

# Family Gatherings

Newsletter of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County, Inc.

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## President's Message

by Michael Sofman

We are now well underway with our 2008-09 season, and we have already had some great programs. Most recently we were treated to the fascinating stories of our members Bob Kolnow, Larry Bodner, and Marty Zafman as they discussed the process of putting some of their family history on into print.

The next couple of months look to be very busy. On November 19, we are fortunate to have Joyce Baggerly, a representative of the Family History Center in Plantation. The Family History Centers are the local outposts of the gigantic Family History Library in Salt Lake City, and she will guide us through the ways they can help us

with our genealogical research.

On December 14, we will be having our Annual Anniversary Luncheon, celebrating our 20th year. I'm sure that Bernie Kouchel cannot believe that 20 years have already gone by since starting this group! We are delighted that Henry Abramson, who also spoke at our 15th Anniversary, will be enlightening us once again.

Our final program for 2008 will be given by Elise Friedman, an expert in DNA genealogy, and a great speaker. She presented several talks at the IAJGS Convention in Chicago this summer, and we are excited to have her speak to us as well.



**Michael Sofman**  
President, JGSBC

For further details on all these programs, see inside this issue.

And don't forget— Jewish Genealogy Month is going on right now, and Jewish Book month starts November 23.

Hope you all have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

Volume XX, Number 9  
November 2008

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### Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 pm, at the Alvin Sherman Library of NSU

**“Resources at the Family History Center”**

**Presented by Joyce Baggerly of the Family History Center  
In Plantation**

## Program Notes

by Marty Shames

### JGSBC Monthly Meeting, Sunday, October 26, 2008 held at Soref JCC

The title of the meeting was “Writing Your Family History” and the theme was Remembering, Preserving and Passing on your story. Before introducing the speakers, Marty Shames, Program Chair thanked Phil and Barbara Schaap, who were at the meeting, for making available the Schaap Family History, a hard cover book written in 1933 and published in 1938 by Dr. Louis Schaap in the Netherlands . This book was of special interest because it was published 70-years ago, traces the

Schaap family back to 1720 and covers 12 generations, tells of a family that had a surname in 1720 when most East European Jews did not yet have surnames and told of a Dutch Jewish family of many accomplishments (including chief rabbis, judges, doctors and very successful businessmen). He read from the epilogue in the book with comments and advice to future generations that included: “Life is a struggle, as you will experience right up to the day you leave this world to your posterity”.

We heard from three wonderful speakers, all members of our Society with very different ex-

periences and approaches to telling their family story.

**Marty Zafman**, born in New Jersey, grew up in the Bronx, discovered Florida when he returned from one of his many around the world cruises in 1998 and has been here ever since. Today his passion is genealogy where has been able to trace his paternal family to 1735 and his maternal family to 1750. (continued next page)

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**Family Gatherings** is the monthly publication of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County.

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**Deadline for submissions:** 5th of every month. Articles may be edited for content and clarity.

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## Membership

Rosa Pinsky

**We welcome** the following new members to the JGSBC:

Barbara and Philip Schaap  
Ellen Sobo  
Riva Wohl

Please greet them at our next meeting!

As you know, the more people that come to our meetings, the more possible connections there are, so please encourage your friends and family to attend our meetings. At this

time of year, we offer a special bonus— join now, and receive the remainder of this year, plus all of next year, for just one year’s payment. See the membership application at the end of this newsletter. New members will also be assigned a mentor, if needed, to help them get started. If anyone else would like to **have** a mentor or **be** a mentor, please notify me at rpinsky@jgsbc.org

Looking forward to seeing some new faces!!

## Program Notes (cont'd)

He is in the process of writing a book about his Feldbaum family with 2 of his cousins. You can read about the Feldbaum family at [www.feldbaumfamily.net](http://www.feldbaumfamily.net) and some of the book.

**Bob Koltnow**, a past president of the JGSBC, board member, attendee at the last 10 international conferences from Los Angeles to Jerusalem has researched, edited and/or written 2 books about his family and is now working on a complete history of the Koltnow family. Bob showed us the paperback books that he has had published – his father's autobiography and a biography about his brother who was a member of the Greatest Generation and went through the Battle of the Bulge. Bob provided information on the process and costs of publishing.

**Larry Bodner**, a member of the baby boom generation, born in the Bronx, grew up in Roslyn, New York and has lived in South Florida since 1969 talked about the beautiful book he self-published as a memorial to his father who was a Holocaust survivor. Documents, photographs, family stories and background information were included in the hard covered book.

The questions and comments made by members and guests again showed that sharing our family stories, research and writings are of great interest. Michael Sofman, president, encourage all members to submit articles and stories about their families and their research practices to him for inclusion in the Family Gatherings Newsletter and to participate in future meetings.



Marty Zafman



Bob Koltnow



Larry Bodner

**Program Notes (cont'd)**

We have several exciting programs coming up. Here is some additional information about the speakers and their talks.

**Wednesday evening, November 19, 7:00 pm, Alvin Sherman Library at NSU****“Resources at the Family History Library”**

**Joyce Baggerly**, of the Family History Center, Plantation

Ms. Baggerly is an accredited genealogist with a certificate in genealogy and a BA in history from Brigham Young University. She will talk about new genealogical resources coming out of the Family History Center and also walk us through the FamilySearch web site. The Family History Library in Salt Lake City has a vast collection of records available on microfilm, which can be ordered through any local Family History Center. Many of those records are starting to become available online as well. Joyce will show us how best to access these records.

