



THE Clayton Advocate

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Our February 11th morning General Meeting and after-lunch Seminar turned out to be a full, but lovely day. We weren't sure about a "back to back" Saturday

schedule, but the event was a success. So many attendees have encouraged us to consider scheduling another meeting and seminar combination in the future.

Louis Aulbach proved to be yet another "local treasure". He was so entertaining and provided us with a great deal of history surrounding Buffalo Bayou. Louis is now a Clayton Library Friends member and we hope to see more of him this year. His new book, *Buffalo Bayou: An Echo of Houston's Wilderness Beginnings* is an excellent historical piece. His website is <http://users.hal-pc.org/~lfa/>

Blaine Hedberg, Norway's St. Olav Medal winner for his work with Norwegian genealogy, had a heck of a time getting to Houston Friday (Feb. 10th). The Madison Wisconsin airport closed due to a crash; he was bussed to Chicago; his non-stop turned into a two-stops flight; and he finally arrived in Houston about 9:00 PM. Even with all that, he thoroughly enjoyed his visit with us and with a representative from the Norwegian Consulate. Blaine toured Clayton Library and later reported that he will be providing Clayton with several boxes filled with "essential" Norwegian-American research books.

John Dorroh (CLF Acquisition Committee) let him know that he could count on Clayton Library to be the "South Branch" of Norwegian research from now on.

Many thanks to all of the CLF Board, volunteers, and members who contributed hard work and attention, making this event a "Smasher"!

Here are some notes, events, ideas, and future possibilities, from me to you. Please consider and mark your calendar.

1. 1940 CENSUS – The highly anticipated Census is now available

continued on page 2

What's Inside:

<i>CLF has a New Treasurer</i>	2
<i>Programs</i>	3
<i>Acquisitions Report</i>	4
<i>Manager's Report</i>	5
<i>Angel's Report</i>	5
<i>Volunteers</i>	5
<i>Researching Immigrants from the Land of the Midnight Sun</i>	6
<i>Norwegian Holdings</i>	7
<i>Acquisitions</i>	7
<i>Membership</i>	8
<i>Welcome New Members</i>	8
<i>Bylaws Revisions Committee</i>	8
<i>Gifts in Kind</i>	9
<i>CLF is 25</i>	10
<i>Nominating Committee, Map</i> ...	11
<i>Corrections</i>	11

President's Message *continued*

online at several websites. There are also projects and trainings available to assist in the Census Indexing Project. [The Manager's Message in this newsletter has more information on indexing.]

2. It's Suggestion Box time! This will give our Visitors and Members an opportunity to take part in the building and progress of the Clayton Library Friends. I don't mind any input, as long as it's constructive. For justifiable rants and raves, please contact me personally (address at bottom of message). I would also appreciate a contact number from you (it's only fair). The Box will be at every general meeting and in the Clayton Library (near the information desk) throughout the upcoming months.
3. Spring is here and the perfect time of year to plan a day of research and fun at 5300 Caroline. You might like to add a couple hours of training in a new area, or sign up for some volunteer work. Check with Steven Bychowski for available workdays/times, and with your local news for weather and price of gas updates.
4. If any of you have Road-trips on this year's calendar, please don't forget to mention Clayton Library, along with bringing back contact numbers and info from local libraries, groups, societies, and such. We'd love to network with them. This includes family/class reunions, weddings, and voyages "across the pond". And, before you go traveling, be sure that you pick up a few of our CLF tri-fold fliers to share with people at your research stops.
5. CLF's May 12th speaker is James Harkins, the Director of Public Services at the Texas General Land Office. He will be making the trip from Austin and is an expert in the area of the General Land Office Archives and its collections. Please don't miss this rare opportunity to hear him.
6. Our August General Meeting (August 11th) will be Susan Kaufman and her State of the Library report. (It's an election year.) And, we will include all the new and improved changes and upgrades, dealing with our logos, website, and projects. This will continue to be a special year for Clayton and our society. We just keep getting better and better.
7. On August 18th J Mark Lowe, CG will be joining us for an all-day seminar. More details will be available soon – along with a registration form. (We are working on arranging for a location with a larger meeting room.)
8. I'd better mention the November General Meeting (November 10th). We will be celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Clayton Library Friends. We consider this a VERY BIG DEAL, and would like our last meeting of 2012 to be an event to remember. We'd like to open all three Clayton buildings so you may see everything since the renovation and just how far we've come. We might consider a little food and music - we want this to be FABULOUS and every old and new member to attend. Drop your ideas and comments in our Suggestion Box.

