



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 25 , Number 1

Winter 2006

The Main Event: NY 2006



The hottest ticket this summer will be New York City's 26th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, August 13-18, at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square. It is hosted this year by the Jewish Genealogical Society of New York, the first such society founded in 1977.

About 2,000 researchers and experts are anticipated at what may be the largest-ever annual event. Online user-friendly conference and hotel registration is now open at www.jgsny2006.org. The initial registration attracted hundreds of reservations for both, while the NY 2006 discussion list grows daily. Attendees and speakers represent some 18 countries and five continents.

Programming will cover every facet of Jewish genealogy, with topics for beginners through advanced researchers. By the December deadline, nearly 300 proposals had been submitted by 179 speakers.

Confirmed presentations are those on Landsmanshaftn societies in the new world, HIAS rescue operations in Marseille, hidden library treasures in Budapest, Polish notary documentation, Romaniote Greek Jewry, the Catskills Jewish legacy; several Polish-focus programs, HIAS and INS archives, the German Emigration Center in Bremerhaven and its new research facilities, new USHMM holdings, workshops on materials conservation and multimedia presentations, and panel discussions on Teaching Genealogy; Eastern and Central Europe Cemetery Restoration; and Genealogy and Genetics.

Jewish genealogy's household names will speak, such as Dr. Steve Morse (also teaching in the computer lab), genetic DNA pioneer Bennett Greenspan of Family Tree DNA, Miriam Weiner, Stanley Diamond and others. JewishGen,

(Continued on Page 3)

Mishpacha

JGSGW Officers and Committee Chairs for 2005-2006

President	Sharlene Kranz SKranz_99@yahoo.com
Vice Presidents: Programming	Marlene Bishow MLBishow@mindspring.com
Membership	Ric Erdheim ricerdheim@yahoo.com
Administration	Sonia Pasis sonyamskp@verizon.net
Corresponding Secretary	Ben Okner b.okner@verizon.net
Recording Secretary	Jeff Miller SingingTM@comcast.net
Treasurer	Sue Isman ismanberg@comcast.net
Member At Large	Aaron Werbel werbel@mail.com
Immediate Past President	Benjamin Fassberg benjaminf@aol.com
Database Management	Marlene Bishow mlbishow@comcast.net
Librarian	Judy Mostyn White judymostyn@comcast.net
Mishpacha Co-editors	Donna Sellinger dfsmetsfan@yahoo.com Sharlene Kranz Skranz_99@yahoo.com
Research	Suzan Wynne srwynne@erols.com
Workshops	Benjamin Fassberg benjaminf@aol.com
Hospitality	Harriet Armoza
Translation Services	Ruth Brenner
Publicity	Open
Webmaster	Donna Sellinger dfsmetsfan@yahoo.com

משפחה

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)

© 2006 Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, Inc.

Table of Contents

The Main Event - NY 2006	1
Library News	4
Domestic Research	6
Overseas Research	10
My Ashkenazy Cousins Jose and Juanita	16
Latke-Hamentash Symposium-looking for speakers	18
JGSGW Meeting Schedule 2006	18
President's Letter	21

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

(Continued from Page 1)

as always, will be represented throughout the event. Dr. Allen Weinstein, Archivist of the United States, will be the keynote speaker at the Opening Night Reception.

A Russian track, organized by Valery Bazarov, is expected to attract a large number of Russian émigrés from Brooklyn and beyond.

Evening conference activities will include Zalman Mlotek, executive director of the Folksbiene Yiddish Theater, who will present a history of Yiddish theaters in America, perform music written for the European and American Yiddish theater, and speak about the composers.

Because technology is basic to contemporary genealogy, a special computer lab will provide hands-on training courses, including computer basics like Excel and PowerPoint, as well as creating web pages, how to mine various databases, country specific courses and a host of others.

Many SIGs will also be meeting and holding luncheons, offering face-to-face networking for these online communities.

In addition to the city's rich array of archives and libraries (see a detailed list on the website), van service will be available to some area cemeteries, and tours to Jewish Ellis Island, Jewish Lower East Side, Lower East Side Tenement Museum and the Eldridge Street Synagogue are being offered. The conference website has details and online registration for SIG luncheons, the Gala Banquet, cemetery trips, tours, computer classes and more. All luncheons and the banquet will be glatt kosher.

It's never too early to think about volunteering, a great way to meet, in-person, colleagues from around the world. Help is needed in many essential areas, including registration, hospitality and resource rooms. For frequently updated information, go to www.jgsny2006.org.