**Sunday, December 14, 12:00 noon, My Favorite Café, Hollywood****Annual Anniversary Luncheon, celebrating our 20th year (see flyer at back and RSVP soon)****“The *Shtetl* and South Florida: Same, but Different?”**

**Henry Abramson, PhD**, Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Services, Touro College South

Over the course of the last century, Jews witnessed more tumultuous change than any time since their exile from the land of Israel two thousand years ago. The demographic upheavals of immigration and then the Holocaust, the establishment of the State of Israel and the rise of the American Jewish community, rendered largely non-existent the traditional 19th century eastern European Jewish village -- or did it? To what degree is the *shtetl*, with its socio-political-religious complexity, reflected in the modern American society we enjoy in 21st century South Florida? This lecture will survey the major elements of the *shtetl* and compare and contrast it with our community, measuring both quantitative data (Jewish population densities, age pyramids) and qualitative elements (the number of per capita kosher Chinese restaurants). A PowerPoint presentation, featuring period photographs and art, will accompany the lecture.

Henry (Hillel) Abramson is Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Services at Touro College South, a new branch of New York-based Touro College recently established in Miami Beach. A native of Northern Ontario, he received his PhD in Eastern European Jewish History from the University of Toronto, and has held visiting appointments and post-doctoral positions at Harvard, Oxford, Cornell and Hebrew University. He is the author of three books and was part of the team that produced the award-winning documentary *The Lost Wooden Synagogues of Eastern Europe*. His research has been recognized with fellowships and awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and he has won numerous teaching awards, including the Excellence in the Academy Award from the National Education Association. He also spoke at our 15th Anniversary Luncheon

(continued on next page)

**Wednesday, December 17, 7:00 pm, Soref JCC**

**“Genetic Genealogy: Using DNA to Discover Your Ancient Origins and Supplement Traditional Genealogical Research”**

**Elise Friedman**

Elise Friedman has been researching her Jewish roots for nearly 10 years and enjoys teaching others how to research their own roots. She gives lectures and workshops at international Jewish genealogy conferences, local genealogy meetings and community events. Ms. Friedman is also very active in the emerging field of genetic genealogy, where she manages several family and specialized DNA studies through Family Tree DNA and recently co-authored a genetic genealogy case study that was published in the AVOTAYNU and FORUM genealogy magazines. Ms. Friedman also volunteers as JewishGen's DNA Projects Coordinator and is a member of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). In addition to her genealogy activities, Ms. Friedman maintains a full-time career as an Information Technology professional in South Florida and holds a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University.

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I received this email recently– not sure of the original source, but it sure is interesting!

There are few excuses for the behavior of Jewish gangsters in the 1920s and 1930s. The best known Jewish gangsters - Meyer Lansky, Bugsy Siegel, Longy Zwillman, Moe Dalitz - were involved in the numbers rackets, illegal drug dealing, prostitution, gambling and loan sharking. They were not nice men.

During the rise of American Nazism in the 1930s and when Israel was being founded between 1945 and 1948, however, they proved staunch defenders of the Jewish people.

The roots of Jewish gangsterism lay in the ethnic neighborhoods of the Lower East Side; Brownsville, Brooklyn; Maxwell Street in Chicago; and Boyle Heights in Los Angeles. Like other newly arrived groups in American history, a few Jews who considered themselves blocked from respectable professions used crime as a means to "make good" economically. The market for vice flourished during Prohibition and Jews joined with others to exploit the artificial market created by the legal bans on alcohol, gambling, paid sex and narcotics.

Few of these men were religiously observant. They rarely attended services, although they did support congregations financially. They did not keep kosher or send their children to day schools. However, at crucial moments they protected other Jews, in America and around the world.

The 1930s were a period of rampant anti-Semitism in America, particularly in the Midwest. Father Charles Coughlin, the Radio Priest in Detroit, and William Pelley of Minneapolis, among others, openly called for Jews to be driven from positions of responsibility, if not from the country itself.

Organized Brown Shirts in New York and Silver Shirts in Minneapolis outraged and terrorized American Jewry. While the older and more respectable Jewish organizations pondered a response that would not alienate non-Jewish supporters, others - including a few rabbis - asked the gangsters to break up American Nazi rallies.

Historian Robert Rockaway writing in the journal of the American Jewish Historical Society, notes that German-American Bund rallies in the New York City area posed a dilemma for mainstream Jewish leaders. They wanted the rallies stopped, but had no legal grounds on which to do so. New York State Judge

Nathan Perlman personally contacted Meyer Lansky to ask him to disrupt the Bund rallies, with the proviso that Lansky's henchmen stop short of killing any Bundists. Enthusiastic for the assignment, if disappointed by the restraints, Lansky accepted all of Perlman's terms except one: he would take no money for the work. Lansky later observed, "I was a Jew and felt for those Jews in Europe who were suffering. They were my brothers."

For months, Lansky's workmen effectively broke up one Nazi rally after another. As Rockaway notes, "Nazi arms, legs and ribs were broken and skulls were cracked, but no one died."

Lansky recalled breaking up a Brown Shirt rally in the Yorkville section of Manhattan : "The stage was decorated with a swastika and a picture of Hitler. The speakers started ranting. There were only fifteen of us, but we went into action. We threw some of them out the windows. . . . Most of the Nazis panicked and ran out. We chased them and beat them up... We wanted to show them that Jews would not always sit back and accept insults."

