

Mishpacha

Quarterly Publication of The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington

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Social Media and Genealogy

It is not enough to say "google it" anymore. There are so many more options in on-line research now. Of course many of us start with a google search, leading us to Ancestry.com, Jewishgen.org, Facebook, blogs, LinkedIn, and many other online resources. What we do from there - how we use these resources is what might make the difference in our findings leading us to new discoveries and helping us to chisel away at those brick walls.



In this issue you can read about how three of our members used facebook to facilitate a family reunion, bring together an entire regional reunion, and uncover new family links. Included is a short list of web logs or "blogs" that you should take a moment to explore. Within these blogs, and the many others you can find on topic online, there is another wealth of information on towns, families, immigration stories, communities, and also lots of examples for finding family information. Not all of the blogs listed are limited to Jewish Genealogy, but the resources and info within them may still lead us in the right direction as the diaspora created communities that were comprised of strong jewish families as well as other ethnic and religious groups.





Meetup Groups have become a way to find people who share similar interests and then "meet up" with them. The website for Meetups, www.meetup.com, offers many groups to join and even the opportunity to start your own group. JGSGW member, Rachel Jablon started a meetup group for jewish genealogy giving JGSGW another method of outreach to new members of all ages. You can click here to see how JGSGW is promoted.



Read the articles starting on page 4 and then see the resources on page 9. VISIT JGSGW ON FACEBOOK! 128 Facebook Friends and growing!

www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGW/



JGSGW

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JGSGW members are encouraged to submit their genealogical research experiences for possible publication in *Mishpacha*. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or publish in revised form.

Submit articles to the editor: Jan R. Fine, at mishpacha.jgsgw@gmail.com. ©2013 Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, Inc.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear JGSGW Members:

I am continually amazed that after thirty-three years in existence, there are still Jewish folks in the DC metro area that do not know that the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington exists. After we have hosted 6 conference (5 of them in Washington, DC and 1 in Jerusalem), there are still locals who do not know us or affiliate with us. How can that be and what can we do about it?

JGSGW has undertaken several projects in an attempt to make our organization better known in the local community:

JGSGW has a "Speakers' Bureau." Although we do not presently have a chairperson for this activity, several members make themselves available to speak to groups.

I will present a genealogical case study at the JCCGW, sponsored by the Men's Club on Wednesday, January 15 at 1 PM. This program is FREE and open to the public.

On January 22 and 29, Jonina Duker and I will share the program for two sessions each for the Jewish Study Center, meeting at Adas Israel. There is a nominal charge for these evening classes.

On March 25, at 10:30 am Jeff Malka will do a presentation for the JCCNV/NVHC Reston Active Adults group. Topic TBD.

Robin Meltzer's article in this issue of Mishpacha addresses our outreach to the next generations. In late December we marked the first anniversary of our Facebook page. We have 125 friends, but to be honest, the results are disappointing, as few friends seem to post or even react to postings. Further, the majority of friends are not even from this geographic area....not exactly what I had in mind when I created the site. I had higher hopes for our space at Meetup, but that too has been disappointing. I am not sure that social media is working for us......I welcome your thoughts and comments at President@jgsgw.org

I would be remiss if I did not mention the great job that Renee Domogauer and her husband have been doing taking photos at the B'nai Israel Cemetery at Oxon Hill, Maryland. This is a huge cemetery and while the initial spreadsheet was created three years ago from records obtained from B'nai Israel and other sources, the contribution to JOWBR was lacking photographs. Thus far, more than 175 matzevot have been photographed by Renee et al. For sure, there will be many more opportunities with favorable weather conditions for others to help out with this project, so if you would like to help us with this worthwhile project, please contact Renee at ddomo@verizon.net

A little known and little used resource on the JGSGW website is the Washington Area Jewish Burial Registry. This is a collection of data from various cemetery projects conducted by JGSGW over about 30 years for cemeteries in the DC metro area. The Burial Registry may be found at http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw/JBR.html. The database has about 20,000 entries and is searchable. This is not a competitor to JOWBR, but whereas JOWBR only takes contributions of complete cemeteries or sections of cemeteries, we will take smaller numbers of graves and we document more detail than JOWBR can accommodate. After we document a complete cemetery, such as is the case with ANC and B'nai Israel, we format the data and submit it to JOWBR. If you wish to make a contribution to our cemetery database, please contact me.

Wishing you all a healthy and happy new year,

Marlene

Marlene Katz Bishow President

REBUILDING A NEIGHBORHOOD IN CYBERSPACE: THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF THE 15th WARD, SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

by Robin A. Meltzer

Every American Jewish community has an archive. These searchable collections of records, photographs, family histories and memorabilia will fill in the gaps in our family trees and provide historical details of our ancestor's lives.

"Wait a minute," you say, "There is no Jewish archive for my hometown. I'm from there. I should know." But I assure you, it does exist. At the moment, its holdings lay scattered in basements, hatboxes, and the most precarious of storage devices – people's memories. Through social networking, you can gather up these pieces and reassemble them into an online archive, an accessible, searchable genealogic and historical resource. For the past two years, my cousin Linda Epstein, a few hundred of my former neighbors and I have been creating an online archive for my hometown Jewish community of Syracuse, New York.

The "urban renewal" movement of the 1960s hit Syracuse's Jewish community very hard. Demolition focused on the community's historic center, known as the 15th Ward. Interstate 81 runs through what used to be my grandparents' living room. A few blocks to the east, most of the Jewish neighborhood I grew up in is now glass strewn parking lots. Synagogues and businesses dispersed to the suburbs. Most of the membership records, newsletters and memorabilia from the "old neighborhood" were lost or discarded in the move. The dislocation also led many of the next generation to move away, settling from Tel Aviv to Alaska to Wales. Even Silver Spring, Maryland.

