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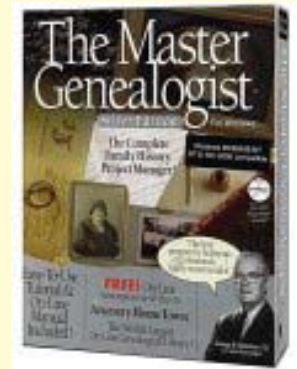
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## Saturday, June 21, 2003



## Software On Parade

### The Saga Continues

Presented by  
Dan Niemiec and  
Beverly Levine Smallwood

Dan Niemiec, an avid user of Family Tree Maker, and Bev Smallwood, equally devoted to The Master Genealogist, will demonstrate their software packages and techniques which help organize your research data.

July 19, 2003

### Family Search Website

by

Maureen Brady

A former FHC Director, Maureen is well versed with FHC resources. She will describe many little known or seldom used resources that are available on the FamilySearch.org web site.

August 16, 2003

### Using Bygones For Your Research

by

Beverly Levine Smallwood

This free style software package will help you keep track of your research and gives you the power of the computer to find your notes instantly.


# Shortcuts on the Keyboard


Anne Jacobs

Well, this was a dry month; no one asked any questions so I didn't get an idea for an article from my usual source1. The only other idea I got (because I LOVE hotkeys and hate to use the mouse), was an article on standard hotkeys. I am always running into someone who could benefit from knowing the basic "cut and paste" sequence. So, here goes.

Now, let's say that you are reading an e-mail and it gives you a web address which you want to visit. You click on it and it takes you to a "404 File Not Found" screen. (404 File Not Found is the standard error message you get when the site you are seeking is not successfully retrieved.) You may not have noticed that the address in the e-mail was split into two lines in the e-mail and the last portion was not transferred to the URL in your browser window. This is a prime use for the cut/copy and paste feature.

If you look at the URL (Universal Resource Locator) in your browser window, it is missing the characters from the second line in your e-mail. Rather than typing character by character the rest of the URL, why not copy it from the e-mail and append it to the end of the URL address. This can be accomplished by highlighting the characters you want to copy in the e-mail and then depressing the key combination to copy which is

. This places the highlighted characters in the "clipboard". Now switch to your browser window placing your cursor at the end of the address in the URL location. It is time to paste the stored characters. This key


combination is . I use a memory trick to remember hot keys and their action. So I think of the C combo as COPY and the V combo as an arrow pointing to "paste right here". Now what


do you suppose  combo

does? It X's out or cuts the highlighted text/item into the clipboard. You use this special cut combo when you want to move something from one place to another. Remember, whatever is placed into the clipboard remains there until the next thing replaces it. This means that you can paste the same thing multiple times.


What if you just did something which you really didn't mean to do? Undo your

last entry with . Depend-

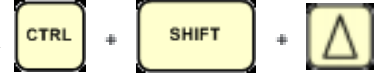
ing on the software, pressing  does

the same thing but  is more commonly used.

Are there any hot key combos to assist in highlighting text? In order to highlight the entire document's text (select all),

depress . To select a por-

tion of a document, place the cursor at the beginning of the selection,

t h e n  and/or


 and/or  (the arrow keys)

until the entire block has been highlighted. Alternately, you may highlight using the left mouse button. Double click and the word at the cursor location is highlighted. Click three times and the paragraph where the cursor is will be highlighted. Remember, highlighting does not copy, it only selects. After highlighting, you have to use the combo keys to copy or move the selection.

Microsoft® has developed a standard set of key combinations which perform commonly used functions. For instance,

function key  is commonly used as

the HELP key. So any software technician writing for Windows® based computers would follow this standard. Authors for other software have also conformed, to some extent, to these conventions. Therefore, if you have a question,

hit the  key and see what happens.

It might just bring up the Help facility for the software you are using, even if it is a game like Solitaire.

If you are interested in more hot keys, use this Help facility to find more by using "hot keys" as your search argument.

This is the first of a series of articles on hot keys. These combos work nearly everywhere and are the most common functions performed. I use them on a daily basis. In future installments, we will look at hot keys for different specific software packages. All hot key combinations will not be useful to you. I do remember the ones presented here. However, I don't remember all the hot keys which will be included in this series of articles. I (and you) will remember the ones that assist you and forget the ones that don't.

*If you have a question or topic you want covered, ask and we can all learn. Questions and topic suggestions may be sent to the CAGG-NI mailbox which is [cagg\\_ni@yahoo.com](mailto:cagg_ni@yahoo.com). It can always be found at the website, <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggn> on the right hand side navigation bar.*

## (Footnotes)

1 This isn't fully true. I planned an article on Yahoo and the CAGGNIMembers Yahoo Group so none of us have the problems getting enrolled which we have experienced in the past. However, my "fact finding" is not complete so I can't do that this month.

