



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 16, Issue No. 8

April 2017

Friday, April 28, 2017: Gold Star Mothers presented by Gale French

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](#)).**

Learn how to research Gold Star Mothers, American women who lost sons or daughters in service of the US Armed Forces. Gale French has been interested in genealogy for over 25 years. He researched and self-published a 600 page family history book on his grandmother's Elliott family line that came from England to Texas, fought in the Texas Revolution and received land for their service. He traced ten generations of Elliotts and their descendants. He presented at the 2014 and 2015 Roots Tech conferences in Salt Lake City and has presented self-publishing and Google Earth programs to the BAGS membership. He received the Pioneers in Space Technical Achievement Award from the United Daughters of the Confederacy.



Gale French

Gale currently teaches “**Beginner Y-DNA Basics**” online classes through the YDNA Adoption and DNAGedcom, a source of inexpensive training. His next three week class starts July 7. Checkout the classes offered at <http://dnaadoption.com/index.php?page=online-classes>

Gale has lived in Texas all his life and worked for IBM in the U.S. Space program at NASA's Johnson Space Center for 26 years and is now retired. His work with commercial imaging technology and document management has enhanced his genealogy organization and presentation. He received the IBM Outstanding Contribution Award, NASA's Apollo Achievement Award, and the NASA First Shuttle Flight Achievement Award for Manned Flight Awareness.

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Pickup your copy of the new Yearbook and Journal issue at the Friday meeting.

Details on page 4 for...

**Bus Trip to Clayton Library
Wednesday, May 17 at 9am**

Members Helping Members & Recap Sessions

**No Meeting in May
Next date is Sunday, June 11 at 2pm**

BAGS Officers 2015-2017



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Welcome New Members!



Kathleen and John Holt

Dorothy Howard

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

Next month – May General Meeting Potluck Dinner and Program

Guest speaker Thomas Green will discuss research resources and strategies for SAR and SRT membership. Thomas is both a Son of the American Revolution (SAR) www.sar.org and Son of the Republic of Texas (SRT) www.srttexas.org

The Society is hosting a potluck dinner. Members are invited to bring an entree, side dish or a salad. Drinks are provided.



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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2017 BAGS Calendar

April



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



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



Sunday, July 9 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.



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



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



Friday, July 28 at 7:00pm: General Meeting. Current Houston Genealogical Forum President, Marjorie Lowe will discuss Native American research.

August



Wednesday, August 2 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: Bus Trip to Clayton Library.



Sunday, August 13 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: Members Helping Members & Recap Sessions at Helen Hall 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:

No Meeting in May
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:

No Meeting in May
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.

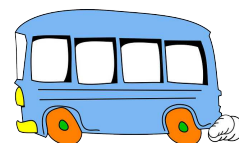
DATE & TIME CHANGE For the spring and summer, these recap sessions will be combined with the Member Helping Member sessions. Come sit around a table and catch up on last month's meeting information. Optionally, stay and work on your research after the recap.

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. 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.

