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President's Shpiel

by Kim Sheintal

Last week, I received an e-mail from a second cousin who I have not seen in over 50 years. He was rummaging through his father's files and found an envelope with old family photographs. He asked me if I could identify everyone in a particular photo. As you know, people often find family photos and need help identifying the people.

- How long has it been since you looked at your old family photos?
- How many family photos do you have that you cannot identify everyone in the photo?
- How long has it been since you contacted a relative to ask for help identifying a family photo?

We conclude our 2013 year with a program about finding vintage family photographs. In addition to finding family photos in your home and relatives' homes, there are many more places to find vintage family photos.

Family photos add so much to a family chart of names, dates, and places. Learn how to find these photos at the Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida on December 15.

Finding Vintage Family Photographs

Kim Sheintal will present "Finding Vintage Family Photographs." Kim will share tips on finding photos of specific people and places via books, newspapers, museums, historical societies, and other sources. She will explain how Photo Sharing Websites, Internet Social Networking, Blogs, Search Engines, and Photo Archive Websites can help as well. Finally, she will display some of the photos that she discovered and will tell how she found them.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

MISHPOCHOLGY

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MEETING

Sunday, December 15, 2013 (1:00 PM)

Kobernick House

1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Program: "Finding Vintage Family Photographs"

by Kim Sheintal

For details, Kim Sheintal 941-302-1433, klapshein@aol.com

JGS of SW FL Calendar

Sunday, December 15, 2013 @ 1:00 PM

Finding Vintage Family Photographs

by Kim Sheintal

Sunday, January 19, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

Esther's Story (telling, in words and music, the experience of the Jewish people as they journeyed from Europe to settle in America at the turn of the last century)

by Sarasota Jewish Chorale

Sunday, February 16, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

Finding Relatives in Surprising Ways

by Mike Schwartz

Sunday, March 16, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

From Madrid to Marrakesh

by Sabrina Silverberg

Sunday, April 20, 2014 @ 1:00 PM - Show and Tell

Sunday, May 18, 2014 @ 1:00 PM

Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are!

Hide and Seek on the Internet

by Donna Moughty

"Nu? What's New?" E-zine of Jewish Genealogy

"Nu? What's New?" (published weekly) is free of charge for the first 30 days (four issues). Thereafter the cost is only \$12.00 per year. To subscribe at no charge for 30 days, go to <http://www.avotaynu.com/nuwhatsnew.htm>

JGS of SW FL Library

We thank Lois Chernoff for donating the following books:

- *Avotaynu Guide to Jewish Genealogy* edited by Sallyann Amdur Sack and Gary Mokotoff (2004)
- *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire – revised edition* by Alexander Beider (2008)

We thank Rainey Davis for donating the following book:

- *Dear Helga, Dear Ruth* by Helga Harris (2007)

Wonderful World of Websites

<http://corporate.ancestry.com/press/press-releases/2013/09/ancestrycom-llc-acquires-find-a-grave-inc/>
Ancestry.com announced on September 30 that they acquired Find-A-Grave, the online cemetery database. Find-A-Grave has amassed 100 million memorials and 75 million photos. It will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Ancestry.com and it will continue to be managed by its founder, Jim Tipton.

<https://www.facebook.com/IAJGSjewishgenealogy>
Two members of the JGS of SW FL (Tuvia Natkin and Lynn Teichman) designed the heading for the IAJGS Facebook Page.

<http://blog.hornblower.com/heartbreakandhope/>
Heartbreak and Hope: Stories of Ellis Island

<https://www.facebook.com/IAJGSConference>
IAJGS Conference Facebook Page

http://www.youtube.com/watch_popup?v=tLeFIEg4z7U&feature=share%20%20Sound
Museum of the History of the Polish Jews is shown as a YouTube video.

<http://feefhs.org/>
The Federation of East European Family History Societies

<http://www.bh.org.il/>
Beit Hatfutsot: The Museum of the Jewish People

<http://www.ajhs.org/>
American Jewish Historical Society

<http://americanjewisharchives.org/>
Jacob Marcus Rader Center of the American Jewish Archives

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Jewish_Genealogy_Research
Jewish Genealogy Research details on Family Search website

https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/images/2/24/Jewish_Genealogy_Research_Outline.pdf
56-Page Jewish Genealogy Research Outline on Family Search

<http://www.sephardim.com/>
Research Tool for Sephardic Genealogy / Jewish Genealogy

<http://www.jewishgenealogysearch.com/>
Jewish Genealogy Search

<http://www.jewishlink.net/genealogy.html>
Jewish Genealogy Link Page

http://genealogy.about.com/od/jewish/tp/free_jewish.htm
Free Jewish Genealogy Databases Online

<https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/soc.genealogy.jewish>
Google Group for Jewish Genealogists

<http://genealogypro.com/directories/Jewish.html>
Professional Jewish Genealogists

Latest Yizkor Book Translations

by Donald & Sandra Hirschhorn

Dear Fellow Genealogists,

The Yizkor-Books-in-Print Project and Yizkor Books Project of JewishGen, Inc. are pleased to announce our newest publications, most in our standard hard cover format of approximately 7 x 10 inches.

These Yizkor books, originally written in Yiddish and Hebrew by former residents as a memorial to their beloved towns and the people who once lived there, have been beautifully translated and edited by our volunteers under the superb supervision of Joel Alpert, Coordinator of the Yizkor books in print. We are very grateful to all of them for their dedication. Original photographs and illustrations are reproduced in these editions.

All of the books published to date are available through Amazon and other online distributors at a considerable discount. To view all the books included in the project so far and to see their colorful jackets, please go to our web site: <http://www.jewishgen.org/Yizkor/ybip.html>

We hope by publicizing this information that more genealogists will learn about their family "shtetl."

Our latest available titles along with publication date are:

- Memorial (Yizkor) Book for the Jewish Community of Ciechanow - Translation of Yisker-bukh fun der Tshkhanover yidisher kehile - 8/9/2013
- Telekhan Yizkor (Memorial) Book - Translation of Telkhan - 7/4/2013
- History of the Jews of Jaslo - Yizkor (Memorial) Book of the Jewish Community of Jaslo, Poland 7/17/2013

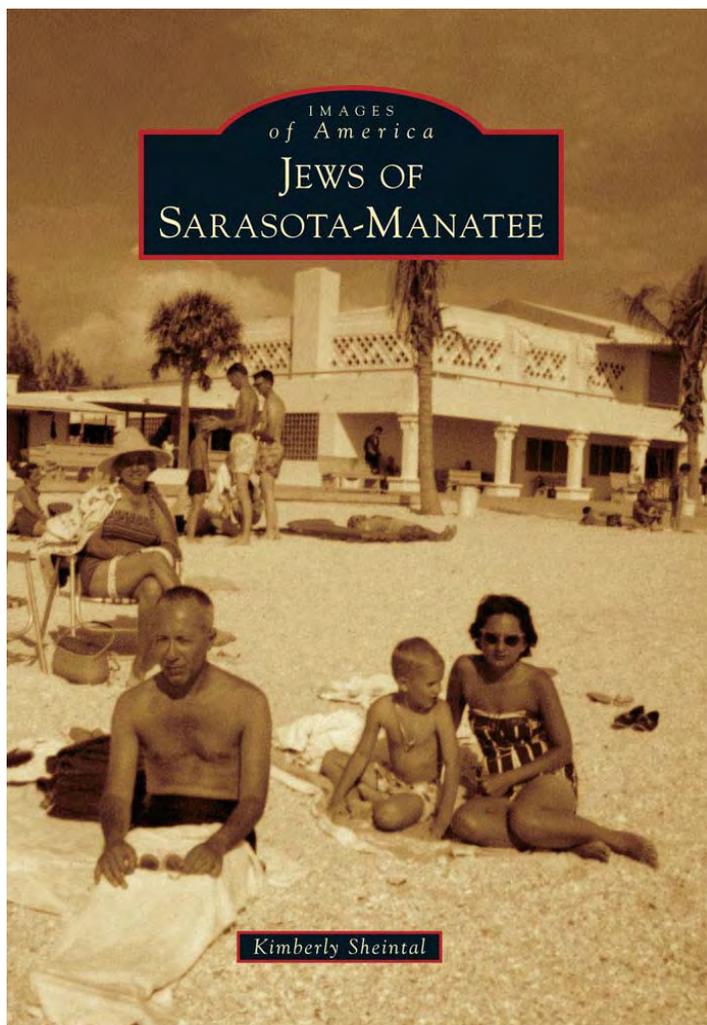
John Kerry's Jewish Roots

The Boston Globe ran a story on October 13, 2013 about John Kerry's Jewish roots; he had an Austrian grandfather who changed the family name from Kohn to Kerry and their religion from Jewish to Catholic. It begins with the family patriarch. Benedict Kohn was a beer maker who lived during the late 19th century in a town called Bennisch in the Austrian Empire, which today is known as Horni Benesov in the Czech Republic. Of the 4,200 residents, Kohn was among the few dozen who were Jewish. Secretary Kerry descends from the beer maker's second wife [the first wife died] Mathilde Frankel, and they had a son named Fritz Kohn, who would become Kerry's grandfather. According to the article, family lore says Fritz, dropped a pencil on a European map, where it landed on County Kerry in Ireland, and so he changed his name to Kerry and changed his religion to Catholic. Fritz wrote on an application that he wanted to change his name because "it is so typically Jewish" and he believed "that the name will hinder his career in the military." Fritz Kohn, having changed his name to Frederick Kerry, immigrated to the United States where Secretary Kerry's father (Richard Kerry) was born in Boston. John Kerry said his father never talked to him about the family's paternal Jewish roots.

To read more, read the following article in the Boston Globe: <http://www.bostonglobe.com/news/nation/2013/10/12/ten-years-later-revelation-john-kerry-ancestry-has-new-chapter/89pyoQEfOJs8PqvazCYqHO/story.html>

Thank you to Randy Herschaft, Associated Press, for alerting us to this article.

Jan Meisels Allen IAJGS Vice President Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee



Sarasota County Library System Event

100 Year History of the Jews of Sarasota-Manatee

Tuesday, December 17, 2013 @ 11:30 AM

Selby Library (Goldbart Auditorium)

1331 First Street Sarasota, Florida

Kim Sheintal's book, *Jews of Sarasota Manatee* by Arcadia Publishing, was released in January 2013. Sheintal will tell the history of the Jews of Sarasota-Manatee at Selby Library on December 17 at 11:30 AM. A book sale and signing will follow her presentation. This program is free and open to the public.

Arcadia Publishing Books: Jewish Communities

On Friday, November 15, Costco had a book signing for my book, *Jews of Sarasota-Manatee*. More exciting than selling the book was talking to the people who asked about the book. I met the mother of the author who wrote the Arcadia Publishing book about the history of Sarasota. I met a Jewish man who told me he read a book about the history of the Jews of Wyoming (not by Arcadia Publishing). I was surprised when this man told me that he was Jewish and was born in Wyoming 93 years ago. While talking to him, a lady told us about a book written about the history of the Jews of West Philadelphia. Following my book signing, I quickly got to my computer to see how many books have been written by Arcadia Publishing about Jewish communities in the United States and found the following list in alphabetic order:

- Chicago's Forgotten Synagogues
- Chicago's Jewish West Side

- Chicago's Maxwell Street
- Greater Harrisburg's Jewish Community
- Jewish Albuquerque: 1860-1960
- Jewish Ann Arbor
- Jewish Chicago: A Pictorial History
- Jewish Community of Baltimore
- Jewish Community of Chattanooga
- Jewish Community of North Minneapolis
- Jewish Community of Syracuse
- Jewish Community of West Philadelphia
- Jewish Denver: 1859-1940
- Jewish Detroit
- Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia
- Jewish Life in Akron
- Jewish Life in Omaha and Lincoln: A Photographic History
- Jewish Maxwell Street Stories
- Jewish Milwaukee
- Jewish Pioneers of St. Paul: 1849-1874
- Jewish Pioneers of the Black Hills Gold Rush
- Jewish Reading and Berks Count
- Jewish San Francisco
- Jewish South Jersey
- Jewish West Virginia
- Jews of Cincinnati
- Jews of Greater Miami
- Jews of Morris County
- Jews of Oakland and Berkeley
- Jews of Paterson
- Jews of Rhode Island 1658-1958
- Jews of Sarasota-Manatee
- Jews of Scranton
- Jews of Tampa
- Jews of Weequahic
- Maine's Jewish Heritage
- Napa Valley's Jewish Heritage
- Nashville's Jewish Community
- Oxford Circle: The Jewish Community of Northeast Philadelphia
- Reform Jews of Minneapolis
- Strawberry Mansion: The Jewish Community of North Philadelphia
- Sullivan County: Borscht Belt
- The House of David
- The Jewish Communities of Greater Stamford
- The Jewish Community Around North Broad Street
- The Jewish Community of Metro Detroit: 1945-2005
- The Jewish Community of New Orleans
- The Jewish Community of Savannah
- The Jewish Community of Shreveport
- The Jewish Community of South Philadelphia
- The Jewish Community of Staten Island
- The Jewish Community of the North Shore
- The Jewish Community of Washington, D.C.
- The Jewish Community Under the Frankford El
- The Lost Jewish Community of the West Side Flats: 1882-1962

