



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

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November 2003

"The 1758–1759 Voyage of the French flûte Fortune, or How I got lost in the French navy while researching an east-Texas grandma"



Donald E. Pusch

Donald E. "Don" Pusch is a native of Houston, currently residing in El Lago, Texas. He is a graduate of Texas A&M University (BA, math) and the Air Force Institute of Technology (BS and MS, electrical engineering). He retired as a lieutenant colonel from the US Air Force in 1986 and went on to a career in the aerospace industry, serving in various management positions with Rockwell Space Operations Company and the United Space Alliance on the Space Shuttle and Space Station programs.

Don has been very active with the Clayton Library Friends since 1991, serving as newsletter editor (1992-2001), director (1992-1993), president (2000-2001), and treasurer (2002-2003).

His primary research interests are in the French colonies of North America, the French navy of the eighteenth century, and French archival source documents.

Don's publications and presentations include: *Reflections*, the newsletter of the Founders of Natchitoches (editor 1989-1993), *The CLF Newsletter* (editor 1992-2001), *Selected Papers of Winston De Ville*. Ville Platte, Louisiana: Provincial Press, 2000 (editor), *Mississippi Valley Mélange*, vol. 4. Ville Platte, Louisiana: Provincial Press, 2000 (coeditor with Winston de Ville), "Employees of the Marine in the Colony of Louisiana, 1759." *Louisiana Genealogical Register* 47: 69-87 (September 2000), "The Capture of the Chariot Royal," *Le Réveil Acadien* 18: 79-84 (November 2002), "The French flûte Fortune and her encounter with the slave ship *Judy*." A talk given to the Paul Carrington Chapter SAR, Armed Forces Day, 2002, and *The Naval Service Dossier of Jean-François Le Large* (projected for fall 2003).

Don has in development "Convoy to Louisiana: The Log of the French flûte Fortune, 1758-1759" (a complete English translation of the Fortune's log book).

Please join us for Don's presentation at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 30, 2003.

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Thanksgiving

Message from the President **Neil Miserendino**

November is the month we celebrate Thanksgiving. Here is what we have to be thankful for:

We, as a society, are very thankful to the University Baptist Church. The use of their facilities for our meetings and classes has been a key factor in the continuing success of our organization. We have room for our members, the seating is arranged, and the multimedia equipment is prepared. We have the use of their kitchen facilities. The employees of the church are always helpful to insure our meetings are a success. They prepare all of our drinks and furnish the ice. For all of this service, we only pay for the paper products and the drinks.

There are a wide variety of community activities that are supported by the University

Baptist Church. There are Boy Scout meetings, neighborhood meetings, piano recitals, recovery group sessions, precinct voting, examinations for radio licenses, and many other events held in this church. The Bay Area Genealogical Society is certainly thankful for being a part of the community supported by the University Baptist Church.

We can be thankful for being in one of the best areas in the United States for doing genealogical research. We have the Clayton Center for Genealogical Research, the University of Houston at Clear Lake, various other university and governmental libraries, and the many local Family History Centers. In addition to having access to the internet, we are blessed by having resources that other areas of this country can only dream about.

BAGS

ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY

6:00 PM SUNDAY, December 28th, University Baptist Church

Entertainment will be provided by Eric and Glenda Sandifer
The Holiday Meal will be fully catered.

**** Advance tickets are required. No tickets will be sold at the door ****
TICKETS ARE \$10.00, AND MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS BY MAIL, SEND CHECK TO

Bay Area Genealogical Society

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

DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 12TH

FOR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Leo Waltz or Mary Carlisle

281-316-2255

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Genealogy Research in Virginia

By Neil Miserendino

For researching in Virginia, you should be able to access almost one-half million names relating to genealogical research in Virginia because of the Virginia Colonial Records Project. This project researched Virginia names in the archives of France, Ireland and Great Britain.

The index of people's names is published on the internet. You should consult the website: <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/> or go to the Library of Virginia, 800 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA, 23219, Phone: 804-692-3500. Some of the records are available through inter-library loans from the University of Virginia Library.

