

Newsletter of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida (published quarterly)
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Letters to the editor, articles, cartoons, artwork, and queries pertaining to Jewish genealogy are welcome.

Next Meeting of the JGS of SW FL

Date: Sunday, December 15, 2002

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: JCC, 582 S. McIntosh Road, Sarasota

Program: John Jaffer will speak about the JewishGen Shtetl Project and his research and development of the ShtetlLinks webpage for Gargzdai, Lithuania at <http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/Gargzdai>

PRESIDENT'S SHPIEL by Kim Sheintal

The Label "Grandpa" is Worth a Thousand Words

As a young girl growing up in Chicago, I visited Lil and Sam (my maternal grandparents), and "Bubbie" (my maternal grandmother's mother Mary) every Sunday afternoon. Even as a child, I knew that my grandmother Lil was born in Chicago and that my great grandmother Mary was born in "the old country." Lil passed away in 1975 and Mary in 1962. My mother Phyllis and my grandmother's brother Ed helped me with whatever they could remember about Lil and Mary. They both told me that Mary was the first ancestor in her line to immigrate to the United States and that she came from Panevezys, Lithuania. I obtained her death certificate and it stated that her father was Pincus Yaffe. I obtained her ship manifest and it stated that she came to the United States in 1898. I had no idea where or when Mary's parents died.

In 1993, eighteen years after my grandmother Lil passed away, I got very interested in tracing my family tree. I was at a roadblock. I could not obtain any records from Lithuania. I was not able to trace any farther back than reading that Mary's father was Pincus Yaffe. No one in Mary's family could help me. I remembered that I had an old family photo album that belonged to my grandmother Lil. I started to look at the pictures. I saw a black and white photo glued on to a black page with white writing that stated, "Harry, Ma, Grandpa, Me, Ed, 4/23/22, Douglas Park." This suggested to me that this photo was taken in Douglas Park (in Chicago) on April 23, 1922 with Lil's brother (Harry), Lil's mother (Mary), "Grandpa," Lil, and Lil's brother (Ed). My heart skipped a beat. Was "Grandpa" Mary's father? Was Mary's father alive and living in Chicago in 1922?

In July 1993, I wrote for a death certificate for a Pincus Yaffe (or Jaffe) on which I stated that his death was "1922 or 1923" and his place of death was "Chicago" with a question mark. Within less than a week, I received the death certificate for Samuel Jaffe who passed away on May 5, 1923 in Chicago with my great grandmother Mary's signature and address as the informant. I now learned his address, his father (Morris Jaffe), his mother (Lena Berman), his birthplace (Russia), his year of birth (1850), his death date (May 23, 1923) and his name (Samuel Jaffe), etc.

Until I found this carefully labeled photo, I did not know that my great great grandfather had immigrated to the United States. Until I found my great great grandfather's death certificate, I did not know the names of my great great great grandparents. It's amazing what one photo's "label" can eventually reveal!

But the story does not end here! I have obtained the ship manifest for Samuel Jaffe showing that he came to the United States in 1901. I have learned that my great great great grandfather Morris Jaffe was born in 1814 and died in 1914 and that he immigrated to the United States and settled in New York City. I even have obtained a photo of Morris Jaffe, my great great great grandfather. And I have learned that his father was Yisroel Jaffe.

Genealogy Calendar

UPCOMING JEWISH GENEALOGY EVENTS IN SARASOTA

JGS of SW FL Activities:

Sun., Dec. 15, 2002 meeting at JCC (1:00)
Sun., Jan. 19, 2003 meeting at JCC (1:00)
Wed., Jan. 22, 2003 dairy dinner at Kim's home (5:30)
Sun., Feb. 16, 2003 meeting at JCC (1:00)
Sun., March 16, 2003 meeting at JCC (time TBA)
Sun., April 13, 2003 meeting at JCC (1:00)
Sun., May 4, 2003 meeting at JCC (1:00)

INTRO TO JEWISH GENEALOGY:

Sandra Krisch will do an Intro to Jewish Genealogy on Monday, Dec. 9 at 1:30 PM at Temple Sinai.

