

BAY AREA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY BOARD MEETING MINUTES – Monday, October 20, 2003

ATTENDANCE: Fourteen members were present: Neil Miserendino, Ron Cox, Shirley, Lindquist, Carolyn Hellen, Mary Martin, Resa Hennings, Leo Waltz, Dick Warren, Claudia Grafton, Leona Cook, Leslee Fehlman, Doug Wilson, Polly Wilson, and Jeanine Lawrence.

President Neil Miserendino called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. Jeanine Lawrence read about what God said to Joshua after he became the leader after Moses. Jeanine led us in a prayer.

Mary Martin, Recording Secretary, read the minutes of the September 28, 2003 B.A.G.S. Board Meeting. The following corrections were noted:

1. Page 1, Item 5 – the item about the NGS home study program should not be under this item, but rather in the area where we were discussing genealogical classes, or in an item all its own. This was a suggestion for learning opportunities/training for BAGS members. (Alice Jones made this correction by e-mail)
2. Page 1, under Neil's announcements, item 5, we should have also included Leona Cook on the Copy Doctor's list of approved individuals. (Alice Jones made this correction by e-mail)
3. Page 2, under the report about the airfares to Salt Lake City, I did not check Cheap Tickets.com for airfares to Salt Lake City. Carolyn Hellen mentioned that might be an option for members to check when looking for airfares. Therefore, it should read only that "the Southwest Fun Fare as of 22 September was \$200.00 plus tax each way to and from Houston to Salt Lake City". (Alice Jones made this correction by e-mail)
4. Under Neil's announcements #2, it should read that the next meeting would be Monday, October 20, and the November board meeting would be on Monday, November 24, which is Thanksgiving Week, which might be a problem. (Carolyn Hellen made this correction.)
5. Under Neil's announcements #7 about the members of the audit committee, it should be Lowell Brigham and not Lowell Bender.
6. Under Mary Martin, County Coordinator the following corrections were made: Sam Houston Regional Library and Research Center is in Liberty, TX and not Beaumont and the name of the library in Beaumont, TX is the Tyrell Historical Library. (Jeanine Lawrence noted these corrections.)

Carolyn Hellen made a motion that the minutes be accepted as amended. Ron Cox seconded the motion.

In the absence of the treasurer, Linda Goerland, the question was asked how do we submit receipts. Neil said that he would take them and give them to Linda when he saw her.

Neil Miserendino presented OLD BUSINESS:

1. A new BAGS Contact List of addresses and e-mail addresses of BAGS officers was passed out.
2. The Audit Committee will consist of the following members: Neil Miserendino, Lowell Brigham, and Linda Goerland. Please submit your costs for committees by next week. Carolyn Hellen, Special Projects Committee, said that she could not make the deadline for the yearbook and to set aside an amount for special projects and copying costs. Doug Wilson, Member Services Committee, submitted copies of his budget to be passed out to the board. The Registration Fees should cover costs of the committees. Projects such as cookbooks should break even. Carolyn Hellen said that a cookbook would cost about

\$5.00 each. Carolyn Hellen said that the Surname Database Booklet was expensive. We made 200 copies and 50 were sold.

3. The positions to fill are: Historian, Librarian, and ~~Hospitality~~. We need a <sup>Backups</sup> backup for ~~Hospitality~~ in case ~~Wanda Yelverton is not going to be there.~~ *Someone is on vacation or has an emergency.*
4. Neil is going to the Texas State Genealogical Society Annual Conference that is a couple of weeks away (November 7 & 8). The B.A.G.S. will have a table with a banner.
5. Carolyn Hellen reported that in the June Minutes, the Board voted to go to Salt Lake City in January. Leona Cook said that Alice Jones had reservations set up for hotels, etc. There are 13 names on the list. Alice Jones is planning to go to Salt Lake City. Right now, Alice is in the process of moving. Carolyn Hellen reported that she talked to Southwest Airlines yesterday. The rates were \$301.00 for a round trip in January. The rates change February 1, 2004. Carolyn said that the hotel rates are \$65.00 (Plaza Hotel) and \$45.00 (Holiday Inn). Doug Wilson needs to organize a seminar for research in Salt Lake City. An e-mail will be sent out to everyone who is interested in going to Salt Lake City, and it will also be announced at the general meeting. We will have a meeting on Wednesday, October 29 at 5:30. Carolyn said that the prices change on Tuesday and Thursday with the airlines. We need someone to be in charge of the trip. If you plan to attend this meeting, you can get a meal at the church at 5:15 p.m.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Registrar, Ron Cox, reported that the membership renewals are not going well. Members need to know about dropping their names. Carolyn Hellen suggested that we have a "Pay Your Dues" banner. Neil Miserendino said that we could do the yearbooks at the end of the year, and that would give more time to get the dues paid. Ron Cox said that he could call and see if the members want to renew. Most of the members want to renew, but they don't get around to doing it. Ron will have the new nametags on Sunday night. Jeanine Lawrence asked if Ron could make two sets: one set for the board meetings, and another set for the general meetings. Ron said that he could do this. According to the By-Laws, the dues should be paid up by the end of October.
2. Special Projects Chairman, Carolyn Hellen who is working on the Yearbook, wanted to put it out in November, but said that it would be all right to wait until January so we would have more members listed. She reported that nothing has been added to the filing cabinet. Dick Warren said that Ancestry.com has good tips on search engines, and asked if this should be in the filing cabinet. Carolyn said that the contents in the filing cabinets don't have to be about Texas. Names and Family Charts would be a good thing to have. The filing cabinet is in the "Great Room" where we have the general meetings. Put your information for the filing cabinet in file folders that are marked with the contents. The cost of copies of the programs is getting expensive. It was suggested that copies could be made at 10 cents a page. Carolyn suggested that we have disposable cameras for the committee chairmen to take pictures of their events. Mary Martin, County Coordinator, could take pictures of the bus trips to the library. Wanda Yelverton, Hospitality, could take pictures of the snack suppers. Dick Warren could take pictures. Doug and Polly Wilson, Member Services, could take pictures of their study groups. The price of a camera is \$3.99 for 24 exposures. There would also be the cost of developing. Carolyn Hellen made a motion to purchase cameras. Dick Warren seconded the motion. We can make pictures with our own cameras to turn in for the scrapbook. Neil asked how many cameras we need; Carolyn said that the chairman would need to determine this. Lowell Brigham is the photographer, and he will be taking pictures of the meetings. We called for a vote to purchase disposable cameras. There were 7 for, 1 opposed, and 6 abstentions. (14 members were present)

