



Bay Area Genealogical Society

Newsletter

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

Volume 19, Issue No. 4

May 2020

**Friday, May 29, 2020 at 7pm: Guest speaker Devon Lee presents
*Ancestry ThruLines: A Blessing, a Curse, or Both?***

Public Invited. This is a Virtual Meeting



Devon Lee

Ancestry.com released a tool that combines genetics and genealogical tools. But do Ancestry ThruLines™ create more problems than they solve or are they on the cusp of something transformative?

This presentation and the entire general meeting will be held online. In order to access the meeting, you must register prior to Friday, May 29 by clicking on the link below. Registration is free! After you register, you will receive an email giving you instructions for signing on the night of the presentation. **KEEP THAT EMAIL.** On Friday May 29 by 6:50pm, open that email and click on the link to join the virtual meeting. This will allow time to resolve any

connection issues. The program handout is available on our website (Meetings page) and during the presentation.

Professional genealogist Devon Lee created *Family History Fanatics* an online YouTube genealogy education channel in 2016 and it is still going strong. New videos are posted twice each week on topics ranging from DNA testing, scrapbooking, research, family history, and product reviews. She has over 20 years of genealogy and journalism experience. Devon and her husband Andrew have published a number of family history related books including *DNA Q&A* and *A Recipe for Writing Family History*. Purchase their books, follow their blog, and connect with resources from their family's website at www.familyhistoryfanatics.com

Register to attend this meeting: <https://event.webinarjam.com/register/11/vmrnlhr>

Family History Fanatics YouTube Channel (Instructional Videos):
www.youtube.com/channel/UCmkKepHoafldMRZ4UNt0AkW

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**Find us on Facebook by name
Tx Bay Area Gen**

New: *Journal*, March issue and this year's Yearbook are now available online on the BAGS Members page. More details on page 7.



Bay Area Genealogical Society website www.TxBayAreaGen.org

BAGS Officers 2019-2021

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Welcome New Members!

- Pat Croom of Pasadena
- Betty Ann Davies from Santa Fe
- Judy Monthy from League City
- Sherry, Ray, and Chris Spell from Santa Fe
- Angela Vitali from South Carolina



A BIG THANK YOU to

- George Porterfield for agreeing to serve as the Society's Registrar.
- Kathie Chaffee for serving as the Society's Telephone Committee Chair for the last five years.

Additional points of contact:

- Contact entire BAGS Board:
bagsboard@TxBayAreaGen.org
- Need help attending the next meeting?
memberservices@TxBayAreaGen.org or call 832-724-4353
(Judy Zavalla)
- RSVP for a Research Bus Trip:
countycoord@TxBayAreaGen.org (Deborah Gammon)
- Research questions or want to provide research assistance: education@TxBayAreaGen.org (Kim Zrubek)
- Send information for the journal, published twice each year: journal@TxBayAreaGen.org (Melodey Hauch)
- Submit pedigree chart to share with the membership:
pedigreecharts@TxBayAreaGen.org (Lisa Franklin)
- Share to preserve Society history:
historian@TxBayAreaGen.org (Bob Wegner)
- Ideas on where or how to advertise BAGS:
publicity@TxBayAreaGen.org (Terri Myers)
- Help greet attendees or request name tag change:
welcoming@TxBayAreaGen.org (Jane Thompson)

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, May 29 – Devon Lee presents *Ancestry ThruLines: A Blessing, a Curse, or Both?* This is a virtual meeting.

Friday, June 26 – Melissa Corn Finlay presents *Orphans, Infants and Minors: Genealogy Nuggets and Pitfalls in Guardianship records*. This is a virtual meeting.

Friday, July 31 – Linda Hudson discusses Quaker ancestry research

Friday, August 28 – Annual Show & Tell with Potluck Dinner begins at 6:30pm

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

Currently held as virtual meeting via Zoom. Usually held at the University Baptist Church in room EB105 at 6:30pm. All members are welcome to attend.

