



Bay Area Genealogical Society Newsletter

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

Volume 3, Issue No. 8

April 2004

April Meeting: Loretta "Tommy" Burns will present "Finding Aids for our Confederate Ancestors"

April 25
5:00pm,
at UBC

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Loretta (Tommy) Elliott Burns is a graduate of the Dominican College in Houston majoring in Mathematics, and married to John Burns, Chemical Engineer. She was trained as a legal researcher by an attorney and works as a consultant with attorneys and Probate Courts of Harris County.

Tommy has pursued genealogy as a hobby for over forty years and professionally, thirty-five years. She has completed three genealogies and approximately one hundred lineages for clients. Tommy has taught classes at the Houston Community College, San Jacinto College, the Deer Park Independent School District for their In-service program, and genealogy to the Deer Park High School Senior History and English Classes.

She has edited two quarterlies, *Living Tree News* for the Harris County Genealogical Society and *Stripes* for the Texas State Genealogical Society, in addition to editing the *Roster of the United Daughters of the Confederacy Texas Division* Vol. I. The Roster is a compilation of all patriot ancestors from the beginning of that organization. Tommy has published an *Index to the 1911 Census of Louisiana*, which covers Confederate Veterans or their Widows. She has published the 1850 indices for several Mississippi counties, and Madison Co., TX.

Tommy has served as Regent of her DAR Chapter Jane Long, President of the David B. Lowe Chapter of the UDC; Regent of the LaSalle Chapter of DAC and President of the Col. Dames of the XVII Century. She has served as Division Registrar, Registrar

General of the UDC, and is a member of many lineage societies, genealogical, and historical societies.

Dr. David Gracy invited Tommy to speak to the graduate students working on their MLS degree at the University of Texas. Her subject was *The Librarian and Genealogists*. Tommy and Dr. Gracy also gave a seminar at the University of Houston - Victoria on *Beginning Genealogy*. She has lectured at the Texas Library Association Convention and the American Library Association, and has chaired Conventions for the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Daughters of the American Revolution. She was one of the organizers and acted as a Director of the Houston Genealogical Institute for three years, and was also an organizer of the Houston Genealogical Seminar for three years.

Loretta Elliott Burns is listed in *Who's Who in Genealogy and Heraldry* by William S. Philby

LORETTA ELLIOTT BURNS MEMBER

Southwest Archivists, Texas Historical Society, New England His. & Gen. Soc., Federation of Gen. Societies, New Orleans Gen. Society, Texas State Gen. Soc., Daughters of the American Revolution, United Daughters of the Confederacy, Daughters of American Colonists, Colonial Dames of XVII Century, Colonial Dames of America, National Society Daughters of 1812, New England Women, and Friends of Clayton Library.

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Magna Charta Dames, Pasadena Historical Society, North Carolina Gen. Soc., Mississippi Genealogy & His Soc., Montgomery Co. TX His. & Gen. Soc. Harris Co. TX Gen. Soc., Matagorda Co. TX Gen. Soc., and National Gen. Soc.

(why I switched on my way to the National Archives)

My wife is an avid quilter. This February she had the opportunity to attend a weeklong workshop at the Elly Sienkiewicz Applique Academy in Williamsburg, Virginia. Because we have daughters in Virginia and Maryland, we decided to take the extra time to drive and visit them, and our grandchildren. This was also a great way to justify doing some genealogical research on my colonial ancestors at the National Archives in Washington DC.

Getting to the archives in DC this time of year is not all that easy, so I started looking for alternatives. After all, this is a vacation and not supposed to be a struggle. That's when I found from a Google search, the Library of Virginia (one heck of a genealogy library), in Richmond, 54 miles from Williamsburg. In addition to its other resources, this library has microfilm records beginning about 1702, of every county in Virginia. It also has some county records from West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee. This was exactly where I needed to research "Blind Bob Warren", his father and grandfather. Their early colonial archive section is second to none (white gloves are required with high security). Best of all for Houstonians, is that many of the records are available for interlibrary loan. A list of Virginia Counties can be found at www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/local/local_rec/county_city but I still LOVE Clayton, also one heck of a genealogy library.

