

Family Gatherings

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

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President's Message

Michael Sofman

An Appeal

The strength of the JGSBC comes from us, the members. We all have abilities and strengths built up over a lifetime. While not all of us are expert genealogists (including me!), we all have skills that can contribute to the success of the group. As with most volunteer organizations, however, most of the work is done by a small group of people, year after year. I am now asking for the rest of you to get involved. Our organization has 9 Board members, with 3 year terms, so every year, 3 terms expire. We are always looking for people willing to really jump in and serve on the Board. But there are many other smaller tasks that can be performed by non-Board members. For example, we have a website to maintain, as well as this news-

letter to produce. We have 2 luncheons per year that need a coordinator to plan. We need people to help publicize our programs in print and through other means. We need people to help serve coffee and snacks at our meetings. We have a library that, of course, needs a librarian. We need people to help find speakers and coordinate meetings, as well as to make sure our technical needs are met. We need liaisons to some of the other genealogical societies as well as other Jewish organizations and synagogues. We need people to help coordinate rides for those who may not be able to drive, or to phone those who do not have computers to remind them about our meetings. There are others, but I think I've made my point. **GET INVOLVED!** If everyone does a little something, it eases the burden on the rest, plus helps you in-



Michael Sofman
President, JGSBC

crease your own enjoyment of the group. You might even learn a new skill! Don't hold back because you're "just a beginner" You know a lot more than you think. If you have any interest in helping out in either a small way, on a committee, or in a larger way, on the Board, please let me know. You can email me at msofman@jgsbc.org, or phone our main number, 954-873-4403.

Volume XXI, Number 9
November 2009

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Upcoming Meetings

Sunday, November 22, 1:30 pm, Alvin Sherman Library of NSU

Exploring My Jewish Polish Roots

Daniel Shoer-Roth, Journalist, Miami Herald and el Nuevo Herald

Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 pm, Soref JCC

Program TBA plus Board Election

Program Notes

by Marty Shames

At our most recent meeting on October 25, Bernie Kouchel and Kim Garvey teamed up to teach us all about social networking on the Internet. At first blush, these sites seem a mere distraction, but they have very powerful features useful for genealogists. First, Bernie Kouchel spoke about Facebook, the most commonly used social networking site at the present time. He has connected with many distant relations through Facebook and has had a variety of important questions. As genealogists, we're always trying to look up our ancestors, but Facebook presents a convenient way for us to disseminate this information to our living relatives, particularly the younger generation to whom using a computer is second nature. One important feature is that one can set up a completely private group so that only family members can enter.

Kim added some more information about Facebook, then moved on to talk about Twitter. With Twitter, you can make posts of 140 characters or less, but you'd be surprised at how much information you can disseminate in that small amount of space. You can have "followers", following your posts, or you can choose to follow various people or organizations. This may turn out to be a very useful way for the JGSBC to disseminate information about upcoming meetings and other activities. See handouts on following pages.

We have some excellent meetings coming up soon. On November 22, we will hear from Daniel Shoer-Roth about his trip to Poland to learn about his grandfather's life prior to WWII. Daniel is a journalist with El Nuevo Herald and the Miami Herald. In Deem-



Kim Garvey addressing the group about the amazing powers of Twitter

ber, we have our regular meeting and Board elections on Dec. 16, and our Annual Anniversary Luncheon, featuring Seth Bramson, on December 20. Please see the attached flyers for further details.

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

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

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Family Gatherings is published 10 times per year (hiatus in July and August) and is free to JGSBC members. For subscriptions and change of address, contact membership@jgsbc.org or JGSBC, P.O. Box 17251, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33318.

Membership

Rosa Pinsky

Membership

We warmly welcome our newest members:

Selma Hopen
Murray and Lila Zedeck
Leonard and Sylvia Erskine
Alison Schlyen

Dear Members:

Our membership renewal drive is underway - please don't delay - send in your dues now - we have some very special topics and speakers planned for 2010.

Our membership is 70 strong, but we are always looking to increase

membership. Please help spread the word by encouraging friends and family to attend our monthly meetings and help them get started on their own rewarding family search.