The federal census for the present state of Virginia exist going back to 1810, with the exceptions that 1890 was destroyed and the 1810 census does not have all of the counties, but there exist several lists of residents: A land owner list exists for 1704, and resident lists for 1624 and 1779 are published.

Because Virginia is one of the original thirteen colonies, be sure to check for any records that were transcribed by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). The DAR transcribed records include: Bible, church, marriage, death, and various other records. The DAR library is at www.dar.org/library/default.html or DAR Library, 1776 D Street, N.W., Washington, D.C 20006-5392, Phone 202-879-3229.

To obtain marriage information in the early years of Virginia, the information would most likely be found in church records. In 1780 ministers were required by law to report marriages to the county clerk so always check county records. In 1853, a law was passed that required the clerk of the county or city court to keep marriage records. Many of the marriages since 1853 are indexed and can be found in the Library of Virginia.



The National Institute on Genealogical Research (NIGR)

Washington, D.C. 11-17 July 2004

The National Institute on Genealogical Research (NIGR) in Washington, D.C. will be held at the newly renovated National Archives building in Washington D.C. and in College Park, Maryland. It offers on-site and in-depth examination of the common and less-known federal records found there. This intensive weeklong study opportunity is for experienced genealogists and for archivists, historians and librarians interested in using federal records for genealogical research. It is not an introductory course in genealogy.

The 2004 program will feature sessions on the census and records for African American, military, land, Native American, legislative and cartographic research. Additional lectures on less-frequently-used sources along with popular sessions on naturalization, citizenship, and im-

migration documents will round out the program. Attendees will spend one day at Archives II in College Park, Maryland, for presentations on records at that facility and for an opportunity to conduct research there. Evening sessions at the Local History and Genealogy Room of the Library of Congress and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Library are optional.

To facilitate direct contact between the students and the lecturers and archivists, enrollment is limited. Brochures with an application form will be mailed in early 2004. The class fills very quickly. Tuition is \$325 for applications postmarked on, or before, 15 May 2004, or \$355 for applications postmarked after that date. For more information about the 2004 program, or to obtain an application brochure, send e-mail to NatInsGen@juno.com; or write to NIGR, P.O. Box 724, Lanham, MD 20703-0724; or visit the Institute's Web site at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~natgenin/>

FURTHER NOTES ON GAZETTEERS

BAGS members have been fortunate and thankful to have had entertaining, interesting, and informative speakers at their monthly meetings. Member research can now proceed at an easier pace because of this wealth of genealogical information presented to us. At the January 2002 BAGS meeting, we heard Bruce Krewinghaus talk on how atlases, maps, and gazetteers can be an aid in genealogical research.

Remembering Bruce's talk, I did not hesitate to pick up some gazetteers being discarded from the collection of an area library. I have donated them to the BAGS genealogy section in the library at University Baptist Church. They are eight volumes of "The National Gazetteer of the United States", published by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). These volumes are the states of Arizona, Delaware, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, New Jersey, North Dakota and South Dakota. Each volume lists geographical names in alphabetical order for places, features, and areas within, or partly within each state.¹ These are names found on various maps, charts, and other published documents.² Each volume includes a glossary of common language terms used to categorize each place, feature, or area identified by a geographic name.³ Some of these terms are bay, beach, bridge, canal, church, falls, gap, glacier, harbor, island, school, spring, swamp, woods, etc.⁴

The following is an example that shows how to use a gazetteer in genealogical research. One surname I am researching is Morton. I found a reference to a tract of land "formerly taken up" by a William Morton in the State of Delaware. This tract of land was called "Cambridge" and contained 500 acres near the **Black Swamp**.

Black Swamp is listed on page 9 (DE9) of "The National Gazetteer of the United States-Delaware 1983". The information across page 9 shows the **Feature Class** is a swamp; **Status** is BGN (meaning the written form of the name has been determined by the Board of Geographic Names); **County** is Kent; **Coordinate** is 390016N0753903W; and the **Map Name** is ***Marydel***. You can now call the nearest USGS office and order a topographical map (Denver CO, 303-202-4200 or email: infoservices@usgs.gov.)

