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President's Shpiel

by Kim Sheintal

At the March JGS of SW FL meeting, I excitedly told everyone that my friend asked me to locate the family of his biological father. His father left his mom when he was three years old. After doing research on the JewishGen Family Finder, I announced at that meeting that I located his third cousin once removed who presented my friend with a 64-page family tree of his biological father. I mentioned that this was pretty amazing because I had only sent one e-mail to someone on the JewishGen Family Finder. I then mentioned that I had also sent 75 e-mails that same week to help my friend Martha trace her family and got no connections for her. Coincidentally, while typing this newsletter, I received a phone call from my friend Martha who exclaimed, "You found me a cousin and he traced our shared family back to the mid 1700s!"

As a volunteer, I am helping a synagogue locate living relatives of people who had purchased cemetery plots prior to their death and never used the plots. My task was to locate their relatives and contact them. I looked on JewishGen Family Finder for people tracing the surnames of the people who had purchased the plots. Unexpectedly, one person that I contacted on JGFF asked me if I was related to Nachum Sheintal. Because Sheintal is a rare name, I am working on making that personal connection. Another person to whom I wrote had the last name Jaffe. I was not contacting her because of the Jaffe name, but I asked her about Jaffe as an aside. I told her that I was researching that surname from my mother's side of the family. She suggested that I contact a man in Israel named Chaim who does Jaffe research. Coincidentally, Chaim is my second cousin on my father's side of the family. Doing research for others helped me trace my family.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

MISHPOCHOLOGY

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President and Editor: Kim Sheintal <klapshein@aol.com>

Treasurer: Liz Klaber <eklaber@comcast.net>

Membership: Libbie Kaplan <albkap@gmail.com>

Programs: Irene Midler <irmsam@comcast.net>

Publicity: Lee Ruggles <lee0614@verizon.net>

Librarian: Bernie Spitalnick <sputnik_too@hotmail.com>

Webmaster: Jim Haberman <info@curtistrade.com>

www.jgsswf.org

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MEETING

Sunday, May 15, 2011 (1:00 PM)

Kobernick House

1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Program: Jewish Folklore with Dr. Eleanor Wachs

For details, Kim Sheintal 921-1433, <klapshein@aol.com>

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida presents *Jewish Family Folklore* with Dr. Eleanor Wachs on May 15 at 1:00 PM at Kobernick House. It is not all old wives tales and recipes. Jewish family folklore is a way we express our culture in a familial manner with personal narratives, proverbs, riddles, folk songs, and more. Dr. Eleanor Wachs will talk about what comprises Jewish family folklore and how you can collect your own or other's in the Jewish community.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay meets at Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services, 14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater, Florida on Sunday, June 12, 2011 at 2:00 PM. David Ellis will present a program on copyright and other Intellectual Property challenges facing genealogists who publish family histories. Among other things, they will learn how to legally protect the material they develop and publish as a result of their research, and also how to avoid infringing the rights of others who may own copyrights and other intellectual property they may want to reproduce in the course of their research and publication. David Ellis is an attorney in the Tampa Bay area, Florida practicing copyrights, trademarks, patents, trade secrets, and intellectual property law; computer, cyberspace and Internet law; business, entertainment and arts law; and franchise, licensing and contract law. A graduate of M.I.T. and Harvard Law School, he is a member of the Florida Bar, Board Certified in Intellectual Property Law, and a registered Patent Attorney. He taught Intellectual Property, Copyrights, and Computer Law for several years as an Adjunct Professor at the University of Florida College of Law and Stetson University College of Law.

For information on the organization or directions to the meeting call Sally Israel at 727-343-1652.

Annual IAJGS Poster / Flyer Competition

www.iajgs.org (Click "Jewish Genealogy Month")

Oct 29 to Nov 26, 2011 (Hebrew month of Cheshvan) is International Jewish Genealogy Month. This year's International Jewish Genealogy Month Committee will be chaired by Nancy Adelson of Seattle who will be joined by Rabbi Garry Gans of New Jersey, Howard Morris of Boston, Jeanette Rosenberg of England and Garri Regev of Jerusalem.

Wonderful World of Websites

http://blog.eogn.com/eastmans_online_genealogy/2011/01/jewish-genealogy-news.html

Jewish Genealogy News is a new free news service for topics related to Jewish Genealogy. Announcements are welcome for upcoming events, new books and articles, new web resources, new blogs and more.