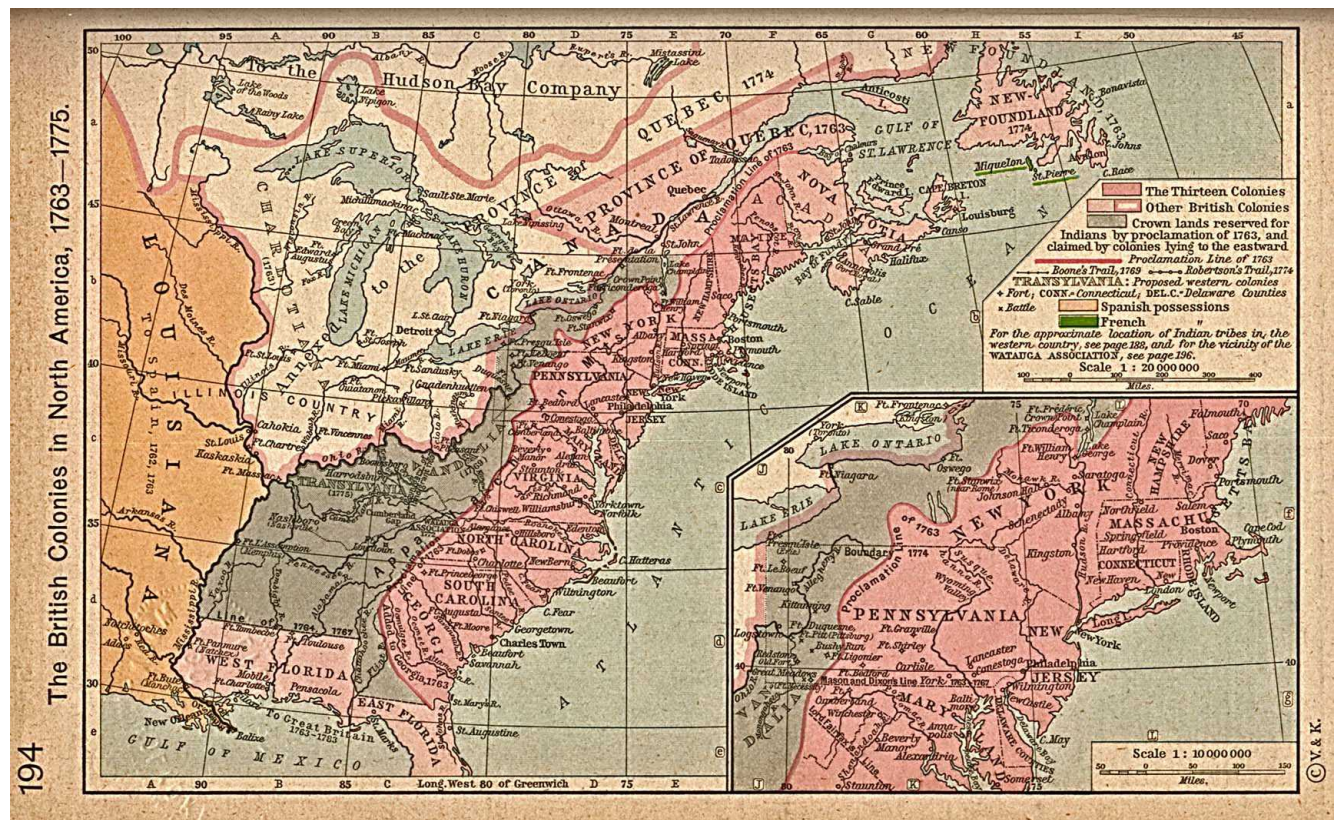
March Program Recap

Thank you to Nancy Royce for discussing the history of the Virginia territory development into the state of Kentucky and the paper trail it left behind. Nancy's handout is packed with references to available resources in print at the Clayton Library and online. She stressed that there are not enough records to trace a direct line back in time, and recommended we must research the entire family and friends to locate enough information to piece together a family story.

Nancy discussed Virginia Chancery records as a good resource for early 1700's. These are court documents ruling fairness in civil matters such as divisions of estates, land disputes, divorce petitions, and business partnership issues. Search and view original digitized papers of the Chancery records online at VirginiaMemory.com (digital library provided by Library of Virginia). Access the collection directly at www.virginiamemory.com/collections/chancery Scroll down and click on search index and use surname field to search the records.

Interested in 17th and 18th centuries Virginia's county records? The Library of Virginia has "A Guide to Virginia County and City Records on Microfilm" published online at www.lva.virginia.gov/public/local Scroll down to choose a specific county and then you will see tables listing what records and dates are available. Many of the films can be borrowed for free through inter-library loan using your local public library. There is a 5 reel limit per person. Access Kentucky Digital Library collections at <http://kdl.kyvl.org>.

The University of Texas Perry-Castañeda Library in Austin has a map collection of more than 250,000 maps, with less than 30% of the collection currently digitized. Under the United States historical maps section, there is a wonderful map detailing exploration routes and settlements between 1675 and 1800. Access this map at www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/united_states/exploration_1675.jpg and download for closer look.



Inset: Middle Colonies. From The Historical Atlas by William R. Shepherd, 1923.

accessed online from Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection: Historical Maps of the United States
www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/historical/shepherd/british_colonies_1763-76.jpg

The Missing Man: Book Review

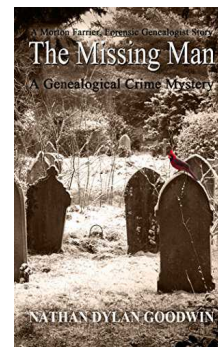
The Missing Man is Nathan Dylan Goodwin's newest book (novella) in the Morton Farrier, Forensic Genealogist, series of Genealogical Crime Mysteries, available on Amazon.com as eBook and paperback. Mr. Goodwin's books combine genealogy, history and mystery. This book may inspire you to follow a different research path to locate a parent.

