



Permission is granted to quote, in whole or in part, any article included in *Mishpochology* by the newsletter/journal of any other IAJGS member society, providing that acknowledgment of the source is given, unless the article is identified as one that is not to be reproduced. Acknowledgement should include the title and writer of the article, the issuing society, and its newsletter volume number or date of publication. Additionally, as a courtesy, we request that an email be sent letting us know that a published article is being further used. You are invited to submit stories, helpful genealogical hints, and tidbits to Kim Sheintal at klapshein@aol.com

President's Spiel

by Kim Sheintal

As genealogists tracing our Jewish roots, we often reminisce about our Jewish past. Since January 2024, I asked 25 people who lived (or have lived) in Sarasota-Manatee to write articles for the *Jewish News of Sarasota-Manatee* comparing their Jewish life in Sarasota-Manatee with their Jewish life in another city. In addition to learning about Jewish life in cities around the world, I learned that people enjoy reminiscing about their life. Most of the people who wrote their stories thanked me because they did not realize how much they would enjoy writing about their past. People have enjoyed reading other people's stories. People tell me that they enjoy reading the stories about the small cities where Jewish people lived rather than the big cities. Cities featured thus far have included big cities such as Chicago and Detroit, small cities such as Evansville (IN) and Muscatine (IO). Cities within countries outside the United States such as Egypt and Mexico have also been a part of this series. At the December 21 JGS of SW FL meeting, four members will each reminisce about their most memorable ancestor. I hope you enjoy their presentations as much as they have enjoyed preparing this.

2026 Membership Dues

Single Membership: \$25/year

Family Membership: \$30/year

Sustaining Membership: \$50/year (single or family)

Mail check (payable to JGS of SW FL) with your name, e-mail, phone, address and surnames/places you are researching to:

Liz Klaber ~ 5389 Manchini Street ~ Sarasota, FL 34238

JGS of SW FL ONLINE

JGSSWF website www.jgsswf.org

JGSSWF YouTube Channel www.youtube.com/@JGSSWF

JGSSWF speaker's handout archive www.tinyurl.com/mr3d8jw7

JGSSWF Facebook page www.facebook.com/JGSSWF

MISHPOCHOLOGY

Volume 30, Number 4 December 2025

President/Editor: Kim Sheintal klapshein@aol.com

Treasurer: Liz Klaber eklaber@comcast.net

Programs: Howard Finkel hgfinkel@gmail.com

Facebook: Leah Cook leahcook@aol.com

Webmaster: Jim Haberman webmaster@jgsswf.org

Mishpochology is published quarterly.

JGS of SW FL MEETING

Sunday, December 21, 2025 (1:00 PM)

Aviva, 1951 N. Honore Avenue, Sarasota

"My Most Memorable Ancestor"

For details Kim Sheintal: klapshein@aol.com, 941-302-1433

JGS of SW FL PROGRAMS COMING SOON

My Most Memorable Ancestor

Join us for "My Most Memorable Ancestor" panel discussion by Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida members on Sunday, December 21 at 1:00 PM at Aviva, 1951 N. Honore Avenue, Sarasota, Florida. Panel members are:

- Doug Cohen
- Lois Goldman
- Abe Lederman
- Marc Silverstein

Sarasota County Libraries & Historical Resources

Join us for "Exciting New Programs and Services from Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources" by Renee Di Pilato, Director, Sarasota County Libraries and Historical Resources, and Josh Goodman, Manager, Sarasota County History Center, on Sunday, January 18 at 1:00 PM at Aviva, 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota, Florida. For library sources around the country, read pages 3 and 4 in this newsletter.

Using AI in Genealogy (An Update)

Join us for "Using AI in Genealogy" by Peggy Jude on Sunday, February 15 at 1:00 PM at Aviva, 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota, Florida.

Research Israel Genealogical Resources from Your Couch

Join us for "Research Israel Genealogical Resources from Your Couch" by Daniel Horowitz on Friday, March 13 at 10:00 AM at Temple Emanu-El, 151 McIntosh Road, Sarasota, Florida.

Born in the USA (or Not):

The Evolution of Children's Citizenship

Join us for "Born in the USA (or Not): The Evolution of Children's Citizenship" by Alec Ferretti on Sunday, March 15 at 1:00 PM (Zoom only).

