



MONTREAL FORUM

QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE
JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF MONTREAL

TO CATCH YOUR EYE

When it failed to materialize in early March, some of you may have thought that our neophyte journal had fallen victim to an early demise. It didn't then, and it hasn't now. But we most surely did stumble.

In one of his best-known poems written in 1785, Robert Burns expressed words which have been picked up by many famous authors, including John Steinbeck and Harold Kushner, as well as by most of us as we have dealt with any unexpected interference in our plans. We smile as we shake our head and say "talk about the best-laid plans..." In his poem *To a Mouse on Turning Her Up in Her Nest with the Plough*, Robert Burns writes "the best-laid plans of mice and men go oft astray".

Montreal Forum's mouse – that would be little old me – was sidelined after being turned up in my nest with not a plough, but a heart attack, followed by by-pass surgery in February. I'm absolutely fine now. But I wasn't when I should have been putting together the March issue. And to my disappointment, energy levels were still lower than I had hoped they would be during the weeks when I had planned to chase up articles and other bits and pieces for this June issue.

Having already approached a few people with suggestions for contributions to be included in future issues, I am encouraged by the response with its exciting prospects.

And now it is time to invite you, our readers, to share with the rest of us your stories and ideas. There are so many tales of woe and triumph as we stagger along those often confusing avenues in pursuit of family history facts, tales that are both enlightening and entertaining. Remember that each one of us decided to join up with other genealogists in order to learn from one another, and through mingling to encourage one another. Meetings and events are one way of achieving this end, and MONTREAL FORUM is another. Both are valuable.

Jewish Genealogical Society
of Montreal

Founded 1995

Member of the
International Association of
Jewish Genealogical Societies

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It will be really nice to hear from you, and then provide a forum for you to share your stories with us.

Anne Joseph

IN CLOSING --- A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

It was just a little over three years ago that I found myself in the Jewish General Hospital in Montreal awaiting a triple by-pass. I didn't know what was in store for me then, nor will I soon forget the months of recovery. So, when our editor Anne Joseph advised me what was on her plate, I not only knew how this would affect her personally but also how it would impact on the many activities in which Anne is involved.

Many of us may know Anne only as the editor of this journal. Perhaps this brief edition is the right time to more fully introduce Anne to you. In addition to being editor of the MONTREAL FORUM, we can also thank Anne for both coming up with the concept (at a time when the society was mature enough to follow through) and for overseeing its birth and implementation. Although other responsibilities often keep her away from our public meetings, she has been a member of our society since it was founded 11 years ago, and a long-standing and valued member of our executive committee who can be counted upon for her thoughtful and insightful contributions. She is an accomplished (and published) researcher and genealogist. And Anne is a dear friend.

Those who have read the first two issues of our journal know that Anne has set a very high standard for herself and for us and so we look forward to sharing her very professional approach and talents for years to come. It is because of these high standards of Anne's that the members of the executive of the JGS of Montreal did not consider – even for a moment – to publish an interim edition of the MONTREAL FORUM without Anne. We know you understand.

Now, with Anne doing remarkably well and planning a super September 2006 edition, we are hoping that you, as members and other readers of the MONTREAL FORUM, will want to submit your articles and stories so that we can

all share in the excitement of your discoveries and the wisdom you gathered along the way.

Stanley Diamond

PROGRAMMING

Address all enquiries to Merle Kastner
merlek@videotron.ca
 or phone our Hot Line – 514/484-0969

All events at 5151 Côte Ste Catherine Road
 unless otherwise specified

MONTHLY LECTURE SERIES

Monday 12 June 2006 at 7.30pm

Three of our members will each give a short presentation on their success stories, genealogy trips, or how they began their research.

July 2006 – Summer Break.

Monday 28 August 2006 at 7.30pm

Those of our members who went to the recent IAJGS conference in New York will discuss the experiences and insights they gained from their attendance.

FAMILY TREE WORKSHOPS

Sunday 11 June 2006 from 10am to noon

Final session of the season. Next workshop in October.

**DEADLINE FOR THE
 SEPTEMBER 2006 ISSUE
 TUESDAY 15 AUGUST**