



Etz Chaim

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JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER ORLANDO

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At the conclusion of Stacie Rosenthal's talk on "DNA, Genetics and Genealogical Research," a framed certificate, designed by Jerry Kurland, was presented to Stacie by Edith Schulman. See page 4

ETZ CHAIM

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Membership Information:

Regular membership dues effective January 1, 2005. (January 1-December 31) Family \$30.00; Individual Membership \$25.00; Sponsor \$50.00; and Patron \$100.00 Out-of-town membership (more than 50 miles) is \$20.00 per year. *Note: For new members who join after June 1, dues are half price for the balance of the fiscal year.*

Please make checks payable to JGSGO, P.O. Box 941332, Maitland, FL 32794.

JGSGO meetings are held monthly (excluding July and August), usually on the third Monday of the month, at **7:00 p.m.**, in the Mini Sanctuary, Congregation of Reformed Judaism, 928 Malone Drive, Orlando, FL. If there is a special holiday on a meeting night, we may meet the previous Monday. Read the "What's Happening" Calendar in the Heritage; check the JGSGO website.

JGSGO's meeting site has been made available through the courtesy extended by CRJ.

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The JGSGO is a member of the *International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies*, the *Federation of Genealogical Societies* and the *Florida State Genealogical Societies*.

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CALENDAR: Future JGSGO Programs + others

Wednesday- Saturday, Sept. 7-10, Conference - Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Utah Genealogical Assn., Salt Lake City, UT, Check the web site: www.fgs.org

Sunday: September 18,
 Special Film Showing of "Avalon" sponsored by CRJ
 Adult Education, 2:00 to 4:00 pm. No fee
 Location: Social Hall CRJ

Monday – September 19:
 "Ups and Downs of Conducting Sephardic Genealogy" speaker. Shelomo Alfassa, Executive Director, International Society for Sephardic Progress, 7:00 p.m., in the mini-sanctuary of CRJ (see pages 6,7, and 8 in this issue)

Monday – October 10 : (*Note: not our usual meeting night*)
 Special Film Showing: "My Grandfather's House" a personal documentary by filmmaker Eileen Douglas's search for her grandfather's home in Lithuania, 7:00 p.m. , at CRJ (see page 8 in this issue)

Monday – November 21:
 "Stump the Experts" panel presentation, panelists will include Jose Valle covering computer research questions; also JGSGO elections

Monday – December 19: Installation of JGSGO Officers and Social, Mini-sanctuary, CRJ

JGSGO WORKSHOP – A SUCCESS

Sunday, August 7, 2005, the JGSGO conducted two simultaneous workshops - "Jewish Genealogy for Beginners" presented by Gladys Friedman Paulin, CGRS and "Effective Internet Research Techniques" presented by Drew Smith. The programs were held at the facilities of the Congregation of Reform Judaism, Orlando.



Gladys Friedman Paulin



Drew Smith

There were 24 attendees, about 1/3 from other than JGSGO members. The Beginner's Workshop and the Advanced Workshop were split between the number of attendees, each having 12. The Beginner's Workshop was held in the Multi-purpose room and the Advanced Computer Workshop was held in the Social Hall. A light lunch was included with the workshop registration.

Workshops just don't happen. It takes a lot of planning and time. The efforts of volunteers must be recognized:

Workshop Chairman - Jose Valle

Publicity: Heritage and small town papers - Edith Schulman and Jay Schleichkorn

Orlando Sentinel - Doris Frank

Pre-registration - Laurence Morrell

Packets for attendees - Jerry Kurland, Sim Seckbach, Jose Valle, Edith Schulman

Door Prizes - Edith Schulman

Registration - Dorothy Schieber

Lunch - Sandra Moss and Millie Rosenbaum

Edith Schulman, JGSGO president indicated, "We are of course grateful to our fine faculty: Gladys Friedman Paulin, of Winter Springs and Drew Smith of Odessa, FL."

At the conclusion of the lunch period, Jerry Kurland presented Drew with a certificate and Gladys with a gift certificate in appreciation of their efforts.

President's Message

You can tell from the article on the left that this was a busy summer for many of us. JGSGO had not sponsored a workshop in four years so it was time. If you attended one of the workshops, you know you got your money's worth, and if you didn't-- well, maybe next time you will.

Are we now going to sit back and rest and say "Dayenu?" Not on your life! Already your Board is planning a year-long project which will involve all of us. The Board Members present at the August Board Meeting were so enthusiastic that they wanted to pass a motion right then, but it was tabled to be brought before our complete Board in September. Although, it will miss the publication of this issue, I will send you each an announcement via computer. We are all so excited about the project. Of course we will announce it at our meetings.

Lillian Weitzel has lined up some interesting programs for the fall, so try to make the meetings. (See the calendar on page 2)

The Board voted to start general meetings at 7:00 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. to give us more time to discuss what is on YOUR MIND. And remember we met at CRJ (formerly CLJ) on Malone Drive, Orlando.

