topic was census records. Nick recommended several online research guides:

- 1) *FamilyTree Magazine* article "Best British and Irish Genealogy Websites of 2013" published in August 2013 and is available online at <http://familytreemagazine.com/article/Best-British-and-Irish-Genealogy-Websites-2013>
- 2) FamilySearch.org Wiki pages [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Great\\_Britain](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Great_Britain) and <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Ireland>
- 3) Virtual reference library for UK & Ireland <http://www.genuki.org.uk>

#### THANK YOU!

**Nick Cimino** for organizing and presenting the BAGS SIGs programs and volunteering to serve as a greeter at the general meetings.

**Bob Wegner** for volunteering to serve as Registrar.

**Betty Wegner** for volunteering to serve as Assistant Registrar.

#### *Welcome New Members!*

**Berta Jane Townsend from Friendswood**

**Sandra Martin from Friendswood**

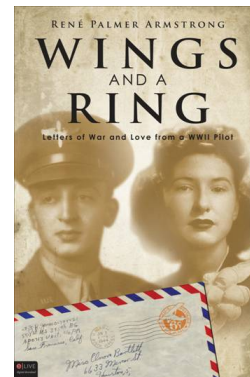
Sandra is requesting assistance in locating family and parent information for her parental grandfather E. E. Perkins in the area of Sandersville, Jones County, Mississippi.

#### *Welcome renewing members*

**Camille and Morton Glazer**

## March Program Recap

The group enjoyed learning of Rene Armstrong's research paths into locating living people and primary resources that identified and explained the lives of Lt. James Richard Jones and Helen Elnora Bartlett, the subjects of her book *Wings and a Ring* ([www.wingsandaring.com](http://www.wingsandaring.com)). She discussed how she interweaved additional primary material with the couple's love letters in her book to intensify the reader's understanding of the WWII operations in New Guinea. As part of our personal research efforts, Rene encouraged us to connect with local historians, meet family fraternity and sororities brothers and sisters, and attend war veteran reunion groups. The American Legion publishes the dates, locations, and contact information for reunions in their magazine and on their website ([www.legion.org/reunions](http://www.legion.org/reunions)). The website supports searching by unit, ship, and/or branch as well as browsing by branch. VetFriends.com provides a list of "US Military & Veteran Organizations by State or Category" [www.vetfriends.com/organizations](http://www.vetfriends.com/organizations).



Rene along with Suzie Jones Neff (daughter of the book's featured couple) plan to donate the love letters to The Institute on World War II and the Human Experience at Florida State in Tallahassee, FL (<http://ww2.fsu.edu>). With over 6,000 collections, this institute's mission is to collect and preserve the memories of men and women in who participated in all the military branches, service with the Merchant Marine, Red Cross, USO, workers and volunteers on the Home Front (e.g., ship-building yards, defense plants, YMCA and other clubs) during the WWII era and the immediate post-war period (i.e., 1939 - 1949). In 2001, Tom Brokaw donated countless items sent to him while writing his three books on "The Greatest Generation." The institute accepts donations related World War II (1936-49) "Great Depression" to "Early Occupation." This facility is open to the public but research must be done in person by appointment.

At the end of the program, Rene shared an entertaining and informative rarely-seen film footage recorded by the 345th Bomb Group members while they received and escorted Japanese Peace Emissaries to and from the formal surrender meeting with General MacArthur.

## Reminisce

Have you seen a copy of the *Reminisce* magazine? Their mission is to share reader submitted true-life nostalgic stories and vintage photos that celebrate the American experiences in the 1900s. You can browse the stories, old ads, trivia, or submit a story on their website [www.Reminisce.com](http://www.Reminisce.com). There is a free newsletter you can register for to receive via email.

*Did you read last month's newsletter article "Old Memories Take on a New Meaning" by Mary Martin? Annette Bowen did and here she shares a similar experience.*

We were on the way home from Georgia and went through Jackson, Mississippi, so that I could do some research in the Mississippi Archives (<http://mdah.state.ms.us/new/research/genealogy>). Every Wednesday they have a history program during the lunch hour, usually at the Archives, but that week it was a talk on the Old Capitol, the building and events there, and the program was given in the House of Representatives Chamber in the Old Capitol building. I decided to take a break and attend it. In the middle of the presentation I suddenly realized that I was sitting in the very chamber where my great grandfather had sat as a young man, when he served as a representative in 1854. I had been in that chamber many times for different programs when my mother lived in Jackson, but this was the first time that it had occurred to me that it was the same chamber where William Dunbar Holder had served as a representative.



## BAGS Event Calendar & Committee News

### Monthly General Meetings

The last Friday of the month at 7:00pm.  
Come at 6:30pm to enjoy coffee and socializing.  
The public is invited to visit.

These meetings are held at the University Baptist Church (UBC) located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 (Clear Lake City).

