



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 19, Issue No. 2

January 2020

Friday, January 31, 2020 at 7pm: Members Share Research Tips and Tricks

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](#)).



For the January general meeting program, several BAGS members will provide tips and tricks for your genealogy research. The topics include:

- Roots Magic
- Pinterest
- City Directories
- Find-A-Grave and Billion Graves
- Family Search

Next General Meeting: Friday, February 28 at 7pm Guest speaker will be Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, Ph.D, Historian, NASA Johnson Space Center. She will discuss the Space Program archives available at JSC and online and the ongoing JSC Oral History Project.

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**Need a ride or willing to provide a ride?
Contact Judy Zavalla, Member Services.**

Next Research Bus Trip – February 5

**Next Research Session at Friendswood
Family History Center – February 12**

Details for both events on page 3.

Bay Area Genealogical Society website – www.TxBayAreaGen.org

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Welcome New Members!



- Mary Anne and Don Goehring
- Judy and Ron McKee

President's Message:



Nick Cimino

Welcome to the Bay Area Genealogical Society in the year 2020! We have a great slate of programs planned so stop by our website at www.txbayareagen.org. Mark your calendar for our events and let us know if you have any ideas about how to increase your genealogical success!

In honor of African-American History Month, we encourage all BAGS members and their guests to sign up for a special program brought to you through a partnership between the Houston Public Library-Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research; the Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc., Willie Lee Gay H-Town Chapter; the Clayton Library Friends and Holocaust Museum Houston.

This FREE seminar held Saturday, February 8th at 10:00 a.m. in the Holocaust Museum which is located directly across the street from Clayton Library, Center for Genealogical Research. To REGISTER go to <https://hnh.org/events/paper-trails-tracing-african-american-ancestry-2020-02-08-10:00:00>. Additional information is printed in this newsletter on page 8.

I encourage you to learn more about African American genealogical research by spending some time with Franklin Carter Smith, librarian at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research. Frank literally wrote the book on the subject with Emily Croom. He let me know that he plans to retire soon, so please take advantage of the opportunity to attend his February 8th, 9:00am beginning genealogy session in the Clayton Library Carriage House. Seating for this session is limited and is first come, first seated.

Here is a preview of what he will cover from a 2015 session presented by Franklin Carter Smith:

www.ancestorpuzzles.com/2015/02/african-american-research-strategies.html

I hope to see you soon at one of these genealogy programs.

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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2020 BAGS Calendar



General Meetings

(date or time changes in red text)

Friday, January 31 – Members share Tips and Tricks for Genealogy Research.

Friday, February 28 - Jennifer Ross-Nazzal, JSC Historian will talk about the JSC Archives and JSC Oral History Project.

Friday, March 27 - Samantha Bruer, Archivist for HPL will talk about how to preserve family documents and photos

Friday, April 24 - Jeannette Piecznski from TSGS will present a program on how to utilize other family trees and fix yours when you find it inaccurate

Friday, May 29 – Devon Lee presents Exploring AncestryDNA Thru Lines

Friday, June 26 – Nick Cimino discusses Italian Research

Friday, July 31 – Linda Hudson discusses Quaker Research

Friday, August 28 – Annual Show & Tell

Friday, September 25 – Linda Worsham presents “Digital Scrapbooking Your Pictures and Data”

Friday, October 23 (one week earlier) – Sharon Batiste Gillins presents *Navigating the Freedmen's Bureau Records*

Saturday, November 21 (SATURDAY) – Lisa Smith presents *Genealogy from a Private Investigator's Perspective*.



Board Meetings

Held at the University Baptist Church in room EB105 at 6:30pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Monday, January 27 **Monday, March 23**
Monday, February 24 **Monday, April 20**



Next Research

Bus Trip

Wednesday, February 5

Interested in going? Please RSVP with Deborah Gammon via phone 281-334-4950 or email countycoord@txbayareagen.org. Meet at Clear Lake Recreation Center, 16511 Diana Lane, Houston (Clear Lake area/near Freeman Library) by 9:00am. The bus will depart at 9:15am and return to Clear Lake Recreation center by 4:00pm



January 8 Bus Trip

Left to Right: Debra Hill, Becky Jones, Teresa Rundell, Lynn Finger, Renee Ball, Nick Cimino, Claudia Aguilar, Kitty Olson, Oletia Teas, and Deborah Gammon.



