



Etz Chaim

עץ חיים

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JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER ORLANDO

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The JGSGO Board elected at the Annual Meeting, June 14, 1998

Left to right: Jay Schleichkorn, Sim Seckbach, Gladys Friedman Paulin, Marshall Frenkel, Millie Rosenbaum, Robert W. Marlin, Jerry Kurland (missing Abby Grissinger and Carl Migden) See page 3 .

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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 International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, the Federation of Genealogical Societies and the Florida State Genealogical Societies.

JGSGO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

September starts the ninth year of the existence of the JGSGO. It's a time to look forward to interesting programs and activities as well as many opportunities to share our knowledge. Please make every attempt to attend the meetings. A lot of work and effort goes into planning these sessions and your support is needed.

Also, it's time to renew one's membership and help keep our financial position stable. You are urged to bring friends who are interested in genealogy to our meetings.

Encourage them to join. Let's make this year...a year of growth.

Please note the next issue (Winter) of Etz Chaim will feature "grandparents". I need brief anecdotes and memories of your grandparents...think back to those stories you were once told. Any questions...call me!

Jay Schleichkorn

Plan Ahead.....JGSGO CALENDAR

Tuesday, September 8, 1998

Report on the AJG Annual Conference by several members who attended in L.A. In the Senior Lounge, JCC, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 18, 1998

"The Marranos" speaker: Liliane Webb, author, researcher

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

Tuesday, November 10, 1998

"A Flashback to YOUR Fourth Generation" Robert W. Marlin, Author, lecturer JCC Campus, Senior Lounge, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 6 1998:

JCC ChanukArts Festival (JGSGO to exhibit) 11:30 to 5:00 p.m. JCC Gym

Tuesday, December 8, 1998

"ASK THE EXPERTS" Time to get your questions answered by a panel of experienced genealogists. In the Senior Lounge, JCC, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 12, 1999:

Meeting to be announced...

Tuesday, February 9, 1999

"Jews with a Southern Accent" Helen & Bud Whitehill, Senior Lounge, JCC, 7:30 p.m.

PLAN AHEAD....

International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies -Annual Seminar and Conference - New York City August 8-13, 1999

For information: e-mail: nyc99conf@aol.com
or 600 West End Ave., Suite 10F, New York, NY 10024

JGSGO ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the JGSGO was held Sunday afternoon, June 14, 1998, at the Steak & Ale Restaurant, Altamonte Springs, Fl. Thirty-two people were present for the "early bird" dinner.

A 13-page annual report prepared by Jay Schleichkorn, President, was distributed. The report highlighted the years' activities and extended appreciation to various people for their support and involvement. With the JGSGO holding membership in the AJGS, several pages were devoted to by-law changes to be voted upon at the AJGS meeting in Los Angeles. Direction was given to the delegate (Gladys Paulin) on the issues and voting.

The report also included a directory of members.

Bobbi Rossin, Treasurer, indicated the year ended with financial stability showing \$1204.04 in the account.

For Membership (Soni/Harold Sternberger) reported JGSGO has 66 members.

Gladys Friedman Paulin reported the Library had substantial growth since June 1996 from 70 books to 117 as of June 1998. A full Library report with recommendations is available.

Programming for the next several months was discussed by Sim Seckbach, VP with information to be included in the next newsletter.

As the editor of ETZ CHAIM, the quarterly journal, Schleichkorn reported four issues have been distributed.

The Nomination Committee of Gene Starn, Millie Rosenbaum and Sheila Reback presented the nominees for 1998-1999 as follows:

President: Jay Schleichkorn

Vice president (Program) - Sim Seckbach

Vice-president (Membership) - Marshall Frenkel

Treasurer: Millie Rosenbaum

Secretary: Abby Grissinger

Librarian: Carl Migden

Director at Large: Jerry Kurland, Robert Marlin

and (immediate past president) Gladys Friedman Paulin.

It was noted that the committee also recommended Lillian Weitzel be Hospitality Chair and work with the Membership Committee.

With no further nominations made from the floor, a unanimous vote elected all on the slate.

As his first official act as president, Schleichkorn asked Gene Starn to make a presentation. Starn called a surprised Gladys Friedman Paulin to the front of the room and spoke of her dedication and commitment to genealogy and the JGSGO as he presented her with an attractive plaque in appreciation of her many years of service. Paulin could only say "I'm speechless."

Sleichkorn thanked all for attending the dinner meeting and closed the session at 7:45 p.m.



At the annual meeting, Gene Starn presented a plaque to Gladys Friedman Paulin in recognition of her dedicated service to the JGSGO.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE (AJGS) MEETING IN LOS ANGELES

Advertised as the "Hollywood Chai", approximately 800 members and friends attended the 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy at the Century Plaza Hotel, Los Angeles from July 12- 17. From our JGSGO, Gladys Friedman Paulin was the official delegate. She was joined at the meeting by several other of our members including Marshall Frenkel, Gene and Elaine Starn, Larry and Florence Blum and Beryle Buchman.

In addition to many sessions, usually four running concurrently, there was a business meeting, several socials, special tours, demonstrations, exhibits and a dinner.

Representatives received a packet that included a Cemetery Project CD with a brochure Instructions for *Identifying and Recording Jewish Burials*. There also was a new manual written by Carol Baird entitled, *Create a Jewish genealogical Society in Your Hometown: A Manual for Founders*. Another item distributed to delegates was a flyer *Programming Suggestions for JGS Meeting*.

At the business meeting proposed by-laws were approved.

New name: These included a name change from AJGS (Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies) to IAJGS (International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies).

SIG Members: IAJGSG will now accept applications for Full membership for SIGs (Special Interest Groups).

Directors: Two additional directors were approved for membership on the all-volunteer board.

Elections: Four "at-large" positions were up for election. Bruce Kahn, Howard Margol and Arlene Sachs were re-elected for a two-year term. A write in candidate, Rob Sealtiel, a member of the Dutch JGS was the fourth member elected.

For Your Information:

BACKGROUND FOR YOUR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH...

In June, the New York Public Library started its Digital Library Collections Web Site (<http://www.digital.nypl.org>). It offers various programs that could serve as a background to your genealogical research. What was life like in NYC in the years our parents and grandfathers lived there? For example there is a collection of photographs taken in New York City in the thirties; also Construction of the Empire State Building; the Billy Rose Collection, the Armstrong Jazz Oral History, and American Historical Prints.

Plans call for the addition of thousands of digitized books, manuscripts, photographs and engraving over the next two years. The library will also add more collections such as early American dance, music, theater; texts and illustrations revolving around the theme of marriage and morality in the US and Britain from 1815-1914.

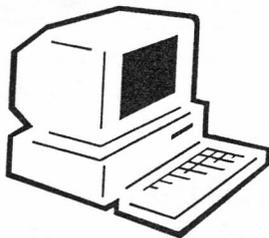
Of special interest to Jewish genealogists may be the Slavic and Baltic Division. It marks a century of service in 1998-1999. It is the oldest organized department of its kind in the United States, and the first to have its librarians travel to Eastern Europe on a book-buying trip. The division has served millions of on-site readers, free of charge, without regard to place of residence or academic affiliation.

The Library's Slavic, Baltic, East European, and Eurasian materials run the gamut from early fourteenth-century illuminated manuscripts to the latest serial titles. The Slavic and Baltic Division holds more than 387,000 volumes, 1,300 current serials, and 20,100 microfilm titles in Slavic and Baltic vernacular languages. In addition, more than 200,000 volumes of Slavica and Baltica in non-Slavic and non-Baltic languages are found in other divisions of the Library. Particular strengths include old Cyrillic printed books, Futurist and Constructivist works, Russian illustrated books of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and publications produced by New York's many Slavic and Baltic ethnic communities. A more extensive description of the Slavic, Baltic, and East European resources of the Library is accessible via the Slavic and Baltic Division's home page.