## President's Letter

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Summer may finally be arriving... the days are getting longer and, mostly, warmer – all the better to walk cemeteries. Cemeteries are the perfect summer research – fresh air, sunshine and family history all in one package. Just remember your bug spray!

As predicted, **Dan Niemiec** gave us some excellent advice last month on handling email and message boards. Here's one more: Set up separate folders in your email in-box by topic (place or surname) or by mailing list. Then set up a filter to move mail into the appropriate folder as it downloads. This can be done simply in either Outlook Express or Netscape and instructions were provided in the electronic only section of the March 2002 CAGG-NI Newsletter. If you've set up a yahoo identity and answered the invitation to join, you can view it at our CAGGNIMembers Yahoo Group. If you need a new invitation or are having trouble registering please send an email to [cagg\\_ni@yahoo.com](mailto:cagg_ni@yahoo.com) for assistance.

Someone in the audience last month said that there was a way to change the subject line in Outlook Express. I have been unable to figure out how to do this. I can save the email message as an eml file, outside of Outlook Express, and give it a meaningful file name but even that doesn't change the subject line. Message filters can change subject lines as the mail comes in and passes through the filter, but that would not be specific or unique. If you know how to do this in Outlook Express or even Netscape Messenger, please let me know how it's done.

This month, Dan will be back to talk about Family Tree Maker after I demonstrate The Master Genealogist. Maureen Brady will pay us a visit next month to demonstrate the Ins and Outs of the FamilySearch website.

Updated surname pages have been uploaded, so if you submitted additions or changes, please look them over for accuracy. If you haven't visited lately, take another look. Maybe a new member is your long lost cousin!

I'm working with our brilliant webmaster now on updating the look and feel of the library pages to bring them up to the impressive level of the rest of the site. We hope to have those posted soon. In the meantime, the librarian at Cook Memorial Library in Libertyville has submitted a detailed list of their resources. Thanks to Anne Jacobs attending a meeting with a group of librarians in the North Suburban Library System I am occasionally getting submissions "straight from the horses mouth". If you've noticed even one cool thing on your last visit to the library that we don't have posted, drop me a line. The pages get better with each contribution.

On a housekeeping note, CAGG-NI maintains a library of video tapes for members to borrow by the month. The deal is that you check it out at one meeting and return it at the next. If you will not be able to attend the next meeting, please make alternate arrangements to return borrowed materials so

that others may benefit from them as well.

Speaking of the library, we have a fund raiser coming up at the end of June. If we raise more than \$100, we'll add a new tape or two to our library. 123Genealogy.com has been releasing some interesting ones that I know you'll enjoy – so get out there and shop!

See you soon,

*Beverly Levine Smallwood*



## Officers

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Historian	<b>Christine Clark</b>

# Using Computers to Restore Family Photos

by Eric Curtis Basir (Bond)

Now, it's easier than ever to resurrect damaged family photos. With the rapid progress and lowered costs of computers, photo editing programs, printers, scanners, more and more people are giving their photographic family history a fresh new look. This is not the end of the professional retouching artists, though. Such an artisan is not easily replaced.

However, with a good eye, some training and the right hardware and software, precision and speed has put photo retouching in the hands of more and more genealogists. Many of those who want to upgrade or save for the computer equipment to restore family photos find the thought of making the right choices slightly nerve-wracking. Brand names, software, scanners, memory (RAM) and hard drives top the list of the most confusing detours on the road of decision. This article is your map around such detours.

## Buying or Upgrading Your Computer.

When working with photos, you will scan, restore and print, make sure your computer setup will need lots of memory, speed and disk space to use. Take into account the obsolescence factor as well: For what you buy "new" today will be "old" tomorrow. Below are the minimal requirements. Although it requires a certain degree of computer knowledge, you can find some great bargains through mail order catalogs, local classifieds and online auctions (but remember that buyer beware applies on the net).

## The Computer Factor

Personally, I prefer using a Macintosh computer for photo retouching. Since high school, through college and my career, I have used Macintosh almost exclusively. Nevertheless, I see very few differences between Macintosh and

IBM/PC compatible functionality. Since most genealogy computer programs are not Macintosh compatible and most genealogists own IBM/PC's, I would not recommend purchasing a Macintosh simply because the author of this article prefers them.

### 1. System:

IBM/PC compatible users: Pentium



III or 4 with a 300 Mhz microprocessor or better. Windows98 operating system.

Macintosh users: PowerMac G3 with 300 Mhz microprocessor or better. System should be no less than version 8.6.2.

### 2. Memory (RAM):

IBM/PC compatible and Macintosh users: At least 256 Megabytes of memory.

### 3. Hard disk space (storage):

IBM/PC compatible and Macintosh users: At least 1 Gigabyte of hard disk space.

## The Software Factor

As a professional photo retoucher, I retouch and restore photographs with the latest version of Adobe Photoshop. To a retoucher, this program is like the latest version of The Master Genealogist to a

serious genealogist. However, it is not a program I recommend for those who are not pursuing a career in digital photo retouching.