In Memorium

The Society notes the passing of our former secretary, Jan M. Widome, on November 28, 2005. Jan was a native Washingtonian, and a noted architect who worked on such projects as the Washington Hospital Center, Mazza Gallerie, Georgetown Park, and the Grosvenor Park condominiums in Bethesda. He was a member of B'nai Israel Congregation. Our condolences go to his family.



Library



January 2006 JGSGW 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.

LIBRARY NEWS



The Isaac Franck Library, and our library along with it, is going to move. The expected date is March 1. We will be moving to Wilkins Ave, Rockville. The building is not a former warehouse. I haven't seen inside yet, but the outside looks quite nice. There is

parking available. When the JGSGW library moves, I am afraid that some of our materials that have not yet been catalogued might be lost. What I would like to do, is to get volunteers who can take a 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. Also, if any of you can help with cataloging some more JGSGW materials before the move, that would be great. Please contact me at judymostyn@comcast.net. I'll be unavailable until mid January.

NEW BOOKS



Z 6375 .R58; "Guide to the unpublished materials of the holocaust period" edited by Yehuda Bauer, volume 3 published 1975, volume 4 published 1977, volume 5 published 1979 and volume 6 published 1981. Vols. 3-5 constitute pt. 1-3 of Yad Vashem archival material. Vol. 6 covers the Moreshet archives.

Z 6375 .Y59; "Guide to the YIVO archives" edited by Fruma Mohrer and Marek Web, published 1998. Includes index.

DS 135 .P62 W334; "Warszawskie getto, 1943-1988" edited by Ruta Sakowska, original volume published 1988. History of the Warsaw ghetto, volume 1 in Polish, volume 2 a translation into English. Oversize books. Donated by the Estate of Sheala Ratner Moskow. We are grateful.

N 7255 .P6 P37; "Cierpienie I nadzieja" edited by Jerzy Dalek and Teresa Swiebocka, published 1989. Art of the prisoners of Auschwitz, in Polish, with booklet "Suffering and Hope" in English.

DS 135 .R93 B34; "Kniga pamiaty" edited by Joseph Vinokurov and Nora Levin, published 1983. Yizkor or memorial book for Babi Yar, Ukraine. Donated by the Isaac Franck Jewish Public Library. Thank you to the IFC for this book and for many favors.

DS 135 .L5 S537; "Skausmo knyga - book of sorrow" by Yosif Levinson, published 1997. Lithuanian Holocaust massacres and memorials, with list of Lithuanian cities and towns where Jews lived until the Nazi occupation, and list of the sites where they were massacred, in Lithuanian, English, Yiddish and Hebrew. Donated by JGSGW member, Lynn Levin in loving memory of Reubin Levin. Thank you, Lynn.

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 .P6 S267; "Holocaust calendar of Polish Jewry" by Israel Schepansky, published 1974. In Hebrew. Old call number G42.1.

DS 135 .R93 K273677; "Oral history of an immigrant family" by Bonnie Schooler Sohn, published 1981. Oral history of the Schooler family from the Ukraine. Old call number FH22.

E 184 .P7 C5; "Polish roots" by Rosemary A. Chorzempa, published 1993. How-to do Polish genealogical research with bibliography. Old call number RG42.5.

F 379 .A38 H56; "Fourscore and eleven" by Martin I. Hinchin, 1st edition, published 1984. A history of the Jews of Rapides Parish, LA, 1828-1919. Old call number G33.9.

GN 480 .A75; "Kinship: it's all relative" by Jackie Smith Arnold, published 1990. How to figure out relationships. Old call number RG30.1.

JF 1521 .S67; "Sources of information from abroad" published 1987. What kinds of public information are available in different countries, alphabetically by country. Old call number RG44.1.

JV 7590 .Z48; "Toen zij uit Rotterdam vertrokken" by Cees Zevenbergen, published 1990. History of emigration and immigration from Rotterdam Netherlands; includes bibliography; in Dutch. Old call number G35.1.

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!



DOMESTIC RESEARCH

New material at JewishData.com

Avraham Laber <alaber@nycap.rr.com>

The following resources recently added to the online database www.jewishdata.com may be helpful to many researchers. All records are retrieved by one search engine.

Many thousands of tombstone images from entire Jewish Cemeteries from the following US Cities have been added and indexed: Binghamton NY, Johnson City NY, Newburgh NY, Ridgewood NY, Schenectady NY, and Syracuse NY.

More than 6,000 records and images have been posted from Kings County, NY. These records were filed by Jewish immigrants who settled in Brooklyn and applied to become US Citizens. The database contains almost all the documents filed by Jewish people from 1906-1913.

More than 11,000 tombstone images from Frankfurt Germany are posted and indexed by names, including Hebrew only monuments.

