



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 22 , Number 4

Summer 2003

Message From the President

Rosh Hashana is just above the horizon and I want to take this opportunity of wishing all in the JGSGW family "*Shana Tova*" - A Happy and Healthy New Year. I am sure that all of us will offer a prayer for peace not only for American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan and wherever else they may be stationed, but also for Israel and all her citizens.



The summer is practically over even though the thermometer may not agree. Moreover, when we look back to July to the convention of the 23rd International Association of Jewish Genealogical Society here in Washington, we all can take a measure of pride in the presentation of all the activities, from the quality of the various sessions, the receptions to the final banquet. But above all, our thanks and congratulations go to the three co-chairs of the convention, Eli Savada, Ben Okner and Sheri Meisel and all their volunteers. The long hours of meetings, planning and cross checking that were required over these past three years paid off in the final analysis. The general impression is that this IAJGS convention was one of the greatest and best planned in the twenty three year history of the Jewish Genealogy Conventions. Again, my thanks to all who worked so hard and long to bring the convention to fruition.

The approach of fall seems to bring about a feeling of new beginnings. And this feeling is no less true for JGSGW. A newly elected board of directors of JGSGW with a number of new faces as well as some of the more familiar faces - (notice I didn't say "older faces") have during these summer months been planning for the coming year.

Our new Vice President for Programming, Renee Payne, has been planning and working diligently to make our monthly meetings exciting and meaningful for all of us who are doing genealogical research.

Because B'nai Israel Synagogue, where we have been meeting the past several years, raised the cost of renting space for our meetings to a sum which we felt JGSGW couldn't afford, we were required to find a new venue.

Mishpacha

(continued on page 3)

JGSGW Officers and Committee Chairs for 2003-2004

משפחה

President	Benjamin C. Fassberg benjaminf@aol.com
Vice Presidents	
Programming	Renee Payne ReneeP8546@aol.com
Membership	Marlene K. Bishow MLBishow@mindspring.com
Logistics/Administration	Judy Miller jmiller309@comcast.net
Corresponding Secretary	Ben Okner b.okner@verizon.net
Recording Secretary	Rich Meyersburg richme@erols.com
Treasurer	Sharlene Kranz Skranz_99@yahoo.com
Member At Large	Joel Stearman dpastear@earthlink.net
Database Management	Elias Savada esavada@mac.com
Librarian	Judy Mostyn White mostyn@erols.com
Mishpacha Co-editors	Donna Sellinger dfsmetsfan@yahoo.com Sharlene Kranz Skranz_99@yahoo.com
Research	Roberta Solit rsolit@comcast.net
Workshops	
Beginners	Liz Lourie Lourie@worldnet.att.net
Internet	Rich Meyersburg richme@erols.com
Hospitality	Sonia Pasis sonyaskter@aol.com
Translation Services	Peter Lande pdlande@starpower.net
Tapes	Sonia Pasis sonyaskter@aol.com
Webmaster	Donna Sellinger dfsmetsfan@yahoo.com

The JGSGW Web Site is located at:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw>

Mishpacha is the quarterly publication of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, Inc., serving Washington, Northern Virginia, and the Maryland suburbs.

Free to members, subscriptions are \$15 and \$20 foreign. Membership dues are \$25 for individuals and \$37.50 for families. Membership inquiries: PO Box 31122, Bethesda, MS 20824-1122

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)

Mishpacha by the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW). All rights reserved. **Mishpacha** is intended to provide a free exchange of ideas, research tips, and articles of interest to persons researching Jewish family history. Permission for reproduction in part is hereby granted for other non-profit use, provided credit is given to the JGSGW and to the author(s) of the reproduced material. All other reproduction without prior written permission of the editor(s) is prohibited.

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.

© 2003 Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, Inc.

Table of Contents

President's Message	1
2003-2004 Meeting Dates	3
Library News	4
Gift to Help Build Jewish Museum ...	5
Overseas Research	6
JGSGW Hosts Successful International Conference	11
Photos from Conference	12
News from JewishGen	15
Domestic Research	16
L'Dor va dor	
From Generation to Generation	19
Thank You, Gary	19

(continued from page 1)

Judy Miller, the new Vice President for Logistics and Administration has done an admirable job in finding a new and beautiful venue for meetings this coming year. The first and last meetings of JGSGW this year will be held at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. All the rest of the meetings will be held at Har Shalom Synagogue on Falls Road in Potomac, Maryland. The administration at Har Shalom has been very welcoming and has stated more than once that they want us to meet there. The price is right, the facilities are superb and there is ample parking.

Our new Membership Vice President, Marlene Bishow, will be greeting all of you with her warm welcoming smile when you come to each of our meetings. Please make sure you introduce yourself to Marlene, so that she can get to know you on a personal level rather than just a name in our Membership Directory.

