



THE Clayton Advocate

NEWSLETTER OF THE CLAYTON LIBRARY FRIENDS

Volume XXXV Number 1 February 2021

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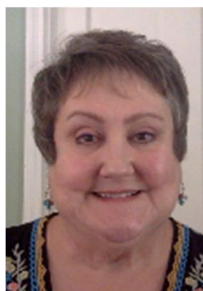
Clayton Library

Manager

Susan Kaufman



President's Message



I am honored to continue serving as president of Clayton Library Friends for the next two years. Did you know CLF has been in existence for 34 years? Throughout that time, it has been led by an elected board and volunteers in partnership with library staff. It is amazing to me that this organization has remained so vibrant and robust

without hiring staff to run it. The board, volunteers, and members have clearly dedicated themselves to making sure that this organization lives. I will do my best to provide leadership and maintain continuity and vitality to hand off to the next president and board.

Many board members and volunteers deserve recognition, but this time I want to highlight the longstanding contributions of Pat Metcalfe. She has been a member for more than 25 years. Pat has served on the board multiple times -- as president, 1st vice-president for membership, secretary, and other positions. She has been newsletter editor for many years, and she even picks up the mail. Pat also acts as archivist and sometimes parliamentarian. I'm always amazed at her institutional memory. She has organized and filed all of CLF's key documents, but honestly, I think she keeps a lot of it in her head to share with us as we need it.

While filling all those roles, Pat also developed and manages the Donated-Duplicate Books program, which is both a service to members and a source of revenue for CLF. Those of you who have been on the second floor of the Clayton House may have seen her enterprise. It is a small library within itself. With the help of Jessica Collins, another CLF volunteer -- she catalogs books donated to the Library that are already in the collection and maintains a database so that she can advertise and keep track of her sales. In the past we have had annual book sales at the Clayton House. In addition, for many years Pat and her husband Jack have traveled to genealogy conferences all over the

continued on page 2

**Join us via Zoom -- CLF Joint Meeting
10:30 a.m. Saturday, February 13th**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Clayton Library Friends, Inc.

Statement of Activities

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

Income

Unrestricted Contributions	\$ 11,635
Temporarily Restricted	\$ 2,391
Membership Dues	5,270
Other Income	1,964

Total Revenue \$ 21,260

Expenses

Current Programs	\$ 48,969
Administrative & General	15,890

Total Expenses \$ 64,859

Net Operating Income (Loss) \$ (43,599)

Statement of Financial Position

As of December 31, 2020

Assets

Current Assets

Bank Account	\$ 78,979
Other Current Assets	\$ 400

Fixed Assets \$ 1,359

Total Other Assets \$ 1,292,132

(Investments, of which \$828,004 is the permanently restricted Endowment)

Total Assets \$ 1,372,870

Liabilities and Equity

Total Liabilities (VISA card) \$ 1,040

Equity \$ 1,371,830

Total Liabilities and Equity \$ 1,372,870

Resa Nichols Hennings, Treasurer

President's Message — continued from page 1

United States with a van full of boxes of our Donated-Duplicate books. Pat and Jack would set up a display booth in the Exhibit Hall and, along with Clayton staff and CLF volunteers, spend days talking to genealogists to let them know about the wonderful collection of books at the Clayton Library and the duplicates for sale. The Metcalfe's efforts through book sales have been a continuing source of income for CLF since February 2015.

I had already planned to acknowledge Pat in this issue, but I especially wanted to recognize her and Jack at this time. After a long illness, Jack Metcalfe passed away on January 26, 2021. As his health declined, he had been under Pat's loving care. I know many of you knew Jack. We will all miss his warm smile and friendly manner.

Lynda Collins, President

Special Donations

The following special donations were made to Clayton Library thru Clayton Library Friends since our last newsletter.

In Honor of:

Sue Kaufman

In Memory of:

Mercedes Jean Freeman Agerton,

Richard Cimino,

Ray Pearl Wood Condry,

Dr Jerry Dunn,

Marje Harris,

Judy Martin Hatcher,

Deceased members of Houston

Colony Magna Charta

Dale Johnson,

Gladys Kendrick,

Louis & Wilma Lazartic,

Jack Metcalfe,

Margaret Gay Anderson Morris,

Laurence Shaner, and

Frank and

Mary 'Caroline' (DaShiell) Timko.

Clayton Library Friends is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization . IRS Code 501(c)(3) . whose purpose is to enrich the resources and facilities of the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, a Special Collections branch of the Houston Public Library. We always welcome donations to further our purpose.