This website offers database access for a fee.

Synagogues of the Bronx

Eden Joachim

I learned today of a book devoted to synagogues of The Bronx, New York. The book is available, in its entirety online at www.bronxsynagogues.org and was written by Seymour J. Perlin, EdD.

There are maps, photos, history and memoirs and a search capability based on address. This is a great resource for anyone researching their family history in The Bronx, as well as a fascinating read, especially for ex-Bronxites.

NYC Census Update

Joel Weintraub <jweintraub@fullerton.edu>

An update on the utilities for the New York City Census on the Morse One Step site: <http://www.stevemorse.org/nyc/nyc.php>—

Our initial goal was to produce aids for researchers to find the Assembly District/Election District number (AD/ED) of their target address for the New York State Censuses of 1905, 1915, and 1925 for the five boroughs of NYC. Three census years x five NYC boroughs gives 15 entities to cover.

Two entities lack census schedules (Queens and Staten Island 1905). Of the remaining 13, only Staten Island 1925 has a commercially available name index, so a geographical method must be employed to find the AD/ED number, and then the Family History Library film number, in order to see the Census schedules for the boroughs/years. (Suzanne Danet is working on an everyname index for Brooklyn 1925 that is on the Morse website.)

We employed a number of strategies to provide such utilities. Bronx 1915 was just put up on the website, and is based on maps from the New York Public Library that only show half of that borough...thus only half of the AD/EDs are searchable. With the latest database, we have covered twelve of the thirteen entities; only Bronx 1905 is uncovered.

Most of the utilities are based on producing or reading maps of the necessary AD/EDs, and transcribing streets. Since Election District boundaries often changed between Elections, the accuracy of this approach isn't 100%. A better way would be to have a table of an address to an AD/ED specific to the NY Census date. Such tables are also being worked on, and when completed will be added to the existing utilities. Read the FAQs on the Winter 2006

website to find out further information on the utilities.

I have run out of mapping resources for doing Bronx 1905 or completing at this time Bronx 1915. If anyone is doing research in the Bronx archives, and comes across ED boundary definitions for 1905 or/and 1915, photocopy them, and contact me. Such descriptions were required to be publicized by law, and might appear in Bronx newspapers of that time or perhaps Election Boards. We checked the NY Times archives and they do not have what we need.

The 1925 NY census is often touted as providing detailed information as to what court naturalizations occurred. I have found that the NYC enumerators were not consistent in filling out that part of the census. Some did put down the actual court and date of naturalization while others just put down a year and a state (e.g. "NY"). It would be interesting to see a copy of the instructions to enumerators for these state censuses, but so far I have been unable to find a copy. The 1925 census was the last one done by New York State. In the late 1930s the state legislature agreed to use the Federal census for their apportionment needs.

News from Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com now has an everyname index for the 1920 census. This is a fee-based service.

Italian Genealogy Group announces new databases

The Italian Genealogy Group has added a New York City Bride's Index to its site at www.Italiangen.org/databaselist.stm. It covers King County (Brooklyn) 1891-1937, Bronx County 1891-1937, and Queens County 1904-1937. The addition of New York County (Manhattan) is planned. A groom index 1909-1936 is already available on the site.

An index to 600,000 Eastern District naturalizations (Kings, Queens, Richmond, Nassau, and Suffolk counties), 1865-1956, has been posted on the Italian Genealogical Group's website at <http://italiangen.org/EDN.stm>.

Steve Morse has created a One-Step form for the index on his web page "Obtaining New York Naturalization Records in One Step" at <http://www.stevemorse.org/natural/naturalization.html>.

An interesting site for military information

Shirley Wilets, JGSGW

The American Battle Monuments Commission

Courthouse Plaza II, Suite 500

2300 Clarendon Boulevard

Arlington, Va. 22201

<http://www.abmc.gov/home.php>

The above address is where I sent my inquiry about my mother's cousin. I sent them all the information I had about him, which was scant, and they located his cemetery plot and later sent me a photo of the cemetery and also a photo of his gravesite. I asked

what were the circumstances of his death and they referred me to the National Archives, Suitland Reference Branch, Washington DC 20409. Unfortunately for me, they did not have that information. I hope this will be of value.

The Commission maintains several databases, including:

- Those interred at the American World War I and World War II cemeteries overseas.
- The Missing in Action from World War I and World War II who are memorialized on Tablets of the Missing within the cemeteries and on three memorials in the U.S.
- Those killed worldwide during the Korean War

Request DD-214 On-Line

Veterans and family members of deceased veterans may go on line to request copies of the deceased's DD-214, the official Defense Department document of separation from the military service.