New workshop programs are in the works and under the capable leadership of Liz Lourie, they all promise to be exciting and provide all who attend with a great learning experience. In addition to Beginners Workshops, we are planning Intermediate Workshops and again this year, at least one and maybe two Internet Workshops.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention Sharlene Kranz our hard working Treasurer and a person I've come to rely on for much advice during the past year and expect to consult with her this next year. One of the new things we have added to our financial affairs this year is that we have hired an accounting firm (not Arthur Anderson) to audit the financial affairs of the convention. When all the financial material is gathered, it will be presented to the auditors who will go over our convention finances and present us with a final audit report. Once we have that report, Sharlene and I will report to all of you.

I also want to welcome publicly to the new Board of Directors, Joel Stearman as our Member at Large. Joel is one of our experts at the National Archives, so we will be calling on him from time to time to head up various committees that are planned for this coming year.

For Ben Okner, our corresponding Secretary and Rich Meyersburg, our Recording Secretary, both of these officers have made my job easier for all the work they have done and I expect will continue to do for JGSGW during this coming year.

And lastly, my enthusiastic praise and thanks to the Editors of our respected and renowned Quarterly, Mishpacha, Sharlene Kranz and Donna Sellinger.

With best wishes

Ben

Benjamin C. Fassberg
President

JGSGW sends condolences to its founder Sallyann Amdur Sack on the death of her husband, Dr. Lawrence Sack. In Dr. Sack's memory the Society has made a donation to the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People in Israel.

JGSGW Meeting dates 2003-2004:

September 21, 2003 at JCC of No VA
October 26 at Har Shalom, Potomac MD
Nov. 16 at Har Shalom
December 14 at Har Shalom
January 11, 2004 at Har Shalom
February 8 at Har Shalom
March 14 at Har Shalom
April 18 at Har Shalom
May 16 at Har Shalom
June 27, 2004 at JCC of Northern VA



Library

by Judy Mostyn White, JGSGW librarian

Greetings and Happy Family Hunting!
The JGSGW library collection is housed
at:

Isaac Franck Jewish Public Library
[IFJPL]

4928 Wyaconda Road

Rockville, MD 20852

Telephone: 301-255-1970

The IFJPL hours change seasonally, but generally they are open all day on Mondays and Wednesdays, afternoons and evenings on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Friday mornings, 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 IFJPL. 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.

THANK YOU

Here's a THANK YOU to the following library volunteers who have helped since last time:

JGSGW member, Dan Gross, for frequent general help at the library, especially with the catalog.

Thank you for a major donation on 28 May 08 by JGSGW member, Sue Isman, from her mother, Marguerite Isman, of a microfilm/fiche reader, microfiche, books, indexes, etc.

On 20 Mar 2003 we had our third JGSGW Mitzvah Day at the library. Al Hirshfeld, Sara and David Harris helped with cataloging our maps and microfiche. THANK YOU, Al, Sara and David.

Many people helped with moving books and other resources from our library to the Resource Room at the 23rd IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy, and back to our library again. THANK YOU to Vera Mellen, Toni Immerman, Ben Fassberg, Elaine Apter, Elias Savada, Jeff Miller, Bob Enzel, Shelley Pollero Evelyn Margolis, Dan Gross, Marlene Zakai, who also brought two young neighbors to help, and Richard Neugass.

During the conference, I kept a list of volunteers at the Resource Room. Unfortunately, this list was lost during the packing up process. There were so many volunteers, that I can't remember all the names to thank you. So here is a general THANK YOU to everyone who helped out with the Resource Room.

NEW BOOKS

DS 135 .P62 C8791; "Czenstochow; our legacy" edited by Harry and Ruth Tatner Klein, published 1993. Yizkor or memorial book for Czenstochow, Poland. Donated by

the Czenstochover Society of Montreal.
Thank you.

CS 71 .E4556; "Elkin and Adler: family histories" by Robert Elkin, published 1999. Genealogy of these families. Donated by JGSGW member, Robert Elkin. Thank you, Robert.

F 142 .E8 J4 c.2; "The Essex story; a history of the Jewish community in Essex County, New Jersey" published 1955.

DS 135 .R93 S463; "Pinkas Hakehillot: Szczucin" translated by Asher Michaeli and Ellen Renck, date unknown. English translation of Yizkor or memorial book for zczucin (Szczuczyn) (Shtsutsin), Belarus. Donated by the Estate of Sheiala Ratner Moskow. We are grateful.

CS 71 .G8693; "Zur Geschichte und genealogie der Gunzburge" by David Maggid, published 1899. History and genealogy of the Ginsburg/Gunzburge family from Vilna, from the 16th century, includes family tree, in Hebrew and Russian.

Z 2491 .A1 S54; "Russian bibliography, libraries and archives" by John S. G. Simmons, published 1973. Bibliographic references about Russia, includes index, in a mixture of languages including Russian, French and English.

F 2175 .P57; "Tourist's guide to Jewish history in the Caribbean" by Bernard Postal and Malcolm Stern, published 1975. Jewish Carribbean history, includes bibliography, small book. Donated by JGSGW member, Lillian H. Greenberg. Thank you, Lillian.

DS 135 .E8; "Index of Jewish names from the U.S. Department of State decimal file (RG59)" published by JGSGW 1991. Jewish name index to the correspondence from American citizens who appealed to the U.S. Dept. of State for help in tracing relatives or other assistance, covering Germany, Poland and Romania, 1910-1929, Austria-Hungary 1910-1939.