Finally, we wish to remind everyone that we have a new Mentoring program. If you would like a Mentor assigned to you, or wish to volunteer to serve as a Mentor for others, please contact Rosa Pinsky at (954)389-7392 (evenings) or by email: pinskyr@ccf.org

Best wishes,
Rosa Pinsky
Membership Chair

FACEBOOK FOR GENEALOGY

Facebook, a computer social networking site, is one more research tool to help you play sleuth and track down far-flung living relatives. Similar to Birds-of-a-Feather meetings, Facebook is all about connecting with others who share similar interests or who have common backgrounds. (i.e. same family, same surname, same ancestral town, etc). It's free and anyone can join. Reconnect with family members in new and rewarding ways.

Get started by adding your picture and personal contact information to your profile. You are not required to add personal information about yourself.

There are extensive privacy controls with options to control what information or photos are visible to whom.

Add friends, many of who may already be on the system. (A friend is any individual you choose to maintain contact with.) Connect to people who you thought you'd never hear from again. There are some excellent ways to find friends. You can search by name (be creative with spellings), or pull up listings based on your computer's address book. You can browse the profiles to see who you know, or to find new friends.

You can create a closed (private) family group and have control over who gets to participate. A precise name (i.e. 'The Belmont Family of Paris') allows others to more readily locate the group.

Messages: This works like email. Send a message to a particular user or a group of people, or, post messages on "The Wall", for all members to view.

Share links by posting an URL, and adding your own comment. (i.e. a link to a web page about the ancestral homeland, etc.).

Upload and share photos and documents with others, and add descriptions (dates, locations, identities).

It can be a space for families to share images, videos, notes, experiences and observations, announce a wedding, the arrival of a baby or the passing of a loved one. Many of the friends I found were the younger generations of families I lost contact with over the years. Maybe we'll even meet up again someday.

Spread your knowledge around. Let your relatives in on all the wonderful things you've learned. A side benefit - perhaps some younger folks will catch the genealogy bug.

Pros: Private groups; Global membership of over 300 million; Easily find, connect and share with living relatives; Cousins meeting cousins and re-establishing relationships.

Cons: Mostly school age participants, generally not yet interested in genealogy.

Read more: Help Center and Getting Started Guide: <http://www.facebook.com/help.php>

Getting to know Twitter

By Kim Garvey

What is it?

Twitter is a service for friends, family, and co-workers to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent messages. People write short updates, often called "tweets" of 140 characters or fewer. These messages are posted to your profile or [your blog](#), sent to your [followers](#), and are searchable on Twitter search.

Do I need anything special to use it?

All you need to use Twitter is an internet connection or a mobile phone. [Join us here!](#) Once you're in, type your first update into the web box. To get an idea of what other people are saying or doing on Twitter, check out [Twitter search](#) to see what Twitter's all about. You can search by keyword or just check out the trending topics to see what's hot on Twitter right now.

How do I find my friends?

When you create an account, you can [search for people](#) by name or user name, [import friends](#) from other networks, or [invite friends via email](#). If you don't want to do that, follow some of the people [we've suggested](#). Once you've found your friends, [follow them](#) to start getting their updates.

What does it mean to follow someone on Twitter?

[Following](#) someone simply means receiving their Twitter updates. When you follow someone, every time they post a new message, it will appear on your Twitter home page. New messages are added to your home page as people post them, so you always get the updates in real time. When you log in, you can see what the latest updates are. Twitter offers other ways to follow people too: you can get updates from certain people on your [phone](#)!

How do I know who I'm following?

After you click the [follow](#) button on someone's profile, you're following them. The follow button will change to a green check mark next to the word "Following" with an actions button on the right to remove a person if you want to. If you've [registered your phone](#) with Twitter, you can set up text preferences for a person as well. See a list of people you're following by clicking on the [following](#) link on your profile or your home page's sidebar.

How do I know who is following me?

Twitter sends you an email when someone new follows you. Set up your [email preferences](#) to notify you when you have a new follower. The [followers](#) link on your profile page or home page's sidebar will also tell you how many followers you have.

Who reads my updates?

It's up to you. Your followers read your updates, and anyone else who comes across them in a search. Your Twitter profile is public by default; if you're hesitant to have strangers read your updates, [protect your profile](#) to approve followers and keep your updates out of search.

Can I block people from following me?

