Mishpacha

"Dollars for Documents"
Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund

Genealogists may have noticed in recent years a fund drive to collect money for microfilming National Archives records, called the Genealogical Coordinating Committee (GCC)-NARA Gift Fund.

The gift fund has been renamed the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund, in memory of the prime mover in establishing the GCC. The fund drive is known as "Dollars for Documents."

Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern (1915-1994) was the founder and first president of the GCC, and the creator of the Gift Fund. Rabbi Stern's contributions to genealogy over a 44-year period are monumental. He wrote many articles for genealogical and historical publications. He was best known for *Americans of Jewish Descent: 600 Genealogies (1654-1838)*, which documents the genealogies of Jewish families that arrived during the American colonial and federal periods. He held Fellowships in the National Genealogical Society, the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, and the American Society of Genealogists. He was the 1988 recipient of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) George Williams Award "for outstanding contributions to the FGS and to the genealogical community."

The GCC, formed in 1980 to create an umbrella organization for the growing number of national genealogical groups, was disbanded at the genealogical society conference in San Diego in May 1995. The primary aims of the organization were to coordinate conferences, to develop standards for genealogical research, to assist records preservation efforts, and to allow for better communication among genealogists. The consensus reached at the meeting of the group in San Diego was that these aims have been achieved and the group had served its purpose. However, one of the most important efforts of the GCC has been the GCC-NARA Gift Fund, which would continue as the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund.

The Gift Fund, established in 1983 by GCC, is a nationally supported program

JGSGW Officers and Commitee Chairs for 2006 - 2007

President	Marlene Bishow MLBishow@comcast.net
VP Programs	Rochelle Gershenow rpgersh@comcast.net
VP Membership	Gene Sadick elsadick@Juno.com
VP Administration	Sonia Pasis sonyaMSKP@verizon.net
Corresponding Secretary	Ben Okner b.okner@verizon.net
Recording Secretary	Eugene Alpert gene1@ix.netcom.com
Treasurer	Gary Morin garymmorin@yahoo.com
Member-At-Large (Publicity)	Jeff Miller SingingTM@comcast.net
Database Administrator	Marlene Bishow MLBishow@comcast.net
Hospitality	Harriet Armoza
Librarian	Judith White judymostyn@comcast.net
Mishpacha Editor	Margarita Lackó mishpologia@uzidog.com
Speaker's Bureau	Benjamin Fassberg benjaminf@aol.com
Research Coordinator	Mike Getz mikegetz005@comcast.net
Webmaster	Aaron Werbel Werbel@mail.com
Workshop Coordinator	**OPEN**

Special thanks to proofreaders Jeff Miller & Liz Lourie

משפחה

All JGSGW members are encouraged to submit their genealogical research experiences for publication in *Mishpacha*. Submit articles to the editor: Margarita Lackó < mishpologia@uzidog.com >.

Table of Contents

The JGSGW Web Site is located at:

http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw

Dollars for Documents... *(Continued from page 1)*

to finance the creation of finding aids and the microfilming of valuable research materials now preserved in the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. These microform copies, produced without government funding, are then distributed to the 13 National Archives Regional Archives for use by researchers.

The contributions of genealogists throughout the country have assisted in the preservation of the following records since the founding of the Gift Fund:

1983
- Microfiche of Street Indexes to the 39 larger cities for the 1910 census. M1283: Cross Index to Selected City Street and Enumeration Districts, 1910 census. Microfiche (Record Group 29: Records of the Bureau of the Census).

1986
- Galveston Passenger Arrival Records, 1896-1948. M1359: Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at Galveston, Texas, 1896-1948 (Record Group 85: Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 1891-1957).

1988
- Canadian Border Crossings (1895-1954) indexes allocated to the 6 northern NARA regional archives. (Record Group 85: Records of the Immigration and Naturalizations Service, 1891-1957. Note: $14,000 allocated to 5 regional archives, with residual funds applied to "wish list" of southern tier regional archives).

1991
- T1224: 1920 Census Enumeration Districts, 1830-1950. The Gift Fund provided the rolls for the 1920 Census Enumeration Districts for placement in the 12 regional archives.

1992
- M1747: Index to Records Relating to War of 1812, Prisoners of War, 1812 (Record Group 94: Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780s to 1917).

1994
- M2019: Records Relating to War of 1812 Prisoners of War. The Prisoner of War lists are indexed by M1747. (Record Group 94: Records of the Adjutant General's Office).
- M2014: Burial Registers for Posts, Camps and Stations, 1768-1921. (Record Group 92: Records of the Quartermaster General).
- M1845: Card Records of Headstones Provided for Deceased Union Civil War Veterans, ca 1879-ca1903. (Record Group 92: Records of the Quartermaster General).
- M2025: Registers of Applications for the Release of Impressed Seaman, 1793-1802, and Related Indexes. (Record Group 59: Records of the Department of State).

1996
- M2075: Record of Appointment of Substitute Clerks in First-and Second-Class Post Offices, 1899-1905. (Record Group 28: Records of the Post Office).
- M2076: Index and Registers of Substitute Mail Carriers in First-and Second-Class Post Offices, 1885-1903. (Record Group 28: Records of the Post Office).
- M1846: Record Cards of Carriers Separated from the Postal Service, 1863-1899.
- M1826: Proofs of Citizenship Used to Apply for Seamen's Protection Certificates for the Port of

Dollars for Documents... *(Continued from page 3)*

    New Orleans, Louisiana, 1800, 1802, 1804-07, 1809-12, 1814-16, 1818-19, 1850-51, 1855-57. (Record Group 36: Records of the U.S. Customs Office).

2002
- M1085: Investigative Case Files of the Bureau of Investigation, 1908-1922. (Records Group 65, Records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation) [2002]

Access to this information is through any of the regional National Archives, but also through any LDS (Mormon) Family History Center in the world.