JEWISH GENEALOGY FILL IN THE BLANKS:

Genealogical research is an exciting venture into one's personal past. Computer mavens will take you to the Internet for your start in the Tree of Life at our computer lab. A research outline and caring staff will assist you in your search. Instructor: Lorraine Greyson and other experts. (Contact Lynne Anast, Elderhostel Director at the JCC, 378-5568 extension 208, for price, location and more details about this Elderhostel event which will take place the last week of January 2003 and the last week of February 2003).

JEWISH GENEALOGY SEMINAR:

The Adult Education Committee of Temple Beth Sholom will present a "Jewish Genealogy Seminar" on Sunday, March 9, 2003 at 1:00 PM. Jim Haberman is the coordinator and Kim Sheintal is the instructor. Call Temple Beth Sholom office, 955-8121, if you seek additional information.

GENEALOGY TRIP TO SARASOTA'S SISTER CITY

A Genealogy Trip is planned to one of Sarasota's Sister Cities, Dunfermline Scotland, in August 2003. If you are interested in an exciting Scottish roots genealogy adventure, write to Kim Sheintal at klapshein@aol.com for a detailed itinerary with prices and contact information.

VENICE HISTORY CENTER OPEN HOUSE

The Venice Family History Center will have an "Open House" Saturday, Nov. 23, 2002 from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at 1101 Tamiami Trail S, Suite 108 in Venice. This is located in the Fountain Square Professional Building, on the Island, just north of Darby Buick. Come through the breezeway and go to your left, you will see the sign that says Family History Center. The Open House includes tours of the Family History Center, a room for displays, refreshments, and PowerPoint presentations on: "Why We Do Family History" - "Why Temples" - "Using The Internet to Research Family History."

The Federation of Genealogical Societies 2003 Conference, hosted by Florida State Genealogical Society

Countdown to Discovery:

A World of Hidden Treasures (September 3-6, 2002) Renaissance Orlando Resort

Discover a world of new genealogical research ideas and techniques. Meet family history explorers from across the United States and from other countries who share the joy of uncovering treasure troves of information. Enjoy presentations made by nationally-known speakers as they open new and exciting research paths you may have never before explored. Topic areas of the Conference include:

- Society Development and Management
- APG Professional Management Conference
- Librarians Serving Genealogists Pre-Conference
- U.S. and International Records and Resources
- Ethnic and Religious Research
- Courthouse, Vital Records, and Census
- Methodology
- Immigration and Naturalization
- Professional Research
- Genetics and Family Medical History

And don't forget to savor every moment of excitement as you map your way through the scores of vendors who bring their treasures from the four corners of the nation to the Exhibit Hall for your perusal and purchase. This year's conference hotel provides a beautiful, self-contained venue for our exciting conference. It is conveniently located adjacent to Sea World Orlando, one of the numerous world-class family entertainment attractions in the area. To subscribe to the conference "ezine" and receive the latest updates, send a message (no text is necessary) to: fgs2003-announce-on@lists.csc.cc.il.us. For additional information, please contact: The Federation of Genealogical Societies P.O. Box 200940 Austin, Texas 78720-0940

23rd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

Washington DC

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) warmly invites genealogists of all levels and interests to attend the 23rd Annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. The location is Washington, DC--a capital city filled with spectacular family history resources and sightseeing attractions. The Conference is being held July 20-25, 2003, at the ideally-located JW Marriott Hotel. The hotel is near major genealogy research institutions, many DC attractions, and numerous eateries ranging from a food court to gourmet establishments. Washington provides renowned research repositories in a magnificent cosmopolitan city! Look for further information in genealogy journals and on <http://www.jewishgen.org/dc2003/> in the months ahead!

Wonderful World of Websites

<http://www.maven.com.il/aboutUs.asp> is a directory and search engine for Jewish content related websites. Founded in 1994, MavenSearch enables users to quickly find websites by either browsing through over 250 related subject categories or searching using a unique engine which can deal with the different phonetic spelling variations of Hebrew words and phrases. MavenSearch currently lists over 15,000 websites with many new sites being added each week.

