



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 14, Issue No. 10

June 2015

### Friday, June 26, 2015: Jeremy Balkin from Family Tree DNA presents "New Avenues in Genetic Genealogy"

*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, Houston, TX 77059 - [online map](#)).**



Jeremy Balkin

Genetic genealogy has come a long way. In this relatively new field, Family Tree DNA has pioneered the idea of applying genetics to the traditional practice of genealogy. People no longer have to rely solely on historical documents and family lore to trace their heritages and fill in gaps in their lineages. DNA testing for the purposes of genealogy has allowed for people to understand more clearly where they came from, who they are related to, and what their overall ethnic makeup is. It has connected the entire world as one large genealogical community. Jeremy will explain, in layman's terms, what getting tested involves, how the science behind the testing works, and how you can discover your ancestry more clearly through a simple cheek swab. Test kits will be available for purchase and swab on site for people interested in testing.

Jeremy Balkin is an Information Specialist and mans his place in the pantheon of Family Tree DNA's Help Desk. He interprets genetic ancestral results for the expanding customer base, and is one of the voices that you hear when you call FTDNA. He graduated from the University of Houston with a B.A. in History and a minor in Communication. Having worked in the field for almost three years, he has been able to fuse his communication studies with his knowledge of history to provide ancestral analysis that anybody can understand. His Family Tree DNA test results are heavily laden with Ashkenazi Jewish ancestry. Aside from Family Tree DNA, Jeremy is a professional photographer and professional writer. He has shot for several publications, and still photographs weddings and special events.

At the July meeting, BAGS member Michael McCown will demonstrate how to use DNA results with other genealogical resources such as *Ancestry.com* to locate family members.

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**Plan to attend the all day seminar presented by Trevia Wooster Beverly on Saturday, July 11, 2015. Program details on pages 4&5.**

***Need a ride? Contact Polly Swerdlin***

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



## **BAGS Officers 2013-2015**

### **President**

Shirley Lindquist

[President@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:President@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **First Vice President**

Melodey Hauch

[VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **Second Vice President**

Kim Zrubek

[VicePresident2@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:VicePresident2@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **Recording Secretary**

Deborah Gammon

[RecordingSec@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:RecordingSec@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **Corresponding Secretary**

Annette Bowen

[CorrespondSec@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:CorrespondSec@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **Treasurer**

Loren Martin

[Treasurer@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:Treasurer@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **Registrar**

Bob Wegner

[Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org)

## **Newsletter Staff**

### **Editor / Compositor**

Kim Zrubek

[newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

### **Proofreaders**

Chester Karrick, Shirley Robbins, and Geri Smith

### **Photographer**

Bill Mayo

### **Distributor**

Neil Miserendino

### **Web Editors**

Polly Swerdlin and Garry Garrett

## **Welcome New Members!**

### **Julianne "Julie" Blanford of Friendswood**

Julie needs assistance in researching John R. Maney

### **Beba Cates of Pearland**

Beba is researching surnames Kable and Reed. She would like some assistance with tracing German ancestors.

### **Joe DeBonis of Friendswood**

### **Kathleen Shanahan Maca of Houston**

Kathleen writes and works to preserve Galveston's history. She is researching the surnames of Haverfield, Reed, and Gardenhire.

### **Denise Mallett of Kemah**

Denise needs assistance in researching Wallace David Mallett from area near Liverpool, England

### **Terri Myers of Houston**

### **Teresa Rundell or Pearland**

*Please give a hearty welcome and introduce yourself at the next meeting.*

## **Opportunities**

Come join Polly, Kathie, Judy, Leslee, Kim, Loren, Bill, Bob, Nick, Garry, and Neil in planning and leading BAGS during the next two years! We are looking for three more people to serve on the Board for the 2015-2017 term. We are a fun group! Interested? Please contact either Bob Wegner (Registrar), Nick Cimino (Education Coordinator), or Shirley Lindquist (President) for additional information.

### **1st Vice President**

The 1st Vice President assumes duties of the president in the absence, incapacitation or resignation of the president. If and when they occur, this person oversees special projects and bylaw changes.

