



# 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 27, Number 1

Winter 2008

## GUIDE FOR GENEALOGISTS AND FAMILY HISTORIANS



The Archival Research Catalog (ARC) is the online catalog of NARA's nationwide holdings in the Washington, DC, area; Regional Archives; and Presidential Libraries. ARC is a work in progress; currently just over 50% of our records are described in ARC at the series level.

ARC contains many descriptions of records of interest to genealogists and family historians, including:

- applications for enrollment in Native American tribes
- court records
- fugitive slave cases
- land records
- military personnel records
- naturalization records

Researchers can conduct keyword searches and filtered searches in ARC. Keep in mind that ARC keyword searching is very specific. For example, if you search on the word "veteran," you may not find search results that only include the word "veterans," so we encourage you to use variations of a word with the word "or" between them (for example: veteran or veterans).

To perform a simple keyword search:

- a. Go to < <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/> > .
- b. Press the **yellow Search button** in the upper left corner of this page to go to the Basic search screen.
- c. Enter [*some keywords of your choice*] in the Keywords box. *For example: bounty land*
- d. Select the limit results radio button for 2000.
- e. (*Optional*) Select the box marked **Descriptions of Archival Materials linked to digital copies**.

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Mishpacha

## JGSGW Officers and Committee Chairs for 2007 - 2008

President	Marlene Bishow MLBishow@comcast.net
VP Programming	Rochelle Gershenow rpgersh@comcast.net
VP Membership	Gene Sadick elsadick2@verizon.net
VP Logistics	Jeff Miller SingingTM@comcast.net
Corresponding Secretary	Sonia Pasis sonyaMSKP@verizon.net
Recording Secretary	Eugene Alpert gene1@ix.netcom.com
Treasurer	Eleanor Matsas ematsas@aol.com
Past President	Ben Fassberg BenjaminF@aol.com
Member-At-Large	Jeff Miller SingingTM@comcast.net
Database Manager	Marlene Bishow MLBishow@comcast.net
Hospitality	Sonia Pasis (TEMP) sonyaMSKP@verizon.net
Librarian	Judy Mostin White judymostyn@comcast.net
Mishpacha Editor	Margarita Lackó mishpologia@uzidog.com
Publicist	Jeff Miller (TEMP) SingingTM@comcast.net
Speaker's Bureau	Benjamin Fassberg BenjaminF@aol.com
Research Coordinator	<b>OPEN</b>
Webmaster	Aaron Werbel Werbel@mail.com
Workshop Coordinator	Marlene Bishow (TEMP) MLBishow@comcast.net

## משפחה

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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 Jeff Miller, Liz Lourie & Fred Kolbrener

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

- f. Press the **Go** button.
- g. When hits are returned for your search, view the full result of your hit by selecting the **Title link**.

### Tips for Searching for an Individual's Name

- Search on **the person's full name** in first name-last name order.
- Search on **the surname only**. The records might only include a first initial or a variant spelling of the first name.
- Search on **variant spellings of the surname**, for example: Luchetti or Lucetti.
- Search on **variant spellings of the first name**, including "Americanized" versions, for example: Joseph Maggio or Guisepppe Maggio.
- Keep in mind that ARC does not contain descriptions for all file units and items that include individuals' names. However, the National Archives still might have records about your ancestors.

Also, search by topic using keywords, such as: Court Records (Civil, Criminal, and Law cases, Naturalization, etc.), Immigration (Alien, Manifests, Naturalization, Passenger lists, etc.), Land, and Military.

**Digital copies** of selected documents that contain individuals' names are available in ARC. For many of those scanned documents, the names are not keyword-searchable in ARC. Instead, you need to browse the digital copy of the list by last name.

Examples of documents with lists of names:

- World War II Honor List of Dead and Missing Personnel - by state
- Summary of War Casualties from World War II - by state
- Immigration: Aliens / Arrivals < <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/aliens.html> >
- Military Personnel Records < <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/personnel-files.html> >
- Selected Naturalization Records  
< <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/naturalization.html> >

**Follow the Clues!** The family history research you already compiled could contain valuable clues. Use these clues to identify National Archives records that would be useful to your research and go beyond the most common genealogical sources.

Examples:

**Clue:** A significant decrease in income appears when you compare your ancestor's net worth between the 1860 Census and 1870 Census.

**Records Worth Checking:** Bankruptcy court records might contain a file on your ancestor. The Bankruptcy Act of 1867 allowed greater numbers of people to file for voluntary bankruptcy. Search in ARC for **bankruptcy and** *[state where you ancestor lived at the time]*.

**Clue:** You find a passenger list with your ancestor's name on it, and there is a Board of Special Inquiry stamp.

**Records Worth Checking:** The records of an Immigration and Naturalization Service inquiry might exist for your ancestor. Records related to deportation are also a possibility. Search in ARC for **immigration and special inquiry**.

Excerpted from "ARC Guide for Genealogists and Family Historians "  
< <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/topics/genealogy.html> >

## ODD ENTRIES IN PUBLIC RECORDS

By VP Membership, Gene Sadick < [elsadick2@verizon.net](mailto:elsadick2@verizon.net) >

I have been assembling a family tree for 25 years. Initially I relied on family input, which proved to be very useful in documenting the last three or four generations of SADICKs who live in the United States, Israel and England. Then I was able to find older ancestors in the Jewish Records Indexing-Poland (JRI-Poland) database < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl> >. The JRI-Poland Index contains data on 19<sup>th</sup> century SADEK (my grandfather's family) and BRZEZENSKY (my grandmother's family) ancestors. With all the information I gathered from these sources, I have constructed a family tree of about 300 names, going back four generations and forward two more generations.