<http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/index.jsp> is a good place if you are looking for the name of a town or village in the "old country." This encyclopedia was written over a hundred years ago but there is still a lot of useful information here.

<http://www.anybirthday.com> is a good place to track people down if you have an idea of where they may be or how old they are. This database contains over 135 million records and is available at no charge. All information on this site comes from public records.

http://www.google.com/advanced_search?hl=en is a search engine that allows you to use a "without the words" box (the fourth box.) So, if you search for the surname TROUT, you can omit all search results containing the word fish. And, if your name is MILK, omit cow. This will save you tons of time.

<http://www.familyhistory.com/societyhall/main.asp> is a comprehensive directory of genealogical and historical societies on the Web. Do you want to join a society that specializes in Polish or German or Russian heritage? Or maybe you want to write to a genealogy society in the area where your ancestors lived? The online Society Hall can help answer these questions.

Besides the well-known search facility, Google offers many more searching possibilities such as "Google Answers" at <http://answers.google.com/answers/main>. You place a question, pay a quite modest fee and get a very thorough answer. The answers are given by experts who investigate the most important sources, off and online, to guide you through further searches. All already given answers can be browsed for free. For example, if you try the word "genealogy," you will get over 80 questions and related answers. Now try "How to find background information on people." You will be amazed about how many public records online databases exist where you may find new information about your ancestry, mostly for free.

JEWISH NAMING TRADITIONS

It is said that in ancient times one of the reasons the Jews were redeemed from Egypt was because they did not give up their Hebrew names. Ashkenazic Jews (usually of Eastern or Central European descent) traditionally name their sons after someone who has passed on, thereby honoring the memory of the departed; Sephardic Jews (usually of Western European or Middle Eastern descent) traditionally name their sons after living grandparents. There are only a few rules (very strong customs and/or superstitions) that must be followed when naming a baby. A father and son (mother and daughter) may not have the same Hebrew/Jewish name. Siblings may not have the same Hebrew/Jewish name. It is preferable to name a baby boy after a man and a baby girl after a woman and to use the original name be it Hebrew, Yiddish or Ladino (Judeo-Spanish). It is preferable to name a baby after one person. (Today, with the lower birth rate and many more people to name after, this custom is more difficult to follow.) A baby can have one, two or sometimes, three Jewish names. More than three names is not recommended. The English name and Jewish name need not correspond. Once a child is named formally, the name may not be changed or modified. (Only in the case of serious illness is a name added.) If one is naming after someone who died at a young age, it is customary to add one of the following: for a boy, Alter (Yiddish) or Chaim; and for a girl, Alta or Chaya. (The information in the above paragraph came from: <http://www.kolot.com/FS1999/names.shtml>.)

It is common in the United States to give a Jewish child two names -- an English name and a Hebrew name, which connects us to the past, present and future of Jewish tradition. The names may or many not be the same. It's all up to the parents, to decide. There really are no rules when it comes to naming your child. Customs are just customs, and there is rarely much logic to them. So many rules cross Ashkenazi/Sephardi lines that you must ultimately make the decision and know in your heart of hearts that your child will grow up living a wonderful Jewish life. (The information in the above paragraph came from: <http://www.thewjc.org/baby.htm>.)

For more information about Jewish Naming Traditions:
<http://www.jewishgen.org/infodocs/GivenNames/slide7.html>
<http://www.jewishgen.org/sefardsig/differ.HTM>
<http://www.sca.org/heraldry/laurel/names/jewish.html>
<http://www.panix.com/~mittle/names/jewish.shtml>
http://www.jewishbabynames.net/baby_names.htm

Walking Forward to the Past

by Jim Haberman

During the 1980's my job required occasional visits to my then employer's Warsaw office. During one of these visits, I was fortunate enough to be able to explore my paternal genealogical roots.