Finally, I will be continuing my efforts to visit with genealogical and historical societies for the remainder of my term as CLF President. I look forward to each visit and personally love the stories and experiences you share with me. I'll need the meeting times, dates, and a contact number, and be prepared for some photos, before I leave. All society information will then be placed on our CLF bulletin board, for all to see and consider.

Claudia M Grafton

Claudiamg10@gmail.com

CLF has a New Treasurer

The Executive Board of the Clayton Library Friends has regretfully accepted the resignation of our elected treasurer, Jim Knight, and has approved the appointment of Resa Nichols Hennings to that position.

An Ohio native, Resa was employed as a Law Office Administrator/Paralegal before moving to Houston. She has lived in the Houston area since 1989. As an active genealogist for over 35 years, she has traveled to numerous counties and libraries for research, and attended local and national conferences and seminars. She has served as Chairman of various DAR committees since 1999. Resa is a Charter Member of the Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS), and, in that

organization, has held the offices of President, 1st Vice President, Treasurer, Publicity Chair, and Editor of the Quarterly for three years. She completed H&R Block Income Tax Prep course and worked there several tax seasons.

Resa has been a member of Clayton Library Friends for many years, and is currently a member of our Bylaws Revision Committee where she has proven herself very detail oriented. The CLF Executive Board welcomes her as our new Treasurer.



Mark Your Calendar

Saturday, May 12, 2012, 10:15 am – 12:00 noon
Carriage House Meeting Room at the Clayton Library Center

Genealogical Resources at the Texas General Land Office

Speaker: **James Harkins**

Director of Public Services, Texas General Land Office Archives
& Records Program, Austin, Texas



James Harkins is the Outreach Manager for the Texas General Land Office Archives and Records Program, where he is responsible for contacts with various groups to promote the General Land Office Archives and its collections. James graduated from Texas State University – San Marcos with a bachelor's degree in Communications, and received a master's degree in Public Administration from Texas State University. He has worked for the Texas General Land Office since May 2005.

Some of James' work can be found in the most recent Texas General Land Office Archives and Records newsletter, *Loving Texas History*. It is at: www.glo.texas.gov/what-we-do/history-and-archives/_publications/STH-newsletter-spring-2012.pdf

Also Mark Your Calendar for:

Saturday, August 11, 2012

CLF General Meeting 10:15 a.m.

Sue Kaufman, Clayton Library Manager will present her annual State of the Library report.

Saturday, August 18, 2012

CLF Full Day Seminar

J. Mark Lowe, CG, is a full-time professional genealogist, author, and teacher who researches primarily in original records and manuscripts throughout the South. Details of this program are still being finalized, as well as a search for a larger meeting room. Watch for a complete announcement and a registration form on our CLF web-site.

Mark has been researching families for more than 40 years. He grew up in Tennessee with extensive family roots in Kentucky. He has travelled extensively in both states and enjoys sharing his love of genealogy and the joy of research with others including some historic reenacting. Mark's most recent notoriety is appearing on the *Who Do You Think You Are* television series helping Lionel Richey research his ancestry.

Saturday, November 10, 2012

CLF Annual Meeting 10:15 a.m. – **A CLF 25th Anniversary Celebration!!**

Clayton Library Friends is a tax exempt, non-profit organization under IRS Code 501(c)(3).

Its purpose is to enrich the resources and facilities of the

Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, a unit of the Houston Public Library.

