We Welcome
DEBRA MIESZALA, C.G.

SATURDAY
29 OCTOBER 2011
9 AM - 4 PM
MILWAUKIE ELKS

Host Organization Genealogical Forum of Oregon, Inc.
www.gfo.org

Debra Mieszala’s Topics

~ Wonderful Websites: Real Records Online

~ The Curious Case of the Disappearing Dude ~ Pension Application Files

~ Pulling Evidence from Beneath a Record’s Surface Information

SEMINAR FEATURES:

• Nationally Known Speaker • Book Vendor

• Genealogical Treasures’ Drawings • GFO Surplus Book Sale
### MIESZALA  2011 FALL SEMINAR SIGN-UP FORM   29 OCTOBER 2011

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MEMBERS: { } $40 received by Oct. 15th, { } $45 received after Oct. 15th (no lunch)
NON-MEMBERS: { } $45 received by Oct. 15th, { } $50 recvd after Oct. 15th (no lunch)
LUNCH: { } $11 must be received by Oct. 15th

TOTAL ENCLOSED: ______________________

Checks made payable to Genealogical Forum of Oregon or “GFO”, P.O. Box42567, Portland, Oregon 97242-0567

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### SEMINAR REGISTRATION: 8:00 AM ON SATURDAY 29 OCTOBER, 2011

First class starts at 9:15 a.m. With a morning break, an hour lunch and an afternoon break. Program ends about 3:30 p.m. Snacks and drinks at morning and afternoon breaks included with admission.

**Refund policy:** for cancellations received after 22 October, refunds will be made in the amount of the registration fee less a $10.00 cancellation fee. Lunch fees are non-refundable if cancelled after 15 October 2011.

### TOPICS FOR THE SEMINAR

Debra Mieszala, Certified Genealogist\(^6\), has been involved in genealogical research for over twenty-five years. Much of her work involves locating family members of past war MIAs for the Army and Air Force. She formerly worked under court order as a certified Confidential Intermediary (CI) in Illinois, assisting people in adoption situations to re-connect. In addition to presenting at the national conference level, she has taught classes at Salt Lake Institute of Genealogy. Her articles have been published in *OnBoard!, NGS Magazine*, and *The Digital Genealogist*.

**~Wonderful Websites: Real Records Online** Original records can be found online. Scattered and varied, their value is immense. Several sites will be reviewed.

**~The Curious Case of the Disappearing Dude** James McBride seemingly vanished after coming of age. This case study presents how multiple versions of obituaries and other records helped uncover a name change, discover a famous James, and identify what became of his kin.

**~Pension Application Files** Military pension application files are invaluable resources of genealogical and historical information. Many pension application documents are preserved and contain valuable data. The various laws that governed pensions will be discussed.

**~Pulling Evidence from Beneath a Record’s Surface Information** Proper scrutiny of each piece of information in a document is essential to understanding that item’s evidentiary value. Studying every word’s meaning and context ensures that evidence has been properly analyzed and comprehended. Includes a sample research problem and documents to puzzle through in class.

### Site of Seminar

**Milwaukie Elks Lodge**

13121 SE McLoughin Blvd., Milwaukie, Oregon

Situated on the west side of McLoughin Blvd., Oregon Hwy 99E, 1/2 mile south of the town of Milwaukie. Located between SE Park Avenue (traffic light to the north) and the Bomber (restaurant to the south). Look for Milwaukie Elks Lodge sign.
WHAT’S INSIDE?

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Dear Members,

We hope you were able to join us during the opening events of our new headquarters and library in the historic Ford Building during the month of September. If not, events are still going on until Oct 8th. Bring a guest, encourage your neighbors to check us out. There are no guest fees during this period of time. Check out our website calendar as well as one of the recent mailings.

We are grateful for the many volunteers who stepped forward to help us with the moving details, the planning for the move and opening events, earlier painting parties, and for our many members’ patience during this exciting time. TriMet, which needed our space for the new Milwaukie MAX line, came forward with some relocation money for our move, plus other re-connecting expenses. Thanks goes to those members who dedicated donations toward the moving expenses.

