



משפחה

Quarterly Publication of
The Jewish Genealogy Society
of Greater Washington

“Every man of the children of Israel shall encamp by his own standard with the ensign of his family” *Numbers 2:2*

Volume 29, Number 4

Fall 2010



A Capital Conference!

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of its founding in October 2010.

We are excited to announce that from **August 14 - 19, 2011**, JGSGW will host more than 1,200 Jewish genealogists from 30 or more countries at the **31st IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy** in Washington, D.C. The conference will take place at the **Grand Hyatt Washington**. There will be day and evening sessions with more than 150 speakers on topics of Jewish genealogy and history. Workshops will include sessions for all levels of experience; including sessions for novices who are totally unfamiliar with practices, technology, and research techniques. Intermediate and Advanced workshops will focus on specific geographic areas of ancestral heritage, as well as advanced use of online research and tools. There will be a Jewish Film Festival, a Resource Room, a Vendor's Showcase, and a Repository Fair, among other exciting events. Registrants may sign up for the entire week or for individual days. Special rates will be available for full-time students.

For more information, see our websites at: < www.DC2011.org > and < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw/> > Coming soon to Facebook and Twitter.

Mishpacha

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Beginners' Workshops	Rich Meyersberg	rich.meyersburg@gmail.com



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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:

Margarita Lackó < mishpologia@uzidog.com >.

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Special thanks to Liz Lourie & Fred Kolbrener

The JGSGW Web Site is located at:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw>

JGSGW at JGSLA2010
<http://www.jgsla2010.com>



Standing L to R: Marlene Bishow, Victor Cohen, Ernie Fine, Phyllis Dobin, Eli Savada, Sue Isman, Sandra Zahn-Oreck, Cyndy Gerstl, Krana Dworkin, Marshall Fritz, Bill Yoffee

Kneeling: Barbara Garrard, Irene Saunders Goldstein, Harvey Kabaker, Jeff Miller

Picture courtesy of Marlene Bishow



A few members of the DC2011 Program Committee.

L to R: Jeff Malka, Vic Cohen, Marlene Bishow, Sue Isman, Suzan Wynne, Harvey Kabaker

Picture courtesy of Jeff Malka

Sue Isman, Vic Cohen and Marlene Bishow (at the microphone) provide a snapshot of the plans for the upcoming DC2011 Conference

Picture courtesy of Eli Savada



Jewish Genealogy Conference in Los Angeles: How I Spent My Summer Vacation

By Irene Saunders Goldstein

More than a thousand Jewish genealogists attended the 30th Annual IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy held in Los Angeles in July 2010, including more than 30 members of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington. Attendees spent most of the week expanding their vital document collections, adding to their family databases, meeting fellow researchers, and learning about ways to extend their research to-do lists.

I didn't do that. Having attended half a dozen conferences over the past 20 years, I arrived in Los Angeles this time with no expectation of filling in gaps in my document portfolio, visiting California cemeteries, or learning the research ins-and-outs at specific archives. Instead, I spent a fabulous week in an informal, eclectic, graduate-level seminar on Jewish genealogy, history, geography, sociology, anthropology—and any other “-ologies” that struck me as interesting at the moment.

From dawn till way past dusk, I sat in lectures, workshops, and conference-sponsored meals—I barely left the hotel. I learned about the Jews who invented Hollywood and the movie industry, the 1930s Jewish sex trade in South America (a film is in production), and Crypto Jews in the New World. I learned about black sheep in the family and how to trace their criminal footsteps, and the importance of sports among Jews in the *shtetls* of Europe. I participated in geographical Special Interest Groups and Birds of a Feather gatherings—Romania, Lithuania, and even New England—to meet fellow researchers whose ancestors may have known mine in the old country.

And, yes, I did spend a fair amount of time learning to be more efficient on the computer. Having subscribed to Ancestry.com, I attended *all* the workshops presented on the topic, in addition to an excellent update presented by JewishGen's prime movers. [By the way, if we subscribe to Ancestry (or renew) on the JewishGen.org website < <http://www.jewishgen.org/> >, JewishGen receives an all-important commission]. I attended a workshop on my favorite genealogy software program, and I learned about the latest techniques and tools that Steve Morse has developed to glean riches from a multitude of online databases.

Most importantly for me, I spent many hours listening to inspirational experts on how to write and preserve my families' histories for future generations. For me the best lesson was to focus on “identity-forming moments,” to write short vignettes on the emotion-laden events that make us who we are (or were). I absorbed the urgency of publishing when one presenter pointed out, “You don't want to leave your heirs a software program, do you?” The good news is that the universe has expanded beyond merely the printed book to include many exciting forms of online strategies and presentations.

A major conference highlight for me was sitting and talking at havdallah dinner with “genealogist in residence” Arthur Kurzweil, author of *From Generation to Generation* and a key inspiration in the modern Jewish genealogy movement. Kurzweil later presented on a variety of topics during the week, revealing that his ability to inspire has only magnified over time.

