



משפחה

Quarterly Publication of
The Jewish Genealogy Society
of Greater Washington

"Every man of the children of Israel shall encamp by his own standard with the ensign of his family" *Numbers 2:2*

Volume 24 , Number 4

Fall 2005



Library



Library News

by Judy Mostyn White, JGSGW librarian

Greetings and Happy Family Hunting!

The JGSGW library collection is housed at:

The Isaac Franck Collection [IFC] formerly called the Isaac Franck
Jewish Public Library
4928 Wyaconda Road
Rockville, MD 20852
Telephone: 301-255-1970

The IFC hours change seasonally, but generally they are open all day on Mondays and Wednesdays, afternoons and evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the morning of the fourth Sunday of the month. Always call them first to check their hours before going to use our library. Directions to our library can be found on our web site, under Resources, Library.

JGSGW members who wish to use our library should go to the main desk of the IFC. There, you sign in, and be sure to put JGSGW in the appropriate category beside your name. You will receive a key to our locked cabinets. Unlock the doors, and use our materials. PLEASE return materials to the same location from which you took them. Close and lock our cabinets, and return the key to the person at the main desk.

Virginia members should be aware of the Jack Klein Memorial Library of Jewish Genealogy & History, located at Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria, 703-370-9400. Contact JGSGW member, Faith Klein, for more information.

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Mishpacha

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משפחה

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Appropriate ads the size of a business card will be accepted. The cost is \$15 for one submission or \$50 for one year (4 issues)

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All JGSGW members are encouraged to submit their genealogical research experiences for publication in **Mishpacha**. Submit articles to either editor: Sharlene Kranz (SKranz_99@yahoo.com) or Donna Sellinger (dfsmetsfan@yahoo.com)

Back issues are available from Sharlene Kranz, 4336 Albemarle Street, NW, Washington, DC 20016 for \$5 each.

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The JGSGW Web Site is located at:
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw>

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LIBRARY NEWS

The Isaac Franck Library, and our library along with it, are going to move, and probably soon. As of 26 September, nothing is definite, but plans are expected to be finalized in a month. Three sites, all in the Rockville area, are being explored. One of these sites is on Wilkins Ave. The hope is that the new location will be large enough so that meetings may be held there. Plans at first were for a move by the end of this calendar year, but now it seems more likely that the move might be in February, 2006. When the JGSGW library moves, I am afraid that some of our papers, tapes, maps, etc. might be lost. What I would like to do, is to get volunteers who can take 1 box of JGSGW materials to store at their homes for a short period of time during the moving process. This wouldn't happen until just before the move, so probably in February.

NEW BOOKS



DS 135 .L52 E36 c.3; "There once was a world" by Yaffa Eliach, published 1998. 900 year chronicle of the shtetl of Eishyshok, Lithuania. Donated by JGSGW member, Vera Finberg. Thank you, Vera.

DS 135 .R93 S57; "Slutzk and vicinity memorial book" by Nachum Chinitz, and Samson Nachmani, published 1962. Yizkor books covers Slutzk, Hlusk, Horki, Hresk, Hrozova, Kapule, Luban, Pohost, Romanova, Shemezeva, Stari-Dorogi, Starobin, Timkowitz, Uretche, Verchutin, Vizna, Soviet Union, in Yiddish with an English section, indexes.

F 596.3 .J5 R63 c.4; "Pioneer Jews: a new life in the Far West" by Harriet Rochlin, published 1984. Jewish immigration through the American Southwest, from 16th century colonial Mexico, includes bibliography and index. Donated by JGSGW member, Vera Finberg. Thank you, Vera.

F 499 .C5 M375: "Clifton cemetery: 1848 through 1998" compiled by Anita S. Marks, published 1998. Alphabetical listing of burials in this Cincinnati, Ohio Jewish cemetery.

G 2037 .I7 G7; "The 'Iron Gate' complex atlas" published 1972. Maps of Romania and Serbia with descriptive texts, oversize book.

F 645 .J5 T78; "Dakota Diaspora : memoirs of a Jewish homesteader" by Sophie Trupin, published 1984. Pioneer life of Jews in the US West. Donated by JGSGW member, Rita Margolis. Thank you, Rita.

DS 135 .L52 V554; "Embers plucked from the fire" by David E. Fishman, published 1996. Rescue of Jewish cultural treasures in Vilna, in Yiddish and English, includes bibliography and errata sheet. Donated by JGSGW member, Ellen Shindelman. Thank you, Ellen.

JK 471 .G721 Suppl; "Government research directory" published 1985. Guide to US Federal and state research centers, labs, institutes, etc. giving address, description, etc.
Fall 2005

DS 135 .N5 A5368; "Handleiding bij de index op de Ketuboth van de Portugees-Israëlietische Gemeente te Amsterdam van 1650-1911" by H. Snel, and D. Verdooner, published 1988. Sephardi ketubah from Amsterdam, 1650-1911, in Dutch, with English explanation on cover and first page.

F 175 .J5 P66; "Jewish Delaware" by Bernard Postal and Lionel Koppman, published 1976. History covering 1655-1976. Donated by JGSGW member, Ethan Starr. Thank you, Ethan.

