

## SURGE SUPPRESSORS

How do you know how much of a surge suppressor to buy? First off, not all power bars are surge suppressors and vice versa. Normal electricity follows a wave that goes from 117 volts positive to 117 volts negative called alternating current. Sometimes the voltage dips or spikes based on things that are happening on your distribution network like the turning on or off of an appliance. These dips and spikes can be harmful to sensitive electronic equipment and damage can build up over time. A surge suppressor clips off the spikes to limit the voltage to around 130 volts maximum. It doesn't do anything for the dips or sags that go below 117 volts. As a surge suppressor absorbs the spikes it loses some of its capacity and over time will become ineffective.

There is a good article on how to buy and use surge suppressors at:

<http://lifehacker.com/how-to-choose-buy-and-safely-use-a-good-surge-protect-1405568999>

So, now for my opinion. If you want protection, then don't waste money on a surge suppressor, buy a UPS or Uninterruptable Power Supply. These not only stop the spikes but also fill in the sags in voltage. They will keep your devices running during a power outage for enough time to properly save your work and shut down. The amount of time they will continue to run depends on the size of battery installed and the number of devices connected to the UPS. They have multiple outlets for both surge protection and/or battery backup so they will also protect other devices. Because they are a power supply that regenerates electricity they don't lost their effectiveness over time however, the back-up battery must be replaced every few years.



### BC Personal 120V 350VA 180W Standby UPS

350VA ultra-compact 120V standby UPS  
Maintains AC output during power failures  
3 UPS battery supported outlets, 3 surge-only outlets  
NEMA 5-15P input plug and 6 NEMA 5-15R outlets

By TrippLite

☆☆☆☆☆ > 0 Reviews

Qty:

- 1 +

\$69<sup>98</sup>

> Return in-store or by mail



Add to cart



Pickup



Shipping



Buy In-Store

Above is a sample available from Walmart. The more expensive UPS's come with a USB connection to your computer that can initiate a shutdown even if you are not available. Finally, if you only use a laptop or other battery operated device you already have a built-in UPS and don't need anything else.

## DOWNLOADING AND SAVING AN ONLINE IMAGE

We need several prerequisites to do this:

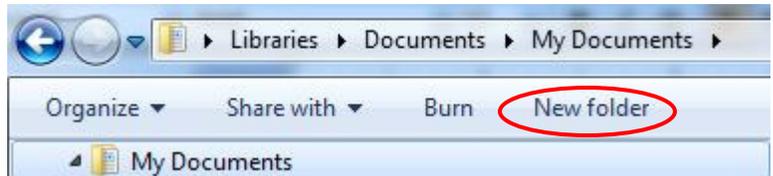
- A) A place to store our images
- B) An image editing program to crop and label our images
- C) A source of primary records eg. Ancestry.ca

### STEP A:

Create a place to store all of your downloaded or saved images on your hard-drive.

Right-click on the Windows Start Button and open Windows Explorer. Navigate to Libraries | My Documents and left-click My Documents to make sure it is selected. Left-click on New Folder on the title bar at the top of the Explorer window and select New Folder.

A folder named "New Folder" will appear in the folder tree and you can rename it in your next action. Call it "Genealogy Images" or whatever you want. If you accidentally do something else and end up with a new folder called New Folder just right-click it and re-name it.



### STEP B:

You can use whatever image editing program you are familiar with and I recommend IrfanView if you don't have a preference. This is a free program that has been around for years and is available from <http://www.irfanview.com>



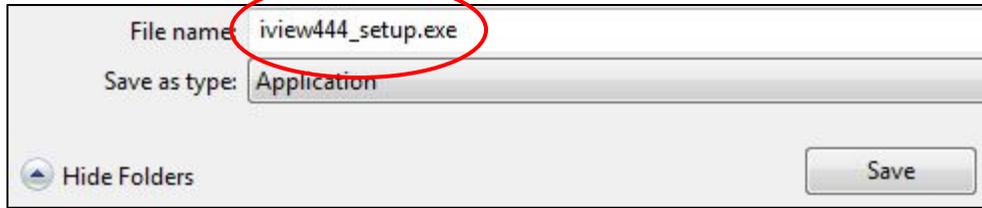
You need to download two files to install IrfanView and then you'll need to run the set-up procedure to add it to the applications on your computer.

I suggest that you select the 32 bit version of IrfanView regardless of what type of computer you have since it will run on everything, 32 or 64 bit processors.

Go to the IrfanView website and select the IrfanView download icon in the 32 bit package.



