



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 17, Issue No. 1

September 2017

Friday, September 29, 2017: *Long Live Your French Ancestors!* Presented by Irene Walters

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](#)).**

We survived Hurricane Harvey! Please contact a Board member if you need help recovering from the effects of the storm so we can connect you to possible resources.

In this program, Irene Walters explores methods of finding and understanding records created by your French ancestors. Huguenot, French Canadian, and direct migration from France to America will be touched upon, as well as church and civil registration in France and Canada. Beginning in 1997, Irene Walters has served as one of the "Yankee Librarians" at Houston's Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research. She is originally from New York State and earned her Masters of Library Science degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Irene started her own genealogy research as a teenager and has taken her lines back into France and Ireland. Her German lines and those dropped off by passing alien ships are more elusive. Irene has presented many programs to BAGS including modern military records, newspapers research, and New York State records. She is currently presenting a series of programs at the Helen Hall Library in League City. Details on page 8.



Irene Walters

During this meeting,

- The members will vote on the 2017-2019 Officers. Slate of candidates announced on page 7.
- The new officers will be inducted.
- Pickup the new *Journal* September 2017 issue.

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- (insert) Membership Application

Need a ride? Contact Amanda Pearson

It is a new Society year!
Please renew your membership at this meeting. Details on page 6.

**Members Helping Members Session
and recap of the September meeting
Sunday, October 15 at 2pm**

**Bus Trip to Clayton Library
Wednesday, October 18 at 9am**

BAGS Officers 2015-2017



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In Memoriam



Our Assistant Registrar Betty Wegner of Friendswood passed away on September 13, 2017. Her infectious smile, laughs, and grace will be missed.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her husband Bob Wegner, Jr. and their family.

The funeral was held Wednesday, September 20. Her obituary was published in the *Houston Chronicle* and online at

www.legacy.com/obituaries/houstonchronicle/obituary.aspx?n=elizabeth-wegner&pid=186679662



Long time member Mary Thornton Olsen of Seabrook passed away on August 19, 2017. Another gracious lady whose smile and laughter will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her extended family.

Her obituary is posted online at

<http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Mary-Olsen&lc=2711&pid=186452280&mid=7532746>

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

September



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



Friday, September 29 at 6:30pm:
General Meeting. Clayton Library Staff Member, Irene Walters presents *Long Live Your French Ancestors!* A new Society year 2017-2018 begins. Newly elected 2017-2019 Officers will be installed. Renew your membership. Pickup a new *BAGS Journal* issue.

October



Sunday, October 15 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: **Members Helping Members** for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library.



Sunday, October 15 at 2:00pm to 3:00pm: **Recap session for September general meeting.** Meet at Helen Hall Library. This program runs concurrently with the members helping members session.



Wednesday, October 18 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: **Ride the Bus to Clayton Library for a day of research.** Contact Oletia Teas if you would like to catch the bus. More details on page 4.



Monday, October 23 at 6:30pm:
Board Meeting at the University Baptist Church in room EB105. **All members are welcome to attend.**



Friday, October 27 at 7:00pm:
General Meeting. David Gardiner will present "Reading between the lines, an in depth look at UK census records".

November



Sunday, November 5 at 2:00pm to 4:00pm: **Members Helping Members** for both beginners and advanced researchers. Meet at Helen Hall Library.



Sunday, November 5 at 2:00pm to 3:00pm: **Recap session for October general meeting.** Meet at Helen Hall Library. This program runs concurrently with the members helping members session.



Wednesday, November 15 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: **Ride the Bus to Clayton Library for a day of research.** More details on page 4.



Friday, November 17 at 6:30pm:
General Meeting. Annual Show & Tell with Potluck Dinner. Share a family item, brief story, event, or research discovery with the group. Meats will be supplied by the Society. Please consider bringing a side dish or salad to share.

December



Annual Christmas Luncheon – Date TBD

Happy Holidays!

January



Wednesday, January 10 from 9:00am to 4:00pm: **Ride the Bus to Clayton Library for a day of research.** More details on page 4.



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



Friday, January 26 at 7:00pm:
General Meeting.



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, October 15
Sunday, November 5
December – no meeting**

BYOR – Bring Your Own Research and work with others to discover resources that can help you find those elusive ancestors. 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.**

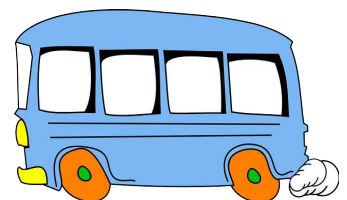
Dates:

**Sunday, October 15
Sunday, November 5
December – no meeting**

- ▶ *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.