**Friday, April 25 at 7:00pm:** Sue Yerby discusses Family History Portal Resources.

**Friday, May 30 at 7:00pm:** Gale French discusses using Google Earth in genealogy

**Friday, June 27 at 7:00pm:** Nick Cimino discusses African-American research

**Friday, July 25 at 7:00pm:** Melissa Hayes discusses proving second marriages for female ancestors

**Friday, August 29 at 7:00pm:** Annual Show & Tell

**Friday, September 26 at 7:00pm:** Speaker is Gay Carter, retired UHCL Government Documents Librarian

**Friday, October 31 at 7:00pm:** Program TBD

**November:** Annual Holiday Party

**December:** No general meeting

### Board Meetings

Last Monday of the month at 6:30pm.  
All members are welcome to attend.  
These meetings are held at the University Baptist Church (UBC) on the second floor in room LC-210.

Monday, April 21 at 6:30pm

Tuesday, May 27 at 6:30pm

Monday, June 23 at 6:30pm

Monday, July 21 at 6:30pm

Monday, August 25 at 6:30pm

Monday, September 22 at 6:30pm

Monday, October 27 at 6:30pm

Board meeting usually not held in November or December.

### Research Trips at Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator

The bus leaves for Clayton on  
**Wednesday, May 21**  
**Wednesday, June 4**  
**Wednesday, July 9**  
**Tuesday, September 23**



The June 4 date was added to the schedule after the March 4 trip had to be canceled due to bad weather.

Meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane, Houston, TX 77062. 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.

The current schedule is always available on the BAGS website [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org) and printed in the newsletter. Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings.

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).

### Ancestor Charts

*Need help or have questions concerning creating your ancestry chart?*

Please contact member Eleanor Caldwell, Five-Generation Pedigree Charts Chairman. All members are encouraged to submit a chart of their family. The chart does not need to be complete and information about living relatives may be omitted.

### BAG\$ Report for March 2014

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward 2/28/2014	\$4,718.92
Income	\$98.50
Expenses	-\$165.36
Balance on hand 3/31/2014	\$4,652.06
CD Balance	\$3,669.18

## Local Area Events & Classes

### ***Lighthouses of Texas* presented by author Steph McDougal**

**Wednesday, April 16th at 7pm in the Friendswood Public Library** located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX.

The book *Lighthouses of Texas* chronicles lighthouse history in the state from when Texans won their independence from Mexico in 1836 to modern automated lighthouses of the twentieth century. Images of how lighthouses have changed throughout the decades provide readers with a visual history of the evolution of the structures, especially when many lighthouses today have been abandoned or are privately owned. MacDougal hopes that this book "will spur lighthouse-related tourism along the Texas Gulf Coast and help to encourage the restoration of the remaining lighthouses, some of which are in deteriorated condition."

### **Orientation to the materials available at the Clayton Library**

**Saturday, April 19 at 10:30am at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston.** Tour the facility and learn about the vast family history research resources at the Clayton Library. Reservations not required. The descriptions of material collections available at the library are published online at [www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton/collections.html](http://www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton/collections.html)

### **Soldiers, scholars and poets of WWI**

**Wednesday, April 23rd at 7pm in the Friendswood Public Library** located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX. The Rev. Dr. Mark Crawford will give a presentation on the lives and works of the extraordinary men who served in WWI and how they struggled with the devastation of that war. A number of these young men wrote extraordinary poems, letters and prose as they wrestled with death, dying and destruction.

### **Herriet Tubman - in Her Own Words**

**Thursday, May 29, 2014 starting at 7:00pm at Butler's Courtyard, 122 N Michigan Ave, League City.** Presented by Melissa Waddy-Thibodeaux during the League City Historical Society Monthly Meeting.

### **Research Using Technology in the 21st Century Houston Family Search Conference**

**Saturday, April 26 from 9:00am to 3:40pm** in Summerwood Stake Center located at 14350 North Sam Houston Parkway East, Houston, TX. This is a free all-day conference consisting of four sessions. Choose from beginner and advanced research topics. These are not video replay presentations. Conference class details and registration are online at [www.houstonfamilysearch.com](http://www.houstonfamilysearch.com) *Want to car pool?* Contact Kim Zrubek.

### **Texas Resources**

**Saturday, April 26 at 1:00pm in Clayton Library** Are you just getting started with researching your ancestors in Texas? This class will focus on a few of the vast historical resources available for researching your Texas ancestors. We will discuss resources available at Clayton, both in-house and through online databases, and from other institutions, such as the Texas State Library, Texas General Land Office, and records held at the county level. Reservations required, please call the library 832-393-2600.

