



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 2, Issue No. 7

March 2003

Using Technology to Share Your Records

At our meeting on March 30th, Dan Cochran, a native of Nevada, will give a program on how to use GEDCOM files to pass our information along to others. With the significant changes in genealogical research over the last five years, plus the impact the computer and the Internet have made on genealogy, it makes sense for us to harness this new technology and make it work in tandem with our research.

Dan and his wife Jeannine celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary this year. They have eight children and one grandchild and have lived in this area since 1990. Dan has a bachelor's degree in manufacturing engineering technology and a master's degree in computer-aided manufacturing. He is currently employed as a management consultant.

A love of genealogy was instilled in Dan at an early age while visiting his grandfather in Oregon on summer vacations. As a young teenager, he would listen to his grandfather talk for hours each evening about their ancestors and family history. Dan's grandfather did genealogy research for 40 years, and when he died, he passed the torch to his grandson.



Being technically inclined and having an affinity for computers, Dan feels he was born at just the right time, the dawn of the personal computer revolution. With his professional training, understanding of computers, and deep interest in genealogy, Dan has developed unique talents which are valuable to the genealogical community.

To take advantage of his skill, knowledge, and ability to communicate with others, attend the next meeting of the society on March 30th, at 5pm, at University Baptist Church, 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Clear Lake City.

In This Issue:

- 2 From the President
 - 3 Committee News
 - 5 German Research
 - 7 Upcoming Events
Calendar
-

From the President

by Carolyn Traweek Hellen



I hope some of you will be taking advantage of one of the programs that will soon be available to help you with your research and expand your skills.

The ongoing public programs on "The Texas Revolution," sponsored by Texas A & M University at Galveston, are interesting historical information even if none of your relatives were in Texas that early. There are two programs left. On March 26th, Gregg Cantrell will be speaking on Stephen F. Austin, and on April 9th, Archie McDonald's topic will be William B. Travis and the Alamo.

I have never researched in Texas because my family settled in Alabama. Four generations are buried there in the same cemetery. However, I recently was told that if your ancestor did anything to aid in the settlement of Texas, you would be eligible to join the Daughters of the Republic of Texas. This is something that some of you might find useful.

On Saturday, April 12th, the Alexander Hodge Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is sponsoring a Genealogy Fair at the Sugar Land Community Center from 10 am until 4 pm. We need volunteers to help man our table. If you are willing to do this, contact Dick Warren, who will

be chairing this event. The event is free, and most of the societies from around Houston will be represented. They have nearly 50 groups signed up so far. This is your chance to learn about these societies and how you can become a part of them. One of the main reasons for joining the different societies is to get copies of your papers distributed to official holding institutions in Washington D. C., Richmond, Virginia, etc. This way your lineage will be available to those who need it long after you are gone.

On April 25-26, the Louisiana Genealogical and Historical Society is sponsoring a conference of genealogy honoring the Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial. For information, go to their website, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~la-lghs/seminar.htm>. This will be especially helpful for those researching in Louisiana because there is so little available from that state.

The San Jacinto Historical Advisory Board is sponsoring two events in April. On Friday, April 25th, the third annual Battle of San Jacinto symposium entitled "San Jacinto: A chapter in U. S. - Mexico Relations" will be held. This begins at 9 am and continues with five speakers until 4 pm at the Houston Club in downtown Houston. On Saturday April 26th, the San Jacinto

Continued on page 3

BAGS Officers

President, Carolyn Hellen	281-486-0406	CRHellen@worldnet.att.net
1st Vice President, Resa Hennings	281-326-4936	resa@resa.us
2nd Vice President, Dick Warren	281-461-1472	dick@merlins-web.com
Corresponding Sec., Tammy Frey	281-286-1486	tfrey99@hotmail.com
Treasurer, Dottie Crabb	281-326-4076	dotcrabb2@juno.com
Registrar, Neil Miserendino	281-286-8243	psrambling@aol.com

BAGS Newsletter Staff

Managing Editor, Tammy Frey
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 February meeting: Carolyn Dubois, Marvin Nottbohm, Joan Marie Homann, Dennis Rohlfing, Hattie McKinley, Carol O'Neal, Katie Perry, and Paula Sinning. The food was delicious and appreciated by all!

Trips to Libraries Planned

Mary Martin, County Coordinator

Four trips have been planned for BAGS members, 55 years and older, to local libraries. We will meet in the Clear Lake Courthouse Annex parking lot at 16603 Buccaneer and travel via the Harris County bus. We will depart for the libraries at 9:00 am. We will leave the libraries at 3:00 pm and plan to be back in the Annex parking lot at about 4:00 pm.

These are the trips that have been scheduled: Monday, March 31, 2003 to Clayton Library, Wednesday, April 30, 2003 to Clayton Library, Monday, June 30, 2003 to George Memorial Library at 1001 Golfview Drive in Richmond, and Tuesday, July 29, 2003 to Clayton Library.

There will be a sign-up sheet for all the trips on the table in the back of the room at the monthly general meetings. Call Mary Martin at 281-332-2435 if you would like to sign up or have any questions.

Membership Report

Neil Miserendino, Registrar

Our BAGS membership total is now 200 members!

Quarterly

Resa Hennings, Editor

Please submit your original articles, research tips, family histories, anecdotes, and queries for publication in the Quarterly. Send them to Resa Hennings, 439 Bayou View Drive, El Lago, TX 77586, or by email to resa@resa.us.

From the President Continued from page 2

Commemoration at the San Jacinto Battleground will begin at 10 am. For more information on this event call 281-496-1488 or fax 281-558-5876.

For more learning opportunities, please see the "Upcoming Genealogical Events" article on page 4.

Don't miss your opportunity to learn from an expert about how to share your computer genealogy files at our next meeting on March 30th. I'll look forward to seeing you there!

Carolyn

Elderhostel Genealogy Classes



There is a training opportunity at Salt Lake City open to people age 55 and over. Elderhostel is sponsoring genealogy courses at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels in August and September. There will be lots of time for research in the world's largest genealogical library. Costs are moderate; meals and housing are included.

See the *Elderhostel Discover America* catalog for July-September 2003 at your branch library for cost and registration information. Or, you can contact Polly or Doug Wilson for details: (281)-326-3823 or douglaswilson3@cs.com.

Upcoming Genealogical Events

Houston Genealogical Forum Spring Seminar Featuring John Humphrey; April 5, 2003 in Houston, Texas. Call 713-968-9750.

Louisiana Purchase Bicentennial Conference on Genealogy; April 25-26, 2003 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Go to <http://www.rootsweb.com/~la-lghs/seminar.htm>.

London Society of Genealogists (SOG) Family History Fair; May 3-4, 2003 in Westminster, London, United Kingdom. Go to <http://www.sog.org.uk/events/fair.html>.

National Genealogical Society – Conference in the States; May 28-31, 2003 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and May 27-30, 2004 in Sacramento, California. Call 1-800-473-0060 or go to <http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/conf.htm>.



Everton's Research Retreat; Apr. 28 - May 4, 2003 in Salt Lake City, Utah. Call 1-800-443-6325 or go to <http://www.everton.com/retreat/research-form>.

Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (IGHR) at Samford University; June 8-13, 2003 in Birmingham, Alabama. Call 1-205-726-2198 or go to <http://www.Samford.edu/schools/ighr/ighr.html>.

British Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research (BIGHR); June 29 - July 21, 2003 in England and Ireland. Call: 1-205-726-2198 or go to <http://www.samford.edu/schools/ighr/bighr03.htm>.

Continued on Page 5

German Research

by Neil Miserendino



Because German genealogical research is such a large topic, I can only touch on the search for German records. During or after the years Napoleon Bonaparte ruled France, many states in Europe started keeping records of births, deaths, and marriages. If you already know which locality your ancestors are from, the copies of the civil records for that area which are available in America should be searched.

That is the good news. The bad news is that untold numbers of records were destroyed in the various European wars of the past few centuries. For example, your German ancestors may have departed from various ports outside of Germany, but chances are, the majority of German emigrants left from the ports of Hamburg or Bremen. In fact, these two German ports were major disembarkation points for many other European emigrants as well. After you have done research in the U.S. to find the approximate dates your ancestors arrived in America, you will be ready to research the Hamburg records. Unfortunately, because the port records for Bremen were destroyed during World War II, if your ancestor departed from that port, you will need to find the town they left. Then you can access that town's civil or church records.

The Church records include baptisms, marriages, burials, and some family registers. To learn what research paths to pursue, you should consider joining one of the many German genealogical societies in



America. Here are three of the societies: Southern California Genealogical Society, 417 Irving Drive, Burbank, CA 91504-2408; Immigrant Genealogical Society, PO Box 7369, Burbank, CA 91510-7369; German Genealogical Society, PO Box 16312, St. Paul, MN 55116-0312.

