

BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



October 2024
Volume 24
Issue 10

BAGS General Meeting Friday, October 25, 2024 7:00pm (Zoom)

The DAR Genealogy Research System
presented by Carla S. Cegielski



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Special Points of Interest

Social Media Links
BAGS Partnerships
Clayton Library Partner Links

Carla S. Cegielski invites YOU to take a guided tour of the [DAR Genealogical Research System](#) (GRS). The multi-faceted GRS is a genealogical resource available to everyone, offering a variety of indexes, many of which cannot be found anywhere!

Cegielski's a full-time genealogical researcher, lecturer and writer specializing in Ohio, western Pennsylvania, and West Virginia research. A former college instructor, Carla began lecturing on various genealogical topics in 2008. She frequently speaks at genealogical societies, libraries and conferences. She has a special interest in exploring and teaching others about underutilized record collections.

From 2019-24 Carla authored both the Tech Tips column in the NGS Magazine and the NGS [Reading Old Handwriting](#) course. In 2021 she created and coordinated the **Reading, Transcribing, and Abstracting Old Documents** course at the [Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh](#) (GRIP).

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS GROUPS



IN-PERSON Education Spotlight

Oct 15th, 10:30am – Find Your Ancestors in Cemetery Records

Nov 6th, 10:30am – Genealogical Writing

At **Education Spotlight**, topics are introduced with a brief presentation, followed by hands-on “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**.

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

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



FOCUSED Research Session #2

#2 – Mondays, 7:00pm to 8:00pm, with [Kim Zrubek](#) & friends

Monday evening MHM sessions, after a General Meeting (via *Zoom* or in-person), focus on the topic from the previous general meeting. These focused sessions will provide a more detailed overview of specific topics from the general meeting to allow participants to ask additional questions about the presentations. The group will use information and techniques presented in a hands-on approach to participants' actual experiences. The next focused sessions are:

Oct 28th at 7pm – DAR Genealogical Research System Nov 25th at 7pm – Genealogy Writing & AI

More information is available on the [Members Helping Members page](#).



Family Tree Maker – *by Appointment Only*

If you would like help using /installing Family Tree Maker 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](#).

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.



Still Need Help?

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



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

BAGS EVENTS and OPPORTUNITIES

EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Find Your Ancestors in Cemeteries

Tuesday, Oct 15th, 10:30am – Friendswood Library

Finding your ancestors can be more accessible than going to the cemetery; you can find them online in many places! With just a few pieces of information, you can track down the final resting places of your family members in a matter of minutes if you know a few genealogy secrets and tips. We'll discuss sites like Find A Grave, Billion Graves, the Nationwide Gravesite Locator, Internment.net, and JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry. We'll also learn how to locate records on FamilySearch and other genealogy repositories. Please bring your laptop or other device and your research.

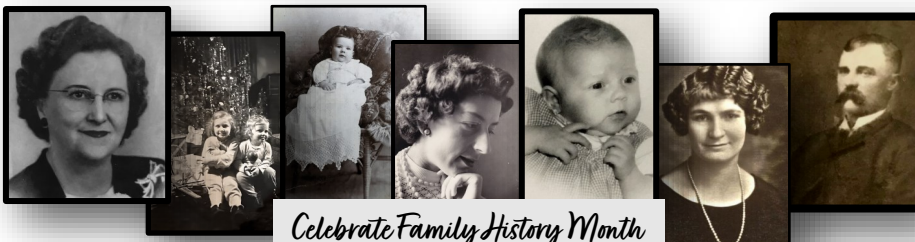
Genealogical Writing –

Climbing the Mountain One Step at a Time

Wednesday, Nov 6th, 10:30am – Friendswood Library

Do you want to leave a narrative of the ancestors discovered while researching your family history? Have you ever asked the question, "Where do I start?" This Genealogical Writing Spotlighting will begin to provide pointers and guidance to help bring a plan together for you!