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) administers the Malcolm H. Stern NARA Gift Fund. FGS uses 10% of contributions to offset the cost of administering the Fund. Additionally, the FGS NARA Filming Committee will continue to take suggestions for items to be microfilmed. Ideas are solicited from anyone interested in genealogy. The aim is to find material at the National Archives, or its branches, of major interest to genealogists.

<div align="center">

A Million Dollar Project
A dramatic goal

</div>

Raise $1.25 million to microfilm two major collections of the National Archives:

- War of 1812 pension and bounty-land warrant records
- United States Colored Troops (USCT) compiled service records

The Federation invites the genealogical community, private donors, corporate sponsors, lineage societies and other interested parties to help make it happen!

Mark checks "War 1812" or "USCT" and send to: FGS Business Office P.O. Box 200940 Austin, TX 78720-0940

From: http://www.fgs.org/fgs-naragift.htm

<div align="center">

IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

</div>

The 27th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, hosted by IAJGS, will be held at the Hilton Salt Lake City Center on 15-20 July 2007. Registration is now open. Visit the conference website at < http://www.slc2007.org/ > to register, submit speaking proposals, book rooms at the Hilton, plan your travel, and learn more about what the conference and Salt Lake City have to offer.

The 28th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held at the Chicago Marriott hotel on 17-22 August, 2008. The Chicago conference is being hosted by IAJGS in cooperation with the JGS of Illinois and the Illiana JGS.

Domestic Research

Salt Lake City – Open Door to Genealogical Research Adventures
By Jeff Miller < SingingTM@comcast.net >

Thirty-four researchers from across the U.S. registered for the October 2006 trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, led annually by Gary Mokotoff and Eileen Polakoff. This was my sixth trip in seven years to Salt Lake City - five times as part of Gary and Eileen's group, and once for the 2000 IAJGS Annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. I especially enjoyed this year's trip, which I extended two days beyond the planned week. For the first time, I brought my camera along to shoot photos of friends, fellow researchers, setting, and scenery, to document our fun. This year, at almost the last minute, Gary found that Eileen could not attend because she experienced a mini-stroke. Fortunately, we learned during our week that she had made a full recovery. Gary did yeoman's work as our sole coordinator, lecturer, and resident expert. Unlike previous years, none of the participants came from outside the U.S. (in past years, we've had researchers from Israel, Venezuela, and Canada, among other countries).

The Family History Library resources include an extensive collection of microfilms, microfiche, books, and maps that can be examined by library visitors at desks and on readers. An extensive collection of computers, printers, copiers, and microfilm-to-CD-ROM equipment is available. Even more impressive is the extensive staff of professionals and volunteers whose only charge is to serve the public's every need. Visitors can simply walk in and use the resources without question. Microfilms, microfiche, and books can be taken from the shelves for use in the library during a given day, but must be returned to their original place (for microfilm and fiche), or designated areas for book returns. An extensive network of computers is available for use, with the most popular fee subscription databases online (such as ProQuest for newspapers and Heritage Quest Online for censuses), and easy access to the Family History Library catalog as well.
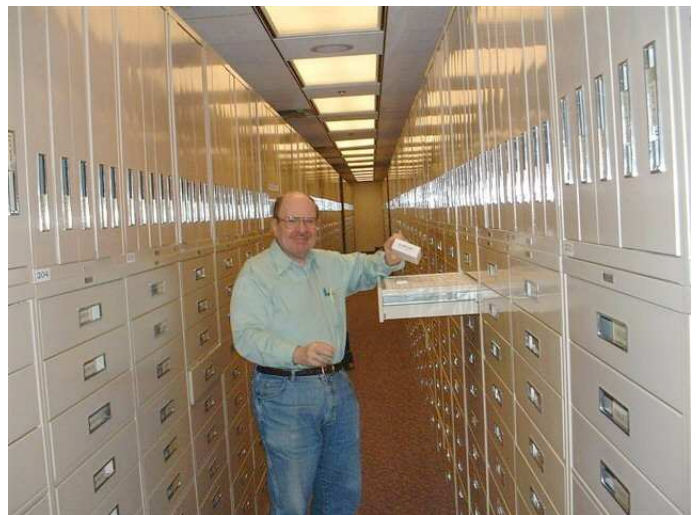
The primary databases I used this trip were:

(1) Ancestry.com, for immigration and naturalization; censuses; births, marriages, and deaths from historic newspapers; and Selective Service registrations for World War I and II
(2) NewEnglandAncestors.org, for their index to births, marriages, and deaths in Massachusetts from 1841-1910.

I made some interesting discoveries that may help me advance several of my lines. The microfilms and commuter resources really helped me advance my research on several family lines, particularly on my Massachusetts YUDELOWITZ/YOUDELOVITZ/YUDELEVICH family, but I found the books at the Family History Library really intriguing.

In particular, I found two family histories of special interest. The first, *The Margolis Family*, by Jewish

rabbinic genealogy expert Dr. Neil Rosenstein, written in 1984, gave me information that may eventually enable me to confirm a family connection to my BLANKFORT family from Sirvintos (Shirvint), Lithuania. The second, entitled *Ancestors, Descendants, and Me: The Story of The Fitchburg Romes*, by David Rome, describes a Lithuanian family with five generations of Rabbis named ROM, ROMM, and ROME. I am researching a possible connection of ROM to my WIE-NER-KATZEN-KOTZIN family from Panevezys (Ponievezh), Lithuania (I have a family-produced videotape from 1932 that depicts a Panevezys ROM headstone that adjoins related WIENER and KATZEN-KOTZIN family headstones).

In the past, I have also gotten quite a bit of help from the Family History Library map collection and microfiches. In the technology area, their capability to put microfilm images directly onto CD-ROM, which has increased over the past few years, is a nice addition. Their current project is to put all of their microfilm images into online databases.