Hope to see you all there.

From the Past Lane,

Edith Schulman, President

Edith@Schulmans.com

JGSGO OFFICERS - E-mail DIRECTORY

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HIGHLIGHTS OF BOARD MEETINGS – FOR YOUR INFORMATION

At the Board Meeting of the JGSGO, held at noon on June 12, 2005, Jose Valle moved that the general meeting begin earlier to give members more time to interact. A discussion was held and Doris Frank seconded the motion, which was carried. Therefore starting in the Fall of 2005, meetings will begin at 7:00 p.m.

Major business of the meeting involved the appointment of chairpersons and sub committees to work on the August 7th workshop sessions.

Next Board meeting, August 3, noon at CRJ.

Board Meeting, August 3, 200:

Major business was the planning of the August 7 workshop.

Programs for the Fall were discussed and finalized: September 19 –Searching for Sephardic Roots; October 10 (change in meeting night) film – “My Grandfather’s House,” and November 21, panel discussion, “Stump the Experts.” Jose Valle volunteered to answer questions relating to computers and the web.

Edith Schulman reported that Lisa, program director at Kinneret would like someone from JGSGO to encourage residents to record their family stories. Questions about equipment were raised and the discussion postponed until the next meeting.

Riva Sorokurs suggested that since board minutes are not read at general meetings, a synopsis of the meetings be published in Etz Chaim on a quarterly basis in order to inform members of the decisions made by the Board. Discussion was held; Riva so moved and Doris Frank second the motion. Passed unanimously.

Jerry Kurland then moved that the synopsis also be placed on the web site. Doris seconded, passed unanimously.

Next board meeting, noon, September 14 at CRJ.



Edith Schulman

GENEALOGY AND DNA TESTING

At the June 20th meeting of JGSGO, members and friends heard a most interesting talk on genealogy and the role of DNA, presented by Genetic Counselor Stacie R. Rosenthal, M.S., of the Nemours Children’s Clinic, Arnold Palmer Hospital, Orlando. Stacie holds a Master of Science – Human Genetics from Sarah Lawrence College and has certification from the American Board of Genetic Counseling. She was recommended as a speaker to our JGSGO Program Chairperson, Lillian Weitzel, by Dr. John McReynolds.

Stacie’s presentation covered the history of DNA and its limited application to genealogy. Referring to the application of genetics, Stacie indicated, “Techniques are growing steadily. It’s similar to learning a new language.” If any testing is done, Stacie emphasized the importance of interpretation of the results.

In her Power Point computer slide presentation, Stacie reviewed much of the scientific background and the structure of chromosomes, and the role of genes and DNA. With genealogy, she suggested you could only use results of genetic testing as far back as grandparents. She referred to the “most recent common ancestors and a statistical calculation which could determine the likely generation in which two individuals are related.”

To better understand the concept of DNA, Stacie used an interesting analogy. “Think of a recipe book, “she said, “being the chromosomes; the individual recipe in the book is the gene; and the ingredients for the recipe is the DNA.”

Stacie also spoke of what DNA will not tell us. That included no specific medical information; and it does not offer a unique personal genetic fingerprint.

Terminology, some of which was familiar to some of the audience, included the nucleus, mitochondrial DNA, 23 pairs of chromosomes, structure of the chromosome, Genome, Allele, Locus, markers, junk DNA, paternity, and more.

To better understand genetics, Stacie suggested viewing a search engine on the computer and specifically the following:

www.relativegenetics.com; www.familytreetna.com;
www.blairgenealogy.com; <http://www.DNAFTB.org>>
Stacie may be reached at: srosenth@nemours.org>

At the conclusion of Stacie’s talk, Edith Schulman presented a special framed certificate to Stacie, designed by Jerry Kurland. (Cover photo)

FROM: BREST, BELARUS -

Larry Schenker

(brest.cemetery.memorial@brest-belarus.com)

This is a picture of the Old Brest-Litovsk Jewish Cemetery as it existed about 1915. We have been told that there were over 10,700 grave markers in place before 1941.



Today the cemetery is a soccer field.

You might have had an ancestor, or know of someone who had an ancestor, who died in Brest-Litovsk, or any of the close-by Shtetls between the years of 1832 and 1941. These Jewish deceased citizens of the Brest-Litovsk region might have been buried in the Old Jewish Cemetery of Brest-Litovsk. Many of our ancestors traveled from close-by Shtetls to the major medical center of Brest-Litovsk when they were taken ill. Brest-Litovsk had the best hospital and medical doctors in the region.

The reclaiming of part of this Old Brest-Litovsk Jewish Cemetery and the erection of a Memorial Monument Park, dedicated to our deceased, is very dear to me and might be very dear to you.

TO ME - because my great grandfather, Israel Leon Binenbaum was buried in this Old Jewish Cemetery in the year 1902.

TO YOU - because you most likely had some ancestors buried there.

Additional pictures can be seen at:
<http://cards.webshots.com/c100723838ftmbwo>

To make a donation or to obtain additional information about the Old Brest Jewish Cemetery Memorial Monument Park, please contact Larry Schenker by e-mail at LPSCA@EARTHINK.NET.

Or you can contact by telephone in Los Angeles, California, United States at 310 441-1488. Please only between the hours of 9AM - 6PM California time, Monday through Friday. Thanks for your support.

Larry Schenker
BREST, BELARUS RESEARCH (Special Interest Group)
Founder & Moderator

“AVALON” Film Showing

On Sunday, Sept. 18, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., the Congregation of Reform Judaism, as part of their Adult Education Program, will present the 126 minute, color, film "Avalon" by Barry Levinson. This award winning movie looks at the American Jewish immigrant experience and life in Baltimore. The plot involves a Russian Jewish family entering the United States at the beginning of the 20th century. In the city, the family try to make themselves a better future in the so-called promised land. Resident film expert, Elliot Schwartz will lead a discussion after the film. There is no cost for admission as CRJ has extended an invitation to any one in the community to attend.

SEARCH PARTY *

Stephen P. Morse--whose One-Step Web pages rank among Family Tree Magazine's 101 best sites for 2005--recently introduced RootsWeb Plus, a new search utility for RootsWeb's Social Security Death Index (SSDI). The SSDI is a database of nearly 75 million Americans whose deaths were reported to the Social Security Administration; almost all of them since 1962. RootsWeb offers a free search of the SSDI at <http://ssdi.rootsweb.com>.

Morse's utility, located at <http://www.stevemorse.org/ssdi/ssdi.html>, lets you search RootsWeb's database on several additional parameters to filter out false positives. You can search on: as few as one character in the first and last name fields; a range of birth and death years; age at death; a last residence outside the United States; the day of the month your relative died.

Morse advises patience if you're using several of the above options at once. "The way my software searches on birth and death ranges is to do repeated searches for each year in the range," he writes on his Web site. "Same for partial first and last names of fewer than three characters." The more date ranges and partial names you include in one search, the longer you'll wait for results.

You can use Morse's SSDI search page to scour SSDI data at other sites including Ancestry.com, Family Tree Legends, Family Search and NewEnglandAncestors.org. These sites support different search parameters, and may contain slightly different data depending on how often Webmasters add new information from the Social Security Administration. For more information, see Morse's FAQs at <http://www.stevemorse.org/ssdi/faqi.htm>.

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The Alhambra Decree by King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella in 1492

(This is the decree of expulsion promulgated by Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand of Spain on March 31, 1492, which forced the Spanish Jews, the Sephardim, to leave Spain forever.)

King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, by the grace of God, King and Queen of Castile, Leon, Aragon and other dominions of the crown - to the prince Juan, to dukes, marquesses, counts, the holy orders, priors, knight commanders, lords of the castles, cavaliers, and to all Jews, men and women of whatever age, and to anyone else this letter may concern -- health and grace unto you.

You well know that in our dominion, there are certain bad Christians that judaised and committed apostasy against our Holy Catholic faith, much of it the cause of communications between Jews and Christians. Therefore, in the year 1480, we ordered that the Jews be separated from the cities and towns of our domains and that they be given separate quarters, hoping that by such separation the situation would be remedied. And we ordered that an Inquisition be established in such domains; and in twelve years it has functioned, the Inquisition has found many guilty persons.

Furthermore, we are informed by the Inquisition and others that the great harm done to the Christians persists, and it continues because of the conversations and communications that they have with the Jews, such Jews trying by whatever manner to subvert our holy Catholic faith and trying to draw faithful Christians away from their beliefs.

These Jews instruct these Christians in the ceremonies and observances of their Law, circumcising their children, and giving them books with which to pray, and declaring unto them the days of fasting, and meeting with them to teach them the histories of their Law, notifying them when to expect Passover and how to observe

it, giving them the unleavened bread and ceremonially prepared meats, and instructing them in things from which they should abstain, both with regard to food items and other things requiring observances of their Law of Moses, making them understand that there is no other law or truth besides it. All of which then is clear that, on the basis of confessions from such Jews as well as those perverted by them, that it has resulted in great damage and detriment of our holy Catholic faith.