Sue McCown

You can also order the map online by starting at the USGS home page: www.usgs.gov.

- On the home page, select **Products**.
- Then, under **Mapping**, select **Topographic Maps**.
- Next, select **Finding and Ordering USGS topographic maps**.
- Under **Online search and order**, click on **Earth Explorer**
- Log on as **Guest**
- In the **Spatial Coverage** section, select **Enter Place Name**
- Next page, enter **Place Name** (Black Swamp), **State** (Delaware), **Feature Type** (swamp); then select **Search**
- **Reference Map** opens for viewing; click **Select**
- Next page, click on **Place Name** to add coordinates to **Spatial Coverage** box; when **Reference Map** opens again, click **Select** again, then click **Dismiss Window**
- Next page, under **Data Set Selection**, select **Maps**
- Under **Map Name** enter ***Marydel***; **State or Area** enter Delaware; ignore remaining criteria; then select **Search**
- At **Results Summary**, select **Maps**
- Begin the ordering and checkout process; map price is \$6.00

These steps illustrate how a gazetteer can be a quick research aid if you have a reference to a name, but you are unsure what the name is identifying – a cemetery, lake, river, school, etc. Also, maps you locate through a gazetteer make a valuable addition to all the names and dates you collect while conducting genealogical research.⁵

¹"The National Gazetteer of the United States-Delaware 1983", p. lx

²"The National Gazetteer of the United States-Delaware 1983", p. X

³"The National Gazetteer of the United States-Delaware 1983", p. xvii

⁴IBID

⁵ To view and print a map online, go to the USGS home page, select Geography. Select View Maps/Images, then select TopoZone, a USGS "Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA)" partner. At Place Name Search, enter place name, Black Swamp. On the results page, click on the place name to go to its map. At this point, you may view and print the map showing the subject of your search, Black Swamp.

Events Calendar

Unless noted otherwise, all meetings are held at
University Baptist Church (UBC)
16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX 77059
(Clear Lake City)

Monday, Nov. 24

BAGS Board* Meeting at 4:30; Room 329, UBC
* Members are encouraged to attend the Board Meetings

Sunday, Nov. 30

BAGS General Meeting at 5:00; Great Room, UBC
"The 1758–1759 Voyage of the French flûte Fortune, or How I got lost in the French navy while researching an east-Texas grandma" with Don Pusch

Friday, Dec. 12

DEADLINE TO PURCHASE HOLIDAY PARTY TICKETS

Sunday, Dec. 28

6:00: BAGS Holiday Party with program provided by Eric and Glenda Sandifer

from Neil Miserendino

Trip to Salt Lake City

A Trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City is open to all members of the Bay Area Genealogical Society and other genealogical researchers.

It is time to book your trip to Salt Lake City. The special airline prices will not last much longer!

Airline to use: Southwest

Go to the internet at www.southwest.com or call toll-free 1-800-435-9792.

Travel Dates: Arrive Wednesday February 4, 2004 and leave on Wednesday February 11, 2004.

Southwest had the \$99 fare until November 13th, so your round-trip cost would have been about \$255. That is a great price! Keep checking for discounts.

Hotel to stay at: Best Western Plaza Hotel

Call: 1-800-366-3684 Our contact at the hotel is Richard Williams. When you call identify your-

self as part of the Bay Area Genealogical Society group. Our group rate is \$79 a night for five nights with the sixth night free.

The Plaza Hotel is across the street from the Genealogical Library and only 10 minutes from the Airport. The hotel offers complimentary airport shuttle. The hotel address is 122 West South Temple, Salt Lake City.

We are planning a tour of the library at 7:00pm Wednesday February 4th. We will be ready to research Thursday Feb. 5th in the morning.

Classes to prepare:

Bay Area Genealogical Society scheduled three classes on researching at the Family History Library during mid-November with the final being on Sunday November 23rd, 2pm to 4pm, \$5 Place: University Baptist Church Room 209. Address: 16106 Middlebrook, Houston, Texas Instructor: Doug Wilson. (Doug & Polly Wilson will also be on the trip.) Even if you do not go on the trip, you should take the class to learn more about genealogical research.