As a treat during the week that Gary's group is in town, we eat meals together at various establishments. One highlight for "veterans" of the group is our Monday evening meal at the Mormon-operated restaurant, "The Roof." On Monday evenings, the Family History Library closes early to enable employees and volunteers to have time for celebrating a family night tradition.

A second highlight is our Sunday Brunch at the Little America Hotel. Families from all across the West have made it a tradition for over 40 years. The Family History Library is closed on Sundays, making this a day to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow researchers, and organize research papers.

The Mormons are putting quite a bit of money into renovating the entire block near the library. Sadly, one of my favorite Salt Lake City restaurants in this block, *Passages*, closed the day I came home, to make room for new development. I ate my last two dinners of the week at this restaurant.

During my annual trips, I find I am most effective when I focus on two or three objectives. Often, my research during the week leads me to one or two sidelines. In this instance, I focused on trying to find records to knock down my Massachusetts YUDELOWITZ brick wall, where I do not know the given name of my ancestor. From family information, I know that my grandfather, born in Lithuania and who died in New York in 1924, had two brothers; one living in California and one in Massachusetts (I have found the California family in recent years, as described in an *Avotaynu* article). The clues that I followed this week were that a few records exist for a YOUDELOVITZ family in Malden City, Middlesex County, Massachusetts (just north of Boston). While researching, I came across the book on the ROM-ROMM-ROME family from Fitchburg, Massachusetts and Lithuania, which potentially connects to my ROM-WIENER-KATZEN-KOTZIN family. When I was in New York in August for the 2006 IAJGS Conference, I arranged 5-6 meetings/reunions with new-found cousins. From one of these, a rabbi, I learned of a ROM family connection. Now I have new leads to follow for continued research, and new techniques for research that I can share with my fellow genealogists. ✡

Editor's note: Every year, Gary Mokotoff and Eileen Polakoff take a group of Jewish genealogists on "*A trip to the candy store*" a.k.a. the Family History Library in Salt Lake City. Additional information can be found at < http://www.avotaynu.com/slctrip.htm >

The "Aha's" of Family Research

By Charles Polinger < chapol-99@excite.com >

What do you call an eye opening moment, when the "key to the mystery" is found, or a major (or possibly minor) discovery is made? How about when the missing sock is located inside the shoe, or the misplaced car key is found under the bed? At work we once labeled it as an "*aha*!" moment, one in which the solution to a puzzle is found or someone comes up with a brilliant idea. It is obvious to all, at that moment, that the new direction is at hand. Well, whatever it is called, possibly each of us has had such a wondrous moment, when we discover a fact of our family history that unlocks the door to a wealth of information. Unfortunately, that same "key" might remain buried for eternity, with all that wonderful family history lost to future generations, if we don't continue to dig for information.

Isn't that why we are told to interview our elders before it is too late? Isn't that why we genealogists, both amateur and professional, try to learn as much as possible about our respective families, to preserve a bit of history for our successors, and to satisfy our natural curiosity?

It was a significant "*aha*" period for me when I finally met distant relative, Oscar H., on-line, thanks to a mutual family connection. I learned that Oscar, too, was compiling information about our ROSEN family, which is on my father's side of the tree. Oscar had married into the ROSEN family, and so he was also extending his search to his father-in-law's side. It was as if we were both hugging the same tree, but from opposite sides. We both had information to share, and it served to expand each of our family trees immeasurably. Every day or so, one of us would find information on the ROSEN family that extended the branches, inch-by-inch, and e-mailed it to the other. We relayed our early backgrounds and memories whenever we could recall information about common relatives.

Oscar learned, for example, that Arthur Rose (family name changed) was a famous collector of radio jazz programs in New York, and his recordings had been admired by numerous jazz greats. We both "Googled" Arthur to learn more. I worked on another ROSEN name, one Jerry ROSEN who had relocated to San Diego years earlier. A visit to the Library of Congress took me to the San Diego newspapers and the obituaries, where I learned the name of Jerry's wife and son.

We gradually expanded each of our trees, but were caught in a bit of a drought when it came to arrivals to this country, which census records told us was around 1900. We knew the city of origin for many members was Iasi (Jassy), Romania, where hundreds left around that same time, but we did not know much more. We were thirsty for clues as to how the ROSENs came to the US, why they did not show up in the Ellis Island arrival records, and why their tracks stopped on this side of the ocean.

It just so happened that I needed to attend a conference in Salt Lake City one autumn week, not too many years ago, and I wanted to make sure I left some time to do some research at the Latter Day Saints' Family History Library. I went there shortly after one daily conference session ended, and just took my usual scattershot-approach, getting familiar with the library, and quickly trying to find any piece of family information. Not much luck on my first try, though, as I left the library empty-handed. The next day, I had a flight to catch at 1:15 pm, which left me with just about 2 hours in the early morning to visit the library one more time. Once again, using my patented scattershot approach (not highly recommended), I tried to find out information about an older member of the RO-SEN family, namely, Meyer H. ROSEN. For those unfamiliar with the LDS Family History Library, its second floor contains research desks, and walls and racks of microfilm, each one holding thousands of records about individuals. After looking up Meyer's name in an index, I was led to microfilm no. 153191, located in an obscure place in the back of the room. Patiently scanning the microfilm, I sur-

prisingly did find a Meyer H. ROSEN who fit my description, and further found a small piece of information: that he had become naturalized in the year 1906, along with the location of the courthouse holding the naturalization record. But, to my further surprise, Meyer did not enter the United States with the family name ROSEN, or anything even close to it. Meyer had come from the family HERS-COVICI. Furthermore, the middle initial H. was possibly his link to his original family name.

Was this my "*aha*" moment?

