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President's Shpiel by Kim Sheintal

A lady in California, a man in the United Kingdom, and I are distant cousins. The man and I connected on JewishGen Family Finder. The lady and I connected as DNA matches. It was confirmed that the three of us are related because the three of us match closely on our DNA tests on Ancestry; and my great grandmother, the lady's great grandmother and the man's great grandfather are living together on an 1858 online census posted on the All Lithuanian Database on JewishGen. This census even showed the family relationships to everyone living in that house at that time. I never met or spoke to either the lady or the man, but have been in email contact with both for quite some time. I told the lady and the man about each other in the summer of 2017. She invited him to visit her in California and to her surprise, he came in October 2017 and stayed with her and her husband for two weeks. Feeling responsible for this reunion and having never met these cousins of mine, I was concerned how they would enjoy each other's company. Happily, it was a wonderful reunion for them. Now I am waiting for my chance to meet these two cousins of mine.

JGS of SW FL Thanks Show and Tell Speakers

Thank you to Cynthia Folit, Jo Ann Goldwater, Judi Sterne, Elinor Greenberg, and Howie Goldberg for presenting their family stories at the November meeting. Inside this issue is Judi Sterne's presentation about Finding Archivists in Germany.

JGS of SW FL Welcomes New Members

Cynthia Folit, Tova Fisch, and Ann Friedman

Celebrating Jewish Culture (March 3 - April 13)

Fogartyville Community Media & Arts Center (525 Kumquat Ct., Sarasota, Florida): Opening Celebration March 3 @ 7:00 PM

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>

Programs: Howard Finkel <hgfinkel@gmail.com>

Publicity: Lee Ruggles <lee0614@verizon.net>

Librarian: Bernie Spitalnick <sputnik_too@hotmail.com>

Surname Database and Facebook Page: Leah Cook <leahcook@aol.com>

Webmaster: Jim Haberman <jim@HabermanUSA.com>

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www.jgsswf.org

<https://www.facebook.com/JGSSWF/>

JGS of SW FL MEETING

Sunday, March 18, 2018 (1:00 PM)

Aviva campus in the Kobernick building
1951 N. Honore Ave., Sarasota

Program: Russification - an Attempt to Integrate the Jews
into Imperial Russia

by Doug Cohen

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

JGS of SW FL Calendar

Sunday, March 18, 2018 at 1:00 PM at Aviva

**Russification: An Attempt to Integrate the Jews into
Imperial Russia by Doug Cohen**

Until the dissolution of Poland in 1772, Jews were not allowed into Russia. Russia "inherited" 50,000 Jews that year. During the next 120 years, starting with Catherine the Great's grandson, Alexander I, Imperial Regimes tried different strategies to deal with its growing Jewish population. Doug Cohen will talk about the regime's programs and will focus on the reactions of individual Jews to those strategies.

Sunday, April 15, 2018 @ 1:00 PM at Aviva

Israel Heritage Celebration

The JGS of SW FL presents an Israel Heritage Celebration, sponsored by The Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee. The Celebration will include first-hand accounts by those in Israel at the time of her founding accompanied with music and song by Sharon and David Ohrenstein.

Genealogy Books and Terms

Red Book is an expansive guide to the most useful resources in each of the fifty United States and the District of Columbia. Organized by state, the content easily directs the user to information-rich resources.

http://www.ancestry.com/wiki/?title=Red_Book:_American_State,_County,_and_Town_Sources

The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy is a big help to the researcher in the United States in finding ancestors.

<https://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=3259>

The FAN (*Family, Associates, and Neighbor*) Club principle is a process in which genealogists identify a list of people (family, associates, and neighbors) that lived and associated with a given ancestor.

