



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

P.O. Box 590853
Houston, TX 77259-0853

Volume 15, Issue No. 3

January 2016

Friday, January 29, 2016: Modern Military Research: How To Find Your 20th Century Military Relative

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

**We meet at the University Baptist Church (UBC) in the Chapel, 1st floor.
(16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059 - [online map](#)).**

In this program, Irene Walters will discuss records of military service of men and women from the Spanish-American War through today. Particular emphasis is paid to the two World Wars.

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 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.



Irene Walters



Happy New Year



**Catch the bus to Clayton Library
Wednesday, January 20
details on page 3**

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**Members Only Working Session
Saturday, January 23
details on page 3**

***If you know of someone that needs
a ride to the meetings, please
contact Polly Swerdlin***

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President's Message



The state of our organization is in very good shape, however it can be even more wonderful. One step in this direction is for each member to consider volunteering individual skills, talents, or knowledge to the Society. To assist in this effort, I have established a new program called **'I Can Help'** to aid in matching members with the support needs of the Society or other members' research needs. All the committees and the chairpersons are listed in this newsletter (page 6) and each *BAGS Journal* issue. Please consider how you can help to continue the accomplishments and even improve the Society. It really is personally rewarding to work with the great group of people we have in BAGS. Thank you to all of our wonderful current volunteers.

Remember to frequently access our excellent website www.TxBayAreaGen.org for updated messages and information regarding BAGS and its activities.

Thank you to everyone who renewed memberships for the 2015-2016 Society year. We are happy to receive new and renewing memberships throughout the year at either our general meetings or by postal mail (BAGS, P.O. Box 590853, Houston, TX 77259-0853)

Loren Martin

Welcome New Members!



**Diane Lucas
George Porterfield
Charolotte Wisnewski**

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

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 590853, Houston, TX 77259-0853, or newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

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2015-2016 BAGS Calendar



Wednesday, January 20, 2016 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library Please sign-up by contacting Mary Martin, 281-332-2435 or lmartin497@aol.com.



Saturday, January 23 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: BAGS Members Only Working Session for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet in rooms EB202 and EB203 at the University Baptist Church located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059.



Monday, January 25 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting at the University Baptist Church. All members are welcome to attend.



Friday, January 29, 2016 at 7:00pm: General Meeting. Program: Irene Walters from the Clayton Library will present “Modern Military Research: How To Find Your 20th Century Military Relative” Program is at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Socializing begins at 6:30pm.



Saturday, February 20 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: BAGS Members Only Working Session for both beginners and advanced researcher. Meet in rooms EB202 and EB203 at the University Baptist Church located at 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059.



Monday, February 22 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting at the University Baptist Church. All members are welcome to attend.



Friday, February 26, 2016 at 7:00pm: General Meeting and Potluck Dinner. Program: Melissa Hayes from the Clayton Library will discuss how to research adoptee’s ancestors. Program is at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Dinner starts at 6:30pm.



Wednesday, March 2, 2016 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library Please sign-up by contacting Mary Martin, 281-332-2435 or lmartin497@aol.com.

BAGS Members Only Workshops Information



Bring your devices and research. Free WiFi is available in the church. If you would like to serve as a mentor, please contact Nick Cimino, Education Chair. Seating limited.

Bus Tips to Clayton Library Information



If you want to participate in one of the future bus trips, please signup by contacting Mary Martin by phone 281-332-2435 or e-mail lmartin497@aol.com. This resource is provided by the Harris County Senior Program. A minimum of nine people must sign up per the county regulations. Catch the bus by 9:15am in front of the parking lot at the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center (16511 Diana Lane, Houston, TX 77062). The bus will arrive back at 4:00pm.

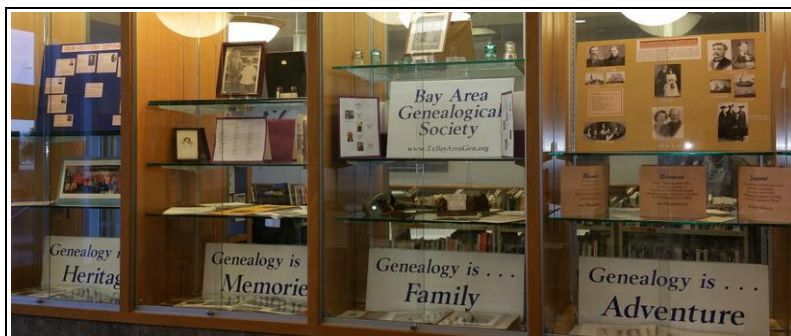
5-Gen Information



Throughout the year, send your partially completed or updated 5-generation charts (pedigree charts) to Garry Garrett. These charts are used to communicate family connections among members. View the current list of charts by accessing the BAGS website (www.TxBayAreaGen.org), click the “**Members Only**” link, enter password, and then click on “**Members 5 Generation Charts.**” The list is organized by surname. For females, they appear under their maiden name with their current surname listed in quotes. Ask a Board member for the password to access the “**Members Only**” page.