Upon returning home, I immediately sent away for Meyer's naturalization first papers from the courthouse in Brooklyn, and within a few weeks I received confirmation that Meyer was, indeed, a HERS-COVICI! The great "*aha*!" moment surely had arrived. The reasons for the change and the selection of ROSEN as a family name were still unknown. Meanwhile, on-line to the Ellis Island website, both Oscar and I found many of Meyer's relatives arriving under the name HERSCOVICI – brothers, sisters, aunts and uncles. They were all there, just waiting to be discovered as they arrived from Europe on their ships, landing in New York City. The great mystery - why none of our ROSENs were found entering the US at Ellis Island, was finally over.

Sometimes, keys to family histories are lost and the link to earlier events is blocked. But, like in this successful search, the key was fortunately found. It can be frustrating looking for a piece of the puzzle that may or may not exist, but there are enough success stories around to keep our hopes high and keep us genealogists sleuthing away! ✡

Denial of U.S. Citizenship
Nu? What's New? Volume 7, Number 17

I just completed my 14th annual trip to Salt Lake City and the Family History Library with a group of Jewish genealogical researchers. One of the researchers posed a question that was never asked before. Her ancestor was denied citizenship in his petition for naturalization, and she wanted to know what were grounds for denial.

I posed the question to Marian Smith, historian for the Citizenship and Immigrations Services, and she said the most common reasons were:

* lack of residence--not here the required 5 years
* unable to speak English adequately
* lack of moral character
* married woman (1907-1922)

Steve Morse's Chanukah Gift to Genealogists - The Gold Form
Joy Rich, Brooklyn, NY. Editor, *Dorot*

The new Ellis Island One-Step search form - The Gold Form - at < http://www.stevemorse.org > is capable of searching through the entire twenty-five million passengers, on every transcribed field, in the Ellis Island Database. The new features are:

* searching on traveling companions
* the user is able to specify which fields to display on the results page
* the user can specify how to sort the results

Although obsolete, Steve is going to keep the white form available along with the new gold form. Because they use different search engines, they may provide slightly different results.

Overseas Research

New Sources for Litvak Research
By JGSGW member Olga Zabludoff < ozabludoff@verizon.net >
LitvakSIG, Records Acquisition Coordinator

There are almost half a million records in the LitvakSIG All Lithuania Database (ALD) < http://www.jewishgen.org/litvak/ > on the JewishGen website. For approximately ten years LitvakSIG, through its District Research Groups Project, has been acquiring and translating censuses, revision and family lists, and tax and voters lists from the Lithuanian State Historical Archives (LVIA) and the Kaunas Regional Archives (KRA).

A new project has now been launched by LitvakSIG resulting from two factors: The Jewish records in the Lithuanian archives have, to a large degree, already been mined; and a new government law which became effective in July 2006 limits archivists in the various Lithuanian archives to devote no more than 50% of their time to external research. Since these archivists have been spending much of their time translating documents from their archives for LitvakSIG, the new law will severely restrict this activity. In addition, the LVIA does not issue photocopies of complete sets of records (such as revision or tax lists), making it impossible to translate records outside of the archives. Clearly new sources for acquiring documents needed to be cultivated if LitvakSIG were to continue to feed the ALD with data.

An agreement between LitvakSIG and the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People (CAHJP) in Jerusalem has now been finalized. LitvakSIG will acquire and translate records from the CAHJP's extensive Lithuanian-Jewish holdings and post the translated records on the ALD. An agreement with an Israeli researcher-translator has also been implemented. Early on, the researcher provided LitvakSIG with an inventory of the CAHJP Lithuanian-Jewish holdings, and she is currently working on her first assignment—translation of an 1844-1848 list of Jewish students and teachers of Kovno and Vilna guberniyas.

Other CAHJP records to be acquired and translated in the future span a variety of subjects including the following lists:

* merchants from Kovno and Vilna guberniyas
* rabbinical schools
* graduates from Vilna Rabbinical School
* graduates from Vilna Jewish Pedagogical Institute
* masons in Memel
* list of Jewish school directors in Kovno Guberniya

Another promising source of Lithuanian-Jewish records is YIVO in New York. The Institute has already welcomed LitvakSIG to explore their archives—something we hope to initiate in the coming months. ✡

Estonian Jewish Archive (EJA)

This electronic archive < http://eja.pri.ee/ > contains many links to history, arts, memoirs, etc., of the Jews from Estonia. It includes students lists, lists of Jews from Reval, Pärnu and other communities, list of Jews deported in 1941 and many more, and several picture albums.

Poland: Częstochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group (CRARG)
Dan Kazez < dkazez@wittenberg.edu >
President, Czestochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group < http://www.crarg.org >

I am pleased to announce the addition of one of our largest and most comprehensive data sets: the complete Częstochowa Book of Residents, with very detailed information on over 16 thousand Jews who lived in Częstochowa. Find this useful information at < http://www.crarg.org/search.php >.

Many of the persons listed are from places outside of Częstochowa. For example, 800 persons (out of 16,000 total) were born in Łódź and Warsaw. In all, this material lists well over 500 different place names. The Częstochowa Book of Residents ends around 1930.

Work on this databes was made possible by personal donations to CRARG and by the Claims Conference. CRARG has one of the largest free-access search engines for archival data related to the Holocaust. No registration is required.

Synagogue Architecture in Slovakia
< http://archiv.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/artdok/volltexte/2005/45/ >

This very detailed dissertation by Dr. Maroš Borský investigates synagogue architecture in Slovakia. Dr. Borský identifies over one hundred synagogue buildings throughout the country, and presents a photographic documentation of synagogues and prayer halls, some of them with sketches of original building plans.

Dokument 1 contains the many photographs that are discussed in *Dokument 2*.

Bessarabia Vital Records Database
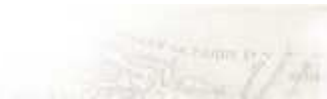Bob Wascou, ROM-SIG Resource Coordinator

JewishGen and ROM-SIG are pleased to announce an update to the database "Bessarabia Vital Records," which includes the old "Kishinev Vital Records" database. This database can be found at < http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Romania/ > or <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Ukraine/ >.

