



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

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February 2015

Friday, February 27, 2015: Nick Cimino presents "ACHTUNG – Researching Your German Speaking 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](#)).**



NICK CIMINO

This program covers the history of German migration to America and an overview of online, print and microfilm research resources. Topics include pinpointing the German town of origin, church records in U.S. & Germany, reading German script and basic vocabulary.

Nick and Bob Wegner will discuss these topics in more detail during the Special Interest Group classes for Ethnicity Focused Research held at the Friendswood Public Library on:

Saturday, March 21 at 1:00pm

Saturday, April 18 at 1:00pm

Saturday, May 16 at 1:00pm

Nick Cimino is a professional genealogist, family history educator and blogger. He conducts research in North America, Ireland, British Isles, and Italy including Hispanic and African American. His blog features articles on family history and online genealogy research techniques at www.AncestorPuzzles.com. Follow him on social media: Twitter @ancestorpuzzles, Ancestor Puzzles at Facebook and Nick Cimino at Google+.

Special Interest Group for Beginner Genealogists

Classes begin in February and will consist of a program and research assistance.

Dates and topics on page 3.

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**Pick up your copy of the Yearbook
at the general meeting.**

SAVE THE DATE: Next bus trip for a day of researching at the Clayton Library is Tuesday, March 10 from 9am to 4pm.

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Welcome New Members!

David Buckner of Friendswood, TX

(correction) **Helen Dee Mooty and John Lester Dickey of Seabrook, TX** They are researching surnames Mooty, Dickey, Meador, Gray, and Morris.

(correction) **Stephanie Star Wegner, Jay Parmley Wegner, and Alexander Julian Wegner of Arlington, TX** They are interested in beginning research of the Wegner, Lopez, and Legan surnames.

Marcia Hoevet Zrubek of Nassau Bay, TX

Marcia is researching surnames Zrubek, Hoevet, Kerns, Easterbrook, and Hobson. She is looking for assistance to get started. Mom, welcome to the group! ...KimZ

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

Member Paula Sinning has moved to Ben Wheeler, TX (located on Texas 64 between Canton and Tyler). Her new address is in the 2015 Yearbook.

We offer our condolences to

BAGS members Nick and Robin Cimino whose father William Royce Harrington of Fernley, Nevada passed away Sunday, December 28, 2014. His obituary was published in the *Elko Daily Free Press* and is available [online](#).

BAGS members Robert and Melodey Hauch whose mother Ruth G. Hauch of Lilburn, Georgia passed away Wednesday, January 21, 2015. Her obituary was published in the *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution* and is available [online](#).

Our thoughts and prayers go out to 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

General Meeting Programs

We meet the last Friday of the month at 7:00pm. Come at 6:30pm to enjoy coffee and socializing. The public is invited. These meetings are held at the University Baptist Church (UBC) located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 (Clear Lake City).

Friday, March 27 at 7:00pm: Jeannette Piecznski will present "A Harvest of Land Is a Bounty of Records"

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

Friday, May 29 at 7:00pm: Gale French will present "Self-Publishing Your Family History"

Friday, June 26 at 7:00pm: Family Tree DNA, Houston will discuss DNA testing

Friday, July 31 at 7:00pm: Nancy Bronte Matheny will present "Great-Grandpa was no Rockefeller!: Solutions to finding your blue-collar ancestor's colorful backstory in the USA"

Friday, August 28: Annual Show & Tell

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 on the second floor in room EB205 (use the stairs near the Chapel entrance).

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.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

SIGs are free programs available to members and the public. They are a series of monthly classes focused on a specific topic of interest. The classes consist of a presentation and research mentoring.

Beginning Genealogy Research SIG

Just starting? Stuck? Or need encouragement or inspiration? Come discover for the first time or refresh your memory on research resources and techniques. These classes are held at the Friendswood Public Library on:

Thursday, February 19 at 2:00pm:

Beginning Genealogy Research and Clayton Library presented by Irene Walters from the Clayton Library

Thursday, March 19 at 2:00pm: *Genealogy Tips & Tricks : finding ancestors by not searching the known information* presented by Irene Walters

Thursday, April 9 at 2:00pm: *Using newspapers to flesh out your genealogy* presented by Irene Walters

Saturday, May 30 at 1:00pm: *An overview of FamilySearch.org* presented by Nick Cimino

Ethnicity Focused Research SIG

Have German ancestors in your tree? BAGS members Nick Cimino and Bob Wegner will discuss resources and immigration history to use in your research. These classes are held at the Friendswood Public Library on:

Saturday, March 21 at 1:00pm: Discussing how to identify Germany roots of American German ancestors. (American church records, town cluster)

Saturday, April 18 at 1:00pm: German church and civil records.

Saturday, May 16 at 1:00pm: Reading German script, German vocabulary, and access to free research training videos.

Have Irish Ancestors?

