

BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



BAGS Members Potluck

Saturday, January 27, 2024
at 12:00pm

University Baptist Church

16106 Middlebrook Dr,
Houston, TX

Be sure to mark your calendar for our first in-person meeting on January 27th at University Baptist Church. This is our annual January potluck luncheon to welcome the New Year and celebrate with fellow members! Our guest speaker will be Irene Walters from the Family History Research Center (FHRC) at the Clayton Library Campus. Irene's topic is entitled *Oral Histories: Remembering the Stories*.

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 Irene Walters begins.

University Baptist Church is located at 16106 Middlebrook Dr, Houston, TX. 77059

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MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2024

It's time to renew your membership with the TX Bay Area Genealogical Society (BAGS)! The new membership year starts January 1, 2024. You can renew your membership anytime between November 1, 2023, and February 29, 2024, without any loss of membership privileges.

Why should I renew my membership with BAGS now?

- ✓ BAGS is now able to include genealogy experts from outside the Houston area to speak at our virtual monthly general meetings. This provides you with the benefit of national speakers and a wider range of genealogy topics. We have also worked with other regional genealogical societies to give you access to their resources and presentations.
- ✓ Our private Facebook group is highly active with regular postings about webinars and expanded online resources (many of them free) to help you with your research.
- ✓ Members Helping Members sessions are expanding and include both virtual and in-person meetings. You can join in the group sessions or request an individual, one-on-one session. These sessions can help you with "how to" questions about using Ancestry.com, FamilySearch, Family Tree Maker software or other tools. These sessions can also help you learn how to analyze the info you already have and show you how to research new sources.
- ✓ Participate in our Special Interest Groups. (currently German only)
- ✓ Free bus trips to the Clayton Library's Family History Research Center.
- ✓ Special in-person events are planned for the upcoming year and include awesome guest speakers plus door prizes, drawings, and delicious food!
- ✓ 4 monthly in-person General Meetings (BBQ buffet or potluck) and a Holiday Luncheon.
- ✓ Free access to all past publications (Quarterlies, Journals and monthly Newsletters).
- ✓ A listing in our Membership Yearbook.
- ✓ The opportunity to serve the Society by joining one of our committees.

Renew your membership NOW – 2 options:



**KEEP
CALM
AND
RENEW YOUR
BAGS
MEMBERSHIP**

ONLINE – You can fill out a membership form online and make your payment via PayPal with a credit or debit card, or a PayPal account, if you have one. To renew online, [click here](#). You will be directed to the "Membership Application Page" at the BAGS website. After filling out the form online, click the **Submit** button at the bottom. This will take you to PayPal where you will make your payment. You do not need to have a PayPal account to complete the transaction.

Paper form and check – If you would rather pay by sending a check through the regular mail, you can fill out a printed membership form. [Access the form here](#). This will open a PDF file which you can print and fill out. Mail this to the address on the form along with your check made payable to "BAGS."

If you have questions on the registration process or if you want to verify your membership status, please contact our Registrar via email, registrar@txbayareagen.org.

BAGS INFORMATION

2024 BAGS OFFICERS

President

Teresa Rundell

president@txbayareagen.org

First Vice President

Jane Martin

vicepresident@txbayareagen.org

Second Vice President

Becky Jones

vicepresident2@txbayareagen.org

Treasurer

Todd Roberts

treasurer@txbayareagen.org

Registrar

George Porterfield

registrar@txbayareagen.org

Secretary

Kitty Olson

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County Coordinator

vacant

countycoord@txbayareagen.org

CONGRATULATIONS

to the 2024-26 Officers

for the Bay Area Genealogical Society

The official board nominees were presented at the November general meeting for the following positions. The slate of officers were elected by acclimation per BAGS bylaws. Congratulations to:

President

Teresa Rundell

1st VP

Jane Martin

2nd VP

Becky Jones

Secretary

Kitty Olson

Treasurer

Todd Roberts

Registrar

George Porterfield

BAGS NEED YOU

as our County Coordinator!!

BAGS needs a new County Coordinator! This is a FUN position that doesn't require a lot of time, outside of the bus trip to Clayton Library and minimal time spent planning. The County Coordinator typically schedules only 4-6 bus trips per year. Two BAGS members currently serve as a backup and assist the County Coordinator as needed.

The County Coordinator:

- Works with Harris County and the backup coordinators to schedule each bus trip.
- Communicates upcoming dates to the board for publications.
- Tracks attending members count. **A minimum of ten attendees are required to meet Harris County guidelines for bus usage.**
- Sends reminders to attendees.
- Maintains policy agreement and emergency forms for all attendees.
- Takes attendance (at the beginning and end of the trip) to ensure all attendees are accounted for.

Interested? Please contact Kathleen at countycoord@txbayareagen.org for more information.

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*

Ideas on where or how to advertise BAGS:

publicity@txbayareagen.org — *Terri Myers*

Not receiving emails?

emailcoord@txbayareagen.org — *Fred Roe*

Want to go on the Clayton Bus trip?

countycoord@txbayareagen.org — *email for reservation*

MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS

What is an Online MHM (Members Helping Members) Meeting?

During COVID, BAGS began holding weekly Zoom meetings to help our members continue their genealogy research. Due to their popularity, these meetings have continued. If you've never had the opportunity to attend one, you might wonder how they work.

In a Zoom (online) meeting, a *host* or *moderator* admits the other *attendees*. During the MHM, there is typically no agenda or schedule that is followed. Members are encouraged to talk about recent genealogical successes as well as current "brick walls" or genealogical dead-ends. Each participant brings a unique perspective and knowledge to the group and everyone can help attendees with genealogy research as they feel comfortable. Please consider attending the next meeting – MHM can be very rewarding!



Members Helping Members (MHM)

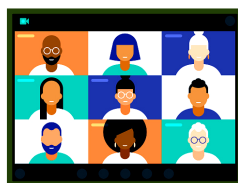
Online Research - Session #1 & 2

#1 Mondays, 10:00am to 12:00pm

~ hosts [Renee Ball](#) and [George Porterfield](#)

#2 Mondays, 7:00pm to 9:00pm

~ host Kim Zrubek and friends



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 for connecting to a Zoom MHM links are available on the [Members Helping Members page](#).



Members Helping Members

FOCUSED Research Session #2

#2 – Mondays, 7:00pm to 8:00pm,
Kim Zrubek, moderator, & friends

The Monday evening MHM session, after a general meeting (via Zoom or in-person), will focus on the topic from the previous general meeting. These focused sessions will provide a more detailed overview of specific topics from the general meeting to allow participants to ask additional questions about the presentations. The group will utilize information and techniques presented in a hands-on approach to participants' actual experiences. The next focused session is:

Monday, Jan 29th; Follow-up Topic:
Oral Histories. (presentation 1/27/23)

NEW IN-PERSON Research Spotlight Members Helping Members

The Research Spotlight MHM is BAGS newest type of Members Helping Members meeting. In this in-person meeting, a topic is introduced with a brief presentation (10-20 minutes) followed by hands-on research. An example of this might be newspaper research or the Texas General Land Office website. There will be a discussion about "how to" and then attendees can practice what has been presented. Several hosting members will be on hand to help attendees and a handout will be provided.

Research Spotlight meetings will be held at the Friendswood Public Library, 416 S Friendswood Dr., Friendswood, TX 77546

Sat, Jan 20 @ 12-2pm: Using Online Library Resources

Fri, Feb 16 @ 2-4pm: The Census: More Than Just Names

Wed, Mar 6 @ 10-12pm: Using FamilySearch effectively

MHM and SPECIAL INTERESTS GROUPS



BAGS German Special Interest Group

January 10, 2024 at 7pm

[George Porterfield](#) and [Karen Engelauf](#)
moderate this group.

The next regular meeting of the BAGS

German SIG will be on **January 10 at 7pm** via [Zoom](#).

This Special Interest Group online meeting is open to all BAGS members.

To join this group please complete the [German SIG Interest Survey](#) on the BAGS Special Interest Group page.

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 Maker MHM Session #3

#3 – Thursdays, 7:00 to 8:00pm

Renee Ball hosts 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.

Connection 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!

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.

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

2024 Meetings

January 22

February 19

March 25

April 22

Board meetings are on Mondays at 6:30pm.