Research Sessions

(Members Helping Members)

Come get help with your research! Bring your family information to get started. Also, if you missed the last general meeting, pickup announcements, speaker handout, and discuss the program details. Meet at the Friendswood Family History Center (FHC), located at 505 Deseret Dr, Friendswood ([online map](#)). Enter the building on the side furthest from the street. Come take advantage of the electronic databases and books that are only accessible from within the FHC. You are welcome to bring your laptop or mobile device. Free public WiFi is available.

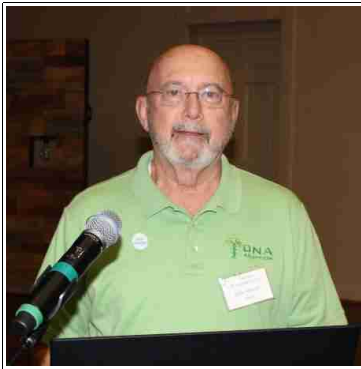
All Wednesdays (10am to 11:45am):
Jan 22, Feb 12, March 18, April 1, May 6



*Hope you had an enjoyable holiday season.
Pictures from the BAGS Holiday Luncheon
at South Shore Grille in December 2019.*



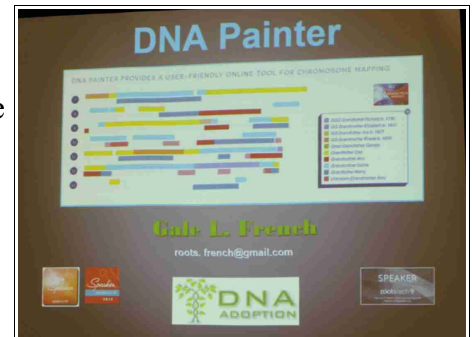
Recap November 2019 Program – DNA Painter



BAGS member, Gale French, presented the program 'Using DNA Painter for Chromosome Mapping'. Gale is retired from IBM where he worked in the US Space program at NASA's Johnson Space Center. Currently, he teaches online classes through DNAAdoption.org and volunteers with DNA Detectives in assisting adoptees to locate their biological family. Gale has presented programs at a number of Societies and conferences including RootsTech and Texas State Genealogical Conference.

DNA Painter is a website (www.dnainter.com) that offers free and subscription tools to dig deeper into your Autosomal DNA test results. This site is not for analyzing YDNA or mtDNA test results.

- Have you tried using “The Shared cM Project” relationship chart published by Blaine T. Bettinger to decipher your list of matches? Well, DNA Painter has automated that process using their **Shared cM Tool** (<https://dnainter.com/tools/sharedcmv4>). Just enter the centiMorgans amount value (cM) that you share with a match at the top of the page. Then look at the bottom of the page to see an updated Bettinger's “Shared cM Project” relationship chart indicating graphically the only possible relationships to consider between you and your DNA matching relative. Plus DNA Painter provides a list of relationship probabilities to get you started down a path.
- **Chromosome Mapping** tool allows you to graphically show the ancestral inheritance of individual pieces of your individual chromosomes using your known relationship DNA matches. Then use this map to identify the ancestral relationship of a new DNA match when a tree or other clues are NOT provided. To understand how to start and use a Chromosome Mapping, there is an online free video you can watch “An Introduction to DNA Painter” hosted by FamilyTree Webinars. Access link is https://familytreewebinars.com/download.php?webinar_id=955
- DNA Painter offers other tools 1) chromosome cluster painter/formatter, 2) What Are The Odds (WATO) tracker, and 3) tree tool to import GEDCOM file and generate pedigree and fan charts that can be linked to DNA information.