Join BAGS VP Becky Jones and other society members as we collaborate on best methods for tailoring your family history. Please bring your laptop and your family research to begin this journey!



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

2024 Meetings

October 21

November 18

December – no meeting

2025 Meetings

January 27

February 24

March 24

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

Follow BAGS on Facebook!

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

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



txbayareagen.org/

OCTOBER RESEARCH | LIBRARY UPDATES



Friendswood FamilySearch Center

In-Person MHM Research Session

Oct 16th, and Nov 20th

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

The Friendswood FamilySearch Center is located at *505 Deseret Dr*, in Friendswood. 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:

Tues, Thurs, & Fri 10:00am – 2:00pm
Tues evening 7:00pm – 9:00pm

The center has FREE access to the FamilySearch Center Portal page, with premium family history software.

League City FamilySearch Center

The League City FamilySearch Center is located at *4655 South Shore Blvd*, in League City and is open to the public for research:

Tuesday and Wednesday 7:00pm – 9:00pm
Saturday 10:00am – 12:00pm

The center has FREE access to the FamilySearch Center Portal page, with premium family history software.

Clayton Library 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 in locating books, microfilms, periodicals, and databases to further your research. You can even visit their [YouTube channel!](#)

The Power of Genealogical Periodicals with Aimee Buhr, – Thursday **October 3rd, 1:00-3:00pm** (Hybrid). Explore Clayton Library's unique collection of genealogical periodicals, which covers a wide range of locations, topics, and families. Learn how these specialized publications; historic journals to modern newsletters, are invaluable tools for uncovering ancestral connections, accessing unique records, and staying up to date with the latest research techniques. Discover how to identify periodicals for your areas of interest and where to find them in. Afterwards, staff will be available to assist with any questions that arise as you search for the perfect periodical to further your family history research.

23rd Annual Genealogy Lock-in participant **October 18, 9:00am – 6:00pm**, (Hybrid) The FHRC at Clayton Library joins the Genealogy Network of Texas (GNT) in a state-wide, collaborative genealogy lock-in that connects libraries and genealogical societies and provides educational and research opportunities. This event is co-sponsored by the Central Texas Genealogical Society and spearheaded by the Genealogy Center of the Waco-McLennan County Library. (see pg. 7 for more details)

CLF Book Sale and Scanning Saturdays – **October 19, 11:00am – 3:00pm**, Call 832-393-2600 to reserve your spot to scan photos and documents! (repeating events)

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](#) | [West Houston Area Genealogical Society](#)

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

BAGS BUSINESS | INFORMATION



Statement of Activity as of September 1, 2024

Checking Account	\$2,625.16
Saving Account	\$12,165.18
Total Monetary Assets	\$14,790.34

MEET 'n MUNCH

Please join us at our next Meet 'n Munch at the following locations!

October 27th – Craft 96,
2575 E League City Pkwy, League City

November 17th – Kelley's Country Cookin'
1502 W. Main St., League City
4pm Sundays (food on your own)



Volunteer Opportunities!!

At the July BAGS General Meeting, President Teresa Rundell announced volunteers are needed for two important BAGS positions. The first need is a **delegate to the National Genealogical Society (NGS)**. As a delegate, a member will be the official representative of BAGS to NGS and also the primary contact to NGS. Interested persons should contact Teresa at president@txbayareagen.org for more information.

The second position is **County Coordinator**. The County Coordinator schedules trips to the Clayton Library. Two BAGS members currently serve as backups to assist the County Coordinator as needed. If you are interested in this position you can contact Kathleen Williams at education@txbayareagen.org for more information.

Teresa encouraged members to consider volunteering for either position!