After attending the dc2011 IAJGS (International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies) conference, hosted by the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW), my cousin Linda Epstein and I were lamenting the lack of Jewish genealogy resources for Syracuse. Beginning in high school, I had researched the four generations of my family who had settled in Syracuse on site, but there was very little to find apart from vital records, headstones and memorial boards. Linda, a certified archivist, had researched her branch of the family in several locations and had come across the same difficulty. She suggested that we start a facebook group for Syracuse Jewish genealogy to share our resources and find new ones. I could not envision my parents' friends diving in to the world of social networking, but I figured it was worth a try.

On December 11, 2011, "Jewish Community of the 15th Ward, Syracuse, NY" went live. We started by uploading family photos from the old neighborhood, and the cover of the 1964 Syracuse Hadassah cookbook, still a mainstay in many of my landsleit's kitchens. Relatives and friends began to join. They invited their friends and high school classmates, creating a widening circle of people who called Syracuse home from the 1920s to the present. Each new member received a welcome message post, with instructions on how to use the group features and how to contact the moderators with questions.

More and more group members began posting their family photos and memorabilia, everything from Tsarist army portraits to Victorian trade cards from Jewish owned businesses. Almost immediately, members began recognizing faces in each other's photographs, identifying people once thought lost to history. Someone who had only seen a great-uncle frowning in formal photographs was able to identify him playing the mandolin at a picnic in 1925, surrounded by his friends, including the poster's father. Group member Ronda Hegeman posted a circa 1910 photograph of two of her great aunts, one of whom was my great aunt by marriage. Our family had never seen a photograph of this aunt taken before the 1940s. Group member Alan Blank posted a few pages from a 1933 Workmen's Circle journal, with two photographs of my grandfather Mose Meltzer working as manager of the Purity Cooperative Bakery. I had heard many times that my grandfather had worked as a baker, but here he was behind the counter.

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To make sure that the group would function well as a genealogic resource, each photograph posted was identified as precisely as possible. Using city directories and census records, we were able to determine street addresses and approximate years for most of the items posted. As facebook groups have a search feature, we are careful to include the full names of all subjects and complete locations in the caption or comments of each photograph. These identifications assure that a group member can find all posts related to any name or keyword by using the search function. This also keeps the group indexed, an important feature for any genealogy resource.

Another function of the group is to assist its members in genealogic research. Every few weeks, we post a reminder message to the group that we can do records lookups in the United States and New York State censuses, Syracuse City Directories, a 1915 Syracuse



Mose Meltzer at the Purity Cooperative Bakery, Syracuse, NY circa 1933. Photo courtesy of Alan Blank.

telephone directory and several other references both on line and in hard copy. Generally, a group member will post asking about parents or grandparents. We respond with a set of census images and directory scans, explaining how to interpret the records and suggesting avenues for further research. Many group members have gotten off to a solid start in charting their family tree.

In April 2012, the group was at about 200 members. Long lost cousins and old friends were finding each other every week. Group members were stopping my mom Elaine Meltzer, who still lives in Syracuse, at the grocery store or the JCC, saying how excited they were about all the discoveries we were making. And then I got an e-mail from group member Jay Lurie, a television and documentary producer now living in Buffalo. He wanted to make a short video about Syracuse Jewish history, based on some of the material posted to the group. I thought it was a great idea, and offered whatever help we could. Jay started filming in May. He



Rose Stolusky (seated) and her sister Gertrude, Syracuse, NY ca 1917. Photo courtesy of Ronda Hegeman.

traveled to Syracuse and throughout the East Coast, interviewing several dozen former Syracusans. Within a few months, it became clear that there were so many stories to be told, this was going to be a lot more than a short video. I became Associate Producer.

The community's enthusiasm for the project was tremendous. People agreed to be interviewed who had never before spoken about their lives. Group member Sharon Grundel told the story of her mother Inge Grundel's Holocaust experiences, and how she rebuilt her life in Syracuse. Alan Rosenbloom found his grandfather Max Rosenbloom's 1936 silent movie of a community maccabiad, held on Lag B'Omer in Thornden Park. Group members could see their parents and grandparents as teenagers, tumbling and running sack races. It was as though our community's attic had been flung wide open, with all its treasures at last before us. At this writing, filming for the now full-length documentary "Stories from the Syracuse Jewish Community" is complete. The project is now in post-production.

The 15th Ward facebook group also serves an important community resource for present day Jewish institutions. When the Jewish Community Center of Syracuse was preparing to celebrate its 150th anniversary in June 2013, the call went out for photographs and memorabilia associated with the Young Men's Hebrew Association, Camp Kan-Ya-Ti-Yo, Bradley Brook Camp and the other programs associated with its long history. From all over the world, our more than 400 group members came through. They

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posted dozens of photos, JCC newsletters from the 1940s and loaned their camp t-shirts. I also assisted the gala committee with historical research in online archival sources and in my growing collection of Syracuse city directories.

The summer of 2013 also marked our foray into live events. Group member Alan Blank was planning a family reunion in Syracuse in August 2013 at The Oaks, a Jewish senior residence. He asked if we wanted to host a 15th Ward event as part of his reunion. By this time, I had learned to say "yes.