G 6524 .W3 S20 .P3; "Warsaw as it was" compiled by Jerzy Kasprzycki, published 1984. Original city maps before 1939

Summer 2003

and in 1945, alphabetical list of street names, in English and Polish. Donated by the Estate of Sheiala Ratner Moskow. We are grateful.

DS 135 .R95 L685; "Memories of my life" by Bella Lown, published 1991. History of the shtetl Utena [Utyan], Lithuania, with a family tree covering 1795-1990, index, and glossary. Donated by JGSGW member, Ira Leibowitz. Thank you, Ira.

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 mostyn@erols.com. Just please don't telephone between 6-8 p.m or weekend mornings. Till next time, Happy family hunting!



Gift to Help Build Jewish Museum

A Cleveland broadcasting mogul will donate \$6 million to build a nonprofit museum of Jewish history. Seventy-two-year-old Milton Maltz's family foundation is making the donation. Maltz is a resident of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, and is chairman of the Cleveland-based Malrite Company. He recently opened the International Spy Museum, in Washington, D.C., and was also involved in the development of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Ohio.

The Jewish museum will occupy a 15,000 square-foot building next to the suburban branch of the Temple-Tifereth Israel in Beachwood. It will open in 2004 to coincide with the centennial of the Jewish Community Federation in Cleveland.

The federation will raise \$4 million to complete the museum, which is estimated to cost \$10 million. The museum will include displays from the Temple's renowned collection of Judaica and films on Cleveland Jewish history.

OVERSEAS RESEARCH



Kielce Research Announced

“Surviving Jews in the Kielce District” is now on-line and can be accessed at www.kazez.com/~dan/Czesto-Rad/Survivors.html. This document lists 2179 Holocaust survivors from towns in the Kielce area. -Daniel Kazez, dkazaz@wittenberg.edu

Warsaw Ghetto Death Card Database now available

From: “Hadassah Lipsius” <keshher@lipsiusgroup.com>, Coordinator, Warsaw Ghetto Death Cards project, Jewish Records Indexing - Poland

On the eve of Passover, April 19, 1943, German troops and police entered the Warsaw ghetto to deport its surviving inhabitants. For nearly a month, seven hundred and fifty ghetto fighters fought valiantly. On May 16, 1943 the uprising came to an end. Of the more than 56,000 Jews captured, about 7,000 were shot, and the remainder was deported to killing centers or concentration camps.

In Commemoration of the 60th Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, Jewish Records Indexing - Poland in conjunction with the Jewish Historical Institute and Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc (NY) are pleased to announce the completion of the Warsaw Ghetto Death Card indexing project and the availability of the entries in the JRI-Poland database.

The Warsaw Ghetto Death Cards collection at the Jewish Historical Institute (JHI), Warsaw, provides a remarkable view Summer 2003

into the lives and deaths of almost 10,000 individuals, mostly Jews. While their origins are clouded in mystery, and it is uncertain how they ended up in the JHI, historians and archivists have concluded that the Death Cards were likely found in the ruins of the Mayoral Office that was virtually destroyed during the Warsaw Uprising.

Two individuals usually filled the cards: (1) a doctor who recorded the last and first name, date of death, and sex of the deceased. On the reverse side, he wrote the cause of death (in Polish or Latin), signed his name and put an official stamp; or

(2) a clerk, who - depending on available information - filled the balance of the card - including first names of parents, birth dates usually the year only), denomination, address, marital status, and occupation.

Occasionally, dates of hospitalizations were given. In some cases, he would describe living conditions of the deceased, date of marriage, and the spouse's age. Sometimes, a relative filled this part of the card.

Those who died in the Warsaw ghetto in 1941 usually came from the poorest segments of the Jewish community as witnessed by their occupations, porter, peddler, laborer or domestic. The profession of women is often stated as a housewife and in the case of older persons as a dependent. Many were residents of refugee centers and homeless shelters. The database can be searched on the JRI-Poland database at: www.jri-poland.org

To limit your search to Warsaw records of all types, click on “Search the database” and enter Warszawa in the Gubernia field. Further details on the Warsaw Ghetto Death Card database including images of typical cards can be found by clicking on the “Jewish Historical Institute” link on the JRI-Poland home page at: www.jri-poland.org and then scrolling down to project #10.

JRI-Poland extends its gratitude to Professor Feliks Tych, Director, Jewish Historical Research Institute for giving us the opportunity to index their holdings and JGS (NY) for assisting in the funding of this project.

Photos of Warsaw Ghetto at Yad Vashem Site

A collection of photographs from the Warsaw ghetto is at http://www.yadvashem.org.il/exhibitions/warsaw_ghetto/home_warsaw.html.

The Yad Vashem collection comes from four sources:

- * The Jewish Self-help Organization that existed in the ghetto
- * An album from a German soldier
- * Workshops in the Warsaw Ghetto
- * The Juergen Stroop collection. Stroop was the SS commandant responsible for the final liquidation of the ghetto.