Tuesday, May 26

Monday, June 22

Monday, July 27

Monday, August 24

Monday, September 21

Monday, October 19



Research Sessions

(Members Helping Members)

Come get help with your research!

Online help sessions are available to provide an avenue for member communication and assistance. Participants can share their screens and demonstrate recent research discoveries or accomplishments.

Get the current schedule and connection details from the BAGS website. Click on Members page and then Weekly Discussions.

- **Weekly: Mondays from 10am to noon** join moderators Nick Cimino and George Porterfield
- **Weekly: Mondays from 7:30pm to 8:20pm** join moderator Kim Zrubek.

Contact Education Chair, Kim Zrubek to work through your research questions. If she cannot help, another member will be found who can help. Reach Kim by email education@txbayareagen.org or by phone 281-992-2636.



Next Research Bus Trip – Tuesday, June 23

This trip is contingent on Harris County Precinct #2 bus trips resuming and the reopening of Clayton Library.

Interested in going?

Please RSVP with Deborah Gammon via email countycoord@txbayareagen.org or phone 281-334-4950.

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.

Write and Share Memories with Family

[editor: Last summer the membership was asked to share their memories of the Apollo 11 lunar landing. Member Annette Bowen graciously shared the following article with us. This week we face another historical event for the United States. This is the first time a NASA manned rocket will launch to space from the Kennedy Space Center since the end of the Space Shuttle Program in August 2011. Consider the impact current events have had on your life and write down your thoughts and perspective to share with your family as part of your family's history.



Remembering Apollo 11 After 50 Years by Annett Bowen

In September 1968 I began my first real job after college. It was my dream job, working in the space program. I had been fascinated by the space program since my school had brought in TVs so that we could watch the

Mercury and Gemini space flights.

I was hired by UNIVAC, a NASA contractor, just before the first manned flight following the Apollo I fire. UNIVAC had the CCATS contract - Command, Communications And Telemetry Systems. Basically our computers routed data. They received data from other computers or from the consoles in Mission Control and routed it as directed. My job was in quality assurance. We tested the software to make sure data turned on the correct lights on the consoles or was directed to the correct computers to process it. Not exciting, but necessary. UNIVAC had three large 494 computers on the first floor of Building 30. These were the days when the mainframes were huge and had to be kept at a cool temperature. We used punch cards, key punch machines, and magnetic tapes. Today it is hard to imagine that we sent men to the moon using such primitive technology!

NASA was trying to fulfill President Kennedy's goal of putting men on the moon before the end of the decade. After the long delay following the Apollo I disaster, this meant working on more than one mission at a time. During a mission, only those who had mission badges were allowed on site. UNIVAC's office was in Nassau Bay, but the computers were on the NASA campus. My security clearance did not come through in time for me to have an

Apollo 11 mission badge. This disappointment allowed me to attend my family reunion in Wisconsin, where we kept up with the mission on television. On the day of the moon landing my parents and I were driving home from the reunion. I remember that my mother insisted we find a motel with color TV to watch the moon landing. Of course, the transmissions from the moon were in black and white, but that didn't matter to her. We found a place to stay and were glued to the TV, watching nervously as the Lunar Module touched down. The targeted landing site was very rocky, and they had to land manually. How exciting to watch as Neil Armstrong climbed down the ladder and took the first steps on the moon. We listened to his famous words and to his comments as he walked around on the moon near the Lunar Module. After a few minutes Buzz Aldrin climbed down the ladder and joined him on the moon's surface. What a thrill to watch these two Americans walk on the moon and to see them plant our beautiful American flag on the moon!

Thank you Annette for sharing a bit of your history, thoughts, and impressions around this historical event.

Benefits of Zoom Meetings

By Teresa Rundell

Hopefully you know by now that we are holding weekly Zoom meetings to communicate, share information and provide assistance. At one of the sessions member Kathleen Williams helped me discover the website *HistoryGeo.com*, a subscription site. For a little over \$20, you can view the site for 3 months and see if you like it. I was researching land that my great great grandfather Stout owned in Louisiana. This was rural farming

land and I had not been able to find a plat map until now. I searched by the surname Stout, then narrow results by state, and then by parish. See what I found below!!

