



# Bay Area Genealogical Society

## Newsletter

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

Volume 16, Issue No. 7

March 2017

### Friday, March 31, 2017: Researching Early Kentucky Records presented by Nancy Royce

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

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

Nancy Royce will discuss records and strategies to use in researching early Kentucky area records. Nancy's ancestors are from the Kentucky and Virginia area. She has provided volunteer genealogy research assistance for 25 years. You can ask for her help on Tuesdays from 10am to 2pm at the Friendswood Family History Center located on 505 Deseret Drive, Friendswood. Nancy was part of five researcher group who worked with Family Tree DNA to successfully resolve President Abraham Lincoln's maternal ancestry. Read the details beginning with the *USA Today* article "DNA study helps solve Lincoln lineage debate" published in November 3, 2015 online at

[www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/11/03/dna-study-helps-solve-lincoln-lineage-debate/75078140](http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation-now/2015/11/03/dna-study-helps-solve-lincoln-lineage-debate/75078140).

The DNA study details are posted online at

[www.familytreedna.com/public/HanksDNAProject/default.aspx?section=news](http://www.familytreedna.com/public/HanksDNAProject/default.aspx?section=news)

**Pick up your copy of the new *Yearbook* and  
*Journal* March issue at the Friday meeting.**

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**Members Helping Members Session**

**Sunday, April 9 at 2pm**

**Sunday, June 11 at 2pm**

**Recap session for March's general meeting**

**Saturday, April 9 at 2pm**

**Bus Trip to Clayton Library**

**Wednesday, May 17 at 9am**

Bay Area Genealogical Society website – [www.TxBayAreaGen.org](http://www.TxBayAreaGen.org)



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## Welcome New Member!



### Jenny and Robert Stein of Friendswood.

They are looking for help with researching family in colonial Virginia (1600's), Norway, and Sweden. Their family surnames include Howard, West, Storm, Leathers, Olsen, Amundsen, Stein, and Lorenzen.

**Jerry and Karen Ross.** They are researching the history of their families which includes Irish records.

*Please give a hearty welcome to them at the next meeting.*

## BAGS on Display

BAGS has been on exhibit during the month of March at the Freeman Library in Clear Lake City. The theme is *Our Grandparent's Stories*. Thank you to all who contributed items. Polly Swerdlin will return your items on Friday, March 31 during the evening general meeting.

### Current BAGS Library Display



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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# 2017 BAGS Calendar

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## March



**Monday, March 27 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room EB105. **All members are welcome to attend.**



**Friday, March 31 at 7:00pm: General Meeting.** Nancy Royce, from the Friendswood Family History Center, will discuss records and strategies to use in researching early Kentucky records.

## April



**Sunday, April 9 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members** for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library.



**Sunday, April 9 at 2:00pm to 3:00pm: Recap session for March 31 general meeting.** Meet at Helen Hall Library. Yes this will run concurrently with the member helping member session.



**Monday, April 24 at 6:30pm: Board Meeting** at the University Baptist Church in room EB105. **All members are welcome to attend.**



**Friday, April 28 at 7:00pm: General Meeting.** Member Gale French discusses Gold Star Mothers research and resources.

## May



**Wednesday, May 17 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library.**



No Member Helping Member or Recap sessions in May. Next date is June 11.



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



**Friday, May 26 at 6:30pm: General Meeting and Potluck Dinner.** SAR and SRT member Thomas Green discusses research resources and strategies for SAR and SRT membership.

## June



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



**Sunday, June 11 at 2:00pm to 3:00pm: Recap session for April and May general meetings.** Meet at Helen Hall Library. Yes this will run concurrently with the member helping member session.



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



**Friday, June 30 at 7:00pm: General Meeting.** Professional Genealogist and Family History Consultant, Sue Yerby presents *Genealogy in Your Jammies Part 2*

## July



**Tuesday, July 11 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library.**



Education Committee:  
Nick Cimino (chair)

## Members Helping Members Sessions

Sundays from 2-4pm at  
Helen Hall Library,  
100 W. Walker, League City  
which is on Hwy 3 one light  
south of FM 518.