Human Interest Stories for Avotaynu

For the past 26 years, Avotaynu has devoted a portion of each winter issue to genealogy human interest stories. Stories are typically about how genealogy affected people's lives, whether it is the researcher or the people they are researching. Deadline for submission this year is December 1, 2013. If you would like to share such a story with Avotaynu subscribers, submit it by e-mail to sallyannsack@avotaynu.com.

Sarasota Family History Center

As of November 17, the Family History Center at 7001 Beneva Road, Sarasota is permanently closed. After many years, this Family History Center will no longer be available for genealogical research because the rooms are needed for other purposes. In its place, the Bradenton Family History Center has been made available. The Bradenton FHC is open Mondays from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm, and Tuesday and Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. It is located at 3400 Cortez Road W. Phone number is 941-755-6909. You can access their web page at www.familysearch.org. Go to "Get Help" in the right hand corner and click on "Visit Us".

Genealogy Challenges

by Kim Sheintal

In the past year, I made the following discoveries. I challenge you to do the same in 2014.

- Find your high school yearbook online and then locate your photo in it.
- Find an old historic photo on a website of where you lived over 40 years ago, contact the person who submitted it, and get the original photo in your hand.

Historical Society of Sarasota

The mission of the Historical Society of Sarasota County is to foster public awareness of the rich historical heritage of Sarasota County and the state of Florida, encourage inquiry and research into this history, promote collection and preservation of memorabilia, develop a broader appreciation of its historical communities, and protect its historic sites and structures. Membership in the Historical Society of Sarasota County is open to any person interested in the history of this area and the State of Florida upon payment of dues. The Historical Society is a 501(C) (3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible. Those wishing to pay tribute to family or friends through contributions are encouraged to contact the Historical Society at 941-364-9076 or go online at <http://www.hsosc.com/> and become a part of history.

For the 2013-2014 season, the Historical Society of Sarasota is coordinating monthly Conversations at the Crocker. All Conversations take place at the Crocker Memorial Church, 1260 12th Street (Pioneer Park), Sarasota, Florida. All conversations start at 7:00 p.m. For more information, call Linda Garcia at 941- 364-9076. Members are free; guests are \$10.00.

February 11, 2014: God by Many Names – How Sarasota Became Religiously Diverse: Kim Sheintal, author of a new book on the history of Jews in this part of Florida, leads a discussion about how and why Sarasota became such a religiously diverse community. Why are there so many synagogues and churches in this town and who established them?

First Two Synagogues in Sarasota

(pictured as they looked over 50 years ago)



(circa 1956) Temple Beth Sholom at Washington Blvd. and Twelfth Street. (today's Sixth Street) in Sarasota was built in 1928. In 1959, Temple Beth Sholom moved to Tuttle Avenue in Sarasota. Temple Beth Sholom was established in 1927.



(circa 1962) Temple Emanu-El at 151 McIntosh Road in Sarasota was built in 1960. Temple Emanu-El is still at this location, but has been remodeled. Temple Emanu-El was established in 1956.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida 2014 Membership Application

Single Membership: \$25/year Family Membership: \$30/year

Mail Check (payable to JGS of SW FL) with this form to:

Liz Klaber 4461 Violet Avenue Sarasota, Florida 34233

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____