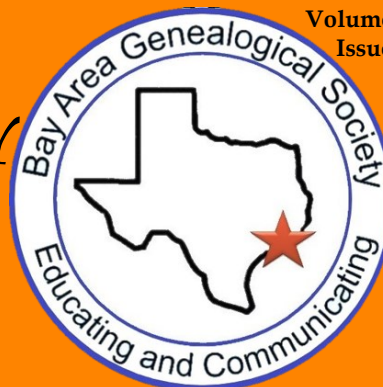


BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

October 2023
Volume 23
Issue 10



BAGS Members Potluck Luncheon Saturday, October 28th, 2023 12:00pm

Speaker — Nick Cimino: *Got Lemons?
Make Limoncello! – Building an International
Genealogical Community*

Be sure to mark your calendar for our October 28th, in-person, meeting at University Baptist Church. This is a **Members Potluck Luncheon** to welcome the fall and celebrate with fellow members, old and new! Our guest speaker will be BAGS Past President, **Nick Cimino**, with a presentation entitled, *Got Lemons? Make Limoncello! – Building an International Genealogical Community*.

All members are invited to bring an entrée, side dish or a dessert to share. Please bring serving utensils for your dishes. Food set up and social time begins at 11:30am.

11:30am – 12:00pm Set up your food, grab your choice of beverage, find a comfy chair and socialize with friends!

12:00pm Welcome BAGS members and guests, opening remarks, and lunch blessing.

12:15pm Members enjoy the delicious buffet!

1:00pm Presentation by Nick Cimino begins.

University Baptist Church is located at 16106 Middlebrook Dr, Houston, TX.

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Special Points of Interest

*Research &
Learning Opportunities*

Social Media Links

Upcoming Events

BAGS INFORMATION

2023 BAGS OFFICERS

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2024-25 Officer Nominations

for the

Bay Area Genealogical Society

Nominations for the following positions are being accepted by the nominating committee. If you are interested in serving on the board, or know someone who would love the opportunity to serve, please email the names to newsletter@txbayareagen.org. The official nominees will be announced at the in-person October meeting on October 28, 2023.

President

1st VP

2nd VP/Programming

Secretary

Treasurer

Registrar

Other positions and committees are board appointed and will be announced, along with the election results, on the BAGS website and in the December newsletter.

A Warm Welcome to Our Newest

BAGS Members!

***Jennifer Brabston,
Jackie Britton, and Beverly Nelson***



Statement of Activity as of September 1, 2023

Checking Account	\$2,007.20
Saving Account	\$11,873.18
PayPal Account	<u>\$14.21</u>
Total Monetary Assets	\$13,959.82



Additional points of contact:

Don't know the Members Page password?

registrar@txbayareagen.org — *George Porterfield*

Research questions or to provide research assistance:

education@txbayareagen.org — *Kathleen Williams*

Have an article or idea to share with the Society?

newsletter@txbayareagen.org — *Cindy Austin*

Submit information for the Journal:

journal@txbayareagen.org — *Todd Roberts*

Ideas on where or how to advertise BAGS:

publicity@txbayareagen.org — *Terri Myers*

Submit your pedigree chart to share with membership:

pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org — *Sharon Boeger*

Not receiving emails?

emailcoord@txbayareagen.org — *Fred Roe*



MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS & SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

BAGS German Special Interest Group

Join us for a German SIG Luncheon!

When: Saturday, October 21st, 12:00pm

Where: King's BierHaus, 828 W. FM646, League City, TX 77573 ([map for directions](#))

Cost: "Dutch Treat"

All BAGS German SIG members, spouses, and BAGS members with interest in German genealogy are invited to attend.

Monthly German SIG meetings are typically held via Zoom on the **second Wednesday** of each month, from **7:00-8:30pm**. The regular monthly meeting is scheduled for **November 8th**.

Please complete the [German SIG Interest Survey](#) to join this group!



Members Helping Members (MHM)

Online Research - Session #1

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

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 the [Members Helping Members page](#).

If you'd like practice connecting to Zoom or have questions, contact Kim Zrubek at 281-992-2636.

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



INTERNATIONAL GERMAN
Genealogy Partnership

Family Tree Makers

MHM Session #2

#2 Thursdays from 7:00-8:00pm

Renee Ball moderates this MHM group.

Family Tree Maker MHM focuses on helping members take advantage of the many features and options of **Family Tree Maker** software. Help with technical concerns, such as software upgrading and exporting files, is also available.

Details are on BAGS [Members Helping Members page](#).



Still Need Help?

Complete the [BAGS Help Desk Form](#) and email it to [Kathleen Williams, Education Chairman](#). She will respond to discuss your research needs.