You will be presented with a big green download button like this. Click on it to start the download and you should see your Save As menu pop up like the one below. It should specify the File Name [iview444\_setup.exe] and then click the Save button. If there is any other name in the File name field go back and start over.



**NOTE:** It may take a while for the Save As window to open because the download sites want you to click on other stuff. Be patient and wait for it or back out and start over. "Nothing is free!"

After the file download completes repeat the process with the 32 bit Plugins/AddOns icon.

When you are finished you should have two files in your Downloads folder as listed below.

iview444_setup.exe	6/10/2017 12:12 PM	Application	2,108 KB
irfanview_plugins_444_setup.exe	6/10/2017 11:46 AM	Application	15,830 KB

Next, double click on the iview444\_setup.exe (you might not see the exe extension depending on your settings). Your computer will ask for permission to install the application

I leave the default settings selected as indicated in the image to the right except that I change the Current User button to For all users.



The next screen is an update of what's new so click the Next button.

Basically, you just accept the default settings until you get to the Images where you pick Images Only button below.



This limits IrfanView to only image/picture files and not videos or other types. You will get a notification that you are changing the Windows File Associations to which you answer YES. After you receive the Install Successful both IrfanView and its home website will open. Close both.

Finally, go back to your Explorer windows and double click on the irfanview\_plusins\_444\_setup.exe and accept the default entries until successful. This adds some additional types of images types to IrfanView's processing capability.

At this point, you should have an IrfanView icon on your desktop and in your start menu plus you should have the Panda Bear IrfanView Thumbnails icon on your desktop. This is really handy for searching through you're My Pictures and scanner or camera folders for images.

**STEP C:**

Next we will find an online image and save it.

Go to your Ancestry account or if in the library find the free Library Edition by calling up the library website on your computer. Find the Research tab and click on the Ancestry Library Edition.



In the case of the library edition you then pick the Start Searching link.

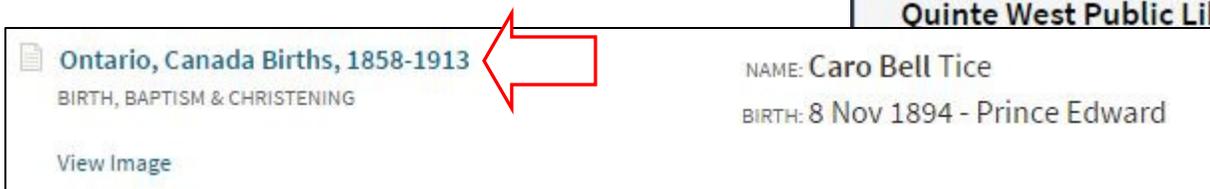
Next we'll search for **Caro Bell TICE** who was born in 1894 in Prince Edward County, Ontario.

If she doesn't show up, check your search parameters eg. have you selected Canadian records, etc/

There is only one so you should be able to find her.



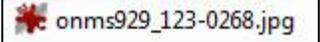
In the search results below select the Ontario, Canada Births link



Before we view the image, highlight the Source Citation entry [Archives of Ontario; Series: MS929; Reel: 123] and press CTRL + C to copy the information to your computer's clipboard. We will use this later to caption the image.

Now you can click the View button to look at the image and then click the green Save button in the upper right and pick Save to Your Computer. You want to keep this image and not leave it in the Shoebox which you can't access if your subscription lapses.

Still with me?

Find the file you saved using Windows Explorer. It should be in your My Pictures or Downloads folder depending on your version of Windows or your computer setup. When you find it, the IrfanView icon should be shown with it. If it's not then IrfanView is not your default image viewer and we'll save that for another time. 

Double click the file name and it opens in IrfanView, check the title bar at the top of the window to verify this.

Position your cursor arrow to the top left of the image about 3/4" above the page on the black area as we are going to create some extra space for the caption when the image is cropped. See below.