It would appear that the next opportunity you have to visit New York City, a "must see" site is the NY Public Library.

The most extensive published description and history of the collections is Robert H. Davis, Jr.'s *Slavic and Baltic Library Resources at The New York Public Library: A First History and Practical Guide* (New York: The New York Public Library, 1994).

(Excerpted from the NYPL web site by Jay Schleichkorn)



Belarus SIG Formed

The new Belarus SIG (Special Interest group) was established at the Jewish Genealogy Seminar in Los Angeles on July 14, according to an e-mail from David Fox, Belarus SIG Coordinator. At the initial meeting, hosted by Fox, twenty researchers with an interest in various towns and gubernii in Belarus decided to aid each other by forming this Special Interest Group.

The country known today as Belarus consisted of four gubernii: Grodno Minsk, Mogilev and Vitebsk. A Grodno SIG was formed in 1995 to aid researchers interested in that area. At the initial meeting of the Belarus SIG, it was decided to focus on the other three gubernii (Minsk, Mogilev and Vitebsk), since many of the members had interests in more than one guberniya and families had often moved from one guberniya to another.

The purpose of the Belarus SIG is to combine our resources of time, expertise and money to aid Jewish genealogy researchers with an interest in the gubernii of Minsk, Mogilev and Vitebsk.

The goals of the SIG are to:

- * Bring together Jewish genealogy researchers with a common interest in Belarus;
- * Provide a forum (through a JewishGen listserv) for the dissemination of information about research methods, records, Yizkor books, etc. in Belarus;
- * Form an organized group to enable us to reach agreements with archives that will benefit both the researchers and the archives;
- * Develop a searchable database of names from data extracted from the Belarus LDS microfilms, [http:// www.jewishgen.org/infodiles/by-rec.txt](http://www.jewishgen.org/infodiles/by-rec.txt)
- * Encourage SIG members to establish shtetl pages for their Belarus shtetlach <http://www.jewishgen.org/ShtetLinks/>
- * Encourage SIG members to submit their family trees to The Family Tree of the Jewish People. <http://www.jewishgen.org/gedcom/jewishgen.html>
- * Raise money through donations to complete projects of interest to our members. These could include:
 - * The translation of Yizkor books of towns of interest;
 - * The translation of indices of LDS microfilms for relevant towns;
 - * Obtain and translate revision lists for areas of interest; and
 - * Obtain and translate business directories for areas of interest.

Please note, volunteers are needed for various projects. If you are interested in membership in this SIG, contact the Coordinators for further details:

Risa E Heywood <risah@ibm.net>

David Fox <fox@erols.com>

Reproduced in part from an e-mail of: August 2, 1998, from David Fox.

HIGHLIGHTS..... (continued)

Presentation of IAJGS Awards was inaugurated this year. The AJGS Lifetime Achievement Awards was given to Gary Mokotoff "in deep appreciation of your long standing devotion, your leadership in countless numbers of endeavors and your inspiration to our society and to the world of Jewish Genealogy."

Susan E. King, founder and president of JewishGen, Inc. received the award "in recognition and grateful appreciation of your outstanding creative and inspiring leadership in the world of Jewish genealogy through the use of the Internet."

The AJGS Outstanding Publication Award went to the JGS of Great Britain for its publication Shemot "in recognition of your outstanding journal which observes the highest standards of excellence in its presentation of Anglo-Jewish genealogy."

From the AJGS Gift Fund, delegates voted to divide the \$2,500 in equal sums to be given to the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw and to the Search Bureau for Missing Relatives in Jerusalem. High praise was given to Batya Unterschatz (now the sole employee) at the Search Bureau and concern was expressed the bureau may be closed.

At the conference banquet, entertainment was provided by Theodore Bikel, well known actor, singer, author and star of "Fiddler on the Roof."

In an e-mail report sent to IAJGS member presidents, Sally Ann Sack, President, indicated the board met for a total of 16 hours while in L.A. Among the concerns discussed were plans for developing a position of executive director. Such plans will be submitted to the member societies with detailed information on a job description, how funds for the position will be obtained, and qualifications for the post.

The President also indicated the 1999 seminar will be in New York City, Salt Lake City will be the venue in 2000 and in 2001, IAJGS goes to London. She expressed concern that fewer local groups can host an international meeting. "The perception seems to be that these events have become too large and too complicated for an ordinary group to organize and run." She will be looking to members for their input on this problem.

For JGSGO members in the Orlando area, the Tuesday, September 8th meeting will include presentations by those who attended the conference in L.A. Come hear the details and learn what is happening in Jewish genealogy throughout the world.

**"If you can't take care of the past,
there's not much hope for the future."**

Jacqueline Kennedy

BOOK REVIEW: by Jay Schleichkorn*Living Judaism Around the World*

Authors: Leonard and Zeace Nadler

Published in 1997 by Pentland Press, Inc., Raleigh, NC

Being involved in genealogy often proves how small the world really is. In December (1997) I received a letter from Pentland Press announcing the release of a new book, *Living Judaism Around the World*. Based on the press release, I wrote the publisher with the intent of buying the book. Two weeks passed and I didn't hear from the office.

About the same time, I responded to an inquiry posted on JewishGen questioning how NYC public schools are numbered and named. I indicated I attended P.S. 82, Macombs Jr. High School in the Bronx. Soon after I received an e-mail from LenLW of Silver Spring, MD, stating that he also went to PS 82, on to DeWitt Clinton H.S. graduated in 1938 and went into military service in October 1942. I graduated from Clinton in 1943 and entered the service in April.

Len and I exchanged several e-mails and in one he wrote, "I retired as a Professor from George Washington University. During the course of our work (my wife and I have worked together) we have been to 55 countries, worked in 33, and visited Jewish communities (and Jews) in 30. We just had a book published that might be of interest to people into genealogy." And that very book turns out to be the one I was looking to purchase. Talk about a small world!

Len arranged for me to receive a copy and I am very pleased to recommend it to all.

The 264 page, soft covered book, costs \$15.95. It is based on the research and experience of the authors gained in 23 different countries. The contents are in seven sections:

- 1) Sephardic Jews -Spain, Turkey, The Netherlands and Mexico;
- 2) Jews of Central Europe - Germany, Czechoslovakia, and Hungary;
- 3) Jews of Scandinavia - Sweden, Norway, Finland, and Denmark;
- 4) Jews of China - Hong Kong, and Shanghai;
- 5) Jews of the orient - Japan, Singapore, and Thailand;
- 6) Jews of the British Commonwealth - England, Australia, New Zealand, and India;
- 7) Jews of Africa-South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

Extensively researched, the contents include the author's personal observations, historical information, accomplishments, vital facts and details, and how the people adapted to local customs while maintaining a Jewish existence.

This text will further your genealogical interests. In much of the material, I could picture life in a particular Jewish community. I highly recommend this book as a means of obtaining an unusual and personal view of what many of our ancestors lived through "in the old country" and what the Jewish population now faces.

To obtain *Living Judaism Around the World*, contact Pentland Press, 5124 Bur Oak Circle, Raleigh, NC 27612; Ph: (919) 782-0281; FAX (919) 781-9042

HOLOCAUST ONLINE.... Many Websites Available

Whether a genealogist or historian, if you are searching for material on the Holocaust, the World Wide Web offers many types of resources and opportunities to obtain information. Here's just three sites that may interest you.