I have recently subscribed to Ancestry.com. There I found that I could look up ship manifests, immigration records, and census records. The census records begin, for the SADICK surname, in 1840 and continue to 1930. Since my immediate family changed the spelling from SADEK to SADICK when they entered the USA, I am only concerned about the information from 1904 forward. I thought that all my older relatives would surely appear on these databases and I did find a wealth of information in these records. However, I also found some interesting oddities within the entries for the relatives that I had personal knowledge of. The presence of these anomalies made me concerned about the accuracy of the work involved in recording the information.

For example, my grandfather, whose name in Poland was Simcha SADEK, was listed on the Ellis Island passenger record database in February 1913 as Simche SADIK. Then, in August 1913, when my grandmother arrived, the listing for passengers showed that the family name had become SADICK. My grandfather was, by this time, known as Samuel SADICK. Also on these records some of my aunts had names that did not correspond to the biblical names they would assume in America. Leie became Esther, Broche became Rachel, Paje became Pauline. It is possible that the immigration recorders wrote down the pet or Yiddish middle names, but there is no way of knowing at this late date, ninety years later. What I found really odd was that the immigration recorder had listed my uncle Moses as Maische and as a female. (*NOTE: How old was he? If under 3, with long hair, one might assume a girl. "Maische" sounds like "Moishe" - the name given to the recorder who then looked at the child and thought: "female"*)

Another oddity was in the 1930 census for the city of Worcester, Massachusetts. My father was the youngest of Samuel SADICK's six children. However, in the entry for the family of Samuel SADICK a seventh person, a Jacob, was listed as a son. This child was listed as one year younger than my father. To my knowledge, no one in the family ever mentioned that there was a sibling younger than my father. The only Jacob that I was able to find from any of my sources was my grandfather's cousin, who lived in Seattle, Washington, in 1930. (*NOTE: The child could have died very young and not be mentioned years later.*)

One of my grandfather's brothers, whose name was Avram Chone SADEK in Poland, was listed as Chine SADICK on the Ellis Island data base. I have always heard, from family conversations, that my grandfather had another brother named Beryl ROSENBERG. I searched for him on the immigration records as Beryl SADEK, but could find no trace of him. However, after searching the 1920 database on Ancestry.com, I found his name on the census for Springfield, Massachusetts. This entry listed him as Max B. ROSENBERG.

The lesson to be taken from these oddities is that researchers should not expect to recognize names easily when looking at public records. Public records are like dictionaries. A researcher has to have a clue to how a word is spelled before one can find the meaning of the word. To research public records, verbal or written clues are very important. If possible get estimates from relatives on birth-dates, town names and, if possible, names of parents and siblings. ☆

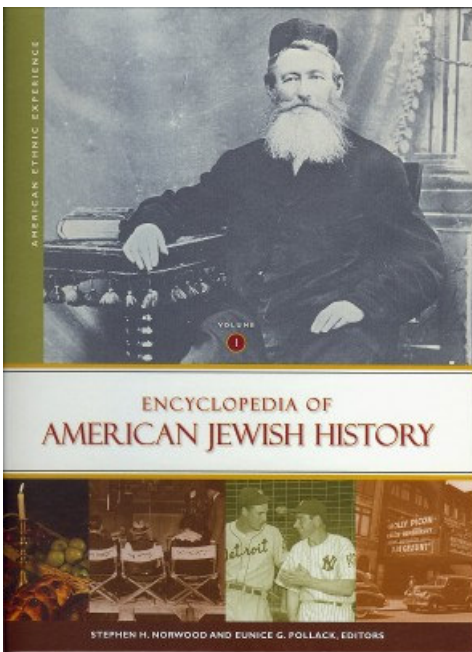
# A GENEALOGIST'S SURPRISE FIND – THE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

By Bernard Norwood < [Bernardnor@aol.com](mailto:Bernardnor@aol.com) >

Fellow JGSGW Members:

Just issued by ABC-CLIO, the *Encyclopedia of American Jewish History* is a trove of information, and especially a mental stimulus of issues and ideas, for genealogists putting together stories of Jewish individuals and families in America. The product of Judaic studies and American history faculty members at the Universities of Oklahoma and North Texas, editors Stephen Norwood and Eunice Pollack have commissioned articles by experts from around the world that are provocative about, and revealing of, Jewish culture in the United States.

In contrast to the traditional encyclopedia, which arrays often truncated factual accounts in an alphabetized compendium, this encyclopedia is a gathering of articles that invite the reader to dig into the book selectively or read it from cover to cover. In two volumes of almost 200 articles organized topically in over two dozen subject areas, the publication focuses on Jewish life in the United States. While the articles reflect the background of the “old country,” they portray and analyze the establishment and extraordinary influence of the immigrants and their descendants in America from the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century landing of refugees of the Inquisition to today.



For those doing family histories, the encyclopedia helps to sort out developments that are so many and so rapid that even those Jews who still try to preserve ties to their background find it hard to keep up. The perceptive accounts bear directly on the interests that genealogists should be bringing out in their histories: descriptions of the changing forms of religion—Reform, Orthodox, Conservative, and Reconstructionist, in the often reshaped beliefs, practices, and organization of these groups; analysis of the deep shifts in population concentrations and dispersion, more than just a tale of “from ghetto to exurbia;” accounts of re-emerging forces of anti-Semitism that have shaped Jews individually and more generally; consideration of the effects of intermarriage; and reports of exceptional gains in professional achievement—such as in law and medicine, in science, in literature, the theater and other arts, in sports, in labor organization, in politics, and, even, in crime.