YIVO's People of a Thousand Towns

More than 17,000 photographs from the YIVO collection can be found at <http://yivo1000towns.cjh.org>. Drawn from the large photographic collections of the YIVO archives, the photos document Jewish life in large Jewish centers as well as many smaller towns and village from the late 19th- century to the early 1940's.—*DOROT, NYJGS*.

Major Fire at Kaminets-Podilsky Archives

From Gary Mokotoff, "Nu? What's Nu?"

Fire destroyed major fonds (record groups) in a warehouse of the Kamianets-Podilsky State/City Archives in Ukraine in April. The archives held the records of the area that comprised Podolia guberniya during czarist times—an area with a large Jewish population at the beginning of the 20th century.

Five of the most valuable fonds were severely damaged: f.226, Podolia State Chamber (Kazennaia Palata) (1796-1919); f.228, Office of Governor of Podolia (1795-1917); f. 112, Office for Peasant Affairs of Podolia Guberniya(1861-1919); f. 678, Kamianets city office (1875-1920); f. 249, Office of Military Governor (1795-1845). These historical fonds (about 100,000 files) cover the history of Podolia guberniya from the end of the 18th century through the beginning of the 20th century. They are believed to include revision lists and some Jewish metrical records.

In addition to those documents that were completely destroyed, many unique historical documents were water-damaged. Since the fire, hundreds of people—local archivists, cadets, policeman, fireman, other municipal personnel, students, and ordinary people—have been working around the clock to save whatever is possible. So far, about two tons of archival materials have been evacuated from the destroyed warehouse.

The cause of the fire is under investigation. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Miriam Weiner of Routes to Roots, whose ancestors came from Sudilkov, told me, "What few documents survived the Holocaust for Sudilkov were in this archive. I feel like a family member has died."

Steven Spielberg Develops Online Films of Jewish Life

The Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archive has begun a major project to make films of Jewish life of the past available on the Internet. Over the next five years, approximately 100 films per year will be added until more than 500 films will be viewable. The site is located at <http://spielbergfilmarchive.org.il/kv/jewcom.swf>

There are films of pre-Holocaust Jewish life in Bialystok, Krakow, Lviv, Vilna, and Warsaw. There are numerous music

clips—Ashkenazic, Hassidic, North African, Sephardic, Yemenite and others. Major film categories are Jewish Communities, Holocaust, Pre-State (of Israel), State of Israel and Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Ukrainian Archives Expands Its Web Presence in English

There is now considerable information in English about the State Archives of Ukraine at their site <http://www.sarch.kiev.ua/Eng/>. There are now pages devoted to information about news and announcements, contacts (including e-mail addresses), list of regional archives, genealogical inquiries, programs and projects of the State Archives, other on-line resources, archival guides (most in Ukrainian), Ukrainica abroad, and frequently asked questions.

Dictionary of Surnames Currently Used in Poland

In the early 1990s, a Polish professor compiled from official Government records a list of every surname then used in Poland along with the number of individuals bearing the surname. It was published in a 10-volume set of books. It is now online at <http://www.herby.com.pl/herby/indexslo.html>.

If you believe there is a remnant of your family left in Poland, or have an unusual surname that permits a generic search, it might be worthwhile to use the database. If there is a hit, you are given the surname, each province in which the name appeared, and the total number of persons with the surname in the particular province.

Read a description of the database on JewishGen at <http://www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl/slovník.htm> before using it. You will be navigated through the Polish descriptions at the search site and given insight as

to how it was compiled and its potential shortcomings.

Central Archives for the Jewish People Needs Financial Aid

From Gary Mokotoff, "Nu? What's Nu?"

A letter from Director Hadassah Assouline at the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People in Israel, whose financial support primarily comes from the Israeli government, says funding from the government has been cut back so sharply that they are in danger of closing their doors. They are asking the public for contributions.

Their collection is substantial.

- * 5,000 linear meters of documents, records and files
- * 1,600 archives of communities, organizations and individuals
- * 6,000,000 frames of microfilmed documents
- * 800 lists and inventories of documents and files concerning Jews, held in other archives
- * 10,000 photographs of Jewish personalities and sites
- * 8,000 printed statutes, reports, leaflets, posters and handbills
- * 1,000,000 newspaper clippings on various subjects
- * 10,000 books and publications on Jewish history

You can learn more about the Central Archives and their collection at their web site: <http://sites.huji.ac.il/archives/>

In the United States, tax deductible contributions may be made through P.E.F. Israel Endowment Funds, Inc., 317 Madison Avenue, Suite 607, New York, NY 10017.

Hamburg Emigration Site Adds Additional Years

The Hamburg Emigration Index database is now complete for the years 1890-1902. It is located at http://www.hamburg.de/fhh/behoerden/staatsarchiv/link_to_your_roots/english/index.htm

The index provides basic information about the emigrant: name, country/state of origin, approximate age, and destination. For a fee, you can receive an abstract of the entire entry from the ship's manifest. The cost for an abstract has been lowered to \$20 for 1-3 persons; \$30 4-10 persons; \$40 for 11-20; \$50 for 21-30 persons. Payment can be made with asterCard, EuroCard or Visa. Because it is an abstract rather than the actual manifest, each member of a family of three on a specific page would have his/her own abstract. Therefore, they would count as three persons if you requested information about all three.

