



Anchorage Genealogical Society
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June 2001

June Meeting: The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 June 2001, in the conference room on the ground floor of the Z. J. Loussac library. All are welcome, as they are all open meetings. The speaker will be Raquel Brodie and her topic is "LaSangre Llama" a story of ancestors calling.

May Meeting: There were 31 members and no guests present. Shirley Odsather presented a program of photos and copies of some old glass negatives of the "Gold Rush Era". There was \$27.35 collected for the "Ten Most Wanted: book program
July Meeting: As the 4th of July 2001 falls on the first Wednesday of the month it has been decided to NOT have a meeting in July.

Remember the song, "I'm My Own Grandpa"; An old genealogist visited a California mental institution and asked a patient, "How did you get here? What was the nature of your illness?" He got this reply:

"Well it all started when I got married and I guess I should never have done it. I married a widow with a grown daughter who then became my stepdaughter. My dad came to visit us, fell in love with my lovely stepdaughter, then married her. And so my stepdaughter was now my stepmother.

"Soon, my wife had a son who was, of course, my daddy's brother-in-law since he is the half-brother of my stepdaughter, who is now, of course, my daddy's wife. So as I told you, when my stepdaughter married my daddy, she was at once my stepmother. Now, since my new son is brother to my stepmother, he also became my uncle. As you know, my wife is my step grandmother since she is my stepmother's mother. Don't forget that my stepmother is my stepdaughter. Remember, too, that I am my wife's grandson.

"But hold on just a few minutes more. You see, since I'm married to my step grandmother, I am not only the wife's grandson and her hubby, but I am also my own grandfather. Then about two years ago I started working on the family genealogy, now do you understand how I got put in this place?"

The Ark Valley Crossroads, Vol., 12, No. 2 April 2001, Wichita, KS

Remember Undocumented genealogy is Mythology (ibid p.15)

Computer Classes: During the last FTM class; four people did find roots while in the class and learning how to use the internet for research. The next beginner genealogy classes are being planned for September.

Library Help: For the months of June, July and August there will be no one scheduled to work in the AGS section of the library. There will be names and phone numbers available at the reference desk for anyone who needs help.

Seminar: Maxine Strid and Pat McClure are working on the Anchorage Genealogical Society seminar which will be on 8 September 2001, to be held at the Wilda Marston Theatre in the Z. J Loussac Library. Anyone who has any old Genealogical Magazines may donate them to be used as giveaways at the seminar. There will most likely be a lunch and refreshments available at the seminar, the type and price will be announced later. The attendance charges will be \$40.00 for pre-registration and \$45.00 at the door. We may have some out of town visitors who will need accommodations, if you have space available please contact any of the officers and let them know. The speaker Kathy Hinckley, the subjects she will discuss are; Be your own detective, After Ancestry.com, Read all about it, and Reflex Genealogy.

Questions? Contact the President Genie Smith at 248-1545 or the editor.

1930 Census: According to an article in the "CLF Newsletter", Houston Texas May 2001 issue, the cost of a complete collection of the 1930 census and soundex will be \$150,000.00. Let us be thankful that we have access to our local National Archives where this will be available. At this time we are planning to have Bruce Parhem give us a talk on the 1930 census at the November meeting

Civil War Income Tax: Records may provide information on people who were in the North during the war. The federal government passed the Internal revenue Act of 1862 to finance the war. The tax was in effect for ten years. These tax records can be found in the National archives.

Kinfolks, Volume 25 No.2, Southwest Genealogical Society.

Help Wanted: Chairperson for the seminar, recording secretary, and editor for the AGS Quarterly. These are all positions that require a little time and effort to do. Is our organization becoming the same type that a lot of others are? We are a nation of joiners, but – my feeling is; if I am going to be a member then it is going to require some effort on my part to make sure the work gets done. Become more than just a member become an active member and make your voice heard and your efforts bear some fruit.

Name Changes: We have all heard or read about the surnames that supposedly changed at Ellis Island or another Port of Entry. The following is the final paragraph from the Eastman weekly newsletter: Once settled into their new homes, however, anything could happen. Millions of immigrants had their names changed voluntarily or by clerks or by schoolteachers who couldn't pronounce or spell children's names. Some immigrants changed their names in order to obtain employment. Many immigrants found it easier to assimilate into American culture if they had American-sounding names, so they gladly went along with whatever their neighbors or schoolteachers called them. However, the records at Ellis Island remained in the original language.

For more information about the myth that "the family name was changed at Ellis Island," look at the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization's Web page at: <http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/aboutins/history/articles/NameEssay.html>.

"Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter" newsletter@rootscomputing.com 13 May 2001

EVERTON'S FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLINE: Tuesday, 15 May 2001

Have You Checked FreeBMD? What is BMD? In this case, the letters stand for Births, Marriages and Deaths, and the FreeBMD Project is devoted to transcribing index data to the certificates for these three events in the civil registration records of England and Wales, and making that index freely available online. How successful has the project been? As of a month ago, the FreeBMD volunteers had placed over one million index entries online, making it one of the most successful collaboration efforts to date.

Using the online database is as simple as visiting the FreeBMD website, answering a few questions about the type of certificate you

are seeking, who you are looking for, and when and where to look. A successful search results in the full name(s) appearing in the index, the quarter and year, the registration district, volume and page numbers. This is the data you need to order a copy of the certificate from Britain. In addition, the FreeBMD website tells you how to order the certificates from the government, and has links to related information on the Web. Do you want to help? The FreeBMD Project also welcomes volunteers. Giving a few hours of your time in cooperation with others is a great way to share your own expertise with others as they seek their own ancestors.

Resource: The FreeBMD Project <http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>

fhn@everton.com (FHN 18May01) Frank Beacon, "Trouble with the neighbors"

See you at the Meeting!