A reading of the articles, as well as of the many works referenced at the end of each article, is bound, not only to stimulate genealogists' appreciation of the need, in their research and writing, to treat issues that are embedded in the book's accounts, but to generate thoughts on significant factors that must be heeded in explaining both influences on Jews in America and Jewish influences on America.

In my own research, I have been rather successful in tracking down where in the United States my antecedents resided and, in many cases, worked. While I made assumptions about why they moved so frequently—presumably the principal reason being the growing size of the household—I puzzled about the other forces that would explain the starting point for my mother (Boston, which supplanted Argentina by the time the ship left Liverpool) and the great number and the particular location of the houses that marked this trail (through Philadelphia, briefly, and back to Boston, through the center of that city, then Cambridge, Everett, Roxbury, Dorchester, Mattapan, and eventually to Boston's Back Bay. Articles in the *Encyclopedia*, particularly those in the section on “Jewish Communities,” bring

(Continued on page 6)

**Encyclopedia...** (Continued from page 5)

out the great differences that actually marked the migration and settlement of Jews. What would explain New York's Lower East Side or Philadelphia would go far in developing an understanding of the diversion of Jewish immigrants to Galveston and the flow onward from Texas as far as Minnesota. Nor would the attraction of Manhattan and Brooklyn explain Jewish settlement in small towns or, ephemerally, in organized agricultural communities in New Jersey or the Midwest. The articles explained some of the reasons for the choices my family made, and, more usefully, provoked me to ruminate over the many factors that determined this American history--both those factors that were under the control of the immigrants and those totally beyond their powers.

For researchers who would find it helpful to have a picture of the starting points of Jewish emigration from Europe to the United States from the time of the pogroms through the Holocaust, Churchill biographer Sir Martin Gilbert developed maps that are placed conveniently at the beginning of each volume. ☆

*Encyclopedia of American Jewish History*, Stephen H. Norwood and Eunice G. Pollack, editors (ABC-Clio, publisher), 2007.



Design by Adina Lipsitz

## 28th IAJGS CONFERENCE NEWS

Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile, Chicago, Illinois

17-22 August 2008

< [www.chicago2008.org](http://www.chicago2008.org) >

The 28th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy is sponsored by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS), the JGS of Illinois and the Illiana JGS. Conference and hotel registration will begin on 1 January 2008.

*Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland* < [www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Chicago](http://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Chicago) >.

**Call for papers:** Submit proposals for presentations, by clicking on the Call for Papers button. All proposals must be submitted via our on-line process. Deadline is January 15, 2008.

**The Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern Grant** encourages non-profit institutions to pursue projects, activities and acquisitions that provide new or enhanced resources to benefit Jewish genealogists. Please go to < <http://www.iajgs.org/> > for further information. Deadline is 1 April 2008. Send nominations to the Stern Grant committee chair: Eileen Polakoff at < [eileenpolakoff@att.net](mailto:eileenpolakoff@att.net) >.

## NEWS FROM IAJGS

- The 29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, co-hosted by the IAJGS and the JGS of Greater Philadelphia, will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., on 2-7 August 2009 at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel.

- The IAJGS Master Program Calendar is a great way to find out who will speak where. Before you travel within the U.S., or abroad, check it out. Go to < <http://www.iajgs.org/> > and click on the "Calendar" button (on the left). You will find a program calendar from Jewish Genealogy Societies around the world. Or go directly to < <http://www.iajgs.org/calends/jgscalendar.html> >.



## Overseas Research

### Library and Archives Canada Extend Hours

The Library and Archives Canada (LAC) reinstated hours of service at 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa. In addition, LAC will reinstate some of the hours during which services are provided by LAC staff. The new hours of operation for the Consultation Rooms and the Canadian Genealogy Centre on the third floor, are:

Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 11 p.m.

\* With LAC Service Staff available from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday - Sunday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Statutory Holidays: Closed

For more information, please go to < <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/> >

### 1895 Argentina Census

The 1895 Argentina Census can be accessed on-line through FamilySearch Record Search. After you register at < <http://search.labs.familysearch.org> > (it is free), wait for a confirmation e-mail with further instructions. The census contains the surname and name of everyone living in the household, age, marital status, nationality, place of birth, religion, occupation, and other fields. The search engine uses Soundex, and finds close and partial matches. Keep in mind that, just like in the U.S., the census recorder might not have known the native language of the person being questioned, so be creative doing your searches.

### Instituto Cultural Judaico Marc Chagall

The *Departamento de Documentação e Memória* (Documentation and Remembrance division) of the *Instituto Cultural Judaico Marc Chagall* (Marc Chagall Jewish Cultural Institute, ICJMC) has a collection of photographs, documents and testimonials of Jewish immigrants to Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. Part of this collection can now be viewed on-line at < <http://www.cesup.ufrgs.br/marcchagall> >. Clicking on "Exposição Virtual" will take you to a series of photographs, documents and texts on-line. < <http://www.cesup.ufrgs.br/marcchagall/catalogodepoimentos.html> > contains a catalogue of testimonials. Caveat: the website is in Portuguese.

### New Zealand Parliament Amends Access to Vital Records

The New Zealand Parliament has amended the bill 98-1 providing individuals will be able to access their own records and those of their immediate family, and can authorize others to research their own records, such as family historians. Other legal reasons for accessing records will be permitted.

