

**PRESS RELEASE****Contact:** communications@txsgs.org**For Immediate Release**

Texas State Genealogical Society Honors Susan Kaufman and John V. Wylie as Fellows at its 2019 Family History Conference in Houston

AUSTIN, TEXAS, 16 OCTOBER 2019 – The Texas State Genealogical Society (TxSGS) is pleased to announce that Susan Kaufman, manager of the Houston Public Library's Clayton Library Center for Genealogical Research, and John V. Wylie, longtime member and former TxSGS president, are each recipients of the TxSGS Fellow Award. The designation was bestowed on Kaufman and Wylie on Saturday, October 12, at the TxSGS Annual Awards Banquet held in conjunction with the 2019 TxSGS Family History Conference in Houston.

To receive the Fellow Award, the honoree must have made significant contributions either to TxSGS over a period of several years or made significant contributions of state-wide impact on the Texas genealogical community.

Susan Kaufman

Manager of the Clayton Library Genealogy Center / Houston Public Library, Susan Kaufman has led this Texas treasure since 2006. During her tenure, the Clayton Library has become one of the finest genealogy libraries in the nation with some 100,000 research volumes, 3,000 periodical titles, and an extensive microfilm collection.

Beyond her work with the Clayton Library, Susan has been a highly visible promoter of genealogy and genealogical education throughout Texas, which is a core mission of TxSGS. She has continually worked to execute that mission since her first day as a member of the TxSGS Board of Directors.

Susan's emphasis on education, mentorship, and leadership, combined with her enthusiastic representation of TxSGS, strengthened the reputation of TxSGS locally and on the national level. She has unselfishly used her contacts and knowledge to further the goals of TxSGS and promote TxSGS in Texas and national genealogical communities.

John V. Wylie

John V. Wylie has generously served genealogy for over 25 years as a volunteer on boards for local, state, and national organizations, among them the Grand Prairie Genealogical Society, the Dallas Genealogical Society, TxSGS, the National Genealogical Society, and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Throughout his years of service, John communicated his conceptualization of genealogical research as it changed with the influence of technology and then channeled these new ideas into action. Foremost among John's visionary efforts were: founding GenTech with four others in 1991; serving on the acclaimed GenTech Data Model Working Group; chairing three national GenTech conference committees; and guiding design of the TxSGS Preservation Capture System (PCS) from conception to completion with the assistance of the Grand Prairie Genealogical Society and the TxSGS PCS Committee.



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John's influence has been felt throughout Texas on the local and state level. His early work with GenTech positioned Texas as an important pioneer in digital preservation. His passion for acting locally on the broader genealogical landscape has shown through his creation of TxSGS Partner Society Sharing Sessions, development of the Preservation Capture System, and leadership of local societies and organizations. His vision for the future of TxSGS led to changes in the TxSGS bylaws, positioning TxSGS for growth, education, and records preservation in the 21st century.

TxSGS Awards Program

Through the TxSGS Awards Program, TxSGS presents a number of awards each year in recognition and appreciation of the dedication and commitment exhibited to the genealogical community by individuals and societies in Texas. These awards include writing awards for professionals and non-professionals, website and newsletter awards for societies, and recognition of volunteers.

For more information about TxSGS Fellows, the TxSGS Awards Program, and the 2019 award winners, see <https://www.txsgs.org>.

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