

March 2024  
Volume 24  
Issue 3

# BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



**BAGS Members Meeting**  
Friday, March 29th, 2024  
at 7pm via [Zoom](#) (live virtual)  
**Cheri Hudson-Passey** – *Someone to  
Watch Over Me: Guardianship Records*

Join speaker **Cheri Hudson-Passey** as she explores the treasures in some often neglected records. Guardianship records for underage children are frequently overlooked within probate packages. Even when a mother was still living or deemed unable to care for herself, these records can contain important clues to family members, living conditions, and so much more!

Cheri Hudson-Passey is a Professional Genealogist, instructor, writer, speaker and the owner of **Carolina Girl Genealogy, LLC**. Additionally, Cheri is the host of YouTube's genealogy chat show *GenFriends* and is a genealogical researcher subcontracted by Eagle Investigative Services, Inc., for the US Army Past Conflict Repatriations Branch.

This meeting registration is located on the [BAGS website](#).

## *Inside this issue*

BAGS Business/Information	2
Members Helping Members	3
Special Interests	4
Members Seminar	5
Library/Research News	6
BAGS Calendar	7

## *Special Points of Interest*

*BAGS Welcome*  
*Research &  
Learning Opportunities*  
*Social Media Links*  
*BAGS Partnerships*  
*Clayton Library Partner Links*

# BAGS BUSINESS | INFORMATION

## 2024 BAGS OFFICERS

**President**

*Teresa Rundell*

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

**First Vice President**

*Jane Martin*

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

**Second Vice President**

*Becky Jones*

[vicepresident2@txbayareagen.org](mailto:vicepresident2@txbayareagen.org)

**Treasurer**

*Todd Roberts*

[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**

*Luanne Newman*

[yearbook@txbayareagen.org](mailto:yearbook@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 Proofreader**

*Luanne Newman*

**Photographer**

*Bill Mayo*

**Email Distribution**

*Fred Roe*

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

**Education Coordinator**

*Kathleen Williams*

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

**County Coordinator**

*vacant*

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

**Social Media Administrator**

*Kathleen Williams*

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

**Publicity Coordinator**

*Terri Myers*

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



## Welcome New BAGS Members:

Hattie McKinley, Philip Kropf & Miki Bienek



Statement of Activity as of February 1, 2024

Checking Account	\$4,213.89
Saving Account	\$11,878.17
Undeposited Funds	\$90.00
Total Monetary Assets	\$16,182.06

## 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](mailto:countycoord@txbayareagen.org) for more information.



### 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) – *Kathleen Williams*

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*

Not receiving emails?

[emailcoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:emailcoord@txbayareagen.org) – *Fred Roe*

Want to go on the Clayton Bus trip?

[countycoord@txbayareagen.org](mailto:countycoord@txbayareagen.org) – *email for reservation*

Submit your pedigree chart to:

[pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org](mailto:pedigreecharts@txbayareagen.org) – *completed pedigrees/questions*



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
RENEW YOUR  
BAGS  
MEMBERSHIP**

# MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS GROUPS

## **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

**Wednesday, Mar 6 @ 10am-12pm:** *Using FamilySearch effectively*

**Saturday, Apr 20 @ 9am-4pm:** *Members Appreciation Seminar* (see pg. 5 for more details and registration)

### Members Helping Members (MHM)

#### Online Research - Session #1 & 2

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

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

**#2 Mondays, 7:00pm to 8:00pm**

~ 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, April 1 at 7pm –**  
*Guardianship Records*

**Monday, April 29 at 7pm –**  
*Cemetery Removal*

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

### Family Tree Maker

**Now by Appointment Only**

[Reneé Ball](#) hosts this session.



If you would like help with Family Tree Maker MHM or need to ask questions about how the software works and interacts with other genealogical sources, you can now make appointments directly with our FTM guru, Reneé Ball. 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!



