

**NOTICE OF MEETING
TUESDAY**

January 28, 2025

in person at

Alaska Mining Hall of Fame

406 Cushman Street

(in former Carr's Men's Clothing

Parking available in Sadler's parking lot)

&

via Zoom

**(Members will receive a Zoom invite via email on
Sunday, January 26, 2025)**

Program

"eBay Finds: Fairbanks History Part 2" by Amy Stratman.

Amy will show screenshots of photos and items found on eBay, that are related to Fairbanks Alaska history and discuss a deeper look into the findings. Part 1 in November was a lot of fun, and we did not get thru all of the finds!

Newspaper Navigator extracts photos from Chronicling America newspapers with your search. Think of it as a normal search in newspapers, only the results are all photos! The only drawback at this time, is that it is limited to the dates between 1900-1963.

<https://news-navigator.labs.loc.gov/search>

AGENDA January 28, 2025, FGS

Call to Order, Welcome!

Discussion and approval of the Minutes for the Dec 2024 meeting.

Officer's reports:

President Amy Stratman: books

Vice President Janet Richardson:

Secretary Molly McFarland:

Treasurer Aldean Kilbourn:

Unfinished Business: Princess Sophia display update? Catching up on previous work.

New Business:

Announcements: Toastmasters are preparing for the Feb meeting.

Next Meeting is Feb 25. The North Pole Safe Harbor Toastmasters will give prepared speeches relating to their family history.

Research Skills or Questions to discuss:

Members may discuss tips, or genealogy they are working on.

Show and Tell: If you have something to show in person, we would love to see what you brought or your story to tell. For Zoom attendees, please hold up your item to the camera or use screen share.

Break for refreshments.

Begin Program at 7pm, "eBay Finds PART TWO: Fairbanks History" by Amy Stratman.



REMINDER THAT IF DUES ARE NOT PAID BY JANUARY 1 OF THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR, NO FURTHER COPIES OF *THE TAPROOT* ARE SENT.

A little history of 101 College Rd aka Corner 101



According to the Fairbanks Property Tax Assessor's website, the following are dates recorded for 101 College Rd:

1947 a 1 story multi-family building was built.

1964 a 2 story multi-family was built.

1967 a retail store was built.

1976 a retail store and 2 story multi-family construction began. The store was to be the furniture store.

1977 multi-family 21 unit motel was built.

The owner was William Stewart, who ran his own construction company. Julia, his 2nd ex wife, obtained this property. It was known that Bill built it for her.

In 2017, Julia was said to be renovating an apartment to be her own penthouse.

Originally, the address 101 College Rd was used for the entire corner area, which included Bill's Drive In (root beer and burgers) from the late 1950's, and the Tesoro Gas Station that was put in decades later. Currently, the Speedway Gas Station is there, and the address is now 99 College Rd.



Corner 101 was last sold in 2023 from Julia Stewart to Kanwal Jeet Singh Brar of Reno, NV. He owns motels and apartment buildings in Reno, NV. In the fall of 2024, the Lakemill Lodge in Reno was shut down by the City of Reno code enforcement and the Nevada Department of Health for filth, drugs, and criminal activity. Many people were displaced. Is this the future of our Corner 101?

The business license and LLC of the new owner is currently expired as of this publication.

Businesses listing 101 College Rd as their address over the years
***may be incomplete. *dates are when business was first listed**

1958 Bill's Drive In (stand alone building)
 1968 at 100 College Rd, Linger Lodge Motel
 Stewart Construction Company, General Contractor William Stewart

1975 Furniture Discount
 1976 Fairbanks Furniture
 Corner 101 Apartments
 1978 Legislative Affairs Agency Office
 1979 Alaska Realty
 1980 Homemade Shoppe
 1980 The Green Apple
 1981 Alaska Import Services
 1981 Natural Fibers
 1981 Bernina Alaska Sewing Center
 1982 Microwave Oven Center
 1982 Wilson Architectural and Company
 1982 The Stein Agency



1983 Dolphin Too, Inc
 1983 New Zealand Sheepskins
 1983 North Star Television
 1984 Panasonic Vacuum Center
 1984 Kobuk Mini Mart (Tesoro)
 1984 Human Resource Services
 1984 Kaynor Services
 1984 Cotton Threads
 1985 Gay Ellen's Dance Shop
 1985 University Resume Service
 1985 The Dance Shop
 1985 Call North
 1986 Safeguard Business Systems
 1986 Vacu-Maid of Fairbanks
 1988 Apocalypse Design
 1992 School of Integrating Shiatsu
 1992 Willner's Fuel