Historical records (births over 100 years old, stillbirths over 50 years old, marriages and civil unions that occurred over 80 years ago, name changes for those who were born outside of New Zealand over 100 years ago, deaths that occurred over 50 years ago) may be accessible on the Internet for a fee. However, index information that can identify an individual is not permitted to be posted on the Internet, with certain exceptions. Obtaining records over the Internet is a new feature for New Zealand. The sections in the 76 page bill that are of most interest to genealogists are sections: 73, 74 and 78F, 78G. To read the bill go to < <http://tinyurl.com/yoaecx> >.

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## **Free searchable databases - Eretz Israel Records Indexing (EIRI)**

Martha Lev-Zion

for the Projects Committee of the Israel Genealogical Society

The Israel Genealogical Society (IGS) is very happy to announce that thanks to Rosie Feldman, our webmistress, we have added more searchable databases to our website's Eretz Israel Records Indexing (EIRI) project.

1922 Census for Petach Tikvah with 3,077 names on EIRI. This census was undertaken during the British Mandate as the first census of their hegemony over the area.

< <http://www.isragen.org.il/eiri/1922/introduction.html> >

Victims of the 1929 Arab Riots: In 1929, the Arabs, at the incitement of Hadj Amin al-Husseini, Mufti of Jerusalem, went on a killing spree against the Jews in Jerusalem, Motza, Hebron, Tel Aviv, Beer Tuvia, Hulda, Haifa, Safat and Ein Zeitim. This list includes those murdered. Details include: surname, given name, father's name, place of birth and country of birth, birth year, date and place murdered, detailed biographical notes, and many entries also contain the mother's name. Be sure to click on "details" to get all the information on a person. For those using Firefox as a browser, when "details" is clicked, an "error console" might pop up inadvertently. Just close it to read all the information available on the person of your interest. The birthplaces of those listed are from all over the globe.

< <http://www.isragen.org.il/eiri/1929/introduction.html> >

American Citizens in Eretz Israel in 1929: After the riots broke out, an American citizen, worried about his parents who had come to Eretz Israel for a visit, wrote to the American State Department to ask about their whereabouts. The Department of State then requested a survey of all United States citizens present in the area. This database is extracted from the American Consul's response to the requested survey.

< <http://www.isragen.org.il/eiri/1929-Amer/introduction.html> >

## **JGS Great Britain - New flexible library arrangements**

Laurence Harris, Chairman, JGS Great Britain

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain has extended the opening hours of its Library and Resource Centre. The Library is located in the West End of London and is easily accessible. It is open two or three times a month at scheduled times (see the programme at

< <http://www.jsgsb.org.uk/program1.shtml> > for the scheduled opening times each month).

In addition, we have decided to operate a "Special Appointments" system, on a trial basis, for visitors who are unable to attend a scheduled session. We believe that this will be especially useful to those visiting London from overseas who may not be able to attend a scheduled session.

We normally require a minimum of four week's notice to book a Special Appointment. We try to book a time and date that is convenient to the visitor, although it must be recognised that with a limited number of volunteer library staff this is not always possible. To request a "special appointment" please email < [librarybookings@jsgsb.org.uk](mailto:librarybookings@jsgsb.org.uk) >. Library admission is free for Members of JGS Great Britain and five pounds for non-Members.

A description of the Library is at < <http://www.jsgsb.org.uk/library1.shtml> > and a partial library catalogue can be found at < <http://www.jsgsb.org.uk/download/LibraryList.pdf> >. We look forward to seeing you at our Library and Resource Centre.





# Domestic Research

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT NARA

< <http://www.archives.gov/press/press-releases/2008/nr08-34.html> >

The National Archives will feature two programs highlighting records from its holdings. Both programs are free and open to the public and will be held in the National Archives Building (NARA, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC) and at the National Archives at College Park (8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD, in Lecture Room B).

Please note: For programs at the National Archives Building, the public must use the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance, between 7th and 9th Streets, NW, Washington, DC.

### **Tuesday, January 8, at 11 a.m., National Archives Building Research Center** ***Genealogy in 2020***

Join us for a look at the future of genealogy research. Beau Sharbrough, vice president of content for Footnote.com, will relate a cautionary tale about jumping to conclusions based on limited information. He will also discuss the differences among primary records - especially those that have been digitized. (Repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, on January 10, at 11 a.m.)

### **Tuesday, January 15, at 11 a.m., National Archives Building Research Center** ***Time and Punishment: 200 Years of Penal Reform in the District of Columbia***

Archives technician Alison Gavin will discuss primary and secondary resources relating to the horrific conditions of the DC jail and workhouse over the past 200 years and explore how history has influenced the present state of the District's prison system. (Repeated at the National Archives at College Park, MD, on January 17, at 11 a.m.)

## Other Genealogy Events "in the neighborhood"

Virginia Beach VA - 2008 Annual Conference of the Virginia Beach Genealogical Society  
March 29, 2008, at the Virginia Beach Central Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd.

Speaker: Megan Smolenyak Smolenyak, an innovative, internationally recognized genealogical and DNA authority.

For details, check < <http://www.rootsweb.com/~vavbgs> >.

Williamsburg VA - Spring Seminar of the Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society (MAGS)  
April 19, 2008 in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Speaker: Dr. Roger Minert, Associate Professor of Family History at Brigham Young University, has published numerous books and articles in German family history research.