Want some assistance in getting starting using one of these tools? Contact us at newsletter@TxBayAreaGen.org to coordinate scheduling a time and place.

**Saturday
November 21, 2020
is National Adoption Day!**



Results of October 2019 Survey



Two surveys were taken during the October 2019 General Meeting. Here are the questions and answers:

Question 1: Did you attend the Dana Leeds Seminar? Would you like some tutoring assistance using the Dana Leeds Seminar?

Answer: Out of 17 answers:

10 attended

5 of those people would like some tutoring assistance using Dana Leeds Method.

***** We will be contacting you to schedule a time and place for assistance.**

Question 2: What software or online resource do you use to document your family tree? Do you need help or are you willing to give help on using this resource?

Answer: Out of 20 members answering (note some members use more than one resource):

12 members use Ancestry.com

7 members use Family Tree Maker (FTM)

5 members use Roots magic

4 members use Wiki Tree

4 members use FamilySearch

3 members use My Heritage

1 member uses TMG

Gale French is willing to give help on FTM, Roots Magic, My Heritage, FamilySearch

George Porterfield is willing to give help on Wiki Tree, My Heritage, Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, and TMG

Renee Ball is willing to give help on FTM, Ancestry.com, and FamilySearch

Lisa Smith is willing to give help on FTM, Wiki Tree, My Heritage, Ancestry.com and FamilySearch



In Memoriam

Margaret "Marje" Jean Harris passed on Sunday, December 22, 2019.

She served as the Manager at the Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, presented programs to BAGS and many other societies and conferences in the area. Margie was an active member in the Houston Genealogical Forum (HGF), providing an ongoing beginning genealogy class series. Our hearts and prayers go out to Marje's family. Her obituary was published online at www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/houston-tx/margaret-harris-8973859 Any donations are to be sent to either Houston Hospice or Houston Genealogical Forum. HGF will use the donations for genealogical research and education in Marje's memory. Online donation page is located at www.hgftx.org/donation.php?dc=2

November 22, 2019 Bus Trip to Clayton

Left to Right: George Porterfield, Lynn Finger, Rebecca Jones, Garry Garrett, Renee Ball, Oletia Teas, June Hicks, Kitty Olson, and Deborah Gammon





BAGS Has A Facebook Group

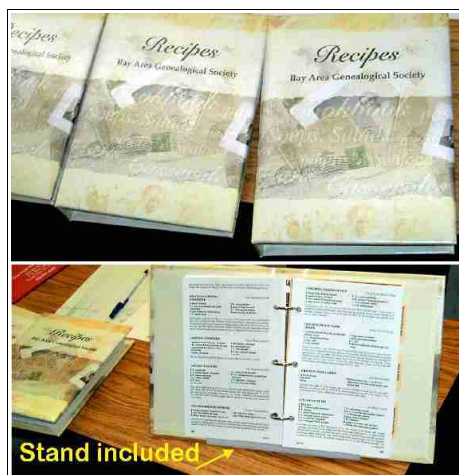
Post pictures, events and other BAGS information on the BAGS Facebook group. To join, log into Facebook and either click on this link www.facebook.com/groups/1123990297740879 or use the search bar and enter the terms **Tx Bay Area Gen** to access the BAGS group. It is a closed group so you will have to request membership. Once approved, you can view it and even post in it. Thank you to Susie Ganch for maintaining this group!

Available at the general meeting for a donation:

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



Anyone needing transportation to the monthly genealogy meeting should contact Judy Zavalla at 832-724-4353



BAGS Cookbook – A Supplement

Do you have a recipe to share with our members?

We would like to add new pages to the cookbooks on hand and offer the additions to those who already have our cookbook.

Do you have a picture of your dish? Or even one of the originals?

Also under consideration is a better index of all recipes.

An example of one addition will be member Polly Swerdlin's Cranberry Sauce, since she noticed there is only a Cranberry Salad in the originals. You can find the original index on the Society's website:

www.txbayareagen.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/BAGS-Cookbook-Index.pdf

Please send your contributions to Polly Swerdlin via pmswerdlin@gmail.com with the subject "BAGS recipe". Also consider helping to create the new pages to take to the printer.