When you click on the green person, you get a lot of information about the section of land you are researching such as the changing boundary lines, original ownership and survey documents, and current location in Google Maps.

Example of the summary *HistoryGeo* provides:

Parcel Details

PatenteeSTOUT, JESSE
(Add To My People)

WarranteeWYNN, JOHN
(Add To My People)

Patent Date8/15/1860

AccessionMW 0294-452

View U.S. County Boundary History

View this Spot in Google Maps

View BLM Source

View BLM Document

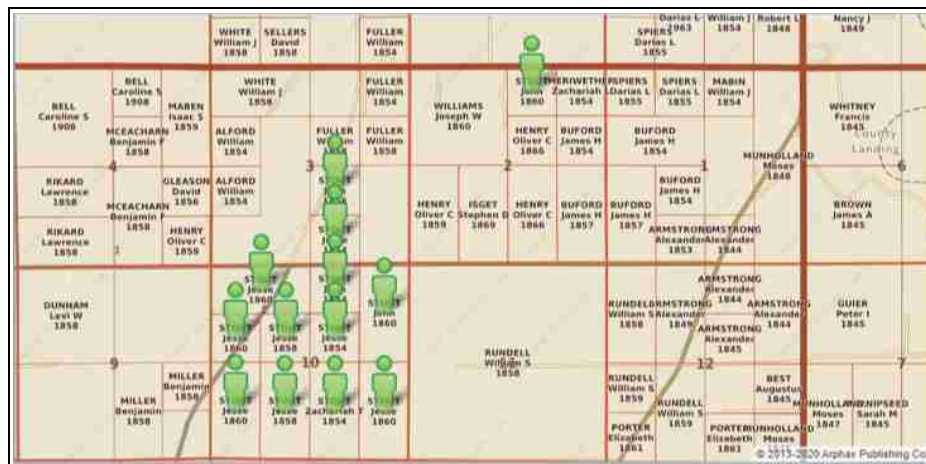


Image: Stout land ownership in Franklin Parish, Louisiana.

HistoryGeo offers tools to create a geographic view of your family history, marking family details by location to track migration, and easily locate family and neighbors/relatives first land ownership records and surveys pulled from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management database or the Texas General Land Office database.

Recap April 2020 Program – First Virtual General Meeting

April's general meeting was historic for BAGS. It was the first time the Society has conducted the entire general meeting virtually. Forty-four members and guests near and far attended the meeting from their personal computers, smartphones, and tablets. Charter Member Neil Miserendino was able to attend from his home in Florida. Attendees did not appear to have any major problems with

connecting to the meeting.

Guest speaker Bernard N. Meisner, Ph.D., CCM presented "Techniques and Strategies for More Effective Online Searching". He demonstrated and encouraged us to use the advanced search tool when available in online databases and take advantage of wildcards and filters to overcome name spelling variations. He offered search strategies and a long list of

online training resources to improve searching skills. If you would like a handout, please contact Kim Zrubek, education@TXBayAreaGen.org.

The May and June general meetings will also be held as virtual meetings. Please reach out for assistance if you would like to attend but unsure how to get started.

For Fun – Genealogy Related Word Puzzles

Bored?

Have some family fun with genealogy related word search and crossword puzzles provided by Hidden Genealogy Nuggets at

www.hiddengenealogy.com/familytreefun

Access the puzzles by clicking on the link and then you can print out and solve.

