



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

P.O. Box 891447
Houston, TX 77289-1447

Volume 2, Issue No. 6

February 2003

The Other Half of the Story: Researching Your Female Ancestors

At our February meeting, experienced genealogist and native Houstonian Emily Croom will share with us her presentation, "The Other Half of the Story: Researching Your Female Ancestors." As you know if you've spent much time in genealogy, it can be very difficult to identify a wife's maiden name and family line. Most historical and genealogical records are built around men. Emily will be sharing tips and research aids to help overcome this problem and to locate links to our female ancestors.

Emily's resume is quite impressive. She majored in history, graduating with a BA from Texas Tech and an MA from the University of Houston. She has many years of experience as a classroom history teacher and as a public speaker for genealogy societies, workshops, and seminars.

Emily has been actively involved in genealogy research for over 30 years. She is a member of several genealogical societies, including the Houston Genealogical Forum and Clayton Library Friends, where she is currently serving on the Board of Directors.

Sharing the knowledge she has gained is not new to Emily. She has written several books and is a contributing author for *Family Tree Magazine* and other periodicals. Some of her publications include: *Unpuzzling Your Past: A Basic Guide to Genealogy*, which is used as a textbook in genealogy



Emily Croom will be
February's Speaker.

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From the President

by Carolyn Traweek Hellen



My heart was full to overflowing when I saw the number of people at the Super Bowl Sunday genealogy meeting. I was afraid that there

would be so few people that Don Pusch would wonder why he was there, but I was wonderfully mistaken. I'm sure that many of those who stayed home to watch that one-sided game wished they had been at the meeting instead, and they sure missed a treat.

As usual, Don gave an excellent presentation. He is so knowledgeable and presents his information in such a clear way that it is always a pleasure to hear him. His subject on ways to get around the missing 1890 census was both interesting and helpful. If you weren't there and would like to have a copy of the handout, see Jeanine Lawrence. Along with everything else she does for the society, she maintains copies of all the past handouts.

I had an interesting experience this week concerning genealogy. Someone found my name and the surnames I research by looking at our BAGS website. This person sent me a message that she had been engaged to prepare a home for an estate sale. Among the items was a box of genealogy materials on the Traweeks. She asked

if I would like for her to send it to me. The home was in Beaumont, so I decided that a Saturday drive to Beaumont would be a lot faster way to obtain the information. When I picked it up, I found that there was a lot of information on the descendants of Francis L. Traweek (b. 1800), giving names and dates that I did not have. Francis L. was the brother of my great, great grandfather. His son, Dunstan B. Traweek (b. 1844), settled in Nacogdoches. I was very thrilled that this lady had taken the time to contact someone who might like to have the information. It would have been very easy to just dispose of it, as she was no relation to the family. You certainly never know what the new day will bring -- the joys and the tragedies.

Our trip to Beaumont was delayed for a couple of hours because of the terrible tragedy that we heard about on the television as we were preparing to leave. The Clear Lake area and our society deeply mourn the deaths of our seven neighbors who lost their lives in the Columbia Space Shuttle disaster. We send out our thoughts and prayers to their families and to our members who will be dealing with the accident during the coming days and weeks. We will have a moment of silence at our February meeting in their memory.

See you at the next meeting,

Carolyn

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Layout, Linda Carrington
Proofreader, Carole Varnado
Distribution, Linda Coltharp, Flo Cox, and Donna Maloney



Committee News



Hospitality

Leslee Fehlman, Chairman

Many thanks to the following members who brought refreshments to the January meeting: Mary Engeling, Ann Little, Judy Mayfield, Dianah Miller, Geri Smith, Bonnie Conrad, Phyllis Wall, and Alice Braud-Jones. The sandwiches that were left over were taken to Bay Area Turning Point (needy ladies and their children). Some of you left your food containers. They will be brought to the next meeting. Please come by the kitchen to pick them up.

Quarterly

Resa Hennings, Editor

The "Quarterly" is in need of original articles, research tips, family histories, anecdotes, and queries. We especially need queries. Please send your material to me at 439 Bayou View Drive, El Lago, Texas 77586 or by email to resa@resa.us.

Registrar's Report

**Neil Miserendino,
Registrar**

MEMBERSHIP	
NAME	_____
DEPARTMENT	_____
SIGNATURE	_____

As of January 18, 2003, BAGS has a total of 190 members.