The October recap session will cover materials presented at the September general meeting.



Bus Trips to Clayton Library Details

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

Dates:

**Wednesday, October 18
Wednesday, November 15
Wednesday, January 10**

10 people attended the August bus trip.

If you want to participate in the October 18 bus trip, please signup by contacting Oletia Teas by phone 713-436-2606 or e-mail stillteasing@hotmail.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.

NEW CONTACT INFO FOR BUS RSVP

Hurricane Harvey's Impact

The September bus trip to Clayton Library was canceled because the library was closed so staff could help at other Houston Public Library locations.

The Clayton Library did not have any damage to the collection. There was a little dampness in the Clayton House basement. According to the website, Clayton Library will be open starting Tuesday, September 26.

Rosenberg Library got 1-2 inches of water in the bottom floor which only impacted the carpeting in the children's area. None of the collection materials were damaged. There does not appear to be any collection damage in any of the Galveston County libraries.

The Martin family held Loren's funeral and burial in Kansas City on August 30. Mary and Loren's home took on water in the garage only due to Hurricane Harvey. During the cleanup, Mary may be living in Austin with her son.

The following members had water damage in their homes due to Hurricane Harvey. Several were evacuated and lost their homes and cars. Please consider lending them your help.

Mike and Sue McCown – lost truck and contents of their home
Claudia and James Grafton – lost cars and contents of their home
David Zwahr
Ron and Lynda Cox
Kathleen and John Holt

Polly and Fred Swerdlin
Ralph Weiss
Julianne Blanford
Barbara Bennett
Helen Mooty

The **Galveston Historical Foundation** published several short videos on salvaging wet books, photos, furniture, and fabric. If you have items that are wet, dirty, or muddy, members can help share in the recovery process to save them. www.galvestonhistory.org/blogs/flooded-wet-diy-heirloom-recovery

Recommended by the Library of Congress, the **Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC)** published preservation, emergency management, and conservation advice and instructions online at www.nedcc.org/free-resources/preservation-leaflets/overview The Emergency Management section 3 on that page provides instructions on recovering wet books, records, and photos. Specifically,

- Freezing and Drying Wet Books and Records
- Emergency salvage of wet or damp books/records using air drying, dehumidifying, freeze drying, vacuum freeze-drying, etc. Match the technique to the amount of moisture for the given situation
- Emergency salvage of moldy books and paper
- Emergency salvage of wet photographs

American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC), the national professional association for conservators, maintains an online directory to locate a conservator by specialty and geographic location and provides information on how to choose a conservator.

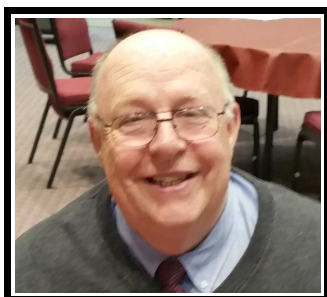
www.conservation-us.org/membership/find-a-conservator

★ *It's Membership renewal time!*

Please consider renewing your membership for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, which began September 1, 2017. The renewal rates have not changed from last year—a **single membership is \$20 and a family membership is \$25**.

Please fill out a membership application form with your renewal. One is attached to this newsletter and is available online on the BAGS website (www.TxBayAreaGen.org) home page. Either print and mail to the address at the top of the form, or bring the form to the next general meeting. Please note that the Registrar's address is P.O. Box 590853, Houston, TX 77259-0853. Blank forms will be available at the Registrar's table during the general meetings.

- ★ Welcoming Committee needs a couple of smiles. Help us greet members and visitors before the general meetings. Thank you Shirley Lindquist and Susie Ganch for providing this service throughout the year.
- ★ Need help filling out your 5 generation pedigree chart? Contact member Garry Garnett for help.
- ★ Genealogical related events hosted by other organizations are listed on the BAGS website under Workshops.
- ★ Back issues of the BAGS Quarterlies, Journals, and Newsletters can be found on the Society's website (www.TxBayAreaGen.org) click on the **Members Page**. You will find digitized images of *BAGS Journal* issues published from September 2014 to March 2017 and *BAGS Quarterly* issues published from December 2001 to December 2013. Past issues of the *BAGS Newsletter* are also available on the same website but click on the **Newsletters** instead of Members Page.
- ★ Willing to help plan a Saturday genealogy seminar? Contact George Porterfield or Kim Zrubek



David Gardiner hosts an English Genealogy Roundtable on Tuesday (not Wednesday) evenings at 7pm in the League City Family History Center, located at 4655 South Shore Boulevard League City TX 77573. Entrance at the back of the building.