Word Search Puzzles - Themes

- Relatives – January 2012
- Record Types – February 2012
- European Family Origin – March 2012
- Hidden Nuggets - December 2011

Crossword Puzzles - Themes

- European Places of Origin – March 2012
- Record Types – February 2012
- General Terms – January 2012
- Answer Key Provided

Create Your Own Word Search, Crossword, or Matching Game

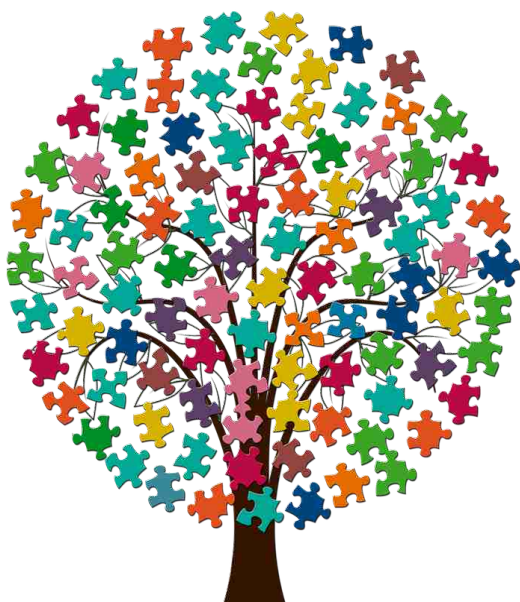
Spark family members' interest in their heritage by creating your own word games containing interesting family facts pulled from your genealogy research.

Discovery Education offers generators for crossword, word search, word scramble, and cryptogram at

<http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com>

This is a free site and no registration is needed.

For example, creating a word search game is easy. Type in 10 to 20 words (e.g surnames, key events, geographic locations, keepsakes) then click create puzzle button. The puzzle is created and ready for print or copy/paste to share with others. Enlarge the text font size if desired.



Karrick/Moore Genealogy

P	F	E	G	R	A	B	Y	T	S	R	C	B	T	T
F	R	I	E	U	E	K	U	E	T	E	O	R	S	E
T	V	E	S	S	C	M	A	A	Y	E	N	A	I	A
N	E	T	S	U	S	M	R	N	R	N	F	D	O	C
C	I	M	T	B	S	E	A	A	M	I	E	Y	N	H
N	G	N	P	T	Y	M	N	A	F	G	D	B	A	E
U	E	M	R	L	R	T	S	N	N	N	E	S	I	R
K	C	E	M	E	E	O	E	M	E	E	R	A	P	E
Z	S	T	G	I	N	S	B	R	W	T	A	L	B	G
S	M	I	N	I	S	T	E	R	I	P	T	T	O	R
S	T	L	O	U	I	S	J	D	X	A	E	L	B	O
L	L	E	H	S	N	H	O	J	A	W	N	I	L	E
D	N	A	L	T	O	C	S	U	U	L	F	C	Q	G
S	A	L	L	A	D	C	M	D	R	A	I	K	P	G
L	O	V	I	C	K	F	Z	P	Y	I	K	A	Z	F

AUSTIN	FARMER	LOVICK	SALTICK	TEACHER
BOB	FLU	MASON	SCOTLAND	TEMPLE
BRADY	GEORGE	MINISTER	SEAMSTRESS	TENNESSEE
CONFEDERATE	GERMANY	MISSOURI	SEDALIA	
DALLAS	JOHNSHELL	PIANOIST	STLOUIS	
ENGINEER	KENTUCKY	PRESBYTERIAN	TCU	



Your 2019-2020 Yearbook and March *Journal* are published!

You can find both publications, and past issues, on the Members

Page of our website www.TxBayAreaGen.org. Ask a board member for the password.

In an effort to reduce printing costs and be environmentally friendly, we will no longer be handing out printed copies at our meetings. You will still receive a printed copy if you selected journals and yearbooks be mailed to you on your membership application. However, we encourage our members to view these publications online, thus reducing our mailing costs as well. In addition, there are instructions on how to print the yearbook on the back page and printing of any or all articles in the *Journal* from the web page is allowed. The money saved in printing and mailing will allow BAGS to continue providing high-quality programming and keep our membership rates low.

