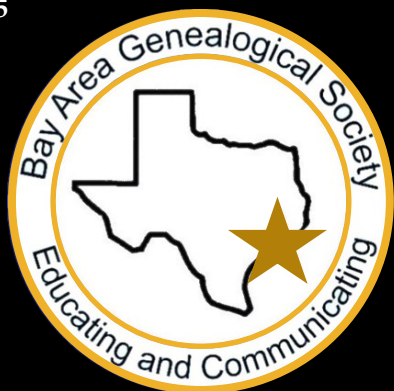


January 2025  
Volume 25  
Issue 1



# Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

## BAGS Potluck Luncheon Saturday, January 25, 2025, 12:00pm

*University Baptist Church*

16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, Texas 77059

*with Rebecca "Becky" Wilson Jones*

*Census Schedules: More Than Just Names*



### *Inside this issue*

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### *Special Points of Interest*

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

Be sure to mark your calendar for our first 2025 in-person meeting on **January 25<sup>th</sup>** at University Baptist Church! This is our annual January potluck luncheon to welcome the New Year and celebrate with fellow members! All members are invited to bring an entrée, side dish or a dessert to share. Please bring serving utensils for your dishes. Food set up and social time begins at 11:30am.

**11:30am** **Set up your food**, grab your choice of beverage, find a comfy chair & socialize with great genealogy friends!

**12:00pm** **Welcome BAGS members** and guests, opening remarks, and lunch blessing with our BAGS President, Teresa Rundell.

**12:15pm** **Members enjoy** the delicious buffet!

**1:00pm** **Presentation:** *Census Schedules: More Than Just Names* by **Rebecca Wilson Jones**. Census records have long been the first documents sought by a family researcher. The wealth of information gathered from a census record varies every ten years, but when followed through an ancestor's lifetime, the researcher can develop a timeline of events that may have brought about a migration, an occupation change, or even more details. Our own Rebecca "Becky" Wilson Jones serves BAGS as Vice President 2 of Programs. She holds Certificates of Completion from the Institute of Genealogy & Historical Research (IGHR), Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy (SLIG), Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP), Texas Institute of Genealogical Research (TIGR), Genealogical Institute on Federal Records (GENFED), and is an alumnus of ProGen63.

# 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).



# BAGS BUSINESS | INFORMATION

## ATTENTION ALL BAGS MEMBERS!

A new password will be needed for access to the "*members only*" sections of the web site starting in early January. The password changes yearly due to the new membership year. Those members who have already renewed will receive a 2025 BAGS members guide with a new password via email in early January. Others renewing later, will receive the new members guide shortly after their 2025 renewal is processed.

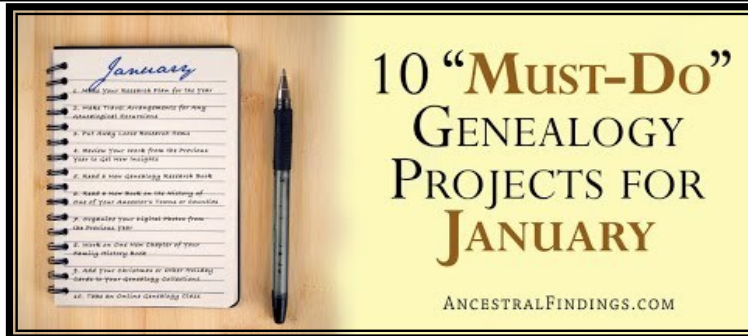


## Volunteer Opportunities!!

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!



<https://ancestralfindings.com/10-must-do-genealogy-projects-for-january/>

## 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

## 2025 BAGS OFFICERS

**President**

Teresa Rundell

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

**First Vice President**

Jane Martin

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

**Second Vice President**

Becky Jones

[vicepresident2@txbayareagen.org](mailto:vicepresident2@txbayareagen.org)