The following book review was provided by member Barbara Moore

Morton Farrier, the forensic genealogist of the story is off on another mystery; this time to the United States. I was drawn into this book by the drab cemetery scene on the cover. Perched on a headstone was a red cardinal. I knew it had to be a clue to something in the story.

Morton is newly married; he and Juliette travel to Boston Massachusetts where his research has led him. The missing man he seeks is his own father, whom he has never seen. He finds the pathway through relatives is a crooked road with bridges some people don't care to cross.

I was not able to put this copy down until finished. Nathan has a unique method of taking you with one character from the past toward the end, while allowing you to travel back in time with Morton Farrier at the same time. This is a wonderful weaving of suspense and adventure.



Want to know more about forensic genealogy research methods? Read a short online article "Forensic Genealogy – Dead Men Do Tell Tales" by Nancy Siddons-Daniels published October 6, 2012 at www.recordclick.com/forensic-genealogy-dead-men-do-tell-tales

Also Dick Eastman's blog post "Forensic Genealogy Explained" published June 15, 2014 at <https://blog.eogn.com/2014/06/15/forensic-genealogy-explained>

BAGS News

- ★ March Library Display: Thank you to those members that provided items for the Freeman Library display!
- ★ Bob Wegner, Registrar, reports BAGS has 183 members as of March 27, 2017
- ★ Nominating Committee has been formed to fill the 2017-2019 BAGS Officer positions. The Committee members are Nick Ciminio, Terri Myers, Teresa Rundell, Bob Wegner, and Kim Zrubek. We are looking for a few members interested in planning the Society's activities.
- ★ March 2017 issue of the *BAGS Journal* was available at the last general meeting. Pickup yours at any general meeting from Melodey Hauch, Journal editor.
- ★ Pickup your copy of the 2017 *Yearbook* from Gary Garnett at any general meeting. It has pictures and contact information so you can stay in touch with fellow members.
- ★ Access current and archived *Yearbooks*, members' Surname list, 5-gen charts, archived *Quarterly* issues, and past program handouts from the **Members Page** on the BAGS website www.TxBayAreaGen.org. Access requires a password which you can get from the Registrar Bob Wegner.

BAGS Merchandise

is available for a donation at the general meetings:

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



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

Hispanic Genealogy Research Help Saturday, May 6 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.

Quickstart #2

Saturday, May 6 from 2pm to 4pm

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.

Library Orientation

Saturday, May 20 from 2pm to 4pm

Fáilte (welcome) – to your Irish ancestry! Saturday, May 27 from 10:30am to noon

In this class you will explore some 21st century methods of finding and understanding the records created by your Irish ancestors. Civil registration, census, and church records in Eire and Northern Ireland will be explored. Many databases, both free and paid, which contain Irish records, will be touched upon. This program will be presented by Clayton Library staff member Irene B. Walters.

TSGS Annual Conference

Friday, October 20 – Sunday, Oct 22

in Houston at the Omni Houston Hotel at Westside. Featured speakers are Dr. Michael Lacopo, D.V.M. and J. Mark Lowe, CGSM. Details on schedule and speakers will be published online at www.txsgs.org/conference

Finding and Using Land Ownership Maps

Wednesday, April 26 from 1pm to 2:30pm

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

Texas Institute of Genealogical Research (TIGR)

Monday, May 22 – Thursday, May 25

at Thompson Conference Center at UT Austin. Hosted by TxSGS, this week-long institute focuses solely on Texas records and research spanning early Spanish exploration and colonization through the Texas Republic and beyond. More details on the schedule, faculty, venue, lodging, and registration (BAGS is a member of TxSGS) are online at www.txsgs.org/texas-research-institute

Research Trip To Family History Library, Salt Lake, UT

Sunday, June 4 – Sunday, June 11

The Humble Area Genealogical Society is planning a research trip to the Family History Library. The trip is open to anyone interested in genealogical research and you need not be a member of the Humble society. Genealogists from beginners through advanced will benefit from the record collections at the Family History Library. Lodging is at the Plaza Hotel at Temple Square next door to the library. This trip includes 7 nights, transportation and baggage handling to and from the hotel, and 6 full days of research in the Family History Library. Airfare and meals not included. A preparation meeting will be held to help acquaint you with the FHL catalog and prepare for the trip. For more information or questions, please call Pam Walton 281-358-6449. Details and flyers are posted online at www.humblegen.org/saltlaketrip