For additional information, go to < <http://www.magsgen.com/springmeeting.html> >.

## The Jewish Americans (documentary)

*The Jewish Americans* is a six-hour PBS documentary that follows 350 years of Jewish American history, from the first settlement in the 17th century to the present, and explores the experience of immigration and assimilation. The three-part documentary *The Jewish Americans* will air January 9, 16 and 23, 2008, 9:00-11:00 p.m. ET < [http://pressroom.pbs.org/programs/the\\_jewish\\_americans](http://pressroom.pbs.org/programs/the_jewish_americans) >.

## Society News



### Current Newsletters available electronically from the editor:

- “Atsmi Uvsari” - Utah JGS
- “Chai from Colorado” - JGS of Colorado
- “Chronicles” - JGS Greater Philadelphia
- “Family Gatherings” - JGS Broward County
- “Generations” - JGS of Michigan
- “Illiana” - Illinois/Indiana JGS
- “JGS-NYT” - JGS of Denmark (in Danish)
- “Mishpochology” - JGS of Southwest Florida (Sarasota)
- “Montreal Forum” - JGS Montreal
- “Morasha” - JGS Illinois
- “News ‘N Notes” - St. Louis Genealogy Society
- “Newsletter” - JGS Great Britain
- “Quest” - JGS Connecticut
- “Scatered Seeds” - JGS Palm Beach County
- “Shem Tov” - JGS Canada (Toronto)
- “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](mailto:mishpologia@uzidog.com) >.

### WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Les BERGEN

Micah S. SALB

Logan KLEINWAKS

Larry SHULMAN

Mike MATSAS

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.

## The President's Perspective

### Putting the Pieces of the Puzzle Back Together

When I became President of JGSGW in June, 2006, I was given amazingly little information about the history of our society or my role as President. I asked around and Ben Fassberg, Rich Meyersburg and a few others brought me files and boxes of old JGSGW materials. Subsequent contributors included Nikki Pikus (of blessed memory), Rita Margolis, Roberta Solit, Suzan Wynn and most recently, Sallyann Sack and Faith Klein.

As I understand it, since the society has not had a permanent place to store its Minute Book, financial records and archives, individuals stored what they could in their basements, garages, or wherever, and, over the years, things were lost or misplaced. People moved and some passed away. When the library is unboxed, we are likely to find some items, but only bits and pieces.

A committee was formed to pull the pieces together. Jeff Miller, Ben Fassberg, Sallyann Sack and Faith Klein stepped up to the plate and went through boxes and binders or "stuff" in an attempt to construct a historical archive that will be preserved in our new library for all to see.

Faith Klein has agreed to create scrapbooks with the materials that the committee has uncovered. I had an archive of digitized images provided by Anita and Irwin Pikus for our 25th Anniversary, printed for the book. Additional images will be added from scans that I made recently. We are still looking for newspaper articles, budgets, Board meeting minutes, and other pieces of our history.

Just as we as genealogists strive to weave together the facts and stories of our family's history, so I think that it is important that our society maintain a history of our activities, projects and the contributions of members. Therefore, I request that if you have materials that help tell the story of JGSGW's history, you contact me, so that we can determine its place in our project.

We hope to have these scrapbooks ready for the opening of our library this spring.

Warm regards,

Marlene Bishow  
President

## Board Meeting Summary

Submitted by Gene Alpert, Recording Secretary

The JGSGW Board of Directors met on the afternoon of November 4, 2007. Highlights of the reports and actions are as follows:

**Library Update:** The move of the JGSGW library to B'nai Israel has been scheduled. The cartons of books will be stored in the basement of B'nai Israel until the furniture is delivered and installed. This should occur after the first of the year. Once the set-up is complete, then the library volunteers will shelve the books and other materials.

**Membership Cards:** The Board approved the purchase of membership cards. These will be required in order for members to be able to use the library. Delivery of the cards is expected by early December. Each card will have the member's name and expiration date and will be available for pick-up by members at the monthly meetings.

*(Continued on page 12)*

**JGSGW Historical Materials:** The Board discussed the importance of obtaining the historical materials related to the organization that are in the possession of former Board officers. Of particular concern are budgets, membership lists, Board meeting minutes, newsletters, photos, and correspondence related to Board business. Jeff Miller was appointed the task of contacting these former Board members to arrange for collection.

**Programs:** It was reported that excellent progress has been made to confirm speakers and venues through the winter and spring. As speakers are confirmed, notices will be sent accordingly. A Beginner's Workshop will be held in December and another in April.

**Membership:** It was reported that the number of members in 2007 increased by 29 over 2006. A report created on October 30, 2007 listed the geographic distribution of members. They are as follows: DC - 8%; Maryland - 60%; Virginia - 26% and Out-of-Area - 6%.

A financial report was presented by the treasurer. A deposit for fifty per cent of the cost of the library furniture has already been made. The treasurer and the president are working on a draft budget for the next meeting.

**New Research Project - DC Area Cemetery Project:** Discussions are underway with the executive director at Tifereth Israel regarding the needs of synagogues/temples in the Washington, D.C. area to keep track of burials in their cemeteries or sections of cemeteries. The possibility of JGSGW assisting the synagogues/temples in gathering and validating data, and creating a software application to access the data was discussed. The data that is gathered would also be provided to JOWBR. Marlene Bishow will attend a meeting of all the executive directors of the synagogues/temples in the Washington, D.C. area to ascertain the level of interest on the part of the executive directors and their willingness to participate in such a project. Marlene noted that in the mid-1980s JGSGW conducted surveys of the old Washington Hebrew cemetery and the old Adas Israel cemetery. This data will be included with the current project. Ernie Fine will take the lead on programming for this project. It was also noted that all research projects conducted under the auspices of the society must be approved by the Board.

