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President's Shpiel

by Kim Sheintal

The Jewish genealogy bug has hit Sarasota. Jewish genealogy programs in Sarasota are scheduled at Hadassah meeting on September 11, Temple Sinai on November 18, and Temple Emanu-El on December 14. All programs will be an introduction to Jewish genealogical research.

William "Bill" Israel will speak at the Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida opening meeting on Sunday, November 16 at 1:00 PM at Kobernick House. Bill's presentation will review the basics of genealogical and family research and will explain the unique challenge and rewards of Jewish genealogy. He will discuss how to get started by using some widely available research resources, and he will illustrate his talk with examples of how he was able to discover and document his own family history.

JewishGen.org and Ancestry.com

According to the August 20, 2008 JewishGen Blog: "We are pleased to announce that JewishGen.org, the premier resource for Jewish genealogy, and Ancestry.com, the largest online resource for family history information, have entered into a cooperative agreement. Terms of the agreement:

- JewishGen will make some of its databases available on the Ancestry website.
- Ancestry will provide hardware and network support for the JewishGen website."

To learn about up-to-date collections about Jewish family history on Ancestry.com., submit your name & email to:

<http://landing.ancestry.com/conference/jewishgen/default.aspxa>.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

MISHPOCHOLOGY

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Mishpochology is published quarterly.

MEETING

Sunday, November 16, 2008 (1:00 PM)

Kobernick House, 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Speaker: William E. Israel, IAJGS Director and founding member of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay

Program: "Finding your Jewish Roots"

For details, Kim Sheintal 921-1433, <klapshein@aol.com>

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

2008-2009 Calendar

(third Sunday of month at 1:00 PM from November thru May)

Kobernick House, 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Sunday, November 16, 2008

"Finding Your Jewish Roots"

by William E. Israel

Sunday, December 21, 2008

"From Denmark to America in 1940"

by Helen Glaser

Sunday, January 18, 2009

"From Italy to America in 1940"

by Vera Bonnet

Sunday, February 15, 2009

"Conducting a Family Survey"

by Patricia Schultz and Pamela Tremé

Sunday, March 15, 2009

to be determined

Sunday, April 19, 2009

to be determined

Sunday, May 17, 2009

to be determined

Although guests are always welcome at the meetings, JGS members have the following privileges:

- subscription to Mishpochology (quarterly newsletter)
- access to society library located at Kobernick House
- acquisition of JGS of SW FL Member's Manual

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)

Many Americans can trace their roots back to an immigrant who landed at Ellis Island. Growing from organizations founded in 1881 to assist Jewish migrants arriving there, Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) has touched the life of nearly every Jewish family in America. HIAS archives are rich with over 100 years of Jewish history. They chronicle the modern day drama of a people who have migrated throughout the world for centuries. After the Holocaust, HIAS assisted thousands of Jews to leave a devastated Europe and to find new homes and build new lives in freedom. Working in the displaced persons camps, HIAS helped survivors locate family in the United States, secure visas, and travel to their new homelands. HIAS archives contain the arrival cards for those individuals and families who migrated from the displaced persons camps to the United States. Those cards can be located and copied as a testament to your family's endurance. These cards list the immigrant's name, sex, age, town of previous residence, as well as the name of their contact in the US, relationship of that person, and the address of their destination in the United States. To order a copy of your family's arrival card, obtain an Arrival Card Request Form and provide the necessary information. Every effort will be made to locate the arrival card and forward a copy to you. If your family's arrival card is not located, HIAS will contact you. Although HIAS has been in existence since 1881, they have access to HIAS documents from 1909 through today only. You can get the Arrival Card Request forms (in English or Russian) at <http://hias.org/programs/find-family/arrival-cards>. Completed forms should be sent to HIAS with a \$30.00 check or money order (payable to HIAS) to: HIAS Location Service - 333 Seventh Avenue, 16th Floor - New York, NY 10001-5004.

(JOWBR)

The JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) is a database of names and other identifying information from cemeteries and burial records worldwide, from the earliest records to the present. JewishGen announced that the JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry has recently reached a milestone. With the current quarterly update, this searchable database exceeds one million records! As you travel this year and visit ancestral towns or towns in your current country of residence, please consider recording data from the Jewish cemeteries and/or photographing all the tombstones in the cemetery or landsmanschaft plot for JOWBR. For details, see: <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/>.

Myth or Fact?

The surname of my immigrant ancestor was changed at Ellis Island.

source: <http://www.forward.com/articles/13017/>

Myth: "The Ellis Island official did not depend simply on his understanding of a name as uttered by the immigrant. Rather, he had before him the vessel's passenger list, which had been prepared well before arrival in New York harbor. Indeed, the lists were generally made up at the port of embarkation in Europe. Once a name was matched with a person from that vessel, the official just had to copy it from the list. The myth about the changing of names by Ellis Island officials has long been debunked in genealogical circles."

