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President's Shpiel

by Kim Sheintal

Jewish Genealogy Month is October 17 to November 14. This month, make an effort to mention the Jewish surnames on your family tree to your friends. I have discovered that two of my friends who retired to Sarasota are very close friends with my distant cousins before moving to Sarasota. I now feel a special bond with these two friends knowing that they are friends with my cousins.

FSGS 36th Annual Conference

The Best of Times: Genealogy + Technology

November 8-10, 2012 at the Hilton Deerfield/Boca Raton

Keynote Speakers: Curt Witcher and Thomas MacEntee
Plus a host of well-known speakers doing break-out sessions

The Conference will be different this year... not just a run-of-the-mill annual conference! The focus is on where family history/genealogy meet today's technology... Internet, Facebook, Twitter, Blogging, etc. We hear about these ways of getting our word out but most of us don't even scratch the surface in using the available technology in our search and research. The heart of this year's conference will be bringing us all up to the 21st century and beyond at the beautiful Hilton Deerfield/Boca Raton in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Question: Do you plan to attend the FSGS 36th Annual Conference Nov 8-10, 2012? Go to the following link and let us know! <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GK63CS6>. Keep your eyes on the website...www.flsgs.org...and keep tuned for the latest!

Joanne Ryder, FSGS PR

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

MISHPOCHOLOGY

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Mishpochology is published quarterly.

MEETING

Sunday, November 18, 2012 (1:00 PM)

Koebnick House

1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Program: Rabbi Barbara Aiello

The Lost Jews of Sicily and Southern Italy -

The Anousim Nobody Knows

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

Jewish Genealogy Month

The International Jewish Genealogy Month is celebrated during Cheshvan, corresponding in 2012 to October 17 through November 14. Each year, an International Jewish Genealogy Month Poster Contest is coordinated by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies to promote Jewish Genealogy Month. The purpose of International Jewish Genealogy Month is to make people aware of Jewish Genealogy and show that Jewish Genealogical Societies can help them get started on tracing their families. This year, the winning International Jewish Genealogy Month poster was designed by JGS of SW FL members, Lynn Teichman and Tuvia Natkin.

Lynn comes from a background of the arts and education creating logos and graphics for non-profits, teaching as artist-in-residence and volunteering as a mentor in public schools. Tuvia's career in Jewish education includes many years as a writer and translator. His career in music led to journalism and advertising and a move to Israel for further studies. Looking back to his family roots in Russia and finding rabbis and Yiddish novelists sparked his interest in genealogy and a realization that discovering one's past plays a vital role in educating a new generation. The poster's design of a hand with a tree texture on a background of surnames signifies a tree of life reaching for our past. Searching, we grow as a tree. The surnames are from the archives of the JGS of SW FL members.

JGS of SW FL Calendar

Sunday, November 18, 2012 @ 1:00 PM at Koebnick House

The Lost Jews of Sicily and Southern Italy -

The Anousim Nobody Knows by Rabbi Barbara Aiello

Sunday, December 16, 2012 @ 1:00 PM at Koebnick House

How I Brought My Lost Relatives to Life by Jo Ann Goldwater

Sunday, January 20, 2013 @ 1:00 PM at Koebnick House

Jewish Experience of "Russification" in Tsarist Russia, 1825-1894
by Doug Cohen

Sunday, February 17, 2013 @ 1:00 PM at Koebnick House

My Cousin the Gangster by Mike Karsen

Sunday, March 17, 2013 @ 1:00 PM

Mining for Gold: Online Historical Newspapers by Robin Seidenberg

Sunday, April 21, 2013 @ 1:00 PM at Koebnick House

Nothing is Forever by Helga Harris

Sunday, May 19, 2013 @ 1:00 PM at Koebnick House

Show and Tell

2012 IAJGS Conference Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award - Dr. Jeffrey S. Malka

This award honors your pioneering work in Sephardic genealogical studies. You have provided focus, resources and leadership to the study of Sephardic genealogy. Your writing, websites and lectures have opened doors for researchers by making both methodology and information accessible to all. You have reminded the entire Jewish genealogy community of our diversity. You have served on many committees of Jewish genealogy organizations at the local and international level. High standards and your generosity in sharing your time and knowledge underscore all of your many accomplishments.

Outstanding Contribution to Jewish Genealogy Via the Internet, Print or Electronic Project - Logan Kleinwaks

Your exceptional creation and management of the Genealogy Indexer is a unique innovation in the field of Jewish Genealogy. This free website makes available searches of original documents, which have not been indexed, from many sources around the world, primarily from central and eastern Europe. Your work has enabled researchers to find family names buried in foreign language documents through the use of optical character recognition and soundex technology. Your website has advanced research opportunities by facilitating access to these valuable documents to anyone with access to the internet.