With member permissions, I printed out some of the photos from the group and put them on display boards, including some that stubbornly remain (for now) "mystery photos." I also made displays of the historical memorabilia about Jewish Syracuse that I had found on online auction sites, including a circa 1890 coffee tin from the Thalheimer grocery company and a metal tray from Goldberg's Furniture from about 1910. Family friends Elaine and Martin Birnbaum, owners of Birnbaum Funeral Service, sponsored a buffet. And so on August 4, 2013, I lugged all the memorabilia and my husband's laptop up to The Oaks, set up my powerpoint and waited, but not for long. It was standing room only. All the enthusiasm, and homesickness, we had seen on the group was there in front of us. The images I showed brought shouts of recognition, and we even got some of the mystery photos identified. So I did it all again two days later for the people who couldn't be there the first time.

The 15th Ward facebook group has become our main street, our town square. With over 500 members at this writing, it is a place to preserve memories and memorabilia. It is a genealogy archive and an online museum. It is a launching pad for projects about Jewish Syracuse, and a resource for the community's institutions.

Maybe you can't go home again, but you can sure have a lot of fun trying.



Robin Meltzer is Vice President of Communications for JGSGW



This is from the August 4, 2013 reunion – I set out a stack of city directories so people could find where there parents lived, or find themselves in the listings.



This is a photo of the memorabilia display from the August 4, 2013 reunion.

How Facebook Helped to Find Relatives by Jeff Miller

My father, Morris Miller, was the oldest of three brothers; Frank was the middle brother, and Abe the youngest. All three were the children of Max and Jennie Miller. My father, Morris, died in 1985, and Abe in 1996. Frank and his wife Florence are still living

In April 2011, I wanted to plan a reunion, not only with Frank and Florence, with whom I had visited a few

times over the years, in addition to having been in touch by telephone and mail, but also with Abe's daughters, with whom I'd never met or been in contact.

When I first got serious about Jewish genealogy, I sent out a questionnaire to various relatives and family members, and received back a very detailed response from Frank and Florence. This was to be of immense help to me as I had the goal of a reunion of the Miller family. Frank and Florence response to my questionnaire provided the names and vital information for all of the Miller family members, particularly the two daughters of Abe and their family members.

According to information I received from Frank, his brother Abe had married a second wife named Eleanor Coulter and had two daughters, Jo-Ann and Faith. Faith married Allan Messing and Jo-Ann married Michael Vetere. Eleanor died in 1961 of Leukemia. Faith and Allan's children included Randy Erin and Lynn Alexandra, and Jo-Ann and Michael are the parents of Melissa and Jessica.

I used this information on Facebook to make contact with those who would have been the grandchildren of Abe were he still alive, reasoning that if I could find them, I would be able to make contact with their parents; i.e., with Abe's two daughters Jo-Ann and Faith. The first daughter I found through her daughter Melissa was Jo-Ann



Morris Miller in uniform.

Miller Vetere, whose e-mail address I received from Melissa. Jo-Ann indicated that she was aware of the existence and relationship of her father Abe to my late father Morris.

I updated my cousin Jo-Ann on the names and whereabouts of family members who were related to my father and those related to his brother Frank, and gave her some details about my life. My experience with Faith was another story. Her initial response was as follows; "I am sorry, but as far as I know my father did not have a brother named Morris. The only brother I know of is named Frank. I am sorry, but I think you might have the wrong Miller family."

After I provided her with confirming family information, she responded:

"I'm glad to find out that we are the right family. I don't have any memory of your father but I do remember Frank & Florence and their children Allan & Paula. I am happy to hear that they are still around and I will be able to see them again. It would be nice to meet you and your family.

My children, Randi & Lynne, still live in the area. Randi works in Manhattan and lives in Hoboken. Lynne is still in college and will be graduating in May. I was surprised that you knew so much about the family until I read that you teach genealogy.

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My Husband and I are planning on moving down to Florida later this year but we will still be here in May if you visit during that time. We would love to get together Sincerely,

Faith."

Subsequently, I was successful in arranging a family reunion, although it was touch and go for a while. When I reached Frank's son Allan, he informed me that Frank was having a medical problem and might not be able to participate in the reunion. Ultimately, however, Frank was able to meet with us, and all were happy to get together and connect. I met the family members along with one of my sisters (Sheila), and had a grand time.

After the fact, I learned that this meeting was the first contact in ten years between the two sisters, Jo-Ann and Faith, who'd had a falling out. Hopefully, this paved the way for a more-connected family.

I have been in touch with Jo-Ann with whom I regularly exchange e-mails.



LEWIS COHEN'S GENEALOGICAL BREAKTHROUGH

Since joining the JGSGW last year I have been trying to find information about my father's parents. Realizing that there are lots of Cohens I concentrated on the Noyer part of the family who immigrated from "Russia in the 1890's" and I have been frustrated with not being able to find information on any OF THE genealogy sites I used.

Several months ago I was in contact with cousins and one provided a link that the family name was Noyarcheck. Subsequently I found the 1900 census for Yankel and Leah Nayorchick, (grandma Celia's parents). I was able to find that they came from "Russia in 1891". Genealogy sites and a start at the National Archives was nextwith little results.

On December 18th with the assistance of our wonderful librarian, Vera Finberg we located a WWI draft record for my father's uncle Jack Nayorchek showing his birthplace as Suwalki, Russia. EUREKA!!!

We then went to JRI Poland and found the Wiejsieje PSA birth records showing my grandmother Cypa Nejercyk was born in 1874 to Mejer Jankiel and Leja Finkielsztejn. There also showed a whole lot of Nejercyk's in Suwalki!

Sharing this information with current, long-lost, and new-found relatives has been amazing!

