

RGS Meeting 19 November 2009

Beginner's Consultations continue in November ...

Just starting in genealogy? Not sure what to do next? Don't understand what you've already got? This is for you. Beginning in September, a consultation opportunity for beginning genealogists will be offered as an alternative to the short program. Each month, one of our more experienced members will be available in the anteroom at the back of the hall during the short program. Take your research notes and/or your questions to the consultant-of-the-day and quietly get your research back on track. Remember that no question is too trivial.

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Short Program: Census Records: Gold Dust or Coal Dust – presented by Roscoe Hastings

This presentation will look at the information contained in Census Records. We will identify information that is reliable and that which may be questionable. We will then identify sources of worldwide census records. Roscoe is Professor Emeritus at Monroe Community College where he is an adjunct professor. He is an Indexer & Arbitrator for the Family Search Indexing Project, a member of the Church Records Preservation Committee and docent at the Rochester Public Library.

Main Program: "A Canal of some Consequence" - presented by Ruth Rosenberg-Naparsteck

Synopsis: The vote to build the Erie Canal passed by a single vote. No one, not even its supporters, had any idea the canal would have such an impact on western New York and even give birth to many towns and villages along its banks. The canal went through nearly three quarters of a century as the primary carrier of goods and passengers. The railroad with its more versatile routes, took away much of the canal traffic and spread the reach of passengers and commerce into the far west coast. Today, the towns and villages along the Erie Canal are experiencing a rebirth as the canal is being recognized as a major tourist attraction.

Ruth Rosenberg-Naparsteck is a historian and president of Herons Bend Productions.

