



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 18, Issue No. 1

September 2018

Friday, September 28, 2018: "Digitizing Your Own Family Records" presented by Sue Yerby and Fidel Ramirez

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](#)).**

Do you have original documents you want to preserve before the next natural disaster? Are you in possession of the marriage certificate of your Great Grandparents? Come and learn how to save family documents for the future. What does the future of digitization look like with respect to locating documents? We are going to look to the future as well as the past for this presentation. Sue Yerby will discuss the future of digitizing for genealogy and Fidel Ramirez will explain how we can digitize our own records.



Sue Yerby

Sue Yerby's all consuming hobby, and often obsession, is genealogy. "It is like a potato chip, you can't find just one ancestor and quit." For over 39 years Sue has served as a Family History Consultant, teaching continuing education classes in genealogy, and developing and orchestrating several full day genealogy workshops. She holds memberships in many area genealogy societies including the Daughters of the American Revolution and is the current Board President for Clayton Library Friends (www.claytonlibraryfriends.org).



Fidel G. Ramirez

Fidel G. Ramirez is an IT professional with the University of Houston. He holds a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Management Information Systems and a minor in Spanish. His interest in genealogy started early as a teenager and has been researching his family history for over 20 years. He currently serves on the Executive Board of the Clayton Library Friends as Director of Social Media and Technology.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- 2 Welcome New Members, In Memoriam
- 3 BAGS Event Calendar / Bus Trips
- 4 August Show & Tell Recap
- 5 August Show & Tell Recap continued
- 6 Education Corner
- 7 BAGS News
- 8 October Family History Month
- 9 October 19 - All day live webinars

**The 2018-2019 Society year began
September 1. Please renew your
membership at this meeting.**

**Members Helping Members Session
Saturday, October 13 at 2pm
at Friendswood Public Library
(date change)**

Bay Area Genealogical Society website – www.TxBayAreaGen.org

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Welcome New Members!



Judy Zavalla and Amanda Miles of Alvin are researching surnames Phillips and Holt in the areas of Nacogdoches, Texas.



In Memoriam

Sylvia Elizabeth Johnson of Lilburn, GA passed away on September 7, 2018. She is the daughter and sister of BAGS members Mamye Atkinson and Susie Ganch respectively. Our prayers go out to Mamye and Susie and their family. Memorial Service will be held in Texas at a later date. Her obituary was published online at www.wagesfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Sylvia-Johnson-13/#!/Obituary

Past BAGS member **Joseph Anthony DeBonis of Friendswood** passed away on Wednesday, August 22, 2018. He was very proud of his Italian heritage and his contributions to the NASA Apollo program. Our prayers go out to Joe's extended family. His obituary was published in the *Friendswood Journal* and online at www.legacy.com/obituaries/name/joseph-debonis-obituary?pid=190048320

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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2018 BAGS Calendar



General Meetings and Recap Dates

Friday, September 28 at 7:00pm: Sue Yerby and Fidel Ramirez will discuss “Digitizing Your Own Family Records” (e.g. certificates, photos and documents).

(Date Change) Saturday, October 13 at 2pm in the Friendswood Public Library (located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood – [online map](#)): Recap of September program and “Members Helping Members” research working session.

Friday, October 26 at 7:00pm: Gay Carter will presents “Kick-Start Your Enthusiasm: Genealogy Education on the Web.” Learn about the abundance of educational podcasts, webinars, and conference presentations that are available from the comfort of your home on your favorite computer.

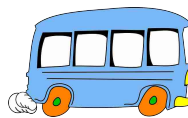
(Date Change) Saturday, November 10 at 2pm in the Friendswood Public Library (located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood – [online map](#)): Recap of October program and “Members Helping Members” research working session.

Friday, November 30 at 7:00pm: Mary Anthony Startz discusses The Cuban Papers, a treasure of colonial documents generated by the Spanish government for Mississippi Valley, Gulf Coast, and East/West Florida prior to the Louisiana Purchase.