Manager's Message



The 1940 Census!!

With the anticipation 72 years of waiting can bring, we celebrate the opening of the 1940 United States Federal Population Census! In a first for the United States National Archives and Records Administration, the nation's record keeper plans to post the entire census on the Internet — its biggest digitization effort to date.

The Census is not indexed

Finding a name in the 3.8 million digitized images won't be as easy as a Google search. It could be at least six months after the release before a nationwide name index is created. In the meantime, researchers will need an address to determine a census enumeration district — a division of geographic areas — to identify where someone lived and then browse the records. Do not despair. Although indexes do not exist at present, there are ways to find your parents, grandparents, or other ancestors.

Steve Morse has created an enumeration district finder in which you use street names to narrow down the location where your family lived. <http://www.stevemorse.org/census/unified.html>. If you have a rural ancestor, browsing the census images by county might be enough, but the Steve Morse website also has the ability to narrow your search down to the ED's of a particular town or village. Try the easy-to-navigate tutorial from the main census page on the site to pinpoint the ED's you will need to browse: <http://www.stevemorse.org/census/>.

Help index the Census

As mentioned, the census is being released without being indexed. Indexes are, of course, a great help in finding names in the census or any other genealogical resource. You can help create an index for this wonderful resource. To help index the census, you will use the FamilySearch.org indexing software, which you download directly to your computer. The strength of the genealogical community can bind together to make sure that by the end of 2012 the entire 1940 census has been indexed.

Visit <http://the1940census.com> for information about the indexing project and to sign up to help! It is a wonderful way to give back and help all our fellow researchers. Who knows, you might even index your own family!!!

I would like to encourage all of you to: 1) sign up for 1940 census indexing, 2) sign up as a member of the Texas State Genealogical Society. (Clayton Library Friends is a member of TSGS.) You can do that when you set your account by choosing that option in your preferences. Or it might be that you are signed up to support your local society. That is great too. The most important thing is that we are indexing the 1940 census.

If you have any question on why you should index the 1940 census, I invite you to read Josh Taylor's blog post at <http://findmypastblogus.com/2012/04/02/the-communitys-index/>

See you at the Library!

Sue Kaufman

CLAYTON LIBRARY FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

5300 Caroline
Houston, TX 77004-6896
832-393-2600



Angels Report

Those Clayton Library Friends earning their “wings” since the last newsletter are:

Georgianne Bigam. *Ohio Records and Pioneer Families* subscription renewal.

Susan and Reed Fritz. Donation to the Angel Program in memory of Mrs. Rose Mary Fritz.

John L. Davis. Renewal of the *Clark County Historical Journal* (Arkansas) in memory of Allen Syler, a long-time contributor to that county’s historical collections.

Please remember, if you have current or old issues of periodicals you no longer need, consider donating them to Clayton. Even if your periodical is a duplicate for Clayton, it can still be of benefit in an exchange with another library for something Clayton wants, or offered for sale to raise money for Clayton.

For information regarding CLF’s Angel Program call or contact: **Liz Hicks**, Angel Chair, (713) 944-1118, or e-mail: erootrot@usa.net.

Volunteer Corner

At Clayton Library, the staff is very blessed to have a strong support group in the Clayton Library Friends, and a strong volunteer base to call upon when needed. As our staff size continues to shrink with budget cuts, we increasingly turn to partnerships with volunteers to run some of the day-to-day operations of the library. Every day of the week Volunteers are playing leading roles in shelving books and manning the welcome desk at the Clayton House.

Our newest partnership with volunteers involves the 2nd floor microprint desk. The team of Vanessa Smith, Karen Acker, Charlene Wilson (all former Clayton Library staff), Liz Hicks, and Marjorie Lowe, has combined forces to help provide open-to-close volunteer coverage of the microprint desk on Saturdays. Saturday is both our busiest day of the week and our shortest-staffed day of the week. So, having the help of these highly-knowledgeable genealogy experts allows the staff to provide better customer service to our patrons on the 1st floor, as well as to

effectively manage the many programs and activities that we currently run on Saturdays. These microprint desk volunteers will work directly with patrons to understand and interpret their genealogical records, navigate the microprint finding aids, explore the family history books, and utilize the microprint machines. We greatly appreciate the help of these and all of our volunteers!