BAG\$ Report by Bill Mayo, Treasurer CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on 30 November 2019	\$8,505.22
Deposits+	\$0.00
Expenditures*	<u>\$55.00</u>
Balance on 31 December 2019	\$8,450.22

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT

Value as 31 December 2019	\$3,951.98
Matured 14 January 2020.	

+Deposits: membership, donations (e.g. tote bags, cookbooks, USB drives, pens)

*Expenditures: For August: BBQ meat, *Journal* printing, annual PO Box rental, meeting room, and online registration web form plugin. In general: monthly (meeting room rental, speaker fees, and handouts); biannual (*Journal* publication printing costs), annual (PO Box rental, *Journal* mailing, membership fees in Clayton Library Friends, Texas State Genealogical Society, and Federation of Genealogical Societies).

Local Events

Paper Trails: Tracing African American Ancestry

Saturday, February 8 from 10am to 4:30pm

Celebrate African American History Month at Clayton Library and the Holocaust Museum Houston exploring family histories and genealogy. Attend four free lectures by nationally recognized speakers, Ari Wilkins from Dallas, TX and Sharon Batiste Gillins from Galveston, TX. These excellent speakers have lectured at national, state and local genealogy conferences and meetings, and are both recognized as leaders in the field of African American family history research.

Schedule:

9:00am *Beginning your African American Family History Research* presented by Franklin Carter Smith in the Clayton Library Carriage House located at 5300 Caroline Street, Houston ([map](#)). Seating for this session is limited and is first come, first seated.

10:00am Check In at Holocaust Museum located across the street at 5401 Caroline Street, Houston ([map](#))

10:30am *Incorporating Oral History Into Your Research* presented by Ari Wilkins

11:45am *Hand in the Glove: Researching Ancestors in Wills, Land and Property Records* presented by Sharon B. Gillins

1:45pm *Using Antebellum Southern Plantation Records* presented by Ari Wilkins

3:00pm *Researching African American Family History –The Same and Different* presented by Sharon B. Gillins

Free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. Register online at

<https://hmh.org/events/paper-trails-tracing-african-american-ancestry-2020-02-08-10-00-00>

This full day of programming provided by through a partnership between the Houston Public Library, Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research; the Afro-American Historical & Genealogical Society, Inc., Willie Lee Gay H-Town Chapter; the Clayton Library Friends, and Holocaust Museum Houston.

Completing Your Family History with Cari Taplin

Saturday, February 1 from 10am to 3pm at Bayland Community Center located at 6400 Bissonnet, Houston.

Houston Genealogical Forum (<https://hgftx.org>) provides three sessions with Cari Taplin which will help you learn to fit all those bits of data you've gather into a great story your family will want to hear.

Session 1: Unfamiliar Territory: Researching in a New (to you) Geographic Area

Learn tips for beginning research in an unfamiliar geographic area through the example of the Scroggins and Dimick families in Southern Illinois.

Session 2: How'd You Find That? Tips for Locating Obscure or Hidden Records

Obscure and hidden records are "out there" that can solve tough problems. How do you find them? Hear tips and methods for finding these records.

Session 3: Family History Piecework: An Approach to Writing

Examine a writing approach using small assorted pieces in order to achieve a larger cohesive body of work, similar to creating a patchwork quilt.

Cari Taplin holds the Certified Genealogist® credential and has served in a wide variety of volunteer and leadership positions for state, local, and national societies. She currently serves on the board of the Association for Professional Genealogists. She is the Vice President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies. As the owner of GenealogyPANTS, she provides speaking, research, and consultation services focusing on midwestern and Great Lakes states and methodology. Cari lives with her family in Pflugerville, Texas. For more information, please see Cari's website genealogypants.com

You must register in advance. No registrations can be made on the day of the event. Cost \$10 for members and \$30 for nonmembers. Register online at <https://hgftx.org/store.php?sid=4>