March 8, 2011 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program "Handouts"

Hi Everyone,

This document should be considered as the program "handouts" document for our March 8, 2011 Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Program.

What does this really mean?

Prior to this "new" process, our program handouts would actually be paper handouts that were based on me often printing up the first page related to a web site that I wanted to mention. Then on the paper for the web site I would handwrite what things of importance are associated with the web site that the researcher should know. Maybe it was a new web site or maybe an important date related to a significant event or maybe a new database was released. Whatever it was I noted it on the paper of the first page of the web site.

I also plan on use the "yellow highlight" tool within Word and highlight certain areas of these notes that I think are important to note. The visual highlighting will take your eyes to areas of importance to note. Please let me know if you think this OK or if it may be a distraction? I thought I would give it a try.

Going forward I plan on creating this document on a monthly basis that will include my notes regarding a web site of interest and a link to the web site itself.

The reader of this "handout" list can themselves then read my overview summary of the site and then link to the site directly themselves to get more details or print out what they want from site.

I will clearly identify my own comments when the handout is a combination of material that came from some other source such as Dick Eastman's blog as well as my own comments. I will indicate my comments in Italics, clearly marked so the reader can distinguish between the original verbiage and my own comments. If a handout item was completely created by me then you will see that noted at the top. In this case, the entirety of the handout was created by me and will not be shown in Italics.

This program "Handout" information will then be uploaded to the Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Blog that is titled "Genealogy with Tony". This blog will be accessible from the library's main web site page at www.schaumburglibrary.org. Select "Local History and Genealogy" at the top of the page, then look for the icon on the Local History and Genealogy page that says "Tony's Genealogy Blog". Open the blog link and then look at the right hand sidebar of the blog and you will see the "Handouts" information. The direct web address for the blog I author is http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

Here we go with the list of "handouts"!

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Handout #1 – VISIT THE SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY GENEALOGY BLOG

I will continue to remind participants of our library's new genealogy blog. You can access it through our library home page at www.SchaumburgLibrary.org by scrolling across the top of the first page and look for the tab that says "Local History and Genealogy". Click on that tab and look on the right side for our library genealogy blog on the right side that says "Tony's Genealogy Blog".

Or you can just go directly to the blog at:

http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com

You will find postings on upcoming programs, both at our library, and elsewhere in the area. You will also find a myriad of other kinds of postings, especially those that I offer on "Genealogy Tips" to help make your research efforts more productive.

You will also find our Schaumburg Township District Library Genealogy Newsletter and our "Program Handouts" at the blog as PDF files for you to view online, or download and save to your own computer for future referral.

Please remember that the blog will be the place to retrieve the newsletter and the "handouts". I do not plan on making paper handouts of these available for distribution at the program or for mailing to individuals.

Try to visit the blog frequently to see what is going on. Subscribe to the blog via RSS (Really Simple Syndication) and you will receive notices when a new post or comment has been made at the blog.

Our blog is the way of the future and the future is here now!

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Handout #2 – NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHWEST SUBURBAN COUNCIL OF GENEALOGISTS ON MARCH 15, 2011

The next meeting of the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists will take place on Tuesday evening, March 15, 2011. The program for the evening is titled **"Military Service Records "**. The speaker for the evening will be Kathryn Barrett.

Kathryn Barrett is a genealogy researcher, teacher and lecturer at the local, regional and national level using her 35 years of genealogy experience. Kathryn has been a volunteer at the National Archives & Records Administration (NARA) at the Great Lakes Regional Center for more than 15 years. Kathryn is a professional member of the National Genealogical Society (NGS), the Federation of Genealogical Society (FGS), and the Wisconsin State Historical Society. The recipients of Kathryn's presentations include various genealogical societies, libraries, conferences, and other special interest groups. Kathryn has recently organized a local homeowner association genealogical group and makes monthly presentations on a wide variety of genealogical topics.

Meetings are held at the Forest View Educational Center in Arlington Heights. They begin at 7:00pm with a Round-Table discussion. They encourage people to bring their research problems, achievements or interesting tips to share with each other. The main portion of the meeting begins promptly at 7:30pm. Donations are always welcome!