It contains over 53,800 birth records, over 14,200 marriage or divorce records and over 26,300 death records from Kishinev and Kaushany Moldova for a total of over 94,000 records. Kishinev and Kaushany were formerly in the Bessarabia Guberniya of the Russian Empire. These records were filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah and provided to JewishGen for transliteration. The original records are located in the National Archives of the Republic of Moldova in Kishinev (Chisinau).

When completed the Bessarabia Vital Records Database will contain birth, marriage, divorce and death records from 1829 to 1915 from Beltsy, Bendery, Izmail, Kaushany and Kishinev, but will not contain all years. Work to transliterate these records is ongoing.

In order to complete the transliteration of these records we need dedicated volunteers who are able and willing to help transliterate the Cyrillic, Hebrew or Yiddish script. We are looking for people who are able to decipher difficult handwriting and can donate a few hours a week. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Bob Wascou at < robertw252@aol.com >.

Detailed information about the Bessarabia Vital Records database can be found at < http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Romania/KishinevVRs.htm >.

LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES CANADA

By Marlene Bishow
< MLBishow@comcast.net >

Anyone with Internet access, who is researching Canadian relatives, may want to check out the *Library and Archives Canada* site at < http://www.collectionscanada.ca/index-e.html >. From the Home page, you may click on the "Canadian Genealogy Centre" to access. Some of the databases include:

- Divorce in Canada (1841-1968)
- Census Microfilm Reels from 1666 to 1901
- Census of Canada, 1911
- Immigration Records (1925-1935)
- Western Land Grants (1870-1930)
- Soldiers of the South African War (1899-1902)
- Soldiers of the First World War (1914-1918)
- 1915-1932 Canadian Naturalization
- Canadian Directories: Who was Where

Passenger Lists available on the *Library and Archives Canada* site can be found at < http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/passenger/index-e.html >. The lists cover the period from 1865 to 1922. Record Group (RG) 76 is not indexed, so the task is rather ominous, unless you know the ship name and arrival date. Included in this database is access to passenger lists for the ports of Québec (1865-1921), Halifax (1881-1912, to 1922 shortly), to Saint John (1900-1912), North Sydney (1906-1908), and Vancouver (1905-1912). Victoria (1905 to 1912) will be added shortly.

Search criteria include: Name of Ship, Year of Arrival, Port of Arrival, Shipping Line, and Port of Departure. Since I had no specific information, I first entered "Riga" as the Port of Departure, but got no hits. Next, I entered "Hamburg" and received 270 hits. The numbered list was presented in the format of Name of Ship, Port and Date of Arrival.

> Example:
> 1. ADRIA Halifax, N.S. - 1903-05-05

The ship's name is linked to a page that contained a detailed description of the ship's voyage, including: Name of the Ship, Shipping Line, Departure Port and Date, Arrival Port and Date, Remarks, List Number, Reference (Record Group) and Microfilm. The link to the actual digital images of the documents is labeled "View Image." Images are not enhanced and, although it is easy to navigate between pages, there are no tools for zooming in on a particular name or line. By right clicking, you can save the image to you computer for viewing using a photo editing program.

If you are lucky enough to know the details of your relative's trip; you may have some success in finding the manifest, but you should be prepared to work hard to locate the name on the images. It is great that the Canadian Archives has preserved the documents. The images are of an acceptable quality, but a search engine that permits searches by name is sorely needed.

Should you wish to contact the Archives, their mailing address is:

Library and Archives Canada   Telephone: 613-996-5115
395 Wellington Street   or 1-866-578-7777 (toll free in Canada and the US)
Ottawa, ON K1A 0N4   Genealogy Reference: 613-996-7458
CANADA

New Online Database at USHMM of Jews in Asia Who Fled the Nazis
< http://resources.ushmm.org/uzbekrefugees >

During WWII more than one million Jews from the former Soviet Union, including the recently annexed territories of Eastern Poland, Baltic countries, Bessarabia and Northern Bukovina, were evacuated by the Soviet authorities or managed to escape on their own into the Soviet interior before German troops marched into their towns and villages.

A significant group of evacuees, including many Jewish families, arrived in Central Asia (Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tadzhikistan and Turkmenistan) in 1941-1942. The database of the Jewish evacuees and refugees is the first attempt to draw together archival information concerning the fate of Jews in Central Asia during WWII. This database is based on the card catalogue of evacuees stored in the Central State Archives of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Tashkent (RG- P-864, Registration and Reference bureau of the Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD) of the Uzbek SSR). The original card catalogue consists of more than 250,000 cards stored in 193 catalogue boxes with a total number of ca. 339,250 evacuees who were registered by the Soviet authorities in February 1942.

Estonian Jewish Archive (EJA)

This electronic archive < http://eja.pri.ee/ > contains many links to history, arts, memoirs, etc., of the Jews from Estonia. It includes students lists, lists of Jews from Reval, Pärnu and other communities, list of Jews deported in 1941 and many more, and several picture albums.

Indexes to 1903 Plock Vital Records
Greta James, Plock Achives Project, JRI- Poland < gjam6037@bigpond.net.au >

These indexes are now available as part of the Jewish Records Indexing - Poland project and can be viewed at < http://www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl/psa/plock_surn.htm >. The records are currently housed in the Plock Branch of the Polish State Archives. The indexing of the vital records for Bielsk, Bodzanow, Drobin, Sierpc and Wyszogrod has been completed. In addition, indexes to Books of Residence for Gostynin and Raciaz are also available.