### **Recording Secretary and an Assistant**

The Recording Secretary or assistant is present at each monthly BAGS Board and general meeting to document the decisions made and actions assigned. These recordings are distributed to Board members and electronically stored for historical documentation.

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](mailto: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, June 26 at 7:00pm:** Family Tree DNA representative Jeremy Balkin will discuss DNA tests available and the science behind them that help you find ancestors.

**Saturday, July 11 from 9am to 4pm.** Seminar and research session free to BAGS members. Two programs presented by Trevia Beverly Wooster.

**Friday, July 31 at 7:00pm:** Michael McCown will present "Utilizing Your DNA test results", demonstrating how to use DNA results with other genealogical resources such as *Ancestry.com* to locate family.

**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, 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.

## Research Trips at Clayton Library Mary Martin, County Coordinator

### Scheduled Trip Dates:

**Wednesday, July 15**

**Thursday, September 17**



If you want to go, please signup by calling Mary Martin at 281-332-2435 or e-mail her at [Imartin497@aol.com](mailto:Imartin497@aol.com). Nine people must sign up or the trip will be canceled. Please consider using this resource provided by Harris County. Meet at 9:00am in the parking lot of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center. The bus will arrive back at 4:00pm.

## A BIG THANK YOU TO

Nick Cimino and Bob Wegner for organizing, planning, and teaching the Beginning and German Special Interest Group sessions held from February through May this year. SIG sessions will resume in September. Follow Nick's blog [www.ancestorpuzzles.com](http://www.ancestorpuzzles.com) to continue learning about research resources African, European, and Native American ancestors.

Also a BIG THANK YOU to all the BAGS members that supported the SIG programs as mentors and support staff: Annette Bowen, Gay Carter, Deborah Gammon, Melodey Hauch, Bill Mayo, Mike McCown, Loren Martin, Betty Wegner, Jennifer Windham, Judy Wright, and David Zwahr.

## *Our thoughts and prayers go out to*

The family of BAGS member Charles Sterling. A memorial service was held for Charles at the Elks Lodge in Clear Lake Shores on Tuesday, May 26, 2015.



# ***Meet Mr. Draper and the Reverend Shane and Travel the Natchez Trace***

## **Trevia Wooster Beverly Seminar**

**Saturday, July 11, 2015**



at University Baptist Church in the Chapel on the first floor  
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059

**Hosted by Bay Area Genealogical Society**

**www.TXBayAreaGen.org**



**FREE to BAGS members  
\$10 for non-members (cash or check)**

**If you plan to attend, please email your name to  
VicePresident2@TXBayAreaGen.org by July 1 for planning purposes.**

- **Did your ancestors move west after the American Revolution, living between the Appalachian Mountains and the Mississippi River during the years from about 1780 to 1860?**
- **Did your ancestors live in the Lower Mississippi River Valley from 1760 to the 1920s?**

**Discover what and how information can be found in the Lyman Copeland Draper, Rev. John Dabney Shane, and Natchez Trace extensive compiled manuscript collections available at Clayton Library. Mrs. Beverly will provide an extensive outline for each collection and bring books from her private library for display.**

**9:00am Registration**

**10:00am Beverly presents *Meet Mr. Draper and the Reverend Shane***

**11:30am Potluck snacks (optional) - Bring sandwiches, salads, or dessert to share**

**12:30pm Beverly presents *Traveling the Natchez Trace***

**2:00pm Optional research session supported by BAGS members (ends at 4:00pm)**

**Free WiFi available. Bring your laptops and mobile devices.**

## ***Meet Mr. Draper and the Reverend Shane and Travel the Natchez Trace***

***Trevia Wooster Beverly Seminar***

***Saturday, July 11, 2015***

**The Draper Manuscripts:** Lyman Copeland Draper (1815-1891) grew up listening to the Revolutionary War stories told by his grandfather and the War of 1812 tales of his father. He became fascinated with American history, particularly the history of the west. The primary geographic concentration is on what Draper and his contemporaries called the "Trans-Allegheny West," which included the western Carolinas and Virginia, some portions of Georgia and Alabama, the entire Ohio River valley, and parts of the Mississippi River valley. Draper's intention was to use his manuscripts to write a book on western history and biography tentatively titled "Sketches of the Lives of the Pioneers." He died before his efforts came to fruition. Upon his death, Draper willed his collection of manuscripts to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Although the Draper Manuscripts are rich in information, they are not the easiest resource to use but there are a number of indexes and finding aids that will help a researcher use the collection.

