

The CLF Newsletter

INFO@CLAYTONLIBRARYFRIENDS.ORG

volunteers partnering with one of America's
foremost genealogy research centers...



Cluster Genealogy: An Essential Tool for Research

A reprint from *Family Chronicle*, April 2007

by Emily Croom



Emily Croom
firm relationships (child-parent, husband-wife, siblings); learn more about family history; research more efficiently; sort out individuals of the same name; and broaden your scope to break down real or imagined brickwalls.

General Strategy. Focusing your research on only a few ancestors or families at a time helps you concentrate on details. A chronological profile on an individual and the related family cluster can show you at a glance what you know and where the holes are. If you're missing documentation for anything "known" about your focus family, address that need early on; don't get trapped by unsubstantiated data from shared family trees or tradition. Tackle first any questions you can address easily or quickly because success is a great motivator and new facts

Going beyond a one-person-one-name research focus promotes genealogical success. After all, ancestors lived among relatives, friends, neighbors and same-surname families. Including these people in your research is what I call cluster genealogy and is a smart move with many genealogical questions or problems. This approach can help you discover names, dates and places; con-

firm relationships (child-parent, husband-wife, siblings); learn more about family history; research more efficiently; sort out individuals of the same name; and broaden your scope to break down real or imagined brickwalls.

give you more to work with, especially in tough situations. As you plan your research, learn to think "cluster" and involve various ancestral groups-siblings, neighbors or in-laws-that might help answer your questions. Whenever possible, seek original records or first-generation copies, including digitized records online; then document and evaluate your findings carefully. Keep an open mind as you research because reported "facts" and favorite theories aren't always correct.

Family Cluster. The family-spouses, children, siblings, parents, cousins and others-was continually present in an ancestor's life and thus should be a constant in your research. You often need to study individuals in the context of their family, especially when you're stuck, when the family had a common surname or when usual sources aren't available. For example, when you can't locate a census entry online by searching on one name in an every-name index, search on another family member's name. Such working within the family cluster frequently nets positive results.

When you discover several people with your ancestor's name, evaluate your findings in the context of family facts to determine who was likely your ancestor. As I began my genealogical journey, I had one page from an old family Bible naming my grandfather's parents as Isaac and Ann Croom. Censuses of 1850-

1880 (the latest available

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Clayton Library Friends Statement of Financial Report

As of April 8, 2007

ASSETS

Cash Accounts

100 · Wells Fargo Checking	22,529.91
110 · Wells Fargo Market Rate Account	25,191.25
130 · Bulk Mail Account	393.19
150 · Merrill Lynch Instit.Fund *	4,273,633.34

Total in Cash Accounts 4,321,747.69

Investment Accounts

140 · Fund Investment - TD Ameritrade	862,823.41
Total in Investment Accounts	862,823.41

TOTAL ASSETS* 5,184,571.10

Liabilities and Equities

Liabilities	--0--
Equity	5,184,571.10

Total Liabilities and Equities 5,184,571.10

Cash Flow Report January 1, 2006-April 2007

Inflows

410 · Contributions & Grants	4,138,557.47
420 · 2006 Dues Income	15,210.00
421 · 2007 Dues	10,755.00
422 · 2008 Dues	65.00
440 · Interest - non-Endowment	157,578.33
459 · Portfolio Value Change	48,592.48

Total Income 4,370,758.28

Expense

510 · Library Purchases	66,528.05
520 · Direct Payments to Library	500.00
530 · Newsletter	3,432.77
550 · Miscellaneous Program Expenses	4,544.53
560 · Library Renovation	616,566.62
600 · Management & General Expenses	856.45
610 · Audits	6,000.00
620 · Tax Services	1,288.00
625 · Accounting Software	339.95
640 · Bank Charges (Non-Acquisition)	95.00
650 · Mgt & Gen. Printing & Mailing	1,726.10
660 · Office Supplies	1,001.89
670 · Post Office Box Rental	268.65
680 · Misc. Mgt & General Expenses	1,502.45
700 · Fundraising Expenses	152,147.47

Total Expense 856,797.93

Net Income 3,513,960.35

Ruby Dusek
Acting Treasurer

*Subsequent to the date of this report CLF borrowed \$1.0M against pledges the from Bank of America, secured by our pledges, and deposited \$4.5M with the City of Houston. The loan will be repaid as we collect on our pledges.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2006 could best be described as a challenging year for the Clayton Library Friends (CLF). Much of the CLF Board's time was spent on efforts to renovate the three historic buildings that are part of the Clayton Library complex. A renovation project of this magnitude is a significant undertaking even when the stars align and all of the pieces fall neatly into place. We have

learned that the difficulty increases exponentially when they do not. During 2006, we encountered a series of obstacles that slowed the progress of the renovation and tested the determination and creativity of the CLF Board.

