



# THE Clayton Advocate

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

Volume XXX, Number 2 May 2016

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am writing this letter as we go through another Bayou City rain event. As we move forward in 2016, rain, flood control, upgrades in the museum and medical center area all have reminded us of the past that our ancestors had to endure. I think about Will Clayton riding in a carriage to downtown Houston.

Yet, we still have the benefit of his great home, carriage and guest houses which were the beginning of our world class genealogical center. I'm reminded every month of the programs and services that our board and professional staff render to our members and guests. It is still your interest and participation in genealogical research that drives our efforts to provide and promote our library. Your membership and financial support allow these services to grow.

Look forward to the programs that are planned this year. Our newsletter and website have the details of great speakers and locations.

Thank you all for your presence and utilization of Clayton Library and the hard work of our professional staff and volunteers. The sun will come out tomorrow and probably has by the time you read this.

All the best in your research.

Les Fullerton,  
President, Clayton Library Friends



# Mark Your Calendar -- And Join Us

**Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10:15 am – 12:00 noon**  
**Carriage House Meeting Room at the Clayton Library Center**

Clayton Library Friends of Houston, Texas, invites everyone to their General Meeting on Saturday, May 14, 2016 for a presentation, *Billion Graves*, by Joseph A Pergler. Sign-in begins at 10:15 am (coffee provided). A very short business meeting and the program will begin promptly at 10:30 am. Members and visitors alike are welcome to attend the free presentation.

## ***Billion Graves – How to Use and How to be a Contributor***



### **Speaker: Joseph A Pergler**

Joseph A Pergler began doing family history as a youth and loved it. He had indexed over 10,000 records by the time he was 16 . often staying up until the wee hours of the morning typing up extractions of German records. He has taught family history in seven countries and across multiple states, and has lectured at dozens of family history conferences.

He has visited over 320 cemeteries and photographed nearly 100,000 headstones for BillionGraves.com, and has helped many people work on their own family history. His personal family history research is focused largely on the Czech Republic, southern Germany, and Illinois. He is the proud great-grandson of Bergmann (Coal Miner) Josef Pergler.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Also, mark your calendar for all of our meetings –**  
The second Saturday of February, May, August, and November in the Clayton Carriage House.

**June 25 – CLF Ice Cream Social – Carriage House & Clayton Library garden**  
(see details on page 10)

**August 06 -- CLF Annual Symposium -- at Rice University**  
**Joshua Taylor** (of Genealogy Roadshow fame) will present four topics.  
(see pages 6 & 7for details . registration form is last page of this newsletter)

**August 13 – CLF General Meeting**  
**Kathleen Shanahan Maca** speaking on cemetery research.  
She is the author of the book, *Galveston's Broadway Cemeteries (Images of America)*.

**November 12 – CLF Annual Meeting, election of Board members,**  
**Sue Yerby . *Genealogy In Your Jammies - Family Search Updates***

# Manager's Message



## Ya gotta have FRIENDS!

As I approach my ten year anniversary at the Clayton Library, (and as I get older), being more reflective has entered my life. A recent event here at the Library has sparked a strong chord in my mind regarding the Clayton Library Friends.

In the past almost ten years that I've been here, the Clayton Library Friends have been there when the Clayton Library needed them, at the drop of a hat. The most recent event was a reception that was held at the Library on Thursday 21 April 2016, during the Texas Library Association (TLA) Conference. This conference brings nearly 7,000 librarians from across the state to its annual conference. As with most organizations, special interest groups make up the larger Association. The Archives, Genealogy, Local History Round Table (AGLHRT) is one such group. At the TLA annual conference, these groups offer special events, pre-conferences, and sponsored lectures related to that group's interest. On this April evening, AGLHRT sponsored Drew Smith, a nationally recognized genealogy lecturer and librarian to meet and greet, and offer a lighthearted presentation to conference attendees.

To do this we needed human power+to help with the after-hours event. I turned to the Clayton Library Friends volunteers. Without hesitation, we received a group of these volunteers, ready and willing to help make this special event successful, fun (since we didn't have lights in the Main House and Carriage House and had to use CLF door prize flashlights), and a hit with all the visiting librarians attending this event. We had food, fun, and great networking! ALL because of the Clayton Library Friends supporting this event with people and funds.