Need Journal Articles

Next issue of the *BAGS Journal* planned for August. Please send any articles, photographs, or records to Melodey Hauch via email at

journal@TxBayAreaGen.org. This will be Melodey's last issue. She is retiring after serving as the *Quarterly/Journal* Editor for 12 years. Her first issue was December 2008. She will pass the pen to Lisa Franklin in September 2020. THANK YOU Melodey for all your time and talent to create all those wonderful issues! And THANK YOU Lisa for agreeing to assume the editor position.

Registrar Report

184 members are current and 5 have not renewed.

Online registration via PayPal (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, American Express) is available on the BAGS website.

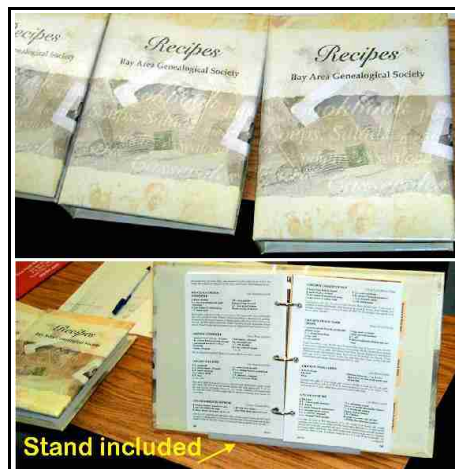


Yearbook Editor Needed

We are looking for someone to step in as *Yearbook* Editor since Garry Garrett has retired from the role. *Interested?* Please reach out to yearbook@txbayareagen.org

Thank you Garry Garrett for serving as our Email Coordinator, Yearbook Editor, and Pedigree Chart Coordinator since 2015.

BAGS Cookbook – A Supplement



Do you have a recipe to share with our members? Do you have a picture of your dish? Or even one of the originals?

We would like to add new pages to the cookbooks on hand and offer the additions to those who already have our cookbook and possibly create a better index of all recipes. You can find the original index on the Society's website: (copy/paste link into browser) www.txbayareagen.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/BAGS-Cookbook-Index.pdf

Polly Swerdlin is planning to add a Cranberry Sauce recipe since she noticed there is only a Cranberry Salad in the original cookbook. Please send your contributions to Polly Swerdlin.



In Memoriam

These three wonderful ladies actively served BAGS in research assistance and programs.

Mary Ida Drummond Brandhorst, Charter Member, passed away on Sunday March 22, 2020. Our condolences and prayers go out to Mary's family. The *Galveston Daily News* published her obituary on March 26 in print and online

www.galvnews.com/obituaries/article_9d89d968-be42-55e7-803d-2f6393004852.html

Eleanor Vivian Finley Caldwell passed away on Tuesday, March 31, 2020. She was a long-time member, serving as the 5-Generation Chart Chair. Her obituary was published online at www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/webster-tx/eleanor-caldwell-9106716 Our heart and prayers go out to Eleanor's family.

Pauline "Polly" Jua McGinnis Wilson, Charter Member, passed away on Friday, April 17, 2020. Crowder Funeral Home published her obituary on April 20 online at www.crowderfuneralhome.com/obituaries/pauline-polly-mcginnis-wilson Our condolences and prayers go out to Polly and Doug's family.

Telephone Committee Members Needed



THANK YOU to Kathie Chaffee for serving as the Society's Telephone Committee Chair for the last five years.

PLEASE HELP!

BAGS would like to continue the telephone communication and needs a couple of members to serve on the Telephone Committee and one to serve as the chairman. The committee disseminates Society meeting and activity information to members monthly. Please contact Nick Cimino if you are interested.

BAG\$ Report by Bill Mayo, Treasurer

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on 29 February 2020	\$1,402.45
Deposits+	\$25.02
Expenditures*	\$0.85
Balance on 31 March 2020	\$1,426.62

SAVINGS ACCOUNT

Balance on 31 March 2020	\$11,696.26
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+Deposits: memberships, donations (e.g. tote bags, cookbooks, USB drives, pens)

*Expenditures: PayPal Fees, Mailing *Journals* and *Yearbooks*, memorial donations, January UBC meeting room rental and handouts.

Available at the general meeting for a donation:

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