Since it opened in Los Angeles in 1993, the Simon Wiesenthal Center's Museum of Tolerance has drawn more than 1.7 million visitors. Now, through the Internet, you can see many of the collections of documents, photographs and artifacts from the Jewish Holocaust and related topics. The museum has created an Online Multimedia Learning Center (<http://www.motlc.wiesenthal.com>).



From A (Aachen) to Z (Zyrardow) the website provides a comprehensive resource on the Holocaust and WWII with over 3000 text files and thousands of photos.

According to Rabbi Abraham Cooper, the center's associate dean, "We made the decision two years ago to make the Learning Center portable and democratize the information."

Today, survivors and witnesses to the Holocaust tell their stories, they bear witness to man's greatest inhumanity. Among the many subjects available through the web site are: Nazi Germany, 1933-1938 •The Courage To Remember The Holocaust 1933-1945 •Why The Jews? The Patterns of Persecution •1933: German Jewish Life, and more.

Another website emphasizing Holocaust information is [Http://holocaust.Miningco.com](http://holocaust.Miningco.com).

This site includes a community bulletin board and a Holocaust newsletter. Among the features that can be viewed are a collection of photographs of camps, victims, and Nazi officials; a map and fact-filled chart of concentration and death camps; a Timeline (find out when the Night of Long Knives or the revolt at Treblinka occurred); a Holocaust glossary and many biographies. A recent feature described Jennifer Rosenberg's "powerful and moving" trip to Eastern Europe. The web also has links to many subjects such as Anti-semitism, education, finding people, museums, organizations, etc. In addition it offers some 500 guides on History, News Events, Politics, Issues and Causes. Check out the section on Genealogy for help, net-links, humor and information on LDS.

You will find a [Guide to Holocaust-Related Sites](http://personal.centenary.edu/~dprocell.holocaust.html), at <http://personal.centenary.edu/~dprocell.holocaust.html>. According to Dionne Procell, founder of this site, "This page is a list of Holocaust-related links on the web. It is not a

complete list of Holocaust sites. I merely found these sites from general searching of the web and from lists of links within some of these sites. These sites are the ones which I found most interesting and useful for research." Among the 10 General Holocaust Sites, you will find such titles as The Holocaust/Shoah Page, The Notre Dame Holocaust Project, The Holocaust History Project Home page, and L'Chaim: A Holocaust Web Project.

Other major listings include Holocaust Memorials and Museums such as Yad Vashem, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Center, Holocaust remembrance Day, The Ghetto Fighters House, and in our immediate area, The Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Central Florida (in Maitland).

If in your genealogical research you want accounts of Holocaust Survivors, the list includes such sites as Alexander Kimel of the on-Line Magazine for Post-Holocaust issues, the Ernest and Elisaveth Cassutto Memorial page: Survivors of the holocaust, and Women of the holocaust.

Other Holocaust-Related Sites listed include (but not limited too) An Auschwitz Alphabet, Literature of the Holocaust, Rescuers of the Holocaust, the Goldhagen Site, A Holocaust Newsgroup, and many more.

Editor's note: The sites mentioned above are presented just for your information. The article is not meant to be a "review" or endorsement. JSS

Yad Vashem's Archives To Go Online

As part of "Yad Vashem 2001," Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust memorial, is planning on computerizing its archives and making them available online. The modernization of the memorial by putting millions of documents, photographs, and names online will cost \$12 million and fundraising for this goal continues. Recently, a Dutch software company called Oikonomos donated \$1 million to this program.

(From Holocaust newsletter - July 10/98
holocaust:guide@miningco.com)



The JGSGO is one of some 522 member organizations that make up the *Federation of Genealogical Societies*. Founded in 1976, the FGS is a non-profit organization that includes genealogical /historical societies and libraries, ultimately representing over 200,000 individual genealogists. The main office recently moved from Richardson, TX. The new address is: P.O. Box 200940, Austin, TX, 78720-0940. Phone: (512)-336-2372; Fax (512) 336-2732. Toll free numbers are 1-888-FGS-1500 and for the FAX, 1-888-380-0500.

Tips on Passenger Lists

By Michael Steinore*

Basic information on how to find your relatives on passenger lists is available from a wide variety of excellent sources, including the Jewishgen Infocfiles (<http://www.jewishgen.org/infocfiles/>), publications of the National Archives, or Michael Tepper's authoritative American Passenger Arrival Records. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993). The purpose of this article is to discuss some lesser known tips regarding passenger lists, ones that I have found essential to success in my own searches.

Using Publication T621: This National Archives series of microfilm contains a Soundex index to New York passenger lists from 1902 to 1943. If you have not been able to find a relative using the Soundex index, consider a well-known flaw of the Soundex system: It encodes letters based on how similarly their sounds are made in English, not in other languages. Therefore, your relative may have been indexed under an unexpected Soundex code, influenced by the country/language of the steamship line he or she booked passage on. That is because passenger lists were filled out at the port of departure in Europe. Two examples from my family will illustrate: 'Katznelson' has the Soundex code K325. Members of my Katznelson family travelling from Russia who embarked at Antwerp, Copenhagen and Liverpool were indexed in the K325 code as expected. However, one of my Katznelson relatives embarked at Gdynia, Poland on the Gdynia-American Line. The Polish clerk transcribed Katznelson as Kacnelson, because the Polish 'c' represents the sound 'ts'. Kacnelson has a different Soundex code K254, and it was under this code that I found his index card. Another Russian surname, Rivkin has the Soundex code R125. But because my relative embarked on the North German Lloyd line from Bremen, Germany, the German clerk transcribed his name Riwkin (Soundexed as R250). There are transliterations in Polish (c=ts, j=y, w=v) and German (w=v), and possibly other languages that could cause the Soundex code to change. Experiment with your surnames to see if the Soundex code would change if the surname was written as it sounds in a foreign language.

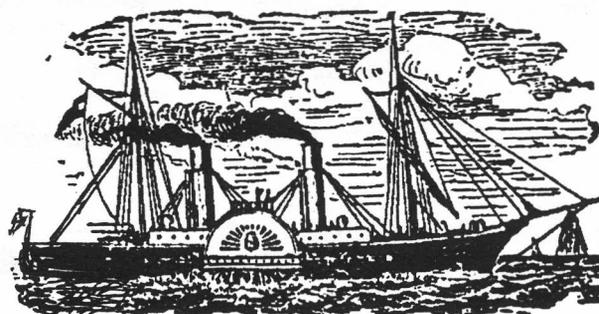
Using Publication T612: This National Archives series of microfilm contains Book indexes to New York passenger lists from 1906 to 1942. They are arranged by year, by steamship line, then by date of each vessel's arrival. For each ship arrival, passengers are listed in somewhat alphabetical order within the initial letter of the passenger's surname. Simply put, it's a series of passenger lists, arranged in chronological order of steamship arrival for each steamship line. For each passenger, their group and list # are given, though occasionally their age and final destination are listed instead. This information can be used as an index to the full passenger manifest in Publication T715. People rarely utilize T612, and there are reasons why. As an alternative to using the Soundex

passenger index (Pub. T621), it is not as efficient, unless you know only that your relative must have come on a certain steamship line. Second, the indexes I have seen are generally poorly microfilmed. While the list of passengers is legible, it's often hard to tell which ship and date of arrival you are viewing. But there is unique information on T612 that makes it worthwhile. Often the ship's standard ports of call will be typewritten, as well as the actual ports of call it made on that crossing. That can be important if you are trying to determine where your relative embarked, or if you are trying to decide whether a passenger is in fact your relative. In addition, the full list of 1st and 2nd class passengers are sometimes printed along with interesting details of the ship.