Like most Americans, I had failed to take advantage of the living databanks that were my grandparents, and to obtain from them the valuable details of their and their ancestors' origins. My father, the only son of an only son, experienced the death of his biological father, Abram Haberman, as a young child. While my father's mother, Rebecca Lafer Haberman Goldberg, lived to a ripe, old age (though exactly how old we did not know - more on this later), leaving us in 1973, the only useful information regarding her origins that we recalled were the name of the Polish village from which she came (which she pronounced ZHOW-kehv-kih) and the fact that the village was a half-day horse cart ride from the city of Lublin, in present day southeast Poland.

My Bubbee was the archetypical matriarch and the grande dame of my father's side of the family. She was the center of the family's universe, around whom all members rotated and to whom all were drawn. She represented the very best that America offers to those immigrating to its shores, rising, through her own hard work and initiative, from abject poverty to successful Detroit restaurateur.

During the course of a telephone conversation with one of my Warsaw-based counterparts a few weeks prior to a planned February 1987 business trip to Europe, which was to include a visit to Poland, I had casually mentioned my grandmother's origins, including the sparse (to say the least) details that I possessed. Upon my arrival at Warsaw my colleagues had a wonderful surprise for me. They had located what they felt fairly certain was my grandmother's village - Zólkiewka (pronounced ZHOH-kehv-keh). Furthermore, they had arranged for a car and an English-speaking driver to bring me there.

It should be noted that 1987 was near to, or perhaps just after, the low point in U.S.-Polish relations. The U.S. had recalled its ambassador to Poland following the heavy-handed Polish/Soviet reaction to the Solidarity movement's efforts to reform the Polish Communist state. The iron curtain would suffer its very first cracks as a result of this period in Polish history, which a few short years later would result in its complete collapse.

We left Warsaw late the following afternoon in my guide's worse-for-wear Maluch (the ubiquitous tiny Polish-made Fiat automobile) taking, as I recall, 2 to 2 ½ hours to reach Lublin (some 30 miles from Zólkiewka), where we spent the night. The following morning, I asked my guide to speak to the hotel staff and attempt to learn whether there was a Jewish presence in Lublin - a synagogue, a Jewish community center, etc. I thought that speaking with local Jews might yield information that would be useful during our visit to Zólkiewka. Based on my knowledge of the Holocaust, I was not optimistic. The staff directed us to a local social service office. We phoned them, but the best they were able to offer was the name of an elderly Jewish man living not far from our hotel.

The guide phoned the man and he immediately invited us to visit him. He enthusiastically welcomed us to his tiny apartment, where we talked for a short while. He told us that prior to the Second World War Lublin had a Jewish community numbering around 40,000, and that he was one of around 40 remaining. He had escaped the holocaust by fleeing to the Russian border, and returned to Lublin after the war. Afterwards he accompanied us to a small holocaust memorial in the center of town. After visiting the memorial, we returned him to his apartment, where he provided directions to a large, old cemetery with a Jewish section on the way out of Lublin. There, I was surprised to find the Jewish graves to be in remarkably good condition. The grave markers appeared authentic, and I am uncertain as to how they had escaped destruction by the Germans.

As we departed the cemetery en route to Zólkiewka, we passed, on the outskirts of Lublin, Majdanek, the concentration camp constructed specifically for Lublin and the surrounding area. My driver asked if I wished to stop and see it. I replied that I did not feel emotionally prepared for such an experience at that time.

It was a typical, gray European winter day as we made our way down the two-lane asphalt roadway, past the small, thatched-roof homes that dotted the snow covered farm fields. Horse drawn carts riding on truck tires were by far the dominant mode of transport on the road. The sights evoked for me what I imagined nineteenth century rural Poland to have been, until there at the side of the road - a typical black-on-white government-installed road sign announcing our arrival at Zólkiewka.

Our first stop was the village church (Poland is more than 90% Catholic). We explained to the priest our mission, and asked whether he could offer any assistance or advice in researching my grandmother's early life. He curtly replied that he could not, and we made our way back to the near-deserted sidewalks.