The conference represented a chance to meet fascinating people from around the globe (and some closer to home). Attendees arrived in Los Angeles from at least 19 countries on six continents, and Americans hailed from 32 states. Fully 40 percent of conference registrants were

(Continued on page 5)

beginners who had never before attended a Jewish genealogy conference. However, I rarely saw anyone sitting alone for long.

As a JGSGW member (and minor member of the program committee), I'm already looking forward to our hosting the 31st Annual IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in August 2011 in Washington, DC < www.DC2011.org >. If you want to be part of the effort, contact < dc2011_conference@comcast.net >.☆

Every attendee at the conference had his or her own favorite events. JGSGW member Vera Finberg describes highlights of her conference experience:

- ☆ "The Joint Distribution Committee Archives: Who We Are and What We Have to Offer Jewish Genealogists" revealed a new source. The archives of the Joint Distribution Committee, popularly known as the "Joint," has information on the rescue and relief of Jews since 1914. They have digitized 20,000 of their 100,000 photos, and the searchable database is available free on Ancestry.com. Most of the information is still on microfilm (the balance to be digitized over time) and includes files on landsmanschaftn, loan kassas (credit cooperatives), orphans, internment camps, displaced persons centers, survivors, remittances to families and organizations overseas, and lists of parcels sent to relatives abroad. All text archives older than 35 years are open to the public by appointment (in New York City and Jerusalem). The JDC will respond to limited queries by mail or email.
- ☆ "Magnificent Maps: Examining Land and Cadastral Maps of Galicia," described the process of making cadastral maps, maps of the boundaries of land parcels. Presenter Brian Lenius reported that members of the Geshen Galicia Special Interest Group are slowly making maps from records in the Polish archives. He described the process he uses to find specific maps for towns (not cities) with significant Jewish population and then the work in making them available.
- ☆ The Israel Genealogical Society has been transcribing, transliterating, and translating the Montifiore censuses of Eretz Israel. Five censuses were completed between 1839 and 1855. The 1839 census had information on 6,300 inhabitants, and the 1855 census on 9,891. The presenter described the types of information available in the 1839 and 1855 census; the database has been posted online. Listings typically include family name, given name, family status, names of children, place of birth, year of aliyah, and financial status. ☆

The *Washington Jewish Week* ran an article on July 21, about JGSGW members at the LA2010 conference and preparing to host DC2011. You can read the article by clicking on this link < <http://tinyurl.com/265r6tr> >. JGSGW member Eli Savalas commented:

I will also be involved in next year's conference. A firm believer in 1/6th degree of separation, I attended a marketplace gathering at the L.A. conference, representing the Macintosh Users Group. I sat next to a woman from Hadassah. She saw Bethesda on my badge and said her brother and his wife lived in Bethesda. "Hmmm," I replied. "They live behind the Sutton Place (now Balducci's) store." I noted that I used to live behind that store. "Chatsworth Lane." Ditto. The house number and the names were familiar. She called Bethesda. Her sister-in-law said, "We bought our house from him in 1993." Small world indeed.☆

Seek And Ye Shall Find

by Bernard Schreft

Although I feel that my genealogical research is still so preliminary, I am always amazed at what I learned starting from JewishGen < <http://www.jewishgen.org/> >. I posted the names of the town my family had mentioned. My dad always laughed at the fact that the Russians often took the area over from the Poles and vice-versa. But he was glad when the Poles took it back because he could not stand the Russian winters.

When I first posted my family and town (SCHREFT in Piaske Luternie near Lublin) on Family Finder < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgff/> >, I went through a number of town names, like Piasky Luternya, Puisk, etc. Most often, they described an outlying town near Lublin which had once been the site of a strong Lutheran church group but had increasingly become an outlying Jewish shtetl and a market place on the road. Later, according to the research, the town was incorporated into the city of Lublin.

I also began to find other connections and learned that, most likely, our family name was SZRYFT. I am still tracking down a large number of leads under that name in that area including 6 of 8 siblings who never came to America and disappeared, probably in the Holocaust.

I never expected to get a surprise inquiry from a noted gastroenterologist in Bolivia, of all places. He had received much of his medical education in Israel, where another brother lived, and Scotland. He led a small group of Jews living in the town of Cochimbamba* searching for family connections via his mother, who turned out to be my father's sister. She had passed away and his father had remarried a woman from Ecuador. So I suddenly had newly-discovered cousins.

At that time, I lived in Florida and it turned out that he was coming to a wedding soon with his wife and children. So, we made a date for lunch.

Not only did we strike up an instant friendship, (his resemblance to my dad was uncanny) but he told me an amazing story of how his father had survived the war and been one of 65,000 Jewish refugees who were admitted to Bolivia after the war.

It seems that his father and family were hidden in a secret attic above the upper floor of a Warsaw apartment walk-up. They had to time their use of the sink and toilet flushes so the neighbors did not know that they were there. His dad, who was a big guy and did not look Jewish, was the only one who went into the streets of Warsaw for groceries, etc.

Bolivians, a poor people, thought that this importation of Jews would help bolster the economy. Sadly, many of the Jews soon left for the USA and Argentina among other places.

What makes genealogy so interesting is the ancillary information and history that come with it!

Bottom line, he and his family were later offered a professorship in a Philadelphia medical school. They moved there several years ago and we met for dinner in his home with his entire family when I was in Philadelphia for the 29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy last year.

Small world! ☆

*Ed's note: most likely Cochabamba.

JGSGW's 30th Anniversary: Discovering Our Roots

By Sallyann Amdur Sack-Pikus

In brief, JGSGW came into existence because the "Father of Jewish Genealogy," the late Rabbi Malcolm Stern, invited me to a planning meeting (summer 1980) for the very first ever "Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy," held in New York in 1981. I got the invite because a cousin and I had written a family history book and the [non-Jewish] wife of a friend and colleague of Larry (my late first husband) was big into genealogy and the DAR. She knew Malcolm and told him that he should keep his eye on me (because I was "a dynamo"). At that time, Malcolm was president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS), the first (and only) Jew to be president. He had realized that we Jews needed our own societies for all the reasons we know so well.

So at the conclusion of that meeting (in the basement of the YMHA in New York on a blisteringly hot July Sunday--I remember my shoes sinking into the melting asphalt on the sidewalks), Malcolm turned to me and said, "Now go home and organize a Jewish genealogy society in Washington. I'll help you."

Toledot had just come into existence--published by Steve Siegel and Arthur Kurzweil, with help and encouragement from Malcolm--so I got a list of names and addresses of Washington-area subscribers. I also went to the LDS library in Silver Spring (before the Temple was built) and copied the names and addresses of everyone who had ordered Jewish films. These people got handwritten notes from me, inviting them to come to a meeting to organize a Jewish genealogy society.

Most importantly, I called the *Jewish Week* and announced the time, place and purpose of the meeting. Place was the Small Museum downtown, thanks to Hadassah Thursz who was president of the Jewish Historical Society of Washington at the time and they ran the museum.



Rabbi Dr. Malcolm Stern, the first speaker of the society, and Sallyann Sack at the first meeting of the society, held on January 11, 1981.

Someone advised me to call her to ask if I could use the venue. I deliberately chose a place that was not affiliated with any other organization.

It must have been a slow news week, because the *Jewish Week* asked for--and ran--a picture of me as well--and gave the story lots of prominence.

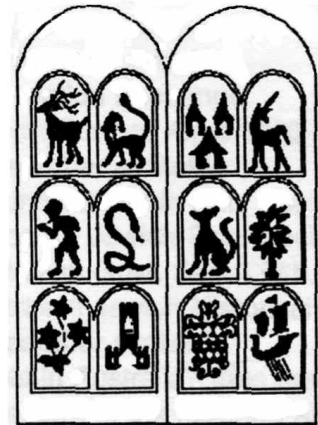
About 40 people showed up on October 15, 1980. After some chat, etc. I passed around a yellow legal pad and invited those who wanted to help organize to sign their names. Those who did were: Naomi Gershan, Arline Grief, Irwin and Anita Pikus and Sophie and Morris Thompson. We then met (at Naomi's house) and set about

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writing bylaws and articles of incorporation. Irwin, because he is a lawyer, wrote the articles of incorporation in the State of Maryland. Malcolm gave me a set of "vanilla" bylaws that other genealogy societies had used. Then Arline Grief and I, with advice from her accountant/lawyer husband, filled out the odious IRS forms that got us 501(c)(3) status. The IRS was tough on groups like ours in those days, but we passed easily--and then we gave copies of our papers to others who wanted to form groups. I especially remember giving them to Julian Falk who organized the Pittsburgh JGS. Naomi designed our logo.

I became the first president. For a short time, Bob Weiner served as vice president in charge of programs. Initially, we met only every other month, but there was so much interest that we quickly moved to every month. After Bob Weiner, the late Jack Klein (Faith's husband) became vice president. Sophie Thompson served as secretary for years. Our first treasurer was Len Dreifus--whose wife said that "money slips through Len's fingers like glue!"

We started *Mishpacha* right away. Nikki Pikus and I handled that. We also started our library, first locating it at Hillel at the U. of MD. We made a "policy" decision to concentrate on acquiring items that were not usually found in other libraries. Hence, when it became available, we purchased the 1789 Jewish census of Alsace, a rare item.



First JGSGW logo designed by Naomi Gershan

And of course, again at the request of Rabbi Stern, we organized the "Second Summer Seminar on Jewish Genealogy" held in summer 1982.☆

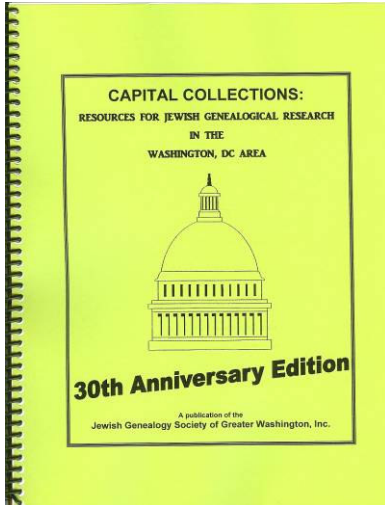
Tracing the Tribe: The Jewish Genealogy Blog < <http://tracingthetribel.blogspot.com/> > is "already looking forward to see what the JGS of Greater Washington - 2011's host - has in store for the international Jewish genealogy community". See < <http://tinyurl.com/38buw4e> >. Marlene Bishow, JGSGW President and Programs Co-chair, commented the following:

DC2011 will be the sixth conference hosted by JGSGW in its 30 years. We have been working on preparations for this conference for nearly 2 1/2 years and we are convinced that this will be a fantastic event! One of our focuses will be to orient attendees to the major repositories in Washington. So that everyone can get the details, representatives of the National Archives, Library of Congress, and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum will come on-site to the Grand Hyatt to instruct and inform. There will be general sessions for the where and what's in these fabulous archives and follow-on sessions for specific areas of interest, such as researching the records of the International Tracing Service (ITS) at the USHMM, locating census, military, and ship manifests at the Archives, and getting the most from on-line research.

Attendees will want to meet one-on-one with archivists and other representatives from the archives, museums and repositories at the Repository and Resource Fair on Monday afternoon, August 15.

More information will be forthcoming, but all comments and suggestions are appreciated at < programs@DC2011.org >.☆

It's a Capital Publication.....



Just in time for the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the founding of The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington!

Announcing the publication of the newly updated and expanded fifth edition of “*Capital Collections: Resources for Jewish Genealogical Research in the Washington, DC Area.*”

If you plan a trip to the nation’s capital or you are a resident of the area, you will find this 116-page guide to be indispensable. Resources, phone numbers, websites and security information has been updated. Newly identified sites have been added. There is also a section on public transportation, including a map of the DC Metro system.

The contents includes:

- ✧ ARCHIVES I
- ✧ ARCHIVES II
- ✧ NATIONAL RECORDS CENTER (WNRC) **New!**
- ✧ THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS
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- ✧ U. S. NAVY MEMORIAL AND HERITAGE CENTER **New!**
- ✧ THE NAVAL HISTORICAL CENTER **New!**
- ✧ MARYLAND including Annapolis, Baltimore City, Baltimore County Eastern Shoe, Frederick County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County
- ✧ VIRGINIA including Northern Virginia and Richmond
- ✧ SYNAGOGUES & CHAVUROT
- ✧ CEMETERIES IN THE WASHINGTON AREA
- ✧ CEMETERIES IN THE BALTIMORE AREA

The book is bound and lies flat for ease of use. It is certainly a MUST for genealogy libraries.

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Monument to Jewish Chaplains to be Erected at Arlington National Cemetery

By Marlene Bishow

The Association of Jewish Chaplains of the Armed Forces, formerly known as the Jewish Welfare Board (JWB), is planning to erect a memorial at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) to those Jewish chaplains who died while on active duty.

There are currently two such memorials at ANC, one for Protestant chaplains and one for Catholic chaplains. The JWB is now planning to erect one, in the fall, for the 13 Jewish chaplains who died while on active duty.

Dr. Michael Feldberg is providing the research. Of the 311 Jewish chaplains who served during World War II, eight rabbis died. Two rabbis lost their lives in the Vietnam War. No Jewish chaplains are known to have died while serving during World War I or the Korean War, although research is still being done to confirm that. Thus far, Dr. Feldberg has been able to identify the following rabbis as having died while on active duty.

Name	Date of Death	Seminary (Affiliation)
1. Nachman S. Arnoff	May 9, 1946	JTS (Conservative)
2. Meir Engel	December 16, 1964	JTS (Conservative)
3. Frank Goldenberg	May 22, 1946	JTS (Conservative)
4. Alexander D. Goode	February 3, 1943	HUC (Reform)
5. Henry Goody	October 19, 1943	JTS (Conservative)
6. Samuel D. Hurwitz	December 9, 1943	HUC (Reform)
7. Herman L. Rosen	June 18, 1943	ETS (Orthodox)
8. Samuel Rosen	May 13, 1955	ETS (Orthodox)
9. Solomon Rosen	November 2, 1948	Mesifita Rabbinical Sem. (Orthodox)
10. Morton H. Singer	December 17, 1968	YU (Orthodox)
11. David Sobel	March 7, 1974	HUC (Reform)
12. Irving Tepper	August 13, 1944	HTC (Orthodox)
13. Louis Werfel	December 24, 1944	YU (Orthodox)

Note that they were not all killed in action. Goode and Werfel were the only two who could be thought of in that light, although neither was in combat when he was killed.

The Four Chaplains

Rabbi Alexander Goode, Rev. Clark V. Poling, Rev. George L. Fox and Father John P. Washington gave their lives to save other soldiers during the sinking of the USAT Dorchester during World War II as it steamed toward Europe on a black night, February 3, 1943, when German torpedoes found their mark, sending the ship to the bottom quickly. The four chaplains responded to the panic aboard ship by handing out available life jackets until each took off his own and put them on four other men. As the ship slid beneath the surface of the water the four chaplains were seen arm-in-arm in prayer. In all, 230 of the 904 men aboard the ship were rescued.

(Continued on page 11)

A U.S. postage stamp was issued in 1948 honoring the chaplains. By an act of Congress, the foursome was further honored by the designation of February 3 as "Four Chaplains Day." Of the rabbis included in the memorial, only Rabbi Alexander David Goode is actually buried at Arlington National Cemetery (ANC). He was the son of a rabbi, born in Columbus, Ohio on May 10, 1911. The family later moved to Washington, D.C. He was married in 1935 to Teresa Flax. He is buried in Sec. MF, lot 40-2.

To contribute, contact Sol Moglen at 201-415-1141, or send donations to the Association of Jewish Chaplains, 520 8th Ave., Fourth Floor, New York, New York, 10018. ☆

Jewish Burials at Arlington National Cemetery

New database entries have been received for the Jewish Burials at Arlington National Cemetery website; it is planned to have the database updated during the month of March 2009.

Visit the JGSGW Arlington Cemetery website at < <http://www.cygnet.org/anc2008/> >. To submit additional names of persons buried at the cemetery, please use the forms available from the "Contact Us" page of the website.



More IAJGS News

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- **Judith Frazin**: Outstanding Contribution to Jewish Genealogy via the Internet, Print or Electronic Product.
- **JGS of Greater Philadelphia**, "Philadelphia-area Jewish Genealogical Resource Guide": Outstanding Program or Project that Advances the Objectives of Jewish Genealogy
- **JGS of Los Angeles**, "RootsKey": Outstanding Publication by a Member Organization of IAJGS
- **Israel Genealogical Society**: Malcom Stern Grant
- **Jen Lowe**, JGS of Colorado: International Jewish Genealogy Month Poster

Future IAJGS Conferences

2011 - Washington, D.C., U.S.A.; 14-19 August
2012 - Paris, France; 15-18 July
2013 - Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A.
2014 - Jerusalem, Israel

Much more information can be found in < <http://www.iajgs.org> >

Encountering our European Ancestral Roots

By Tony Hausner

My wife, Toba, and I visited Ukraine, Poland, the Czech Republic, Austria and Italy in June, 2010. Each of these countries had many fascinating and beautiful places and provided many wonderful and moving experiences. In the Czech Republic and Italy, we had very warm gatherings with family. In many of these countries, we found ancestral homes, some going back as far as the 18th century, and gravestones for our ancestors. We also collected a large number of archival records, such as birth, death, marriage, census, domiciliary, school and synagogue seating charts, etc. In all cases, we took photos of our families' homes and of gravestones (matseivos) in many of the cemeteries. Where they existed, we took photos of other key Jewish landmarks, such as monuments to ghettos and death camps. The three guides we used (one for all the places we visited in the Ukraine, and one each for the smaller towns and cities in Poland and the Czech Republic) were all outstanding.

From June 3-10, we visited the following cities and towns in the Ukraine:

Lviv, Zolkiev, Ternopil, Borschiv, Skala Podilska, Kaments Podilsky, Mielnitsa, Chortkiv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kalush, Bolechow, and Stryj.

I have HAUSNERS on both sides of my family. My mother's HAUSNER family comes from the Ukraine, while my father's comes from the Czech Republic. There is no relation between these families. The Ukrainian HAUSNERS had lived in Lviv, Skala, Borschiv, Mielnitsa, Chortkiv, and Kalush among other places. In Lviv, we saw where a relative, Bernard HAUSNER, had lived and worked. Bernard's son, Gideon, who was Adolf Eichmann's prosecutor, was born in Lviv. We also saw Lviv's beautiful Opera House and the memorials to the Lviv ghetto and Janowska death camp. In Skala, we visited the house where my great-grandfather, Zalman HAUSNER, lived and where my mother spent her first year. Since I am leader for the Skala research group, we photographed all the Jewish homes in the town center and all the gravestones. In Borschiv and Kalush, we saw monuments to the victims of the Holocaust. In Chortkiv and Mielnitsa, we saw the cemeteries, or what remained of the cemeteries, and a former Chortkiv synagogue.

From June 10-14, we visited Warsaw, Wyszogrod and Plotz in Poland. Toba's



Abandoned house and store of Zalman Hausner, my great-grandfather, in Skala, Ukraine.

(Continued on page 13)

family, the BRICKMANs came from Wyszogrod and Plotz. In Plotz, we found the homes of Toba's grandmother and great-grandmother still inhabited. We were impressed by the beauty of the rebuilt Warsaw, especially the old city, and by the plans for the new Museum of the History of Polish Jews which is currently under construction and will be completed in 2-3 years. Mr. Grzegorz (Greg) Kolacz, who spoke at the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) last year, took us on a tour of the Warsaw Ghetto. This tour was a very moving and disturbing experience where so much tragedy occurred.



Gravestone of Joseph and Sara Hausner, born in the 1790s. Joseph died around 1850, Sara around 1860. Kojetin, Czech Republic.

From June 14-21, we were in the Czech Republic: Prague; Kojetin in Moravia; and the Pilsen Region of Southwest Bohemia. My father's paternal grandfather came from Kojetin and his maternal grandparents came from the Pilsen region. In Kojetin, we met distant cousins and their families who live in Slovakia and whom I had not known until a year ago. I had connected with them through the Yad Vashem search engine (< <http://www.yadvashem.org/> >). They were delightful to be with. We saw houses which are still in use and gravestones for ancestors that go back to the 18th century. I met a number of other people from the town or area who were not Jewish including the vice-mayor, all of whom supported our Jewish heritage. This was a very moving day.

In the Pilsen region, we visited a number of small towns where family lived and again went back to the 18th century in terms of houses and gravestones.

We thoroughly enjoyed Prague which is a most beautiful city. My cousin from Milan, Italy, Renee GENTILLI, joined us for the rest of the trip. We visited the Prague Castle, toured the six historic synagogues, some of which were very beautiful, and a number of other historic places.

From June 21-27, we visited Vienna, Austria. We saw the apartment buildings in which my parents grew up and were invited inside my maternal grandparents' former apartment by the current resident who encountered us standing outside the building. We visited the beautiful Hapsburg Palace and the Schonbrunn Palace and saw a wonderful Verdi Opera at the magnificent Vienna Opera. Attending the opera was moving not only because of the beauty of the particular opera, but also because my parents loved going to the opera as they grew up.

From June 27-30, we went to Milan and Civenna, Italy. My aunt Anni met an Italian Jew in New York after World War II and he took her back to Milan. In Italy, we first stayed with my cousin Emily who has a beautiful mountain villa with a gorgeous view overlooking Lake Como. We loved spending time with Emily and her family.

For more details on the trip and/or photos, please contact me at < thausner@gmail.com >. ☆

Surfing The Net



19th Century Montefiore Censuses of the Jewish Population of Eretz Israel, Alexandria, Beirut and Sidon (Saida), were compiled by Sir Moses Montefiore. The Israel Genealogical Society < <http://www.isragen.org.il/> >, under the auspices of the Montefiore Endowment, has been working on transcribing the censuses into a modern Hebrew font, transliterate the names, and translate the data into English. < <http://www.montefioreendowment.org.uk/census/> >.

The **National Archives and Records Administration (USA)** (NARA) has agreements with two commercial entities (Ancestry.com and Footnote.com) to digitize their original documents and microfilm publications. Each partner allows free searches of some or all index terms for each title. See the list of digitized records < <http://www.archives.gov/digitization/digitized-by-partners.html> >. Access to Ancestry and Footnote is free at NARA locations. Also their databases may be viewed at a number of Family History Centers and some public libraries at no charge. To report indexing and missed documents, send an e-mail to < digitization@nara.gov >. The report should include a URL and a description of the problem to facilitate correction (it is not for reporting misspelled names).

Not sure if a conference is something for you? Watch < http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/video_conference >. Although this is from the **National Genealogical Society** website, it is what we all learn and experience when we attend one. Check also the other learning videos.

Rodokmen (Family tree or Pedigree) < <http://www.geni.sk/mapa-stranok/> > was created by a private researcher, Marek Tettinger, to share the resources and topics of interest he found while researching his tree in Slovakia. The Site Map includes links to many useful articles and resources. Caveat: the site is in Slovak; use Google Translate. (From JewishGen Hungarian SIG message list archives)

In 1939, at the beginning of World War II, there was a **National Registration of all persons living in England and Wales**. The National Health Service Information Center is now making available this information for £42 per search. Data will only be released for those individuals who are deceased and recorded as deceased. Additional information about the project can be found at < www.ic.nhs.uk/services/1939-register-service >. (From Australia AJGSe-report)



JewishGen.org has partnered with MyHeritage.com to grow the **Family Tree of the Jewish People** < <http://www.jewishgen.org/gedcom/project> >.

This partnership provides Jewish genealogists with a highly capable family tree system supporting English, Hebrew and 34 additional languages, with photos, Smart Matches and a host of additional features, with the added benefit of synchronization with JewishGen. By participating, you will help grow the Family Tree of the Jewish People, while keeping its contents constantly up-to-date, and you may be rewarded by being discovered and contacted by Jewish genealogists who can add to your family tree. See < <http://www.MyHeritage.com/jewishgen> >.

Society News



PATRONS

Marlene Bishow

Ruth W. Hurwitz

Harvey Kabaker

Evelyn Saile

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

George E. Arnstein

Karen Lavene

Louis & Wilma Levy

Avi Lichtenstein

David I. Schneider

Larry Schulman

Rabbi Matthew & Sara Rubinow Simon

August Kahane Spector

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

DC-2011 Conference

Eugene J. Alpert

Joseph & Marlene Bishow

Patricia Bulhack

Phyllis Dobin

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Sidney Fratkin

Melanie Grishman

Ruth Hurwitz

Marshall Levy

Rosine Nussenblatt

Alice Ra'anana

Annette Steiner

Benjamin Terner

Special Donation

The Bishow, Katz and Silverstein families made a donation to JGSGW (DC-2011 Conference) in honor of Marlene Bishow's birthday.

Mishpacha needs your stories (and an assistant)!

Please participate in the continuing success of our newsletter by sending your comments, questions, findings or stories to me at < mishpologia@uzidog.com >.

JGSGW MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

presented to

<i>Eugene J. Alpert</i>	<i>Melanie Grishman</i>	<i>Loraine Minor</i>
<i>Elaine A. Apter</i>	<i>Tony Hausner</i>	<i>Jerry Morse</i>
<i>Rabbi Marvin Bash</i>	<i>Margot Heckman</i>	<i>Barry Nove</i>
<i>Marlene Bishow</i>	<i>Sue Isman-Berg</i>	<i>Sonia Pasis</i>
<i>Ruth Brenner</i>	<i>Harvey Kabaker</i>	<i>Fran Rosenstein</i>
<i>Victor Cohen</i>	<i>Michael Kaltman</i>	<i>Dr. Sallyann Sack</i>
<i>Renee Donnager</i>	<i>Faith Nachman Klein</i>	<i>Eugene Sadick</i>
<i>Jonina Duker</i>	<i>Frederick A. Kolbrener</i>	<i>Eli Savada</i>
<i>Glen Easton</i>	<i>Margarita Lackó</i>	<i>Roberta Solit</i>
<i>Bob Enzel</i>	<i>Peter Landé</i>	<i>Ethan Starr</i>
<i>Benjamin C. Fassberg</i>	<i>Elizabeth S. Lourie</i>	<i>Mark Stone</i>
<i>Vera L. Finberg</i>	<i>Dr. Jeffrey Malka</i>	<i>Sue Swift</i>
<i>Ernest G. Fine</i>	<i>Rita Krakower Margolis</i>	<i>Leon B. Taranto</i>
<i>Dr. Rand Fishbein</i>	<i>Eleanor Matsas</i>	<i>Harris Weinstein</i>
<i>Barbara Garrard</i>	<i>Richard Meyersburg</i>	<i>Suzan Wynne</i>
<i>Milton Goldsamt</i>	<i>Jeffrey A. Miller</i>	
<i>Irene Saunders Goldstein</i>	<i>Victor Miller</i>	



***In Recognition of
Valuable Contributions
2009 - 2010
Jewish Genealogy Society of
Greater Washington***

The President's Perspective

Dear JGSGW Genners:

More than 35 members of JGSGW attended the 30th IAJGS Conference in Los Angeles in July. For some of us, it was a chance to study the activities that we will be responsible for planning and carrying out next year when JGSGW hosts the 31st IAJGS Conference in Washington, D.C. For others, it was an opportunity to see friends that grew out of a mutual interest over many years. It was wonderful - like a grand family reunion!

One of the things that I made particular note of is that in spite of the distance, so many of you were there. Wish we could see more of you at our monthly meetings. We are building an exciting and enriching schedule of meetings for the coming year and I challenge you to turn out. If there is something that we can do to make our meetings more attractive for you, in terms of topic, speaker, location, or time of day, please send me an e-mail < MLBishow@comcast.net > and I promise you that your input will be taken seriously.

I am also taking this opportunity to remind you that JGSGW has a Speakers Bureau. We are eager to send members out to speak to your organizations - synagogue groups, Hadassah, school groups, adult education, etc.... Our society is approaching the 30th anniversary of our founding and yet, for unknown reasons, there are people in the Greater Washington area who do not know that we exist. We must correct that situation and one of the ways to do it is to provide this service to the public. Be sure to mention our offer at the next committee meeting that you go to or tell your organization's Program Coordinator about us and our offer.

May the New Year be sweet and filled with health and happiness,

Marlene Bishow

President

A Board meeting was held for the new officers on July 1, 2010 at the home of President Marlene Bishow. In attendance were: Marlene Bishow, President; Sonia Pasis, Corresponding Secretary; Irene Saunders Goldstein, Member-at-Large; Victor Cohen, VP Logistics & Treasurer; Benjamin Ternier, VP Programs; Joshua Perlman, Recording Secretary. Absent: Fran Rosenstein, VP Membership.

After a brief round of introductions, Rita Krakower Margolis was appointed to the position of Past President by unanimous consent. A slate of volunteers to fill additional appointed positions was approved: Alan Levitt, Publicity Chair; Ernie Fine, Webmaster; Harvey Kabaker, Research Chair; Barbara Garrard, Database Manager; and Sue Isman, Conference Co-Chair.

It was noted that Margarita Lackó, Editor of *Mishpacha*, needs help. Her preference would be to have an assistant editor, but if necessary, she may need to be replaced by a new editor. We are also seeking volunteers to fill the following positions: Speakers Bureau Chair and Publications Chair. Any member interested in these positions should contact Marlene.

A slate of additional appointees was approved for non-Board positions. These volunteers include: Vera Finberg, Librarian; Gene Sadick, DNA coordinator; Ruth Brenner, Greeter; Jonina Duker, Workshops; and Rich Meyersberg, Beginners' Workshops.

