



## **Anchorage Genealogical Society**

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September, 2003

**September Meeting:** In lieu of our monthly meeting the Annual Seminar will be presented on Saturday the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2003 in the Wilda Marston Theater, Z.J. Loussac Library (lower level) from 9 AM to 4 PM. Shirley J. Hodges will be featured presenting: Family Historian or Pack Rat, Making the Most of Genealogical Research, The Importance of Preserving your Family Heirlooms, and Maps, Gazetteers & Directories. Registration will be conducted from 8 AM to 9 AM. The registration form is enclosed or you may download it from our web site at <http://www.rootsweb.com/~akags>. Everyone is reminded to remember to bring the cookies or finger foods for the coffee breaks during the day; it would be appreciated if those items were brought between 8 and 9 AM. Members and spouses are reminded that there will be a potluck to meet the seminar presenter on Friday evening, September the 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the conference room at the Loussac Library, if you have not signed up please contact Merle Carlson to be included.

**August Meeting:** There were 22 members and one guest present, all were asked to introduce themselves and include their respective areas of research. After the break there were a number of presentations including a calendar constructed by former member Marjorie Bell who now resides in North Carolina. Kathy Roberts presented this. Wilma Rookus talked about her working notebooks that she uses when traveling outside. Llana Markey showed the county book she has from her home area, which includes articles about the settlers of that area. Barbara Samuels talked about her family newsletter that she has done for many years.

**Traveling Information:** The Salt Lake City, Family History Library, recently announced a change in their hours of operation. The library continues to be closed on Sundays and Monday night as before. The new hours of operation are:

Monday 8 AM to 5 PM

Tuesday through Saturday 8 AM to 9 PM.

**Relatives and Genealogy:** Excerpted from "The Prospector", Vol 23 No. 3 – July 2003

Can a first cousin, once removed be reinstated?

Cemetery: (n) A marble orchard not to be taken for granite.

Crazy – is a relative term in MY family.

Genealogy: Chasing your own tale!

Genealogy: It's all relative in the end anyway.

Genealogy: Tracing yourself back to better people.

I trace my family history so I will know who to blame.

It's hard to be humble with ancestors like mine.

Lift takes it's toll, have exact change ready.

Searching for lost relatives? Win the Lottery!

That's strange, half my ancestors are WOMEN!

Do I even want ancestors? Some I found I wish I could lose.

Every family tree has some sap in it.

FLOOR: (n) The place for storing your priceless genealogy records.

Friends come and go, but relatives tend to accumulate.

Genealogists do it in the library.

Genealogist live in the past lane.

Genealogists never die, they just lost their roots.

Genealogy: A haystack full of needles. It's the threads I need.

Genealogy: Collecting dead relatives and sometimes a live cousin.

Genealogy: Where you confuse the dead and irritate the living.

Heredity: Everyone believes in it until their children act like fools.

I looked at my family tree – there were two dogs using it.

I think my family tree is a few branches short of full bloom.

Life is lived forward but understood backwards.

My ancestors are hiding in a witness protection program.  
Research: What I am doing, when I don't know what I'm doing.  
Take nothing but ancestors, leave nothing but records.  
Theory of relativity: If you go back far enough we are all related.

**Worthwhile Web Sites:** Overwhelmed by the number of family history-related Web sites popping up? FamilyTreeMagazine.com sorts through them all--whew!--to bring you only the very best. We recently recommended the following as Sites of the Week:

\* International Jewish Cemetery Project Search for your ancestors' burial sites, and learn about Jewish death and mourning customs.

<http://www.jewishgen.org/cemetery>

\* 1930 Census Entries for the Rich and Famous find images of your celebrity kin's census records.

<http://www.rootdig.com/1930census>

\* Civil War Veterans' Card File, 1861-1866 Find your Pennsylvania ancestors in the cards.

<http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive.asp>

\* Turn-of-the-Century Postcards and Photographs Order images of your Jewish forebears or ancestral home.

<http://www.avotaynu.com/postcards>

\* Abandoned Pictures from Around the World Search through old and new photos. <http://www.timetales.com>

\* Library of Congress' "Courage, Patriotism, Community" Virtual Exhibit Discover the songs, celebrations and sacrifices that have

identified American culture through the years. <http://www.loc.gov/tr/courage>

\* Immigrant Neighborhoods in New York City Learn about immigrant life in some of New York City's roughest neighborhoods.

<http://www.irishinnyc.freesevers.com/custom.html>

\* Canadian Soldiers' World War I Diaries, follow your Canadian ancestors' troop through World War I.

[http://www.archives.ca/02/020152\\_e.html](http://www.archives.ca/02/020152_e.html)

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**Expert Advice:** Oral History Tape-recording tips:

You've compiled a list of questions or topics you'd like to discuss with your family member during an oral history interview. What do you do now? How do you go about recording the interview? The following tips will help you get started:

\* If you don't have one already, purchase a good-quality tape recorder, preferably one with a separate multidirectional microphone, rather than an internal one. Do not use micro or mini tape recorders unless you have no other choice. Their sound quality is often inferior.

\* Use new, good-quality, standard-sized audiotapes. Sixty-or 90-minute tapes are best because the longer tapes are more likely to stretch or break.

\* Make sure you're familiar with your equipment. Practice using it, and run a test check before doing the actual interview.

\* Have extra batteries and audiotapes on hand just in case. You also should have an extension cord.

\* Have your questions ready. And be sure to have any photographs, letters or other family artifacts on hand if you intend to discuss them

during the interview.

\* Whenever possible, choose a location that's free of background noises (such as chiming clocks, barking dogs and air conditioners) and

away from potential interruptions or distractions.

--Anita De Felice. \* Anita De Felice is president of Gifts of the Past <http://www.giftsofthepast.com>, a company that specializes in creating

family history keepsakes. Look for more tips for recording oral histories in future Updates.

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**See You at the Potluck & Seminar!**

**Don't Forget to Register for the Seminar!**