**The Shane Manuscripts:** Rev. John Dabney Shane (1812-1864), born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1812 to Henry and Nancy (Williams) Shane, was educated at college and seminary in Virginia and returned to Ohio and Kentucky as a Presbyterian minister. From his earliest years, he had a passion for collecting and hoarding everything that had any bearing upon the history of the Presbyterian Church in the Ohio River Valley. Possessing a remarkable zeal for his project, Rev. Shane declined pastoral office and set aside any intentions he may have had concerning the establishment of a family so that he could roam the land in his quest. He dedicated more than twenty years to historical research, using the oral history technique similar to his contemporary, Lyman Copeland Draper. Shane purposefully sought out those of age and experience to interview, writing down their reminiscences. He copied from family, church, and government records and clipped from newspapers and magazines. While Draper had a deep interest in the military (personal papers in his original collection are rare), Shane was just as interested in the domestic, business, educational, religious, and literary aspects of the time. His inquiries concerning old barrels, trunks, and chests—which he carefully searched—brought him many family letters, records, and other items.

**The Natchez Trace Collection** is actually a series of collections documenting the history from Nashville, Tennessee to Natchez, Mississippi and includes a portion of Mobile, Alabama. Records included relate to the functioning of the territories under French and then Spanish rule. Civil records including lawsuits, wills, estate inventories, notarized bills, IOU's, accounts, contracts, slave sales and manumissions, and others. Records are in French, Spanish or English.

**Trevia Wooster Beverly** is a native Texan born and reared in Wooster, a community (now a part of Baytown) founded by her great-grandfather in 1892. Her interest in genealogy began with a ninth grade English project, and since that time her research on both her own and her husband's family has taken her back to New England and Virginia in the 1600's, and across 'the pond.' These lines include a Magna Carta Baron, a Mayflower passenger, and both French Acadian and Huguenot lines. A member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, she maintains active membership in numerous archival, cemetery, historical, genealogical, and library organizations. Mrs. Beverly has conducted seminars and workshops throughout Texas, and teaches genealogy classes in Houston. She is listed in several biographical publications, including *Who's Who In Genealogy & Heraldry*. Mrs. Beverly is a past president of the Texas State Genealogical Society (1984-1987), and served a total of 12 years on the TSGS Board of Directors and a member of the Stripes staff. In 1994 she was the host chairman for Clayton Library Friends for the National Genealogical Society Conference in Houston. A charter member of the Clayton Library Friends, she has been published in the CLF Newsletter and other periodicals. Mrs. Beverly has published several books including a compilation of Texas cemetery directories, indexes to marriage and naturalization records for a number of Texas and Alabama counties, and *Suffer the Children: A History of the Confederate Orphanage at Baylands, Texas* (2004). She became a member of the Angelina College genealogy faculty in 1998.

## Sanborn Fire Insurance Map Collection

<http://www.loc.gov/collections/sanborn-maps>

This Library of Congress collection offers free online a searchable database of the fire insurance maps published by the Sanborn Map Company for some cities in the U.S. states: AK, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, NC, NE, NH, NJ, NV, OH, PA, TX, VA, VT, WY and Canada, Mexico, Cuba sugar warehouses, and U.S. whiskey warehouses. Not all the entries are linked to a digitized image of the map. Currently there are over 6000 sheets digitized and they are adding more. Choose one of the states listed on the left side under “Location” to discover what has been digitized. Once the images for that state are shown, you can then select a specific county under the “Location” section. Click on a specific map and zoom in to look at the detail.



The “About this Collection” page explains the keys and colors used on the maps. You will find street and building layout, exterior and interior structural details, and family names. If there is a map for your area of interest in your ancestor’s time period, then you can discover their living conditions and infer social and economic status.