Article on Using the Google Search Engine for Genealogy

The Internet is one big encyclopedia if you know how to find the information being sought. This is especially true of genealogical research. What databases are on the web relating to family history research? How do I order records from the British Public Records office? Is there any information on my ancestral towns?

One of the best search engines is Google at <http://www.google.com>.

Using a search engine is a skill. Often you must judiciously choose key words to assure that sites of interest to you appear on the first page of the search results.

Kimberly Powell, a professional genealogist and member of the Association of Professional Genealogists has written an article on how to use the Google search

engine. It is located at <http://genealogy.about.com/library/weekly/aa052902a.htm>



Postcard of Old Vilnius

Lithuania Discovers Its Jewish Past and Future

Before the Holocaust, 250,000 Jews lived in Lithuania. Today there are only about 5,000. Vilnius (Vilna, in Yiddish), the capital of Lithuania, was known among Jews as the Jerusalem of Lithuania. Today, there is a resurgence of interest in Lithuanian Jewish past and future.

The municipality of Vilnius is planning to restore parts of the Old Town of Vilnius. (See <http://www.vilnius.lt/new/en/gidas.php?&open=16&id=116>). This includes a portion of the Jewish ghetto that existed before the Holocaust including the Great Synagogue and its environment and representative elements of the ghetto on various streets of the Old Town.

There is a Yiddish Institute at Vilnius University that is part of its Department of History. It has a web site at <http://www.yiddishvilnius.com>. The Institute offers courses in Yiddish, Yiddish Folklore,

Introduction To Ashkenazic Civilization, East European Jewish History and Culture, Lithuanian Jewry in the 20th Century, Holocaust Education, and History Of Modern Anti-Semitism.

The Vilna Gaon Jewish State Museum in Vilnius, Lithuania, now has a website. It is located at <http://www.jmuseum.lt/> After viewing the introductory page, you are brought to a page that provides a history of the Vilna Gaon (Eliyahu ben Solomon Zalman [1720-1797]). The text is in Lithuanian. In the upper right corner of the screen is a button that says "EN". Click it to get the English version of this site. Sections of the site, some of which are under construction, include history, fonds (collections), expositions, exhibitions, departments, photo gallery, projects, and news.

Launch Canadian Genealogy Centre Web Site

As a joint venture, the National Library of Canada and the National Archives of Canada has launched a genealogy web site at <http://www.genealogy.gc.ca>.

At present, the site is not much more than a shell, but future plans call for making it "the primary online site for access to genealogical resources in Canada." It "will provide access to all genealogical resources in Canada.

Canadian Naturalization Index 1915-1932 Now Online

The Jewish Genealogical Societies of Montreal and Ottawa have joined Forces with the Canadian Genealogy Centre to place almost 200,000 names of persons who became naturalized between 1915 and 1932 on the Centre's website. Plans call for including the years 1933-1951 which will raise the total to 600,000 names. The information is located at http://www.genealogy.gc.ca/01/010203_e.html

Summer 2003

More Canada-to-U.S. Border Crossings Filmed

The U.S. National Archives have micro-filmed another group of records involving immigrants crossing the border from Canada into the U.S.. Called "Manifests of Alien Arrivals at Buffalo, Lewiston, Niagara Falls, and Rochester, New York, 1902-1954," it documents more than one million Alien arrivals during that period. They primarily consist of aliens returning from a visit abroad, although there are a large number of aliens apparently entering the U.S. for the first time.

Copies are available at National Archives locations in Washington, D.C.; Pittsfield, Massachusetts; and New York City. Additional information can be found at http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/immigrant_arrivals/northern_ny_state_arrivals.html. The site includes sample cards from the collection.

News About Online Databases

- The JewishGen Holocaust Database now contains information from 53 Databases and more than 400,000 entries about Holocaust victims and survivors. It is located at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust/>
- There is now a search engine for more than 25,000 Istanbul marriage and burial records at <http://www.asfonline.org/portal/genealogy/turkey/>
- Links to Internet sites that have indexes and information about UK births, marriages and deaths is located at <http://www.ukbmd.org.uk/>

Auschwitz Archives Prisoner List Online

The Auschwitz Archives has placed information about 69,000 prisoners who died at the infamous concentration camp online at http://www.auschwitz.org.pl/szukaj/index.php?language=PL&tryb=bz_szukaj.

Only a Polish version currently exists. The information can be searched By surname (nazwisko), given name (imie), place of birth (miejsce urodzenia) and place of residence (miejsce zamieszkania). Information displayed is name, date and place of birth, date of death, and last residence. If your request produces more than 40 hits, a warning message is generated and nothing is displayed. The home page is <http://www.auschwitz.org.pl/>. The site has some interesting sections.

CD-ROM Identifies French Naturalizations from 1900-1950

There is a CD available that is an index to French naturalizations from 1900-1950. More than one million people are identified. Information provided includes name (including maiden name of spouse), date and place of birth, date of naturalization and the naturalization reference number. The actual documents can then be searched at the French National Archives. Cost of the CD is 34 Euros plus shipping. Information can be found at <http://www.genealogy.tm.fr/geneainfo/cdhv001/patro.htm>. The site includes a search engine. Key in a surname and it returns the number of persons in the database with that particular surname.

