



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 16, Issue No. 3

November 2016

Friday, November 18, 2016: "Research At The National Archives: A Primer" presented by Andrew Shaner

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](#)).**



Andrew Shaner

Conducting genealogical research of federal records at the National Archives (www.archives.gov) is both rewarding and frustrating. A network of nationwide federal record centers are open to the public. They are located in Fort Worth, Atlanta, Kansas City, St. Louis, Denver, San Francisco, Seattle, Dayton, Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, New York City, and Washington D.C. You can find family history in federal records covering military service, immigration, naturalization, passports, censuses, land grants, Native American rolls, African-American post-Civil War support, petitions, pensions, post office service, maritime, trade, tax, etc. Based on personal experience, Andrew "Andy" Shaner will share some tips for a successful visit and encourage you to make the trip to one of these centers.

As part of the Education and Public Engagement arm of the Lunar Planetary Institute, Mr. Shaner develops and hosts public outreach programs that engage families, educators and students in space science and enhance the public appreciation of lunar and planetary science. Checkout his [Cosmic Exploration Speaker Series](#), [Sky Fest](#) programs, and [ExMASS](#) an authentic lunar/asteroid research program for high school students. Learn more about the current LPI education programming online at www.lpi.usra.edu/education. In his spare time, Mr. Shaner looks for his family history in early records in Pennsylvania and Germany. He earned a B.A. in Secondary Education from Wichita State University and a M.A. in Teaching and Teacher Education with a minor in planetary science from The University of Arizona.

BAGS Annual Holiday Party, Saturday, December 10



from 11am to 1pm. Details on page 2.

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Saturday, November 12

**Recap "Genealogy To Go": come discuss
and practice using mobile apps**

Sunday, November 13

Members Helping Members

Wednesday, November 16: Bus Trip

See page 3 for details.

Bay Area Genealogical Society website – www.TxBayAreaGen.org

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**Members and guest are invited to
BAGS Annual Holiday Party
Saturday, December 10
from 11am to 1pm at
Hope Village Cafe in Friendswood**

*Come enjoy the holiday spirit and
a pleasant lunch with friends.*

The lunch is dutch.

A special hot meat with vegetables plate will be offered as well as
the regular menu ([view menu online](#)).

Food orders will be taken between 11:00am and noon.

Please RSVP with Kim Zrubek by Sunday, December 4 to get a
estimate attendance. However, come even if you did not RSVP.

This event benefits The Foundation for Hope Village
(www.hope-village.com).

**The Hope Village Cafe is located at
4541 FM 2351, Friendswood, TX
(a map is provided [online](#))**

Entrance to the Cafe is located on FM 2351
between Clear Brook High School and
the Lord of Life Lutheran Church.

Map printed on page 8 of this newsletter.

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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2016-2017 BAGS Calendar



Saturday, November 12 at 11:00am to noon: Recap session for October 28 meeting. Discussion and practice using some of the mobile apps Fidel Rameriz discussed at the October 28 meeting. Meet at Friendswood Public Library (building renovations are completed) located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood.



Sunday, November 13 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library located at 100 W. Walker, League City which is on Hwy 3 one light south of FM 518.



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



Wednesday, November 16 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 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. Board the bus in front of the parking lot at the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center (16511 Diana Lane, Houston, TX 77062).



Friday, November 18 at 7:00pm: General Meeting at the University Baptist Church in the Chapel. Andrew Shaner will present "Research at the National Archives: A Primer".



Happy Holidays!
Saturday, December 10 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.



Sunday, December 11 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library.

Happy New Year!



Saturday, January 14 at 11:00am to noon: Recap session for November 18, 2016 meeting. Discussion of National Archives federal record resources. Meet at Friendswood Public Library (building renovations are completed) located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood.



Sunday, January 15 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library located at 100 W. Walker, League City which is on Hwy 3 one light south of FM 518.



Wednesday, January 25 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library.



Friday, January 27, 2017 at 7:00pm: General Meeting. Nick Cimino, Professional Genealogical, will discuss the Genealogical Proof Standard.



Friday, February 24, 2017 at 7:00pm: General Meeting. Former Astronaut Retired USAF Colonel Jerry L Ross discusses his experience with transcribing, researching, and organizing the Harriet Dillabaugh's diaries to create his recently published book The Diaries of Harriet "Hattie" Dillabaugh 1889-1940.



Thursday, February 16, 2017 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library.



Tuesday, March 17, 2017 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library.

BAGS Education Corner

Members Helping Members Sessions

Sunday, November 13 and December 11

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) and Annette Bowen

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. Details on information shared during previous sessions are posted on the BAGS website under “Workshops.”