In Minneapolis , William Dudley Pelley organized a Silver Shirt Legion to "rescue" America from an imaginary Jewish- Communist conspiracy. In Pelle's own words, just as "Mussolini and his Black Shirts saved Italy and as Hitler and his Brown Shirts saved Germany ," he would save America from Jewish communists. Minneapolis gambling czar David Berman confronted Pelley's Silver Shirts on behalf of the Minneapolis Jewish community.

Berman learned that Silver Shirts were mounting a rally at a nearby Elk's Lodge. When the Nazi leader called for all the "Jew bastards" in the city to be expelled, or worse, Berman and his associates burst in to the room and started cracking heads. After ten minutes, they had emptied the hall. His suit covered in blood, Berman took the microphone and announced, "This is a warning. Anybody who says anything against Jews gets the same treatment. Only next time it will be worse." After Berman broke up two more rallies, there were no more public Silver Shirt meetings in Minneapolis .

Jewish gangsters also helped establish Israel after the war. One famous example is a meeting between Bugsy Siegel and Reuven Dafne, a Haganah emissary, in 1945. Dafne was seeking funds and guns to help liberate Palestine from British rule. A mutual friend arranged for the two men to meet.

"You mean to tell me Jews are fighting?" Siegel asked. "You mean fighting as in killing?" Dafne answered in the affirmative.

Siegel replied, "I'm with you."

For weeks, Dafne received suitcases filled with \$5 and \$10 bills -- \$50,000 in all -- from Siegel.

No one should paint gangsters as heroes. They committed acts of great evil. But historian Rockaway has presented a textured version of Jewish gangster history in a book ironically titled, "But They Were Good to their Mothers".

Some have observed that, despite their disreputable behavior, they could be good to their people, too. A little interesting Jewish history.

## 29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

August 2-7, 2009

in

**Philadelphia, PA**

**Mark you calendars!!**

### IT'S FREE!

Do you subscribe to AVOTAYNU's Internet magazine, *Nu? What's New?* Published biweekly, it provides subscribers with recent-breaking news of interest to Jewish genealogists. Subscribing is easy. Just go to [www.avotaynu.com/nuwhatsnew.htm](http://www.avotaynu.com/nuwhatsnew.htm) on the Internet.

## Benefits of JGSBC Membership

- Interesting and informative monthly meetings
- Monthly newsletter with informative articles and news of Jewish genealogical events
- Access to JGSBC's extensive collection of research books & materials
- Opportunity to network with others interested in Jewish genealogy
- Guidance from local experts to help you with your research
- Information exchange with others who are researching families from the same towns as your ancestors.



**And this is just the beginning. There are many more. To join JGSBC, use the form at the back of this newsletter, or visit our website at [www.jgsbc.org](http://www.jgsbc.org) and click on Membership in the navigation bar.**

## Library News

### LIBRARY NEWS

When members or visitors come to our meeting or our library they are always attracted to certain books. One of them is Alexander Beider's "Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire". We recently purchased his 2008 revised edition, and also have his previous edition and the Polish Surnames edition. He has also researched Ashkenazic given names, surnames and surnames in Galicia and in Prague, which we don't have as yet. If these are of interest to you and you would like your Society to consider purchasing them, let us know.

Our 2008 edition has 2 volumes: the hardback edition has 1,008 pages of names and their variations and locales. The second softback volume has 188 pages of names that are arranged by the DAITCH-MOKOTOFF SOUNDEX SYSTEM. This is an easily explained numerical system of 6 numbers that

can be used when the exact spelling of a surname is unknown or uncertain. This system groups surnames by the way they sound rather than their alphabetical order. The special considerations of Slavic and other Eastern names are addressed in this soundex system. Once you find your 6-number Soundex group of names, you can look them up in Volume 1 for more information. Our members can assist you.

Our previous volume from 1993 has only 760 pages total, including the DAITCH-MOKOTOFF SOUNDEX SYSTEM.. So you can see how much more research Dr.

Beider has done. Examining both editions, I found both editions had differences in the names mentioned, so try the newest edition first, then try the older one. You don't have to use the Soundex System to use the book if you're sure of your spelling, but it gives you more possibilities if you've hit the proverbial "brick wall".

Since we're the last to leave the lecture area and make sure all is straightened up, we automatically become the "Lost and Found" with items taken to the Library. A lovely, slim, brown eyeglass case edged in black with the words "Design Optics" is now comfortably resting in our Library waiting for an email message to bring it to the Nova meeting on Nova 19<sup>th</sup> or to a Tuesday 10 to 12 library day or for a phone message to me.

See you soon,  
Rhoda Horwitz  
Brenda Feuer



**Check out  
our Events  
Calendar at  
[www.jgsbc.org/  
helios/events](http://www.jgsbc.org/helios/events)**

## In Memoriam: David Godorov



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of David Godorov, a long-time member of the JGSBC, on October 17, 2008, at the age of 91. As you will be able to see from the words below, he was a well-respected and well-loved man.