Santa Says
 For Microwave Oven Values,
 Shop at the
Fairbanks Microwave Oven Center
 101 College (Corner 101) 456-2331

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 Compare Side-by-Side
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 on Conventional Ovens
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 101 College Rd. (Corner 101) 456-2331

1992 Especially for You
 1992 Tesoro Gas Station (original address was 101 College Rd)
 1994 Healthy Connections Massage
 1996 Applause Dance & Co.
 1999 Forever Yours
 2000 Larson & Son Furniture World
 2001 Comforting Touch Therapeutic Massage (aka Therapeutic Touch)
 2003 Eden Massage
 2005 Ringstad Chiropractic Clinic
 2007 A Time to Heal
 2007 Parfait Dix
 2009 Far North Tactical
 2011 Yoga Doorway
 2014 Interior Democrats Campaign Headquarters
 2014 Healing Circle Massage
 2014 JVS Barber Shop
 2014 Roxy's Secondhand

We can't promise you a mermaid, but . . .

We can introduce you to the under-water realm!
 Next basic Scuba class begins
June 4, 1984
 Call for details and reserve space **NOW!**

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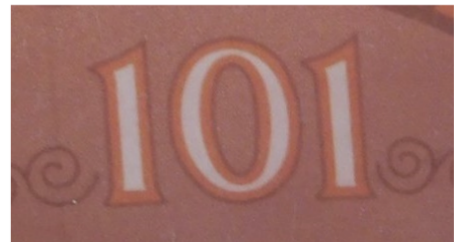
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 Mother's Own Creations



Photos from 2017.
You can see the building buckling. The Corner
101 sign is now gone forever.



Current 2025 photos. The front of the
building no longer has the clock and
letter sign.



In researching the Corner 101 buildings, I came across a house owned by Thomas Alonso, where he put in for a permit to change a church into a house. You don't see that every day, so I investigated further. A "quick look" turned into a stream of people and lots of history.

123 Bonnie Ave in Fairbanks was built in 1967. It became Bethel Baptist Church with Rev Vernon Crouse representing the Conservative Baptist Home Mission Society. His wife Frances played the piano and also taught Bible classes.

The original Bethel Baptist began in 1960 and was located at 315 5th Ave (built in 1948) in what was the Carpenters Hall. The building is currently a counseling center.

In 1962, the land at Bonnie Ave and O'Connor Rd was purchased and a building was moved onto the lot to serve as a chapel. The current structure is the one built in 1967. Could the quonset hut be the original chapel or part of the original church yard?

The church on Bonnie Ave had on average 50 members and about 100 adults and children attended Sunday School. The Girl Scouts of Joy Elementary School, a walking club, and other groups also used the church building.

In 1977, Bethel Baptist Church moved to a new building on Farmer's Loop Rd where it remains today. The church on Bonnie became a privately owned house.

Building permits

The following building permits for projects worth more than \$1,000 were issued by the City of Fairbanks for the week ending Jan. 14:

Alaska National Bank, Third & Lacey, alterations, \$150,000.

Bill Pike, dba Glenwood Manor Apts., 1215 Bunnell, general maintenance and upkeep, \$5,000.

C.J.M. Construction, 1077 Aspen, \$134,447, new warehouse.

Thomas J. Alonso, 123 Bonnie, alterations and repairs to remodel church into single family dwelling, \$3,900.

William Stewart, 101 College Rd., finish furniture store, \$40,000.

William Stewart, 101 College Rd., finish 24-hall motel, \$150,000.

Fred Schumacher, 2231 Bridgewater, finish work on cabin, \$10,000.

First National Bank, 112 Cushman, alterations and remodeling, \$10,000.

1977 Fairbanks Daily News Miner

Various pastors came and went over the years. Guest speakers aren't listed.

1960-1963 Vernon Crouse

1963 Paul Vincent

1964-1966 Stanley Scott

1966 Ernest Engles

1967-1971 Donald Curtis

1971-1982 Horace Moore



Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Crouse
Alaska



2011 Google Maps photo of 315 5th Ave, showing the Northstar Baptist Church. The building has been a church most of its life.



Quonset hut in the backyard
seen on Google Maps in 2009.
It is no longer there. Could this
have been the original chapel?
Or maybe just storage?