My Name is Not Rifka

Join us for "My Name is Not Rifka" by Vivien Kalvaria on Sunday, April 19 at 1:00 PM at Aviva, 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota, Florida.

Wonderful World of Websites

Newspapers

- Google Newspapers <https://news.google.com/newspapers>
- *Sarasota Journal* <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=aFwNBOTKqaYC>
- *Sarasota-Herald Tribune* <https://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=A7-hzOul2KQC>
- Jewish News of Sarasota-Manatee <https://newspapers.uflib.ufl.edu/titles/AA00032764>
<https://jfedrsq.org/media-central/jewish-news/>
- Newspaper Archives (by paid subscription) <https://www.newspapers.com>
- Historical Jewish Press (Jewish newspapers from many countries by clicking "search and browse the newspapers") <https://www.nli.org.il/en/discover/newspapers/jpress>
- Digitized Historic Jewish Newspapers, Periodicals, e-Journals <http://library.osu.edu/projects/hebrew-lexicon/Jewish-Press.htm>

Shul Records America

- <https://usa.jewishgen.org/synagogue-research/shul-records-america>
- <https://www.jewishgen.org/sra/>

Jewish Family Tree Fillable Templates

- Center for Jewish History <https://familychart.cjh.org>
- Blood and Frogs <https://bloodandfrogs.com/forms>

Jewish Genealogy Facebook Pages for Posting Queries

- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/JewishGenealogyPortal>
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tracingthetribes>

Submit Jewish Family Trees

- ANU Museum <https://www.anumuseum.org.il/upload-gedcom/>
- American Jewish Historical Society <https://ajhs.org/ajhs-submission-guidelines/>
- JewishGen Family Tree of the Jewish People (click upload my Gedcom) <https://www.jewishgen.org/gedcom/>

Collection of Jewish Family Trees

- Family History Collections at ANU Museum <https://dbs.anumuseum.org.il/skn/en/c6/BH>
- JewishGen Family Tree of the Jewish People <https://www.jewishgen.org/gedcom>

Jewish Genealogy

- JewishGen <https://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen/Mission.html>
- Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida <http://www.jgsswf.org>
- International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies <https://www.iajgs.org/membership/member-societies/>
- International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies Annual Conferences <https://www.iajgs.org/conferences/future-conferences/>
- International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies Book Recommendations <https://www.iajgs.org/SGS-JGS/Critical-Books-for-a-Jewish-Genealogy-Library.pdf>
- Jewish Tree Charts and Sources <https://www.geni.com/projects/Important-Jewish-Family-Tree-Charts-Sources/13369>
- Projects Tagged with Jewish Family Trees https://www.geni.com/projects/tag/Jewish_Genealogy_Family_Trees

- List of Jewish Surnames <https://www.familyeducation.com/baby-names/surname/origin/jewish>
- American Jewish Historical Society <https://www.ajhs.org>
- American Jewish Archives Catalog <https://sites.americanjewisharchives.org/collections/catalog.php>
- Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives <https://www.americanjewisharchives.org>
- Avotaynu (publisher of products to those researching Jewish roots) <https://www.avotaynu.com>
- Consolidated Jewish Surname List (CJSL: gateway to information about 699,084 surnames, mostly Jewish, that appear in 42 Different Databases) <https://www.avotaynu.com/csi/csi-home.htm>
- JRI Poland <https://www.jri-poland.org>
- Litvak SIG <https://www.litvaksig.org/all-lithuania-database/>
- Miriam Weiner Routes to Roots Foundation <https://www.rtrfoundation.org/index.shtml>
- YIVO Institute for Jewish Research <https://www.yivo.org/family-history-research>
- Arolsen Archives <https://arolsen-archives.org/en/archive/online-search/>
- B&F Compendium of Jewish Genealogy <https://bloodandfrogs.com/compendium>
- Douglas E. Goldman Jewish Genealogy Center https://dbs.anumuseum.org.il/skn/en/c6/e18493701/אודות/The_Douglas_E_Goldman_Jewish_Genealogy_Center
- Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research <https://www.facebook.com/IGHR.Georgia/>
- Center for Jewish History <https://genealogy-collections.cjh.org/familycollections.php>
- Ackman and Ziff Family Genealogy Institute <https://www.cjh.org/research/center-genealogy>

Genealogy Classes (most online)

