



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*

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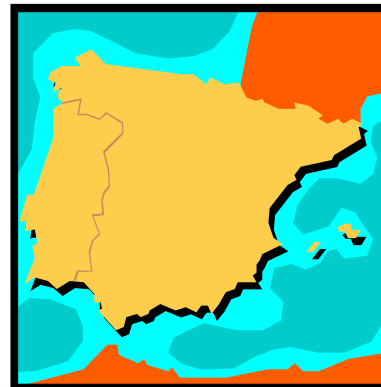
SephardicGen.com

A major resource for Sephardic genealogists

By JGSGW member JeffMalka < JeffMalka@SephardicGen >

Mishpacha

For the Jewish genealogist researching Sephardic ancestry, the *SephardicGen* website offers a unique and multifaceted resource. The non-commercial website, which first appeared in the late 1990s, has continuously expanded its offerings and today provides extensive and unique assistance in most aspects of Sephardic genealogical research.



The home page < www.SephardicGen.com > provides easy access to the website's many subsections. There is a section on Sephardic history, another of articles on Sephardic genealogy, a large section of links to various Internet Sephardic resources by country of interest, a section devoted to descriptions and lists of Sephardic surnames, a comprehensive gazetteer of geographic locations where Sephardic communities lived, a section on archives, extensive bibliographies, links to a large number of Sephardic family websites, calendar tools to convert dates from the many unusual calendars used in countries where Sephardic records were created, and even a collection of general genealogy forms and Sephardic newslists.

Rather than describe each section in turn, I will confine myself to the section of Sephardic databases. This section, accessed through < <http://www.sephardicgen.com/databases/databases.html> > presently contains about 60 different Sephardic databases. Most of these are physically located on *SephardicGen* and were compiled primarily by Mathilde Tagger of Jerusalem. All of these are accessed through special search engines permitting complex searches including Soundex. To facilitate the Sephardic genealogist's task, the *SephardicGen* database page also includes links to other important Sephardic databases, even if found elsewhere on the Internet. Thus one finds links to searchable databases of Sephardic interest

(Continued on page 3)

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

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Special thanks to Liz Lourie & Fred Kolbrener

The JGSGW Web Site is located at:
<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw>

prepared by the Israel Genealogy Society, the searchable French archives in Aix en Provence, Alain Farhi's large "Fleurs de l'Orient" searchable database, and Dan Kazez' collection of Istanbul Rabbinate records, among many others.

Many of the searchable databases on *SephardicGen* were newly created and appear here for the first time. As a sample there are databases of surnames and associated data extracted from Abraham Galante's 9 volume *Histoire des Juifs de Turquie* (History of the Jews of Turkey), Joseph Nehama's 7 volume study of the Jews of Salonika, databases of rabbis from Turkey, Morocco, Bulgaria, Algeria, Salonika, etc., WWII Sephardic deportees, 19th century Algerian Jewish voter lists, 19-20th century Russe (Bulgaria) wedding register, and soon the complete birth and marriage records of the Sephardic community of Vienna, Austria, among many more.

Because it would be tedious to search individually through all these individual databases, *SephardicGen* also has a searchable *Consolidated Index of Sephardic Surnames* (CISS), a sort of "Index of Indexes". Presently containing close to 50,000 names it will probably be much larger by the time you read this. A search for a name in this composite index provides a list – often several pages long – of which specific databases contain detailed information on the surname searched. The results page even provides links that permit the visitor to go directly to the database in question for the more detailed data search.

Many Sephardim grew up in francophone homes and many are still today more comfortable speaking French than English. To accommodate these researchers, the *SephardicGen* website also provides French versions of the database section's main page and its various search engines. The French versions can be accessed either through a link on the English database page or directly at < <http://www.sephardicgen.com/databases/databasesFR.html> >.

Finally, a quick comment about the unique Sephardic gazetteer. This is a database of the many locations where Sephardic communities exist or have existed in the past. Searchable by any of the locations' alternate names (or by country), the search results provide the alternative names, the country and province, and the geographic latitude and longitude of the town or village in question. There is even a link by each location to the Steve Morse engine that can provide a geographic map of the location. The Sephardic gazetteer is of special value to the Sephardic genealogist because it includes many places that no longer exist today on any modern map. Because of this and its inclusion of alternate and rare historic names a search in this database can solve many a pesky geographic enigma.

This article only describes a portion of the *SephardicGen* website. There are many other sections of the website to explore. Those researching their Ashkenazi roots might consider reading how Jewish populations have changed over the centuries. As late as the 12th century, 90% of all Jews were Sephardim. In the 1100s, there were Jewish communities of 12,000 Jews in several Spanish cities (Córdoba, Granada, etc.), while the largest Jewish communities in Europe were those of Frankfurt am Main and Vienna with 700 and 1,200 respectively. Where did today's Ashkenazi Jews come from? If the Ashkenazi genealogist could go back far enough many would be surprised to find Sephardic connections. The notarial records of Spain are voluminous and because many Sephardic surnames are ancient, this greatly extends how far back one can go in Sephardic research. I found records of Jewish MALKA families living continuously for 250 years in the same neighboring towns of Aragón from the 13th century to just one year before the 1492 expulsion. ☆

ED. NOTE: See Jeffrey S. Malka's article in the Winter 2007 issue of AVOTAYNU.