Over time, we hope to create more such partnerships with our volunteer base. Part of the excitement of genealogy is the social factor, when researchers come to the library and share with one another their findings and notes. I firmly believe that an active volunteer base contributes greatly to the social environment of our library, and helps to keep our genealogical community buzzing with excitement!

Steven Bychowski,
Clayton Library Volunteer Coordinator

RESEARCHING IMMIGRANTS FROM THE LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN AT CLAYTON LIBRARY

Blaine Hedberg, executive director of the Norwegian American Genealogical Center and Naeseth Library, spoke at a special seminar given by the Clayton Library Friends after the general meeting on Saturday, February 11, 2012. The seminar was held in the Clayton carriage house which was full of researchers coming to learn more about how to research their Norwegian roots. There were people present from as far away as Brazos County, and a representative from the Royal Norwegian Consulate in Houston was in attendance.

Hedberg's presentation acquainted the researchers with the Norwegian and Norwegian-American resources available at the center in Madison, Wisconsin, and also emphasized the unique databases being developed for Norwegian American genealogical research and what would be available online and at Clayton Library. He also distributed a handout listing specific books as excellent tools in researching American ancestors that were either Norwegian immigrants or descendants of those immigrants.

Norway, according to Hedberg, is unique in that hundreds of rural communities have published local histories containing general history of the community, farm history, genealogy of the residents which may go back as far as 1600, and usually an index to all of the personal names in the volume or sometimes an index of the farm names in the volume. There are approximately 2,800 of these books; currently Clayton Library has a small collection of them. Two of the important resources for Norwegian genealogical research are the census and the church records. For those unfamiliar with the Norwegian language, both of these may be difficult to use. The farm and family books give the best genealogical summaries available, but as in any research, it is important to verify what is in the books with the primary source records. At present the Clayton Library only owns a few of these books.

Clayton does have an outstanding collection of books on Norwegian immigrants to the United States. A bibliography follows this article with call numbers. One of the outstanding results of this visit was Hedberg's telling us of a book published in 1982 called *Norge i Texas*. It is a large, 500+ page book which sold out right after its initial printing and was not available again. This sounded like a book that would be very valuable to Texas researchers at Clayton Library, so the Clayton Library Friends Acquisitions Committee set out on a search for it. It was not available at any of the many used and hard-to-find book offerings on the internet. According to OCLC, only three copies are in Texas libraries: the University of Texas in Austin, Baylor University, and Waco-McLennan public library.

But the good news is that, looking through used book dealers in Europe, the Acquisitions Committee was able to find a good copy of the book for a very nominal price!! A representative from the Norwegian consulate was expecting a visitor from Oslo in April. So to avoid the high freight costs, the book was delivered to the person's home in Oslo, brought to Houston via airplane, and is now at HPL for cataloging. So Clayton Library will now have this important resource!!

The Acquisitions Committee is also reaching out to the Norwegian community in Texas for donations of other materials and monetary donations for purchases of Norwegian materials. The consular representative advised us that the Norwegian community in Texas is over 6,000 people, and is among the largest in the United States. So we hope to find more of the "farm" books and other materials for use.