OLD BOOKS

Here are some of our older books that have been entered some time ago into the computer system of the IFC, with a description and their new call numbers:

DS 135 .P62 W713; "Remember: a book to honour the family I never knew" by Isidore C. Myers, published 1992. Family history of the Schneiderman family and Barenholtz family from Wlodawa Poland; includes bibliography and two genealogical tables in pocket. Old call number FH16.7.

DS 135 .R9 C58; "Shtetl finder: Jewish communities in the 19th and early 20th centuries in the pale of settlement of Russia and Poland" by Chester G. Cohen, published 1980. How to find shtetls in the Russian pale, other Russian provinces, Lithuania, Latvia, and parts of Austria/Hungary. Old call number RG41.1.

DS 151 .S9 L38; "The Szolds of Lombard Street; a Baltimore family, 1859-1909" by Alexandra Lee Levin, published 1960. Genealogy of the Szold family with bibliography and glossary of names. Old call number FH27.

CD 3026 1988; "The Archives: a guide to the National Archives field branches" by Loretto Dennis Szucs and Sandra Hargreaves Luebking, published 1988. Holdings of the field branches of the National Archives. Old call number RG6.1.

CS 71 .L27465; "Langsam-Spira Family" researched by Estelle Guzik, Suzan Wynne, Yedidiah Langsam, Hilda Fish Broida, Neil Rosenstein, and Michael Cohen, published 1986, and update #1 published 1988. The family of Pesach and ita Langsam of Yawornik; includes genealogical charts, bibliography and index. Old call number FH15.

CS 71 .S5618; "Search for the family" by Sallyann Amdur Sack, Mark Weiss Shulkin, and Milton S. Gelman, published 1980. History of the Shulkin and Rosen family; includes bibliography and index. Old call number FH19.1.

DS 135 .E55 M365; "Our four families" by Lucien and Marie Harris, published 1986. History of the Harris, Stern, Polinsky, and Kapelusnik families with genealogical charts and pictures. Old call number FH12. Donated by JGSGW member Nancy Schoenburg. Thank you, Nancy.

If you have any questions or comments about our library, suggestions for new purchases, or want to volunteer, you can reach me at 301-977-0154, or at judymostyn@comcast.net. Just please don't telephone between 6-8 pm or weekend mornings. Till next time, Happy family hunting!

President's Letter:



L'Shana Tova to all our members and friends.

Like many other Jewish Genealogy Societies around the world, JGSGW is phasing out paper copies of our newsletter Mishpacha. The following societies have agreed to exchange newsletters via email:

AJGS Sydney Australia
JGS Johannesburg, SA
AJGS Victoria Australia
JGS Connecticut
JGS North Jersey
JGS Georgia
JGS Greater Miami
JGS Tampa Bay
JGS Illinois
JGS Utah
JGS Sacramento
JGS Southern Nevada
JGS of Montreal
JGS Great Britain
St. Louis Genealogical Society
JGS of SW Florida
JGS of Michigan
JGS Illiana
JGS San Francisco Bay Area
JGS Toronto
JGS Hamilton and Area (Canada)
Galicia SIG

The emailed newsletters are stored on my computer. Just email me if you'd like to see any of these and I will forward it/them to you. I also print out a copy of each newsletter for our library.

Take a look at JGSGW member David Fox's new website: <http://homepage.mac.com/davefox73/> as an example of how we can share our research information.

At the IAJGS Conference in Las Vegas this summer, the Lifetime Achievement award went to Susan King for her 20 years of pioneering vision and leadership in creating and continually expanding JewishGen. Our hats off to Susan! JGSGW makes an annual donation to JewishGen in the Society's name in appreciation of their many benefits to Jewish genealogy.

JGSGW is still looking for a Hospitality Chair for the rest of our meetings this year (see the schedule below). Responsibilities include: bring the cookies! B'nai Israel provides us with a coffee and tea set up. Let me know if you can volunteer for this task.

We are also desperately in need of a Publicity chair, someone to send notices of our programs to local media.

See you at the next meeting.

Sharlene Kranz

"Jewish Washington: Scrapbook of an American Community", an exhibit about the Washington area's Jewish community since 1795, continues at the National Building Museum through January 8, 2006.



JGSGW Meeting Schedule 2005-2006

11:00 AM Workshop

1:30 PM Schmooze Time

2:00 PM Program

October 16, 2005

Beth El of Alexandria, 1:30



The gala 25th JGSGW Anniversary Luncheon. Gary Mokotoff will be the guest speaker. Reservations are required. Dairy lunch included. Cost \$36 per person.

November 13, 2005

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

WORKSHOP (11:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

Workshop Topic: "Lithuanian Research: Obtaining Maximum Results"

Speaker: Howard Margol

Whether you are an experienced researcher, exploring the resources of archives, internet databases or libraries, or beginner with little more than a surname of a Litvak ancestor; you will find that this presentation has something for everyone. Howard will provide a visual presentation on where to look, what to ask and how to link data to more data. Join us for an exciting afternoon. Howard Margol is a past president of the International Society of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Georgia. A quick GOOGLE search will verify that he has written extensively on the Lithuanian and other aspects of Jewish genealogy. For the past eleven years, Howard has taken a group of genealogists to Lithuania for more than a week of research and touring of the country. The trip includes visits to the various archives, synagogues, ghettos, Holocaust sites, meetings with Jewish leaders, sightseeing, guide/interpreters, and two days to visit and spend time in your shtetl or shtetlach of interest. He is active in growing access to Lithuanian Jewish records. He is on a first-name basis with the heads of the various archives.