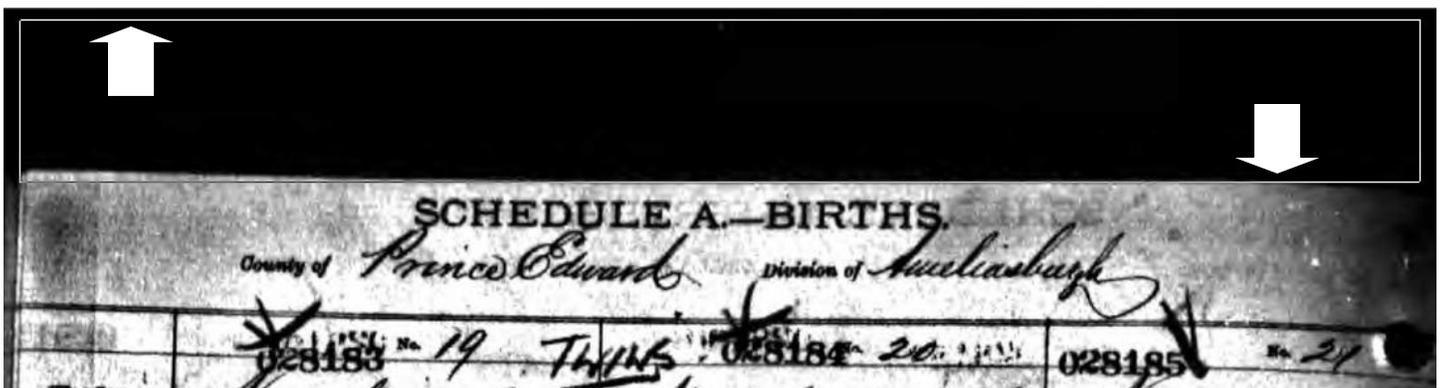
SCHEDULE A - BIRTHS		
County of Prince Edward		Division of Amherstburg
028183 No. 19	TWINS	028185 No. 21
November 8, 1894	November 8, 1894	Nov 8, 1894
Female	Female	Female
Robert Cummings	Robert Cummings	Geo. W. Sice
Etta Chroat	Etta Chroat	Melinda Ann Sice
Farmer	Farmer	Stage Driver
C. A. Chroat Student Amherstburg	C. A. Chroat Student Amherstburg	G. W. Sice Stage Driver Amherstburg
Dec 3 <sup>d</sup> 1894	Dec 3 <sup>d</sup> 1894	Dec 4, 1894
No. File	No. File	No. File
James Benson	James Benson	James Benson
REMARKS		
028186 No. 22	028184 No. 20	028185 No. 21

You can select as much or as little as you want. In this case, I want all of the page including the other two birth entries so I get the title and location information in the top margin.

With your white crop outline visible select Edit from the Menu and pick Crop Selection (Cut Out) to crop the image.

Now you have just the area you outlined.

Next you will create a caption space on your image to insert the Source Citation text into. With your cursor drag a rectangle in the black area at the top of the image.



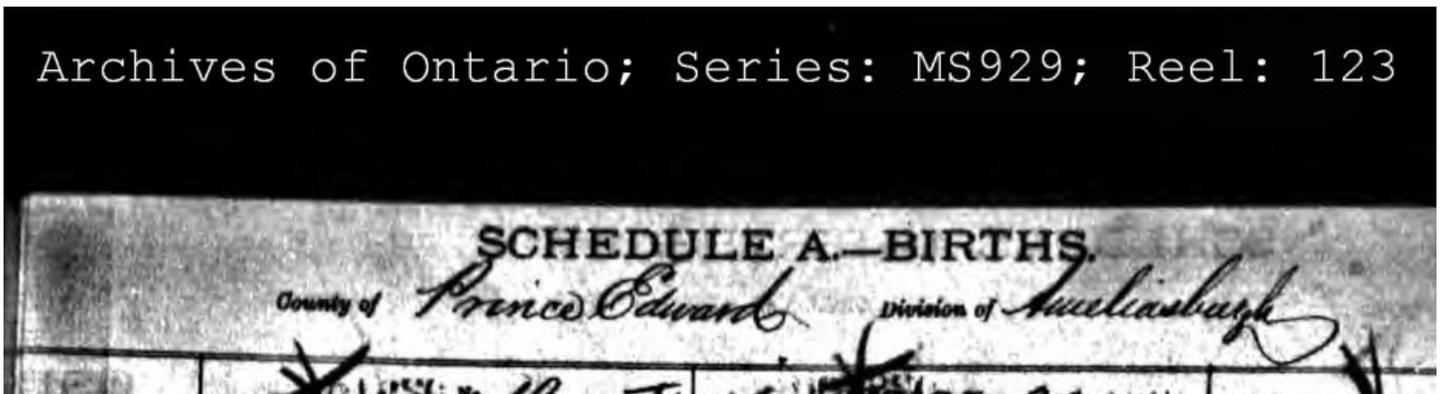
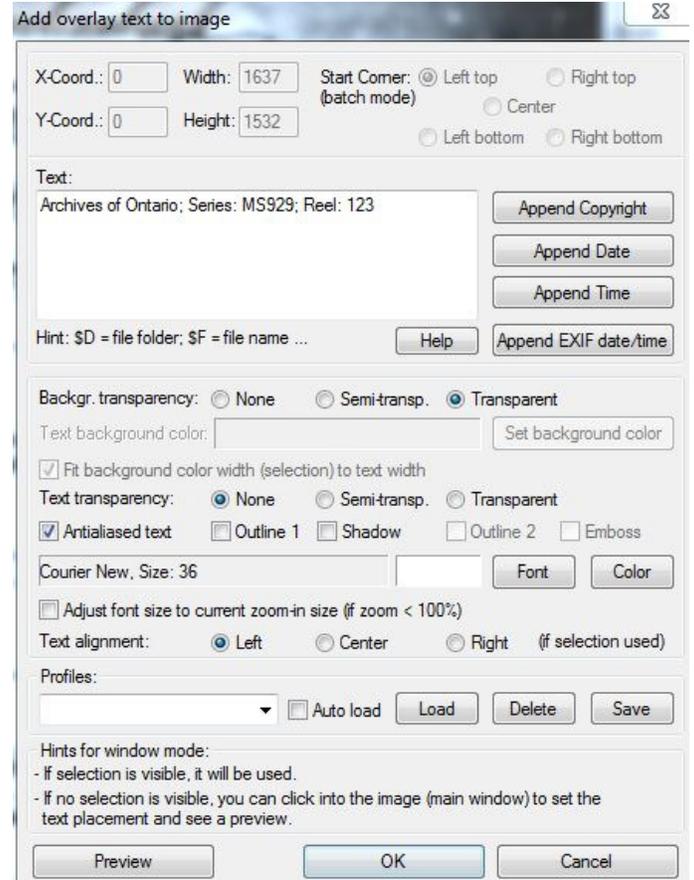
Still with me?