The DD-214 is required to receive a variety of veteran benefits. To request the document, go to the National Archives and Records Administration Web site, http://www.archives.gov/research_room/vetrecs/

Users fill out request forms online, and then submit a signature via fax or regular mail.
Source: Retiree Newsletter, Travis AFB, California, Fall 2004

Caveat Emptor

From: "RootsWeb Review" <newsletter@reply.myfamilyinc.com>
RootsWeb Review: RootsWeb's Weekly E-zine
21 December 2005, Vol. 8, No. 51

COLORADO SUES GENEALOGY COMPANY. "The suit, filed in Arapahoe County District Court against Maxwell MacMaster and his company, Morphcorp LLC, seeks to cease the operation and penalize him up to \$2,000 per book sold, which could amount to \$300 million," according to the Denver Post.

The suit claims 150,000 people nationwide were swindled out of \$49.95 each when they bought a book with fake family histories from Morphcorp of Denver. People who bought these genealogical "yearbooks" got the same family coat of arms, the same family recipes and even the same family jokes, according to a lawsuit, which was filed in late November.

Consumers with complaints regarding Morphcorp or the "Family Yearbook" may call the Colorado Consumer Line toll-free 1-800-222-4444 (in Colorado) or 1-800-332-2071 (out of state) or download a complaint form from: <http://www.ago.state.co.us/constline/complaint.pdf>

For more information see the press release at the Colorado Attorney General's website: http://www.ago.state.co.us/press_detail.cfm?pressID=733 and read the newspaper article at: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_3247588

OVERSEAS RESEARCH



HOLOCAUST-ERA RESTITUTIONS DISCUSSION GROUP

<<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/h-justice>>

Tom Venetianer, group coordinator

This is a recently formed Yahoo! Group which discusses questions related to all present and past compensation and restitution programs to Holocaust survivors and heirs (see our mission below).

It functions as a mutual help group, collecting and spreading information and tips on reparations and related procedures in all countries where reparation programs exist or are being implemented. Membership is recommended to Holocaust survivors and heirs.

THE GROUP'S REASONS FOR EXISTING:

* Time is badly working against the survivors. According to some credible sources, currently about one million survivors are alive, but the mortality rate is extremely high — 10% per year. This means that within 10-15 years most survivors will be deceased. Given the slowness of the reparation agencies, many survivors will never receive a dime of the moneys own to them. This group will attempt to speed-up the reparation process, by forming sufficient intelligence to allow survivors or their heirs to press the reparation agencies or by helping them to submit appeals.

* Some reparation agencies and organizations have been very slow in processing claims. We would like to learn from each other what is causing such delays and find ways to speed-up their response time. We also wish to discover the appropriate communication channels for appeals, complaints and information requests.

* We wish to amplify the reach of reparations related information. There are still many survivors or heirs who either don't know that reparations in their countries are still underway exist and due or simply are not aware that claims can be submitted (and how they can submit them). Thus, this group will also try to keep members updated on what's going on and where they can find detailed information on their specific issues.

* This could become a forum for uniting the members in our sacred mission of teaching future generations about the Holocaust and educating them for tolerance.



Palatines to America

June 23-25, 2006, Richmond, VA

Researching your German ancestry? Need help identifying photographs? Have you reached a road block? You are invited to the national seminar of Palatines to America, Researching Your German-Speaking Ancestors. Topics to be covered include: blocked lines; researching females; manuscript collections; Schleswig-Holstein; Shenandoah Valley Germans; Saxon Chronicles; identifying, dating, preserving, reading clues family photographs; ways to prove who your ancestor was, standards of proof. For registration/fees or more information contact RalphKroehler@prodigy.net or Ralph & Marge Kroehler, 6910 N. Rockvale, Peoria, IL 61614.

NEW YEAR - NEW GUIDE FOR BRITISH RESEARCH

The latest in the 'Jewish Ancestor' series will be available beginning of JANUARY 2006. This new guide - A GUIDE TO JEWISH GENEALOGY IN THE UNITED KINGDOM - (ISBN: 09537669 7 7, Paperback - 144 pages, Available: January 2006) Price: £5.95 plus 80p p&p (UK) £3.00 p&p/US\$16.00 includes postage (Overseas).

This new and enlarged publication updates and augments our previous Beginner's Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Great Britain. It is designed specifically with the family historian in mind, (whether or not a beginner) since the majority of information is given under TOWN headings - (invaluable for the tourist to the UK).

The Guide includes detailed information about the (Jewish) holdings of the various resource centres throughout the UK with a large section on London (including Archives, Libraries, Museums, Record Offices, Synagogues etc). It has specific sections on using public records, cemeteries, computers in genealogy, medical records, burial records and marriage records. A full list of Jewish cemeteries throughout the United Kingdom is given with information about each. There is a bibliography; where many of the books relate specifically to individual towns.