Outstanding Program or Project Award - The ViewMate Project

This award is given in recognition of The ViewMate Project. Conceived and initiated by Bernard Kouchel, this innovative and widely-used tool helps researchers understand genealogy-related documents, photographs and artifacts. Researchers can share images with peers who volunteer to provide translations and explanations. An integral part of JewishGen, this interactive project connects the international genealogical community allowing those with questions to benefit from the expertise and experience of those who answer them.

Outstanding Publication by an IAJGS Member Association

Shemot, the outstanding journal of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain is published with a distinct theme three times each year. Each issue attracts contributors with expertise in the theme and provides articles with breadth and depth. The content of this relevant, informative and worthwhile journal reflects the skill set of a strong network of member and non-member contributors. Although the high-quality and original articles are primarily of interest to individuals researching British roots and those whose families trans-migrated through Great Britain, they are relevant to all researchers.

Stern Grant Awards Shared by Two Projects

A Rabbi Malcolm Stern Grant was awarded to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to continue the printing, digitizing and indexing of records in their archives, particularly those focusing on the overseas rescue, relief, and rehabilitation of Jews during the middle of the 20th century. They will then be made available online world-wide. 300,000 digitized documents at <http://archives.jdc.org/archives-search/?s=archivestopnav>.

A Rabbi Malcolm Stern Grant was awarded to The Israel Genealogy Research Association (IGRA). The Grant is for the completion of a search engine able to handle both English and Hebrew searches, which will enable researchers not familiar with the other language to find the families they are searching. Such a search engine does not presently exist. Materials currently being scanned and indexed are records from the British Mandate period. The IGRA multi-lingual website at <http://genealogy.org.il> has a world-wide audience.

Mel Franzel

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of dear JGS member Mel Franzel, beloved husband of Joan Franzel.

Jewish Web Index

Ted Margulis (Palm Desert, California)

<http://jewishwebindex.com> (jwebindex@gmail.com)

Since we both share an interest in researching our Jewish roots, my web site <<http://jewishwebindex.com>> may help you speed up your research which could make it easier to find the information you are researching. And there is no charge to use the web site - ever!

I sincerely believe that you will find my site to be of value. Please share my web site's address with your friends and relatives who may also be interested in researching their Jewish ancestors. It's taken several years, but the site is now improved and you will find less outdated links in the future. Over 255,000 genealogists have already visited my site and use it in their quest to learn about their roots. I am sure you will too.

Information about various sites and the thousands of links is sorted by Country and/or Subject and it is very easy to navigate. And did I mention that it is totally free!

If you have visited the site in the past, take another look as I have updated and added many more links and will continue to add more information daily. Although it now sports an updated cleaner face, the most important fact is that information is constantly being added, so if you are looking for something specific today and don't find it, chances are that it could show up tomorrow.

IAJGS Announces Four New Member Societies

Documenting Maine Jewry: Officers are President: Annette Elowitch, Vice President: Steve Hirshon, Secretary: Judy Halpert, and Treasurer: Harris Gleckman. For more information, go to: www.MaineJews.org.

Michiana Jewish Historical Society: Officers are President: David Piser, Secretary: Judy Shroyer, Treasurer: Mara Boettcher, and Executive Director: Maggie Goldberg. They are located in South Bend, Indiana (the only current IAJGS member in Indiana). For information, contact: mjhsociety@gmail.com. The Michiana Jewish Historical Society has a genealogy project to collect information on the Jewish families living in their area: northern Indiana and southwest Michigan. At the end of 2011 they had collected information on over 6,000 people.

The Orange County Jewish Genealogical Society is located in Orange County, California. They have stimulating and informative monthly meetings planned. Their web site is <http://www.ocjgs.org/>.

The Sephardic Heritage Project was founded by Sarina Roffé in 2004 to identify and preserve the marriage and brit milah records of the Syrian Jewish community. Their website is <http://sephardicheritageproject.org/>. According to their website, for the past eight years, Sarina has been working with researchers in New York and Israel to have thousands of Hebrew brit milah and marriage records translated to English so that they could be accessible as an information source for English speaking families researching their family tree.

Welcome JGS of SW FL Members

Lynn Teichman (www.naples.net/~nfn06127)

Tuvia Natkin

Yizkor Appeal:

Commemorate Names of Shoah Victims

“May the L-rd remember the souls of the holy and pure ones who were killed, murdered, slaughtered, burned, drowned, and strangled for the sanctification of the Name....”