Everyone is eligible to use the Library of Virginia. You are only required to register and provide photo identification to use materials in the

Library, all free. Most of their collection is in the closed stacks and must be requested using their online catalog. They don't conduct orientation classes but recommend that you simply visit the West Reading Room reference desk for any assistance. The staff patiently explains their resources and how to begin. If you are planning a trip there, the following links are helpful for information on hours and driving directions (much much easier than the National Archives), as well as to their genealogical resources. A search some of these index databases will provide information and help save research time. <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whoweare/visit> and <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/gene>.

The Library's collections of books, periodicals, government publications, and microforms totals 1,783,287 items, including 41,462 reels of newspaper microfilm and 651,524 federal government publications. <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/notes>.

The Library's Archival Collections now total 61,216 cubic feet, or approximately 91.8 million items. The Archival Collection also includes 36,525 reels of microfilm, an estimated 67,468 maps, and 9,046 architectural plans and drawings. The Library's Special Collections include the Rare Books, Fine Art and Picture Collections, which consists of books dating as far back as the 15th century and collected over the past 175 years; paintings and sculptures located largely in the Capitol Square area, in buildings such as the Library, State Capitol, Executive

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2003-2004 Officer Roster

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Do you have a time capsule?

Neil Miserendino

Because of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the growing problem of identity theft, many records that we need to research our family tree are becoming harder to obtain. States and cities are passing laws that are locking up records for longer periods of time. Government agencies are also following policies that restrict access to records.

One new restriction is a policy that makes it harder to get a copy of a record unless your name appears on that record. Well, none of us are named on the birth certificates of our parents or grandparents. I do not know how long these government policies will be followed. You can be assured that the more common identity theft becomes, the harder it will be to obtain government records. I do not expect that older records will be under the same restrictions, but now is the time to think about your own records.

What records are you seeking on your ancestors? Are you searching for Birth Certificates, newspaper articles, travel records, military records, land records, employment records, marriage records, membership in societies, or other information? Are you having

trouble? Do you wish your ancestors left you a time capsule with this information? Sure you do, we all wish our ancestors left us with all the records we could ever need. They did not. So why don't you think about your future generations and leave them a time capsule? All of these records I have mentioned are easily obtainable by you. These same records may become difficult for others to obtain at some later date.

You can get copies of these records now. Aside from using these records as a gift to your future generations, you can gain a sense of security by having copies of your records. If you were the victim of an identity theft, you will need many documents that can prove you are the owner of your identity. Get the records now and put them in a secure place and add the disposition of your records to your will.

The list of records you can keep is very large. Aside from essential records you need today, the records you might consider saving can include Baptismal records, school transcripts, school diplomas, property records, military records, and driver licenses.

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Mansion and Supreme Court; and more than 240,000 prints, photographs, postcards, posters and ephemera.

Library historical resources are located at www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/notes/time.htm.

Some very early Virginia Religious Petitions can be found at

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/repehtml/repehome.html>

For example, early Virginia Religious Petitions presents images of 423 petitions submitted to the Virginia legislature between 1774 and 1802 from more than eighty counties and cities. Drawn from the Library of Virginia's Legislative Petitions collection, the petitions concern such topics as the historic debate over the separation of church and state championed by James Madison and

Thomas Jefferson, the rights of dissenters such as Quakers and Baptists, the sale and division of property in the established church, and the dissolution of unpopular vestries. The collection provides searchable access to the petitions' places of origin and a brief summary of each petition's contents, as well as summaries of an additional seventy-four petitions that no longer exist. The collection complements the Library of Congress exhibition Religion and the Founding of the American Republic and is a collaborative venture between the Library of Congress and the Library of Virginia.

Unfortunately, I didn't find "Blind Bob's" ancestral records. I did eliminate some of the possibilities.

NEXT YEAR

when we do the quilting workshop

Indiana Offerings

Addicted to Genealogy?
Love libraries and research?
Interested in learning about new resources?