IAJGS Cemetery Project and JOWBR As Tools for the Genealogy Researcher

Submitted by Marlene Katz Bishow < mlbishow@comcast.net >


How many of you know that the IAJGS Cemetery Project was largely constructed through the efforts of our member and JGSGW Past President Arline Sachs (also former secretary of the International Association of Jewish Genealogy Societies (IAJGS)) and her husband Sidney Sachs? The present coordinator for North America is our President, Marlene Bishow.

The objective of the Cemetery Project is to identify Jewish burial sites and interments throughout the world. One approach to using the IAJGS database is to identify potential sites of family burials. If you know the name of the city or town where your family member lived and you would like to find out about the cemetery or cemeteries in the area; consult the IAJGS Cemetery Project at < <http://www.jewishgen.org/cemetery/instructions/> >. After selecting the area of the world and then the country or state, survey the information by city or town to see what cemeteries are or have been sites of Jewish burials. The listing may provide some information about the associated Jewish community and congregation. Most listings also contain contact information for the caretaker or other responsible parties. The location of the cemetery and how to reach it are included in most instances. You may want to visit the cemetery to pay respects, to photograph the site or, to search cemetery records, if they are available. Only the largest cemeteries have on-site offices, so you may need to contact the associated congregation or society.

Another approach is to check the JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) at < <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery/> > for specific individuals or for family names. If you get a positive hit, you may find a small amount of information about where the person is buried, dates, and other information of interest and value to researchers. Using the information found on this site, you may cross-reference it by means of the IAJGS Cemetery Project for location, contact person, and directions.

Researchers should also look for a specific cemetery website. This information is often indicated in the IAJGS listing, but new websites are showing up more frequently. There are also public and private (paid) websites with cemetery information and photographs of grave markers. By doing a Google search on the name of the cemetery, followed by a comma and the location; you may be able to find additional information.

If a researcher finds no information on a particular cemetery or plot of interest, the researcher may want to do a grave by grave survey of that plot. Using the instructions on the JOWBR website and the spreadsheet, which is also downloadable from that site, the aggregated data may be submitted to JOWBR. JOWBR also accepts digital photos of the graves. Local assistance with preparation of the data for submission is available from Marlene Bishow < mlbishow@comcast.net >. ☆

*  Before travelling to another city, check the IAJGS Master Calendar < <http://www.iajgs.org/calends/jgscalendar.html> > for Jewish Genealogy Society's scheduled programs. In February, I heard Henry Wellisch from Toronto, Canada, give a lecture about "The Austro-Hungarian Empire: Conventional and Non-Conventional Resources" at the JGS of Broward County, and attended Steve Morse's presentation "One-Step Webpages: A Potpourri of Genealogical Search Tools" at the JGS of Greater Miami, both in Florida. [ED.]

Reunion of Trochenbrod Descendants

By Rose Blitzstein Elbaum < rochel613@yahoo.com >

The small town of Trochenbrod, about 30 km northeast of Lutsk in Volhynia gubernia, northwestern Ukraine, has become familiar to many people thanks to Jonathan Safran Foer's 2002 novel, *Everything is Illuminated*. Families from surrounding villages settled the marshy area in the early 1800s as a farming colony. It was officially recognized by the Soviet regime in 1835 and given the name Sofiyevka (now known as Zofyuvka), after the Russian princess Sofia who gave land for the settlement. However, since the town's inhabitants were all Jews who took advantage of the Czar's edict of 1827, which exempted Jewish farmers from obligatory enlistment in the army for a period of fifty years, they persisted in referring to the town by the Yiddish name Trochenbrod and reserved the Russian name for official use only.

By 1889, 235 families (about 1200 people) lived in Trochenbrod. The town steadily grew until it had a population of 3,000 Jews by 1938. Trochenbrod was unique in that the population was all Jewish save the postmaster, Rizhard Labinsky, who according to Russian and Polish custom, was required to be a non-Jew. The inhabitants consisted mainly of farmers and tanners, but there was also a glass factory as well as service-related enterprises such as cafes, inns, grocers and other retail establishments.

All the residents were observant Jews who attended seven different synagogues in their small town – three big ones: Homilner, Mikever and Barshafsky, and four Hasidic *batei midrash* (study houses) named after the Hasidic leaders from Trisk, Olyka, Berezna and Stepan. The style of *davening* (praying) was Nusach Sfarad, one of the three main styles of prayer, and to this day Beth Sholom Congregation in Potomac, which was started by immigrants from Trochenbrod and the surrounding villages, still davens Nusach Sfarad.

The area of Trochenbrod was small, only about 17,000 acres. It consisted of one main road, which was always muddy in wet weather, with houses one after another on both sides of the road. Each property extended quite a distance behind the house. The town could not be expanded because it was surrounded by forests and many of the young people were compelled to emigrate to North and South America, especially to Argentina.

During World War I Trochenbrod suffered a great deal because the front was only about four miles from the town and its inhabitants were forced to work for the Austrian and German armies for a period of nine months. The army would distribute small portions of bread, salt and the hind-quarters of beef from cattle slaughtered by Jewish *shochtim* (ritual slaughterers) to the residents who worked for the army.

At the start of the Russian Revolution, the young people of Trochenbrod organized many Hebrew and Zionist institutions. After the Poles captured Trochenbrod in 1920, the residents raised money and taught Hebrew in a Hebrew school headed by Rabbi Eliyahu David Yisroel Schuster, who also gave private Hebrew lessons.