In Honor of Black History Month

You're invited to a Joint Meeting of the **Clayton Library Friends** and **Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. Willie Lee Gay H-Town Chapter**.

10:30am - Noon

Saturday, February 13, 2021

via ZOOM

Presenter: Debra Blacklock-Sloan

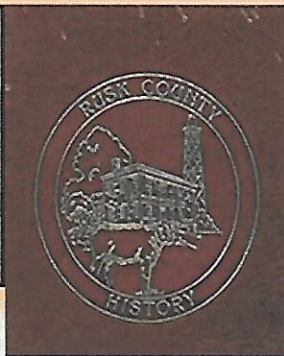
Register: <https://tinyurl.com/clf-aahgs>



The presentation will offer:

- Tips and strategies for researching African American ancestry
- Library and online resources

"The Answer Was Right in Front of Me:" A Case Study **Clayton Genealogical Library Resources to Help Determine the Last Slaveholder of Your Ancestor**



Estate of John Strong
Appraisement of the Goods & Personal Property of John Strong
deceased. November 7th 1854
Phiston Hundred & Eighty acres of Land \$11200 00
Jack a Negro man 80 years old 200 00
Phasen a Negro woman 40 years old 300 00
Phanton a Negro woman 20 years old 1000 00

Questions? htown@aahgs.org | info@claytonlibraryfriends.org

Debra Blacklock-Sloan --



Debra Blacklock-Sloan is a professional genealogist and historical researcher with over twenty-five years of experience. She is also a native Houstonian and 6th generation Texan who has traced her paternal ancestral roots to Rusk County, (East Texas); Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky and South Carolina. Her maternal ancestral roots are in the West Indies and Louisiana. She is very passionate about helping African-Americans find their ancestors and is genuinely at home in any courthouse, library, or archives.

Over the years she has presented local workshops on African-American family research and has been featured in several newspapers and publications such as the African-American News & Issues, Houston Defender, Tre Magazine, the Texas Historical Commission's *Medallion Magazine*, and the Texas Historical Foundation's *Texas Heritage Magazine*. She has appeared on radio and television. She researched talk show host Debra Duncan's maternal and paternal ancestors on Great Day Houston.

She is President of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, Inc. Willie Lee Gay H-Town Chapter, and member of Harris County Historical Commission, Harris County African-American Cultural Heritage Commission, and Historic Oak Park Cemetery Board.

Have You Renewed Your Membership for 2021?

Although the library remains closed to the public, Clayton librarians continue aiding patrons with email and phone reference questions. CLF continues adding to the library's collections by purchasing books and periodicals. Our work continues on, and we hope your membership will, too. Please support Clayton Library during 2021 by renewing your CLF membership.

Your membership can be renewed online at claytonlibraryfriends.org or by mailing the paper membership form (also downloadable from the website) with your payment. Dues remain \$20 for an individual membership and \$25 for a joint membership of two people residing at the same address.

Your membership dues support the Clayton Library with resources that, in turn, enrich your own genealogy research.

Don't delay, renew today!

Jessica Horne Collins, 1st VP - Membership

New and/or Returning Members --

Clayton Library Friends extends a warm welcome to these new and returning members who have joined/rejoined CLF since our last newsletter.

**Sandra Anders,
Mike & Martie Damon,**

**Bridget Demby,
Marianne Jones,**

**Patricia Ann Phillips, and
Joseph P Wolfe.**

We're glad that you've discovered (or re-discovered) Clayton Library Friends and hope that you'll also join our group of volunteers that provides support to the Clayton Library in so many ways.

Clayton Library Friends

P O Box 271078, Houston TX 77277-1078

www.ClaytonLibraryFriends.org

Manager's Message -



It's February.

That obvious statement carries a lot of thoughts behind it. Some of those thoughts are memories from the past year. In middle February 2020 my husband, Doug and I were planning a trip to Seattle. I mentioned that to him this morning at breakfast. My memory jogged a story from him.

We had gotten a vacation package from Costco to celebrate our birthdays that are about two weeks apart, the end of February and the beginning of March. It included first-class seats; a hotel overlooking Lake Washington; plans to take car tours of the area; of course go to the Pike Place Fish Market and the stores there; visit the general collection and the genealogy/local history section of the Seattle Public Library. We had begun to hear some rumblings about a virus that was in the nursing homes outside of Seattle. We went anyway. It was 9 March 2020.