John Dorroh
CLF Acquisitions Committee

Norwegian Holdings at Clayton Library:

973 B646 USA	Blegen, Theodore C. <i>Norwegian Migration to America</i> . Northfield, Minnesota: Norwegian American Historical Association, 1936-1940 (2 volumes).
974.7 E93 NY	Evjen, John O. <i>Scandinavian Immigrants in New York, 1630-1674</i> . Minneapolis, Minnesota: K. Holter, 1916. [Note: This is a 438 page volume including appendices on Scandinavians in Mexico and South America, Scandinavians in Canada, and some Scandinavians in New York in the eighteenth century.]
325.2481 F629 USA	Flom, George T. <i>A History of Norwegian immigration to the United States from the earliest beginning down to the year 1838</i> . Iowa City, Iowa: private printing, 1909. 407 pages.
973.04948 L911 – USA	Lovoll, Odd Sverre. <i>A Folk Epic: The Bygdelag in America</i> . Boston: Twayne, 1975.
973 N 144 USA	Naeseth, Gerhard B. <i>Norwegian Immigrants to the United States: a Biographical Directory, 1825-1850</i> . Decorah, Iowa: Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum, 1993. [Note: This is a five volume set. Clayton only owned the last four volumes. Blaine Hedberg was kind enough to donate Volume 1 to the library, so we now have the complete set.]
929.4 N428 SCAND	Nelson, Olof N. <i>History of the Scandinavians and Successful Scandinavian in the United States</i> . 2nd edition, revised. Minneapolis: O. M. Nelson, 1904. (2 volumes in one)
973.043982 N841 USA	Norlie, Olaf M. <i>History of the Norwegian People in America</i> . Minneapolis: Augsburg, Pub, 1918. 2 volumes. [This is the yearbook of the American Lutheran Church, including church directories of Norwegian Lutheran settlements.]
973.04948 Q1	Qualey, Carlton Chester. <i>Norwegian Settlement in the United States</i> . Northfield, Minnesota: Norwegian American Historical Association, 1938. 235 pages.
948.1 R 794	Rosdail, Jesse Hart. <i>The Sloopers, their ancestry and posterity; the story of the people on the Norwegian Mayflower - the sloop "Restoration"</i> . Broadview, Illinois: Norwegian Sloop Society of America, 1961. 668 pages. [Note: This book is shelved in the Norway section of the foreign section of Clayton Library.]

Acquisitions

Our recent letters of request to authors of family histories have resulted in two donations to Clayton Library through the Clayton Library Friends. Once the books have been processed, they will be available at the Library. For information on purchasing a personal copy of either of these books, contact **Karen**

Acker, ackertk@gmail.com or 281-358-0893.

Adam Vogt: German Immigrant, Illinois Farmer by Everett B. Ireland and Peggy Rossi

Abel Goss of Lower Waterford [Vermont] by David Philip Goss

Membership

Welcome to Spring! Our membership drive has gone fairly well, giving us about 715 members as of the time of this writing. Do encourage your friends and fellow genealogists to join if they have not already done so. Word of mouth is a great form of advertising!

As Membership Chairman, I would like to solicit your thoughts. Obviously, the purpose of Clayton Library Friends is to support the collections and work of Clayton Library for the benefit of us all. But maybe you have some ideas or suggestions you would like to share with us. We'd love to hear them! We'd like to increase our membership. What would encourage that? If you have something to share, send me an email at CLFMembership@gmail.com. Your input is welcomed.

We hope you'll plan to come to the May meeting. We're so glad you are members and supporters of CLF, and we want to get to know you individually as well. It's fun to meet people and get involved! And, don't feel like you need to wait to be asked. If you want to be more involved, there are all sorts of opportunities. We'd love to help you find a spot! Contact **Pat Phillips**, our CLF volunteer coordinator, at Director13@claytonlibraryfriends.org.

As individuals we may have small influence, but together as a group, we have the ability to make a significant impact for the benefit of our community resources. We're glad to be partnering with you this year! Thank you for your membership and support!

Tammy Frey

Welcome New Members!

Clayton Library Friends would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new members who have joined since our last newsletter. We're glad that you've discovered the Clayton Library Friends and hope that you'll also join our group of volunteers that provides support to the library in so many ways.

Mr. and Mrs. Theodore G. Bardo, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Will Honeybourne, Thomas I. Jackson, Kathleen Joan Merritt, Christy Ann Murphy, Hazel A. Potvin, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rasmussen, and Karen S. Schubert.

