

Genealogy Technology Day at Arlington Heights Memorial Library

Page 2

CAGG-NI Archives - Why?

By Elaine Beaudoin
Page 3

March Meeting Notes What's New in 2006?

Notes By Gerard Czadowski
Page 5

Electronic Pages

Links Around the World

by Frank McGovern & Dan Wertz
Page 8

Video Montages Help Make Memories Last For Generations

By Alex L. Goldfayn
from Chicago Tribune
Page 9

Saturday, April 15, 2006

Organizing Browser & Email



Presented by

Beverly Levine Smallwood

Can't find that great website you found last week? Overwhelmed by so many emails that you can't keep up? Did you know that there are tools built right into your browser and email programs to control chaos?



Beverly Smallwood has been researching her family history since 1990 and uses The Master Genealogist TM (TMG) software in that pursuit. She is a frequent speaker at genealogical venues in the area and teaches genealogy for District 214 community education program. After completing her 3rd term as President and one term as Treasurer of CAGG-NI, she now helps maintain CAGG-NI's website. Beverly is also a member of the Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists

May 20, 2006

Genealogy: The Process

Presented by **Michael Mulholland**

Where do you start? What do you do next? There are traditional web sites which can be used to fill in the gaps in your research. The demonstration will include many of these resources.

June 17, 2006

Document Organization Using Paper Port

Presented by **Dan Wertz**

PaperPort is software that often comes with your scanner to track and retrieve your documents, emails, pictures, downloads, etc.

How does this help the genealogist?

Let Dan show you how to take control of your data.

Genealogy Technology Day

May 6 9:30am - 4:00pm
Arlington Heights Memorial Library

A number of years ago, CAGG-NI participated in an event at the AHML which involved a number of local organizations. It was a well attended event which many of you have asked if there is going to be a repeat.

Michael Mulholland has scheduled a similar event and requested CAGG-NI's participation. This event differs from the previous as it includes a number of speakers. As a matter of fact, most of the speakers are CAGG-NI members.

Michael's notice about the event follows:

Want to know what's new in technology for genealogy? Not sure which genealogy software to buy or how to use it? Join us for a day of technology in the world of family history. Presentations will include:

- "What's New in Technology for Genealogy in 2006?" by Ed Rosenthal
- Family Tree Maker by Janice Hall
- The Master Genealogist by Bev Smallwood
- GenSmarts, an automated genealogy research tool by Aaron Underwood

A Panel discussion will follow the presentations.

Patrons and staff can register online at www.ahml.info or at the Reception Desk (847) 392-0100

Michael Mulholland
Local History/Genealogy Librarian

Arlington Heights Memorial Library
500 N. Dunton Ave.
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
(847) 870-3643

Announcement from Kane County Genealogical Society

The 1888 Commemorative, Historical and Biographical Record of Kane County, IL is the largest, comprehensive historical compilation detailing the lives and times of Kane County residents. This digital version includes an exact copy of every page in the original book.

The powerful search engine takes you directly to the page and word you are requesting. There is no need to read copious quantities of text for the desired information. Text and graphics are clearly and easily printed to any ink jet or laser printer.

This purchase is a must for libraries and historical societies seeking to preserve the bindings of their old books.

Genealogists, Historians and

Librarians can have this book at a very economical price!

Orders received before Apr. 30, 2006:

\$22.00 postage paid KCGS

Members

\$25.00 postage paid non-KCGS members

Orders received after Apr. 30, 2006:

\$25.00 postage paid KCGS

Members

\$28.00 postage paid non-KCGS Members

Please send check or money order made payable to:
Kane County Genealogical Society
P.O. Box 504
Geneva, IL 60134

Using Google

To Find Your Ancestors

This suggestion was provided at the Tinley Moraine Genealogist Conference last week. It was something I was not familiar with and thought it was a good tip. Elaine Beaudoin

The next time you use Google try putting your ancestor's name in quotes in the dialog box. Then, press the Google search button. When the list of results appears, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Search within results." A new dialog box will appear. Then, type either the spouse (again in quotes) of your ancestor or perhaps the city or town your ancestor is from. Click on the "Search within results" button. This has the impact of narrowing your results to something that is manageable. If you are LUCKY, you should see a couple of instances that contain both of your ancestors and/or your ancestor associated with the geographical area you identified. It is a very efficient way to "weed" through the long lists that are often generated on Google when you have just searched on a single name. Good hunting!

