



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

P.O. Box 891447
Houston, TX 77289-1447

Volume 13, Issue No. 2

October 2013

Friday, October 25, 2013: David Zwahr will present "Finding Your Relatives Masonic History"

Public Invited. Join us at 6:30pm for coffee and socializing.

**We meet at the University Baptist Church (UBC) in the Great Room, 2nd floor.
(16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City - [online map](#))**



David Zwahr

"Neither rain, sleet, nor snow shall keep our employees from their appointed rounds." This is the slogan many of us remember from long ago. David Zwahr not only lives up to these words as a letter carrier, but also in all the personal projects throughout

his life. He exhibited this determination as a young man by working through project after project to become an Eagle Scout. He continued his trek of diligence as he moved from one important level of leadership to another after becoming a member of his first Masonic Lodge in 1995.

In his genealogical research he has made hundreds of trips to cemeteries and libraries in Texas, Maine, Georgia and Tennessee, searching for his family members and those of friends. He has been given the Stonewall Jackson Service Medal by the Oran M. Roberts Chapter #440 of the United Daughters of the Confederacy for assisting them in research about soldiers from the Texas Revolution. We look forward to hearing David not only share his experiences with us, but showing us how to find our ancestors through Masonic research.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 President's Message
- 3 Genealogy Blogs
- 4 Annual Show & Tell, New Members
- 5 BAGS Event Calendar
- 6 Committee News
- 7 Local Area Events & Classes
- (insert) BAGS Survey
- (insert) BAGS Holiday Party details.

**Thank you John Colletta
for an entertaining and
educational seminar!**

**Join us for lunch in at Hope Village Cafe' on
Saturday, November 16 from 11:00am to 1:00pm.
Details and a map are included in this newsletter**

Message from the President

Shirley Lindquist

BAGS Officers 2013-2015

President

Shirley Lindquist
President@TxBayAreaGen.org

First Vice President

Melodey Hauch
VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org

Second Vice President

Barbara Moore
vicepres2@txbayareagen.org

Recording Secretary

Deborah Gammon
ncimino@hotmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Annette Bowen
annette.bowen@gmail.com

Treasurer

Loren Martin
LMartin497@aol.com

Registrar

Marie Kravek
registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Newsletter Staff

Editor / Compositor

Kim Zrubek
newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

Proofreaders

Resa Hennings, Chester Karrick
Shirley Robbins, Geri Smith

Photographer

Neil Miserendino, Bill Mayo

Webmaster

Linda Carrington
linda@TxBayAreaGen.org



SHIRLEY LINDQUIST

What do BAGS Officers do? Many members do not know the answer. I'll summarize the President's responsibilities and introduce myself to you. In the months ahead other officers will introduce themselves and describe their responsibilities.

The President is the official representative for BAGS in external affairs and relationships with other organizations as well as reviewing all incoming correspondence and forwards it to the board members or committee members; providing guidance and advice to committees, when requested, and overseeing the goals of the committees; appointing committee chairpersons subject to the approval by the board members; maintaining all documents required by the government for the organization; and preparing agendas and presiding at Board and general meetings. The President maintains sight of the BAGS mission in all activities.

I received a B.S. degree from Michigan State University, and have done graduate work at the Univ. of Virginia, Univ. of California, and the Univ. of Michigan. My career was varied as: an instructor, employment consultant, a placement director for a community college, and an administrative manager. I retired from more than 18 years as a manager with the American Red Cross, working in natural disaster relief operations for hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and earthquakes in 18 states.

I've lived in Michigan, Virginia, Pennsylvania, California, Florida, and Cologne, Germany before coming to Texas in 1985. Travel to 26 countries has been a priority, sometimes combining it with genealogical research. I'm an Elder at Clear Lake Presbyterian Church, and currently a member of two other genealogical societies, as well as Clayton Library Friends.

