

July 2023  
Volume 23  
Issue 7

# BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



## BAGS General Members Meeting

Live - Virtual (Zoom)

Friday, July 28th,

7:00pm

**Diana Crisman Smith:**

*It Takes A Village: Community Research*

Our ancestors didn't live as hermits in a cave for the most part. They were part of a community of some sort. It might have been a vibrant urban setting, a suburban area, a small town, a farm community, or a frontier area (even there they found a few neighbors). Finding records for all of them is a start, but don't you want to know more about HOW they lived and WHO their associates were? Let's talk about that community and what you can learn from others there. [Register here](#)

Our guest speaker, **Diana Smith**, has been researching her ancestry since age 10, speaking since 1980, and writing, teaching, and researching for clients since the late 1980s. She and her husband enjoyed serving as lay librarians at the Westlake, Ohio, FamilySearch Center for over 20 years. Diana has enjoyed speaking live and virtually at conferences around the country and at sea since the 1980s, always looking for new audiences and topics. In addition to genealogy cruises, Diana has spoken to large and small audiences around the United States. Virtual presentations have offered welcome new opportunities.

Diana has written for numerous genealogical publications, including NGS News Magazine, the APG Quarterly, and the Digital Genealogist Magazine. Diana also wrote [Finding Your Danish Ancestors: A Primer for Research & History](#), Chapter 4: "Scandinavia" of [The Family Tree Guidebook to Europe: Your Essential Guide to Trace Your Genealogy in Europe](#) (2013), and transcriptions of *Green County* and *Shelby County Iowa Cemetery Records* from Cemetery Readings copied by Graves Registration WPA Project. Academy online. *Continued on pg 5*

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Learning Opportunities](#)  
[Social Media Links](#)  
[Upcoming Events](#)  
[Local Library Offerings](#)

# BAGS MEMBER INFORMATION

## 2023 BAGS OFFICERS

### President

[president@txbayareagen.org](mailto:president@txbayareagen.org)

### First Vice President

Teresa Rundell (acting)

[vicepresident@txbayareagen.org](mailto:vicepresident@txbayareagen.org)

### Treasurer

Todd Roberts (interim)

[treasurer@txbayareagen.org](mailto:treasurer@txbayareagen.org)

### Registrar

George Porterfield

[registrar@txbayareagen.org](mailto:registrar@txbayareagen.org)

### Secretary

Kitty Olson

[secretary@txbayareagen.org](mailto:secretary@txbayareagen.org)

### Web Editors

Polly Swerdlin and

George Porterfield

[webeditor@txbayareagen.org](mailto:webeditor@txbayareagen.org)

### Yearbook Editor

[yearbook@txbayareagen.org](mailto:yearbook@txbayareagen.org)

### Pedigree Charts

Sharon Boeger

[pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org](mailto:pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org)

### Journal Editor

Todd Roberts

[journal@txbayareagen.org](mailto:journal@txbayareagen.org)

### Newsletter Editor

Cindy Austin

[newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org)

### Newsletter Proofreaders

Chester Karrick

Kim Zrubek

Luanne Newman

### Photographer

Bill Mayo

### Distributor

Lisa Smith

[emailcoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:emailcoord@txbayareagen.org)

### County Coordinator

Kathleen Williams

[countycoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:countycoord@txbayareagen.org)

### Social Media Administrator

Kathleen Williams

[socialmedia@txbayareagen.org](mailto:socialmedia@txbayareagen.org)

*A Warm Welcome to  
Our Newest BAGS Member!*  
*Judith Lazo—Tillson*



Statement of Activity as of June 1, 2023

Checking Account	\$2,701.49
Saving Account	<u>\$11,870.18</u>
Total Monetary Assets	\$14,571.67

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2024!

Would you consider helping BAGS?!

Serving on the BAGS Board is an amazing experience, both personally and genealogically. Volunteering with BAGS can be meaningful for someone who wants to make a difference in helping this community. Please consider volunteering your talents (and a little time) to help BAGS be more effective and efficient next year! BAGS needs volunteers in the following areas:

Social Media	Hospitality
Nominating	Newsletter
Programing	Telephoning
Email	Education

Board Positions — Nominees are being accepted for all positions

Committees typically work together for about an hour each month! You can email your interest to a board member, let the telephone committee know your interest, or speak to another volunteer at one of our many events! Your help is vital in making BAGS thrive and grow!