Additional points of contact:

Don't know the Members Page password?

registrar@txbayareagen.org – George Porterfield

Research questions or provide research assistance:

education@txbayareagen.org – Kathleen Williams

Have an article or idea to share?

newsletter@txbayareagen.org – Cindy Austin

Submit information for the Journal:

journal@txbayareagen.org – Todd Roberts

Ideas for BAGS advertising:

publicity@txbayareagen.org – Terri Myers

Not receiving emails?

emailcoord@txbayareagen.org – Fred Roe

Submit your pedigree chart to:

pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org – pedigrees/questions

2024 BAGS OFFICERS

President

Teresa Rundell

president@txbayareagen.org

First Vice President

Jane Martin

vicepresident@txbayareagen.org

Second Vice President

Becky Jones

vicepresident2@txbayareagen.org

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Luanne Newman

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Social Media Administrator

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Publicity Coordinator

Terri Myers

publicity@txbayareagen.org

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. All rights reserved.

OCTOBER is FAMILY HISTORY MONTH



Celebrating Family History October 2024

Clayton Library Events

- Oct 3rd [The Power of Genealogical Periodicals](#) (Hybrid) 1:00pm by Amiee Buhr
- Oct 18th [U.S. Naturalization: The Records, The Laws and the Impact](#) (Hybrid) 9:00am (see pg. 7)
Irene B. Walters, Librarian Houston Public Library's Family History Research Center
- [Proven Methods for Breaking Down Genealogical Brick Walls](#) (Hybrid) 10:00am (see pg. 7)
Kevin Klaus, Texas General Land Office Research Room Team Leader and Information Specialist
- [So You Discovered You Have a Colonial Ancestor. Now What?](#) (Hybrid) 11:00 (see pg. 7)
Craig R. Scott, MA, CG, FUGA, President and CEO of Heritage Books, Inc.
- [Introducing the Retro Tech Lab: Digitally Preserving Family History](#) (Hybrid) 1:00pm (p. 7)
Laura Douglas, Head of Special Collections, Denton Public Library
- [I've Found My Irish Immigrant Ancestor. Now What?](#) (Hybrid) 2:00pm (see pg. 7)
Emily Coffman Richardson, Genealogist with KinSearchers, Director-at-Large, TxSGS
- [Writing Your Family Story: Learning to Assess and Compile Your Research](#) (Hybrid) 4:00pm
Leslie Tomlinson, MFA, CG (see pg. 7)

Friendswood Library Events

- October 2nd [Genealogy Roundtable](#) (In-Person) 2:00pm
Meet with fellow genealogists to share ideas and insights, and work through your stubborn research problems. Beginners are welcome.
- October 18th [Family History Month Celebration](#) (Hybrid) 11:00am-5:00pm (see pg. 8 for more details)
Friendswood Library hosts a FREE Genealogy Family History Day consisting of a meet-and-greet with genealogical organizations and pre-recorded webinars. Snacks will be provided.

Texas City Library Events

- October 16th [Texas City Ancestry Searchers](#) (in-person) 1:00pm, [Moore Memorial Public Library](#)
- October 18th [Genealogy Lock-In at Moore Memorial Public Library](#) (Hybrid) 9:00am-6:30pm (see pg. 7 for more)
MMPL joins the Genealogy Network of Texas (GNT) in a collaborative Genealogy Lock-In which connects multiple libraries and genealogical societies, providing educational and research opportunities. Contact the information desk (409) 643-5977 to register

Rosenberg Library Events

- October 18th [Genealogy Lock-In at Rosenberg Library History and Museum Center](#) (Online only)
9:00am to 6:30pm. The 23rd Annual Genealogy Lock-In will be online this year. Register for the event to receive a link the day before the program. (see pg. 7 for details)

Seabrook Library Events

- October 18th Monthly Genealogy Meeting – (In-person) 1:00pm
Discover the pathway to your family history!



Welcome to the 23rd Annual Genealogy Lock In

October 18th, 2024. Check your local library for availability.

9:00 AM - 9:50 AM U.S. Naturalization: The Records, The Laws and the Impact

Irene B. Walters, Librarian Houston Public Library's Family History Research Center

Discover the history of naturalization laws and requirements in the United States and how this affected your ancestors and their naturalizations. Learn how to utilize naturalization records for genealogical research.

