



TORONTO TREE

Published by the Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch

Branch meetings in 2010 will be held in the Burgundy Room, North York Memorial Hall, North York Centre (North York Centre Subway Station)

TORONTO BRANCH MEETINGS

WHAT'S NEW ON ANCESTRY.CA AND TIPS ON USING THE DROUIN COLLECTION:

Lesley Anderson

26 April 2010

Ancestry has posted a lot of interesting databases during the past year including the Drouin Collection of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials. This is the source for vital and church records from Quebec for 1621-1947, but that's not all! Come out and hear what's new and exciting at Ancestry!

Mini-presentation

Sheila Emblem: I Thought I was an Emblem

ESCAPE, EVASION AND REVENGE: Marc Stevens

31 May 2010

Marc tells the fascinating story of researching the life of his father and discovering that he was not British-born, but a German Jew educated in England who joined the RAF under an alias.

Mini-presentation

Guy Lafontaine

Two Presentations on Cemeteries:

28 June 2010

A GENEALOGIST'S GUIDE TO THE MOUNT PLEASANT GROUP OF CEMETERIES: Sue Henderson

Sue will describe the 10 cemeteries, changing trends in the funeral industry and how to access burial records (with some potential anomalies). She will address issues such as photographing tombstones and using a "family" plot. Bring your questions.

SYMBOLISM ON TOMBSTONES: Laura Suchan

Great Moments in Genealogy

November 22, 2010

Linda Reid needs members to start thinking of great moments in their own genealogy that could be part of this year's session. Help provided with Power Point if necessary. Always one of the best nights of the year. Be part of it! Contact Linda: reidlinda@rogers.com

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ANCESTOR HUNTING IN HOLLAND

Nancy Conn, OGS 4438

Last October my husband and I flew to Europe. Our primary purpose was to visit the new branch of Russia's State Hermitage Museum which had opened in June. But I also wanted to discover more about my ancestors, who over 400 years ago had fled to the Netherlands to escape religious oppression.

One of them, named Alexander Carpenter, witnessed a marriage in Amsterdam in 1600. So first stop was the Amsterdam city archives – no need to register. You explain what you're seeking, then retrieve the microfilm from a shelf. Their web site had provided the reference number. Within 15 minutes I obtained a computer copy (and photograph) of the record! On the open shelf was a comprehensive array of books, several with excellent early maps of Amsterdam, many in English.

Alexander was part of a group of Dissenters (aka *Brownists*) who had fled England because of religious persecution. While living in Amsterdam in 1609, they attended church at a *begijnhof*, a collection of

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