Using the Detained List. Appended to the end of many passenger lists, you will find a List of Detained Passengers. These are the passengers who were temporarily detained at the U.S. immigration port waiting for a relative or money to arrive, because of an illness, etc. The Detained List, if it exists, is useful for several reasons. It will usually be in more legible handwriting than the passenger list (sometimes it was even typewritten when the passenger list was not), and so it may be easier, or the only way to spot your family member. The Detained List indicates how many meals your family member ate, and the date of discharge. The disposition column indicates the name, relationship, and address of the relative who will vouch for them. Sometimes this will differ from the information provided on the passenger list, which was filled out at the port of departure. When there is a discrepancy, it can be an important clue, for example a new surname spelling, or a different address as their final destination. Since a bias existed against passengers from Eastern Europe and Russia, ships with large numbers of these passengers are more likely to have a lengthy Detained List. I have seen Detained Lists containing half of the passengers on board!

Morton Allan Directory on the Web: The Morton Allan Directory is a directory of steamship arrivals to New York from 1890-1930. It is available online at (<http://www.cimorelli.com/vbclient/shipmenu.htm>). Using the Web version is easier than the book, not only for accessibility, but also because queries allow you to quickly find all ships that arrived on a certain date, or to find all dates of arrival of a certain ship. These two queries would take you considerable time to generate even if you had the book in front of you. Other useful queries and passenger list information are provided at this site as well.

**Editor's Note: Michael Steinore of Lake Oswego, OR, contributed a previous article, "My Name Was Changed at Ellis Island - A Myth," to Etz Chaim, Vol. 8 No. 3 Spring, 1998. He is researching the family history of the Katznelsons from Bobruisk, now Belarus.*





SEARCHING FOR MILITARY RECORDS?

The National Personnel Records Center (Military Personnel Records).

Here's important information for the genealogist searching for military records. Here's an address that should be filed and check out the following:

National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records, 9700 Page Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Tel: 314-538-4243 (Air Force records)

Tel: 314-538-4261 (Army records)

Tel: 314-538-4141 (Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard records) Fax: 314-538-4175

E-mail: center@stlouis.nara.gov (General information only, no e-mail requests for records.)

<http://www.nara.gov/regional/stlouis.html>

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) is one of NARA's regional records services facilities. The center receives, stores, and services federal, military, and civilian personnel records at two facilities in St. Louis, Missouri: the Civilian Personnel Records (CPR) at 111 Winnebago Street, St. Louis and the Military Personnel Records (MPR) Building at 9700 Page Avenue in St. Louis County.

The Military Personnel Records Building houses military personnel and medical records as well as the dependent medical records of former members of the United States Navy and Marine Corps.

A July 12, 1973, fire at 9700 Page Avenue destroyed nearly all of the records pertaining to persons discharged from the Army before 1960 and about two-thirds of the records pertaining to persons discharged from the Air Force before 1964. Alternate record sources are used to attempt to document the service of such persons.

Although stored and serviced by NARA, the military personnel records remain under the legal control of the Department of Defense and information from the records is released following rules set by the military services, not by NARA. Records held by the center include millions of military personnel, health, and medical records of discharged and deceased veterans of all services during the 20th century, medical treatment records of retirees from all services, and records for dependent and other persons treated at Navy medical facilities.

The military personnel records include:

Air Force: Officers and Enlisted beginning Sep. 25, 1947.

Army: Officers separated beginning Jul. 1, 1917;

Enlisted separated beginning Nov. 1, 1912.

Coast Guard: Officers separated beginning Jan. 1, 1929;

Enlisted separated beginning Jan. 1, 1915.

Marine Corps: Officers and Enlisted separated beginning Jan. 1, 1905.

Navy: Officers separated beginning Jan. 1, 1903;

Enlisted separated beginning Jan. 1, 1886.

(Earlier records are at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.)

Medical records include:

Inpatient and outpatient clinical records for selected time periods (see <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprmpm.html> for dates and a description of the records included).

Inpatient, outpatient, dental, and mental health treatment records for military retirees, dependents, and others created at military healthcare facilities (see <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprmtr.html> for more information).

The July 12, 1973, fire destroyed about 80% of the records for Army personnel discharged between Nov. 1, 1912, and Jan. 1, 1960, and about 75% of the records for Air Force personnel with surnames from "Hubbard" through "Z" discharged between Sep. 25, 1947, and Jan. 1, 1964. NARA has more information about the fire at:

<http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprfire.html>

Records available to veterans. Copies of most military personnel and medical records at NPRC are available to veterans or the next of kin free of charge. Requests must contain enough information to identify the record from among the more than 70 million on file at the center. The information needed to locate a record includes full name, military service number, branch, and approximate dates of service. Unit(s) of assignment and date and place of birth may also be helpful.

For additional information on obtaining personnel records, see: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprpub1a.html>

For further information on obtaining inpatient medical records, see: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprpub2a.html>

Records available for genealogy. Only limited information can be released to the general public without the written authorization of the veteran or next of kin, and NARA may charge fees for copies sent to other than the veteran or next of kin. Information that may be released includes name, age or date of birth, dates of service, source of commission, rank/grade and date attained, marital status, promotion sequence number, city, state, and date of last known address, serial or service number (but not social security number), places of induction and separation, duty assignments, dependents, (including name, sex, and age), unclassified records of court martial trials, military education and schooling, information about decorations and awards, and for deceased veterans, the places of birth, death, and burial. For information, see: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprpub1b.html> Standard Form 180, Request Pertaining to Military Records, which is recommended but not mandatory, can be downloaded from NARA at: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mprsf180.html> Additional information is available on NARA's Web site, starting at: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html> and on NARA's fax on demand system at 301-713-6905.

Editor's Note: This information was obtained from Ancestry Daily News, August 12, 1998, printed with permission as stated, "feel free to circulate this newsletter". To subscribe to Ancestry Daily send an e-mail to: support@ANCESTRY.inc.com

SEARCHING FOR CIVILIAN RECORDS. NARA'S CIVILIAN PERSONNEL CENTER

(Editor's note: If in your genealogical research you are looking for information on a former civilian employee of the government, check this out.)

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) is one of NARA's regional records services facilities. The center receives, stores, and services federal military and civilian personnel records at two facilities in St. Louis, Missouri: the Civilian Personnel Records (CPR) Building at 111 Winnebago Street on the south side of the city of St. Louis and the Military Personnel Records (MPR) Building (featured yesterday) at 9700 Page Avenue in St. Louis County.

The CPR facility began in Omaha, Nebraska, in 1942 as a depository for records of War Department civilian employees. It became part of the National Archives system, moved to downtown St. Louis, and started accepting records of other agencies in 1951. The current facility opened in late 1961 on the site of the old Marine Hospital in south St. Louis.

CPR houses the official personnel folders, employee medical folders, and pay records of separated Federal civilian employees. Some personnel documents date back to the mid-nineteenth century, although the bulk of the collection covers the period from 1900 to the present.

Personnel records for civilian employees separated before April 1, 1965 filed in several different systems; many are filed alphabetically, however, some are filed by Soundex code. Records for employees separated after April 1, 1965 are filed into a computer registry system, or index by name, date of birth, and social security number. These identifiers are linked to a NPRC assigned registry number which is used for retrieval purposes.

Official personnel folders/merged records personnel folders and employee medical folders are transferred to the center 30 to 120 days after separation from federal employment. Civilian personnel records at NPRC are the legal responsibility of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and NARA follows OPM rules for the release of information from them.

Instructions for former employees (or authorized representatives) to request information from, or copies of, the records are at: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/cpubref.html>

NARA has not published instructions for the general public to follow in requesting copies of civilian personnel records for genealogical purposes. Records of deceased former employees are releasable to anyone. To request information see <http://www.nara.gov/regional/cpubref.html> Include proof of death. Proof of death is not needed if the subject was born over 100 years ago. Additional information is available on NARA's Web site, starting at: <http://www.nara.gov/regional/cpr.html> and on NARA's fax on demand system, 301-713-6905.

NARA - Post Office Records
<http://www.nara.gov/genealogy/postal.html>

NPRC, Civilian Personnel Records

111 Winnebago Street St. Louis, MO 63118-4199

Tel: 314-425-5761, Fax: 314-425-5719

E-mail: center@cpr.nara.gov (General information, no e-mail requests for records; <http://www.nara.gov/regional/cpr.html>)

Note: Thanks to The Ancestry Daily News for spotlighting NARA's regional branches. This information and the article on Military records was adapted from NARA materials by John Scroggins. To subscribe to Ancestry send an e-mail to: support@Ancestry.inc.com

LDS AND FAMILY HISTORIES

In the Winter 1997-98 issue (Vol. 5 No. 1) of YICHUS Y'ALL, the newsletter of the Jewish genealogical Society of Georgia, the editor, Michael Havelin, wrote an article, "Why LDS Does Family History?" Michael has given permission to JGSGO to reprint his article.

Why do members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) do family history research? For LDS church members, life does not end at death. They believe that when they die, their eternal spirits go to a spirit world, where they continue to learn while we await the resurrection and Final Judgment.

As part of this belief system, members of the Church believe the family can also continue beyond the grave, not just until death. This is possible when parents and their children make special promises called covenants, in sacred LDS temples. These covenants are believed to unite families for eternity. Church members believe that their deceased ancestors also receive the blessings of being eternally united with their families. For this purpose, Church members make covenants in temples on behalf of their ancestors, who may accept these covenants, if they so choose, in the spirit world.

In order to make covenants in behalf of their ancestors, members must first identify them. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has gathered genealogical records from all over the world. They continue to do so. These records are available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, and at Family History Centers (TM) throughout the world.

In searching for their ancestors, church members may have identified some of your Jewish ancestors as their own, then gone ahead and made covenants with them in their churches. This might show up when you do a computer search of the International Genealogical Index (II) at a local LDS Family History Center. I have seen some Jews become absolutely outraged at this. They are offended by the seeming presumption. My own attitude is somewhat different.

My attitude is to thank LSD for doing the research for me and identifying the names, birthplaces, birth, marriage, and death dates of deceased relatives. Thanks for doing the "heavy" research work for me, folks. Just because a church member has made a "covenant" with my deceased relatives doesn't change the fact that those relatives were Hassidic Jews in Poland, Russia, Lithuania, or any other country. Facts are facts.

Morale: take advantage of what's offered by LDS for our benefit.

CITY DIRECTORIES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH

City directories are a separate publication from telephone directories. They were published before telephones were in use and for a long time after telephones became common. Some are still being produced. The early directories were sometimes selective of who was listed, but later ones attempted to list all adults, all businesses, and all services. They were produced usually by directory companies, though sometimes by local publishers, to serve as a commercial and civic reference work.

Directories are available for most American cities and many towns. Many directories are county-wide, including both urban and rural residents.

City directories contain an alphabetical listing of adult residents, their home addresses, occupations, and often the names of their businesses or employers.

The term adults means employed heads of households, male or female. Widows listings often include the name of the deceased husband. They also show if people own, rent or board at the address. Other information that might be included is birthplace, length of residence, race or color.

A classified section of businesses and professional services is a separate section. Often advertisements were included, like the "yellow pages" of today.

A sampling of other sections found in the directories are ward and street directory maps, government offices and services, places of worship, clubs and other associations, hospitals, unions, and cemeteries. If the directory has a section called, "Omissions, Changes, Removals, and Corrections" the removals will have the names of people who have moved away from the city to a new address, which is an extremely valuable piece of information.

To get information for the directory, the company would question each household or business. If some people were missed or did not respond, they were included that year. That is why if your relative is missing for a year, look into the directories of the year before and after your target year.

Sometimes in large cities, more than one directory was published by different directory companies. Be sure to find out if the location you are searching has more than one directory. In Chicago, some ethnic/national groups published their own directory.

For the genealogist, the value of the information found in city directories should be self-evident. They can help you find out how long relatives resided in a particular place, their occupations, their work address and even business partners. They are used to find relatives between federal censuses. They are especially helpful for non-indexed or partially indexed census schedules, and for census indexes where names were omitted or misspelled. They help determine family members by showing who lived together in the same household.

Directories usually have a listing of newspapers, which will include some ethnic publications. These newspapers might have obituaries or other information about your relative.

Directories, or copies of them, can usually be found in larger libraries around the country, often in a university or historical society archive. Also try local, state and regional libraries in your target area. Your librarian can help you obtain copies of directories that are available on inter-library loan. If the directory does not circulate, inquire if the library will photocopy the information you need and send it to you. If you do not find a directory you need, try writing to directory publishing companies that still exist. They might have maintained an archive and be able to help you.

As you can see, city directories are a gold mine for genealogists and might be very helpful in clearing up mysteries or omissions you have in information about your family.

Ultimately, the most significant genealogical usefulness is that information in city directories can help us link to census, vital records, probate records, land records, naturalization records, maps and various other records that we have found.

(This article summarizes an article by Julia Schwab and Robert Vodicka in the Summer, 1997 edition of the Illinois State Genealogical Society Quarterly and reprinted from Morasha, Vol. XII, No. 1, Summer/Fall 1997, published by the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois)

Editor's Note: Check the holdings of your local LDS Family History Center or a major public library for City Directories.

JGSGO HAS A NEW WEB SITE

Thanks to the efforts of Marge Spears-Soloff of Orlando and her family, effective July 20, 1998, anyone on the Internet can learn about our our JGSGO by looking at: [Http://members.aol.com/JGSGO](http://members.aol.com/JGSGO).

Marge designed the web site and made all the necessary arrangements. Hopefully the information on the site will be seen by people interested in Jewish genealogy as well as our own members. The site is linked to the IAJGS through Jewishgen. Current information includes a bit of history of the JGSGO, present officers and addresses, membership details, affiliations, meeting times and activities.

We anticipate the site will carry announcements of future meetings and important items related to genealogy.

Marge is the individual responsible for setting up and maintaining the national site on Jewish orphans. Check it out at: <http://www.scruz.net/~elias/hnoh>.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

For 1998, JGSGO welcomes the following new members:

Col. Ben Abramowitz, Melbourne, FL;
Stanley Bloom, Longwood, FL;
Norman/Jean Fuhrer, Titusville, FL;
Charles Ginsberg, (Jaison, Inc.) NYC
Mel Kohn, Apopka, FL; Jonathan Lowe, NYC
Richard/Lee Ann Musgrave, Orlando

Genealogist's Greatest Loss: What Happened to the 1890 Federal Census?

Many genealogy researchers have become frustrated once they began searching for the 1890 US Federal Census. Soon, the researchers learn the 1890 Schedules was destroyed by a fire in the National Archives in 1921. This statement is only partially true. Part of the census was lost in 1921 but the fate of the remaining schedules stands testament to the dangers of government miscommunication and red tape.

The Eleventh Census of the United States taken in June 1890 would have provided a wonderful study of our country if available today. Over 47,000 enumerators usually chosen by political appointment, distributed the schedules in advance to give the residents time to complete the forms. Once completed the population of the US topped over 62 million individuals.