**Bylaws -** The Board decided it wanted to review the bylaws since some updating was still necessary. A committee was formed: Chair-Aaron Werbel, Rochelle Gershenow, Jeff Miller, and Gene Sadick.

**IAJGS International Conference:** IAJGS requested that JGSGW consider hosting an international conference in Washington, D.C., in 2010 or 2012, either to be fully hosted by JGSGW, or with shared hosting between JGSGW and IAJGS. A motion was approved to submit a bid to host the conference in 2012. Due to the fact that 2012 is a presidential election year, the Board stated a preference for hosting in 2011, if that can be arranged. It was pointed out that new hotels will be opening between 2008 and 2012, and that this would be a factor in potentially obtaining a good facility at reduced rates. Rochelle Gershenow and Marlene Bishow will discuss this event with chairs of the committees from the most recent year that JGSGW hosted the conference (2003). ☆

Do you know.....

that our website has a link to a holiday calendar and also to a date converter that will enable you to convert a date from Gregorian (our calendar) to Hebrew or the other way around?. Check it out at < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jsggw/> >. Select "Resources," then "Date Converter."

## Library Update

The first shipment of our new library furniture has arrived! The four chairs to accompany the library research table have arrived. The table, bookshelves and other furniture are expected to ship during the second week of January 2008. Once the furniture is in place, we can begin shelving the books.



In late November 2007, we rented a truck and moved the library collection from the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning to B'nai Israel Congregation (6301 Montrose Road, Rockville, Maryland). More than 60 boxes were transferred. Our volunteer drivers were Michael Kaltman and Eugene Sadick. We also had several paid workers. The boxes will be stored in the basement of B'nai Israel until we are ready to bring them upstairs to the Chod Media Center which will be the new home of the JGSGW Library.

A current membership card will be required for admission to the JGSGW Genealogy Library at B'nai Israel. Members of B'nai Israel will also be admitted by showing their B'nai Israel Library Card.

Since it has been a long while since our previous announcement about needing help with setting up the library, we are once again asking for volunteers to help with this mitzvah. Please send an e-mail to < [JGSGW\\_DC@comcast.net](mailto:JGSGW_DC@comcast.net) > if you will be available in late January and early February. The subject of your e-mail should be "Library Setup."

We are looking for volunteer librarians to open the library on Wednesday afternoons and one (undetermined) evening each week once the library is set up. To volunteer, please send an e-mail to < [JGSGW\\_DC@comcast.net](mailto:JGSGW_DC@comcast.net) >. The subject of your e-mail should be "Volunteer Librarian."

## JGSGW Membership Cards




Thanks to Gene Alpert for the excellent job of having membership cards made for members of JGSGW. The cards have the society's logo and member's name and the membership expiration date on the face. The printing on the back of the card includes the society's contact information, including: mailing address, e-mail address, and website.

The first distribution of membership cards took place at the December 16, 2007, meeting. There will not be a general mailing of membership cards. Cards will be available for pick-up by members at the January 6 or February 3, 2008, meetings.

## Beginners Workshop

Eighteen members attended the Beginners Workshop, held on December 16, 2007, at B'nai Israel. Instructors for this workshop were Marlene Bishow and Jeff Miller. Each participant went home with a historical copy of Avotaynu, compliments of Sallyann Sack. Participants also received a free copy of "Jump-Start Your Jewish Genealogy Research: A Beginner's Guide." This new JGSGW publication is not in general distribution yet and replaces the JGSGW Beginner's Handbook that has not been published since 1993.

The next free Beginners Workshop will take place on Sunday, April 13, 2008, from 3:30-5:30 PM at the JCC of Northern VA. Instructors for that class will be Ben Fassberg and Rich Meyersburg. Pre-registration is required. Send an e-mail to < [JGSGW\\_DC@comcast.net](mailto:JGSGW_DC@comcast.net) >.



**Member's Corner**  
**Can you help?**

Editor's note:

Following are requests from members asking for genealogical research advice. We would like this column to be an interactive one and would appreciate participation by members of the Society in answering these queries. If you can provide more advice or tips, please send your response to me at < [mishpologia@uzidog.com](mailto:mishpologia@uzidog.com) > so that it can be printed in the next *Mishpacha*.

**Morris SHRADER**

I have found records that show that part of my family lived in Manchester, England, in the late 1800's. Rebecca (Bessie, Becky) SHRADER had three children before remarrying and arriving in America in 1906. I cannot find out what happened to Rebecca's first husband, Morris SHRADER. I have searched for death records in the United States and England without success. I would like to know whatever happened to him and would greatly appreciate some research ideas.

Charles Polinger < [chap01-99@excite.com](mailto:chap01-99@excite.com) >

Editor's note: for more details on this family, please read "Wonder and Curiosity" printed in the Summer 2007 (Volume 26, Number 3) issue of *Mishpacha*.

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**Confusing information: SÄLZER from Galicia**

I surmised that my paternal great-grandmother's name was SELTZER from records that I have about my paternal grandfather's death certificate (KOCH rechte SELTZER- his name listing).

Recently, I thought that I had located the birth information of my grandfather, Isak KOCH, born in Jagelnica in 1877/1878(?). His mother, Schlome SÄLZER, appeared to come from Trembowla, Galicia. His father's name was either Kalmen or Chaim.