We trust that this book will help to locate the records for which you are looking.

OTHER GUIDES IN THE 'JEWISH ANCESTOR' SERIES - FULL DETAILS ON OUR WEB-SITE:
www.jgsgb.org.uk

A Beginner's Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Great Britain

A Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Germany & Austria

A Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Latvia & Estonia (SOLD OUT - NEW GUIDE DUE SPRING 2006)

A Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Lithuania
A Guide to Organising your Family History Records
A Guide to Reading Hebrew Inscriptions and Documents
Genealogical Resources within the Jewish Home and Family

If you are purchasing this for re-sale, we offer a 33% trade discount.

PAYMENT BY:

PayPal: via our web-site www.jgsgb.org.uk

Credit Cards: Mastercard, Visa and Maestro only.

Cheques: with orders payable to Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain.

POST TO: JGSGB Publications, PO Box 180, St. Albans, Herts. AL2 3WH. England. U.K.

Rosemary Wenzerul
Publications Department
Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain
Publications@jgsgb.org.uk

Czestochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group

Daniel Kazez, President
email: dkazez@wittenberg.edu

One quarter million Holocaust records!

Jews around the world know that time is running out in the search for family members who might have survived the Holocaust.

For Jews with roots in Poland, a new search engine on the web provides help and hope, with a database of over 1/4 million records—one of the largest Holocaust search tools in existence. The search engine (at www.CRARG.org) has been created by the Czestochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group. The data includes both survivor records and death records, from professional research and volunteer typing.

“Most of our research and typing is based on highly detailed lists made during or right after the War,” says CRARG president Daniel Kazez, a professor at Wittenberg University (Ohio).

The Czestochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group was founded in 2003 by a group of individuals with family roots in southern Poland. “Because of both voluntary and forced migration of Jews in Poland during World War II, we understand that our families from southern Poland could have been almost anywhere in Poland or Europe by the end of the War,” mentions Kazez. “Therefore, we broadly target our data collecting to cover any Jews who were in Poland or from Poland.”

Additional search engines listing Holocaust victims or survivors are maintained by Yad Vashem (www.yadvashem.org), JewishGen (www.jewishgen.org), and Jewish Records Indexing Poland (www.jri-poland.org).

Jewish Cemeteries, Synagogues, and Mass Grave Sites in Ukraine

2005 US Commission report
Renee Steinig <rsteinig@suffolk.lib.ny.us>

Visiting the website of the United States Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad (www.heritageabroad.gov) today, I found a link to their recent report, "Jewish Cemeteries, Synagogues, and Mass Grave Sites in Ukraine" (www.heritageabroad.gov/reports/doc/survey_ukraine_2005.pdf).

The illustrated 180-page report includes sections on Jewish heritage in Ukraine, Jewish sites in Ukraine, and preservation efforts and issues. Several pages discuss the constituencies who care about the location, access, and condition of Jewish cemeteries in Ukraine — primarily Hasidim and Jewish genealogists — and quote several of our colleagues.

More than half of the book is made up of these appendices:

- an alphabetical list of the localities surveyed by the Commission, with oblast in parentheses
- lists of the synagogues, cemeteries, mass graves, and Holocaust memorials that were surveyed (listed alphabetically by oblast, then town)
- contact individuals, institutions, and organizations

At least three of Ukraine's 24 oblasts — Ivano-Frankivska, Lvivska, and Ternopil'ska — include towns that were once in Galicia. (I'm hoping that a geography maven out there will tell us whether any Galician towns are in nearby Chernivetska oblast.)

According to the website, the Commission posts complete data on the Internet via the IAJGS's International Jewish Cemetery Project (www.jewishgen.org/cemetery/e-europe). Additional information is also available from uscommission@heritageabroad.gov.

Three earlier Commission surveys are also available online, including

- "Survey of Historic Jewish Monuments in Poland," 2nd revised edition, 1995

Despite the broad mission that its name suggests, the Commission's focus is endangered Jewish sites in Central and Eastern Europe.

Detailed maps of (Galicia) Southern Poland, Northern Hungary

phylliskramer1@att.net



I stumbled upon these Polish maps on a Lemko site. They are high-resolution maps of the southeastern corner of Poland...and a little of Ukraine (so lots of the ex-Galician area). The site says the maps were recently released for public use by the headquarters of the Polish Army. They are full color and terribly exciting as you can see your shtetls and the surrounding areas quite clearly.