As with this event, my ability to rely on CLF throughout the years for funds provided for materials, (over \$300,000 in the ten years), volunteer hours that each year give us 1.5 extra full-time staff, providing new microfilm scanners and a photo scanner for customer use, a fantastic conference exhibit pop-up display about the library, and now a pop-up tent for the staff to sit under when we do outreach at remote locations! is beyond words, I cannot say thank you enough.

The Clayton Library Friends is the model Friends group for all of the Houston Public Library system. I am pleased, honored, and amazed by the commitment and concern you have for the Library, its collections, and its place in the Houston and national genealogical community. Thank you for the past ten years! and here's to many more!

Sue Kaufman  
Manager, Clayton Library

*Editor's note:* Since Sue wrote the above message, we have learned that Drew Smith, mentioned above as our guest speaker at Clayton for the TLA conference, was awarded the prestigious **Filby Award for Genealogical Librarianship** at the National Genealogical Society (NGS) annual meeting in this week.

Learn about the happenings and special presentations at Clayton Library by subscribing to the FREE Clayton Library electronic newsletters . *Clayton Town Crier*, and *Clayton Extra*. To sign up for these genealogy newsletters, visit [www.houstonlibrary.org](http://www.houstonlibrary.org) > Learn & Explore > Readers' Link > Newsletters for All Interests > second paragraph > sign up for! +



## BE AN ANGEL

### Latest 2016 periodical subscriptions purchased for Clayton Library

Angels earn their wings by donating for one or more of the periodicals requested by Clayton Library. Non-specific donations are always welcome. All donations to the Angel Program will be acknowledged in the CLF newsletter, unless otherwise requested. Memorial donations will be acknowledged upon request (please include acknowledgement information with your donation).

Please contact: Liz Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr, Houston, TX 77034-2030, phone: (713) 944-1118, or e-mail: [erootrot@usa.net](mailto:erootrot@usa.net) for questions. Checks should be made payable to Clayton Library Friends, and mailed to: PO Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078.

I am very happy to report that, thanks to the generous support of members of Clayton Library Friends, **ALL** of the Angel Program periodical subscriptions for 2016 have been renewed. Those who have earned their wings for 2016 since the last newsletter are:

Norma and Wally Davenport. Donation to the Angel Program.

John Davis. *Clarke County, Arkansas* in honor of Dr. Wendy Richter, Archivist at Quachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Les Fullerton. Donation to the Angel Program.

Vernon G. Gillette. Donation to the Angel Program in memory of Mrs V G %Billie+Gillette.

Glen and Jackie Leinert Huckabay. Donation for *Les Voyageurs* (German-Acadian Coast Historical and Genealogical Society) in honor of her Acadian Ancestors.

Marjorie L Lowe. *Goingsnake Messenger* in honor and memory of Captain James Foster, Cherokee Militia 1814 and War of 1812.

Patsy Jane McLaughlin. *Argyll Colony Plus* (NC Scottish Heritage Society)

Mary Dale Parent. Donation for *Family Tree Magazine* (United Kingdom) and the *Arkansas Family Historian*.

Mary Anthony Startz. Donation for *Rodziny* (Polish Genealogical Society of America) in honor of Ms Elizabeth Kelliker-Paz.

Sandy Srote Wilbourn. Donation to the Angel Program.

**Thank you Angels for your support of Clayton Library!**

**THE CLAYTON ADVOCATE deadline for the August 2016 issue is July 18, 2016.**

**We welcome any articles related to Clayton Library and/or its collections.**

**CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS NEWSLETTER STAFF**  
**Editor – Pat Palmer Metcalfe      [plpm@ix.netcom.com](mailto:plpm@ix.netcom.com)**  
**Editorial Assistants -- Norma Davenport, Jack Metcalfe**



**Annual Symposium**  
**Saturday, August 6, 2016**  
**Speaker -- D. Joshua Taylor**  
**presented by**  
**Clayton Library Friends**  
**and**  
**Bay Area Genealogical Society**  
**at**  
**Rice University, Houston Texas**

Clayton Library Friends and the Bay Area Genealogical Society are excited to announce their Annual Symposium to be held on Saturday, August 6, 2016, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in the Rice Memorial Student Center Grand Hall, Rice University Campus, at 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas 77005.

