

Facebook

In the 21st century the Internet has become a valuable source for information, ideas and communication. Unfortunately many of our members are still living in the 20th century or earlier and are still using snail-mail or telephones for communication with all of their costs, delays and miss sent and misunderstood messages. Many of us, including the author of this article, are still using high school English and fingers to type, rather than Internet English and thumbs to type as so many of our young people now do. Some have even speculated that the expanding use of text messaging will eventually result in thumbs evolving into much more versatile digits that they used to be. Unfortunately, too, the vastness and readily access of the Internet has led to many problems with spam and inundation with unsolicited and unwanted e-mail messages. Fortunately social networks have evolved which limit personal communications to those people who have been named as “friends” by the Internet user. Even these networks can become overwhelming for those having many “friends”. A newer development with networks such as Facebook has been the provision for “groups” which can be open or closed to all but chosen members. The Virginia-North Carolina Piedmont Genealogical Society has such a group which is vancpgs@groups.facebook.com. It is a “closed” group which is available only to members of the Society, although a few non-members who have a known, serious interest in the genealogy of people from our area have been admitted, but we hope they will see fit to join the Society in the near future. If you are a member of our Society all you need to do to be a member of the Society’s Facebook group is to have access to the Internet and be a member of Facebook which is free. If you meet the requirements all you need to do is to make a simple request to the site to be added and you will be added. Membership in the group will allow you to post messages and receive messages from other members. Meeting notices will always be found there as well as other notices from the Society. The group will allow the exchange of information, ideas and queries among members without access by others who are not members of the group. Currently the group has few members, but it is hoped that more members will join and take advantage of this valuable benefit of being a member of the Society.