PROGRAM (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

Topic: "The Secret Jews of the Americas"

Speaker: Gloria Mound

Gloria Mound, Executive Director of Casa Shalom, Casa Shalom, the Institute for Marrano-Anusim Studies, will present a fascinating view of the secret Jews of South America, Mexico, and New Mexico. She will explore the history, rituals and customs of these people and also address their attempts to reach out to Israel and the Jewish community. <http://www.casa-shalom.com/>

Casa Shalom is a center for the study and collection of material on individual and collective secret Jews from all over the world. Website: <http://www.casa-shalom.com/>

December 11, 2005

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

WORKSHOP (11:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

Topic: Beginner's Workshop

Instructor: Sharlene Kranz

PROGRAM

Topic: Sunday Afternoon at the Movies

Movie: "Hollywoodism: Jews, Movies, and the American Dream"

This program is based on the acclaimed book of the same name written by Neal Gabler. The men who created Hollywood, men like Adolph Zucker (Paramount founder), Carl Loemmle (Columbia founder), and Louis B. Mayer (MGM founder) had a lot in common. They were all born or grew up within 500 miles of one another, all renounced their Jewish faith and ties, and all helped create Hollywood as it is today. Never-before-seen home movie footage, interviews with family, and extensive movie clips explain the rise of the American film industry, the lives of these important men, and the impact of the values still upheld by Hollywood. This program was the winner of the Best Jewish Experience Documentary award presented at the 1998 Jerusalem Film Festival.

This film discusses the effect on how major American films in Hollywood were influenced by the Eastern European Jewish culture that most of the major movie moguls who controlled the studios shared. Through clips of various films, the filmmakers illustrate the

dominant themes like that of the outsider, the outspoken American patriotism, and rooting for the underdog in society.

How a group of impoverished Jews immigrants from Eastern European shtetls eventually became czars of the studio system: Carl Laemmle and Adolph Zukor at Universal, Louis B. Mayer at MGM, Harry Cohn at Columbia, and the three Warner Brothers. The movies they green-lighted were thematic affirmations of their own rags-to-unbelievable riches sagas: asserting that anyone with chutzpah can make it in the USA, including little guys and outsiders, that there's an inevitable happy ending at the end of the rainbow. Since everybody went to Hollywood movies, and breathed the utopian cant of studio product, these Jewish moguls could be said to have invented "the American Dream."

January 8, 2006

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

PROGRAM (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

Topic: The Ultimate Holocaust Project

Speaker: Dr. Sallyann Amdur Sack

The founding member and past-president of JGSGW will present a program regarding a new project which she is chairing. The concept is to use the Yad Vashem database to create family trees and use these to create virtual memorials to the destroyed cities and shtetls of eastern Europe.

February 12, 2006

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

Program 2-4PM

Topic: Write Your Family History Now!

Speaker: Mike Karsen

We genealogists are very good at doing research and collecting many facts about our families. For any of a number of reasons, however, most of us delay publishing the results of this research. Mike Karsen shows how you can publish your findings in books that vary from a simple 30 pages to one that contains detailed biographies and places your family in historical context. Your goal should be to organize your findings and share them with your family as soon as possible.

A professional genealogy speaker and instructor, Mike Karsen is a member of the National Genealogical Society (NGS) and the Genealogical Speakers Guild. He speaks on genealogy topics locally and nationally, teaches classes in genealogy and is on the faculty of the National Institute for Genealogical Studies. Mike has presented at state, national, and international conferences. He is the author of the JewishGen website "Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland" and has published articles on genealogy.

March 5, 2006

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

PROGRAM (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

Topic: "Jews in the Polish Lands and Poland: Making Choices and Responding to Modernity."

Speaker Dr. Marci Shore

Marci Shore is an Assistant Professor of History at Indiana University. She specializes in eastern and central European cultural and intellectual history. She has taught three differ-

ent undergraduate lecture courses on modern central and eastern Europe; led undergraduate seminars on Polish-Jewish relations, Jews and cosmopolitanism, and intellectuals and Marxism; and conducted graduate colloquia on modern Polish historiography and the avant-garde movement.

Her research interests include Marxism, revolution, aesthetics, gender, and Polish-Jewish relations; her book manuscript *Caviar and Ashes: A Warsaw Generation's Life and Death in Marxism, 1918-1968* is currently under review. Her articles include "Czysto Babski: A Women's Friendship in a Man's Revolution" and "Engineering in the Age of Innocence: A Genealogy of Discourse Inside the Czechoslovak Writers' Union, 1949-1967," in *East European Politics and Societies*. "Children of the Revolution: Communism, Zionism, and the Berman Brothers" is forthcoming in *Jewish Social Studies*. Her English translation (from the Polish) of Micha Gowiski's Holocaust memoir is forthcoming, under the title *The Black Seasons*. In 2004, she began a project on avant-garde movements throughout eastern and central Europe in the 1910s and 1920s.