He brought up the memory of how really no one was sightseeing downtown. We had begun the drill of making sure we had hand sanitizers, were wiping everything down. We upgraded the room when we got there because the hotel was almost empty. We drove around Lake Washington to sightsee; ate at a few places with take out; took the ferry with the car across into Seattle from Bainbridge Island across Puget Sound. We saw the Snoqualmie Falls. We had a very nice time. We came back on 12 March 2020. The Clayton library closed on 16 March 2020.

The power of story is amazing. As you read the above, did it bring back memories of this time last year; before the pandemic really set in? The power behind the memory leaves many impressions including shared experiences on an individual or societal level; personal reminiscences of the subject being discussed and many more.

Sharing stories, and chronicling stories of ours and our ancestors' lives has become a very strong component of family history research in recent years. Not only do we want to document, we want to make sure the life is remembered in context. Personal stories share that context. It is obvious from the advertising of databases and popularity of scripted shows on television the stories are what drives the research.

I share this story with you also to let you know that I am not a writer. I don't like to write. But as I thought about what to write about this quarter, it dawned on me that maybe I should jump on the story writing band wagon to see what it was like...since I had been talking about it for a long time.

From that conversation germinated those two quick paragraphs that give the reader a picture of what we were doing, how our life was, before March 2020. Actually, it was pretty painless. I just let it flow, and now I have part of my life down that I can share/save, and add to my FamilySearch memories <https://www.familysearch.org/discovery/record/categories>

I invite you to listen to your conversations, take a memory germinated from them - write them down, record them on your phone; at the very least tell another person about it. It is the story between the dashes that make a genealogy family history.

And remember, if you are having trouble finding information to help with your family stories, until further notice, please call us at 832-393-2600 or email cl.reference@houstontx.gov if you have questions.

Take care everyone - Sue

Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research

5300 Caroline, Houston, TX 77004-6896

832-393-2600

www.houstonlibrary.org/clayton

Closed until further notice due to the Coronavirus pandemic.



BE AN ANGEL

2021 Angel Subscriptions (periodicals) needed for Clayton Library

The list of periodicals below are ones that Clayton Library wishes to receive on an ~~as~~ published basis, and that are in excess of their periodical budget. If you wish to earn your ~~wings~~ by donating for one or more of these periodicals, please contact: Liz Hicks, 746 Edgebrook Dr., Houston, TX 77034-2030; phone: (713) 944-1118, or e-mail: erootrot@usa.net. All donations to the Angel Program will be acknowledged in the CLF Newsletter, unless otherwise requested. Memorial donations will be acknowledged upon request. Checks should be made payable to Clayton Library Friends, and mailed to P.O. Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078. Please write ~~Angel~~ on your check. Unspecified donations to the Angel Program are greatly appreciated.

Please go to <https://claytonlibraryfriends.org/angel> for a current list of needed periodicals.

<i>American-Canadian Genealogical Society</i> \$50	<i>Le Raconteur</i> (Le Comite des Archives de la Louisiane) \$15
<i>Annals of Wyoming</i> (Wyoming State Hist Soc) \$60	<i>Leaves and Branches</i> (Navarro County, TX Genealogical Society) \$25
<i>Carolinas Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> \$18	<i>Les Voyageurs</i> (German-Acadian Coast Hist. & Gen. Society) \$15
<i>Ceske Stopy</i> (Texas Czech Genealogical Society) \$25	<i>Lifelines</i> (Northern NY-American-Canadian) \$35
<i>Chicago Genealogist</i> \$30	<i>Maine Genealogist</i> \$25
<i>Family Tree Magazine</i> (United Kingdom) \$100	Minnesota Genealogist \$35
Foothills (CO) Genealogical Society (counties of Clear Creek, Gilpin, Jefferson and Park) \$20	<i>Rhode Island Roots</i> \$25
<i>Franklin County Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> (TX) \$20	Rodziny (Polish Genealogical Soc of America) \$35
<i>Genie</i> (ARK-LA-TEX) Genealogical Assn. \$20	<i>Shelby County (AL) Historical Society Quarterly</i> \$20
<i>Goingsnake Messenger</i> (Goingsnake District Heritage Assn.-Oklahoma) \$20	<i>South Dakota Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> \$23
<i>Idaho Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> \$35	<i>St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> (MO) \$40
<i>Internet Genealogy</i> \$32.95	<i>Topeka Genealogical Society Quarterly</i> (KS) \$60
<i>Journal</i> (German-Texan Heritage Soc quarterly) \$40	

Those who have earned their “wings” since the last CLF Newsletter are:

Anonymous -- donation for renewal of *Families* (Ontario Genealogical Society-Canada).