[Yes, you can](#). If you block someone, they won't be able to follow you or send you any messages. If your account is public, they'll still be able to view it, but they won't show up on your followers list, and you won't be on their following list. If it's a spammer you're blocking, thanks! Twitter Support keeps an eye on block reports to see who's getting in trouble on Twitter.

How can I send updates to Twitter

Twitter offers many ways to post updates: from the web in the update box, from your phone, from your mobile web browser using m.twitter.com, or from any third party application made by the talented folks who've utilized our API

Can I put my Twitter updates on my blog?

Yep! Put a [Twitter widget](#) on your blog, website, MySpace ... anything that accepts Javascript or HTML. You can even customize your Twitter badge to match!

What are @Replies?

An @reply is a public message sent from one person to another, distinguished from normal updates by the @username prefix. If a message begins with @username, we collect it as a reply. Reply publicly to any update on Twitter by using the @username format. Following is not necessary to reply to someone, and all of your replies are visible in the @username tab in your home page sidebar. (Tweets with @username elsewhere in the tweet are also collected in your sidebar tab; tweets starting with @username are replies, and tweets with @username elsewhere are considered mentions.) Please note that if your account is private, users who are not following you will not see your @replies or mentions.

What are Direct Messages?

Direct messages are private messages sent from one Twitter person to another. You can only send a direct message to a person who follows you. When you receive a direct message, we save it in your [direct message inbox](#), accessible from the Direct Message tab in the sidebar in your home page. Set your [email preferences](#) to notify you by mail if you have a new message.

Can I edit a tweet once I post it?

Nope. Once it's out there, you can't edit it. You can delete an update by clicking in the trash icon on the right end of the update, but you can't make changes.

Library News

We have some interesting books that you should be aware of and come in to browse through. Remember, our hours are on Tuesdays, from 10 to 12, or an hour before each meeting at the Soref Center. Or, if you contact me or leave a message, I can meet you at Soref at a convenient time for both of us.

The books I'm referring to are "**Dating Old Photographs**", "**500 Brickwall Solutions**", and "**Ships of Our Ancestors**".

In "**Dating Old Photographs**", the soft back, 8 1/2 x 11 book shows many examples of old style family portraits and groupings and tells what features to look for to assign them to certain periods of time such as clothing, jewelry, furniture, and backdrops. It's quite interesting to see how values changed over the years as people wanted their families remembered.

The book entitled "**500 Brickwall Solutions**" is a compilation of reader's advice and suggestions on their methods of solving problems that hindered their genealogical progress. Some of them are very funny and some

are quite clever and some might help you out in your searches!

The last book "**Ships of Our Ancestors**" is on order from Avotaynu. It contains illustrations of close to 900 ships along with the picture of the ship, and the year that it was launched. All of these ships have now been junked for salvage or been lost at sea. Only these pictures remain. These pictures would be a wonderful addition to any genealogical presentation or book that you're putting together. Together with "They Came in Ships", you can have a real record, along with your ship manifest, of your ancestors' journey to the United States. It's going to be a wonderful acquisition to our Library!

We hope that you'll have a chance to visit soon. And, if you have some spare time (and no longer used research books or bookcases or you can translate Yiddish or Hebrew), we could use your help in our Library to rearrange books. Just give me a call at 954-741-8368.

Thanks, in advance
Brenda Feuer
Rhoda Horwitz

Speakers Bureau

We have had many requests from outside groups recently. Bob Koltnow will be speaking to the following groups in the coming months:

Sunday, November 15, 10:30 A.M. - Temple Sholom, Pompano Beach

Sunday, December 6, 10:30 A.M. - Lauderdale Culture Club, Lauderdale West, Sunrise

Brenda Feuer will be speaking as well:

Sunday, December 12, 10:30 A.M.- Open Forum at the Soref JCC

**If you'd like to come to our meetings, but are unable to because of
TRANSPORTATION ISSUES, please let us know, because there are
RIDES AVAILABLE!**

**Please contact Rosa Pinsky, our Membership Chair, at
rpinsky@jgsbc.org,
or call our Information Line at 954-873-4403**



Start making
your plans now
for the next IAJGS
conference, in
Los Angeles, July
11-16, 2010.

www.jgsla2010.com

IT'S FREE!

Do you subscribe to
AVOTAYNU's Internet magazine, *Nu? What's
New?* Published biweekly, it provides sub-
scribers with recent-breaking news of
interest to Jewish genealogists.
Subscribing is easy. Just go to
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.



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And this is just the beginning. There are many more. To join JGSBC, use the form at the of this newsletter, or visit our website at www.jgsbc.org and click on Membership in the gation bar.

Tidbits

By Bernie Kouchel

If you are interested in the history of the US Founding fathers, the times they lived- and the papers they wrote which may include interesting items of the specific era, their families and lives, this announcement from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) may be of interest.

The NHPRC, the grant making arm of the National Archives, in partnership with Documents Compass at the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, announced 5,000 previously unpublished documents from the USA's nation's founders are now online through Rotunda, the digital imprint of The University of Virginia Press. The Founders Early Access portion of the site allows users to read, search, and browse the newly transcribed documents,

and is available at no cost to users. As publications are added to the Founding Era collection, they will become fully interoperable: cross-searchable and navigable as a collection by chronology. Currently accessible papers include: The Adams Papers, Dolly Madison Collection, Papers of Thomas Jefferson- digital collection, George Washington Papers Digital Collection and Documentary History of the Ratification of the US Constitution. Forthcoming papers include: The papers of James Madison, Alexander Hamilton, Andrew Jackson, John Marshall, and John Jay. The search portal is: <http://tinyurl.com/yfguq39>.

Jan Meisels Allen
Director-at-large, IAJGS
and Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee
(from the IAJGS Digest, October 30, 2009)

WANTED: Bookcases!!

If you have any empty or unwanted bookcases, we could use them in our library. Please contact our librarian, Rhoda Horwitz at rhorwitz@jgsbc.org or (954)741-8368. Thank you.



Check out
our Events
Calendar at
www.jgsbc.org/helios/events

Nu? What's New? (excerpted)
The E-zine of Jewish Genealogy From Avotaynu
Gary Mokotoff, Editor
Volume 10, Number 22 | November 1, 2009

Another Google Translate Feature

In the August 19, 2009, edition of *Nu? What's New?* I extolled the merits of the Google translate feature. This past week I discovered another useful aspect of that site. Go to <http://translate.google.com> and click the Translated Search tab at the top of the page. Google allows searching for websites in one particular language based on a search parameter in your native language. For example, if searching for the English language word "genealogy" and requesting Lithuanian-language sites, Google will present all sites with the Lithuanian word "genealogija."

This function was useful to find websites that mentioned members of my family. Searching for "Mokotoff" and requesting Spanish-language sites provided information about the Argentinean/Spanish branch of the family. Getting information about the Israeli Mokotoffs is a bit trickier. Searching for "Mokotoff" at Hebrew-language sites only provides those that have "Mokotoff" in the Roman alphabet. It is necessary to search for the Hebrew alphabet equivalent of "Mokotov" (מוקוטוב) to get results. Use the Steve Morse utility at <http://stevemorse.org/hebrew/eng2heb.html> to translate from the Roman alphabet to Hebrew.

An advantage of using the Translated Search function is that the results are displayed in two columns. The first column shows the results in your native language, and the second column shows the results as they appear at the web site.

One Google function that does not work with Translated Search is the "Not" function. Placing a minus sign (-) before a word does not exclude sites with that word. For example, I found that the Spanish-language Mokotoff sites had many Facebook results. Trying to exclude them by searching for "Mokotoff -Facebook" gave results only with the word "Facebook" rather than excluding sites with "Facebook."

Arthur Kurzweil To Be "Genealogist in Residence" at Annual Conference

Arthur Kurzweil, author of the pioneering book on getting started in Jewish genealogy, *From Generation to Generation*, has been designated "Genealogist in Residence" for the 30th annual International Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in July 2010 in Los Angeles. Kurzweil will give two hands-on workshops, "Climbing Your Jewish Family Tree" and "Holocaust Research: How and Why to Locate Information about What Happened to Your Family during the Holocaust." He is an amateur magician and will perform his show "Searching for God in a Magic Shop." Kurzweil will also be available for "kibitzing, kvetching and commentary on the fly."

You can sign up for the conference newsletter at <http://www.jgsla2010.com/about/sign-up-for-the-announcements-newsletter/>. There is also a conference blog at <http://www.jgsla2010.com/blog/2009/10/conference-firsts-from-iajgs-2010-conference-central/>.