And because we knew that the true remedy of such damages and difficulties lay in the severing of all communications between the said Jews with the Christians and in sending them forth from all our reigns, we sought to content ourselves with ordering the said Jews from all the cities and villages and places of Andalusia where it appeared that they had done major damage, believing that this would suffice so that those from other cities and villages and places in our reigns and holdings would cease to commit the aforesaid. And because we have been informed that neither this, nor the justices done for some of the said Jews found very culpable in the said crimes and transgressions against our holy Catholic faith, has been a complete remedy to obviate and to correct such opprobrium and offense to the Christian faith and religion; because every day it appears that the said Jews increase in continuing their evil and harmful purposes wherever they reside and converse; and because there is no place left whereby to more offend our holy faith, as much as those which God has protected to this day as in those already affected, it is left for this Holy Mother Church to mend and reduce the matter to its previous state inasmuch as, because of our frailty of humanity, it could occur that we could succumb to the diabolical temptation that continually wars against us so easily if its principal cause were not removed, which would be to expel the said Jews from the kingdom. Because whenever a grave and detestable crime is committed by some members of a given group, it is reasonable that the group be dissolved or annihilated, the minors for the majors being punished one for the other; and that those who pervert the good and honest living on the cities

and villages and who by their contagion could harm others, be expelled from the midst the people, still yet for other minor causes, that would be of harm to the Republic, and all the more so for the major of these crimes, dangerous and contagious as it is.

Therefore, with the council and advice of the eminent men and cavaliers of our reign, and of other persons of knowledge and conscience of our Supreme Council, after much deliberation, it is agreed and resolved that all Jews and Jewesses be ordered to leave our kingdoms, and that they never be allowed to return.

And we further order in this edict that all Jews and Jewesses of whatever age that reside in our domain and territories, that they leave with their sons and daughters. their servants and relatives, large and small, of whatever age, by the end of July of this year, and that they dare not return to our lands, not so much as to take a step on them not trespass upon them in any other manner whatsoever. Any Jew who does not comply with this edict and is to be found in our kingdom and domains, or who return to the kingdom in any manner, will incur punishment by death and confiscation of all their belongings. We further order that no person in our kingdom of whatever station or noble status hide or keep or defend any Jew or Jewess, either publicly or secretly, from the end of July onwards, in their homes or elsewhere in our reign, upon punishment of loss of their belongings, vassals, fortresses, and hereditary privileges. So that the said Jews may dispose of their household and belongings in the given time period, for the present we provide our assurance of royal protection and security so that , until the end of the month of July, they may sell and exchange their belongings and furniture and other items, and to dispose of them freely as they wish; and that during said time, no one is to do them harm or injury or injustice to their persons or to their goods, which is contrary to justice, and which shall incur the punishment that befalls those who violate our royal security.

Thus we grant permission to the said Jews and Jewesses to take out their goods and belongings

out of our reigns, either by sea or by land, with the condition that they not take out either gold or silver or minted money or any other items prohibited by the laws of the kingdom. Therefore, we order all councilors, justices, magistrates. cavaliers, shield-bearers, officials, good men of the city of Burgos and of other cities and villages of our reigns and dominions, and all our vassals and subjects, that they observe and comply with this letter and all that is contained in it, and that they give all the help and favor that is necessary for its execution, subject to punishment by our sovereign grace and by confiscation of all their goods and offices for our royal state house.

And so that this may come to the notice of all, and so that no one may pretend ignorance, we order that this edict be proclaimed in all the plazas and usual meeting places of any given city; and that in the major cities and villages of the diocese, that it be done by the town crier in the presence of the public scribe. and that neither one nor the other should do the contrary of what was desired, subject to the punishment by our sovereign grace and deprivation of their offices and by confiscation of their goods to whosoever does the contrary. And we further order that evidence be provided to the court, in the manner of signed testimony, regarding the manner in which the edict is being carried out.

Given in this city of Granada on the thirty first day of March in the year of our Lord Jesus Christ -1492.

Signed, I, the King,

I the Queen,

Juan de Coloma, Secretary of the King and Queen, which I have written by order of our Majesties.

SEPTEMBER 19 JGSGO PROGRAM

The subject for the presentation on Monday night, September 19 will be "Ups and Downs of Conducting Sephardic Genealogy" and the guest speaker will be Shelomo Alfassa.



Mr. Alfassa is the founder and executive director of the International Society for Sephardic Progress and the editor of the award winning International Sephardic Journal. Mr. Alfassa served as former Director of Research and Development for Sephardic House at the Center for Jewish History and as a consultant to the American Sephardi Federation. He currently

serves on the board of directors of the New York based Foundation for the Advancement of Sephardic Studies and Culture and is a staff member of the Sephardic Educational Center in Jerusalem. Holding both Israeli and U.S., citizenship he has served as a consultant to Yeshiva Har Zion in Jerusalem and the Ottoman Sephardic Research Center in Istanbul. Mr. Alfassa is the author of *Quiet War Against the Jews; Ethnic Sephardic Jews in the Medical Literature* and *Guide to the Contemporary Anusim Situation*. His articles have appeared in The Jewish Press, Israel National News, Sephardic Image Magazine, Moment Magazine and several other publications. Mr. Alfassa's family is from the Island of Rhodes and Ottoman Edirne, Turkey.

