

Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS) - General Membership Meeting
Friday, September 25, 2020
Webinar hosted by Texas State Genealogical Society

Call To Order – Nick Cimino, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Welcome to Visitors and New Members – Nick welcomed members and visitors to the general meeting held via a webinar hosted by the Texas State Genealogical Society.

Announcements

- **BAGS Journal** – Nick announced that the August edition of the Journal is available for members on the website.
- **Membership Report** – Nick announced the number of current members is 193 and that 121 members have not paid their 2020-2021 membership fee. Visitors can attend two general meetings without joining BAGS.

Registration for BAGS Membership Year 2020-2021 – Nick encouraged members to renew their BAGS membership for the new membership year (Sep 1, 2020 to Aug 31, 2021). Membership renewal is due by 31 October 2020. There are two options to renew membership.

- Option 1 – For online submission and payment via PayPal use the online option available from the website.
- Option 2 – For submission via the postal service an application form is available from the website. The completed application form and the associated membership fee can be mailed to the BAGS post office box listed on the website.

German Special Interest Group – George Porterfield announced the formation of a specialized Members Helping Members group for anyone interested in genealogical research of persons from Germany (both modern day Germany and all earlier German territories). This group will be co-hosted by George Porterfield and Karen Engelauf. A poll accessible either from Facebook or the website will be conducted to determine the best day and time to host this meeting.

Eagle Scout Project Report – James Williams presented a summary of his Eagle Scout project, Oak Park Cemetery, Alvin, Texas. Seven volunteers cleaned and photographed the entire cemetery in two days; photographs were uploaded to the website, BillionGraves, helping over 300 individuals to find an ancestor or loved one.

Future Events – Nick announced that all general meetings will be held virtually until further notice and he encouraged members to attend the upcoming online events:

Members Helping Members – Join online or by phone for our weekly Zoom sessions designed to provide an avenue for member communication and assistance. Participants are asked to share their screens and demonstrate recent research discoveries or accomplishments. Members are also encouraged to ask for assistance with roadblocks. See the website or the BAGS Facebook page for additional details.

- **BAGS Online Members Helping Members via Zoom #1 on Mondays at 10 AM.**
Moderators are Renee Ball and George Porterfield.
- **BAGS Online Members Helping Members via Zoom #2 on Monday at 7:30 PM.**
Moderator is Kim Zrubek.

Closed Until Further Notice – Bus trips to Clayton Library and Members Helping Members at Friendswood LDS Family History Center.

General Meeting on Friday, October 23, 2020 at 7pm – Sharon Batiste Gillins presents “Navigating the Freedmen’s Bureau Records”; this meeting will be held one week earlier than normal.

Program – Nick introduced Linda Worsham, a local researcher, who presented “Digital Scrapbooking Your Pictures and Data”. Handouts were available during the presentation and will be available on the website.

Adjournment – Nick adjourned the meeting at 8:16 pm.