### **Springfest 2014**

**Sunday, April 27 from 11:00am to 7:00pm at 1435 Beall Street, Houston, TX (SPJST #88)** Enjoy good food and music hosted by Czech Heritage Society Harris County Chapter. Check out the genealogy and family history publication listed on their website [www.czechheritage.org](http://www.czechheritage.org)

### **Genealogypalooza**

**Saturday, May 17 from 8:00am to 5:00pm in General Land Office Stephen F. Austin Building** located at 1700 N. Congress Ave., Austin, TX Discover the broad range of Texas genealogical resources. This event will feature seven informative speakers, and tours of the General Land Office Archives and Records. Click [here](#) to access speaker, registration, and hotel information. If you have questions, please call **512-463-5277**, or email [archives@glo.texas.gov](mailto:archives@glo.texas.gov).

# Cloud Storage

*Want to go paperless? Want to move to the cloud? What is the “cloud?”* The “cloud” is disk storage that is accessible from the Internet using either a web browser or a web-accessible application on your computer or mobile device. This disk storage resides on safe and secure systems maintained by companies such as Amazon, Apple, Dropbox, Google, and Microsoft. Clouds can be used as primary or backup storage for your data files, letters, photos, videos, etc. Access your personal cloud storage from anywhere you can connect to the Internet. This setup can protect and preserve your research from computer, home, and natural disasters. There are several companies that offer cloud storage and most of those work on all computers, tablets, and phones. Each product has a different free/pay plan and imposes different individual file size limit restrictions. Plans may also offer features for mobile access and file sync between all your devices. Below is a listing of a few major providers and their current free/pay plan. Most of the products work on all devices except where noted.



Notes to provide a frame of reference when reading about disk storage sizes: 1) One gigabyte (GB) of disk storage can hold approximately 500 photographs scanned at 300 dots per inch or 350 digital photographs taken with a 10 mega-pixel camera. 2) There is 1000 GB in one terabyte (TB). 3) Current basic laptop has between 300GB and 500GB size hard drive installed. 4) A Microsoft Surface can have 256MB of file storage resident on the tablet. 5) An Apple iPad can have 128GB file storage. 6) A Kindle Fire can have 64GB file storage.

With a free Gmail account, you automatically get access to **Google Drive** ([drive.google.com](http://drive.google.com)) which provides free file and photo storage of 15 GB. You can obtain more storage space for a fee starting at \$24 per year for 100GB and \$120 per year for 1 TB. Help is available online at <https://support.google.com/drive/?hl=en#topic=14940>. The file size limits vary depending on the type (i.e. document, spreadsheet, presentation, photo, etc). File size limits are explained online at <https://support.google.com/drive/answer/37603?hl=en>

**Dropbox** ([www.dropbox.com](http://www.dropbox.com)) offers free file (date and photo) storage from 2 GB up to 16 GB by referring friends to Dropbox. Obtain more storage with a yearly subscription to Dropbox Pro 100GB, 200GB, or 500GB plan for a fee of \$100, \$200, or \$500 per year, respectively. Your storage quota defines the maximum file size limit.

**Microsoft OneDrive** ([onedrive.live.com](http://onedrive.live.com)) offers 7GB of free file storage. Existing users will get an extra 500MB free for each new user (up to 10 total users) they refer to OneDrive. Individual files cannot be more than 2GB in size. Obtain more storage of 50GB, 100GB, or 200GB for a fee of \$25, \$50, or \$100 per year, respectively.

**Box** ([www.box.com](http://www.box.com)) offers free file storage up to 10 GB with an individual file size cannot be larger than 250MB. You can obtain 100GB more storage space for a fee of \$120 per year and then file sizes can be up to 5GB.

*Got an Apple device (iPhone or iPad)?* Apple iCloud ([www.icloud.com](http://www.icloud.com)) offers free file storage up to 5 GB. Obtain more storage of 10GB, 20GB, or 50GB for a fee of \$20, \$40, or \$200 per year, respectively. Did not find any references to file size limitations.

*Got a Kindle Fire?* Amazon offers 5GB of free Cloud Drive storage for your personal documents, photos, videos, and music, with additional storage plans available for purchase. Any supported content uploaded to your Cloud Drive account will appear on your Kindle Fire. Help is available online at [http://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html/ref=hp\\_navbox\\_clouddrive\\_faq?nodeId=200557340](http://www.amazon.com/gp/help/customer/display.html/ref=hp_navbox_clouddrive_faq?nodeId=200557340).

Flickr ([www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)) offers free photo and video storage up to 1 TB. The file size limits are 200MB per photo, 3 minutes per video, and 1GB per 1080p HD video.

*Information pulled from individual product websites, March 2014.*

BAGS Members Lynn Finger, Chester Karrick, Bettejean Spatafore, Bob Wegner, and Kim Zrubek attended Klein Family History Fair on Saturday, February 22, 2014. Photos taken by Bob Wegner. Most of the programs were video replay from sessions presented at RootsTech 2014. Fair was held at the Klein Stake in Klein, TX.



Lynn Finger, Bettejean Spatafore, Kim Zrubek and Chester Karrick (Bob Wegner not shown)



### **REMINDER**

Next General Meeting is  
Friday, April 25 at 7:00 pm Great  
Room (2nd Floor) UBC Socializing  
begins at 6:30 pm