You may visit the society web page at for any further details on the program as well as on the society:

www.NWSCG.com

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Handout #3 – DUPAGE COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEXT SOCIETY PROGRAM ON MARCH 16, 2011

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the DuPage County Genealogical Society will take place on Wednesday evening, March 16, 2011. The program scheduled for that evening is **"Irish Fest"**. The speaker for the program will be Lee Murdock of the Illinois Humanities Council.

Attendees can expect to hear an evening of Irish history, stories and song!

Please note that this meeting will take place at the Wheaton Public Library in Wheaton, IL. The address of the library is 225 Cross St. The meeting room opens at 6:30 PM. Refreshments are available at that time. The program starts at 7 PM and will conclude by no later than 9 PM.

You may visit the society's web page for any recent announcements about this program at:

www.dcgs.org

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Handout #4 – COMPUTER ASSISTED GENEALOGY GROUP OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS (CAGG-NI) NEXT PROGRAM ON MARCH 19, 2011

The next meeting of CAGGNI will take place on Saturday morning, March 19, 2011 at the Schaumburg Township District Library at 10:30 AM. The program scheduled for this day is **"Annual New Technology Review"**. The speaker for the program will be Ed Rosenthal.

Ed Rosenthal returns for our ever-popular Spring offering including Ed's own tech recommendations.

You may visit the organization web page at:

www.CAGGNI.org

Visit the group's web site noted above for information about this program as well as what CAGG-NI is all about.

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Handout #5 – SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DISTRICT LIBRARY NEXT GENEALOGY PROGRAM ON APRIL 12, 2011

Our upcoming program for April 12, 2011 is one that is titled "**Mining for Gold: Historical Newspapers**". Our speaker for program will be Robin Seidenberg.

Historical newspapers can be a great source of ancestral information that runs the gamut from headline stories, to local area announcements, to obituaries and even to classified advertising! With more and more of this material being digitized it is probably a time to consider digging into this great resource both still in print, on microfilm as well as from the world of digitized copies. Be prepared to discover the good and the not so good of ancestors as reported in papers from a long time ago!

When Robin B. Seidenberg researched a family scandal involving her great aunt, referred to as the "Kissing Blonde", she realized that historical newspapers were a fantastic resource. She discovered that another great aunt - described as "the most universally famous girl in America" and "the girl with the schoolgirl complexion" - had an extensive career on Broadway and in Hollywood.

A member of the Genealogical Speakers Guild and the Association of Professional Genealogists, Robin currently serves as executive vice president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois and president of Lake County Area Computer Enthusiasts. She has been studying her family history since 1997.

Robin earned a bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Chicago and completed most of her Ph.D. requirements at the University of Illinois. This former college French teacher has used her linguistic skills to translate family records from Polish and Old Cyrillic.

Robin specializes in using historical newspapers to research family history.

This will be Robin's first time as being a speaker at our library. We look forward to hearing about this fascinating topic. We welcome Robin to our library!

You may visit the library's web page at:

www.SchaumburgLibrary.org

to view a Calendar of Events section of the library web page for this program and for many more non-genealogical programs offered by our library.

You can also visit the Genealogy Blog of the library that is authored by Tony Kierna. Visit the blog at http://genealogywithtony.wordpress.com for all things related to genealogy and the genealogy programs at the Schaumburg Township District Library.

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Handout #6 – CASSETTE TAPES ARE DISAPPEARING

The following was found at Dick Eastman's Blog at www.eogn.com dated February 8, 2011.

Are you planning to purchase a new car? Are you also planning to grab all your tape cassettes and listen to them in your new wheels? If so, there's bad news for you. Cassette tapes are now history.

Remember when nearly every car in America had a cassette player? It wasn't all that long ago, but now it is history. The New York Times reports (at http://goo.gl/FpjRK) the 2010 Lexus SC 430 was the last model to offer a cassette deck as an option.