Wonderful World of Websites

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hVQXrKDt_Dk
Genealogy Search Basics (using Google) by Robert Ragan

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zp710JYJ6vs>
Genealogy Search Variant Surnames (using Google) by Robert Ragan

<http://tracingthetribe.blogspot.com/>
Jewish Telegraphic Agency Blog about Jewish Genealogy

<http://www.mtu-net.ru/rrr/links.htm>
Links for Tracing Russian Roots

<http://www.iajgs.org/spotlight2.html>
The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) board now features a new column entitled "Spotlight," which features new projects by international members.

<http://amianet.org/resources/guidelinesnlogin.php?accesscheck=%2Fresources%2Fguidelines.php>
AMIA is a non-profit professional association established to advance the field of moving image archiving by fostering cooperation among individuals and organizations concerned with the acquisition, description, preservation, exhibition and use of moving image materials.

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/17/technology/personaltech/17basics.html?_r=2&%208dpc&oref=slogin&oref=slogin
This New York Times article (April 17, 2008) explains how to create your own hard-cover book. You can go to <http://www.nyt.com> and type <Turn Those Bytes Into Books> in the space for "search".

<http://www.findmypast.com/home.jsp>
Find My Past makes it easy to research your UK ancestry and create your family tree. Search census records and trace births, marriages and deaths to bring your family history to life. Leading UK family history website findmypast.com has completed its project to scan and index the complete set of outbound passenger lists for long-distance voyages from all British ports between 1890 and 1960.

<http://www.jewishmag.com/preview.htm>
The Jewish Magazine has nearly 1800 varied online articles in their archives. Go to bottom right of screen and type *genealogy* to get links to Jewish genealogy articles that have appeared in their magazine.

<http://www.eogen.com/>
The Encyclopedia of Genealogy is a free-content encyclopedia created by its readers. The Encyclopedia of Genealogy is available to everyone, free of charge. Everyone can also contribute information, again free of charge. It is loosely modeled on the Wikipedia example. This encyclopedia is not a place to find ancestors of people.

http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/History_Family/State_Genealogy.shtml
Genealogy by State

<http://www.publicprofler.org/worldnames>
Country Listings of Where Surnames Appear

<http://www.forward.com/articles/annual-guide-to-jewish-genetic-diseases-02390/>
Forward newspaper "Annual Guide to Jewish Genetic Diseases"

http://translate.google.com/translate_t#
Google Translate website now translates into Hebrew, Polish, Slovak, Lithuanian, Russian, Ukrainian, Latvian, and more.

IAJGS Conferences

2009 Philadelphia (August 2 - August 7)

29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy
The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia will co-host the 29th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, which will be held at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel (17th and Race Streets) on August 2-7, 2009. There is a great wealth of genealogical information to be discovered in Philadelphia. The last time the conference was held in Philadelphia was 1989.

2010 Los Angeles (July 11 - July 16)

30th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy
The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles have announced that the 30th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held in Los Angeles from July 11-16, 2010. Los Angeles, the entertainment capital of the world, offers significant and varied resources for genealogical research. The conference hotel will be the newly constructed Marriott at L.A. LIVE, located in the downtown Los Angeles cultural, entertainment and gastronomic center. The last time the conference was held in Los Angeles was 1998.

2011 Washington DC (dates to be determined)

31st IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

2012 Paris (tentative)

32nd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

2013 (not determined)

33rd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

2014 Jerusalem (tentative)

34th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

Hebrew Orphanage Records Available Through NY Documentary Heritage Program

The American Jewish Historical Society is pleased to announce improved access to three New York Hebrew Orphanage collections. The records of the Hebrew Orphan Asylum of the City of New York, the Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Society in Pleasantville, NY, and the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum are now arranged and described in finding aids that are available on the Center for Jewish History's website at <http://www.cjh.org/collections/findingaids.php>.

This project was made possible through a generous grant from the New York State Archives, State Education Department, Documentary Heritage Program.

The orphanage records provide unique insight into the life of Eastern European immigrants in New York from the late 1800s to early 1900s, as well as the progression of child welfare, foster care, social work, psychology, pediatrics and social pensions as reflected in the orphanages' programs and Federal and State laws. The records include personal histories of children, and are frequently used by genealogists and alumni. The Society hopes that with improved access, academic researchers, teachers, and other patrons will discover the collections' rich resources.

Yearbooks - Source of Genealogical Information

High school, college and other miscellaneous school yearbooks can be an interesting source of genealogical information and photographs. The Jewish Genealogical Society of Long Island decided that it would be a valuable service to its members if they could inventory yearbooks in their members' personal libraries and make that information available for genealogical look-ups. JGSLI commenced its Yearbook Project in June of 2006 with the goal of acting as an intermediary to match researchers with yearbook owners.