I have served on BAGS Board of Directors for more than 9 years in various positions. I'm researching ancestors from Germany, whose surnames include: Hoppe, Sepull, Scholbe, Ludwig; from Italy the surnames include: diGeronomo, Maleto, Pirozzi, and Spagnuolo.

I admire the great minds of the BAGS members and respect the mission and objectives of BAGS. With the help of the Board of Directors and other members we'll aim to have a dynamic, transparent, and interesting two years ahead!

Shirley

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 have an interest 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 on the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to:

Editor, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447, or newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

All rights reserved.

What is a blog? Why would you be interested?

A blog (short for weblog) is actually a personal website or web page on which an individual will express their opinions, activities, and events. The information is organized chronologically by the date the entry was posted. Entries in the blog may be posted daily, weekly, or occasionally. A blog can be dedicated to a specific topic such as genealogy research. Dick Eastman's well-known **Online Genealogy Newsletter** (<http://blog.eogn.com>) is a blog in which he posts a new entry daily. The entries address all things genealogy related such as resources, software, training, societies, companies, and awards including pictures and links to related online content. When accessing a blog, you will see the most recent posted entry listed first. Scrolling down the page, you will see previously posted entries organized by date. On the right or left side of the page will be an archive listing and a category listing providing easy access to past entries.

Consider visiting a genealogy blog to discover available resources and find research tips.

Have Canadian roots?

Try **Anglo-Celtic Connections** by John Reid (<http://anglo-celtic-connections.blogspot.com>) and

Genealogy Canada by Elizabeth Lapointe (<http://genealogycanada.blogspot.com>)

Have Jewish roots?

Try **A Blog about Jewish Genealogy** by JewishGen (<http://jewishgen.blogspot.com>)

Have London, England roots?

Try **London Roots Research** by Rosemary Morgan (<http://londonrootsresearch.blogspot.com>)

Have Czech roots?

Try **Czech Out Your Ancestors!** By Kate Challis (<http://czechoutyourancestors.blogspot.com>)

GeneaBloggers (<http://geneabloggers.com>) is an aggregator (i.e. a blog about blogs) of almost 3,000 genealogy and family-history related blogs. Access **GeneaBloggers** and click on "Genealogy Blog Roll" at the top to access the list of blogs.

Genealogy Blog Roll

Use the search field to narrow the list by entering a topic such as ethnicity, county, or state to retrieve a list of blogs dedicated to that topic. For example, enter German and retrieve a list of 25 blogs that address German genealogy. Enter Scottish, Scotland, Ireland, or Irish and you get 40-45 blog entries.



Access a specific blog by clicking on its name. Visit each blog to determine which one is right for you. The list of recent postings provide an idea of the types of information covered in the blog. Many are dedicated to a specific area of a country or to a specific list of surnames. I encourage you to take a look at one or more blogs. There may be a jewel in the bog... I mean blog.

Interested in helping?

We are looking for members to work on publicity, create the yearbook, and welcome members. We also need a member to serve as the Sergeant-at-Arms to lead the group in the pledge of allegiances to the United States of America flag and the Texas state flag at each general meeting. Interested or have questions, contact one of the BAGS Officers.

According to **The Handbook of Texas Online**,

In 1933 the legislature passed a law establishing rules for the proper display of the flag and providing for a pledge to the flag: "Honor the Texas Flag of 1836; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, one and indivisible." The pledge erroneously referred to the 1836 national flag, known as David G. Burnet's flag, instead of the Lone Star Flag. Senator Searcy Bracewell introduced a bill to correct this error in 1951, but the legislature did not delete the words "of 1836" until 1965. The pledge was again amended by House Bill 1034 during the 80th Legislature with the addition of "one state under God." The revised wording became effective on June 15, 2007.

[From Texas State Library and Archives Commission webpage [Pledge of allegiance to the state flag](#)]

August Show & Tell

Thank you to members that shared items and stories with the group during the Society's annual show & tell program. Good food was enjoyed by all.

Consider visiting with one of these members at a future meeting.