Actually, CD players are also on the way out as they are being replaced with hard drives containing MP3 files as well as by MP3 players that connect via an external input jack. It is now cheaper and more practical to plug your iPod into the automobile's stereo system than to carry tapes or CDs.

I guess the only way for me to listen to my Mamas and Pappas cassette tape collection is to keep my 1996 auto that has a cassette player.

Comments by Tony Kierna

And how many cassettes do you have in your collection?

Don't let the technology express outpace you! It is fascinating and scary that newly invented technology of just the last 20 years is going the way of the dodo bird. I can remember when the CD was just around the corner to replace vinyl records played on record player at either 45 RPM or 33 1/3 RPM. Literally in the blink of an eye the old vinyl records disappeared no matter how hard you wanted to fight progress.

Who would have thought that the CD itself would have such a relatively short life span. Today's electronic files are rapidly replacing even the CD, soon to be replaced with all electronic files that you will place on an MP3 player or place on some "Internet Cloud" for you to access. You will no longer be holding or touching this music or data in your hand directly as we used to be able to do with a vinyl record or a CD.

Don't get caught in this technology tsunami! If you have material on cassette that is of genealogical value, like recordings of your ancestors, then it is time to transfer that data to digital format as MP3 files for you to listen to on your MP3 player. It also makes it that much easier to get the sounds of your ancestors passed around as e-mail attachments to other relatives. You don't have to wait until they visit and then play the cassette you have when they are visiting. They may get a "genealogy" burst of energy and you may have a "collaborative" partner to help in your family genealogy.

As I have said in the past, your cassette may continue to exist but you will undoubtedly find yourself with the inability to play it on any device. You can count on your device giving up the ghost just at the time you have finally decided to transfer your material to digital file format.

Don't wait! Prioritize your genealogical data according to importance to you. Start working on transferring the material either yourself with equipment you can purchase or pay the price to get the material transferred professionally for a hefty fee that you will probably feel it will be worth some day in the future when you want to access your newly converted digital sound recordings of your ancestors from days past.

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Handout #7 – ANCESTRY.COM NEW IPAD APP

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated February 1, 2011.

The following announcement was written by Ancestry.com:

Ancestry.com's New iPad App Lets Consumers Update and Share Family Trees, Old Photos and Records in Stunning Detail

Ancestry.com App Exploits iPad Form Factor and Features to Create a Deeper, Brighter, Smarter User Experience

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 31, 2011 -- Ancestry.com, the world's largest online family history resource, today announced the availability of its new iPad app called *Ancestry*.

Built specifically to deliver a compelling tablet experience, the new Ancestry app brings to life on iPad's large screen multi-generational family trees complete with images of original family records and photos, making iPad a powerful tool for users to display and share their trees with family and friends in an interactive, highly visual way.

A dynamic, intuitive user interface and integration with Ancestry.com makes it simple for users to record memories, edit vital information, document life events and organize photos, and also for use in conducting field research, collection, and documentation.

Introducing Ancestry.com onto this compelling platform takes the website one step closer to its mission of helping everyone discover, preserve and share their family history.

"Since I already use my iPhone to document my life, it's natural to use it to document my family tree," said Ancestry.com user Aaron Vaughn of San Francisco. "Being able to research and upload photos and information on-the-fly makes updating my Ancestry.com account a seamless part of my life. Now, with the new iPad app, I've got all the added benefits the larger format affords."

Eric Shoup, Senior Vice President of Product for Ancestry.com, comments: *"The new Ancestry iPad app makes it fun and easy to explore and share your family history research by allowing you and your family to tap and swipe your way through your family tree, old photos and records.*

"Ancestry.com is committed to leveraging the latest technology to make what we offer on our website easily accessible, simple and enjoyable to use for family history novices and experts alike, at their desks or in the field."

The Ancestry.com app for iPad is now available for free at the iTunes App Store. A new version of the popular Ancestry.com iPhone app, which includes more features for navigating a family tree and viewing records already attached to a tree, is also

available for free in the App Store.