<https://lisalouisecooke.com/2016/10/genealogy-fan-club/>

Coverture was a legal doctrine whereby, upon marriage, a woman's legal rights and obligations were subsumed by those of her husband, in accordance with the wife's legal status of feme covert. An unmarried woman, a feme sole, had the right to own property and make contracts in her own name. Coverture arises from the legal fiction that a husband and wife are one person.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coverture>

Finding Archivists in Germany

by Judi Sterne

Finding archivists in small communities in many European countries is very difficult and often expensive. We did not have any of those problems finding archivists interested in the small towns in southern Germany along the Kocher River where the family of my husband Harold Sterne, originated.

Hal left his home in Frankfurt Germany at age 9 ½ on November 10th, 1938. The family settled in Cincinnati, Ohio where Sterne cousins sponsored them. In the 1950's his father researched and recorded their family tree. In 1972, the printing company Hal worked for wanted him to attend Drupa, the Paper and Print Trade Show held every 5 years in Dusseldorf, Germany. We flew in and out of Frankfurt in those days, so we always spent a few days in Frankfurt, visiting an old family friend (not Jewish) who had driven the Sterne's to the train station the day they left for the US.

We also began taking our children with us to Drupa and then on to Frankfurt to see where their dad and his family had lived. By the time we took our daughters to Germany in 1990, Hal wanted to do further research into family history. He knew that his grandfather had lived in the little town of Ernsbach and had married a woman from another small town on the Kocher River. We drove around the Romantic Road, stopping in Rottenberg and finally going to Schweibisch Hall, where all the county of Hohenloh records were now kept. Here Hal met Stefan Kraut, archivist for the county in which the small towns of Ernsbach and Nagelsburg were found. Herr Kraut would only speak to the person related to the people in the requested records, so our 3 daughters and I enjoyed the touristy market place and the festival that was going on that day. The archivist told Hal he would research the Stern* family history. We received the results 2 years to the day of the interview. Stephan Kraut had traced the family back to the 1600's and, for fun, added Abraham at the beginning of the tree.

Hal retired from the printing company 3 months later, so free trips to Germany ended, but Hal's interest in family history increased. His younger cousin, Jim Bauer retired 10 years later. His father also had prepared a family tree and Jimmy became interested in doing more research. In 2004 he found a wonderful book of the Jewish Cemeteries in Hohenloh County. Naftali Bar-Giora Bamberger, the author, had died, but the person who took the photographs of all the graves was a woman named Barbara Schwedler, an amateur photographer and amateur archivist who lived in Hohenloh and specialized in the Jewish cemeteries in her county. Jimmy contacted her and told her he wanted to research his family in Ehrnsbach, Berlingen, and other places in Hohenloh. She wrote back "All is arranged." Hal decided that he wanted to join Jimmy in this quest. Since they decided to travel in January 2005, I chose not to accompany them. As Frau Schwedler wrote, all had been arranged. Herr Eberhard Kugler met them at the Stuttgart train station and drove them to their hotel. Each morning Herr Kugler picked them up and took them to Frau Schwedler's where they were joined by Herr Kraut for intensive family history studies. Barbara had taught herself Hebrew so she could correctly read the headstones.

Over the next several years, we spent many hours and a few meals in Barbara's home. She told us that she still had her great grandmother's candle sticks. Her younger daughter had studied in Israel for 2 years and had thought about converting to Judaism. Herr Kugler had gotten interested in the history of

Ehrnsbach as his first job was there in the Screw Factory. He met his wife there too. He finally was able to put together the facts about the disappearance of a school friend during the war. He realized what had really happened and decided to learn all about the Jews who had lived in Ehrnsbach.

Barbara was concerned about the gravestones in the Berlingen Cemetery (where Ehrnsbach Jews were buried) toppling over because of the roots of the trees that had grown since 1600 displacing them. Jimmy and Hal decided that what was needed was a metal flag marked with a number that correlated to the map of the headstones in the cemetery that was included in the Bamburger book. They found a company in Poland that could produce the flags for the right price. The flags would be sent to the Schwedler home sometime in October, 2005. Jimmy and Hal worked on getting the map and numbered grave sites listed on the computer so that anyone interested in researching their family could do so. We think that was a success as we noticed the number of headstones with stones on top of them increased over the years of our visits.