Early on, Glassman Shoemake Maldonado Architects, Inc. (GSM) was engaged as the architect for the project. CLF then entered into a contract with the City of Houston (the City) permitting CLF to oversee the project. Finally, CLF engaged W.S. Bellows Construction Corporation (Bellows) as general contractor for the project. It appeared that we were off to the races.

As we began the first stage of construction, we encountered a highly technical issue relating to insurance coverage. The details will make your eyes gloss over. The issue arose because a contractor was performing work for CLF on a building that CLF did not own and could not insure. It took more than two months of very difficult negotiations and hard work to find a solution

Continued on Page 3

From the Editor

F.Y.I.
Claudia M. Grafton

This long awaited issue is a compilation of articles from the first half of this year. The process of completing and getting any issue to the membership has been a long and winding road. I sincerely apologize for the non-existent February issue and the tardy May issue. The situation was such that, in all areas, the process just did not come together. As the editor, I am accountable and I deeply regret the inconvenience to the CLF members.

I'm relieved to report that there are changes in the air and, like our Clayton House, the newsletter will be a "work in progress" with format changes and upgrades to better accommodate CLF's needs. The August issue will be mailed out the last week in July.

Members may contact me with concerns, questions, or comments pertaining to any past, present or future activities of the CLF newsletter claudiamg10@gmail.com. I should also be at the CLF August Meeting to meet you and answer any questions.

cmg

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Second Vice**President**

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Clayton Library**Manager**

Susan Kaufman

Clayton Library

Asst. Manager

Lesley Douthwaite



President's Message from Page 2 CLF could afford. The City was very cooperative and their cooperation was the key to finding a solution. We also had a great deal of help from Charles Comiskey, an independent insurance consultant who, at no cost to CLF, guided CLF's Board through these discussions and helped verify information received from the City's insurance broker.

During that same period our fundraising efforts "hit the wall" and donations seemed to dry up. Two primary factors contributed to this. First, the twin storms of Katrina and Rita had drained the resources of many foundations (at least in the short run). Second, many large foundations were troubled that the City was not involved in this project and indicated that they would only be willing to help CLF with the renovation if the City became involved and made a substantial contribution.

CLF's fundraising team of Harriett Latimer, Sheila Turner, and Tom Herren sprang into action. They arranged for a "hard hat" party in the main house and invited supporters of the Clayton Library, civic and community leaders, heads of charitable foundations, and other "movers and shakers". Mayor Bill White and his wife Andrea attended the "hard hat" party and the Mayor made a short speech referring to the Clayton Library as the "best kept secret in Houston". The fund raising team followed up with many of those who attended and they also paid a visit to councilwoman Ada Edwards. At the insistence of Ms. Edwards and Mayor White, the City's building services department scheduled a meeting with representatives of the CLF Board to begin discussing the ways in which the City could contribute to the project.

After a series of meetings and detailed discussions, the City agreed to (a) attempt to reduce the cost of the project by inviting other contractors to bid on the

entire project, and (b) contribute \$1,000,000 towards the purchase of furniture, fixtures, and equipment. The City now uses a "best value" bidding process rather than a "low bid" bidding process and felt that it could locate a quality contractor at a reasonable price. We discussed the City's bidding process with our existing contractor (Bellows) and it declined to bid on a City project, based on a long-standing company policy. However, Bellows graciously agreed to terminate its contract and assist CLF with the transition to a new contractor.

When the bidding process was complete, the City proposed Workman Commercial Construction Services, Ltd. (Workman) as the winning bidder. Workman's references were exceptional and they appeared to have the right experience to do the job. However, they were in fact the low bidder. Because their bid was significantly lower than the other bids, CLF and the City undertook some additional due diligence to determine whether Workman had missed something in the bidding process or whether they could actually do the work for the amount that they had bid. That due diligence has been completed and the City and the CLF Board are now comfortable with Workman's bid. However, we will keep on eye on them.

