



# TORONTO TREE

Published by the Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch

Branch meetings in 2011 will be held in the Burgundy Room, North York Memorial Hall, North York Centre (North York Centre Subway Station) Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

## TORONTO BRANCH MEETINGS

### HOW ON EARTH WILL I EVER READ THAT?: DECODING HANDWRITTEN DOCUMENTS

Cherryl Moote  
24 October 2011

#### 7:15 p.m. – note earlier starting time

An inside look at the life and work of the people entrusted with writing the documents that are so prized by genealogists and historians – tools and materials, writing methods and the various hands used. Those hard to read symbols will be demystified and some suggestions for unlocking difficult passages will be given.

**Mini-presentation:** Michele Skehill: Dearly Departed.

### GREAT MOMENTS IN GENEALOGY

28 November 2011

Ten members will present short (5-6 minute) upbeat presentations about something that excited them in their research. The speakers are:

**James F.S. Thomson** – *I'll Get to That One Day ...* (England)

**Heather Ioannou** – *A Debt Repaid* (USA)

**Janet Berkman** – *Sex, Lies, and Family History: the Story of Janet Forbes Morren* (Scotland/Canada)

**Bonnie Bell** – *And Me Without My Gloves: A Moral Tale of an 18th Century English Will* (England)

**Cathy McNamara** – *My Unusual Great Great Grandfather* (Ontario)

Break – Punch and homemade cookies and squares. To volunteer to bake and/or serve please contact Kathy Shorney at [k\\_shorney@yahoo.com](mailto:k_shorney@yahoo.com)

**Patricia Sheehan** – *Where There's a Will (or an Administration), There's a Way: Finding the Thompsons in Yorkshire* (England)

**Greg Marlatt** – *On the Trail of a Skunk - A Case of Frontier Divorce* (Ontario and Texas)

**Carol Nichols** – *Buried in Belfast* (Ireland)

Guyllaine Petrin – *Who was Jane Ross Kingston?: The Interesting Life of a Matriarch* (Canada)

**Michael Ball** – *Five Dollars Ruined His Career* (California, USA)

## In This Issue

Upper Canada Sundries.....	1
Be Careful What You Wish For .....	4
Canadian Genealogical Survey.....	5
Have You Looked in Your Own Backyard?.....	5
Sandra Moore, 1937 – 2011 .....	6
Ontario Genealogy Workshop Report.....	7
Genealogy in Brief.....	8
Power of the Blog.....	9
What's On in Genealogy .....	10

## UPPER CANADA SUNDRIES: AN UNDER-USED GENEALOGICAL GOLD MINE

**Janice Nickerson**

*Janice Nickerson, a professional genealogist, was one of the speakers at the Toronto Branch workshop on Ontario Genealogy, held August 6<sup>th</sup>, where she gave a presentation on the topic of the Upper Canada Sundries. The Editor has adapted the following information (with permission) from her handout. For more on this workshop, see elsewhere in this issue of Toronto Tree.*

### WHAT are the Upper Canada Sundries?

Also known as the Correspondence of the Civil Secretary, they are letters and documents sent to the Lieutenant Governor of the Colony and handled by his secretary. Altogether, they comprise 142546 pages of documents on 87 rolls of microfilm.

### WHO wrote these letters?

The letters were written by civil government officials, military officials, ordinary Upper Canadian citizens and occasional foreigners.

Continued on page 3