The word yizkor (to remember) refers to a special prayer said on behalf of family members who have passed away. Yizkor presents living relatives with an opportunity to spiritually elevate the soul of a departed loved one. The experience of reciting Yizkor can be a powerful moment of reflection and remembrance. Also included in the service are memorial prayers for collectively martyred fellow Jews - those who were murdered simply because they were Jews. During Yizkor, when hearts and minds are filled with memories of generations past it is a most fitting time to be reminded of our moral imperative to memorialize the victims of the Shoah. The Jews are a people of memory. Our history is an integral part of us and we pass it from generation to generation. In reciting Yizkor we remember the collective tragedies of our people as well as our own personal losses. It is incumbent upon us to remember them. If we do not take action, their legacies will be lost to us forever.

Yad Vashem's Shoah Victims' Names Recovery Project aims to fulfill the desires and wishes of the victims themselves that their names be remembered forever and that no Holocaust victim is forgotten.

Please take this opportunity to call on your congregants and community members to make sure that the names of each of their loved ones and acquaintances that were murdered during the Holocaust are registered for generations to come in Yad Vashem, Jerusalem.

This is a race against time. Act now before those who still remember them are gone forever. Search for information or submit names of people you know of who were killed during the Shoah on Yad Vashem's Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? * SHARE *

Share a unique video message from Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council, drawing on biblical sources on the importance of commemorating the Jews who perished during the Shoah. Rav Lau, himself a child survivor of Buchenwald, powerfully calls upon Jews across the world, to join Yad Vashem's efforts to recover the names of each individual Shoah victim.

*** POST ***

Please share this message via social media (Facebook, twitter, e-letters, list serves, etc.) and post ads flash banner on your web sites to help promote awareness of the urgency of recovering names of Shoah victims. Contact Yad Vashem via email to receive a unique link for the banner of your choice.

*** REACH OUT ***

Efforts to recover Shoah Victims' names can include the distribution of Pages of Testimony (POT) and posters at various community locations to promote public awareness, scheduling outreach events or training volunteers for home visits to assist potential submitters with submitting POTs. Free materials are available from Yad Vashem upon request.

With warmest regards from Jerusalem,

Cynthia Wroclawski, Manager

The Shoah Victims' Names Recovery Project

Yad Vashem, POB 3477, Jerusalem, 91034 ISRAEL

<http://www1.yadvashem.org/yv/en/remembrance/names/index.asp>

Genealogical Societies

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

meets the third Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM from November thru May at Kobernick House 1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota. President is Kim Sheintal (klapshein@aol.com). Web site: <http://www.jgsswf.org>

Lakewood Ranch Genealogical Society

meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00 PM from November thru April at Lakewood Ranch Town Hall. Their leader is professional genealogist Donna Moughty. For inquiries please contact Nancy Johnson (choco8448@gmail.com, 941-752-9819).

South Bay Genealogical Society

meets the third Tuesday of the month at 10:45 AM at the South Shore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way, Ruskin. The Regional Roundtable at 10:45 AM is followed by lunch at noon and a genealogy presentation at 1:00 PM, from September thru May.

President is Jim Cox (south-bay@juno.com).

Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flsbgs/>

Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay

meets the second Sunday of the month at 1:30 PM (social with light refreshments & library access), and 2:00 PM (featured program) from September thru June with some exceptions to accommodate speakers or holiday conflicts at Gulf Coast Jewish Family Services, 14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater.

President is Natalie Armitage (nrarmitage@centurylink.net).

Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fljgstb/index.htm>

Manatee Genealogical Society

meets the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 AM from October thru May (November it will be first Thursday) at Manatee County Library, 1301 Barcarrota Blvd. Bradenton.

President is Jim Reger (babeandjim@gmail.com).

Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flmgs>

Computer SIG: meets about 11:15 AM (after the regular monthly meeting) on the same day and place.

Genealogical Society of Sarasota

meets the second Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM (mingling), 10:30 AM (program) from October thru May at Selby Library, 1331 1st St., Sarasota. President is Armin Gumerman (gumerman@gmail.com).

Web site: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~flgss>

Germanic SIG: Karen Dwyer (karensdwyer@yahoo.com)

United Kingdom SIG: Jean Wallace (walljb@comcast.net) and Susan Well (swell01060@yahoo.com)

Ireland SIG: leader to be announced

Italian SIG (sponsored by GSS & Sarasota Italian Cultural Events): Franz Schneider (franz.schneider@prodigy.net)

Computer SIG: Joe Graham (Genealogy.Ten@gmail.com)

Englewood Genealogical Society

meets the fourth Wednesday of the month (September thru May) at 1:30 PM at Elsie Quirk Library, 100 Dearborn W. St., Englewood with three exceptions: December and May meetings will be the third Wednesday at Elsie Quirk Library and January meeting (seminar meeting) will be the third Wednesday at the Suncoast Auditorium in the Englewood Community Hospital, 300 Medical Ave, Englewood.

