



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 13, Issue No. 10

June 2014

Friday, June 27, 2014: Nick Cimino presents "Introduction to African-American Genealogy Research"

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

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



NICK CIMINO

Professional Genealogist and BAGS Member Nick Cimino will discuss the six steps to follow when researching African-American ancestors. African-American research has several pitfalls that add to the degree of difficulty. Historical context is incredibly important to understanding the type of records available and where to find them. Patience and persistence are required to achieve success.

These steps are discussed in greater detail at the Beginning Genealogy & African-American Research SIG hosted by the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church and BAGS. Nick Cimino and guest speakers provide instruction on how to begin researching your family's ancestry with an emphasis on African-American research. Location and dates for these classes are listed on page 4 of this issue.

Nick Cimino has been actively pursuing genealogical research and education since 1989. He has worked as a genealogical teacher and lecturer since the early 1990s presenting genealogy classes and lectures on beginning, intermediate and advanced techniques. His areas of expertise include U.S. and Colonial America, Ireland, Britain, Italy, Native American and African American. He has done on site research at the Public Record Office of Northern Ireland and the Family History Library in Salt Lake City and is well acquainted with the principal record sources for the British Isles, Ireland and the Channel Islands. This Spring, Nick has lead and presented program material at the BAGS UK & Ireland and African-America research special interest groups (SIGS).

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 Recording Secretary's Message
- 3 Google Earth
- 4 SIG related information
- 5 BAGS Event Calendar
- 6-7 Local Area Events & Classes
- 8 FGS Conference Information

Any news to share?

Send information to the editor
newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

The general meeting program on Friday, July 25 will feature Melissa A. Hayes, Assistant Branch Manger at the Clayton Library, discussing how to prove second marriages for female ancestors.

Next bus trip to Clayton is Wednesday, July 9.

***Do you know a member that would love to
catch a ride to the meetings?
Contact Polly Swerdlin***



BAGS Officers 2013-2015

President

Shirley Lindquist

President@TxBayAreaGen.org

First Vice President

Melodey Hauch

VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org

Second Vice President

Kim Zrubek (2014)

VicePres2@TxBayAreaGen.org

Recording Secretary

Deborah Gammon

RecordingSec@TxBayAreaGen.org

Corresponding Secretary

Annette Bowen

CorrespondSecretary@TxBayAreaGen.org

Treasurer

Loren Martin

Treasurer@TxBayAreaGen.org

Registrar

Bob Wegner

Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Newsletter Staff

Editor / Compositor

Kim Zrubek

newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

Proofreaders

Chester Karrick, Shirley Robbins, and Geri Smith

Photographer

Neil Miserendino, Bill Mayo

Distributor

Neil Miserendino

Webmaster

Linda Carrington

linda@TxBayAreaGen.org

Message from Recording Secretary

Deborah Coggins Gammon



**DEBORAH
GAMMON**

I became Recording Secretary in September 2014. This is my first secretarial position since I worked for Carolina Telephone and Telegraph in Tarboro, NC back in the 1970's. The position is exactly what it says it is. I attend Board and general meetings to take the minutes for those meetings, and then transcribe them afterwards for the Board to review and file.

I'm originally from Tarboro, NC being born on the property which now houses the Edgecombe County Courthouse. I think that is fitting as I visit the Courthouse every chance I get when I go home. I

started my genealogical research in 1999 after my father was diagnosed with lung cancer. I had always wanted to do it but that made it more urgent. I had always wondered about people in our hometown and close proximity with the same surname as mine, Coggins. My father insisted that we were not related but in truth we are, but I had to go back to 1850 to find the connection. Actually, I'm my own 5th cousin. That's what happens when your ancestors marry cousins. My families were farmers so they did not want to walk too far to find a bride.

My husband is retired IBM so we have moved around this great country living in eight states. We settled in Texas in 2005 after both our boys moved here. That was when I began doing research on the interred in Fairview Cemetery, League City. At present, I and others are working on getting Veterans Administration headstones for two WWI veterans who were interred in Fairview just a few months apart in 1965. Frank R. Ellis and Oscar B. Juenger were stationed at Fort Travis as cooks during 1918 when the United States entered the Great War. Neither man married or had children. The local VFW saw to it that they were buried in Fairview but VA stones were not ordered at that time. The process finally made it to Galveston County Court when Judge Kimberly Sullivan, another BAGS member, declared me next of kin so that I could order the stones. The process is now in review in the VA offices in Washington, D. C. I am hoping that the stones will arrive and be placed by Veteran's Day in November. If any of you are or are related to a Veteran, find and keep the veteran's DD214 as it is gold in the eyes of the VA. Neither of the above veterans had a DD214 or "separation papers" available so their personnel administrative record (e.g. enlistment, training, separation) had to be recreated to prove their military service. That was done by connecting all the dots of research, their death certificates that indicated they were in WWI, their obits, records from Fort Travis on *Ancestry.com*, cemetery records and the like were used.