Proposed Change in By-Laws

At our next general meeting, on February 23, a vote will be taken on a proposed change to the by-laws. This proposal is regarding Article IV, Section 8, the position of historian as an elected officer. It is recommended by the board that this position be changed from an elected position to an appointed chairmanship. The job of historian is that of a committee chairman. In order to be consistent with the fact that the other committee chairmen are appointed, not elected, this change would seem appropriate. Be there on February 23 to vote on this matter.

Payment for Holiday Party

Did you make a reservation for this year's holiday party? If you made a reservation and were unable to attend, you still need to pay for the number of reservations you made. We had 104 reservations, but only 86 people paid. The society was required to pay the catering company for the other 18 reservations. Even though those people did not attend, the food they reserved was prepared.

We respectfully request that you send your check to the address on the membership form in this newsletter. Please write *"holiday party"* on the memo line of the check. Thank you.

Researching Foreign Records for Your Five-Generation Chart

by Neil Miserendino

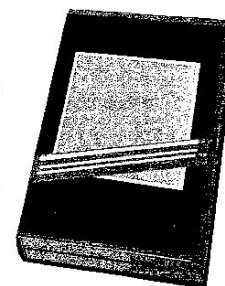
The style for this month's article on researching your five-generation chart will be different from the past months' articles. This month, I will discuss researching records that are in foreign languages.

First, you should realize that you do not have to learn the whole language. This is the good news. The bad news is that you may have to learn to read the alphabet as it is written in the foreign language. Remember that like English, German and other foreign languages have four forms for each letter. The four forms are: the printed lower case, the printed upper case, the written lower case, and the written upper case. At first, it may take hours or days to decipher a single document. However, if persistent, you will eventually learn to extract the important genealogical information from a document in a few minutes.

There are some research tools that can aid your foreign research: 1) A guide, if it exists, for genealogical research for the country you are researching, 2) A translation key, if available, for common documents for that country, 3) An alphabet chart for that language, 4) An international or national phone book, and 5) An international or national map.

To obtain a guide for the country you are researching, you can consult the latest *Everton's Handybook for Genealogists* or visit the closest Family History Center of the Mormon Church. A translation for common documents for your country can be found at Clayton library or at a Family History Center. The alphabet for some

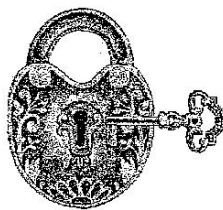
European languages can be found at the website: www.rtrfoundation.org/archdta.html. I have used www.escapeartist.com/global/telephone.htm to look up names in foreign countries. (This website is in English - other websites are in the native language.) Maps may be found at libraries or in foreign travel guides. Foreign travel guides can be in printed form or published on the internet.



The Other Half of the Story, continued from page 1

classes around the country, and its companion workbook, *The Unpuzzling Your Past Workbook: Essential Forms and Letters for All Genealogists; The Sleuth Book for Genealogists: Strategies for More Successful Family History Research; The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook; and A Genealogist's Guide to Discovering Your African-American Ancestors*, with co-author Franklin Smith. These books are available from Emily or from your local bookstore. Two of them, *Unpuzzling Your Past* and *The Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook*, were chosen by Readers Digest and Book-of-the-Month Club as book offerings.

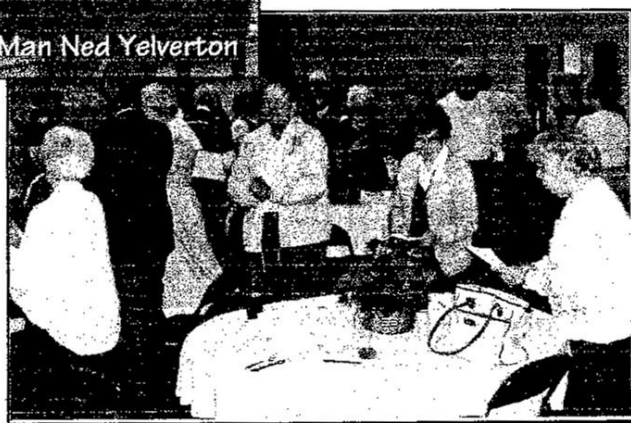
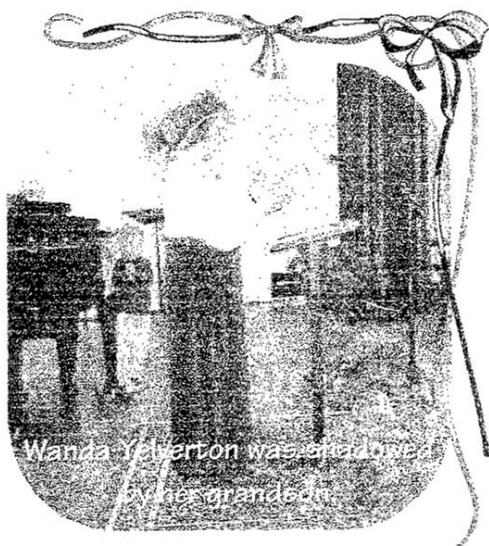
Emily Croom's presentation on February 23rd will assist those of us who are trying to trace our female lines. Be sure to take advantage of this great opportunity to come and benefit from the knowledge and experience that she has to share.