Just as things were looking up, Congress passed a law that truly threatened the renovation project. The Pension Protection Act (the PPA) negatively affected the ability of CLF (along with other non-profit organizations) to receive money from private foundations. This put a freeze on both our current grant requests and on the payment of outstanding pledges (which affected our ability to monetize those pledges through bank financing). We went back to the City to explain the problem and again began searching for a solution. We identified several options but they were all problematic and none would truly solve the problem.

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President's Message from Page 3

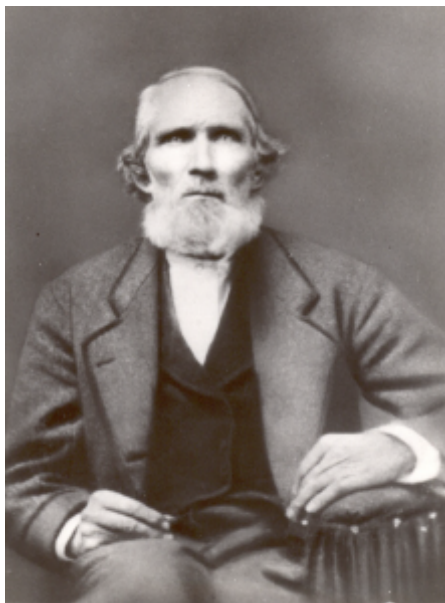
Fortunately (or unfortunately) we were not alone. The PPA affected the fundraising efforts of more than 50% of the non-profits in the United States. Following the deafening outcry from the non-profit community, in late November of 2006, the Internal Revenue Service and the U.S. Treasury Department issued interim guidelines permitting private foundations to rely on a law firm's "reasoned opinion" that CLF was a "functionally integrated type III supporting organization" and is therefore eligible to receive donations from private foundations. CLF's board contacted the tax department at Porter & Hedges, L.L.P. who agreed to undertake the task of drafting this opinion. That opinion has now been completed and is being circulated to the foundations to which CLF has submitted requests and those which have already made pledges.

While 2006 was a somewhat frustrating and distracting year for the CLF Board, we managed to weather each storm and overcome each obstacle. The stars are now beginning to align and the pieces are beginning to fall into place. By early May, we should have in place all of the necessary contracts and all of the funding sources to

begin the renovation in earnest. We re-start construction in mid-May and it is anticipated that construction will be complete by May 2008. At that time, the City will step in and will purchase, deliver, and install the furniture, fixtures and equipment. We anticipate that part of the project will be completed sometime during the mid-summer of 2008 and that the renovated complex will be open and functioning sometime in September of 2008.

With all of this (almost) behind us, the CLF Board intends to refocus its energies in 2007 to concentrate on its core mission of supporting the Clayton Library by acquiring books and materials, providing volunteer service, supporting genealogical research, and working with the Houston Public Library on a modest public relations campaign to help brand the Clayton Library and increase its profile in the community. As I said before, at the "Hard hat" party Mayor Bill White referred to the Clayton Library as the "best kept secret in Houston". One of our objectives in 2007 is to let a few more people in on that secret.

Cluster Genealogy from Page 1 then) revealed several Isaac Crooms in the state, sometimes two in the same county. The key was my



Issac Croom Jr. 1821- 89

grandfather's statement years before that he was raised by two sisters, Clarkey and Theodocia. Only one Isaac had daughters by these names and a wife named Ann. I verified the couple as my ancestors by studying county records and learned that Ann's maiden name was Robertson. Fortunately, Isaac distinguished himself from his uncle Isaac (Sr.) by calling himself Isaac Jr in documents. This initial

experience taught me the value of including siblings and other relatives in research.

Genealogists appropriately begin their quest with themselves and work back in time, generation by generation. However, sometimes we need to work alternately forward and backward. Such was my search for a man named Charles whose whereabouts after 1922 were unknown. Because of his very common surname, studying him in the context of his family was imperative in separating him from numerous others of the same name. Thus, I used his family's tradition of where he and his parents had lived to research backward to identify his parents, siblings, and grandparents-an essential family cluster. The study then moved forward again, focused on these relatives. Finally, obituaries for his parents and siblings helped me pinpoint his location in the late 1920s, find his 1930 city directory and census entries, and approximate his death date in the late 1940s.