During the holidays when the libraries and family history centers are closed, you can continue your research from home using these free online resources:

- ◆ FamilySearch www.familysearch.org (National and World records and books)
- ◆ USGenWeb Archives www.USGenWeb.org (State and County resources)
- ◆ HeritageQuest (get access instructions from your local library) free access to a subset of Ancestry.com collections of censuses, military, immigration, county & family history books.
- ◆ Bureau of Land Management www.glorerecords.blm.gov (Land Grants)
- ◆ Chronicling America <http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> (Historic Newspapers)
- ◆ NewspaperArchives through Rosenberg Library and Houston Public Library (need their library card to access from home)
- ◆ Free access to Texas records in Ancestry.com <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/arc/ancestry>
- ◆ The Portal of Texas History digital collections <http://texashistory.unt.edu/explore>
- ◆ Find-A-Grave www.findagrave.com (cemeteries and graves)
- ◆ BillionGraves www.billiongraves.com/search (cemeteries and graves)



General Meeting Recap Sessions For Members

Missed the general meeting?

Do not like to drive at night to attend the general meetings

Want to discuss last month's presentation content in more detail?

Saturday, November 12 from 11am to noon:

***Come explore mobile devices and apps mentioned
during the October 28 presentation.***



Meet at the Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood. These sessions are designed to share with members the announcements, speaker presentation information and handouts from the last general meeting. Program is hosted by members for members. The last BAGS Journal and BAGS Yearbook will be available for pickup.

Welcome New Members!



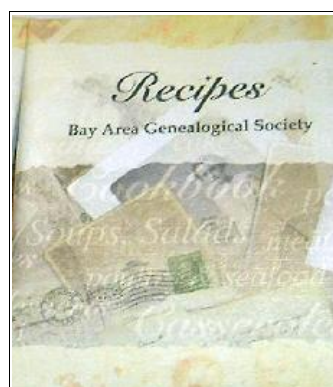
Ky W. and Cindy White of League City. Ky is researching family migration through Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Texas. He also is interested in researching the medieval times. Ky creates personalized family charts in a large format, see his website <http://ancestralcharts.com>

Karen M. Engelauf of Houston. Karen is researching family in Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, New York, Germany, and Ireland.

Please give a hearty welcome to these people at the next meeting.

Complete some of your Christmas shopping early!

For a donation to BAGS, get gifts for the family: BAGS Cookbooks (\$10), USB drives (\$10), and Laptop Brief Bags (\$25) at the November's meeting.



It is a new Society Year, Membership Has Its Privileges!

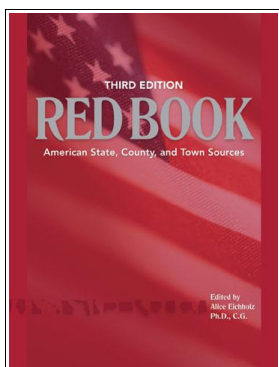
But it is not too late to renew your membership, a form is included in this issue.

- ★ As a member, you have access to research assistance. Come to the “Member Helping Member” sessions where you can discuss and explore research strategies, tactics, plans, and solutions to help locate your family members.
- ★ As a member, you have access to recap sessions to discuss and explore information and online resources introduced during the previous general meeting's program. If you missed a general meeting, this is your chance to receive the benefit of the Society and presentation information.
- ★ As a member, you receive published printed *BAGS Journal* issues containing family history articles and electronic monthly *BAGS Newsletters* of events and a few tips and tricks on research resources.
- ★ As a member, you receive a yearbook that will help you connect and network with fellow Society members. The *2016-2017 Yearbook* will be available at the January 2017 meeting.
- ★ As a member, you have access to online archives of Society's surname lists, member's five-generation charts, archived *BAGS Quarterlies*, yearbooks, and speaker handouts.

Living Family Research

Genealogy starts with capturing the family details from living relatives. This Thanksgiving and Christmas, do a little family research at the dinner table with your living relatives. Don't play 20 questions. Just pick a few questions and don't forget to ask "why?" to get the details behind the answer. That is where the interesting stories come from. There are a number of online sites that provide lists of family history questions, to get your creative juices flowing. Alternatively, before dinner or after dessert, break out old photos to start a discussion of family memories. Get your ideas for questions from "20 Questions for Interviewing Relatives" article published online in *FamilyTree Magazine* (Sept 2016) at www.familytreemagazine.com/article/20-questions or "50 Questions for Family History Interviews" article published online in *About.com* at <http://genealogy.about.com/cs/oralhistory/a/interview.htm>

[Information pulled from Sue Kaufman's talk "Paying It Forward, Recording OUR Stories for Future Ancestors" presented during this year's Genealogy Lock-in, October 21, 2016]



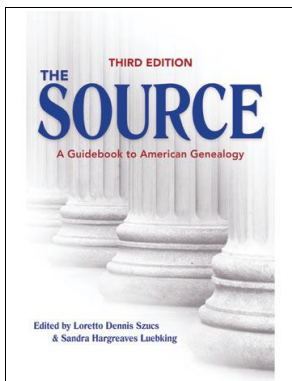
Red Book: American State, County, and Town Sources