TV Program "Who Do You Think You Are?"

For those American readers who would like a preview of the much-touted British TV program about family history, "Who Do You Think You Are," you can view an episode of the Australian version at <http://www.sbs.com.au/shows/whodoyouthinkyouare/episodes/detail/episode/1662/play/auto/>. In it, Australian actor Ben Mendelsohn travels to various sites of his ancestry in the quest to determine if the family legend is true that he is related to the Jewish scholar Moses Mendelssohn and his grandson, composer Felix. There is an Avotaynu slant to his story because Ben determines his family is from Schneidemühl, Prussia, (now Piła, Poland) and is not related to the distinguished Mendelssohn family. The source Ben's researcher uses to take his family back to the time his ancestor acquired the surname Mendelssohn, is Peter Cullman's *History of the Jews of Schneidemühl: 1641 to the Holocaust*, published by Avotaynu in 2008. In viewing the credits at the end of the program, I also noted that Lionel Sharpe, OAM, of the Australian Jewish Genealogical Society was a consultant on the project.

The latest reports of plans to bring "Who Do you Think You Are" to the United States indicate it will appear in January 2010.

Jews of Stropkov Back In Print



Between Galicia and Hungary: The Jews of Stropkov is back in print. Sufficient interest plus print-on-demand technology made it practical to reprint the book. Written by Melody Amsel-Arieli, an American-born Israeli genealogist, it is a yizkor (memorial) book about the Jews of Stropkov, Slovak Republic. Many Jewish genealogists have memorialized members of their family murdered in the Holocaust. Melody went a step further and not only memorialized the Amsels of Stropkov, but all the Jews of Stropkov. The book has some unusual features for a yizkor book. It is written in two languages: Hebrew and English, each a mirror of the other. It does not have a necrology—a list of those who were murdered. Instead, it lists all the Jews of Stropkov (and neighboring communities), identifying the survivors in bold face. The list of Holocaust victims goes on for 64 pages, occasionally interrupted by an entry in bold face to identify a survivor. Of the more than 2,000 Stropkovs identified, only 162 survived the Holocaust. The narrative is a history of the Jews of Stropkov, from their first presence in about 1640 to 1945. Particular emphasis is on life just before the Holocaust and events during the Holocaust. Amsel personalizes the times by not merely describing life during these periods but by naming Jewish citizens of the town. Clearly she interviewed many of the survivors and described activity as it happened to specific individuals. A center section has more than 100 pictures of the Jews of Stropkov. Heavy emphasis is on life before the Holocaust but also included are pictures from the archives of Yad Vashem taken by a Christian photographer during the deportations. The book costs \$39.00 plus shipping. Additional information—including the Table of Contents, the beautifully designed covers (English and Hebrew), and pictures of the Jews of Stropkov—can be found at <http://www.avotaynu.com/books/stropkov.htm>.

FamilySearch Indexing Project to Top 325 Million Names

It is expected that by the end of 2009, FamilySearch's more than 100,000 volunteers will have indexed in excess of 325 million names during the past three years. By comparison, in 2006, a few thousand volunteers indexed only 11 million names. At that rate, Paul Nauta, FamilySearch public affairs manager, expects that 500 million names will be transcribed by the end of 2010. FamilySearch is the genealogy arm of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormons).

The efforts of FamilySearch demonstrate the great importance of volunteering to help index databases for Jewish genealogy. JewishGen has numerous indexing projects in progress. For a list of databases currently at the JewishGen site, go to <http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/>. Most are works-in-progress. Help grow these databases by volunteering.

"Holocaust by Bullets" Resource Center Opens in Paris

Yahad-In Unum, the association chaired by Father Patrick Desbois, and the Sorbonne University have opened a new Resource Center in Paris dedicated to advancing the research on Nazi mass executions of Jews and Roma/Gypsies in Eastern Europe during World War II, sometimes referred to as "The Holocaust by Bullets." Father DesBois was the keynote speaker at the annual Jewish genealogy conference held in Philadelphia last August. The Resource Center will provide researchers access to Yahad-In Unum's investigations, including video testimony collected in the field, books about the Holocaust in Eastern Europe written in different languages and archival material, including that provided by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. The video stored at the Resource Center will include more than 1,100 testimonials of those who witnessed the killings in the Ukraine and Belarus. The collection will be accessible both at the Paris-based Resource Center and at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Additional information can be found at <http://www.holocaustbybullets.com/en/about-yahad-in-unum/%E2%80%9C%9C%20holocaust-by-bullets%E2%80%9D-resource-center-opens-in-paris/>.