Thanks to Arthur Blitstein, a Chicago relative of mine who had the foresight in the 1950s to interview elderly members of the BLITZSTEIN family, we have a family tree which dates back to David BLITZSTEIN, born about 1790, and his siblings. David's son Hershel, my gggrandfather, was forced to flee Trochenbrod because of a dispute with the authorities and emigrated to America about 1890 when he was eighty years old. He worked as a laborer on the World's Fair from 1893 until he died in 1896. He is buried in Chicago. However, his wife and eleven children all remained

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in Trochenbrod. My grandfather, Shoel Blitzstein, had a farm where he raised his own vegetables, had a milk cow, and traded in horses. His nine children were all expected to help on the farm as soon as they were old enough. He had a reputation in the surrounding towns as an honest man, and many non-Jews would only buy from him.

The children in Trochenbrod all attended *heder* (Hebrew school), and when they were old enough, the boys were sent out of town to yeshiva. My father, Nathan BLITZSTEIN, who was no exception, told me many stories of his days at yeshiva in Rovno, Ukraine.

In August and September 1942 the Nazis and their collaborators murdered the entire population of the town, save about 35 including my grandfather Shoel, my father Nathan and one brother Avraham, who all managed to flee into the nearby Radziwiller forest. Another brother, Hershel, had left Trochenbrod in 1938 and made his way illegally to Palestine. Those who escaped joined the partisans and fought against the Nazi machine. Trochenbrod caught fire and was burned down completely. The town was never rebuilt.

After the War, most Trochenbrod survivors emigrated to Israel, where they formed a landsmanshaft, an organization to keep the memories of Trochenbrod alive, which they named *Beit-Tal*. In 1988, they published a yizkor book titled *Ha'llan V'Shoreshav* (The Tree and Its Roots) in Hebrew and Yiddish. After the former Soviet Union broke apart, the Israeli survivors arranged to erect *matzevas* (memorial stones) in the town of Trochenbrod as well as in the forest of Yaromel, a few

kilometers distant, where Trochenbrod's Jews were led to their mass grave. In August 1992 I accompanied my father and ten Israelis to Trochenbrod for the dedication of the monuments. At that time, I was the only second-generation member who expressed interest in seeing the town where my father had spent his youth. However, I am pleased to say



that I am now part of a group that is reaching out to form a network of second, third and fourth generation "Trochenbroders." During the first quarter of the twentieth century many people from Trochenbrod immigrated to the United States. In the 1920s, organizations of Trochenbrod immigrants sprang up in Washington, DC, Baltimore, New York, Toledo, Cleveland, Chicago and other cities. By the late 1970s all of these had dissolved because of the death of most of the original immigrants.

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Now many of these descendants and their children from across the United States are coming together in April to rediscover each other; to remember their ancestors and their Trochenbrod through public storytelling, video and photographs; and to talk about ways to keep alive the memory of Trochenbrod.

If you are descendant of Trochenbrod residents, please join us on Sunday, April 13th, 4 pm, at *Sixth & I Historic Synagogue* for this first ever Trochenbrod gathering in the U.S. If you know of someone who has roots in Trochenbrod, please forward this information to them. You can reach me at < rochel613@yahoo.com >. Or go to the new *Beit-Tal* website at < www.bet-tal.com >. ✡



IAGJS SALUTES!

Sidney & Arline Sachs



For ten years Sidney and Arline Sachs have produced a public access television series, *Tracing Your Family Roots* < <http://tracingroots.nova.org> >. The series' shows have increased the knowledge of available resources, demonstrated creative techniques, and increased the number of individuals who participate in Jewish genealogy. Sidney has produced the series, while Arline and Dr. Sallyann Sack have performed as co-hosts of the show. The shows are broadcast in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia, and are now available on the website.

With their *Tracing Your Family Roots* show, Sidney and Arline have helped spread the word about Jewish genealogy through their dedicated and tireless efforts and creative programming.

**Sidney and Arline Sachs are members of the JGSGW.
Congratulations on your IAJGS honor. It is well deserved!**

Mishpacha needs your stories!

I would like to hear what YOU are interested in.....

- * Do you have a problem finding your ancestor in some database? Write your questions and we'll try to answer them.
- * Did you find your ancestor in some 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.

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





Overseas Research

Tokyo Jewish Cemetery

The *Jewish Community of Japan* has an on-line list of those interred in the Yokohama Foreigner's Cemetery - Jewish Section < <http://www.jccjapan.or.jp/Cemetery/index.htm> >. Please direct your questions to the *Jewish Community of Japan* (link found at the bottom of the page).

Irish Census - 1911 Dublin

The Irish National Archives has put the 1911 census returns for Dublin City and County on-line. Digitized images of the original census returns in pdf format may be searched, viewed and downloaded. The database is free. Go to < <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/search/> >

Volga Germans in Argentina

Many descendants of the Volga Germans migrated from Russia to Argentina from 1875 onwards. The website < <http://www.alemanesvolga.com.ar/> > has a short history of the Germans from Volga, their culture, a vast bibliography and history of the colonization in Argentina. Most of the colonies < <http://www.alemanesvolga.com.ar/historia/colonias/index.html> >, have a list the names of the founding members. In Spanish.

