

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida
MISHPOCHOLOGY Volume 10, Number 1 March 2005

Jewish Genealogy Month 2005 is April 10 - May 9
(Nisan 5765)

. This year the theme is "Changing Numbers Back to Names" recalling Arthur Kurzweil's statement at the 1995 Conference that
"When the Nazis rounded us up, they took away our names and gave us numbers.
We genealogists are involved in taking away the numbers and giving back the names."
You can preview the poster at <http://www.avotaynu.com/poster2005.htm>.

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The Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida publishes Mishpochology quarterly.

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NEXT MEETING FOR THE JGS OF SW FL

Sunday, March 20, 2005 (1:00 PM) @ JCC, 582 S. McIntosh Road, Sarasota

Program:

"European Synagogues and Family Research -- Guideposts To Our Past"

by Tony Joseph

President's Shpiel

by Kim Sheintal

Jewish Geography is high among my list of favorite games. It is up there with Scrabble, and that's saying a lot since I play Scrabble on the computer at least an hour everyday.

Have you ever played Jewish Geography? The rules are simple: talk to someone who has Jewish roots and ask them where they are from. The odds are high that you will know someone in common with that person.

Here is my latest Jewish Geography discovery. I received the following email on December 16 from Jeanne, a fellow genealogy surfer. "I have Jaffe-Berman relatives from Panevezys. Rachel Jaffe married Nathan Berman and came with kids to NY c. 1893. Any connection?" Jeanne saw my posting on JewishGen Family Finder that I am tracing Jaffe from Panevezys. As luck would have it, Jeanne and I are related.

My daughter came to town from DC on December 24 and I told her about Jeanne. While my daughter was in town, her 1999 college roommate Jenne from Vermont came to visit us. It dawned on me while Jenne was in my home that her last name and Jeanne's last name are the same. To my surprise, Jenne and Jeanne are cousins.

Jewish Geography is high among my list of favorite games – anyone want to play with me?

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida Programs

(Flanzer JCC @ 1:00 PM)

Sunday, March 20, 2005 European Synagogues and Family Research -- Guideposts To Our Past

by Tony Joseph

Sunday, April 17, 2005 The Winter of Our Discontent: 3 Months to Better Organization

by Dear Myrtle

Sunday, May 15, 2005 Pot Luck Luncheon with "Jewish Soul Music" program

by Rosalie Leon

Discovering that I am Jewish
by Alex Morris

I first learned my Mom and her family were Jewish when I was about 20. My Mom's parents had passed away before I was born and my Dad was raised a Catholic orphan. Religion and ancestry were surely discussed, but I had no awareness. I believe both topics faded away when my folks moved from NYC to Washington DC upon their marriage in 1925. My siblings and I were raised nominally as Protestants. I had to ask my Grandparents' names and origins for the Navy's security background investigation and was surprised to learn her parents, Samuel Oliphant and Henrietta Newman, came from near Minsk, Russia, now Belarus, during the 1890s. Of course now I wish I'd asked and learned more. The hard part, though, was trying to find out my Mom's age. "None of their damn business!" she insisted. The Admiral finally had to ask my Dad.* <http://www.usna.edu/USNABand/biographies/MorrisBio.htm>

Yom Hashoah Tribute

Wed., May 4 (6:30 PM) @ JCC

Yom Hashoah Tribute to Raoul Wallenberg

The documentary "Searching for Wallenberg" will be shown.

