



Etz Chaim

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The Quarterly Journal of the
JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER ORLANDO

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, March 7, 1993, 1-5 p.m., Registration: 12:30-1 p.m., JCC Auditorium

Jewish Genealogy Beginner's Workshop

This is the best way to learn genealogy! The course takes you through all the steps needed, from start to finish, and includes the updated 165-page "Beginner's Guide to Jewish Genealogy," itself a \$25.00 value. The course is taught by experienced genealogists, members of our Society.

Cost of the workshop is \$25.00 (\$35.00 for couples), including refreshments.

Tuesday, March 9th, 7:30 p.m., REGULAR MEETING, JCC Sr. Lounge

How to Get the Most Out of Census Records

featuring Ann Osisek, well known local lecturer and genealogy instructor at the Winter Park Community School evening classes. Here's where to learn the inside facts on using U.S. census records to help your genealogical search.

Tuesday, April 13th, 7:30 p.m., REGULAR MEETING, Orlando Public Library

The 1920 Census at Orlando's Public Library

Mark your calendar so you won't forget this meeting to be held in the Genealogy section of the Orlando Public Library. Eleanor Crawford and JGSGO 'Mavins' will lead us through a hand-on use of the 1920 census. Shuttle transportation from the JCC will be arranged.

Coming MAY 11th -- the incomparable KATHERINE COOPER

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**JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
of GREATER ORLANDO**

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Acting Editor . . . GENE STARN



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**The Jewish Genealogical Society
of Greater Orlando
is sponsored by the
Central Fla. Jewish Community
Center**

Subscription to *ETZ CHAIM* is free to all members of JGSGO. Back copies are \$3.00 each. Regular membership dues (September to August) are \$20.00 per year for JCC members and their spouse, \$25.00 for non-members. Out-of-town membership (more than 50 miles) is \$15.00 per year. Please make checks payable to JGSGO and mail to JGSGO, P.O. Box 520583, Longwood, FL 32752.

JGSGO meetings are held monthly from September through June, usually on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 p.m., in the Senior Lounge of the Jewish Community Center, 851 North Maitland Avenue, Maitland, FL.

FROM THE HEAD GENIE ...

Congratulations to the new officers and members of our Board of Directors -- Claire Miller, "Bud" Whitehill, Hy Meltz and Audrey Pearlman, Polly, Sheila, Doug and myself are holdovers. Together with your help, we hope to make this a most momentous year.

In a couple of days we'll be conducting our second beginner's workshop. The response so far has been exceptional. I just hope we can make room for all who have expressed an interest in attending.

Our gracious hospitality hostess, Audrey, has promised refreshments fitting for the occasion, Purim.

Hopefully, many of those at our beginner's workshop will join our growing group as did last year's class. Not only should they join, but they should take an active part in the workings of our group. They should join a committee or two and work on our special projects in addition to attending meetings and improving their genealogy skills.

For instance, we could use some help on our quarterly. If you have any writing or artistic talents, let me hear from you. It is difficult putting out a quarterly without help.

Our librarian, Polly Horwitz, can also use some help selecting the equipment and microfiches, microfilms and other resource material that will be going into our library and research center. I believe it will be the first in the state, possibly in the entire South.

Incidentally, our first two microfiche readers were purchased last month. And our catalog of available fiches has also just arrived. We are truly on our way toward building our own Jewish genealogical research center, right here where we'll be able to conveniently come to peruse through ship's passenger lists, check the U.S. censuses, look through the old telephone directories of Radom or Minsk or Bialystok or leaf through a *Ge-dunkbuch* or *Yizkor* book.

As you know, we have requested some space in the Holocaust Center when their planned additions are completed. Possibly because of our request, and my own personal interest in the excellent work the Center accomplishes, I have been asked to serve on their expansion planning committee.

If all goes well, it is possible that our research center will be ready for business by this fall or winter.

Best wishes for happy and healthy hunting. May all your relatives come to roost at your home on your family tree, that is.

President

'Learning genealogy' theme for upcoming meetings

Ann Osisek, Katherine Cooper, Orlando and LDS libraries scheduled for visits

At least for the first half of the year, improving our skills as genealogists will keynote our meetings as Claire Miller, our program vice-president, has come up with some outstanding programs.

Our next meeting -- Tuesday, MARCH 9th -- will feature Ann Osisek, genealogy instructor at the Winter Park Community School. Her topic: "How to Get the Most out of the Census Records."

She will outline what the census will tell us for our research, and she will demonstrate with actual examples, how to find the people you are searching for through the census.

Remember, the 1920 U.S. census has just been released. A good many of our ancestors were already here in America, so this could be an important phase in your research effort.

The following month will come an actual, hands-on use of the census records. Yes, you will have an opportunity to use the information you learned from Ann Osisek as we visit the downtown Orlando Public Library. This is on April 13th at 7:30 p.m.

Make a note that our meeting in April will NOT be at the JCC, but at the downtown Orlando library.

We will begin in one of the 3rd floor meeting rooms with an introduction by Eleanor Cooper of the genealogy department and then recess to the Genealogy Department itself on the 2nd floor for the census records themselves.

Old naming patterns can help in tracing ancestors

Here is a rule of thumb that is helpful, but doesn't always hold true:

SONS -- the first son was named for his father's father. The second son was named for his mother's father. The third son was named for his father. The fourth son was named for his father's eldest brother.

DAUGHTERS -- The first daughter was named for her mother's mother. The second daughter was named for his father's mother. The third daughter was named for her mother. The fourth daughter was named for her mother's eldest sister.

Source: *Bits of Bark from the Family Tree*,
Arkansas Genealogical Society.

For those needing rides, we will meet in front of the JCC at 7 p.m. (the Center will be closed because April 13th is the last day of Passover).

It promises to be quite an evening.

At our May meeting, we will be honored with a return appearance of Katherine Ronan Cooper, probably the foremost genealogy speaker in the entire South. This is definitely one meeting you do not want to miss.

She can keep you spellbound as she takes you on her genealogistic voyages between Ireland and the U.S., but at our May 11th meeting -- to be held in the Sr. Lounge of the JCC -- she will demonstrate why it is important to nail down the information about your ancestors in the U.S. before attempting to begin researching overseas.

June plans are tentatively set for another hands-on meeting at the LDS (Mormon) Family History Library at Lake Mary. We say "tentative" because plans have not yet been finalized.

This is another "encore", but one that is welcomed by all as it gives us an opportunity to learn first-hand how to use the equipment and the multitude of resources available at the library.

Again, special transportation arrangements will be made for those needing a ride to the Lake Mary office.

More about that in the next issue of *Etz Chaim*.

COMING NEXT ISSUE:

Complete FAMILY FINDER listing for all members of our society.

DEADLINE for submission of names and towns you are researching is the evening meeting of May 11th, but the sooner the better.

New hours for Lk. Mary LDS library

Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Wednesday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Thursday: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 6 - 9 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The only resource list for finding Jews who have lived in the South

Jews of the American South: Genealogical Resources

Order your copy by sending \$4.50 to cover printing and handling to JGSGO, PO Box 520583, Longwood, FL 32752.

One of the best genealogical resources in the South:**Orlando's genealogical heaven: The Public Library**

We don't hear a great deal about it, because so many of us don't live in the suburbs, not within the city itself. But the Genealogy Department of Orlando's Public Library is considered one of the finest in the South.

For our purposes, as Jewish genealogists, they have many source lists to use, most noteworthy are the U.S. Census reports. But there is more, much more.

To help you get acquainted with some of its holdings, here are excerpts from their "Tips to Die For", compiled by Melissa Thacker with assistance from genealogy librarians Eleanor Crawford (she took our Jewish Genealogy Beginner's Workshop last year), Carl Brown, Barbara Rainey, Jeanne Schmitzer and Carol Testut:

GENERAL

American & British Genealogy & Heraldry	016.929 Ful
Compendium of Historical Sources	929.1 Bre
Genealogical Source Handbook	929.1.Sch
Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy	929.1 Gre
The Source	929.1 Sou

CEMETERIES

American Cemetery Association Membership Directory	614.64 Ame
Cemetery Records Compendium	929.1 Ste
Directory of United States Cemeteries	929.1 Dir

CENSUS

Federal Population Census Handbooks		
*1790-189		
*1900		
*1910		
*1920		uncatalogued
The Source		929.1 Sou
Twenty Censuses: Population and Housing Questions,	1790-1980	312.0973 Uni

CENSUS--MAPS, Etc.

Enumeration District Microform (1900 & 1910):		
*Cross Index to Selected City Streets & Enumeration Districts, 1910 Census (microfiche)		
*Enumeration District Maps, 1900 Census		(microfilm)
*1910 Census Enumeration District Descriptions (microfilm)		
Handy Guide to Record Searching in the Large Cities of the U.S.		929.1 Kir
Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Census, 1790-1920		912.73 Tho
Township Atlas of the United States		917.3 Tow

CITY--COUNTY LOCATIONS

Columbia-Lippincott Gazetteer of the World	910.3 Col
Rand McNally Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide 1	912 Han
Rand McNally Cosmopolitan World Atlas	uncatalogued

CITY--COUNTY LOCATIONS (Small or Obsolete)

Centennial Gazetteer of the United States	917.3 Ste
Columbia-Lippincott Gazetteer of the World	910.3 Col
1853 Gazetteer of the United States	917.3 Hay
Illustrated Gazetteer of the United States	917.3 Fan
Individual state gazetteers	
Post office directories	973 Uni
State WPA guides	

CIVIL WAR

Civil War Genealogy	929.1 Sch
Confederate Research Sources	929.1 Nea
1890 Special Census of Union Veterans and their Widows	microfilm/indexes
Military Bibliography of the Civil War (Social Science)	016.97374 Dor
Military Service Records	929.1 Nat
Pension lists (various)	351.54
Tracing Your Civil War Ancestor (circ)	929.1 Gro

CONFEDERATE ROSTERS

FL--Soldiers of Florida in the Seminole Indian, Civil & Spanish-American Wars	975.9 Flo
GA--Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia	975.8 Hen
MD--Marylanders in the Confederacy	975.2 Har
History & Roster of the Maryland Volunteers	975.2 Gol
The Maryland Line in the Confederate Army	975.2 Wil
MS--Military Annals of Mississippi	976.2 Ric
NC--North Carolina Troops	975.6 Man
TN--Tennesseans in the Civil War	976.804 Ten

Other states may be available through Inter-Library Loan (ILL). Check Schweitzer's *Civil War Genealogy* (929.1 Sch).

COUNTY COURTHOUSE ADDRESSES

Ancestry's Red Book	929.1 Ame
County Courthouse Book	929.1 Gen
Handy Book for Genealogists	929 Ban

COUNTY FORMATIONS

Handy Book for Genealogists	929 Ban
Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Census	912.73 Tho

FUNERAL HOMES

Blue Book of Funeral Home Directors	614.6 Ame
NFDA Directory of Members	614.64 Dir
National Yellow Book of Funeral Directors	614.64 Nat

GENEALOGICAL/HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

AASLH Directory of Historical Agencies	970.62 Dir
Genealogical Societies & Historical Societies	919.1 Gen
Meyer's Directory of Genealogical Societies in the USA & Canada	929.1 Mey

HANDWRITING

- Handwriting & Records of AMERICA 929.1 Kir
 Handwriting of AMERICAN Records for a Period of 100 Years 929.1 Kir
 If I Can, You Can Decipher GERMANIC records 929.1 Ber

HOW-TO GUIDES

- Genealogical Source Handbook 929.1 Sch
 Genealogy (Boy Scouts, circ) 929.1 Nic
 How to Trace Your Family Tree (circ) 929.1 Ame
 Shaking Your Family Tree (circ) 929.1 Cra

HOW-TO GUIDES (Ethnic)

- BLACK Genesis 929.1 Ros
 From Generation to Generation (JEWISH) 929.1 Kur
 How to Find Your Family Roots (VARIOUS) 929.1 Bea
 In Search of Your BRITISH & IRISH Roots 929.1 Bax
 In Search of Your CANADIAN Roots 929.1 Bax
 In Search of Your GERMAN Roots 929.1 Bax
 Our NATIVE AMERICANS Volumes 1 & 2 929.1 Kir
 Tracing your SCOTTISH Ancestors 929.1 Sin

NEWSPAPERS

- American Newspapers, 1821-1936 016.07 Ame
 Antebellum Black Newspapers 016.07 Jac
 Native American Periodical & Newspapers 016.07 Nat
 Newspaper Indexes 016.071 Mil
 Newspaper in Microform, United States (and supplements) 016.0713 Lib
 Obituaries: A Guide to Sources 016.929 Jar

PASSENGER & IMMIGRATION

- American Passenger Arrival Records 325.242 Tep
 Immigrant & Passenger Arrivals 929.1 Uni
 Locating Your Immigrant Ancestor 929.1 Nea
 Passenger & Immigrant Lists Index 325.242 Fil

Various other passenger list indexes are available for specific ethnic groups, ports and time periods. Consult the card catalogue.

PROFESSIONAL RESEARCHERS

- Directory of Genealogical & Local Historical Researchers in North America 929.1 Dir
 Directory of Professional Genealogists 929.1 Dir
 Genealogical Helper (Sept/Oct issue) uncatalogued

VERIFICATION SOURCES

- American & British Genealogy & Heraldry (and supplement) 016.929 Fil
 Bibliography of American County Histories 929.1 Fil
 DAR Library Catalogue 016.9292 DAR
 Genealogical & Local History Books in Print (GBIP) 016.929 Yan
 Genealogies in the Library of Congress (and supplements) 929 Uni
 Index to American Genealogies (Munsell's) 929 Ame

NERGS Book Loan Catalogue	974 New
Newberry Library of Chicago Genealogical Index	929.1016 New
NGS Library Book List	016.929 Nat
U.S. Local Histories in the Library of Congress	016.973 Uni

VITAL RECORDS

Ancestry's Red Book	929.1 Ame
Handy Book for Genealogists	929.1 Han
International Vital Records Handbook	929.1025 Kem
Where to Write for Vital Records	uncatalogued

BIBLIOGRAPHIES

The following bibliographies have been compiled by staff members in the Genealogy Department. These definitely should be consulted when an in-depth approach is needed.

Black Genealogy	Immigration Passenger Lists
Cemetery Research	Irish Research
Civil War	Naturalization Records
DAR	Oral history and interviewing
Family Reunions	State Guides
Florida Research	Surnames
Huguenot Genealogy	

BRING A GUEST TO THE NEXT MEETING

Available for the first time:

Jews of the American South: Genealogical Resources

Compiled by Rachel Heimovics, past president of the Southern Jewish Historical Society and member of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando

**A most complete resource guide for tracing information about Jews
from the southern United States**

Arranged by city and state, with individual authorities in most areas who have specifically responded as willing to be contacted for genealogical purposes.

**Cost is \$4.50
to cover cost
of printing and mailing.**

**Mail to: JGSGO
P.O. Box 520583
Longwood, FL 32752**

U of F's Singerman says David Gold is Jewish name expert

One of the reputed world experts on the subject of Jewish names is David I. Gold, according to information supplied by Robert Singerman, bibliographer for the Price Library of Judaica at the Univ. of Florida.

According to Singerman, in 1968 Gold established the Jewish Family Name File which constitutes the largest fund of correctly etymologized Jewish family names ever collected and is constantly growing.

It also includes information about Jewish given names and contains some Jewish family trees. Gold can also help hebraize family names.

In order that Gold may try to answer you queries, please submit the following information:

- 1) A list of all known spellings of the name (in whatever language,
- 2) The place for which it is earliest reported in your family (exact name of town, city, etc., plus the country; just "Poland," "Russia," etc. are not sufficient).
- 3) Any family lore about the origin of the name.

A check for \$18.00, made out to Gold, and drawn on an American bank, should be enclosed for each name on which information is sought.

If your query cannot be answered (for many names, information is not available), your check will be returned.

From October to June, write to:

David L. Gold,
36/30 Bodenheimer St.
35 591 Haifa
Israel

During the summer months, write to:

David L. Gold,
67-07 215 St.
Oakland Gardens, NY 11364-2523

A self-addressed return envelope should be included, stamped if writing to Gold's summer address.

Since much of what has been published about Jewish family names is erroneous, you may want to ask Gold for a second opinion about the origin or meaning of your names.

The Jewish family trees in the file are from Lithuania and Poland. They may be consulted free of charge. Send a list of family names and the places for which each one has been reported. Gold will tell you whether they appear on any of the trees. Don't forget to send the stamped, self-addressed return envelope.

David L. Gold
67-07 215 St.
Oakland Gardens, NY 11364-2523
USA

23 June 1992

Dear Ms. Horwitz,

Thank you for your letter of 19 June. *Siegel*, etc. is derived from a Hebrew acronym for *segan lakohen* 'assistant to the priest' and were taken by Levites. *Katz*, etc. is derived from a Hebrew acronym for *kohen-tsedek* 'priest of justice' and is a name taken by members of the priestly caste. Those two names indicate that the bearer is, respectively, a Kohen and a Levi. *Katsoff*, however, is not always a variant of *Katz*: in certain cases it is derived from Yiddish *Katsev* 'butcher'. *Hurwitz* is derived from the name of a town in Czechoslovakia (to be more precise: in Bohemia), *Hořovice* (that mark over the *r* is obligatory in Czech spelling). The name indicates a connection of some kind to the town in question, though it has been claimed that some Jews took the name (or a variant thereof) only because it had been borne by distinguished rabbis. A few years ago a congress of people named *Luria* (variously spelled) was held in Israel. From the invitation I gathered that it has been claimed that all the *Lurias* (however they may spell the name) are related to one another (I have no evidence for or against this claim) and that all the *Hurwitzes* (however they may spell the name) are descended from *Lurias* (if both claims are true, then all the *Hurwitzes* are related). Not being a genealogist, I cannot pass judgment on these claims. *Gottlobe* (whose *e* was probably added in some English-speaking country) is derived from German or Yiddish words meaning 'God' and 'praise' (German *Got* and *Lob*; Yiddish *got* and *loyb*). It is one of the many names which pious Jews took to express praise of God, faith in God, etc.

The first two names are polygenetic, hence you are not necessarily related to anyone else bearing that name (that applies also if *Katsoff* means 'butcher'). If what has been claimed about the *Hurwitzes* is correct and if what you say about *Gottlobe* is correct ('I have never come across this name outside this family'), then both are monogenetic names, i.e., all bearers descend from a single person who was the first to acquire the name and it would be those two names, rather than the other two, that should be most fruitful genealogically. You might want to look into the genealogy of the nineteenth-century Yiddish writer Avrom-Ber *Gotlober* (literally 'God-praiser', possibly spelled *Gottlober* in English).

Enclosed are my leaflets. If you could mark the parts that were not clear and send me a SASE, I would be happy to elucidate.

Yours sincerely,



This is a reply received by our Polly Horwitz from David Gold per her inquiry last year for the names *Siegel*, *Katsoff*, *Hurwitz* and *Gottlobe*.

Two microfiche readers purchased for our library

Our Society has made its first equipment purchase, a pair of microfiche readers. Librarian Polly Horwitz found the readers and immediately put a "hold" on them.

They have been cleaned and rejuvenated. Both are in excellent working order. They will eventually be located in our area of the Holocaust Center library for use by our members.

The Society already owns a small number of microfiche films, including the initial copy of the Jewish Genealogical People Finder. It is planned that hundreds of fiches will be part of the library, as well as microfilms and computerized information. We have asked the Holocaust Center to set aside space in their new expanded library for a full-service genealogical center.

Genealogical Resources from the Caribbean available for Jewish researchers

by Dr. Ralph G. Bennett

The Caribbean region is made up of a number of islands which, despite their proximity to one another, have belonged over the centuries to many different European countries. Because of this, it is hard to know where to look for genealogical data.

Because there are so many islands in the Caribbean, I've concentrated on those islands which had the most significant Jewish populations. The habitable islands have primarily been under Spanish, French, Dutch or British authority. Historically, the Catholic countries of France and particularly Spain have been unfriendly to Jews (the Spanish Inquisition was in fact taking place at the same time the Caribbean islands were being colonized.)

Records found on the Spanish and French islands are not usually significant to Jewish genealogical research. In contrast, the British, and particularly the Dutch, were known for religious tolerance, so this article will focus on the islands that were under their control and where larger populations of Jews lives.

The island of Aruba began taking censuses in 1931. The archives for this and other historical data is located on Curacao.

Historisch Archief of the Netherlands
Antilles,
Willemstad, Curacao

For birth or marriage certificates, write to The Civil Registrar's Office on each island. Otherwise, records are centralized in Curacao at either of two places:

Directeur der Belastingen (Director of
Taxes)
Curacao, Netherlands Antilles
(Registrar of Wills)

Inspecteur der Belastingen (Tax Inspector)
Curacao, Netherlands Antilles
(Registration of Deeds)

There are two main libraries in the islands that may be able to provide you with information:

Openbare Leeszaal en Boekerij
Eilandgebied, Aruba

Openbare Leeszaalen Bibliotheek
Curacao, Netherland Antilles

Prior to 1878, records of births, marriages and deaths in Jamaica were kept by local parishes, in this case primarily belonging to the Church of England. These records may possibly still exist in the local churches and synagogues where the marriages or burials took place, although the disasters which befell the island may have destroyed some of them. After 1878, civil registration of births and deaths were required. Addresses for the various civil authorities are:

Island Record Office and Archives,
Spanish Town, Jamaica
(Birth and death certificates)

Deputy Keeper of the Records
Island Record Office,
Spanish Town, Jamaica
(Wills and deeds)

Director, Department of Statistics,
23 1/2 Charles Street
Kingston, Jamaica
(Census information)

Office of the Registrar
Supreme Court
King Street
Kingston, Jamaica
(Divorce records)

There are two libraries in Jamaica with genealogical resources available:

Jamica Library Service,
P.O. Box 58
2 Tom Redcam Drive
Kingston, Jamaica

University of the West Indies,
Mons, Kingston 7, Jamaica

A number of fine books exist with detailed genealogical information for Jamaica. I have listed a few

which I think are the most helpful and/or most readily accessible.

Feurtado, Walter A. *Official and Other Personages of Jamaica from 1655 to 1790*. Kingston: W.A. Feurtado's Sons, 1896.

Jamaica, Registrar General's Department *Civil Status Records, 1664-1800, in the Registrar General's Office, Spanish Town*. Spanish Town: Jamaica Archives, 1974.

Livingston, Noel B. *Sketch Pedigrees of Some of the Early Settlers in Jamaica...with a list of the inhabitants in 1670*. Kingston: Educational Supply Co., 1909.

Wright, Philip. "Materials for Family History in Jamaica." *GM*, London (1966): 239-50.

Although they are cartographically grouped under one name, the **Leeward Islands** are actually comprised of several independent and territorial governments.

Official registration of births and deaths only began in **Anguilla** in 1901. For marriages, registration was only required after 1925. For any earlier records, contact the synagogue in the town where the event took place.

Records for **Antiqua** and **Barbuda**, both public and religious records only date back to 1856.

Registrar of the Supreme court
Antiqua, West Indies

Civil records date back to 1859 and were registered with the Commissioner of the Presidency. Religious congregation records have survived in only a limited manner; for instance, they exist only back to 1816 (Anglican Church) or 1800 (Wesleyan Church). You may be able to obtain some records by writing to the synagogue in the town where a birth, marriage or death occurred.

Registrar-General
Tortola, British Virgin Islands

Civil records for **Montserrat** date back to 1869. Any records older than that are kept by local congregations. Write to the synagogue in the town where the birth, marriage or death occurred to see if they still have the records. Other information can be obtained from:

Montserrat Public Library
Plymouth, Montserrat, West Indies

On **St. Kitts**, mandatory birth and death registration began in 1859; registration of marriages in 1885. On

Nevis, birth records exist beginning in 1860, death records in 1861 and marriage records in 1925. For any earlier records, again, try the synagogue in the town where the birth, marriage or death took place.

There are a number of fine books which cover the Leeward Islands as a whole. Again, I have tried to limit these to those readily accessible and which contain the most useful information for genealogical research.

Baker, E.C. *A Guide to Records in the Leeward Islands*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell for the University of West Indies, 1965.

Oliver, Vere Langford. *The History of Antiqua, One of the Leeward Caribbees in the West Indies ... 1635 to the Present Day*. London: Hughes &

Mitchell, 1894-99. (Three volumes with details of parish registers as well as legal matters.)

Oliver, Vere Langford. *The Registers of St. Thomas, Middle Island, St. Kitts*. London: Mitchell and Hughes, 1915.

Censuses of the white population in **Barbados** were held in 1679-80 and 1715. Transcriptions of the data can be found in the national archives. Regular censuses have been taken since 1844, but unfortunately no copies exist prior to 1960.

Department of Archives
Black Rock
St. Michael, Barbados

Prior to the start of mandatory civil registry, church registers kept all birth, marriage and death data. Civil registration of births began in 1890, of marriages in 1885, of deaths in 1924 and of divorces in 1937. When mandatory civil registration began, all the church and synagogue registers were copied into a central Registration Office. They are sorted according to the eleven original parishes in existence at the time. A set of indices cover the records up to the present day. Jewish (records from 1660), Moravian (from 1769), Roman Catholic and Methodist records are in separate indices only up to 1886.

Registration Office
Coleridge Street
Bridgetown, Barbados

Both the public library and the library at the University of the West Indies campus have information that may be useful to genealogical searches.

Public Library
Coleridge Street
Bridgetown, Barbados

University of the West Indies Library
Bridgetown, Barbados

Barbados also boasts a genealogical society which publishes a journal of relevant information. They may be able to assist you or provide you with leads toward information sources. They also produce the Barbados Museum and Historical Society Journal.

Barbados Museum and Historical Society
St. Ann's Garrison, Barbados

While fine books about Barbados do exist, the most detailed information is found in the articles of the various genealogical journals.

"A Census of the Island of Barbados, W.I. (1715)."
Barbados Museum and Historical Society Journal, vol. 4 (1937): 72-82.

Chandler, M.J. *A Guide to Records in Barbados*.
Oxford: Basil Blackwell, 1965.

Dunn, Richard S. "Barbados Census of 1680."
WMCQ, series 3, vol. 26 (1969): 3-30.

Feck, Brainerd T. "Researching in Barbados." *Connecticut Nutmeg* vol. 6 (1973): 277-82.

Because of their close proximity and intertwined histories, each island in the Caribbean must be considered as part of the entire region instead of just an individual entity. Many of our ancestors moved from island to island to maintain citizenship, for example, as events far away in Europe affected the colonies of the Caribbean. Below are a list of sources that have general information about the Caribbean region as a whole.

Burns, Sir Alan. *History of the British West Indies*,
2nd rev. ed. London: Allen and Unwin, 1965.

