



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

P.O. Box 590853  
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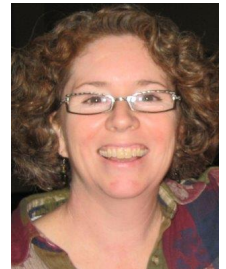
March 2016

### Friday, March 18, 2016: *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers & Book Swap*

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

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

Looking for more details on the lives of your ancestors living between 1836 and 1922 in America? The Library of Congress *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* provides free online key word access to historic newspapers during this time frame for 40 states, territories, and the District of Columbia. The goal is to include historic newspaper content for all U.S. states and territories. Come learn how to use this resource to locate family information. BAGS member Kim Zrubek, Reference Librarian at the Friendswood Public Library, will discuss tips for searching and viewing digitized newspaper images at this site (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>)



Kim Zrubek

Also at this meeting we are hosting a silent book swap. Bring one or two of your surplus books on history, resources, or research to pass on to other members for use. There will be tables for books to be displayed. Throughout the meeting, members can browse the books and take home those that are of interest. Leftovers can either return home or be left to be donated to the Clayton Library.

**At this meeting, pick up your copy of the *BAGS Journal* new March 2016 issue and 2015-2016 *BAGS Yearbook*.**

This *Journal* issue articles include "The Long, Strange Journey of Hiram A. William," "Homesteading Memories," "Researching Collateral Lines," "Genealogy in a Cemetery," and BAGS history part 3.

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

**DATE Changes for March and May meetings. Details on page 3.**

**Members Helping Members  
New Dates and Location.  
Details on page 3 & 5.**



## **BAGS Officers 2015-2017**

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## *President's Message*

This year we have made some changes to improve programming and communications. The Telephone Committee is actively calling members to leave reminders concerning upcoming bus trips, education events, and general meetings. A silent slideshow is shown prior to the general meeting advertising BAGS news and events plus sharing photos of past programs. The Board has agreed to extend programming into November and December. Our potluck dinner at the February meeting was a delicious addition. We will host another potluck dinner at the May general meeting. The Members Only Working Sessions name has been changed to Members Helping Members to better reflect the nature of these events and they are continuing monthly on the 3rd Sunday at the Helen Hall Library in League City. These sessions are wonderful opportunities for members to learn practical genealogy research techniques. New dates have been announced for bus trips to the Clayton Library that is one of the best genealogical libraries in the nation. Our frequent bus trips to the Clayton Library not only help further research but also facilitate members helping members.

We continue to publish a wonderful Journal, newsletter, and website. Please consider sharing your genealogical stories and research results to be published in the Journal or newsletter. Frequently access the website, [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org), for updated messages and information regarding BAGS and its activities.

The Board is asking the membership for input of several new projects: 1) creating a supplement to the BAGS Cookbook, 2) Service project to record genealogical information for a local cemetery, 3) ordering BAGS branded merchandise for sales. Please give your feedback to any Board member to what interests you.



Thank you,  
Loren Martin

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](mailto:newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org)

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# 2016 BAGS Calendar

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**Monday, March 14 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room **EB105**. All members are welcome to attend. **(DATE CHANGE due to Easter weekend)**



**Friday, March 18 at 7:00pm: General Meeting and Book Swap** at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Socializing starts at 6:30pm. **(DATE CHANGE due to Easter weekend)** Program: Kim Zrubek from the Friendswood Library presents *Chronicling America: Free Online Historic American Newspapers*



**Sunday, March 20 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members** for both beginners and advanced researcher. Meet at Helen Hall Library located at 100 W. Walker, League City, TX 77573. Bring your devices and research. Free WiFi is available in the library.



**Sunday, April 17 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members** for both beginners and advanced researcher. Meet at Helen Hall Library in League City.



**Monday, April 25 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room **EB105**. All members are welcome to attend.



**Friday, April 29 at 7:00pm: General Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Socializing starts at 6:30pm. Program: Alana Inman, Manager at the Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center will discuss the depositories diversity, record collections, and public access.



**Tuesday, May 10 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library**



**Sunday, May 15 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members** for both beginners and advanced researcher. Meet

at Helen Hall Library in League City.



**Monday, May 16 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room **EB105**. All members are welcome to attend.



**Friday, May 20 at 7:00pm: General Meeting and Potluck Dinner** at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Dinner starts at 6:30pm. **(DATE CHANGE due to Memorial weekend)** Program: Kevin Klaus from the Texas General Land Office will discuss early Germans in Texas.



**Friday, June 24 at 7:00pm: General Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel.



**Friday, July 29 at 7:00pm: General Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Helen Mooty, BAGS member and retired Director of the Galveston County Museum, will discuss her experience working with PBS Genealogy Roadshow in researching and recording her story.



**Friday, August 26 at 7:00pm: Annual Show & Tell with Potluck Dinner.** General Meeting at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Share a brief family story about a treasured item, important family event, or research discovery.



**Friday, September 30 at 7:00pm: General Meeting.** Kathleen Maca, BAGS member and author of *Galveston's Broadway Cemeteries*, will discuss her research process and resources used to uncover the personal stories behind the gravestones.



**Wednesday, July 6 and Tuesday, September 20 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trips to Clayton Library**

## *Welcome New Members!*

**Susan and Dave Moyer of Houston** are researching Larkins and Rosecrans in Ohio; Love, Atkinson, and Barker in Texas and Virginia; and Burling in Germany.

**Amanda and Eric Pearson of Friendswood** are researching the Clements, Foster, French, Pollard, and Underwood in Alabama and Mississippi.

**Kristi Rowell of League City** is researching family in Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

**Joseph Rush of Houston** is researching family in Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Scotland, and Wales.

**Rick Sullivan of Houston** is looking for recommendations for the best methods to research and organize.

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

**Bylaw Change Adopted:** The following revision to the Society's by-laws was approved by the membership at the February meeting.

Article IV, Section C, Item 4: "To be included in the Yearbook, annual dues must be paid by the September General Meeting. Any member who has not renewed by ~~October~~ *December* 31 shall be removed from the membership roll."

**BAGS Cookbook Supplement & Society Service Project:** A member survey was collected at the February meeting to determine the interest level in 1) publish a set of additional recipes from members and their families as a supplement to the existing BAGS Cookbook, 2) Surveying and publishing gravestone information in a local small cemetery, and 3) purchase BAGS branded merchandise (e.g. bags, padfolios, pens).

**I Can Help: Want Ads** Please consider assisting in these particular areas. Contact any Board member or the related committee chairman.

- ✓ **Recording Secretary** – record actions by monthly Board and membership meetings.
- ✓ **Scrapbooker** – add photos and appropriate items to BAGS scrapbook.



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## **BAG\$ Report for March 2016 by Bill Mayo, Treasurer**

### **CHECKING ACCOUNT**

Balance Brought Forward 31 January 2016	\$6,391.04
December Deposits	\$274.19
December Expenditures	<u>\$310.90</u>
Balance on 29 February 2016	\$6,354.33

### **CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT**

Value on 29 February 2016	\$3,731.79
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## BAGS Education Corner



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

### Members Helping Members Sessions (new name for Members Only Working Sessions)

#### New Dates and Location!

**Sunday, March 20 from 2:00 to 4:00pm at  
Helen Hall Library, 100 W. Walker, League City which  
is on Hwy 3 one light south of FM 518.**

These sessions will continue on third Sunday each month. Thirteen BAGS members attended the February 20 session at the University Baptist Church. Nick Cimino began the session by querying each member on their topics of interest. As a result, small groups were formed to address specific needs.

- Polly Swerdlin demonstrated RootsMagic to Dotti Dineen and Kathie Chaffee.
- Nick Cimino and Kim Zrubek led a group discussing search strategies on *Ancestry.com* and tree navigation for Garry Garrett, Mary & Loren Martin, and Kathy Wright.
- Oletia Teas and Annette Bowen worked together translating a Swedish document.
- George Porterfield and Camille Glazer discussed creating GEDCOM files in Reunion software.

### Save the Date!

The Annual Texas State Genealogical Family History Conference will be held October 28-30, 2016 in Dallas, Texas and will feature Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL - The Legal Genealogist ([www.legalgenealogist.com](http://www.legalgenealogist.com)) and Cyndi Ingle, webmaster of *Cyndi's List of Genealogy Sites on the Internet* ([www.CyndisList.com](http://www.CyndisList.com)).

### Genealogy News

(published in TSGS online newsletter February 2016 issue)

#### Finding female ancestors is a hunt for untold stories, filling in gaps

Judy G. Russell presented the program *Mothers, Daughters, Wives: Tracing Female Lines* at the RootsTech 2016 conference. Russell's handout lists record types to use and suggested books and online resources for further research. The resources include an online article "Invisible Women Ancestors: How to Research the Women in Your Family Tree" by Kimberly Powell

([http://genealogy.about.com/od/women/a/female\\_ancestor.htm](http://genealogy.about.com/od/women/a/female_ancestor.htm)) and *Cyndi's List* "Female Ancestors" directory listing of online resources ([www.cyndislist.com/female](http://www.cyndislist.com/female)). Russell's handout is available on The RootTech 2016 Class Syllabus page ([www.rootstech.org/about/syllabus?lang=eng](http://www.rootstech.org/about/syllabus?lang=eng)), click on the category "RootsTech (2901 and above)" to expand, then locate and click on RT9310 to open the handout.

#### What is Bounty Land?

The article "What is Bounty Land?" published October 22, 2015 on *Fold3 HQ* blog (<https://blog.fold3.com>) explains how these lands were acquired. The War of 1812 Pension Files digitized images can be searched and viewed for free on *Fold3.com* (without login or subscription), go to [www.fold3.com/title\\_761/war\\_of\\_1812\\_pension\\_files](http://www.fold3.com/title_761/war_of_1812_pension_files) to search by surname. The Revolutionary War Pensions, and Bounty Land Warrant Applications record group is available through *FamilySearch.org* for free. To access the search screen, go to [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org), click on **Search** and on the next page scroll down to "**Find a collection.**" Enter the word **bounty** and click on "The Revolutionary War Pensions, and Bounty Land Warrant Applications 1800-1900." Start over at "**Find a collection**" and enter the word **pension** to see the other state and federal bounty land record groups that are available to research.

## Recap February Program – Adoption: Searching for Clues!

Thank you Melissa Hayes for addressing this topic, focusing on what clues and records we might find in the cases of indentures, guardianship, adoption, and apprenticeships. In the time period of interest, use a city directory to identify what unwed mother homes, schools, orphanages, group homes, charity agencies, asylums, lawyers, hospitals, churches, and city/county services. Seek out record locations for one or more of those resources. Melissa's handouts included program slides and a bibliography of recommended books, online articles, databases, and web resources. Access her handouts on the BAGS website, click on **Members Page**, enter password, and click on **Archived Meeting Handouts**.

## Family Tree Maker Software – Support Will Continue!

On February 2, 2016 *Ancestry* announced Software MacKiev ([www.mackiev.com](http://www.mackiev.com)) is acquiring Family Tree Maker desktop software line as publisher of updates and future versions of both Mac and Windows computers. Software MacKiev has been the developer of Family Tree Maker for Mac for more than six years. You will have continued access to Ancestry Hints, Ancestry searches, and be able to save your tree on *Ancestry.com* with Family Tree Maker beyond 2016.

Ancestry.com has also made an agreement with RootsMagic ([www.rootsmagic.com](http://www.rootsmagic.com)), a leading genealogy desktop software program publisher, to connect Ancestry with the RootsMagic software by the end of 2016. With this new relationship, RootsMagic can serve as your desktop family tree software, while having access to Ancestry hints, Ancestry searches, and the ability to save your tree on Ancestry

## Resource Recommendations from Clayton Library

*Going West?* A list of resources you should consider using when researching family involved in the country's western expansion are listed and discussed by the Clayton Library staff in their online newsletter *Clayton Town Crier*, January 2016 edition, accessible online at

[www.libraryaware.com/1224/NewsletterIssues/ViewIssue/ea7c9e84-3d92-492b-a885-fbf4ee744129](http://www.libraryaware.com/1224/NewsletterIssues/ViewIssue/ea7c9e84-3d92-492b-a885-fbf4ee744129)

The titles include atlases for migration routes, wagon trails, county histories along the National Road (aka Cumberland Road), frontier life, railway passenger lists, ship passenger lists, and Forty-Niners.

