



THE TUG



WHO AM I? WHERE DID I COME FROM? WHO WERE MY ANCESTORS? WHO ARE MY DISTANT RELATIVES?

All of these questions can probably be answered with a personal ancestry search.

Our February meeting saw our very own Lenore Hansen-Stafford, taking a break from her world travels, to give us a presentation on genealogy. Using ancestry dot dna and her family name and Jim's she took us on a tour of both family trees.

The user entered information is placed in their database which enables the user to sort in all kinds of ways. The data is presented in a format that is easy to follow and with connecting lines of each generation that is entered.

A few of us were surprised to learn that any census data is locked for public use for 72 years. So the census of 2020 won't be available for perusing until 2092. According to the National Archives this is referred to as the "72-Year Rule". Apparently, back in the day, folks didn't live much past 72 so the thought was to keep their information private until as such time they should have cooperated by passing on. Then anything found about them wouldn't matter, except to their future generations.

Lenore mentioned other genealogy software, such as, Legacy Family Tree and Family Tree Builder and Ancestral Quest. There are many more for both the PC and the Mac and all are available for a price. Do a Bing search for Top 10 Genealogy Software of 2019 to see features and pricing.

Personally, I was disappointed that my name was not listed in the census the year I was born. Both my parents, Grandfather, sister and brothers were, but I was not. I was in the room, more specifically, the womb. So, I understand, I really didn't count at the time.

Lenore also fielded a number of questions like a pro and managed to use most of our allotted time, which took the load off Jim 'cause he didn't have to come up with a program to fill the unused time.

Learning about your ancestors can be fun and fill in a lot of the blanks you never got to hear in your youth. It's also a good way to become more comfortable with the use of the computer databases (without have to program them yourselves) and it keeps your mind active.

And, if you're not of a mind to spend money on software or an on-line subscription to one of the genealogical sites, you can often get computer time at any Hawaii State Library and any one of the locations listed on this site –

<https://www.archives.com/genealogy/records-hawaii.html>

It's that time of year again... "Beware the ides of March" was famously scribbled by William Shakespeare in his play "Julius Caesar" as the ominous warning given by a soothsayer to the soon-to-be ex-Roman emperor as he made his way to the Capitol that fateful day in 44 BC. And although good old Bill probably thought it was far from a throwaway line, even the great poet and playwright could not have imagined the life it's taken on the 500 years since. Not only did Shakespeare's words stick, they branded the phrase with a dark and gloomy connotation that will forever make people uncomfortable. It's probable that many people who use the phrase today don't know the true origin. In fact, just about every pop culture reference to the Ides—save for those appearing in actual history-based books, movies or television specials—makes it seem like the day itself is cursed. Did the death of Caesar curse the day, or was it just Shakespeare's mastery of language that forever darkened an otherwise normal box on the calendar? If you look through history, you can certainly find enough horrible things that happened on March 15, (In 1954 the IRS reorganized and moved it to its current date of April 15) but is it a case of life imitating art? Or art imitating life? If you are like me, what the "Ides" for you are also our "Friends" the IRS {:-) Seriously, It's the time of year when the scammers are out in force trying to part us with our money before the IRS gets it! So, with that in mind, here are some alerts about IRS Imposter Scams, warning us to "Beware"



IRS imposter scams occur when someone contacts you pretending to work for the IRS. The imposter may contact you by phone, email, postal mail, or even a text message. There are two common types of scams:

- Tax collection - You receive a phone call or letter, claiming that you owe taxes. They will demand that you pay the amount immediately often with a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. They may even threaten to arrest you if you don't pay.
- Verification - You receive an email or text message that requires you to verify your personal information. The message often includes a hyperlink phrase "click here" or a button to a fraudulent form or website.



REPORT IRS IMPOSTER SCAMS

Contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) if you believe that an IRS imposter has contacted you. Report IRS imposter scams online or by calling TIGTA at 1-800-366-4484. Forward email messages that claim to be from the IRS to phishing@irs.gov.