Using the Internet for Genealogical Research

Mon., March 7 (7:00 PM) @ Lakewood Ranch Town Hall

by Donna Moughty, professional genealogist

For more information, contact Donna at 907-2914

Group Trip to Lithuania & Nearby Areas

June 28 July 7, 2005

Includes: visits to the various Archives, synagogues, ghettos, holocaust sites, meetings with Jewish leaders, sight-seeing, guide/interpreters, and two days to visit and spend time in your shtetl, or shtetlach of interest. Trip also includes most meals, the finest hotels (new & modern), and modern bus. Howard is very familiar with the Archives, the archivists, Lithuania and the main places of Jewish interest. He does not organize these group trips as a profit-making endeavor. Everything is done at cost but in a deluxe manner. His main object is to encourage Jews to go back to their roots, to encourage them to research their ancestors and to enable them to see the rebirth of Judaism taking place in Lithuania. For details and a full itinerary of the trip, contact Howard Margol, homargol@aol.com Fax: 404-228-7125

25th IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy

July 10-15, 2005 at Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs/jgs-southernnevada/Shelley/index.htm>

Group Trip: Western Belarus

September 2005

(Bereza, Brest, Cherne, Divin, Drogichin, Gorodets, Grodno, Kamenets, Kobrin, Krasnoye, Linovo, Malech, Malorita, Pinsk, Pruzhany, Selets, Shereshevo, Tsvli, Volya, Wysokie, Zaprudny, Zhabar, Zhabinka)

EASTERN POLAND

(Bialystok, Konstantynow Nad Bugiem, Lukow, Siedce, Terespol)

Were your ancestors from Brest-Litovsk or any of the above listed towns? A group of people who belong to the Brest, Belarus Research SIG and additional people from around the world are planning a trip to Brest with individual guided one or two day side trips to any Shtetl(s) of your choice within 100 kilometer radius of Brest (see web page for complete details).

A special two (2) day side trip is planned to Pinsk.

A special two (2) day side trip is planned to Grodno.

Briefly, the trip starts on September 20, 2005. The duration is nine (9) nights and the land only cost is about US \$1,850 (without dinners) or about US \$2,100 (with dinners every night except Saturday). The complete itinerary can be seen on the website: http://www.brest-belarus.com/Brest_Trip.shtml

This is a definite trip that will take place. The only question is "How many people will be on the trip - 25, 30 or the limit of 40"? As of February 9, 2005, twenty-five (25) people have made the initial deposit. Over 62% of the total participants. We cannot accept more than 40 people, because that is all that the luxury coach will comfortably sit.

To join the group trip to Brest and the surrounding Shtetls and/or to ask any questions about this trip, please contact in Los Angeles, California, USA (If you want to call, please only between the hours of 9AM - 6PM California time, Monday through Friday): Larry Schenker

Tel: 310 441-1488 E-mail: lpasca@earthlink.net

OWNER/MODERATOR Brest, Belarus Research SIG

WEBMASTER http://www.brest-belarus.com/Brest_Trip.shtml

Mirror web site - <http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/brest/home.html>

Los Angeles, CA

Wonderful World of Websites

<http://www.eogen.com>

Dick Eastman, author of the e-zine, "Eastman's Online Genealogy", is developing an online *Encyclopedia of Genealogy*. The site, he states, will serve as a free clearinghouse of genealogy techniques: where to find records, how to organize the data found, what the terminology means, and how to plan your next research effort. Within a few months, the online encyclopedia will describe how to research African American, French-Canadian, German, Indian, Italian, Jewish, Polish, and other ethnic groups. In short, the *Encyclopedia of Genealogy*, Eastman hopes, will serve as your standard genealogy reference manual.

The Online *Encyclopedia of Genealogy* grows through the addition of articles written by the genealogical community itself; users such as yourself. This is because it is built on "wiki" software: a technique that allows collaborative effort for a website system where, for the most part, -any- person can edit -any- page. An example of this technique is the Wikipedia at <http://www.wikipedia.org> and at Wiktionary at <http://www.wiktionary.org>. The wiki software approach means that if you see anything in the encyclopedia that is incorrect, you can change it. If you see anything that is incomplete, you can add to it. If you note anything that is missing, you can add it or create your own entry.

At present, the encyclopedia has just 200 articles, but new contributions from readers will grow the site.

