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TORONTO TREE

Published by the Ontario Genealogical Society
Toronto Branch
Box 518, Station K, Toronto, Ontario MAP 2G9

ISSN 0381-9137
Volume 40 Issue 4
July/August 2009

TORONTO BRANCH MEETINGS

Toronto Branch meetings are usually held in the North York Central Library Auditorium, 5120 Yonge Street, 2nd floor, 7:30 PM. Information and displays are available from 7:00 PM.

There is direct access to the building from the Yonge Subway, North York Centre Station. Paid parking is available under the building (\$5.00 after 6:00 PM), accessible from Beecroft Avenue or from Park Home Avenue.

Admittance to Toronto Branch meetings is free of charge to all members of the Ontario Genealogical Society, but for non-members of OGS there is a \$5 charge for each meeting.

- 28 September 2009** **QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU BEGIN WRITING**
Gayle Dzis
The questions who, where, why, what, when, and how to begin writing your family history need to be answered individually because there is more than one right answer. How these questions are answered changes the nature, the focus, and even the content of your work. If you are considering fleshing out some of your ancestors, this interactive talk is for you.
Mini-Presentation
Paul Jones: *Why did the family save that photo? A late Edwardian surprise!*
- 26 October 2009** **“TIMELINES” AND HOW TO USE THEM TO BENEFIT YOU THE MOST**
Sharon Murphy
This will be an electronic presentation, giving examples and scenarios that we all can identify with, from the largest complete family history timeline, to the smallest individual task. Bring your questions and suggestions; let’s make this a real learning, participating event.
Mini-presentation
Pierce Reid: *Annotating an image using Irfanview*
N.B. The Branch Annual General Meeting will precede the program. *See page 00.*
- 23 November 2009** **GREAT MOMENTS IN GENEALOGY**
In a series of short presentations, several Toronto Branch members will share with us “great moments” in their genealogical research. *See page 43.*

Visit www.torontofamilyhistory.org/ at any time for news of meetings and other events.

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FamilySearch Indexing Project

TORONTO BRANCH TO INDEX MOUNT PLEASANT GROUP BURIAL REGISTERS

Jane MacNamara, OGS 8157

In 2006, FamilySearch announced the intention to index all the records in the Family History Library in Salt Lake City—all 2.5 million rolls of microfilmed records and millions of additional digitized records. To do this, the organization launched a new online tool called FamilySearchIndexing or FSI.

In FSI, digital images of a series of records are published online, along with an on-screen form into which a volunteer **extracts** the information. (The on-screen form is tailored to the particular record series, and is very user-friendly.) Every record is transcribed independently by two different volunteers. The computer finds any discrepancies between the two transcriptions, and a third volunteer, an arbitrator, makes the final decision.

Now, all of this requires lots of volunteers. In the first year, 2006, volunteers indexed a total of 11 million records. There are now more than 100,000 volunteers from around the world involved, and on April 23, 2009, they hit 250 million records. That 250 millionth record was indexed by a person in Nicaragua, another indexer in Guatemala, and the arbitrator was in Honduras.

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