The following words were spoken about David by a friend, Rosanna Pongiluppi Presser:

*He was the most brilliant, intelligent person,  
We were honored we knew him.  
He was a person with a heart of gold, and a beautiful,  
wonderful soul.  
We will always remember him, and, we know that now  
G-d has another friend over there.  
I know Dave will be looking down and smiling at us.*

His loving wife, Dorothy, also spoke the following at the funeral service:

### *Ode to David Godorov*

*To my David,  
To my Love,  
To my Friend,*

*You will always be by my side.  
Your love, gentle ways, and goodness will be with me*

*Your inquisitiveness for knowledge at all times, and your love affair with the computer, that imparted information to you.*

*Your love for our children, grandchildren, so diligently recorded in the family genealogy.*

*I cannot forget your mechanical ability and knowledge regarding the way to fix and mend almost anything.*

*He was honorable as he served our country in World War II, in the Marine Corps.*

*He was a good father and friend to all.*

*He was patient at the time of his discomfort recently, and kept doing his best to survive daily.*

*He was very brave!*

*We will always remember him and love him.*

*By this I mean- his family, friends, and with whomever he came in contact with.*

*We would have been married forty years on March 23, 2009*

*He was a special person and my love- and a special treasure in my life.*

**Nu? What's New? (excerpted)**  
**The E-zine of Jewish Genealogy From Avotaynu**  
**Gary Mokotoff, Editor**  
**Volume 9, Number 23 | October 14, 2008**

### **A New Image of Volunteers**

Attention volunteers. Henceforth the fruits of your labor will generate income; you will no longer be working with no compensation. Now for the bad news. You won't be the one getting paid; the institution you are supporting with your volunteer effort will get paid.

The alliance between Ancestry.com and JewishGen will likely usher in a new age of cooperation between for-profit and non-profit institutions. Non-profits own valuable databases that for-profits are willing to pay to license. Non-profits like JewishGen have become victims of their own success, financially, finding their growth inhibited by the cost of maintaining all of the wonderful volunteer effort of its contributors. Now that financial pressure can be eased by alliances with for-profit companies.

JewishGen has created a good template for these alliances. As a non-profit, they are merely licensing their databases and will remain autonomous of Ancestry. Since the JewishGen data will always be available free of charge at their site, it discourages Ancestry from bundling it with their fee-for-service components.

### **Google Translate Now Includes Hebrew**

Google Translate, located at <http://translate.google.com>, now includes the ability to translate Hebrew. Like most online translators, the results are only fair. The Google dictionary does not include the word for "genealogy" and it was transliterated into English as "ganelogy." Interestingly, if you translate "genealogy" into Hebrew, the result is "yichus" which more accurately means "pedigree."

Hebrew is a language that is written without showing vowels, creating numerous ambiguities that are usually resolved contextually. "I gave my wife a melon" written in Hebrew translated into English using Google Translate as "I gave my wife a hotel."

The languages Google claims it translates are Arabic, Bulgarian, Catalan, Chinese, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Filipino, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latvian, Lithuanian, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish, Ukrainian and Vietnamese.

### **Canadian Census Questionnaire To Be Made Clearer**

Statistics Canada, the governmental agency responsible for the Canadian censuses, has been opposed to making historical censuses available 92 years after a census was taken. As a compromise with the historical community, in the 2006 census, there was an informed consent option which allowed persons to release the data after 92 years. The wording of the question was so vague and negative that only 56% of respondents said "yes."

Working with Statistics Canada, which has a new director, the Canadian Historical Association has created new wording to the question for the 2011 census, and tests show that the response rate among Canadians jumped to 73%. Hopefully this new version will be incorporated into the new census.

### **Cook County (Chicago) Naturalization Online**

An index to Cook County (Chicago) Circuit Court Declarations of Intention from 1906–1923 are now online at <http://www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org/NR/>. Plans call for adding additional records through 1929. Eventually the Supreme Court Declarations will also be available. One unusual feature of the search engine is that when you search, the data provided is treated as "contains." For example, searching for Tarre also yielded Starrett as a result.

### **Annual Trip to Lithuania**

Howard Margol and Peggy Freedman are organizing their 16th annual group trip to Lithuania, June 30 to July 10, 2009. If you are interested in tracing your roots in Lithuania, Latvia, Eastern Poland close to Lithuania, or Belarus, now is the time to sign up. This year the group will be limited to 25 persons. The trip includes stops at various ar-

chives, synagogues, ghettos, Holocaust sites, meetings with Jewish leaders, sight-seeing, guide/interpreters, and two days to visit and spend time in your shtetls of interest. Margol and Freedman are very familiar with the archives, are on a first-name basis with the archivists, and know all the main places of Jewish interest.

The trip is sponsored by the American Fund For Lithuanian-Latvian Jews, a non-profit organization, and is not a commercial venture. Any profit from the trip will go to support the Jewish community in Vilnius.

For details and a full itinerary, contact [litvaktrip@gmail.com](mailto:litvaktrip@gmail.com)

### **Suggestion: Searchable Yahrzeit Reminder Service**

There was a recent posting to JewishGen about a site, <http://www.till120.com>, where you can post information about recent Jewish deaths. This gave me an idea for a great JewishGen project (Warren. Are you out there?) that potentially would be both a public service and a genealogical gold mine: Have a database of yahrzeit reminders. (Yahrzeit, Yiddish for “time of year,” is the death date of a loved one reckoned by the Jewish lunar calendar.) We would invite the Jewish public to post the death dates of loved ones reckoned on the secular calendar, and annually JewishGen would notify the persons of the yahrzeit date based on the Jewish calendar. The database would be accessible to the public, such as genealogists, who could capture death dates of individuals on their family trees. To uniquely identify people, birth dates and names of parents would be provided.