To get started, just download the apps to your iPad, iPhone or iPod Touch(i), log in to your Ancestry.com account and choose a family tree.

Comments by Tony Kierna

Another example of a tsunami technology wave taking place.

The Apple iPad has taken off like a rocket among many of us, whether we have PC background or not.

And as Apple says, "there's an app for that". Providers of services like Ancestry.com also don't want to be left at the station as the iPad roars on. Software "apps" that were originally created for the iPhone are now available for the iPad and the iPod Touch.

Being able to do your genealogy on a 9 inch screen sure beats doing it on a 3.5 inch screen. This new app applies if you have a personal subscription to Ancestry.com thus allowing you access to Ancestry.com from the iPad and view data and material in the manner provided by the new app. The app takes into account the screen size in order to present the material from Ancestry.com in the most effective and useful manner on the screen real estate. The app appears to allow a subscribed Ancestry.com user the ability to retrieve uploaded family files that had previously been uploaded to allow the user to work with the material on the iPad.

For anyone that may have been using an Ancestry.com app on their iPhone or iPod Touch they will now have the chance to work with data on a much larger screen size while still maintaining all of the portability provided by such small devices.

If you currently subscribe personally to Ancestry.com and have an iPad be sure to check out the new Ancestry.com app that you can get from Apple. There is no charge for the app. Click on the link that is contained above in the Dick Eastman blog entry about this new Ancestry.com app. It will take you to Apple and you will be able to read what this new app is all about.

As much as I try to keep up with all things genealogy, I am still finding myself overwhelmed with the "speed of light" developments that are going on all around us be it equipment, software or databases. Now throw in the iPad.

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Handout #8 – SCANNER REVIEWS

The following was found in Dick Eastman's Online Blog at www.eogn.com dated February 8, 2011.

Several newsletter readers have written recently to ask, "What is the best scanner?" As a single individual, I don't have the financial resources or the hours available to obtain one of each of the dozens of available scanners and then run side-by-side comparisons. However, one organization does have such resources: PCMAG.com

You can find an excellent collection of articles comparing nearly all of the general-purpose desktop scanners and multi-function printers/scanners available today at PCMAG's web site at http://www.pcmag.com/category2/0,2806,7497,00.asp

I do hope to continue writing about special-purpose scanners that should appeal to genealogists, however. I'll do that just as soon as I get back home and have some time available. (I flew from Florida to Utah this morning and am in a hotel room tonight in Salt Lake City.) I have written in the past about handheld battery-powered document scanners in Plus Edition articles and plan to write soon about a battery-powered scanner designed to copy both color and black-and-white snapshots.

Comments by Tony Kierna

You definitely need to click on the link within the blog post by Dick Eastman. Your head will spin by the amount of rated scanners you will find within this PC Mag article. You can find reviews based on scanners built by an individual company, such as Canon, Epson, by price point such as less than $500, and by scan size capability, such as legal size, letter size, 35 MM etc. There is a search box to enter search terms to try to find a scanner that was reviewed.

If you do not search but just scroll through the list of scanners reviewed you will find yourself looking through a very long list that does not seem to be in any order by company name or price point or rating level.

Scanners are a very important part of our genealogy reason. We need the ability to scan paper photos and documents in our collections to convert them to digital images and we also need to scan other artifacts we have in our possession e.g. class ring, religious medal, graduation tassles and any other object that can be scanned and saved for posterity as a digital image. Scanning these artifacts will not produce perfect results but I have found it is still a good idea even if you have to create multiple scans of objects from each side. Don't forget to consider scanning these objects!

Some of you may have many large size documents for which a scanner having the capability to create a large scan surface is important. Some of you may have photographic slides that need to be inputted so having that as a feature is very important. Sometimes having an auto-feed mechanism for feeding in many pages of information is important rather than scanning one page at a time.

It may also work out well if you have a larger budget is to choose a scanner that has the most "bells and whistles" for features you may not currently need simply

because you may become the family historian on a broader scale taking in document sizes, media, film slides and artifacts for which you would wish you had the features in the scanner to properly scan.

