



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 2, Issue No. 10

June 2003

Virtual Research: Beyond Databases and GEDCOM Files

At our June meeting, we are fortunate to have Charlie Gardes speaking on what has become one of the most popular pastimes in the nation, Internet genealogy research. The huge growth in the interest in genealogy since 1997 has been directly attributed to the advent of the Internet. The vast amount of information available makes research easier than ever.

The problem is that not all of the information out there is accurate. Much of it is incorrect. Charlie will help us learn how to apply traditional research techniques to the Internet to find and access accurate family information. In the form of a single ancestor case study, he will take us through out-of-town libraries and special collections, university archives, federal repositories, foreign libraries, web sites, genealogy societies, bookstores, and on-line auctions. His lecture promises to be very helpful to those who are interested in quality sources available on the Internet.

Charlie, a native of New Orleans, was raised in Houston. He began actively researching his own family history in 1992, and his interest in genealogy quickly expanded. Since 1994, he has been an LDS Family History Center volunteer. That same year, he joined the Houston Genealogical Forum and has served in various capacities in that organization for the past six years. Currently, he is the Web Master, Director of Technical Services, and Co-Chair of the Group Projects Committee.

The potential of the Internet for assisting genealogy research caught Charlie's attention in 1995. Since then, he has served in a mentoring capacity on various Internet mailing lists on the Roots-Web system, assisting members with methodology problems. He has been published in the Roots-Web Review, a weekly Internet genealogy magazine.

Charlie is a well-known speaker who has lectured in the Houston area since 1998. He has spoken to many groups, including the Clayton Library



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From the President

by Carolyn Traweek Hellen



Here it is, the end of June. I can hardly believe that I have only three more meetings as your president. There seems to be so much that I wanted to get done that is still pending.

The sergeant-at-arms says it is a good thing we are moving to Alabama, or the new president would get no rest from me.

Our **nominating committee** is busy selecting candidates for next year's officers. I hope you will give the issue careful thought, and if you have a suggestion, e-mail it to the chairman of the committee, Ron Cox at ronaldcox@att.net. Shirley Lindquist, Valerie Horn, Mary Martin and Resa Hennings are on his committee. I'm sure that any suggestions will be greatly appreciated.

Our trip to the **George Memorial Library** in Richmond is on the Monday after the general meeting. I hope you are planning to go with us. I don't have any ancestors from Texas, but I understand that the library resources focus on the history of the South and that certainly fits my requirements. The library also has information on the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Federal census, and the War Between the States, plus other interesting material. If you plan to go, see Mary Martin at the meeting. Don't forget to pack a lunch. They will provide a place for us to eat together.

Just a reminder, I still go to **Clayton Library** every Tuesday at 9:00 am. Any one interested is invited to ride with me; just call me by Monday.

There is so much lined up for the rest of the year that if you attend everything, you will certainly stay busy with all the seminars, classes,

and trips that are planned. I hope you take the time to become involved in some of these events. The more you learn about genealogy, the easier your research will be.

Congratulations to our Second Vice President, Dick Warren. He has been elected to a position as one of the Directors of Clayton Library Friends. We are proud of Dick and know that he will be an asset to that group, just as he is to our society.

As of this writing, I still have the cast on my foot as a result of falling off a ladder while working on the restoration of our home in Alabama. At least it proves I do work.

See you at the next meeting!

Carolyn

Virtual Research Continued From Page 1

Friends, The Houston Genealogical Forum, the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, various chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Bear Creek Genealogical Society, and the LDS Baytown Family History Center.

Don't miss this opportunity to hear an outstanding speaker and to learn more about how to effectively use the resources available to us on the Internet! Be there on June 29th!



Genealogy's theory of relativity: If you go back far enough, we're all related.

BAGS Officers

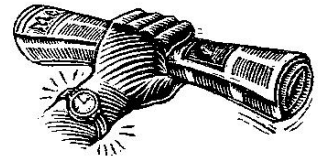
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Donna Maloney



Committee News



Hospitality

Leslee Fehlman, Hospitality Chairman

The following people brought refreshments to the May 25th BAGS general meeting: Roy Hellen, Shirley Lindquist, Betty Ratcliff, Polly and Douglas Wilson, Linda Carrington, Doreen Brubaker, and Dottie Crab. Thank you all very much. I was unable to attend the meeting, so Betty Ratcliff graciously agreed to be Hospitality Chairman for this meeting, which was appreciated by all.

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.

Summer County Bus Trips Planned

Mary Martin, Coordinator

On **Monday, June 30, 2003**, we will take our trip to the **George Memorial Library in Richmond, TX**. In addition to the holdings mentioned in the previous newsletter, this library also has: DAR lineage books and indexes, family histories, immigration records (passenger lists), local histories for the southeastern U.S., periodicals (genealogical, historical and family publications), a special collection of the Czech Heritage Society of Texas, Texas Bureau of Vital Statistics: birth and death indexes, and newspapers (Fort Bend County only, starting with

1911). We will meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 1651 Diana Street and depart in the Harris County Bus at 9:00 a.m. We will leave the George Memorial Library at 3:00 p.m. and arrive back at the community association at around 4:00 p.m.

Our last trip planned will be to the **Clayton Library on Tuesday, July 29, 2003**. There will be a sign up sheet for all trips on the table in the back of the meeting room at the monthly general meetings. Call Mary Martin at (281) 332-2435 if you would like to sign up for a trip or have any questions.

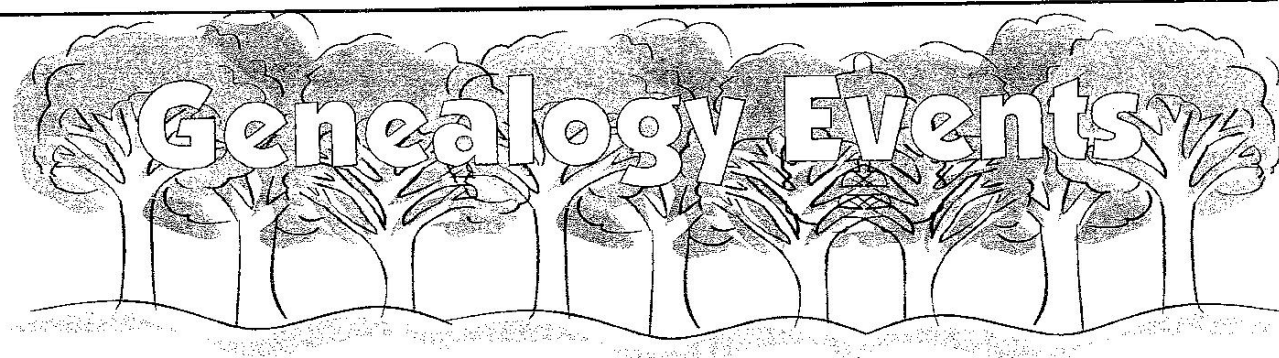
Trip to Salt Lake City

The board of directors voted to sponsor a genealogical research trip to Salt Lake City around the middle of January. If you **think** you might be interested, please let Carolyn Hellen know so you can be contacted when the details are available.

We plan to leave Houston on a Monday and return on a Saturday. Hotel rooms at the Holiday Inn downtown are \$45.00 per room and they have two queen size beds. The Holiday Inn will provide transportation to and from the airport and Temple Square. However, we aren't committed to any hotel at the moment if you know of a better rate.

Depending on any advertised special promotions, the airfare will be between \$200 and \$400 per person round trip. The people at the *Family History Magazine* have invited us to visit their facilities. Sightseeing will be done on your own with no special events planned. Most genealogists who go to Salt Lake City prefer to spend their time at the library.

If you are interested, you can contact Carolyn Hellen at 281-486-0406 or crhellen@att.net.



Walker County Genealogical Society Sponsoring Fair

Walker County Genealogical Society is sponsoring a Genealogy and Family History Fair on June 28th, the day before our next meeting, in Huntsville, Texas. The first speaker, Johnnie Joe Dickenson, will begin at 10:30 a.m., speaking on the topic "Basic Genealogy." At 12:30 pm, Emily Croom will speak on "Brick Walls," and at 2:30 p.m., Lynna Kay Shuffield will talk on "Cemetery Preservation."

The registration fee is \$8.00 and will include admission to these talks. For information, contact them at info@DickensonResearch.com. BAGS will have a table there to sell our Surname Database books and publicize our society.

Moore Memorial Library Sponsoring Seminar

The Moore Memorial Library in Texas City is sponsoring a genealogical seminar on September 13th due to a grant they received. John A. Sellars will conduct the seminar with assistance from the Texas City Genealogical Society. The seminar will be held at the Charles T. Doyle Convention Center from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Sellars is a noted speaker and a fifth generation native of Hopkins County, Texas, where he is a current and past officer in the genealogy society. Discounted tickets will be available until July 15th. Information will be available at the next meeting or contact Berylyn Bazzoon at (409) 949-3008.