Using Google, I discovered a number of online yahrzeit date services, but none provide searchable databases. Such a concept would also provide publicity for JewishGen and advance the idea of making family history a hobby.

### **Correction About New York Cemeteries**

In the last issue of *Nu? What's New?*, I stated, "Steve Lasky reports that the information also includes nearby Hungarian Union Field Cemetery which is now supervised by Mt. Lebanon Cemetery. Lasky added that Knollwood Park Cemetery will also be included in the database by the end of the year." This is incorrect. What Lasky said was Mt. Carmel Cemetery, not Mt. Lebanon Cemetery, is involved with Hungarian Union Field Cemetery and Knollwood Park Cemetery. The Mt. Carmel Cemetery site is located at <http://www.mountcarmelcemetery.com>."

## **Volume 9, Number 24 | November 2, 2008**

An unusual issue of *Nu? What's New?* because of its diversity. There are items about Bukovina, Canada, England, France, Hungary, Israel, Poland, Ukraine and the United States.

### **Ancestry Unveils Its Jewish Family History Collection; Webinar Planned**

Ancestry.com has launched its “Jewish Family History Collection” website. It is located at <http://www.ancestry.com/jewishfamilyhistory>. This Wednesday, November 5 at 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, I will be giving a Webinar (web-based lecture) introducing you all to the website and suggesting strategies on how to use it. Sign up for the Webinar to hear what I have to say. Just [click here](#).

The surprise announcement by Ancestry is that not just JewishGen databases have been added to the Ancestry collection. They also approached the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) and now have two JDC Holocaust-related databases as part of the collection. Hopefully this is the tip of the iceberg in plans by the parent company, The Generations Network, to expand the Jewish collection. There are many other institutions like JDC that have collections of value to genealogy. Examples are HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), American Jewish Historical Society, American Jewish Archives and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum—and that is just the United States.

Access to Ancestry.com databases is primarily fee based, but the JewishGen and JDC data are free of charge. JDC is a Jewish rescue organization. Wherever there are Jews in the world in peril, the “Joint,” as it has been nicknamed, goes to the area and tries to resolve the problem, often by evacuating the Jews. For example, at the end of World War II, they assisted in relocating stateless Jews—Holocaust survivors—to countries outside of Europe. The two collections on Ancestry are Holocaust related. They are:

- Jewish Transmigration Bureau Deposit Cards, 1939–1954 (JDC), a collection of records showing the amount of money paid by American Jewish citizens to support the emigration of friends and relatives from European countries during and after WWII.
- Munich, Vienna and Barcelona Jewish Displaced Persons and Refugee Cards, 1943–1959 (JDC), a collection containing records of displaced Jews who were provided with food, medical care, clothing and emigration assistance

by the JDC.

But there is a lot more genealogical data in the JDC archives. I know because there is a World War I record of a Charles Mokotoff sending money through the Joint to his mother Pesa who lived in Germany at that time.

For the past month, I have been working with Mike Daniels of Ancestry developing the Webinar and advising on the content of the Jewish Family History Collection web pages. I wrote the narratives that appear in the "Learn more" sections of the site. They are primarily meant for beginning genealogists or those genealogists new to the nuances of Jewish genealogy.

Join Mike and me at the Webinar on Wednesday for a tour of the site. There will be a 20-minute question/answer session after the lecture. To register, [click here](#).

You can read the complete news release at Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter site at [http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans\\_online\\_genealogy/2008/10/worlds-largest.html](http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2008/10/worlds-largest.html).

### **UK Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878–1960**

Ancestry.com has added a database of incoming passenger lists to the UK only from ports outside of Europe and the Mediterranean from 1878–1888 and 1890–1960. There are a few records for European and Mediterranean ports, such as Hamburg (1,597 records), but that occurs only in the case where vessels originated outside of these areas and then picked up passengers in European or Mediterranean ports en route. Using the originating port as "New York," the system indicated there are more than six million entries. Information listed on the passenger lists may include: name of passenger, birth date or age, port of departure, port of arrival, date of arrival, and vessel name. There is a Gitla Mokotow in the index who came to England in 1921, stated she was a citizen of Argentina, but planned to take up permanent residence in England.

The database can be directly searched at

[http://content.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=1518&pcat=ROOT\\_CATEGORY&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0](http://content.ancestry.com/iexec/?htx=List&dbid=1518&pcat=ROOT_CATEGORY&offerid=0%3a7858%3a0)

### **1911 Census of England and Wales To Be Released Early**

British censuses are normally in the public domain 100 years after they were recorded. The British Information Commissioner has announced that the 1911 census for England and Wales will be launched three years early. Scotland does not plan to release the information until 2011.

Some of the individual data will not be released early because it is considered personally sensitive. The full information will be available in 2011. The interim version will be available in 2009 through findmypast.com. This will provide an online service enabling researchers anywhere in the world to search and download digital scans of images from the census. It will be both address and name searchable.