The day has passed for membership renewals to the Bay Area Genealogical Society. If we have not received your renewal, you will be dropped from the membership roster.

I encourage you to renew your membership for the next year. For only \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a family membership you receive twelve issues of our newsletter, four quarterlies, information about genealogical research from our monthly speakers, and the opportunity to socialize with other members who are interested in genealogy.

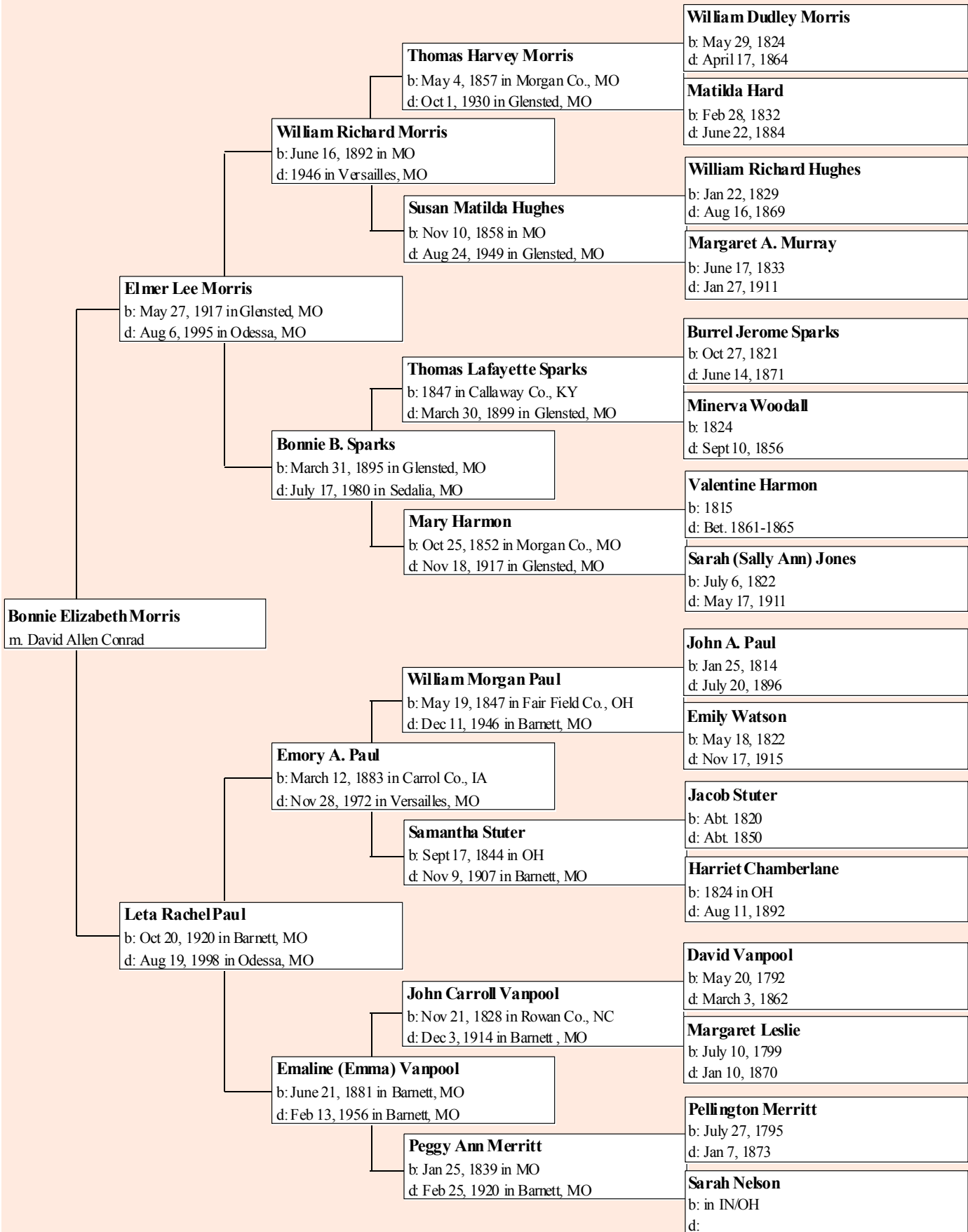
What a bargain!