The cluster approach is especially helpful in studying families before 1850, the first year that US census records named household members. For example, the process of discovering the parents and siblings of Ferdinand G. Coleman in early 19th-century Cumberland County, Virginia,

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Cluster Genealogy from Page 4

involved land and probate records of several men and women named Coleman and Allen. Six different records created within the family cluster between 1817 and 1850 combined to connect Ferdinand with his parents-Elliott and Elizabeth Coleman-and his nine siblings and provided the married names of two sisters. Each record alone would have given only a partial picture of the family. Several documents named Ferdinand within the group to assure me that I had identified the correct family.

Case Study with Multiple Clusters. My female forebear Elizabeth C. (nee -?-) married her second husband and my 3rd -great-uncle (my grandfather's great-uncle), Isaac Croom Sr., in Caddo Parish, Louisiana, in 1846. My goal was to identify Elizabeth's first husband, who was my ancestor. Knowing only his surname-Robertson, Robertson, Robinson, or Robison-from studying Elizabeth and their children, I began with the obvious choice: people of these surnames in Caddo Parish. However, this same-surname cluster suggested no connection to Elizabeth and yielded no clues to her first husband's identity. Second, I studied Isaac Croom's neighbors and men with whom he had land dealings or who witnessed his various transactions. Was one related to Elizabeth or could any lead me to her first spouse? Most provided no clues to the mystery husband, but I held ten men in reserve since I was not finding enough records to eliminate them from consideration.

Meanwhile, I turned to Georgia, Elizabeth's reported birthplace, to survey Robertsons (and variations) in the 1840 census. (This census named only heads of household

and grouped everyone into age brackets.) Ninety households met the criteria that fit Elizabeth's family that year (at least a husband, wife about 30-32 and a daughter about age five); studying these narrowed the possible matches to 35 families. In the process of researching them, I investigated Georgia marriage records. Could I find a Robertson (or variation) who married an Elizabeth C. between 1824 and 1835? Today I could search an online marriage index quickly, but this research was done pre-Internet. I finally discovered that Thomas Robertson of Putnam County, one of the 35 possibilities in the census cluster, had married an Elizabeth C. Arnold there in 1833. Were these my ancestors? The county marriage record named no witnesses who might have helped answer the question..

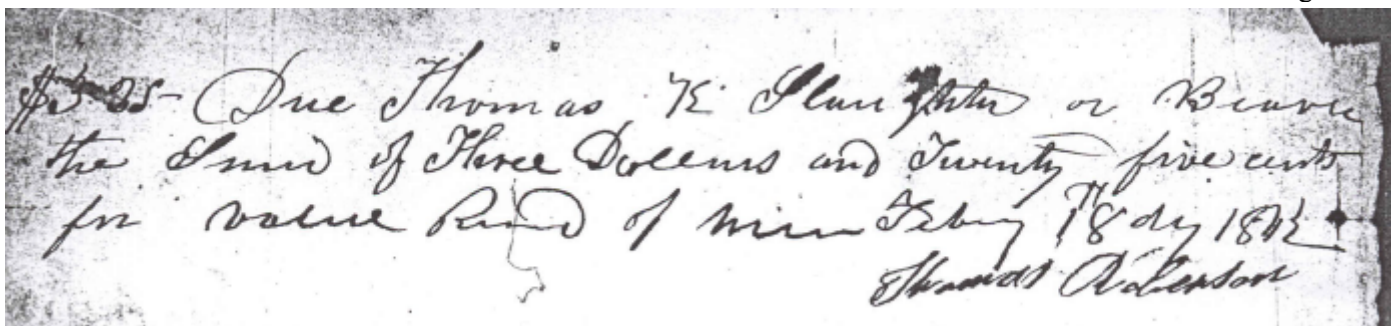


Ferdinand G. Coleman

However, one member of the reserve cluster in Louisiana was also an Arnold-James A. Arnold, who had witnessed Elizabeth's marriage to Isaac Croom. Were they related? Georgia records revealed that Arnold had married there in 1832, was enumerated in Putnam County in 1840, and about 1842 moved to Louisiana where he died in 1850, with his death reported in that year's federal mortality schedule. James was of age to be Elizabeth's brother. His widow died several years later, leaving five young children. Her succession (probate) file showed the legal description of their farm, its corner adjoining a corner of Isaac Croom's land. Thus they were near neighbors, but I had found no record of Arnold's acquisition in parish or federal land records. Also, Elizabeth's son was named Thomas James Robertson. Was this coincidence or an important clue?