April 2, 2006

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

WORKSHOP (11:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

Topic: "26th IAJGS Conference in NYC"

Speaker: Linda Cantor, Co-Chairman

PROGRAM (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

Topic "Cemeteries, Tombstones and Burial Customs: Advancing Genealogical Research"

Speaker: Harold Rhode

May 7, 2006

B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium

PROGRAM (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

Topic: Daily Life in Galicia

Speaker: Suzan Wynne

Did you ever wonder what your ancestors' lives were like? Member and author, Suzan Wynne will speak about daily life in the cities and shtetls of Galicia. An ample Q&A session will follow the presentation, so be sure to bring questions.

Suzan is the author of *Finding Your Jewish Roots in Galicia*, a comprehensive guide to doing Galician-Jewish genealogical research. The book is currently out of print and is being revised and updated. Suzan Wynne, is the founding president of Gesher Galicia, the Special Interest Group for Jewish genealogy. She has been doing Galician genealogical research for more than 25 years. Before retiring to pursue a mental health consultation and supervision practice, Suzan developed and directed a large, private outpatient mental health center in Montgomery County.

June 4, 2006

PROGRAM (2:00 PM - 4:00 PM)

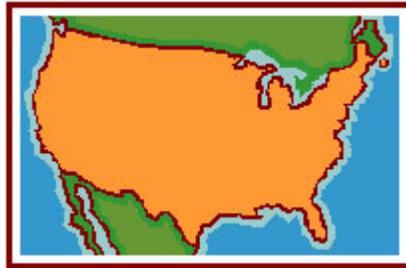
Topic: Open Doors & Brick Walls

Speaker: A Panel of Experts

Installation of Officers

Join us for an open forum where a panel of experts will address questions from the audience. We will leave time for members who have "Success Stories" to share these with the group.

Come with your questions in writing and submit them as you enter - those will receive priority in the response queue.



Domestic Research

Maryland JGS Revives

A re-constituted JGS of Maryland is getting organized. For information and to join contact Carol Rombro Rider, Vice President, JGS Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland at CRomRider@aol.com.

Immigration to the Upper Midwest

If your ancestors moved to Minnesota, North Dakota or Iowa, you will enjoy the website "Unpacking on the Prairie: Jewish Women and families" compiled by the MN Jewish Museum Library. It tells the hardships, and customs, of that time and place. See: www.Jewishwomenexhibit.org.

New York photo images on-line

The New York Public Library (NYPL) has put online more than 360,000 images of its Digital Gallery, including Ellis Island photographs, maps, Civil War photos, various city scenes, Native American pictures, illuminated medieval manuscripts, and other visual treasures.

The images can be downloaded free for personal use. Use of the images for publication or in film, television, or the Internet can be arranged through the library's Permissions Department." <http://digitalgallery.nypl.org/>

Also available from the NYPL are their collection of "Tax Photos", a fairly completely photographic record taken between 1939 and 1941 of every house and building in New York City. Black and white reproductions cost \$30.00 for an 8"x10" print. Go to www.nyc.gov/records and click on "Tax Photographs".

American Jewish Historical Society Adds to Online Databases

The American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) plans to include American Jewish periodicals to its collection of online databases. The first available publication is the Fall 2005

Society's own journal, "American Jewish History", for the years 1893-1978. Information about the planned collection is located at <http://www.ajhs.org/reference/adaje.cfm>

There are a number of online databases at the AJHS site <http://www.cjh.org/academic/findingaids/AJHS/institutionlist.html>. There is a database of Jewish men who answered questionnaires sent by the American Jewish Committee about their participation in World War I; Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum Records indexes of names found in ledgers from 1879-1925; Hebrew Orphan Asylum of the City of New York indexes of names recorded in a ledger titled "Index of Children, 1860-1900;" and Industrial Removal Office Records, 1899-1922. The Industrial Removal Office placed Jewish immigrants arriving and living in New York City into Jewish communities throughout the United States and Canada, finding them work and often providing loans for travel and board.

The American Jewish Historical Society is an institution whose mission includes the collection, preservation and dissemination of materials relating to American Jewish history.

News from New Orleans Jewish Community of New Orleans

The Jewish Federation of New Orleans has placed on their web site a list of members of the Jewish community and where they are currently living. The list gives just a small taste of the massive disruption caused by Hurricane Katrina. Jewish members of the community are scattered all over the United States, most staying with relatives or friends. You can see the list at http://www.jewishnola.com/content_display.html?ArticleID=161865

A message posted to the Discussion Group of the Association of Professional Genealogists reported that the librarians of the New Orleans Public Library have determined the library suffered no flood damage. This includes the basement area where the Mormon Family and Church History Department was filming records.

Save the Date - New York Conference August 13-18, 2006



The 26th annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held in New York City from August 13-18. The event is sponsored by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, the umbrella group of nearly 80 Jewish genealogical societies throughout the world. The conference hotel, the Marriott Marquis, is located in the center of the tourist district. In 1999, 1,200 people attended the New York conference. It is not unreasonable that more than 2,000 people will attend this time. Dr. Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States, will be the keynote speaker. The host society, Jewish Genealogical Society Inc, is the largest Jewish genealogical society in the world. Watch their web site, <http://www.jgsny.org>, for additional information as it develops.



Do You Want Your Family History To Be on Television?