Bylaws Revision Committee Report

The Bylaws Revision Committee has been working hard this spring to review and revise the Bylaws that were written by the Clayton Library Friends twenty-five years ago. Since then, amendments and reworded articles have been approved by the Executive Board and the membership, and added to the Bylaws. The purpose of this committee has been to look at the Bylaws as a whole, and make sure that all sections are in agreement.

The newly revised bylaws, unanimously approved by the Clayton Library Friends Executive Board will be posted on our website with this newsletter. Please review them before the May 12th general meeting – we plan to vote on their acceptance then. If you have questions and/or concerns please contact one of the

committee members: **Trevia Wooster Beverly** - treviawbeverly@comcast.net, **Resa Nichols Hennings** - resa@resa.us, **Pat Metcalfe** - plpm@ix.netcom.com

For comparison you may read the current bylaws at <http://www.claytonlibraryfriends.org/>

The Bylaws revision is step one. The committee will continue its work by producing a Policy and Procedures Manual that will contain the details of each Board position. We hope to have it in place prior to the work of the next nominating committee so they will be able to tell nominees specifically what they are being asked to do and the details of how it has been done.

**The CLAYTON ADVOCATE deadline for the August 2012 issue is July 11, 2012.
What have you found at Clayton? We welcome any articles related to Clayton Library, or it's collections.**

Gifts in Kind –

Gifts of microfilm, microfiche, and books given to Clayton Library are called “Gifts in Kind”. As an important source of contributions to Clayton Library, filling in the Gift Receipt (sample below) correctly and completely can make your gift more valuable to both Clayton Library and Clayton Library Friends. Both groups keep records concerning the donation of these gifts.

Bring your donations to the Information Desk of the main library building. There you will complete a Gift Receipt form like the one shown below. Some of the blanks are self-explanatory. Be sure to check the box indicating that the gift is through Clayton Library Friends. ‘In honor of’ indicates that the item is being donated in honor of a living person. ‘In memory of’ is used in memory of a deceased person.

The most difficult portion of the form seems to be the ‘Donor’s total evaluation for gifts donated through CLF’. If the donation is a periodical, the evaluation is the subscription or amount of dues paid in order to receive

the periodical at that time. If the item is a book, microfilm, or microfiche, the value usually is the original asking price. In general, genealogical materials do not increase in value.

Clayton Library can utilize your donations in a number of ways – even if it is a duplicate of our current library holdings. If it is in better shape than an existing item, it might be substituted for that item. Or, it may be added to our collection of duplicates that we offer to other libraries and institutions to trade for items that Clayton wants but does not have. If we have a number of copies of an item or it is an older edition, we may put it on the ‘sale’ table opposite the Information Desk – with the money being used for the library.

Please remember to ask for a Gift Receipt when you bring your donations into the Library. It’s another way we can help the library staff. Thank you for the donations – both Gifts in Kind and monetary.



Clayton Library Gift Receipt

Donor's Name: _____ Donor's Address: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for your gift. The Houston Public Library accepts gifts of books and non-print materials with the understanding that any items added to the collection meet the same criteria as purchased materials. All donations become the property of the Houston Public Library. The Library reserves the right to make all decisions as to the use, housing, and final disposition of all gift materials.

Library staff do not and cannot appraise gift materials for tax purposes. The responsibility of listing and appraising the gift for tax deduction is that of the donor.

Check if this a gift through the Clayton Library Friends? Donor's total evaluation for gifts donated through CLF \$ _____.

Do you desire a name on a bookplate (book only)? Yes No

In honor of In memory of _____

Acknowledgement Card to donor requested? Yes No

===== For library use only =====

Date Received ___/___/___ Received by _____ No. of books _____ No. of magazines (est.) _____ No. of non-print _____

Clayton Library, Center for Genealogical Research 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004-6896 832-393-2600

Clayton Library Friends turns 25 –

Clayton Library Friends celebrates their 25th anniversary this year. During the year, we will have a series of articles in the CLF newsletter chronicling some of the highlights of the organization. The February 2012 issue contained Part I – Starting out... which documented some highlights of organizing CLF and the new library building.