They are fairly large at 300KB, but certainly worth downloading!! I intend to put some on my shtetlinks sites for Krosno Jaslo Rymanow Zmigrod Dukla Korczna Frysztak Strzyzow and Jaslo .

Go to: <http://www.lemko.org/maps100/>

New Holocaust Databases

From Warren Blatt, JewishGen Editor-in-Chief
<wblatt@jewishgen.org>

JewishGen is pleased to announce the addition of 37,000 new records to the JewishGen Holocaust Database <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust>.

There are 13 new datasets, and two updated datasets. The 13 new datasets are:

- * "Lodz Transports to the Chelmno Extermination Camp": Names of 7,168 individuals from Lodz who were transferred to the death camp at Chelmno, June-August 1944.
- * "Gyor Victims at Auschwitz": Names of over 3,000 victims from Gyor, Hungary, deported to Auschwitz, made by a Jewish communal organization.
- * "Jewish Physicians From Czechoslovakia": Names of 1,668 Czechoslovakian physicians who died during the Holocaust, from an unpublished yizkor book manuscript.
- * "Hannover-Ahlem Prisoners": Names of 257 prisoners, mostly Polish Jews, who perished in a subcamp of Neuengamme, located in Ahlem/Hannover.
- * "Jews of Des (Dej) in the Ghettoization of May, 1944": List of 3,250 Jewish residents in Des, Hungary (now Dej, Romania), just prior to their deportation, May 3-10, 1944.
- * "Kisvarda, Hungary - Records Before Deportation, 1944": 3,516 residents from Kisvarda (Kleinwardein), Hungary ghetto prior to their deportation, April 10-13, 1944.

* "Jews From Iasi (Jassy) Who Survived the Transports": List of over 1,600 Jews who survived two transports by train from Iasi (Jassy) Romania.

* "Kozienice Ghetto Census (Lista), 1939 - 1942": 4,023 inhabitants from the census of Jews in the Kozienice ghetto, made by the Jewish Council of Kozienice.

* "Holocaust Survivors Claiming American Citizenship": Applications of 621 individuals claiming American citizenship, processed in Zurich by the U.S. State Department.

* "Subotica Jews, Victims of the Fascist Occupation, 1941-45": 1,993 names of victims from Subotica, now in Serbia (formerly Szabadka, Hungary, before WWI).

* "Balta Ghetto": 2,817 Jews from the Balta Ghetto, Transnistria, as of 1941.

* "Balta Orphans": List of 220 orphaned children in the Balta Ghetto.

* "Balta Battalion": List of 507 Jewish men in Battalion 120 - Romanian forced laborers in Transnistria, 1941-1944.

We've also updated the following two datasets:

* Dachau Indexing Project: Over 7,000 records added, for a total of over 135,000 records.

* North Bavarian Jews: 1,200 records added; now over 7,400 records total.

Thanks to all the volunteers who have made these possible, especially project coordinators Nolan Altman and Mike Kalt.

The JewishGen Holocaust Database is a collection of nearly 100 different datasets, containing over one million entries about Holocaust victims and survivors.

Access this database at: <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust>.

Jewish Museum in Warsaw Planned

A new Museum of the History of Polish Jews will be constructed over the next few years in Warsaw. Esther Z. Herman, Events Coordinator, North American Council, Museum of the History of Polish Jews recently announced the \$53 million project, which will be built on the open park space opposite the monument of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. The museum will portray 1,000 years of Jewish life in Poland, and is a collaborative effort of the Polish government, the municipality of Warsaw, and the international Jewish community. For more information, see www.jewishmuseum.org.pl.

MY ASHKENAZY COUSINS JOSE AND JUANITA

Marlene Bishow, JGSGW

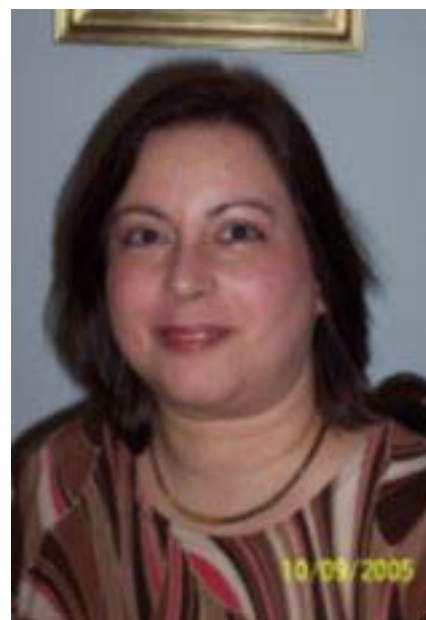


The author, Marlene Katz Bishow.