New computers should be in place for your researching use-Ancestry.com access continues to be a popular program on our computers--as well as special tables and chairs which have been ordered. The lighting is brighter down the aisles to ease scanning the books and microfilm. A new Heat/Ventilation/Air conditioning system is in place for our comfort and to protect our huge collection of books.

The Interest groups were busy this past month during the opening events. We thank them for sponsoring different days with activities in our library. Monthly Program speakers have been planned for each month by our busy Education Committee. The ongoing Beginning Genealogy class continues with Connie Lenzien.

The Computer Interest Group has been reformed with new leadership but a different meeting date and time. They will meet every other month during the even months on the third Saturday of the month at 9:30. Following their meeting there will be an ongoing group who use The Master Genealogist software, and will work with the different updates the manufacture sends them from time to time. There will be a lunch break between meetings. Longtime leader Marty Krauter, after 14 years, stepped away from the leadership of the Computer Interest Group. Thank you, Marty. To fill that gap, Roger Ostrom and Daphne Garrison have come forward to bring the group back to life. Several people in our membership have different software programs, and have offered to talk about their favorite features of their existing programs. This will answer a need that I hear often from new genealogists to our group while I work on the desk—“What is the best, user friendly software to use for my research”. PAF (Personal Ancestry File), Legacy, The Master Genealogist, Family Tree Maker, Reunion, etc., will be featured during the group’s five meetings (Sept through June) with the first one on October 15th. All are welcome to attend, and to stay on for the TMG meeting following.

Come see our new facilities and share our love of family history research. Lyleth Winther, lylethw@gmail.com
GRAND OPENING OF LIBRARY

HOORAY! THE GFO LIBRARY IS OPEN!

On September 14th, 2011, folks gathered in the lobby just outside the new library's open double doors for the opening ceremonies. Laurel Smith and her band of volunteers had arranged chairs, tables of cookies (donated by Rawlicious and the Ford Food restaurant upstairs), pickled vegetables (donated by our local "pickle man" for Moonbrine Pickles), and hot tea from fellow tenant Foxfire Teas which is located at the back of the Ford Building. The library doors were propped back and supported clusters of colorful balloons. A wide red ribbon, strung across the entry way to the library, was cut by President Lyleth Winther and Bob Hastings of TriMet at the close of the ceremony.

Don Holznagel, Relocation Chair emceed the event, reflecting on the three year long process, recognizing Jim Morrow, our Facilities Manager and Interior Design Chair, the vendors and our realtors who help find our space. President Winther welcomed everyone, and declared "We, the board and volunteers, are excited, we hope you are. There are several details to be worked out, but we are glad the move is over and we are back open. We appreciate all the hard work the committees contributed--from planning to painting parties, to setup in the new space". From TriMet’s Bob Hastings, a TriMet Agency Architect, we were presented with the progress so far on the Milwaukie MAX line, as well as a visual aid showing what the transformed area will look like as he pointed out the space where the Gideon building will be only a memory. The Gideon Street building next to the railroad was to be demolished this fall, but there have been delays.

Historic Scrapbook Presented: At the Grand Opening Event, in honor of the Grand Opening, Bonnie LaDoe, of the Heritage Scrapbooking Interest Group, presented Lyleth and the society with a scrapbook of the early days of the Ford Building itself, our moving events like the painting parties, and a wealth of clippings and souvenirs from the very early days of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon from when it was formed in 1946. It can be found atop a short bank of shelves near the main desk.

PRESIDENT LYLETH WINther AND BOB HASTINGS FROM TRI-MET CUT THE CEREMONIAL RIBBON

MEMBERS’ Favorite Websites:

- www.gfo.org
- www.archives.gov/aad/
- www.usgenweb.com
- www.rootsweb.com
- www.cyndislist.com
- www.familysearch.org
- www.ancestry.com
- www.nara.gov
- www.sos.mo.gov/archives/
- www.multcolib.org
- www.ohs.org
- www.sccgs-wa.org (Clark Co Gen Soc)
- www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/archives.html
- www.genealogy.az.gov/index.htm
- www.DAR.org
- www.theshipslist.com
- http://abish.byui.edu/specialCollections/westernstates/search.cfm
  (Western States Marriages to 1928)
- www.kshs.org (Kansas)
- www.ellisisland.org
- heritagequestonline (through multcolib.org)
- www.findagrave.com
- www.footnote.com $ (free for 1st week)
- www.genuki.org.uk
- www.genealogy.com $
- www.GenealogyToday.com
- www.interment.net (cemetery inscriptions)
- www.ObitCentral.com
- www.rootstelevision.com
- www.progenealogists.com
- www.genqueries.com
- www.mocavo.com

$ = Fee Sites
-UPCOMING EVENTS-

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CORNISH SOCIETY

The Pacific Northwest Cornish Society’s next meeting will offer members and guests the opportunity to begin working on their genealogy or get questions answered about the work they have already done.

The meeting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 1, 2011, at the Clark County Genealogical Library, 717 N. Grand Blvd., Vancouver. Social gathering begins at 11 a.m., followed by a potluck lunch, general business meeting and unstructured time in the library, with members of the Cornish group available to help break down “brick walls” in genealogical research.

The Pacific Northwest Cornish Society is a group of people with an interest in the history and culture of Cornwall, the westernmost county in England; in the contributions of Cornish immigrants; and in Cornish heritage and genealogy. The group meets three times a year, in Vancouver in October; in Puyallup in March; and in Centralia in July. It draws members from throughout Western Washington and Oregon.

For further information, contact Ann Holiday, newsletter editor, at (206) 935-0346 or aholiday@seanet.com.

SOUTH KING COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Announces its fall mini-seminar
Cemetery Records And Spell Binding Nuggets of Information
Featuring Paul Elvig

When: October 15, 2011 ~ 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon (doors open at 8:00 a.m.)
Where: The First Baptist Church of Kent, 11420 SE 248th St., Kent, WA 98030

Proceeds to benefit the Saar Pioneer Cemetery Unmarked Graves Memorial Monument Fund

Full details can be found on our website
http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~waskcgs/

MILWAUKIE STAKE
FAMILY HISTORY FAIR
Capturing Ancestral Treasures
Saturday, November 5, 2011
9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
with registration at 8:00 a.m.
Free To All
8331 Cason Rd. Gladstone, Oregon
valeriesc@hotmail.com

FACEBOOK

Are you on Facebook? Like the GFO? Thumbs Up! Search for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon - you'll know you've found us when you see the blue Family Tree logo.
VOLUNTEER TO BE A RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Would you like to improve your genealogy skills while helping others? One of the best ways to accomplish this is to volunteer to be a Research Assistant. You learn about our collection by assisting patrons in finding important information from books on the shelves or by using our computers. You would be teamed with an experienced person who would guide you in the procedures. Duties involve welcoming patrons to our new facilities, answering the telephone, and just being there. We couldn't keep the library open without our dedicated volunteers. If this sounds like fun to you, send me an email or call our front desk and leave your name.

Cathy Lauer, catlauer@comcast.net or (503) 963-1932.

INTEREST GROUPS’ CONTACT LIST

BRITISH GROUP—Lyleth Winther <lylaw1@gmail.com> 4th Sat (Sept, Jan, Mar, May) 1-3 pm.

COMPUTER GROUP—Contact, Roger Ostrom, rostrom@spiritone.com Meets Third Saturday Of Even Moths, 9:30 to 11:30 (503 288-3867)

DNA—Emily Aulicino <aulicino@hevanet.com> 2nd Tues—Jan, April, Jul, Oct from 1-2:30 p.m.

GERMAN GROUP—Meets 1st Saturday, monthly (Sep thru June) 1 pm-3 pm, GFO Library Contacts: Carolyn Bergeron (cbergeron67@msn.com) or Nanci Remington (nancir@comcast.net)

HERITAGE SCRAPBOOKING GROUP—Bonnie LaDoe <bladobe@aol.com> 1st Sunday Monthly 1-4:30 p.m. except summer months

ILLINOIS GROUP—Kristy Gravlin <hannah@teleport.com> and Harlene Patterson <Harlene5@yahoo.com> 2nd Sat - 9:30a.m.