A company called First Flight Productions wants to produce a television series called "Across Generations" that will chronicle unusual stories genealogists have uncovered in their research into their families' history. They are interested in a "great human adventure story surrounding your family's history and heritage." Their web site at <http://www.firstflightproductions.com> has examples of what they call stories with a real "wow factor". If chosen, the initial part of the process will involve a video interview, and the guest will be asked to appear on camera and to be identified. Should they decide to acquire the rights to a story, compensation will be negotiated.

NARA Has Online Lists of People

The U.S. National Archives and Records Administration has a number of databases online that are lists of information about individuals. Most are military records for World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. The one that might be of greatest interest is World War II Army Enlistment Records. The list of records groups and links to their search engines are located at <http://aad.archives.gov/aad/>

Second Castle Garden Database Online



If your ancestors arrived in New York before 1892, they did not land at Ellis Island in New York harbor but arrived at Castle Garden, the immigrant processing center at the southern tip of Manhattan. For some time Ancestry.com has had an index to New York arrivals from 1851-1891. Now the Battery Conservancy, a non-profit organization, has placed online a Castle Garden index to passenger arrivals from 1830-1892. It is located at <http://www.castlegarden.org>.

Jewish Genealogical Societies

With many small genealogical societies finding it difficult to exist because of the lack of persons willing to assume the responsibility of leadership, the Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis has found a solution: merge with a larger group. The JGS has disbanded and is now the Jewish Special Interest Group of the 2500-member St. Louis Genealogical Society. As their announcement noted, "there will be no need for a full board, no need for a treasury, no need for monthly meetings, and no need for separate publications." Plans are for the SIG to meet several times a year. Indexing projects begun by the JGS will continue.

Also announcing their dissolution is the JGS of Palm Springs California. President Gay Lynne Keegan is moving to Las Vegas and will join the Las Vegas group. The Palm Springs treasury will be donated to the IAJGS for the Stern Awards.

New Societies announced:

Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County. It is located in an area northwest of Los Angeles. Their email is JGSCVVC@msn.com.

JGS of Willamette Valley Oregon: JGSWVO. President is Reeva Kimble.

1925 New York State Census for Manhattan

"Joy Rich" <joyrichny@earthlink.net>

Steve Morse has just added an AD/ED finder for the 1925 New York state census for Manhattan to his website: <http://www.stevemorse.org/nyc/nyc.php>.

This AD/ED finder is part of an ongoing project to develop AD/ED finders for each of the five boroughs in the New York state censuses for 1905, 1915, and 1925, none of which are indexed. These other AD/ED finders were completed previously: 1915: Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Queens; 1925: Bronx and Brooklyn.

If you have learned from city directories, vital records, federal censuses, or any other sources where your ancestor lived and have determined the cross-streets, the AD/ED finder will supply you with the AD(s) and ED(s) of the street and cross-streets that you select. Clicking on the AD/ED displayed will show you the boundaries of that AD and ED and the LDS microfilm number and reel number, which you can then obtain from LDS through its Family History Centers. The microfilm is also available at the Genealogy Division of New York Public Library.

Archives of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York

Website: <http://www.nymasoniclibrary.org/library/genealogy.htm>

The collections of the Livingston Masonic Library include the Archives of the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, F&AM. The Archives include lodge annual returns and membership registers dating from the late 18th century through the early 20th century. By using these records, it is possible to verify Masonic membership in a New York State lodge; the age, occupation, place of residence, and dates of Masonic degrees of an individual member. Please note that lodge records do not record detailed personal information on members. Marital status, names of parents or children, and other personal information are not routinely maintained by Masonic lodges.

The Archives is currently organized by lodge name and number. In order to verify membership, we need to know the name and/or the number of the New York State lodge of which a man may have been a member. In many cases, a man's residence does not necessarily coincide with the location of the lodge he joined. For example, many Masons living in the New York metropolitan area may have lived in Brooklyn, but joined lodges that met in Manhattan. There have traditionally been hundreds of Masonic lodges in the New York City area, with other urban areas providing homes to ten or more lodges. We simply do not have the staff to search out all the possible lodges of membership.

Genealogical requests received from members of lodges under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodges in amity with the Grand Lodge of New York, F&AM, are processed free of charge. The Library charges \$35.00 per individual to be researched for requests received from non-members.

Requests for information must be sent to the Library by standard mail with the following additions:

- If a member, please include a copy of a valid dues card from a Masonic lodge (listed in the List of Lodges Masonic published by the Masonic Boards of Relief).
- If a non-member, please include a check or money order in the amount of \$35.00, payable to the Livingston Masonic Library. This fee is not refundable in the event that no information is located.

Research requests may take eight to ten weeks to process.

Requests for information for members from the mid-20th century to the present may contact:

Grand Lodge Registry
71 West 23rd Street, 18th floor
New York, NY 10010

Please note that information on living members is not made available.

Michigan Jewish Burials Index



The Irwin I. Cohn Michigan Jewish Cemetery Index provides burial information for over 64,000 Jews who died between the mid-1800's and 1999. It includes a link to recent Detroit Jewish obituaries: <http://www.thisisfederation.org/cemetery>

Overseas Research



Gesher Galicia Regional Meeting Announced

Gesher Galicia, the special interest group for Galicia, a province of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, will be holding our second annual regional meeting this November, jointly sponsored by the Jewish Genealogical Society of New York on Sunday, November 20, 2005 from 2:00PM - 5:00PM at The Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16th St., New York, NY.