Lawrence-Archer, J.H. *Monumental Inscription of the British West Indies from the Earliest Date*.
London: Chatto & Windus, 1975.

Oliver, Vere L. ed. *Caribbeana*. London, 1909-19,
6 vol.

Williams, Eric. *From Columbus to Castro: The History of the Caribbean, 1492-1969*. London:
Andre Deutsch, 1970.

The Caribbean has a fascinating history, with involvement by the major world powers, natural disasters,

social upheaval, and valiant struggles for independence. While all this makes interesting reading, it can make

hunting down your ancestors a difficult task. Filling in the pieces of your family tree is like working a puzzle, but in genealogy the pieces don't come all nicely boxed together. I hope that the sources I have outlined here help you in your search for the pieces to the puzzle which make up your family's ancestry.

(Dr. Ralph G. Bennett first became interested in genealogical research when he discovered that his wife's ancestors were among the first Dutch Jews to settle in Surinam in the 1660s. He is a physician in Hayward, Calif., whose practice encompasses dermatology and allergy--but only when he is not engaged in genealogical or historical research!)

Research list for southern Jews available from JGSGO

Rachel Heimovics new research guide to Jews of the American South is now being made available to other genealogists through our Society.

It lists, by state and city, genealogical resources together with the names and addresses of people of authority who have consented to answer genealogical inquiries.

Originally presented by Rachel at one of our meetings, the booklet has been reprinted and will be part of our Society's "Beginner's Guide to Jewish Genealogy."

Rachel, who is a past president of the Southern Jewish Historical Society as well as the Chicago Jewish Historical Society, compiled the list as an aid to those searching for Jewish relatives who have resided in the southern states.

The list of contacts runs the gamut of southern states from Florida to Texas to Virginia, including the District of Columbia. Suggested bibliography is also included in the booklet.

To cover the cost of printing, postage and handling, a charge of \$4.50 is being assessed for the booklet.

See you at Tuesday's meeting, March 9th ...

7:30 p.m. in the JCC Senior Lounge

Ann Osisek, well-known genealogy instructor at

Winter Park community school, will tell us

"HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM CENSUS RECORDS"

Beth Am, Hebrew Day School introduced to genealogy

Sheila Reback has done it again. Religious school students of another area synagogue received her introduction to Jewish genealogy last month. Twenty-nine 5th and 6th graders at Congr. Beth Am had a three-session course, similar to a course presented earlier this year to students at Congr. Ohev Shalom.

The majority enjoyed the course and found a greater interest in their family than before. They found it difficult, however, in filling in their pedigree charts.

Sheila followed up her Beth Am visit with a one-hour course at the Hebrew Day School, explaining a pedigree chart. It was their first introduction to Jewish genealogy.

Other area synagogues have expressed an interest in the JGS student course. Sheila may be recruiting an additional teacher or two.

Another JGS member, Claire Miller, will be teaching beginning genealogy to classes at Trinity Prep school.

INTRODUCE SOMEONE TO GENEALOGY

Bring a friend to our next meeting.

Guests are always welcome.

Spouses are encouraged to join in.

Welcome new Members

Lawrence Blum

Anita L. Hara

Abe Wise

Avotaynu 8-year index available for SASE and 52-cents postage

Gary Mokotoff, publisher of *Avotaynu*, says a recently completed 8-year index of the international Jewish genealogy quarterly, is now available.

To obtain a copy, just send a self-addressed No. 10 envelope with 52-cents postage, to

Avotaynu,
P.O. Box 1134,
Teaneck, NJ 07666

Mokotoff says the index is organized by country.

A decision on whether to publish the index in the next issue of the quarterly will be made later this month.

Subscriptions to *Avotaynu* are \$24 one year, \$46 for two years, \$67 three years. Back issues (two in 1985, three in 1986, four in 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991) \$7 each. Entire set of 25 back issues, \$120. Many issues are available in photocopy only.

Our Society subscribes to *Avotaynu* and copies are available in our library.



Jewish Genealogy Society
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