Board meeting minutes are available on the Members Page of the BAGS website.

Follow BAGS on Facebook!

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

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



txbayareagen.org/

JANUARY RESEARCH | LIBRARY UPDATES



Friendswood FamilySearch Center

In-Person MHM Research Session

Jan 17, Feb 21, Mar 20, Apr 17

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 MHM session is open to BAGS members ONLY for research. The 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 of 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

Clayton Library Friends Events

The **Clayton Library Campus** is open for research! Staff are available to help you get started and to assist you in locating the books, microfilms, periodicals, and databases to further your research.

Scanning Saturdays and Booksale

CLF Donated Duplicate Booksale -1st and 3rd Saturdays of every month

Looking for research books to add to your personal collection? Visit the Clayton Library Friends donated duplicate booksale and tour the historic William Clayton home located on the Family History Research Center library property. No appointment needed!

Scanning Saturdays: Bring your old photos, slides or documents to scan to the Family History Research Center to preserve your family memories! Things to bring include your photos, slides or documents and a flash or thumb drive to save your images to. Volunteers will be available to help get you oriented to the scanners.

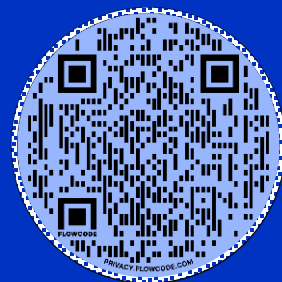
Appointments are scheduled at 10:30am; 12:00pm; 1:30pm or 3:00pm every third Saturday of the month. Please call 832-393-2600 to reserve your spot!

Family History Research Center @the Clayton Library, 5300 Caroline Street, Houston, Texas 77004



BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

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



January 2024

Calendar of Events - 2024

JANUARY 2024

8	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
10	7:00p	German SIG
11	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
15	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
17	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
18	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
20	12:00p	In-Person Research Spotlight , Friendswood Library: <i>Using Online Library Resources</i>
22	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
25	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
27	11:30a	January General Meeting Potluck <i>Irene Walters - Oral Traditions</i>
28	4:00p	Meet 'n Munch at <i>Mia's Table</i>
29	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2 <i>1/27 Focused follow-up: Oral Traditions (Zoom)</i>

FEBRUARY

1	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
5	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
8	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #3
12	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
14	7:00p	German SIG
15	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
16	2:00p	In-Person Research Spotlight , Friendswood Library: <i>The Census: More Than Just Names</i>
19	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
21	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
22	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
23	7:00p	February General Meeting (Zoom) <i>Shannon Combs-Bennet: Roadmaps Tell You More Than How to Get from A to B: Creating a Research Plan with DNA Testing</i>
25	4:00p	Meet 'n Munch at <i>Potbelly - Webster</i>
26	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2 <i>2/23 Focused follow-up: (Zoom) Creating a Research Plan with DNA Testing</i>
29	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3

MARCH

4	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
6	10:30a	In-Person Research Spotlight , Friendswood Library: <i>Using FamilySearch Effectively</i>
7	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #3
11	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
13	7:00p	German SIG
14	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
18	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
20	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
21	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
25	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
28	7:00p	Family Tree Maker MHM #3
29	7:00p	General Meeting (Zoom) <i>Cheri Hudson-Passey - Someone to Watch Over Me: Guardianship Records</i>
31	4:00p	Meet 'n Munch at <i>Olive Garden - Bay Area Blvd</i>

APRIL

1	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2 <i>3/29 Focused follow-up: Guardianship Records</i>
4	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #3
8	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
10	7:00p	German SIG
11	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #3
15	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2
17	9:30a	MHM, Friendswood FSC
18	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #3
20	TBA	Seminar - Virtual/in-person, Friendswood Library - <i>Kelli Berghheimer</i>
22	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	6:30p	BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
25	7:00p	Family Tree Makers MHM #3
27	12:00p	APRIL Members Potluck, UBC - <i>Melissa Hayes Cemetery Removal: Where Did It Go?</i>
29	10:00a	Members Helping Members #1
	7:00p	Members Helping Members #2 <i>4/27 Focused follow-up: Cemetery Removal</i>