

# BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



## BAGS General Meeting

May 24, 2024

at 7:00pm, Live Virtual (Zoom)

**Larry W. Thomas - *Two Colonial Georgias:  
Understanding History Helps Finding Records***

**Many people know** Georgia was originally a Trusteeship, but what did that mean? Understanding a state's pre-statehood government will help you locate and understand records. This one-hour presentation will explain the two distinct government entities that controlled Georgia before the American Revolution and where to find records.

**Larry W. Thomas** began his Genealogy Research 30 years ago with his own Thomas Family, Georgia residents since the 1750s. He then added the rest of his and his late wife's families before beginning to research for clients in 2008, operating [atlantagenealogy.com](http://atlantagenealogy.com). A graduate of ProGen 38 and member of the National Genealogical Society, Association of Professional Genealogists, Genealogy Speakers Guild, and Gwinnett Historical Society, he serves on the Board of the Georgia Genealogical Society, and a past president of the Cobb County Genealogy Society. He had the distinct pleasure of assisting on several episodes of the TV show Finding Your Roots, hosted by Dr. Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Larry is a retired US Army Captain with 23 years in the field of Aviation, Transportation, and Logistics. He has a BA in Aviation Maintenance Management, an FAA airplane mechanic license, and earned an MBA in Management Information Systems from Southern Polytechnic State University while working for the US Army Reserves as a Project Manager, earning his Certification as a Project Management Professional from the Project Management Institute in 2013.

This meeting registration is located on the [BAGS website](http://BAGS website).

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Learning Opportunities  
Social Media Links  
BAGS Partnerships  
Clayton Library Partner Links

# BAGS BUSINESS | INFORMATION

## 2024 BAGS OFFICERS

### President

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vacant

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Statement of Activity as of April 1, 2024

Checking Account	\$4,318.06
Saving Account	\$11,880.12
PayPal	\$356.23
Undeposited Funds	\$95.00
Total Monetary Assets	\$16,649.41

## Welcome New BAGS Members: Sandy Gurganious, Debra Hill, Diane Burkeen, Howard Ostman and Shirley Gardner

### Additional points of contact:

Don't know the Members Page password?

[registrar@txbayareagen.org](mailto:registrar@txbayareagen.org) – George Porterfield

Research questions or to provide research assistance:

[education@txbayareagen.org](mailto:education@txbayareagen.org) – Kathleen Williams

Have an article or idea to share with the Society?

[newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org) – Cindy Austin

Submit information for the Journal:

[journal@txbayareagen.org](mailto:journal@txbayareagen.org) – Todd Roberts

Ideas on where or how to advertise BAGS:

[publicity@txbayareagen.org](mailto:publicity@txbayareagen.org) – Terri Myers

Not receiving emails?

[emailcoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:emailcoord@txbayareagen.org) – Fred Roe

Want to go on the Clayton Bus trip?

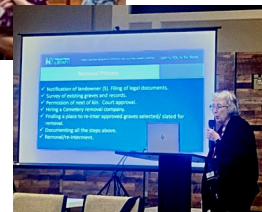
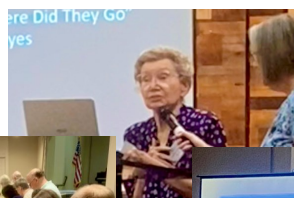
[countycoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:countycoord@txbayareagen.org) – email for reservation

Submit your pedigree chart to:

[pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org](mailto:pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org) – completed pedigrees/questions

## April Members Meeting Potluck and Presentation

The BAGS April meeting, with members' appreciation awards and presentation, *Cemetery Removal: Where Did It Go?* by Melissa Hayes was very well attended and thoroughly enjoyed by everyone! The hospitality committee provided delicious pot roast with vegetables and chicken with white rice. Charter Member, **Jeanine Lawrence**, lead us in a brief "genealogical" devotional and gave thanks for the potluck meal. **Melissa Hayes**, Assistant Manager at the Clayton Library, amazed us with her knowledge of records, research, and resources! Her presentation handout and slide notes will be available on the Members Meeting page of the website during the month of May!



This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Bay Area Genealogical Society, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the people of Harris and Galveston counties, Texas, who are interested in genealogy. Articles on genealogy are welcome. Inclusion is based on space available and is subject to editing. Please include permissions with copyrighted material submissions. Questions or comments about the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to the Editor at [newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org). All rights reserved.

# MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS GROUPS

## Members Helping Members (MHM)

### **Online Research – Session #1 & #2**

#1 Mondays, 10:00am to 12:00pm

with [Reneé Ball](#) & [George Porterfield](#)

#2 Mondays, 7:00pm to 8:00pm

with [Kim Zrubek](#) & friends



Do you need assistance with your family tree or a genealogical brick wall? BAGS members can participate in virtual MHM sessions via *Zoom*. Participants may share their screens and demonstrate recent research findings. Details for connecting to a *Zoom* MHM link are available on the [Members Helping Members page](#).

## **IN-PERSON Education Spotlight Members Helping Members**

**June 12th, 10:30a, DNA with Gale French**

**July 9th, 10:30a, FamilySearch part 2**

**August 7th, 10:30a, Newspapers**

At a **Research Spotlight** MHM meeting, a topic is introduced with a brief presentation followed by hands-on research. There will be a discussion about "how to" and then attendees can practice what has been presented. Several hosting members will be on hand to help attendees and a handout will be provided.

**Education Spotlight** meetings will be held at the **Friendswood Public Library**,  
416 S Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546



Our BAGS German Special Interest Group is **currently on hiatus**. For questions/information you may contact [George Porterfield](#). Members are encouraged to utilize our other Members Helping Members events for further research help with German Ancestry.

## **Family Tree Maker Now by Appointment Only**

If you would like help with Family Tree Maker MHM or need to ask questions about how the software works and interacts with other genealogical sources, you can now make appointments directly with our FTM guru, [Reneé Ball](#). Help with technical concerns, such as software upgrading and exporting files, is also available. Connection details are on BAGS [Members Helping Members page](#).



## **Still Need Help?**

Complete the [BAGS Help Desk Form](#) and email it to [Kathleen Williams, Education Chairman](#). She will respond to discuss your research needs!



**INTERNATIONAL GERMAN**  
Genealogy Partnership

Bay Area Genealogical Society is proud to be members of:  
**National Genealogical Society,**  
**Texas State Genealogical Society, Clayton Library Friends,**  
*and*  
**International German Genealogy Partnership**



# VOLUNTEERING WITH BAGS

Volunteer Appreciation Month was celebrated at our April members' meeting. President Teresa Rundell thanked all BAGS volunteers for their contributions and highlighted two special individuals, **Karen Engelauf** for her work starting and co-hosting the BAGS *German Special Interest Group* and **Renee Ball** for beginning and working diligently as the host of the *Family Tree Makers Members Helping Members* group.



## **Volunteer Opportunity – County Coordinator!!**

BAGS needs a County Coordinator! This FUN position doesn't require much time, outside of the bus trip to Clayton Library and minimal planning. The County Coordinator schedules 4-6 bus trips per year. Two BAGS members currently serve as backups and assist the County Coordinator as needed.

### **The County Coordinator:**

- Works with Harris County to schedule each bus trip.
- Communicates upcoming dates to the board for publications.
- Tracks attendance. **A minimum of ten attendees is required for Harris County bus usage guidelines.**
- Sends reminders to attendees.
- Maintains all usage agreements and emergency forms.
- Takes attendance (at the beginning and end of the trip) to ensure all attendees are accounted for.

Interested? Please contact Kathleen at [education@txbayareagen.org](mailto:education@txbayareagen.org) for more information.

## **BAGS Day at Clayton Library**

**Sat, June 15th @ 10:30am - 4:00pm**

Mark your calendars and meet us at the [Clayton Library](#) to do genealogy research together! We have booked the conference room, at the front of the library, just for BAGS members. Please email, text, or call [Kathleen Williams](#) if you need a ride. Several members have offered to drive and will meet you at a local library (Freeman or Friendswood) to carpool into Houston together!

## **UPCOMING GENEALOGY EVENTS**

- ⇒ **Discover Pathways to Family History, Evelyn Meador Library, Thursday, May 2nd, 1:00pm.**
- ⇒ **Genealogy Roundtable, Friendswood Library, Wednesday, May 15th, 2:00pm.**
- ⇒ **Brookdale Genealogy Presentation, Tuesday, May 21, 1:00pm.**
- ⇒ **BAGS Day at Clayton Library, Saturday, carpooling available! June 15th, 10:30am – 4:00pm.**

## **Board Meetings**

All BAGS Board Meetings are virtual [via Zoom](#). Members are welcome to attend! If you would like to attend a meeting, request a link from [info@txbayareagen.org](mailto:info@txbayareagen.org)

### **2024 Meetings**

*May 20*

*June 24*

*July 22*

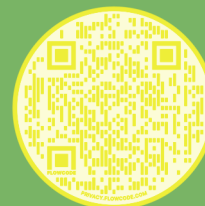
*August 19*

Board meetings are on Mondays at 6:30pm. Board meeting minutes are available on the Members Page of the BAGS website.

*Follow BAGS on Facebook!*

[Facebook Group \(members only\)](#)

[Facebook Page \(public page\)](#)



[txbayareagen.org/](http://txbayareagen.org/)

# MAY RESEARCH | LIBRARY UPDATES



## Friendswood FamilySearch Center

**In-Person MHM Research Session**

**May 15th, June 19th, July 17th**

**9:30am to 11:30am (for BAGS Members only)**

The Friendswood FamilySearch Center is located at *505 Deseret Dr*, in Friendswood. The entrance is on the side furthest from the street. This MHM session is open to BAGS members ONLY for research.

The center is also open to the public for research during the listed visitor hours below.

**Tues, Thurs, & Fri**      **10:00am – 2:00pm**

**Tues evening**            **7:00pm – 9:00pm**

*This center has access to the FamilySearch Center Portal page, which gives free access to premium family history software and websites that generally charge for subscriptions.*

## League City FamilySearch Center

The League City FamilySearch Center is located at *4655 South Shore Blvd*, in League City. The FamilySearch Center's entrance is on the SE corner, at the back of the building, away from the street.

Use the first entrance off of South Shore Blvd.

The League City FamilySearch Center is open to the public for research:

**Tuesday**                  **7:00pm – 9:00pm**

**Wednesday**            **7:00pm – 9:00pm**

**Saturday**                **10:00am – 12:00pm**

*This center has access to the FamilySearch Center Portal page, which gives free access to premium family history software and websites that generally charge for subscriptions.*

## Clayton Library Sponsored Events

The **Family History Center at the Clayton Library Campus** is open for research! Staff are available to help you get started and to assist you in locating books, microfilms, periodicals, and databases to further your research. You can even visit their NEW YouTube channel [here!](#)

**Scrapbook Preservation online, Friday, May 3, 2024, 2:00 – 3:00pm.** More information and registration [here](#).

**Beginning Your Family History Research, Saturday, May 4, 1:00 – 2:00pm, Jungman Neighborhood Library – in-person event.** More information and registration [here](#).

**CLF Donated Duplicate Booksale – Saturday, May 18, 2024, 11:00a – 3:00p.**

**Scanning Saturdays – May 18, 2024; please call to make an appointment.**

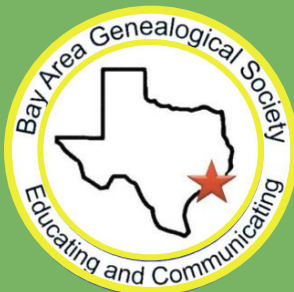
Bring your photos, slides, or documents, and a flash or thumb drive to save your images. Volunteers will be available to help get you oriented to the scanners. *Appointments are available at 10:30a; 12:00p; 1:30p, or 3:00p. Please call 832-393-2600 to reserve your spot!*

**Clayton Library Friends May General Meeting – Saturday, May 18th, 2024, 10:30am – 12:00p.**

*All God's Children: The Enslaved and Their Owners, Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church (1801-1829), Jessamine County, Kentucky* by Janet Miller – More information and registration [here!](#)

Clayton Library Friends Partner Societies | [The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society](#) | [The Bay Area Genealogical Society](#) | [The Baytown Historical Preservation Association](#) | [Galveston County Genealogical Society](#) | [German-Texan Heritage Society](#) | [The Greater Houston Jewish Genealogical Society](#) | [Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston](#) | [The Houston Genealogical Forum](#) | [Houston History Alliance](#) | [The Humble Area Genealogical Society](#) | [League City Historical Society](#) | [The Matagorda County Genealogical Society](#) | [Texas Research Ramblers Genealogical Society](#) |

*Family History Research Center @the Clayton Library, 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004*



# BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

For the latest news and event updates,  
visit our website at [texasbayareagen.org](http://texasbayareagen.org)



May 2024

## Calendar of Events - 2024

### MAY

- 6 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 13 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 15 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 19 4:00p Meet 'n Munch – *BB's Tex-Orleans*  
*1039 W Bay Area Blvd, Friendswood, TX*
- 20 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 24 7:00p MAY Members Meeting (Zoom)  
**Larry W. Thomas: *Two Colonial Georgias***

### JUNE

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*6/31 Focused follow-up: **Two Colonial Georgias***
- 10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 12 10:30a Education Spotlight, *Friendswood Library, Ancestry DNA w/ Gale French*
- 15 10:30a BAGS Day at *Clayton Library, Houston*
- 17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 19 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 7:00p General Meeting (Zoom)  
**J Mark Lowe: *Using That Brick Wall as a Foundation***
- 30 4:00p Meet 'n Munch – *Luby's*  
*20001 Gulf Freeway, Webster, TX*

### JULY

- 1 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*7/24 Focused follow-up: **Using That Brick Wall as a Foundation***
- 8 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 9 10:30a Education Spotlight *Friendswood Library, FamilySearch part 2*
- 15 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 22 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 26 7:00p JULY Members Meeting (Zoom) – TBA
- 28 4:00p Meet 'n Munch – *La Brisa, 501 N. Wesley, League City, TX*
- 29 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2

### AUGUST

- 5 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 7 10:30a Education Spotlight, *Friendswood Library, Newspapers*
- 12 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 19 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 21 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 23 7:00p August Members Meeting – *John Sellers*  
***Researching Your Ancestor's Plot: The Adventures of Courthouse Land Research*** (Zoom)
- 26 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*8/30 Focused follow-up: **The Adventures of Courthouse Land Research***

### SEPTEMBER

- 9 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 16 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 18 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 23 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 12:00p September Members Meeting @ *UBC*  
***Members Show & Tell Presentations & Potluck***
- 30 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2

### OCTOBER

- 7 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 14 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 16 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 21 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 25 12:00p October Members Meeting (Zoom) – TBA
- 27 4:00p Meet 'n Munch, TBA
- 28 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*10/27 Focused follow-up: TBA*