Realtor listing photo from 2020 when the
house/church was last sold.



2025 photos by Amy Stratman

Story of 123 Bonnie Ave by Amy Stratman
for the FGS.

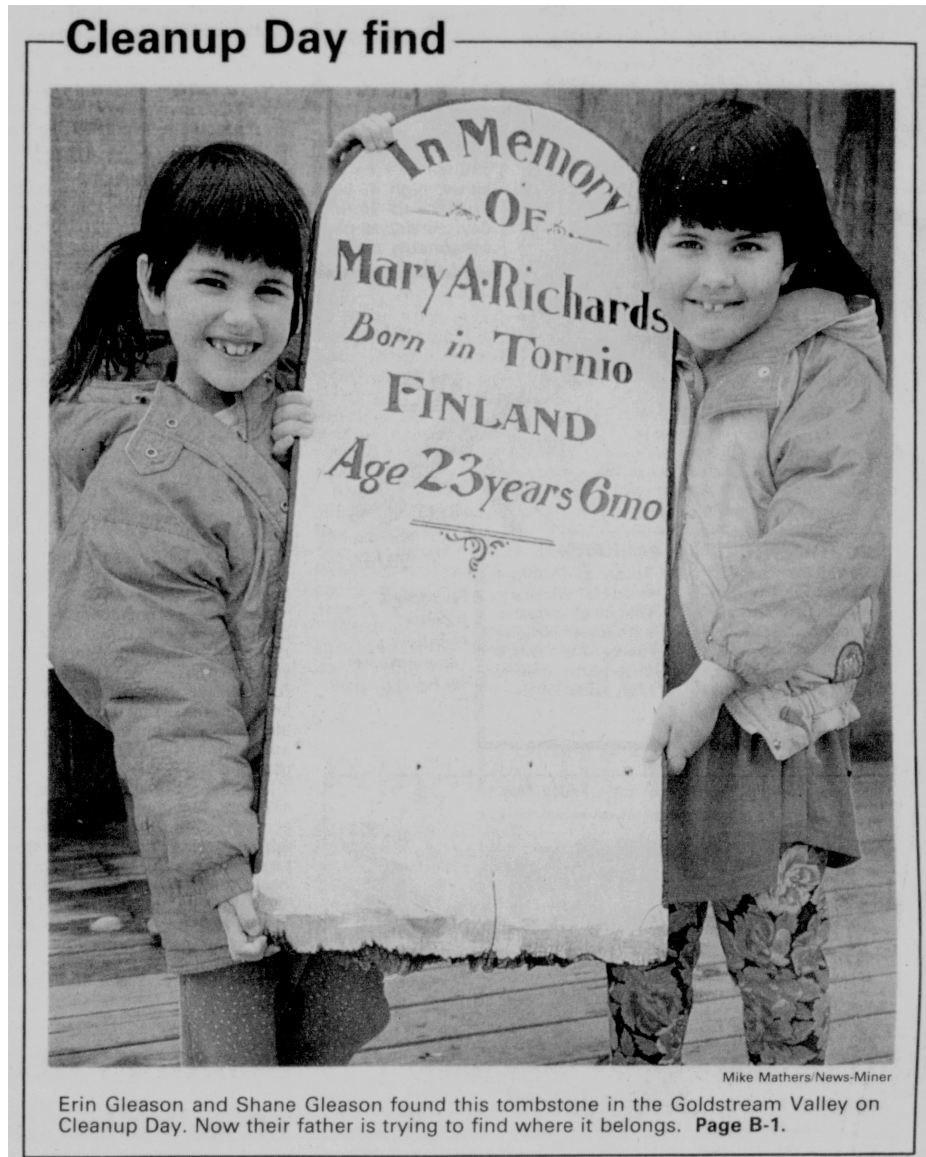
Cemetery Corner by Janet Richardson

At 4:20am the morning of November 9, 1906, Mrs. Mary A. Richards, wife of Martin Richards, passed away at 10 below on Cleary Creek as a result of blood poisoning following the birth of their daughter who was born on the morning of Nov. 8, 1906. Mary was born in Tornio, Finland and had only been in the country for two years. Mary was greatly loved and respected by the community. The funeral services were held at 2 o'clock Sunday at 10 below on Cleary.

The original headstone was found discarded by two little girls on cleanup day in May 1992 in the Goldstream Valley. It was deduced that someone stole it from the Cleary Cemetery and then discarded it on the roadside.