In-Person Research Spotlight (Feb)  
*The Census: More Than Just Names*

Join us for the next In-Person Research Spotlight at the [Friendswood Library](#),

**Wednesday March 6th at 10:00am**

*Using FamilySearch Effectively.*



# SPECIAL INTERESTS GROUPS

## BAGS German Special Interest Group

Wednesday MARCH 13, 2024 at 7pm

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

The next regular meeting of the BAGS German SIG will be on Wednesday, March 13th, at 7pm via Zoom.

This Special Interest Group online meeting is open to all BAGS members who have an interest in Germany history, culture, and information related to German genealogy. To join this group please complete the [German SIG Interest Survey](#) on the BAGS Special Interest Group page.



INTERNATIONAL GERMAN  
Genealogy Partnership

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



## Irish Genealogy

*May the records rise to meet you!*

Thirty-six million Americans have Irish ancestry, according to the 2008 US Census. That's almost nine times the population of Ireland, which has 4.1 million people.

The Irish flag is green, white, and orange. Green symbolizes the people of the south, and orange symbolizes the people of the north. White represents the peace that brings them together as a nation

**St. Patrick's Day is observed on March 17** because that is the feast day of St. Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. He is believed to have died on March 17, 461 AD. It is also a world-wide celebration of Irish culture and history. St. Patrick's Day is a national holiday in Ireland.



**St. Patrick** was born in 385AD somewhere along the west coast of Britain. At age 16, he was captured and sold into slavery to a sheep farmer. He escaped when he was 22 and spent 12 years in a monastery. In his 30s, he returned to Ireland as a Christian missionary. According to legend, St. Patrick drove the snakes out of Ireland. He died at Saul in 461 AD and is buried at Downpatrick

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](mailto: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](mailto:info@txbayareagen.org)

### 2024 Meetings

March 25

April 22

May 27

June 24

July 22

August 26

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](http://txbayareagen.org)



## Texas Bay Area Genealogical Society Presents:

### Member Appreciation Seminar

Kelli Bergheimer – All-Day Workshop

April 20, 2024

9:00am – 4:00pm

Friendswood Public Library

416 S. Friendswood Dr, Friendswood, TX 77546

**Workshop Registration Deadline April 15 – Register here**



**BAGS Members can attend FREE** virtually or in person at the Friendswood Library. Whether you plan to attend online or in person, please register for the meeting to receive instructions for attending and handouts. Not A BAGS member? You can become a member at the [BAGS website!](#)

**Kelli Bergheimer** is a writer, teacher, editor, and international genealogical speaker, holding a Bachelor's in Biology, a Master's in Education: Curriculum and Instruction, and a Master's in Business Management. Kelli is the Director of Curriculum and Assessments for Blue Kayak, a K-12 textbook company. She also works as the Director of Education for Your DNA Guide, runs a small business—Mess on the Desk; a genealogical organization company with a [YouTube channel](#), and is the facilitator for an online DNA Interest Group called Genetics, Genealogy, and You. Kelli is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Genealogical Speaker's Guild.

Are you stuck in your genealogical research? Wondering how to make progress on your brick walls, organize your DNA results, collaborate with cousins, and start writing your family stories? Kelli shares her step-by-step methods, using real-world examples that any level of genealogist can easily understand.

## Workshop Schedule

9:00 – 9:30am		<b>Socialize and Technology Set Up</b>
9:30 – 10:30am	Session 1	<b><u>Successful Online Genealogical Searching: Learn tools for successful searching online:</u></b> <i>Learn about browsers, search engines, and Boolean operators. How can you find some help with genealogical terminology and citations? Find some gems in WorldCat, Google Books, PERSI, and more.</i>
10:30 – 10:45am	Break	
10:45 – 11:45am	Session 2	<b><u>Online Tools to Organize and Collaborate with Your Cousins:</u></b> <i>Learn approaches for online wikis, blogs, and collaborating tools to share your family history with your cousins, friends, and family.</i>
12:00 – 1:30pm	Lunch	Lunch on your own, or join our reservation for the Charleston Tearoom with your online workshop registration
1:30 – 2:30pm	Session 3	<b><u>From Unknown Match to Known Match:</u></b> <i>The hard part of figuring out your DNA match lists is where to start and what to do. Learn tips for identifying cousins in your match list. We will use a match at AncestryDNA and a match at MyHeritage DNA to explore how to move those unknown matches into your family tree.</i>
2:30 – 2:45pm	Break	
2:45 – 3:45pm	Session 4	<b><u>How to Organize and Write Ancestor Stories:</u></b> <i>Learn tips to build an engaging and interesting family history. Refine your strategies and approaches to writing and compiling your ancestor stories.</i>
3:45 – 4:00pm	Q and A	Session Wrap up with time for questions and door prizes.