IRISH GROUP—Suzanne Lemon slemon46@yahoo.com or Lenore LeMans lenorel@comcast.net 3rd Sat- 1 p.m.(Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sept, Nov) Group meets in GFO’s Library, but sometimes at Family History Center—105th Ave & NE Thompson

TMG – Computer Group, Contact: Roger Ostrom, rostrom@spiritone.com The Master Genealogist program and Other Genealogy Software Programs, 3rd Sat of Even Months at Noon.

VIRGINIA GROUP—Meets 1st Saturday, monthly (Sep thru June) 10am-12noon, GFO Library Contacts: Judi Scott (rb5522@aol.com) and Carol Surrency (lcsurr@aol.com)

WRITERS’ FORUM GROUP—Peggy Baldwin <peggy.baldwin@family-passages.com> 2nd Sat every month, but no meetings in June, July & August.
The week of September 5th I flew to Springfield, Illinois for the FGS conference. It was a wonderful conference where I had a great time.

There were over 2000 in attendance. I'm working to transcribe all my notes and ideas I came away with that week and wanted to include some here, as I think some of these might be useful to growing our society as well.

I also got to see Kristy Gravlin several times and a few other Oregonians.

One of the items that gives food for thought is genealogy tourism. There was an award given for what Oklahoma was able to do to bring tourism dollars to their state. Here is a link to the award announcement and it has links within it to Oklahoma. This of course is driven by advertising and partnering with the tourism board.


One of the lectures I attended was by D. Joshua Taylor, "Engaging a New Generation of Genealogists." The buzz after this lecture went till the next lectures began an half hour later! I'll be including notes below, but here is a blog post that explains well the gist of the lecture.


And, out of that lecture we have a new word, 21sters. Who are the 21sters? They are the younger people who come to us fully connected in the 21st century with the ability to use social media and the electronics that drive social media.

Here are some of the ideas presented in the lecture that I hope can be of some benefit to GFO.

- Make Mentoring a benefit of membership. This helps to engage the membership and nurture the new member to be better researchers through education.
- Ticketed event: It was explained that the younger generation of today buys event tickets all the time. It is the same as registration, but in the terminology of the 21ster, you get event tickets.
- Have online learning tools on the website. These might include webinars; or lessons on how to do a particular research task.
- As a benefit of membership, if your members are on Google+ the society can sponsor a 'hang-out' (all free on Google+). You can create a calendar of subjects that you might discuss. Keep in mind there is a 10 person limit to hangouts.
- Create YouTube items for the benefit of your society. Perhaps a tour of your society from the prospective of the potential new member (this of course removes the fear of the unknown when someone watches the introduction of the society from home, so everything will look some what familiar when they come thru that door.) Go to youtube.com and search with the word genealogy.
- Have an official society blogger, preferably a 21ster.
- Have a Google+ coordinator
- Have a Twitter society rep as well.
- Have a link to our facebook page on the GFO homepage: http://www.facebook.com/#!/gfo.org (GFO currently has 101 people who have liked our page)
- Involve the Community: develop mentorship programs for 21sters Involve librarians; History students at local colleges, Archivists, student archivists - invite them to speak at our society (and expose them to this part of history), Society of American Archivists. Historians, History students as above, Schools: Family History projects, Teachers & Administrators, History & Social Studies Classes. Sponsor events having to do with family history.

21st Century Marketing for Genealogy Societies: lecture by Thomas MacEntee (yes there's more!) Social Media tools are needed to get the attention of the younger people and make your community aware of your presence. Much of what he talked about is above in the notes from Josh's presentation. All those electronic formats are needed; Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Blogs, Videos, Social bookmarking.

Thomas has a Social Media Plan that he says should be implemented slowly, say every other month adding something. I've written to Thomas and requested this plan. (It's information). I believe in always gathering more information.
SYMPATHY
Our hearts go out to Jan Robinson, who recently lost her mother.