First, the average price is around \$600. Upgrades average \$100-\$200. With all the high-quality alternatives to Photoshop, it is probably an unnecessary luxury. Second, the learning curve is steep; it absolutely requires a novice to hire a teacher or enroll in a Photoshop class. I teach such courses and can barely expose students to 50% of Photoshop's features without leaving them in a daze. These courses range from 10-14 hours at 2-hour sessions.

For many genealogists, buying Photoshop would be like hiring a Ph. D. student to do basic surname research on your father's side. Why not save a couple hundred dollars and splurge on prints?

## Enter Adobe Photoshop Elements 2.0

The May 2003 edition of Consumer Reports rated Elements' ease of use as "Very Good"—second only to Microsoft Picture It! Digital Image Pro 7.0. (Since Picture It does not work on Macintosh computers, I chose to discuss the more versatile program.) Elements is essentially the same as Adobe Photoshop. This \$100 program has all the tools you need to restore your family photographs. Many of my Adobe Photoshop students own Elements and easily apply what they learn in Photoshop to Elements. The menus, tools and interface are nearly identical, with the exception that Elements possesses easy-to-use help features in the form of step-by-step tutorials and hints.

One of my personal favorite hidden gems in Photoshop and Elements is the ability to enter all kinds of information

**Continued on page 5**

## Restoring Family Photos (Continued)

within each photo. Once the information is entered, it can be extracted for sorting in a database program such as FileMaker Pro and Extensis Portfolio.

To utilize all of the features present in any retouching program, hiring an instructor to help you or enrolling in your local adult continuing education Photoshop course is always recommended. A good instructor will supply you with the basic knowledge of certain tools and concepts that will form a foundation by which you can work comfortably and efficiently.

Nearly all computer systems and scanners have some type of photo editing software included. Some may include a particular version of Photoshop or Elements. However, if you do not feel like hiring a professional retoucher, you will need an intermediate- to advanced-level program like Elements to get the job done right. The computer system and software

setup described in this article will get you off to a good start.

### Computer Lingo in Plain Language

**Microprocessor:** The heart of your computer—which “processes” all of the commands, programs and functions; the faster the processor, the more information your computer can handle without shutting down. Programs that work with photos and graphics require faster microprocessors.

**Operating System:** The language of your computer; the brain and nervous system; this handles your programs, scanners, monitors, mouse and whatever else is connected or installed in it.

**Memory:** Also popularly known as RAM (Random Access Memory). RAM is “temporary” memory. It retains information only as long as the computer and programs are running. The more of this you have, the faster your programs can

open, manipulate and save your images. Some photo editing programs cannot run without extra amounts. If you can find 256 Megabytes for less than \$100, you found a good deal.

**Storage or Hard Disk:** This keeps your operating system, programs and photos on the computer for later use (also known as documents). As opposed to RAM, storage or hard disks have “permanent” memory.

Ideally, it will remain on the disk for eternity. However, it’s always good to save the information on CD-ROM disks or removable hard disks in case your hard disk or computer stops functioning.

Eric Curtis Basir (Bond) is the owner of Photo Grafix, a digital photo retouching studio in Evanston, Illinois.

He can be reached online at [www.abetterreality.net](http://www.abetterreality.net) or toll-free at 888.446.2799. He is currently researching his Taylor/Welch and Bond ancestors around the North Carolina and Virginia areas.

## Labeling Your E-Files

by Beverly Levine Smallwood

Have you ever downloaded a bunch of GEDCOM files? Looking for a way to label pictures? I had an entire folder of GEDCOMs with helpful names like 12225321.ged. I can never remember which files pertain to which family group. I like to keep them for reference and clues, but I NEVER merge them with my data.

I also have tons of photos with somewhat obscure file names. My scanner and digital camera name the files for me – so you can imagine. Even using long file names, it would be pretty difficult to give a complete and accurate description of each picture within the confines of the long file name.

Someone recently posted<sup>1</sup> a link to a free little utility that proves helpful with both of these situations. FileNote, by Moon Software, is a little shell extension that “adds one command to the shell context menu of a file object”. What that means is, after downloading and installing FileNote, when you right click on any file “FileNote ...” will appear on the menu. Selecting this option will open Notepad to edit or create a TXT

file with the same name as the original.

For example, I can right click on 12225321.ged, select FileNote, and up pops Notepad<sup>2</sup>. I would then type something like “Cedarleaf family in this file is the Oregon branch of the family and is mostly limited to living individuals without any details”. Then I can either save it and close it, or close it and save it when prompted. The next time I right click on this file and select file note, NotePad will open this file and this description will be presented to me.

Suppose you have a folder full of pictures and you use FileNote to “label” them. That means you’ll have two of every file name – one in say JPG and the other as TXT. If you were to burn this folder to a CD and send it to your cousin – s/he’d be able to read the TXT file in NotePad (or any word processor) and figure out the file relationships even without downloading and installing FileNote. That’s real portability.