My personal research includes the surnames: Coggins, Manning, Barkley, Culpepper, Merritt, Weeks, Burgess, Fountain, Brent, Bell, Eure, Braswell, Hancock, Yellowley, Etheridge and Mears, all from Edgecombe, Nash, Halifax, and Wilson Counties, North Carolina.

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

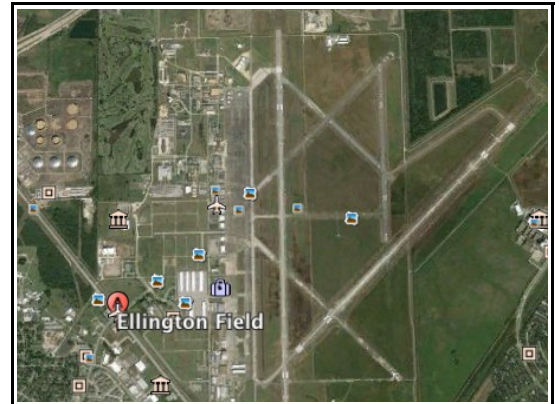
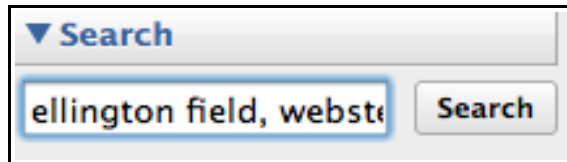
All rights reserved.

Google Earth – May Program Recap

During the May meeting, Gale French did a great job of demonstrating the amazing features available in Google Earth that can capture and present your family history information to others. Download and install this free application from <http://earth.google.com> on your computer (Windows and Mac).



Enter search terms (e.g. address, city, county, cemetery name, landmark) to view the last satellite image taken for that specific area (this is not real-time imagery). For example, enter Ellington Field, Webster, TX to see the latest satellite image.



A fantastic feature is the ability to view previous satellite images. Click on the “historical imagery” button and a slider bar appears marking the past dates of satellite images available for the area. Each vertical line marks the date of an available satellite image. Slide the marker down to 1944 to view the renovated Ellington Field for WWII, home of the The U.S. Army Air Force and their advanced navigator training at that time.



If you want to annotate the world map with your family history information, you will need a free Google Gmail account. Sign into your Gmail account and then you can save map placemarks; attach pictures, scanned images, documents; overly maps; and create a family history tour to tell your story. Have an old map from the 1800 or 1900 time frame? Scan the map and import it into Google Earth where you can overlay it onto current day land images and with one click the map will hug the natural topography. That was really neat to see and can be very useful to locate structures that no longer exist.

To learn more about Google Earth and how to use it, check out the video tutorials at <http://www.google.com/earth/learn/>. Install the Google Earth Web plugin in your web browser or mobile app to navigate and explore geographic data on a 3D globe.

Beginning Genealogy & African-American Research SIG

These sessions are free and the public is invited. Nick Cimino and guest speakers will provide instruction on how to begin researching your family's ancestry. Charts and ideas for beginning your research will be provided. Throughout the classes, there will be an emphasis on "The Six Phases of African-American Research." Classes will be held on the 2nd Monday each month in the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church located at 1725 Texas 3, League City, TX ([online map](#)) The map is misleading. The church is actually just south of FM 646 intersection on the east side of Hwy 3. The class dates are:

Monday, June 9 at 7:00pm

Monday, August 11 at 7:00pm

Monday, July 14 at 7:00pm

Monday, September 8 at 7:00pm

Bring family information as you know it now, a notebook and pen or pencil. To register, call or email Polly Swerdlin, BAGS Member Services Coordinator, at 281-814-4606 or pmswerdlin@gmail.com.

Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society – Houston Chapter

The AAHGS – H-Town Chapter's primary task is to nurture the interest and collaboration of genealogical and family history research with emphasis on, though not limited to, people of African descent. The chapter also seeks to preserve the local history and cultural heritage of people of African descent in the State of Texas. This chapter meets at 10:30am in the Clayton Library every 2nd Saturday of the month excluding July and August. Connect with them at <http://htown.aahgs.org>. For their June 14 meeting, Frank Smith will discuss researching the family to 1870.

UK & Ireland Research SIG – Wrap up

The last presentation was held June 3. There may be some practice research sessions scheduled in the Fall involving the *FamilySearch.org*, *GENUKI* (www.genuki.org.uk), *ScotlandsPeople* (<http://ScotlandsPeople.gov.uk>), and *National Archives of UK* (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk>). In the meantime, also try searching for ancestors in the *WorldVitalRecords* (www.worldvitalrecords.com) online resource. Free access is available at any Family History Center and within the Clayton Library. This resource includes records and indexes for countries around the world including United Kingdom, United States, Canada, and Germany. The UK collection includes a variety of parish registry, obituary, directory, land, will, and probate records as well as:

- Births 1761-2006, Marriages 1796-2006, Deaths 1796-2006
- Ireland Marriages 1619-1898
- Passengers arriving in New York from Ireland 1846-1851
- Immigration of the Irish Quakers into Pennsylvania 1682-1750
- Irish Emigration to New England Through the Port of Saint John New Brunswick Canada 1841-1849
- Colonists from Scotland: Emigration to North America, 1707-1783
- Index of Irish Wills 1484-1858
- Index To the Prerogative Wills of Ireland, 1536-1810 includes alliances and aliases and tables showing the relation between the counties and dioceses of Ireland.
- England & Wales Census Records 1841, 1851, 1861, 1871, 1881, 1891, 1901.

The United States collection includes

- Simmons transcription books of a variety of records including, but not limited to, censuses, newspapers, land deeds, wills, tax lists, city directories, county marriage records and tombstone inscriptions for the states of Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina.
- [Filby's Passenger and Immigration Lists Index](#) of more than 5 million names
- [German Immigration Records](#) of more than 4 million passengers between 1850-1897
- Irish Passenger Lists, 1847 - 1871
- [Italian Immigration Records](#) of more than 840,000 passengers between 1855-1900
- [Russian Immigration Records](#) of more than 500,000 passengers between 1834-1897

BAGS Event Calendar & Committee News

Monthly General Meetings

The last Friday of the month at 7:00pm.
Come at 6:30pm to enjoy coffee and socializing.
The public is invited to visit.

These meetings are held at the University Baptist Church (UBC) located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 (Clear Lake City).

Friday, June 27 at 7:00pm: Nick Cimino discusses African-American research

Friday, July 25 at 7:00pm: Melissa Hayes discusses proving second marriages for female ancestors

Friday, August 29 at 7:00pm: Annual Show & Tell

Friday, September 26 at 7:00pm: Speaker is Gay Carter, retired UHCL Government Documents Librarian

Friday, October 31 at 7:00pm: Program TBD

November: Annual Holiday Party

December: No general meeting

Board Meetings

Last Monday of the month at 6:30pm with exception of Memorial Day. All members are welcome to attend. These meetings are held at the University Baptist Church (UBC) on the second floor in room LC-210.

Monday, June 23 at 6:30pm

Monday, July 21 at 6:30pm

Monday, August 25 at 6:30pm

Monday, September 22 at 6:30pm

Monday, October 27 at 6:30pm

Board meeting usually not held in November or December.

Research Trips at Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator

The bus leaves for Clayton on
Wednesday, July 9
Tuesday, September 23

Ten people attended the June 4 bus trip.



Meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane, Houston, TX 77062. 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.

The current schedule is always available on the BAGS website www.TxBayAreaGen.org and printed in the newsletter. Sign-up sheets are also available at the general meetings.

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.

Ancestor Charts

Need help or have questions concerning creating your ancestry chart? Please contact member Eleanor Caldwell, Five-Generation Pedigree Charts Chairman. All members are encouraged to submit a chart of their family in any format (handwritten, typed, generated report, etc.). The chart does not need to be complete and the birth dates for living relatives should be omitted.

