



# Ukrainian Genealogy Group

## National Capital Region

The Ukrainian Genealogist

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### **November, 2009 Meeting**

At the meeting held on November 24, we were able to screen the historical documentary, *Harvest Of Despair (Ukrainian Famine/Holodomor)*

This film documents the Ukrainian Famine of 1932--33, which caused the deaths directly and indirectly, of over seven million people in Soviet Ukraine. Yury Luhovy, who produced this documentary, used interviews with survivors, researchers and scholars to supplement rare photographic evidence.

The film established that the Famine was deliberately organized by the Soviet Government as part of Stalin's effort to control and subdue the Ukrainian peasants, who resisted the forced collectivization of their farms. This Famine was kept a secret by the Soviet Government which denied any outside assistance of food because "there was no famine". The Soviets claimed that any mention of the Famine both inside and outside Ukraine, was anti-Soviet propaganda and this position was maintained until the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

The film has received many international awards (including an Academy Award

nomination) and has been featured on the PBS television network. Yury Luhovy has produced a more recent documentary on the Famine. He has traveled to Ukraine to interview survivors and witnesses to this tragedy. An English-language version of the new documentary is in preparation.

This session was concluded with a question and answer period.

### **Recent book donations**

We would like to thank the following members for donations of books to the UGG Library:

Chris Habrowych

*Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, Organizing Your Family History Research, Betterway Books, Cincinnati, Ohio, 1999, 150 pages.*

Elizabeth Udell

*Stefan Petelycky, Into Auschwitz for Ukraine, Kashtan Press, Kingston, 1999.*

Donations of books on Ukrainian and Ukrainian Canadian topics, genealogy and history is always appreciated.

### **Ukrainian language lessons**

Ukrainian - Beginner course held at Brookfield High School and taught by Oleg Belkin. Begins February 1, 2010 for 8 weeks on Mondays 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost \$110.00

Ukrainian - Beginner course held at Brookfield High School and taught by Oleg Belkin. Begins April 19, 2010 for 8 weeks on Mondays 7:00-9:00 p.m. Cost \$110.00

For information:

[interestclassesinOttawa.com](http://interestclassesinOttawa.com)

<http://www.ocdsb.ca/continuweb/>

Register on-line <http://e-connect.ocdsb.ca>  
Phone 613-239-2751

### **Canadian Headstones Photo Project**

The mission of this project is to capture digital images and the complete transcription of headstones of our ancestors. As decades pass -- many stones are becoming harder, if not impossible, to read the inscriptions they originally contained.

By archiving the images and transcriptions, we can help save these important records and also assist researchers using this valuable resource.

This Headstone Photo Project is a privately sponsored, non-profit, educational site. Success of the Project depends completely upon the activities of many volunteers and other individuals who contribute photographs to the archive.

<http://canadianheadstones.com/>

### **Websites of Interest**

*Canadian Obituaries -GenealogyBuff.com*  
[http://www.genealogybuff.com/canada-bbs/provinces/canada\\_alberta\\_obits.htm](http://www.genealogybuff.com/canada-bbs/provinces/canada_alberta_obits.htm)

*Stephen P. Morse Web Page*  
<http://stevemorse.org/>

This site is a short-cut to various databases. In particular, this site includes information on access to the Ellis Island Search Forms and Ship Arrivals, Other Ports of Immigration (mostly USA) but what is of particular interest is: Holocaust and Eastern Europe. This site which is near the bottom of the page, includes Siberian Refugee Camps, Soviet Gulags and Russia's Fallen.

You can check for your surname in Russia's Fallen (the surname is changed to Cyrillic on this site). This is a list of those soldiers who perished during the Second World War. It is also possible to view the original handwritten document where additional information can be seen.

### **Free Genealogy Software**

As of November 2009, RootsMagic, Inc. announced the immediate availability of RootsMagic Essentials, free desktop genealogy software based on their award-winning RootsMagic 4 system.

Rootsmagic Essentials contains many core features found in its namesake that allow the public to easily start tracing their family trees at a price that can't be beat --free! For more information, visit:  
<http://www.rootsmagic.com>.