More features can often be better even if you don't initially see the immediate need.

Scanners are an important tool for a genealogist. Many of us may already have some "old jalopy" models for which we might we to consider a replacement. If you are at the stage of replacing an existing scanner or are purchasing one for the first time you will definitely want to look at the link above to get you to the scanner reviews.

Take a look at the other "educational" articles about scanner and scanning to also give you some better insights into the scanning process in addition to the actual reviews of scanner products.

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Handout #9 – WEBSITES FOR GREAT LAKES MARINE GENEALOGY

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the February/March 2011, Volume 5, Number 6 issue of Internet Genealogy.

I thought that a good article in this issue is one titled "Websites for Great Lakes Marine Genealogy". The Great Lakes of the United States were the interior waterway highways used by our ancestors before the domination of paved roadways took precedence. For those living in the Chicago area with ancestral connections, it may very well be that your ancestors were in part involved in transportation on the Great Lakes. It may be well worth pursuing that research path to uncover any connection to the Great Lakes and your ancestors.

Consider that ship owners, captains, ship masters and engineers are often found in original records. Lower ranking crew members and passengers on the Great Lakes are less likely to be found in documents. The author of the article provided the following web sites of note that can help your Great Lakes Marine Genealogy:

Northern Michigan University's A Chronology of Great Lakes Navigation @

http://webb.nmu.edu/Centers/UpperPeninsulaStudies/SiteSections/UPHistory/FolkloreHistory/GreatLakesNavigation.shtml

Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston @ www.marmuseum.ca/research.html

Maritime History of the Great Lakes @ www.maritimehistoryofthegreatlakes.ca

Bowling Green State University – Historical Collections of the Great Lakes @ www.bgsu.edu/colleges/library/cac/page39984.html

University of Detroit Mercy – Fr. Edward J. Dowling, S.J. Marine Historical Collection @ www.dalnet.lib.mi.us/gsdl/cgi-bin/library?p=about&c=shipping

Library and Archives of Canada – Government of Canada Files @ www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/archivianet/020105_e.html

National Archives and Records Administration – Maritime Records @ www.archives.gov/genealogy/maritime/

Dave Swayze's Great Lakes History – Great Lakes Shipwreck File @ http://greatlakeshistory.homestead.com/home.html

Great Lakes Maritime Database @ http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/i/image/image-idx?page=index;c=tbnms1ic

Wisconsin Marine Historical Society – Great Lakes Vessel Enrollment Online Database@
www.ship-wreck.com/shipwreck/wmhs/

Wisconsin's Great Lakes Shipwrecks @
www.wisconsinshipwrecks.org

Shipwrecks of the Thunder Bay Region @
http://thunderbay.noaa.gov/shipwrecks/welcome.html

Shipwreck Investigations at Library and Archives Canada @
www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/sos/shipwrecks/index-e.html?phpsessid=3ulnkqqt00cv68e8m8iq6nek73

Comments by Tony Kierna

Having potential Great Lakes sailors in your ancestral lineage is really a unique connection to have. Unfortunately, it is often not a common occurrence to have someone as a sailor in our background in comparison to so many other land-based occupations we normally encounter. I was glad to see this article and all of the wonderful Great Lakes Marine resources that were contained within the article.

For those of you with Chicago based ancestors or for that matter for Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana connections, you never know but you may have some ancestors connected to Great Lakes Marine occupations. Whether someone had already had sailor experience, jobs were jobs, even for those who had previously had no experience as a sailor. The geography of our local region with the Great Lakes right in our back yard warrants a scrutiny of a possible connection to our ancestors in the region having been connected to Great Lakes Marine work.

All you have to do is think of the Edmund Fitzgerald and all of the lore that surrounds that disaster. Our Great Lakes area is just full of lore and shipwrecks dating back hundreds of years. Perhaps an ancestor of yours has this unique connection to the Great Lakes.

Check out the multitude of the sights listed above to see if any can help you in your ancestral research.