No Meeting in December.

General Meetings will resume in January, 2019



Research Bus Trips to Clayton Library

Wednesday, November 14

Wednesday, January 16

Wednesday, March 20

If you want to participate in a bus trip, please signup by contacting Deborah Gammon by phone 832-425-9319 or e-mail gammondc@gmail.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 at the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center, 16511 Diana Lane, Houston, TX 77062 ([online map](#)).



July 2018 Trip – members and friends at Clayton Library



Board Meetings

Held at the University Baptist Church in room EB105. All members are welcome to attend.

Monday, October 22 at 6:30pm

Monday, November 26 at 6:30pm

No Meeting in December. Resume in January.

August Show and Tell Program

Thank you to everyone that assisted in setting up the room, contributed to the program, and provided food. We had a wonderful spread of delicious choices. Thank you to Bill Mayo for pickup and delivery of the meat! The BBQ was cooked by A J's Meat Market and Smokehouse located at 4908 FM 517 Rd E., Dickinson, TX 77539 phone (281) 337-7777.

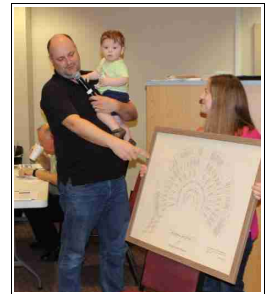
Thank you to David Buckner, Norm Chaffee, Patsy Chappellear, Sharon Cress, Janet Jones, Beth Marshall, Barbara Moore, Susan Moyer, Jerry Ross, Teresa Rundell, Andy Shaner, Vicky Whynott and Kathy Wright for sharing their family stories, research, and treasured items with the group during the Society's annual show & tell program.

Pictures of the event are available on the BAGS website. Click on the "About Us" link and then "Photo Gallery." On the "Photo Gallery" page, click on 2018 to view the August photo album.

Andrew, Sarah, and Hudson Shaner exhibited their poster sized family tree chart framed and ready to be hung on the wall.



Beth Marshall discussed her research efforts on her mother's family showed the resulting decorative pedigree family tree chart. She volunteered to help members create family tree charts to share with their families.



The charts provided by the Shaners and Beth are good examples of a successful method to engage family reluctant to embrace your genealogy research.

Barbara Moore encouraged us to search prison and convict records groups. She found information in these record groups to help define the life of Pasco McClellan, her great uncle and brother to her paternal grandfather.

Kathy Wright was looking for assistance in identifying her father's ring.

Patsy Chappellear found money owed her father, who had passed away many years ago, using the website Missing Money (www.missingmoney.com) which searches across the U.S. states.

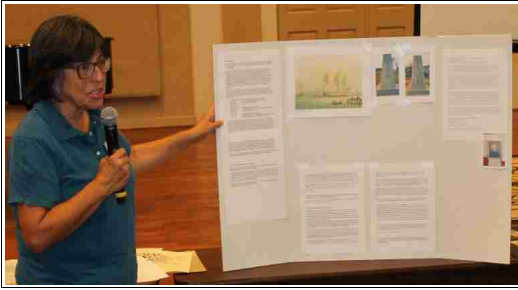
Norm Chaffee shared information about the University of Houston-Clear Lake Alfred R. Neumann Library Archives. The library accepts your personal NASA papers and will return what they do not plan to keep. This is a great way to dispense of those boxes of NASA Johnson Space Center work materials you have kept through the years which can include personal papers, photographs, brochures, correspondence, drawings, newsletters, journals, and designs. If you live in the greater Houston/Galveston area, the UHCL Archives staff will come to your home to pickup the donation. All donated material records is arranged, re-housed into acid-free boxes, and described in the UHCL Archives online database for researchers to find materials. These materials are open for research to UHCL students, alumni, faculty, staff and the general public. More information about the archives and donations is available online at www.uhcl.edu/library/uhcl-archives

Janet Jones exhibited her father's WWII memorabilia that included the Lucky Strike cigarettes. She was looking for assistance in identifying the use of the bag.