Hamburg Emigration Port Exhibit

Submitted by Christine Clark

From the Thursday, 3/23/06, Chicago Tribune.

See paraphernalia and more than 50 photographs chronicling the experiences of German and Eastern European immigrants traveling to America at the turn of the 20th Century. The Hamburg-based Link To Your Roots organization curates. 11am to 6pm March 25 through June 3. Free. Dank Haus 4740 N. Western Ave, Chicago 773-561-9181

CAGG-NI Archives - Why?

Submitted by Elaine Beaudoin

Doesn't it seem strange that genealogists, who will passionately fight for the preservation of records of all types so that they and future researchers can have access to these historical documents, often neglect to maintain their own contemporary records?

Every organization also has a responsibility to keep and preserve the records of its past. Why? Because, just like genealogists learn to understand their families and themselves by knowing where they came from, organizations also need to know what their history is. As an organization ages and its leadership changes, it needs to have access to the records of its past so that future leadership can have an historical base with which to guide the organization. An organization's or society's archives provide the essential means of examining the past and can become the building blocks for the future. CAGG-NI, now in its 15th year, has a PAST! Let's preserve it for both the present and the future.

As the newly appointed CAGG-NI Archivist, I plan, over the course of the next several months, to collect all the relevant materials that reflect the history of CAGG-NI. Please help me in preserving our past for the future by sharing with me any historical materials you might have. Thank you.

Attention History Enthusiasts

The following message was posted to one of my mailing lists. Unfortunately, the poster did not include the sender's name or details, but the website is interesting.

Beverly Levine Smallwood.

I am writing to let American History enthusiasts know about a website that has interactive mapping of American history topics. The site is MapMuse.com, and some of the topics we have mapped are Civil War Battles, Civil War Sites, the Underground Railroad, the Lewis and Clark Expedition, Presidential Birthplaces, Presidential Burial Sites, Presidential Libraries, and Railroad Attractions. The link to History Directory is as follows:

<http://find.mapmuse.com/re1/mmHomeInterestsList.php?cat=History>

Please check to see if your favorite historical sites are included, and located properly. You can add additional information about places yourself including both text and photos. There is an Add and Edit feature on the site (it is very easy to do- you can refer to <http://find.mapmuse.com/re1/mmFAQ.htm#A4> for complete instructions). Through this kind of community effort, we hope to have the most comprehensive, and descriptive maps for American history enthusiasts.



NGS Conference Raffle

CAGG-NI has one admission to the National Genealogical Society Conference being held at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, June 7-10, 2006. We are offering this admission as a prize in a raffle to be held at our next meeting - April 15, 2006.

Form more info, see our website:

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/raffle.html>



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March Meeting Notes

What's New 2006?

Presented by Ed Rosenthal

By Gerard Czadowski

Ed Rosenthal, CAGG-NI's Tech Guy, presented his very popular annual survey of emerging technologies presentation. Sharing of the insights he gains from keeping tabs on new developments in the computing and digital imaging scenes provides us all with a glimpse of what new tools will soon be available to leverage in our favorite obsession — genealogy!

Things to keep in mind:

- Looking for the perfect fit? There is no single software package or brand of hardware products that will fit all needs.
- Always look at ALL stores when purchasing equipment. An item on sale at BestBuy can sometimes be found \$100 cheaper at Sears. Aldi had a high end \$40 video to DVD converter. This price could not be found lower at any other place.

Computers, Processors and Operating Systems

Expect ongoing competition to continue the trend of lower prices and higher value content included in new computers. Keep an eye out for a company called Lenovo, a Chinese company which purchased IBM's PC Division (including it's ThinkCenter desktop and ThinkPad notebook/tablet product lines) last year. Expect to see price wars as Lenovo tries to increase its market share.

The ongoing battle between AMD (Opteron) and Intel (Pentium) processors in the high end 32-bit computing space continues. Intel is introducing a new dual core Pentium processor, which is something to look for in both laptop and desktop systems. As a result of the new processor's introduction, Intel will cut prices of their existing processors in April, so computer buyers should wait until then before making purchases. Vista is our next operating system from Microsoft, due out at year's end. It uses 800MB of RAM (2GB RAM

recommended). Ed recommends waiting two years before upgrading.