**Dates:**

Sunday, April 9  
Sunday, June 11  
Sunday, July 9  
Sunday, August 13

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 public WiFi is available inside the library. Details on information shared during previous sessions are posted on the BAGS website under "Workshops."

### DNA Help Desk available at the sessions!

Thank you to members Susan Moyer, Glen Cress, Gale French, and Mike McCown for providing DNA research education and consultation during these meetings.

## General Meeting Recap Sessions For Members

Sundays from 2-3pm at  
Helen Hall Library,  
100 W. Walker, League City  
which is on Hwy 3 one light  
south of FM 518.

**Dates:**

Sunday, April 9  
Sunday, June 11  
Sunday, July 9  
Sunday, August 13

- ▶ *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?*

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. Thank you to Bob and Betty Wegner for hosting the past recap sessions.

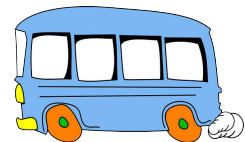
**DATE & TIME CHANGE** For the spring and summer, these recap sessions will be combined with the Member Helping Member sessions. Come sit around a table and catch up on last month's meeting information. Optionally, stay and work on your research after the recap.

## Bus Tips to Clayton Library Details

Meet at Clear Lake  
Community Association and  
Recreation Center,  
16511 Diana Lane, Houston,  
TX 77062

**Dates:**

Wednesday, May 17  
Tuesday, July 11  
Wednesday, August 2  
Wed, September 6



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](mailto:lmartin497@aol.com). This free resource is provided by the Harris County Senior Program. A minimum of nine people must sign up per the county regulations. Board 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.



## Distinguishing People With The Same Name

Rebecca Whitman Koford, CG<sup>SM</sup> presented the free Legacy Family Tree webinar *Are you My Grandpa? Men of the Same Name* on March 21, 2017. In this program, Rebecca demonstrated methods we can use to analyze evidence and resolve conflicts in that evidence. Analysis and conflict resolution are steps 3 and 4 of the Genealogical Proof Standard. She explained that in order to distinguish between two or more people with the same name, you have to learn as much as you can about each person. Identify places or residence, occupation, social status, financial standing, relatives including in-laws, friends, associates, neighbors, document witnesses, maps, deeds, censuses, tax records, court records, city directories, and signatures on document. Use the resource checklist for inspiration on what records to search. *FamilySearch Wiki* provides a detailed resource checklist online at [https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Resource\\_Checklist](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Resource_Checklist). Create a table to visually compare and contrast your evidence for each person. Also create a timeline outlining the dates and locations for these people. By putting each person in context with this exhaustive research, these tables should show that one person is more likely to be your ancestor.

## DNA: Adopted

*Adoption DNA Specialist* website offers two tutorials for adoptees and others of unknown parentage using genetic genealogy in their search. “Getting Started with your DNA Search” tutorial offers 10 steps/tips for triangulating your DNA information beginning with getting your autosomal test done through Ancestry.com ([www.adoptiondnaspecialist.com/start-your-dna-search-today](http://www.adoptiondnaspecialist.com/start-your-dna-search-today)). The second tutorial “Tricks of the Trade” continues the research process with triangulating DNA with trees and paper records.

