

Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 15, Issue No. 9

July 2016

Friday, July 29, 2016: "My Enlightening Experience on the Genealogy Roadshow"

Public Invited. Join us at 6:30pm for socializing. Meeting begins at 7pm.

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



Helen Mooty dressed as Jane Long

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 family story. She will review the timeline from application submission to episode airing and share the family research package she received as a result. Ms. Mooty currently serves on the Galveston County Historical Commission and is Programs Director for the Laffite Society of Galveston. She wrote the Texas Historical Marker narrative to recognize Jane Long's courageous encampment during the icy winter of 1821-1822 on Bolivar Peninsula. Ms. Mooty holds a master's degree in humanities from the University of Houston-Clear Lake and has studied history and humanities at Cambridge University in England. She was a member of the National Trust Forum and has twice been named a Texas Scholar by Preservation Texas and the Texas Historical Commission. Each year Helen participates in the Jane Long Society lecture series and performs a re-enactment at the annual Jane Long Festival on Bolivar Peninsula.

Joshua Taylor from *Genealogy Roadshow* and *Who Do You Think You Are?* is coming to Houston Saturday, August 6!

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 President's Message, Thank You
- 3 BAGS Event Calendar
- 4 Colonial America Resource, Details for Joshua Taylor Symposium
- 5 New England Research, Membership Renewal
- 6 Orphan Trains, Education Corner and Members Help Session research notes
- 7 Local Events
- 8-9 Registration form and Rice University campus map for Joshua Taylor Program
- 10 BAGS Membership form

BAGS is co-sponsoring this event. We are organizing carpools from the Clear Lake area. Want to carpool? Contact member Polly Swerdlin at **pmswerdlin@gmail.com**. We will be assembling registration packets, giving directions, and organizing lunch? Want to be one of the helpers? Contact member Kim Zrubek at



Joshua Taylor

bagsnews@gmail.com. Thank you to the members that have already volunteered to assist and/or drive. Program lecture descriptions and registration details are on page 4. Rice University campus map is on page 8.

BAGS Officers 2015-2017



President Loren Martin

President@TxBayAreaGen.org

First Vice President

Nick Cimino

VicePresident@TxBayAreaGen.org

Second Vice President

Kim Zrubek

VicePresident2@TxBayAreaGen.org

Recording Secretary

Vacant

RecordingSec@TxBayAreaGen.org

Corresponding Secretary

Judy Wright

CorrespondSec@TxBayAreaGen.org

Treasurer

Billy Mayo

Treasurer@TxBayAreaGen.org

Registrar

Bob Wegner

Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Newsletter Staff

Editor / Compositor

Kim Zrubek

newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org

Proofreaders

Chester Karrick

Photographer

Bill Mayo

Distributor

Garry Garrett

Web Editors

Polly Swerdlin and Garry Garrett

President's Message



Hopefully, each of you will be able to actively pursue your genealogical searches this summer with trips to local courthouses, archives or libraries. The Internet is a wonderful tool, however actually being in the presence of source documents will provide true information and lead to many more clues.

Two special BAGS activities are on the coming schedule.

BAGS is co-sponsoring the Saturday, August 6 Joshua Taylor Symposium at Rice University from 10am until 4pm. Several members have volunteered to help prepare materials for the event and help at the registration desk and as needed on that day. If you can help, please contact Kim Zrubek (**bagsnews@gmail.com**). The deadline for registering is approaching. BAGS members have also volunteered to provide carpools. There are still seats available to catch a ride! Contact Polly Swerdlin (**pmswerdlin@gmail.com**) if you are interested in riding or driving. The last day to order a lunch has been extended until Monday, August 1.

Clayton Library will host an Open House on Saturday, October 8 from 11am to 4pm. They are looking to reach out to Houstonians unfamiliar with Clayton Library. BAGS has been asked to participate by sharing information about our society with library visitors. BAGS will have an assigned table for our volunteers to promote BAGS. Please contact Kim Zrubek if you are available that day to help represent BAGS.

Loren Martin

Thank you Dotti Dineen!



During the June general meeting, Dotti provided a five-minute message to the group introducing *Brother's Keeper*, a shareware genealogy software program. Dotti offered a handout listing the program's features. She finds it easy to use and adequate for recording and printing her family history. If you are interested, talk to Dotti at a future 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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2016 BAGS Calendar

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



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.



(NEW) Saturday, August 6 at Rice **University: Joshua Taylor (host on** PBS Genealogy Roadshow) hosted by Clayton Library Friends and

BAGS. Taylor will present 4 programs. See pages 4 & 8.



Sunday, August 14 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members

for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library.

Monday, August 22 at 6:30pm: Board **Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room EB105 All members are welcome to attend



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.



