



Anchorage Genealogical Society

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March Meeting: The March meeting will take place at 7 p.m. Wednesday the 6th in the Conference room on the 1st floor of the Z. J. Loussac Library. All are welcome. Julie Waites, Cindy Cupp, and Wilma Rookus will provide refreshments. Nancy Ferko will provide the liquid refreshments. Rick Ender will give a talk on Family Tree Maker version 9.0.

February Meeting: We had 32 members and 3 guests present: Susan Overstreet of Anchorage and two guests who became new members: Katherine Coverdale and Kelly Martin both of Anchorage. Doug McAllister gave us a presentation on the use of the ProQuest UMI data base research facility online. The "10 most Wanted" book fund received donations totaling \$24.61. President Kathy Roberts thanked those who helped straighten up the Quarterlies and publications in our area of the Library; those involved included Mike Naumann, Nancy Ferko, Connie Fordham and Merle Carlson.

Seminar: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, (LDS) located on Maplewood will be holding a seminar on Saturday the 9th of March from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration usually begins about 8:30. There will be a potato bar available for lunch at a very nominal fee. Included at this seminar will be an exhibit by NARA regarding the 1930 U.S. Census.

Preserving Newsprint: There is a good article in the Las Vegas Review Journal of Oct. 7, 2001, detailing how to preserve clippings or whole pages of newsprint you can view this by going to the following website http://www.lvrj.com/lvrj_home/2001/Oct-07-Sub-2001/living/17125909.html, if you do not have access to this web site contact me and I will get a copy for you.

Research Tips: Never assume that the records in one state are the same as those in another. If you've researched many families in a certain area, you are probably familiar with the records and what information they typically contain. Before researching in a different area, learn about the area's records and sources. Researching in Oregon in 1900 is different from researching in Virginia in 1750!

Genealogy Instructor: <http://www.Genealogy.com/tipspage.html> Via The Prospector - Vol 22 No. 5 – January 2002, Clark County NV. Remember, when you transcribe records, never correct the original information. If there are obvious errors, indicate them by inserting "sic" after the word, using parenthesis as: (sic). This will indicate the mistake was on the original and is not a new one created by the researcher.

Odom Family tree, Moultrie, GA. Aug/Sep 2000. Courtesy of "The Researcher", Tacoma –Pierce County Genealogical Society. Vol. 33, Issue 2, Winter 2002.

CD Donation: The Society recently received a donation of 24 CD's from Anne & Dennis Simantel who are members of the Society. This is greatly appreciated; some of these are ones that we had planned on ordering to add to our collection. If you have any that you would like to donate please contact any of the officers and we will take care of them for you and get them into our collection.

Upcoming: The April meeting will feature Harvey Rookus and the value and use of a GPS as concerning genealogy. The May meeting, at this time, is planned to be a Question and Answer session, possibly "Roundtable" type. If you have any queries regarding an area or a stonewall that you cannot breach be sure to let us know and we will try to get an answer for you.

Web Sites: Anchorage Genealogical Society information can be located on either of two web sites: <http://www.fgs.org> and follow the prompts, and <http://www.rootsweb.com/~akags>. FGS is a non-profit organization comprised of hundreds of genealogical and historical societies, family associations, and libraries with a combined membership of over 500,000 members. FGS is actively involved in efforts to protect societies, facilitate and coordinate society activities, and monitor events significant to the genealogical community. The Federation is the collective voice for genealogists at the national level. The "FGS Member Symbol" identifies all societies in the Hall that belong to FGS.

SSDI Update from RootsWeb: The new SSDI update, current to September 2001, contains roughly 500,000 more entries than the version it replaces, bringing the grand total close to 66.7 million names.

The new database is also notable in that it contains new fields: middle names and name suffixes. In fact, the new file contains middle name information on some 21 million people, almost one third of the entire index. The vast majority of these entries are middle initials only. The benefit to genealogists is the extra information that allows one to discriminate between two potential records. The updated data also contains name suffixes such as "Jr" and "Sr" which can be valuable in determining the identity of fathers or sons.

You can search this site at <http://ssdi.genealogy.rootsweb.com/cgi-bin/ssdi/cgi>. *ROOTSWEB REVIEW: Vol.42, 17 Oct. 2001, © 1998-2001 RootsWeb.com, inc. Courtesy "The Researcher", Tacoma – Pierce County genealogical Society, Vol 33, Issue 2, Winter 2002.*

DNA Testing: The Final Frontier? Family history research has reached a new frontier. This one extends beyond geographic boundaries.