Thus, the fourth cluster for study became James A. Arnold and Thomas Robertson. Could I find any interaction between these two men to sug-

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Robertson Note-1842



Cluster Genealogy from Page 5 gest or confirm that the Elizabeth C. Robertson Croom in Louisiana was the same as Elizabeth C. (Arnold) Robertson in Georgia? Putnam County land records provided no answers. However, an 1838 tax record showed Thomas Robison of that county paying tax "as agent of" James A. Arnold. This was important! Usually people who paid taxes on behalf of others were their attorneys, legal representatives, estate executors, business partners, or relatives. Which was it in this case? Then, the county's 1838 court minutes indicated that James A. Arnold, Thomas Robinson, and Elizabeth C., his wife, had filed a lawsuit against one "Chole" (Chloe) Allen. I needed that record! If the suit was between business partners, Elizabeth wouldn't have been a party to the case. Thus, it seemed to be a family affair, but additional case files didn't exist.

Chloe Allen's 1841 will, available on microfilm, named two married daughters but no other relatives. However, serendipity stepped in. The same roll of microfilm contained the will and probate file of Chloe's husband, James Allen, a new player in this drama, who had died in 1816. His will named one of his daughters as Elizabeth (Allen) Arnold, and the file contained the legal document I needed—a statement from the court explaining that James A[llen?] Arnold, Thomas Roberson, and Elizabeth C., his wife, were due property under Allen's will and had filed a lawsuit against his widow, Chloe, to recover that inheritance. The only way they would have been Allen's heirs was that James and Elizabeth were the children of Allen's deceased daughter Elizabeth (Allen) Arnold. Since Elizabeth (Arnold) Robertson was a married woman, her husband would receive her inheritance for her. This was my proof.

Probate records also revealed Thomas Robertson's death in 1842, just after Elizabeth's brother James A. Arnold moved to Louisiana. Several IOUs in the probate file revealed that Thomas signed his name Roberson. The file also suggested that Elizabeth remained in Putnam County for a time before taking her children to Louisiana, apparently to live with her brother. There she met and married their close neighbor, Isaac Croom, with her brother as witness. These two Elizabeths were indeed one person.

This research took place over a period of years, but when I focused on Elizabeth Robertson Croom as a priority and addressed various clusters of people with whom she had or may have had contact, I achieved positive results in about 18 months (researching around work and real life). To this day, the only records online that would have contributed to my results are federal censuses, the 1850 mortality schedule, and a Georgia marriage index. The land, court, tax, marriage, probate, and other records I used were originals in county/parish courthouses and on microfilm rented from the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Much is possible if you are willing to hunt, but the hunt is much more efficient and logical when you approach it by considering the people around your ancestor.

When you sort out same-name individuals, work with common surnames, encounter the lack or destruction of desirable records, or feel frustrated by unanswered questions, tap into the details of the family and other people in your ancestors' circle. Develop the healthy habit of thinking "cluster" as you plan and research. You may be amazed at your new perspectives and successes.

*Emily Croom is an active genealogy researcher, lecturer, teacher, and author. Her books include *The Sleuth Book for Genealogists* (2000) and *Unpuzzling Your Past* (4th ed., 2001). Visit her website at www.unpuzzling.com.*

Volunteer Report

Volunteer Report

Dear Volunteers,

I am happy and excited to be taking on the new duties of Staff Volunteer Coordinator at the Clayton Library, and am looking forward to meeting you all and working with Manager Sue Kaufman and the Clayton Library Friends to develop volunteer projects that are both useful and engaging. We will begin the new year by introducing some new projects that interested volunteers may participate in, and we hope to be able to offer a nice variety of projects so that there will be something for everyone. Stay tuned for

more information! Our first special project of the year, a 1 500-page photocopying project, was completed in record time thanks go out to Glen and Sharon Cress, Gus Marks, and Don White for participating, and also to all those who offered to help. If you are new to volunteering at Clayton and would like to get involved, please fill out a volunteer application available at the library's front desk, and we will let you know whenever general or project-specific volunteer training sessions are available. Again, stay tuned for more information it promises to be an exciting year!

What's new at the Clayton Library



Susan Kaufman

Welcome to summer! There were times in January and February when it seemed like I was back up North...frost on the plants, on the car, windshields, and there were days we even had to wear a coat! But now the days have given back to sunny skies, and hot, but bearable temperatures.

Summer brings the thoughts of family history research trips. Planning a trek to a cemetery? Going to a family reunion this

year? Well, the Clayton Library is the place to start your footwork, searching through indexes and sources, finding relationships, and finding locations of our ancestors. We can help you find your family, just ask us!