# MARCH RESEARCH | LIBRARY UPDATES



## Friendswood FamilySearch Center

**In-Person MHM Research Session**

**March 20th and April 17th**

**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 **Family History Center** at 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. You can even visit their NEW YouTube channel [here!](#)

### **Scanning Saturdays and Booksale**

**CLF Donated Duplicate Booksale – Saturday, March 2, 2024, 11:00am**

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 – Saturday, March 16, 2024, 10:30 am**

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 . Please call 832-393-2600 to reserve your spot!*

**Clayton Library Friends Partner Societies** | [The Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society](#) | [The Bay Area Genealogical Society](#) | [The Baytown Historical Preservation Association](#) | [Galveston County Genealogical Society](#) | [German-Texan Heritage Society](#) | [The Greater Houston Jewish Genealogical Society](#) | [Hispanic Genealogical Society of Houston](#) | [The Houston Genealogical Forum](#) | [Houston History Alliance](#) | [The Humble Area Genealogical Society](#) | [League City Historical Society](#) | [The Matagorda County Genealogical Society](#) | [Texas Research Ramblers Genealogical Society](#) |



# BAGS - Bay Area Genealogical Society

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



March 2024



## Calendar of Events - 2024



### MARCH

- 4 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 6 10:30a In-Person **Research Spotlight**,  
Friendswood Library:  
*Using FamilySearch Effectively*
- 11 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 13 7:00p German SIG
- 18 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 20 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 25 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 29 7:00p General Meeting (Zoom)  
**Cheri Hudson-Passey: *Someone to Watch***  
**Over Me: *Guardianship Records***

### APRIL

- 1 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*3/29 Focused follow-up: **Guardianship Records***
- 8 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 10 7:00p German SIG
- 15 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 20 9:00a Members Appreciation Seminar (hybrid)  
Friendswood Library – **Kelli Bergheimer**
- 22 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 27 12:00p APRIL Members Potluck, UBC –  
**Melissa Hayes: *Cemetery Removal: Where Did It Go?***
- 29 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*4/27 Focused follow-up: **Cemetery Removal***

### MAY

- 6 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 8 7:00p German SIG
- 13 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 19 4:00p Meet 'n Munch – **BB's Tex-Orleans**  
*1039 W Bay Area Blvd, Friendswood, TX*

### MAY

- 20 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 27 6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 31 7:00p MAY Members Meeting (Zoom)  
**Larry W. Thomas: *Two Colonial Georgias***

### JUNE

- 3 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*6/31 Focused follow-up: **Two Colonial Georgias***
- 10 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 12 7:00p German SIG
- 17 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 19 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 24 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 28 7:00p General Meeting (Zoom)  
**J Mark Lowe: *Using That Brick Wall as a Foundation***
- 30 4:00p Meet 'n Munch – **Tookie's Burgers**  
*406 Texas Ave, Kemah, TX*

### JULY

- 1 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2  
*7/24 Focused follow-up: **Using That Brick Wall as a Foundation***
- 8 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 10 7:00p German SIG
- 15 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2
- 17 9:30a MHM, Friendswood FSC
- 22 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
6:30p BAGS Board Meeting (Zoom)
- 26 12:00p JULY Members Meeting - TBA
- 28 4:00p Meet 'n Munch - TBA
- 29 10:00a Members Helping Members #1  
7:00p Members Helping Members #2