It was early in June, 2005 and I had recently resolved that this would be the year that I would publish our family history. I have been researching my Galician DEUTSCHER-KATZ families for about forty-five years. Even after all these years, the tree had a relatively modest 230 family members and went back to about 1835. Not a great accomplishment on the surface, but one that I would have to be satisfied with because no significant records from the shtetls of Rozniatov and Zhuravno, now in the Ukraine, had survived the Nazi destruction.

My passion for genealogy began with a school assignment to trace eye color in my family. Three of my grandparents were living and so I personally checked out their eye color. There were side comments from my maternal grandmother about her parents' eye color and before I knew it, she was telling me about her childhood - lots of sisters and brothers and playing hide-and-seek on the small bridges crossing the river near their home. This childhood home, she called Galicia. At the age of 13, she had come to the United States with her mother after her father died. She had older brothers and sisters in New York, but I do not think that her love for the countryside of her youth was ever replaced in her heart by the concrete and din of the city. After a while, I used index cards to record the names and facts and we played a game shuffling the cards to see if I could remember who was who.

Still rubbing the sleep from my eyes, I sat down in my study and opened my email - my custom is to read my genealogy digests before breakfast. Today, there was another message, one with the subject line of "Deutscher - Uruguay." Curious, I clicked to read the content. It was from a woman in Montevideo who wrote that she had found my name in the JewishGen Family Finder. She had recently become interested in genealogy and she was researching her mother's DEUTSCHER family. Most importantly, she said that her DEUTSCHER family was from the same shtetl where my grandmother was born. Her story was intriguing: her great grandfather left Rozniatov in about 1903 with his wife and young family. Unlike my ancestors, who went to the US; they traveled north and eventually settled in Duisburg, Germany. On the eve of World War II, her grandfather, Bernard, and his family and his brother Zallman and his family escaped Europe and wound up on a boat to Brazil. Another brother, Nathan, went to Uruguay. Several years later, Bernard moved from Rio de Janeiro to Montevideo. Jacqueline's mother, Evy, grew up and married a Jewish man in Uruguay. Jacqueline and her brother grew up in Montevideo.



Cousin Jacqueline Mohnblatt Deutscher was researching the Deutscher family from her home in Uruguay

She was educated at the American School there and she had lived in Israel and California for some time in the 1980's.

We compared the names of our ancestors and when she mentioned that her great uncle was named Sheah, I really got excited. Sheah is a somewhat unusual name and I knew that name because it was my father's Hebrew name. He was named in the Ashkenazi tradition, after his paternal grandfather, Sheah Mendel ROSDEUTSCHER DEUTSCHER. Going back another generation was a stretch for Jacqueline but, she recalled that her great grandfather and great uncle's mother, her great-great grandmother's name was Sheindel and then I knew where the connection was. She was on my tree, but with no descendent generations. Sheindel was the sister of my great great grandfather - my great grandaunt and Jacqueline is my third cousin once removed. Due to some intermarriage in our family, she is also my fourth cousin.



Itsik Argaman is the son grandson of Holocaust survivors

Two weeks after my initial contact with Jacqueline, I received an e-mail written in broken English. The sender identified himself as Itsik ARGAMAN, son of Susane ROSDEUTSCHER. He was born in Israel and lives in the Netherlands with his family. From my early interviews, I knew that my great great grandfather, Sheah Mendel, was born as a ROSDEUTSCHER, but family lore was that he was an orphan and when he married his wife Tzirl, he took on her last name, DEUTSCHER. Based on my

recent research I now know that it is likely that they never had a civil marriage and children would be treated as illegitimate by the government and given the mother's surname and it is likely that this is the explanation for the name. But here was a ROSDEUTSCHER and his great grandfather was the oldest child of Sheah Mendel and brother of my great grandfather and of Jacqueline's great grandmother! As I was leaving for vacation, I put Itzik and Jacqueline in touch with each other. They communicated in Hebrew, which was easier for Itsik.

Over the past several months, Jacqueline, Itsik and I have communicated regularly in chat and email. We have swapped photographs and told each other stories about our parents, spouses and children. We have developed a wonderful friendship and we often discuss



Jose Arnaldo Deutscher, his wife and their grandson, Gustavo

genealogy - comparing experiences with various web sites and resources. Jacqueline is fluent in Spanish, English, German and Hebrew (plus several other languages) and she translates documents that we find. I have restored some old photos for her. We both have done some Holocaust research for Itsik.

Recently, Jacqueline told us about her first cousins once removed, Jose Arnaldo DEUTSCHER. He is the son of Zallman DEUTSCHER and he was born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She contacted him for the first time in many years. I received an email from him and he mentioned another cousin, Juanita DEUTSCHER, daughter of Nathan. She lives in Uruguay, but she is not well. Arnaldo has decided to visit the cousins in Uruguay in January.