According to Lillian Weitzel, Program VP, the the 7:00 p.m. meeting will be held in the min-sanctuary Congregation of Reform Judaism, CRJ, (formerly CLJ) on Malone Drive, Orlando. Anyone interested in genealogy is welcome to attend.

SOUTHERN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Southern Jewish Historical Society will hold its 30th Annual Conference in Baltimore on November 4-6, 2005. Notice about the conference can be found on the website: <http://www.jewishsouth.org>. Join the Society in learning about the Jewish experience in the American South from the colonial period, through the Civil War to the present. The Southern Jewish Historical Society is proud to share its Southern heritage with you. Southern Jews are deeply embedded into America's history, and pride themselves on their diversity and longevity in the Southern region of the United States.

The Baltimore meetings will be held at the Tremont Plaza Hotel. For a registration form and hotel information, check the web site.

Save the date....

October 10 - FILM SHOWING

JGSGO Program Chairperson, Lillian Weitzel has arranged for a special film showing at the October 10th JGSGO meeting, in the mini-sanctuary, Congregation of Reform Judaism, Orlando, at 7:00 p.m.

The 72 minute film, "My Grandfather's House" is a personal documentary. It follows filmmaker Eileen Douglas's determined search to find her grandfather's house in Lithuania, the home he lived in and left behind in 1911 when he fled, at 16, from Kovno to America to escape the Tsar's Army. Four decades after his death, with only fragments to guide the way, the documentary is Douglas's attempt to lift the veil of darkness and discover "where it all began." Traveling from New York City, to the U.S., Memorial Holocaust Museum in Washington, to her mother's attic in Syracuse, to the homes of relatives and, finally to the block in Kovno where her grandfather once lived, along the way she unexpectedly unlocks the mystery of stories never told, discovers the fate of family members lost in the war, learns the glory that once was Lithuanian Jewry, finds living relatives missing for years in Siberia, and resurrects a family shattered by the traumas of the 20th Century.

The documentary weaves together original footage, old family photographs, archival records, translations of old Yiddish letters, archival film footage, family reminiscences, interviews, conversations, and music scored to evoke a vanished era.

The film was produced in 2004, by Eileen Douglas and Ron Steinman. Ron wrote, "the film is about my partner and co-producer Eileen Douglas' lifelong search for the house her grandfather grew up in Kovno." We filmed the project over five years in New York, Kovno, Lithuania, Syracuse, Washington, D.C., Tel Aviv. St. Petersburg, Baltimore, and Potomac.

Reviewers of the film have written, "Wonderful! The story has such narrative drive that we we're quickly engaged. A wise and heartwarming movie." Jan Lisa Hunter, World Jewish Digest

"This is the most moving, beautifully produced personal memoir of a second generation that I have ever seen" William Shulman, President of the Holocaust Resource Center and Archives.

PLAN AHEAD! MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

Our 7 Day Bicycle Trip in Sweden

This summer, Carl Migden and his wife, Karyn, participated in a bicycle tour in Sweden. Carl, an avid genealogist and Karyn, were not searching for any relatives, but on the trip they visited several interesting sites including cemeteries. Sites that could be of interest to some genealogist. Time spent in Sweden included the 7 day bicycle trip to Central Sweden, from Stockholm to Upsala.



According to Carl, "The daily ride was between 13 and 49 miles (usually on the shorter side the first day) at an average speed of 8 to 10 miles per hour. Most of the bike routes are through virgin nature, is flat and very little contact with traffic." This particular bike tour was rated as "medium difficulty." Some of the sites on the routes included Ship burials, Baroque castles, Lake Mälarsee, Lake Mälaren, near Sundbyholm, and impressive cathedrals, country churches and old cemeteries. "Add to that" Carl indicated "Janson's' temptation, Smörgåsbord and Loganberries. Long days, short nights, woods, water, wide open spaces and a high summer bike outing in a fairytale land of the north, where the term 'mass' tourism" is unknown."

The cyclists traveled in a group of 20, and a tour guide accompanied them for the entire trip. He explained points of interest along the way. There was a driver of a support van/vehicle that was never far off. It met the group 3 or 4 times a day in case a rider preferred the van instead of cycling. Each day, the tour guide prepared a picnic of local specialties. Each night we stayed at a different hotel. Our luggage was transported in the support van and was brought to our hotel room prior to our arrival in the hotels. All the tour guides were multi lingual and spoke English.

The Bike tour package included all hotels, breakfast and dinner (lunches not included), bicycle rentals, guide, and van support.

The photo of the church and cemetery is in the medieval town of Trosa, Sweden which is about 50 miles from Stockholm. The stone church was built in the 13th century by the Trosa inhabitants. The photo was taken on June 27, 2005 when Karyn and I were on the 2nd day of the tour and we cycled 35 miles from

Sodertatje – Trosa. Overnight we stayed at a lovely bed & breakfast in the town which is considered the smallest city of Sweden.



