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President's Shpiel by Kim Sheintal

Tracing my family started with jotting names of my parents, grandparents, and great grandparents on paper. Then I added birth, marriage, and death dates. Then I added when each immigrant ancestor came to US. Then I started collecting census and naturalization records. Then I decided to join a genealogical society. One thing leads to another once the genealogy bug hits. An interest in genealogy usually leads to interests in history, DNA, travel to our ancestors' homeland, video biographies, and Jewish music of our ancestors. With that in mind, future JGS of SW FL programs will feature these topics.

Award-winning, nine-time Sarasota author Liz Coursen will be our December 20 speaker. The program is a dynamic, fast-paced, hour-long PowerPoint, illustrated with contemporaneous illustrations. Liz is currently researching her tenth book, *The Rosenwald Schools of Florida*, the fascinating story of how the 1911 meeting between Booker T. Washington, the "Wizard of Tuskegee," and Chicago philanthropist and CEO of Sears Roebuck, Julius Rosenwald, resulted in the building of more than 5300 schools for black children from Maryland to Texas. Of those more than 5300 schools, schools which became known as Rosenwald Schools, 127 were built in Florida.

In her book, which has a February 2017 publication date, Liz hopes to answer several questions, including Why were the Florida schools built where they were built? There seems to be no rhyme or reason as to their locations: they didn't "follow the money," they didn't follow the railroads, they didn't follow certain industries.

Other Sunday 1 PM JGS of SW programs at Kobernick House are (**Jan. 17:** DNA & Genetic Genealogy by Kathleen J. Callanan) (**Feb. 21:** "Roots & Branches: A Search for Family in Hungary by Kayla Niles) (**March 20:** Video Biographies: Creating a Priceless Family Heirloom by Walter Schломann) (**April 17:** "A Hunt for Roots in Old Galicia" by Dennis Gries) (**May 15:** "The History of Klezmer Music" by Baila Miller).

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida MISHPOCHOLOGY

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Mishpochology is published quarterly.

MEETING

Sunday, December 20, 2015 (1 PM)

Kobernick House

1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Program: The Rosenwald Schools of Florida
by Liz Coursen

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

Connections and Genealogy

by Ronni Miller

Connections are a human pursuit. One way to document and connect a family and its history is to write about it. The writing can take the form of a memoir, short story, poem or novel. Collected historical facts are important, but can be made more palatable for children and grandchildren to read when it is woven into a story.

A recent client of mine wrote a memoir about her Jewish family who had lived in Poland for generations as farmers and business people. A young female of one family and a young male of another met on the ship that brought them to America. They fell in love, married and moved to the Midwest. They were her grandparents and had died when she was a little girl. When her grandchildren were born she became curious about her forbearers and began to research the genealogy of her family along with the history and culture of Jews in Poland far beyond what her grandparents had revealed. She wrote the events of her own story woven with that of her family's history embellishing it with personal information gleaned from other family members.

The joy of bringing family members to life through writing is boundless. To take genealogical research one step further with collected family stories, memoir or even novel is to feel a kinship with relatives long gone. The process of research and writing it is all about connections and being able to document these connections for future readers.

Ronni Miller has a private practice as Book Midwife and editor. She is also the Founder and Director of Write It Out®, a motivational and expressive writing program for individuals of all ages since 1992 and teaches throughout the US. See www.writeitout.com for more information.

Genealogy Seminar with Dr. John Philip Coletta

Sponsored by the South Bay Genealogical Society

February 16, 2016: seminar begins 9:30 AM

Little Harbor Resort - 611 Destiny Dr., Ruskin, Florida

\$50 (non-members) includes early bird coffee and boxed lunch

Mail check (payable to South Bay Genealogical Society) to:

South Bay Genealogical Society

PO Box 5202 Sun City Center, Florida 33571

Wonderful World of Websites

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/historic-jewish-american-newspapers-online-updated-2015#.VaEHVfIOxC>
Jewish American Newspapers Online

Jewish newspapers started after 1950 are not considered "historic" by The Ancestor Hunt and therefore are not included. The list is free by state, then ProQuest subscriptions (library access) then by subscription.