Joshua Taylor, who is best known for being a co-host of the popular PBS program, *Genealogy Roadshow*, will present four sessions. (Detailed descriptions of each session are later in this article.)

**Finding the Roots of Your Family Legends,**

**State and Local Government Repositories for Family History,**

**Successful Searching Online: Clustering for Genealogists,**

**Putting It Together: A Case Study.**

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS, is a nationally known and recognized genealogist, author, lecturer, researcher, and frequent speaker at family history events across the globe. Passionate about family history, Joshua is the President and Executive Director of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society (NYG&B) and also serves the genealogical community as the President of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS). He is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including RootsTech's Distinguished Presenter Award, the Federation of Genealogical Societies Award of Merit, and the Rubincam Youth Award from the National Genealogical Society.

The former Director of Education and Programs at the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Joshua is the author of numerous articles in *American Ancestors*, *UGA Crossroads*, *FGS Forum*, *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*, *New England Ancestors*, and other publications. In 2013 he authored *The Keane and Sheahan Families of Bridgeport, Connecticut*, a study of a family's immigration and life in New England after the Irish famine. He is also the coordinator for courses at the Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy and the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh.

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(continued from page 6)

Josh holds an MLS (Archival Management) and an MA (History) degree from Simmons College and has been a featured genealogist on *Who Do You Think You Are?*, the popular television program that researched the family histories of Sarah Jessica Parker, Kelly Clarkson, Ashley Judd, Reba McEntire, and Rob Lowe. At the present time, Joshua can be seen taking America through her past as a host on the popular PBS series *Genealogy Roadshow*. More information is available about D Joshua Taylor at <https://www.djoshuataylor.com/>

**EARLY REGISTRATION -- before July 5, 2016** -- is \$45 for members of Clayton Library Friends or Bay Area Genealogical Society members OR \$55 for non-members.

**Registration after July 5, 2016** will be \$55 for active members OR \$65 for non-members.

**Registration at the door, if room is still available**, will be \$75.

**Lunch** will be available by pre-order ONLY at \$13 each -- must be ordered by **July 15, 2016**.

Lunch options are:

- A) Roasted turkey sandwich, Havarti cheese, tomato, lettuce and mayo on whole wheat bread, fruit salad, chips, cookie, and bottle of water
- B) Chef salad of ham, turkey, swiss cheese, hard-boiled egg, tomato over mixed field greens, fruit salad, roll, cookie, and bottle of water

**Parking** is available and will be paid by the attendees. You might want to get a group together and drive one car and split the parking fee! For parking info go to:

<http://parking.rice.edu/Content.aspx?id=32> and for a map of the campus go to:

<http://studentcenter.rice.edu/files/2011/11/SC-Facilities-Events-Map-ugbruw.jpg> ;

**Keep checking Clayton Library Friends website for updated information and registration information regarding this Symposium.**

**Josh Taylor will be presenting --**

### **Finding the Roots of Your Family Legends**

Just because Great Aunt Mable said your ancestor was from Scotland doesn't mean that she was. Learn how to uncover the truth behind family legends and stories, and how to integrate them into your personal writing and research.

### **State and Local Government Repositories for Family History**

Learn how to access the vast numbers of records placed online at state and local government websites during this hands-on workshop. Participants will be able to pick their favorite state and conduct a full search for treasures hiding under a .gov domain. (Bring your laptop.)

### **Successful Searching Online: Clustering for Genealogists**

Effective Internet searching cannot be complete without clustering. Learn how to limit your search engine results to websites that will be beneficial to you without having to scroll through thousands of results! Strong emphasis is put on learning and using Yippy and other search engines.

### **Putting it Together: A Case Study**

Follow a family from the early 1800s to the early 1900s as they migrated from Pennsylvania to Idaho. Watch as records from the home (family bibles and letters) are combined with newspapers, tax records, census records, cemetery records, family files, and other records to compile the family.