3. Mary Martin, County Coordinator, reported that there were 7 people who rode the county bus to Clayton Library on Wednesday, October 1. Carolyn Hellen said that there were 8 other members from BAGS who did not ride with us. Clayton Library wants to know how many people come from groups. The next bus trip will be on Wednesday, November 5. A sign-up sheet for this trip was passed around.
4. Resa Hennings, Quarterly Editor, reported that the Quarterly is ready to be printed. She needs more queries, family stories, and histories. Resa has a poem about Christopher Columbus' mother, Susana Fontana Rosa that she can put in the Quarterly. Carolyn Hellen asked if we have a sharing with other societies.
5. Leo Waltz, Webmaster, reported that the website is where to go for news. The main page is not updated as often as the member page. He asked when do we make public the newsletter? Only members are e-mailed the link to the current newsletter. Leo asked Doug Wilson if the By-Laws are complete in the Yearbook. Leo asked that we let him know what we want for the name on e-mail forwards. We don't have to tell people our e-mail ID. Tell what you want for an e-mail account and it will be an alias. Click on president, etc. and it will go to that person. Leo can delete this if we have a problem with the e-mail address. E-mailed newsletters and mailed newsletters are different people working on them.
6. Dick Warren reported on the upcoming programs. October 26, Marje Harris will do a program-providing problem solving techniques in her talk "Stepping Back in Time. November 30, Don Pusch will tell us how he got lost in the French Navy while researching an East-Texas Grandma. December 28, Wanda Yelverton will coordinate our annual Holiday Party. Dick is arranging a surprise for this event. January 25, Robert de Berardinis will tell us about "Louisiana Genealogy". February 29, Wolfram Von Maszewski will provide tips on "German Research based on the Clayton Collection. March 28, Margie Lowe will do a program on "Genealogy Research using Native American Indian Records. April 25, Loretta "Tommy" Burns will show us "Finding Aids for our Confederate Ancestors. May 30, Irene Walters will do a program on "Researching in New York. July 25, Gayle Workman will do a program on "Railroads, Newspapers & City Directories. August 29, we will have our traditional meeting when the BAGS members provide a covered dish supper and share some of their personal genealogy projects. The June meeting is not confirmed yet.
7. Claudia Grafton, Newsletter Editor, is trying to get together with her staff. November 8, 2003 is the deadline for the next newsletter. Claudia's e-mail address was not correct on the BAGS CONTACT LIST. Her correct address is: [claudiamg@ev1.net](mailto:claudiamg@ev1.net). Linda Carrington is helping with distribution. Leslee Fehlman mailed out 60 newsletters. Let Claudia know if you do not want your newsletter mailed. The link for newsletter e-mail was e-mailed to those who want to get it by e-mail.
8. Leona Cook, Publicity Chairman, said that she does not need to be on the Copy Doctor list of people who can make copies. She said that the old names should have been removed. The current list of people who can make copies is: Neil Miserendino, Leo Waltz, Leslee Fehlman, Carolyn Hellen, Dick Warren, and Linda Goerland. The people at Copy Doctor do not check who is on the list when copies are made there. We need to give them information as to what the print jobs were about so we can account for what we are spending. Jeanine Lawrence reported that we had nice coverage in the "League City News". The "South Shore Log" was stale information. They will be called again. The "Clear Lake Log" had current information.
9. Doug Wilson, Member Services Chairman, reported that if you could prove that you had ancestors in Texas before 1886 that you could qualify for the "Gone To Texas Pioneers Certificate". Doug said that we need some to lead 2 sessions for the rest of the year. They will be one month each. We need a minimum of 6 people for a session. Some

topics that we can have are: Effective Use of the Internet (Doug asked Leo if he could do this one.); Foreign Research on Irish, German, and British Isles Ancestors; Native American Research; Use of Government Archives, National Archives, Library of Congress, and Court Systems; Creative Writing; and Interviewing and Scrap booking.

10. Jeanine Lawrence, Meeting Room Coordinator, reported that we had 105 people at the September meeting, 84 members and 21 visitors. The October 26 meeting will be in the "Chapel". Jeanine had a copy of the September 25 "League City News". Leona Cook sends her information to Judy Munley, and we can send her pictures. We could send people a note thanking them for coming to the meeting. These could be pre-printed notes on cards. Jeanine handed out a list of local genealogy groups. Jeanine thought that we could sell a list of websites that she has a copy of for 50 cents to make money for the Society.

Neil Miserendino wants us to send him what we want put on the agenda by Friday before the general meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mary Leonard Martin*

Mary Leonard Martin  
Recording Secretary