(Photo below) Anundshog – The largest Viking burial mound in Sweden. Dating from the 6th century, Anundshog was possibly an important meeting place for the Vikings. The royal burial mound is thought to be the resting place of King Brot-Anund who apparently sleeps here with his pile of gold. Anundshog is one of the most prominent ancient monuments at Bedelunda (near the city of Vasteras).



Viking burials were aligned in the form of ship-shaped monuments. Note that the largest ship-shaped monument is 54 meters long. In the summertime it is possible to make a Viking tour by bus from Stockholm to Anundshog, which is about 135 kilometers away.

The photo was taken on July 1st, 2005.

Thanks to Karyn and Carl for sharing this experience with members of the JGSGO.

MAIL CALL....

From: Jennifer Ritter, Executive Director, Holocaust Memorial Resource & Education Center of Florida

"Thank you for sending me a copy of your fine newsletter Etz Chaim. I greatly appreciated the opportunity to speak to your membership.

Our missions are so closely related. We treasure the gathering of all information relating to the experiences of those who lived in Europe (and Elsewhere) before the Holocaust and the search for memories. Each person's history is part of the chain that ties us from one generation to another. Continued success in all your work."

* * * *

From: Robert Singerman, Price Library of Judaica, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

"Dear Jay:

I'm trying to fill in gaps of our set of Etz Chaim. We have in hand the following recent issues:

Vol. 13, # 1,4 (we need #-2 and 3)

Vol. 14, # 1 -2 (we need #3 and 4)

Vol. 15, # 2 (we need #1)

Could you send just a single issue, please of the needed Issues? Thank you."

NOTE: Requested copies were sent the next day!

* * * *

From: Roselle Oyer, formerly of Longwood, now of Glenview, Illinois:

"To: Doris and Jay:

I just wanted to let you know that I have moved. Long story with a hospital stay included but with encouragement of Drs and family members, relocated to be closer to family. I will continue to be a member, so will be looking forward to your publications."

* * * *

From: Anne-Marie Ehrenfreund, Periodicals, Jewish National and University Library, Jerusalem, Israel:

"Dear Jay:

We are missing two issues of your publication Etz Chaim, Vol. 14 # 3 and Vol. 15 # 3. and should be most grateful if you would send them to our library. Thank you in advance for your help and best regards."

Note: Copies air-mailed the next day

* * * *

From: Hal Bookbinder, Past President of the IAJGS (International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies):

To: Edith Schulman, President, JGSGO:

"As we have in the past, we would like to display copies of your newsletters, journals and brochures at the IAJGS table at the upcoming conference (in Las Vegas, NV). Sorry about the late

notice, but if you would like to share yours, please either drop them off at the IAJGS table or mail them to us. I would suggest that you include one or two of your recent journals/newsletters and 10-20 brochures."

NOTE: copies of Etz Chaim were sent the next day.

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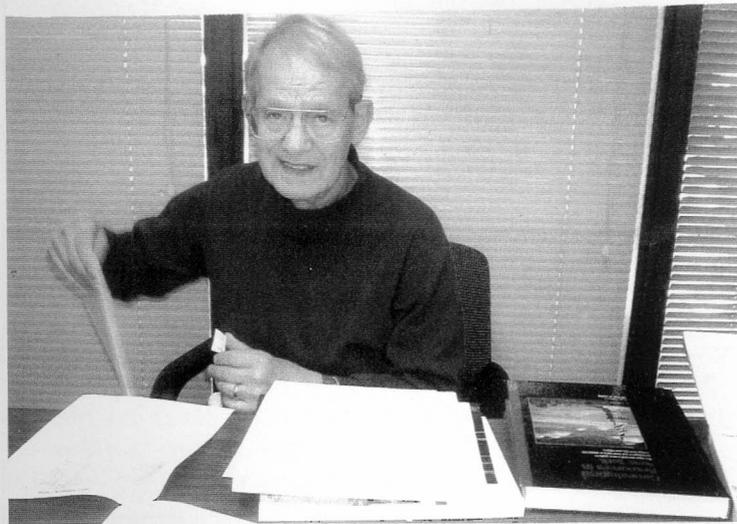
From: Abigail Yasgur, Director, and Susan Baum, Chair, Library Committee, Jewish Community Library of Los Angeles, CA

To: Edith Schulman, President, JGSGO

"On behalf of the Jewish Community Library of Los Angeles, Peter M. Kahn Memorial, we would like to thank the JGSGO for your generous philanthropic contribution. Regular support creates the foundation for the Jewish Community Library. By providing materials, services and programs, the JCLLA continues to serve all without regard to denomination or economic status."

NOTE: Our JGSGO recently took advantage of the JCLLA's film loan library.

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From: Herb Adler, JGSGO Librarian, July 20

"I just wanted to say thanks to all of you who volunteered and helped yesterday (July 19) in setting up the JGSGO library. You did a terrific job"

Note: See page 12 of this issue of Etz Chaim

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From: Gene Starn: His letter in part says: "Dear Edith I read with great pleasure your plans for a dual workshop. A great idea! I'd love to attend the one with Drew Smith. How did you get him? He'd make a great speaker for the JGS down here in Palm Beach. *Editors note: Gene sent a \$100 check for dues and should be recognized as a Patron.*

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CONGRATULATIONS.....

To Rachel Heimovics of Maitland, on her marriage to Matitiahu Braun. The wedding was held in Milwaukee on November 7, 2004.

Rachel is a charter member of the JGSGO since 1990. She has served as a lecturer at JGSGO meetings several times. She is also the author of *The Chicago Jewish Source Book* published by Follett Publishing Company, 1981. A member of the Southern Jewish Historical Society for many years, Rachel is currently the Managing Editor of the Society's Journal "Southern Jewish History."



Matitiahu (aka Mati) Braun is a native of Israel who came to America in 1962 to study at the Juilliard School with Joseph Fuchs after graduating from the Israel Academy in Tel Aviv. A member of the New York Philharmonic since 1969, Mati is also known as a recitalist and chamber musician. The orchestra's web site states, "He enjoys his role as a teacher as well, working privately with students and professionals as a coach for orchestra and chamber music groups, and presenting master classes in both violin and viola, most recently in Israel, Finland, Japan, Texas, and the Metropolitan area. Mati Braun recently completed a CD recording of solo music by Bach, Geminiani, Ysayem and Ben-Haim.

Locally, we will have an opportunity to hear acclaimed violinist Mati Braun in a recital at CRJ (Congregation of Reformed Judaism) Orlando, on Saturday, December 17, 2005. For information, contact Debbie Gold at CRJ: 407-645-0444.



MORE CONGRATULATIONS....

"In this photo taken of my grandchildren and husband, left to right my granddaughter Katherine Elizabeth Buchman, my husband Jack Charles Wolff, in the center of the picture my grandson Paul Scott Buchman, Beryle Buchman Wolff, and my granddaughter Stephanie Leigh Buchman.

Jack and I celebrated our first wedding anniversary on August 15, 2005. It has been a very happy year for all of us. He always refers to my sons and grandchildren as "our sons" and "our grandchildren." Every time we travel, he takes pictures of our grandchildren and shows them to his family and friends. There is something very special about being a new grandfather at 76.

I can only wish this kind of happiness to all of my family and friends."

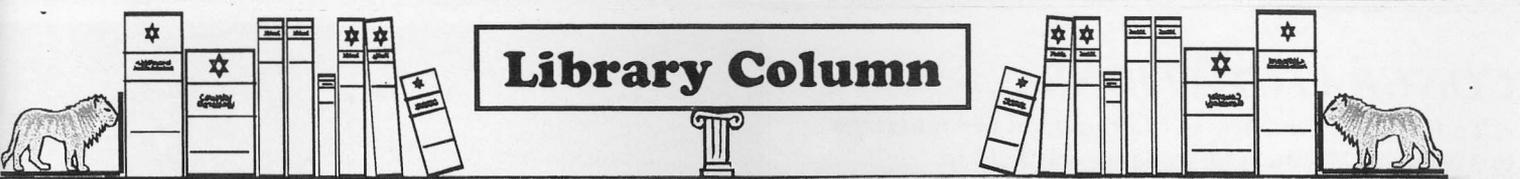
Editor's Note: *Beryle, of Plant City, FL., is a long time member of JGSGO and has contributed several articles to Etz Chaim.*

New Society for Genetic Genealogy

A new society has been set up to promote the use of DNA testing in genealogical research. The International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG) was founded earlier this year as a non-commercial, non-profit body. Membership is free and open to anyone who supports the society's twin aims of promoting genetic genealogy and providing a supportive network for genealogists using this technology.

According to their website, ISOGG is already truly international, boasting members in Australia, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, England, Germany, Ireland, New Zealand, the Philippines, Spain, Switzerland, the United States and Wales.

For details, [Http://www.ISOGG.org](http://www.ISOGG.org)



Library Column

JGSGO Library Work Session

Herb Adler, the JGSGO librarian called for volunteers to work on the library Tuesday, July 19. Six volunteers showed up and a lot of work was done. There's more to do so if you feel left out, remember there will be further need for volunteers.