Got a Mullins, Hamilton or Fleming in your family tree? You might be related to member Jane Ebron. Her mother-in-law created eight family history books covering those surnames and others.

Interested in photography? Deborah Cole's great-grandfather founded the Texas Panhandle Photography Association and was a former president of the Southwestern Photographers Association. Ask her to show you some pictures.



Stuck in your research? Ask Shirley Lindquist about her success in posting a query on *Genealogy.com*.

Has your research lead you to a cemetery of unmarked graves? Ask Melodey Hauch about her experiences in surveying cemeteries and researching unmarked graves in the Fairview Cemetery located in League City, TX.

Want to create a memory book? Ask to see Gloria Dupuy's memory book for her father that had a career in law enforcement.

Interested in publishing a cookbook? Barbara McClellan Moore just completed the creation of *Foods Through The Ages From Native Americans And All Their Relations* a compilation of traditional or modernized traditional Native American recipes for the Texas Annual Conference Committee On Native American Ministries.

Have ancestors from Louisiana? Ask Eileen Darbonne for tips on requesting family information from funeral homes. Eileen's relation John Jacob Ryan founded Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Have Norwegian ancestors? Mary Olsen is currently working on her husband's Norwegian family roots.

Have German ancestors? Bill Mayo is currently researching his great great-grandfather who came from Germany in 1809 and worked as a professional book binder.

Have Scottish ancestors? Share a beer with Chester Karrick and discuss the motherland.

Ask Eileen Darbonne to show you her antique trunk and its contents. Ask Laura Epps to see the letter written by her great grandfather two days before he was killed in Memphis during the Civil War. Ask Oletia Teas to see her 1920 abstract of title for Teas 40 acres of land in West University Place, Houston, TX. Ask Wanda Yelverton to see the hand bell used at a school started by her great grandparents. The bell was also used for church and the post office.

Ask Jinny Mason about her ancestor Joe Rush Jones and his presidential appointments. Talk to Nancy Bell about her relation to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Annette Bowen has started a memory book, inspired by the idea published in a Allen County Public Library genealogy newsletter suggesting the idea of preserving family memories by writing one per day.



Jeanine Lawrence has a wonderful newspaper collection and mementoes of Houston and Galveston history. This collection needs a new good home. *Any suggestions?*

Thank you Neil Miserendino for taking the photos.

Norma Galkowski from Santa Fe
Carolyn Shipman and family from Alvin
Bettjean Spatafore from Seabrook
George and Lois Walker from Houston

BAGS Events 2013-2014 Calendar

BAGS meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC) located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 (Clear Lake City) – [online map](#).

Members welcome to all events.
Public invited to visit general meetings.

October

Entire Month BAGS Display on exhibit at the Evelyn Meador Library (Harris County Branch) located at 2400 North Meyer Avenue, Seabrook, TX ([online map](#)). Library hours are Monday 10:00am-7:00pm; Tuesday 10:00am to 9:00pm; Wednesday 10:00am-7:00pm; Thursday 1:00pm-7:00pm; Friday 1:00pm to 6:00pm, Saturday 10:00am to 5:00pm; and closed Sunday.

Saturday, October 12 9:00 am – 4:00pm Seminar featuring John Philip Colletta, Ph.D. (www.genealogyjohn.com) at UBC

Monday, October 21 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210

Friday, October 25 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting – Speaker David Zwahr will present “Finding Your Relatives Masonic History”

November

Entire Month BAGS Display on exhibit at the Fairmont Public Library in Pasadena

Saturday, November 16 Annual Holiday Party in Hope Village Cafe' Members and guests are invited.

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Entrance to the tea room is located on the south side of FM 2351 between Hope Village Road and the Lord of Life Lutheran Church. ([online map](#))

A general meeting will not be held in November.

Wednesday, November 20 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)

December

A general meeting is not held in December. Regular monthly general meetings resume in January 2014.