Storage and Media

Media keeps getting smaller. Everyone should have a flash drive with them. It helps save time in transporting and transferring data and programs. In a replay of the VHS (JVC) vs. Betamax (Sony) battle for videocassette recording format supremacy, there is a new format war for high definition video between HD DVD (Toshiba) and Blu-ray (Sony). Most of us will be using one of these formats to archive our family history in years to come.

[Note that in addition to motion picture application, high definition video media is of interest in the video game console arena. Microsoft (Xbox) competes against Sony (Playstation) in this market space and has rejected Blu-ray in favor of HD DVD.]

Network

As we demand more from our computing services, the greater size of content to be shared (especially video) requires high-speed (broadband) connections to the Internet. Although wireless speeds are typically less than broadband speed provided by our ISP that are available via hard wired connections, the flexibility and ease of connecting to the Internet via a wireless infrastructure is still desirable. In the past meeting both of these needs has required several devices (modems, routers, access points), but today we are seeing some integrated solutions.

Motorola SURFboard® SBG900 Wireless Cable Modem Gateway

(shown below) Motorola's SURFboard SBG900 Wireless Cable Modem Gateway is built with both an 802.11g wireless access point and a cable modem. *[Product details can be found here: <http://broadband.motorola.com/consumers/products/sbg900/>]*



Motorola WR850G Wireless Broadband Router (shown at right) Motorola's WR850G Wireless Broadband Router, is built with both an 802.11g wireless access point and a 4-port Ethernet router.

[Product details can be found here: <http://broadband.motorola.com/consumers/products/wr850g/>]



Photo and Video Cameras

Ed is still looking for the perfect camera — a camera using Memory Stick media that will both record video in MPEG-2 format and will take at least 6 meg of still photos.

Camcorders are getting smaller, lighter, and more capable. Storage is moving to flash memory cards which are fast and contain no moving parts. For example: Panasonic's SDR-S100 camcorder.

Panasonic's SDR-S100 SD camcorder (shown at right) ·

· 3 CCD Camcorder (1/6" CCDs) ·
· NO moving parts ·
· Records to 2GB-SD Memory Cards (world's most popular) ·
· Holds about 100 minutes of MPEG2 Video ·
· Palm-held ·
· MSRP: \$1200 *[Product details can be found here: <http://www2.panasonic.com/webapp/wcs/stores/servlet/vModelDetail?displayTab=O&storeId=15001&catalogId=13401&itemId=94591&catGroupId=25003&modelNo=SDR-S100&surfModel=SDR-S100&cacheProgram=1102&cachePartner=7000000000000572>]*



March Meeting Notes (Continued)

Using the MPEG-4 format is not recommended at this time.

Video

Productivity is increased by 20 - 50%. when using two monitors. Windows can support up to 10 monitors.

Doublesight Dual LCD Displays (shown at right) Doublesight offers dual LCD displays integrated in a side-by-side configuration in both 17 and 19 inch variants. [Product details can be found here: http://www.doublesight.com/prod_ds1900.htm]



Village Tronic VT Book Notebook Multiple Display Card (shown at right) Village Tronic has a solution for connecting multiple (up to 6) monitors to laptop computers which works with both Windows and Mac. [Product details can be found here: http://www.villagetrionic.com/e_pr_vtbook.html]

Slingbox (shown at right) Sling Media's Slingbox™ is a personal broadcast device that can hook up with virtually any A/V device you own (TV, cable, satellite, VCR, etc.) and place-shift the signal to your PC over the Internet to anywhere in the world or throughout your home using wireless technology. [Product details can be found here: <http://www.slingmedia.com/>]



Scanners and Printers

For most applications, Ed recommends

scanning at 300 dpi in order to get a good print copy of your work. Look for scanners that include Digital ICE™ technology if you have many photos to archive.

Canon PIXMA Pro9500 Photo Printer (shown at right — available Fall 2006)

For high-end photo printing take a look at this Features: ·

· uses up to 13 X 19 inch paper ·
· 10 color pigment ink cartridges ·
· 7680 ink nozzle print head 7680 print head compared to 4800. The more print heads the better the print. ·



[Digital ICE (Image Correction/Enhancement) technology automatically removes surface defects, such as dust and scratches, from a scanned image. Additional information on Digital ICE, which is a proprietary technology owned and licensed by Kodak, can be found here: <http://www.asf.com/products/ice/FilmICEExample.shtml>. Product details can be found here: <http://consumer.usa.canon.com/ir/controller?at=ModelDetailAct&categoryId=117&model=12414>]

Software

To help sharpen and remove scratches from your photos, Microsoft Digital Image 2006 is highly recommended for most users as a lower-cost alternative to professional image processing suites. [Product details can be found here: <http://www.microsoft.com/products/imaging/ProductDetails.aspx?pid=003>.]