Here’s another way it might prove handy. You are downloading a file and the website has installation instructions that you will need. Right click on the downloaded file, copy and paste the instructions into a

FileNote and store both together should you ever need to reinstall at a later date.

If you want to, you can even use Window’s find function to locate all the TXT files with a particular word or phrase in a particular directory. Thus using the power of your computer to locate a specific file – video, audio, image, etc. – based on the descriptions you enter.

FileNote was written in 1999, but I’ve downloaded and used it on my XP computers without any problems. It is a small file, so a very quick download, and very quick and easy to install. Just double-click on the downloaded file and you’re done. You may download from: <http://www.moonsoftware.com/freeware.asp>. While you’re there, check out some of the other utilities. Some are for more advanced users, others, like FileNote require very little expertise to master.

<sup>1</sup>I picked up this link and many other interesting ideas on the GEN-COMP-TIPS Mailing List through RootsWeb.

<sup>2</sup>NotePad is a small text editor that is distributed as a standard part of any Windows operating system.

## Other Group Events *Compiled by Beverly Levine Smallwood*

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26 JUN 2003 - 7:15 PM

St. Charles Public Library

MARGARET BRADY

### **Interviewing for Family Histories**

Kane County Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilkcgs/>

07-10 JUL 2003 - SPRINGFIELD

### **Genealogical Institute of Mid America (GIMA)**

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilsgs/announcement.html>

10 JUL 2003 - 7 PM

PHYLLIS J. BAUER

### **The Ins and Outs of Self-Publishing**

McHenry County Genealogical Society

<http://www.mcigs.org/MeetingNew.htm>

10 JUL 2003 - 6 PM NEWBERRY LIBRARY

### **Eric Bond - Photo Preservation and Digital Restoration**

Admission is \$10; free to members. For inquiries  
and reservations, call (312) 255-3510

Newberrys Friends of Genealogy

[http://www.newberry.org/nl/genealogy/  
L3gfriends.html](http://www.newberry.org/nl/genealogy/L3gfriends.html)

11-12 JUL 2003 - INDIANAPOLIS

### **Midwestern Roots 2003**

### **Family History & Genealogy Conference**

<http://www.indianahistory.org/midwesternroots/>

Speakers include Tony Burroughs, Amy Johnson  
Crow, John Philip Colletta, Cyndi Howells, Michael John  
Neill, Loretto Szucs, Curt Witcher, and others.

12 JUL 2003 - WHITEWATER, WI

### **German Interest Group**

### **Wisconsin - Conference**

FEATURING MARION WOLFERT OF SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wigig/workshop.html>

19 JUL 2003 - 10 AM - RICHMOND, IL

Peggy Rockwell Gleich

### **Granny Chatters**

### **Tips & Techniques for Oral Interviews**

BIGWILL

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wiilbig/meet.htm>

21 JUL 2003 - 7 PM

SCOTT FORSYTHE

### **Using the National Archives**

Zion Genealogical Society

<http://nsn.nslsilus.org/wkkhome/zion/index.html>

24 JUL 2003 - 7:15 PM

St. Charles Public Library

**CAGG-NI MEMBER BEVERLY LEVINE SMALLWOOD**

### **File Organization**

Kane County Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilkcgs/>

03-06 SEP 2003 - ORLANDO

### **Federation of Genealogical Societies Conference**

<http://www.fgs.org/2003conf/FGS-2003.htm>

27 SEP 2003 - 9 AM - 4 PM NAPERVILLE

JAMES W. & PAULA STUART WARREN

### **Finding Your One-of-a-Kind Ancestors in Original Documents**

Fox Valley Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>

02-04 OCT 2003 - ALTOONA, IOWA

### **Wheres my Line**

FEATURING GEORGE G. MORGAN AND BEAU SHARBROUGH

### **IGS Annual Fall Conference**

<http://www.iowagenealogy.org/>

18 OCT 2003 - WISCONSIN DELLS, WI

### **Annual Conference**

FEATURING RHONDA McCLURE

Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wsgs/meetings.htm>

22-24 JAN 2004 - ST LOUIS

### **National Genealogical Society**

### **GENTECH Division**

<http://stlgs.org/gentech2004/index.html>

# May 2003 Meeting Notes

## Effective Use Of E-Mail And Message Boards

By Marilyn Alton

May's program, "Effective Use of E-Mail and Message Boards", was given by **Daniel E. Niemiec**, a member of CAGG-NI and co-founder of the northern Chicago area chapter of PIP (POINTERS in Person – an Italian genealogy group).

There are two "e-mail facilities" which can be used to further your research. They are Message Boards and E-mail Lists. The main difference between these tools is that e-mail list postings come to you while you have to go to look at message board postings. You subscribe to a "list". Every message posted to the list will be delivered to your e-mail account. Some lists are also gatewayed to a message board. A message board is basically the same thing as a list except that the messages are held at a central location and you have to go to that central site to view them.