The license used grants free access to the content in the same sense as free software is licensed freely. This principle, known as "copyleft", means the contents of the *Encyclopedia of Genealogy* can be copied, modified, and redistributed, so long as the new version grants the same freedoms to others and acknowledges the authors of the Encyclopedia of Genealogy article used (a direct link back to the article satisfies the author credit requirement). Encyclopedia of Genealogy articles, therefore, will remain free forever and can be used by anyone, subject to very minor restrictions, most of which serve to ensure that freedom.

You can subscribe to Eastman's weekly newsletter at <http://www.eogn.com/>. There are two versions; a free version and an expanded version that costs \$19.95.

<http://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Chicago>

Chicagoan Mike Karsen has recently developed "Guide to Jewish Genealogy in Chicagoland". This new website contains information on more than 75 research locations to aid the Jewish/Chicago researcher. The site contain specifics about each location-including address, phone, fax, e-mail, website, a description of the resources available, and information about accessing the records. In addition to the location information, the website has a section organized by the type of record-including vital records, residence records, life in Jewish Chicago, arrival records, and "old country" information. These web pages guide the user by each record type to the locations where the information can be found.

<http://www.freeality.com/myfamily.htm>

My Family People Finder "find people search engine" will help you find the person you are looking for. Find friends, family, school mates and reunite with people from your past. MyFamily is the largest search site for finding people.

http://www.rootsweb.com/~jfuller/gen_mail.html

The mailing lists contained in this section are divided into the following categories: Countries other than USA; USA; Surnames; Adoption; African-Ancestry (other than Freedman); Cemeteries/Monuments/Obituaries; Computing/Internet Resources; DNA Studies/Testing; Emigration/Migration Ships and Trails; Family History, Folklore, and Artifacts; Freedman (African, Native American, Caucasian, etc.); Genealogical Material/Services; General Information/Discussion; Jewish; LDS; Native American; Newspapers; Nobility/Heads of State/Heraldry; Occupations; Religions/Churches (other than Jewish/LDS); Societies; Software; Translations and Word Origins; Vital Records (census, BMD); Wars/Military; Uncategorized (some great lists). Go to Jewish, and you will get 81 Jewish Genealogy sites!

<http://www.behindthename.com>

There are many sites about Surnames, but here is one for given names.

Jewish Genealogy is Alive and **VERY** Well

Organizations

Avotaynu
Center for Jewish History
International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)
JewishGen
Stephen P. Morse Webpages
The Douglas E. Goldman Jewish Genealogy Center at Beth Hatefutsoth
The Israeli Institute for Genealogical Research and Study (TIIGRS)
The Miriam Weiner Routes to Roots Foundation, Inc.

Projects

Poland Jewish Cemeteries Restoration Project
Yizkor Book Project

SIGs

Belarus SIG
Bohemia-Moravia SIG
ETSI Sephardi Genealogical and Historical Society
French SIG
German-Jewish SIG (GerSig)
Gesher Galicia
Grodno Genealogy Group, Inc.
Hungarian SIG (H SIG)
Jewish Records Indexing-Poland
Kielce-Radom SIG
Latin American SIG
Latvia SIG
LitvakSIG
ROM SIG
Scandinavia SIG
SefardSIG
Southern Africa SIG
Suwalk – Lomza SIG
Ukraine SIG

Societies

Asociación de Genealogía Judía de Argentina
Asociación de Genealogía Judía de Venezuela
Australian Jewish Genealogical Society (Victoria), Inc.
Australian Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.
Cercle de Généalogie Juive
Cercle de Généalogie Juive de Belgique
Dallas Jewish Historical Society, Jewish Genealogy Interest Group
Eugene, Oregon Jewish Genealogy Study Group
Galilee Genealogical Society
GenAmi, Association de Généalogie Juive Internationale
Genealogical Institute of the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada
Greater Houston Jewish Genealogical Society
Greater Phoenix Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.
Hamburger Gesellschaft für jüdische Genealogie e.V.
Illiana Jewish Genealogical Society
Israel Genealogical Society
Jacksonville Jewish Genealogical Society
Jamaica Jewish Genealogical Society
Jewish Family Research Association Israel (JFRA Israel)
Jewish Genealogical Group, Columbus Jewish Historical Society
Jewish Genealogical Institute of British Columbia
Jewish Genealogical Society - Hamilton & Area
Jewish Genealogical Society Johannesburg
Jewish Genealogical Society of Bergen County, New Jersey, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society of Buffalo
Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (Toronto)
Jewish Genealogical Society of Cleveland
Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado
Jewish Genealogical Society of Connecticut, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society of Dayton
Jewish Genealogical Society of Denmark
Jewish Genealogical Society of Georgia, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain
Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston, Inc.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Cincinnati
Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Miami, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Orlando
Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia
Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
Jewish Genealogical Society of Michigan
Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal
Jewish Genealogical Society of New Hampshire
Jewish Genealogical Society of New Orleans
Jewish Genealogical Society of North Jersey
Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon
Jewish Genealogical Society of Ottawa
Jewish Genealogical Society of Palm Beach County, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society of Palm Springs
Jewish Genealogical Society of Pittsburgh
Jewish Genealogical Society of Rochester
Jewish Genealogical Society of Sacramento
Jewish Genealogical Society of San Antonio
Jewish Genealogical Society of Southern Alberta
Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida
Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis
Jewish Genealogical Society of Tallahassee
Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay
Jewish Genealogical Society of the Capital District (NY), (JGSCD)
Jewish Genealogical Society of the former Soviet Union
Jewish Genealogical Society of Tidewater
Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State
Jewish Genealogical Society Southern Nevada, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.
Jewish Genealogical Society, Los Angeles
Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington
Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island
Jewish Historical & Genealogical Society of Western Australia Inc.
Jewish Historical Society of Central Jersey
Jewish Historical Society of Southern Arizona, Genealogy Group
Judiska Släktforskningsföreningen i Sverige
San Diego Jewish Genealogical Society
San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society
Schweizerische Vereinigung für Jüdische Genealogie
Sociedade Genealogica Judaica do Brasil
The Irish Jewish Genealogical Society
Utah Jewish Genealogical Society
Western Massachusetts Jewish Genealogical Society
Wisconsin Jewish Genealogical Society

A SAMPLING OF WHAT'S HAPPENING AMONG JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES AROUND THE WORLD

Testimony to Yad Vashem from Israel

The Israel Genealogical Society [IGS] has volunteered to help find Israeli submitters of Pages of Testimony. For more information, go to <http://www.isragen.org.il> and look under "Projects" on the side bar; click on a category called "Submitters of Pages of Testimony in Israel."

JGS of Tampa Bay Publishes First Newsletter

JGS of Tampa Bay published their first newsletter in January 2005. The JGS of Tampa Bay is open for suggestions for a title for their genealogy newsletter – one that is not already being used for some other publication.

JGS of St. Louis is Ten Years Old

In honor of the tenth anniversary of the JGS of St. Louis, Stephen P. Morse, award-winning builder of search engines for genealogical databases, is coming to speak to their members on March 13 about "Searching Databases in One-step" and "Searching Ellis Island's Database in One-step."

Electronic Mail Lists

JewishGen Mail Lists

The Jewish Genealogy Discussion Group is one of JewishGen Discussion Groups offered on the JewishGen website. "The JewishGen Discussion Group is an Internet forum which fulfills the vision to unite Jewish genealogical researchers worldwide as they read and discuss each day's messages. They share information, ideas, methods, tips, techniques, case studies and resources." To become a subscriber, go to www.jewishgen.org and scroll down to Discussion Groups and click on Discussion Group. Members are able to receive postings via e-mail each day, post personal entries and respond to entries on the list. You can respond to directly to the person who posted the entry or to the entire Discussion Group. For information about other JewishGen electronic mail lists, go to www.jewishgen.org, scroll down to Discussion Groups and click on Special Interest Group (SIG) Mailing Lists.

Regional Special Interest Groups on JewishGen

Austria-Czech SIG - A forum for those researching Jewish genealogy in the areas formerly known as Bohemia and Moravia (now the Czech Republic), plus parts of Austria, especially Vienna, but not Galicia.

Belarus SIG - A forum for researchers with Jewish family roots in country now known as Belarus and more specifically from the former Russian Gubernia (provinces) of Grodno, Minsk, Mogilev, and Vitebsk

Early American SIG - A forum for those researching Jewish immigrants to the United States before 1880.

French SIG - A forum for Jewish genealogical research in France and French colonies, as well as other French-speaking areas such as Belgium, Luxembourg and Switzerland.

German Jewish SIG - A forum focused on geographic, historic and linguistic Germany, including parts of Switzerland, Poland, and Alsace-Lorraine.

Gesher Galicia SIG - A forum for those interested in researching their Jewish roots in the former Austrian province of Galicia (now southern Poland, western Ukraine).

H-SIG - Hungarian Jewish Special Interest Group is for those with Jewish roots in the area known as "greater Hungary" including areas that at one time were predominantly Hungarian speaking.

JCR-UK SIG - Jewish Communities and Records (JCR-UK): A project to record genealogical and historical information concerning the Jewish communities of the United Kingdom.

Latin America SIG - A forum for researchers with Jewish family roots in all countries of Latin America.

Latvia SIG - A forum for researchers of Jewish families of Latvian descent.

LitvakSIG - Encourages preservation and computerization of primary sources of genealogical data, for the descendants of the Lithuanian Jewish community.

Rabbinic Genealogy SIG - A forum for those interested in Rabbinic genealogy or researching rabbinic ancestry within any geographic area or time period.

Romania SIG - A forum for those with Jewish roots in Bessarabia, Bukovina, Dobruja, Maramures, Moldavia, Transylvania and Wallachia (all within the modern nations of Romania, Moldova, and southwestern Ukraine).

Scandinavia SIG - A forum for researchers with Jewish roots in Finland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark - including former Danish colonies and protectorates.

Sefard Forum - A forum for researchers of Sephardic genealogies. English is the preferred language.

South Africa SIG - A forum to discuss the genealogy and family history of Jewish communities of South Africa, Lesotho, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia (Rhodesia), Swaziland, Mozambique and the former Belgian Congo.

Ukraine SIG - A forum for researchers with family origins in the former Russian Empire gubernias now in the Ukraine: Podolia, Volhynia, Kiev, Poltava, Chernigov, Kharkov, Kherson, Taurida and Ekaterinoslav.

JewishGen Projects on JewishGen

DNA Testing - Scientific questions on the core of DNA technology and its reliability. Discussions encompass all areas relating to when and how to best utilize DNA testing for your personal genealogical pursuits.

ShtetLinks -

Participants create web pages of their own, devoted to a Jewish community (shtetl), which is then uploaded to the JewishGen website.

Yizkor Project - Memorial books, assembled by survivors of communities liquidated by the Nazis, give accounts of the customs and lifestyles of people in a world that is no more. The forum works to facilitate access.

JewishGen Hosted Projects

JRI-Poland - Jewish Records Indexing Poland. A project to create a searchable database containing all available vital record indexes for Jews of Poland.

Las Vegas 2005 - A mailing list devoted to questions and issues about the 25th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Las Vegas, July 2005

Community Research Groups on JewishGen

BIALYGen: Bialystok Region Jewish Genealogy Group

Borislav, Drogobych, Sambor and Vicinity Research Group

Ciechanow Research Group

Courland Area Research Group

Lodz Area Research Group

Warszawa Research Group

Other Research Groups on JewishGen

YTandV Research Group

Rootsweb Ethnic-Jewish Mail Lists

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN-JEWISH

BRITISH-JEWRY

BROWN-JEWISH

GERMAN-JEWISH

JEWISH-NOBILITY

JUDEO-ALSATIAN

POL-KRAKOW-RESEARCH-GROUP

UKR-ODESSA-GEN

For more information about the Rootsweb mail lists, go to the website at <http://lists.rootsweb.com/index/other/Ethnic-Jewish/>