

Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS) – General Membership Meeting
Friday, March 26, 2021
Webinar Hosted by Texas State Genealogical Society (TxSGS)

Call to Order – Lisa Smith, BAGS President, called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

Welcome to Visitors and New Members – Lisa discussed the recent changes to the homepage of the BAGS website and encouraged members to participate in an online poll that is accessible from the homepage. This poll will help the Board of Directors in scheduling meetings for the remainder of 2021.

Announcements

- **Filled positions on the Board of Directors:** Lisa announced that Tamara Reed had volunteered for the open position, Telephone Chair, and that Becky Jones had recently assumed the position of Newsletter Editor replacing Kim Zrubek who will still serve as Education and Hospitality Chair. Lisa thanked Kim for her continued service to BAGS.
- **Open positions on the Board of Directors** – Lisa encouraged members to consider filling one of the following open Board positions: Member Services and Welcoming committees.
- **Membership Report** – Lisa announced the number of current members is 133 and that visitors may attend two general meetings without joining BAGS.

Future Events – Lisa encouraged members to attend the following BAGS events and to access the various genealogical events that are posted on the slide bar of the homepage of the website. Lisa reminded members that all meetings will be held virtually until further notice and that no bus trips to the Clayton Library are scheduled.

Members Helping Members: Designed to provide an avenue for member sharing about recent research discoveries or accomplishments and provide a means to ask for assistance with roadblocks. See website for details.

- **Online via Zoom #1 – Mondays at 10 AM**
Moderators: Renee Ball and George Porterfield.
- **Online via Zoom #2 – Mondays at 7 PM**
Moderator: Kim Zrubek, Initial focus on Tips and Tricks Using Family Search.
- **In-Person – The Friendswood Family History Center – 1st Wednesday of each month at 9:30 AM** (through May)
Open only to BAGS members for research. Bring your own laptop and use their Wi-Fi or use one of their six computers.
- **German Special Interest Group – 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2 PM**
Moderator: George Porterfield
- **Private Facebook Group:** www.facebook.com/groups/txbayareagensoc

Upcoming Genealogical Events:

- **Indiana Genealogical Society** Free virtual 2021 Annual Conference – **April 9-10**
Go to <http://www.indgensoc.org/conference.php> for registration and details.
- **Dallas Genealogical Society**
2021 Spring Seminar – April 9-10 www.dallasgenealogy.org
- **National Genealogical Society**
2021 Family History Conference – May 17-21 www.conference.ngsgenealogy.org
- **Southern California Genealogical Society:** Early bird registration ends April 26.
Genetic Genealogy 2021 – **June 4-5**, Jamboree 2021 – **June 11-12**
Go to <https://genealogyjamboree.com/> for registration and details.

Tonight's Program – Lisa introduced Katherine Schober, who is a German-English genealogy speaker, author, and translator, specializing in the old German handwriting. She is the author of “The Magic of German Church Records” and “Tips and Tricks of Deciphering German Handwriting, as well as the creator of the online course “Reading the Old German Handwriting”. Ms. Schober presented the topic, Help! I don't Speak the Language: Tips and Tricks of Deciphering Foreign Language Records which illustrated various tips and techniques for translating documents in a foreign language.

Next General Meeting via Webinar – Lisa announced that the next general meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 30, 2021 at 7:00 pm. The speaker is Michael Strauss who will present the topic, The Road to Independence: Researching your Revolutionary War Ancestors.

Adjournment – Lisa adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.