### Additional points of contact:

Don't know the Members Page password?

[registrar@txbayareagen.org](mailto:registrar@txbayareagen.org) — George Porterfield

Research questions or to provide research assistance:

[education@txbayareagen.org](mailto:education@txbayareagen.org) — Kim Zrubek

Have an article or idea to share with the Society?

[newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org) — Cindy Austin

Submit information for the Journal:

[journal@txbayareagen.org](mailto:journal@txbayareagen.org) — Todd Roberts

Ideas on where or how to advertise BAGS:

[publicity@txbayareagen.org](mailto:publicity@txbayareagen.org) — Terri Myers

Submit your pedigree chart to share with membership:

[pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org](mailto:pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org) — Sharon Boeger

Not receiving emails?

[emailcoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:emailcoord@txbayareagen.org) — Lisa Smith

Want to go on the Clayton Bus trip?

[countycoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:countycoord@txbayareagen.org) — Kathleen Williams

# MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

## Members Helping Members (MHM) Online Research



Need help with your family tree or a genealogical brick wall? BAGS Members can join the virtual MHM sessions via Zoom. Participants may share their screens and demonstrate recent research discoveries. Details are on BAGS [Members Helping Members](#) page.

**Mondays from 10:00am to 12:00pm** with hosts  
**Renee Ball and George Porterfield**

**Mondays from 7:00pm to 8:00pm** with host  
**Kim Zrubek.**

*If you'd like practice connecting to Zoom or have questions, contact Kim Zrubek at [education@txbayareagen.org](mailto:education@txbayareagen.org) or by phone at 281-992-2636.*

## Family Tree Makers MHM Group

Family Tree Maker MHM focuses on helping members take advantage of the many features and options of Family Tree Maker software. Help for technical concerns, such as software upgrading and exporting files, is also available. **Renee Ball** moderates this MHM group. [Registration here](#)

**Thursdays from 7:00-8:00pm** [NEW TIME!](#)



## German Special Interest Group

The BAGS German Special Interest Group meetings are via Zoom on the **second Wednesday of each month, 7:00-8:30pm**. The next meeting is on **July 12th**. July's meeting will be a Members helping Members style of meeting hosted by George Porterfield. Please complete the [German SIG Interest Survey](#) to join this group!



Bay Area Genealogical Society  
is proud to be members of  
National Genealogical Society,  
Texas State Genealogical Society,  
Clayton Library Friends, &  
International German Genealogy Partnership



INTERNATIONAL GERMAN  
Genealogy Partnership



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 about the BAGS Newsletter should be addressed to Editor, [newsletter@txbayareagen.org](mailto:newsletter@txbayareagen.org). All rights reserved.

# MEMBERS JOURNALS and PEDIGREES

## Calling All Writers: Share Your Epic Family Stories!

The Bay Area Genealogical Society calls every member to share their research findings and stories! Consider sharing your family stories and research strategies. Articles on various family and general history topics that interest our members include,

- Research results for people, places, and events
- Local history of Galveston and Harris Counties
- Images and transcriptions of artifacts such as family bibles or military and school records
- Biographies and family stories
- Genealogical resource information or techniques



BAGS Journal editor, Todd Roberts, wrote "[Journal Article Submissions Q & A](#)," answering common questions about submitting an article for print. Email submissions or questions to [journal@txbayareagen.org](mailto:journal@txbayareagen.org). Journal articles are published on the Members Only page of the BAGS website. Articles covering any geographical area are welcomed and appreciated.

## YOUR FAMILY TREE!

BAGS members are encouraged to submit a copy of their family tree and share it with other "tree lovers." Pedigree charts don't need to be finished to submit. Please omit vital information about living relatives. Editable pedigree charts are available to download and use from the Members-Only page [Pedigree Charts - Editable](#).