However, when I searched for possible siblings in the JewishGen Ukraine Database site, I found a Schlome SELZER from Trembowla but with a different husband and child born in 1877!!

Is it possible that there are two similar names, or that my grandfather's mother may have been wed, had a child, and the next year "rewed" and had another child!!- or possible death in the family? Or am I misunderstanding the information altogether?

Milton Koch < [miltonkoch@comcast.net](mailto:miltonkoch@comcast.net) >

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(Continued on page 15)

## Abraham LOBRED from Sembach, Germany

I am unable to find a record of my grandfather's arrival in the United States and need some help.

My grandfather, Abraham LOBRED, was born in Sembach, in the Rheinpfalz, in Germany, on 13 January 1850. On his arrival in the United States he went to Pottsville, Pennsylvania, where a home and job had been arranged for him by relatives who lived in Philadelphia. Abraham LOBRED is listed in the 1870 Census in Pottsville. He was naturalized in the Schuylkill County Court in Pottsville on 16 September 1871. His naturalization paper says that, in accordance with the law in effect at the time, he had been a resident of the United States for five years. On that basis, the latest date of his arrival in the U.S. would have been 16 September 1866. As his sponsors lived in Philadelphia and because my grandfather went directly to Pottsville, it is possible that he arrived in Philadelphia or Baltimore instead of New York City.

I have searched at the National Archives, in *Germans to America*, and on the Internet at Steve Morse, Castle Garden, Cyndi's List, and Bremen departures. I would so much like to know the date and port at which my grandfather arrived, or advice on where else to search? Help, please.

Leonard Lobred < [derbol@his.com](mailto:derbol@his.com) >

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## JGSGW Library workshop at the new Fairfax City Regional Library

Submitted by Marlene Bishow

The City of Fairfax Regional Library, including the Virginia Room, is currently closed. When it opens in late February, they will be at their new location; just steps away from the old. The new building is at 10360 North Street (junction of Old Lee Highway & North Street).

The new two-story facility is 44,450 square feet and has a two-story garage. There will be 40 workstations, a meeting room with a 100-seat capacity and 2 conference rooms that seat 12 and 14.

The Virginia Room collection has grown from being just Virginia Genealogy to include basic U.S. resources with heavy emphasis on the states Virginians came directly from or went directly to. This would mean Pennsylvania, North Carolina, West Virginia, Ohio, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky and Tennessee. It has many resources from New England, Chicago and New York City, as well as materials on many other states, such as town records, genealogical periodicals, some French Canadian material, various ships passenger series: Irish, Italian, Russian Empire and German. And, of course, materials on Jewish and East European and Sephardic research. There are 16 workstations in this room and the collection includes 20,000 books plus other items, including a rare book collection.

JGSGW has arranged for a workshop for members at the Fairfax City Regional Library on Sunday, March 9 from 1 PM to 3 PM. Librarian Suzanne Levy will be our guide and presenter. Reservations are required and more information about how to make the reservation will be forthcoming. Polly Liss will be the JGSGW coordinator for the event.

**PARKING:** You enter the parking garage from either southbound Old Lee Hwy or from University Drive between North and Whitehead.

### The Virginia Room

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/branches/vr/>

## The Costa Clan follow-up

I want to congratulate the staff of Mishpacha for continuing the grand tradition of creating a fine publication for our organization. It's always a pleasure to read, even when it does not include articles of specific research assistance to me. Even more exciting was the discovery of an article in a recent issue about the Da Costa clan of my husband's Sephardic ancestry. This reawakened our involvement with this branch of the family after a lapse of several years, always a rewarding and pleasant adventure.

I applaud the decision of the staff to make all Mishpacha issues available to the entire membership, even those of us who are technologically challenged and still welcome the arrival of the United States mail. The explanations of rising costs of postage and insufficient volunteers do not, in my opinion, justify depriving members of our publication. This happened to me for a period of time. We have supported the newsletter for many years through our dues and our enthusiasm. Vive Mishpacha!

Best wishes,  
Ruth Sinberg Baker

*(Editor's note: "The Costa Clan" by Sue Swift, was printed in the Fall 2007 (Volume 26, Number 4) issue of **Mishpacha**.)*

Dear Ruth:

How thoughtful of you to show your appreciation of the **Mishpacha** staff in your note. We think that they do a terrific job too!

In October, when you contacted us about your problem with reading **Mishpacha**, the membership database was immediately changed to reflect that you were to receive **Mishpacha** by snail mail. I also personally mailed to you the last two issues of **Mishpacha** in print.

What you forgot to mention in your letter is that I explained to you that the decision to distribute **Mishpacha** electronically was made several years ago because the cost of printing and postage was placing a financial burden on the society's treasury. Each issue of **Mishpacha** costs us about \$1.40 to print in black and white and an additional 58 cents for first class postage. That amounts to almost \$8 annually per member. It was determined to go to electronic distribution to preserve our ability to continue to provide excellence in programming.

No member is ever deprived of **Mishpacha**. Your request was addressed immediately, but the solution to your situation is not the same as for others. In response to another request, one of our more technologically knowledgeable members walked the member through a "fix" and she is now able to read the electronic version.

We are so pleased that the article on the Da Costa family in the Fall 2007 issue was so helpful to you and we hope that other members will have similar success and write to let us know of these successes.