When researching records on a specific US geographical location, use the *Red Book* to discover the history of land settlement and formation of state and counties. This information is helpful in identifying where and when records were originally created to trace family history. The book dedicates a chapter to each U.S. State and the District of Columbia. Within the chapters, each major genealogical record group (i.e. vital, census, county, land, probate, court, tax, cemetery, church, military, periodicals, newspapers, and manuscript collections, archives, libraries, and societies) is discussed, explaining what records are available, missing, and suggested finding aids

specific to that U.S. location. A table is included listing the state's counties, their formation date, parent county, and dates for when each county began recording birth, marriage, death records, land, probate and court records. Each state also has a county, town, or parish map. Within the book's introduction are articles summarizing early settlement history of the major U.S. geographical areas: New England, Mid-Atlantic, Old South, Gulf States, Frontier South, Midwest, Frontier West, West, and Northwest.

The book has been digitized and is available online (free access) at

www.ancestrylibrary.com/wiki/index.php?title=Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources (or Google with search terms ancestry wiki red book)



The Source: A Guidebook To American Genealogy

Not sure what information a particular type of record is supposed to provide? Refer to *The Source*. Each chapter addresses a specific genealogical record type explaining how the information was collected over time, the possible content, strengths, limitations, access locations, and substitutes that can be used when the records are not available.

The book has been digitized and is available online (free access) at

www.ancestry.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Source:_A_Guidebook_to_American_Genealogy (or Google with search terms ancestry wiki source)

Local Events

"Genealogy in Your Jammies - Part 2: Updates"

Saturday, November 12, 2016 at 10:00am at the Clayton Library Carriage House, 5300 Caroline Avenue, Houston, Texas, 77004.

Clayton Library Friends Annual Meeting that includes this program presented by Sue Yerby addressing changes to FamilySearch.org since her last presentation fifteen months ago. Much has happened to improve this free site for researchers. These improvements will be explained so that *FamilySearch* will become a more user-friendly site for beginning and advanced researchers.

Tracing Your Native American Bloodline

Saturday, November 12, 2016 from 1:30pm to 3:00pm at the Clayton Library Carriage House, 5300 Caroline Avenue, Houston, Texas, 77004.

Learn how to trace your Native American ancestor with guest speaker Crystal Dowdell. In this program Crystal will cover available tools and records, how to locate Tribal Headquarters for all Native American tribes, and how to obtain vital statistics records. Examples will be given from a case study in finding a Cherokee ancestor. Reservations required. Please call the library at 832-393-2600.

November Family History Library Webinars (free)

Access a variety of classes covering topics on everything from researching worldwide localities to the learning basics of FamilySearch products. To access the webinar, go to the web link below and click on the word *Webinar* to enter the classroom. Record studies include case studies for Spanish, German, Danish, Scottish, Czech, Austrian, and British and the United States. Most webinars are recorded and posted on the "Family History Library Classes and Webinars" Wiki page a few days after presentation, so you can access past webinars and handouts.

https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Family_History_Library_Classes_and_Webinars

Martyn Farm Harvest Festival

Saturday and Sunday, November 12-13, from 10am-4pm

Travel back in time to the end of the 19th century to enjoy demonstrations by craftsmen (e.g. blacksmithing, hoe cake making, sugar cane syrup cooking, and soap making, quilting, lace making, butter churning), games, square dancing, and food. Admission is only \$12 for adults and \$8 for children and seniors. On site parking \$3. Space is limited. Free parking and shuttle ride from UHCL campus lot D. www.abnc.org/news/5/18/Martyn-Farm-Harvest-Festival/d,NewsDetails.html

Bluebird K7 Story

Wednesday, November 16 at 7pm at Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood, TX

Keith Hick from the United Kingdom will discuss the rivalry between the Americans and British in raising the speed record during the 1920's to 1960's; the men who broke those records; and current day efforts to recover and restore these historic hydroplanes and perform re-enactments of early races.

Researching Your European Ancestors

Saturday, December 10, 2016 from 10:30am to 12:45pm at the Clayton Library Carriage House, 5300 Caroline Avenue, Houston, Texas, 77004. Reservations required, please call 832-393-2600.

10:30am: French Genealogy

Explore some methods of finding and understanding the records created by your French ancestors. Discuss Huguenot, French Canadian, and direct migration from France to America, and church and civil registration in France and Canada.

11:45am: Polish Genealogy

Get started with the basics of Polish genealogy and learn about civil and church records available at the local and national level. Learn more about record availability for areas of Poland that were previously under Prussian, Austrian, or Russian control.

BAGS Annual Holiday Party

**Saturday, December 10
from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
in the Hope Village Cafe**

**Located at 4541 FM 2351,
Friendswood, TX**

**Entrance is located on
FM 2351 between Clear Brook High
School and the Lord of Life Lutheran
Church.**