Belgium Has ITS Documents

The National Archives of Belgium (Archives Générales du Royaume) in Brussels has become the fifth facility to receive digital copies of the records and index of the International Tracing Service located in Bad Arolsen, Germany. Previously, Israel, Luxembourg, Poland and the United States obtained copies. In accordance with the resolution by the International Commission responsible for overseeing the work of ITS, all eleven member countries—but no other countries—are entitled to digital copies of the documents archived in Bad Arolsen. Other countries are France, Germany, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, and Great Britain.

Jennie Lebel Dies



Jennie Lebel, a historian who specialized in the history of the Jews of the former Yugoslavia, died in Israel on October 20. Avotaynu published English-language translations of two of her books: *Tide & Wreck: History of the Jews of Vardar Macedonia* and *Until the 'Final Solution': The Jews of Belgrade 1521-1942*. Avotaynu published these books not because we expected them to be “best sellers” but because we felt they were important enough that they should have the widest distribution possible. In 2010, we will be publishing another book in that category: *History of the Jews of the Kaisiadorys Region*, a translation of a book published in Lithuanian.

Trip to the Candy Store

I just returned from my annual trip to the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, the place I affectionately call the “candy store” because of all the genealogical goodies that are in the Library. This year, researchers in the group came from Australia, Canada, United States and Venezuela. The most significant discovery was by a regular on these trips, Ignacio Sternberg of Caracas, who found his parents’ marriage record in the Jewish records of Chernowitz (now Chernevtsy, Ukraine).

For those readers familiar with the Library, they have replaced their microfilm printers with a computer network based system that uses scanners. Images can now be saved directly to a flash drive or printed. Copying to a flash drive is free and printed copies of the documents cost only five cents (10 cents for 11x14 copies). Previously they cost 23 cents. A 2GB flash drive can be purchased at the Library for only \$9.00. The network system also supports printing from the Internet be it genealogically relevant material, e-mail or boarding passes.

David Lebovitz of Chicago, another veteran of the annual trips made by Eileen Polakoff and me each October, shared with the attendees the advantages of keyword searches using Ancestry.com. Some of the data fields provided by Ancestry results are not part of the search parameters. Using the keyword option causes any data field for the keyword. Lebovitz used it to search the U.S. Immigration Collection to locate any immigrant from one of his ancestral towns. I used the keyword feature to search for Mokotoffs in collections where the principal person was not a Mokotoff. For example, in the Obituary Collection I found Mokotoffs related to decedents not named Mokotoff.

The Library subscribes to the library version of Ancestry.com, Footnote.com, Godfrey Library, FindMyPast.com and other fee-for-service Internet sites. I took advantage of the Footnote.com site to copy naturalization records for a number of people in my family history. Rather than print them, I copied them to a flash drive (and backed up the data on the laptop I brought along). For someone who claims his “genealogy is done,” I came home with 37 documents, mostly from Footnote.com.

Next year’s trip will be from October 14–21, 2010. Eileen Polakoff and I act as consultants, lecturers and social event planners. Additional information about the trip can be found at <http://www.avotaynu.com/slctrip.htm>.

JGSBC Program Calendar

www.jgsbc.org/helios/events

Sunday, November 22, 1:30 pm
Alvin Sherman Library of NSU
Exploring My Jewish Polish Roots
Daniel Shoer-Roth, Journalist for the Miami Herald
and El Nuevo Herald

Wednesday, December 16, 7:00 pm
Soref JCC
Program TBA plus Board election

Sunday, December 20, 12 noon
Brimstone Grill, Pembroke Gardens Mall
L'Chaim! The History of the Jewish Community
Of Greater Miami
Seth Bramson

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 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 genealogy is welcome to participate in our programs.



Member Society

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 their Jewish roots.