DNA testing has become a new tool for genealogists to explore their physical origins. The British won't be left behind. Early explorers throughout the world are out in full force prodding new ground. Their findings promise genealogists a better understanding of their own physiology and history through science.

In a five-part series broadcast by the BBC in June and July 2001, George Redmonds "brings the awesome power of DNA analysis to bear on the fascinating subject of surname origins and family roots."

The series, produced by Sandra Sykes, BBC Natural History Unit Radio, lives on in several informational articles published by the BBC online. To peruse a fact sheet written and compiled by David Hey, and to analyze the possibilities of enhancing your own research, visit Beyond the Broadcast: Surnames, Genes and Genealogy at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/education/beyond/factsheets/surnames/surnames_home.shtml>.

EVERTON'S FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLINE, Tuesday 26 Feb. 2002

MAPPING 1930 ENUMERATION DISTRICTS: Recently, I visited NARA in Chicago to check the resources already available for using the 1930 U.S. Census, which will be opened to the public on April 1. I know that only ten small states have been

indexed on Soundex, so on a previous visit I had already checked the Chicago city directories and phone directories for addresses for four people. NARA has seven rolls of microfilm for over 50 U.S. cities that cross-reference streets and numbers with Enumeration Districts. Since Chicago was one of those cities, I was able to locate the four ED numbers in short order. A helpful staff person told me that for other cities, I would need to use maps that outline the EDs and locate the streets in order to find my families in the census records. The maps are also available on microfilm at NARA.

Then I asked, "But what happens if the street name has been changed, or if the neighborhood is now a huge shopping mall or the junction of three interstate highways? Seventy years is a long time ago." Her suggestion was that I use one of the Internet map Web sites to locate the address, find the area, and then print out the map. I should then identify landmarks that might not have changed over the years - churches, railroad crossings, and government buildings. Then, I could compare the present map with the ED maps from 1930 to locate the appropriate street and address. That struck me as a great combination of old technology (printed maps) and new technology (internet) for family research. It was also a great tip to pass on to others.

Joseph F. Martin, *Ancestry Daily News*, 26 February 2002

See you at the Meeting!

SERIOUS CEMETARY HUNTING GEAR

GOODIES	MECHANICAL	Notes
1 ea. 3" – 4" DIAMETER OR SQUARE large Soft Brush used to knock-off big chunks and loose dirt layer 1 ea. 2 square inch – 4 square inch small course brush with handle used to remove persistent lichen, etc. 1 ea. hand whisk broom 1 ea. plastic pot scrubber 1 ea. roll of Paper Towels 1 ea. large (about 8" x 12") handle held cosmetic mirror used to reflect the sun onto the headstone, especially the lettering, to cause shadows, bringing out faint lettering. 2 ea. 1-inch diameter white and yellow chalk sticks similar to "rubbing" but the chalk is rubbed directly over faint lettering 1 ea. Write-In-The-Rain type book(s) 1 ea. Writing tablet 1 ea. Small roll: 24-inch rubbing paper 2 – 3 ea. Extra plastic Grocery type bags 2 – 3 ea. Clean cloth rags	1 ea. Camera (Digital, Standard or both) 1 ea. Handheld Voice Recorder used to voice record headstone data, etc., for transcription later 2 ea. Extra Film 2 ea. Extra Batteries camera, flashlight, recorder 1 ea. Extra Tapes or Memory Plug-ins 1 ea. 25-foot tape measure 1 ea. One-quart water battle with sprayer used to help clean, or change the color of the surface to assist reading inscriptions 1 ea. 2 – 3 Battery Flash Light 1 ea. 12-inch long plastic ruler ... used to show height or relationship(s) 1 ea. Bottle of Sun Screen 1 ea. Bug Dope 1 ea. Extra Pencils 1 ea. Small Pencil Sharpener 1 ea. Roll of Scotch Tape (3/4")	Care must be taken to not destroy or cause 'injury' to the surface of the material being "cleaned". Materials for, i.e., headstones can be made of, but not limited to, wood, slate, granite, concrete, cast-iron, or marble. These materials have weaknesses. Weaknesses are often caused by structural flaws in the material, age, multiple freeze-thaw cycles, care taken during manufacture, neglect, temperature, and weather. Our objective is to get the information, if possible, without destroying or damaging the surface or the object being reviewed. Most of the goodies can be carried in a large double-bagged plastic grocery bag – or Backpack. The bigger or often used items like, cameras, recorders, tape measurers, etc., can be slung around your neck, carried on your belt, or placed in your vest pocket.