Shortly before publication in 1896, the original 1890 special schedules for mortality, crime, pauperism and benevolence, special classes, and portions of the transportation and insurance schedules were damaged and finally destroyed by the Department of the Interior. However, according to a 1903 census clerk the general population schedules seem to be in good shape.

In the afternoon of January 10, 1921, the schedules were located in the basement of the Commerce Building. That afternoon, building fireman James Foster reported seeing smoke. The fire department was called. The fire was contained to the basement level of the building but flooded most of the area. Once extinguished no immediate surveys were done of the damage. The records were allowed to remain soaking in water overnight.

The next morning when the damage was assessed. The census director, Sam Rogers sent a note to the Secretary of Commerce reporting: "...a cursory examination show that the census schedules from 1790 to and including 1870, with the exception of those for 1830 and 1840, are on the fifth floor of the Commerce Building and have not been damaged. The schedules of the censuses of 1830, 1840, 1880, 1900 and 1910 have been damaged by water, and it is estimated that ten percent of these schedules will have to be opened and dried and some of them recopied." These schedules were located in the basement in a vault considered at the time to be fire and waterproof. However, the archivist had discovered a small broken pane of glass, which allowed water to seep in damaging the schedules located in low shelves.

The 1890 schedule did not fair as well. It was located outside the vault. Director Sam Rogers continued and reported in the same document to the Secretary of Commerce the damage. "Approximately 25 percent of these schedules have been destroyed and it is estimated the 50 per cent of the remainder have been damaged by water, smoke and fire." The preliminary report by Census Bureau Clerk T. J. Fitzgerald was much more pessimistic. Fitzgerald reported that the 1890

records were ruined and that no method of restoration would be capable of restoring the records.

The cause of the 1921 fire was never determined. Although some speculate that a worker in the basement was smoking and set off the blaze. Others believe that bundles of papers spontaneously combusted causing the blaze.

The remaining schedules of the 1890 census abandoned by the government, survived for many years. Rumors speculated that Census Director Sam Rogers had recommended that the schedules be destroyed. The public and historians were outraged and began a letter writing campaign. Each letter received much the same reply. Everyone was told that the records were no going to be destroyed and plans were being made to provide a suitable archive.

In May of 1921, the census remained in temporary storage and the new census director William Steuart reported they would gradually deteriorate. The records were returned to the census building for storage at Steuart's order.

Ten years would pass and finally in December of 1932, the Chief clerk of the Bureau of Census sent the Librarian of Congress a list of papers to destroy. Included in the list was Item 22, "Schedules, Population-1890, Original." The librarian gave the okay to destroy the list of records including the 1890 Census Schedule. Congress authorized the destruction and February 21, 1933. Only a small note in the census bureau file marks the official demise of the record. It state "remaining schedules destroyed by Department of Commerce in 1934 (not approved by the Geographer.)"

Sadly, just one day before Congress authorized the destruction of the census; President Herbert Hoover laid the cornerstone of the permanent National Archives building.

Of course, many researchers fail to realize that some of the original schedule still exists. In 1942 during the move to the new building a bundle of the Illinois schedules appeared during a shipment. In 1953, more fragments were discovered including those from Alabama, Georgia, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, Texas and the District of Columbia. The remnants of the 1890 census have been filmed and are available through many sources. There are only three rolls of microfilm containing the records. Only about 6,000 names are listed on these precious pieces of our past.

Many researchers lament over the loss of these records but we must be grateful that most pages of the United States Federal Census Schedules survived. Imagine just how difficult North American research would be without the census.

Editor's note: The 1890 Federal Census article is from GRS (Genealogy Records Service) Monthly Newsletter (Vol.1 Edition 2) and is copyright 1998 by GRS. It is republished here with permission of Tracey Converse of Genealogy Records Service and More. To subscribe to GRS on-line, send your e-mail to Info@genearecords.com>

WHO GETS ETZ CHAIM?

As a genealogical society in the Greater Orlando, Florida area, we publish the quarterly newsletter ETZ CHAIM. JGSGO members receive their quarterly issues as a benefit of being dues-paying members. To encourage prospective members to join JGSGO, one or two copies may be mailed to such individuals.

In addition, complimentary copies go to the office of all the congregations in the area, as well as the Orange County and Seminole County Public Library. Also on the mailing list is the Winter Park and Maitland Public Library, the area LDS Family Library Centers, the Holocaust Memorial Center, Maitland, the JCC, the National Museum of American Jewish History, the University of Florida, the Central Florida Genealogical Society, Hebrew Union College, The Update Editor - Avotaynu, and Sally Sack, president of AJGS. The JC/LDS Family History Library in Salt Lake City and the Allen County Library, Fort Wayne, IN, both subscribe to the newsletter.

In cooperation with other Jewish Genealogical Societies interested in sharing information, newsletters are sent to those who reciprocate. Our JGS Library in the Holocaust Center maintains the newsletters on file and all are available as a resource. Check them out!

Currently, the following JGSocieties are on the mailing list: Oregon, San Diego, Salt Lake City, Orange County (CA), Connecticut, Sacramento, Colorado, Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, Columbus (OH), Philadelphia, Wisconsin, New Jersey, Greater Miami, Greater Cincinnati, Illinois, Homewood - Illiana, Indiana, Rochester, NY, Greater Washington DC, Buffalo, Greater Boston, Georgia, Southwest Florida, Michigan, Long Island NY, Palm Beach County, Cleveland, Denver, St. Louis, and New York.

Internationally, Etz Chaim may be found in many countries. Among the Societies receiving the publication are: Sociedade Gen Gudaica do Brazil, San Paulo; JGS of Ottawa-Carleton, Canada; Nedkring Joodse Genealogie, The Netherlands; Kantor Gerber, Stockholm, Sweden; Australian JGS - Sydney; JGS of Adelaide, Australia; Israel genealogical Society, Jerusalem; The Galli Genealogical Society, Mizra, Israel; Soc. Argentina de Gen Judia, Buenos Aires; JGS of Great Britain, London; JGS of Johannesburg, Parklands, South Africa; JGS of Russia, Moscow; Schweizerische Ver fur Jud Gen, Zurich, Switzerland; JGS of Canada, Willowdale; JGS in Baku, Azerbaijan; Australian JGS-Melbourne; and JFHS of Cape Town, South Africa.

Editor's note:

There's no JGS on the moon or Mars as yet but perhaps someday there will be. I understand every space rocket has something very Jewish... a "nose cone". Jay S.

Quotes Genealogy and History.....

Zalman Lachman of New Hempstead, NY enjoys quotations related to history and genealogy. His recent e-mail was picked up by Arlene Parnes, JGSGO member, and through the Internet, communication was established. Zalman gave Etz Chaim permission to use his material. His genealogical research is on the following families: Lachman(n) Lewin, Steinberg, Rubin, Rosenstock, Furstenberg, Horowitz, Pressell, Maza, Mazo, and David. His e-mail is ishplony@juno.com>

"Probably there's nothing I enjoy as much as genealogy, Zalman wrote, " but... quotations are a close second. It all got started because I have the following quote by George Santayana (1863-1952) on my signature line: 'Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it'. So then I got out my very old trusty Bartlett's Familiar Quotations and looked up History."

Here's what Zalman found:

"History is Bunk" Henry Ford (1863-1947)

"History is a fable agreed upon." Napoleon

Sir Robert Walpole, who first used that wonderful phrase, "The balance of power" also said, "Anything but history, for history must be false."