List: <https://groups.google.com/group/jewishgnews>

Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/jewishgnews>

Facebook: <http://goo.gl/hjIpF>

Web: <https://sites.google.com/site/jewishgnews>

<http://www.genealogycenter.org/Home.aspx>

There are many free databases and digitized books from the Fort Wayne, Indiana library.

http://genealogy.about.com/library/free_charts/Family_Tree.pdf

You can type right into this pedigree chart.

<http://c.mfcreative.com/pdf/trees/charts/anchart.pdf>

You cannot type right into this pedigree chart.

<http://www.apgen.org/>

Association of Professional Genealogists

<http://bit.ly/hgU1UZ>

Jewish genealogists Research Log

<http://www.iajgs.org/links.html>

Websites of Genealogical Interest

<http://www.jewishlink.net/genealogy.html>

Jewish Genealogy Links Page

<http://www.ancestralfindings.com/jewishroots.htm>

Ten Tips for Jewish Genealogy

http://www.sciencenews.org/view/generic/id/59938/title/Tracing_Jewish_roots

Genetic Roots of Seven Jewish Groups

<http://rememberme.ushmm.org/>

On Monday, March 21, 2011, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum [USHMM] (Washington D.C.) launched "Remember Me?," an international campaign that will engage the public by asking them to help the Museum identify 1,100 children who were orphaned, displaced, or separated from their families during the Holocaust and World War II.

<http://www.fgs.org/societystrategy/>

FGS presents "Society Strategy Series Papers"

The Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) announced that a vast collection of its Society Strategy Series papers is now available for free to the public and found at the FGS website. The Society Strategy Series is a collection of papers filled with suggestions and instructions for the management of genealogical societies, historical societies, and family associations. These papers have been expertly written by respected authors in the genealogy community to help you and your society grow and prosper.

Ship Websites for Genealogists

Jewish Genealogical Society of SW FL Webmaster Jim Haberman came across two helpful genealogical research resources for ships. www.theshipslist.com has descriptions of many of the ships that were used to carry immigrants from Europe to North America, especially to Canada. www.photoship.co.uk has photos of many of the ships. He found descriptions and photos of the vessels that transported both of his paternal grandparents to Canada from Europe. Interestingly, both vessels later were used as military transports during the Boer War, and both were later sunk by German U-boats during World War I.

Now Online:

National Genealogical Society Quarterly Index

According to Jan Meisels Allen, IAJGS Director-at-Large and Chairperson of the IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee, new information is available.

The National Genealogical Society Quarterly (NGSQ) index is now online free and available to the public not just NGS members. The NGSQ has been published since 1912 and has materials concerning all regions and ethnic groups including essays on new methodologies, critical reviews of current books, how to conduct research and more.

Try http://www.ngsgenealogy.org/cs/ngs_quarterly_archives. You can search the index by author or title, or browse by year to find the article or volume of interest.

As the index is the only part of the NGSQ that is available to the public, if you find an article of interest, there is information on how to purchase a specific issue of the NGSQ for both NGS members and non-members.

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Future IAJGS Conferences

Washington, DC (2011)
Paris, France (2012)
or Boston (2013),
Jerusalem (2014)

For more information: www.iajgs.org

Sephardic Naming Patterns

http://www.heymanfamily.com/Documents/sephardic_naming_patterns.htm

"It is NOT strictly correct that until 200 years ago Jews did not use family names. There are many families both Ashkenazim and Sephardim who retained common family names through generations. This is more particularly true of Sephardim Families or those families of Sephardic origin many of whom had family names that can be traced back many centuries all be it in slightly changed or a derived format. Certainly by the 12th Century Family names were well established in the Iberian Peninsula. Sephardic Jews, unlike Ashkenazi Jews, often name their children after living relatives."

Who Do You Think You Are and JRI-Poland

The "Who Do You Think You Are" show's researchers were able to tap into JRI-Poland's online database as the starting point in documenting Paltrow's ancestry. The website has 90 record entries for Paltrow's ancestors and the WDYTIA team said "JRI Poland is a wonderful resource for anyone researching Jewish Polish ancestry and was invaluable during the research for the Gwyneth Paltrow episode."