OUR THANKS TO THE FOOD MERCHANTS IN THE FORD BUILDING
During our Grand Opening Event, Laurel Smith asked for donations to our event from some of the food merchants in the building. We hope folks will seek these businesses out as we are grateful for their donations.
From "Stu the Pickle Man" (as we call him) for Moonbrine Pickles (in the basement by the elevator). He furnished us platters of pickled cucumber slices as well as two types of pickled vegetables. From Rawlicious, we had a platter of cookies which were gluten free, healthy and delicious. Ford Food & Drink furnished a platter of yummy cookies and some dips. Foxfire Tea (on the south side of the building) furnished a hot tea setup, featuring one of their popular flavors.

NEWS FROM GFO INTEREST GROUPS
BRITISH GROUP MEETING
The first meeting of the new year for the British Group will be on January 29th. The topic will be "Sharing your home resources/books and/or souvenirs" led by leader Lyleth Winther. So bring same. This was a great topic during our first year (we're in our 6th year). Bears repeating.

Lyleth  lylethw@gmail.com

IRISH INTEREST GROUP
At our next Irish Interest Group meeting on Saturday, November 19th, we will review the event, “Find Your Irish Family” and get everyone's feed back about what worked and what could be better and ideas for other things we can do and perhaps what speakers/presenters/entertainers you might like to invite back and, of course, discuss any successes or brick walls found recently for genealogical research.
Lenore Lemans  lenorel@comcast.net

DONATIONS FOR THE TREASURES' AUCTION AT THE FALL SEMINAR
As we take registrations for our upcoming Fall Seminar with Debra Miezsala, we'd like to take the opportunity to ask you to search your closet or desk for a gently used item that we can auction at the seminar. Suggestions include genealogically related books, household decorations, carry bags and computer items. This year we've collected a new scanner and a framed family tree as well as a nice carry bag, a pair of insulated coffee mugs and a puzzle.
Tickets are sold for $1 each or 6 for $5 and they are placed in a paper sack for each prize so you win only something you want! Leave the item(s) at the desk in the reading room with a note that it's a donation to the Seminar treasures Auction. Thanks!
Gerry Lenzen and Jeanette Hopkins, Co-Chairs Fall Seminar

AUGUST 2011 FINANCIAL REPORT
Income totaled $2,732.53 and expenses were $3,269.70 including the $2,11500 for the renewal of our Ancestry.com annual subscription. We spent $492.78 on postage for the brochures for the open house. The costs for the printing of the mailing will be posted in October.
Our costs for the floor refinishing ($1,804/40), the 50% deposit on the tables ($4,061.00) and the chairs ($1,605.00) were also paid in August.

Remember to use the www.gfo.org site to search for your Amazon purchase as we earn a 4% referral fee for each item purchased. We earned $14.14 for the month of Jun 11 which was posted in Aug. 11.
Jeanette Hopkins, Treasurer
The Writing Contests’ theme this year is “Taking a Stand.” All of us have ancestors who took a stand, sometimes risking their lives; or at the very least, risking their position in the community. It took courage and conviction, and should make for very interesting stories this year. As last year, awards will be made at the GFO’s April 14th monthly meeting. See the rules below for the rules and due date.

You most likely have people in your ancestry that would fit well with this theme. I can think of at least three examples from my own family history.

1. John Emery, one of the original settlers in Newbury, Massachusetts, was hauled into court for “entertaining Quakers.” He said that “if they came to his house they should be welcome and he would not forbid them.” He was accused of bringing “scandal…upon our town to the dishonor of God and damage and hurt to some of our neighbors”.

2. Joshua Rea, living in Salem Village (now Danbury), during the Witchcraft trials in 1692-3, signed a petition to get charges dropped for seventy-year old Rebecca Nurse. At first it looked like Rebecca had been exonerated. But the teenagers, who had accused her in the first place, began to have unexplainable fits, and in the end she was hung.

The Baldwin and related families, in Morris Township and Amherst Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania, in the 1830s, helped transform their Presbyterian Churches to Cumberland Presbyterian, turning away from the concept of “predestination” and from requiring ministers to have significant education. Both stands were fitting for a frontier community, where they believed in their ability to make a good life and where it was difficult to get educated ministers to come.