The British National Archives announced *Ireland, Poverty Relief Loans 1821-1874* records have been digitized and are available through *FindMyPast* subscription site. However, you have free access to search and view records in *FindMyPast* while inside any LDS Family History Center. The centers are located in Alvin (2700 Lehi Lane), Friendswood (505 Deseret Drive), Galveston (3114 77th Street), League City (4655 South Shore Boulevard), and Pasadena (4202 Yellowstone). These records relate to the Irish Reproductive Loan Fund that was a privately funded micro credit scheme set up in 1824 to provide small loans to the 'industrious poor' - those most affected by poverty and famine. This collection of almost 700,000 records, which spans the period of the Irish Potato Famine, provides unique insight into the lives of those living in Ireland during the time. The majority of the records cover the years 1824 to 1846 across ten counties in Munster and Connacht. Many of the records are loan application forms, which include the name of the borrower and two names of guarantors, who were often close family members or neighbors. Other details recorded include occupation, notes of health, family circumstances and whether the borrower emigrated. The handwritten ledgers and account books reveal the changing fortunes of Irish ancestors and their subsequent movements in Ireland and across the world. The British National Archives offers a research guide on how to trace Irish ancestors in birth, marriage and death records available online at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/records/looking-for-person/bmdscotlandandireland.htm> [From National Archives email newsletter, January 2015]

Pre 1820 Immigration Research

To find passenger arrival records for immigrants arriving before 1820, you must rely on printed sources. These include published lists of immigrants' names taken from newspapers, naturalization oaths, indenture lists, headright grants, and other records. Use the *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index* a 15+ volume set compiled by P. William (Percy William) Filby to locate ancestors in these published sources. A new volume is published each year to provide coverage to old passenger and immigration records that were discovered or transcribed during that year. These volumes index over 4.5 million names found in more than 2,500 published sources. These are passengers that came to the New World between the sixteenth and early twentieth centuries. [From *FamilySearch.org* Research Wiki page "US Immigration Passenger Arrival Records"]

Clayton Library has the complete *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index* set (call # 325.1 P287 USA). To use this resource: 1) Look up the surnames in each cumulative index and every subsequent volume as there may be many persons with similar same data. Each entry will provide surname, given name, destination, year, with a source number and a page number. Record all of this data and the volume number. 2) Turn to the bibliography listing located in the front of this volume. Find your source number and record the source title information. 3) Ask Clayton Library if they carry the source title or where it could be located. 4) The source document will give your passenger or immigration information for your surname.

The index is also available online in *Ancestry.com* (only through a personal subscription not the library's edition). To find this index in *Ancestry.com*, click on **Search** and choose **Card Catalog** at the bottom of the **Search** menu. On the Card Catalog page, enter the word *passenger* for the **Title** and enter the word *filby* for the **Keyword(s)** and press the **Search button**. Click on the one result that is returned, *U.S. and Canada, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, 1500s-1900s*. Now on the next page, you will be searching for ancestor names only in that collection. The search results can provide the age of the person, arrival year, arrival place, and specific print source title and page number where the printed information can be found. Ask Clayton Library if they have the print source title. The information within that print source may lead you to the original record location. A search for Karrick surname returned men that arrived in Boston, Baltimore, Augusta Co. Virginia, and Philadelphia.

Pssst.....The next bus trip to Clayton Library is Tuesday, March 10, 2015. Meet at 9:00am in the parking lot of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Lane. The county bus departs at 9:15am and will arrive back at 4:00pm.

VA Markers

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs initially denied headstones for World War I US Army Privates Frank R. Ellis and Oscar Bernard Juenger because they currently have no next of kin. This did not deter a tenaciously dedicated local historian, genealogist, and member Deborah Gammon. For more than 3 years, she has been gathering data, doing genealogical research and reconstructing their service records in hopes of officially marking their graves.

In December 2014, Deborah happily reported success in securing headstones for Ellis and Juenger who are buried in the Fairview Cemetery. The VA marker has finally been installed for Oscar Bernard Juenger, shown in the picture. Her Galveston County court order was not accepted by the Veterans Administration as part of the marker request (see related article in *BAGS Newsletter* May 2014 issue). However, Deborah found another way to secure distant family signatures. Here is her success story in Deborah's own words.



I went to a marker dedication in Washington Cemetery in Houston. I knew that Oscar had relatives there, his parents and two brothers. I was sitting at a table for the luncheon afterwards and a woman, Cathy Fitch, came over and asked to join our table. She asked me what I did after I told her who I was. And I told her about my VA marker problem and mentioned to her that Oscar had family in her cemetery. She works for Washington Cemetery. I then asked if by any chance would she happen to have a contact for the Juenger family. One week later, I received an email with a grandniece's address in Massachusetts. Wrote a letter. She telephoned me and signed the papers. Oscar got a stone. Frank's VA marker should arrive by end of January [2015]. I wrote 3 letters to 1/2 great grandnieces and nephews. Letter #3 got a response, Glen T. Norvel signed the paper work and Frank Ellis will get his stone.

The historic Fairview Cemetery is located at the end of Kansas Street in League City, TX. Established in 1900, the 114- year old cemetery holds approximately 1200 residents of League City and several surrounding communities and holds a Texas Historic Cemetery designation.