Members Helping Members (MHM)

Focused Research - Session #3

#3 Mondays from 7:00pm to 8:00pm, Kim Zrubek, *moderator*

This NEW Monday evening MHM session will focus on the topic of the previous General Meetings. They are designed to get a more in-depth look at specific presentations for the BAGS General Membership. These sessions will be held on the following dates:

• **Monday, October 2; Follow-up Topic: Maiden Names** (presentation from 9/29/23)

• **Monday, October 30; Follow-up Topic: Online tools to connect with Family Members** (presentation 10/28/23)

• **Monday, November 27; Follow-up Topic: Church Records**. (presentation 11/17/23).

Details are on BAGS [Members Helping Members page](#).



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 are interested 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 the Editor at newsletter@txbayareagen.org. All rights reserved.

MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS & GATHERINGS

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 'n Munch:

Sunday, October 29th, 4:00pm

Jason's Deli

2755 Gulf Freeway South,
League City, TX 77573

Jason's deli



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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2024!

BAGS NEEDS YOU!

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:

Proofreading	Hospitality Committee
Publicity	Programs Committee
BAGS Website	Telephoning Committee
Social Media	Education Committee
Newsletter Editor	Journal Editor
Yearbook Editor	County Coordinator

Committees typically work together for about an hour (or less) each month! Board/committee meetings are held via Zoom. 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!

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 covering any geographical area are welcomed and appreciated.

Email submissions/questions to Todd Roberts at journal@txbayareagen.org.

The journal is published on the Members Only page of the BAGS website. BAGS "[Journal Article Submissions Q & A](#)" provides information about submitting an article for print.

Pedigree Charts!

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](#).

For questions or assistance, contact Sharon Boeger at pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org.



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

2023 Meetings

Oct 23

Nov 13

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



At the September Members meeting **Paula Warren** gave an outstanding presentation on a myriad of ways to determine "Great Grandma Margaret's maiden name!" Her detailed handouts gave us clues and a checklist to guide us in our research. Just because Granny's name was "hidden" after her marriage doesn't mean it can't be discovered.

Paula is a full-time in genealogical and historical researcher, lecturer, consultant, and writer. As a Board-certified genealogist (since 1988), she is a firm believer in continuing education in genealogy and strives to keep up to date by participating in national and local conferences, webinars, reading the publications of many genealogical and historical organizations and individuals both off and online. She completed the week-long U.S. National Institute of Genealogical Research at the National Archives in Washington, DC.

Paula served two years as a national officer of the Association of Professional Genealogists and has been an APG Committee Chair. She served six years as a board member of the Minnesota Genealogical Society and continues as an active volunteer in genealogical, historical, and professional organizations. She served on the Federation of Genealogical Societies Board of Directors and its Conference Planning and Awards committees.

Her research specialties include methodology, research planning, the U.S. National Archives, and its regional facilities, the Family History Library, Midwestern and Plains states, Minnesota Historical Society, the New England Historic Genealogical Society, Wisconsin Historical Society, Native Americans and unusual records. Paula has received numerous awards for her volunteer work and professionalism in the field of genealogy (<https://genealogybypaula.com/>)

Paul's recorded presentation and handout are available on the [BAGS website!](#)



Follow BAGS on Facebook!

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

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



txbayareagen.org/



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.



FUTURE GENEALOGY EVENTS

- ✓ **October 7th**, 10:00am (9:30 social), **Sam Houston Chapter NSDAR**, St. Thomas the Apostle Episcopal Church, 18300 Upper Bay Road in Nassau Bay. Visitors are welcome!
- ✓ **October 21st**, **WHAGS** 10:00am, *Top Tips for Researching Your Scottish and English Ancestors* presented by Michelle Leonard – more information [here](#). (hybrid)
- ✓ **November 2nd**, 1:00pm, **Clayton Library** – *Show & Tell Veteran's Day - Honoring our Veterans* (Zoom) more information [here](#).
- ✓ **November 10th and 11th**, 2023 **TxSGS Family History Conference** information and registration [here](#).
- ✓ **November 18th**, 10:30am, **Clayton Library Friends Annual Meeting 2023** – more information [here](#).

OCTOBER INSIGHTS

What Would You Grab? *by Luanne Newman*

We have seen it lately – flooding and wildfires in the US, Canada, and Europe leave residents homeless, destroying homes and cities. Natural disasters are a common occurrence, and they have been for eons. Are there more disasters these days, or are the internet and constant updates making it seem so?