A replica was said to have been made and placed back at the Cleary Cemetery that following year, however, in 2021, if the marker was there, it has fallen into ruin and buried by the elements.

The original marker hangs in the Pioneer Museum at Pioneer Park in Fairbanks, Alaska



 NewspaperArchive

Fairbanks Daily News Miner, May 14, 1992 Pg. 1, Fairbanks, Alaska, US
<https://newspaperarchive.com/fairbanks-daily-news-miner-may-14-1992-p-1/>

Fairbanks Genealogical Society
Minutes - meeting of November 26, 2024

Attendance:

Amy Stratman	Aldean Kilbourn	Elizabeth Cook
Janet Richardson	Shirley Sterner	Cheryl Barrong
Rochelle Larson		

Guests:

Katrina Florence
Molly Howard

Aldean brought in boxes of books from the estate of Adele Virgin to distribute to members. Adele was a long time member of the FGS. People looked through the books while waiting for the meeting to begin.

The meeting began at 6:20 pm due to technical difficulties. President Amy Stratman started the meeting.

Minutes from October 2024 meeting were discussed, and Elizabeth Cook made a motion to accept the minutes. Shirley Sterner seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the minutes passed.

President's report:

One email was received this past month, and it was an inquiry from Katrina Florence. Katrina and friend Molly Howard are in the audience! Welcome!

Vice President's report:

Janet received a newsletter from Alaska Rare Coins. They have great newsletters filled with history, old coins and tokens, and local interests. This month's newsletter focused on Henry Rappolt and his Butternut Bakery. Amy showed the newsletter on the screen. Preiss Bakery was also featured. Henry Rappolt, Karl and Nellie Priess are buried in Clay St Cemetery. You can get a free copy of the newsletter at <https://alaskararecoins.com/> or email them at akcoins@mosquitonet.com.

Secretary's report: Molly McFarland has been absent for several months. No contact has been made.

Treasurer's report:

Aldean presented the report and discussed membership fees and book purchases. A refund was required because someone paid twice. A noted member is the Midwest Genealogy Center. Libraries who are members have our newsletter on their shelves for

anyone to read. <https://www.mymcpl.org/>. Aldean renewed our Zoom account, and they did raise the price ten dollars.

Janet talked about the article in the Taproot about Chester Seveck. He was the great grandfather of Janet's goddaughter! Chester is the face of Alaska Airlines, seen on the tail of the airplanes and the logo. Chester lived in a little green house near Pioneer Park. Elizabeth said those small houses there were built out of dunnage from Ladd Field.

Unfinished business was explained by Amy. The Goodwin and Rade (Ray) Nikovic research has been exhaustive but we will continue searching as data and information becomes available.

New business: If anyone would like to volunteer at the Pioneer Home to help seniors look at their family history, please let Amy know, and we will schedule and go. The question was posed if we should sign up for a library display at some point this coming year. Aldean took the conversation and explained how she is working on getting the large Princess Sophia display from the Alaska State Museum shipped to Fairbanks. (The Princess Sophia is a ship that sank near Juneau in 1918 right before the end of WW1, killing about 353 people).

The FGS would, at this point, pay about \$1000, and donations would be requested from the Pioneers of Alaska, and Doyon, as members of both died in the sinking. Amy made a comment how the display is being trapped in Juneau where no one has access to it without this large shipping payment. Elizabeth enjoyed a previous talk from Ken Coates, an author and historian of the Princess Sophia, back in 2018. The display is in several crates, weighing in at 400 pounds and 800 pounds. A film is being made about the Princess Sophia, and information is on the website <https://lam.alaska.gov/press/releases/Princess-Sophia-Film-Preview-and-Discussion>.

Amy asked for opinions on getting the display to Fairbanks. Amy expressed concerns over money, and that the FGS cannot pay for the entire cost. Elizabeth said she was not concerned about the money and is in favor of the display as it shows a lot of history of many people and the time. When Amy asked for consensus on spending the money, the vote was in favor, assuming the other \$2000 can be raised.

Announcements: No meeting in December. Tuesday, January 28th, 2025, is our next meeting. Merry Christmas!

Aldean ran into Paolo Greer at the store, and he was asked to do a talk in the near future but he was leaving for Italy. So we shall ask again in the future!

Program begins.