## DNA: The CentiMorgan

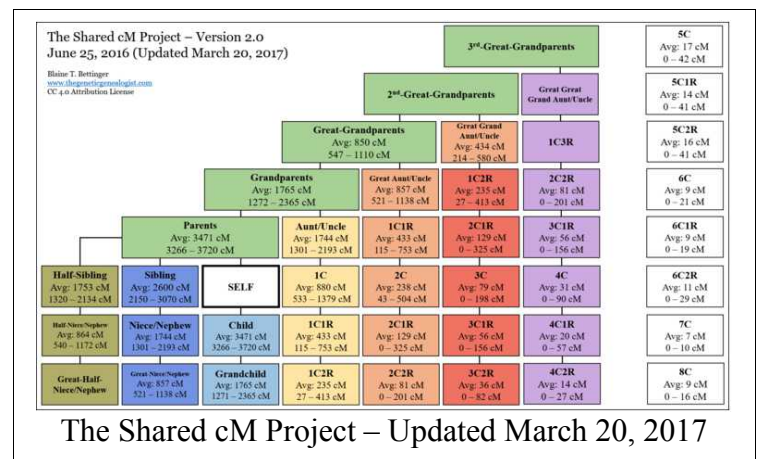
CentiMorgan (cM) is a unit of measure in DNA genetic testing. If you have participated in DNA testing, you see matches to other people participating in the same DNA test expressed in centiMorgans. Blaine Bettinger author of [www.TheGeneticGenealogist.com](http://www.TheGeneticGenealogist.com) developed tables to predict your family relationship based on a centiMorgan value.

To help you visualize how many centiMorgans must be shared to establish a relationship as a grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins, take a look at the chart to the right. This chart can be viewed online under the section “Distribution of genealogical relationships for given amounts of shared DNA” on the “Autosomal DNA Statistics” page published by *International Society of Genetic Genealogy Wiki* ([https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal\\_DNA\\_statistics](https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics)). You can also access an readable image of this chart online at

[https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal\\_DNA\\_statistics#/media/File:SharedcMProject20March2017.png](https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA_statistics#/media/File:SharedcMProject20March2017.png)

For example, the chart shows an aunt or uncle would share between 1301 and 2193 cM and a first cousin would share between 533 and 1379 cM. A second cousin would share between 43 and 504 cM. A third cousin would share 0 to 198 cM. A fourth cousin would share 0 to 90 cM. So, it is possible that through traditional record research you can prove relationship to a 4th, 5th, or 6th cousin and not share any DNA because the more distant the cousin is from you (greater than 3rd cousin), the less likely there will be any shared DNA.

Bettinger's complete project is explained online “Update to the Shared cM Project” published May 29, 2015 on *The Genetic Genealogist* website <http://thegeneticgenealogist.com/2015/05/29/the-shared-cm-project>



## February Program Recap

Thank you to Jerry Ross for discussing his book *The Diaries of Harriet "Hattie" Dillabaugh* and his experiences with researching family history. Jerry encouraged the group to follow all siblings, their marriages, and cousins to locate family memorabilia and knowledge. One example is to use the Social Security Death Index to identify a person's place of residence and death date. From that information, locate an obituary which hopefully will provide a list of survivors. Contact the survivors concerning your family history questions.

Jerry displayed an oversized 15 generation pedigree chart. The Stevenson Genealogy Center offers them for sale online as single chart or pack of 10 charts at

<https://sgenealogy.com/cart/product-category/charts-forms/oversize-charts>.

You can also purchase a 10 pack through Amazon at

[www.amazon.com/15-Generation-Pedigree-Chart-pack/dp/B006ZZQNMI](http://www.amazon.com/15-Generation-Pedigree-Chart-pack/dp/B006ZZQNMI).

## Newspapers – A Lesson shared by member Annette Bowen

In Trevia Wooster Beverly's latest newsletter, *The Tejas Gazette* March 2017, she mentioned to be sure to search more than just one newspaper for your relative's death notice or obituary. This reminded me of my find. My grandmother had lived in Jackson, Mississippi, for about 40 years at the time of her death. Her obit in the Jackson newspapers was just the basics - dates of birth and death, survivors, etc. I never thought to look for her obituary in the town where she had lived for the first few years of her marriage until I found a letter, dated 1951, from the editor of the newspaper in that town to my mother. She had apparently written to him, asking for a copy of the paper with her mother's obituary. He must have sent it to her, although I did not find it. He said he remembered her mother, and he also sent her the "Exposition Edition" of his newspaper from 1904 which contained a photo of her father and information about the town and prominent people there. My grandfather was cashier of the bank and on its board of directors at the time. I had found those copies and had no idea where they came from. Mystery solved! I now knew to look for my grandmother's obituary in the newspaper from that town. It included, in addition to the details from the Jackson papers, the editor's memories of my grandmother, adding color to the picture of her early life.