BAGS on Display

Thank you Polly Swerdlin and Shirley Lindquist for creating an exhibit advertising genealogy and the Society which is on display all this month at the Freeman Memorial Library.



Annual Holiday Party, November 2015: Members and guests enjoyed friendship and food at the Hope Village Cafe



More party pictures are available in the BAGS website's photo gallery. Access them by going to the BAGS website www.TxBayAreaGen.org. Hover the mouse pointer over the **About Us** tab (do not click on the **About Us**) to see the submenu options. Click on **Photo Gallery** menu choice. Click on **2015** and then click on **November**. Click on a picture to see a bigger version. Use the right mouse button on the picture to save the photo to your computer.

BAG\$ Report for December 2015 by Bill Mayo, Treasurer CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance Brought Forward 30 November 2015	\$6,760.92
December Deposits	\$0.00
December Expenditures	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance on 31 December 2015	\$6,760.92

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

Value on 31 December 2015	\$3,731.79
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Researching in Your Pajamas

Copies of the handouts from the October 2015 general meeting presentation are available in the BAGS website's members only resources. Access the handouts by going to the BAGS website www.TxBayAreaGen.org. Click on **Members Only** tab, enter the password then click on **Archived Meeting Handouts**. One question asked during the program was "Are digitized images of the *Houston Chronicle* and *Houston Post* archives available?" Answer: Most of the archives have not been digitized. Microfilmed copies of all issues are available at the Houston Public Central Library (832-393-1313), the University of Houston Downtown W.I. Dykes Library (713-221-8187), and the Rice University Fondren Library (713-348-5113).

Tips & Tricks

Checkout the series of articles published by Nick Cimino, professional genealogist, on his blog AncestorPuzzles.com in November and December. The articles demonstrate research strategies and resources that you may apply.

- *Playing Clue Game with Genealogical Documents*
- *Writing a Genealogical Biography with Ancestry.com*
- *Preserving Holiday Memories - "The Ghosts of Christmas Past"*
- *Rich and Not So Famous Kin – The Fairbanks Family of Petaluma, California*



Education Committee: Nick Cimino (chair), Annette Bowen, Lori Cole, and Beth Marshall

Ancestry to Retire Family Tree Maker Desktop Software

Ancestry.com stopped selling Family Tree Maker on December 31, 2015. They will continue to support existing Family Tree Maker owners at least through January 1, 2017. Before 2017, all features of the software, including TreeSync™ will continue to work. The Member Services team will also remain available to assist with questions or issues owners have. Presently there are no plans to sell Family Tree Maker software to another company.

- ▶ After January 1, 2017, features that require connectivity to *Ancestry.com* may no longer be support such as TreeSync™, uploading and downloading trees and media, and Web Search.
- ▶ Most Family Tree Maker features are designed to work without an Internet connection to *Ancestry.com*. So you can continue to access your family data stored on your computer through Family Tree Maker desktop software beyond Jan. 1, 2017.

[This information was pulled from December 9, 2015 *Ancestry.com* blog posting "More Information on the Family Tree Maker Desktop Software" published by Kendall Hulet. Access the complete online posting at <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2015/12/09/more-information-on-family-tree-maker-desktop-software>]

If you want to continue using a desktop computer program but you want to move to a product that has not been discontinued, there are several choices that will import your existing Family Tree Maker database: RootsMagic (discount), Legacy (discount), Family Historian (discount), Ancestral Quest (discount), and Family Tree Builder (Free). Details at <http://www.geneamusings.com/2015/12/other-genealogy-software-options-to.html>

PBS Genealogy Roadshow

BAGS hosted a table during the taping session at the Houston Public Library Julia Ideson Building on November 22, 2015. Season 3 begins May 17, 2016. The episodes will feature the locations Boston, MA; Providence, RI; Miami, FL; Houston, TX; Albuquerque, NM and Los Angeles, CA.



A BIG THANK YOU to the following members:

- ★ Lisa Smith for serving as our Recording Secretary, on the Education Committee, and as a newsletter proofreader. We have enjoyed your insight and suggestions. Good luck in your relocation.
- ★ Shirley Lindquist and Susie Ganch are our Welcoming Committee. They will serve as greeters and manage name badges during the general meetings.
- ★ Tammy Frey is our new Historian
- ★ Garry Garrett is our new *Yearbook* editor
- ★ Neil Miserendino assisted with Society publicity for several months.
- ★ Nick Cimino is the new District 4 representative to the Texas State Genealogical Society. This district includes Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, and Walker counties: www.txsgs.org/about/district-map/district-4
- ★ Bob Wegner is the new BAGS representative to the Texas State Genealogical Society.

