

Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS) – General Membership Meeting
Friday, May 28, 2021
Zoom Webinar

Call to Order – Susie Ganch, 1st Vice-President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Welcome to Visitors and New Members – Susie welcomed new members and visitors to the meeting and reminded visitors that they may attend two meetings prior to joining BAGS.

Announcements

- **Board of Directors elections and open positions** – Susie encouraged members to consider either running for an officer position or an open committee chair position. Job descriptions for both officer and committee chair positions are available on the website. The nominating committee is composed of the following: Lisa Franklin, Susie Ganch, Deborah Gammon, Kim Zrubek, Jane Martin and Nick Cimino.
- **Membership Report** – Susie announced the number of current members is 140 and that membership is not restricted to the Houston area.
- **Journal** – Susie announced that the next issue of the Journal will be available in late June and will be available on-line for members. Susie encouraged members to submit an article for a future Journal to the Journal Editor at journal@txbagareagen.org. She also announced that at the end of the year a drawing will be held to award one author of a Journal article a BAGS Goodie Bag.
- **20th Anniversary** – Susie announced that BAGS will be celebrating its 20th year anniversary with an event in December 2021. Susie encouraged members to send their suggestions and ideas regarding the celebration to info@txbayareagen.org.
- **Facebook Group** – Susie informed the audience that BAGS has a Facebook group for members only; see www.facebook.com/groups/txbayareagensoc.
- **General Meetings Format** – Susie announced that general meetings will primarily be offered online with three in-person meetings scheduled for the August Show and Tell, 20th Anniversary in December and April 2022 meeting.
- **Bus Trip to Clayton Library** – Susie announced that the bus trip to Clayton Library will be resuming soon, a plan to restart the bus trip is in progress.
- **Announcements from the floor** – Susie informed the audience that if they had an announcement or question to use the chat message function.

Future Events – Susie encouraged members to attend the following BAGS events and to access the various genealogical events that are posted on the slide bar of the BAGS website.

- **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 – Monday mornings at 10 AM**
Moderators: Renee Ball and George Porterfield
 - **Online via Zoom #2 – Monday evenings at 7 PM**
Moderator: Kim Zrubek
 - **Online via Zoom #3 – 1st Sunday of each month at 2 PM**
See the sidebar for details on dates; next session is June 6
Moderator: Kim Zrubek, Initial focus on Tips and Tricks Using Family Search.
 - **In-Person – The Friendswood Family History Center – Wednesdays June 16, July 21, and August 18 at 9:30 AM**
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**
Moderators: George Porterfield and Karen Engelauf. See sidebar for details, dates, and times.

Feel free to contact the Board of Directors if you have questions or suggestions about BAGS programs at info@txbayareagen.org.

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- **Brick Wall Busters Special Interest Group – Sunday, July 18 at 1 PM**

Moderator: Kathleen Williams. See sidebar for details, dates, and times.

Other upcoming events – See Other Events on the sidebar of BAGS' website for registration links.

- **Family History Fanatics:** Summer virtual conference – **June 5.**
- **Southern California Genealogical Society:**
Genetic Genealogy 2021 – **June 4-5**
Jamboree 2021 – **June 11-12**
- **Texas State Genealogical Society:** TIGR 2021 – **June 13-18.**
- **IGGP Conference:** International German Genealogy Partnership **July 17 – 24**

Tonight's Program – Susie introduced the speaker, Lisa Smith, a licensed private investigator, certified fraud investigator and a professional genealogist. Lisa is the owner of the Dragon Investigation Group and serves as the President of BAGS. She is a native of New Hampshire with ancestral roots in Sweden, Ireland, Greece and Ukraine. Her genealogy services focus on those counties as well as aiding with DNA matching and locating birth relative for adoptees. Lisa presented the topic, Genealogy from a Private Investigator's Perspective.

Next General Meeting via webinar – Susie announced that the next general meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 25, 2021 at 7:00 pm. This will be a prerecorded session from the Texas State Genealogical Society's (TxSGS) Family History Conference. The speaker is Ari Wilkins who will present the topic, Reconstructing Communities Using Census Records, Sanborn Maps, and City Directories,

Adjournment – Susie adjourned the meeting at 8:13 pm.

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