The site is in French. Use the translating facility at <http://babel.altavista.com/translate.dyn> if you do not understand the language. At that AltaVista site paste in the URL to translate the French page to your native language.

Visit the home page of this site at <http://www.genealogy.tm.fr/>. There are a number of CDs available identifying persons who live(d) in France. A search engine on this home page identifies which of 15 different databases for sale contain a particular surname.

JGSGW Hosts Successful International Conference

by Sharlene Kranz, JGSGW

JGSGW hosted almost 1200 delegates from 20 countries at the 23rd International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Washington, D.C. in July. Delegates had over 150 programs, workshops, speakers, lectures and films to choose from in a packed week of genealogy programming. Out-of-town delegates enjoyed tours of the Washington area, while local JGSGW members volunteered their time and energy to make the week-long Conference a success.

At the Gala Banquet, IAJGS made the following awards:

IAJGS Achievement Awards went to:

- Outstanding Contribution to Stephen Morse for his one-step web pages,
- Outstanding Project to the JGS of Montreal for Quebec vital records indexing.
- Outstanding Publication to the JGS of Palm Beach County for their Beginner's Guide.
- Lifetime Achievement to Miriam Weiner.

Write-ups with additional background will shortly be posted on the IAJGS.org website.

The IAJGS Stern Award went to:

- University of Denver Ira M. Beck Memorial Special Collection Archives to support their effort to index about 25,000 patient files covering 15,000 patients from 1904-1920. Write-up with additional background will shortly be posted on the IAJGS.org website.

Some photos of the Conference are offered here as a sample of the varied activities in which delegates participated.

Next year's 24th International Conference will be in Jerusalem, hosted by the Israel Genealogical Society, July 11-16, 2004. The Conference will be held at the Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel. The web site is <http://www.ortra.com/jgen2004/>.

Scenes from DC2003



Conference Logo projected on the wall at the Marriott
Photo Courtesy of Boris Feldblyum

Checking the message board



Delegates schmoozing at the IAJGS Table



Sue Isman, Hospitality Desk
Photo Courtesy CMS Communication Services



JGSGW Members at the Gala Banquet
Photo Courtesy CMS Communication Services



JGSGW member Rita Margolis and John Carlin,
Archivist of the United States at the Opening
Night Reception
Photo Courtesy of CMS Communication Services

JGSGW member Sandra Zahn-Oreck and
photographer Alex Oldfield installing
the exhibit of Alex's photographs
Photo Courtesy of Sandra Zahn-Oreck





Banquet Speaker Hadassah Lieberman
Photo Courtesy CMS Communication Services

Michael Tobias and Susan King, JewishGen
Photo Courtesy of Sandra Zahn-Oreck



Gary Mokotoff
Photo courtes Sandra Zahn-Oreck



JGSGW members Jeff Miller and Milt Goldsamt with new
Geshet Galicia t-shirt at the SIG's 10th Anniversary Luncheon
Photo Courtesy of Milt Goldsamt

NEWS FROM JEWISHGEN

JewishGen Announces All-Country Database Systems

Warren Blatt, JewishGen Editor-in-Chief

JewishGen has announced plans to integrate many of its search engines into "All-Country" systems.

The new "All-Poland" system is located at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland>. It consists of more than two million records for Poland from a variety of sources including vital records (Jewish Records Indexing-Poland project), business directories, voter lists, passenger manifests, yizkor books and other Holocaust sources, JewishGen Family Finder and the JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial registry.

The term "country" is used in the broadest sense. Any town that was once in Poland is included. If the town is no longer in Poland, it will also appear in the All-Country system in its current country. All-Country systems can be searched by surname or town name.

The "All-Hungary Database" at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Hungary> has incorporated several databases, including the 1828 Property Tax Census; the 1848 Hungarian Jewish Census, the 1869 Census (Slovakia), the Births Database for Slovakia, the Jewish Who's Who of Budapest 1837-1845, Yizkor Books necrologies for Hungary and Slovakia, and the JewishGen Hungarian Holocaust database.

A list of all JewishGen databases can be viewed at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/>. They are categorized into General, America, Belarus, Czech Republic, Eastern Europe, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, South Africa and Utilities.

JewishGen Launches Online Worldwide Burial Registry

JewishGen announced at the 23rd International Conference on Jewish Genealogy the launching of its JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry Database (JOWBR), a compilation of burial records, photographs and information about individual cemeteries. The system already has data on 643 cemeteries, 314,778 burial records, and 11,461 tombstone photographs representing cemeteries in 25 countries. In the coming year, JewishGen intends to include information for an additional 242 cemeteries, 150,461 burial records and 22,400 tombstone images from 36 cemeteries in Eastern Europe. The system can be found at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery/>

JewishGen Announces New State Department Database

JewishGen announced a new database: "Jewish Names in Selected U.S. State Department Files (RG59), 1910-1929." This new database can be found at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/RG59.htm>.