January

Wednesday, January 15, 2014 9:15 am BAGS Bus Trip to Clayton Library (details on pg. 6)

Monday, January 27, 2014 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210

Friday, January 31, 2014 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting

February

Monday, February 24, 2014 6:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting at UBC in room LC-210

Friday, February 28, 2014 7:00 pm BAGS General Meeting

Committee News

Bus Trips To Clayton Library

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

The bus leaves for Clayton on

November 20, 2013

January 15, 2014

March 4, 2014



Fourteen people participated in the bus trip on August 22. If you have not been to the Clayton Library, consider going with our group and see what you can discover about your ancestors. We have several experienced genealogists who go on the bus and may be able to share some helpful ideas with you.

Meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane ([online map](#)). The county bus departs at 9:15am and leaves the Clayton Library at 3:00pm to arrive back at the Rec Center parking lot before 4:00pm.

If you have any questions or want to reserve seating, please call Mary Martin at 281-332-2435 or e-mail Mary at lmartin497@aol.com.

Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings. The BAGS website www.TxBayAreaGen.org and the current newsletter always have a current listing of trips.

Membership

It is important to keep our information up to date. If you have any changes in or corrections to your contact information during the year, please notify BAGS Registrar Marie Krnavek by email at registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org.

Attendance Report

Deborah Cole

For September, 59 members and 8 visitors attended the general meeting and 12 members attended the Board meeting.

THANK YOU

A big hearty THANK YOU is given to the outgoing BAGS Officers and committee chairmen for dedicating their time and leadership to conduct the Society's business!

Alice Braud-Jones, Second Vice President

Nick Cimino, Recording Secretary

Deborah Cole, Registrar

Tammy Frey, Yearbook Editor

Melodey Hauch, Quarterly Editor

Resa Hennings, Publicity

Lewis Jarman, Sergeant-at-Arms

Marie Krnavek, Welcoming

Bill Mayo, President

The complete list of committee chairmen is printed in the *Quarterly* and *Yearbook*.

Quarterly

This is the last general meeting where you can pick up any of the four Quarterly issues published between December 2012 and September 2013 that you may have missed

BAG\$ Report for September 2013

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward	\$3,133.43
Income	\$1,496.97
Expenses	<u>-\$544.75</u>
Balance on hand 9/30/2013	\$4,085.65
CD Balance	\$6,396.31

Local Area Events & Classes

Clayton Library Programs

The following free programs are offered to adults and teens at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston ([online map](#)). All events require reservations. To place a reservation call the library at 832-393-2600.

Cemetery Symbolism

Thursday, October 31 from noon to 1:00pm
This talk discusses the ways in which ancestors marked their gravestones to indicate various accomplishments in life, through death.

Cemeteries, tombstones and indexing; oh my

Thursday, October 31 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm
Online or in person, cemeteries are cool really places! Come discover some secrets. Learn about the, “fastest, easiest and most efficient way to gather headstone data in the world.” Then find out how to become a volunteer to add even more data.

Blazing The Family History Trail

Texas State Genealogical Society Annual Conference

October 31 – November 2 in the Wingate by Wyndham Hotel & Conference Center located at 1209 North I-35, Round Rock, TX. Co-hosted by Williamson County Genealogical Society. Key speaker is Thomas W. Jones, Ph.D., CG, CGL, FASG, FUGA, FNGS. There are partner society sessions, librarian's track, and FamilySearch classes on Thursday, October 31. A variety of classes are offered for genealogists of all experience levels on Friday. Thomas W. Jones will present four lectures on Saturday. Registration, program details, and hotel reservation information are available online at www.txsgs.org/about/conference

Ghosts of the Past “Tombstone Tales”

Presented by League City Historical Society celebrating the West Bay Common School Children's Museum twenty years in operation.