President is Sue Davis (suedavis101@comcast.net).

Web site: <http://egsfl.org/>

SIG Groups: Beginning Genealogy, British Isles, Eastern Seaboard States, Europe, Family Tree Maker, Midwest States, MAC/Reunion, and Scandinavian

**Yizkor-Books-in-Print Project –
Project of Jewishgen.org**
Sandra Hirschhorn, Publicity Specialist

JewishGen is proud to announce our new Yizkor-Books-in-Print Project. Yizkor books are a great resource to genealogists and the volunteers involved in this project are translating a number of books from Hebrew or Yiddish to English and YBIP (Yizkor Books in Print) is publishing them in hard cover in a similar format.

The books offer information seldom found in genealogical data and may provide clues to families and their lives. Through personal accounts, they detail the history, the rich cultural life, the institutions, personalities, and organizations that existed in before destruction by the Nazis during World War II.

Following are details about several of the books and a list of others now available and those in the process of publication. There are currently nine books in print, six more in production, with many more to come.

The Destruction of Czestochowa (Czestochowa, Poland) was first published in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1949 in Yiddish by survivors and former residents of the town. For the assistance of researchers, the town has also been known as: Czestochowa [Polish], Chenstochov [Yiddish], Tschenstochau [German], Censtochová [Cz], Chenstokhova [Russian], Chenstokhov, Chestokhova, Tshenstokhov.

A second book in the series is *Brzezina: a Memorial Book* (Poland) first published in 1961 by survivors and former residents, translated from the Yiddish by Renee Miller and coordinated and edited by Fay Vogel Busgang. The town is also known by these names: Brzeziny [Polish], Bezhezhin [Yiddish], Bzheziny [Russian], Berzin, Brezhin, Breziny, Bzhezini, Bzshezshin, Löwenstadt [German, 1941-45].

Other titles now available are:

- *Orheyev Alive and Destroyed; Memorial Book of the Jewish Community of Orhei, Moldova*
- *Rozana: a Memorial to the Ruzhinoy Jewish Community (Belarus)*
- *The Book of Zgierz - An Eternal Memorial for a Jewish Community in Poland*
- *Preserving Our Litvak Heritage - Volume I - A History of 31 Jewish Communities in Lithuania*
- *Preserving Our Litvak Heritage - Volume II - A History of 21 Jewish Communities in Lithuania*
- *Flight to Survival (A companion to The Destruction of Czestochowa)*
- *Belzec - Stepping Stone to Genocide (A description of the Holocaust)*

Yizkor Books for the following towns will be available soon:

- Ostrów Mazowiecka, Poland
- Ciechanów, Poland
- Działoszyce, Poland
- Horodenka, Ukraine
- Navahrudak, Belarus
- Bacau, Iasi and Podu Iloaiei, Romania

For more information visit the YBIP web site at <http://www.jewishgen.org/yizkor/YBIP.html>.

Wonderful World of Websites

<http://jewishwebindex.com/>
researching Jewish roots website

http://www.iajgs.org/Jewish_Genealogy_Yearbook_2011.pdf
IAJGS 2011 Yearbook

<http://www.iajgs.org/links.html>
Genealogical Sites of Interest

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flgss/SelbyBookList.htm>
Selby Library Genealogy Books

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~flgss/GSSCemeteryBook.htm>
Sarasota Cemetery Plots

<http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen/Testimonials>
JewishGen Success Stories

<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLE84A2966F40F0802&feature=plcp>

US National Archives and Records Administration online videos of its most popular “how to” workshops

http://preview.when.com/?icid=acm50exclusive_whenpreview_081412
family sharing web site

<http://www.mygenshare.com/>
comprehensive digital library for genealogists

<http://heartwebsite.org/>

If you are your Jewish relatives had property that was confiscated, looted or forcibly sold during the Holocaust era, you could be entitled to participate in Project Heart.

<http://jewishgen.blogspot.com/2012/05/new-york-city-department-of-records.html>
New York City Dept. of Records posts 870,000 photos online

www.cemetery.jewish.org.pl
Database of Jewish Cemeteries in Poland

JGS of SW FL Membership Application

Single Membership: \$25/year Family Membership: \$30/year
Mail Check (payable to JGS of SW FL) with this form to:
Liz Klaber 4461 Violet Avenue Sarasota, FL 34233

Name _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____