This database contains nearly 10,000 entries from the Central Decimal Files of the U.S. Department of State, pertaining to the Protection of Interest, 1910-1929, for selected countries. Documents include correspondence from American citizens or their representatives who appealed to the U.S. State Department for help in tracing relatives, sending money, food and other assistance to family members overseas. Most entries were made during and immediately following World War I, and include the geographic areas of Palestine, Romania, and Austria. Please note that "Austria" in the 1910-1918 period refers to the entire Austrian Empire, and thus includes Galicia and Bukovina.

Many records include documents of births, marriages and deaths of US citizens abroad; settlement of the foreign estates of US citizens who died abroad; lists and correspondence of US citizens temporarily or permanently residing abroad. Names of people who were not US citizens were often mentioned and are included in this database.

Volunteers from JGSGW led by Rita Margolis, Mike Getz, and Roberta Solit compiled the database.

DOMESTIC RESEARCH



Brooklyn Daily Eagle (1841-1902) Now Online

It is still in beta test, but the word has gotten around the genealogical community that images of all editions of the Brooklyn Daily Eagle (1841-1902) are online at <http://eagle.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/> The newspaper existed from 1841-1955. It is a pity that the project did not extend into later years when more Jewish immigrants were present in Brooklyn. The technology is quite good. After locating potential items of interest, you can preview the portion of an article that shows the keyword(s), preview the entire article, or the entire page. The keywords are highlighted making it easy to locate their reference within the article.

Video Lending Program

From Hal Bookbinder, IAJGS



IAJGS and the Jewish Community Library of Los Angeles have signed an agreement that will allow representatives of IAJGS member societies to borrow from the extensive (1000+) film library of the JCLLA. The only cost will be for shipping the film back to the JCLLA - so long as the videos are returned on time and undamaged. A list of about 35 films available under the agreement specifically geared to Jewish genealogy or culture will be posted on the IAJGS website shortly.

Sites with Indexes to New York Naturalizations

Two free sites and one that has a fee now provide indexes to naturalizations for New York City.

N.Y. State Supreme Court - Kings County (Brooklyn), 1907-1924 with 253,403 names at <http://www.jgsny.org/kingsintro2.htm>

U.S. District Court - Southern District Court (Manhattan), 1906-1949 with 500,000 names at <http://www.italiagen.org/databases.stm>. Also at this site are naturalizations in Nassau and Suffolk counties (Long Island) and at New York military camps in the New York area.

The International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame has a web page at <http://www.jewishsports.net>.

This is an interesting site for genealogists to explore. Since the honorees are from all over the world, you may find a relative listed or wish to submit your ancestor.

From Family Legacies, newsletter of the JGS of Southern Nevada.

N.Y. State Supreme Court - New York County (Manhattan), 1907-1924, 136,000 individuals at <http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/inddb/4653a.htm>. This is a commercial site. *ZichronNote, SFBJGS*

Photos of New York City properties available at Municipal Archives

New York City Tax Department photographs of each property in the city, 1940, are available at the NYC Municipal Archives, with new finding aids including an online search engine at the Department of Finance/City Register's Office web site at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dof> that translates street addresses into the block and lot numbers necessary to retrieve the photographs.

The Wisconsin Name Index

The Wisconsin Historical Society announces its on-line Wisconsin Name Index, a catalog of names in the records of the Wisconsin Historical Society since 1870. The index includes more than 100,000 obituaries, magazine and newspaper articles about Wisconsin residents. Consult the index at

<http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/wni>

News from the American Jewish Historical Society

The American Jewish Historical Society relocated its New England Facilities from the campus of Brandeis University to a new home in the Gann Library of Hebrew College, Newton, MA.

The beautiful new campus of Hebrew College designed by Moshe Safdie, opened in December 2002.

There are a number of online databases at the American Jewish Historical Society site <http://www.cjh.org/academic/findingaids/AJHS/institutionlist.html>.

Summer 2003

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.

ProQuest Genealogy Databases

From Gary Mokotoff, "Nu? What's Nu?"

ProQuest identifies three of their many services as being of interest to genealogists: Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970; HeritageQuest Online; and ProQuest Historical Newspapers.

- **Digital Sanborn Maps, 1867-1970**

This collection includes more than 660,000 detailed maps of some 12,000 American towns in the United States for selected time periods. The Sanborn Map Company originally created them for fire insurance purposes.

- **HeritageQuest Online**

HeritageQuest includes census images and Indexes for the years 1790, 1800, 1810, 1870, 1890 (what exists of it) and 1910. Of particular interest to Jewish genealogists is the 1910 census. HeritageQuest has CDs available that index states of the 1910 Census including New York and Connecticut. The online version includes all states plus the actual page images. Searching is very basic: you can search only by surname, given name and

state. The CDs have more powerful searching capabilities and the New York City, New York State and Connecticut CDs can be purchased from Avotaynu at <http://www.avotaynu.com/catalog.htm>.