KHOU Channel 11 interviewed Deborah Gammon on Friday, April 25, 2014 and published this video and article <http://www.khou.com/story/local/2015/02/01/12454504>

Refer to the Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration's website <http://www.cem.va.gov/hmm> for information concerning eligibility for a free government headstone, marker or medallion and the application process. The applicant must either be a decedent's next-of-kin, an authorized representative on behalf of the decedent, or an authorized representative on behalf of next-of-kin. To directly access the general information sheet and application form, click here <http://www.va.gov/vaforms/va/pdf/VA40-1330.pdf>

Good Job Deborah!

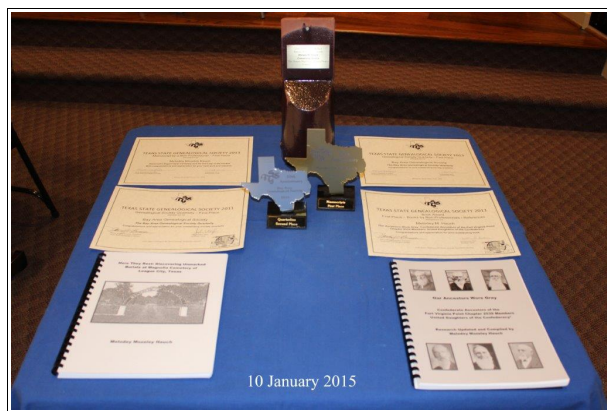
January Kick-Off Party



Sharing research ideas



Celebrating Society accomplishments



Sharing good food!



Thank you to all who brought food. Thank you to Leslee Fehlman and Betty Wegner for preparing the punch and wrangling the dishes.

The punch was so refreshing! Here are the recipes:

SO SIMPLE PUNCH

2 Kool-Aid unsweetened strawberry drink
46oz pineapple juice
1 and 1/2 cups sugar
2 quarts water
1 liter ginger ale

Combine Kool-Aid, pineapple juice, sugar and water. Stir until dissolved. Just before serving, stir in ginger ale. Add sliced sweetened strawberries if you like.

Makes about 30 servings of 4 oz. cups.

GOLDEN GLOW PUNCH

3 oz. package orange flavored gelatin
6 oz. can frozen pineapple-orange juice concentrate

4 cups apple juice
12oz bottle or 3 1/2 cups ginger ale, chilled

Dissolve gelatin in 1 cup boiling water. Stir in pineapple-orange concentrate. Add apple juice and 3 cups cold water. Carefully pour in chilled ginger ale. Be sure to make an ice ring or ice cubes out of each punch.

Makes about 25 four ounce servings.

Local Programs and Events

Clayton Library Programming

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

“From Slavery to Freedom: Researching Pre and Post Civil War African American Ancestors”

**Saturday, February 7, 2015
from 11:00am to 4:30pm**

Three classes presented by Clayton Library staff member and author Franklin Smith at the Clayton Library.

Beginning African American Genealogy Research at 11:00am

This presentation is geared towards those just starting their family history journey. The presentation will cover basic research tips and strategy for researching African American genealogy with an emphasis on records that specifically relate to African Americans.

Researching Pre-Civil War Slave Ancestors – Identifying the Slaveholder at 1:30pm

Learn tips and strategies for identifying the slaveholder using Post-Civil War records and information. From the 1870 community use the surname and location approach to narrow the potential slaveholder candidates.

Learn How to Identify and Locate Slaveholder Records and Documents at 3:00pm

Once a slaveholder candidate is identified, learn what type of records will name your slave ancestors, how to locate those records and analyze those records.

Library Orientation

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.

File Organization for Effective Genealogy Data Management

Wednesday, February 4 at 7:00pm in the Friendswood Public Library. Gale French will discuss best practice tools for managing genealogy records. Learn how to collect, create, store, organize, and protect your records (document, photo, digital and word processing) in an intuitive format and backup your data using disks, DVDs, and cloud storage.

An Overview of FamilySearch.org

Saturday, February 28 at 11:00am in the Helen Hall Library (100 W. Walker St., League City). Nick Cimio will present this program.

Free Family History Fair

Saturday February 28 from 8am to 5pm at Klein Stake Center located at 16535 Kleinwood Drive Spring, Texas. Watch recorded sessions of RootsTech 2015 (www.rootstech.org) and attend some live classes taught by local family history experts.



Connecting Generations: A Free Family Search Conference

Saturday, April 25 from 8am to 2pm in the Summerwood Stake located at 14350 North Sam Houston Parkway, Houston. This is an opportunity for you to learn the skills to get started capturing and preserving your family history or to further the research that has already been completed. Open to all teenagers through adults of any skill level. Bring a lunch or go out to eat. Participate in 3 hours of live classes and 2 hours of open lab with exhibits. Access the complete schedule, course list, and registration online at <http://houstonfamilysearch.com/2015-conferences>

Member Nick Cimino will be presenting two classes “Citing and Organizing Sources” and Italian Research” at this conference.

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REMINDER

Next General Meeting is
Friday, February 27 at 7:00 pm
in University Baptist Church
Socializing begins at 6:30 pm