We've planned a full and interesting program for researchers interested in Eastern European Jewish life, not just Galician. The program includes:

- A brief update on Geshher Galicia's research projects and town/region groups, the status of the Lviv Historical Archives, and a tutorial on how to find genealogical treasures on the Polish online auction site, Allegro.

- Film: *The Jews of Poland: Lwow*. Shot in 1939 on the streets of Lwow, this ten-minute documentary is one of the last visual accounts of Jewish life in the former Lemberg, Galicia, before the Holocaust.

- Jewish Records Indexing Poland Update: Mark Halpern will discuss the status of the JRI-Poland Galician projects in Polish and Ukrainian archives and will clarify strategies for ordering records.

- Jewish Life in Galicia - Suzan Wynne will focus on the lives of our Galician ancestors as they set about making a living, marrying and raising families, educating their children, and participating in religious life. She'll explain the process of surname acquisition, the development of the Kahal system of Jewish self-government and the participation of Jews in the mandated system of universal education under Emperor Franz Josef.

- Searching Polish And Galician Directories Using Optical Character Recognition (OCR). Logan Joseph Kleinwaks will discuss the Polish and Galician business and telephone directories that are now available online through the websites of the Digital Library of Wielkopolska and the U.S. Library of Congress and will demonstrate how to use the OCR-based online search engine he has created to search these successfully. For those with an interest in using OCR, he will briefly review the leading commercial OCR software programs, demonstrating their use on Galician documents, and will comment on associated scanning technologies.

POST-SCRIPT - (After regular meeting) - FILM: "I Remember Jewish Drohobycz". In this short video portrait of the vanished world of Eastern European Jewry, JGSLA founding member and rabbinical scholar, David Einsiedler, born in Drohobycz in 1919, recounts the heart and soul of shtetl life between the two World Wars. Through personal reminiscences, he leads us through the streets and into the homes and schools of this Galician town. David describes moving to Lvov, then to the university in Pisa, Italy and then on to America in the late 1930s as the threat of war looms over his beloved home and the lives of his loved ones.

Prior to the meeting's start, the Center Genealogy Institute will be open from 12:30PM to 2:00PM for networking with other researchers and access to resource materials and computers.

Additionally, we plan to hold several Birds-of-a-Feather lunch gatherings from 12:00N - 2:00PM at the Center.

If you are interested in attending a BOF group, please e-mail Eden Joachim at: esjoachim@optonline.net with your town(s) or region information so we can plan accordingly. As the date draws closer, we will notify the specific groups as to arrangements. (You do NOT need to RSVP to the general/JGSNY meeting, however.) If you have any questions about any other aspects of the program, please contact me privately. Looking forward to seeing you there.....

Pamela Weisberger

Research Coordinator, Geshher Galicia pweisberger@hotmail.com

Hungarian Jewish Roots

Jewish Roots www.JewishRoots.hu deals specifically with Jewish genealogical research in the territory of the former Hungarian Kingdom. The website lists major Jewish genealogical sources in Hungary.

Virtual Societies Touted

At the recent Salt Lake City annual conference of the Federation of Genealogical Societies, David E. Rencher, Director of the Records and Information Division, and Jay L. Verkler, associate managing director of the Family and Church History Department, noted that it is becoming less important to belong to a society in your geographic area and more important to belong to a society in the area where your ancestors lived. This has been made possible because the Internet allows genealogists located in any geographic area to rapidly communicate with other researchers in other locations about matters of mutual interest.

Gary Mokotoff, in *Nu? What's Nu?*, notes that virtual societies already exist in the Jewish genealogical community in the form of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) that focus on area of ancestry. There are currently 16 region-oriented SIGs that are associated with or are part of JewishGen—Austria-Czech, Belarus, Courland, Early American, French, Galicia, German, Hungary, Latvia, Litvak, Jewish Records Indexing-Poland, Romania, Scandinavia, Southern Africa, Ukraine and United Kingdom. Two additional SIGs—Sefard and Rabbinic—concern themselves with special interests independent of location. Links to these sites can be found at <http://www.jewishgen.org>.

The three presentations given by Rencher and Verkler are available in PDF format at <http://www.familysearch.org>. On this Home Page, in the lower left corner, click "FGS Conference" under "News & Events." All three presentations are worth viewing.

4000 Names On-Line

"Daniel Kazez" <dkazez@wittenberg.edu>

I am pleased to share two Holocaust typing projects, one completely typed and proofed ("Poland Survivors at (DP) Camps") and one 95% typed and proofed ("Poland Survivor Radio Messages"). The are the results of the huge, huge labor of more than two dozen volunteers. In all, these lists have about 4000 Holocaust survivor records.