<http://www.ap.org/content/press-release/2015/ap-makes-one-million-minutes-of-history-available-on-youtube>

The Associated Press (AP) and British Movietone share over a century's worth of newsreel footage on the Internet. More than one million minutes of archival clips will be uploaded to YouTube to create a "view-on-demand-encyclopedia". The YouTube channels will include more than 550,000 video stories dating from 1895 to the present day. Stories range from the 1906 San Francisco earthquake to the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

http://familytreemagazine.com/article/101-best-websites-2015?et_mid=770067&rid=238935450
101 Best Genealogy Websites in 2015

Avotaynu and JewishGen are included in the "Best Continental European Genealogy Websites" and Steve Morse's *One Step Website* is included in "Best Online Genealogy Tools in 2015".

www.endogamy-one-family.com

This book by Israel Pickholtz of Jerusalem deals with genetic genealogy and analysis of DNA test results with special emphasis on endogamous populations, those who - like European Jews - have been marrying within the tribe for hundreds of years.

<http://www.ssa.gov/history/ssn/geocard.html>

Information on the Social Security numbering system (Social Security records may provide valuable vital facts about birthplace and date, death date, or parents' names.)

<http://www.geni.com/projects/Jewish-Genealogy-Portal-A-Guide-to-Jewish-Projects-and-Resources-on-Geni/13121>
Jewish Genealogy Portal:

A Guide to Jewish Projects and Resources on Geni

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/12/magazine/the-mixed-up-brothers-of-bogota.html?_r=1

Two sets of identical twins switched at birth

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/jgsoftheinternet/info?rop=eupdate>

JGS of the Internet - A Forum for Jewish Genealogy

http://www.geneamusings.com/2015/05/so-what-is-genealogical-society.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+geneamusings%2FLEXw+%28Genea-Musings%29

What is a Genealogical Society?

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/12564-free-us-historical-newspaper-links-big-june-2015-update#.VZtDwvIIOxD>

12,564 Free U.S. Historical Newspapers

http://www.avotaynuonline.com/2015/08/the-jewish-surname-process-in-the-russian-empire-and-its-effect-on-jewish-genealogy/?utm_source=Avotaynu+Online+Subscribers&utm_campaign=a77ed576e4-Weekly_Avotaynu_Digest4_2_2015&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_1ccbc11ca9-a77ed576e4-67902437&ct=t%28Weekly_Avotaynu_Digest4_2_2015%29
The Jewish Surname Process in the Russian Empire and its Effect on Jewish Genealogy

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/07/12/travel/what-to-do-in-36-hours-in-vilnius-lithuania.html?_r=1
36 hours in Vilnius

<http://digitalcollections.library.cmu.edu/pjn/index.jsp>
Pittsburgh Jewish Newspapers Archives

<http://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-resources/50-free-genealogy-sites/>
50 Free Genealogy Sites

http://www.myheritage.com/index.php?gedcom=1&trn=partner_eogn&trp=sponsored&trl=2013_01#play_video
My Heritage

Top 100 Genealogy Websites for 2015

http://www.genealogyintime.com/articles/top-100-genealogy-websites-of-2015-page01.html?awt_l=OGFPY&awt_m=JAvWYI3jhAk.Vy
#33 is JewishGen in 2015, #33 is JewishGen in 2014
#34 is JewishGen in 2013, #27 is JewishGen in 2012

Recommended Books for Genealogists

**A Field Guide to Visiting a Jewish Cemetery:
A Spiritual Journey to the Past, Present, and Future**
by Joshua L. Segal

This book provides in detail the skill of extracting the vital information found on a Jewish Headstone (Hebrew words, decorations and symbols to be found on these headstones).

**The Juggler's Children: A Journey into
Family, Legend and the Genes that Bind Us**
by Carolyn Abraham

This book explores the stunning power and ethical pitfalls of using genetic tests to answer questions of genealogy - by cracking the genome of the author's own family.

**Identical Strangers: A Memoir of Twins
Separated and Reunited**
by Elyse Schein and Paula Bernstein

Elyse Schein had always known she was adopted, but it wasn't until her mid-thirties while living in Paris that she searched for her biological mother. What she found instead was shocking: She had an identical twin sister.

PBS Finding Your Roots

The Public Broadcasting System (PBS) has announced they will return the genealogy program, *Finding Your Roots* with Henry Louis Gates, Jr. starting in January 2016 according to the genealogist Megan Smolenyak in *The Huffington Post*. Among the celebrities to be included are Jewish personalities: Dustin Hoffman, Norman Lear, Julianna Margulies, Maya Rudolph, Gloria Steinem and other personalities.