There is real drama in all three of these stories, allowing for good character development and intriguing plots. Look for families and individuals in your own family history that would make for a good factual story.

You will want to include particulars about your ancestors, building your story’s characters, so we can see them as we read. You will also want to build the environment, what it was like in your ancestor’s place and time. You will want to build a plot with suspense, that includes the adversity, and the risk that your ancestor took by “taking a stand.” Why would they take the stand they did? What was going on in their environment that would lead them to act in the way they did.

If you have any questions, email Peggy Baldwin at peggy.baldwin@family-passages.com. Also check out our web page – [http://www.gfo.org/writingcontest/index.htm](http://www.gfo.org/writingcontest/index.htm) for some articles about how to write for the contest and to see past winning stories.

Please carefully read the contest requirements below, so you don’t have any last minute surprises!

**Contest Requirements:**

Piece must be written to the theme: “Taking a Stand” – a factual story about your ancestor, a hero in a conventional way or going against the tide.

**Length** — 2000 to 5000 words

Documentation in the form of endnotes or footnotes is **required**.

Story must be submitted in electronic form—Word or RTF file, submitted as an email attachment or burned to a CD or floppy disk

Submitted between November 1, 2011 and February 1, 2012.

Plan ahead and make a concerted effort to attend the award presentation at the GFO Monthly meeting on Saturday, April 14, 2012.
OUR NEW LIBRARY IN THE HISTORIC FORD BUILDING DURING “FIND YOUR IRISH ANCESTOR” WEEKEND

TOM O’BRIEN HELPS RESEARCHERS FIND THEIR IRISH ROOTS

A LONG VIEW OF ONE SIDE OF THE LIBRARY SHELVING

FR. ART WHEELER GIVES A PRESENTATION ON IRISH HISTORY

REMEMBER WHEN THE NEW SPACE LOOKED LIKE THIS?
**The Forum Insider**

Genealogical Forum of Oregon Inc.  
2505 SE 11th Avenue  
PO Box 42567  
Portland, OR 97242-0567

NEW FRIDAY HOURS: 9:30 A.M. TO 3:00

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**OCTOBER 2011**

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| 1st  | Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Virginia Group  
1:00-3:00 p.m. German Group |
| 2nd  | Sunday: 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Heritage Scrapbooking  
2:00 to 5:00 p.m. “We’re Not Your Grandmother’s DAR” |
| 3rd  | Monday: 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. “Old News Is Good News”  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m. “Explore The World of Genealogy Software For the MAC” |
| 4th  | Tuesday: 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. “Routes To Your Jewish Roots” |
| 5th  | Wednesday: Focus on Illinois |
| 6th  | Thursday: 10:00 a.m. “Footprints of Our German Ancestors”  
12:00 p.m. German Resources At the GFO Library  
1:00 p.m. “Understanding German Culture”  
3:00 p.m. More of the Above |
| 8th  | Saturday: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Illinois Group  
11:45 to 1:45 Writers’ Forum  
2:00 p.m. Monthly Program “Are We There Yet?”  
A Round Table Discussion about Our Move |
| 11th | Tuesday: 1:00 p.m. DNA Interest Group  
6:00 p.m. Board Meeting |
| 15th | Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Computer Interest Group  
Noon. TMG SUG Kick-Off |

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**OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2011**

**October 29th Saturday:**  
**FALL SEMINAR**  
**LIBRARY CLOSED ALL DAY**

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| 5th  | November: 10:00 Virginia  
1:00 p.m. German Group |
| 6th  | Sunday: 1:00 p.m. Heritage Scrapbooking |
| 7th  | Monday: All Day  
Free To Non Members |
| 8th  | Tuesday: 6:00 Board |
| 12th | Saturday: 9:30 a.m. Illinois  
11:45 Writers’ Forum  
2:00 Monthly Program |
| 19th | Saturday: 1:00 p.m. Irish  
6:00 p.m. to 6 a.m. Sunday ALL-NIGHTER |
| 24th | Thursday:  
THANKSGIVING DAY  
LIBRARY CLOSED |