## Hurricane Season Preparedness

Plans, checklists and TxDOT evacuation routes can be found online at [www.TexasPrepares.org](http://www.TexasPrepares.org)



### Prepare Genealogy Records:

- Backup your data. Don't just save a GEDCOM file. The GEDCOM backup only contains basic data about a person. It will not include all your notes, photos, and citations.
- Keep those backups on small removable media (e.g. compact discs or USB/flash drives) or store on the Internet “cloud” (e.g. send yourself an email with the backup file attached, store on Google Drive, Dropbox)
- Start scanning original documents (e.g. old letters, photographs) that cannot be replaced then backup and share these digitized images. Most local libraries offer a public scanner where the digitized files can be saved to a USB/Flash drive

### Know anyone that would need help evacuating in the event of a hurricane?

Register them in advance for a ride by dialing **2-1-1**. This includes people that:

- Have a disability or special health care need and require assistance to get out.
- Cannot drive and cannot arrange transportation.
- Do not have a vehicle and you have no one else to help you evacuate.

Registration is required each year. The list of people is not carried over from one year to the next.

## Galveston's Broadway Cemeteries

BAGS member Kathleen Maca has been researching genealogies and cemeteries for over 40 years. Her book *Galveston's Broadway Cemeteries* will be available July 20, 2015 from Arcadia Publishing as part of their “Images Of America” series. This book can be purchased online through Arcadia Publishing or Amazon.com. Follow her work on the blog <https://headstonesandfootnotes.wordpress.com>

## Local Programs and Events

### 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference “Solving Genealogical Conundrums with Local History, Special Collections and the Internet”

Friday and Saturday, July 17 and 18, 2015 from 8:30am to 4:00pm at Angelina College Campus on 3500 South First Street (Hwy 59 South) – two miles south of Loop 187 in Lufkin, Texas. See program details and registration form at [www.angelina.edu/gen-conf](http://www.angelina.edu/gen-conf)

### FREE online classes

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City is hosting a number of free online family history classes and webinars this summer. Use the FamilySearch Wiki page to access this list and register to attend one or more of these live classes: [https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Family\\_History\\_Library#Live\\_Online\\_Class\\_Schedule](https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Family_History_Library#Live_Online_Class_Schedule)

#### June

Sat 20 Jun 2 pm La Información Matrimonial  
Sat 20 Jun 3 pm Los Registros de Aspirantes al Sacerdocio y Limpiezas de Sangre  
Sat 20 Jun 4 pm Las Capellanías y Cofradías  
Tue 23 Jun 8 pm Case History: How to find ancestors in Digitalarkivet of Norway  
Thu 25<sup>th</sup> Jun 7 pm African-American Research: Using Plantation Records  
Thu 25 Jun 8 pm Hamburg Passenger Lists

#### July

Thu 2 Jul 8 pm Danish Church Records: Feast Days  
Thu 9 Jul 7 pm, United States Naturalization  
Sat 18 Jul 10:15am Danish Probate Record Research  
Sat 18 Jul 11:15 am Accessing Danish Probate Records: Online and Microfilm  
Sat 18 Jul 12:15am Probate Records: Extracting Genealogical Information  
Sat 18 Jul 2 pm Fuentes en FamilySearch  
Thu 23<sup>rd</sup> 7:00 pm, Beginning LDS Research

#### August

Thu 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm, Planning a Research Trip  
Thu 27<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm, Immigration into the United States

### TSGS 2015 Family History Conference

Texas State Genealogical Society announced its 2015 Family History Conference will be October 30 - November 1, 2015 in Austin, Texas. This three day event will include wonderful research opportunities, insightful family history sessions for all skill levels, and a full exhibit hall. Watch for more information on their website: [www.txsgs.org](http://www.txsgs.org)



The Texas State Genealogical Society recognizes excellence in the genealogical community with several awards, grants and a scholarship.

- Student Scholarship
- Archival Grants
- Matching Grants
- Volunteer Award
- Writing Awards (books, manuscripts, periodicals, columns, and student projects)
- Website Awards (society and individual)

These awards are announced each year at the Annual Conference. Details and requirements are posted online at [www.txsgs.org/awards-grants](http://www.txsgs.org/awards-grants)

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**REMINDER**

Next General Meeting is  
Friday, June 26 at 7:00 pm  
in University Baptist Church  
Socializing begins at 6:30 pm