Specifically the tasks for the day included:

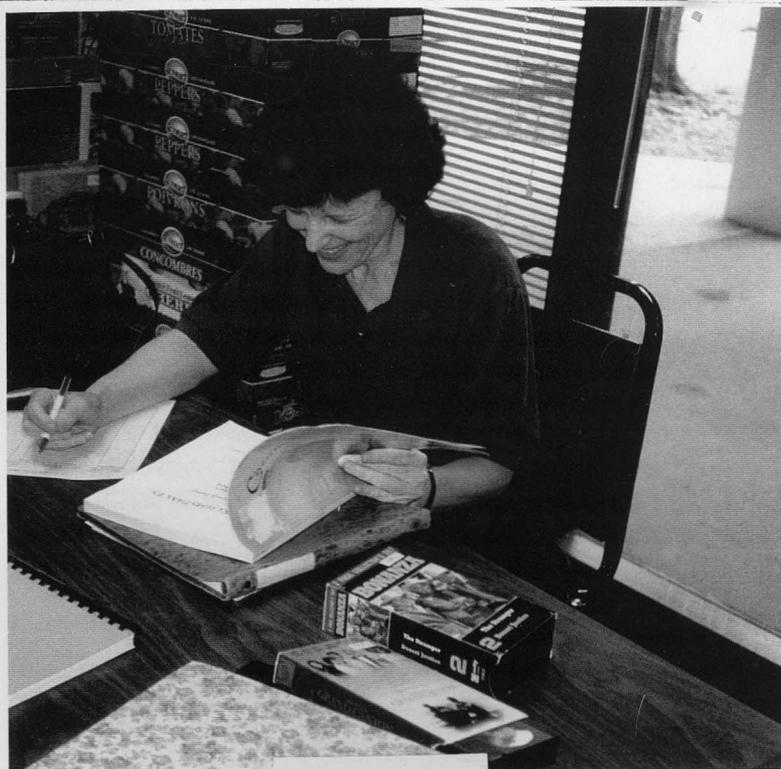
1. Refine Organization of the Newsletter Files
 - a. Need to determine what files are in each drawer so they can be easily found and make drawer labels.
 - b. File the newly (or not so newly) received Newsletters
 - c. File the periodicals (Not Newsletters)
 - d. Need to update the Catalog to reflect the current Newsletter Holdings and where they can be found.
2. List the many books which do not as yet have classification labels.
3. If time permits, work on emptying boxes of other materials which we haven't accounted for yet.

Among those who volunteered were: Helaine Blum, Jerry Kurland, Edith Schulman, Sheila Reback, Jay Schleichkorn, and Herb Adler.

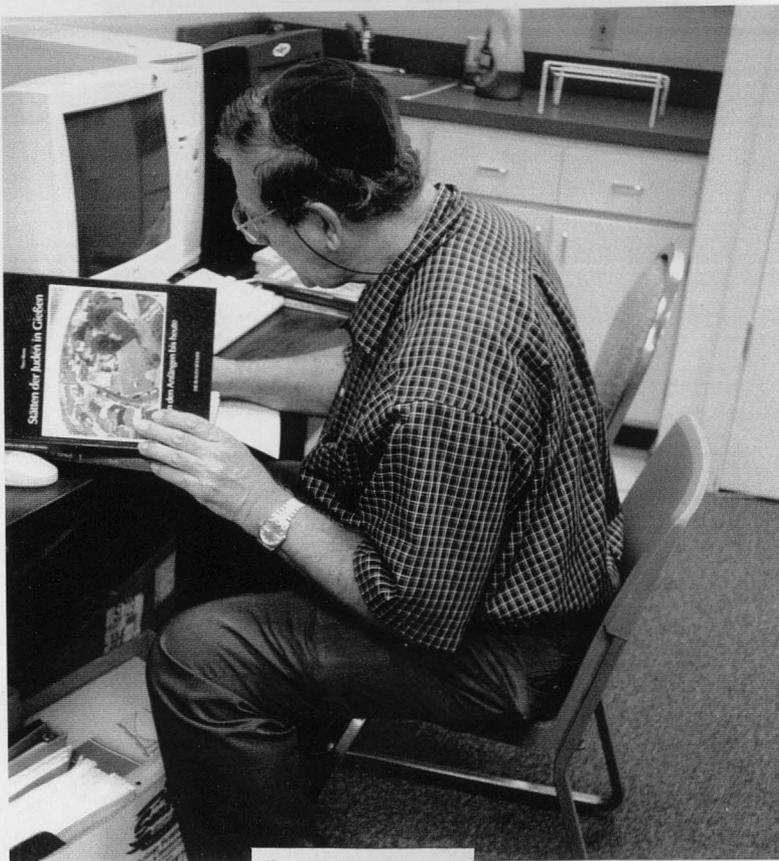
If you are interested in helping with the setting up our genealogical library, contact Herb at:

407-239-8195 or Cell (only if not at home)

407-353-8597



Helaine Blum



Jerry Kurland



Edith Schulman, Sheila Reback, Herb Adler

Photos by: Jay Schleichkorn