10:00 AM - 10:50 AM Genealogy Resources at the Texas General Land Office

Kevin Klaus, Texas General Land Office Research Room Team Leader and Information Specialist

The Texas General Land Office contains a wealth of genealogical resources for anyone researching ancestors that received an original Texas land grant. The collection includes more than 35.5 million documents and over 45,000 maps and sketches, dating back to 1561. Explore the Spanish collection, and grants given under the Republic of Texas with an emphasis on Bounty and Donation grants, the Court of Claims files, and Confederate Scrip Voucher files. Learn how to search the free online database.

11:00 AM - 11:50 AM So You Discovered You Have a Colonial Ancestor. Now What?

Craig R. Scott, MA, CG, FUGA, President and CEO of Heritage Books, Inc.

Create a research plan for your colonial ancestor using available records in free and subscription databases. Examine existing law in the time period, the land process and the probate process. Look for muster and payrolls. Learn how to use the state archives to enhance your search. Of course, it all varies by place and time, so you need to know when and where you are at all times.

Lunch on Your Own

12:50 PM - 2:10 PM Getting Started with Your Genealogy

Laura Douglas, Head of Special Collections, Denton Public Library

Are you curious about your family history, just not sure how to start? It may be easier than you think. In this session we will discuss the basic concepts and processes of genealogical research, the first steps in gathering information, how to locate and evaluate records, and how to find free or low-cost training to grow your genealogical skills.

2:25 PM - 3:15 PM Introducing the Retro Tech Lab: Digitally Preserving Family History

Mark Dellenbaugh, MA, MLIS, Genealogy and Local History Librarian, Arlington Public Library

Learn about APL's experience of pitching, creating, and operating our new Retro Technology Lab and about personal digital archiving in general. Includes a demonstration of some of the equipment and software used (for converting audio and video tapes, 8mm & Super8 film, photos, negatives, slides, etc. to digital files) interspersed with lessons we've learned so far. The presentation concludes with stories of our most memorable patron encounters & heart-warming moments of family memories preserved.

3:30 PM - 4:20 PM I've Found My Irish Immigrant Ancestor. Now What?

Claire Bradley, MA, Director of Irish Studies of the International Institute of Genealogical Studies

Lucky enough to have identified a place of origin for the Irish ancestor? Depending on when the person emigrated, there are several ways to approach your next research avenue. Learn how to begin finding resources available online. We will discuss offline resources in Ireland, what research can be arranged remotely and what must be done in person. Explore planning a research trip to Ireland and how to use DNA test results to enhance your work.

4:35 PM - 5:25 PM Writing Your Family Story: Learning to Assess and Compile Your Research

Emily Coffman Richardson, Genealogist with KinSearchers, Director-at-Large, TxSGS


Writing our story and that of our ancestors is truly a key result of a genealogist in the 21st century. The stories need to be written with either our voice or our hands. As genealogists we must get out of the habit of "hunters n' gatherers" and learn to assess and then compile to write the stories that we are finding. This program will teach you the keys behind these components so that you can move to becoming a researcher and a storyteller.

5:40 PM - 6:30 PM Proven Methods for Breaking Down Genealogical Brick Walls

Leslie Tomlinson, MFA, CG

Learn the skills to advance your research and develop strategies to help you break down those roadblocks in your family research using familiar resources such as Federal census, courthouse records, tax records and passenger list.





Genealogy Family History Day

Friday, October 18

at the Friendswood Public Library

11:00AM - 1:00PM

MEET WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

1:00PM - 5:00PM WEBINARS

Come and Go. Snacks Provided

1:00pm So You Discovered You Have a Colonial Ancestor. Now What?
presented by Craig R. Scott, MA, CG, FUGA, President and CEO of
Heritage Books, Inc.