**Treasurer**

Todd Roberts

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

**Registrar**

George Porterfield

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

**Secretary**

Kitty Olson

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George Porterfield

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**Yearbook Editor**

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**Journal Editor**

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Luanne Newman

**Photographer**

Bill Mayo

**Email Distribution**

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**Education Coordinator**

Kathleen Williams

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

**County Coordinator**

vacant

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

**Social Media Administrator**

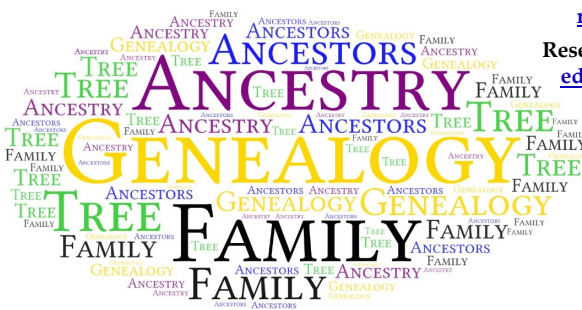
Kathleen Williams

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

**Publicity Coordinator**

Terri Myers

[publicity@txbayareagen.org](mailto: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](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org). All rights reserved.

# MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS GROUPS

## EDUCATION SPOTLIGHT PRESENTATIONS

January 8, 6:30pm, (Zoom) **Genealogical Writing – Climbing the Mountain One Step at a Time**, Becky Jones  
February 25, 10:30am, Friendswood Library – **Fold 3**  
March 19, 10:30am, Friendswood Library – TBA

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 [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 session is:

**Jan 27<sup>th</sup> Census Schedules; More Than Just Names.**

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!



*BAGS Christmas Luncheon*

# 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



## 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

May 26

June 23

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/)

# JANUARY RESEARCH | LIBRARY UPDATES



## Friendswood FamilySearch Center

**In-Person MHM Research Session**

**TUESDAYS: 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!](#)

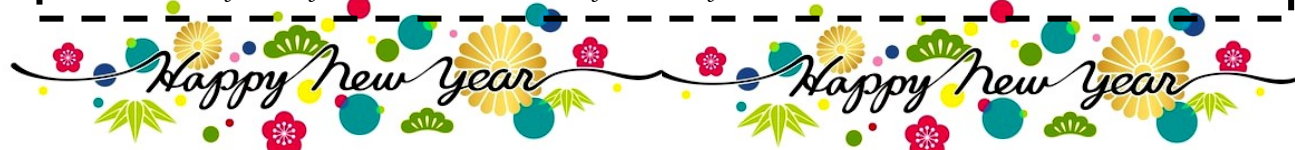
**When Worlds Collide: Resolving Conflicts in Genealogical Records – January 18, 11:00am – 12:00pm**

The Genealogical Proof Standard says to resolve conflicts in data... but like so many things that sound good, it's easier said than done. What exactly are we supposed to do when we encounter conflicting evidence? What are the basic types of evidence conflicts and the methods – and tips and tricks – we can use to resolve them? Judy G. Russell, The Legal Genealogist®, is a genealogist with a law degree who provides expert guidance through the murky territory where law and family history intersect. An internationally-known lecturer and award-winning writer, she holds credentials as a Certified Genealogist® and Certified Genealogical Lecturer™ from the Board for Certification of Genealogists®. Her blog is at <https://www.legalgenealogist.com>. For more information and to register [click here](#).

**CLF Book Sale and Scanning Saturdays – January 18, 10:30am – 4:30pm**, 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 - Bay Area Genealogical Society

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



January 2025

## Calendar of Events - 2025

### JANUARY *(membership renewal due!)*

- 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: Census Schedules: More Than Just Names** with *Becky Wilson Jones*
- 27 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 1/25 follow-up: Census Schedules*

### 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)
- 25 10:30a Education Spotlight, *Friendswood Library: Fold3*
- 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)*
- 19 10:30a Education Spotlight, *Friendswood Library: TBA*
- 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
- 4/26 follow-up: Getting the Next Generations Interested In Genealogy*

### MAY

- 5 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 12 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 15 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC *(new day/time)*
- 19 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 26 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 30 7:00p BAGS Members Meeting: TBA

### JUNE

- 2 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 9 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 16 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6:30p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 10:00a MHM, Friendswood FSC *(new day/time)*
- 23 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 7:00p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 27 7:00p BAGS Members Meeting: TBA
- 30 10:00a Members Helping Members #1
- 6:30p Members Helping Members #2