Complete information can be found at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/1911census/>

### **France Lessens Privacy Restrictions of Records**

A bill enacted last July in France has eased privacy restrictions on most genealogically relevant documents from 100 years to 75 years. This includes all vital records and census records. A complete list can be found at <http://www.jewishgen.org/french/CDHF.pdf>

### **Back Issues of Canadian Jewish Review Now Online**

Back issues of the *Canadian Jewish Review* are available online with full-word indexing. The digitized images run from 1921 to 1966 with some years missing and other years lacking issues. An unusual feature for sites of this type is that it not only provides the actual digitize image of the periodical but also a text version of the page. This allows easy copying of the contents of the page. To search the *Canadian Jewish Review*, go to [http://multiculturalcanada.ca/mcc\\_cjr](http://multiculturalcanada.ca/mcc_cjr). As the domain name implies, it is a multi-cultural site containing information about other ethnic groups. Sources include newspapers, oral histories, photographs, books, newsletters, legal documents, meeting minutes and other ephemeral materials. It may be wiser to do a broader search than just the

one newspaper from its home page at <http://multiculturalcanada.ca/>.

### **Odessa and Cherkassy Jewish Records To Be Indexed**

Routes to Roots Foundation has signed an agreement with the Odessa Oblast Archives whereby the Foundation will index names from a collection of 4,505 heads of Jewish families in Odessa for the period 1894–1918. The searchable database will be added to the existing database at <http://www.rtrfoundation.org>. It will be possible to order copies of actual documents from the Odessa archives.

The Foundation plans a similar venture to index for the 1858 revisky skasky (census) for Cherkassy. This is a joint venture with the Cherkassy Oblast Archives and there will be instructions on the website as to how one can request digital copies of specific documents from the archives.

Routes to Routes Foundation has, by far, the most comprehensive list of Jewish records available in the archives of Eastern Europe. This includes the countries of Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland and Ukraine. To search the database, go to <http://www.rtrfoundation.org/search.asp>. The results are for Jewish records only. Absence of information does not mean there is no information about ancestors. Records independent of religion may exist such as census records.

### **Entries from 1909 Bukovina Directory Now Online**

A posting to the ROM-SIG Digest on JewishGen indicates that the 1909 Directory of Czernowitz and suburbs (Horecza, Kaliczanka, Klokuczka, Manasteryska, and Rosch), including Radautz and Suczawa has been indexed by Edgar Hauster. The list can be found at <http://czernowitz.ehpes.com>. Scroll down to “1909 Directories Czernowitz and Suburbs” in the left column. Excel versions of the data can be found at <http://hauster.blogspot.com/>.

### **Wanted: Human Interest Articles for Winter Issue of AVOTAYNU**

The Winter issue of AVOTAYNU is our human interest issue. Many years ago, Sallyann Sack and I wanted to recognize that there is more to genealogy than ancestor hunting. There is the human side of genealogy. The emotional reactions of a genealogist to discoveries in his/her family's history can be both happy and upsetting. There is the pride a researcher feels in successfully breaking down a brick wall. The discovery of long-lost family or linking to the family tree of another genealogist can be exhilarating. Our solution was to reserve a portion of the Winter issue each year to articles about the human side of genealogy.

Articles should be submitted to AVOTAYNU editor, Sallyann Amdur Sack at [sallyannsack@avotaynu.com](mailto:sallyannsack@avotaynu.com).

### **Wooden Tombstones of Poland**

There is an interesting article about Jewish wooden tombstones of Poland written by Tomasz Wisniewski at [http://www.jewishmag.com/127mag/wooden\\_tombstones/wooden\\_tombstones.htm](http://www.jewishmag.com/127mag/wooden_tombstones/wooden_tombstones.htm)

### **Hungarian Jewish Tourist Brochure available to Download**

It was reported on the Hungarian SIG Discussion Group of JewishGen that the Hungarian Tourist Ag has published a full-color brochure that includes information about the history of Hungarian Jewry and sites of interest. Called “Shalom Hungary” it can be downloaded at <http://www.ungarn-tourismus.de/shalomE05.qxd.pdf>. The brochure includes names, addresses and phone numbers for synagogues and Jewish community organizations.

### **It's Not Genealogy, But...**

My friend, Evelyne Haendel, made me aware of magnificent website created by an Israeli photographer, Igal Marag, that has a large number of PowerPoint presentations showing his artistic ability. Most presentations are of places in Israel and are not limited to just Jewish themes. I particularly enjoyed the ones of the Churches in Jerusalem, the Tunisian synagogue in Akko (Acre) and Jerusalem of Holiness. The latter is a tribute to the three great faiths of the Western world. You can view the 25 presentations at <http://morageng.artvision.co.il/main/home/doc.asp?mCatID=8081&mCatPID=0&tpMID=0>

## Message from Mike Karsen

I spoke to your group about the importance and urgency of "Writing Your Family History" and I would like to inform you of a program I now offer. In my "Legacy Pledge" program I share my PowerPoint slides from 3 of my lectures and copies of all of my personal Family Histories with anyone who would Pledge to write a family history within 12 months. As part of this program, I send gentle e-mail reminder every 3 months. To learn more about this program, go to my website, [www.Mikekarsen.com](http://www.Mikekarsen.com), and click on the **Legacy Pledge** icon in the left column.

If you've already written a family history as a result of my message, I would love to hear what you've done. Please e-mail me at [mike@MikeKarsen.com](mailto:mike@MikeKarsen.com).

## FSGS 2008 Genealogy Conference

This year's Florida State Genealogical Society's Annual Conference will be held at the Sheraton Orlando-North in Maitland on November 14-15. Although not specifically a Jewish genealogical conference, it looks like there will be many great presentations and activities. Please see the flyer at the back of this issue.