BAG\$ Report by Bill Mayo, Treasurer

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on 31 July 2017	\$4,706.49
July Deposits	\$668.50
July Expenditures	<u>\$214.20</u>
Balance on 31 August 2017	\$5,160.79

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

Value on 31 August 2017	\$3,809.61
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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)

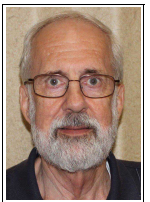


Announcing the 2017-2019 Officer Slate

The Nomination Committee offers the following slate of candidates to serve as the BAGS Officers for the 2017-2019 term. The slate was formally presented to the membership during the July 28, 2017 general meeting. During the September 29, 2017 general meeting, additional nominations can be accepted from the floor and the membership will vote on candidates from both the slate and the floor nominations. The newly elected officers will be installed and they will begin their duties at that time. The August officer elections were postponed because the general meeting was canceled due to Hurricane Harvey coming ashore that evening. The Nomination Committee's slate of candidates presented at the July 28, 2017 general meeting are:



President: Nick Cimino is currently serving as 1st Vice-President, 2015-2017, and Education Chairman organizing and hosting member helping member sessions for BAGS. Nick has also served on this year's BAGS Nominating Committee.



1st Vice-President: George Porterfield joined BAGS in 2016 and is recently semi-retired. He has been actively supporting BAGS by providing research assistance at the monthly member helping member sessions.



2nd Vice-President: Kim Zrubek is currently serving in the same position, 2015-2017. She also serves as the newsletter editor, supports the Education Committee's programming, and is a member of BAGS Members First Committee.



Treasurer: Bill Mayo is currently serving as Treasurer 2015-2017. He has updated and published the Society's surname list available on the "Members Only" page on the BAGS website. He has served as BAGS President 2011-2013, Treasurer 2009-2011, and the Society's photographer, 2017.



Registrar: Bob Wegner is currently serving as Registrar and has served in this capacity since 2013. He also chairs the BAGS Members First Committee, and served on this year's BAGS Nominating Committee.



Recording Secretary: Kathie Chaffee is currently serving as Recording Secretary 2016-2017 and Corresponding Secretary, 2016-2017. Kathie continues to serve as the Telephone Committee chair since 2015 and is a member of the BAGS Members First Committee.



Corresponding Secretary: Teresa Rundell joined BAGS in 2015 and has been actively supporting BAGS by hosting tables at many public outreach events to represent and advertise the Society.

Local Events

Hands-on Genealogy Series

Helen Hall Library located at 100 W. Walker, League City, TX

- **Monday, October 2 at 6pm: Start searching the census with HeritageQuest.**
- **Monday, November 6 at 6pm: FamilySearch**
- **Monday, December 4 at 6pm: Using Newspapers To Flush Out Your Genealogy**

Presented by Irene B. Walters, librarian from Clayton Library. A limited number of library owned tablets will be available for use during the session. RSVP by calling the library at 281-554-1111.

Local Author Johanna Wycoff will discuss her book *Dancing in Bomb Shelters: My Diary of Holland in World War II.*

Thursday, October 5 at 7:00pm in the Friendswood Public Library located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood.

Is Roots Magic Right for Me?

Saturday, October 7 from 10am to noon at Bayland Community Center located at 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074

RootsMagic is a tremendous tool to assist in organizing and analyzing your discoveries and now includes integration with Ancestry Hints® and Ancestry's records and online trees. Both free and fee-based versions are available. But is it right for you? Devon Noel Lee discusses the strengths and weaknesses of this program to help you make an informed decision. This program is hosted by Houston Genealogical Forum (www.hgftx.org)

TSGS Annual Conference

Friday, October 20 – Sunday, Oct 22 in Houston - cancelled due to Hurricane

Harvey's damage to the hotel. Alternatively, consider attending two free events planned for the same weekend.....

Annual Genealogy Free All Day Programming and Ancestors Roadshow

Friday, October 20 from 11:00am to 10:00pm at Friendswood Public Library

Complete programming details are on the next page.

