

## BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MAY 30, 2014

President, Shirley Lindquist called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Neil Miserendino led the pledges to the American and Texas state flags.

Announcements: Shirley announced to the attendees that the Quarterly is being changed to a Journal.

Nick Cimino announced that he is still teaching the two SIGS, British Isles is next Tuesday, June 3 at 2:30- to 4 p.m. at Friendswood Library, 416 S. Friendswood Dr. Check P. 4 of your newsletter for more details.

The African-American SIG is Monday, June 9 at 7 p.m. at 1725 IH3 at the corner of 646 in League City. It is at the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

Nick explained that a SIG or Special Interest Group is additional programs and service to community. He asked if there were any additional that the membership would like to see. Deborah Gammon asked about German genealogy and Nick had a show of hands that would be interested in that and quite a few are interested. He said that he is open to teaching a class on the subject.

Shirley added that SIGS also help the membership get to know each other and other's interest.

Lewis Jarman announced the next Clayton Bus Trip is June 4 and sign up sheet is in the back of the room. He encouraged people to come out and enjoy the day of research and fellowship on the bus and at Clayton Library in Houston. It was explained that the bus leaves from Diana St. near the Library and at Clear Lake Recreational Facility.

Eleanor Caldwell asked for pedigree charts. A question was raised about where and with whom the membership's pedigree charts are shared with. It was explained that they are only shared with BAGS members. Eleanor will bring some empty charts for members next month.

Announcements from the floor:

David Zwahr announced that he has received been accepted as a member in the Sons of the American Revolution.

Nick Cimino announced the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) Conference will be held August 27-30, 2014 in San Antonio. Registration forms are on the table at the back of the room.

Yearbooks are ready and can be picked up at the back table with Patsy Chappelle.

Bettejean Spatafore made announcement about the WWI veterans article in the Galveston Daily News that featured BAGS member, Deborah Gammon.

She also asked if people are seeing the SIG announcements in the local publications so she will know that the announcements are being run by the publications.

Shirley introduced the visitors for the evening.

They were Robert Arnett, Barbara Brown, Susie Ganch, Amy Hoke and Patti Hoke and Dave Hanson.

Program:

Kim Zrubek introduced the speaker for the evening, Mr. Gale French. Mr. French will also be presenting this program at the Friendswood Public Library on June 17, 2014. Google Earth™ is a 360 degree three dimensional way to view your ancestor's world! In this presentation, we learned how to show findings of our research – from photographs to locations of homesteads. Google Earth™ has the power to geographically document the story of our ancestors. The Google Earth™ application for desktop, web access, and mobile access is free ([www.google.com/earth](http://www.google.com/earth)).

Gale French has been interested in genealogy for over 25 years; his family and natural curiosity has nurtured this interest in him. He has lived in Texas all his life and worked for IBM in the U.S. Space program at NASA's Johnson Space Center for 26 years and is now retired.

He received the IBM Outstanding Contribution Award, NASA's Apollo Achievement Award, and the NASA First Shuttle Flight Achievement Award for Manned Flight Awareness.

"Using Google Earth in Genealogy" shows graphically your family. It allows you to "fly" around the earth and mark places of interest on the map of where your family lived. He introduced his Elliott family and demonstrated how he used Google Earth to trace his family's journey from Germany to Texas.

Gene took questions from the floor.

Kim thanked him and presented him with a BAGS padfolio.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38.

Respectively,

*Deborah C. Gammon*