The list of yearbooks is made public on the JGSLI website (www.jgsli.org/yearbook_project.htm) and is available to members and non-members. The interest from non-members outside of the NYC / LI area gave them the idea of expanding the project to inventory yearbooks from other local JGSs, other genealogical groups and other interested individuals.

JGSLI does not own, nor do they physically have the yearbooks listed on their site. The books are in the personal libraries of those who are making them available for genealogical look-ups. JGSLI will act as the "matchmaker" between the owner of the information and the researcher. When a request comes to JGSLI, using the e-mail address on their site (yearbook_project@jgsli.org), they will reply to the researcher and forward the request to the owner of the book by using a blind cc. It is up to the owner of the material to comply with the request. People signing up for the program do so with the understanding that there will be requests.

The material owner submits signed JGSLI Yearbook Project Form, downloaded at www.jgsli.org/Yearbook_Form.pdf. The agreement states in part, "Submitting a listing means that you have volunteered to be contacted by e-mail and are willing to provide information, a photocopy, or scan for the researcher. JGSLI is only making the information available to researchers. Owners of the books are responsible for following up with the request."

JGSLI would appreciate if you would consider helping by including your yearbooks in their listing. For more information, please contact them at: (yearbook_project@jgsli.org).

JGS Newsletters

(available electronically from the editor)

"Atsmi Uvsari" - Utah JGS

"Chronicles" - JGS Greater Philadelphia

"Family Gatherings" - JGS Broward County

"Family Legacies" - JGS Southern Nevada

"Generations" - JGS of Michigan

"Illiana" - Illinois/Indiana JGS

"Mishpochology" - JGS of Southwest Florida (Sarasota)

"Montreal Forum" - JGS Montreal

"Morasha" - JGS Illinois

"News 'N Notes" - St. Louis Genealogy Society

"Newsletter" - JGS Great Britain

"Perth Jewish Roots" - JHGS Western Australia

"Scattered Seeds" - JGS Palm Beach County

"Shem Tov" - JGS Canada (Toronto)

"Toldot" - JGS Argentina (in Spanish)

"Venturing Into Our Past" - JGS Conejo Valley & Ventura County, California

"Zichron Note" - San Francisco Bay Area JGS

Jewish Burials at Arlington National Cemetery (to be indexed by JGS of Greater Washington)

His life brought to an early end by Lou Gherig's disease (ALS), Kenneth Poch spent his last 10 years as the self-appointed historian of the Jewish soldiers buried at Arlington National Cemetery. On Sunday, June 8, 2008 at the annual Membership Appreciation Luncheon of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW), outgoing President Marlene Katz Bishow announced that the society has been given a unique gift and a rare opportunity. The family of the late Kenneth Poch has given the society his extensive research on the Jewish soldiers buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Inspired by the 1992 book by Mel Young "Where They Lie: Someone Should Say Kaddish" Ken took it upon himself to visit the graves, say Kaddish (the Jewish prayer for the dead) and place a small smooth stone on the headstone as a sign that someone had visited the grave. These visits caused him to inquire as to how many Jewish soldiers were actually buried at the famous national cemetery. As of January 2008, there are more than 330,000 total graves at Arlington, but it was not until after World War I that it was permitted to include a religious symbol on the headstones. The headstones of many Jewish soldiers bear a Star of David, but not all.

The research donated to JGSGW includes the meticulously organized photos, letters, surveys and other items gathered by Ken. After Ken's death, his family hastily gathered together his personal belongings, including the binders and boxes with his research and since his death in late December, 2003, these items have been lovingly stored at his sister's home in Gaithersburg. Ernie Fine, a member of JGSGW knew Ken and had discussed his Arlington project with him, arranged for the transfer of the materials.

Last December, the society launched their second Cemetery Research Project. The plan is to index all grave sites of Jews buried in the greater Washington, DC area. In the first Cemetery Project, from 1988-1992, the society indexed and researched two of the oldest Jewish cemeteries in the nation's capital: Macpelah, the old cemetery of Washington Hebrew Congregation and the old cemetery of Adas Israel Congregation on Alabama Avenue in the southeastern section of the city. This research has been formatted in computer spreadsheets and submitted to the Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR). As part of the new project, JGSGW volunteers will visit the cemeteries and photograph the tombstones, gleaned from them and other sources, the information contained in the inscription, including the Hebrew name of the deceased and his or her father's name, if included.

Plans are being formalized as to how the research materials will be presented, but the target date for completion of the project is July, 2011, when this group will host the 31st IAJGS Conference.