Survey on Jewish Genealogists
Nu? What's New? Volume 7, Number 21

The first *Nu? What's New?* survey, is completed. More than 3,200—47% of the 7,200 subscribers—participated. Some stereotypes of a Jewish genealogist were confirmed and others were not. Here are some observations based on the results:

- Most Jewish genealogists are relatively new to the hobby—more than half have been researching their family history for less than 10 years.
- Jewish genealogists rely on the volunteer efforts of others—68.8% of the respondents claim they do not volunteer for genealogy projects.
- We are a computer-oriented, high-speed Internet-oriented group, but this appears to be true of all genealogists.
- Jewish genealogists are well educated—47.7% have advanced (masters/doctorate) degrees.
- Are we "little old ladies in tennis sneakers"? Unfortunately, an important question was accidentally left out of the survey—What is your gender (male/female)? But the survey did ask age and, remarkably, the typical Jewish genealogist is nearly seven years older (61.2 years) than the non-Jewish genealogist (54.6).

You can view all the results of all 26 questions at < http://www.avotaynu.com/survey/survey.htm >.

Society News

Current Newsletters available electronically from the editor:

"Atsmi Uvsari" - Utah JGS
"Family Legacies" - JGS Southern Nevada
"Generations" - JGS of Michigan
"Illiana" - Illinois/Indiana JGS
"Looking Back" - JGS of Tampa Bay, FL
"Mishpochology" - JGS of Southwest Florida (Sarasota)
"Montreal Forum" - JGS Montreal
"News 'N Notes" - St. Louis Genealogy Society
"Quest" - Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut
"Shalshelet " - Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon
"Shem Tov" - JGS of Canada (Toronto)
"Venturing Into Our Past" - JGS Conejo Valley & Ventura County, California
"Zichron Note" - San Francisco Bay Area JGS

To request a newsletter, just send an e-mail to < mishpologia@uzidog.com > and I will forward it to you.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Judith G. ABRAMS	Victor MILLER
Phil BRUNELL	Robert & Nancy MORGAN
Beatrice G. CHESTER	Marco & Edith POLLNER
Kathy DAVIDSON	Morty POSNER
Renee DOMOGAUER	Patricia PRINZ
Roberta EICHENHOLZ	Betty B. ROSS
Ronald FELDBAUM	Stephen & Debra SCHMAL
Melanie GRISHMAN	Mark SCHUTZ
Candice HAAGA	Philip S. SHAPIRO
Alan HIRSHFELD	Shelley SPARROW
Albert JACOBS	Elinor STOLAR
Robert M. JONES	Marvin M. TURKANIS
Johanna MARSHALL	Richard S. ULLMAN

The President's Perspective
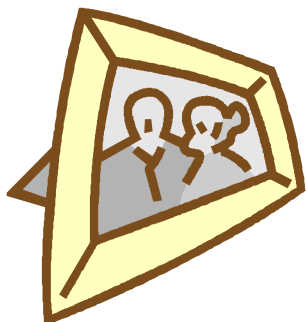
The tools available for use in our common hobby are many and varied. Some, like the JewishGen Family Finder (JGFF), require some time to enter your research data, but that time is well worth the effort. Just yesterday, I was contacted by someone searching my husband's SATTENSTEIN family. In less than 24 hours, I was able to add a branch of about 50 people to my tree and I was able to give him more than I received; but it was my pleasure.

If you do not have a Researcher number with JewishGen http://www.jewishgen.org/ , get one……it's free. The New User registration form is at < http://www.jewishgen.org/CURE/jgidadd.asp?OK=Y >. After you complete the simple form, you will receive an e-mail confirming your login information. If you do not have a computer, you can ask a friend to complete this for you because even people without computer access should register in JGFF. Instead of an e-mail address, just indicate your snail mail address and inquiries will come to you via the Post Office.

Next, make a list of the surnames that you are researching and also list the ancestral town/shtetl by its present day name and country. One of the many places that you can find this information is at Miriam Weiner's website < www.rtrfoundation.org/ > or at the JewishGen ShtetlSeeker page.

Armed with your list of surnames and shtetls and the login information, go to JGFF < http://www.jewishgen.org/jgff/ > and select the Enter/Modify option button. You may list as many surnames as you need to. If you do not know the exact shtetl, then enter the surname and country. If you make a mistake or want to add or modify your list, you can do that at any time – just follow the directions.

Another relatively new tool is voice over IP. This is a telephone-like service using a computer. The service that I am most familiar with is Skype < http://www.skype.com/ >. Downloading the software is painless. You will need to have a microphone and speakers or a headset with a built-in mic. Using this set-up and the free software, you can call anyone on another computer that is set up with Skype, anywhere in the world for FREE. If you want to use it to call a regular telephone, that service is available for a very nominal charge. I speak several times a week with my cousin in Uruguay and it does not cost me anything to do so. Check out Skype and you too can be doing research with distant family or resources in a matter of minutes.

Looking forward to seeing you at the January 14th meeting,

Marlene Bishow
President

Genealogical Gems from the National Archives

Submitted by
Liz Lourie < lourie@worldnet.att.net > and Mike Getz < mikegetz005@comcast.net >

Two expert NARA archivists, Lynn Goodsell and Chris Naylor, gave a presentation on "Genealogical Gems from the National Archives" to JGSGW members on October 16, repeated on October 20.

Lynn Goodsell, archivist on the staff of Electronic and Special Media Records Services Division, explained how to use NARA's Access to Archival Databases (AAD), available to all online. The AAD offers a *selection* of NARA's electronic records from archival databases.

Try it out at < www.archives.gov/aad >. You can type a name into the search box; or click on a broad category (e.g. Index to Photographs or Genealogy/Personal History: Civilians), a specific subject (e.g. Labor Unions) or time span. Note that "WWII Army Enlistment Records" will give basic information from the original punch cards, including the soldier's serial number, but not the full military service record. For that, use NARA's Standard Form 180 to request his file (if available) from "The National Personnel Records Center" in St. Louis or if you are next of kin, you can send an online request through "eVetRecs." Both of these forms are available through the NARA Website.