(continued on page 5)



August Show and Tell Program (continued)



Vicky Whynott shared a poster she created for her grandkids to explain the family's Nova Scotia Heritage, including their immigration route and daily life.

Sharon Cress shared history of her great-grandfather on her mother's side, who immigrated from Russia (Volga Germans) to Mexico, through Texas, and settled in Oklahoma. He was a successful blacksmith. Sharon exhibited a garden plow and a small wooden box he had handmade and his citizenship paperwork.



Jerry Ross discussed using FamilyTree Maker to create eight family history books covering Karen and his ancestors. He offered to demonstrate this process at a later date. He shared a funny story of his ancestors herding horses, mules, and sheep between New Mexico and Oakland.

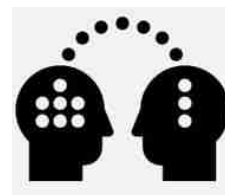
Susan Moyer shared the experience of attending a family reunion in Germany. Twenty people from the U.S. attended this event that appeared to be a gathering of anyone that shared the surname Trogus. Those attending did not necessarily know if and how they were related. David and Susan had fun discovering and identifying relatives from her mother's side. A family history book was not available at the meeting. However, David and Susan found a book through a local business owner. The local *Badische Zeitung* newspaper covered the reunion, publishing the article *German-American meeting: Members of the Trogus clan meet in Burkheim / surname is listed since 1647 in Burkheimer Pfarrbüchern* by Herbert Trogus on Saturday, August 25, 2018. Read the article online at www.badische-zeitung.de/vogtsburg/deutsch-amerikanisches-treffen--156034612.html Use the Chrome web browser to view the article and in the address bar, click on the translate button to convert the text to English.

Teresa Rundell shared her experience of researching at the National Archives (NARA) for the first time and how thrilling it was to touch an ancestor's original land record. Teresa recommends arriving early at NARA for plenty of time to research. Also to save time, research NARA catalog before you go to identify the materials you want pulled.



David Buckner shared his journey in locating family members, demonstrating that perseverance and patience can overcome dead ends, no information and years of searching. Thank you David for sharing that touching story.

Members Helping Members and General Meeting Recap Sessions



Kim Zrubek
Education Chair

DATE CHANGES and Locations

Saturday, October 13 from 2pm to 4pm in Friendswood Public Library (located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood)

Saturday, November 10 from 2pm to 4pm in Friendswood Public Library (located at 416 S. Friendswood Drive, Friendswood)

No meeting in December.

This is **YOUR** chance to get **one-on-one assistance with other members. So BYOR – Bring Your Own Research and work with others to discover your elusive ancestors.** Bring your laptop or mobile device. Free public WiFi is available inside the library. Also, if you missed the last general meeting, pickup the announcements, speaker handout, and discuss the program details.

So come and

- ✓ Get suggestions for searching family in a specific locale
- ✓ Use FamilySearch or Ancestry to find records, build trees, attach supporting records and photos
- ✓ Download/upload family or DNA information.
- ✓ Discuss which DNA test to take or interpret DNA test results
- ✓ Get self-publishing assistance
- ✓ Digitize your records, photos, and memorabilia

FamilySearch Family Tree Person Page Updates

FamilySearch has streamlined the Family Tree Person Pages to make them cleaner and easier to navigate. They added a timeline tab to view all the major events the person's life, allowing you to get an overview in one glance and identify missing events or possible errors. A map button was added to the timeline to show you where these life events took place. Record hints will appear on the map, to give you clues as to a hint's accuracy. Details of these new updates were published on September 4, 2018 in the FamilySearch blog article "Changes in Family Tree Shed New Light on Your Ancestors' Lives" by Leslie Albrecht Huber accessible online at www.familysearch.org/blog/en/family-tree-change-person-page