Ed's Mantra

Use the 3Ts to manage your project:
Treasures — Talents — Technology

- Have a quarterly goal
- One Project at a Time
- Publish your finish goal dates



Other Group Events *compiled by Beverly Levine Smallwood*

27 APR 2006 - DARIEN

Ancestry

Indian Prairie Public Library - Genealogy Group
http://www.indianprairie.lib.il.us/genealogy_group.htm

27 APR 2006 - GENEVA

Molly Hofer - "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Plate?" Transferring Non-Titled Property
Kane County Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilkcgs/>

30 APR 2006 - CHICAGO

Genealogy Committee Meeting

CONTACT: BRIAN DONOVAN
(P) 773-282-7035 (SATURDAYS 9-2)
Irish American Heritage Center
<http://www.irishamhc.com/programs.asp#history>

30 APR 2006 - SKOKIE

Mike Karsen - How to Find Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record Online
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/index.htm>

04 MAY 2006 - TINLEY PARK

Jennifer Kenny - How to do House Histories and Property Research
Tinley Moraine Genealogists
<http://www.tmgenealogists.org/>

06 MAY 2006 - CHICAGO

Ridge Historical Society Museum
Chicago Genealogical Society
<http://chgogs.org/calendar.html>

09 MAY 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

Br. Joseph Martin - Half My Ancestors Were Women
STDL Genealogy Group
CONTACT TONY KIERNA AT 847-923-3395
<http://www.stdl.org/>

10 MAY 2006 - WINFIELD

Jeff Bockman - Extra! Extra! Read All About Your Ancestors!
DuPage County Genealogical Society
<http://www.dccgs.org/>

11 MAY 2006 - NAPERVILLE

David Cosper - The U.S. Civil War
Fox Valley Genealogical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>

11 MAY 2006 - MCHENRY

Dan Niemiec - Italian Genealogy
McHenry County Genealogical Society
<http://www.mcigs.org/>

13 MAY 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

The Master Genealogist (TMG) User Group
CAGG-NI TMG Special Interest Group
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/>

13 MAY 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

Italian Genealogical Research
POINTers in Person (PIP)
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~itappcnc/>

13 MAY 2006 - HAZEL CREST

Donna Daniels as Mary Todd Lincoln
South Suburban Genealogical & Historical Society
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ssghs/>

18 MAY 2006 - ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Jeff Bockman - Courthouse Research. Where Do I Start?
Northwest Suburban Council of Genealogists
<http://www.mtprospect.org/nsgs/>

20 MAY 2006 - RICHMOND, IL

Jeffrey Bockman - I Cannot Tell a Lie, I Chopped Down My Royal Family Tree
BIGWILL - British Interest Group of Wisconsin and Illinois
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wiilbig/meet.htm>

20 MAY 2006 - SCHAUMBURG

Michael Mulholland
Genealogy: The Process
CAGG-NI
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilcaggni/>

21 MAY 2006 - CHICAGO

MARK MANDLE & NORMAN SCHWARTZ
Tour of Jewish Graceland Cemetery
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/index.htm>

21 MAY 2006 - CHICAGO

Larry Stillman - A Match Made in Hell: The Jewish Boy and the Polish Bandit who Defied the Nazis
Polish Genealogical Society
<http://www.pgsa.org/meetings.htm>

Other Group Events

25 MAY 2006 - DARIEN

Genealogy Book Review

Indian Prairie Public Library - Genealogy Group

http://www.indianprairie.lib.il.us/genealogy_group.htm

25 MAY 2006 - GENEVA

ROBERT BRUBAKER

Resources of the Batavia Library

Kane County Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilkcgs/>

28 MAY 2006 - CHICAGO

Genealogy Committee Meeting

CONTACT: BRIAN DONOVAN

(P) 773-282-7035 (SATURDAYS 9-2)

Irish American Heritage Center

<http://www.irishamhc.com/programs.asp#history>

Conferences

29 APR 2006 - CHICAGO

Path to the Past:

Discovering Grandma's Secrets

Polish Genealogical Society

<http://www.pgsa.org/meetings.htm>

06 JUN 2006 - SKOKIE

Dr. Stephen Morse - One-Step Webpages: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools

Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/index.htm>

07-10 JUN 2006 - CHICAGO!