Write Your Family History – And Send it to the Library of Congress!

January 13, 2014 by Erin Allen

(The following is a guest post by James Sweany, head of Local History and Genealogy in the Humanities and Social Sciences Division.)



Blank family record. 1888. Prints and Photographs Division.

The best way to preserve your family history is to write it down. By publishing your family history, you are able to capture and preserve the stories, pictures and genealogical data, making it available for other family members and future generations. A history of your family will make a wonderful gift for your relatives, and you may find that your family becomes inspired to help you seek out additional family branches.

As my colleague Anne Toohey wrote in her blog post on Christmas Day, by writing your family history, you are taking the known names, dates and places of your ancestors, and providing a historical context in a story-like form. This way, your ancestors become much more than names on a pedigree chart. They become people who lived during an earlier time, who had experiences through which you and others can get to know them through your narrative. If you include photographs and images of vital records or other significant events, the text will come alive and will be much more interesting for the reader.

The key to making your family history useful to others is the organization. A table of contents and an index of names and places used in your history will take additional time, but these added details

will be very useful to future researchers consulting your history. Also, it is very important to document your research. By compiling and publishing a family history, you are inviting others to continue your research. Cite your records and document your sources. With documentation, others can build upon on the work you have done, and your history is more credible. There are various style manuals that can assist you with citation styles for footnotes, endnotes and bibliographies. If you decide to distribute your family history outside of your immediate family, be sure not to include personal information about people who are still living in order to protect their privacy.

The Library of Congress can help you find books about writing and publishing your family history. For example, how-to guidebooks that will help you organize your family history and resources on how to find a publisher can be identified in the Library of Congress Online Catalog. We invite you to seek guidance from our reference librarians through Ask a Librarian. For assistance with resources that may be found in your local area, consult your public or nearby university library to search other library catalogs. Local genealogical societies and historical societies are also great resources for additional guidance.

When you write your family history, you may only be doing so for your relatives. However, we also invite you to consider sending a copy to the Library of Congress. Compiled genealogies and U.S. local histories are very important to the international research clientele who frequent the institution. The Library seeks to collect all published and self-published works available on these important topics. Through generations of such gifts, the Library has assembled the leading book collection of genealogy and local history information in the world.

And who knows, perhaps not yet discovered relatives will be led back to your family line through your sharing of your family story!

Social Media and Blog Resources

There are many resources for social media and blogs. The following list will help you get started.

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter (news): http://blog.eogn.com/

The Genetic Genealogist (DNA): http://www.thegeneticgenealogist.com/

Hack Genealogy (Technology): http://hackgenealogy.com/

The Legal Genealogist (Law): http://www.legalgenealogist.com/

RootDig (opinion): http://rootdig.blogspot.com/

Mocavo (genealogy blog): http://blog.mocavo.com/

This site is not only a search engine, it also has a feature called "Fireside Chats" with noted professionals.

Movcavo also has it's own blog.

GeneaBloggers.com

Thomas MacEntee is the person behind this site. It is more than just an overview of what's new in genealogy blogging. It is chock full of resources, ideas, and examples along with lots of personal non-genealogy postings. Here you can find Lara Diamond's blog. Lara is Co-President of the Maryland JGS and a member of JGSGW.

Wordpress.com

Among the many blogs you will find is is my own blog, Fine Family Secrets. I am very overdue for a post, but welcome readers to see what I am searching and finding.

Family Circle Magazine listed it's top 40 Genealogy Blogs for 2013. Here is the link to their article: (click here) or go to http://www.familytreemagazine.com/article/Top-40-Genealogy-Blogs-2013

The article breaks the blogs down into categories including advice, tech support, gravestone info (note: there is one listed here called The Association of Graveyard Rabbits! I think most of us can appreciate that these are people who comb the cemetaries for information.), heritage help, shop talk - from historical societies and professionals, and stories. It also includes links to blogs and other helpful articles that can guide and perhaps inspire your research.

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In the Next Issue...

Spring Program Information

DNA AND GENETIC GENEALOGY

Please email your stories relating how DNA and Genetic Genealogy has helped or made an impact in your research to the editor: Jan Fine at: mishpacha.jgsgw@gmail.com

Mishpacha wants all of your stories!

Please send them in!

Announcing:

THE 34TH IAJGS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

Co-hosted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and the Utah Jewish Genealogical Society

Salt Lake City July 27 - August 1 2014

Visit the website at: www.iajgs2014.org

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL GROUPS/PAGES ON FACEBOOK (in English)

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GENERAL JEWISH SITES

American Jewish Historical Society: www.facebook.com/AmericanJewishHistoricalSociety American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Archive: www.facebook.com/jdcarchives

Blood & Frogs: Jewish Genealogy & More: www.facebook.com/jewishgenealogy Historical Society of Jews From Egypt: www.facebook.com/HSJE.ORG

International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies: www.facebook.com/IAJGSjewishgenealogy

Jewish Genealogy: www.facebook.com/groups/253024208129795

Jewish Genealogy: www.facebook.com/JewishGen.org

Jewish Genealogy Society of the Deep South: www.facebook.com/groups/108333152565814

Jewish History, Genealogy & Archeology: www.facebook.com/groups/2213868834

Jews in East Prussia: www.facebook.com/Jewsineastprussia

Knowles Collection - Connecting Jewish Families:

www.facebook.com/pages/The-Knowles-Collection-Connecting-Jewish-Families/179920622019757

National Museum of American Jewish History: www.facebook.com/NMAJH

National Museum of American Jewish Military History: www.facebook.com/NMAJMH

Next Generation Jewish Genealogists (in their 20's, 30's & 40's): www.facebook.com/groups/NextGenJG