For questions or assistance, contact Sharon Boeger at [pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org](mailto:pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org).



## BAGS Meet 'n Munch

Our Meet 'n Munches are always well attended! BAGS members and their families share delicious meals and socialize on beautiful Sunday afternoons!

Please join us at the next Meet & Munch on  
**Sunday, July 30th, 4:00pm**

**Jason's Deli, 451 W. Bay Area Blvd, Webster**

BAGS members, family members, and guests are welcome to come!



## Board Meetings

All BAGS Board Meetings are virtual via Zoom. Members are welcome to attend. If you would like to attend a meeting, request a link from [info@txbayareagen.org](mailto:info@txbayareagen.org)

### 2023 Meetings

July 24

Aug 21

Sep 25

Oct 23



Board meetings are on Mondays at 6:30pm. [Board Meeting Minutes](#) are available on the Members Page.



KEEP CALM  
AND  
VOLUNTEER  
TO HELP  
BAGS



# RECAPS & RESOURCES

Continued from pg 1



Diana is a past board member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Florida State Genealogical Society, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, and the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors. Since concluding a career in software consulting, she has sought new opportunities to learn including GRIP 2020: Law School for Genealogists, Hands-On Forensic Genealogy, and Land and Property Records



Judy Russell, the Legal Genealogist, presented [Copyright Mythconceptions](#) for our June Members' Meeting. Judy demonstrated that what we don't know about copyright law can hurt us – right in the pocketbook! She guided us through the most common mistakes and misunderstandings about copyright law, including what we can and can't do with materials created by others in our family research.

Russell is a professional genealogist with a law degree who teaches and lectures on various genealogical topics, ranging from using court records in family history to understanding DNA testing. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the National Genealogical Society, and numerous state and regional genealogical societies. She's written for the National Genealogical Society Quarterly (from which she received the 2017 Award of Excellence), the National Genealogical Society Magazine, the *FGS Forum*, the Board of Certified Genealogist's *OnBoard*, and Family Tree Magazine, among other publications. Her award-winning blog appears on [The Legal Genealogist](#) website.



**Follow BAGS on Facebook!**

[Facebook Group \(members only\)](#)

[Facebook Page \(public page\)](#)



[txbayareagen.org/](http://txbayareagen.org/)

Please feel free to share this!

## What all can you find on ConferenceKeeper.org?

- ✱ A traditional **Calendar** with all genealogy events
- ✱ A calendar of **Virtual** (online) events of all kinds.
- ✱ A page listing **just genealogy Conferences**.
- ✱ Genealogy event pages by **location** - by specific areas of the US or Canada, as well as other world countries.
  - > The US location pages include **helpful links** to state-level archives websites, and a list of **genealogy societies** for that state.
- ✱ A **Call for Papers** page with opportunities for genealogy speakers.
- ✱ A **Contest** page with genealogy-related giveaways.
- ✱ A page of genealogical **Education Programs** offering degrees or certificates
- ✱ A page listing **Grants & Scholarships** opportunities within the genealogy community.
- ✱ Genealogy **Volunteer** opportunities - if you have even a minute to spare.
- ✱ A page of genealogy **Podcasts** and online Programs
- ✱ A page of genealogy **Job** openings
- ✱ **Travel, Tours & Cruises** that are specifically for genealogy research and vacation.



EXPLORE THE WEBSITE AT

**[www.ConferenceKeeper.org](http://www.ConferenceKeeper.org)**

## FUTURE BAGS EVENTS

- ✓ August 26th, 12:00pm (*in person*), **Members Potluck Meeting – Members Show & Tell**
- ✓ August 27th, 4:00pm **Meet and Munch** at *Gringo's* – Pearland
- ✓ September 29th, 7:00pm (*virtual*), **Paula Stuart Warren – Finding Maiden Names: Let Me Count the Ways**



# LOCAL LIBRARY UPDATES



## Freeman Branch Library - Clear Lake City

### **In-Person Research Session – BAGS Members Only**

**July 8th 10:00am to 12:30pm**

Located at **16615 Diana Ln, Houston, TX** in the **conference room**. The MHM session is open to BAGS members for research. If you need help with locating ancestors or breaking brick walls, be sure to come! Bring a laptop to use the library's Wi-Fi or the research you are currently pursuing.