Saturday, October 26 visit the historic Victorian Fairview Cemetery that dates back to 1900 and

reflect on this area's diverse community and cattle ranching history. Tours begin at 10am, 11am, 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, and 4pm. Start in the museum located at 210 North Kansas, League City ([online map](#))

Cherokee Trail of Tears and Native American genealogical research

Saturday, November 9 at 10:35 am, in the Large Meeting Room of the University Branch Library, 14010 University Blvd in Sugar Land, on the UH campus ([online map](#))

Marjorie Lowe, an expert on Native American genealogy research, will be the speaker for the program “**Tiana's Journey**.” Follow one family's genealogy research experience, which led them to travel the Cherokee Trail of Tears. Find out how Native Americans are documenting their history through the National Trail of Tears Association.

The program is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, however, and reservations are required.

To register online at the library's website (www.fortbend.lib.tx.us), click on **Calendar**, select **University Branch**, and find the program.

Participants may also register by calling the Genealogy and Local History Department at 281-341-2608.

Lost Bones Series hosted by Texas City Ancestry Searchers

Wednesday, October 23 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in Moore Memorial Public Library located at 1701 9th Avenue North, Texas City ([online map](#))

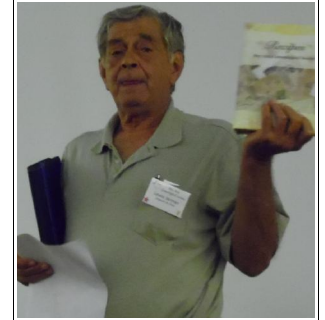
Learn genealogical techniques for the area sometimes called the British Isles and formerly known as the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland from 1801-1922. Examine records both before and after this period as well. Geographic areas included in the overview will include England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, and the Isle of Man. The speaker Nick Cimino, will summarize the principal types of record sources for these areas including online, microfilm and archival.

New BAGS Officers

Bill Mayo swearing in
the officers

Bill Mayo's last
statement as President

Lewis Jarman
promoting BAGS
merchandise



REMINDER

Next General Meeting is
Friday, October 25 at 7:00 pm Great
Room (2nd Floor) UBC Socializing
begins at 6:30 pm

Have any news to share?

Send information to
the editor at
newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

B.A.G.S Member Survey October 2013

The following member survey may be brought to the October 25th General Meeting or it may be mailed to B.A.G.S. P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289.

Please answer the following questions.

1. What do you like most about B.A.G.S.?

2. What do think needs improving?

3. Are you willing to help to improve B.A.G.S.?

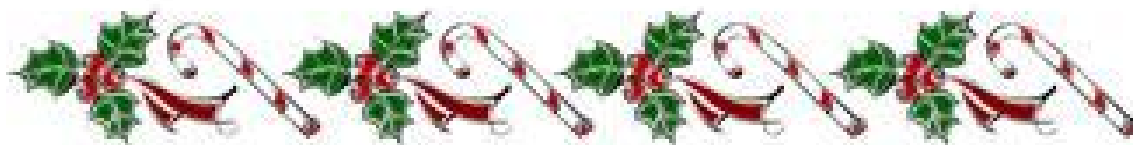
Name _____

If so, in what way?



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Regular
general meetings
resume in
January 2014



**Members and their guests
are invited to**

BAGS Annual Holiday Party

Saturday, November 16

from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in the

Hope Village Cafe'

(address and maps on the back)



***Enjoy the holiday spirit and a pleasant lunch
with friends among the designer
Christmas trees, wreaths and holiday decor.***

Lunch is dutch. Meals cost \$6-\$15.
Choose from a variety of soups, salads,
sandwiches, and desserts.

**Food orders will be taken between
11:00am and noon.**



Benefits Foundation for Hope Village

www.hope-village.com

BAGS Annual Holiday Party
Saturday, November 16
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
in the Hope Village Cafe'

**Located at 4541 FM 2351,
Friendswood, TX**

**Entrance to the tea room is located on
the south side of FM 2351 between
Hope Village Road and the
Lord of Life Lutheran Church.**