Tuesday, September 20 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library. If you want to ride

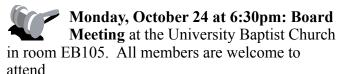
on the bus, please signup by contacting Mary Martin by phone 281-332-2435 or e-mail

Imartin497 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.

Monday, September 26 at 6:30pm: **Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room EB105. All members are welcome to attend.



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.





Friday, October 28 at 7:00pm: General Meeting. Fidel Ramirez, Social Media and Technology Director for Clayton Library Friends, will present "Genealogy To Go" discussing the mobile apps and equipment

Monday, November 14 at 6:30pm: **Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room EB105. All members are welcome to attend.

we can use to mobilize our genealogy research.



Friday, November 18 at 7:00pm: General Meeting. Andrew Shaner will discuss what to expect and how to prepare for researching at the National Archives based on his personal research trip experience.



Saturday, December 3 at 11:00am to 1:00pm: Annual Holiday **Luncheon.** Come enjoy the holiday spirit and a pleasant lunch with friends at the Hope Village Cafe in

Friendswood. Members and guests are invited. Lunch is dutch.



Joshua Taylor Symposium Lectures Saturday, August 6 from 10am to 4pm

at Rice Memorial Student Center, Grand Hall on Rice University Campus (6100 Main Street, Houston, TX)

REGISTRATION \$55.00 for CLF and BAGS active members and \$65.00 for non-members. For online registration, registration form, parking and lunch information, please go to: **www.claytonlibraryfriends.org.**

Location and Parking: A map of Rice University campus is on page 8. The symposium will be held in building labeled #63 on the map. Central Campus Garage parking is available across the street at #53. To access, take Rice Boulevard and turn left onto Kent (entrance #20). There is also parking in the West Lot 1, take Rice Boulevard and turn left onto Wilton (entrance #18). Parking cost is \$12 by credit card only for both locations. The Central Campus Garage will take cash. The campus shuttle bus does not run during the Summer.

Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS professional genealogist and a host of PBS *Genealogy Roadshow* will present four programs:

Finding the Roots of Your Family Legends: Just because Great Aunt Mable said your ancestor was from Scotland, doesn't mean that she was. Learn how to uncover the truth behind family legends and stories, and how to integrate them into your personal writing and research.

State and Local Government Repositories for Family History: Learn how to access the vast numbers of records placed online at state and local government websites during this hands-on workshop. Participants will be able to pick their "favorite state" and conduct a full search for treasures hiding under a ".gov" domain.

Successful Searching Online: Clustering for Genealogists: Effective Internet searching cannot be complete without clustering. Learn how to limit your search engine results to websites that will be beneficial to you without having to scroll through thousands of results! Strong emphasis is put on learning and using "Yippy," and other search engines.

Putting it Together: A Case Study: Follow a family from the early 1800s to the early 1900s as they migrated from Pennsylvania to Idaho. Watch as records from the home (family bibles and letters) are combined with newspapers, tax records, census records, cemetery records, family files, and other records to compile the family.

Colonial America 1610-1700 Resource

If you believe your ancestors were part of the early New England settlements prior to 1700, try searching for their names in the book *The History of New-England : Containing an Impartial Account of the Civil and Ecclesiastical Affairs of the Country, to the year of Our Lord, 1700* by Daniel Neal, 2 vols published in 1720. Both volumes that have been digitized and can be viewed online, browse page-by-page and key-word search. Neal captures the state of government, religion, overseas trade and travel, native Indian relations, personal survival and suffering during the early years of creating settlements in Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, Salem, Connecticut, New-Haven, Rhode Island, etc. For example, chapter 3 lists John Carver and all the men that set down on Cape Cod, November 11, 1620. Chapter 12 (online vol. 2 section 4), the names and trial accounts are recorded for individuals accused of witchcraft in Salem. Even if you do not find your family in this book, the material contains a wealth of details to provide context and setting for your family story. A region-by-region account of the climate, natural resources, crops, and trade is provided in chapter 14 (online section 6). The index can be found at the end of volume 2.

Access Volume 1 through Internet Archives: https://archive.org/details/historyofnewengl20neal (then click on "search inside" magnifying glass on the right to open the book for browsing and searching.

Access Volume 2 through Hathi Trust: https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=yale.39002088660031

New England Research

New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) eight-story library and archive research center is open to the public (free to members, \$20 day pass for non-members) and is located at 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston, Massachusetts. The collection of materials dates from the fourteenth century to the present and spans North America, Europe, and beyond. It includes more than 28 million diaries, letters, photographs, and other manuscripts, and more than 200,000 books and microforms. The Society maintains the **www.AmericanAncestors.org** website, an online repository of more than 1 billion records spanning the U.S. and beyond, including one of the most extensive online collections of early American records, and the largest searchable collection of published genealogical research journals and magazines. Special strengths in this content include English, New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont), New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia materials. Access the following list of databases for free by creating a guest account on the website (**www.americanancestors.org/join/?reg-type=free**). Other new databases may be available for a limited time as well.

- Massachusetts Vital Records to 1850
- Worcester County, MA: Index to Probate Records, 1731-1881
- Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati
- Gloucester, MA: Burials in Gloucester Cemeteries
- Irish Immigrant Advertisements, 1831-1920
- New York Wills, 1626-1836
- · Index of Revolutionary War Pensioners
- Middlesex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1648-1871
- Rhode Island Roots journal
- Mass Historical Data Relating to Cities and Towns
- Sharon, MA: Sharon Memorial Park Cemetery
- Ware, MA Families, Genealogies of
- Weymouth Revolutionary War Soldiers and Sailors

- Essex County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1638-1881
- Plymouth County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1686-1881
- Worcester County, MA: Probate File Papers, 1731-1881
- Suffolk County Court of Common Pleas Index to Cases, 1756-1776
- Norfolk County, MA: Index to Probate records, 1793-1900
- Armenian Immigrant Births, Deaths and Marriages in Massachusetts - 1880-1915
- Boston, MA: Taking Records, 1800
- American Jewish Historical Society New England Archives: Jewish Cemeteries in Massachusetts

It's Membership renewal time!

It's that time of year again! Starting now we will be renewing memberships for the 2016-2017 fiscal year; which runs from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017. The renewal rates remain the same — a **single membership** is \$20; a **family membership** is \$25; and there is a \$5 fee, if you want the BAGS *Journal* and *Yearbook* mailed to you.

I encourage all of you to support BAGS with a contribution so that your society can offer more of the type of genealogy programs, activities and services you desire. Please consider one of the following additional monetary contributions at the designated levels: **Contributor** - \$5-\$29; **Benefactor** - \$30-\$49; **Patron** - \$50-\$599; **Lifetime** membership - \$600 or higher. Thank you.

Please fill out a membership application form with your renewal. The form is on page 9 of this newsletter. Print and mail the form to the **Registrar's address** at P.O. Box 590853, Houston, TX 77259-0853, or bring the form with you to the next general meeting you attend. In addition, I will have forms available at the Registrar's table when you enter the meeting room.



On behalf of the Board, we appreciate very much your membership in BAGS which supports our Society's focus to educate and promote genealogy. I look forward to seeing you all at the next general meeting!

Bob Wegner BAGS Registrar

BAGS Education Corner

Members Helping Members Sessions Sunday, August 14 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.



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

Spend some quality time researching with friends, in groups or one-on-one. Ask questions and share ideas. Bring your laptop or mobile device. Free WiFi connection is available inside the library.

Here are a few research topics that were discussed at the July session. Maybe you have some ideas or experiences that could help these members.

Kathie Chaffee discovered more about a FindAGrave.org Memorial entry for Gen. Thomas C. Anderson born about 1820 in Prince William County, VA and died April 1, 1890 in New Orleans. Nick Cimino demonstrated how to use the Find A Grave Memorial number for quick reference to a memorial. The Memorial number is also used as a reference number when contacting Find A Grave contributors that have shared stories, sources and photos on the memorial to get more information.

Glenn and Sharon Cress have been researching for 15 years. Glenn published his family history in the book *My Cress and Kleckley Ancestors*. This book is accessible online through the FamilySearch.org catalog and his tree is posted on RootsWeb.com. Follow this link to access the book directly: https://dcms.lds.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE4567047 His third great grandfather, Phillip Cress, was born about 1780 in Virginia according to the 1880 census. Glenn manages a Cress Y-DNA Project through Family Tree DNA. There is a match with Grass and also a match with Valentine Cress. Sharon and Glenn just got back from touring Germany and standing on their ancestor's land. They have an interesting story that Glenn will share as a 5 min "did you know" message at the July general meeting.

Kathy Wright located and saved copies of the "High Family Journal", published family newsletters found digitized in FamilySearch.org books collection. She also looked for her Civil War veteran ancestor in the archived Alabama records maintained by USGenWeb.org

Lynn Mathes began the process of documenting her family history. Her parents lived and died in the London, England area. Using FamilySearch.org and Ancestry.com, she found birth and marriage details for her mother (Dorothy Winifred Andrews). She also found a digitized copy of the original service record documents for Henry Charles Andrews (Dorothy's father) which included his earned medals, wife's name Beta Woodland, marriage date and location, and their two daughters' birth dates and birthplaces. She discovered another person has already started a family tree which included these people.

Orphan Trains

About 1 in 25 Americans has an orphan rider train connection. Between 1853 and 1929, over 150,000 orphaned, abandoned, or homeless children between the age of 6 and 18 rode passenger trains west from New York, Boston, and Chicago to be placed with families throughout the United States and Canada. Local newspapers where the trains stopped printed wanted ads for children needing homes. If you family lived in one of these locations, it is possible they could have sponsored a child or your family member could be one of those children. Some children signed indenture / apprentice agreements that defined the terms and length. Start with the online article *Orphan Train Riders* by David Dilts to learn what and where records are available (https://familysearch.org/blog/en/orphan-train-riders).