Message boards are an out growth of the old electronic bulletin boards of the 1980s. You can think of them as a historical collection as well as a current and growing source of all the messages posted the board. Each message board has a topic or focus. The purpose of the genealogy message boards is to help you to connect with other people working on your lines. You can also ask others to look-up information for you if they are located where you need research done. It is very important when using the message boards to post a question or answer a question instead of wasting the "bandwidth" on chatter. When replying with information, do not reply to the person, it should be posted to the board.

To find a message board, you want to visit a large message board center. Rootsweb and Ancestry.com are probably this center. These two sites now have one common board center. Using the Google Groups tab to search groups can sometimes be useful. The following are additional addresses which can be very help-

ful in finding a board of interest to you: <http://www.lineages.com/queries> or <http://genforum.genealogy.com>.

Some important items to remember when using message boards are –

- Subject line – it determines whether you or someone else will read that posting. If you want someone to read yours, make this meaningful.
- Put the surnames in CAPS.



- Post specific queries with subject line containing pertinent information enticing people to read it.
- Never ask for "any information on" or "seeking family". What information? What family?
- The posting should have a specific objective.
- Seek boards which focus on your surnames and towns which you are interested in.
- Look for automatic feedback to your postings. The best message boards have a 'check-box' that says "E-mail me if someone replies to this message". Check that box when you post a query or reply.

It is a definite advantage to save all e-mail addresses of the people who contact you. You may need them later. A good place to save them is in your genealogy database itself. Archive all e-mail you send and receive. It is important to back-up your archive regularly and keep a copy off-site. This would be the source

citation of any information you receive.

E-mail lists may be found at Rootsweb and at other sites. You may subscribe to most e-mail lists in either digest or list format. Digest format is a batch of messages while list format is each individual message separately. After signing up for the list, messages will be delivered to your e-mail account.

Once you make a connection with a "cousin", you may want to exchange information. This may be in the form of an attachment. Receiving e-mail attachments can be very dangerous; they may contain a virus. Protect yourself against a virus by only opening an attached file if you are expecting one from that person. It may even be smart to e-mail the person asking if they sent the attachment and "what is the name of the file?" It is always a good idea to send a separate e-mail to the person you are e-mail an attachment giving its name stating you are sending an e-mail with an attachment so they will be expecting your attachment. You should always use anti-virus software and keep it current.

In closing, Dan gave some good rules to follow. Check your e-mail regularly. Do not send e-mails to offices. The bosses may be watching non-work e-mails. Using all these guidelines may help you find information to further your genealogy research.

Thanks Dan for all the good tips.



# Links Around the World

By Frank McGovern

April showers bring May flowers soon to be followed by summer festival time. All of the following festivals should provide many hours of entertainment as well as providing new sources of information and ideas for that book we are all working toward. The following festivals will all be held at Maier Festival Park at Milwaukee's Lake Front.

## Tenth Annual Asian Moon Festival

JUNE 14 -16, 2003

[www.asianmoon.org.entertainment.html](http://www.asianmoon.org.entertainment.html)

Demonstrations and cultural exhibits will be presented by the following nationalities: China, Hmong, India, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thia, Vietnam, Laotia and the Philipine Republic.

## Polish Fest

JUNE 20 - 22, 2003

[www.polishfest.org](http://www.polishfest.org)

America's largest Polish festival welcomes you to discover 1,400 years of Poland's rich history. If you have time, visit Polish Alliance Center of Wisconsin at 6941 South 68<sup>th</sup> Street, Franklin, Wisconsin.

## Festa Italiana

JULY 18 - 21, 2003

[www.festaitaliana.com](http://www.festaitaliana.com)

Festa Italiana will celebrate its 26<sup>th</sup> year with the Italian community sharing its culture and heritage with thousands of people throughout the Midwest.

## German Fest

JULY 26 -28, 2003

[www.germanfest.com](http://www.germanfest.com)

German Fest has something for everyone. A cultural village, music, heritage and wine tasting. Come and find out what's "Kuchen" at the fest.

## African World Festival

AUGUST 2 - 4, 2003

[www.africanworldfestival.com](http://www.africanworldfestival.com)

Stroll through the African village area which serves as a perfect backdrop to learn about these life styles and customs.

## Irish Fest

AUGUST 15 - 18, 2003

[www.irishfest.com](http://www.irishfest.com)

The greenest festival on earth! The exhibits are located at the north end of the grounds. Cultural exhibits, displays, theater, poetry readings and demonstrations bring alive the spirit of Old Ireland's folklore and charm. Be sure to visit Grafton Street; allow yourself time to visit the Irish American Heritage Center on Wisconsin Avenue.