NGS Conference

CAGGNI is among the Consortia hosting

National Genealogical Society

<http://www.eshow2000.com/ngs/registration.cfm>

15 JUL 2006 - WHITEWATER, WI

KORY L. MEYERINK

3 R's of German Research:

Reading, 'Riting & Records

German Interest Group - Wisconsin

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~wigig/index.html>

01-04 AUG 2006 - BYU CONFERENCE CENTER

38th Annual Genealogy and Family History Conference

BYU Conferences and Workshops

<http://ce.byu.edu/cw/cwgeneal/>

30 AUG-02 SEP 2006 - BOSTON

FGS and New England Historic Genealogical Society Conference

Federation of Genealogical Societies

<http://www.fgs.org/2006conf/FGS-2006.htm>

08-10 SEP 2006 - CHICAGO

28th Annual PGSA Conference

Polish Genealogical Society

<http://www.pgsa.org/meetings.htm>

30 SEP 2006 - NAPERVILLE

SANDRA HARGREAVES LUEBKING

Journey Into Genealogy

Fox Valley Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilfvgs/index.htm>

14 OCT 2006 - ITASCA

ISGS Fall Conference - Footsteps to the Past: Making Tracks Through Research

Illinois State Genealogical Society

<http://www.rootsweb.com/~ilsigs/index.html>

16-19 MAY 2007 - RICHMOND, VA

National Genealogical Society

<http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/>

15-18 AUG 2007 - FT. WAYNE

FGS and Allen County Public Library Conference

Federation of Genealogical Societies

<http://www.fgs.org/2007conf/FGS-2007.htm>



Links Around the World

Frank McGovern, Columnist*

Dan Wertz, Columnist

This month's Links "Around the World" offers links on topics about Digital Photography. We hope that these links will be informative and provide you with the link that will advance your research.

The advent of high quality digital cameras at affordable consumer prices has provided some great opportunities as well as a number of potential problems. The goal of this article is twofold, to make sure that your descendants a hundred years from now can enjoy the pictures you take today, and to make sure that people today can enjoy photographs of their ancestors, taken a hundred years ago.

<http://www.rideau-info.com/genealogy/digital>

Welcome to AlwaysPhotographing devoted to the art of photography using digital and traditional techniques. This site is devoted to photographers who want to learn more about photography, or to discover what others are doing.

www.alwaysphotographing.com

Family photography tips include everything from snapping off 20 baby pictures to posing everyone at your family reunion.

www.best-family-photography-tips.com

Website lists places to buy digital cameras, photo services, security cameras and camera accessories.

www.digitalcamera.com

You can spend hours on this website with techniques, essays, tutorials, workshops, galleries, product previews, etc, etc.

<http://luminous-landscape.com/>

HP Digital Photography - Hewlett Packard explains everything you need to take, print, and share brilliant photos

www.hp.com/united-states/consumer/dpc/home/home.html

Another great website for everything you ever wanted to know about photography.

www.steves-digicams.com

PhotoWatermark Professional simplifies the process of creating and applying watermarks to a large number of images - whether you want to watermark your pictures one-by-one or in batch.

www.photowatermark.com/

Ancestry.com - An article on "Transferring 8mm tape to Digital Video"

<http://ancestry.com/learn/library/article.aspx?article=10115>

A webpage devoted to product reviews on recently introduced cameras, etc. A good resource page if you plan to buy a new camera.

<http://www.dcresource.com/>

Everything you ever wanted to know but were afraid to ask about digital cameras and digital photography.

<http://www.dcviews.com/>

More product reviews on digital cameras - this time from PC Magazine.

<http://www.pcmag.com/category2/0,1874,5,00.asp>

More product reviews on digital cameras, printers, scanners, software along with some interested articles on digital photography.

<http://www.imaging-resource.com/>

The Nikon School of Photography - Nikon schedules two workshops each year for newbie's as well experienced photographers. They are well attended and expertly presented.

www.nikonschool.com/

A website of many different bookmarked photography links which may be of general interest.

<http://www.cloudnet.com/~wtorborg/bookmarks.html>

Our thanks this month go to Diane Marton Hamernik and Ann Jacobs for their many contributions.