TIPS TO AVOID IRS IMPOSTER SCAMS

There are things to look out for to prevent being a victim of an IRS imposter scam.

DO:

- Beware if someone calls claiming to be from the IRS. The IRS will always contact you by mail before calling you about unpaid taxes.
- Ask a caller to provide their name and badge number and callback number. Then call TIGTA at 1-800-366-4484 to determine if the caller is an IRS employee with a legitimate need to contact you. If the person legitimately is from the IRS, call them back. Otherwise report it to the IRS.
- Become familiar with what fraudulent IRS email messages look like. Review a sample IRS phishing email.
- Verify the number of the letter, form, or notice on the IRS website.
- Be suspicious of threats. The IRS won't threaten to have police arrest you for not paying a bill.

DON'T:

- Don't give in to demands to pay money immediately. Be especially suspicious of demands to wire money or pay with a prepaid debit card.
- Don't trust the name or phone number on a caller ID display that shows "IRS." Scammers often change the name that shows on caller ID.
- Don't click on any links in email or text messages to verify your information

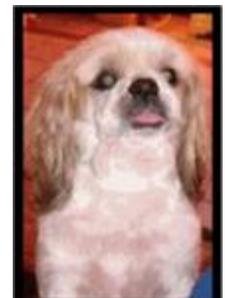


VIDEO: WATCH OUT FOR IRS IMPOSTER SCAMS

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i4nCy6Xs6R8>

That's all for now...remember, St Patrick's Day is March 17.

www.the-tug.org

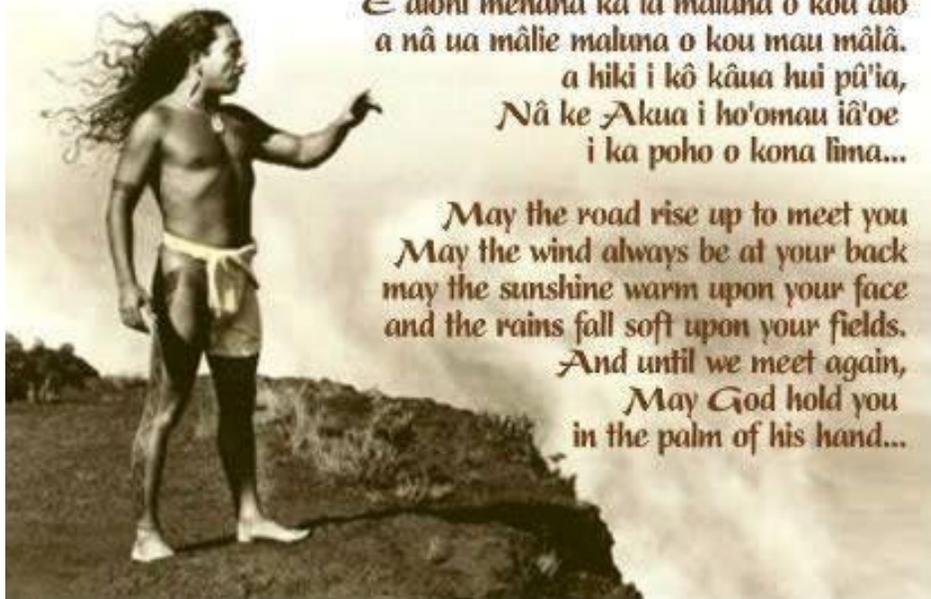


Official Computer User Group of the Aloha Chapter MOAA
Established 1988
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Blessing...

*E pi'i ke ala i hui pū me'oe
E pā ka makani ma kou kua
E ālohi mehana ka lā maluna o kou alo
a nā ua mālīe maluna o kou mau mālā.
a hiki i kō kāua hui pū'ia,
Nā ke Akua i ho'omau iā'oe
i ka poho o kona lima...*

*May the road rise up to meet you
May the wind always be at your back
may the sunshine warm upon your face
and the rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you
in the palm of his hand...*



Happy St. Patrick's Day
from us here in the land
of Aloha to all of you!



MOAA Hawai'i Aloha Chapter Computer User Group