NEW COPIER SYSTEM

2007 has brought a few changes to the Clayton Library. One of the major changes is the way photocopies are made. When you come to the library, you will need to bring your HPL PowerCard and your library card. Our new copier system requires you to have a library card or a specific computer/copy card. Both of these cards are available for free at the library. Instead of putting money on to the white copy cards as in the past, you will now put money on your library card to make copies. Microfilm copies are still made with a quarter as the new system does not affect microfilm copies. The staff at Clayton will be very happy to explain and show you the new paper copier system when you come to the library. Please remember to bring small denominations of bills, since we don't have change at the library. We do have a change machine that gives quarters for microfilm copies.

CLAYTON IS A WIRELESS INTERNET SITE

Clayton is now a wireless internet site. This means you can bring your laptop and access all the library databases from a library table. There is no need to use our computer terminals for your research. There are a number of tables on the main floor and in some locations upstairs in microprint area where you can plug in your laptop. try it, it's wonderful.

NEW CLAYTON BOOKS LISTED ON THE HPL WEBSITE

And finally, ever wonder what new books we have received recently at Clayton? Well, now you can find out. New books now can be viewed via the HPL online catalog. Visit the Houston Public Library website at www.houstonlibrary.org, click on the "Catalog" tab at the top. Notice the top of the page in red is listed "New Titles! "click on that link; go to the second page where". New Genealogy Titles at Clayton is listed. Click on that link and voilá, you will be able to see what titles have come to Clayton in the past month. This is very exciting information we are proud to be able to offer you. Thanks to our Technical Services Department for working to get that out for you.

So, before you set out on that trip, go to the HPL catalog website to see what is new at Clayton, bring your library card and your laptop to Caroline street to do your homework to make the most of your time and your efforts on your trip.

Remember, if you have any questions, or need any help; please ask any of our staff. We are here to help you to be successful. We look forward to seeing you at Clayton this Summer!!!

Happy researching!

Susan Kaufman

Acquisitions - Susan Kaufman (an excerpt from Susan Kaufman)

Dear Mr. Dorroh and Members...

...The January-December 2006 Clayton Library Friends gift report is attached. This report includes lists of gifts donated by and through Clayton Library Friends for the calendar year 2006. Thanks to the generosity of the Friends, Clayton Library received approximately 1,021 items from CLF for the year: 188 books, 146 periodicals, and 687 microfilm items. We received approximately 416 items through the Friends: 106 books, 264 periodicals, and 46 microform items. In addition, we were given US and Texas flags and vertical file materials.

So the Friends will know which books obtained through their efforts have been returned to the Library from processing during 2006, we are also providing that list. Books that were cataloged correctly should be on the shelf and available for the customers to use. Approximately 310 books were processed this year. As always, your generous support of Clayton Library is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Susan Kaufman



Connect the Past with the Future

Buy A Brick Paver Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research

Connect the Past with the Future
One Brick at a Time

The Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, one of the largest municipal genealogical libraries in America, has the opportunity through this \$6.1 million construction campaign to:

- * Add 2,500 linear feet of shelving
- * Add 7,150 square feet of floor space
- * Open a new conference area for community use with seating for 100
- * Preserve the historic Clayton home built in 1917 by noted architect Birdsall P. Briscoe. William Lockhart Clayton and his wife Susan Vaughan Clayton were community leaders in 20th century Houston. Mr. Clayton is recognized for his authorship of the post-WWII Marshall Plan.
- * Renovate two other historic structures, the Guest House and Carriage House, on a campus dedicated to teaching our history to future generations.

You are invited to be a part of the Clayton Library Friends Campaign in their effort to "Connect the Past with the Future One Brick at a Time."

All gifts are tax deductible. For further information, please visit our website claytonlibraryfriends.org or call 713-526-5397 or 713-789-6535



Personally engraved bricks will be located on a new walk connecting the Clayton Library to the historic campus of the William Lockhart Clayton Home.

Brick (4x8)	\$250
3 lines max 22 characters per line	
Brick (8x8)	\$250
6 lines max 22 characters per line	
Keepsake Brick	\$125
Duplicate Brick half price	
Keepsake Brick	\$500
Duplicate Brick half price	

CLAYTON FAMILY HOUSE REMODELING

By Ernesto L. Maldonado, AIA, Glassman Shoemaker Maldonado Architects

The Clayton Family House Remodeling includes all three buildings on the original site and re-planting of the gardens north of the parking lot at Clayton Library. The Main House is on the Texas Historical Register and will be remodeled in compliance with maintaining that designation as required by the City of Houston. Other restrictions that apply to this remodeling are City of Houston Building Code, Texas Accessibility Standards, Americans with Disabilities Act, Texas Energy Code, and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) requirements.