We are planning specific topics for each month and as always if our members could assist us with their help it would be appreciated. You can forward your information to the following:

Dan Wertz at dan.wertz@comcast.net or Frank McGovern at mcgovern34@hotmail.com

Our Schedule for topics for 2006:

May	Germany
June	Maps
July	Sweden, Norway, Denmark & Finland
August	Military
Sept	Russia & former SSR Republics
October	Libraries & other major source locations
November	France
December	Spain, Portugal, South and Central America

Video Montages Help Make Memories Last For Generations

Submitted by: *annellen barr*

Chicago Tribune on March 27, 2006

By *Alex L. Goldfayn*

In January, Ronni Rosenblum's mother, Mildred, passed away after a long battle with blood disease. She was 84. At the funeral, Ronni's three adult children read a eulogy.

"One day, you're going to come up and ask me who Bubby was," the eulogy started.

"It was so special," Rosenblum recalled. "It was so touching. Anyone who was there, if they didn't know my mother well, said, 'My God, I know your mother now.'"

Rosenblum had just one regret: that the eulogy wasn't videotaped.

So, her kids, who live in three different states, used a video camera to tape a repeat of the eulogy.

"So now we had video of just that," Rosenblum said.

But the intergenerational tribute to the family's matriarch didn't stop with the eulogy. The Rosenblums wanted to create a video from Mildred's life, combining their home movies with photographs and music.

"It was after the funeral, and I was really sad. Everybody had left. And I thought, 'Wouldn't be great to put all these videos and pictures together?'" she said.

So Rosenblum and her son went through a mountain of family tapes, pulling out their favorite scenes: bar mitzvahs, graduations, family gatherings. All featured Bubby surrounded by family.

They connected their camera to the VCR, and transferred their favorite video clips to a single tape.

As computer technology has increased in functionality and decreased in price, putting together a video montage can be done with most PCs. But it remains a rather technical and time-consuming process.

Your PC must have the right

connection, usually a FireWire port, which connects to your video camera. Then the video must be digitized, or transferred from a tape to your computer's hard drive.

Once there, video editing software (a basic version comes with Windows XP) allows you to edit, add transitions between scenes, implement a music soundtrack and voice narration, and insert titles.

It's not difficult. It just requires enough time and the right technology.

But Rosenblum knew this process is not for her. "I'm not real technical," she said.

So, using the Google search engine, Rosenblum tracked down a company called Pictoreal Corp

(www.pictoreal.com). Based in San Francisco, the company specializes in putting together polished DVDs featuring home movies and photos set to music. And their prices are remarkably affordable.

Here's how Pictoreal's process works:

After signing up for free on Pictoreal.com, pre-paid and pre-labeled FedEx materials are delivered to your front door. Pack the movies and photos you want transferred to DVD, and send it away.

As a matter of common sense, try to send copies rather than originals.

Within three to five days, you get your originals back. During this time, Pictoreal has digitized your family memories.

Then it runs them through its proprietary software system, which, among other things, edits your movies and organizes them into "chapters" that can be easily navigated on a DVD.

"Our system looks at faces, at what's being said, at lighting conditions. It reads the time and date off the tape so we understand when the camera starts and stops," said Yogesh Sharma, Pictoreal's 35-year-old CEO. "We literally analyze your tapes frame by

frame. This gives us a very powerful searchable database of all those frames."

The video that is posted is already edited. The hard work is done by software, but it's all checked by a human video editor.

"Your materials go online within 10 to 12 business days of us receiving your video," Sharma said.

Everything is posted under your password-protected account on the Pictoreal site.

From there, you can edit chapter titles, delete scenes, select music, and look at the final version.

You can share the entire video or certain scenes via e-mail right from the site.

You can also pick a design for the DVD cover and the opening menu.

Rosenblum's video opens with an introduction of the movie's cast, complete with everyone's nickname.

About \$100 lets you send in three hours of raw footage for editing. One final-version DVD is included, and additional discs cost \$15.

Additional packages include about \$180 for six hours of footage converted into two DVDs, and about \$300 gets you 12 hours of raw footage converted into three unique DVDs.

Photos can be added for 20 cents each.

What does the video mean to Rosenblum?

"For me, it gives me pleasure to watch the beautiful memories of her life, but I look at it more for the next generation.

"When I have a grandchild, it's really a special way to say 'This is your great-grandma.' You didn't know her, but here, you can look at how she loved life. You can see how she loved life, and you can see how she loved her grandchildren."

alex@technologytailor.com
Alex L. Goldfayn
The Technology Tailor