6th Annual Genealogy Symposium

Saturday, October 21, from 9:30am -3:45pm, in the George Memorial Library, located at 1001 Golfview in Richmond, TX

Free program features Professional genealogist and family-history blogger Caroline M. Pointer. RSVP by calling the library at 281-341-2608.

9:30am: "Did You Really Look *Everywhere* Online?"

10:45am: "Searching vs. Researching: The Difference Can Profoundly Affect Your Family History."

1:15pm: "Tear Down That Brick Wall by Evaluating the Source, of Course!"

2:30pm: "23 Ways to Use Your Smartphone or Tablet for Finding & Sharing Your Family-History Mysteries."

English Genealogy Research Roundtable

Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm at the League City Family History Center located at 4655 South Shore Boulevard League City TX 77573. Entrance at the back of the building.

Led by David Gardiner. David is the featured speaker at the BAGS October meeting.

Annual Genealogy Free All Day Programming and Ancestors Roadshow

Friday, October 20 from 11:00am to 10:00pm



In celebration of October as Family History Month, presentations will be broadcasted from libraries across Texas. Come watch these presentations live at the Friendswood Library from 11am to 10pm. The presentations are free, open to the public, no registration required. Watch one or two presentations, or stay for the entire day. After 6:00pm, the library facility will be closed except for access to these presentations. Children under the age of 16 attending the event must be accompanied by an adult. Snacks and mobile devices are welcome. No registration required. A few computers will be available for online research.

The list of presentations offered during this event are:

11:00am: Orphan Train Riders: Tracks to Texas & Beyond, All Aboard 1854 to 1929 with Paula Perkins

Noon: Beginner's Guide to Documenting Your Family History with LaToya Devezin of the Austin History Center.

1:40pm: Discover Local History through a Regional Depository with Laura Saegert of the Texas State Library & Archives will address TSLAC's regional depository program.

2:50pm: My Texans during the Republic with Sharon Farnsworth answers questions about your Texas Republic era ancestors.

4:00pm: Connecting Your DNA Matches with Diahan Southard

6:00pm: Researching Your Czech Immigrant Ancestor's Background in the Old Fatherland with Dr. Miroslav Koudelka from the Czech Republic

7:10pm: Get the Scoop on Your Ancestors with Newspapers with Lisa Louise Cooke, *The Genealogy Gems Podcast*

8:20pm: Discovering Your WWI Ancestor: Sources & Resources with Earl Pogue, Family Historian & AAuthor

Ancestor Roadshow – Grab time with a Professional Genealogist Friday, October 20 from 3:30 – 9:30pm by appointment only

In addition to these presentations, The Lone Star Chapter of the Association of Professional Genealogists (APG) will host an "Ancestors Roadshow" beginning at 3:30pm. *Do you have a road block in your family research and need some special help?* This Roadshow is an opportunity for you to enjoy a free 15-minute consultation with a professional genealogist from the Lone Star Chapter. You can ask questions about a specific genealogical problem or get general information on how to approach a research quandary. This is an excellent chance to get expert advice on that "brick wall" dilemma or "elusive ancestor" in your family history research. Time slots are limited. Roadshow appointments are limited to one appointment per person.

Friendswood Library will provide a few computers with Skype connections and assistance for you to access the "Ancestors Roadshow." To make an appointment, you **MUST** complete this questionnaire found at http://lonestarapg.com/roadshow_form_fillable.pdf and either email or print/deliver to Kim Zrubek at the Friendswood Library, kzrubek@friendswood.lib.tx.us PRIOR to Friday, October 20.

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.

Membership: New _____ Renewal _____ Date _____

Full Name _____

Maiden Name _____ Preferred Name for Name Tag _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP Code _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____

If this is a family membership, list the other family members' full names:

Occupation or, if retired, previous occupation of primary member _____

Occupation or, if retired, previous occupation of other member(s) _____

May we print your address, e-mail address and phone number in the Society's yearbook? Yes ___ No ___

Research interests (list states or countries, etc.) and surnames _____

I need help with _____

The Society needs your participation. Check the committee(s) on which you are willing to serve:

<input type="checkbox"/> County Coordinator	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality	<input type="checkbox"/> Pedigree Charts	<input type="checkbox"/> Web Master
<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Journal	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs	<input type="checkbox"/> Welcoming
<input type="checkbox"/> E-Mail	<input type="checkbox"/> Member Services	<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yearbook
<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify; or I can help with e.g., translation or research) _____			

Payment – 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]

Make checks out to "BAGS" Cash ☐ Check # _____ TOTAL

\$

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