Part II – The middle years ...

For several years before 1994, the year we hosted the National Genealogical Society (NGS) in Houston, we spent many long hours planning for the event. By all reports, it was a success and all those involved breathed a sigh of relief when it was over.

One of our early concerns, as we planned for the influx of NGS researchers, was the August 1991 HPL reports of ‘financial malnutrition’ in their budget. It seems to be a recurring problem. The July 2003 newsletter reports that “Clayton staff is down to fourteen”. [In April 2012 the Library staff now numbers 8.] But April 2002 was the threat that worried Clayton Library Friends. The Houston City Council planned to make drastic cuts in the HPL budget, bringing rumors of reduction of Clayton staff, reduction of library hours, etc. CLF sprang into action – speaking at City Council meetings, conducting City Councilmen on tours of Clayton Library, and introducing them individually to what genealogy really was and how important the library and its services were to the general population of Houston. In July 2002, Clayton Library Friends made a commitment to the City “that CLF volunteers would man non-reference librarian positions to ease the intractable insistence of the HPL administration to shut Clayton.” To this day, we continue to fully man the Welcome Desk at the Clayton House, and to provide many other valuable volunteer services to ‘our’ library.

In April 1998 the president of the National Genealogical Society advised us that *The CLF Newsletter* had been selected as the first place winner of the 1997 NGS Newsletter Competition in the category of Major Genealogical Societies. In 2001 CLF (Don Pusch, editor) entered the NGS Newsletter Competition for a second time. This time we were awarded ‘Honorable Mention’ in the Major Genealogical and/or Historical Societies Category of the National

Genealogical Society 2001 Newsletter Competition – receiving 274 points out of a possible 300.

Until the remodeling of the Carriage House, do you remember where we held our meetings? Lots of different places: Montrose Library, University of Houston/College of Engineering, Foley’s Oasis Room at NW Mall, Houston Public Library (Central), Bayland Community Center on Bissonnet, and the Jungman Library on Westheimer. Who remembers the 1997 Virginia Research Seminar at the Judson Robinson Jr Community Center with the Drill team practicing above our meeting room?

Highlights of the ‘middle years’ wouldn’t be complete without mentioning the Re-labeling Project in May/June of 1998. It was thought that it would take ‘months’ to rearrange and label all the books in the Clayton Library – it took less than 7 weeks. CLF members typed and applied two labels to each book. By converting from the Dewey decimal system, Clayton became much more user-friendly and browsable. Books of a particular state are now grouped in three sections by states. Books with applicability to the entire state or books whose subject matter relates to more than one county are shelved first. These are followed by books that relate to single counties, shelved alphabetically by county name. Third in line are the state’s bound periodicals. Books dealing with more than one state, in the USA section, are still in Dewey Decimal order. Family histories are housed separately and alphabetically by the surname of the primary family.

In February 1999 the Clayton staff introduced us to the marker blocks in the microprint area. What a big help when it comes time to return the reel to its proper place in the drawer. And, with the reduced number of staff, fewer reels are being returned to the wrong drawers.

Also in February 1999, Clayton Library Friends was able to purchase a large number of City Directory microfilm. We received a large donation from the Huffington Foundation restricted to be spent toward City Directories – mostly 1890’s era.