We walked a short distance until we happened across a small community center in which were seated four or five aged locals sipping coffee. We entered and engaged them in conversation. I sensed that I may have been the first American they had ever encountered. They offered us coffee and were very forthcoming in sharing their remembrances and in recalling the fate of Zólkiewka's shtetel. Not surprisingly, it had suffered the same destiny as countless others not long after Germany's 1939 occupation of Poland. I asked whether any Jews remained in the area, and they informed me that none did.

One of our interlocutors was a local functionary, and he offered to take us to the town office to determine what could be gleaned from the municipal records. Until that moment I would not have ever guessed that this small town had an office, let alone historical records. As municipal records are often destroyed by conquering forces, and as this region had been conquered so many times over the years, I was amazed to hear that any had survived.

As we walked to the office, the functionary pointed out the location of the town's former Jewish cemetery. It now looked like any other wooded plot of ground, with no indication whatsoever of its previous use, or of the many graves that no doubt still remained. A small portion of the ground was being utilized as a storage area by a small local construction company. The official told us that the Germans had ordered the tombstones removed and had them used as fill for road repair work.

Our host led us to the austere, unoccupied town office and, pulling a set of keys from his pocket, unlocked the door, flipped the light switch and led us in. There, on a small wall shelf, was an amazingly well organized set of small books, each perhaps 10 inches tall by 6 inches wide by ¾ inch thick, three for each year (one each for births, marriages and deaths).

The town official respectfully informed us that he would not be able to spend much time with us and that regulations forbade our photographing or even touching the books. Whether this no-photograph policy was due to overreaching by the Communist autocrats or in deference to legitimate privacy concerns, I do not know. Stanley Diamond, the guiding force behind Jewish Records Indexing - Poland (and the superb JRI-Poland web site), was surprised that I had even been allowed to view the books, and leans towards the latter explanation.

As was not uncommon among her contemporaries, my grandmother not only never knew her birthday, she never knew the year of her birth. As was also not uncommon among

immigrants of her generation, my grandmother never observed an annual celebration of her birthday. Whether this resulted from the general failure of many rural immigrants to reconcile the Jewish calendar with the western calendar following immigration to the west, the higher degree of attention to basic survival that shtetel life required, or some combination of these or other factors is unclear. What is clear is that my father's Ohio birth certificate indicates that his mother was 26 years old at the time of his birth in 1917 (presumably establishing her year of birth as 1890 or 1891), however Dad always suspected that her declaration of age at the time of his birth was, at best, a good guess.

After I conveyed my estimate of my grandmother's birth year to the town functionary, he pulled the 1891 birth book from the shelf. The book's lined pages were hand-written in Russian, as that part of Poland was then under Russian control. He carefully perused the volume's text but, alas, no luck. Then, the 1890 book. Again, nothing. As a last ditch effort, he agreed to check one more year - 1889. Voila! There it was - my grandmother's birth record. Date of birth: 13 September 1889. Father: Keilman Lafer. Mother: Sura Lafer. As our host was in a hurry to conclude our visit, I left the office feeling a combination of great elation at having located the birth information, and disappointment at having missed an opportunity to delve further into the records.

I later requested and received a modern version of my grandmother's birth certificate, on which was typed in Polish the information from the original book. Interestingly, it translated the Russian Cyrillic representation of the family name as "Laufer", not Lafer, as it had earlier been Americanized. In the last few months, thanks to JRI-Poland and its highly skilled and dedicated group of volunteers, I have located basic information regarding my grandmother's parents and grandparents (my great-great grandparents), whose identities were heretofore unknown to me and my parents.

As I left my grandmother's birthplace to begin the long drive back to Warsaw that late afternoon in 1987, the temperature had dropped precipitously and heavy blasts of wind driven snow had begun falling in earnest. Although the day was slipping away, a blizzard seemed in the offing and a long drive back to Warsaw lay ahead of us, I had my guide stop the car at the edge of town so that he could snap a photo of me standing next to the Zólkiewka road sign. Hopefully, one day I'll return there, as one more step in the research that I'm certain I have only just begun. Stay tuned.

JewishGen.org

JEWISHGEN NEEDS MONEY

Everything that you see on JewishGen is the work of volunteers. Have you been helped in your family search by a friend on the Digest, or a connection through JGFF? Say thank you by making a contribution. We must do everything to help. Other genealogy sites cost \$100 a year to subscribe. JewishGen has the honor system. Whether you can send this amount, or your budget allows anywhere from \$5 to \$5000, your contribution is needed and necessary. How can you help?

<http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity/contribute.ihtml>

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jewishgen/ptp/ptp1.htm>

JEWISHGEN NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

There are many projects in dire need of volunteers-- to do data entry, to translate yizkor books from Hebrew into English, to transliterate Cyrillic records into Latin characters, to translate Hebrew tombstone inscriptions, to visit cemeteries and photograph the tombstones. The list goes on and on. Recently, however, it seems that fewer persons are answering the call for volunteers, whether the request is made by a SIG or for a specific research project. I don't know the reason for that but I must tell you that many research projects will not be completed if they do not get assistance. We need people experienced in coordinating large, complex projects; we need people who can make a serious commitment of time and energy to do data entry; we need people able to translate primarily from Hebrew to English and to transliterate from Cyrillic to Latin characters or who have Cyrillic fonts on their computer; we need people able and willing to do html. Write me if you have these skills or write to the SIGs that you belong to and volunteer to help with a research project. Write me if you can visit a cemetery in the New York area and record the data on tombstones and I will forward your name to the project coordinator. Write me if you can help translate for the Yizkor Book Project.

Write to Fred Apel at fapel@jewishgen.org if you would like to be part of an html team for ShtetLinks. Write to Rachel Reisman at rreisman@jewishgen.org if you can volunteer for a Yad Vashem data entry project. Write to Neil Rosenstein at neil@tali.com if you can translate Hebrew tombstone transcriptions. Write to Nolan Altman at nta@pipeline.com to volunteer for the Dachau Indexing Project.

Please help us continue to add vital data to the JewishGen web site.

Joyce Field (JewishGen VP Research) jfield@nlci.com

JEWISHGEN AND ELLIS ISLAND FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE ENHANCED SEARCH OF ELLIS ISLAND DATABASE

Great news! The Stephen Morse site for searching the Ellis Island Database has reopened and has even better features and capabilities than before! It may be reached through the following two links:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/EIDB>

<http://home.pacbell.net/spmorse>

The dispute between Stephen Morse and the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation (SLEIF) has been resolved. JewishGen has signed a contractual agreement with SLEIF to "provide enhanced search capabilities for the Ellis Island Database." The immediate benefit is the reestablishment of the full functionality of Morse's

"Searching the Ellis Island Database in One-Step"

at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/EIDB>.

These One-Step search tools developed by Dr. Stephen Morse with assistance from Michael Tobias and Erik Steinmetz, will serve as a valuable aid to the thousands of individuals researching their families who came through the Port of New York and Ellis Island between 1892-1924. Over 40% of Americans have ancestral records in the Ellis Island Database located at the American Family Immigration History Center(tm) at Ellis Island and online at www.ellisland.org.

JewishGen and the Foundation will work together with the developers to ensure that these useful search engines and tools will be continuously available to the public.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

<http://www.jewish-sarasota.org/jgs/jgsoswfl.htm>

The JGS of SW FL is a proud supporter of JewishGen and made a donation to JewishGen at the October meeting.

The purpose of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida is to assist interested individuals in learning about Jewish genealogy and how to research and document one's own family history. The Society's activities include the exchange of research information, encouragement and coordination of research activities, educating members to help themselves and others, acquiring research materials for the Jewish Genealogical Society library, documenting surnames and places for all members, arranging genealogical research trips and presenting programs of interest to Jewish genealogical researchers.