It has been more than one hundred years since our ancestors lived in Galicia. The stories of their dispersion around the world have puzzled, excited and delighted me, but never did I anticipate these latest occurrences. If anyone had told me that, with my deep Ashkenazi roots, I would include a Jose and a Juanita on my family tree, I would have dismissed the suggestion as a joke. Now, my cousins and I are planning a trip together to the land of our ancestors.



Latke-Hamentash Symposium-looking for speakers

Jonina Duker, JGSGW

How does the round potato pancake square off against the tri-corner pastry?

On March 7th, 2006 the Jewish Study Center is holding its 15th Annual Latke-Hamentash Symposium and we are looking for speakers to debate the question: which is the superior Jewish food?

Each speaker presents a short argument on the merits of each traditional food using justifications from across the board, academic and non. Speakers are from all areas of the community—academically, professionally, and socially—some use their expertise from their field, some use their expertise gained from years of eating. If you are interested in participating or want to learn more, please email me at info@jewishstudycenter.org or call me (202) 332-1221.



JGSGW Meeting Schedule 2006

B'nai Israel Congregation

1:30 PM Schmooze Time

2:00 PM Program

February 12, 2006

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

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

Speaker: Dr. Marci Shore

A lot of people think of "Poles" and "Jews" as if they consisted of two monolithic groups. By the turn of the century, the heterogeneity was breathtaking and a bit dizzying. It was not at all uncommon for families to be split: the parents Hasids, one child a Zionist, another child a Polish communist, one a Yiddishist, one a Hebraicist, etc. Modernity (beginning, say, with the Haskalah in Germany) was both a thrill and a trauma, opening up an often bewildering array of dramatic choices, splitting families apart, transforming identities.

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 different 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 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.

April 2, 2006

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: Daily Life in Galicia

Speaker: Suzan Wynne

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 Geshet Galicia, the Special Interest Group for Jewish genealogy. She has been doing Galician genealogical research for more than 25 years.

May 7, 2006

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

Topic: TBD

June 11, 2006

Location TBA

Joint meeting with the JGS of Maryland

Topic: Connections

Speaker: Schelly Talalay Dardashti

Also: Installation of Officers



The Godfrey Memorial Library

Marlene Bishow, JGSGW

The Godfrey Memorial Library was founded in 1947 to provide a "...free public library of books, pamphlets, periodicals and other materials in the fields of American biography and genealogy and in related fields; to carry on and promote investigation and research in these fields and to publish the results thereof..."

While the physical building is located in Middletown, CT, many of the members, known as "Godfrey Scholars," access resources of the library via the internet at <http://www.godfrey.org/> Membership is a modest \$35 per year.

Winter 2006

The Godfrey Library online offers links to many free sites and, for members, to many additional paid resources. I have only been a Godfrey Scholar for less than a month, but in that short time, I have spent dozens of hours pouring over the resources available on the site. I have been able to add spouse and children's names, birthdates, addresses, phone numbers and other details to complete my database.



President's Letter:

JGSGW is now in its 26th year! Our silver anniversary was celebrated at a luncheon in October at Temple Beth El in Alexandria, which generously offered their facilities. Gary Mokotoff came down from New Jersey to offer his thoughts in a stimulating talk.

Our Society's thanks go to the committee of former JGSGW chairs who organized the Anniversary Luncheon, including founder Sallyann Amdur Sack, Suzan Wynne, Faith Klein, Arline Sachs, Diane Goldman, Anita Pikus, and Master of Ceremonies Rita Margolis. Marlene Bishow created a historical slide show of great events in our Society's history.

As well as looking back, we continue to look forward. An exciting year of programming is ahead of us (see article in this issue on programs planned for 2006). New members will join and learn how to research their Jewish ancestors. Old members will share their knowledge. Many of us will participate in the International Jewish Genealogy Seminar in New York City in August.

As always, it is a handful of volunteers who make the Society run, and new volunteers are always welcome. We especially need a publicity chair, to help get the word out. Please let me know if you have this skill and can share it.

Happy New Year!

Sharlene Kranz



February 12, 2006 B'nai Israel

Topic: Write Your Family History Now!

March 5, 2006 B'nai Israel

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

April 2, 2006 B'nai Israel

Topic Daily Life in Galicia

May 7, 2006 B'nai Israel

Topic: TBD

June 11, 2006 TBA

Joint meeting with the JGS of Maryland

Topic: Connections / Installation of Officers

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



First Class Mail