The Board approved a contract with Cvent, a local firm in McLean, VA for registration software for the DC2011 conference.

Minutes submitted for approval by Joshua Perlman, Recording Secretary. Summary prepared by Marlene Bishow.

UPCOMING JGSGW PROGRAMS

Non-members/Visitors are welcome to attend programs for a \$5.00 fee. If a guest joins the Society the fee will be applied toward the membership dues. Workshops are open to JGSGW members only. Non-members may join on the day of the workshop unless advance registration is required.

NEW Non-members may attend one meeting a year for free! Go to our website to print the certificate.

September

Date: Sunday, September 19, 2010

Program: **Genealogy From the Inside Out: Tracing a Family Secret From a Single Clue**

Location: B'nai Israel, Rockville, MD

1:00 PM - Schmooze

Time: 1:30 PM - Business Meeting and Announcements

2:00 PM - Program

Speaker: Steve Luxenberg

Using a slide presentation of a secret involving his own family, Steve brings the audience along on the journey he took to write his award-winning book, *Annie's Ghosts: A Journey Into a Family Secret*. He travels through burial records, birth certificates, hospital records, immigration documents and wartime records, and assembles them into a coherent paper trail.

October

Date: Sunday, October 17, 2010 ***** JGSGW 30th Anniversary Celebration *****

Program: **Archival Research: Challenges and Strategies for Success**

Location: Har Shalom, Potomac, MD

1:00 PM - Schmooze

Time: 1:30 PM - Business Meeting and Announcements

2:00 PM - Program

Speaker: Boris Feldblyum

There is no substitute for knowledge. To which I might add - and for patience; and for coolness and for clarity of mind; and for being methodical and systematic. These qualities are always helpful, especially when we expand research into a foreign country, where problems are compounded by strange languages, equally strange history, and still stranger working habits of local archivists. Boris Feldblyum's expertise is in East European archival research, missing relatives search, probate search, English translation of archival documents, and consulting.

November

Date: Sunday, November 21, 2010

Workshop: **Beginner's Workshop, led by Rich Meyersburg**

Location: B'nai Israel, Rockville, MD

Time: 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Jewish family history does not have to be a mystery. We and our ancestors all leave a paper trail that can unravel the story of our families for many generations, across the ocean and into the smallest of shtetls.

- Join us for our FREE* Beginner's Workshop.
- A great start for the novice...

Even if you have been a member of JGSGW for a while, a great way to get back to the basics.

(Continued on page 19)

November (continued)

Program: **How to Read a Jewish Tombstone**

Time: 1:30 PM - Business Meeting and Announcements
2:00 PM - Program

Speaker: Steven Venick, Fram Monument Company

Jewish tombstones are an excellent source of information for genealogists. This is especially true if you are familiar with Hebrew and the rules, customs and symbols. Steve Venick will provide some historical background and demystify the reading and interpretation. Attendees are encouraged to bring photos of family tombstones for him to translate.

December

Date: Sunday, December 12, 2010

Program: ***The Heavens Are Empty: Discovering the Lost Town of Trochenbrod***

Location: Beth El, Alexandria, VA

1:00 PM - Schmooze

Time: 1:30 PM - Business Meeting and Announcements
2:00 PM - Program

Speaker: Avrom Bendavid-Val

Settlement of the village that became Trochenbrod started in the early 1800s in a small clearing in the forest in what is today northwest Ukraine. Jews began settling there and farming because under Czarist decrees, only by doing that could they avoid oppressive anti-Jewish laws. Trochenbrod became the only freestanding town, created, populated, and self-governed entirely by Jews, ever to exist outside the biblical Land of Israel. This magical place was the only town to completely and permanently vanish in the Holocaust. Avrom Bendavid-Val will tell the story of how he uncovered what happened in this vanished place. His book is about the life and vibrancy that was there, not just on the town's destruction.

For up-to-date information, please visit our website <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw>

JGSGW Library Opening Hours

Wednesdays	1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Sunday, September 19	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sunday, Oct. 3 -	10:00 am to noon
Sunday, Nov. 7	10:00 am to noon
Sunday, November 21	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sunday, Dec. 5	10:00 am to noon
2010	
Sunday, March 13	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sunday, May 15	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

The Library will not be open during Jewish and secular holidays.

For current times, please see our website < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw> >



2010-2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

2010

September 19 - Genealogy From the Inside Out: Tracing a Family Secret From a Single Clue

October 17 - JGSGW 30th Anniversary Celebration

Archival Research: Challenges and Strategies for Success

November 21 - Beginner's Workshop, led by Rich Meyersburg

How to Read a Jewish Tombstone

December 12 - The Heavens Are Empty: Discovering the Lost Town of Trochenbrod

2011

January 23 - Cultural Continuity and its Challenges

February 13 - TBA

March 13 - TBA

April 17 - Beginner's Workshop

May 15 - Engage Children in Learning by Teaching Family History

June 14 - Member Appreciation Potluck Luncheon

Jews and Chocolate - A Love Story

August 14-19 - 31st IAJGS Conference, Washington, D.C.

Please see our website for updates

< <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw> >

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

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