With your caption area visible select Edit from the menu and Insert Text. Click in the text field and press Ctrl + V to paste your copy entry of the Source Citation which should appear as in the image below right.

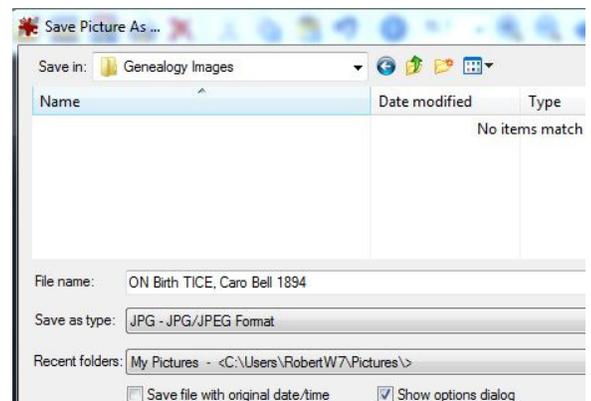
Click on the Font button and change the size to something large like 36 and the colour to White. Why white, because the background on the image is black and if we use black you won't see it. If the background is white then use black or what ever colour you want. **IMPORTANT:** Click Preview at the bottom of this dialog to see the effect of your caption before clicking OK. If you don't like the result you can change the settings but once you click OK you can't without starting over. Also, be aware that whatever text you entered will be in that window until you change it so make sure you delete it before doing the next image's caption.

Now that you got it the way you want it, click OK.

Below is the final result of our birth registration image with the source citation caption imbedded in the image file. If you print it or email it the source will always be there.



Finally, we need to save the cropped and captioned image to our Genealogy Images folder that we created in Step A. Select Save As from the File menu and navigate to the folder. Give the image a meaningful name like [ON Birth TICE, Caro Bell 1894] and click Save. Leave the Save options on the right as they are until you are more comfortable with IrfanView.



## **SUMMER HOMEWORK**

For your summer fun I thought we would get ready for the fall. In September, I would like to concentrate on building a great genealogy laptop with all of the required programs and utilities you need to maximize your research. To this end I would like you to tell me about your research.

What kind of computers / laptops do you use?

What is/are the operating system(s)?

Do you belong to a pay-per-view website eg. Ancestry.ca? If so, which ones?

What is/are the geographic interest area of your research?

Have you had your DNA tested? If yes, by what company?

Are you interested in more “Back to Basics: computing like we did on June 7<sup>th</sup>”?

Add anything else you would like to share.

Happy computing