Tracing the Tribe: www.facebook.com/groups/20364215746

JEWISH SITES BY LOCATION: UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

Pima County, AZ - Tucson Jewish History Museum:

www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-History-Museum/80169963891

Southern Arizona Jewish Genealogy Society: www.facebook.com/southernarizonajewishgenealogy

CALIFORNIA

Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles: www.facebook.com/groups/jgsla

Orange County, CA - Orange County Jewish Genealogical Society: www.facebook.com/OCJGS

Sacramento County, CA - Jewish Genealogical Society of Sacramento: www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Genealogical-Society-of-Sacramento/196055060450998

San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society:

www.facebook.com/pages/San-Francisco-Bay-Area-Jewish-Genealogical-Society/54214774804

Ventura County, CA - Jewish Genealogical Society of Conejo Valley & Ventura Co: www.facebook.com/pages/ Jewish-Genealogical-Society-of-the-Conejo-Valley-and-Ventura-County-JGSCV/222237551133661

COLORADO

Jewish Genealogy in Colorado: www.facebook.com/groups/32312422287

CONNECTICUT

Fairfield County, CT - Jewish Historical Society: www.facebook.com/JewishHistoricalSociety

Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut:: www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Genealogical-Society-of-Connecticut-JGSCT/228891543805247

Jewish Historical Society of Greater Hartford, CT: www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Historical-Society-of-Greater-Hartford/149715448421872 (next page)

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New Haven County, CT Jewish Historical Society: www.facebook.com/JHSGNH

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (DC): www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGW Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington (DC): www.facebook.com/JHSGW

FLORIDA

Broward County, FL - Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County (Ft. Lauderdale): www.facebook.com/JGSBC

Hillsborough County, FL - Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay: www.facebook.com/jgstb Jewish Museum at Florida International University: www.facebook.com/JewishMuseumofFlorida Miami-Dade County, FL - Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Miami: www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Genealogical-Society-of-Greater-Miami-Inc/233842593339368 Orange County, FL - Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando: www.facebook.com/JGSGreaterOrlando

ILLINOIS

Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois: www.facebook.com/JGSofIllinois

MARYLAND

Baltimore County, MD - Jewish Museum of Maryland: www.facebook.com/jewishmuseummd Jewish Genealogy Society of Maryland: www.facebook.com/JGSMaryland

MASSACHUSETTS

Suffolk County, MA - Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston (Page): www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Genealogy-Society-of-Greater-Boston/140621385962723 Suffolk County, MA - Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston (Group): www.facebook.com/groups/120620052327 Western Massachusetts Jewish Genealogical Society: www.facebook.com/pages/Western-Mass-Jewish-Genealogical-Society/252806274743373

MICHIGAN

Jewish Genealogical Society of Michigan: www.facebook.com/jgsmi

NEW JERSEY

Jewish Genealogical Society of North Jersey: www.facebook.com/groups/126366670715680 Jewish Historical Society of Central Jersey: www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Historical-Society-of-Central-Jersey/159700780815284

NEW YORK

Jewish Genealogical Society of New York: www.facebook.com/groups/62112838856 Kings, Queens, Nassau & Suffolk County, NY - Jewish Genealogical Society of Long Island: www.facebook.com/groups/JGSLI

NORTH CAROLINA

Durham, Orange & Wake Counties, NC - Triangle Jewish Genealogical Society: www.facebook.com/TriangleJewishGenealogicalSociety

OHIO

Columbus Jewish Historical Society: www.facebook.com/pages/Columbus-Jewish-Historical-Society/194503726665

OREGON

Oregon Jewish Museum: www.facebook.com/OregonJewishMuseum

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PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia, PA - Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia: www.facebook.com/groups/196732503717635

TEXAS

Dallas County, TX - Dallas Jewish Historical Society: www.facebook.com/DallasJewishHistoricalSociety Harris County, TX - Greater Houston Jewish Genealogical Society: www.facebook.com/pages/Greater-Houston-Jewish-Genealogical-Society/122943781085044

UTAH

Utah Jewish Genealogical Society: www.facebook.com/UtahJGS

WISCONSIN

Milwaukee County, WI - Milwaukee Jewish Museum: www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Museum-Milwaukee/172553580402

JEWISH SITES BY LOCATION: INTERNATIONAL

AUSTRALIA

Australia Jewish Museum: www.facebook.com/Jewish.Museum.of.Australia New South Wales (NSW) - Sydney Jewish Museum: www.facebook.com/sydneyjewishmuseum

CANADA

British Columbia - Jewish Museum & Archive of British Columbia (Vancouver): www.facebook.com/JewishBC New Brunswick - Saint John Jewish Historical Museum:

www.facebook.com/pages/Saint-John-Jewish-Historical-Museum/118753971549220

Ontario - Jewish Genealogical Society of Toronto: www.facebook.com/jgstoronto

Ontario-Ottawa Jewish Archives: www.facebook.com/pages/The-Ottawa-Jewish-Archives/511081938933574

Quebec - Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal: www.facebook.com/groups/142386081300

EGYPT

Historical Society of Jews From Egypt: www.facebook.com/HSJE.ORG

ENGLAND

Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain: www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGB

GERMANY

Jews from Posen, Prussia, Germany: www.facebook.com/groups/jewsfromposen

GREAT BRITAIN

Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain: www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGB

IRELAND

Irish Jewish Museum: www.facebook.com/TheIrishJewishMuseum

Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain: www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGB

ISRAEL

Douglas E. Goldman Jewish Genealogy Center at Beth Hatefutsoth (Israel):

www.facebook.com/pages/The-Douglas-E-Goldman-Jewish-Genealogy-Center-at-Beth-Hatefutsoth/50738968849

Israel Genealogy Research Association: www.facebook.com/israelgenealogy

Israel Genealogical Society: www.facebook.com/groups/112877852159953

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LATVIA

Jewish Genealogy in Latvia & Lithuania: www.facebook.com/groups/561938827169432

LITHUANIA

Jewish Genealogy in Lithuania & Latvia: www.facebook.com/groups/561938827169432 Lithuania Jewish Cemetery Project:

www.facebook.com/pages/Lithuania-Jewish-Cemetery-Project/113443288704538

MOLDOVA

Jewish Memory, History & Genealogy in Moldova: www.facebook.com/jewishmemory

NETHERLANDS

Dutch Jewish Genealogy: www.facebook.com/groups/joodse.genealogie

NORTHERN IRELAND

Northern Ireland Genealogy: www.facebook.com/groups/25050669192

POLAND

Bolechow, Ukraine (formerly Poland) Jewish Heritage Society:

www.facebook.com/pages/Bolechow-Jewish-Heritage-Society/100150546707007

Museum of the History of Polish Jews (Warsaw): www.facebook.com/jewishmuseum

Polish Jewish Roots: www.facebook.com/PolJewishRoots

Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute / Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center:

https://www.facebook.com/DzialGenealogiiZydowskiegoInstytutuHistorycznego

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa Jewish Museum: www.facebook.com/pages/South-African-Jewish-Museum/122453447816373

UKRAINE

Bolechow, Ukraine (formerly Poland) Jewish Heritage Society:

www.facebook.com/pages/Bolechow-Jewish-Heritage-Society/100150546707007

Mogilev-Podolskiy, Ukraine Jewish Genealogy Group: www.facebook.com/groups/620816894633048

Rohatyn, Ukraine Jewish Heritage: www.facebook.com/RohatynJH

JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETIES

Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington: https://www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGW/

Jewish Genealogical Society (New York): https://www.facebook.com/groups/62112838856/

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia: https://www.facebook.com/groups/196732503717635/

Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal: https://www.facebook.com/groups/142386081300/

Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain: https://www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGB/

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston: https://www.facebook.com/groups/120620052327/

Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut (JGSCT):

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Genealogical-Society-of-Connecticut-JGSCT/228891543805247

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Miami:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jewish-Genealogical-Society-of-Greater-Miami-Inc/233842593339368

Israel Genealogy Records Associations: https://www.facebook.com/israelgenealogy

Jewish Genealogy Society of Maryland: https://www.facebook.com/JGSMaryland

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Engaging the Next Generation in Jewish Genealogy by Robin Meltzer

After December 2013 program speaker Elijah Schulman presented "Simcha in Selma: Back to My Family's Roots," JGSGW President Marlene Bishow and VP Communications Robin Meltzer led a discussion about how to engage the next generation in Jewish genealogy.

Marlene discussed JGSGW's educational outreach program at Charles E. Smith last year. Robin outlined the new arrangement with the Melvin J. Berman Hebrew Academy to allow its students to earn mandatory student service learning hours by participating in JGSGW projects, such as documenting local Jewish cemeteries for JewishGen's JOWBR (Jewish Online Worldwide Burial Registry).

Many attendees discussed variations on congregational religious school family tree projects. Faith Klein, JGSGW Past President and Beginner's Workshop coordinator shared her experience in working with elementary aged children in growing a family tree. She encouraged JGSGW to advocate for religious schools to hold annual family tree events. The basic project is a valuable introduction to genealogic education, as well as promoting family interest in further research. Robin pointed out that current issues affecting this approach include increasing numbers of blended families and intermarriages. Instructors need to be aware of these situations and handle them with sensitivity.

Another topic on genealogy education is the development of online Jewish genealogy educational materials for classroom teachers. Marlene discussed materials and curricula on a Vancouver genealogy site, designed to be a one-stop resource for teachers. There was considerable interest in JGSGW creating similar materials for use in Jewish congregational schools and day schools.

Social networking was also a hot topic. In December 2012, Marlene created a Facebook group for JGSGW. There are currently 128 "friends" on the Facebook group. Through Next Generation Jewish Genealogists, a Facebook group formed after the DC2011 conference, JGSGW is experimenting with Meetup, an online service that helps groups of people with shared interests find each other and hold meetings in person. Rachel Leah Jablon is coordinating that effort for JGSGW. The goal is to involve younger Jewish genealogists in JGSGW programs activities. Meetup is only one of several social networking platforms that can promote local Jewish genealogy programming to a wide audience that might not otherwise be familiar with the society.

Marlene pointed out that the JGSGW Speakers Bureau is an important part of the society's outreach to the community for all age groups. The position of Chair for the Speakers Bureau is currently open, but Marlene and other members of the society have continued to provide lectures and workshops for the community. Future programs are in place for Temple Beth Ami in Rockville on December 22, 2013, the JCCGW Men's Club on January 15, 2014, and the Jewish Study Center (meeting at Adas Israel) on January 22 and 29, 2014.

Lew Cohen volunteered to coordinate an effort to collect data on JGSGW members who have affiliations with local synagogues, so that JGSGW can facilitate communication with these groups and with multigenerational groups within these organizations. JGSGW members will be receiving survery to help us collect the information.

The discussion closed with attendees offering a variety of ideas for involving the next generation, including outreach to college campuses. JGSGW looks forward to its members sharing more ideas and becoming involved in their implementation.

JGSGW February Meeting

JGSGW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A TWO PART PROGRAM

Part One: "Holocaust Research for the Genealogist — Past, Present and Future"

Speaker: Peter Landé

20 years ago, Holocaust researchers had few resources available, and even less on the web. Today, research is much easier. Sources such as JewishGen, Yad Vashem, various online national databases, printed sources containing databases for individual concentration camps and other collections are readily available. However, access to the International Tracing Service collection, the largest source of information, remains difficult unless one physically visits the sites where this material is available. Looking ahead, one can expect easier access and the release of more information on Eastern European material including the tens of thousands of Jews who fled eastward ahead of the Germans



Peter Landé was born in Berlin of German parents and came to the United States as a child in 1937. His father had been a professor and politician, and a member of the Reichsrat for Prussia. Peter Landé received a BA from Haverford College in 1952 and a MA from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy. He also studied at Hamburg University on a Fulbright grant. He joined the Foreign Service of the Department of State in 1956, serving in New Zealand, Germany, Japan, India, Canada and Egypt, as well as in senior positions in the Department. He retired in 1988 as Economic Minister in the US Embassy in Cairo.

Since retirement, he has been active in genealogy research, writing and lecturing, with special emphasis on Holocaust records. He has worked as a volunteer at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. since its

opening 20 years ago. In July 2001 he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies for work in identifying sources of information on Holocaust victims and survivors.

Part Two: Resources at the Fairfax City Library

Speaker: Alan Rems

Author and historian Alan Rems will present works from the library's collection that are especially important for genealogy research and will deepen an understanding of the world our ancestors came from. Items include the YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe, books about specific Jewish communities, and Holocaust-related works. The presentation will be followed by a tour of the Virginia Room.

Date: Sunday, February 9, 2014

Time: 1:00 PM Program

Location: City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St, Fairfax, VA click here for directions

JGSGW March Meeting

JGSGW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

"Polish Jewry Through the Eyes of One Family"

Speaker: Gary Schiff

Dr. Gary Schiff, author of *In Search of Polin: Chasing Jewish Ghosts in Today's Polin*, will present a unique verbal and visual perspective on the thousand-year history of Polish Jewry. While outlining the broad sweep of what was for many centuries the largest Jewish community in the world in words and pictures on screen, Dr. Schiff will also zero in on the genealogy of his family in Poland, which he has traced back to the 1700's. He has found that by any measure--names, family size, occupations, locations, religious and political affiliations, etc.--they represented an accurate barometer of what was going on with the millions of Polish Jews at any given time. Dr. Schiff will also take us to all of Poland's main cities and some of its shtetls, where in 1939 Poland's 3½ million Jews, who constituted 10 percent of Poland's overall population, were often between 1/3 and 2/3 of the residents. The book, published in 2012 by Peter Lang Publishing, a major international academic publisher, is based on Dr. Schiff's visit to Poland, and on years of historical and genealogical research. Autographed copies will be available for purchase at a preferred price after the talk.

Date: Sunday, March 9, 2014 Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze,

1:30 PM Meeting with announcements and introduction of new members and visitors

2:00 PM Main Program

Location: Temple Beth Ami, 14330 Travilah Road, Rockville, MD

click here for directions



Dr. Schiff is currently Adjunct Professor of History at Washington College in Chestertown, Maryland, where he teaches courses on Jewish and Middle East history. Previously he was President and Professor of Middle East Studies at Gratz College in Philadelphia for 14 years. He holds a PH.D. and an M.A. from Columbia University and a B.A. and Bachelor of Hebrew Literature degree from Yeshiva University. He is also the Cantor and Religious Leader of the Chestertown Havurah.

JGSGW April Meeting

JGSGW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A DOUBLE HEADER PROGRAM

PART ONE: BEGINNER'S WORKSHOP:

10:00 AM - Noon

Are you new to Jewish genealogy or looking for some fresh ideas on new sources or how to approach a "brick wall." then register for our Beginner's Workshop. The workshop is a members-only benefit. Attendees will receive a copy of the JGSGW publication: "Jump-Start Your Jewish Genealogy Research: A Beginner's Guide."

Workshop limited to 20. Send registration request to: jgsgw@jgsgw.org

PART TWO: "GenealogyIndexer Search Engine" Speaker: Logan Kleinwaks

GenealogyIndexer.org is a free website offering full-text search of more than 400,000 pages of historical directories (business, address, telephone), yizkor books, Polish and Russian military documents, community and personal histories, Galician secondary school reports, and more. Containing millions of personal names – often with places of residence, street addresses, and occupations, and sometimes with vital dates or patronymics – this huge and growing collection is mostly comprised of data not searchable elsewhere. This talk will focus on recently added sources, new ways to search, and highlights from the past. Recipient of the IAJGS 2012 Award for Outstanding Contribution to Jewish Genealogy via the Internet, Print or Electronic Product.

Date: Sunday, April 6, 2014 Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze,

1:30 PM Meeting with announcements and introduction of new members and visitors

2:00 PM Main Program

Location: Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Road, Alexandria, VA

click here for directions



Logan Joseph Kleinwaks is the creator of free genealogy websites including GenealogyIndexer.org, a full-text search engine of historical directories and other sources, and ShoahConnect.org, a tool for reuniting families separated by the Shoah through Page of Testimony research. His broader genealogical interests include the photographic documentation of Jewish cemeteries, improving Internet access to genealogical information, and privacy. A hobbyist genealogist living in Reston, he has a research background in physics and started the literacy charity *Book Wish Foundation* (www.bookwish.org), which aids refugees from the genocide in Darfur.