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 2000 1000 500 250 125 62.5 31.25 15.625 7.8125 3.90625 1.953125 0.9765625 0.48828125 0.244140625 0.1220703125 0.06103515625 0.030517578125 0.0152587890625 0.00762939453125 0.003814697265625 0.0019073486328125 0.00095367431640625 0.000476837158203125 0.0002384185791015625 0.00011920928955078125 0.000059604644775390625 0.0000298023223876953125 0.00001490116119384765625 0.000007450580596923828125 0.0000037252902984619140625 0.00000186264514923095703125 0.000000931322574615478515625 0.0000004656612873077392578125 0.00000023283064365386962890625 0.000000116415321826934814453125 0.0000000582076609134674072265625 0.00000002910383045673370361328125 0.000000014551915228366851806640625 0.0000000072759576141834259033203125 0.00000000363797880709171295166015625 0.000000001818989403545856475830078125 0.0000000009094947017729282379150390625 0.00000000045474735088646411895751953125 0.000000000227373675443232059478759765625 0.0000000001136868377216160297393798828125 0.00000000005684341886080801486968994140625 0.000000000028421709430404007434844970703125 0.0000000000142108547152020037174224853515625 0.00000000000710542735760100185871124267578125 0.000000000003552713678800500929355621337890625 0.0000000000017763568394002504646778106689453125 0.00000000000088817841970012523233890533447265625 0.000000000000444089209850062616169452667236328125 0.0000000000002220446049250313080847263336181640625 0.00000000000011102230246251565404236316680908203125 0.000000000000055511151231257827021181583404541015625 0.0000000000000277555756156289135105907917022705078125 0.00000000000001387778780781445675529539585113525390625 0.000000000000006938893903907227877647697925567626953125 0.0000000000000034694469519536139388238489627838134765625 0.00000000000000173472347597680696941192448139190673828125 0.000000000000000867361737988403484705962240695953369140625 0.0000000000000004336808689942017423529811203479766845703125 0.00000000000000021684043449710087117649056017398834228515625 0.000000000000000108420217248550435588245280086994171142578125 0.0000000000000000542101086242752177941226400434970855712890625 0.00000000000000002710505431213760889706132002174854278564453125 0.000000000000000013552527156068804448530660010874271392822265625 0.000000000000000006776263578034402224265330005437135646411328125 0.0000000000000000033881317890172011121326650027185678232056640625 0.00000000000000000169406589450860055606633250135928391160283203125 0.000000000000000000847032947254300278033166250679641955801416015625 0.0000000000000000004235164736271501390165831253398209779007080078125 0.00000000000000000021175823681357506950829156266991048895035400390625 0.000000000000000000105879118406787534754145781334955244475177001953125 0.0000000000000000000529395592033937673770728906674776222375885009765625 0.00000000000000000002646977960169688368853644533373881111879425048828125 0.000000000000000000013234889800848441794266822666869405559397125244140625 0.0000000000000000000066174449004242208971334113334347027796985626220703125 0.00000000000000000000330872245021211044856670566671735138984928131103515625 0.000000000000000000001654361225106055224283352833358675694924640655517578125 0.0000000000000000000008271806125530276121416764166793378474623203277587890625 0.00000000000000000000041359030627651380607083820833966892373116016387939453125 0.000000000000000000000206795153138256903035419104169834461865580081939697265625 0.0000000000000000000001033975765691284515177095520849172309327900409698486328125 0.00000000000000000000005169878828456422575885477604245861546639502048492431640625 0.000000000000000000000025849394142282112879427388021229307733197510242462158203125 0.0000000000000000000000129246970711410564397136940106146538665987551212310791015625 0.00000000000000000000000646234853557052821985684700530732693329937756061553955078125 0.000000000000000000000003231174267785264109928423502653663466649688780307769775390625 0.0000000000000000000000016155871338926320549642117513268317333248443901538848876953125 0.0000000000000000000000008077935669463160274821058756634158

1. *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*) is the primary photosynthetic pigment in most plants and algae. It is a green pigment that absorbs light energy in the blue and red regions of the visible spectrum.