Lynda Beth Collins -- donation for the *Carolina Herald & Newsletter* (South Carolina).

Glenda Hayes -- donation for *Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly*, *Clarke Co. Historical and Genealogy Society Quarterly* (Alabama), and *Montgomery Genealogical Society Quarterly* (Alabama).

Dewey and Bonnie Meeks -- donation for 2-year-renewal to *Collin County Chronicles* (Texas).

Barbara Richards -- donation for renewal to *Vermont Genealogy* in memory of Elizabeth D. Richards.

Kathleen Williams -- donation for *Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Newsletter* and *Chronicles of Oklahoma*, in memory of Michael and Shirley Musser.

2020 Contributions and Donations

We wish to acknowledge and express our appreciation to the following individuals and organizations who, during the calendar year of 2020, have generously made financial gifts to Clayton Library Friendsq ongoing goal of enriching the resources and facilities of Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research.q

Contributor (\$1 - \$49) \$ 650.54 'Contributor' total

Anonymous	Sharon Fontenot	Kyle & Jeanie Neely
Mary Barrow	Doris Fox	Kitty Olson
Walter Bissex & Tina Shaheen	Vernon G Gillette	Col Cannon H. Pritchard
Gina Bouchard	Sammie Graves	M/M Stephen J. Rayne
Mary Ann Broussard	Frances C. Kerr-Gibbons	Lloyd W. Shenberger
Maurice Bursey	Dianne Jean Kirk	Jean H Smoorenburg
Florence Irene Clark	Elizabeth Lee Leifeste	David Roger Swenson
Betty Dunquez	Marjorie L. Lowe	Toby Turner
Cecilia Dykes	Sheran Ann McCants	Patricia Williams
Robert Fischer	Terri Myers	

Donor (\$50 - \$99) \$1,403.34. 'Donor' total

Mary Barrow	Lisa R. Franklin	Patsy Jane McLaughlin
M/M Clyde N. Black	The Genealogical Society of	Randy Pace
Barbara Jo Brothers	Kendall County	Paula Palmer
Allan Cain	Patti Gillies	Patricia Ann Phillips
Daughters of Founders &	M/M Kenneth O. Gullett	Katherine & Archibald Powell
Patriots of America . The	Sally & Richard Hayes	Todd Roberts
John Shepherd Texas	Yolanda & Perry Hester	M/M Bernd Strassner
Chapter	Carolyn Kares	Kathleen Lynn Williams
Daughters of the Confederacy.	Ronald Knight	
Robert E Lee Chapter 186	Michael & Marilyn Maynard	

Patron (\$100 - \$249) \$3,641. 'Patron' total

Anonymous	Barbara Jean Richards
Kaye Bonner Arnold	San Angelo Geneal. Society
Assiff-Young Family	M/M Merlin Eugene Shaner
Bay Area Genealogical Society	Angela Sherman
Wanda Beckner	Bill & Janet Sherman
Emily Jane Chiles	Mary Anthony Startz
Lori Fortner	Jan Stovall
Susan & Chris Hartenstein	Judy LaVonne Stover
Glenda Kay Hayes	Laurence & Cathy Wheatley
Janet & John Hellman	Paula Rene White
LaDora Emma & Eric Jernigan	M/M Robert P Wright
Sandra Dee Kruse	
Jeanine Lawrence	
Magna Charta Dames & Barons	
. The Houston Colony	
Laura Mamazza	
Malcolm Scott McCorquodale III	
Mid-Continent Library	
NSDAR . Lady Washington	
Chapter	
Lt Col Donald E Pusch	

2020 Contributions and Donations continued on page 8

2020 Contributions and Donations

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Sponsor (\$250 - \$499) \$2,163. 'Sponsor' total		
Armel Family Myra Nell Marsh Tom W Matchett	Natl Society Colonial Dames XVII Century -- John Champion Chapter	NSDAR -- John McKnitt Alexander Chapter Richard L Rose
Benefactor (\$500 and above) \$7,675. 'Benefactor' total		
Emile A Bussemey Lynda Beth Collins M/M Wallace E Davenport	Goodman Financial Corporation Resa Hennings Hopkins County Gen. Society	M/M Dewey C Meeks Paul B and Frances Lenora Terry Jr Family Foundation
Total Contributions for 2020 -- \$15,532.88		

Historygeo.com website --

Clayton Library Friends has purchased a program of remote access to the website historygeo.com, a service of Arphax Publishing Company. This remote access will start as soon as we can manage the technological procedure working with Houston Public Library. As soon as it is accessible, the announcement will be posted on our CLF website.