- Education at JewishGen <https://www.jewishgen.org/education/index.asp>
<https://www.jewishgen.org/education/edu-instructors-2.html>
- Roots Tech <https://www.familysearch.org/en/rootstech/schedule?cid=EM-00052929&lid=rsdhnblhprpg>
- National Genealogical Society https://www.ngsgenealogy.org/genealogy-courses/?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=19558094297&gclid=0AAAAADrBhKW7dyzW8mfuD04LkUMq_DSX&gclid=Cj0KCQiAq7HIBhDoARIsAOATDxD6aREd12B8sojpxYB9c6K8BXcmoQkXBm_u12dtn1SI2v_hXYEvrwEaAsMyEALw_wcB

Pages of Testimony

Pages of Testimony are special forms created by Yad Vashem to restore the personal identities and to record the brief life stories of the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and their accomplices. Submitted by survivors, remaining family members or friends in commemoration of Jews murdered in the Holocaust, these one-page forms, containing the names, biographical details and, when available, photographs, of each individual victim are essentially symbolic "tombstones".
<https://www.yadvashem.org>
https://www.ushmm.org/online/hsv/person_advance_search.php
<https://www.yadvashem.org/archive/hall-of-names/pages-of-testimony.html>

Association of Professional Genealogists

https://members.apgen.org/members/directory/search_APG.php?org_id=APG
<https://www.apgen.org>

Library Patron Helps Solve Jewish History

By Kim Sheintal

With online sources so popular, genealogists often forget library research. Libraries contain valuable information not available online. And you never know if you will meet a library patron who will help you discover a piece of Jewish history.

Every life is full of twists and turns, some the result of conscious or unconscious decisions the individual makes and others brought about by accident or destiny, if you believe in fate. In my efforts to learn more about the history of Jews in Sarasota-Manatee, the subject of the book, *Jews of Sarasota-Manatee*, I wrote in 2012, I have learned that the historian's path is also full of twists and turns, leading me in unexpected directions and often to surprising facts and insights.

That was certainly the case as I struggled to pin down the most basic fact imaginable about local Jewish history - when did a Jewish person first arrive here?

Sources I used for my book led me to believe that the first Jewish person in the two-county region settled in Sarasota in 1913. And that was what I thought until I met Phyllis, a woman who happened to be visiting the Manatee Central Library in downtown Bradenton when I was doing research there on May 18, 2013. Phyllis is not Jewish. We talked about local history and I told her of my interest in Sarasota-Manatee Jewish history.

She shared a story about a marker she saw while at Emerson Point Park in Palmetto. At Emerson Point Park, the history of many of the people that lived there is written on markers on the top of an old Indian mound. On one marker, Phyllis read about a Palmetto woman who was Jewish and had owned a candy store in Chicago with her husband, who was not Jewish. She read that the couple drowned in a river in Palmetto. For almost a year, I tried to find out the name of the couple and when they lived in Palmetto, but I had no success until January 2014.

On January 19, 2014, I attended a Sarasota Jewish Chorale performance directed by Linda Tucker. Linda, who is not Jewish, is from Palmetto. I asked her if she ever heard of a Jewish woman in Palmetto who drowned in a river. Linda did not know about this woman, but suggested I ask her mother, Lenore Stewart, who loves Palmetto history. Lenore put me in touch with Ken Burton. Although Ken was not Jewish, he knew much about Palmetto history and solved the mystery about the couple who drowned in the river.

Peter Marine married Golden Fonseca on December 21, 1887 in Boston. Peter was born in Spain

in 1852 and was not Jewish. His wife was born in Boston area in 1860 and was Jewish. Her parents were from London, England. Peter and Golden moved from Boston to Chicago. In 1909, they moved from Chicago to Palmetto. While living in Chicago, they started Marine Candy Company and sold it to Fanny Farmer Candy Company in 1900. On January 8, 1910, Peter and Golden purchased an Indian mound and the adjoining 363 acres in Palmetto. The land the Marine family had on Palmetto's Snead Island is now called Emerson Point Park. To enhance his land, Peter planted parallel rows of royal palms from the base of the mound almost to the river's edge. He raised tomatoes and peppers with his son, Lincoln Marine. On August 24, 1922, Lincoln returned home at noon to find the meal on the table but no one home. Knowing that his parents took a short swim in the Manatee River each day, he ran down the palm-lined lane to the river bank and found his father's body floating on the water. Golden was struggling to stay afloat, and Lincoln went to get help. When he returned with a neighbor, his mother had disappeared. Her body was found at the bottom of the river. According to a book by the Florida Historical Society, Peter drowned while trying to save Golden, who got into some sort of distress while swimming. But a newspaper clipping from the time reports that there were no witnesses to their drowning.