2:00pm U.S. Naturalization: The Records, The Laws and the Impact
presented by Irene B. Walters, Librarian Houston Public Library's
Family History Research Center

3:00pm I've Found My Irish Immigrant Ancestor. Now What?
presented by Claire Bradley, MA, Director of Irish Studies of the
International Institute of Genealogical Studies

4:00pm Proven Methods for Breaking Down Genealogical Brick Walls
presented by Leslie Tomlinson, MFA, CG

**If you prefer to watch the webinars from home, please contact
the library's Reference desk to receive the online link.**

298-482-7135 menu 2 reflib@friendswood.com

Family History Day at SHC: Preserving and Digitizing Photographs and Media

Join us on Saturday, October 5 at 10:00a.m. when TSLAC's Digital Assets Archivist Steven Kantner will share tips and tricks for preserving family photos and media. Photos from yesterday or centuries past all present challenges to those hoping to make the images last for future generations. Sessions will offer

instructions on how to properly care for family photographs and ensure the information is not lost to time. Participants will learn about photograph identification, proper storage and handling, safely creating digital images, and digital archiving and other activities related to preserving personal collections.

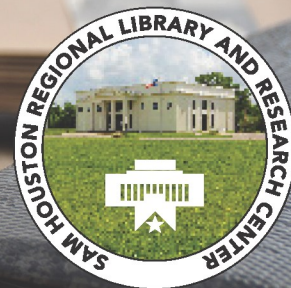
Schedule of events on Saturday, October 5

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Identification and preservation
12:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Digitization and digital archiving

A free preservation kit will be provided to pre-registered participants. The seminar is free and open to the public. Please contact the Center to reserve your seat! Email samhoustoncenter@tsl.texas.gov or call (936) 336-8821 to sign up.

Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center
650 FM 1011, Liberty, TX 77575

www.tsl.texas.gov/shc

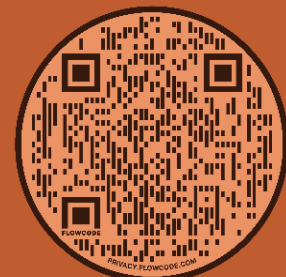


**TEXAS STATE LIBRARY
AND
ARCHIVES COMMISSION**



BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

For the latest news and event updates,
visit our website at texasbayareagen.org



October 2024

Calendar of Events – 2024 and 2025

OCTOBER is FAMILY HISTORY MONTH!

- 7 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 14 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 14 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 15 10:30a Education Spotlight – FPL
Find Your Ancestors in Cemetery Records
- 16 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 21 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 21 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 25 7:00p October Members Meeting (Zoom)
Carla Cegielski – The DAR Genealogical Research System
- 27 4:00p Meet 'n Munch – *Craft 96, League City*
- 28 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 28 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
10/25 Focused follow-up: The DAR Genealogical Research System

NOVEMBER

- 4 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 4 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 11 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 11 6:30p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 4:00p Meet 'n Munch - *Kelley's Country Cookin', League City*
- 18 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 18 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 20 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 22 7:00p November Members Meeting (Zoom)
Nicole Dyer – Genealogy Writing & AI
- 25 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 25 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
11/22 follow-up: Genealogy Writing & AI

DECEMBER

- 2 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 2 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 7 12:00p BAGS Holiday Luncheon –
South Shore Grille
- 9 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 9 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 16 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 16 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 23 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 23 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 30 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 30 7:00p Members Helping Members #2

JANUARY 2025

- 6 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 13 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 13 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 20 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 20 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 21 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (*new day/time*)
- 25 12:00p BAG Members Meeting @ UBC
Membership Potluck
- 27 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 27 7:00p Members Helping Members #2

FEBRUARY

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 3 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 10 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 17 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 18 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (*new day/time*)
- 24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 24 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 7:00p BAGS Members Meeting (Zoom) – TBA

MARCH

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 3 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 10 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 17 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 18 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (*new day/time*)
- 24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 24 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 7:00p BAGS Members Meeting (Zoom) – TBA
- 31 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 31 7:00p Members Helping Members #2