## Mexican Fest

AUGUST 23 - 25, 2003

[www.mexicanfest.org](http://www.mexicanfest.org)

Mexican and Latin cultural heritage spiced up with rousing mariachi bands, foot stomping rhythms and swirls of traditional dancers make this a lively affair.

## Indian Summer

SEPTEMBER 6 - 8, 2003

[www.indiansummer.org](http://www.indiansummer.org)

Come visit the powwow, torch-lit canoe procession, dance troops, tribal village re-creations, a native story teller, American Indian market place and cultural demonstrations. The Indian Summer Festival offers a fun and entertaining way to experience the diversity of both traditional and contemporary American Indian culture.

## Arabian Fest

SEPTEMBER 13 - 15, 2003

[www.arabianfest.com](http://www.arabianfest.com)

Arabian Fest is the newest ethnic festival. It will showcase the rich Arabic culture, unique heritage and deep tradi-

tions of the Arab World. Twenty-two countries will be represented in this exciting event. For more information about each country go to: <http://www.arab.net>

And now for a bit of whimsy:

## How Some Idioms Got Their Start as well as some Weird History

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would take the bones to a "bone house" and reuse the grave. When re-opening these coffins, one out of twenty five coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they thought they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the grave yard all night (the grave yard shift) to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be "saved by the bell" or was considered a "dead ringer."

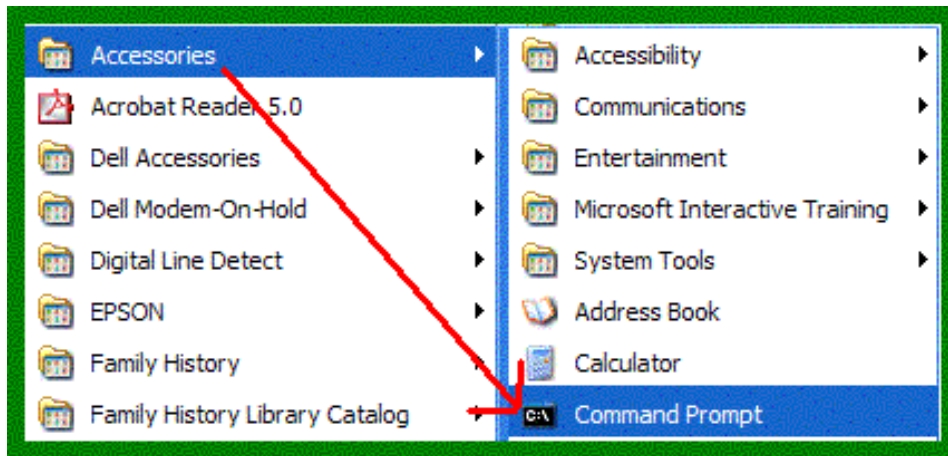
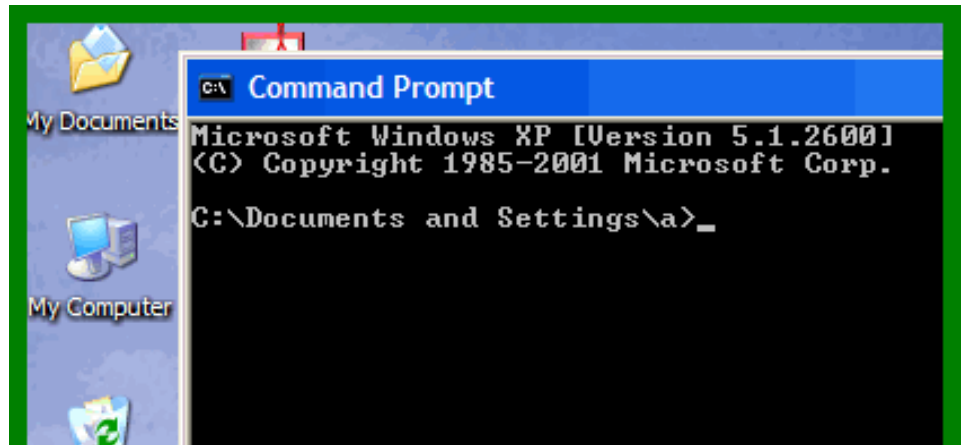
And that's the truth.....

# This and That

by Anne Jacobs

This is a new feature which will appear from time to time. It will contain tidbits of computerese which are not meaty enough to be an article but may prove useful.

This first one is one that I have used often and don't know of any other way to accomplish it. It is pretty geeky in that it uses the DOS Command Prompt window. See figure below to see where it is in Windows XP. Look for a similar function in your operating system.



Have you ever wanted a list of all the files found in a folder/directory in an electronic format so you can use it? GeekSpeak for this technique is: you are "piping" the results to a different target than the screen. I have often and use this trick to do it. (Bev's column this month on FileNote reminded me of this one.) After I get the list, I can import it into Word or Excel and do anything I want from there.