## Tips From Bernie

On Nov. 5, Ancestry.com had an online webinar (web seminar) presentation, "Discover Your Jewish Family History at Ancestry.com webinar". Gary Mokotoff of Avotaynu.com was the presenter. The webinar was focused on the new Jewish Family History Collections on Ancestry.com. It is now archived, and you can view it at your convenience.

"The combined databases comprise nearly 26 million records of Jews that can be searched by Ancestry's world class technology. Some collections are reserved for subscribers, while millions of records remain freely accessible to the public. Jewish genealogy expert Gary Mokotoff will walk us through the North American, European, Holocaust and other significant Jewish collections on Ancestry.com. He will highlight some of the benefits this collection and search technology will provide to people searching for their Jewish heritage."

To view this archived presentation, follow the path below....

[ancestry.com/ Learning Center/ Keep Learning/ Archived Webinars/ Discover Your Jewish Family History/ launch](http://ancestry.com/LearningCenter/KeepLearning/ArchivedWebinars/DiscoverYourJewishFamilyHistory/launch)

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Bernard Kouchel

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## From the JewishGen Digests

Thu, 30 Oct 2008

I want to share this fabulous resource I found. The Canadian Jewish Review newspaper (and other newspapers) is digitized and available to search online. [http://multiculturalcanada.ca/mcc\\_cjr](http://multiculturalcanada.ca/mcc_cjr)

It spans the years 1921-1966 and is tremendous. It gives tons of social notices (births, deaths, social events) that can help you build a whole family tree! There is an advanced search as well.

Enjoy

## JGSBC Program Calendar

[www.jgsbc.org/helios/events](http://www.jgsbc.org/helios/events)

**Wednesday, November 19, 7:00 pm, NSU**  
**Resources at the Family History Library**  
 Joyce Baggerly, Family History Center, Plantation

**Sunday, December 14 12:00 pm**  
**Annual Anniversary Luncheon**  
 My Favorite Café, Hollywood

**Wednesday, December 17– 7:00 pm Soref JCC**  
**General Meeting and Board Election.**  
**Genetic Genealogy: Using DNA to Discover Your Ancient Origins and Supplement Traditional Genealogical Research**  
 Elise Friedman

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County usually meets on either the last Sunday or Wednesday of the month. Please check the **JGSBC Program Calendar** above or our **Community Events Calendar** located at [www.jgsbc.org/helios/events](http://www.jgsbc.org/helios/events) for the exact times and locations.

The first 20-30 minutes of our meetings are devoted to **Brick Walls and Breakthroughs**, where members share their successes or ask for help with their difficult genealogical problems. Anyone interested in



The JGS of Broward County is an integral part of a global network of 75+ societies, all members of IAJGS, with 10,000+ individual members who are actively researching

**Do you have a brick wall you've finally succeeded in breaking down? We'd love to hear about it.**  
**Contact the *Family Gatherings* editor at [newsletter@jgsbc.org](mailto:newsletter@jgsbc.org). We look forward to reading your story in a future newsletter.**

## The Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County, Inc.

**P.O. Box 17251**

**Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318**

**Phone: 954-873-4403 Fax: 954-577-9247**

**Email: [info@jgsbc.org](mailto:info@jgsbc.org)**

**[www.jgsbc.org](http://www.jgsbc.org)**

## JGSBC

### Officers and Directors

President	Michael Sofman
Vice President	Martin Shames
Treasurer	Brenda Feuer
Secretary	Joyce Ben-Ezra
Directors	Robert Koltnow Rhoda Horwitz Ara Morenberg Rosa Pinsky Robert Pittell

### Committee Chairs

Cemetery	Ara Morenberg
Finance	Brenda Feuer
Library	Rhoda Horwitz
Membership	Rosa Pinsky
Newsletter	Michael Sofman
Program	Martin Shames
Publicity	Ara Morenberg
Speaker's Bureau	Robert Koltnow
Website	Ara Morenberg

### Past Presidents

Martin Shames	2004-2007
Robert Koltnow	2002-2003
Bernard Kouchel	1995-2001
Gene Garlin	1994-1995
Bernard Kouchel, Founder	1988-1994

Check out our website at [www.jgsbc.org](http://www.jgsbc.org) for the latest information about our society or to contact any officer, director, or chairperson via direct e-mail link.

### WE NEED YOUR BOOKS!

Any Jewish genealogy, biographies, novels, or history books getting dusty on your shelves?

Put them to good use by donating them to the JGSBC Library.

No books? Make a donation to the JGSBC Library Fund. Contact Rhoda Horwitz at [library@jgsbc.org](mailto:library@jgsbc.org).

# FSGS 2008 Genealogy Conference

14-15 November 2008  
 Sheraton Orlando - North

600 North Lake Destiny Drive, Maitland, FL 32751

Mention FSGS for a special room rate (\$88.00 + taxes).

Rooms being held until OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup>. For reservations call (866) 837-5175.

Featured Guest Speaker

## Ms. Jana Sloan Broglin, CG<sup>SM</sup>, Swanton, Ohio

Ms. Broglin is an Ohio native and a well-known genealogical writer, professional genealogist, and national lecturer. She is the Vice-President of Membership for the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and a past Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS) Trustee. She is also an associate for the Board of Certification of Genealogist as a Certified Genealogist. Her publications include articles for the Ohio Genealogical Society, the *Indiana Genealogist*, the *FGS FORUM*, *Family Tree Magazine*, *Ancestry Magazine*, *NGS NewsMagazine*, and two FGS Society Strategy Papers. She also has over 60 books published on Kentucky and Ohio and was named a Kentucky Colonel for her writings. Her presentations will include:

- ◆ Hookers, Crooks and Kooks: *Aunt Merle Didn't Run a Boarding House*
- ◆ See Ya in the Funnies
- ◆ When Johnny Comes Marching Home - *A Borton Family Case Study*
- ◆ Organizing 101 - *True Confessions of a "Pile It"*

## Scheduled Speakers and Events

<b>Ann Bergelt</b>	<b>Pamela J. Cooper</b>	<b>Amy Larner Giroux, CG<sup>SM</sup>, CGL<sup>SM</sup></b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Paleography - <i>Deciphering Old Handwriting</i></li> <li>◆ Your Research Plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ How accurate are your senses? <i>Getting past the errors in census records</i></li> <li>◆ Under used, unheard of and not so new resources or where you have NOT looked?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Listen to the Land - <i>Understanding Your Ancestor's Property Deeds</i></li> <li>◆ Cemetery Research - <i>A City Of Stones</i></li> </ul>
<b>George G. Morgan</b>	<b>Donna M. Moughty</b>	<b>Mary P. Parker</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Bring 'Em Back to Life: <i>Developing an Ancestor Profile</i></li> <li>◆ "Push" and "Pull": <i>The Reasons for Migration</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Immigration into New York: <i>Castle Garden and Ellis Island</i></li> <li>◆ Getting the Most Out of FamilySearch.org</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <i>The Florida Pioneer Descendants Certification Program: The Research Application, Review, and Approval Processes Explained</i></li> </ul>
<b>Drew Smith</b>	<b>C. Ann Staley, CG<sup>SM</sup></b>	<b>And More ...</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Online Surname Search Strategies</li> <li>◆ The Family History in Your Cells: <i>Using DNA for Genealogical Research</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ City Directories - A Line-by-line Account of Our Ancestors</li> <li>◆ The Twilight Zone...Strange Web Sites for Family History Research</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Vendors and Society Exhibits</li> <li>◆ Gala Awards Banquet</li> <li>◆ APG-FL Ancestor Roadshow</li> <li>◆ Door Prizes and Drawings</li> </ul>

CG and CGL are Registered Service Marks of the Board for Certification of Genealogists

Contact Information:  
 Ann Mohr Osisek, President  
[amo.gen@worldnet.att.net](mailto:amo.gen@worldnet.att.net)

Or visit:  
[www.flsgs.org](http://www.flsgs.org)

## Sponsored By:

Florida State Genealogical Society



## Local Host:

Central Florida Genealogical Society



**Jewish Genealogical Society  
Of Broward County, Inc**  
-Florida USA-

P.O. Box 17251  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318  
Phone: 954-243-6063 Fax: 954-523-0766  
Visit us at: www.jgsbc.org

## Membership Application

Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Gift
Name(s):			
Street Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Phone:	Fax:	E-mail:	

<b>Out-of-State Address</b>	Dates:
Street Address:	
City:	State: Zip:
Phone:	Fax:

Membership Category (please check one)	Dues	Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 25	To help save postage, we
<input type="checkbox"/> Each additional member (same address)	\$ 5	distribute our newsletter via
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor	\$ 50	e-mail. If you prefer to have
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron	\$ 100	it mailed, please check here. <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (full-time, under age 25)	\$ 15	
<input type="checkbox"/> Life (individual)	\$ 250	Foreign addresses, please add \$5
<input type="checkbox"/> Life (additional member, same address)	\$ 50	for postage.

I am also enclosing an additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help further the development of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County, Inc.

Please make check payable to **JGSBC**  
and mail with application to:

JGSBC Membership  
P.O. Box 17251  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318

*JGSBC is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.*

How would you rate your genealogy skills?  None  Beginner  Intermediate  Advanced  Professional

I am interested in the following activities:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Programming	<input type="checkbox"/> Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Membership
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/> Computer/Database
<input type="checkbox"/> Website	<input type="checkbox"/> Finance	<input type="checkbox"/> Library
<input type="checkbox"/> Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Speaker's Bureau	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality

Do you read any foreign languages?  Yes \_\_\_\_\_  No



**Jewish Genealogical Society  
Of Broward County, Inc**  
-Florida USA-

Cordially Invites You to Celebrate Our **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**  
at our

## **Annual Anniversary Luncheon**

**Sunday, December 14, 2008, 12 noon at**

### *My Favorite Café*

*a Kosher Gourmet Bistro  
Park Sheridan West Plaza  
3369 Sheridan St.  
Hollywood*



where we will be joined by our special guest, **Henry Abramson, PhD**, Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Services at Touro College South, and a noted expert in Eastern European Jewish history. His talk is entitled **“The *Shtetl* and South Florida: Same, but Different?”**

**COST: \$25 PER PERSON**  
for an all-inclusive, buffet-style meal

For further information, please go to our website, [www.jgsbc.org](http://www.jgsbc.org)

Please detach here

Please make checks payable to the **JGSBC**, and mail by December 7 to:

Brenda Feuer  
5950 Del Lago Circle, #105  
Sunrise, FL 33313

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ reservations