Dachau Concentration Camp Records

Steve Morse < <http://www.stevemorse.org> > has added a One-Step search application for the 160,000 inmates at the Dachau Concentration Camp. Unlike many of his other tools that search data on other websites, this entire database is on his own website. He received the data from Peter Landé of the *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum* in Washington, D.C. To search, click on "Dachau Records" in the "Holocaust and Eastern Europe" section. To read about this database, click on the "Introduction" button.

Frankfurt Memorbuch: New Digitized Manuscript

The National Library of Israel has announced public access of a digitized version of the *Frankfurt Memorbuch*, one of the most important sources of genealogical data on German Jewry. This manuscript documents the deaths of important members of the Jewish community of Frankfurt am Main over a period of almost 300 years (1628-1907). The Introduction, in English, can be found at < http://jnul.huji.ac.il/dl/mss/heb1092/index_eng.html >. The site includes page and date indexes, in Hebrew. To view these images it is necessary to download the free DjVu viewer program. < http://www.lizardtech.com/download/dl_options.php?page=plugins >.

Historical Currency Conversions

The website states: "This form allows you to convert the historical buying power of American and British currencies into current dollars. ... the quantity can be entered as a number like "1000" or "10 million" or any mathematical expression." < <http://futureboy.homeip.net/fsp/dollar.fsp> >

28th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

CHICAGO

Co-Sponsored by the IAJGS, the JGS of Illinois and the Illiana JGS
Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, Illinois
Chicago, Illinois, 17-22 August 2008
< www.chicago2008.org >

- * Registration is now available at the Conference website. Early registration ends April 30.
- * For up-to-date information, questions and answers, join the Conference Discussion Group.
- * Special Interest Groups (SIGs) will have their annual meetings and luncheons.
- * Don't miss "Breakfast with The Experts" and the "Jewish Film Festival."
- * Computer training workshops: Registration is \$25.00 and limited to 25 individuals per workshop (note: many workshops offered at last year's conference sold out).
- * NEW: Shabbat Dinner on Friday, August 15 and Welcome Dinner on Saturday, August 16.
- * Conference program is now online (subject to change).

Tips for preparing for the Conference:

- * *Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland* < www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Chicago >.
- * Maps of cemeteries: < <http://tinyurl.com/3ycbqa> > (bottom of page).

IJG Research Grants

Submitted by Anne Feder Lee, IAJGS President

The *International Institute for Jewish Genealogy and Paul Jacobi Center* (IJG) at the Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem, is accepting proposals for ground-breaking research in six preferred areas of Jewish Genealogy, for the academic year 2008– 2009. Successful applicants will be awarded grants of up to \$10,000. Deadline for the submission of proposals is 31 May 2008. "Instructions to Applicants" (to be followed carefully) are to be found on the Institute's website < <http://www.ijg.org> > (under "Projects", then "Upcoming Projects", then "Call for Projects").

DC2011 JGSGW Conference

Looking for volunteers with experience in the following areas to help with our next conference:

- ⇒ **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**
- ⇒ **CONFERENCE PLANNING**
 - ⇒ **FUND RAISING**
 - ⇒ **PUBLICITY**
- ⇒ **WEB DESIGN & MAINTENANCE**

Please send a message to < jgsgw_dc@comcast.net > with name, contact information, and background/experience.

A meeting will be held in March/April to fill other positions.



Domestic Research

Records of Jewish cemeteries in the Greater Baltimore area

Jewish Museum of Maryland (JMM) < <http://www.jhsm.org/> >

Cemetery burial listings are available on-line for Rosedale < <http://tinyurl.com/325o94> >, Southern Avenue < <http://tinyurl.com/32v8q9> >, and four additional cemeteries < <http://tinyurl.com/2j9ehz> >. The later includes: Herring Run-Bowley's Lane, German Hill-Hebrew Mt. Carmel, Hebrew Friendship (includes Bikur Cholim Congregation), and Oheb Shalom-O'Donnell Street (includes Hebrew Free Burial).

The *Robert L. Weinberg Family History Center*, at the JMM, contains a wealth of resources for pursuing family history and genealogical research. We welcome researchers in our collections. We also offer a research-by-mail service if you would like us to research our collections on your behalf, or conduct research at Baltimore-area Jewish cemeteries.

Comment (MB): The Museum has elected to post a minimum amount of cemetery data - basically only six cemeteries. Hopefully, they will post more, but the format of this posting is most unfortunate, as it is comprised of individual PDF files for each cemetery or group of cemeteries. In the current format, a search is tedious and time-consuming.

Expanded 1920 One-Step Search Capabilities


Joel Weintraub" < jweintraub@cox.net >

Steve Morse has expanded the geographical search capabilities for the US Census at his One-Step website < <http://www.stevemorse.org/> >. Now one should be able to find most Enumeration District (ED) numbers on the 1920 census by geographical means, whether the target address is in a city, town, or rural area.

If you can't find a name on a name index for the 1920 census, but know the location that your target was living at in 1920, then it is now possible to do one (or all) of the following:

1. Find your 1920 large city address on our 1930 ED finder, and convert the resultant 1930 ED # to a 1920 one;
2. Find your small community name on our 1930/1920 list of urban areas, and see the 1930 and 1920 ED numbers for that area;
3. Take a 1930 ED number and find out what it correlates with in 1920 (and vice versa);
4. Use the NARA database through the 1-Step site to find your target location in 1930, and use the links there to the 1920 (and 1940) conversion utilities.