## Friendswood FamilySearch Center

### **In-Person Research Session – BAGS Members Only**

**July 19th, August 16th, September 20th 9:30am to 11:30am**

The Friendswood FamilySearch Center is located at **505 Deseret Dr, Friendswood**. The entrance to the building is on the side furthest from the street. This center is also open to the public for research:

<b>Tues, Thurs, &amp; Fri</b>	<b>10:00am – 2:00pm</b>
<b>Tues evening</b>	<b>7:00pm – 9:00pm</b>

## League City FamilySearch Center

The League City FamilySearch Center is located at **4655 South Shore Blvd, League City**. The FSC entrance is on the SE corner, at the back of the building, away from the street. Use the first entrance off South Shore Blvd.

The League City FamilySearch Center is open to the public for research:

<b>Tues &amp; Wed</b>	<b>7:00pm – 9:00pm</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10:00am – 12:00pm</b>

*This center has access to the FamilySearch Center Portal page, which gives free access to premium family history software and websites that generally charge for subscriptions.*

## Using the FamilySearch Research Wiki: In Three Video Lessons

### 1. **Using the FamilySearch Research Wiki: Introduction** [video](#)

This video introduces The FamilySearch Research Wiki, which is a free, online, genealogical guide that helps you find your ancestors from around the world.

### 2. **Types of Wiki Pages: Getting the Most out of Wiki Pages** [video](#)

This Wiki lesson introduces the most helpful FamilySearch pages such as country pages and Online Genealogy Records (OGR) pages to help answer genealogical questions.

### 3. **Contributing to the FamilySearch Wiki: Want to Contribute to the Wiki** [video](#)

In this video you will learn how to add content to the FamilySearch Research Wiki using the *Submit Wiki Content* link, *Report a Problem* link and editing Wiki directly.

[Using the FamilySearch Research Wiki](#) Handout





# BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

For the latest news and event updates,  
visit our website at [tbbayareagen.org](http://tbbayareagen.org)



1 JULY 2023

## Calendar of Events - 2023

### JULY

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
6 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
12 7:00p German SIG  
13 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
19 9:30a MHM, *Friendswood FamilySearch Center*  
20 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting  
27 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
28 7:00p July Members Meeting – *It Takes a Village*  
*Community Research, Diana Smith (Zoom)*  
30 4:00p Meet 'n Munch, *Jason's Deli – Webster*

### AUGUST

- 3 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
7 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
9 7:00p German SIG  
10 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
14 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
16 9:30a MHM, *Friendswood FamilySearch Center*  
17 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
21 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting  
24 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
26 12:00p August Members Potluck Meeting –  
*Members Show & Tell, University Baptist*  
27 4:00p Meet 'n Munch, *Gringo's – Pearland*  
28 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p Members Helping Members #2  
31 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM

### SEPTEMBER

- 4 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
7 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
11 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
13 7:00p German SIG  
14 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
18 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2

### SEPTEMBER

- 21 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
24 4:00p Meet 'n Munch, *TBA*  
25 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting  
28 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
29 7:00p September Members Meeting –  
*Finding Maiden Names: Let Me Count the Ways,*  
*Paula Stuart Warren (Zoom)*

### OCTOBER

- 2 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
5 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
9 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
11 7:00p German SIG  
12 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
16 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
19 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
23 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting  
26 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
28 12:00p October Members Meeting – *Got Lemons?*  
*Make Limoncello - Building an International*  
*Genealogical Community, Nick Cimino (Zoom)*  
29 4:00p Meet 'n Munch, *TBA*  
30 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2

### NOVEMBER

- 2 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
6 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
8 7:00p German SIG  
9 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
13 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting  
15 9:30a MHM, *Friendswood FamilySearch Center*  
16 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM  
17 7:00p November Members Meeting – *How to Find*  
*Your Ancestors in Church Records,*  
*Sonny Morton (Zoom)*  
20 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
27 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
30 7:00p Family Tree Makers MHM