The original red brick, dark green shutters, and white wood trim and plaster of the Main House will be maintained. They set the palette for the two new additions. The first floor will be returned more closely to the original finishes of the house, as will the second floor central hall. The first floor living room and back porch are currently programmed to accommodate 2000 linear feet of shelving and vertical file storage. Plans are being made to furnish the existing wood paneled "library" of the house as Mr. William Claytons' home office to more clearly tell the story of his national stature

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Clayton Family House Remodeling from Page 8



GROUND BREAKING Left-to-right is Building Services Manager Issa Dadoush, Nick Sorensen, Councilwoman Ada Edwards, Harriet Lattimer, HPL Director Dr. Rhea Lawson, and Suan Clayton Garwood.

during the Great Depression and international impact on the Marshall Plan for Europe after WWII. Most spaces on the second floor are programmed to accommodate current library functions.

The Guest House will be used for technical and computer training and office space for non-profit organizations such as the Clayton Library Friends. It will have an accessible restroom and air conditioning which will make the spaces fully functional. The only major addition to the Guest House will be the elevator shaft and lobby on the San Jacinto side of the building which will create a new "front door" that will be accessed from the existing back porch.



CLF Charter Member and President Emeritus Ginny Toney Speaking at the Ground Breaking Ceremony.

The Carriage House will be changed the most. The ground floor will contain a 100-person meeting room, which required a sizable addition that will cover the current driveway slab south of the Carriage House. Part of the interior second floor will be used for mechanical purposes and part will be removed to add a two-story volume to rear portion of the meeting room. Removing part of the interior second floor also allows the dormer windows to light the room from above.

Additions to both the Guest House and Carriage House will be clad in white brick to distinguish the new construction from the old. This approach to historical renovation has been encouraged by historic preservation groups in order not to confuse future visitors as to what is original and what is new. In addition to this, the white brick will help mitigate the heat gain on those structures, which will help the project attain the thirty-three points required for LEED silver certification, the energy and environment designation required by the City of Houston.

The majestic oak trees that surround the property, while not original to the gardens, will be maintained, as will the front palm trees. The raised planting be maintained and ornamental plantings of the period will be used to bring heritage roses, trees and shrubs back to the gardens. The Clayton family assisted in the garden design by contributing a 1929 edition of the *River Oaks Garden Book* with plant lists that were available at the time. The gardens can serve as venues for weddings, receptions or special events, possibly with tents for catering or additional meeting spaces on the gracious lawns.



GROUND BREAKING Master of Ceremonies CLF President Nick Sorensen

With an average of 1100 Members CLF has provided quarterly topical seminars for members, and guests, purchased new acquisitions for the library, arranged volunteer activity for library, sponsored and coordinated the Clayton House renovation project, contributed over \$2.2 million to Clayton Library, contributed thousands of volunteer hours to library on annual basis (in 2005 over 8000 volunteer

hours equals the equivalent of 2 librarians), provided fundraising to achieve long term acquisition goals, presented on-going educational programs, participated in national and state genealogical society activities, Co-Hosted the March 2007 Genealogical Conference featuring nationally known speaker and director of National Archives Institute of Genealogical Research, Claire Mire Bettag



Angels Report

Liz Hicks

ANGELS NEEDED

We are happy to report ALL of our Angel subscriptions have been spoken for except *Family Tree Magazine* (monthly publication with CD on the United Kingdom). If you wish to become an Angel by sponsoring this periodical for Clayton, please send \$85.00 (check or money order) to CLF, PO Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078. Please write "Angel" on your check. If you wish your donation to be made in memory or honor of someone, please include a note to that affect.

Anyone wishing to make a donation for missing back issues of various periodicals needed by Clayton Library, or for binding, may do so by contacting Liz Hicks, phone: (713) 944-1118 or e-mail: erootrot@usa.net.

Those friends who have earned their wings and our gratitude since our November newsletter are:

Karen Acker, renewal subscription to "Georgia Settlers".