Los Angeles City Directories

The *Los Angeles Public Library* has digitized a portion of its collection of Los Angeles city directories and Los Angeles street address directories. Available years are 1929-1987 < <http://rescarta.lapl.org:8080/ResCarta-Web/jsp/RcWebBrowse.jsp> >. After performing a name search for a directory, click on the left binocular  to go to the Previous Hit or the right one to go to the Next Hit within the same directory.

Society News



Current Newsletters available electronically from the editor:

“Atsmi Uvsari” - Utah JGS
“Chronicles” - JGS Greater Philadelphia
“Family Gatherings” - JGS Broward County
“Family Legacies” - JGS Southern Nevada
“Generations” - JGS of Michigan
“Illiana” - Illinois/Indiana JGS
“Mishpochology” - JGS of Southwest Florida (Sarasota)
“Montreal Forum” - JGS Montreal
“Morasha” - JGS Illinois
“News ‘N Notes” - St. Louis Genealogy Society
“Newsletter” - JGS Great Britain
“Perth Jewish Roots” - JHGS Western Australia
“Scattered Seeds” - JGS Palm Beach County
“Shem Tov” - JGS Canada (Toronto)
“Toldot” - JGS Argentina (in Spanish)
“Venturing Into Our Past” - JGS Conejo Valley & Ventura County, California
“Zichron Note” - San Francisco Bay Area JGS

To request a newsletter, send an e-mail to < mishpologia@uzidog.com >.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Marvin BASH

Karen FRIEDEL

Leonard JEWLER

David KEMPNER

Karen SCHEER

Fred SCHEIGERT

David ZINNER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

General Fund

Robert P. Herzog

Library Fund

Janet Davis

Richard Meyersburg

Kehilat Chaverim

Marlene Bishow

Ellen and Leon Taranto, in memory of
Anita Pikus

Columbia Jewish Congregation

New Library Committee and Librarian

The JGSGW extends their best wishes and appreciation to Judy Mostyn White,
for more than 12 years volunteering as Librarian.

Library Committee:
Gene Sadick, Chair and Librarian
Vera Finberg
Elaine Apter

The President's Perspective

It is difficult for me to believe that by the time the next issue of *Mishpacha* (Summer, 2008) is published, I will no longer be President of our Society. Two years have flown by and I have enjoyed every minute. Above all, the personal goals that I set for my tenure have been achieved – WOW!

As anyone who has had a discussion with me in the past two years must know, the central goal of my tenure has been moving and reopening the library. I am pleased to report that the new furniture has been installed and most of the books are now on the shelves. We have a Library Committee that has been putting in a lot of time moving boxes of books and organizing the materials to facilitate ease of use. Thanks to Gene Sadick, Vera Finberg and Elaine Apter.

One of my favorite features of the new library is the audio lecture library. Over the years, JGSGW has purchased a significant number of conference lectures on cassette tape. Member Fred Kolbrener has transferred more than 150 of these lectures to CD and there will be more. Any member who would like to get background on a particular aspect of genealogy can select a relevant title, go to one of the workstations in the library, put on a pair of headphones and listen to the lecture. Most of the lectures are about one hour in length – an easy listen for a session. Since we have begun to record our monthly lectures, these too will be available on CD. We will also review some of the old meeting lectures that were recorded on cassette and, where the subject is still timely and the quality is good, we will transfer those to CD and add them to the library.

In this, my final letter to you, I have one request of our members; that is to ask each of you to commit to 10 volunteer hours a year. It does not sound like a lot, but there are only a limited number of members who can say that they have made that commitment in the past. These folks are the backbone of our society and our treasure. Two weeks ago, I sent out a message asking for volunteers to help out with our June Member Appreciation Luncheon. The response was underwhelming.....I heard from only one person. We have a wonderful program planned, but without a committee to do the planning, setup and breakdown; how can we go forward with this annual event?

We urgently need some new blood, as the current committed volunteers are spread much too thin. Elections will be upon us soon. In May, we will elect a new slate of officers and the Nominating Committee is having serious problems identifying candidates for VP of Programs, VP of Membership, and Publicity Chair. Although these positions require more than a 10 hour commitment, without them, JGSGW will stagnate. Please consider my request and e-mail me with your interests and commitment. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Warm regards,

Marlene Bishow
President



If you stop looking, you will never find what you are looking for.

Board Meeting Summary

Submitted by Gene Alpert, Recording Secretary

The JGSGW Board of Directors met on January 20, 2008. Highlights of the reports and actions are as follows:

Library Update:

The library furniture is scheduled to be delivered during the second or third week of February. We are in need of a microfilm reader since we have received a donation of several microfilms in 2003. The board decided to create a library committee to be appointed by President Bishow to implement the necessary actions to set up the library at B'nai Israel.

Upcoming Programs:

April - Ron Arons will speak at the JCC of Northern Virginia on the topic of "Kosher Nostre."

May - Rabbi Leonard Cahan will present the history of Jewish marriage customs.

June - This is our annual year-end potluck luncheon at the Potomac Community Center. Warren Blatt from JewishGen will speak about Jewish Given Names.

Membership Report:

As of the end of 2007, we had 286 members.

Membership cards are available for pick up at the next meeting and will be kept in the library for members to pick up when the library is in operation.

Treasurer's Report: Eleanor Matsas gave the Treasurer's Report.

President Bishow presented the budget for FY2007-2008. Pending a revision in the accounting for the library capital expenses, the budget will be submitted to the Board for approval by electronic vote.