I have combined the two collections and put them on the web. First, be sure to check this surname list: <http://www.benkazez.com/dan/-Help/0708-holo-surv-surn.html>

Then see all the records here: <http://www.benkazez.com/dan/-Help/0708-holo-surv.html>

On behalf of the Czestochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group (<http://www.crag.org>), I am also pleased to share 1/4 million Holocaust records. About 50% of the records are the result of professional research in Poland, 40% are the result of a huge collection of wonderfully diligent volunteer typists around the world, and 10% are from other sources. I hope that you will find this data useful:

<http://search.benkazez.com/searchForm-cg-holo.inc.php>

Virtual museum and Bialystok area society plots in New York and New Jersey

Steven Lasky <steve725@optonline.net>

As some of you already know, I have put online my first web site, a virtual (Internet only) museum of Jewish family history. The URL is www.museumoffamilyhistory.com. It is freely accessible to anyone who would like to visit the site.

In the past year or two, I have undertaken a project to database burials from many of the New York and New Jersey metro area cemeteries. Using the list provided on the BialyGen website, I have databased nearly every burial in nearly every society plot that is associated with the towns listed as a "BialyGen Town," according to the BialyGen website. You can look up your surnames of interest in "The Cemetery Project" section of the Museum (accessed via the Surnames link at www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/projects.cemetery.htm.) These lists, however, will give you a limited amount of information. They will only tell you that someone with a particular surname is buried in a plot that is associated with a certain town/city in Poland, but it is a start. There is a separate web page for every town that is associated with one or more society plots in New York/New Jersey. For example, for the city of Bialystok, there is a web page that lists all unique surnames for the combined Bialystok society plots in New York and New Jersey. If you happen to find a surname on a particular web page that is of interest to you, please let me know the name and town/city, and I will send you what information I have on these names when I can. Most likely, the information that will be provided to you will only be the particular surname, given name, the town/city that is associated with the particular society plot, and the name of the cemetery where the person is buried.

You will also find more than sixty overall grounds maps from over three dozen cemeteries in New York, New Jersey and Southern Florida, the use of which will better prepare you for your next visit to the cemetery.

Also at the Museum are a number of exhibitions that I have created, including one entitled "Postcards from Home" (www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/pfh01.htm). Here you will find over 200 pre-WWII family photographs, most of which have been graciously sent to me by other researchers to be put on display. The vast majority of these photographs were taken in Poland. There are a good number of photographs in this exhibition that were taken in Bialystok and vicinity. More family photographs from anywhere in pre-war Europe are always welcome. They can be sent to postmaster@museumoffamilyhistory.com

In the Map Room (www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/map.room.htm), I have on display three dozen maps that were produced in Poland in between the two World Wars. One is of Bialystok and vicinity (not a town map of the city itself, but rather the surrounding areas). There are also a number of other such maps on display of other regions of interest to Bialystok researchers, e.g. Bielsk Podlaski, Bransk, Goniadz, Trzcianne, Janow, Korycin, Lapy, Suraz, Ciechanowiec, Milejczyce and Nowy Dwor. Many other maps of the areas mentioned in the "BialyGen Towns" list will be presented in the future.

There is also a Links page (www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/links.htm), that provides links to over 350 genealogical and non-genealogical sites of interest. You might also want to check the Museum's Updates page from time to time to see what new material has been added to the Museum, and what exhibitions are to come. Ideas for future exhibitions are always welcome.

Canadian 1911 Census Now Online

As a result of a recently passed law regarding access to historical censuses, the 1911 Canadian census is now online at <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html>. Library & Archives Canada (LAC) anticipated passage of the law and made the census available to the public just a few short weeks after enactment.

There is no name index. You must know the town where the person lived and search by town. For large cities, the district and subdistrict must be determined. There is extensive documentation at the site to assist in locating a particular page in the census, and if you are not very familiar with the area of interest, it is recommended that you read the documentation first.

If you cannot find the records for your area of interest, search of the LAC database of Post Offices and Postmasters. This database is located at http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/020109_e.html.

A Guide To Jewish Genealogy In Lithuania

"Saul Issroff" <saul@shaul.homechoice.co.uk>

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Great Britain announces

A GUIDE TO JEWISH GENEALOGY IN LITHUANIA

ISBN: 0-9537669-8-5 (140 pages p/b) By: SAM AARON

"Genealogical research in Lithuania is often difficult because so many of the old records from Czarist times (1794 to 1917) were lost or destroyed. Here is a practical guide that will tell you what types of records there were, which have survived for each of the three provinces that Lithuania was divided into, how to access them, and what information you can expect to find.

Archives often take a long time to reply to researchers because of the large number of enquiries they receive. The guide describes the large amount of information that can be directly accessed in on-line databases, or in databases which are made available by e-mail to subscribers, and provides an up-to-date list of all these resources, and should help you make quicker progress with your researches.

For beginners, the Guide explains how to identify your ancestral shtetl (the small town in which Jews were obliged to live), how to start off your research, and eventually find information on your ancestors. Included are also suggestions as to where you can look for clues to your ancestors in UK, USA, Israeli and South African records. The latter section should be useful also to those researching their roots in Eastern European countries other than Lithuania". The Guide includes a full list of original town names with their current equivalents, and a map showing the location of approximately 150 of these.

Price: £5.95 plus postage (UK 80p, Europe £2.00, rest of world £3.00. This is \$16 at current exchange rates].