Patsy Andrews, renewal of "Georgia Genealogical Society Quarterly", in honor of Dorothy Doyle Andrews; "Families" (Ontario Gen. Society), in honor of Janet Tyler Fox Families; and "Central Georgia Genealogical Society", in memory of Thomas Gilbert Andrews.

Jack Calkins, renewal of "Clarke County Alabama Historical Society Quarterly".

John L. Davis, renewal to "Clark County, Arkansas, Historical Association. in memory of Allen Syler, a long time contributor to the association.

Vernon G. Gillette, donation to the Angel Program.

Bruce Krewinghaus, new subscription for a former exchange, "St. Louis Genealogical Society Quarterly"; and new subscription to "Branching Out" (Marissa Historical & Genealogical Society of Marissa, IL), plus back issues.

Dr. James L. Lewis, 2007 renewal to the "Prairie Gleaner" (West Central Missouri Genealogical Society).

The Polish Genealogical Society of Texas renewed "Polish Footprints".

Johnnie R. Shepard, renewal to the "Montgomery Alabama Genealogical Society Quarterly", in honor of Beatrice Shepard.

Maureen Singleton, renewals to the "Wisconsin State Genealogical Society Newsletter", and "Gems of Genealogy" Wisconsin in memory of Henry Jeremiah Murphy, Sr.

Myron F. Steves, renewals to "Lifelines" (Northern New York American-Canadian Genealogy Society) in memory of his Dockstader ancestors of New York; and "MASSOG" (Massachusetts) in memory of Lieutenant Aaron Holbrook, his revolutionary patriot ancestor from Massachusetts.

NIGR DIRECTOR BRINGS RESEARCH TIPS TO TEXAS

In March of this year Claire Mire Bettag, director of NARA's National Institute of Genealogical Research (NIGR), Washington, D.C., presented a series of four lectures to over 100 members of the Texas genealogical community. Co-sponsored by Clayton Library Friends (CLF) and the Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS), Ms. Bettag dined on Friday evening with board members and officers of several local genealogical and heritage societies. Saturday, March 24, 2007, the former *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, co-editor and Samford IGHR Program Coordinator, presented problem solving and research techniques to interested participants who joined the group from as far away as Refugio, Victoria, Garland, and Austin, Texas. Susan Kaufman, Clayton Library Manager, Alice Braud-Jones, and a team of CLF/BAGS volunteers were instrumental in the organization and logistics, contributing to the seminar's resounding success. It is an ongoing goal of CLF and BAGS to provide outstanding educational opportunities in the future, and both boards welcome ideas and participation from society members.



Claire Mire Bettag



CLF BULLETIN BOARD

The Friends of Clayton Library are updating the Website and we would like to have several volunteers help work out any problems. Such as suggestions for making it easy to use and promotion of genealogical research.

We have engaged a new website support provider, Expletus (you can see examples of their work at www.expletus.net). We intend to give the Website a new look, make it easier to navigate, and increase the ability to access other sites through links on the CLF sites. We

will also provide members and donors with the option of renewing their memberships or making donations by credit card directly through the website.

Your comments or suggestions will be used by the Webmaster for Website improvement. Send them to claytonlibraryfriends@gmail.com

If you can volunteer please contact me, Sam Lusk at navret@hal-pc.org.

TRIP TO SALT LAKE CITY OPPORTUNITY

The Humble Area Genealogical Society has set up their 8th research trip to Salt Lake City, August 1-8, 2007. For more information contact Pam Walton, pjay@sprintmail.com or call 281-358-6449.



Susan Calyton Garwood,
Clayton Family Foundations at Ceremony



Houston Councilwoman
Ada
Edwards at Ceremony



Issa Dadoush, Drecttor
City of Houshon Building
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**The CLF Newsletter
Staff welcomes
articles from CLFs
members about the
Clayton Library
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ical Research, its
collections, and of
course genealogy.**

NEXT MEETING

Saturday August 11, 2007

Speaker: Susan Kaufman

Topic: Children: A select survey of the records - late 18th thru early 20th centuries. This presentation will offer an overview of societal concepts of children and the records that have been created in which children are prominent. Examples pertaining to this age group will be offered to help in finding family links, a family groups, or to help discover what happened to missing younger family members.

Examples of these sources include:

* Apprenticeship records * Transportation records * Criminal / Court re-

	Jungman Library 5830 Westheimer	Westheimer
Fountain	Richmond	Rock
	159	Chimney

Meeting Begins at 10:15 am at Jungman Library
5830 Westheimer Rd (Key map #491T)



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