To see the list see: <http://tinyurl.com/pcgenof>.

Original url: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/megan-smolenyak-smolenyak/season-3-of-finding-your_b_7794838.htm

Earlier this year PBS put the series on hold while they did an investigation triggered by Ben Affleck who requested and received his story to be edited and not include slave-owning ancestor. The series was originally scheduled to start its new season this September. PBS believed the producers permitted "improper influence" by Ben Affleck and failed to inform PBS or WNET the PBS station that runs the series about the effort to control the program content. A commitment to produce a new season was postponed by PBS until the editorial standards were assured to meet PBS's level of confidence.

Check with your local cable stations to find the PBS station in your area: <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/finding-your-roots/>. The new season is not yet listed on their schedule.

I have no affiliation with PBS nor Finding Your Roots and am posting this solely for the information of the reader.

Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

Google Scholar

<https://scholar.google.com/intl/en-US/scholar/help.html>

<https://scholar.google.com/intl/en-US/scholar/about.html>

Google Scholar is a website to search scholarly literature: articles, theses, books, abstracts, court opinions and more. This is different than Google newspapers which is at (<http://news.google.com/archivesearch>) and different than Google international newspapers which can be found at (<http://news.google.com/newspapers>).

By placing the name of your ancestral town or other location or person (author or someone who a book may have been written about) you may get "hits"...I did with my ancestral towns, and received results that are not the usual types of returns. I was also given the option to search their names pre WW II which provided interesting results I may not have found otherwise.

Some of the full articles versus abstracts have limited access and you may have to go to your library to have them obtain the articles/journals on interlibrary loan or visit a local specialized or university library for access. Depending on your search parameters, not all of the results will be relative to Jewish genealogical research.

ProQuest (which we know for its historical newspapers) has joined with Google Scholar so that in the third quarter of this year their full text of its scholarly journal content will be part of the search results.

I have no affiliation with either Google or ProQuest.

Jan Meisels Allen Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

International Tracing Service

The International Tracing Service (ITS) located in Bad-Arolsen, Germany had begun putting its Holocaust-era archive online. This new online archive includes photos from concentrations camps and other historical documents. The materials are available online at no cost. Thus far only 50,000 images out of 30 million documents have been posted. The online documents were inscribed onto the UNESCO "Memory of the World" register. The first three collections published are photos of personal objects taken from prisoners in the concentration camps; chosen collection on the death marches; and files from the Child Search Branch taken immediately after liberation.

ITS was founded as a tracing service after World War II with the intent to reunify survivors with their families. Today it is a research archive.

To read more about the online archive see: <http://tinyurl.com/oulm62w>

Original url:

<http://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2015/10/07/holocaust-era-archive-places-thousands-of-documents-online>

A press release from the ITS is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/nd7dzp6>

Original url:

<https://www.its-arolsen.org/en/press/press-releases-2015/index.html?expand=9233&cHash=f41203ab958b12a98f9962ed483b0a3c>

Thank you to Randy Herschaft from the Associated Press for informing us of this new online free archive.

Jan Meisels Allen Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

Jewish WWI Era Ancestors

Jews in the Great War: Family Histories Retold, the long-awaited compilation of stories from the World War I exhibit at the 2014 International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies Conference, edited by Lois Ogilby Rosen, is now available online. In this book, family members retell the stories of their Jewish WWI era ancestors.

The collection of stories, photos and documents in this book began as a World War I exhibit displayed at the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies conference held in Salt Lake City, Utah in July 2014. The annual conference coincided with the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War. Jewish Genealogical Society members were asked for submissions, and the 37 stories in this volume recount the lives of Jewish men and women who lived and served around the world. Their flags and uniforms differed, but their heritage was shared. Books are available in color and in black and white at: lulu.com

barnesandnoble.com

amazon.com

Old Photographs Online

Yale University posted online 170,000 Library of Congress photographs taken in the United States from 1935 to 1945 with the original captions. The photos come from all over the U.S., and can be accessed with this easy-to-use interactive map.