BAG\$ Report for May 2014

Loren Martin, Treasurer

Balance Brought Forward 4/30/2014	\$4,325.84
Income	\$24.33
Expenses	-\$132.08
Balance on hand 5/31/2014	\$4,218.09
CD Balance	\$3,669.18

Local Area Events & Classes

Technology Day @ Clayton

Saturday, June 14 from 1:30pm to 4:00pm in Clayton Library located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston. These classes focus on the importance of technology in your research. Learn how to make tech work for you! Reservations required. Please call the library at 832-393-2600. Programs are free and open to adults and teens.

1:30pm to 2:30pm: HathiTrust Digital Library is a digital preservation repository that provides long-term preservation and access services for public domain and in copyright content from a variety of sources, including Google Books, the Internet Archive, Microsoft, and in-house partner institution initiatives. These sources grant access to a variety of digitized copies of valuable genealogical and historical books, journals, and periodicals that may not be otherwise accessible. The presentation explains this great resource, and how it can help you!

3:00pm to 4:00pm: Using Evernote for your Genealogical Research. This presentation will highlight the importance of embracing emergent technology for genealogists of all experience levels. It will include a walkthrough and discussion of the various ways in which the organizational tool Evernote can benefit anyone with their family history. Please feel free to bring your devices with Internet access enabled.

Self-Publishing Your Family History

Tuesday, June 17 at 7:00pm at the Friendswood Public Library. Gale French will discuss the steps involved in publishing information about your Family History in book form. You'll learn the Do's & Don'ts of writing, formatting, editing and publishing your book and the various mediums available, including e-Books and print books.

The Improbable Survivor: A young child in the Holocaust

Wednesday, July 9 at 7:00pm at the Friendswood Public Library. Chaja Verveer serves on the Advisory Board of the Holocaust Museum Houston and is President of Child Survivors of the Holocaust, Houston. She was recently appointed to serve on the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission.

College of the Mainland Programs

This summer, College of the Mainland offers genealogy presentations and research bus trips. The presentations are free. The bus trips cost \$22.00 per person and riders must be 55 years of age or better. To register, call Continuing Education Office at 409-933-8586 or 1-888-258-8859, ext 8586 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. Or you can register online at www.com.edu/ce The complete catalog of senior programming is available online at <http://www.com.edu/degrees-programs/senior-adult-program.php>

Historic American Newspapers

Tuesday, June 17 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Kim Zrubek will discuss how to use the free Library of Congress website "Chronicling America" to find details of ancestors who lived between 1836 and 1922.

Where To Store Your Family Tree

Tuesday, July 15 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm

Anita Cooper will discuss available options to organize and store family history records.

Montgomery County Library Bus Trip

Tuesday, June 24 from 8:00am to 5:00pm

Participants will travel to the Montgomery County Library in Conroe, Texas. Instructor Debbie Cothorn will assist participants in tracing their family history using research techniques and library resources. This library houses many resources including special collections, the Dawes Rolls (Native American), south Louisiana records by Hebert and 19th-century military records. The cost covers transportation and instruction. Lunch is Dutch treat at Cracker Barrel, or participants may bring a sack lunch and eat at the library. Cost \$22 per person. Refund deadline is June 10.

George Memorial Library Bus Trip

Tuesday, July 8 from 8:30am to 5:00pm

Participants will travel to the George Memorial Library in Richmond, Texas. Instructor Debbie Cothorn will assist participants in tracing their family history using research techniques and library resources. This library houses resources that focus on the southeastern United States, including pension records, federal censuses and documents relating to Texans in the Mexican and Civil War. Collections include books and microfilm. The cost covers transportation and instruction. Lunch is Dutch treat, or participants may bring a sack lunch and eat at the library. Cost \$22 per person. Refund deadline is June 24.

Local Area Events & Classes (cont.)

18th Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference “A Genealogy Journey To Another Time, Another Place”

Thursday through Saturday, July 17, 18, 19, 2014 at Angelina College Campus on 3500 South First Street (Hwy 59 South) – two miles south of Loop 187 in Lufkin, Texas

- Thursday, July 17, 2014. Two Special All-Day Workshops
- Friday & Saturday, July 18 & 19, 2014. 9 Speakers Offering 24 Sessions
- Exhibitors & Vendor & an opportunity to network with other researchers.
- Full syllabus in a 3-ring binder provided to all attendees.
- See program details and registration form at <http://www.angelina.edu/genealogy/genealogy.html>

Summer 2014 Classes, RootsTech 2014

Each Thursday a video of one of the RootsTech2014 presentations will be show at the Klein Texas Family History Center located at 16535 Kleinwood Drive, Spring, TX. These recording are new and not available to stream to your computer and they were not shown at the Klein RootsTech Fair held in February 2014. This is the video schedule, each is 40-60 minutes long. The first three sessions are on DNA. Access the Klein Texas Family History Center website to check for any schedule changes

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Klein_Texas_Family_History_Center.

- 06/05/2014 #118 Intro to DNA for Genealogists by James Rader
06/12/2014 #135 Advanced Techniques Autosomal DNA by Tim Janzen
06/19/2014 #141 Saturday General Session>DNA by Todd Hansen
06/19/2014 #142 Friday General Session & Keynote> DNA by Dr Spencer Wells, Judy Russel
06/26/2014 #132 From Chaos to Calm Organizing Digital Photos for a Life Story Project by Alison Taylor
07/03/2014 #119 Basic Online Resources for the Beginning Genealogist by Lisa Alzo
07/10/2014 #127 Five Ways to do Genealogy in Your Sleep by Deborah Gamble
07/17/2014 #133 Effective Database Search Tactics by Kory Meyerink
07/24/2014 #131 Finding Family and Ancestors with New Technologies by Daniel Horowitz
07/31/2014 #143 Old World New Records: FindMyPast.com as the Key Resource for Tracing British Ancestry by Elaine Collins
08/07/2014 #122 Information Overload, Managing Online Searches & Their Results
08/14/2014 #116 Getting the Most Out of Ancestry by Christa Cowen
08/21/2014 #134 When Researchers Disagree: Facilitating Helpful, Respectful Collaboration by Luther Tychonievich
08/28/2014 #119 Basic Online Resources for the Beginning Genealogist by Lisa Alzo



A conference for the nation's genealogists
August 27-30, 2014★San Antonio, Texas
with local co-hosts
San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society
and the Texas State Genealogical Society

The **Federation of Genealogical Societies** Conference is coming to San Antonio, Texas, August 27-30, 2014!

The Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center will host the conference's workshops, lectures, and exhibit hall. With over **160 sessions, there will be something for all levels of genealogists and family historians -- beginner to advanced.** Plus, there will be luncheons, special activities, and local research opportunities.

Below is all the important information you'll need to know or visit <https://www.fgsconference.org>

Programming: If you are a genealogy and family historian of any skill level looking to improve your research skills, learn about new technologies, and network with other researchers who "get" your genealogy obsession, then days **Thursday, Friday, and Saturday** will be what you're looking for.

- For more information, to check out the sessions, and to register, please visit the FGS 2014 **Conference Program Page** (<https://www.fgsconference.org/program>)
- View, download, or save to your computer the FGS 2014 **Conference Brochure PDF version** (https://www.fgsconference.org/FGS2014_%20RegistrationBooklet_web.pdf)
- The FGS 2014 **Conference Hotel** is the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel located directly across from the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. Rates and online registration can be accessed online at <https://www.fgsconference.org/lodging>

Special Activities:

- **Luncheons** - When you register you will have an opportunity to add-on luncheons. These tend to fill up quickly so don't wait too long to decide.
- **Research at the San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society Library** - This beautiful facility houses a vast collection including books, periodicals, maps, vertical files, microfilm, and family history volumes. SAGHS has published about two dozen volumes of Bexar County records.
- **Research at the San Antonio Public Library Texana/Genealogy Department** - Located on the sixth floor of the Central San Antonio Public Library, this collection includes 65,000 microfilms, 77,000 books, 150 drawers of archival files, 75 map cabinet drawers, and approximately 300 cubic feet of archival collections.
- **A Night in Old San Antonio** - a festive evening filled with fun, characters, food, and music in the historical art village of La Villita.
- **An evening at the Institute of Texan Cultures** – Eat a barbecue dinner and leisurely explore the Institute.
- **Sponsored Tour to Panna Maria**, the oldest Polish settlement in the U.S. Travel in an air conditioned coach with Cecile "Ceil" Wendt Jensen, MA, CG to tour the Visitors Center, Snoga's Store, St. Joseph School Museum, and Immaculate Conception Church.
- Details on activities are published at <https://www.fgsconference.org/activities>

The FGS 2014 Conference in San Antonio is a wonderful opportunity to attend a national conference, learn from popular speakers, and to make new genealogy friends (or visit with those you haven't seen in a while).