The mystery as to who was possibly the first Jewish person to settle in Sarasota-Manatee was discovered with the help of a non-Jewish lady visiting Manatee Central Library and a non-Jewish man interested in Palmetto history.

Sarasota and Manatee County Libraries

The Sarasota County library system includes Betty J. Johnson North Sarasota Library, Elsie Quirk Library, Frances T. Bourne Jacaranda Library, Fruitville Library, Gulf Gate Library, North Port Library, Selby Library, Shannon Staub Library, William H. Jerve, Jr. Venice Library, and Sarasota County Law Library. The system also includes an Osprey Library and History Center.

The Manatee County library system includes the Manatee Central Library, Braden River Branch Library, Island Branch Library, Lakewood Ranch Branch Library, Palmetto Branch Library, Rocky Bluff Branch Library, and South Manatee Branch Library. There is also the Little Discovery Center in Bradenton, which is a part of the library system and focuses on early literacy for young children.

Best Libraries for Genealogy Research in U.S.

Allen County Public Library
FamilySearch Library
Mid-Continent Public Library
Clayton Library
Birmingham Public Library
Denver Public Library
American Ancestors' Brim-DeForest Library
Detroit Public Library
Library of Congress
Dallas Public Library
Los Angeles Public Library
National DAR Library
The New York Public Library (NYPL)
Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library

Source for above list:

<https://familytreemagazine.com/libraries-archives/top-10-public-libraries/#:~:text=But%20which%20other,the%20United%20States%3A>

The Allen County Public Library's genealogy center in Fort Wayne, Indiana attracts more than 100,000 researchers from across the country each year. This library, a member of the JGS of SW FL, receives the JGS of SW FL newsletters. Their "Genealogy Center Surname File" gives you the ability to connect with people researching the same surnames as you.

https://www.genealogycenter.info/search_gensurnames.php

The Allen County Public Library's "Family Resources" allows you to find digitized family histories listed by the main surname in the history.

<https://www.genealogycenter.info/familydb.php>

The FamilySearch Library facility in Salt Lake City, is the largest genealogical library in the world, with over 5,000 branch FamilySearch Centers around the world. The FamilySearch library has a substantial collection of Jewish records, including the Knowles Collection.

https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/The_Knowles_Collection

The Mid-Continent Public Library's Midwest Genealogy Center in Independence, Missouri accommodates the library's 102,000 family history books, 100,000 local history items, 565,000 rolls of microfilm and microfiche, and 7,000 maps.

Family History Research Center at Clayton Library is a branch of the Houston Public Library.

The Southern History Department at the Birmingham Public Library is a boon to genealogists researching Southern ancestors, especially those in the

city of Birmingham, Jefferson County and the state of Alabama.

The Denver Public Library is a great destination for not only researching Coloradan ancestors, but Western history as well.

American Ancestors' Brim-DeForest Library specializes in New England research, this national center for family history based in Boston (formerly known as the New England Historic Genealogical Society) includes the Brim-DeForest Library with its impressive manuscript collection dating back to the 13th century.

The Detroit Public Library's Biography and Genealogy department offers census records (both federal and state), vital records, city directories, yearbooks, and more.

Library of Congress is in Washington, DC, holds more than 50,000 genealogies, 100,000 local histories, 5 million maps, and extensive collections of city directories and newspapers.

The Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck Genealogy Collection at the Dallas Public Library is one of the largest and most comprehensive collections for family history research in the Southwest.

The Los Angeles Public Library's Genealogy Collection boasts over 10,000 genealogies, as well as one of the largest map collections in the country.

The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) in Washington, DC, was founded as a collection of genealogical and historical publications used to verify application papers for society membership. It now houses those applications and supporting files plus biographies, genealogies, cemetery records, and more.

The New York Public Library offers unique, one-of-a-kind manuscript volumes and privately published rarities, particularly those pertaining to old New York families.

Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library collection covers all 50 states and some foreign countries with a wide range of record types and has microfilm of all available U.S. censuses for 1790 through 1930.

Jewish Genealogy Research

Physical institutions like the Center for Jewish History in New York and the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati offer extensive collections, guides, and research support, including access to unique document archives.