Newspapers are a wonderful source for unexpected information!

## BAGS News

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### BAGS Merchandise

is available for a donation at the general meetings:

- Laptop Brief Bags (\$25)
- USB drives (\$10)
- Cookbooks (\$10)
- Pens (\$1)



### BAG\$ Report by Bill Mayo, Treasurer

#### CHECKING ACCOUNT

|                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| Balance on 31 January 2017  | \$5,539.89      |
| December Deposits           | \$203.25        |
| December Expenditures       | <u>\$171.81</u> |
| Balance on 28 February 2017 | \$5,571.33      |

#### CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

|                           |            |
|---------------------------|------------|
| Value on 28 February 2017 | \$3,787.95 |
|---------------------------|------------|

# Local Events

## Clayton Library

The following free programs are offered to adults and teens in the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston. All events require reservations except where noted. Call the library at 832-393-2600 to make a reservation. Clayton Library website: [www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton](http://www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton)

### Hispanic Genealogy Research Help Saturday, April 1 from noon to 2pm

Need help finding your Hispanic family roots? Members of the Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston will be available for consultation and research help. No reservations required.

### Using Historical Online Map Sites to Enhance Your Family History Research Saturday, April 22 from 10:30am to noon

Maps are an excellent resource for researching our ancestors' movements. In addition to tracking movements, maps can add context to the economic, geographic, and political environment in which they lived. Staff member Franklin Smith will discuss the best free online map sites, those available at Clayton, and how maps can enhance your research experience. Reservations required.

### DAR Day

#### Saturday, April 22 from 10:30am to 4:30pm

Ever wonder how to join the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR)? Representatives from local DAR chapters will be at Clayton Library for consultation and research help in preparing lineage papers for submission to the DAR. No reservations required.

**April 6 marks the 100th anniversary of the United States' entry into the World War I on April 6, 1917.**

**Congress formally declared war on the German Empire.**

**The war ended on Nov. 11, 1918 with the armistice agreement.**

## Researching Spanish Patriots of the American Revolution presented by Mary Anthony Startz

**Saturday, April 1 from 10:00am and noon at Bayland Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074**

Many genealogists may not be familiar with the role of Spain in the American Revolution both as an enemy of England and an ally of France. In this presentation, Mary Anthony Startz will review Spanish activities which helped the American colonists in their war of independence and will discuss the Cuban Papers and other resources which can be used to find Spanish soldiers, sailors, and others who assisted the Americans in defeating England.

## Live Free Webinars

Come watch live Legacy Family Tree webinars at Friendswood Public Library, 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood.

**Genealogy in Government Documents  
Tuesday, April 18 from 7:00 to 8:00pm**

**Neighborhood Reconstruction: Effective use of Land Records  
Wednesday, April 19 from 1:00 to 2:30pm**

**Finding and Using Land Ownership Maps  
Wednesday, April 26 from 1:00 to 2:30pm**

A complete list of these free webinars can be found online at [www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com](http://www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com)

## RootsTech 2017 – Video Archive

Videos are available for a few of the sessions held Wednesday – Saturday during February RootsTech 2017 Conference. You can watch them online for free.

Wednesday: [www.rootstech.org/videos-wed](http://www.rootstech.org/videos-wed)

Thursday: [www.rootstech.org/videos-thu](http://www.rootstech.org/videos-thu)

Friday: [www.rootstech.org/videos-fri](http://www.rootstech.org/videos-fri)

Saturday: [www.rootstech.org/videos-sat](http://www.rootstech.org/videos-sat)