



Anchorage Genealogical Society
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May 2003

May Meeting: The May meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on 7 May 2003 in the conference room on the ground floor in the Z.J. Loussac Library, located at 3600 Denali. Refreshments will be provided by Sara Burkholder, Barb Stimson, Sande Kottre and juice by Cindy Cupp. There will be a video shown regarding Family Tree DNA produced by Genealogy by Genetics.

April Meeting: The meeting was convened by 1st Vice President Bob Waites. During the business portion it was decided we will make the newsletter and quarterly available on the web site for all those who would like it available to access at their leisure, an access link will be transmitted each month. There were 33 members and 7 guests in attendance, the guests were all from Anchorage: Debra Ludwig, in charge of the genealogy section of the Z.J. Loussac Library, Hope Winfield, Charles & Nancy Rainer, Vicky Barker, James Godesky and Brock Shamberg. There was \$38.00 donated for the 10 Most Wanted book list. Sheila Erwin gave a very informative talk on researching your Irish ancestors including the diverse background and a very good summation of Irish history from 6000 B.C. to present.

Computer Classes: The AGS and the Anchorage Senior Center (ASC) will be conducting computer classes on the Family Tree Maker genealogy computer program on Saturday the 10th of May, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. These classes will be held in the ASC computer room. There are only 12 computer spaces available. There will be a charge of \$2.00 collected at the door. If there is enough interest in these classes there will be another class from 2 – 4 p.m. on the same dates. Some prior knowledge of computer use is necessary for these classes. Call Kathy Roberts at 243-1757 or email kroberts@gci.net or fax 248-5721 to register.

Volunteer. Make a Difference! The Scottish Highland Games will be held June 28th from 8:30 a.m.- 6 p.m., at the Lions Park in Eagle River. Galway Days (Formerly the Irish Music Festival) will be on G Street, August 3rd; this is usually from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Lynn Pikey can always use help with these functions. Contact Lynn at ljpmax@hotmail.com or 338-1923 or Llana Markey at 563-7741 if you would like to volunteer to help with either one or both of them.

Public Notice: A friend received a telephone call a few nights ago from an individual identifying himself as a telephone service technician who was conducting a test on the telephone lines. He stated that to complete the test my friend should touch nine (9), zero (0), the pound sign (#), and then hang up.

Luckily, my friend was suspicious and hung up.

Upon contacting the telephone company, he was informed that by pushing 90#, you give the requesting individual full access to your telephone line, which enables them to place long distance calls that are then billed to your telephone number.

He was further advised that this scam has been originating primarily from local jails or prisons. The information has also been verified by checking with such as UCB Telecom, MCI, Bell Atlantic and GTE. PLEASE Beware!

The GTE security department requested that this information be shared with everyone by any means.

Please pass this on to everyone you know.

Verizon's service can also be compromised with this scam.

I talked to an ACS operator and was advised that this scam usually is aimed at a business phone because the switching system that is used for business is a little different from a normal residential phone, but yes it would be applicable here. I also talked to the GCI operator and they do not think this would be a problem here as the feature that allows this is not used on equipment here.

DO NOT press 90# for ANYONE.

Electronic Records Galore: Research your family history and discover more about your ancestors from the comfort of your home. The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) <http://www.archives.gov> recently made 50 million historical records available online. The new Access to Archival Databases (AAD) System <http://www.archives.gov/aad> allows researchers to obtain electronic records with the click of a mouse. Records cover a variety of topics including the Civil War, battlefields, historic sites, immigration, necrology, space flight,

naval history and much more. The electronic holdings in the database contain material from more than 30 archival series. These series pertain to specific persons, geographic areas, organizations or dates. NARA helps put the information in context by providing you with code lists, explanatory notes from NARA archivists, and for some series or files, related documents.

To search AAD, select a series of electronic records. Choose a specific data file within a series and enter search criteria to access relevant records. Once you have records that match your research interests, print them or save them as an electronic file. You won't find paper records here, however. The Archival Research Catalog (ARC) http://www.archives.gov/research_room/arc features NARA's nationwide holdings in the Washington, DC, area, its regional archives and presidential libraries. Visit NARA's Web site to learn more about AAD and ARC.
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More NARA: In mid-February, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) launched its AAD [Access to Archival Data Databases]. Of primary interest to genealogists is the "Famine Irish Immigrants Database" covering 1846-1851 which is an electronic version of Filby's published "Famine Irish" series. There are also various databases relating to WW2, Korean Conflict, Vietnam Conflict, etc. To get started, here's a URL to go to: <http://www.archives.gov/aad/index.html>.

Canada's Online Options Abound: Canada continues to feed the Internet with a steady stream of new research Web sites. An online resource from Canada's Genealogical Research Library <http://www.grl.com> provides access to a database of records for more than 5 million residents from 1608 to the early 20th century. Covering all provinces and territories, the database's collection includes farm property maps, rare directories, church records, land records, cemeteries, censuses and patents. Civil records can be found in a digital index that contains records for natives, Métis and Acadians. Visitors can locate past and present towns and villages using the place-names database. To find out if the Genealogical Research Library Web site has the information you're looking for, visit the site for a free preview. The trial search will give you ancestors' names and tell you when they resided in Canada. If you find matches for your ancestors, you can register for full access: It's \$10 for 24 hours or \$45 for a month.

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See You at the Meeting