The other portion of HeritageQuest Online is a search for people, places or publications from various sources collected by ProQuest. The People Search facility allows you to search by name, place and/or key words. There are also Place Search ability and Book Search facilities. The source may be the very same books that are the sources for the people and place searches. It is difficult to determine the book collection's value to the Jewish genealogist. The site lists, in alphabetical order, the 1,061 books for which it has images. Titles include a 1923 "Jewish Community Blue Book of Detroit" and a 1924 "Jewish Community Blue Book of Newark (New Jersey)." The Newark book provided descriptions of Jewish organizations and biographies of leaders of the Jewish community of that time.

- Historical Newspaper Collection

The final database ProQuest considers of value to genealogists can be quite useful. It is their Historical Newspaper collection. To date they have full-word indexed The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, and Christian Science Monitor. To Jewish genealogists, the most valuable portion is The New York Times index (1857-current).

Individuals cannot purchase ProQuest services. They are only available through libraries and other institutions. Determine if there is a library in your area that subscribes to these ProQuest services. If not, you might be able to encourage them to sign up.

Morse indexing continues

From Gary Mokotoff, "Nu? What's Nu?"

The Stephen P. Morse website: <http://stevemorse.org> contains portals to the Ellis Island Database, Census records and other functions.

The Stephen P. Morse Ellis Island Database portal now allows simultaneous searching for accompanying companions with the same surname. This may be valuable for researchers looking for immigrants with common names.

After taking on the technical staff that developed the Ellis Island Database and putting them to shame, Stephen Morse has set his sights on genealogy giant Ancestry.com. He has created a superior portal to the 1920 and 1930 census data at the Ancestry.com site. He allows searches that go well beyond what the Ancestry offers the user. Morse's new site is at <http://stevemorse.org/census/ancestry.html>

Ancestry.com designed a system that allows you to search by Last or First Name (Exact spelling, American Soundex or some wildcard ability), State, County, Township, Age, or Birthplace. To these capabilities the Morse portal to the Ancestry census sites has added the following search features:

- * First, middle and last name may contain a set of characters or End with a set of characters

- * Ancestry requires at least three characters to start a name for a wildcard search. Morse allows one or two characters.

- * Search by relationship to Head of Household.

- * Search by microfilm number including a specific frame on the roll.

- * Search by Enumeration District including page within the ED.

L'Dor va dor From Generation to Generation

by Maureen P. Goldsmith

This name was chosen for the Art and Prose Contest sponsored by the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, to carry forth the task set out in the V'ahavta prayer we recite at Shabbat services "...and you should teach it diligently unto your children..."

The contest had two winners in the elementary school division and two winners in the middle school division winning a \$200 and a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond respectively, for their efforts. But they achieved more than just a prize. These ten and eleven year-olds made a connection to their grandparents or great-grandparents, interviewing them when possible, and made their stories and images into artwork or essays. Stories are very powerful. They inspire and move us forward as they capture our imaginations.

Sam Kott, age 10, imagined what it was like for his grandfather to leave his home, his friends and his family and come to a land where he was a stranger to begin a new life. Amy Schaffman, age 10, chronicled her grandparents journey and what it felt like, from the old country. Both of them made the connection - that link - that connects one generation to the other. Their teacher at the Hebrew Day Institute in Silver Spring, Naomi Kaplan, guided them, and inspired them.

Ilana Moreno, age 11, a student in the religious school at Adas Israel Synagogue, not only wrote her grandmother's story, she illustrated it with pencil drawings of her family. She put her own fingerprints on her story and made it into a book. Her grandmother came from New York when Ilana was presented with her prize. Another link, another connection.

Sarah Glasser, age 11, made a family tree chart, but not content with just a

chart, she created a shadow-box complete with light to illuminate the Shtetl scene she had cut and pasted into it. Again, she made the connections and translated that connection into a highly creative piece of artwork with the encouragement of her teacher, Robin Peskin, at Temple Beth Ami in Rockville, Md.

None of this could have happened if Mindy Silverstein of the Board of Jewish Education had not supported our endeavor.

All of the families and teachers of our winners were present at the JGSGW Conference when the awards were given and the work was on display. A thousand people were present and warmly rewarded our budding genealogists. JGSGW was proud to promote this contest and fulfill its mission. It is hoped we will now sponsor this contest yearly in our Jewish schools, for it bears creative fruit.



THANK YOU, GARY

The editors of this issue of Mishpacha wish to send a special thank you to Gary Mokotoff, editor of "Nu? What's Nu?", the on-line Jewish genealogy newsletter. While we were busy preparing for the 23rd International Conference on Jewish Genealogy which was recently held in Washington, D.C., "Nu? What's Nu?" kept sending news and information about developments and resources of interest to the Jewish genealogist. We wouldn't have much of the news we have in this issue without Gary and his column.

JGSGW Meeting dates 2003-2004:

September 21, 2003 at JCC of Northern VA

October 26 at Har Shalom, Potomac, MD

Nov. 16 at Har Shalom

December 14 at Har Shalom

January 11, 2004 at Har Shalom

February 8 at Har Shalom

March 14 at Har Shalom

April 18 at Har Shalom

May 16 at Har Shalom

June 27, 2004 at JCC of Northern VA

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

Non-Profit Org
US Postage Paid
Bethesda, MD
Permit No. 0211