Immigration records are limited to Irish Famine immigrants arriving at the Port of New York. These were a gift from the *Balch Institute* in Philadelphia. In the future, NARA hopes to be able to include the Balch series of *Germans to America* and *Russians to America* within the AAD.

NARA archivist Chris Naylor recounted the saga of one Samuel Selinkof, Russian-born U.S. citizen who was arrested in Lemberg, Austria at the beginning of WWI as a possible Russian spy. There was a treasure trove of handwritten letters in German with English translations written by him, detailing his entire life and by his brother who was seeking his release. There were also communications between the Austrian government and the U.S. Embassy in Vienna. There was such rich detail in these "Correspondence Files" (Record Group 84) that one could imagine a film based on Sam's life. To begin this type of research, one would start with RG 59, "General Records of the Department of State," using the Central Decimal File (indexed by name), then search further via RG 84, "Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State." It is for this latter record group that Chris and his group have developed an important new finding aid which makes these records accessible to researchers at Archives II in College Park, MD.

In case you were wondering how Sam's story ended, after 16 months in prison and many appeals from our government, he was finally expelled from Austria. The last we heard from him (August 22, 1915), he was in Amsterdam.

The workshops concluded with a presentation by Marian Smith, historian for Citizenship and Immigration Services. She has, in the past, helped initiate and lead some of our most important projects.

Her presentation dealt with "Immigration Correspondence from 1882-1906." This material will be the basis for JGSGW's new research and indexing project. Marlene Bishow and the JGSGW, in consultation with Ms. Smith, prepared a proposal in Excel format, to cover data entry for a joint project. The goal will be to develop a finding aid that can serve to describe and inventory immigration files at NARA. The Index Project will be identified as "Entry 7: 1882-1906."

From a clear PowerPoint presentation, the group learned about the contents of the typical packet which represents a file. A key initial task will be to identify and record file numbers as well as the following details:

- Correspondence Origin
- File Dates
- Last Names
- First Names
- Alias
- Age
- Nationality or Place of Birth
- Individual ID

Additional important data fields relate to the following: appeals, deportation, and other aspects, as well as the purpose of correspondence, which clarifies issues of personnel, finance and policy. The Port and Date of Arrival are also important.

Ms. Smith answered all questions and stressed the value to the community of making these records more accessible and available. Her presentation was warmly received and applauded.

The project itself will be an exciting and stimulating activity for those who choose to be involved, as it is well-planned and organized. ✡

JGSGW Board Meeting Notes

At the last Board of Directors meeting, held on November 5, 2006, discussion centered around two important issues. One was the accessibility of JGSGW library materials at the recently relocated Isaac Frank library. JGSGW Librarian Judy White reported that progress in unpacking and shelving the materials was moving slowly and that certain issues regarding accessibility remained to be worked out. Based on this report, President Marlene Bishow was authorized by the board to consider potential alternative arrangements if our members' access to our materials will be limited by the current arrangement.

Treasurer Gary Morin is moving along in his extensive efforts to move the society's financial records to a computer-based system. He will be working closely with Marlene Bishow to have the system in place in the near future. The board will also be looking for ways to increase the return on the society's savings, with recommendations to be presented at a future Board meeting.

Martin Wald and Jean Holz have been researching insurance alternatives for JGSGW. They will present their recommendation to the Board.

The Board is also reviewing the By-Laws for possible revision. This committee is headed by Judy White. The next board meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 24, 2006.

Gene Alpert
Recording Secretary

JGSGW Membership Directory

By the time that you receive this edition of Mishpacha, the 2006 edition of the JGSGW Membership Directory will have been distributed to all members, either in person at a meeting or by US Mail. If you have not received a copy of the directory by January 7, please contact Ben Fassberg < BenjaminF@aol.com > or Marlene Bishow < MLBishow@comcast.net >.

Any corrections, additions or changes, should be sent to < JGSGW_DC@comcast.net >. New data will be added to the database and added to the supplement.

Member's Corner
Can you help?

Editor's note:
Following a request to the membership, I received several messages asking for genealogical research advice. I am not an expert or a professional genealogist. I would like this column to be an interactive one and would appreciate participation by members of the Society in answering these queries. As this is the first installment, Marlene and I have attempted to give some general advice but I am sure there are more knowledgeable members in our Society who can help. Please send your response to the letter writer with a copy to me at < mishpologia@uzidog.com > so that it can be printed in the next *Mishpacha*.

KLEINBAUM

Morris KLEINBAUM left Poland for France where he stayed for a few years. From France, he came to the United States (New York) in the early 1900s. I once tried Ancestry.com before realizing it was a commercial enterprise. I am not sure whether I got anything from Ellis Island. I do not know how to access a Polish person coming from France to the United States. How would you advise me to look for more information?

Edith (Kleinbaum) Pollner < JPApollner@aol.com >

ML: Ancestry has a 14-day free subscription. You have to remember to cancel it. Or go to your public library or the National Archives, which offers free access on their computers. Some libraries offer remote access to HeritageQuest Online and Historical Newspaper Index (you can access their database from your home with your library card number). Search for him in a census. Find out if he became a citizen.
Try again on the Ellis Island site and write down your findings. Or use Steven Morse's website < http://stevemorse.org/ >. I found a Kleinbaum Michel, 25 years old when he immigrated (Oct 9, 1909 on the ship La Bretagne). He was a shoemaker, born in Russia, living in Paris.

To NYC via Boston

I have recently learned that my husband's family came to NYC via Boston. Is there anyone out there that would be interested in sharing their story about why some came there then moved on to NYC rather than coming directly to NY like the majority?

Nancy Weinberg < na_weinberg@yahoo.com >

ML: I have read that sometimes people boarded whichever ship was offered to them, no matter where it landed and they would go to their final destination once they were accepted into the country. Can anyone else provide a good explanation?