Marlene Bishow,
Immediate Past President of Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Washington and Coordinator of North American IAJGS Cemetery Project

Jewish Genealogy Month

Cheshvan is Jewish Genealogy month.
1 Cheshvan 5769 through 29 Cheshvan 5769
30 October 2008 through 27 November 2008

United States Citizens and Immigration Services

The USCIS (United States Citizens and Immigration Services) has a fee-for-service genealogy program providing family historians and other researchers with timely access to historical immigration and naturalization records. For more information, go to www.uscis.gov/genealogy. The reason the USCIS must charge for the documents and any search for the records is due to other regulations by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB rule from 1993) that all government offices are required that user fees recover the full cost of services provided. USCIS is also mandated to charge a fee to recover the full costs or providing research and information due to the Immigration and Nationality Act.

Museum of Family History for Polish Research

What's new in September 2008 for Poland researchers? Steven Lansky has created new unique surname lists and updated current ones for burial plots at Bayside Cemetery in New York. New lists created are associated with the following towns: Poland: Biezun, Gniezno, Golub-Dobrzyn, Konin, Pyzdry and Wloclawek. Lists have been updated for the following towns: Poland: Ciechanow, Grajewo, Kalisz, Krakow, Kutno, Makow Mazowiecki, Mlawa, Nasielsk, Plock, Przasnysz, Sierpc, Stawiski, Suwalki, Szczuczyn and Trzcianne. To find links to lists: www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/cp-main.htm. Lansky is expanding his "Synagogues of Europe" exhibition to include photos of synagogues taken both before and after the war, even up to the present day. For the Synagogues of Europe: Past and Present, go to: www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/mfh-syn-europe.htm. For the listings of much of what he has on his site relative to Poland, go to: www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/poland.htm

Jewish Genealogy: Great Britain and Australia

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain 15th Annual One Day Conference will be in London on October 26, 2008. If you are in London at any time and wish to attend the JGS of Great Britain Library and the normal library opening hours/days are not convenient, the JGS of Great Britain will try to arrange a visit if given about 3-4 weeks notice. Also, if you send an e-mail to enquiries@jgs.org.uk, they can often suggest resources or archives to search when you are in the UK.

The Australian National Conference "Jewish Genealogy in the 21st Century" is set for October 26-29, 2008 in Canberra. It's online at www.ajgs.org.au/conf08/ with the registration form and links to accommodations.

Kim Klapman Sheintal Discovery

Growing up, I did not know any people named Klapman not related to me. As I grew interested in genealogy, I found that there were many people around the world named Klapman. As I started to do research and contact people named Klapman, I began to divide my Klapman people into subgroups: those generally living in the northeast U.S., those who settled in England, and those who settled in southern U.S., etc. But what goes around comes around. I am finding out that I was actually in the right direction when I was a child, because the more research I do, the more I can put my Klapman subgroups into one big Klapman family tree. If you know someone named Klapman, Klopman, Klopmann or Clapman, please contact Kim Sheintal at 941-921-1433 or klapshein@aol.com.

Anne Feder Lee "IAJGS Conference" Report

The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies IAJGS held its annual meeting on August 20, 2008 during which the delegates elected Directors for the term of 2008 – 2010. Elected to the board were - Jan Meisels Allen (Agoura Hills, CA); Daniel Horowitz (Kfar Saba, Israel) William Israel (St. Petersburg, FL); Kahlile Mehr (Salt Lake City, UT), Paul Silverstone (New York, NY); and Jackye Sullins (Carlsbad, CA). They join the officers, President, Anne Feder Lee (Honolulu, HI); Vice President Michael Brenner, Las Vegas, NV); Treasurer Mike Posnick (Minneapolis, MN) and Secretary Joel Spector (Cherry Hill, NJ), who were elected in 2007, and Immediate Past President Hal Bookbinder of Oak Park, CA. The 2008 IAJGS Achievement Awards winners were announced at the Banquet on Thursday, August 21. The lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Howard Margol for his many years of pioneering work in Lithuanian Jewish Genealogy research. The Outstanding Contribution to Jewish Genealogy Award was presented to Steven Lasky in recognition of his original contribution to the Jewish genealogical community by the creation of an online virtual museum, The Museum of Family History. The Outstanding Project Award was presented to Petra Laidlaw for creating "The Jewish Community in Mid-19th Century Britain" database. The Outstanding Publication Award was presented to The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great B retain for its collection of guidebooks comprising the "Jewish Ancestors?" series focusing on Jewish genealogical research in Europe, understanding Hebrew inscriptions and documents, and organizing family history records.

We thank all the members of the 2008 IAJGS Achievement Awards Committee and the 2008 Stern Grant Committee for their work and for making hard decisions among the many nominations submitted. Achievement Award committee members were: Stephen P. Morse -Chair of San Francisco, CA; Rieke Nash of Sidney, Australia; Ilene Murray of St. Louis, MO; Hal Bookbinder of Agoura Hills, CA; and Michael Brenner of Las Vegas, NV. The Stern Grant Committee members were: Eileen Polakoff-Chair of New York, NY; Alan Greenberg of Montreal, Canada; Hadassah Lipsius, New York, NY. We thank all of you who submitted nominations.

Please go to www.iajgs.org for more information about the winners. For the Achievement Awards winners, click on the left hand button for IAJGS Awards. For the Stern Grant awardee, scroll down the home page to find the box saying Stern Grant.

Congratulations Howard Margol

The JGS of SW FL, among other JGS groups, nominated Howard Margol for the 2008 IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award. He won for his pioneering work in Lithuanian Jewish Genealogy research, his personal efforts on behalf of Lithuanian record access and translation, and his many years of guiding genealogists back to their roots. Congratulations, Howard.

Jewish Calendar

The Jewish calendar is important to genealogists because Jewish birth, marriage and death certificates, as well as tombstone inscriptions use Jewish dates. The Jewish calendar is a solar and lunar calendar, with the months being synchronized to the moon and years to the sun. To convert between Hebrew and Gregorian dates and to generate a calendar of Jewish holidays and events for any year 0001-9999, go to <http://www.hebcal.com/>.

Jewish Genealogy Book Hot Off the Press

The new book, *Every Family Has a Story: Tales from the Pages of AVOTAYNU*, is out! According to the AVOTAYNU website, "This book will not tell you how to do genealogical research. Instead, it will tell you how genealogical research affected the lives of the researchers and the people they discovered. *Every Family Has a Story: Tales from the Pages of AVOTAYNU* consists of 72 articles that have appeared in our journal, AVOTAYNU, each story focusing on the human side of genealogy-how genealogists have been personally affected by their research and how the research of genealogists has affected others."

Sylvia Firschein, Temple Beth Sholom librarian and JGS of SW FL member, bought this book for the Temple library. According to Sylvia, "This book is exciting."

Yizkor Book Database

The Yizkor Book Database is a master bibliographic database of most published yizkor books and other books written about particular towns or areas. Go to this database at: <http://www.jewishgen.org/Yizkor/database.html>.

Another valuable resource is the necrology index at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/yizkor/>, an index of the names of persons in the necrologies - the lists of Holocaust martyrs - published in the translated yizkor books.

The necrologies are also searchable at Holocaust Database at <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust/>.

Please contact Joyce Field (JewishGen Vice President, Data Acquisition) if you are interested in starting a new yizkor book translation project. Check the Yizkor Book Database to see if a book has been written about your ancestral town and also check the listings of articles in the Pinkas HaKehillot to see if there is an article about your town. These books are listed under "Regions."

Israel@60 Celebration

Israel's 60th birthday was celebrated on three consecutive Saturday evenings in July with Wine Tastings & Havdalah Celebrations in three different locations (Palmer Ranch, downtown Sarasota and Lakewood Ranch). The Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida was one of six co-sponsors of this series which was funded by the Sarasota-Manatee Jewish Federation through a grant. The purpose of the series, which was chaired by Kim Sheintal, was to bring together Jews of various neighborhoods and welcome newcomers to our area. Nearly 400 members of the community participated in the events.

At all three events, each of the six co-sponsors set up a display table with information about their organization. Our JGS table was visited by several guests. (Joan and Mel Franzel manned the JGS table at Palmer Ranch; Lee Ruggles manned the JGS table in downtown Sarasota; Hal Sterne manned the JGS table in Lakewood Ranch.) The "Who is Jewish" notebook attracted a lot of attention to the JGS table. Many attendees signed a sheet to show that they are interested in the JGS of SW FL. The popularity of our JGS table at the Israel@60 Celebration showed that many people are interested in tracing their Jewish roots.

Ways to Learn about Your Ancestors

Valuable Records

Vital Records (Birth, Marriage, Death)
Naturalization Records
Passenger Lists
Census Records
Cemeteries
City Directories
Phone Books
Compiled Genealogies
Military Records
Obituaries
Probate Records
Social Security Death Index
Synagogue Records
School Records
Voter Registration Records
Land and Property Records
Wills

Health Records

Periodicals

Newspapers
Magazines
Newsletters
Yearbooks

Home Resources

Photographs/Scrapbooks/Letters/Invitations/Diaries
Tape Recordings/Home Movies
Heirlooms
Baby Books

Books

(these and more available from Avotaynu 800-286-8296)

Avotaynu Guide to Jewish Genealogy

Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy

A Dictionary of German-Jewish Surnames

A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Kingdom of Poland

A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire

A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from Galicia

Where Once We Walked

National Archives

Phone 866-272-6272 / Fax 301-837-0483

8601 Adelphi Road / College Park, MD 20740-6001

The records in the National Archives holdings that are most commonly used by genealogists include:

Census Records
Military Records
Immigration Records (Ship Passenger Lists)
Naturalization Records
Land Records

Tips

Join a genealogy society

Label photos

Cite Sources

Interview People (relatives and those associated with them)

Keep copy of your research in two locations

Subscribe to genealogy publications

Attend conferences

Travel to where your ancestors lived

Find a research buddy

Ask questions

Talk to oldest family members first

Share your information

Find others researching same names and towns

Keep record of family stories

Free Pedigree Charts and Family Group Sheets

http://genealogy.about.com/library/free_charts/bl_pedigree.htm

http://life.familyeducation.com/tv/printables/family_group_sheet.pdf

US Citizenship and Immigration Services

The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) document ordering operation now is available. The USCIS is the successor agency to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service (CIS), formerly called the INS, has launched its fee-for-service program which provides duplicate copies of records in their possession.

Records available under the new program are:

- Naturalization certificate files (C-files) from September 27, 1906 to April 1, 1956 (from all federal, state, municipal courts and more)
- Microfilmed alien registration forms from August 1, 1940 to March 31, 1944
- Visa files from July 1, 1924, to March 31, 1944
- Registry files from March 2, 1929, to March 31, 1944
- Alien files numbered below 8 million and dated prior to May 1, 1951

The fees for requesting the documents:

- Per index request \$20.00
- Per record/file request from a microfilm \$20.00
- Per record/file request from paper file \$35.00.

An overview of the program can be found at <http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy>. Click the links in the upper right corner of the page for a more detailed description of the program and also to get the forms to be filled out when making an inquiry.

According to <http://www.uscis.gov/genealogy>: "The USCIS Genealogy Program is a fee-for-service program providing family historians and other researchers with timely access to historical immigration and naturalization records."

What's New Online in Genealogy?

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois has developed an online death index that has records from a number of Jewish cemeteries in the Chicago area. It currently contains more than 50,000 records including entries from Westlawn, Jewish Graceland and portions of Oak Woods cemeteries. A number of other smaller cemeteries are included. The index can be found at <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsi/projects/deathsearch8.html>.

Access to the online Canadian 1881 Census is now available through the Stephen P. Morse site at <http://www.stevemorse.org>.

Some 19th-century civil records from Jewish communities in Bavarian Swabia are available at <http://jgbs.org>. At present there is an index to 16,143 individual records; of those, 4,937 allow direct access to the original document (Binswangen, Fellheim, Ichenhausen). The site also serves as a working platform for the volunteers who are transcribing the records. There is an overview of the project at <http://jgbs.org/ob/Summary.php>.

The Washington State Digital Archives at <http://www.digitalarchives.wa.gov/default.aspx> has recently put state census records and vital records online. This is a work in progress; therefore, not all records are indexed yet.

Genealogy Magazines for Family History Enthusiasts

The world's largest circulation magazine devoted to Jewish genealogy is [Avotayu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy](#).

Keep up with these five genealogy magazines for the latest genealogy news, tips and techniques: [Heritage Quest](#), [Ancestry Magazine](#), [Family Tree Magazine](#), [Everton's Genealogical Helper](#), and [Family Chronicle](#).

Let's Play Jewish Geography

Jewish Geography: when Jews get together and discuss who knows whose Jewish friends and relatives from where.

Bored one day and in the genealogy mood, I googled the words "Jewish Geography" and found a fun and potentially helpful site for genealogists. I discovered an actual "Jewish Geography" website at <http://www.jewishgeography.org/>. I clicked on the link for "search Jewish geography" and this took me to <http://www.jewishgeography.org/searchindex.htm> which gave me four links from which to choose (Hometown Search, College Search, Current Info Search, and Keyword Search). Even if someone does not want to be listed on the website, they can still search the site for others. I clicked the "Hometown Search" link and the first person listed was from my hometown up north and currently living near me in Florida. On the site, it mentioned that he went to the same childhood synagogue as me. This prompted me to grab my 1964 Temple Yearbook and immediately I found his photo and remembered him. This story would have been even better if I had found a long lost cousin. Maybe next time I will discover a cousin.

How Many Counties in US?

Most pedigree charts have a spot to list the city, county and country where people are born, married and die. There are 3,141 counties and county equivalents in the 50 States and the District of Columbia. They are categorized as follows:

- 3,007 entities named "County"
- 16 Boroughs in Alaska
- 11 Census Areas in Alaska (for areas not organized into Boroughs by the State)
- 64 Parishes in Louisiana
- 42 Independent Cities (1 in Maryland, 1 in Missouri, 1 in Nevada, and the remainder in Virginia)
- 1 District - the Federal District or District of Columbia.

Source for the above information came from the website http://www.usgs.gov/faq/list_faq_by_category/get_answer.asp?id=785. To find county in which a U.S. city is located, go to http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Data_and_Demographics&Template=/cfiles/counties/city_srch.cfm

Secret Jews of San Luis Valley

"In Colorado, the gene linked to a virulent form of breast cancer found mainly in Jewish women is discovered in Hispanic Catholics."

The current issue (October 2008) of the Smithsonian Magazine has an article "Secret of San Luis Valley" the discovery of a cancer gene (BRCA-1) among some Hispanic Catholics in southern Colorado supports theory that they are descended from "Secret Jews: who fled the Spanish Inquisition. The mutated gene is the same as is found in Ashkenazi Jews from Central and Eastern Europe. The article may be read at: <http://tinyurl.com/4ojo9p>.

JewishGen-erosity — Become a Contributor

Help keep JewishGen online so that volunteers can continue to provide important resources. Make a general contribution to JewishGen, contribute to your favorite project or honor a worthy individual. JewishGen relies exclusively on your generosity to ensure their continued growth. They (and all Jewish genealogists) are counting on your support! Help JewishGen help you! <http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity/>.

Southern Africa Jewish Genealogy Special Interest Group (SA-SIG)

Did you know there is a Southern Africa Jewish Genealogy SIG? Their goal is to bring together Jewish genealogy researchers with a common interest in Southern Africa. Their SA-SIG Newsletter provides information of interest to those who are researching Jewish family history in the communities of South Africa, Lesotho (Basutoland), Botswana (Bechuanaland), Zimbabwe (Southern Rhodesia), Zambia (Northern Rhodesia), Swaziland, Moçambique, Kenya, and the former Belgian Congo. For details, go to <http://www.jewishgen.org/Safrica/>.

Genealogy Workbook:

Sources for Research of Your Ancestry

JGS of Palm Beach County announces the publishing of the 8th edition of the award winning Beginners and Intermediate Genealogical Workbook, now entitled *Genealogy Workbook – Sources for Research of Your Ancestry*, and is now available to researchers. Compiled, edited and updated by JGS of Palm Beach County President Emerita, Sylvia Furchman Nusinov, the 219-page Workbook is an essential resource tool for genealogical research. For further information, please contact Sylvia Furchman Nusinov at curiousyl@bellsouth.net.

Pedigree Charts

Genetic Family Trees

Pedigrees often give a tree of a family's genetic history.

- Boxes represent males.
- Circles represent females.
- If an individual exhibits a trait, the circle or square is filled in.
- A horizontal line connecting a male and female indicates a mating.
- A vertical line from this type of horizontal line indicates the offspring.
- If there are several offspring, indicate this by a second horizontal line with a vertical line extending from it for each offspring.

Pedigree Charts - All Shapes and Sizes

http://www.misbach.org/pdfcharts/PDF_Charts.zip

Traditional Pedigree Charts

Bowtie Pedigree Charts

Box Pedigree Charts

Family Trees (resembling trees with leaves)

Fan Pedigree Charts

Picture Pedigree Charts (for photos)

Jewish Pedigree Charts

Jewish Pedigree Charts

http://www.bh.org.il/Genealogy/FamilyTreesGallery2_files/frame.htm

"Jewish families of Sephardi origin were probably the first to boast imposing decorative family trees as early as the 16th century. Later on imposing graphic family trees became fashionable among members of all Jewish communities. Most Jewish families have chosen to decorate their pedigree charts in the shape of a tree alluding to the biblical Tree of Life (Genesis, 1:9). Today, period pedigree charts of artistic quality are a highly sought after collector's item.

The collection of graphic family trees of the Douglas E. Goldman Jewish Genealogy Center at Beth Hatefutsoth holds numerous items of different artistic and historical interest."

Local Genealogical Societies Sept. 2008 – June 2009 Calendar

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida meets third Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM from Nov. thru May at Kobernick House 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota.

President is Kim Sheintal (klapshein@aol.com).

Website: <http://www.jgsswf.org>

Manasota Genealogical Society meets first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM from Oct. thru May (Nov. meeting on a Thursday) at Manatee County Library, 1301 Barcarrota Blvd., Bradenton.

President is James McHugh jamchugh@ix.netcom.com.

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flmgs>

Computer Special Interest Group: meets 12:30 PM the same days as the meetings (with the exception of Apr.) at Manatee County Library, 1301 Barcarrota Blvd., Bradenton.

South Bay Genealogical Society meets third Tuesday of the month at 10:45 AM with Regional Roundtable followed by lunch at noon and presentation at 1:00 PM from Oct. thru May. Regional Roundtables are usually held at South Shore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin.

President is Judy Jouglet (jjouglet@tampabay.rr.com).

Website: www.rootsweb.com/~flsbgs

Monday Roundtables: meets first Monday from Oct. thru May at 9:30 AM at South Shore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin.

German Club: meets first Monday from Oct. thru May at 10:45 AM at South Shore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin.

Genealogical Society of Sarasota (GSS) meets third Saturday of the month at 9:30 AM (mingling), 10:00 AM (program) from Oct. thru May (second Saturday in Dec. 2008) at Selby Library, 1331 1st St., Sarasota. Occasional workshops, led by Jan Young, are held at Venice Library, 300 S. Nokomis Ave., Venice.

President is Ed Gaulin GenealogyOne@Lycos.com.

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flgss>

Germanic SIG: Marilyn Wethington (gssgenealogy@comcast.net) meets selected Wednesdays (Oct. 22, 2008 and Nov. 19, 2008 thus far) at 9:30 AM at LDS History Center, 7001 Beneva Rd., Sarasota.

Scotland/Northern Ireland SIG: Jean Wallace (walljb@comcast.net) meets starting in 2009. Dates, times, and places are not available yet.

Ireland SIG: Bernadette Duncan (bduncan941@aol.com) meets second Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM at 2645 Wilkinson Rd., Sarasota.

Italian SIG (sponsored by GSS & Sarasota Italian Cultural Events): Franz Schneider (franz.schneider@prodigy.net) meets on selected Thursdays (Oct. 9, 2008 and Nov. 20, 2008 thus far) at 2:00 PM at Gulf Gate Library, 7112 Curtiss Ave., Sarasota.

Computer SIG: Joe Graham (Genealogy.Ten@gmail.com) meets third Thursday of the month at 2:00 PM from Oct. thru May (second Thursday in Nov. 2008 and second Thursday in May 2009) at Selby Library, 1331 1st St., Sarasota.

Englewood Genealogical Society meets fourth Wednesday of the month at 1:30 PM for the General Meeting for Sept., Oct., Jan. thru Apr.; Nov., Dec. and May on the third Wednesday at Elsie Quirk Library, 100 Dearborn W. St., Englewood.

President is SueDavis (suedavis101@comcast.net).

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flegsf>

Lakewood Ranch Genealogical Society meets first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM from Nov. thru Apr. at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. Their leader is professional genealogist, Donna Moughty. For inquiries please contact Nancy Johnson (choco8448@yahoo.com, 941-752-9819).

Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay meets second Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM (beginner's session), and 2:00 PM (featured program) from Sept. thru June with some exceptions to accommodate speakers or holiday conflicts at Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services, 14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater (unless there is a very special program).

President (thru Nov. 2008) is Linda Zolinsky (ZolinskyL@pcsb.org).

Website: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~fljgstb/home.htm>

Jewish Genealogy Class in Sarasota

Temple Sinai (4631 S. Lockwood Ridge Road, Sarasota) now offers a variety of adult programming classes on Tuesday evenings. On Tuesday, November 18 (7:00 PM to 9:00 PM), Kim Sheintal will give an overview of Jewish genealogy and share tools and methods to begin your personal search. There is no charge for the program. For questions or to register for this class, contact the Temple Sinai office at 941-924-1802 or office@templesinai-sarasota.org.

Florida State Genealogical Society Conference

The Florida State Genealogical Society announces its 2008 Genealogy Conference on November 14 and 15. The featured guest speaker will be Ms. Jana Sloan Broglin, a well-known genealogical writer, professional genealogist, and national lecturer. In addition, there will be many well-known genealogical speakers covering a variety of topics during the two day event. The event will be held at the Sheraton Orlando-North, Maitland, Florida. The overall program looks exciting and informative, and you should visit the Florida State Genealogical Society web site at www.flsgs.org for details and registration information or contact Ann Mohr Osisek, president of the Florida State Genealogical Society at amo.gen@worldnet.att.net.

Sheraton Orlando - North

600 North Lake Destiny Drive, Maitland, FL 32751

Mention FSGS for a special room rate (\$88.00 + taxes).

Rooms are being held until October 23. Call (866) 837-5175.

Genealogy Seminar at Sea

<http://www.genealogycruises.com/speakers.htm>

October 25, 2008 – November 1, 2008

Sailing from the port of Miami to San Juan Puerto Rico, St.

Maarten and Labadee (Royal Caribbean's Private Island)

Three days of seminars will be presented by John Philip Colletta, Stephen J. Danko, Michael J. Leclerc, Paul Milner, George G. Morgan, Donna M. Moughty, Laura G. Prescott, and Paula Stuart-Warren. For more information or reservations, call Cindy at Fly Away Travel, 800-837-0295, or e-mail flyawayinc@aol.com.

JGS of Tampa Bay Meetings

(Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services, 14041 Icot Blvd. Clearwater)

For information, call Linda Zolinsky at 727-372-0646.

- Sunday, October 12, 2008 @ 1:30 PM - What's New with Family Search and Other Websites by Debbe Hagner, AG
- Sunday, November 9, 2008 @ 1:30 PM - Producing a Family Newsletter by Patricia Schultz and Pamela Tremé

JGS of SW FL Membership Application

Single Membership: \$20/year

Family Membership: \$25/ year

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

JGS of SW FL

c/o Kim Sheintal

4462 Violet Avenue

Sarasota, Florida 34233

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____