Recommended Books for Jewish Genealogy

(listed in mandatory, very useful and then useful order and available by calling 1-800-AVOTAYNU)

1. **Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy.** Primer for Jewish genealogy. \$11.00
 2. **From Generation to Generation.** Beginner's guide to Jewish genealogy. \$19.00
 3. **Avotaynu on CD-ROM**(1985-1999). The most comprehensive reference work on Jewish genealogy. More than 2 million words, 2,300 articles accessible with a full-word search engine. Requires an IBM or Mac computer with CD-ROM drive. \$99.95
 4. Annual subscription to *Avotaynu*. Magazine of Jewish genealogy keeps you current on latest resources. \$32.00/year
 5. **Jewish Genealogical Consolidated Surname Index.** [fiche] More than 230,000 surnames from 28 identified databases. Available on the Internet. \$10.00
 6. **Where Once We Walked: A Guide to the Jewish Communities Destroyed in the Holocaust (WOWW)** . Gazetteer of 22,000 towns in Central and Eastern Europe where Jews lived before the Holocaust. \$69.50
 7. **Sourcebook for Jewish Genealogies and Family Histories.** Jewish genealogies and family histories, both published and unpublished, for more than 10,000 family names. \$25.00
 8. **Jewish Cemeteries Throughout the World** [fiche] Information on 8,500 cemeteries. Available on the Internet. \$10.00
- Very Useful**
9. **Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy** Sources for Jewish genealogy in the United States and Canada. \$40.00
 10. **Documents of Our Ancestors: A Selection of Reproducible Genealogy Forms And Tips for Using Them.** Actual forms needed to request documents from various archives and organizations and record the results. \$19.95
 11. **Genealogist's Address Book (New Fourth Edition).** Addresses of thousands of repositories of genealogical information in the U.S. \$39.95
 12. **How to Document Victims and Locate Survivors of the Holocaust.** How-to book of Holocaust research. \$25.95
 13. **A Guide to Jewish Genealogical Resources in Israel.** Describes collections of Jewish presence throughout the world in Israeli libraries and archives. \$21.00
 14. **Guide to Naturalization Records Of the United States.** Identifies all repositories of naturalization records, systematically indicating the types of records held, dates of coverage, and location of original and microfilm records. \$25.00
 15. **They Became Americans.** A second guide to U.S. naturalization records, an important Jewish genealogical resource. \$19.95
 16. **Following the Paper Trail: A Multilingual Translation Guide.** Helps translate vital records (and other documents) for 13 European languages. \$29.00
 17. **The Source: Revised Edition.** Considered by most genealogists to be the definitive source of information on how to do American genealogical research. \$49.95
 18. **Ancestry Reference Library on CD-ROM.** The eight most important books in American genealogy available on CD-ROM with full-word indexing. \$69.95
 19. **Morton Allan Directory of European Passenger Steamship Arrivals.** Ship arrival dates from 1890-1930. \$20.00
- Useful**
20. **A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames From the Russian Empire** . Landmark work on 50,000 Jewish surnames from the Russian Empire showing etymology, districts of the Empire where they appeared and variations of the names. \$75.00
 21. **A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Kingdom of Poland.** More than 32,000 Jewish surnames from the Kingdom of Poland showing etymology, districts of the Kingdom where they appeared and variations of the names. \$69.50
 22. **Jewish Roots in Poland: Pages from the Past and Archival Inventories.** Colorful memorial album of Polish Jewry that includes the most complete inventory of surviving Jewish records in Poland. \$50.00
 23. **History of the Jews in Russia and Poland.** One of the great histories of the Jews of that area. \$69.50
 24. **WOWW Companion: A Guide to the Communities Surrounding Central & Eastern European Towns** . Given the location of a specific town, permits you to locate other towns in the vicinity. \$16.00
 25. **Russian-Jewish Given Names: Their Origins and Variants.** More than 6,000 variants of Russian-Jewish given names of the 19th and early 20th centuries. \$35.00
 26. **Gazetteer of Central and Eastern Europe.** [fiche] Finding aid for 350,000 towns in Central and Eastern Europe showing latitude/longitude. \$35.00
 27. **Index to Department of State Records Found in U.S. National Archives.** [fiche] Jewish persons extracted from this collection in select U.S. State department records. \$20.00
 28. **Galician Towns and Administrative Districts.** [fiche] Some 6,000 towns in Galicia identifying their administrative district locations. \$5.00
 29. **Jewish Residents in the 1861-1901 Censuses of Canada.** [fiche] List of all Jews found in five Canadian censuses. \$25.00
 30. **Migration from the Russian Empire - Vol. 1-6.** Complete list of passengers arriving in the U.S. from Russian Empire from 1875-1891. \$320.00
 31. **Latter Day Leaders, Sages and Scholars.** Bibliographic index of more than 5,500 rabbis primarily from Eastern Europe. \$19.95
 32. **Complete Dictionary of English and Hebrew First Names.** Identifies more than 11,000 Jewish given names showing etymology and variants. \$29.95
 33. **The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy.** Considered by many to be the best book ever written on American genealogy. \$29.95
 34. **They Came in Ships: A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record.** Assists you in understanding the value of passenger arrival records in genealogical research. \$9.95