I Can Help: Want Ads

- ✓ **Recording Secretary and Assistant** to capture activities at the Board and general meetings.
- ✓ **Scrapbooker** to assist Tammy Frey, Historian
- ✓ **Assistant** to Mary Martin, County Coordinator, to support the Society's bus trips
- ✓ **Assistant** to Bettejean Spatafore, Publicity, to support publicity communications
- ✓ **Assistant** to Leslee Fehlman, Hospitality, to serve as host during the pot luck dinners.
- ✓ **Articles** on family history, research, or interesting discovery to be published in the *BAGS Journal*. Your entries do not need to be related to Texas but can be about ancestors anywhere in the world. Email your information to Melodey Hauch, *Journal* Editor at journal@txbayareagen.org



2015-2016 BAGS Committees with Chairperson

County Coordinator (bus trips) – **Mary Martin**
E-mail (member notifications) - **Neil Miserendino**
Education (workshops, special interest groups) - **Nick Cimino**
Historian (archives, scrapbook) – **Tammy Frey**
Hospitality (monthly meeting refreshments, potluck meals) - **Leslee Fehlman**
Journal (BAGS publication) - **Melodey Hauch**
Members First (improve benefits for all members) – **Bob Wegner**
Member Services (new members info, assist with classes) - **Polly Swerdlin**
Newsletter (BAGS publication) - **Kim Zrubek**
Pedigree Charts (organize, publish) - **Garry Garrett**
Photographer (members pictures, meeting records) – **Neil Miserendino and Billy Mayo**
Programs (speakers, seminars) – **Kim Zrubek**
Publicity (notices in local news) - **Bettejean Spatafore**
Sergeant-at-Arms (meeting pledges) – **Mike McCown**
Telephone (member notifications) - **Kathie Chaffee**
Web (Internet info) - **Polly Swerdlin**
Welcoming (meeting greeters) – **Shirley Lindquist**
Yearbook (BAGS publication) - **Garry Garrett**

Local Events

Clayton Library Programs on Saturday, January 16

The Clayton Library located at 5300 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77004

10:30am to 4:30pm: DAR Day

Representatives from local DAR chapters will be at Library for consultation and research help in preparing lineage papers for submission to the DAR. No reservations required.

10:30am to 1:00pm: Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston Day

An introduction to genealogical research on families of Hispanic descent. Members of the Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston will give a brief presentation on how to begin putting together the puzzle of your family history, including data collection and organization, pedigree/ascendant and descendant charts, family group sheets, and using the computer for beginning research. After the presentation, a question and answer session will be held. No reservations required.

2:00pm to 4:00pm: Library Orientation

Learn the process of research and discovery in the beginning steps of a family history project. Also examine the resources available at the Clayton Library and their organization, as well as how to plan an effective visit to the library. No reservations required.

Clayton Library Programs on Saturday, February 6

In honor of African American History Month, Clayton Library is offering a series of classes presented by professional genealogist Sharon Gillins. Reservations required, please call 832-393-2600.

10:30am to 11:30am: *Harvesting Ancestors – Lessons from the Garden*

Practices learned from the garden are compared to genealogical practices and illustrated with examples from genealogical research. The content is suitable and accessible to beginners who are building good research habits, and will be equally entertaining and informative to advanced researchers.

11:45am to 12:45pm: *Louisiana Conveyance Records – A Rich Resource for Researching Enslaved Ancestry*

This presentation uses Louisiana conveyance records to illustrate the record types and methods for analysis that researchers can use to locate details about their once-enslaved family members prior to 1870. Although the case studies are based on Louisiana records, the methodology is transferable to any state.

2:00pm to 4:00pm: Quickstart #2

An introduction to the databases HeritageQuest and Fold3. This program will cover navigating the home page of each of these sources and includes some tips and tricks for effective research.

Houston Genealogical Forum

Saturday, February 6, 2016 Wil McCorquodale, Director of Constituent Strategies at Baylor College of Medicine, will present *The Impact of the Revolution of 1830 and 1848 on immigration to the United States*. More details online at <http://hgftx.org/event-information/general-meetings>

Free Family History Conference

Saturday, February 27 from 8am to 4pm in the Summerwood Stake Center 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 6 hours of live classes, 5 one-on-one lab sessions. Access the complete schedule, course list, and registration online at <http://houstonfamilysearch.com/summerwood> Member Nick Cimino will be presenting two classes “German and Prussian Research” and “Immigrants and Passenger Lists” at this conference.

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REMINDER

Next General Meeting is
Friday, January 29 at 7:00 pm
in University Baptist Church Chapel
Socializing begins at 6:30 pm