This particular library is considered "one of the absolute best genealogy resources in the country" by some established genealogists.

The Allen County Public Library Historical Genealogy Department in Fort Wayne, Indiana is pleased to announce our electronic newsletter, "Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library."

If the above describes you, sign up for our newsletter and read about one of the major genealogy research libraries in the nation.

Each month, learn about new collections, department special events, source highlights, new acquisitions, websites, and much more. Learn what is going in the Genealogy Department of the Allen County Public Library.

We will keep you up to date on our outstanding temporary location, where the books are on open stacks, available for your perusal. Information about the construction at the old library site, and our plans for moving back in 2-3 years will also be included.

To subscribe to this mailing list send a message with ACPL NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBE in the subject line to: kspears@acpl.lib.in.us. You will NOT receive a confirmation message; you will just begin to receive the newsletters, which are scheduled to be published approximately once a month.

Sue Kaufman, Librarian
Allen County Public Library
Historical Genealogy Department
PO Box 2270
200 E. Berry
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270
260-421-1225 260-421-1386 (fax)
www.acpl.lib.in.us

Member Services Note

Are you researching a family member who served in the Civil War? Will you be making a scrapbook or family history that includes him? Consider including a photograph either of the person, or his related Company or Regiment. There are on-line sources of a large number of photographs; if you do a Google search for 'photograph AND "Civil War" ', you will get an enormous number of hits. We suggest the following websites:

Library of Congress

<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/cwphhtml/cwphome.html>

U.S. Army Military History Institute:

<http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi/PhotoDB.html#Ordering>

I found a recent gem in Cyndi's list. Quinnipiac University's library staff has digitized "The Photographic History of the Civil War in Ten Volumes". (The index is in Volume 10, Part 7.)

<http://www.quinnipiac.edu/other/ABL/etext/civilwar/civilwarmain.html>

Good hunting! Polly & Doug Wilson

BAGS Eye-View

This month I wanted to mention one of my favorite search engines, called KartOO. You can access it at www.kartoo.com. It is a metasearch engine with visual display interfaces; it displays the results graphically. KartOO uses FlashPlayer to draw interactive maps. This extension is already installed on 90% of the browsers. It takes some practice to see and learn about all the things on the graphical results maps, so take the time to hover your mouse pointer around and watch the effects. Try it!!

Leo Waltz, BAGS Webmaster

Events Calendar	All meetings are held at University Baptist Church (UBC)
Monday, April 19, 2004	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting; Room LC-210, UBC
Sunday, April 25, 2004	5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting; Great Room, UBC Loretta "Tommy" Burns showing us "Finding Aids for our Confederate Ancestors"
Wednesday, April 28, 2004	9:00 am Library trip to the Clayton Library -- meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana. See page 7.
Monday, May 24, 2004	4:30 pm BAGS Board Meeting; Room LC-210, UBC
Sunday, May 30, 2004	5:00 pm BAGS General Meeting; Chapel, UBC Irene Walters on researching in New York

The Federation of Genealogical Society 2004 National Conference will be held September 8 - 11, in Austin, Texas. The Texas State Genealogical Society and the Austin Genealogical Society are Co-hosting this Conference, and our goal is to bring a National Conference to Texas for all levels of genealogy. We have not had a national conference in Texas since 1997, and we invite you to come and enjoy these educational, entertaining and outstanding speakers, as well as visit the best vendors that are available in genealogy. September 8, Dean Hunter, President of FGS will open the conference with sessions on "Society Support." The sessions are to help societies increase their membership, publish their records, budgeting and planning, managing the business, and much more. There is also a track given by the Association of Professional Genealogist that will give you information on becoming a professional speaker, researcher genealogist, and answer questions about APG. Thursday, Friday and Saturday will be nationally know speakers in a variety of subjects, you are sure to find something that interests you.

For more information, visit the conference web site at <http://www.fgs.org/2004conf/FGS-2004.htm> or call 1-888-FGS-1500 toll-free.

