

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

presents

Forensic Genealogy: Uncovering Hoaxes, Confirming Truths

Sharon Sergeant

Sunday, January 17, 2010

1:30–4:30 PM

Temple Emanuel, Newton Centre

This program discusses how the genealogical research methods and skills—that we are used to thinking of for creating family trees and family histories—are also used in “detective” situations: uncovering frauds and hoaxes or verifying historical truths. The speaker uses examples, among others, from two cases she worked on that were widely reported in the press: “Misha the Wolf Girl” and “Angel at the Fence.”

Sharon Sergeant received international acclaim for exposing the Misha Defonseca “Jewish hidden child aided by wolves” and Herman Rosenblat “apple over the fence” Holocaust frauds. As an adjunct professor at Boston University Sergeant created the Problem Solving Techniques and Technology module in the genealogical professional development program. She combines technology and the Genealogy Proof Standard methods to research both modern and antiquarian records. Sharon has published in the *Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*, the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*, and the *PI Magazine*. Sharon has served as program director for local and regional genealogical societies.

Temple Emanuel is at 385 Ward St., Newton Centre. For maps and detailed directions, visit our web page at <http://emanuel.jgsgb.org>.

Admission is free for members, \$5 for non-members.
Refreshments will be served.

Upcoming programs:

- Feb. 7 Film “Who Do You Think You Are? Zoë Wanamaker” (Needham Library)
- Feb. 21 Problem Solving with Experts: A Research Session (Temple Emanuel)

The JGSGB is dedicated to helping people research their Jewish family history. It offers monthly educational programs, maintains an extensive collection of research materials, and publishes a journal, *Mass-Pocha*.

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