*Tracing family medical history?* The *Clayton Town Crier* issue also included a selection of recommending resources for tracing family medical history. Several online resources are related to German, Canadian, and Scottish research.

**German:** German-English illness translations [www.odessa3.org/collections/articles/link/illness](http://www.odessa3.org/collections/articles/link/illness) provided by Odessa which is a digital library dedicated to cultural and family history of the millions of Germans who emigrated to Russia in the 1800s and their descendants. The Odessa document collection consists primarily of digitized books and records plus indexes of microfilms and research aids that enable users to trace individual and family migrations since the early 1800s. Access the website's search interface at [www.odessa3.org/search.html](http://www.odessa3.org/search.html) Try using the Lexicon search and enter just the first 4 letters of the surname.

**Canada:** Alberta Family Histories Society -- Old Diseases & Their Modern Definitions [www.afhs.ab.ca/data/old\\_diseases.html](http://www.afhs.ab.ca/data/old_diseases.html) Search the AFHS indexes at [www.afhs.ab.ca/data](http://www.afhs.ab.ca/data) to view their free online data projects.

**Scotland:** Diseases on Scottish death certificates from 1855 onwards [www.scotlandsfamily.com/medical-diseases.htm](http://www.scotlandsfamily.com/medical-diseases.htm)

## Local Events

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**Vietnam War 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemoration Bay Area Veterans Memorial** to thank and honor Vietnam War Veterans and their families for service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States, including Prisoners of War and those listed as Missing in Action.

**Tuesday, March 29 at 10:00am** at 1106 Main Street, Seabrook, TX

Hosted by the Sam Houston Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution.

### Winning the West for Women

**Thursday, March 24 at 7:00pm** in the new Community Room at the Friendswood Public Library, 416 S. Friendswood Dr., Friendswood. Author and historian, **Jennifer M. Ross-Nazzal**, will discuss the topic of her new book, **Winning the West for Women: the Life of Suffragist Emma Smith DeVoe**. Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, Ph.D. is the historian at NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston. Free program, open to the public, registration is not required.

### Saturday History Lecture Series

**Saturday, March 26 at 10:00am** at Republic of Texas Plaza Park, 5117 North Main Street, Baytown, TX. RSVP requested - free admission (lectures last approximately one hour) The Baytown Historical Preservation Association's historic buildings are open to the public, free of charge, on the last Saturday of each month (except on holiday weekends and in inclement weather) from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Group tours can be arranged at other times by calling 281-421-2099 or by email at [info@baytownhistory.org](mailto:info@baytownhistory.org). If you need special assistance, please contact them prior to your visit.

### Tips and Tricks

**March 30 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm** at Learning Center – Delmar, 1130 Delmar, La Marque, TX 77568 Irene Walters from the Clayton Library will discuss tips and tricks for searching around known family information to find “tricky” ancestors. A free lecture through the College of the Mainland. For reservations and more information, contact the 50 Plus Program Office by phone 409-933-8226 / 409-933-8912.

### WWII on Galveston Island: From Fort Crockett to the Balinese Room

**April 7 from 5:30 to 7:00pm** at UHCL, Bayou Bldg., Forest Room. Presented by Jan Johnson, author and UHCL alumna, '86, '95. Program is open and free to the public; free parking is available in the Visitors Lot. For special accommodations, or more information, please contact Clear Lake Association of Senior Programs (CLASP) at 281-283-2021.

### Bus Trip to Sam Houston Library in Liberty, Texas

**Tuesday, April 12 from 8:00am to 5:00pm**

Instructor Debbie Cothorn will assist students in tracing their family history using library resources. This trip will also include a guided tour of the Jean and Price Daniel Home, the 1898 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, the 1883 Norman House, the 1848 Gillard-Duncan House and the library museum. The facility is a part of the Texas State Library and Archives. Cost covers transportation and instruction. Lunch is Dutch treat, or you may bring a sack lunch and eat at the library. This trip is open to anyone age 50 or older. Cost is \$25 with refund deadline March 29. For reservations and more information, contact the 50 Plus Program Office at 1130 Delmar La Marque, TX 77568 by phone 409-933-8226 / 409-933-8912.