Regards,  
Marlene Bishow  
President



## UPCOMING JGSGW PROGRAMS

### January

#### **Workshop** - *Members only. No Registration Required*

Date: Sunday, January 6, 2008  
Time: 11:00 AM - 12:30  
Location: B'nai Israel, Fanaroff Auditorium, Rockville, MD  
Speaker: David Zinner  
Topic: "Exploring Jewish Traditions Surrounding Dying and Death"

This workshop will address Jewish traditions and practices that relate to death and dying and the Jewish communal institutions that can provide assistance.

David Zinner is the founder and Executive Director of Kavod v'Nichum (Honor and Comfort), which works to restore to Jewish death and bereavement practice. He also edits and manages the website "Jewish Funerals, Burial and Mourning," located at < [www.Jewish-funerals.org](http://www.Jewish-funerals.org) >.

#### **Program**

Date: Sunday, January 6, 2008  
Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze time; 1:30 Program  
Location: B'nai Israel, Fanaroff Auditorium, Rockville, MD  
Speaker: Paul Shapiro  
Topic: "Opening the Archives of the International Tracing Service"

The *United States Holocaust Memorial Museum* (USHMM) is in the process of receiving digital copies from the International Tracing Service (ITS) archive located in Bad Arolsen, Germany. The archive is being transferred in installments, and the Museum expects to have a complete copy of the material by 2010. Mr. Shapiro will discuss the efforts to open the archive, the acquisition of the material, and the role of the Museum in making the information available to survivors and researchers.

Paul Shapiro is Director of the *Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies* at the USHMM. Since 1997 he has led the Museum's effort to provide focused leadership to the field of Holocaust Studies in the US and abroad.

### February

#### **Program**

Date: Sunday, February 3, 2008  
Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze time; 1:30 Program  
Location: Beth El Hebrew Congregation, Alexandria, VA  
Speaker: Jonina Duker, Boris Feldblyum, Arline Sachs, Barry Shay  
Topic: "Breaking Through the Brick Wall"

As a new or experienced researcher, you are conducting genealogical research on your family and have learned a great deal about them. One piece of information has led to the discovery of more facts. Now you have come across a piece of information that will greatly expand your knowledge of your family but no matter what sources you have examined, the information you are seeking proves elusive. You have hit the proverbial brick wall! At this point, you don't know where to go or what to do

*(Continued on page 18)*

## UPCOMING JGSGW PROGRAMS *(Continued from page 17)*

next. It's time to turn to other genealogists who, hopefully, can put you on the right path or provide the answers. Please come prepared with your "brick wall" questions to ask our panel of experienced genealogical researchers.

### March

#### **Bonus Workshop** - *Members only. Advance Registration is required*

Date: Sunday, March 9, 2008  
Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00PM  
Location: City of Fairfax Regional Library Meeting Room, 10360 North Street (juncture of Old Lee Highway & North Street)  
Speaker: Suzanne Levy, Librarian  
Topic: "An Introduction to the Holdings and Facilities of the new Virginia Room"

JGSGW has arranged for a workshop at the Fairfax City Regional Library. For more information about the Library, please turn to page 15.

#### **Workshop** - *Members only. No Reservation Required*

Date: Sunday, March 16, 2008  
Time: 11:00 AM  
Location: B'nai Israel, Fanaroff Auditorium, Rockville, MD  
Speaker: Dr. Stephen Greenberg  
Topic: "How the resources of the National Library of Medicine can help you in your Genealogy Research "

Dr. Greenberg will address what resources are available to genealogy researchers at the National Library of Medicine (NLM), located on the NIH campus in Bethesda. Do you have relatives or ancestors who were medical or science professionals? Records at NLM may fill in blanks regarding birth, education and death, as well as their professional career. He will demonstrate the use of the NLM website, as well as those materials in the library stacks.

#### **Program**

Date: Sunday, March 16, 2008  
Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze time; 1:30 Program  
Location: B'nai Israel, Fanaroff Auditorium, Rockville, MD  
Speaker: Ave Sloane  
Topic: "Solving your Genealogy Puzzle with USCIS Records"

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has records, which document the arrival and later naturalization of millions of American immigrants. The public will be able to request index searches and/or copies of historical records relating to deceased persons. If you have an ancestor who immigrated after 1892 and was naturalized between 1906 and 1956, the future USCIS Genealogy Program will be able to help in your family history research. This will be a fee-for-service program designed to provide genealogical and historical records and reference services to genealogists, historians and others seeking documents maintained within the historical record systems.

Ave Sloane was assigned to "stand up" the Genealogy Program at the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services in January 2006. While new to the field of Genealogy, as Chief of the legacy INS FOIA office in Washington, DC, she became familiar with the historical records and the process used to search for and provide family history information to the public.

# JGSGW Meeting Highlights



Logan Kleinwaks  
"Searching Online Historical Directories"  
October 2007 meeting



Dr. Michael Matsas  
"The Jews of Ioannina, Greece"  
October 2007 Workshop



Ralph N. Baer  
"Researching Pre-World War II German-  
Jewish Genealogy"  
December 2007 meeting



Jeff Miller  
"Beginners Workshop"  
December 2007 Workshop

Pictures courtesy of Marlene Bishow



## 2008 MEETING SCHEDULE



- Jan 6 - Opening the Archives of the International Tracing Service
- Feb 3 - Breaking Through the Brick Wall
- Mar 16 - Solving your Genealogy Puzzle with USCIS Records
- April 13 - Researching Jewish Criminals
- May 18 - Origins of Jewish Marriage Customs
- June 8 - Annual Potluck Luncheon

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

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