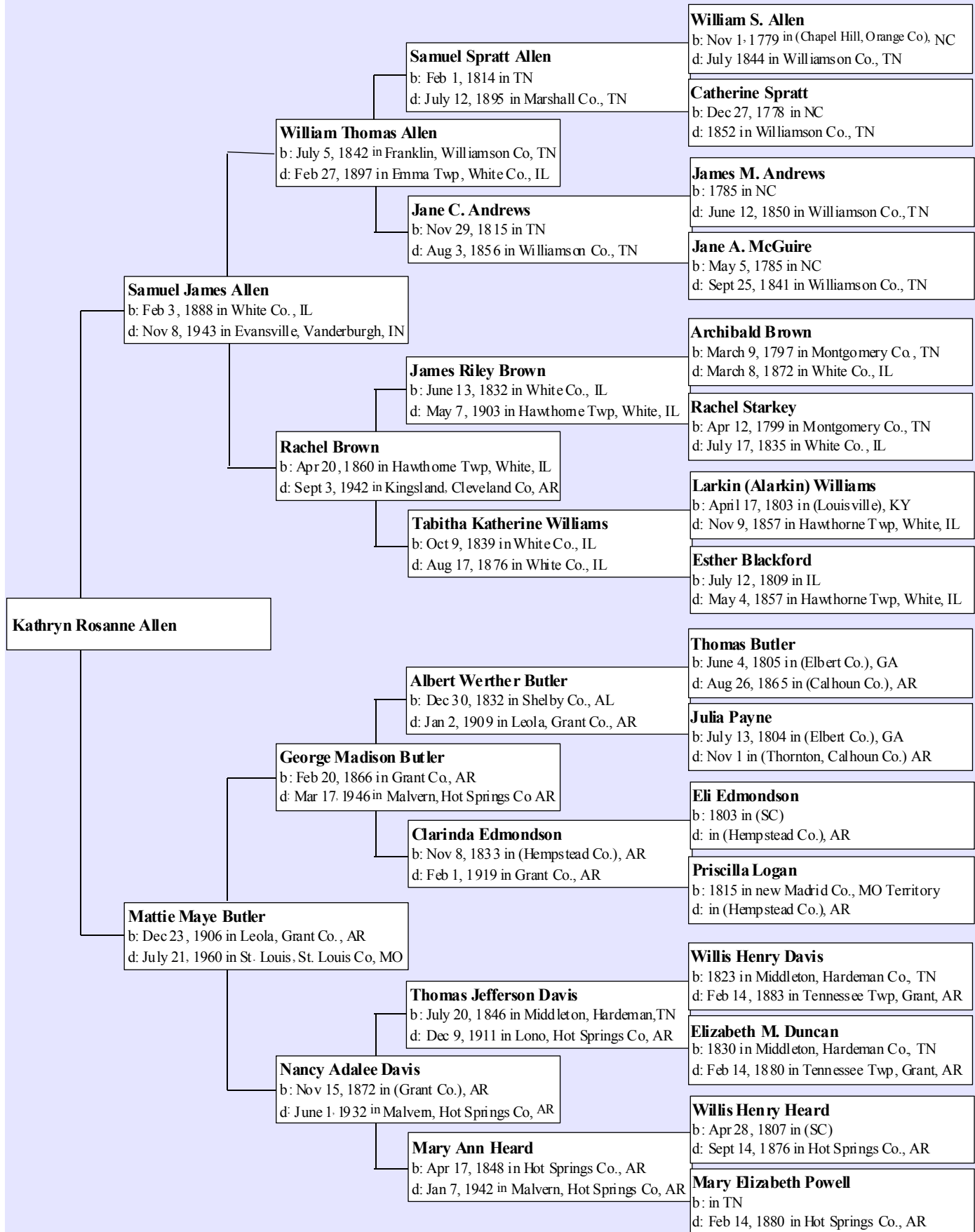
Postal mail: Federation of Genealogical Societies, P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX 78720-0940.

The TSGS District Representative is Darwin Gilmore at (281) 332-1395 for local information and questions.