Holiday Party December 29, 2002



Bay Area Genealogical Society Membership Form

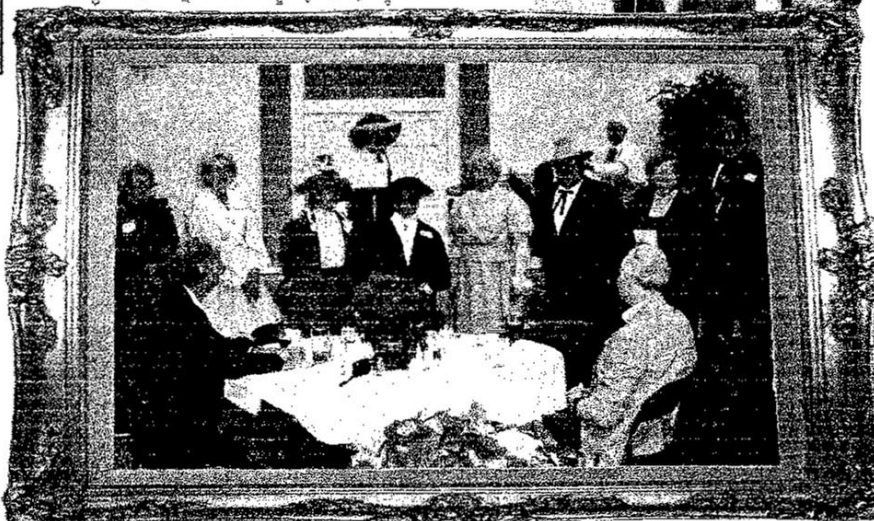
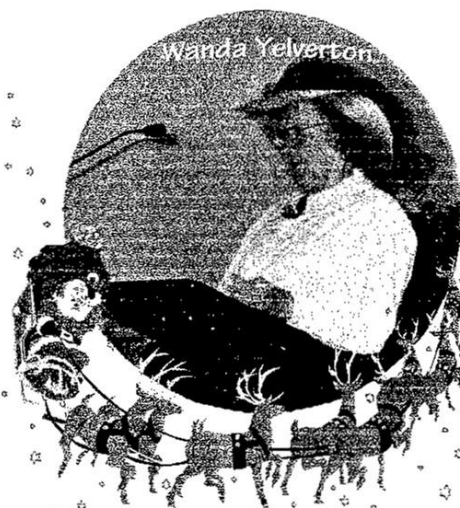
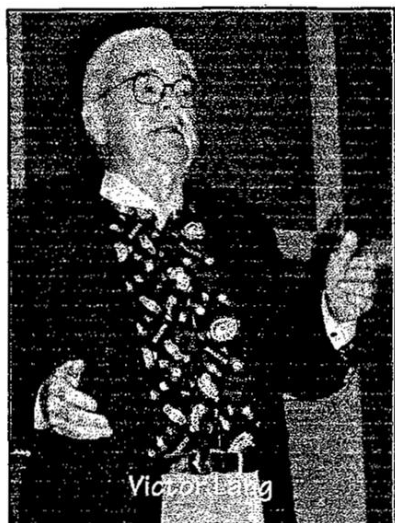
If you are interested in joining the Bay Area Genealogical Society, please fill out this form and send it with your check for \$10 for full-time student, \$20 for individual, \$25 for family, or \$30 for businesses and organizations. Make your check payable to **Bay Area Genealogical Society** and send to: Registrar, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447. If you have any questions about the society, please call our president, Carolyn Hellen at 281-486-0406. ☐ Check here for Renewal

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

with Victor Lang, Performer



Upcoming Events Calendar

Feb. 23, 2002 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church
Mar. 24, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
Mar. 30, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church
Apr. 21, 2002 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
Apr. 27, 2002 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church
May 19, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
May 25, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church
June 23, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church

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Houston, TX 77289-1447



Next Meeting

Date: February 23, 2003
Time: 5:00 P.M.
Place: University Baptist Church Great Room
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston
Speaker: Emily Croom
Subject: The Other Half of the Story: Researching Your
Female Ancestors

This newsletter is a monthly publication of the Bay Area Genealogical Society. All officers are volunteers. Articles on genealogy are most welcome. Inclusion is based on space available and material is subject to editing. Mail submissions to: BAGS, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447 or email to tfrey99@hotmail.com.

We are on the Web!

Check out the BAGS website at:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txbags/baygen.html>.



**Deadline for
March Issue is
March 8, 2002**