Angelina Conference

The 7th Annual Angelina College Genealogy Conference will be Friday and Saturday, July 25th and 26th at the college in Lufkin, Texas. Michael John Neill will conduct a pre-conference workshop on Thursday, July 24th, using the Deedmapper Computer software program, a program that analyzes old grants, deed, surveys and claims. Speakers include John A. Sellers, Trevia Beverly, Bob Bowman, Pat Gordon, Donald R. Raney, Philip Reynolds, Joel & Mary Fears, Emily Croom, and John Ippolito. For more details, e-mail fskanke@angelina.edu or abrowning@angelina.edu.

Clayton Library Friends to Sponsor Seminar

"The Cuban Papers," an unlikely name for documents pertaining to the coast of Florida and Louisiana, will be the title of the upcoming seminar presented by Clayton Library Friends on September 27th. These documents were sent to Cuba for safekeeping and have recently been acquired with the help of Robert de Berardinis, one of our favorite speakers. The seminar will be held at the George R. Brown convention center. More information will be made available as it is received.

Genealogical Research in New York, Part I

by Neil Miserendino

While there is a rich treasure trove of genealogical records for New York, I would think that our members have several obstacles in their research. The biggest problem most of the New York researchers have would be searching for ancestors in New York City. Since New York City has been the most populous city in America for such a long time, the total number of records is overwhelming. Just to find the correct ancestor, you may have to search many records on a single surname.

Not counting any records that have been destroyed, New York has many types of census records. There were colonial censuses taken every ten years beginning in the year 1690. You can access either an index or a transcript of any of the colonial censuses. New York also held state censuses about every ten years from the year 1855 to 1925. These state censuses many times have more information than the national census.

No genealogical

research in New York should overlook the records created by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). The DAR has collected more than 230 volumes of Bible records. These Bible records are best searched by using the published indexes. The DAR and others have also transcribed cemetery records. Refer to the published lists of the cemeteries that have had their records transcribed.

Many microform copies of the city directories for New York can be found at Clayton Library. Because of the potential for the same name being repeated in a number of New York records, our researchers will have to cross-reference their ancestor's names between the census, city directory, and other records just to be sure that they have found the correct ancestor.

To be continued next month...



Beginners' Class Starting

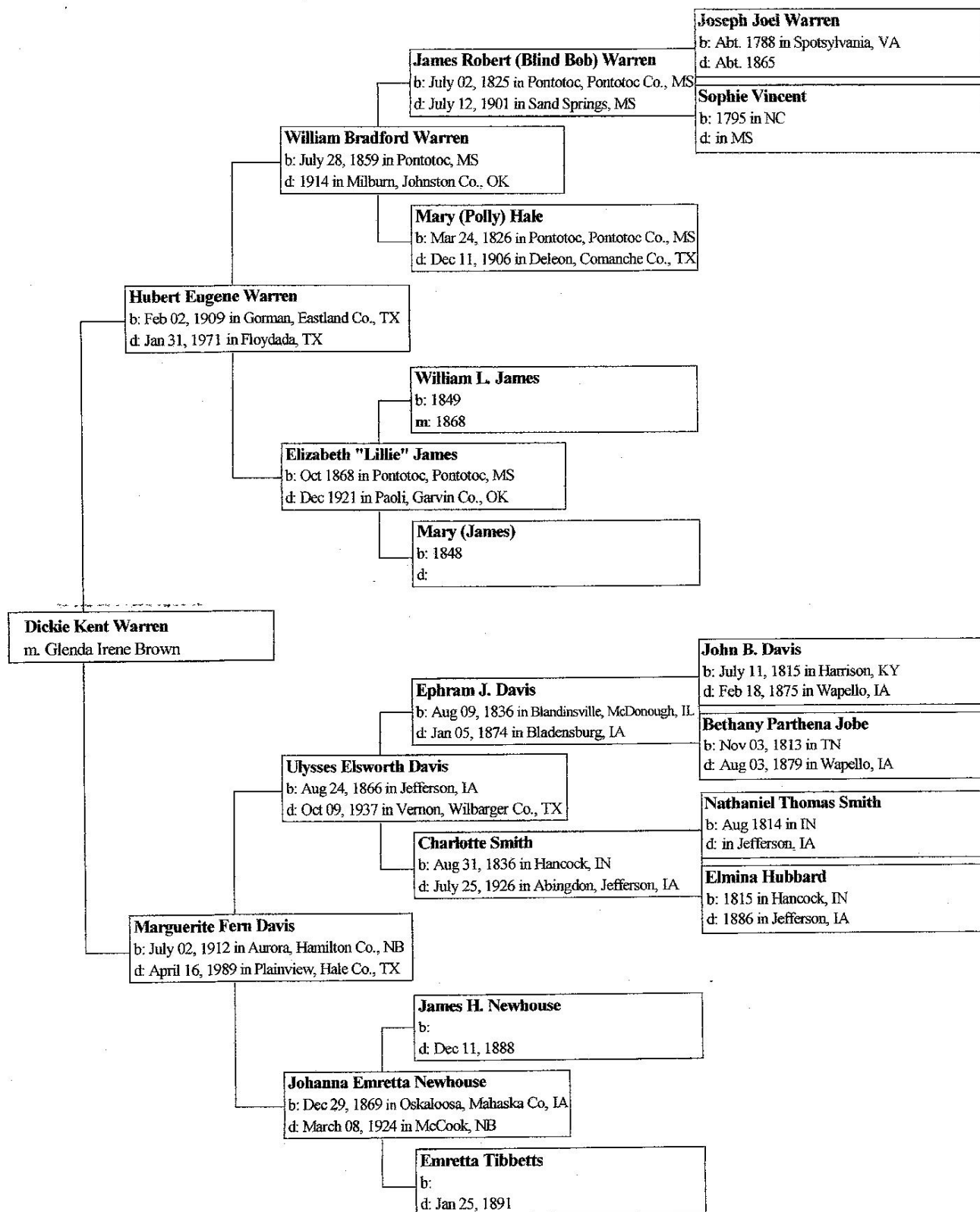
BAGS will sponsor a series of beginners' genealogy classes, taught by BAGS President Carolyn Hellen, starting June 29th in room L209 at University Baptist Church. There will be a \$5.00 registration fee. Cash or check will be accepted. Checks should be made out to the Bay Area Genealogical Society. The class will run every Sunday afternoon from 2 until 4 PM.

Subjects to be discussed will include organization, the use of forms, how to fill out an ancestor chart, using Clayton Library, and how to research Mexican and Indian heritage. This will be an ongoing class as long as there is interest. You may join at any time if there is a particular subject you would like to know more about.

There will be a workbook available for \$15.00. Those of you who already have the workbook should bring it to class. A list of subjects and when they will be discussed will be available at the general meeting. If you are interested in coming to the first class, which will be at 2:00 pm the day of the meeting on June 29th, contact Doug Wilson, Member Services Chairman, at douglaswilson3@cs.com.



Ancestors of Dickie Kent Warren



Bay Area Genealogical Society Membership Form

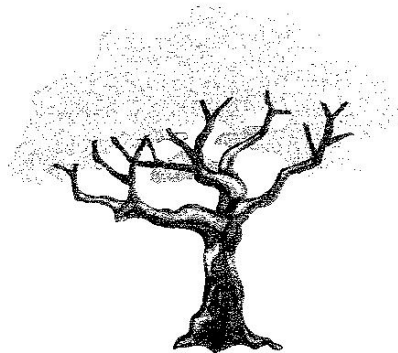
If you are interested in joining the Bay Area Genealogical Society, please fill out this form and send it with your check for \$10 for full-time student, \$20 for individual, \$25 for family, or \$30 for businesses and organizations. Make your check payable to **Bay Area Genealogical Society** and send 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: _____

*Genealogists are
like monkeys,
always in the
trees.*

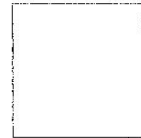


*I used to have a
life, then I
started doing
genealogy!*

Upcoming Events Calendar

- June 23, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
- June 29, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church
- June 30, 2003 Bus Trip to George Memorial Library leaves at 9:00 am
- July 21, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
- July 27, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church
- July 29, 2003 Bus Trip to Clayton Library leaves at 9:00 am
- Aug. 25, 2003 BAGS Board Meeting at 4:30 pm; University Baptist Church
- Aug. 31, 2003 BAGS General Meeting at 5:00 pm; University Baptist Church


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



Next Meeting




Date: June 29, 2003
Time: 5:00 P.M.
Place: University Baptist Church Great Room
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston
Speaker: Charlie Gardes
Houston Genealogical Forum
Subject: Virtual Research: Beyond Databases and
GEDCOM Files



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.TxBayAreaGen.org>



Deadline for
July Issue is
July 5, 2003