After opening a Command Prompt window, you will be able (have to) use DOS commands to accomplish anything. To get yourself back to Windows, either

use the "X" up in the corner or type "exit" without the quotes at the blinking cursor. Now that you know how to get yourself into trouble and back out again, here is the technique.

Once in the Command Prompt window, if you key:

```
dir c:\foldername
```

and enter, you will see exactly what will be found in the file after you are done.

Now key in the DOS instruction to copy the list of files into a new file. This command is:

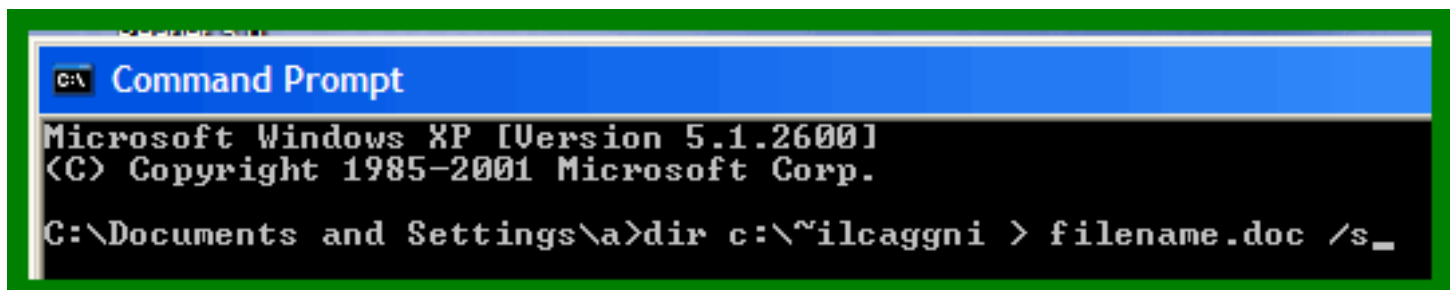
```
dir c:\foldername > filename.doc
```

substituting "foldername" with the folder you are interested in

and substituting "filename.doc" with the file name you want to find the list in.

Key in the entire path address if you want to have the file written to a specific location. If you have not done this, you can use Windows Explorer to find the file. By clicking on the file, it will open up in your word processor and you can do anything you want with the data.

One last tip. If your folder has subfolders, by adding the "switch" for subdirectories, you will also get the contents of these subfolders listed. The "switch" is /s See figure below.



# Mausoleum Computer for Chicago Catholic Interments

by Daniel E. Niemiec

If you have Chicago ancestors or relatives who have shuttled off this mortal coil, it is often difficult to find out which cemetery they are buried in. You need either a death certificate (expensive), a death notice (elusive or non-existent), an old auntie who knows (but won't tell you) or you have to call many cemeteries, one-at-a-time (time-consuming). Experienced Chicago researchers can usually narrow down the cemetery based on the religion and ethnic origin of the deceased, but it can still be difficult to find. Even if you find the right cemetery, you need the Section, Block and Lot numbers, or the Crypt number, which requires a call to the cemetery office anyway.

There is a tool available to Chicago genealogists that can help you find the burial locations of your Catholic relatives without going through the afore-mentioned steps. I will give you the bad news now just to get it out of the way.

1) This tool is only available at the Queen of Heaven Mausoleum in west-suburban Hillside, IL. It is not available on the internet for perusal by insomniac genealogists (yet)

2) The tool is incomplete because not all cemetery data has been entered yet.

3) It only contains Catholic Cemetery interments and entombments.

The Catholic Cemeteries branch of the Archdiocese of Chicago has been painstakingly typing their interment records into computers for public use for a few years now. Many cemeteries have a computer kiosk in the cemetery office for use by the public. But each office kiosk contains only the records for that particular cemetery, and who wants to drive to all 42 cemeteries? Also, the offices close early on Saturday and are closed altogether on Sunday, leaving most employed people very little time to use them. However, they have a single computer that contains all the data that is available in the individual office kiosks, so you can search for a name and find where they are buried even if you don't know the cemetery.

The computer kiosk located at the old gothic Mausoleum building at Queen of Heaven Cemetery (at Roosevelt Road and Wolf Road in west-suburban Hillside) contains Catholic cemetery interment information for many cemeteries (but not all) in their system. It is open 9am-5pm in the summer (even on weekends) and 9am-4pm in the winter. I just spent an entire Sunday morning there looking up relatives in the computer and verifying which cemeteries have been entered. Here is the complete list and the status:

All Saints - Des Plaines (86,000 burials and entombments): Seems to have only mausoleum information but not the burials...the kiosk at All Saints has all their records complete

Ascension - Libertyville (21,000): complete

Assumption - Glenwood (11,000): not yet

Calvary - Evanston (217,000): not yet

Calvary - Steger: not yet

Holy Cross - Calumet City (85,000): complete

Holy Sepulchre - Alsip (128,000): complete

Maryhill - Niles (34,000): complete

Mount Carmel - Hillside (225,000): Surnames A-H are in the computer kiosk. They have completed A-L on their internal PC.