Tracing Family Roots: President Bishow proposed that JGSGW make the appropriate arrangements for the local access television show, "Tracing Family Roots," produced by Arline and Sid Sachs, to be shown on Montgomery County's Comcast local access channel. Jeff Miller will check into local arrangements and report on the logistics of doing so.

IAJGS International Conference: JGSGW has submitted a proposal to host an IAJGS conference in the future. We have previously hosted conferences in 1984, 1988, 1995 and 2003. ☆

Silent Auction

Thanks to a donation of conference audio tapes by Sallyann Sack, an electronic silent auction was held and we raised enough money to buy a pocket-sized digital recorder. This recorder has already been used to record workshop and lecture programs since January. The recordings have been transferred to CD and these CDs are available for listening at the JGSGW Genealogy Library. The quality is excellent. If you missed a meeting, be sure to come to the library to hear the lecture. There are 12 computers outfitted with headsets for your use.

Additional revenue from the auction was used to purchase blank CDs and member Fred Kolbrener has been transferring cassette-taped lectures from various conferences onto CD. These will also be maintained in our library, so please stop by to listen to our audio library. When complete, we will have upwards of 250 titles. We will distribute a list of the CD lectures shortly. ☆

Library Update

Judith Mostyn White, JGSGW librarian

Dear JGSGW Members,

After being librarian for our society since 1996, I find that I must resign, due to new physical problems and family obligations, just as the library is about to reopen in a beautiful new facility. I truly enjoyed being librarian and regret needing to resign.

Having moved the library once before, I know it is a chore to get it set up again. But this time, there is more room for our collection and the shelves won't have to be washed and scrubbed first. I am hoping those of you who volunteered in the past will come forward now to help reshelve our materials. JGSGW will need volunteers on a "help with reshelving" basis, and on a regular basis to open the library for use. Please help.

JGSGW also needs a new librarian. This person will not be working alone - there are at least 10 people who have offered to help with library work. I will be happy to explain the way the library was organized in the past, so the new librarian can decide how he or she wants to organize it now. The librarian chooses what materials to purchase, with input from the Society. The librarian prepares the new or newly donated items by labeling them, and entering the information in the library database. The librarian writes articles for *Mishpacha* to let the membership know what's new at the library.



THANK YOU to all those people who have helped out over the years. There are too many JGSGW members who helped, to list them all, but I must mention three people whose support and assistance was outstanding - all of them associated with the Isaac Franck Library (IFL): Michlean Amir and Beila Organic, both former librarians with the IFL, and most of all, Dan Gross who previously volunteered there.

As librarian, I say a fond "Goodbye", but as a JGSGW member, I continue to wish you all "Happy family hunting!"

Here is the latest installment of new books at our library:

Z 2240 .A7; "Guides to German Records Microfilmed at Alexandria, VA". Microfilms deposited in the US National Archives; #81 is records of the Reich Leader of the SS & Chief of the German Police; #83 is records of the SS Economic & Administrative Office; both oversize books.

F 265 .J5 G6; "Jewish Roots in the Carolinas: a Pattern of American Philo-Semitism" by Harry Golden, published 1955. Jews of North & South Carolina; includes bibliography.

CS 3 .F3655; "Collection of lectures & papers on family history" published 1984. Includes the Navon, Homburger, Rosenthal, Umansky & Gavriner families; in Hebrew.

F 205 .J5 J49; "The Jews of Washington, DC: a Communal History Anthology" by David A. Altshuler, published 1985. Includes bibliography. Donated by JGSGW member, Sonia Passis. Thank you, Sonia.

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Library Update... *(Continued from page 14)*

CS 71 .K9555; "The Krupp family chronicles: L'dor v'dor" by Martin Lobel, published 1995. Krupp family genealogy; includes bibliography and index. Donated by the author. Thank you, Martin.

CD 2012 .D53 T453; "Guide to archival collection at the Institute of Diaspora Research" by Yoel Raba, published 1995. Bibliography; in Hebrew.

F 474 .K36 L643; "Gone But Not Forgotten" by Anita Loeb, published 1999. Burials in the Jewish cemeteries of Kansas City, MO 1866-1999. Donated by JGSGW member, Ethan Starr. Thank you, Ethan.

DS 135 .B38 S57; "Bashert: A Granddaughter's Holocaust Quest" by Andrea Simon, published 2002. Memoir of the Holocaust in Valozhyn, Belarus. Includes bibliography and index.

CS 71 .B4437; "The Behrends of Rodenberg: a Worldwide Family Genealogy" by Charles Behrend Sonneborn, published 2001. The genealogy of the Behrends family of Germany. Donated by the author. Thank you, Charles.

CD 3023 .I66; "Immigration & Naturalization Service Records located in the National Archives & the local field offices." Records at the US National Archives relating to immigration and naturalization, including passenger arrival lists, crew lists, alien registration forms and records of enemy alien internment facilities.

DS 135 .G4 B863; "Jewish cemetery Bunde, Germany" by Annegret Dinski. Includes history of the Jewish community, information about the Jewish cemetery, names of those buried there, many pictures.

DS 135 .E6 H374; "Commercial Directory of the Jews of the United Kingdom" by G. Eugene Harfield, published 1893. Listed by city.

CS 66 .J4 F45; "Chasman family history" by Annette Chasman Feldman, published 1999. Descendants of Rabbi Mordecai David Chasman of Virbalis, Lithuania, 1820-1942. Donated by the author. Thank you, Annette.

Z 6374 .Z5 Y335; "List of files of the Paul Yaakov Yaakobi archive" published 1998. Includes genealogical research; in Hebrew.

DS 135 .L52 V594; "It was – it wasn't" by Jankle-Leib Kopelansky, published 1998. Vizhun, Lithuania and the families of Zalman, Miltzer, Royzin, Beider; in Yiddish.

D 804.3 .N37; "Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors" published 2000. Replaces 1996 version; Holocaust survivors: Vol 1 - alphabetical list of survivors A-L; Vol 2 - alphabetical list of survivors L-Z; Vol 3 - survivors by place of birth and town before the war; Vol 4 - survivors by location during the war.

DS 135 .H9 S95; "Pinkas Sziget 1884-1921." Community register for Sziget, Hungary; in Hebrew script.

CS 879 .G79; "Documents and charts relating to certain Jewish families" by Judith A Walters, published 1978. Families of Grynszpan, Kmiotek, Melcer, Mycenmacher, Pyszna, Rozen & Wejntrop of Przasnysz & Ciechanow, Warsaw, Poland.

(Continued on page 14)

Library Update... (Continued from page 15)

DS 135 .P62 S9572513; "Memorial book Szydłowiec" published 1989. Translation of Shidlovtsler (Szydłowiec, Radom, Poland) yizkor book. Donated by Dan Gross. Thank you, Dan.

CS 996 .G4 F718; "Mohel book of the Abraham Stern family". Circumcision register, Frankfurt, Germany, 1698-1826; in Yiddish.

CS 414 .G22 B75; "Jewish ancestors?" published by the Jewish Genealogy Society of Great Britain, 2d ed. 2001. Beginner's guide to Jewish genealogy in Great Britain; includes bibliography.

CS 878 .G35 G47; "Gesher Galicia Family Finder" 7th edition, published 1999. Ancestral names of society members.

DS 135 .S75 R99; "Jewish Roots in Spain" published 1992. Historical essay by Dr. Abraham Haim, in Spanish and English, with many pictures of Jewish Spain. Thank you to the Isaac Franck Jewish Public Library for donating this book to us.

CS 71 .M375; "Maslinkowsky family history" by Patti Maslinoff, published 2000, 2 volumes. The Maslinkowsky family from Elizavetgrad, Russia; volume 2, appendices, contains descendant charts, pictures, and copies of documents. Donated by the author. Thank you, Patti.

E 184 .J5 A12; "120 HIAS Stories" edited by Kathleen Andersen, Morris Ardoin, and Margarita Zilberman, published 2002. Stories of Jewish immigrants

F 158.9 .J5 E463; "The Jewish Cemetery, Ninth & Spruce Streets, Philadelphia" by L. H. Elmaleh, published 1906. Burials and chart of locations at Mikveh Israel Cemetery

DS 135 .G34 C356; "From Prussia with Love" by EHUD, M. Z. GAIN. Historical notes on the Jews in Schrimm, Lissa, Rogasen, Posen. History of the Badt and Chayut-Chajes families. In English and Hebrew. Donated by David Marblestone. Thank you, David.

BM 750 .V85; "Meorei Galicia: Encyclopedia of Galician Rabbis & Scholars" by Meir Vunder, published 1978. Includes bibliographies and indexes. In Hebrew and Yiddish, with a list of names in English. Vol 1, A-D. Donated by JGSGW member, Shelley Pollero. Thank you, Shelley.

PG 2121 .P655; "In Their Words" by Jonathan D. Shea, volume 1, Polish, published 2000; volume 2, Russian published 2002. A genealogist's translation guide to: Vol 1, Polish, German, Latin documents; Vol 2, Russian documents. Includes help on writing to institutions in the European countries. Includes bibliographical references and index.

Z 6374 .H6 U55; "Archival Guide to the Collections of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum" by Brewster Chamberlin and Carl Modib, 2d edition, published 2003. Descriptions of the collections by record group; includes index.

DK 4800 .K63 R53; "Konin: a Quest" by Theo Richmond, published 1995. History of Jews of Konin, Poland; includes bibliography and index. Donated by JGSGW member, Vera Finberg. Thank you, Vera.

DS 135 .P62 J444; "Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community in Jedwabne, Poland" by Jan T. Gross, published 2001. Originally published as Sasiedzi; includes bibliography and index. Donated by JGSGW member, Vera Finberg. Thank you, Vera. ☆

What is a “cash boy”?

Leonard Lobred < derbol@his.com >

A male relative is identified in the 1900 Census, when he was 14 years old, as a “cash boy” in a clothing store. What is a “cash boy”? More appropriately, the question is, “what was a cash boy”?

For many years all of the cash in department stores was kept in one location, under the control of a cashier, often not on the main sales floor. After a salesman and a customer had agreed on a sale, the salesman summoned a “cash boy” who sped the customer's payment and sales ticket to the cashier and returned to the point of sale with the change and a receipt for the salesman to hand to the customer.



“Cash boys” were replaced by mechanical devices. Some members of the JGSGW can remember the vacuum tubes and clickety-clack conveyors in department stores in the 1920s, 1930s, and 1940s. The mechanical devices were noisy. Just as a “cash boy” had done, the conveyors carried the customer's payment and sales ticket from the point of sale to a cashier somewhere else in the store and returned a few minutes later with the change and a receipt for the customer. At bank drive-throughs today the tubular containers and the sound of the vacuum tubes are a reminder of the vacuum tubes in department stores of the past.

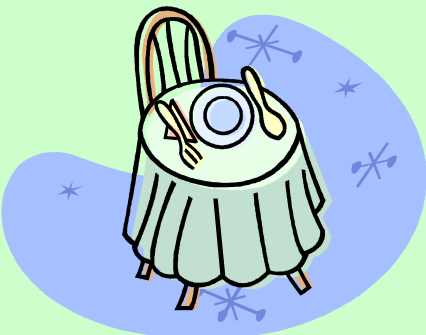
The old way of keeping all of a large store's cash under the control of a cashier in one location gave way to the cash register, which facilitated the completion of cash transactions at the point of sale. Cash registers are being replaced by computers, some of which are connected with company headquarters.

This is not a history on the handling of cash in department stores. It is intended only to explain for a genealogist what is or was a “cash boy.” ☆

Potluck Luncheon Coordinator Needed

Our annual Member Appreciation Luncheon will take place on June 8 at the Clara Barton Community Center (7425 Macarthur Blvd, Cabin John, MD).

We urgently need volunteers to coordinate this event.



Responsibilities include:

- purchasing paper products
- directing the set-up of the tables and chairs
- directing the placement of the food items

If you enjoy our meetings, please consider helping us out.

Can we count on YOU?

To volunteer, please send a message to < jgsgw_dc@comcast.net >.

UPCOMING JGSGW PROGRAMS

April

Program

Date: Sunday, April 13, 2008
Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze time; 1:30 Program
Location: JCC of Northern Virginia, Fairfax, VA
Speaker: Ron Arons
Topic: "The Kosher Nostra - There's a Criminal in Every Jewish Family"

Workshop - *Members only. Advance Registration Required*

Date: Sunday, April 13, 2008
Time: 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM
Location: JCC of Northern Virginia, Fairfax, VA
Speaker: Rich Meyersburg
Topic: "Beginners Workshop"

May

Bonus Workshop - *Members only. Advance Registration Required*

Date: Wednesday, May 7, 2008 - Session I (Repeated May 12)
Time: 10:00 AM to 12:00 AM
Location: National Archives and Records Administration
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408-0001
(entrance to the building is on Pennsylvania Avenue)
Speaker: Katherine Vollen & Rebecca Sharp
Topic: "Passport Application 1795-1925"

Bonus Workshop - *Members only. Advance Registration Required*

Date: Monday, May 12, 2008 - Session II
Time: 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Location: National Archives and Records Administration
Same location as May 7 Bonus Workshop (above)
Speaker: Katherine Vollen & Rebecca Sharp
Topic: "Passport Application 1795-1925"

Library Orientation Workshop - *open to JGSGW members and B'nai Israel members*

Date: Sunday, May 18, 2008
Time: 11:00 AM
Location: B'nai Israel, Fanaroff Auditorium, Rockville, MD
Speakers: Gene Sadick, JGSGW Librarian, Vera Finberg, and Elaine Apter
Topic: "Orientation to the new JGSGW Library: Its Holdings, Facilities and Use"

Program

Date: Sunday, May 18, 2008
Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze time; 1:30 Program
Location: B'nai Israel, Fanaroff Auditorium, Rockville, MD
Speaker: Rabbi Leonard Cahan
Topic: "Origins of Jewish Marriage Customs"

(Continued on page 19)

June

Annual Member Appreciation Luncheon - *Members only.*

Date: Sunday, June 8, 2008
Time: 1:00 PM
Location: Clara Barton Community Center
7425 Macarthur Blvd, Cabin John, MD 20818
Speaker: Warren Blatt
Topic: "Jewish Given Names"

Library Orientation Workshop

Sunday, May 18, 2008 @ 11:00 AM

The JGSGW Genealogy Library at B'nai Israel will open in May, 2008.

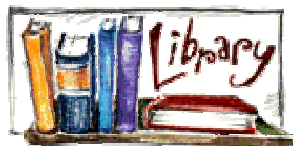
Members are encouraged to learn about the organization of the holdings of this wonderful facility from the members of our own Library Committee.

Policies, volunteer opportunities, hours of operation and who may use the library will be discussed. In addition to more than 500 books, the library has a large collection of periodicals, audio and video tapes, CDs and DVDs, as well as maps, collections of specialized articles organized in binders and files. There is a nearly complete collection of *Mishpacha* and copies of JGSGW Membership Directories. For the first time in the Society's history, we have volumes of scrapbooks with photos, meeting announcements and other historical documents.

Looking for a way to celebrate or a way to commemorate,

Always in good taste a donation to the...

JGSGW Library Fund



For donations of \$18 or more,
we will send an attractive card
to the person or family.



2008 MEETING SCHEDULE



- April 13 - Beginners Workshop
 - "The Kosher Nostra - There's a Criminal in Every Jewish Family"
- May 7 - Bonus Workshop: NARA "Passport Application 1795-1925"
- May 12 - Bonus Workshop: NARA "Passport Application 1795-1925"
- May 18 - Library Orientation Workshop
 - "Origins of Jewish Marriage Customs"
- June 8 - Annual Member Appreciation Luncheon
 - "Jewish Given Names"

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