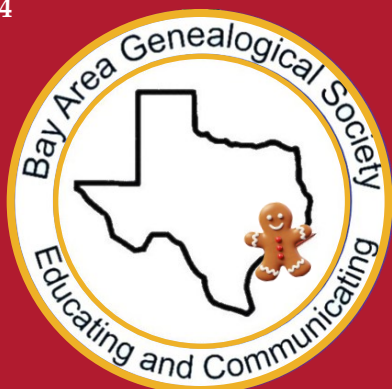


December 2024  
Volume 24  
Issue 12



# BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

## BAGS Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, December 7, 2024

at 11:30am

*South Shore Grille*

2800 Marina Bay Drive  
League City, Texas 77573



### *Inside this issue*

Membership Renewal!	2
Members Helping Members	3
BAGS Educational Spotlight	4
Library/Research News	5
BAGS Business/Information	6
12/7/24 Luncheon Menu	7
BAGS Calendar	8

### *Special Points of Interest*

*Social Media Links*  
*BAGS Partnerships*  
*Clayton Library Partner Links*

Please join your fellow society members at the annual BAGS Holiday Luncheon on **Saturday, December 7th, 11:30am to 1:30pm** at the *South Shore Grille* in League City. Reservations are required. [You can make your reservation to attend here!](#) Members will cover their own luncheon tabs and gratuities. The menu preview is on **page 7**.

Be sure to mark your calendar for our next in-person, meeting, January 25, 2025, at University Baptist Church. This is our annual potluck luncheon to welcome the New Year and celebrate with fellow society members! Our guest speaker will be our own Gale French presenting the topic **Gold Star Mothers' Pilgrimages**.

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2025

**It's time to renew your membership** with the TX Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS)! The new membership year starts January 1, 2025. You can renew your membership anytime between November 1, 2024, and February 28, 2025, without any loss of membership privileges.

## Why should I renew my membership with BAGS now?

- √ BAGS is able to include **genealogy experts** from outside the Houston area to speak at our **virtual monthly general meetings**. This provides you with the benefit of national speakers and a wider range of genealogy topics. We also work with other regional genealogical societies to give you access to their resources and presentations.
- √ Our private **Facebook** group is engaging, and active with regular postings about webinars and expanded online resources (many of them free) to help you with your research.
- √ **Members Helping Members sessions** have expanded to include both virtual and in-person meetings. You can join in the group sessions or request an individual, one-on-one session. These sessions can help you with “how to” questions about using Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Family Tree Maker software and other tools. These sessions can help you learn how to analyze the genealogical information you already have and show you how to research new sources.
- √ Informative **Education Spotlight** sessions are held at the Friendswood Library or via Zoom.
- √ Organized **meetups** at the Clayton Library Family History Research Center.
- √ **Special events** are planned for the upcoming year and include awesome guest speakers plus door prizes, drawings, and delicious food!
- √ Three **in-person General Meetings** (BBQ buffet or potluck) and a Holiday Luncheon.
- √ Free access to all past publications including **Quarterlies, Journals** and monthly **Newsletters**.
- √ A complementary listing in our **Membership Yearbook**.
- √ The **opportunity to serve the Society** by joining one of our committees.

## Renew your membership NOW – 2 options:

**ONLINE** – You can fill out a membership form online and make your payment via PayPal with a credit or debit card, or a PayPal account, if you have one. **To renew online, [click here](#)**. You will be directed to the “Membership Application Page” at the BAGS website. After filling out the form online, click the **Submit** button at the bottom. This will take you to PayPal where you will make your payment. You do not need to have a PayPal account to complete the transaction.

**Paper form and check** – If you would rather pay by sending a check through the regular mail, you can fill out a printed membership form. **[Access the form here](#)**. This will open a PDF file which you can print and fill out. Mail this to the address on the form along with your check made payable to “BAGS.”

If you have questions on the registration process or if you want to verify your membership status, please contact our Registrar via email, [registrar@txbayareagen.org](mailto:registrar@txbayareagen.org).



# MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS GROUPS

## Education Spotlight Presentation

January 8th at 6:30pm — **Genealogical Writing** —  
**Climbing the Mountain One Step at a Time**, with Becky Jones (*Zoom*)



At an **Education Spotlight** presentation, 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 available.

The **Jan 8th Education Spotlight** meeting will be held online via Zoom. [You can register for this meeting by clicking here!](#) This is a video repeat of the session Becky Jones presented on November 6th at the Friendswood library.

## Online Research – Session #1 & #2

**#1 Mondays, 10:00am to 12:00pm**  
with [Renée 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](#).



## 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, [Renée 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 EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

## Genealogical Writing –

### Climbing the Mountain One Step at a Time

*(Back by Popular Demand)*

Wednesday, Jan 8th, 6:30pm (repeat via Zoom)

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. You can click the [registration for this Zoom meeting here](#) or register on the BAGS Website. This is a repeat of the in-person session presented on November 6th.



## *Genealogical Writing Special Interest Group*



Thursday, 16 January 2025  
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
Friendswood Public Library

Recurring meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – Virtual  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – Virtual & In-Person option

*The BAGS officers and board members would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one a blessed holiday season and a happy New Year! Please check the newsletter calendar & BAGS website for all upcoming December events.*



## 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)

### 2025 Meetings

January 20

February 24

March 24

April 21

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

# DECEMBER RESEARCH LIBRARY UPDATES



## Friendswood FamilySearch Center

**In-Person MHM Research Session**

**Jan 21st, Feb 18th, Mar 18th (NEW DAY and TIME)**

**10:00am to 12:00pm**

The Friendswood FamilySearch Center is located at *505 Deseret Dr*, in Friendswood. This MHM session is open to all BAGS members 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!](#)

**Accessing In-Library Database in Family Tree Maker on Your Laptop – December 5, 1:00 – 3:00pm**

**Hybrid** Carol Peña will show you how easy it is to access In-Library databases from within the Family Tree Maker software on your laptop. This session will focus on saving documents from Ancestry Library Edition to a private non-syncing or speculative family tree using the 2019 version of the software. This session will not cover all FTM software features, however, it will point you to some popular sites for more information. In-Person attendees should bring their laptops (and a USB drive) to practice. Carol, a native Texan, was always fascinated by her mother's family history stories. Her mother's storytelling led to her love of reading and passion for genealogical discoveries, researching her ancestors since 2011. She is the Programs Director for Clayton Library Friends.

In-person attendance registration is not required for this meeting, arrive by the scheduled time. [Online registration](#) is required to receive the Zoom link for the instructional portion of this event (approx. 20-30 minutes).

**CLF Book Sale and Scanning Saturdays – December 21, 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](#) | [HispanicGenealogical 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

## Volunteer Opportunities!!

At a previous BAGS General Meeting, President Teresa Rundell announced volunteers are needed for two important BAGS positions. The first need is a person to fill the position of **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](mailto:education@txbayareagen.org) for more information.

The second 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](mailto:president@txbayareagen.org) for more information.

Please consider volunteering for either position to support your society this year!



Statement of Activity as of November 1, 2024

Checking Account	\$2,321.29
Saving Account	\$12,167.21
PayPal	\$54.42
Total Monetary Assets	\$14,542.92

How many  can you find in the December 2024 BAGS Newsletter?

### Additional points of contact:

Don't know the Members Page password?  
[registrar@txbayareagen.org](mailto:registrar@txbayareagen.org) – George Porterfield

Research questions or provide research assistance:  
[education@txbayareagen.org](mailto:education@txbayareagen.org) – Kathleen Williams

Have an article or idea to share?  
[newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org) – Cindy Austin

Submit information for the Journal:  
[journal@txbayareagen.org](mailto:journal@txbayareagen.org) – Todd Roberts

Ideas for BAGS advertising:  
[publicity@txbayareagen.org](mailto:publicity@txbayareagen.org) – Terri Myers

Not receiving emails?  
[emailcoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:emailcoord@txbayareagen.org) – Fred Roe

Submit your pedigree chart to:  
[pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org](mailto:pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org) – pedigrees/questions

## 2024 BAGS OFFICERS

President

Teresa Rundell

[president@txbayareagen.org](mailto:president@txbayareagen.org)

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vacant

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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.

# LUNCHEON MENU for 12/7/2024



## SOUTH SHORE GRILLE

### *Appetizers*

Chili Con Queso Con Carne Shrimp Bam Bam Marina Bay Dip Guacamole Dip  
Stuffed Jalapenos (4 or 6) Calamari Flat-Grilled Scallops  
Crab Balls (6) Fried Asparagus Mozzarella Cheese Sticks Fried Mushrooms  
Potato Skins Chicken Wings (8) Quesadillas (Chicken or Prime Rib)

### *Entrees*

#### *Chicken Salad Sandwich*

Roasted chicken combined in a light dressing with pineapple, celery, and pecans.  
Served with one side

#### *Grilled Salmon*

Served with two sides

#### *The Greek*

Mixed greens, feta, tomato, onions, avocado, olives, cucumbers, and creamy mustard vinaigrette.  
Add salmon | Add 5 shrimp | Add grilled chicken

#### *Chicken Melt*

Grilled chicken breast topped with bacon, avocado, tomato, Monterey Jack cheese, and tri-pepper sauce.  
Served with one side

#### *Fish 'n Chips*

Tempura battered fish with home-style potato chips, coleslaw, Malt vinegar, and tartar sauce.

#### *Shrimp Po'Boy*

White or Wheat roll, shredded lettuce, tomato, and creole dressing.  
Served with one side

#### *Half Cuban Sandwich & Tortilla Soup*

Tender sliced roasted pork, ham, Swiss cheese, tomatoes, and creole mustard on a French roll.

#### *Steak 'n Cheese Enchiladas*

Prime rib with Jack and Cheddar cheese, cilantro, pico de gallo, guacamole, and black bean rice.

### *Sidas*

Coleslaw, Fried Okra, Black Beans, Garlic Green Beans, Creamed Spinach,  
Sauted Spinach, Mixed Vegetables, Smashed Red Potatoes, Garlic Red Potatoes,  
French Fries, Sweet Potato Fries, Rice Pilaf

### *Desserts*

Key Lime Pie Peach Cobbler Blueberry Cobbler  
Island Brownie White Chocolate Cheesecake  
Bread Pudding with Flor de Caña Rum Sauce

### *Beverages*

Coke Diet Coke Sprite Dr. Pepper Root Beer Lemonade  
Iced Tea Sweet Tea Coffee





# BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

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



December 2024

## Calendar of Events - 2024 and 2025

### DECEMBER

- 2 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 7 11:30a BAGS Holiday Luncheon  
*South Shore Grille, League City, TX*
- 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
- 23 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 30 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2

### JANUARY 2025

- 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
- 20 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 21 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (new day/time)
- 25 12:00p BAG Members Potluck @ University  
**Baptist Church: Gold Star Mothers' Pilgrimages with Gale French**
- 27 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2

### FEBRUARY

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 18 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (new day/time)
- 24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 7:00p BAGS Members Meeting (Zoom) -  
**Researching Your Ancestor's Plot of Land: Adventures in Courthouse Records w/John Sellers**

### MARCH

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 2/28 follow-up: **Courthouse Records**
- 10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 18 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (new day/time)
- 24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 7:00p BAGS Members Meeting (Zoom)  
**Invisible No More: Revealing the Lives of Our Female Ancestors w/ Stephanie O'Connell**
- 31 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 3/28 follow-up: **Our Female Ancestors**

### APRIL

- 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
- 15 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC (new day/time)
- 21 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 26 12:00p BAG Members Potluck @ University  
**Baptist Church: GenZ + Genealogy - Getting the Next Generations Interested in Genealogy with Carl Smith**
- 28 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2