Amy discusses the finds she found on eBay, items such as matchbooks, trinkets, souvenirs, postcards, photos as well as entire albums, maps, and more. Screenshots

were taken of many items and photos. It is also a good example of doing a search of your ancestors' hometown or last name to search for anything related to your family's region. Hints can be gleaned for extended research.

FACE CARDS EXPLAINED

In a standard deck of playing cards, the kings are typically depicted as historical figures representing major empires, with the King of Spades often representing King David (Israel), the King of Hearts as Charlemagne (France), the King of Clubs as Alexander the Great (Greece), and the King of Diamonds as Julius Caesar (Rome); however, these associations are not universally standardized and can vary depending on the deck and region of origin.

As much as it might feel like Henry VIII is metaphorically shouting "off with his head!" when he turns up on the flop, odds are it's just a generic king doing the damage.

"Historically, the artwork for court cards never had any official standardization, and was not based on real people," explains veteran BoardGameGeek reviewer EndersGame (who asked that we withhold his real name) in an email interview. "Originally, court cards simply reflected some of the clothing and accessories commonly seen in the royal courts in Europe."

That's not to say that it's impossible that a deck might draw inspiration from a real person; the artwork varied according to the whims of card designers, manufacturers and the region in which the cards were produced. (Picture cards came into being in Europe in the mid-15th century — centuries after playing cards, which originated in China, had become popular.)

French and British decks of the 16th century were said to often depict Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar, the biblical King David and Charlemagne on the king cards — representing the four great empires of Greece, Rome, the Jews and the Franks.

The queen cards often included the goddess Athena and Rachel, the wife of the biblical Jacob, among other famous court ladies of history. Many Spanish and German decks historically eschewed queenly representation in favor of a separate pack of male figures.

"There was a brief trend in late 16th century France to assign famous personages or literary figures to specific court cards," EndersGame notes. "But there was never any universally accepted standard for this, and different regions and printers reflected their own preferences. Some of these connections still persist unofficially, but it merely reflects a trend among some French printers that was temporary at best."

If anything, the depiction of actual kings and queens on playing cards was an after-the-fact notion, according to EndersGame. "This identification of the court cards with famous persons and literary figures only arose well after playing cards were already in popular use, and thus was preceded by decks of playing cards that had artwork merely depicting the nobility in a more general way."

So, if these pictures aren't representing actual people, is there any significance to the objects that they carry on the cards? Or the fact that the king of hearts is the only king without a mustache? No and no: Experts believe the king did originally have a mustache that was lost by copyists over time.

Jacks aren't princes, as many people assume. Instead, the figures represent knights, military heroes and even brave faces from mythology. For example, two of the designated jacks from the 16th-century French decks were Lancelot (from King Arthur's court) and Hector (famed mythological hero of Troy).

Jokers are one of those funny things -- many decks don't have jokers, and in most cases you can lose the jokers and it doesn't matter. So why include them? And while we're on the topic, where did any of the cards in a deck come from? Why are there 52 cards, with four suits and 13 cards to a suit?

According to Britannica.com, the 52-card deck that we use today is a modification of part of the standard Tarot deck, made up of the Major Arcana and Minor Arcana, minus the knight cards. Probably around the 15th century, the deck started settling into the modern form we know today.

The joker, however, did not appear until sometime around the 1860s. At that time, the game of euchre was extremely popular (it was later unseated by bridge). In euchre, under the British rules, there is a card known as the Imperial Bower (or Best Bower) that trumps all others. Decks of cards began to include a special Imperial Bower card, and it later morphed into the joker card that we know today.

The "Best Bower" was invented for use in the game of Euchre in which two of the Jacks are named Right and Left Bower; this happened during the 1860s in the USA. "Bower" is a corruption of the German word "Bauer" used in Alsace, from where Euchre or Juker originated as the ordinary word for "Jack." This card evolved into the Joker during the 1870s. The Joker arrived in Europe in the 1880s along with the game of Poker. It was gradually incorporated into French-suited packs with 52 cards.

Alia Hoyt & Zach Taras "Are the Face Cards (Kings, Queens, Jacks) Real People?" 11 May 2020.

HowStuffWorks.com. <<https://history.howstuffworks.com/history-vs-myth/kings-queens-and-jacks-playing-cards-real-people.htm>> 24 November 2024

I RESEARCH
DEAD RELATIVES



AND
ANNOY
THE CRAP
OUT OF
THE LIVING
ONES