MB: Another possible explanation is that the immigrant may have had family in Boston who sponsored them or offered them a job. Once there, they did not like Boston or had a falling out with the relative. Most immigrants went to any port that they could get a ticket to.

Research in Argentina

I have a newly discovered family branch from Argentina named GOLAN that is related to my WIE-NER family from Lithuania and the United States. Family knowledge says that GOLAN family members visited WIENER family members here in the United States many years ago. I am interested in learning more about this branch of my family.

Jeff Miller < SingingTM@comcast.net >

ML: The CEMLA (Centro de Estudios Migratorios de America Latina - Latin America Centre Of Migratory Studies) used to have passenger lists on-line but they had to close the site because of hackers. Their postal address is Avda. Independencia 20 - (1099) Buenos Aires, Argentina.
The Argentinian on-line telephone book is < http://www.paginasamarillas.com.ar/home_blancas.asp >

Look into the Bremen or Hamburg Passenger lists. Search in the Latin America-SIG archives and explore the JewishGen InfoFiles for Argentina at < http://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/argentina.html >

Nachum Elya's last name

I am looking for my maternal great-grandfather's last name.
His first name was Nachum Elya, son of Gersh, born in 1838, in (or came from) Glukhov, Ukraine, in Sumy or Chernigov Oblast. Glukhov was a small town east-northeast of Priluki, in Poltava, northeast of Kiev Guberniya.
Nachum Elya married Gisya, also born in 1838, daughter of Leiba Pokrasov, in Priluki. They had five children, Gersh (Harry), Yakov (Jacob), Hana Sara, Lena and Anna.
I don't know when or how or where they arrived in the U.S., but here they were known as Abramowitz. Jacob became a citizen in 1908 and changed his name to Abrams. He died in Brooklyn, NY, in 1929.

Joel Bressler < joelbressler@verizon.net >

ML: Searching in the Ukraine is complicated and difficult. It is possible that your great-grandfather did not have an "official" last name, and was known as "son of." Any idea when they began using last names? In Hungary they began in the late 1790s but not too many Jews adopted them. Hungarian Jews increasingly adopted names after 1867.
If the children were married in the U.S, search for their marriage records. If they became citizens, request their naturalization papers.

MB: If you have the naturalization number, you should contact the court in which your great-grandfather was naturalized. Brooklyn was in the Eastern District of New York and Manhattan was in the Southern District of New York. You should write to the court directly, rather than going through the National Archives, as the original papers would be there and the Archives would only have a copy. Be certain to ask for all documents in the file, including the Application and Notice of Intent. If found, any of these might give you a date and port of arrival.

If you are not certain of the Naturalization document number, you might try looking at the Index of Naturalizations created by the Italian Genealogical Group at
< http://www.italiangen.org/databaselist.stm >. There are listings for both the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York, and the forms for ordering copies of documents.

UPCOMING JGSGW PROGRAMS
All meetings are held at *B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium, Rockville, MD*
and start at **1:30 PM** unless otherwise noted

Date: January 14, 2007
Topic: Yiddish Language and Culture: Understanding the Context of Our Ancestors' Lives
Speaker: Miriam Isaacs, Ph.D.

Yiddish was the language spoken and written by so many of our ancestors. They also immersed themselves in Yiddish culture, even as immigrants to the United States. This presentation will help us to better understand the lives our ancestors lived. Dr. Isaacs will focus on Yiddish culture as a transnational culture. She will speak about the history of Yiddish, and will then focus on names, personal and place names, and Jewish geography.

Miriam Isaacs holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from Cornell University. She is currently a Visiting Associate Professor in Yiddish Language and Culture. Dr. Isaacs is a native speaker of Yiddish, and was born in Germany in a Displaced Persons Camp.

Date: *February 11, 2007*
Topic: "Looking for the Only Unaccompanied Children Rescued from the Holocaust by America"
Speaker: Iris Posner

Between 1934 and 1945, private American organizations and individuals rescued approximately 1000 unaccompanied children from the Holocaust by bringing them to the U.S. to be placed with relatives and other foster families. In 2000, *One Thousand Children*®, Inc. was formed to find out who these children were, how they were rescued and resettled, and locate as many as possible. Using archival materials, the Internet and other resources, the names of virtually all the children have been obtained, and to date, over 500 found. This presentation is the story of that undertaking.

Iris Posner is the co-founder and President of *One Thousand Children*®, Inc. (OTC). As President of OTC, she established the first archives of materials dedicated to the OTC rescues and co-edited the first book of memoirs of the OTC children and rescuers, entitled, *Don't Wave Goodbye*.

Date: *March 11, 2007*
Topic: "Write Your Family History NOW!"
Speaker: Mike Karsen

We genealogists are very good at doing research and collecting many facts about our families. For any of a number of reasons, however, most of us delay publishing the results of this research. Mike Karsen shows how you can publish your findings in books that vary from a simple 30 pages to one that contains detailed biographies and places your family in historical context. Your goal should be to organize your findings and share them with your family as soon as possible.

A professional genealogy speaker/instructor and researcher, Mike Karsen is a member of the *Association of Professional Genealogists* (APG), the *Genealogical Speakers Guild* (GSG), and the *National Genealogical Society* (NGS). He is on the faculty of Newberry Library and the Spertus Institute of Jewish studies. He is the author of the JewishGen Info File, Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland < www.jewishgen.org/infofiles/Chicago/ > and has published several articles on genealogy.

Note: This presentation was scheduled for a JGSGW meeting last year but was canceled due to inclement weather.

2007 MEETING SCHEDULE

January 14 - B'nai Israel
February 11 - B'nai Israel
March 11 - B'nai Israel
April 22 - Olam Tikvah, Fairfax, VA
May 6 - B'nai Israel
June 10 - Potomac Community Center, Potomac, MD

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

First Class Mail