# Genealogy Roadshow Showcases Area Genealogists

Channel 8, Houston PBS, 7 pm, Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>



We want to let you know that the *Genealogy Roadshow* segment showcasing Houston will be broadcast on Channel 8, Houston PBS, on Tuesday, May 31st at 7 pm. The Genealogy Roadshow production team was in Houston on Sunday, November 22, 2015 to film for season three of *Genealogy Roadshow*. They filmed at Clayton Library, Center for Genealogical Research, 5300 Caroline Avenue as well as Julia Ideson Library, Houston Metropolitan Research Center, 500 McKinney Street, downtown Houston. They only film in important historic buildings and knocked it out-of-the-park with these two important historic sites.

Thanks to volunteers from Clayton Library Friends and staff of the Houston Public Library who helped make this event such a success with over 500 people attending. Genealogy Roadshow's goal was to film the stories and mysteries of selected genealogists from the area as well as for local organizations to promote their organizations and to assist and encourage area genealogists to pursue their family history quests. The broadcast will be a wonderful opportunity for Clayton Library, Clayton Library Friends, the Houston Public Library, local genealogists, and others to receive national recognition and appreciation for what they do to promote genealogy and to help area genealogists solve those burning mysteries! The majority of the event was filmed in the Julia Ideson Library, a beautiful historic building where the Clayton Library genealogy collection had its origin. Some filming was also done in the historic Clayton House at 5300 Caroline Avenue, part of the four-building complex of the Clayton Library, Center for Genealogical Research.

Clayton Library Friends and volunteers enjoyed working with David Johnson, Production Producer, and his assistant, Ashley Truman, and their Genealogy Roadshow team who were so friendly and professional, as well as appreciative of our efforts. After the event they told Clayton Library Friends how truly grateful they were for our help during their event which showcased stories of area genealogists.



Please tune in to watch and you just might see yourself on television!!! You will also see great stories and the mysteries that were solved by the Genealogy Roadshow team not only in the Houston area but also around the United States. Shows filmed in other cities will begin broadcasting on Tuesday, May 17th. You can check scheduling for all of the Genealogy Roadshow episodes at <http://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/tv8/>

Randy Pace, CLF Director  
Publicity & Public Relations

## Acquisitions –

The Acquisitions Committee, under the direction of John Dorroh, has been very busy ordering new additions for the Clayton Library shelves. Your dues and donations have made it possible to order more than \$11,000 of genealogical reference materials since the first of this year. An 8-page single-spaced list of the items ordered includes multiple items relating to Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia. The majority of these items have paper covers, and will need to visit the bindery for hard covers before you find them on the shelves. But they are being processed as we speak.

If you know of something that we don't have -- but we should have it, let the library staff know and they will pass the information on to the CLF Acquisitions Committee.

## Membership –

Thank you for joining or continuing your membership with Clayton Library Friends for the 2016 year. As you see in this newsletter, we have some excellent programs planned for your enjoyment and education. Although our membership numbers are not as high as they were fifteen or twenty years ago, we continue to have a dedicated core who support Clayton Library. And, we continue to find people who do not know about Clayton, or who comment that they haven't been to the library in a long time. Just how long, becomes evident when someone walks into the House and wonders where all the Family History books are. They were moved to the second floor of the Main Building in August of 2006.

Each year we add a number of new members . people who are researching their families, who found that Clayton owns the resources that they need, and who want to contribute dues and donations to help us continue to expand our collections and promote Clayton Library. Thank you to all of you for your support, and please don't forget to send your friends over to visit our library.

Pat Metcalfe,  
1<sup>st</sup> VP/Membership Chair

### **CLAYTON LIBRARY CENTER FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH**

5300 Caroline, Houston, TX 77004-6896

832-393-2600

[www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton](http://www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton)

#### **Library Hours:**

Tuesday. 10 am . 6 pm

Wednesday – 10 am -- 8 pm

Thursday. 10 am . 6 pm

Friday . 10 am . 5 pm

Saturday -- 10 am . 5 pm

(Closed on Sunday and Monday)

#### **Clayton House Hours:**

Tuesday thru Saturday -- 10 am . 4 pm

# Ice Cream Social for all CLF members –

On Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> let's gather at the Carriage House and overflow into the Clayton Library garden if the weather is nice. You can pretend that you're 10-years-old again . making your own ice cream sundae just the way you want it.