You may keep up to date on our activities by visiting our web-site at: www.TxBayAreaGen.org

See page 7 for renewal procedure. Or you may renew your membership in person at our next meeting.

Thank you,
Neil Miserendino
President, Bay Area Genealogical Society

Ancestors of Bonnie Elizabeth Morris (Conrad)



Committee News

Message from Ron Cox, Registrar

As your new Registrar I am just now learning the accounting side of our society. Membership renewals has been our main priority and will remain so for the near term. If you haven't renewed for 2004 please do so ASAP. A lot of great programs and events are planned and you don't want to miss out.

Please call or EMAIL me if you have any data changes to your status. This would be address, phone #'s, email address, etc. We keep a data base on all members and it is used to keep your status current.

Thanks in advance for your help.

Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

If you want to re-new or join our Society, send a check for \$20 (single membership) or \$25 (for a family) made out to "BAGS" to this address

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

Please provide the following information:

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone Number _____

e-mail address _____

Do you want to receive the monthly newsletter by e-mail? Yes _____ No _____

Note from Member Services

Did any of your ancestors reside in Texas before 1886? Can you document it? If so, he or she may be eligible to receive a Gone to Texas Pioneer Certificate. Visit this website:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~txsgs/Certificates/GonetoTexas.pdf>

to download an application. (Yes, I know that "Certificate" is misspelled—that's Texas State Genealogical Society's problem!)

Doug & Polly Wilson

Reprints available at the general meetings

Jeanine Lawrence

Copies of previous months' speaker handouts, notices, and other information are available at the General Meeting. In order to cover the expense of this privilege; please donate for the pages you collect. The suggested donation is ten (10) cents per page. The money collected will be donated to University Baptist Church, to show our appreciation for their generosity to the Society. This collection is not needed for the current speaker handout, only for the previous months' handouts. The collection will be on the honor system. Thank you for your cooperation.

The list of Genealogical Websites compiled by Carolyn Hellen is available for purchase at a cost of fifty (50) cents. The money raised by this list will go to the Society Treasury.

We are selling copies of the Society's "Surname Database" for five (5) dollars each. This database contains the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the contributing members, as well as surnames members are researching. The fifty-page book will be sold at the November meeting and every member should have one.

Hospitality

We thank the following people for bringing in food for the October 2003 meeting:

Annette Bowen	Geri Smith
Rosemary Fritz	Kathryn Morrow
Claudia Grafton	Valerie Horn
Wanda Yelverton	Gail Hunter
Leo Waltz	Neil Miserendino
Mary Carlisle	

Quotes from actual correspondence received by the Family History Department of the LDS Church:

"We are sending you 5 children in a separate envelope."

"My Grandfather died at the age of 3."

"Will you please send me the name of my first wife? I have forgotten her name."

"He and his daughter are listed as not being born."



Bill Teas in back left listens as Leona Cook, BAGS publicity chair, talks with Marje Harris, right, October presenter and Manager, Clayton Library.

Photo:Lowell Brigham

At left is a coming attraction --- The BAGS Holiday party on Dec. 28 will feature Eric and Glenda Sandifer who will present a program on the War Between the States

ONLINE
EXTRA

Next Meeting

Date: Nov. 30, 2003
 Time: 5:00 PM
 Place: Great Room, University Baptist Church
 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX
 Speaker: Don Pusch
 Subject: "The 1758-1759 Voyage of the French flûte Fortune, or How I got lost in the French navy while researching an east-Texas grandma"



BAGS Website:
www.TxBayAreaGen.org

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. If articles are copyrighted, then please include permissions with the submittals.

Mail to: BAGS Newsletter, P.O. Box 891447, Houston, TX 77289-1447 or email to claudiamg@ev1.net

**Deadline for
 December Issue Is
 December 6, 2003**