



ROOTS USERS GROUP

of Arlington, Virginia

NEWSLETTER

Including Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia and Maryland

November 2017

Volume 29, Number 11

MESSAGE from the RUG:

TO MIGRATE OR NOT?

By Ed Feustel, guest columnist

In place of this month's Executive Committee comments

Did you attend the September RUG Meeting? If not, did you watch the recording? In the talk, Barbara Levergood presented her work on the development of a Migration Toolkit. Her focus was on possible candidates for migration from TMG and what information might be lost or incorrectly modified in that transition. This talk made me take migration much more seriously!

In contrast, recent RUG presentations on Family Historian version 6 and Legacy Family Tree (versions 8 and 9) have shown the advantages of direct or automatic data acquisition from genealogy resources on the internet. A future talk on RootsMagic will likely cite the ease of using familysearch.org automatically as an advantage.

DNA information is generally available today, and many family researchers want to enter DNA data in their genealogy software programs. Some software seems to have an advantage when entering DNA data.

So what do we need to consider in thinking about a decision to migrate? Some factors include:

1. Is my data in "good shape" for making a transition, or would I need to put in

In This Issue

2949	Message from the RUG
2951	November Programs
2951	Call for Nominations: RUG Annual Election Meeting
2951	Program Summary: Legacy Family Tree
2952	Important Notice to Members
2952	Laugh Out Loud Folder
2952	What I Use Now for Backups
2954	From the TMG Mailing Lists
2955	Membership Report
2956	Executive Committee
2957	November Program and December Preview

substantial work before emigrating? Would it be easier to tidy up in TMG with tools like TMGU (TMG Utility) or in the new system? How much remediation of my data would be required after getting to the new system, e.g., rewriting sentences? How much data do I have to transfer? Would it be easier to start over in the new system?

2. How much of the information that I value will be lost in the transition because that kind of information is not handled in the new system in the same way or at all? How much will be lost because of the transition process? For example, Gedcom