LIBRARY CARD AND RECIPROCAL ACCESS WITH HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Hillsborough County has opened Free Online Access to Subscription Databases and the Best Web Resources. For information call 813-273-3652 or visit www.hcplc.org

You can access this service and/or borrow books by getting your library card entered into their computer register. To do this you need to go to any Hillsborough library show them a photo ID and your library card. NOTE the Ruskin library is the closest one to our area, and this process only takes a few minutes. What this means in a nutshell is that you can go into Ancestry, HeritageQuest, WorldCat, etc sites which contain among other things the Censuses of the US up to and including 1930. All this you can do at home using your own computer.

When you log into www.hcplc.org/hcplc/ig, it will ask a couple of questions follow the instructions and click on the Gateway Premium Resource you desire. You will be asked to "authenticate" who you are by two step process:

1. After clicking the name of the database, select the county of your home library from the drop down menu that appears on the screen.
2. Then enter your FULL library card number (no spaces) and click the login button.

Note online help is available throughout the authentication process. If you need additional help on using the remote access or on the databases, be sure to call. They are very good about assisting you.

WHERE ONCE WE WALKED

Where Once We Walked, the award-winning book published by Avotaynu, was just republished as a major revision in November. This not an update, but a major revision. In the brief 11 years since WOWW was published, there have been major political upheavals in Europe. The countries of Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia and USSR no longer exist. The revised book reflects these changes. With the change of political power has come a change of town names. Most of the towns in today's Belarus and Ukraine have shed their Russian names and taken on nationalistic names. This book has been ordered for our society and it should arrive very soon. If you would like to order this book, call 1-800-AVOTAYNU (286-8296). It is \$85 plus shipping.

JGS of SW FL Library Is Growing

The Genealogical Society of Sarasota, Inc. presented the JGS of SW FL an excellent resource book for our library:

Cemeteries of Sarasota County Florida – A Record of Births, Deaths and Burials compiled by the Genealogical Society of Sarasota, Inc. in 1992

HOW TO FIND HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR LISTS Survivors of the Shoah/visual history foundation <http://www.vhf.org>

In 1994, after filming *Schindler's List*, Steven Spielberg established Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation with an urgent mission: to videotape and preserve the testimonies of Holocaust survivors and witnesses. Today, the Shoah Foundation has collected more than 50,000 eyewitness testimonies in 57 countries and 32 languages, and is committed to ensuring the broad and effective educational use of its archive worldwide.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: <http://www.usmm.org>
Simon Wiesenthal Foundation: <http://www.wiesenthal.com>
Yad Vashem in Israel: <http://www.yad-vashem.org.il>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Mail check (payable to JGS of SW FL) to:

**Kim Sheintal
4462 Violet Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34233**

**Single Membership \$20 per year
Family Membership \$25 per year**

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