According to Stanley Diamond (Executive Director, Jewish Records Indexing – Poland), "JRI-Poland is an independent non-profit tax-exempt Organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code. Under special arrangement, the JRI-Poland website <www.jri-poland.com>, mailing list, and database are hosted by JewishGen. JRI-Poland data is displayed on JewishGen as a service to researchers."

IAJGS and Amazon

IAJGS is an Amazon associate and if you enter Amazon.com through the portal on the www.IAJGS.org website (scroll down to the bottom of the IAJGS home page and click on the Amazon name) IAJGS benefits, and of course the same great prices for all their merchandise is the same. This is a great way to support IAJGS by shopping at Amazon.com and it doesn't cost you any more!

And remember books-hard/soft copy, and electronic (Kindle), music, clothing, home, electronics, computers and software, home and garden, kitchen and pets, sports, health and beauty and jewelry are all available at Amazon.com for one stop shopping!

Go to www.IAJGS.org and scroll down to the bottom of the page and click on the Amazon.com name and shop at Amazon.com as you would normally. This is for everyone to take advantage of, not just those in North America! Have fun shopping!

Share this with your friends, relatives and genealogy society members. You'll be helping to support the IAJGS activities by shopping at Amazon.com when entering their site through the IAJGS portal on their website.

31st IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy

"A Capital Conference"
Washington, DC USA
<http://www.DC2011.org>

August 14-19, 2011 Grand Hyatt Washington

Author, TV & radio host and adviser to celebrities, Rabbi Shmuley Boteach will be the Shabbat Scholar for events leading up to the conference. He will speak after the Shabbat dinner on Friday, August 12, lead a discussion on Saturday afternoon and lecture again after Havdalah services and dinner Saturday evening.

Family History Writing Competition

Pinellas Genealogist, quarterly journal of Pinellas Genealogy Society (PGS), is accepting entries for the annual Family History Writing Competition from members and non-members of the Society. Entries should be based on the author's research of a family history or a genealogical account of family lines and lives, discussing the steps followed and the conclusions that resulted from the research. Entries may be original, unpublished papers or published papers. If previously published, please submit permission to reprint from the original publisher along with the entry.

Prizes will be awarded to three submissions selected by our judges (first prize: \$50, second prize: \$30, third prize: \$20).

The winning entries will be announced in the winter issue of *Pinellas Genealogist*. All entries must be received no later than 31 October 2011.

Competition rules are located on the PGS website at <<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flpgs/>>.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida Membership Application

Single Membership: \$20/year
Family Membership: \$25/year

Mail Check (payable to JGS of SW FL) with this form to:

Liz Klaber
4461 Violet Avenue
Sarasota, Florida 34233

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Personal Genealogy Success Timeline

by Kim Sheintal

On March 15, 2009, I was asked to speak on Jewish Genealogy for a local temple's Brotherhood Meeting. Because I know more about my own Jewish roots than anyone else's, I gave a review of my favorite genealogical success stories. I felt that I could impart a strong sense of enthusiasm while showing that successes do happen with a lot of persistence and a stroke of luck. I made a summary of my favorite genealogical discoveries. As I made an outline of my speech, I came up with a two-part format. The format worked out so well that I have added to it many times over the years. It not only has been beneficial for my future genealogy presentations, but it also has been beneficial in giving me a quick overview of my personal genealogical accomplishments. Here are the two steps I use for my Personal Genealogy Success Timeline:

1. Introduction of how I got motivated to trace my roots
2. Listing of success stories in date order for each surname that I am researching

Below is my introduction followed by the success stories of one of the surnames in my family.

In 1982, I was at a shopping mall in Bradenton (Florida) and saw my cousin Sol, a cousin of mine from Chicago. He told me he recently retired in Bradenton. I knew he was my cousin, but I didn't know how he was related to me. He explained to me that he was my grandmother's first cousin and thus my first cousin, twice removed. He was related to me on the Jaffe side of my family. He told me if I wanted to learn more about my Jaffe side of the family, I should write to my Jeffer (aka Jaffe) cousins in New Orleans. I wrote to them and they told me that if I wanted to learn more, I should call my cousin Margot who lives in Sarasota. I did not know Margot. Margot and I were cousins and living less than a mile from one another and did not know each other. To my good fortune, she had been tracing her Jaffe family tree.

