

Family History Newsletter

Contents

Researching Italian Records	1
Online Resources	2
Word of the Month	2
Maple Ridge Open House	2
Family History Events	2

The Family History Group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7pm at the Maple Ridge Library.

**Find us on the web:
www.mapleridgemuseum.org**

Editors: Annette Fulford, Andrea Lister

Contributors: Gina Leigh

Production: Val Patenaude, Allison White

Distribution: Brenda Smith

The views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Maple Ridge Historical Society.

Submissions to this publication are welcome. Copy deadline is the 7th of each month. The publisher will take all reasonable care but will not be responsible for the loss of any manuscript or other material.

Readers are welcome to reprint articles from this publication provided that formal permission is obtained from the Editor.

Subscriptions are a benefit of membership in the Maple Ridge Historical Society. Please send membership applications, with \$20 to the Maple Ridge Historical Society.

Family History Group Meetings

The June meeting will be June 5, 2013.

Researching Italian Records

by Gina Leigh

I have been researching my Italian ancestors for a number of years and have used Family Search, which has an extensive collection of Italian genealogical records. Unfortunately most of these records have not been indexed meaning that we Italian researchers have had to resort to the laborious task of browsing through thousands of images in the hopes of getting a "hit". The good news is that earlier this year Family Search began a push to index Italian records.

I'm searching for my relatives in Paese, in the Province of Treviso in northern Italy. Paese is the administrative district where the vital events are registered for my relatives who lived in a smaller village. Copies of the vital records were subsequently forwarded to the provincial archive in the City of Treviso, Province of Treviso. I'm using the records for *Italy, Treviso, Treviso Civil Registration (Tribunale) 1871-1941* which, unfortunately for my district of Paese, have only been copied from 1884 onwards. There are also records for *Italy, Treviso, Treviso Civil Registration (State Archive) 1806-1815*. At this time those missing years prior to 1884 have brought a halt to my backwards migration. I am still

culling through the thousands of images for Paese registrations and expect I will discover other relatives.

Italian vital records are a wonderful source of information. Not only do they contain the name and birth location of the individual, they record the names of the parents keeping the mother's birth name. This greatly increases the ability to confirm you are following the correct line, as well as taking you back another generation.

With this great resource, once I had my maternal grandfather's birth registration, I was able to confirm the names of his parents. Now I was able to locate my grandfather's siblings — I had known the names of a brother and sister, knew there was another brother, but previously did not know his name. I now have the birth registrations for my grandfather and his three siblings.

Once I had my grandfather's birth registration I was able to search for his parents' marriage record, which I located, as well as their marriage banns. These records named my great-grandparents and therefore I've been able to go back yet another generation! Additionally, having the names of my great-grandparents has enabled me to discover some records for their

other children, my grandparents' siblings.

Earlier I referred to the exercise of browsing images as laborious, and it certainly is. However, the advantage for me is that viewing each record has enabled me to find many ancestors I might not have identified otherwise.

Word of the Month

Do/" : ditto; substitute in inventories &c. for the repetition of a word or phrase (Pocket Oxford Dictionary of Current English 4th ed. 1961).

Online Resources

BC Bibliography

<http://bcbib.library.ubc.ca/>

The BC Bibliography is a collaborative venture to combine the traditional tools of bibliography with the new tools of the digital world. This prototype contains 160 works, contributed by:

- UBC Library (lead)
- Legislative Library of BC
- Royal BC Museum and Archives
- Simon Fraser University Library
- University of Northern British Columbia Library
- University of Victoria Library
- Vancouver Public Library

Digital Public Library of America

<http://dp.la/>

The Digital Public Library of America brings together the riches of America's libraries, archives, and museums, and

makes them freely available to the world.

Census of Canada, 1881

Library and Archives Canada is pleased to announce the release of a new version of the Census of Canada, 1881 database. This new version includes suggestions for corrections that were received from users in recent months, as well as revised district and sub-district information.

www.bac-lac.gc.ca/eng/census/1881/Pages/1881.aspx

Maple Ridge Open House

The Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission (CHC) is holding a public open house on Thursday, June 13, 2013 to present the highlights of the first draft of the Maple Ridge Heritage Plan. The CHC will be seeking public input on this plan. The CHC has been asking for public input into the preparation of the Heritage Plan draft through an online questionnaire, which is accessible until May 31st.

<http://fluidsurveys.com/surveys/dmr/maple-ridge-heritage-plan-questionnaire/>

Family History Events

Abbotsford Genealogical Society

- **Brick Wall Panel.** Tues., May 14, 2013, 6:30pm.
- **The Story of Two Prairie Women** with Sharon Syrette. Tues., June 18, 2013, 6:30pm.

- **Writing Your History** with Andrea Lister. Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2013, 6:30pm.
- **A La Carte Maps** with Brenda Smith, Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013 1:00pm.

Capilano College

Family Historian Summer Camp with Brenda L. Smith, Monday June 10 to Friday June 14, 2013, 1:00pm – 3:00 pm daily. Capilano University Course 92018. Register now by calling 604.984.4901. Fee: \$159.00.

Surrey Libraries

5642-176A Street, Surrey offers free orientations the 1st Saturday of every month 10:00 – 10:50am.

- **Tracing your English Ancestors from Canada** with Susan Snalam. Saturday, May 4, 2013, 11:00am – 12:30pm. Fee: \$10.00.

Pre-registration is required – please check the Family History section of the Surrey Libraries website www.spl.surrey.bc.ca or call us at 604-598-7328.

Vancouver Public Library

Central Library, 350 West Georgia Street.

- **How to Research your Vancouver Home Using Online Resources,** Wednesday, June 19, 2013, 2:30 pm. Fee: Free.

Surrey Tri-Stake

Mark your calendar, Saturday, October 19, 2013. 8:30am – 4:00pm.

www.findingyourroots.ca