JGSGW Library

JGSGW Genealogy Library Hours and Information

The library will be open every Wednesday 11-3 by appointment only. We will also be open first Sunday, in February, March and May from 10-noon.

Call Vera Finberg, JGSGW Librarian at 703-978-6990, vera.finberg@verizon.net The JGSGW Library is closed for Jewish and Federal Holidays.

Recent Additions:

Tracing our roots, telling our stories. Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (Toronto), 2011.

Levitt, Ellen

Lost synagogues of Brooklyn: the stories behind how and why many Brooklyn synagogues, now old "ex-shuls" were converted to Christian churches.

Bergenfield, NJ, Avotaynu, 2009.

Levitt, Ellen.

Lost synagogues of the Bronx and Queens, Bergenfield, NJ, Avotaynu, 2011.

Levitt, Ellen.

Lost synagogues of Manhattan, including shuls from Staten island and Governors Island. Bergenfield, NJ, Avotaynu, 2013.

JGS

Howe, Irving.

World of our Fathers; the journey of the East European Jews to America. Simon and Schuster, N.Y., N.Y., 1976.

Bustard, Bruce I.

Attachments: Faces and stories from America's gates.

Foundation for the National Archives, Washington, D.C. 2012.

The following were donated by Sol Margolis in memory of Rita. Krakower Margolis:

Sources on Polish Jewry at the Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People compiled and edited by Hanna Volovici [etal]. Avotaynu Foundation, 2004.

Based on 1988 ed by Adam Teller

Greenbaum, Masha.

The Jews of Lithuania; A History of a Remarkable Community 1316 -1945. Jerusalem, Gefen Publishing, 1995.

J Markowitz, Leonard.

Four Jewish Families in Philadelphia; the Solotnitsky, Markowitz, Malinger, and Rosenberg Families. Baltimore, Gateway Press, 2000.

Kraut, Alan, M.

Huddled Masses; the Immigrant in American Society, 1880-1921. Arlington Heights, IL, Harlan Davidson, 1982.

Coleman, Michael B.

Jews of Harrisburg [PA]; an informal history of a native son. [Harrisburg, PA], 1978.

Benton, Barbara.

Ellis Island; a Pictorial History. New York, Facts on File, 1985.

JGSGW Library

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Other Society Newsletters Available Electronically

 SPEAKS, Anne Arundel Geneological Society, September 2013
 Mishpochology, Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida, Fall 2013
 Morasha, The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois, Summer 2013 Scattered Seeds, JGS Palm County, Florida,
First Quarter 2014

Shem Tov, Jewish Genealogical Society of Toronto,
September-October 2013

Venturing Into Our Past,
JGS of the Conejo Valley and Ventura
County, October, November 2013 and
January 2014

Contact the editor at mishpacha.jgsgw@gmail.com if interested.

MISHPACHA NEEDS YOUR STORIES!

- * Do you have an interesting story about your family or research?
- * Do you have a problem finding your ancestor in one or more database?

Write your questions and we'll try to answer them.

- * Did you find your ancestor in any particular database? Tell us what steps you followed so that others can learn.
- * Did you find/meet an x-times removed cousin? Share your joy with us.
- * Have you used or developed a technology or technique that would be useful to others?

Please participate in the continuing success of our newsletter by sending your comments, questions, findings or stories to janrandyfine@gmail.com



Welcome to our New Members

Nancy Alderman, Silver Spring, MD
Stanley Baldinger, Chevy Chase, MD
Sherri Calvo, Riva, MD
Ann Darcy, Bethesda, MD
Edward J Fox, Spencerville, MD
Matthew Kestenbaum, Haymarket, VA
William & Ruth Konick, Silver Spring, MD)
Stuart & Elizabeth Patt, Washington, DC
Leesa Shem-Tov, Rockville, MD
Fern Solomson, Potomac, MD

and Returning Member

Stephen Snyder, Reston, VA

Lifetime Members

Jonina Duker & Alan Lichtman Susan E. Iseman & Dennis J. Berg Elizabeth H. Margosches & Donald B. Melman

Patrons

Vic and Marla Cohen Alan Levitt Stephen Rockower Steve Rabinowitz Rochelle Gould Zohn

JGSGW Wishes Mazel Tov to

Nelson and Ellen Robin on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Rachel. Linda Orenstein on the birth of granddaughter Maia Sun Orenstein.

Condolences

JGSGW mourns the passing of our former member, Joel Stearman, JGSGW member from 1995-2006, and our Board of Directors in 2003. May his memory be a blessing.

Donations

General Fund

Leesa Shem-Tov

in Memory of Joel Stearman
Carolyn Koslow
Caroline S Rubenstein
Virginia Thorndike & Irving Spitzberg
Dr. Mandell & Rita Stearman
Phyllis & Sydney Stearman
Juanita Tougias

in Memory of Rita Krakower Margolis Marlene Bishow

Library Fund:

Benjamin B. Terner Mark Goldman Milt Goldsamt

JGSGW Meeting Calendar Fall 2013 - Summer 2014

Sunday, August 18 2013

Sunday, October 13, 2013

Sunday, November 3, 2013

Sunday, December 8, 2013

Sunday, January 12, 2014

Sunday, February 9, 2014

Sunday, March 9, 2014

Sunday, April 6, 2014

Sunday, May 18, 2014

Sunday, June 8, 2014

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington, Inc. PO box 1614 Rockville, MD 20849-1614



Please Visit Our Website for Updates

www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGW/