



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 891447
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January 2015

Friday, January 30, 2015: Irene Walters presents "Crossing the wide blue seas : passenger lists of our ancestors"

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

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

Since the discovery of the New World ships have been bringing passengers to our shores to start new lives. Some of these voyages were well documented and some not. In this program, Irene Walters will discuss how to find evidence of your ancestors on passenger lists.



Irene Walters

Irene Walters is one of the "Yankee Librarians" at Houston's Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research. She is originally from New York State and has her Masters of Library Science degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Irene came to Clayton in September 1997 and over the years has been in charge of volunteers, periodicals, CD-ROMs, and computers. Currently, Irene is the liaison between Clayton and the Houston Public Library cataloging department. She also coordinates Clayton's involvement in the digitization project with the LDS Library in Salt Lake City. Irene has given talks to many local groups on various aspects of genealogical research including, computers, the Internet, ancestors in the modern military, using newspapers for your research, New York State, Irish and French research. Irene started her own genealogy research as a teenager and has taken her lines back into France and Ireland. Her German lines and those dropped off by passing alien ships are being more difficult.



Come to the BAGS Kick-Off Party on Saturday, January 10, 2015

**from 1:00pm to 3:00pm in the Chapel on the first
floor of the University Baptist Church.**

Social event with snacks and drinks. You are welcome to bring snacks to share. Discuss genealogy research assistance, pickup 2015 programming schedule, meet committee chairpersons, and discover opportunities available within BAGS to help make 2015 a great year!

**Catch the bus trip to Clayton Library
Wednesday, January 7.** Details on page 3.

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Welcome New Members!

Helen Dee Mooty of Seabrook, TX

Helen served as the Galveston County Museum Director for the last three years and is now retired. She is beginning the process of researching Mooty, Dickey, Meador, Gray, and Morris and needs help.

Welcome back to prior members!

Susie Ganch of League City, TX

Patricia Taylor of Pearland, TX

Please give a hearty welcome and introduce yourself to each of these people at the next meeting.

We offer our condolences to

BAGS member Jeanine Lawrence whose husband Fred Lawrence passed away Saturday, November 8, 2014. His obituary is accessible [online](#).

BAGS member Ann Fogelman whose youngest brother passed away Thursday, November 13, 2014.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Jeanine and Ann and their families.



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

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BAGS Event Calendar & Committee News

Monthly General Meetings

We meet 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).

Saturday, January 10 at 1:00pm-3:00pm:
Kick-off Party for the New Year!

Friday, January 30 at 7:00pm: Irene Walters presents "Crossing the wide blue seas : passenger lists of our ancestors"

Friday, February 27 at 7:00pm: Nick Cimino will present "Introduction to Researching German Records"

Friday, March 27 at 7:00pm: Jeannette Piecznski will discuss finding and using land records.

Friday, April 24 at 7:00pm: Daniel Sample will present "Family-History Research: World War I Records"

Friday, May 29 at 7:00pm

Friday, June 26 at 7:00pm

Friday, July 31 at 7:00pm

Friday, August 28 at 7:00pm

Special Interest Groups

Beginning Genealogy Research

BAGS will host a monthly presentation and working session at the Friendswood Public Library beginning in February. Dates to be announced. Irene Walters, Clayton Library Staff, will kick-off this SIG with a resource presentation to get everyone started.

Ethnicity Focused Research

BAGS will host a monthly presentation and working session at the Friendswood Public Library beginning in March. Dates to be announced. Nick Cimino will kick-off this SIG with detailed look at German ancestry research.

Research Trips at Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator



Scheduled Trip Dates:

**Wednesday, January 7 and
Tuesday, March 10**

If you want to go, please signup by calling Mary Martin at 281-332-2435 or e-mail her at lmartin497@aol.com. **Nine people must sign up or the trip will be canceled. Please consider using this resource provided by Harris County.**

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.

Board Meetings

The Board meets the 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 EB205.

Monday, January 26 at 6:30pm

Monday, February 23 at 6:30pm

Monday, March 23 at 6:30pm

Monday, April 20 at 6:30pm

Tuesday, May 26 at 6:30pm

Monday, June 22 at 6:30pm

Monday, July 27 at 6:30pm

Monday, August 24 at 6:30pm

Board meeting usually not held in November or December.

Opportunities in Lineage Groups

Would you like to join a lineage group and honor your ancestors in another way? You meet with other women who are doing the same, share information and work finding more ancestors. Colonial Dames of the XVII Century and Daughters of American Colonists record our colonial ancestors in Jamestown, Plymouth, and the other early colonies on the Atlantic coastal area.

Colonial Dames of the XVII Century includes the immigrants up to 1700 while Daughters of the American Colonists goes up to 1775. The United States Daughters of 1812 honors our ancestors who fought in the War of 1812.

All of these groups meet in Dickinson. The United States Daughters of 1812 meets four times a year in February, May, August, and November. The Colonial Dames of the XVII Century meet five times a year in January, March, May, September, and November. The Daughters of American Colonists also meet five times a year in January, March, May, September, and November. They don't meet during the summer so mothers can be home with their children.

If you are interested in any of these organizations, please call, Mary Brandhorst at 281-486-0348 or Mary Glenn at 409-938-1503.

[Article submitted by Mary Martin]



TREE ▼

PERSON ▼

Shake the Trees @ FamilySearch.org

Family Trees within FamilySearch.org is a relatively new resource that helps you to discover, organize, and record your genealogy online. The goal is to create one large worldwide tree. However, you do not have to publish or post your family information to find this resource useful. There is a search feature that can help you find leads to family members and fellow researchers. There is no guarantee that the information in Family Tree is accurate. Data comes from many sources, and anyone can edit the information in Family Tree. A "Latest Changes" section is found on the detail page for each person. This section lists the information that was added/changed for that person and which researcher made the update. These entries provide you contact points to other living researchers interested in the same family lines. I found my grandfather had already been entered in the system. I followed his posted ancestors to see if there were any surprises and checked the "Latest Changes" section to determine who was doing the research. Now I have a new friend to meet!

Access Details: Go to the website www.FamilySearch.org Along the top of the webpage is the menu selections: Family Tree, Memories, Search, Indexing. Using your mouse, hover over "Family Tree" and a pull down menu will appear. Click on "Find" and sign in. You must create an account and sign in to search for people already added to the Family Trees. The account will allow you to search, view, update, and add people. If you index for FamilySearch, the same account will work. Once signed in, enter a surname and given name (or nickname) and follow the tree. Help and training is available online at

<https://familysearch.org/ask/#/tree/>

[Article submitted by Kim Zrubek]

PBS Announces Season 2 Schedule for Genealogy Roadshow



PBS announced their season 2 episode lineup which premieres January 13th 7PM central time. Described as "part detective story and part emotional journey," Genealogy Roadshow showcases families, their histories and their connections to the larger history in and around St. Louis, New Orleans, and Philadelphia. Each individual's story links to a larger community (and in some cases, national) history, to become part of America's rich cultural tapestry. Below are descriptions for each of six episodes:

New Orleans – Cabildo, January 13, 2015 at 7:00pm (central)

A team of genealogists uncovers fascinating family stories at the famous Cabildo, home of the Louisiana State Museum. A couple whose ancestors hail from the same small Italian town explore the chance they may be related; a woman is desperate to find out who committed a gruesome murder in her ancestor's past; a home held by one family for more than a century renders a fascinating story; and a woman discovers the difficult journey her ancestor took on the path to freedom from slavery.

St. Louis – Central Library, January 20, 2015 at 7:00pm (central)

At Saint Louis' historic central library, a team of genealogists uncovers fascinating family stories from Missouri's famous gateway city. A mystery writer discovers her mother has hidden a life-changing secret; a woman finds out if she is descended from the infamous pirate Blackbeard; a mother and daughter seek connections to a famous author; and a young man seeks connection to the Mali tribe in Africa.

Philadelphia – Franklin Institute, January 27, 2015 at 7:00pm (central)

At Philadelphia's Franklin Institute, a team of genealogists uncovers fascinating family histories. A man learns that the event that drove his family to the City of Brotherly Love changed the course of history; a man may be a Viking descendant; another's family could have part of one of history's biggest scams; a young man hopes to confirm his relation to a signer of the Declaration of Independence; and two sisters learn their ancestors were part of the great Irish migration.

New Orleans – Board of Trade, February 3, 2015 at 7:00pm (central)

A team of genealogists uncovers fascinating family stories at the New Orleans Board of Trade. A local man seeks to recover essential history washed away in Hurricane Katrina; a woman discovers she has links to both sides of the Civil War; another unravels the mystery behind her grandfather's adoption; and one man explores a link to the famous New Orleans Voodoo Queen, Marie Laveau.

St. Louis – Union Station, February 10, 2015 at 7:00pm (central)

At St. Louis' historic Union Station, a team of genealogists uncovers fascinating family stories from Missouri. A musician hopes to find connections to a famous St. Louis jazz composer; two sisters explore links to a survivor of the legendary Donner party; an Italian-American woman finds out if she is related to Italian royalty; and a schoolteacher who has all the answers for her students has very few about her own past.

Philadelphia – Historical Society of Pennsylvania, February 17, 2015 at 7:00pm (central)

A team of genealogists uncovers fascinating family histories at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. One woman's ancestor may have sparked historic labor laws; a pastor may have an outlaw in her family tree; a woman learns about slave genealogy and, with the help of DNA testing, gets the answer she has waited for; and another woman learns her ancestor may have helped others escape the Holocaust.

[PBS press release December 9, 2014: *PBS' "GENEALOGY ROADSHOW" SEASON TWO UNCOVERS FAMILY SECRETS ACROSS THE U.S.*]

Local Programs and Events

The following free programs are offered to adults and teens in the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston. All events require reservations except for the orientation. Call the library at 832-393-2600 to make a reservation. Library website is www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton

Library Orientation

Saturday, January 17 from 10:30 to 11:45am

Saturday, February 21 from 1:30 to 11:45am

Learn about the vast resources and how to efficiently utilize genealogical research materials housed at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research.

“They Worked Hard for the Money- Your Ancestors at Work”

Saturday, January 10, 2015 from 2:00pm to 4:15pm

A pair of classes presented by local genealogist and author Nancy Matheny at the Clayton Library.

Great-Granddaddy was no Rockefeller!: Discover your blue-collar ancestor at work in the U.S.A. at 2:00pm

Meet the working ancestor you never knew. Learn how to uncover often overlooked records to find your ancestor's amazing backstory at work in the U.S.A. Discover how historical business records can help you, what they are, where to find them, and what to do with them once found.

Paper Hangers and Harness Makers: Discover your ancestor using city, trade, and professional directories in the U.S.A. at 3:15pm

City, trade, and professional directories are a snapshot in time which tell us a vast array of information about our ancestors' amazing past. We can use that information to prove our relationship with them or fill in the colorful backstory of their lives. Paper Hangers tells you the why, what, how, and where to get started using historical city, trade, and professional directories today.

Captain Dave versus the Yankees: blockade-running on the Texas Coast during the Civil War

Thursday, January 29 at 7:00pm in the Friendswood Public Library. Program presented by Andrew Hall, Chairman of the Galveston Historical Foundation Museum Committee. Hall has worked on numerous marine archaeology projects in Texas notably from 1995 to 2002 on the Denbigh Project, the most extensive excavation and research program on a Civil War blockade runner in the Gulf of Mexico.

Beginning Genealogy Classes

Complete schedule can be found on the insert in this newsletter.

Houston Genealogical Forum is sponsoring this program at Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston (between Hillcroft and Beechnut). Marje Harris, retired manager of the Clayton Library, is teaching these classes. She has a wealth of knowledge and is a very interesting presenter. The complete schedule is posted online at www.HGFTX.org If you have any questions please contact Patricia K. Victor, Publicity Chair, by email patvictor@gmail.com or leave a message on the HGF GeneaLine at (713) 968-9750.

FGS & RootsTech

This event puts the FGS and RootsTech conferences under one roof at the Salt Palace Convention Center (SPCC). The early registration discount for the FGS 2015 conference ends January 23. Register now to get the lowest possible price for a full registration covering four days — February 11–14. The price today is \$159. It increases to \$189 on January 24, 2015. www.FGSConference.org



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