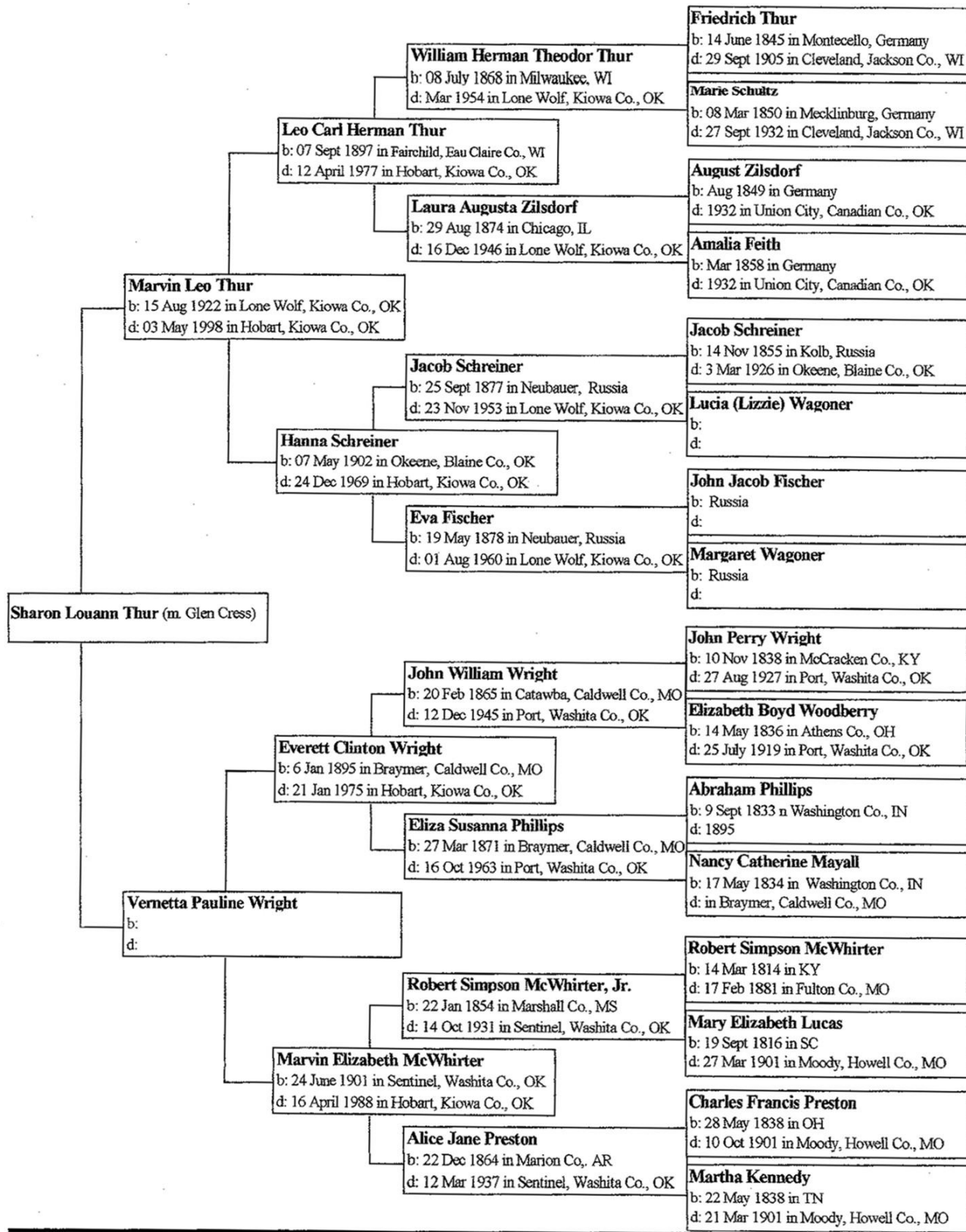
Upcoming Genealogical Events continued from page 4

Genealogical Institute of Mid America (GIMA); July 7-11, 2003 in Springfield, Illinois. Go to <http://www.rootdig.com/gima.html>.

Angelina College Genealogy Conference; July 24-26, 2003 in Lufkin, Texas. Call 1-936-633-5206 or email fskanke@angelina.edu.

Federation of Genealogical Studies; September 3-6, 2003 in Orlando, Florida and September 8-11, 2004 in Austin, Texas. Call 1-888-FGS-1500 or go to fgs-office@fgs.org.

Ancestors of Sharon Louann Thur (Cress)



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: _____

Items for a Genealogy Trip or Reunion by Carolyn Hellen

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) Ancestor Chart | 9) Extra light bulb and a light bulb shield |
| 2) Something to Share (Family Group Sheets, copies of your ancestor chart etc.) | 10) Cheater plug |
| 3) Blank Family Group Sheets with your address on them | 11) Extension cord |
| 4) Camera with extra film | 12) Caulk - corn meal or flour for tombstones |
| 5) Tape Recorder with plenty of blank tapes | 13) Whisk broom or short handle squeegee to rake over the top of flour, etc. so the carving will show up |
| 6) Batteries for the camera and tape recorder | 14) Hand clippers for cutting briars and brambles |
| 7) Non-glare glass for placing over photographs you want to copy | 15) Old shoes or waders |
| 8) Manila folder on which to place the photos to be copied | 16) Long sleeve shirt to put on over good clothes |
| | 17) Plastic bags |
| | 18) Container in which to keep everything |

Upcoming Events Calendar

Mar. 30, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church

Mar. 31, 2003 Bus Trip to Clayton Library leaves at 9:00 am

Apr. 12, 2003 Genealogy Fair at Sugar Land Community Center 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Apr. 21, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church

Apr. 27, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church

Apr. 30, 2003 Bus Trip to Clayton Library leaves at 9:00 am

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

Bay Area Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 891447
Houston, TX 77289-1447



Next Meeting

Date: March 30, 2003
Time: 5:00 P.M.
Place: University Baptist Church Great Room
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston
Speaker: Dan Cochran
Subject: Using Technology to
Share Your Records



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
April Issue is
April 5, 2003