Orders to:

JGSGB Publications

PO Box 180

St. Albans

Herts AL2 3WH

United Kingdom

Publications@jgsgb.org.uk <www.jgsgb.org.uk>

Payment by cheques with orders payable to 'Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain' or credit card giving: Name as shown on card, Card number, Expiry date Address where guide to be sent and if possible e-mail address in case of any queries.

Online Polish Gazetteer

If you cannot find a town that was in Poland between World War I and World War II, Digital Library of Wielkopolska has placed online a Polish gazetteer from that period. Its title is *Skorowidz miejscowosci Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej z oznaczeniem terytorjalnie im wlasciwych wladz i urzedow oraz urzadzen komunikacyjnych* (Index of place names of the Republic of Poland with corresponding governmental agencies and offices, including communication facilities). It is located at <http://www.wbc.poznan.pl/dlibra/docmetadata?id=12786>. To view it, click on the icon of the British flag to get an English language version of the page. Then click on "Content" on the left, below "Publication." Viewing requires the DjVu plug-in. [Reported by Logan Kleinwaks]

Searching Online Eastern European Directories

Logan Kleinwaks has developed search engines for ten online directories of Poland, Galicia and Romania. They are:

- 1926/1927 Poland and Danzig Business Directory
- 1928 Poland and Danzig Business Directory
- 1930 Poland and Danzig Business Directory
- 1923 Poland and Danzig Commercial Directory
- 1912 Galicia Telephone Directory
- 1901 Galicia Industry Directory
- 1925 Romania Business and Organizational Directory, Vol. I (Bucharest)
- 1924/1925 Romania Business and Organizational Directory, Vol. II (rest of Romania)
- 1938/1939 Warsaw Telephone Directory
- 1885 Posen (City) Address and Business Directory

He created the indexes by scanning the pages of the directories using OCR technology. The search can be accomplished using Regular (Exact) spelling, Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex or what he calls "OCR-Adjusted." This last search option checks for words that have a similar printed shape as the search term and, therefore, are the most likely to be mistaken for it by the OCR process. When using the Regular search, it is necessary to use the correct native spelling including diacritic marks.

The search results produced are the image's numbers on which the name appears. The search engine is located at <http://www.kalter.org/search.php>. The directories are online either at the Library of Congress or Digital Library of Wielkopolska. Kleinwaks provides links to the directories.

1926/27 Poland and Danzig Business Directory

"Logan J. Kleinwaks" <kleinwaks@alumni.princeton.edu>

The 1926/27 Poland and Danzig Business Directory, "Ksiega Adresowa Polski (wraz z w. m. Gdanskim) dla handlu, rzemiosl i rolnictwa," is now freely available online at the [Fall 2005](#)

Digital Library of Wielkopolska's site <http://www.wbc.poznan.pl/dlibra/docmetadata?id=11407>. This 2626-page directory is primarily organized by place, then by business type, then by surname or business name. To facilitate searching, I have applied optical character recognition (OCR) software to the Digital Library images and incorporated the result into my Search Engine for Online Historical Directories at <http://www.kalter.org/search.php>. When searching, please keep in mind that OCR is not 100% accurate, so you still might want to manually search the directory, especially if you are only interested a few known small towns. To improve your chances of success, I encourage you to make use of all three available methods of searching. An explanation of how to access the scanned directory images at the Digital Library site can be found in the FAQ on the Search Engine site.

If you find this tool to be helpful, please let me know.

French-Jewish Libraries Develop Online Catalog

Four major French-Jewish libraries have combined resources to develop an online catalog. They are :

- La Bibliothèque de l'Alliance israélite universelle
- La Bibliothèque du Séminaire israélite de France
- La Bibliothèque Medem-Maison de la culture yiddish
- La bibliothèque musicale juive

The catalog is at <http://www.rachelnet.org>. The site is both in French and English.

Paris Police to Open Their Archives to Shoah Memorial Archives

The Paris Police Department has signed an agreement with the Shoah Memorial in Paris that each will share their respective archives on the occupation and collaboration during World War II. According to Serge Klarsfeld, the police archives contain "tens of thousands" of priceless documents, including arrest warrants classifying Jews by name, address, profession and nationality taken during the roundups in 1941. There are also records of the day-to-day running and accounts of the Drancy transit camp through which most of the 76,000 Jews deported from France to Nazi death camps passed; long lists of confiscated possessions; and the plans and reports relating to many other police operations, including further mass round-ups of Jews.

Jewish War Cemeteries in Western Galicia

Eva Floersheim <evaflor@netvision.net.il>

The regional museum in Tarnow has a website in Polish with a section called Judaika Tarnowskie. In this section is an article, in English, called "Jewish War Cemeteries in Western Galicia" written by the museum's director Mr. Adam Bartosz.



Yiddishland, a new book by Gerard Silvain, Henry Minczeles and Donna Wiemann, is a collection of postcards that depict Jewish life in Eastern Europe. The photographs were mostly taken by World War I German army photographers who followed the troops eastward, documenting the war, including the "quaint locals" in the invaded regions. The book is available at amazon.com for \$29.70.





SAVE THE DATE!

OCTOBER 16, 2005 - 2PM

Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of The Jewish
Genealogy Society Of Greater Washington!
Luncheon and program at Temple Beth El in
Alexandria

The Jewish Genealogy Society
of Greater Washington, Inc.
PO Box 31122
Bethesda, MD 20824-1122



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