Mount Olivet - south side Chicago (142,000): complete

Our Lady of Sorrows - Hillside (number included in Queen of Heaven): complete

Queen of Heaven - Hillside (122,000): complete

Resurrection - Justice (171,000): complete

Sacred Heart - Northbrook: complete

St. Adalbert - Niles (294,000): it looks like they are entered but the data does not come up on the kiosk PC correctly

St. Alphonsus - Lemont: not yet

St. Anne - Park Forest: not yet

St. Bede - Fox Lake: complete

St. Benedict - Crestwood: not yet

St. Boniface - north side Chicago (89,000): not yet

St. Casimir - southwest side Chicago (60,000): complete

SS Cyril & Methodius - Lemont: complete

St. Gabriel - Oak Forest: not yet

St. Henry - north side Chicago: not yet

St. James - Lemont: complete

St. James - Sauk Village: not yet

St. Joseph - River Grove (142,000): not yet and supposedly last on the list

St. Joseph - Round Lake: complete

St. Joseph - Wilmette: not yet

St. Mary - Evergreen Park (167,000): complete

St. Mary - Fremont Center: complete

St. Mary - Highland Park: not yet

St. Mary - Lake Forest: complete

St. Mary - Waukegan: complete

St. Michael - Orland Park: complete

St. Michael the Archangel - Palatine (9000): complete

St. Patrick - Lemont: not yet

St. Patrick - Wadsworth: complete

St. Patrick - West Lake Forest: complete

St. Peter - Skokie: not yet

St. Peter - Volo: complete

Transfiguration - Wauconda: complete

It seems to be updated monthly, and I did see some March 2003 interments (Eleanor "Sis" Daley is in there) but no April 2003 interments yet.

So now that you know what is available, how does it work? Is it difficult to use? Well a little.

The computer kiosk is a touch screen (no keyboard) so you touch the screen and a voice starts explaining that you should type in the last name. The voice is comforting the first 2 or 3 times you hear it, but after the 300th name, you begin hearing this precious voice in your sleep. Anyway, you can only type in a last name using the touch screen keyboard (arranged in rows A-Z...you can change this to the standard QWERTY keyboard layout by touching a button on the

## Mausoleum Computer (Continued)

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screen). The computer will then take you to a full-screen list starting with the name closest to what you typed, even if you don't get an exact match. The list is in column form (looks a little like a spreadsheet) and shows you the last name, first name, date of interment (not date of death) and age. One of the rows will be highlighted and you need to move the highlight to the name you want. (The "voice" starts instructing you again.) The touch-screen gives you a Scroll Up and a Scroll Down button but no Page Up or Page Down, so if you are looking for Marie Burke, you will either have to tap the Scroll Down button about a thousand times, or you can press and HOLD the Scroll Down or Scroll Up buttons to move quickly through the list. Once you find the entry you want, press the button marked Show Record. This takes you to a new screen which just shows a single record, including the name, the burial location (Section Block Lot and Grave numbers or Crypt and Tier numbers for mausoleums) and the cemetery name and address. (Note that the date of interment and age are not on the second screen so you need to write them down while still on the first screen.) You now have 3

choices. (The "voice" gives you more instructions.) You can press Start Over, you can Go Back to the first screen with the list, or you can push a button to Print the record. A printout will come out of the printer down below. The printout gives you a full sheet containing the standard cemetery rules and regs on one side, and on the other side you get the name and burial location, cemetery name and address, a map showing the entire cemetery and the winding roads and section numbers AND a new feature... a map of the Section showing block numbers and very tiny lot numbers!

I should point out that A) not all sections are in the computer yet; B) The section maps are very very hard to read and C) they only let you print 3 locations "because of those genealogists". (That is a direct quote from a gentleman who was working there Sunday...)

I have sent Catholic Cemeteries some suggestions, such as the section map, and whether I had anything to do with it or not, some of the suggestions are being implemented. The section maps are critical because you can find the grave yourself without having to rely on a visit to the office (sometimes closed) or look-

ing at those little round markers that tell you where you are (often missing or unreadable).

I have been finding possible relatives in the Social Security Death index but many of them have no full date of death (just the month and year) so it is nice to be able to use the cemetery kiosk to find the date of burial, which usually gets you within a few days of the date of death. If you have narrowed the date of death to a few days, you can now search for a death notice and get the rest of the family structure. I also like being able to look these up without calling and bothering the cemetery office staff. I have so many names I'm looking for that I would never stop calling them and they would finally put in a caller-id and block my calls.

So in summation, the Queen of Heaven computer kiosk is located in the center entrance to the gothic mausoleum building (also called Queen of Heaven). Supposedly when all 42 cemeteries are complete, the entire database will be available on the internet, but until then (and it will be a couple of years at least) you can go to Hillside and look up your own burials.