Local Events

Clayton Library Programs

The library is located at 5300 Caroline, Houston, Texas 77004. For more information or reservation, call the library at 832-393-2600.

Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston Day on Saturday, July 23 from 11:00am to 2:00pm Society members will share their photos, family group books and other family artifacts to inspire you in the various ways to share your genealogy. Members of the society will be present to assist in your research.

Quickstart #2 on Saturday, August 6 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm Join us for 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.

Never Left The Battlefield

Thursday, July 21 at 7:00pm at Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood. World War II Veteran Birney T. "Chick" Havey Jr will share his WWII experiences. Landing in Europe in November, 1944, he fought in northern France, Battle of the Bulge and the Invasion of Germany. He received 14 major decorations including the Purple Heart, 3 Bronze Stars and the Silver Star. His book *Never Left the Battlefields* is the story of that exceptional life.

Galveston Heritage Festival: A History of Texas Immigration Saturday, August 6 from 10am to 8pm at Kempner Park located at 27th and O Avenue www.galvestonhistory.org/events/galvestonheritage-festival

Free RootsTech Family Discovery Day Saturday, September 17 from 9:00am to 2:00pm at South Shore Chapel located at 4655 South Shore Blvd, League City. (Location did change) Free admission and snacks provided. Reegistration coming soon at www.lcaccessingancestors.com



Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference

August 31 – September 3 in Springfield, Illinois

This conference has 160 sessions, 72 expert speakers from around the world, 10 luncheons with speakers, 7 workshops, 2 interactive seminars, and an exhibit hall. Daily tracks include strong programming on the topics of U.S. Midwest (regional track), the United Kingdom (British Isles and Commonwealth track), and continental European research (ethnic track). Details posted online at **www.fgsconference.org.** A few printed conference schedules were mailed to the Society. If you want one, contact Kim Zrubek.



Annual Texas State Genealogical (TxSGS) Family History Conference October 28-30, 2016 in Dallas, Texas

Features Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL (www.legalgenealogist.com) and Cyndi Ingle (www.CyndisList.com). Access registration, program schedule, and speaker list at www.txsgs.org/conference

Clayton Library Friends and Bay Area Genealogical Society

Present our 2016 Symposium

Saturday, August 6, 2016 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

at Rice Memorial Student Center Grand Hall Rice University, 6100 Main Street, Houston, Texas

D. Joshua Taylor, MA, MLS

of television's "Genealogy Roadshow" fame

will present four sessions:

"Finding the Roots of Your Family Legends"

"State and Local Government Repositories for Family History"

"Successful Searching Online: Clustering for Genealogists"

"Putting it Together: A Case Study"

Register online with credit card at <www.ClaytonLibraryFriends.org>, or by check payable to *Clayton Library Friends*. Mail this form and your check to: CLF Symposium, P.O. Box 271078, Houston, TX 77277-1078.

RICE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

Baker College Masters House

North Annex Lot

Herman



Professional Development

Rice Children's Campus

Rice Village Apartments

Bay Area Genealogical Society

Registrar
P.O. Box 590853
Houston, TX 77259-0853
http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org ··· registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Membership Application

Please bring to meeting or mail to above address with payment.

Membershi	p: New Renewal Date
Full Name_	
Maiden Na	me Preferred Name for Name Tag
Address	
	ZIP Code
E-mail	Phone #
If this is a f	family membership, list the other family members' full names:
Occupation	or, if retired, previous occupation of primary member
	or, if retired, previous occupation of other member(s)
May we pri	int your address, e-mail address and phone number in the Society's yearbook? Yes No
Research in	nterests (list states or countries, etc.) and surnames
I need help	with
The Societ	y needs your participation. Check the committee(s) on which you are willing to serve:
County Co	Coordinator Hospitality Pedigree Charts Web Master Don Journal Programs Welcoming Member Services Publicity Yearbook Newsletter Telephone Specify; or I can help with e.g., translation or research)
Pay	ment – To calculate your payment, please choose one from each category:
	Single membership \$20 Family membership \$25 Donation (Contributor - \$5-\$29, Benefactor - \$30-\$49, Patron - \$50-\$599, Lifetime membership - \$600 or higher)
	Journal(s) included at no additional charge if picked up by end of Society year
	Journal(s) & Yearbook by mail \$5 [Journal(s) mailed all together at year end]
Mak	xe checks out to "BAGS" Cash Check # TOTAL \[\]

IF YOUR INFORMATION CHANGES DURING THE YEAR, PLEASE NOTIFY THE REGISTRAR.