"It's a good thing that 'History' is not 'the past !' or as Richard Brinsley Sheridan (1751-1816) said: "The number of those who undergo the fatigue of judging for themselves is very small indeed." but then Patrick Henry said- "I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past." Then Edmund Burke said - "You can never plan the future by the past." So now what?

"Why do you want to dig up the past? Because I can't dig up the future " (Zalman Lachman)

Speaking of "digging up" Jewish cemeteries... here's a thought that's always puzzled me. Why is it we object to European Gentiles digging up Jewish cemeteries, but never Israeli archaeologists? When do our ancestor's bones cease to be important and holy? Is there a statute of limitations?

Zalman hopes he has given the reader some food for thought.

Editor's Note: If you have a favorite quotation related to genealogy or history, share it with Etz Chaim. Check page 2 for address or e-mail. And here's one of my favorites:

I keep six honest serving men, they taught me all I knew: their names are What and Why and When and How and Where and Who." Kipling - 1902, Just So Stories.

IF YOU WANT TO TRACE YOUR
FAMILY HISTORY FAST, JUST RUN
FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

Bride Index Project-Phase2

By: Robert W. Marlin, Member JGSGO

Although Phase 1 of my search for bride indexes ended in March, additional information continues to trickle in. For genealogical purposes, I am now defining a Bride Index as ANY marriage record indexes which can be accessed by the MAIDEN name of the bride. The results of Phase 1 are now posted on my web site at (<http://members.aol.com/MySixteen>).

The good news that to date, I have been informed of the existence of bride indexes in more than 70 locations in 45 states, plus the District of Columbia. The response as to the importance of this type of information has been 100% positive.

The less than good news is that in most cases, contributors have not been able to supply much more than the fact that an index exists somewhere within a state. In a few cases, they knew the county within the state. Very little information has been supplied as to the years recorded, the present location of these records, or what form the records are in (film, microfiche, cards etc). Up to now, there has been no attempt on my part to verify or seek any additional information. As a matter of fact, the information I have posted on my web site is, in most cases, copied verbatim from the E-mail I received in order to prevent anything being lost in translation.

My research has indicated that most of the indexes I will be seeking seem to be located at the county or city level, as only a few state governments seem to have knowledge of them. The exception is older records which have been transferred to state archives or state historical organizations. Searching at the county level in a state like Delaware, is easy, as this state has only three counties. The State of Texas has 254 counties.

Phase 2 of this project will involve contacting 3,998 county governments, 50 state archives and an undetermined number of cities. I am prepared to undertake this project and currently estimate that it will take a year of my spare time to complete. I will also need all the help I can get from individual genealogical researchers, genealogical societies, state archives, libraries and all other interested parties. It is my plan to update this web page as often as my time permits, when new information comes in. You can help in several ways:

1. Simply spread the word about this project to everyone and anyone who will listen. Please feel free to copy, forward or post this message to any news groups, bulletin boards and genealogical forums which you think is appropriate. Many people have already volunteered to help and I will be in touch with all of them within a couple of weeks. This is without a



doubt the most challenging project I have ever undertaken and I am looking forward to getting the rest of the project underway. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Robert W. Marlin - <http://members.aol.com/MySixteen>
 RobMarlin@aol.com; Phone or Fax: (407) 834-3037
 Mailing: P.O. Box 948194 Maitland, FL 32794-8194

ELLIS ISLAND & THE PEOPLING OF AMERICA Official Guide (Book)

If you are a teacher, genealogist, or history buff this book provides tons of useful information, and statistics. The personal accounts of immigrants who left their homelands; sometimes willingly and other times by force, are included as well. Additionally, it offers maps, charts, graphs, political cartoons and entry interviews with immigrants. Cost is \$19.95 + \$2.0 S&H. The book may be ordered by mail. Make check payable to: *Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island Foundation, 52 Vanderbilt Avenue, 4th Flr. New York City, NY 10017-2898.*

To access an on-line order form visit the Ellis Island Web site at: <http://www.ellisland.org/index.html>

COMING SOON...

ELLIS ISLAND FAMILY HISTORY CENTER

Contrary to some people's belief, Ellis Island is not a genealogist's paradise where all kinds of information is readily available for researchat least not yet. Currently under development at Ellis Island, the new Family History Center will be unlike any other facility in the world. It will provide a powerful and fascinating tool for researching family immigration history.

The first phase of the project is to bring the historic data on the 20 million immigrants who arrived through New York Harbor and Ellis Island between 1892 - 1924, the peak immigration period in American history, to an electronic database at Ellis Island. The information will include names of ships, dates of arrival, cities and countries of origin, marital status, relatives in America, destinations and more. It is hoped that in years to come, the database can be expanded to include data on arrival in other years and through other ports.

BECOME A CHARTER FOUNDER

In order to raise the \$12 million for the first phase of The American Family Immigration History Center™, The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation invites you to become a Charter Founder of the Center. In return for your financial contribution, your name will be placed in the computer Register of Charter Founders when the Center is officially dedicated and kept on permanent display for all to see. To receive a brochure and further information write the Foundation (address above).

NEWS OF JGSGO MEMBERS

...*Marshall S. Frenkel* has an interesting personal card, check the back of the card and you'll find a very special poem:

*For those who like the genealogy game
And seek to know whencesoever they came
I thought it would be nice to see
Who came before us on our family tree.*

*We may know some history....partial!
I like to record itfondly, Marshall.
Now, with names and dates please keep me advised
As to who marries, divorces, is born and "demised."*

....*Rachel Heimovics*, a JGSGO member since 1990, will be our Society's representative to Shalom Orlando. Rachel is very involved in developing a soft-cover book "Florida Jewish Heritage Trail" for the State of Florida under a grant from the Ziff Museum. Rachel said, "The book will go along with the already existing books *Florida Black Heritage Trail* and *Florida Cuban Heritage Trail*. All are published by the state."

....*Mel Kohn* was recently appointed by the Mayor of Apopka as the Apopka representative on the *Metropolitan Orlando Citizens' Advisory Committee*. Mel is a V.P. of the 113 year old engineering firm, *Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas*. Mel has been with the firm for more than 30 years. Mel also was recently elected as Secretary of the Board of Directors, *Congregation of Liberal Judaism, Orlando*.



MEL KOHN

....*Hy Meltz* is doing his best to promote the importance of Yiddish and keep it alive. "I would hate to see it fade from us," Hy said. He conducts a club, *Der Yiddish Vinkl*, that meets once a month (2nd Monday at 10 a.m.) at the Orlando Public Library branch on Edgewater Drive and Lee Road.

....*Robert Marlin* has launched Phase 2 of the *Bride Index Project*... (see page 13). Robert also has an article in the March/April issue of *Family Chronicle* about City Directories; the May/June issue will have his article on Holocaust Research; and July/August you can read his article on maps and genealogy. In addition, Robert signed a contract with *ANCESTRY Magazine* to write a number of Bare Bones columns during the next year. Robert's web site: <http://members.aol.com/MySixteen>.

....*Gladys Friedman Paulin* was the JGSGO representative to the annual meeting of the IAJGS in Los Angeles and again at the Federation of Genealogical Societies held in Cincinnati, August 19-22.

.....*Jay and Marianne Schleichkorn* traveled to Jackson, Mississippi this past mid-July to attend the *Alsace Lorraine Jewish Immigration Exhibit* sponsored by the Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience. In the state, they also visited Jewish sites in Port Gibson, Utica, Vicksburg, Natchez and Biloxi.

....*Marge Spears-Soloff*, organizer of the Jewish Orphans web site has three additional sites on the World Wide Web. She developed *MIKVAH WORLD* a fun site she made "because I live in Orlando". And for those people who like cats, Marge has two other sites, *CASPER & ODIE DO ORLANDO* and *CAT WORLD ALMANAC*.