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. 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

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JGSBC

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	Rosa Pinsky
	Joyce Ben-Ezra

Committee Chairs

Cemetery	Ara Morenberg
Finance	Brenda Feuer
Library	Rhoda Horwitz
Membership	Rosa Pinsky
Newsletter	Michael Sofman
Program	Martin Shames
Publicity	Michael Greenberg
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 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.



**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:	

Out-of-State Address	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

***Nova Southeastern University and the
Jewish Genealogical Society of Broward County, Inc.***

jointly present



Daniel Shoer-Roth

Sunday, November 22, 2009, 1:30 p.m.
Alvin Sherman Library of NSU
3100 Ray Ferrero, Jr. Blvd, Davie

Daniel Shoer Roth is a columnist at [El Nuevo Herald](#), where he has worked since 1999. He writes about the lives and issues that affect South Floridians but don't get enough public attention. *View From El Nuevo Herald* is his weekly column in The Miami Herald. Shoer Roth was born in Caracas, Venezuela, the grandson of Holocaust survivors. He has won several awards from the National Association of Hispanic Journalist, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and the National Association of Hispanic Publications. Last year, he published a bilingual book [Punto de Partida: Stories of Truth and Hope](#) with the Human Services Coalition, aiming to inspire readers to take action to improve their communities .

Daniel grew up very close to his grandfather, Elias, a Polish Jew. In spite of Daniel's curiosity, he never wanted to talk about his life in Poland or about the Holocaust. This past spring, on the 10th anniversary of his grandfather's death, he traveled to Poland to do some genealogical research. He wrote about his experience in the July 19, 2009 edition of the Miami Herald, and will share with us more details about his trip and the impact it had on him.

Admission is free for all wishing to attend.

Seating is limited, so please register in advance at <http://sherman.library.nova.edu/helios/events/>.

Directions: From University Drive north or south, travel east on SW 30th Street. Turn right at Ray Ferrero Jr. Boulevard. Turn right into the Parking Garage. Cost for parking is \$1 per hour.

Contact: 954-262-4575

E-mail: kgarvey@nova.edu

Web: www.nova.edu/library





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

Cordially Invites You to Our

Annual Anniversary Luncheon

Sunday, December 20, 2009, 12 noon

Brimstone Woodfire Grill

Pembroke Gardens Mall
Southeast corner of Pines Blvd and I-75
Pembroke Pines

With our special guest

Seth Bramson



"L'CHAIM! THE HISTORY OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY OF GREATER MIAMI"

Seth Bramson is Miami's foremost and premiere historian. He is the most-published Greater Miami history book author in the country, with twelve of his 17 books dealing directly with the villages, towns, cities and people of Miami-Dade County.

He is the Company Historian of the Florida East Coast Railway—one of only two people in the country who bears that title with an American railroad—and his book, "Speedway to Sunshine" is the official history of that famous line. His collection of FEC Railway and Florida transportation memorabilia is the largest in the world: it is larger than the State Museum's collection and larger than the Flagler Museum's collection.

A graduate of Cornell University's famed School of Hotel Administration, he holds Masters degrees from St. Thomas University and Florida International University, both here in Miami.

He is Adjunct Professor of History and Historian in Residence at Barry University and Adjunct Professor of History at FIU, where he teaches all of the University's South Florida and Florida history courses. In addition he is Historian in Residence at FIU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

The founder of the Miami Memorabilia Collectors Club, his collection of Miami memorabilia and Floridiana is the largest in private hands in the country. He is now working on his 18th book, which will be titled "Hallandale Beach, Florida: For More Than 90 Years Broward County's City of Choice," and he is the author of more than seventy articles on South Florida local and Florida transportation history including three in juried or refereed publications. He has appeared as a featured guest or commentator on Florida history programs on A and E, Discovery Channel, Florida Public Broadcasting, Fox FX The Collectibles Show, History Channel, Learning Channel and Turner South Network as well as all five local Miami television stations.

Nationally recognized as Florida's leading transportation historian and South Florida's pre-eminent local historian he has been quoted frequently in newspapers throughout Florida as well as in "The New York Times" and "U. S. A. Today."

COST: \$25 PER PERSON

For further information, please go to our website, www.jgsbc.org

Please detach here

Please make checks payable to the **JGSBC**, and mail by December 10 to:

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

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

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