Klapman Genealogical Success Stories:

In **December 1991**, my cousin Linda visited me in Sarasota and we called my cousin Ruth Klapman and got the names of all of my paternal grandfather's siblings.

In **April 1999**, I visited my daughter in New Orleans. She had a bad cold one day and all she wanted to do was sleep. As she slept ten feet away on the bed, I sat at her desk searching the JewishGen Family Finder to find people searching my maiden name Klapman. That day, I discovered Flora who was also researching Klapman. She lived in Virginia. I sent her all of my handwritten Klapman charts and within a week, she sent to my home a 33-page typed Klapman family tree.

In **May 2006**, my daughter was getting married in three months. I was busy remodeling two bedrooms for out of town guests and arranging a week's worth of wedding related festivities and I got an e-mail from Flora seeing if I wanted to seriously work on updating the 33-page Klapman tree that we started in 1999. By the time of the wedding, I was able to distribute a 59-page Klapman tree to all of the Klapman family attendees.

On **August 1, 2006**, I sent letters to the 24 people living in Israel with the surname Klapman or Klopman. That helped me discover that I had two cousins Efraim and Zev, brothers, living in Israel, who wrote me back that they were coming to St. Petersburg (Florida) in January 2007 for Zev's back surgery. Before that I did not even know I had these cousins and six months after I heard about Efraim and Zev, I met them in Florida.

On **September 14, 2008**, Flora and I found our Klapman connection.

On **January 15, 2009**, Flora and I met for the first time. We met in Naples, Florida and we each came with a surprise. She brought with a lady searching Klapman roots and I brought with me yet another lady tracing Klapman roots. There was Flora from Virginia, Nannette from Maryland, Maxine from Winnipeg and me from Sarasota. We are getting closer in finding our Klapman connections. This reunion was my reward for years of researching and working on my Klapman family.

On **March 11, 2009**, I received an e-mail from Shemouel. Please note that the letter he mentions in this e-mail was one of 24 letters that I had mailed to Israel the summer of 2006 to all the people in Israel with the Klopman/Klapman surname. To quote the e-mail: "Hello again! What a small world!! Yesterday after I wrote you the last message, my parents were at my home and I talked with my father about it. Suddenly he reminded me that he got a letter from USA about two years ago. He went to search to letter in his car and found it!!! Guess from who the letter was? From you!!! You sent a letter to my parents from Ramat-Gan. I am sorry my father didn't answer and I was already married then so I didn't see the letter until now." (Note: Shemouel originally spotted me on Geni.com website.)

As of **May 2009**, Flora and I have compiled 11 different Klapman branches. My particular branch is now 95 pages. Ten of the eleven Klapman branches are Jewish and come from either Poland or Russia; one of the 11 branches is descended from Thomas Jefferson Klapman and came to US from Germany in mid 1800s.

September 14, 2010: Ever since I can remember, Lenora Stein Buchalter attended Klapman family weddings and Bar and Bat Mitvahs. She was always said to be a cousin on the Klapman side of the family. Lenora did not know how she was related to me. All she knew was that her dad was Harry Stein and her mother was Yetta Kalski. In November 2009, Lenora put me in touch with her brother's daughter Teri. Teri's son needed help with a genealogy project for his school. Lenora told Teri that maybe I could help. Teri told me her sister Sheryl knew my cousin Suzy. Teri told me Harry Stein's father was David Bernstein. I gave Teri what information I knew about her family, but told her that I was not able to tell her how we were related to one another. On September 14, 2010, Teri left a message on my answering machine to let me know that the wife of David is Merka Klopman. I immediately looked at my Klapman family tree and saw that there was a Merka Klopman who was married to David Borensztein. No children were listed on my family tree. Merka Klopman is the great granddaughter of Johel Jakubowicz Klopman. I am the gggg granddaughter of Johel Jakubowicz Klopman. Teri and I are fifth cousins. As it turned out, I was supposed to be helping Teri and she ended up helping me.

As of **April 26, 2011**, Flora and I have compiled 17 different Klapman branches and my particular branch is now 103 pages.

WHAT ARE YOU JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SUCCESS STORIES?

Submit your success stories to Mishpochology editor at
klapshein@aol.com