Marge recently reported her web site now carries historical and archival information on over 100 Jewish Orphanages in the U.S. New information on the site includes Orphan Court Records and Children's Death Records.

....*Gene Starn* stepped into the temporary role of coordinator of the ROM-SIG after the untimely death of his friend and former coordinator Sam Elpern. One of his first major efforts with ROM-SIG was preparing a 36 page journal. Gene is also the coordinator of the *Kelcie-Radom SIG* and recently produced the quarterly journal.

....*Tess Wise*, founder of the Holocaust Memorial Resource and Educational Center, Maitland, was named the January 28's Daily Point of Light in recognition of her many volunteer activities. For more than 17 years, Tess has worked in a volunteer role as executive director of the center. Tess and her husband, Abe, have been JGSGO members since 1993.



TESS WISE

....Thanks to the following people for their supplemental support of JGSGO by submitting annual membership fees as a Patron (\$100.00) or Sponsor (\$50.00):
Patron: *Charles Ginsberg*, president, *Jaisan, Inc.* NYC, NY;
Greg Kolojeski, Winter Springs
Sponsors: *Muriel Walzer Klein*, formerly of Longwood, now living in Rossmoor, CA;
Gladys Friedman Paulin, Maitland;
Audrey Pearlman, Orlando.

Appreciation is also extended to three friends of the JGSGO president for their recent financial contributions. They are *Myron Goldstein*, Physical Therapist, of Plainview, NY; *Alan Klein*, PT, Huntington, NY; and *Kathy Novick*, PT, Amityville, NY.

I can't believe my luck. I decided to trace my family tree and it turns out I'm on someone else's property.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION: AMERICAN PHYSICIANS:

If you are interested in genealogical research involving an American Physician, you may be able to get help through the National Genealogical Society. The Society now offers a research service for entries in the AMA Deceased Physician File (*Surnames A through L now available*). The file is complete from 1878 to 1905 but comprehensive from 1906 to 1969. Information on the database usually includes date and place of birth and death, medical school attended, place of practice, hospital affiliation, and obituary. The research fee is \$15.00 per name with prepayment required. You should include the first and last name of the physician, time period and location if known.

Write to: National Genealogical Society, Attn: Physician Research, 4527 17th Street North, Arlington, VA 22207-2399.

UKRAINE/POLISH INFORMATION:

Thanks to JGSGO member Carl Migden, the following web sites are offered to those interested in searching for information in the Ukraine:

Infoukes Website= <http://www.infoukes.com>

Ukrainian PhotoGallery:

<http://infoukes.com/culture/galleries/dorosh/>

Ukrainian-Maps:

<http://soma.crl.mcmaster.ca/ukes/ua-links/Ukraine5.html>

Ukrainian Website:

<http://www.infoukes.com/culture/lemkos/>

Ukrainian Information:

<http://pages.prodigy.com/ukraine/sources.htm>

Indexes-Localities of Ukraine:

<http://www.infoukes.com/culture/lemkos/lib/indexuke.html>

Polish Info- Needle- in - Haystack:

<http://www.masterpage.com.pl/>

Maps: Poland/Germany:

http://www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/PCL/Map_collection/historical/history_europe.html

Carl also suggests a website that offers general research and a guide to help locate your town in the Ukraine. <http://www.Rootsweb.com~UKRwgv/index.html> includes the Ukraine Weekly, history of the region and more.

SHIP PHOTOS ON THE INTERNET:

The web site Floating Palaces offers photos of many of the famous ships that traveled from Europe to USA. Check out: <http://www.uncommonjourneys.com/pages/palaces/htm>.

Another website with such information is:

<http://www.fortunecity.com/littleitaly/amalfi/13/shipik.html>

CIVIL WAR WEB SITE: There is a web site, *Roots and Branches* devoted to information about the Civil War. It has many things to help the researcher such as used genealogy books, forms, maps, and an information Civil War page. Check it out at:

[Http://members.aol.com/RebelSher1/index/html](http://members.aol.com/RebelSher1/index/html)

AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY:

Established in 1996, the American Jewish History Online Discussion Group is dedicated to disseminating information and ongoing discussion of issues of interest to the American Jewish historical community. It encourages individuals and organizations involved in studying, teaching, preserving or exhibiting aspects of American Jewish History to exchange information and plans. Jewish historical and genealogical societies are urged to participate. The website is sponsored by the American Jewish Historical Society and distributed via an unmoderated "Majordoma" mailing list (amjhistory@shore.net)

To subscribe, send an e-mail message to majordom@shore.net. In the body of the message write: "Subscribe amjhistory (without the quotation marks). Do not include anything else in the message. You will receive notification from the server that your name has been added.

CONFEDERATE JEWISH SOLDIERS:

If you have a Jewish relative who was a Confederate soldiers, the web site Civil-war@msn.com is collecting information on such individuals. In particular the site is looking for personal notes, letters or general information on any Confederate Jewish soldier. The contact is Ronald Seagrave, Director, Sgt. Kirkland's Museum and Historical Society, 912 Lafayette Blvd., Fredericksburg, VA 22401

NEW ADDRESS IN ISRAEL

If you have any correspondence with the Genealogical Society in Israel, make a note of a new address:

Israel Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 4270, 91041 Jerusalem, Israel

Tel: (972) 2 651-4996 Fax: (972) 2 671-0260

E-mail: igs@lexicom.co.il

Web: <http://www.navitek.com/igs>

Shalom, Jean-Pierre Stroweis

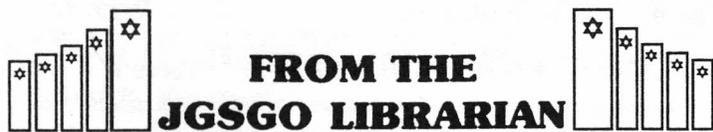
JeanPierreStroweis@compuserve.com, President

A JEWISH VIEW.....

There is a big controversy these days concerning when life begins. In Jewish tradition the fetus is not considered a viable human being until after graduation from medical school.

From: ksucher@email.sjsu.edu (July 17, 1998)

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR
MEMBERSHIP IN JGSGO?



Carl R. Migden

The 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 genealogists 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 Heritage - Illinois - Spring 1998

Making Yizkor Books Accessible by Martin Kessel

Zichron Note - San Francisco - February 1998

Success Story: The Value of the JewishGen Digest and Family Finder by Gunther Steinberg

Chronicles - Philadelphia - Winter 1998

Features: Internet Success by Larry Posner

Sharsheret Hardorot - Israel - January 1998

Searching for Long-Lost Relatives in Europe

by Lucien Harris

Dorot - New York - Spring 1998

Trade Papers as a Source by Paul H. Silverstone

Shem Tov - Toronto, Canada - March 1998

Jewish Genealogy on the Internet

by Ruth Chernia

JGSGO LIBRARY RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Birmingham, Stephen,	<i>The Rest of Us</i>
Birmingham, Stephen,	<i>Our Crowd</i>
Birmingham, Stephen,	<i>The Grandees</i>
Goldin, Harry,	<i>Only in America</i>
Goldin, Harry,	<i>Our Southern Landsman</i>
Handlin Oscar,	<i>Boston's Immigrants</i>
Lozowick, Louis,	<i>One Hundred Contemporary Jewish Painters and Sculptors</i>



Jewish Genealogical
Of Greater Orlando
P.O. Box 9411332
Maitland, FL 32794



**Is your genealogical research giving you a problem?
Share it with members of the JGSGO....attend the next meeting.
Someone probably has the answer and the solution.**