Or if you just want to look at some interesting material that covers a major employment industry of our ancestors you will just gain that much more information relative to our local area.

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Handout #10 – THE CLANS OF THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

The following review and comments were created by me, Tony Kierna, based on my having read an article that was seen in the February/March 2011, Volume 5, Number 6 issue of Internet Genealogy.

Another good article in this issue is one titled "The Clans of the Scottish Highlands". The author provided a very interesting historical background on the formation of the Scottish Clans. In Roman times in what is now Scotland north of the Firths of Forth and Clyde, the area was inhabited by about twelve tribes known as Picts (from Latin picti, "painted people"). In the 5th Century, Scots sailed over from the north of Ireland and began to settle in what became the county of Argyll. Over the next 400 years the Scots took over Pictland and introduced their Irish Gaelic language.

In the Highlands and western islands, the many tribes broke up in to smaller family groupings or "clans" and many of the clan surnames were prefixed with "Mac" or "Mc" which meant "son of". What makes a family a clan is that it has a chief and clan territory. There were actually many cases of a clan group changing their names to that of the chief of another clan group to gain the protection of that group. So it is possible that an ancestor of yours may be known under a clan name for a long period of time in your research but that there may actually be evidence that they changed their more original clan to one that you are now familiar with.

The author provides much more historical information on Scottish clans in this article. If you have Scottish clan ancestry, I would definitely recommend reading the entirety of this article to see what other information is provided on clans that you may not have been familiar with.

More importantly, I did want to provide a listing of the various websites provided in this article by the author on a variety of Scottish clans. Clan websites provided by the author are:

- Cameron Clan @ www.clan-cameron.org/n-america
- Campbell Clan @ http://ccsna.org
- Clan Chattan @ www.clanchattan.org.uk
- Ferguson Clan @ www.cfsna.net
- Fraser Clan @ www.clanfraser.ca
- Gordon Clan @ www.houseofgordonusa.org
- Graham Clan @ www.clan-graham-society.org
- Grant Clan @ www.clangrant-us.org
- MacDonald Clan @ www.clan-donald-usa.org/CDCMS/index.php
- MacGregor Clan @ http://american-clan-gregor-society.us
- MacKay Clan @ www.clanmackayusa.org
- MacKenzie Clan @ www.clanmackenzie.com
- McLean Clan @ www.maclean.org
- MacLeod Clan @ www.clanmacleodusa.org
- McMillan Clan @ www.clanmacmillan.org
- Morrison Clan @ www.clanmorrison.net
- Munro Clan @ www.clanmunrousa.org

- Murray Clan @ http://clanmurray.org
- Robertson Clan @ www.donnachaidh.com (Unable to open this site)
- Ross Clan @ www.greatclanross.org
- Sinclair Clan @ www.clansinclairusa.org
- Stewart Clan @ www.clansstewart.org/history.html
- Sutherland Clan @ www.clansutherland.org

For any of you lucky enough to have Scottish Clan ancestry among any of the names identified as having clan sites, you may want to check the sites out if you were not aware of them.

Comments by Tony Kierna

I personally have no connection to Scottish ancestry (that I know of!) but even I have been intrigued with the lore one hears about Scotland and its clans. All I think of is "Braveheart" and Mel Gibson rousing his clan groups as they embark on their battles with the English!

The value of the article to me was the sheer size of the links included in this article to the various clan groups that have formal organizations. If you have any Scottish ancestry to any of the clan names identified above then you need to become familiar with the organizations. This alone can really help your research by connecting to the resources and history that pertain to the individual clan.

The historical background provided by the author was fascinating. For those doing Scotch research it was a good point to see if you had already not been familiar with the historical background.

I did browse through a few of the sites listed above. Some were overwhelming with the amount of data that you could find while some others were more minimal. Even being minimal, there was a good amount of information that could be found about the clan.

So if you are a "Mc" or a "Mac" or have the Scottish ancestral connection consider visiting the clan site that matches your ancestral connection. I hope a clan site in the list above is one that is for you.

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