At our last CLF Board meeting, we agreed that we were not doing enough fun things that let us get acquainted with each other. We don't have opportunities to connect names with faces. Come and meet your Board members and fellow CLF members. Tell your Board what you want from your organization and how you might become more involved in CLF. Perhaps it would be a good day for you to spend time researching at the library? You could get acquainted with some of our new library acquisitions, and then relax with fellow CLF members over a dish of ice cream.

Sure, we put on name-tags at the quarterly meetings, and then we all sit in chairs facing the front of the room . not even able to read the name of the person sitting beside us. The Board has no ulterior motives for this Ice Cream Social . just a pleasant social get-acquainted gathering.

This particular event was proposed the morning that this newsletter was being completed . so it did not get onto the page 3 Mark Your Calendar list. Soooooo, go mark your calendar now and plan to join us on June 25<sup>th</sup> . rain or shine, but we do hope for nice weather that day. Hope to see you there.

## Clayton Library Friends Needs YOU!

As provided in the Bylaws, terms for serving on the Friends Executive Board are limited . four consecutive years in one position, and a maximum of six consecutive years on the Board. Several of our current Board members will need to change positions or leave the Board, and several more will be term-limited out. Now is YOUR chance to get on the CLF Board and help move the organization along with some new energy. We have a CLF Job Procedures Manual which should help a new Board member take off running.

At our last meeting we selected Loren Martin, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, to be our Board representative on the Nominating Committee. The rest of the Committee will be selected at our CLF General Meeting on May 14<sup>th</sup>. In the meantime, if you would like to be considered for a Board position you may contact Loren via his e-mail: LMartin497@aol.com. If a position that you are interested in isn't currently open, the committee will keep your name handy. It won't be long before that position becomes available, by virtue of term-limitations.

One particular position where we need a replacement in 2017 is **Treasurer**. Resa Hennings has been our CLF Treasurer for the last five years and would like to step down from this office. She has everything in order and working smoothly, so it should be an easy transition. She says, %b would be most helpful to have some experience with QuickBooks Online, or a similar accounting program. Treasurer duties involve overseeing checks deposited into the Friends account, writing checks, preparing quarterly financial statements, reconciling our checking, VISA credit card, and PayPal accounts, and preparing the annual budget [with the help of the CLF Board members]. The Treasurer also oversees the Friends Investment account, and readies the books for the annual Audit. Attendance at quarterly Board and General meetings is desired.+

### In Memoriam

**Betty Jane Mohrman** died February 22, 2016. She was born in 1924 in the Heights area of Houston. She taught English and Drama while her two children were growing up. After her retirement in 1989 as a Research Librarian, she continued her interest in genealogy and was active in several genealogy groups.

**Louise Harbour Wing** passed away April 5, 2016 at the age of 80. A past long-time member of Clayton Library Friends, she was Parliamentarian for the Houston Genealogical Forum for many years. She is survived by her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

**Clayton Library Friends**  
and  
**Bay Area Genealogical Society**

**Present our 2016 Symposium**

Saturday, August 6, 2016  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

at Rice Memorial Student Center Grand Hall  
Rice University, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas

***D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS***  
*of television's "Genealogy Roadshow" fame*

*will present four sessions:*

"Finding the Roots of Your Family Legends"

"State and Local Government Repositories for Family History"

"Successful Searching Online: Clustering for Genealogists"

"Putting it Together: A Case Study"

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I would like to join CLF and have attached my Membership Form and payment at the Member rate together with this registration form.

	If received: <u>Before July 5</u>	<u>After July 5</u>
Member	_____ \$45 each	_____ \$55 each
Non-Member	_____ \$55 each	_____ \$65 each

Walk-ins (if space is available; no guarantee of Syllabus): \$75

Lunch (by pre-order only) - \$13 each

\_\_\_\_\_ Sandwich - Roasted turkey, chips, fruit salad, cookie, and bottled water

\_\_\_\_\_ Salad - Chef salad, roll, fruit salad, cookie, and bottled water

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Register online with credit card at <[www.ClaytonLibraryFriends.org](http://www.ClaytonLibraryFriends.org)>, or by check payable to *Clayton Library Friends*. Mail this form and your check to:  
CLF Symposium, P.O. Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078.