<http://photogrammar.yale.edu/map/>

<http://blog.eogn.com/2015/10/08/yale-places-170000-photographs-from-1935-to-1945-online/>

Creating a Genealogy Research Disaster Plan

Genealogical research can be one of the most fulfilling experiences in a person's life. Yet it is also a time consuming endeavor. Disasters are a fact of life. Allstate Insurance Company puts this situation into amusing terms with their "mayhem" commercials. However, disasters, whether they are computer viruses, hard drive crashes, or weather related, are a fact of life. The bottom line is having a plan in place before they happen. Here are some questions every genealogist should consider:

- 1. What will happen to your precious mementos, heirlooms, documents, certificates, pictures, movies, DVD/CD's, and online information?
- 2. Will your genealogy research survive a computer hard drive crash, a theft of your whole computer system, a fire, earthquake, landslide, flood, or a nuclear catastrophe?
- 3. What will happen to your research, online data, personal book collection, etc, after your death?
- Here are some guidelines that many professionals recommend: 1. Create an inventory of family documents, mementos, heirlooms, etc, including their origin, general description and physical location.
- 2. Keep these items in a climate controlled environment preferably in a dark, dry, cool place, in a fire-proof safe or similar container.
- 3. All documents, heirlooms, photographs, etc. should be placed in archival quality folders and protective containers as applicable.
- 4. Scan all original documents and save the digital images on the computer. Make backup photocopies of the original documents and provide them to trusted family members for safe-keeping.
- 5. Scan family photographs and save the digital images on the computer.
- 6. Organize, date, and label photographs into family groups, giving them descriptive names if possible.
- 7. Backup your computer hard drive data regularly in order to protect against a hard drive or system crash. Having an external hard drive with many gigabytes is relatively cheap. Data saved is usually portable to another computer. It is usually easy to copy data from the computer hard drive to the external drive. You can choose which data to backup as in only the most important databases, documents, photos, etc.
- 8. Backups can be handled on a daily, weekly, monthly, yearly. Most experts seem to recommend monthly updates.
- 9. Send backup copies to trusted family or friends residing far from your place of residence.
- 10. Death is inevitable. To ensure that your research survives and is used in a manner that you feel is appropriate, you must prepare a genealogical will codicil specifying your wishes for the disposition of mementos, heirlooms, papers, documents, photos, etc. Specify directives concerning the publication and/or use of your research.
- 11. If you want your research to go to a research repository make sure this is specified and that you have contacted them prior to your death and verified that they will accept the materials.

- 12. Most legal experts recommend appointing an heir to handle these details and make sure that you have left them a significant bequest to perform these tasks, or to have it done professionally.

Bryan Mulcahy, M.L.S. Reference Librarian
Ft. Myers Regional Library

Columbia University Librarian for Jewish Studies

Columbia University is undertaking a major project to sort through its Judaic materials and make them more accessible. The effort is being led by Columbia's first dedicated Jewish-studies librarian, Michelle Chesner, whose work will result in a website showcasing all of Columbia's Judaic materials, including some 1500 Hebrew manuscripts, hundreds of Hebrew books from the 15th and 16th centuries, and thousands of Yiddish titles and Jewish scholarly works in Western and Slavic languages." For more details:

- <http://magazine.columbia.edu/news/winter-2010-11/columbia-hires-first-librarian-jewish-studies>
- <http://library.columbia.edu/subject-guides/jewishstudies.html>

Using Mitochondrial DNA and Y-DNA Testing in Your Genealogy and What Now? Your Steps with Autosomal DNA Testing

Presented by Englewood Genealogical Society of Florida, Inc.
Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Tringali Community Center, 3450 N. Access Road, Unit 1
Englewood, Florida

Registration begins at noon (Seminar 1 PM - 4:30 PM)

\$10 members, \$15 non-members/refreshments between sessions

Session One (Introduction to Genetic Genealogy) - In this back-to-basics lecture we will cover the three main kinds of DNA testing for genealogy: mtDNA, YDNA and autosomal DNA. We will cover the strengths and weaknesses of each; we talk about who should be tested, and with which company. If you are new to genetic testing, this is the lecture for you. If you are thinking of giving up on genetic genealogy, thinking that you will never understand it –try this first. I think you will find out you can understand more than you think you can, and start putting it to use in your genealogy. Session Two (What Now? Next Steps in Autosomal DNA Testing) - So you have had your autosomal DNA tested – now what? Come learn in 45 minutes what would take you hours to read online, and leave armed with enough information to start your DNA work for you.

JGS of SW FL 2016 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, Florida 34233

Name_____

E-mail_____ Phone_____

Street Address_____

City, State, Zip_____