Ms. Betty Dunquez (email: Bdunquez@aol.com) will be attending the April general meeting to provide information and answer questions regarding this conference.



Ancestors of Kathryn Rosanne Allen (Frazier)



Committee News

The Society is seeking a photographer. The duties are to bring a camera to the meetings and take pictures. Pictures must then be given to newsletter layout person or editor. All interested members call 281-286-8343 or send an e-mail message to President@TXBayAreaGen.org.

BAGS can thank Diane Doty for the generous donation of genealogy books in March.

Quarterly

The Quarterly needs your input! Please submit original articles, family histories, anecdotes, queries, research tips, Letters to the Editor... whatever you have that will be of interest to the membership. Send them to Resa Hennings at: 439 Bayou View Drive, El Lago, TX 77586 or resa@resa.us.

From the Registrar

Please send any changes or new information regarding name, email, phone number, or address, to me.

Ron Cox, Registrar
Bay Area Genealogical Society
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Houston, TX 77289-1447

or send an e-mail to:
Registrar@TxBayAreaGen.org

Hospitality

Wanda Yelverton wishes to thank the following people for bringing food to the March meeting:

Patricia Berry	Diane Pederson
Jinny Mason	Resa Hennings
Nettie Dworsky	Philip Van Nordstrand
Margaret Mitchell	Mary Martin
Susie Ganch	Polly Wilson

Four Library Trips Planned on the Harris County Bus

Mary L. Martin, County Coordinator

Four library trips to the Clayton Library have been planned until August 2004. The scheduled trips are:

1. Wednesday, April 28, 2004
2. Tuesday, May 18, 2004
3. Tuesday, June 29, 2004
4. Tuesday, August 17, 2004

We will meet in front of the Clear Lake Community Association and Recreation Center at 16511 Diana Street. We will depart in the county bus at 9:00 a.m. and leave the Clayton Library at 3:00 p.m. We will be back at the Community Center by 4:00 p.m. Sign up sheets are available in the back of the room at our monthly meetings, or please call me at (281) 332-2435, if you would like to join us.

Many BAGS members have benefited by these trips to the Clayton Library. Claudia Grafton located her Nickerson ancestors in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. On her first trip with us, Sandy Watters found a book about her ancestors in the Clayton House. Mary Pearson, Wanda Yelverton, Mary Olson, Pat Berry, Marilyn Hughes, Mike McCown, Sue McCown, Loren Martin, Dottie Crabb, Leona Cook, Doug Wilson, Polly Wilson, and many others have found stories and information about their ancestors at the Clayton Library.

I have been going to Clayton on a regular basis for more than ten years and every time I have gone, I have found some new information about my family. In the spring of 1995 while trying to figure out which Mary was married to Phinehas Pratt, I discovered that she was Mary Priest and her father, Degory Priest was on the "Mayflower" in 1620. Degory Priest died around 1 January 1621. Mary Priest came over with her mother, sister, and stepfather, Godbert Godbertson who was also known as Cuthbert Cuthbertson on the "Anne" in 1623. I found Mary Priest under the names of both her father and stepfather so that is why I couldn't figure out which one was married to Phinehas Pratt because she was named under both names.

At our March 28 meeting, Margie Lowe presented "Genealogy Research using Native American Indian Records." A supplemental handout made available later can be found on our website. Paper copies will also be available at the April meeting.

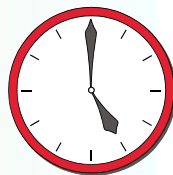
ONLINE EXTRA



Photos by
Dick Warren
& Leo Waltz



Next Meeting



Date: Apr. 25, 2004
 Time: 5:00 PM
 Place: Great Room, University Baptist Church
 16106 Middlebrook Drive, Houston, TX
 Speaker: Loretta "Tommy" Burns
 Subject: "Finding Aids for our Confederate 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. 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



BAGS website:
www.TxBayAreaGen.org

This Newsletter is composed using [Serif Page Plus](#).

**Deadline for
 May Issue is
 May 8, 2004**