The First Landowners' Project on historygeo.com is a method of searching millions of original landowners in the public-land states on a single map that can be searched with a web browser.

Why early landowner maps? How are they used by genealogists? Landowner maps help you fill in the blanks. They often provide people and locations not found in censuses or that came and went in-between census years. They show relationships---for most of our country's history, people found their spouses among neighbor families who lived within a couple of miles. Finding surname combinations next to one another, in different locations, often helps explain migrations which help you know which courthouses to check (including courthouses in-between spots on the migration trail).

Houston Chronicle Historical Archive --

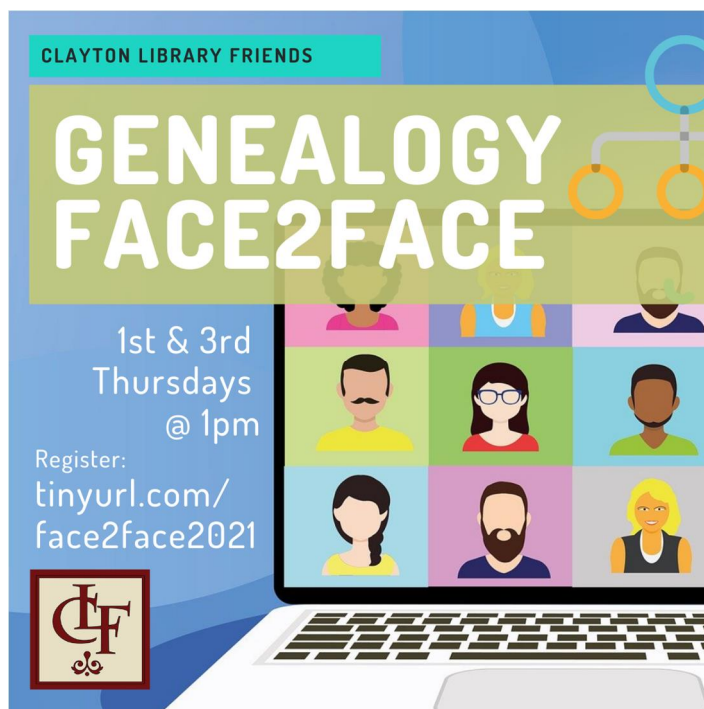
Did you know you can access the Houston Chronicle Historical Archive (digitized microfilm from 1901-2019) remotely with your Houston Public Library card?

NGS Family History Conference --

The National Genealogical Society Annual Conference, May 17-21, will be a Virtual Conference -- not as the in-person gathering in Richmond, Virginia, that we were all hoping for.

A Reminder --

If you change your contact information (address, phone numbers, email address, etc.) PLEASE let us know at 1vp@claytonlibraryfriends.org Thank you!!



Genealogy Face2Face, our virtual meeting series, returned in January 2021 with new sessions and a new schedule: **1st and 3rd Thursdays at 1:00pm Central**.

All attendees will need to **re-register with Zoom** for the new year. Once registered, you'll receive a meeting link that will work for all 2021 sessions.

In addition to engaging topics and speakers, we'll also feature an attendee sharing and discussion time at the end of every session. See our upcoming topics and start thinking of what you'd like to share.

Register in advance with Zoom for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUtdCvrDwiGNBCDKqI1Dzbiw870F6VM2J9>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Congratulations to the winners of our Fall Membership Contest!!

Three of the new-renewing members who paid their 2021 CLF membership dues between November 1-7, 2020 had their names drawn for a free registration to the TxSGS 2020 Virtual Conference. They were:

Thomas Coughlin,
Kristin Dennis, and
Christine A Smith.

Also mark your calendar for:

CLF General Meetings . 10:15 a.m.

Saturday, May 8, 2021

Saturday, August 14, 2021

CLF Annual Meeting . 10:15 a.m. . Saturday, November 13, 2021

Members are invited to attend CLF quarterly Executive Board meetings. Please let us know at least a week in advance if you wish to speak to the Board . so we can add you to the agenda.

***THE CLAYTON ADVOCATE* deadline for the May 2021 issue is April 25, 2021.**

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

Editorial Assistance – Jessica Collins, Norma Davenport, Lesley Douthwaite, Elsa Schmieder