As folks interested in tracing our family histories, tracking them, and preserving or sharing them, I ask you: If a disaster was coming and you had time to prepare, what would you grab? Some suggest taking items that would make the next days, weeks, and months easier than if you did not take them: identification, a utility bill, cash, credit card, and legal documents. (But shouldn't those already be?) Others recommend medications or copies of prescription information, mortgage papers, and tax records. To you and me, interested in our years of research, I am not recommending that you lag behind to dig through your photos or take frames off the walls. Be safe and be smart. But should we think ahead to what we could/should/would do if it happened to us?

A decade ago, my former go-to backup program was always Carbonite. I had heard about "cloud" back-ups for years but hadn't acted upon it. If you have Microsoft One Drive, all the files in that folder are automatically backed up and stored in the cloud - constantly. The beauty of this is that you can access those photos, census records, and old letters anywhere. Everything I have scanned, written, received, and photographed in the name of family history resides on my home computer and in the cloud. When my husband's computer died some years ago, he lost all its files. When the PC was fixed after that "Blue Screen of Death," all lost files could be safely downloaded from the cloud: all the photos, research, and SAR info were safe. That fantastic benefit of remote access is my favorite. When out and about, accessing records, stories, or photos from our Smartphones is easy and nice to share with friends and family.

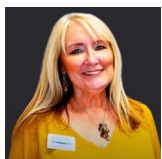
I was recently at a family wedding, showing my first cousin important information and photos of our Grandfather, who immigrated from Italy. It was all contained in a simple Excel spreadsheet I accessed from my phone. When I ran across letters, photos, census records, etc., containing dates and locations where my Grandfather worked or lived, I noted it in the spreadsheet. When I handed Cousin Tom my phone, and he perused the file, he learned things he didn't know and was clearly very excited about it!



Scanned photos and saved files were put to good use when I helped my sister. Her home was one of the 1,200 lost in the California wildfires of September 2015. Detailed plans and lists were made of what she would take and in which order. The problem was that she was out of the area then, and the fire took an unexpected turn. My family was safe, but not one intended item was taken out of the home. Not one, including my immigrant grandmother's 1921 photo, in the oval frame that only my sister had - and no one had a copy. Let me repeat: my family was safe, which is the most important. The next

December's Christmas gifts included my copies of precious photos, scrapbooks, and many digital files.

Are your records safe in the cloud? Do you have duplicate files or photos somewhere other than your house? If you knew it could happen to you, what would you plan? And, God forbid it does, what would you grab?



Former President of the DuPage County, IL Genealogical Society and now President-Elect of the Fellowship of Rotarian Genealogists (FORG International), Luanne Newman divides her time as the Member Engagement Specialist with Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and developing creative marketing, candy, and specialty items for the Newmans' business, [Amazing Grace Gifts](#). She and her husband, Bud, are Bay Area Genealogical Society members.

OCTOBER LIBRARY UPDATES (LOCAL)



Friendswood Library

In-Person MHM Research Session

Saturday, October 7th,

10:00am to 12:00pm

The Friendswood Public Library is located at 416 S Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX. This MHM session is open to BAGS members for research. If you need help 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 MHM Research Session

October 18th and November 15th

9:30am to 11:30am (for BAGS Members only)

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

Tues, Thurs, & Fri 10:00am – 2:00pm

Tues evening 7:00pm – 9:00pm

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.

League City FamilySearch Center

The League City FamilySearch Center is located at 4655 *South Shore Blvd*, in League City. The entrance to the FamilySearch Center 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:

Tuesday 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Saturday 10:00am – 12:00pm

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.

Join the 2023 TxSGS Family History Conference, entitled *Roots and Branches: Climbing Your Family Tree*, on Friday and Saturday, November 10-11, 2023. *TxSGS Live!* features ten presentations by some of the top speakers in genealogy on research techniques, records, DNA, and more. For more information [click here!](#)



Clayton Library OCTOBER Happenings

Saving Memories: Organizing, Managing, Telling, Remembering (in-person)

Tuesday, October 3, 2023, Susan Clayton Garwood Meeting Room

These session offers insight on the organization and preservation of the photos and documents, highlighting the connection between generations and individuals these pieces of our lives can bring. Topics include: **Organizing Photo Memories, Managing the 'Stuff' and the Stories, How to Tell Important Family Stories, and Photo Reminiscence Therapy.**

10:30am -1:30pm (in-person morning session) [Click here for more information and registration.](#)

2:00-4:30pm (in-person afternoon session) [Click here for more information.](#) this is a repeat of the morning session.

Genealogy Face2Face: Zoom Video Conference

More Than Just Conferences, More Than Just a Calendar! Discover ConferenceKeeper

Thursday, October 5, 2023, 1:00-2:00pm, Tami Osmer Mize – presenter (Zoom)

Genealogical societies offer many opportunities for genealogy education, both online and in-person, including webinars, seminars, conferences, workshops, and more. However, it can be difficult to keep track of all the events and programs that are available. ConferenceKeeper.org is a free, online calendar of thousands of genealogy events that makes it easy to search for upcoming webinars, seminars, conferences, meetings, registration deadlines and more. The website also has pages listing genealogy contests, jobs, scholarships, degree programs and still more! Come and learn how you can stay on top of all the genealogy education events that are available and ensure that you don't miss out on any opportunities to learn new skills to help solve your research problems! **Registration in advance of the meeting will be required. Pre-register now by [following this link.](#)**

Orientation to the Family History Research Center (in-person)

Come to the library and learn about the resources and personal assistance available to help you find your ancestors. After a short video, staff will walk you through the collection introducing you to the resources. After the orientation, we invite you to stay and research your family with one on one help from the expert staff.

Saturday October 7th, 3:00-4:00pm

Thursday October 12th, 6:00-7:00pm

Thursday October 26, 6:00-7:00pm

Saturday, October 26, 3:00-4:00pm

Family History Month Webinar Event (in-person)

Friday, October 20, 2023, 9:00am-6:00pm (in-person)

Join us at the Family History Research Center for the annual special webinar event! A full day of family history education topics will be offered at the library only. **Register now** to attend any or all of these fantastic learning opportunities. The webinars and times are as follows -

9:00am - 10:15am

Secrets to Successful Writing & Publishing

Angela Breidenbach, Executive Director of the International Institute of Genealogical Studies

10:25am - 11:15am

Linking the Generations with Court and Land Records

Judy Russell, JD, CG, CGL, The Legal Genealogist

11:25am - 12:15pm

Visiting the Hill College Texas Heritage Museum

John Versluis, Dean of the Texas Heritage Museum at Hill College

12:25pm - 1:40pm

Genealogy Basics: Start Searching for Your Ancestors Today

Irene B. Walters, Librarian, Family History Research Center at the Clayton Library Campus

1:50pm - 2:40pm

Tame the Chaos Tiger: Organize Your Records and Research

Susan Ball, President TxSGS

2:50pm - 3:40pm

Uncover Your Family's Story Using the Periodical Source Index (PERSI)

Elizabeth Hodges, MA, MSLIS, Senior Librarian in the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center

3:50pm - 4:40pm

Placing Your DNA Matches on Your Tree

Ryan Russell, Genetic Genealogist, Open Door Genetics

4:50pm - 5:40pm

Checking on Czech Immigrants to the United States.

Heather Mecham, Research Specialist for FamilySearch



BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

For the latest news and event updates,
visit our website at tzbayareagen.org



OCTOBER 2023

Calendar of Events - 2023/2024

OCTOBER

2	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #3 <i>9/29 follow-up: Maiden Names</i>
5	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
7	10:00a	Friendswood Public Library MHM
9	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
12	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
16	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
18	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
19	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
21	12:00p	German SIG Luncheon: <i>Kings Bierhaus</i>
23	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting
26	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
28	11:30a	October Potluck Members Meeting <i>Got Lemons? Make Limoncello - Building an International Genealogical Community, with Nick Cimino</i>
29	4:00p	Meet 'n Munch: <i>Jason's Deli, League City</i>
30	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1

NOVEMBER

2	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
6	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #3 <i>10/28 follow-up: Online Tools to Connect with Family Members Internationally (Nick Cimino)</i>
8	7:00p	German SIG
9	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
13	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting
15	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
16	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
17	7:00p	November Members Meeting <i>How to Find Your Ancestors in Church Records, Sonny Morton (Zoom)</i>
19	4:00p	Meet 'n Munch, <i>La Brisa in League City</i>
20	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #3 <i>11/17 follow-up: Church Records</i>
27	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
30	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2

DECEMBER

2	12:00p	BAGS Holiday Luncheon - <i>at the South Shore Grille</i>
4	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
7	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
11	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
13	7:00p	German SIG
14	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
18	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting
21	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2

JANUARY 2024

8	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
10	7:00p	German SIG
11	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #2
15	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
17	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
18	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #2
22	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting
25	7:00p	Family Tree Make MHM #2
27	11:30a	January Members Meeting Potluck
29	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1

FEBRUARY

1	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
5	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
8	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
12	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
14	7:00p	German SIG
15	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
19	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting
21	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
22	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2
23	7:00p	February General Meeting (Zoom)
25	4:00p	Meet 'n Munch - <i>TBA</i>
26	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
29	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #2