



Etz Chaim

עץ חיים

The Quarterly Journal of the
JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER ORLANDO

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Photo: Jay Schleichkorn

The new Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City, (see page 9)

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ETZ CHAIM

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The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando is affiliated with the *Central Florida Jewish Community Center* and is a member of the *Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies*, the *Federation of Genealogical Societies* and the *Florida State Genealogical Societies*.

JGSGO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(all phones area code 407)

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Etz Chaim is free to all members of JGSGO. Back copies (when available) may be obtained for \$5.00 each.

Membership Information:

Regular membership dues (Sept. to Aug) are \$20.00 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, P.O. Box 941332, Maitland, FL 32794.

JGSGO meetings are held monthly, year round, usually on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, at 7:30 p.m., in the Senior Lounge, JCC, 851 N. Maitland Ave, Maitland. Several Sunday meetings are held during the year, starting at 1:30 p.m., in the Assembly Room of the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Educational Center, also on the JCC campus.

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All others should give credit to source, Etz Chaim.

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

JGSGO is about to enter it's eighth year of existence. Founded in 1990, we continue to promote Jewish genealogy in our community and have several exciting and interesting programs planned for the next quarter.

On behalf of the volunteer officers and committee personnel, all I can say in this message is that we hope you will participate in all of the activities.

And if you have suggestions to improve the organization, let us know.

Membership is vital to our growth. If you know someone who may be interested in genealogy, invite him or her to a meeting. You may just be doing that person a great favor!

And a very Happy and Healthy New Year to everyone.

Jay Schleichkorn

**Plan Ahead - JGSGO CALENDAR****Sunday, January 18, 1998:**

At the Holocaust Memorial Center,
JCC Campus, Maitland, 1:30 p.m.

The Pleasures and Pitfalls of a Professional Genealogist - Speakers: Harvey E. Morse and Corey A. Mead of Harvey E. Morse, P.A., South Daytona, FL.

Tuesday, February 10, 1998:

In the Senior Lounge, JCC, 7:30 p.m.

Stories - The Family Legacy

Speaker: Richard Stone, Author,
Lecturer, president of StoryWork Institute

Sunday, March 1, 1998:

JCC Auditorium

Seventh Annual Workshop - Back to the Basics

Tuesday, March 10, 1998:

In the Senior Lounge, JCC, 7:30 p.m.

Genealogy of Rabbinical Families

Speaker: Rabbi Sholom Dubov,
Congregation Ahava Yisrael, Maitland

Sunday, April 19, 1998

At the Holocaust Memorial Center,
JCC Campus, Maitland, 1:30 p.m.

The JGSGO Library - A Hands on Approach

Speaker: Gladys Friedman Paulin, JGSGO Librarian

JEWISH
COMMUNITY
CENTER
of Central
Florida



MEET TWO FUTURE GUEST SPEAKERS:

HARVEY E. MORSE, JANUARY 18

"There are billions of dollars in unclaimed funds and property," said Harvey Morse, "and most of it, rightfully belongs to someone. How many of us can name all of our relatives or old friends; money we have left in banks; people who might have named us in an insurance policy or funds that are owed to us from business dealings?"

If you think finding missing heirs sounds as if it relates to "genealogy" you are right.

At the JGSGO meeting to be held Sunday afternoon, January 18, we will have the pleasure of hearing Harvey E. Morse, president of the firm that bears his name. A graduate of Boston University, he attended Suffolk Law School and has had extensive experience in law enforcement, security and investigations.

Genealogically speaking, he is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, Connecticut Society of Genealogists, Volusia County Society of Genealogists, a court expert in genealogical investigations, and from the National Association of Investigative Specialists has received "Expert" certification in Missing Heir Research.

His company formerly was in Winter Park and now is headquartered in Daytona Beach, from where he said, "we locate missing heirs to estates from all over the world."

Harvey's grandfather founded the firm in 1939 that located missing heirs. After WWII, Harvey's father entered the field and Harvey has carried on since 1963. The firm's slogan is "LOCATING THE MISSING...A MORSE FAMILY TRADITION SINCE 1939"!

When he was in Orlando, Harvey served on the Board of Directors at Temple Israel and currently in Daytona is President-elect of Temple Israel.

Accompanying Harvey to the JGSGO meeting will be Corey A. Mead, Assistant vice-president of the Morse firm, who oversees research activities and the research staff.

For our meeting, Harvey wrote, "I would think that an appropriate topic might be. *The pleasure and pitfalls of a professional genealogist!* We shall talk about the history of our firm, what we do, how we do it, for whom, some applicable laws and end with a question and answer session."

Mark your calendar to be sure you do not miss this meeting.

RICHARD STONE, FEBRUARY 10

"Today, more than ever, we need to share stories in our families and engage our parents in telling us and our children about their lives," wrote Richard Stone, author, lecturer, and storyteller.

On February 10, Stone will be the guest speaker at our JGSGO meeting. A resident of Maitland, he is the founder of the StoryWork Institute and a professional storyteller who has appeared before audiences of all ages.

In his 1996 book, *The Healing Art of Storytelling: A Sacred Journal of Personal Discovery*, Stone explains step-by-step how readers can use stories to uncover lost pieces of themselves, discover places that are hidden wellsprings of healing, and satisfy their hunger for meaning in their lives.

A press release from Hyperion Publishers, states, "*Stone first explains how to recover the past, for without a true understanding of our past, we have no place to stand and no clear direction for future actions. He begins with simple techniques that allow us to capture and share memories. Stone then provides suggestions for helping us to develop a more comprehensive view of the past by exploring memories of family and friends, special people and places, and emotional connections.*"

In the 1996 third edition of his 40 page book, *STORIES -The Family Legacy - A Guide for Recollections and Sharing*. Stone offers many tips on organizing your stories, such as "Sit quietly for a minute with eyes closed and think back on the sounds, aromas, tastes, and music of your childhood. All can evoke memories."

Richard Stone holds a M.S. degree in clinical psychology from Vanderbilt University. In addition to his writings and lecturing, he has developed programs for hospice bereavement counselors to help dying patients and their families explore the life review process. He has also used storytelling as a therapeutic tool with adults and adolescents. In the corporate world, he advises individuals and organizations on how to use storytelling to improve corporate success.

With our interest in genealogy and learning how to use the past, JGSGO is indeed fortunate that Richard Stone accepted our invitation to be with us on Tuesday evening, February 10.

BACK TO THE BASICS....SUNDAY MARCH 1, 1998

The History of JGSGO's Newsletter ETZ CHAIM....

By Jay Schleichkorn

In the Fall 1997 (Vol. 8 No. 1) issue of Etz Chaim, Gene Starn terminated his role as the editor. JGSGO members owe Gene a great debt of appreciation for his volunteer efforts in giving international recognition to our association. He developed Etz Chaim from its early days in January 1993 to a professional looking communication tool. And before Gene became the official editor, minutes of our association indicate he worked closely with Harry Katzman who first initiated the newsletter.

To demonstrate how Etz Chaim and the JGSGO developed, the society's minutes were reviewed and the following time line prepared. It clearly demonstrates that nothing happens without the participation of interested volunteers and there is little progress if many people are not involved.

On September 10, 1990, an organizational meeting was held at JCC that led to the establishment of a Jewish Genealogical Society. Promoting the organization was Gene Starn, who with the 23 people present, agreed that it was time for Orlando to have a Jewish genealogical society. (Should it be called the Jewish Genealogy Society of Central Florida or the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Orlando?) The majority voted for Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando.

By-laws were needed and it was suggested tentative by-laws could be based on those from the national Federation of Genealogical Societies. Sheila Reback volunteered to be Recording Secretary

October 9, 1990: By-laws were adopted. Under standing committees, the JGSGO was to have a newsletter. The editor shall:

- a) be responsible for publishing the official newsletter of the society;
- b) be responsible for collecting and receiving materials to be considered for publication in the Society's newsletter;
- c) publish in the newsletter any items specifically requested by the Board of Directors; and
- d) present an Annual Summary Report to be placed on file.

November 13, 1990: the minutes indicate JGSGO has received newsletters from other Societies.

December 12, 1990: "Volunteers are needed for the newsletter;" JGSGO officers elected include Gene Starn, President; Polly Horwitz, First VP; Harry Katzman, Second V.P.; Moe Aronson, Treasurer; Gwen

Persin, Corresponding Secretary; and Sheila Reback, Recording Secretary.

January 8, 1991: "The new bulletin needs a committee. Harry Katzman volunteered but needs help. Gene Starn and Theresa Finer will help."

February 12, 1991: "Harry Katzman showed a sample of the newsletter which will be sent out next month instead of reminder postcards. We need a name for the newsletter. *Finders Keepers* was suggested. JCC will do the mailing."

March 13, 1991: Harry Katzman reported "the first newsletter has been published and distributed." It was simply called NEWSLETTER. Membership responded with "Mazel Tov" and a round of applause. The newsletter will be called Etz Chaim - Tree of Life.

In the President's Message, Gene Starn wrote, "And now we present our very first news bulletin. Our plans are to publish monthly primarily to announce our monthly meeting programs, with expanded quarterly issues bringing the latest genealogical information on resources and aids. It has been a significant beginning accomplished by the industrious efforts of a lot of people".



NEWSLETTER

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando
Published monthly by JGSGO

Volume I - No. 1
March 1991

**Next Meeting to be
March 12, 1991.**

Program will be "Genealogical Data at the Holocaust Center" Speaker is Mrs. Eva Ritt. She will also conduct a tour of the Holocaust library. 7:30 PM

Please attend



Whats in a Name!

This being Volume I, No. 1 of our monthly newspaper, we the publishers of this paper have decided to call it just plain "newsletter". Obviously, we are looking for a good ORIGINAL name for this so called newsletter. We are asking you, our members, to make suggestions, as to what we shall call this monthly issue. Please put on your thinking cap and make suggestions to the editorial board. The winner will get an all expense trip to Chuluota and/or Oviedo, Fla.

Make your applicat...

new to JGFF to be include their massive volume. We have some application bla left for you to fill out, at your ancestors and plac origin, as well as other genealogists researchin same names can be trace You say enter as many as names. If you have more 16 names to research, th charge is \$ 2.50 for each additional 16 names. The is stored in a giant comp- progra by the JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, c/o DATA UNIVERSAL CORP. 1485 Teaneck Road Teaneck, N.J. 07666

"Not to know what t place before one wa born is forever to remain a child, caring nothing for the memories of the past and hoping nothing for the destiny of the futu: CICERO

Remember

Our monthly meetings are on the second Tuesday of every month (unless there is a Jewish holiday). We meet at the JCC at 7:30 prompt. We strive to have an interesting program for you EVERY MONTH. Your attendance is of utmost importance to us, as we are striving to build a club which will be rewarding to you and all our members. We have a nucleus of an

The first issue March 1991

continued on page 5

History of JGSGO's Newsletter

continued from page 4

The first issue November 12, 1991: "Our own newsletter will be QUARTERLY, will be out in January."

April 14, 1992: "The Etz Chaim was just published. Etz Chaim needs volunteers - see Harry Katzman."

November 10, 1992: "Harry Katzman needs articles for the Etz Chaim which will be printed for December."

December 15, 1992: "Did everyone receive their Etz Chaim? Favorable comments on the quality of the issue."

January 12, 1993: "Because an editor of Etz Chaim is needed, Gene Starn has volunteered to publish the next newsletter."

March 9, 1993: "More volunteers re needed for the Etz Chaim newsletter".

November 9, 1993: "All members in arrears will not receive a copy of Etz Chaim."

June 14, 1944: New officers elected. Gladys Paulin elected president.

June 11, 1996: New officers elected: Jay Schleichkorn, president.

October 6, 1997: Fall 1997 issue of Etz Chaim mailed. Gene Starn announces he is stepping down as editor. "It is time to hand over the blue pencil and scissors to someone else," he wrote. "I have thoroughly enjoyed the job. It has given me tons of insight into the world-wide world of Jewish genealogy." Gene also indicated he expects to contribute to the newsletter.

Reviewing the history of Etz Chaim it is apparent that it takes more than one person to prepare each edition. Volunteers have always been sought and volunteers are still needed. We now have a challenge to maintain the quality of our newsletter; that challenge will be met.

Note: Jay Schleichkorn has assumed the role of editor of Etz Chaim. His experience with publications is varied. He is the author of five books; formerly (from 1977-1989) was the editor of Empire State Physical Therapy, the newsletter of the New York Chapter, American Physical Therapy Association (monthly with a circulation of 3,000); and since September 1987, serves as a feature writer and consulting editor to the National Physical Therapy Bulletin (weekly circulation 116,000).

DIRECTORY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA AREA LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTERS

The following updated directory (as of November 1997) is presented for your information. It is suggested you call before making a visit:

Bunnell:

400 N. Palmetto St.

Ph: (904) 437-2137

Hours: Tues: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thurs: 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Daytona:

1125 Sixth St.

Ph: (904) 257-9223

Hours: Tues: 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Weds: 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thur/Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Deland/Deltona:

1345 So. Aquarias Ave.

(904) 736-1800

Hours: Tues/Thurs/Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday/Weds: 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Lake Mary:

2255 Lake Emma Rd.

(corner of Greenway Blvd)

(407) 333-0137

Hours: Tues/Thurs/Sat: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Weds: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Leesburg:

1875 So. Mount Vernon Rd.

(352) 787-5633

Hours: Tues: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Weds: 9:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Thurs: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Orlando:

45 East Par St. (corner of Par & Formosa)

Hours: Tues/Thurs/Sat: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Tues/Thurs: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Orlando:

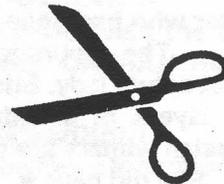
701 Wetherbee Rd.

(off of So. Orange Blossom Trail)

(407) 826-8970

Hours; Mon/Tues/Thurs/Sat: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Tues/Thurs: 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.



Watch for Details on JGSGO's Seventh Annual Workshop to be held at the
JCC Auditorium, Maitland, FL
The Pauline Gotlob Horwitz Genealogical Workshop
BACK TO THE BASICS....SUNDAY MARCH 1, 1998

Shtetl Stories

by Anna B. Bender,
Submitted by her cousin,
Abby Grissinger, JGSGO member

SCHIFFRES KRUM

Whenever I enter one of our modern supermarkets of today, my thoughts go way back to a tiny "krum (store) in the shtetl" of Chomsk located on the Polish-Russian border. I was born there and lived there until my mother, younger brother and I joined my father who had gone ahead to America.

The proprietor of this "krum" was a very short stout astute lady. She seemed more robust with all the layers of clothing she wore to keep warm. The Russian winters are brutal.

She did have a "feier tup" going. A "feier tup" is a big metal pail filled with burning charcoal. Every once in a while, she would go over and warm her stiff fingers. She had gloves on with the fingers exposed so she could ask change, a "groscher" or "kopecke" not a rubel very often.

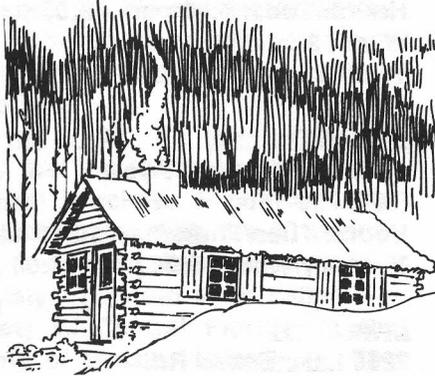
She looked like an Eskimo with her knotted cap over the ears and neck. Her black apron was shiny from constant wiping her fingers from the kerosene she sold as "gaze".

The items in her store you could count on the fingers of one hand. Candles for the Sabbath, coarse salt for Koshering the meat, kerosene for lighting the lamps, and sugar. The sugar came in a big pyramid shape and had to be hammered and then weighed.

HAMENTASCHEN

In 1901, Mother, brother Joe and I were en route from Chomsk to the good old U.S.A. It was Purim, the joyous holiday celebrating the freedom from the tyrannical rule of Hamen. The only semblance of that day was the hustle and bustle of the little inn where we stopped awaiting the signal when we could cross the border to Germany.

The lady of the inn was busily making hamentaschen. There were trays of these little three cornered cakes raising awaiting their fate to be put into the ovens. Then there were trays that were already baked. The aroma was overwhelming!



Here we were tired, sleepy, and, of course, hungry - sitting on our baggage. How Joe, who was 4, and I who was 6, begged Mother to buy us some. Of course, how could she when every groschen was allocated. Mother had charge of an aunt who was 16, and two other teen-age cousins. True, we had our tickets for steerage passage on the ocean liner that Father had sent us, but, to buy hamentaschen, no.

Many years later, I grew up, married, and learned how to make hamentaschen. My children did not have to beg for them. Another Purim, the year 1962, finds me in the hospital with a crippling attack of arthritis. My three daughters grown and married with homes of their own, living in different parts of the country came to visit me. In they walked with boxes of hamentaschen. I had some from Hartford, CT, Philadelphia, PA, and Long Island NY.

How good it was to see them and how delicious the cakes were. I did not have to beg for them as I did almost a century ago. It really was a joyous Purim (although it was in the hospital)!

"Families are Forever"

BEGINNERS PAGE ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

Thanks to Arlene Parnes of Orlando, *Etz Chaim* has been made aware of some very valuable information especially geared to beginners in genealogy but with good tips for all.

If you have a computer and access to on-line services and are not sure how to get started with your genealogical research, it's time to check out URL: <http://home.global.co.za/~mercon/begin.htm>

There you will find eight pages of useful subjects all prepared for the South African Genealogy Home Page.

Among the subjects are an Introduction in which you will read "genealogy is a richly rewarding and pleasantly addictive pastime or hobby....". It also states, "Genealogy is the study of the decent of families and persons from an ancestor or ancestors, while Family History applies to biographical research into one's ancestors."

The section on Developing a Goal points out "whatever your reasons for wanting to trace your ancestry, you need to first decide what it is that you want to achieve."

Other subjects covered include: Checking other Research; Maintaining Source Information; Charts and Forms; Informal Sources; Formal Sources; General Sources; and Additional Notes. The Informal Sources include 28 items that are "easily obtainable from personal sources and information..."

Old genealogists never die,
they just lose their census.

NEW YORK ORPHANAGE AND BURIAL RECORDS

By: *Marge Spears-Soloff, Member JGSGO, Orlando, FL*

A few months ago, I was searching for information on my husband's father and siblings who were placed in some of the Jewish Orphanages in the New York City area. After many weeks of letters, FAXes and e-mails, I finally succeeded and found the resource I was looking for.

The Jewish Child Care Association, also known as JCCA, has been serving children and families since 1822, so states their letterhead. The following are the places that they are successor to and still might hold records for:

Hebrew Benevolent & Orphan Asylum Society; Hebrew Sheltering Guardian Society; Home for Hebrew Infants; Fellowship House; Jewish Children's Clearing Bureau; Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum; Girls Club of Brooklyn; Children's Day and Night Shelter; Wayside Day Nursery; Childville; children's Service Bureau; Jewish Youth Services of Brooklyn; Hebrew National Orphan Home (opened about 1919 in Yonkers, NY); Hebrew Orphan Asylum, merged with the above about 1945 and became Hartman-Homecrest; Israel Orphan Asylum; Gustav Hartman Home; Daughters of Zion Hebrew Day Nursery.

Contact them at: Jewish Child Care Association of New York, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10022, phone (212) 371-1313; FAX: (212) 371-1275. Contact: Ms. Leona M. Ferrer, Coordinator.

They were very cooperative in searching information and sent me a small file of what they found in their records. We found information that we never knew before, i.e., names and addresses of people who placed their children there and name and maiden name of parents and address of last place of residence and the exact location of the town and country they came from.

If you have a FAX machine, I might suggest you FAX them all the information that you can gather on the individual you are searching, names, dates, etc., and your relationship to the individual.

They did advise it is against agency policy to provide the kind of information you are asking for to anyone but the former client himself: or, if the client is deceased, certain basic facts may be given to the client's children or grandchildren.

Also, another helpful resource if anyone cannot find where a relative might be buried if they died in the New York City area is the Hebrew Free Burial

Association, 363 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10001. Phone (212) 239-1662. FAX: (212) 239-1981. Contact: Sandra Wiesel, Administrator

They hold records going back many years of any Jewish person whose families might not have had monies for burial with chronological records and alphabetical files. They helped to bury all the victims who died in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire of 1911 who are buried in Mt. Richmond Cemetery in Staten Island, NY.

NOTE from Marge Spears-Soloff....

I would like to invite everyone to visit the new website for the **HEBREW NATIONAL ORPHAN HOME (HNOH) ALUMNI ASSOCIATION:**

<http://www.scruz.net/~elias/hnoh>

At the site you will find the following information: Welcome, History of the HNOH and its allied orphanages in the New York area, Alumni Information, Memories, Photos, Memorials, Jewish Child Care Association Information (JCCA) listing all the orphanages and other institutions under their care with information and histories for accessing records, and over 200 URL links to sites containing Jewish genealogy and many other resources. It is a very large website so plan on spending some time browsing through our pages. As new information comes in, we will be adding it to this site. Please visit the site often.

In the near future, we hope to add information about all Jewish orphanages in the United States. If you have any information or experience with an orphanage, would you please share that with us. Names of institutions, locations, dates, alumni organizations, histories, and where records are still held would be appreciated. Whatever you have - large or small - will be gratefully accepted. Thank you....." *Marge Spears-Soloff* (MSpearssol@aol.com)

Editor's Note: When Marge was asked how she became so involved with the HNOH she said her father-in-law would not speak about his childhood nor his parents. "The information he gave about his stay at HNOH was very sparse and through the years, left many questions unanswered." With her interest in genealogy, Marge began a search for her father-in-law's roots. Little information was available until through the Internet, she found a "brother" orphan, Sam Myers of Oregon, and a correspondence began. After several months, Marge found more information and met other HNOH alumni. She said. "I decided as a gift of my love and devotion to all the new friends I met, to make this website to perpetuate the history and memories of the Brothers of HNOH."



SHTETLINKS and MY FAMILY

A different way to find your "roots"....

by: Arlene L. Parnes, Member JGSGO

Some time ago, my late dearest sister, friend, companion, and THE researcher for this team of Parnes & Keane, Madeline Keane, pushed me into copying the information from my grandfather's book *THE VANISHING GENERATIONS* about his shtetl VISHNEVETS and his life there prior to his coming to the United States. He was born in 1869 and emigrated around 1890. (Still looking for him on that hidden passenger list!) She wanted me to put this information into the SHTETLINKS database of JewishGen. With the very capable assistance of Andy Cassell we succeeded in doing it, and also included some photos of the town as well as one of him.

Late in May, 1997, an E-mail arrived from someone I had never heard of.....she said a relative of hers had seen the article and thought she recognized the name of LOUIS PARNES. After much back and forth and with lots of excitement, it proved to be the family of my grandfather's half-sister, with whom the family had lost touch many years ago. Actually, it is her husband who is the grandson of that half-sister but that is of small consequence....family is family. They had changed their name a very long time ago and it made finding them almost impossible. If it had not been for the SHTETLINKS and JewishGen we would never have made contact.

I sent her some Family Group Sheets and Pedigree charts; she and her sister are busy contacting everyone in their part of the family to fill them in. Once I have them in hand I will enter all of their information into my database and the family will become more "whole" than it has been for many years.

One never knows, does one ———

Note: To find SHTETLINKS on-line, go to <http://www.jewishgen.org> (Home Page for it) and just keep scrolling down until you see the link for SHTETLINKS....and there you are!

CHANUKARTS FESTIVAL '97

The Annual ChanukaArts Festival, sponsored by the Jewish Community Center in Maitland was held on Sunday, December 7. JGSGO had a table display manned by volunteer members. Thirty-six exhibitors representing several local congregations, community service organizations and commercial enterprises filled the JCC gymnasium. From 11 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. visitors enjoyed the exhibits, music, entertainment, and

demonstrations. JGSGO's display included a sign-up sheet for the forthcoming workshop to be held March 1. In all, 23 people signed the sheet.

Appreciation is extended to the following JGSGO members for their participation: *Soni and Harold Sternberger, Gladys Friedman Paulin, Sheila Reback, Marshall Frenkel, Gene Starn, and Jay Schleichkorn.*

Interesting Publications Available

For the price of three first class stamps and sending three letters, you can have some interesting and historical information about Jewish life in France, Germany and Poland. Check out the following:

1. "France for the Jewish Traveler" a 32 page booklet describing today's French Jewish Community.

The publication states, "The purpose of this booklet is to help the traveler meet the 700,000 member Jewish community on French soil."

Information includes the history of "a strong Jewish presence in France"; museums, helpful organizations, youth organizations, synagogues, cuisine and more in Paris; specific information on the Western and Eastern regions, Rhone-Alps, Languedoc-Roussillon, Provence, Riviera=Cote D'Azur, and Southwestern France. Ask for booklet by name. Available from the French Government Tourist Office, 444 Madison Avenue, 16th Floor, New York, NY 10022.

2. From LOT -the Polish Airlines, two special publications are available. "They Lived Among Us - Jewish Heritage in Poland" is 16 page well-illustrated booklet describing the historical Jewish presence in Poland. Included are photos of several synagogues and Jewish art treasures. Also included in the packet is a Map of Jewish Heritage in Poland. This highlights present and former synagogues, cemeteries, concentration camps, centers of Hasidism, and other important sites connected with Jewish history in Poland.

Write: Joran Kagen, LOT Polish Airlines, 500 Fifth Avenue, New York City, NY 10001.

3. "Exploring Jewish German: A Reporter's Notebook" a 26 page well illustrated booklet, was prepared by Ruth Rovner (1996). Contents include chapters on the Jewish Renaissance in Eastern Berlin; Berlin's Varied Holocaust Memorials; Dusseldorf's Modern Jewish Community; Wiesbaden; Tracing Jewish History in Worms; Munich's Jewish Bookstore; A Musical Detour in Frankfurt; and more.

The packet includes a map of Germany, Travel Tips, and tour information. Ask for the Jewish booklet by name. Write the German National Tourist Office, 122 East 42nd Street, 52nd fl., New York, NY 10168-0072.

JOIN JGSGO

What the genealogist should know about:
**THE MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE,
 NEW YORK, NY**

By: Jay Schleichkorn

If you are planning to be in New York City, there's a new museum you should visit. Much of what is shown will reinforce your feeling about the need for genealogical research.

The latest edifice to house the historical perspectives of the Holocaust and Jewish life is the Museum of Jewish Heritage which opened on September 15, is located at Battery Park Place in downtown Manhattan, New York City.

Described in the museum guide as "a living memorial to the Holocaust, it honors those who died by celebrating their lives - cherishing the civilization that they built, their achievements and faith, their joys and hopes, and the vibrant Jewish community that is their legacy today." As you approach the hexagonal granite structure, the backdrop is the New York Harbor, Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty

"Every detail of this Museum has been carefully planned," wrote Robert M. Morgenthau, Chairman of the Board of Trustees in a letter acknowledging support. "It's very structure, a hexagon, is a three-dimensional echo of the six-pointed Magen David, the shield of the Jewish people, the Star of David."

Upon entrance, visitors first view an 8 minute audiovisual experience that describes, "Who is a Jew?" The presentation emphasizes that Jews have lived with hostility but they are here to make a better world through study, worship and by doing deeds of loving kindness.

The theme on the first floor is "Jewish Life A Century Ago." Films and displays follow the education of children, worship and the Sabbath, World Jewry between 1880 and 1930, occupations, immigration, family activities and traditions. As you walk through the hall, you see that despite poverty, persecution, and many problems, family life flourished.

"The War Against the Jews" is the startling theme of the second floor. Displays show how the Jews confronted persecution; how the Hitler era devastated the Jewish population in Europe; Jewish resistance and survival. Various areas highlight historical events such as a film and exhibit that follows the voyage of the S.S. St. Louis as it traveled the high seas May 13 to June 17, 1939 with 907 refugees on board looking for a safe haven. Other displays cover the language of deception, how mass murders were organized, the assault on humanity and the nightmare of existence.

Throughout the exhibits, there are haunting photographs identifying individuals and families who became victims of the Holocaust.

There also are many amazing stories of survival told by survivors.

On the third floor, the exhibits emphasizes Jewish Renewal, World Jewry since 1945, civil rights, and the cultural contribution Jews have given to the world. Described as "the new centers of Jewish civilization" the exhibition focuses on Israel and the United States.

The third floor also looks to the future. As the museum guide brochure indicates, "*The exhibition concludes with a reaffirmation of the Museum's universal message - that the devastating experience of the Holocaust has given all people a unique insight into the dangers of intolerance, and a powerful responsibility to fight it.*"

If you have visited the U. S. Holocaust Memorial in Washington, D.C. you know the focus was on the holocaust. With the smaller museum in New York City, you will come away appreciating all the cultural aspects and major contributions of Jewish life, and the forces that have contributed to its survival.

Also on the third floor, your visit ends in a large rotunda with windows facing the New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. It brings to mind the struggle that so many immigrants must have had to reach America. That view in itself will further one's genealogical efforts.

This visit was on Tuesday, November 4. It was Election Day in New York, schools were closed, there were no crowds to impede viewing the artifacts or the 24 original films in the museum. It took approximately 2 1/2 hours to comfortably view the exhibits.

The museum is open Sunday to Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and Fridays and eves of Jewish Holidays 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Saturdays, Jewish Holidays and Thanksgiving Day, the museum is closed.

Admission is \$7.00 for adults; \$5.00 for seniors and students; children 5 years old and younger are free. Tickets may be purchased through Ticket Master and select stores or by calling (212)-307-4007. Outside of New York, call 800-307-4007. To purchase online: www.ticketmaster.com. For further information the museum may be reached online through: www.mjhnyc.org >



"Hollywood Chai," 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy

The Jewish Genealogical Society, Los Angeles (JGSLA) is proud to announce "Hollywood Chai," the 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy, will be held at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles from July 12 through July 17, 1998. This is the 18th year that the international Jewish genealogical community has assembled for an annual seminar, and we hope to maintain the high quality of recent seminars. "Hollywood Chai" will feature an extensive program of lectures on Jewish genealogical research and Jewish history; the chance to conduct genealogical research at numerous libraries and archives in the Los Angeles area; and a chance to network with other Jewish genealogists. We invite everyone interested in tracing their Jewish family history to attend this special event.

Lecture topics will be grouped into several themes. "Back to the Sources" is a group of lectures about using original genealogical sources from all parts of the world. Many of these sources will be available to researchers at the various libraries and archives in Los Angeles. "The Rest of Us" will be a series of lectures on Jewish history and genealogy in places other than Central and Eastern Europe. A special focus of this series will be Sephardic research in different parts of the world. "Jews in the West" will include several lectures about Jews in the western hemisphere, including pioneer Jews in the West, Jewish history in Los Angeles, and Jews in South and Central America. Other lectures will focus on using computer resources in genealogy, organizing and presenting the results of your research, and organizational issues for genealogical societies and special interest groups.

Los Angeles also offers a wealth of research opportunities to genealogists. We have the largest branch of the Mormons' Family History Library here in Los Angeles, with 100 microfilm readers and thousands of microfilm rolls of interest to Jewish genealogists on indefinite loan. There are four outstanding Judaica libraries in the city, at UCLA, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, University of Judaism, and the Simon Wiesenthal Center/Yeshiva University of Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Public Library also has an excellent genealogy and local history collection, and we have a branch of the National Archives less than an hour away. There are the public records offices of Los Angeles County, home to the second largest Jewish population of any city in the world, with birth, marriage and death records, probate and divorce records, and property records. We also have some specialized

research opportunities in Southern California, such as the library of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, in which one can trace the history of Jews in the film industry.

There will be plenty to do even when you're not attending lectures or doing research in the field. There will be a Resource Room at the hotel, with a reference library of books, maps and microfiche, as well as a Computer Resource Center with 10-12 computers available for Internet access, software demonstrations and searching new databases.

"Birds-of-a-feather" meetings will also be scheduled among individuals with common interests. Finally, most genealogists realize that their best resources are other genealogists, and just hanging around the hotel talking to some of the other 600 expected attendees may help you solve some of your thorny problems.

Don't miss this special event. A dedicated group of volunteers has been hard at work for a year and a half already to make this seminar a success for everyone involved. The seminar chair is Steve Abrams, and he can be reached at SAbramsCPA@aol.com. We look forward to seeing you next summer.

Ted Gostin, President Jewish Genealogical Society, Los Angeles tgostin@ktb.net

"Hollywood Chai," the 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy, will be held from Sunday, July 12 through Friday, July 17, 1998, at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles, California. Registration is \$115 if received before May 15, 1998, and \$140 thereafter.

Registration forms and additional information can be obtained in several ways.

- 1) Each local Jewish Genealogical Society should be distributing registration forms to its members. For a list of Jewish Genealogical Societies, please see the AJGS web site at www.jewishgen.org/ajgs
- 2) The "Hollywood Chai" website, at www.jewishgen.org/jgsla/seminar.htm, has a copy of the registration form, as well as additional information about the seminar.
- 3) Registration forms are also available by mail from the JGSLA by writing to Scott Groll, Seminar Registration, P.O. Box 55443, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413; or by e-mail by writing to Scott Groll atsgroll@ix.netcom.com.
- 4) This seminar is supported by a grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of the Jewish Federation Council of Greater Los Angeles.

NEWS FROM THE JGSGO LIBRARIAN

Quarterly journals of Jewish Genealogical Societies from around the world as well as the Special Interest Group's (SIG) publications and AVOTAYNU, the International Review of Jewish Genealogy, are kept on file in our library in the Holocaust Center, Maitland.

Most of the journals have information useful to genealogist depending upon their own interests. Listed below are some articles from journals that may be of interest to our readers. Come visit the library!

Morasha- Illinois - Summer/Fall 1997
Jews of Finland

Chronicles - Philadelphia - Summer 1997
The Jews of Barbados Have a Philadelphia Connection

Dorot - New York - Summer 1997
New York Resources Update

Mass-Pocha - Boston - Summer 1997
Unusual Resources for Jewish Genealogy in the Archives of the Former Soviet Union

Zichronote- San Francisco - August 1997
Learning More About Our Ancestors from Family Photographs

Researching South African Jewish Genealogy
Austrian Research Sources

Roots-Key-Los Angeles, CA - Summer 1997
How to Get Better Results from Polish Regional Archives
Locating Your Shtetl

Discovery-San Diego, CA - Fall 1997
Preparation for Research Experiences in Poland 1997

Shem Tov-Canada (Toronto) - September 1997
Genealogical Information in the Censuses of Great Britain

Family Research at the Leo Baeck Institute

Shemot -Great Britain - July 1997
Dohany Synagogue, Budapest

Report on the Cemetery at Kingsbury Rd, London (Insert)

Shemot -Great Britain - October 1997
Shtetlach Visit to N.W. Lithuania

Northampton's Jewish Perspective

JGSGO LIBRARY

Recent Acquisitions

Donated by Arlene Parnes:
Parnes, Arlene, *Generations Remirrored*, family history

Donated by Gladys Friedman Paulin:
National Archives Trust Fund Board, The 1920 Federal Population Census, Microfilm catalog and information about the census and soundex.

Acquired by JGSGO:
Central Florida Genealogical Society History, Cemeteries of Orange County, Florida, Vol. 1, includes Jewish cemeteries in Southwest Orange County.

Israel Genealogical Society, *Printed Books on Jewish Cemeteries in the Jewish National and University Libraries*

Freedman, Chaim, Elyahu's Branches, *The Descendants of the Vilna Gaon and His Family*. Our own Rachel Heimovics family is included and her contribution acknowledged by the author. [Check to see if YOUR family is there!]

Moser, Geraldine & Marlene Silverman, *Hamburg Passengers from the Kingdom of Poland and the Russian Empire*. (Indirect Passage to New York 1855- June 1873 (Another place to check for your early arriving family).

Among recent acquisitions of the Orlando Public Library are *Volumes III and IV of Migration from the Russian Empire: Lists of Passengers Arriving at the Port of New York*. These two volumes cover the period from May 1886 through May 1889.

SPECIAL NOTE: The Orlando Public Library has added microfilms of city directories for more than 80 U.S. cities for 1890, or early 1890's. Since the federal census for 1890 was almost entirely destroyed by fire, these directories are an important resource.

Prepared by:
Gladys Friedman Paulin, JGSGO Librarian,
e-mail: GP21603@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu



NEWS OF JGSGO MEMBERS:

...Rachel Heimovics attended the 22nd Annual Conference of the Southern Jewish Historical Society held in Hot Springs, AR, November 14-16. The SJHS is sponsoring a new journal with the first issue planned for July 1998. Rachel has been appointed managing editor.

...Arthur "Bud" Whitehill and his wife Helen, also attended the SJHS meeting in Hot Springs. Arthur's term as treasurer ended this December.

...Robert W. Marlin, author *My Sixteen: A Self-Help Guide to Finding YOUR Sixteen Great-Great-Grandparents*, has a feature article in the genealogy magazine *Family Chronicle*, Nov/Dec 1997. The three page article *Where Have All the Ladies Gone?* discusses the poor treatment women have received by genealogists. Robert also had articles in *Family Chronicle's* issues of May-June and September-October.

...Audrey Pearlman, a JGSGO member since 1990, was recently honored by the Jewish Community Center of Central Florida as the recipient of the Tikkun

Olan Award for 1997. The award was presented at that 11th Annual JCC Women's Conference, held November 2. Audrey was recognized for her community service especially for establishing the Pearlman Pantry at Jewish Family Service.

...Muriel Walzer Klein, a JGSGO member since 1994, made a major move in late December to Walnut Creek, CA where she says, "I am so pleased to think I can see my granddaughter anytime I want to." We all wish Muriel well.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS IN 1997:

Roslyn Downey, Winter Park
Trude Levitt, Altamonte Springs
Carl Migden, Lake Mary
Sandy/Louis Ossinsky, Ormond Beach
Dr. Jeffrey Rosenberg, Ormond Beach
Marge Spears-Soloff, Orlando
Linda Zolinsky, New Port Richey

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Attend the workshop!

BACK TO THE BASICS
SUNDAY MARCH 1, 1998