Join us for the 2018 Family History Conference
www.TxSGS.org #TxSGS2018

Journey through Generations

November 2-4, 2018

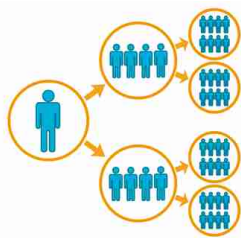
at the Omni San Antonio at the Colonnade

Texas State Genealogical Society Annual Family History Conference

Seriously consider attending! This event offers opportunity to hear national speakers on a variety of topics, featuring six tracks on the latest in DNA; Ethnic Research; Records and Repositories; Methodology and Problem Solving; Publishing and Preservation; plus Technology. With 56 sessions from

30 speakers plus four workshops, there will be something of interest and benefit for everyone. Also plan time to research at the San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society Library and the Texana/Genealogy Department of the San Antonio Central Library. **Bob Wegner, Registrar, will be attending and representing BAGS at a Society table. If you are planning to attend, please contact Bob.**

Registration is open and details on speakers and program are available online at www.txsgs.org/featured-events/2018-family-history-conference



Pedigree Charts and Surname List available to members

Use the pedigree charts and surname list to discover other BAGS members that are researching the same family names. These charts and lists can be found on the “**Members Page**” of the BAGS website (www.TxBayAreaGen.org).

Have you submitted your five-generation pedigree chart to BAGS?

All members are encouraged to submit a pedigree chart of their family. The chart does not need to be complete and information about living relatives may be omitted. The chart will be available for members to view and is optionally published in the *BAGS Journal*. Sharing your information may create a connection with other researchers that can help! If you have questions or need assistance, please contact member Gary Garrett, Five-Generation Pedigree Charts Chairman (contact info in *Yearbook*). The latest *Yearbook* is also available on the “**Members Page**.”

NEW.... BAGS Now Has A Facebook Group

Post pictures, events and other BAGS information on the BAGS Facebook group. To join this group you must first be a Facebook user. If you are not, you will need to create Facebook account. Once logged into Facebook, click on this link www.facebook.com/groups/1123990297740879 or use the search bar and enter the terms **Tx Bay Area Gen** to access the BAGS group. It is a closed group so you will have to request membership. It will then be approved by our officers and you can view it and even post in it. Thank you to Susie Ganch for creating this group!

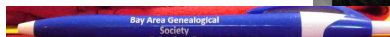
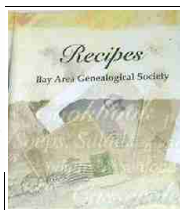
BAGS needs a volunteer to serve as the Member Services Committee Chair.

If you are interested, please talk to one of the Board members. This group is responsible for:

1. Assemble New Member Packets as requested by the Registrar.
2. Arrange rides for those members who indicate a need as identified by the Telephone committee.
3. Review new member applications for research interests and the "I need help with" response.
4. In cooperation with the Education Chair, connect members to BAGS mentors or recommend educational opportunities that may address their needs.

Available at the general meeting 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 July 2018	\$5,419.23
Deposits	\$303.81
Expenditures	<u>\$497.50</u>
Balance on 31 August 2018	\$5,225.54

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

Value on 31 August 2018	\$3,849.63
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October Family History Month

Houston Genealogical Forum Programming

Discovering Your Scandinavian Ancestors

**Saturday, October 6 from 10:00am to noon at Bayland Community Center
6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX 77074.**

Learn the methodology and records to use in tracing your Danish, Swedish, and Norwegian roots back in time. Presented by Carl Smith, Montgomery County's Genealogy Librarian.

Clayton Library Programming

The following free programs are offered in the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston. All events require reservations. Call the library at 832-393-2600 to make a reservation. Clayton Library website: www2.houstonlibrary.org/clayton

Friday, October 19 from 6pm to 9pm: Genealogy After Dark: Extended Research

Hours Join your fellow researchers for extended research hours and socializing. The library will close at 5pm and then reopen at 6pm. Reservations are required. You **MUST** register for Genealogy After Dark: Extended Hours to attend the extended hours, please call 832-393-2600.

Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series

October 3 at noon: Webinar: Mine the Gold! Freedmen's Bureau Records

October 10 at 11:00am: Photo Scanner Demonstration

October 17 at 10:30am: Using DNA to Topple Brick Walls

October 17 at 11:45am: A Beginner's Guide to GEDmatch.com

October 31 at 1:30pm: Cemetery Removal: Where did it go?

Thursday Evening Lecture Series

October 4 at 6:30pm: Genealogy Tips and Tricks Finding ancestors by not searching the known information

October 11 at 6:30pm: Going Mobile: apps, tips and tricks for the mobile genealogist

October 18 at 6:30pm: Keeping Your Digital Genealogy Files Organized and Accessible

October 25 at 6:30pm: Manuscripts and Special Collections

Saturday Morning Lecture Series

October 6 from 10:30am to 1pm: Hispanic Genealogy with Guest Speaker Mary Torres

10:30am: Beginning Hispanic Genealogy

11:45am: A Case Study in Mexican American Genealogy

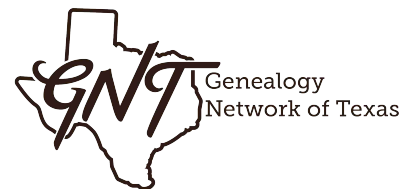
October 13 from 10:30am to 11:30am: Mind the dust: brick walls coming down!

October 20 at 2pm to 3:30pm: Genealogy Online - FamilySearch.org

October 27 from 10:30am to noon: Let's talk Autosomal DNA – DNA Discussion Series

Annual Genealogy Free All Day Programming

Friday, October 19 from 10:00am to 8:30pm



In celebration of October as Family History Month, live webinar presentations will be broadcasted from libraries across Texas. Come watch these presentations at the Clayton Library, Friendswood Public Library, George Memorial Library, and Rosenberg Library. The presentations are free, open to the public, no registration required. Watch one or two presentations, or stay for the entire day. A complete list of all libraries participating in this event is available online at <https://bit.ly/2QINbiY>

At the Friendswood Public Library, the facility will be closed after 6pm 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.

Live webinars schedule:

10:00am - Don't Forget the Ladies: A Genealogist's Guide to Women and the Law presented by Judy G. Russell, JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist. Live from Utah

11:00am - Discovering Your Ancestors' Land Holdings in the Texas General Land Office presented by Kevin Klaus, Information Specialist Texas General Land Office (GLO) Archives and Records. Live from Waco, TX.

12:00pm - Genealogy Basics: Getting Started on Your Family Tree presented by Carl Smith, Genealogy Librarian, Montgomery County Memorial Library System. Live from Conroe, TX

1:40pm - Organizing and Preserving Photograph Collections presented by Ari Wilkins, Library Associate at Dallas Public Library. Live from Denton, TX

2:50pm - Locating Ancestors on the Dawes Roll presented by Kathy Huber, Manager, Genealogy Center, Tulsa City County Library. Live from Waco, TX

4:00pm - Using Autosomal DNA Testing to Solve Genealogy Brick Walls presented by Drew Smith, Assistant Librarian, Academic Services, USF Tampa Library, co-host Genealogy Guys Podcast. Live from Florida

5:15pm – 6:15pm Dinner Break

6:15pm - Breaking Brick Walls by Finding Living Cousins presented by Shelby Rowan, Family Historian, President of Texas Research Ramblers Genealogical Society in Bryan/College Station. Live from Waco, TX

7:25pm - Census Sense: Clues & Conundrums for Intermediate Researchers presented by Patti Gillespie, B.A., M.S., Owner – Family Lines & Stories. Live from Arlington, TX.

8:30pm – Programming ends