In 2000 the Clayton Library Friends received a major addition to the CLF Endowment Fund. In accordance with the wishes of Margaret E. Whiteley, who passed

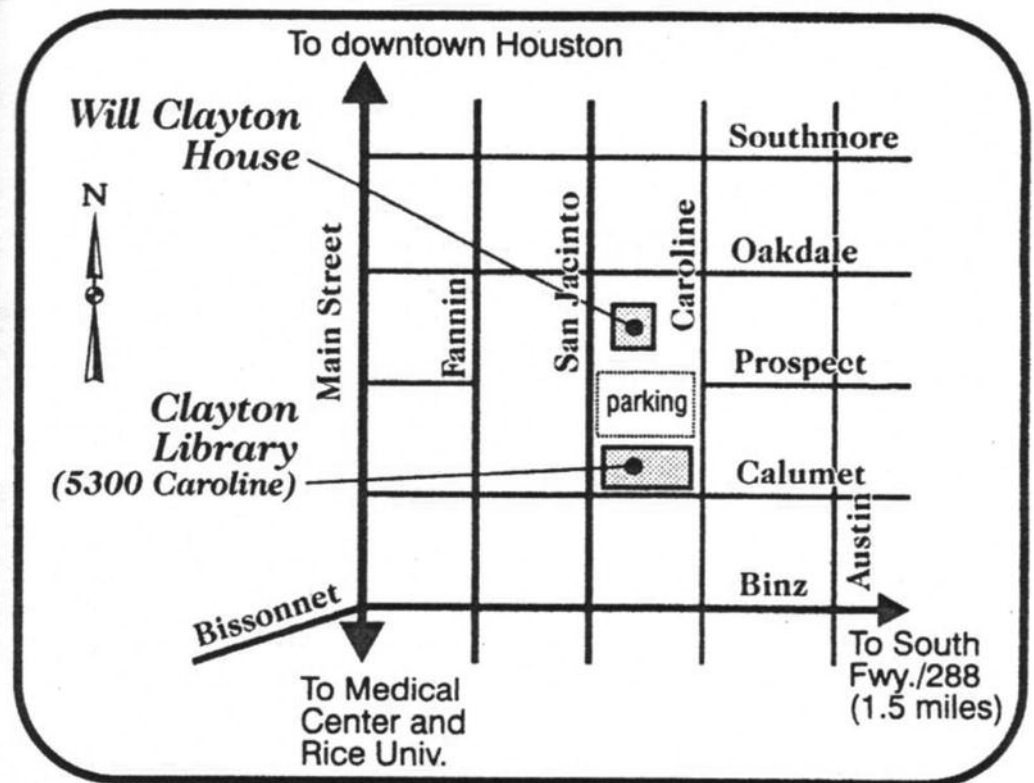
Clayton Library Friends turns 25 – continued

away in November 1999, a gift of \$108,204 from the Margaret E Whiteley Charitable Trust was added to our Endowment Fund. Margaret was a charter member and served on the CLF Executive Board from 1989 to 1991.

In the August newsletter, we will try to briefly highlight the activities of CLF in the more recent years, and the conversion of the three Clayton family buildings into objects of beauty.

Nominating Committee

The Clayton Library Friends will be electing the Nominating Committee at the May meeting. If you are interested in serving on our Executive Board next year or in the future, contact one of the committee members and introduce yourself. With over 700 members, it is hard to know everyone. The Nominating Committee will be looking for a nice blend of familiar names and some 'new blood' for the Board, so that we have both continuity and new ideas and perspective.



Corrections: (our apologies)

We are aware of two errors in the February 2012 newsletter.

Page 3 – Mark Your Calendar

The correct e-mail for **Blaine Hedberg** is bhedberg@nagcnl.org. Both the CLF Newsletter Editor and the Website Coordinator misread the typed copy the same way. Many readers already have the correction.

Page 6 – Thank you 2011 Volunteers

When converting text to columns, I carelessly gave **Liz Hicks** a shortened last name.

CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS NEWSLETTER STAFF

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Established 1987

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Houston, Texas 77277-1078

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IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday -- May 12, 2012
10:15 am General Meeting

***Genealogical Resources at the Texas General
Land Office***
James Harkins

Saturday – August 11, 2012
10:15 am General Meeting

State of the Library
Sue Kaufman, Manager

Saturday – August 18, 2012

All Day Seminar
J. Mark Lowe, CG

Saturday – November 10, 2012
10:15 am Annual Meeting

CLF 25th Anniversary