



# Etz Chaim

עץ חיים

The Quarterly Journal of the  
**JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER ORLANDO**

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Winter 1994-95

## UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE GENEALOGICAL CALENDAR

Tues., 13 Dec. 1994

**REGULAR MEETING, 7:30 p.m., "The Pale of Settlement and its Role in the Jewish History of Eastern Europe"** with Dr. Paul Steeves, Prof. of Russian History and Language, Stetson University. An encore of one of our more outstanding meetings. Members and non-members are welcome. Bring a guest. Refreshments. Meeting will be held in the SENIOR LOUNGE of the Jewish Community Center, 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland.

Tues., 10 Jan. 1995

**REGULAR MEETING, 7:30 p.m., "Early Jewry in North Africa and their Migrations"** with Moses Benmergui who is well versed in Sephardic migration, customs and liturgy. Members and non-members are welcome. Bring a guest. Refreshments. Meeting will be held in the SENIOR LOUNGE of the Jewish Community Center, 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland.

Sun., 22 Jan. 1995

**4th Annual BEGINNER'S WORKSHOP IN GENEALOGY**, 12 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. in the JCC Auditorium. \$25 per person, (\$5 additional for spouse), includes 200-page Beginner's Notebook, prize drawing, refreshments. Open to anyone interested in learning how to begin Jewish genealogy.

## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE ...**

- Searching the South - VIRGINIA, MARYLAND and DC ..... Page 3  
Public outcry saving library genealogy section ..... Page 6  
When is the RIGHT time to switch to a computer? ..... Page 7  
Eastern European resources ..... Page 10

**PLUS ... all the latest news about genealogy**



## Etz Chaim

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**GENE STARN, Editor**



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*is sponsored by the*

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*and is a member of the*

**Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies  
Federation of Genealogical Societies**

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**Etz Chaim** is free to all members of JGSGO. Back copies may be obtained for \$5.00 each. Regular membership dues (September to August) are \$20 per year for JCC members, \$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, PO Box 32752.

JGSGO meetings are held monthly, usually on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior Lounge of the JCC, 851 N. Maitland Ave., Maitland, FL.

## From the Head Genie . . .

The Greater Orlando JGS is now in its fifth year and continues to grow with over 70 members currently. Etz Chaim continues to gain recognition both nationally and internationally. We belong to the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) as well as the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (AJGS). With the addition of Houston, Texas and Sao Paulo, Brazil, there are now over 55 Jewish genealogical societies worldwide in 10 countries; with new ones being formed in Kansas City and Montreal as we go to press.

This growth can be helpful in doing one's own research in far flung locations. Almost all the societies publish newsletters about research in their location and copies of these publications are in our library in the Holocaust Center. Gene Starn reviews each newsletter received and lists articles of interest in Etz Chaim--look for that list, but also spend some time going through all issues of a newsletter from an area you are interested in. (Note the journals from Brazil and Israel are in English as well as the local language.)

Growth results in more information and assistance. But growth requires commitment and management. The old adage that *them that gives, gets* is as true in genealogy as in anything else. We want every member to participate in our activities if possible so we may all gain from the experiences of each as well as the addition of new members to our roster. The following activities are planned for the rest of this year; contact the board member in charge to join with us, or complete a Membership Participation Form at the next meeting:

Beginner's Workshop, January 22-----Sheila Reback  
Etz Chaim (edit, write, collate, etc)-----Gene Starn  
Membership Manual (design, contents)--Bud Whitehill  
Library (catalogue, maintenance)-----Greg Kolojeski

In addition, we have a committee working on cataloguing all the Jewish burials in central Florida. This is part of a worldwide AJGS project which will culminate in a CD-ROM data base available to all societies--a boon to all of us. The aim is to have the initial data base available by the summer seminar in Washington, DC, next June. Come join us.

By now, you should have received the fall issue of Avotaynu (all JGS members will receive it even if you do not subscribe). This issue contains the advance information on the Washington seminar. I have attended the last three and found them all extremely valuable, not only for the content of the talks and the opportunity to do research, but also to exchange information with other genealogists from all over. And don't forget that Washington is one of the Meccas for genealogical research with the Library of Congress, the National Archives and the Holocaust Museum all a short walk from the hotel. Put it on your calendar now!

**COME TO THE NEXT MEETING--AND BRING A GUEST!**

Happy Hanukah,

*Gladys*

President

# Searching the South

## VIRGINIA, MARYLAND and the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

by **RACHEL B. HEIMOVICS**

Fifth in a Series

In this *Searching the South* column, we will look at some of the Jewish genealogical resources in and about Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia. The idea behind the *Searching the South* column began with a compilation of Southern Jewish genealogical resources that I prepared for a program presented to the JGSGO in November 1992. One disclaimer: The list below has been gathered and researched over several years. The names, addresses and telephone numbers may not reflect recent changes.

This is one of those never-ending projects. I invite readers and those who have already contributed to share with me their additional and updated information. If you have expertise about a particular community anywhere in the South and would like to

be a genealogical contact for that area, please request my questionnaire.

Texas will be the subject of the next column. Do you have special genealogical contacts or success stories for the greater D.C. area? Send the information to me before February 1, c/o **ETZ CHAIM**, P.O. Box 520583, Longwood, FL 32752.

Did you miss the last issues? Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama and South Carolina have been featured in the first four columns in the last four issues respectively. Copies of past issues are available by contacting **ETZ CHAIM** at a cost of \$5.00 each.

To all those people who have already helped me -- whose names and information will appear in this and future columns -- I send warmest thanks. Please keep in touch.

### HOW TO READ THIS COLUMN

Any name that is preceded by an asterisk (\*) is a person who agreed to receive genealogy queries from the public. The source for information supplied through the questionnaire is identified by initials in brackets [ ]. The key to the bracketed initials can be found at the end of the column. Information that has no identified source comes from a variety of directories and listings, some of which may be out of date.

THIS ISSUE ONLY, this column is divided into three parts to cover resources in (1) The District of Columbia with contiguous Virginia and Maryland resources, (2) broader Virginia resources and (3) broader Maryland resources.

### 1. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(including contiguous Maryland and Virginia)

(for separate Alexandria information, see Virginia: Alexandria below)

\* Stephen W. Grafman [SWG]  
8605 Bells Mill Road  
Potomac, MD 20854  
301/983-1978

Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington  
(DC)  
P.O. Box 412  
Vienna, VA 22183-0412  
703/938-2840

Contact: Arline Sachs, President  
Contact: Faith Klein, former president,  
6912 Pacific Lane,  
Annandale, VA 22003 [SWG]

Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington  
701 Third Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20001-2624

Contact: Julian Feldman, Executive Director,  
Michael Goldstein, President  
For archives, history and demographics of local  
Jewish community [SWG].

Best genealogy resources in local community, [SWG]

(1) Sallyann Amdur Sack  
7604 Edenwood Ct.  
Bethesda, MD 20817  
301/434-8561 [SWG]

(2) Suzan Wynne  
3128 Brooklawn Terrace  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815  
301/657-3389

## Searching the South

### VIRGINIA, MARYLAND and the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Isaac Franck Memorial Library  
Board of Jewish Education  
11710 Hunters Lane  
Rockville, MD

Houses the library of the Jewish Genealogical Society  
of Greater Washington.

Contact Rita Permut, 301/365-3740, or  
Peter Lande, 202/363-8878 [SWG]

## 2. Broader VIRGINIA Resources

General genealogy research in Virginia, see Martin, Donald  
J. *Journal of Genealogy* (February 1979) [ESC]

Samuel and Dorothy Werth  
1216 E. Little Creek Rd., #301  
Norfolk, VA 23518  
804/480-0646

They have recorded graves of all Jewish cemeteries in  
Virginia..

## ALEXANDRIA

\* Ruth Sinberg Baker [RB]  
1201 Bayliss Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22302  
703/548-0979

Holds archives from extensive research into Alexandria. The source for history and historic demographics of local Jewish community. "I have 3x5 card file (not yet computerized) of every Jewish person I can identify in Alexandria 1850 -c. 1930, including source of information ... I welcome initial inquiries and will gladly respond gratis. If more than minimal time required, I will charge reasonable fee ... I am the only local researcher. I started sin 1974."

Beth El Hebrew Congregation  
3830 Seminary Road  
Alexandria, VA 22304  
703/370-9400  
Lou Silver, Archivist [RB]

Best general genealogy resources in community:

(1) Lloyd House (Alexandria Library)  
220 N. Washington Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314  
703/838-4577

Jewish cemetery grave listings in Pippenger book.

(2) Alexandria Court House (for wills, deeds, etc.) [RB]

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia  
8822 Little River Turnpike  
Fairfax, VA 22031  
703/323-0880  
Current demographics

## NEWPORT NEWS, NORFOLK, HAMPTON, WILLIAMSBURG, YORK COUNTY

Sue Anne Bangel [SAB]  
P.O. Box 1089  
White Stone, VA 22578  
804/435-0737

Has records, memorabilia, photographs of the local  
Jewish communities.

B'nai Israel (T)  
3116 Kecoughtan Rd.  
Hampton, VA 23661  
Contact: Jeanette Greenberger  
804/722-5534 [SAB]

Adath Jeshurun Synagogue (O)  
12646 Nettles Dr.  
Newport News, VA 23606  
Contact: Ida Fenigsohn  
804/244-3429 [SAB]

Jewish Genealogical Society of Tidewater  
JCC of Tidewater  
7300 Newport Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23505  
804/489-1371  
Contact: Ken Cohen [SAB]

### Alternative:

Jewish Genealogical Club of Tidewater, VA  
560 Roland Drive  
Norfolk, VA 23509  
Contact: Irwin M. Berent, President

UJC of the Virginia Peninsula  
2700 Spring Road  
Newport News, VA 23606  
Contact Barbara Gordon regarding archives, history,  
demographics [SAB]

Temple Sinai (Reform)  
11620 Warwick Blvd.  
Newport News, VA 23601  
804/596-8352  
Contact Anna Kahn-Goldfarb regarding archives,  
history. [SAB]

*See Page 11 for additional source for SOUTH CAROLINA*

**Searching the South**

VIRGINIA, MARYLAND and the DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Peninsula Jewish Historical Society  
25 Stratford Road  
Newport News, VA 23601  
804/595-1582

For history and demographics of local Jewish community. [SAB]

Contact Miriam Green (or SAB)

Temple Beth El  
600 Jamestown Rd.  
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Contact: Ethel Sternberg, 804/229-2247 [SAB]

Best general genealogy resources in area [SAB]:

(1) Family History Center  
902 Denbigh Blvd.  
Newport News, VA 23602  
804/874-2335

(2) Virginia Rollings  
901 Thames Drive  
Hampton, VA 23666  
804/826-4572

Other resources [SAB]:

(1) City Records  
Newport News, Hampton -- in their respective city halls.  
York County -- in the county library.

(2) *Daily Press* (local newspaper)  
7505 Warwick Blvd.,  
Newport News, VA 23607

**RICHMOND**

\* Saul Viener [SV]  
1900 Hanover Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23220  
804/358-3651

Former president, American Jewish Historical Society; founding president, Southern Jewish Historical Society. Mr. Viener is available for hire for genealogical and historical research.

Congregation Beth Ahabah Archives  
1109 W. Franklin Street  
Richmond, VA 23220  
804/353-2668  
Cynthia Krumbein, Archivist [SV]

Virginia Historical Society (general)  
P.O. Box 7311  
Richmond, VA 23221  
804/358-3901 [SV]

Virginia State Library  
11th St. and Capitol Square  
Richmond, VA 23219  
804/786-2306 (Archives Department) [SV]

**3. Broader MARYLAND Resources****ANNAPOLIS**

Jewish Historical Society of Annapolis, MD, Inc.  
5 Sampson Place  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
Contact: Leonard Z. Bulman

**BALTIMORE**

Genealogy Department  
Jewish Historical Society of Maryland  
2707 Moores Valley Drive  
Baltimore, MD 21209  
Contact: Carol Rider

Alternative name and address for GD/JHSM:

Virginia R. Duvall  
15 Lloyd Street  
Baltimore MD 21202

Jewish Heritage Center  
15 Lloyd Street  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
For archives, history and demographics of local Jewish community.  
Contact: Bernard P. Fishman, Executive Director  
[SWG]

**BIBLIOGRAPHY:**

Fein, I. *The Making of An American Jewish Community: The History of Baltimore Jewry from 1773 to 1920*, Jewish Publication Society, 1971.

**Cross-Reference/Abbreviations Key to Sources:**

ESC = Wilson, Charlest Reagan and William Ferris *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, 1989.  
RB = Ruth Sinberg Baker (Virginia, Alexandria)  
SAB = Sue Anne Bangel (Virginia, Newport News)  
SV = Saul Veiner (Virginia, Richmond)  
SWG = Stephen W. Grafman (District of Columbia)

**There will be changes, but it remains the best in southeastern U.S.**

## **Public concern saves Orlando Library's Genealogical Section**

by Gladys Paulin, President

The Orlando Public Library (OPL) houses one of the ten best Genealogical Collections in the United States, as well as the best in the southeastern United States. It includes, on a trustee basis, the collection of the state organization of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) and is cited in several respected guides to genealogical research. On June 23, 1994, the OPL announced that it was disbanding the Genealogy section as a separate department, placing its books in the Social Science Department and its films and microfiche in the Audio-Visual Department. That announcement, coming at the beginning of the summer, created much consternation and concern in the genealogical community, both locally and nationally. On July 19, the Central Florida Genealogical Society issued a press release asking all family historians, genealogical societies, ethnic associations and interested patrons to make their voices heard on the matter. Letters and petitions from all over were sent to the Board of Trustees of the Library as well as to the Mayor and the County Commissioners protesting this move. (The JGSGO letter to the Library had been sent on July 18 and copied to the Orange County Chairman and Commissioners on August 22.)

Since the Library Board did not have a scheduled meeting during July, it was August 11 before the public had an opportunity to appeal directly to the Board. In the meantime, the Library Director, Glen Miller, had directed his staff to complete the move on Sunday, July 24, after closing hours. The August 11 meeting was attended by over 150 members of the public including representatives from County Chairman Chapin's and Commissioner Johnson's offices. Over 20 individuals, including yours truly, representing genealogical and historical societies from Jacksonville to Sebring, spoke protesting the action that had been taken without review and without consultation with the interested community. The Board agreed to hold a special meeting on August 30 to deal with this issue.

The August 30 meeting was also attended by many members of the genealogical community. Commissioner Pignone urged the Board and the patrons to work together and Chairman Chapin submitted a letter recommending that the Board rescind the decision to split the collection. After each member presented his/her position on the matter, the Board agreed to establish a 5 person advisory committee from the community to consult on matters concerning the Genealogy collection. This committee would consist of a professional genealogist, an amateur genealogist, a representative of the DAR, a representative from the local genealogical society (Central Florida) and a library staff member. Further, the Board agreed to have a library staff group investigate whether there was a place in the library building where the Genealogy collection could be reestablished as a whole, rather than split between two departments. (Note: The old space on the second floor was inadequate for future growth and did not provide sufficient security.) In September, at the Library Budget hearings, the County Commissioners insisted that \$200,000 of the budget be

specifically allocated to reintegrating and maintaining the genealogy collections.

As of the end of October, the library staff had identified two possible locations for a reintegrated collection and the Advisory Committee, renamed as the Task Force, had held its first meeting.

In several conversations with Chairman Chapin's office, I was told that this action had generated more calls and letters to their office than any other issue in the past two years. It certainly indicates that members of the public can influence actions taken by public agencies when they let their elected representatives know of their concerns. It is important that all genealogists who want the OPL to continue to be a major resource to continue to monitor developments. Florida is a "sunshine" state which means that all meetings of public boards and agencies are open to the public.

The Orange County Library Board meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 P.M. in the library and all are welcome to attend these meetings.

### ***Polly Horwitz donates 'gold', Doubles volumes in JGS library***

Charter Member Polly Horwitz has single handedly doubled the number of volumes currently available in our JGS library in the Holocaust Center by donating a substantial number of books and other materials from her personal genealogy library. Among the books donated are:

*The Source*, edited by Arlene Eakle & Johni Cerny  
*The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy*, by Val D. Greenwood  
*Building an American Pedigree*, by Norman E. Wright  
*Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives*  
*Shepherd's Historical Atlas*  
*The Vanished Worlds of Jewry*, by Raphael Patai  
*The Jewish Family Album*, by Franz Hubman  
*Image Before My Eyes*, by L. Dobroszycki & B. Kirshenblatt-Gimblett

There are Hebrew and Yiddish dictionaries, pamphlets on European cemeteries, research guides to Washington, DC and more.

Our heartfelt thanks to Polly who we will think of fondly whenever we open one of the books that came from the "Genealogy Library of Polly Horwitz".

*Ah groys'n dahnk!*

**BRING A FRIEND TO A MEETING!**

When is the RIGHT time for you to . . .

# Switch to a Computer?

by Robert Marlin

At the time I was certain that I was losing it.

It seemed that I was developing early symptoms of Alzheimers. I constantly mislaid papers I was working with. Remembering telephone numbers was impossible and I couldn't even find names and addresses.

After several months of constantly increasing frustration, I finally made an appointment to see the renowned psychiatrist Dr. Otis P. Looney, one of the new breed of non-Freudian doctors whose methods are considered way out. Instead of the usual couch and note pad, he does his interviews with a computer and a printer. After more than 45 minutes of listening to me, he held up his hand to indicate that he had all the input he needed.

He typed several additional data entrees, and within 15 seconds the printer started to type. After 30 seconds he ripped the paper off the printer and handed it to me. The message was precise and to the point.

"YOU ARE CURRENTLY SUFFERING FROM EXPOSURE TO EXTREME GENEALOGICAL INFORMATION OVERLOAD. YOUR SYMPTOMS AND PROBLEMS WILL DISAPPEAR IF YOU INPUT ALL THAT GARBAGE INTO A COMPUTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."

Within 30 days I purchased a complete computer system and input all of the information I had into the computer.

What a difference. I still couldn't remember phone numbers, or locate names and addresses. However, all the frustration was gone.

What a relief!!

So when is the right time for a genealogist to go to computer? How much information should you amass before switching to computer? Am I too old a dog to learn new tricks such as learning how to use a computer? Is it worth the expense? All of these questions and more come up all the time when talking with people who are even lightly involved in genealogy. I'll try to answer all of them and give my overview of the best way to handle things. Perhaps I'd best start by describing how I handled my own situation.

When I finally went to computer, I had amassed 15 years of handwritten notes copied from city directories, birth, death and marriage indexes, federal censuses and numerous other sources. Some of the notes were written on everything from napkins to match book covers. Even though I knew right where everything was, I was never able to come up with any way of cataloging them in a file cabinet.

When the decision to go to computer was made, I had the advantage of being already computer literate. That is, I understood the basics of computer operation and knew how to input information as well as how to extract it.

With this basic knowledge the ability to use a printer is a given. All of this knowledge can easily be obtained by reading

several non-technical books, such as *PC for Dummies* and perhaps *DOS for Dummies* (PC is Personal Computer and DOS is short for Disk Operating System). Books of this nature should take care of the "old dog learning new tricks" problem. Between them, they contain almost everything you must know to handle the basics of a computer system. They are not really books which must be read cover to cover. They are books which must be referred to when you think you have a problem.

After some looking around I settled on a bottom of the line set-up which consisted of a Leading Edge Model D with keyboard and a monochrome monitor. The total cost was under \$200. The system had a 20 MB hard drive with a 5.25" floppy disk which supported a Random Access Memory (RAM) of 640k. A 20 meg hard drive can handle dozens of programs. The 640k floppy handles all but the newest, most sophisticated software.

My system was almost 10 years old and would be considered a dinosaur by any current standard, but it EASILY handles everything I want it to do.

Two weeks later I purchased a CGA color monitor at a garage sale for \$20. The following week I found a Panasonic KX-P 1180 dot matrix printer for \$15. A month later I added a Hayes modem which I purchased for \$10. This allowed me to borrow library books or explore library files by computer, or browse through the JewishGen bulletin board network or the Internet.

For under \$250 I was able to put together a system which does everything I want it to do. With a little time and effort anyone can do the same.

There are numerous genealogical programs available. After trying several of them I went with *Family Origins*. I've found it to be the most flexible for my purposes and the easiest to maneuver. It is possible to have on screen a five generation chart all at once. And most important, it has GEDCOM, for transporting information to an upgraded program or other genealogists.

Now that I'm all set up, what about you?

What do the newer, more expensive systems do that mine won't? Basically there are three things which a newer, costlier model will do that my old system won't.

1. It will have a new chip such as a 286, 386 or 486, or even a Pentium, which will put information on the screen seconds faster than my ancient 8088 chip. It will also compute and change screens faster. The slower speed doesn't bother me a bit.

2. Most newer models come with a mouse driven program called *Windows* which allows you to move from place to place by pointing a directional arrow at a small icon or picture. This eliminates having to memorize and use keyboard commands which require minimal typing skills. (A mouse is

*Continued on next page —>*

*When is the RIGHT time for you to ...*  
**Switch to a Computer?**

*(Continued from previous page)*

a small hand-shaped tool with a marble like bearing underneath. It is rolled by hand on a small pad and points a directional arrow visible on the screen. When the arrow is in the correct position you press a button with your finger that acts the same as a typed in command.)

3. All new models have superior color graphics and screen resolution which is almost comparable to a fine tuned TV set. This feature doesn't interest me at all.

In my opinion the biggest single objection to using a computer is the initial cost. If money is no object rush on down to Office Depot and buy any of their advanced systems. Then be prepared to hire someone to set it up and give you several hours of basic instruction on how to use it. Most new systems usually include *Windows* and a mouse. However be sure to remember that when it comes to inputting genealogical data, the information still has to be typed in. The only thing the mouse does is enable you to move around the screen quickly. It doesn't do any typing of information.

If cost is a factor and you have no familiarity with systems at all, you can keep that to a minimum by going to a dealer in used equipment. Explain in detail what you feel your limited financial needs are. When cutting a deal, make certain that it includes some short term guarantee on the equipment and several hours of instruction on how to use it.

In retrospect I am certain that if I was starting anew today, I would go on computer IMMEDIATELY, then grow with it. This also circumvents having to learn new tricks. As you amass information and feed it in, it is only necessary to back up the disk in order to protect the data.

The bottom line is simple. Computers are here to stay. You may have been around before they were, but there is one real fact you can make book on. That is, they will be around long after you are gone.

Happy computing!

*Meeting Review - 7 November 1994*

## **A Trip to Eastern Europe**

*Diana Fiedotin tells of her recent trip to Poland, Moldova, Belarus and Ukraine*

Diana Fiedotin, a recent newcomer to our JGS related information about her recent trip to Poland, Moldova, Belarus and Ukraine. The starting point was the Iram Travel Service, a specialist in travel to former USSR countries.

The cost for three people for six weeks was about \$11,000. This included air fare, food and lodging. It also included a car and drive and a tour guide. When large distances between cities were involved, they traveled by train. However, they were driven to the point of departure by car and then met by car at the next destination.

Diana stressed the importance of having a tour guide rather than an interpreter. The tour guide is always far more knowledgeable and able to overcome the various obstacles which arise when traveling in this part of the world. Almost all tour guides are familiar with Jewish towns and Jewish history. This includes those who were not Jewish. There were also excellent liaison agents when dealing with local officials and various civil offices in the towns they visited. They started in Warsaw and planned to visit 16 cities, towns and villages before returning to Warsaw.

They were up early every morning to start a new town to town drive. Upon arrival they tried to visit with the local chairman or mayor. This usually led to a visit to the local city hall or record center.

Many interesting procedures were discovered. For example, in many areas cemeteries were not sacred ground. In many cases cemetery property reverted back to the state after a given number of years. When a cemetery was full and no descendants were alive to visit gravesites the property was reclaimed as municipal land. The tombstones were removed and the land was excavated. In Pinsk this happened in 50 years. In some areas it was 100 years. In Brest this transfer could occur in as little as 25 years. This rule applied to all cemeteries, and was not meant as an anti-Semitic gesture.

Other important facts were learned. Many Ukrainian records are located in Odessa, which was once a capital of the southern portion of the Ukraine. If Jewish synagogue records survived WWII they were usually sent to the capital city of the area where the synagogue had been located. At one point in the journey, Diana was able to attend a Friday night service.

The key to success is to plan in advance EXACTLY what you want to accomplish and do. Be prepared for conditions which are primitive compared to what you are used to. A 5-star hotel there is not the same as it is in America. Be sure to book your trip through a travel agent and be certain to let the agent know exactly what you want to accomplish and do. Be sure to have EVERYTHING booked in advance.

Be flexible because the method of handling things there is totally different from what you are used to. Get your various visas through the visa service in Washington. They can cut the paperwork down to a minimum.

It is entirely appropriate to bring along gifts for the people you interview and who provide information about your family. Over the counter drugs such as aspirin are a sure winner. A three-dollar bottle of aspirin is a six month wage investment over there. Other appropriate gifts are Bic pens and lighters.

Above all, learn to be flexible. You are dealing with an entirely different way of doing things which bears little relationship to what you are used to back home.

*Written from recordings of the meeting by Robert Marlin*

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** A listing of some of the resources obtained by Diana Fiedotin on her European trip can be found on Page 10 of this issue.

**Genealogy is sharing ...  
 with family, with friends.  
 BRING THEM BOTH TO OUR NEXT MEETING!**

**4th annual Beginner's Workshop****Provides 'all the tools' for genealogy success**

All is in readiness for our JGS's 4th annual Beginner's Workshop in Genealogy.:

**Sunday, January 22, 1995**  
**12:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.**

It is designed to give the beginner genealogist all the tools necessary for success. Topics include:

- ◆ Steps to Begin ... Setting Goals
- ◆ Vital Records - Birth, Marriage, Death
- ◆ U.S. Census Records and the Soundex System
- ◆ Naturalization Records and Passenger Immigration Lists
- ◆ Mormon Research at LDS Family History Libraries
- ◆ Geography, Cemeteries and Name Peculiarities
- Computers and the Jewish Family Finder

The workshop, \$25 per person, \$5 additional for spouse, includes the 200 page Beginner's Notebook and refreshments. There will be a prize drawing and other "freebies" given to participants.

All workshop presenters are experienced genealogists, with special expertise in Jewish genealogy.

For further information and registration, phone Sheila Reback, chairperson (332-7758) or Gladys Paulin, president (671-7485).



Photo by Jay Schleichkorn

*Shown updating the 200-page 'Beginner's Guide to Jewish Genealogy' are (l to r.) Sheila Reback, chairman of this year's annual seminar, Robert Marlin and Claire Miller. The seminar begins at Noon on Sun., Jan. 22, 1995, in the JCC Auditorium.*

**Meeting Review - 11 October 1994**

**Yiddish and Genealogy**

*Disc Jockey Hy Meltz explains Yiddish and Hebrew as reported by Abby Grissinger*

Hy Meltz gave an informative, animated and fun lecture on Yiddish and its relationship to genealogy. Hy is the host of The Jewish Hour on WUCF, 89.9, on Thursdayd gtom 1 to 2 p.m.

He stressed the importance of Yiddish as a culture and how its thought patterns, humor and sorrow effects the Jewish heritage. He spoke of the Yiddish language and demonstrated its usage, passing out copies of the Hebrew/Yiddish alphabet and explained the difference between the two. He explained that Hebrew was used for religious purposes and Yiddish was used for everyday communications by our ancestors. He cit4ed colorful examples of both the culture and the language.

Hy explained the meanings of the Yiddish songs, "Oyfn Prpetshik" (At the Fireplace), "Belz", and "Sha, Shtil, Makht Nisht Keyn Gerider!" (Hush, Don't Make Any Noise). After handing out copies of the songs, everyone had a sing-a-long with the aid of a tape.

**South African 'Friends' assisting Israeli project on SA Jewish communities**

South African Friends of Beit Hatefusoth are doing a project on SA Country Jewish communities, past and present, according to Dr. Saul Issroff of the JGS of Great Britain.

A detailed questionnaire is available by writing to

Joy Kropman  
P.O. Box 117  
Klerksdorp 2570  
South Africa

Tel: +27 18 82551 or fax: +27 18 462-6831

or from Dr. Saul Issroff

29c Elsworthy Road  
London NW3 3BT

Email: sauli@delphi.com

The South African resource information that appeared in the last issue of **Etz Chaim** came as the result of Dr. Issroff's presentation at the Israel seminar and an article that appeared in *Shemot*, the journal of the JGS of Great Britain.

**IS THIS YOUR LAST ISSUE ?**

We all get forgetful. Your editor even forgot to pay his dues for 1994-95 on time. Did you forget, too?

Let this be a reminder: send in your check for 1994-95 to:

JGSGO, P.O. Box 941332, Maitland, FL 32794.

Or better yet, bring it to the next meeting!

You won't want this to be your last issue, do you?!

## Diana Fiedotin's resource list for eastern Europe *(see meeting review on Page 8)*

### *Only Kobrin survivor still in area is:*

Rima Permut Lebenbaum (born around 1925)  
Brest, Belarus 224023  
Moskovskaya Street 332, apt. 35  
Local tel: 42-30-01

### *She is in contact with a fellow survivor in Israel*

Moishe Unterman (Moishe's sister lives in Kerch, Ukraine)  
Kibuc Negba  
79408 Israel

### *Person who knows a lot about old Jewish Brest*

Mr. Arkoidiy Moiseevich Blyakher  
Brest, Belarus  
Home tel: 41-92-09

Kobryn Museum of History and folklore  
Belarus 225860, Brest Region  
Kobrin

Suvarov street #16  
Ms. Nina Plisko  
Tel. 246-94 (office), 237-94 (home)

Motol, Brest Province 225822  
Sovetskaya Street #27

Museum of City History  
Olga Matsukevich, director  
Tel. 28-700 (home), 28-753 (office)

Minsk Archives  
Belarus, Minsk  
Kozlov Street #26  
Central Archives (no Jewish archives in Ivanovo. All registration was done in Pinsk synagogue because Ivanovo didn't have one)

Ivanovo Civil Registration Office  
Belarus 225800  
Brest Region  
Town of Ivanovo  
Pervomaiskaya Street #21A, apt. 18  
Director: Shumak, Yelena Yemel'yanovna  
Tel. 222-87 (home), 211-58 (office)

Chairman of Executive Committee of Ivanovo  
Belarus 225800  
Brest Region  
Town of Ivanovo  
50 Years of October Street #11, Apt. 1  
Zhuk, Maria Makarovna  
Tel. 210-41 (home), 216-41 (office)

*Mikashkevitch - the oldest Jew left*  
Belarus 225610  
Brest Region, Lunenetskiy district  
Town of Mikashevichi  
Bolotnaya Street #36  
Shvorin, Mikhail Lazarevich (*husband*)  
Shvorin, Dina Mordukhnovna Solomich  
Melnik, Boris Semenovich (*adopted son*)

Pinsk History Museum  
Belarus 225710  
Pinsk, Brest Region  
Lenin Street #27  
Margolina, Rita Grigoriyevna  
Tel. 225-39 (office), 304-06 (home)

Odessa Jewish Community Center (Comm. Center of Culture)  
Vorovsky Street 46A  
Odessa, Ukraine 270023  
Tel. 226-590  
Mr. Milstein, chairman;  
Mr. Alexander Vinogradsky, director  
Soviet Army Street 49/51, #39 (home)  
Odessa, 270045  
Home tel. 25-07-97

Odessa Region Archives  
270001 Odessa  
Zukovskogo Street #18  
Gosarkhiv Odesskoi oblasti  
Tel. 25-09-10  
Ms. Lidia Girgoriyevna Belousova  
270065 Odessa (home)  
Kosmonaviov 25/1, k.30

Nicolayev Region Archives  
Goslidarstvenny Archiv  
Nikolaevskoy Oblasti  
Tel. 21-40-35  
Ms. Larisa I Rudenko, archivist  
*This office has no synagogue records for Dominietz, Voznesensk or Scherbanny, but have land ownership, etc.*

Scherbanny (Ukraine) Museum  
Michail Nicolayev Kamchatkin, director  
Tel. (home): (72-12) 93-316 *(No Jews left in this town.)*

Dominietz (Ukraine) Mayor's Office *(No records here, they'd be in Jerson, Odessa, Nicolayev)*  
Secretar Rayonmoy Gosadministracii  
Domanevskoro payona  
Nicolayev Oblast  
Tel. 916-77  
Mr. Alexander Danilovich Korenko

Kishiniev (no records in synagogue, but in archives)  
Rabbi Zalman Abelsky  
Jewish Community Synagogue  
8, Chabad Liubavicii  
Tel. (3732) 22-12-15 or 22-91-82  
Fax: (3732) 22-61-31

*Kishiniev Archives for 1907 and later are at  
82, 31 August 1989 street, Kishinev, Moldova*

*Archives for Kishiniev 1906 and earlier, for Bender/Bessarabia up to 1918 are at:*

*Continued on next page —>>>*

**Diana Fiedotin's resource list***Continued from previous page*

National Archives of Republic of Moldova  
Strada Cheorche Asachi #67  
Chisinau, Moldova

Tel. (0422) 73-58-39; fax: 73-58-27

Director Alexandru Roman (*French or Russian, no English*)

*Home address:* Republic Moldova, 277024 Kishiniev,  
str. Andrei Doga 32, apt 43  
Tel. 49-75-60

Bender Synagogue

Strada Suvorova 30

Mr. Motel Abramovich Ginsburg

*Home:* Strada Suvorova 40, apt. #6

Bendery, Moldova 278100

Tel. 227-36

Mr. Robert (Bob) Morris

Geography and Map Division

Library of Congress

Washington, DC 20540

Tel. 202-707-5522, Fax: 202-707-8531

Polish National Tourist Office

333 North Michigan Ave.,

Chicago, IL 60601

Tel. 312-236-9013

Alex Blinnov

Isram World Travel

630 Third Avenue

New York, NY 10017-6780

Tel. 1-800-223-7460, FAX: 1-800-336-7921

Washington Passport & Visa Service

2318, 18th Street NW, Suite 200

Washington, DC 20009

Tel. 1-800-272-7776, FAX: 202-462-2335

**Guides:**

Warsaw: Wiktor Kuptel  
01-519 Warsaw  
Ul. Dymfinska 10 A m.33  
Tel. 39-50-19

Belarus: Yelena Filchenkova  
Republic of Belarus  
220012 Minsk  
F. Skoriny Propsect 76, apt. 51  
Tel. (0172) 39-43-90

Moldova: Yelena (Helen) Granina  
Russo (or Fedko) Street 61/1, Apt. KB 55  
Kishiniev, Moldova 277044  
Tel. 338-255

**Diana Fiedotin – 740-0921**

**NW Lithuania SIG sending info on 19th century subscribers via diskette**

For just \$5 members of the new Jewish Genealogical Special Interest Group in Northwest Lithuania can receive the names of more than 5,000 subscribers to 19th century Hebrew and Yiddish books, mostly religious.

According to Edmund Cohler, president of the new special interest group, "We must know the sort of computer system to which you have access, i.e. DOS or MAC" and whether you can read 3.5" or 5.25" disks. He hasn't said how those without computers can receive the information.

To join, write Cohler at 85 Bloomfield St., Lexington, MA 02173-5534, telephone 517-862-1219, or Internet for now: [ecohler@cspi.com](mailto:ecohler@cspi.com).

*Information supplied by JGSGO member Arlene Parnes*

**Searching the South  
SOUTH CAROLINA**

An Addition

by RACHEL HEIMOVICS

Reader response has brought about an addition to our list of resources for South Carolina. Please add the following to your copy that appeared in Vol. 5, No. 1 of **Etz Chaim**.

Do you have special genealogical contacts or some success stories for any of the southern states? Please send the information to me c/o **Etz Chaim**, P.O. Box 520583, Longwood, FL 32752.

**SOUTH CAROLINA****ORANGEBORO**

Kaye Bard Gordon

659 Tomlinson Lane

Yardley, Pennsylvania 19007

Will share her contacts for burial information at Hebrew Cemetery.

**Welcome New Members**

Susan Banner, Winter Springs

Bob Charles, Orlando

Norman Cohen, Orlando

Diana Fiedotin, Winter Park

Alan Gidwitz, Highland Park, IL

Solly Haber, Orlando

Sim Seckback, Winter Park

Noreen "Loni" Spasaro, Orlando

Items of interest you'll find in the latest issues of

## JGS Quarterlies

Copies may be found in our genealogy library  
in the Holocaust Center

<sup>d</sup> The Quarterly journals of all JGSes from around the world are kept on file in our library in the Holocaust Center.

All of these journals have information of interest to all genealogists depending, of course, upon their own interests, but the articles listed below were deemed to be of special interest to our readers.

### Moreshet - Israel - Spring/Summer 1994

Lists family trees deposited at Beth Hatesfutsoth's Dorot Genealogy Center, Tel Aviv.

### Kol - Cleveland - July 1994

Greater Cleveland Jewish Cemeteries, names, addresses, synagogue/organizations and phone numbers.

### Shemot - Great Britain - October '94

Hounding the Home Office  
A Visit to Post-Glasnost Chernovtsy  
Deciphering an Old Gravestone in Leeds

### Yichus - JGS of North Jersey - Spring '94

Cemetery projects

### Kosher Koala - Australia - August '94

Finding Family with Phone Directory Assistance  
Jewish Genealogy Bookshelf

### Shem Tov - JGS of Canada - September '94

Oddities in the 1901 Census of Montreal and Quebec City  
Using Printed Forms to Organize Your Records

### Generations - Michigan - Fall '94

Genetic Related Research Help Needed (Cooley's Anemia or Mediterranean Anemia)  
Polish Cemeteries Survey Published

### Discovery - San Diego - Fall '94

What I Did on My Summer Vacation - Lithuania Revisted  
Cemetery Indexing Project

### Chronicles - Philadelphia - Autumn '94

Book Review: Jews in Leipzig  
Shomrim Societies: Unusual Sources of Research  
How Important Are Maps?

### Yichus - North Jersey - Summer '94

Cracking Open the Closed HIAS Case Files  
Life of a Medical Practitioner in 18th Century Surinam

### Morasha - Illinois - Fall '94

A Visit to Alsace-Lorraine and Switzerland  
National Archives - Great Lakes Region

### Mass Pocha - Boston - Fall '94

The Personal Name Index to "The New York Times Index"  
Internments at Congr. Shary Cedek Cemetery and Roxbury  
Mutual Association Cemetery  
Resources for Jewish Genealogy in the Boston Area

### Geracoes - Brazil - October '94 NEW

*This beautifully produced 16 page quarterly is written in both English and Portuguese. The information in this first issue gives us so much insight into the Jews of Brazil that it only whets our appetite for more to come.*

### Dorot - New York - Summer 1994

A Genealogical Tour of Poland and Ukraine  
Why Use a Computer to Do Genealogical Research?  
New Naturalization Procedures in Effect



Jewish Genealogical Society  
of Greater Orlando  
P.O. Box 520583  
Longwood, FL 32752