Hal and I planned to take our grandchildren on a family history trip, beginning with our oldest, in the summer of 2005. However, when Mark, our oldest son, found out we were going to Ehrnsbach and on to Barcelona, in the fall, he asked if he and second son, Michael, who was studying Spanish, could come too. Of course we said yes. Because the ride from Stuttgart to Ehrnsbach was an hour each way, Jimmy found a place to stay in Ehrnsbach – Zumm Lamm, a Bed and Breakfast run by the town butcher and his wife, Rolf and Marie Spindler. Frau Spindler couldn't do enough for us, even catering to a young boy's finicky eating habits.

Stephan Kraut took us to Nagelsberg, where he had traced the family. He showed us the home of a great great great uncle, built in 1820. The emblem over the house said Isaac Moses 1820. A house down the street had a deer emblem on it. That belonged to great great great uncle Hirsch. Stefan Kraut explained to us that in 1820, under the influence of Napoleon, all Jews were allowed to take a last name. If the father was living, then all the sons took the fathers' last name. If he was deceased, brothers could take whatever name they wished. Thus we have uncles named Stern, Bauer, and Hirsch.

A trip to Germany in 2010, with grandson #3, was also enhanced by an amateur archivist. We added a visit to Stuttgart where we witnessed the placement of a stepping stone for a cousin's family who had moved to Holland instead of Palestine, and were killed in 1943. The archivist had been a teacher and one of his students, now teaching at a local gymnasium had asked him if we could participate in a panel discussion with her English class. That was most interesting, as it included Hal, who had experienced Nazi Germany, Jimmy, whose Dad had escaped and went back as a soldier, Jimmy, who never forgot his father's experiences, his cousin Jessie Kahn Duve, daughter of an exiled German Jew, who had married a German and was living in Wiesbaden. What a diversity of answers to their question of "What do you think about visiting Germany?"

Hal died in October of 2010, but I was determined to carry on our family history tours. Jimmy agreed readily to go with me, and I said the Sterne parent would have to accompany the grandchild as I didn't think I could keep up with a teenager by myself, and didn't want Jimmy to have that responsibility.

We returned in 2014, with our 13 year old grandsons, Gabe and Zack, visiting Jimmy's cousins in Weisbaden, the usual 3

days stay in Ehrnsbach and spent several days in Berlin, where history was in plaques, on walls, etc.

Our last trip was in 2016, accompanied by grandsons aged 17, 15, 14, and granddaughter almost 13 and their mothers. My sons insisted on being our chaperones. Jimmy couldn't go with us this time as he was having eye problems, but he had made all the arrangements, which included our visiting the archives for Hohenloh now housed in the Neuenstein Castle. Gerda and Eberhardt Kugler wanted to join us also, which was quite fortunate for us as none of us were fluent in German. The castle housed 17 rooms of archives dating back to the early 1500's. The first book we were shown had a gorgeous cover of brightly colored manuscript. In the early days of bookmaking, if the handwritten book was no longer of interest, the new manuscript was covered in a page from that parchment book. The archivist was a PhD archivist student working at the archives this summer. His interest was in medieval criminology, which was of interest to our teenage boys. After reading case histories about laws affecting Jews in Hohenloh County, he read the boys a court report of the trial of a young man who had knifed and killed a contemporary. It was fascinating to hear that the suspect's comments began the same as today's: "We were sitting around, drinking, when he started hitting me with a stick..."

Our last archivist (amateur) we met through Herr Kugler. His acquaintance Klause Ottenbacher needed help in locating the family of the original owners of a Jewish home in Kunzeslau that they wanted to use as a Holocaust teaching tool for the school children of Kunzeslau and vicinity. Knowing that Jimmy was a computer whiz, Eberhard passed the information on to Jimmy. He finally located the 93 year old who had lived there as a child. He was very reluctant to talk about the past until his daughter (whom Jimmy had found first) sent her dad a photo of him as a kid being pulled in a sleigh by a goat. Warm memories of his childhood returned to him and he sent lots of photos and information to these local historians.

Why were these amateur archivists so interested in the lives of the Jews in their small towns? Both Barbara and Eberhard, as they became adults, had realized the full impact of the Holocaust on German Jews. They wanted to preserve German Jewish history for their Jewish descendants, and also wanted to let their fellow Germans know about the Jewish lives that had been so entwined with their Christian neighbors prior to 1934, and thus the loss to Germany today.

*The final e was added by the first Stern who came to Peru, Indiana in 1860's.

Where is the Homeland of Your Ancestors?

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK28eZ930zg&o_xid=80217&o_lid=80217&o_sch=Email+Campaigns
- <http://ancestralfindings.com/techniques-finding-ancestors-home-land/>
- <http://www.genealogy.com/articles/research/00000657.html>

JGS of Tampa Bay – Sun., March 11 at 1:30 PM

“Why You Can't Find Your Bubbe's Immigration Record”

Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services

14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater, Florida.

For more information, contact Bruce Hadburg 727-796-7981, bhadburg@tampabay.rr.com.

JewishGen Learning Center Courses

JewishGen offers online interactive courses in Jewish genealogy, to help you organize your information and trace your roots. For details, go to <https://www.jewishgen.org/education/>

Library of Congress Launches Federal Courts Archive Online

The (US) Library of Congress launched the Federal Courts Web Archive. It provides archival coverage of the websites of the federal judiciary which includes: U.S. Supreme Court, federal appellate courts, trial courts, U.S. District Courts, U.S. Bankruptcy Court, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and other tribunals. Many of these courts could hold information of interest to genealogists. Information found on the website includes: transcripts, announcements, judicial biographies, dockets, slip opinions. It appears as if the initial date for archiving materials was 2000, with many starting in 2002. A listing of the types of cases heard by the federal courts is listed at: <http://blogs.loc.gov/law/2017/09/federal-courts-web-archive-launched>. To access the Federal Courts Web Archive go to: <https://www.loc.gov/collections/federal-courts-web-archive/about-this-collection>

Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson,

IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

JewishGen Update

JewishGen is continuing with their modernization efforts, and recently made a major update to both the JewishGen Family Finder (JGFF) and JewishGen Communities Database (JGCD).

Checking Your Other DNA Kits on Ancestry

If you are the owner of DNA kits other than your own on Ancestry DNA, go to your DNA home page and click on “view another test” to see the matches for the other kit that you own.

What Names are Ancestry Members Researching?

Ancestry members can see what other surnames are being searched by other Ancestry subscribers (if they posted their surnames) by clicking on the search link

Go to <https://www.ancestry.com/>

Click on link for “search”

Click on “member directory”

Type in the surname and/or place and click “search”

How Many Centimorgans Do You Share with Another Ancestry DNA Subscriber?

Ancestry DNA subscribers can see how many shared centimorgans across how many DNA segments they share with another Ancestry DNA subscriber.

Go to <https://www.ancestry.com/dna/>

Go to “view all DNA matches”

Click on a specific person

Click on the “I” that appears in the small circle

JGS of SW FL 2018 Membership Dues

Single Membership: \$25/year Family Membership: \$30/year

Mail check (payable to JGS of SW FL) with your name, e-mail, phone, address and surnames/places you are tracing to:

Liz Klaber 4461 Violet Avenue Sarasota, Florida 34233

Wonderful World of Websites

<https://www.jewishgen.org/jewishgen/testimonials/>
JewishGen Testimonials (Success Stories of Connections)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qvNSazbIZGk&feature=youtu.be&utm_source=hs_automation&utm_medium=email&utm_content=57479329&_hsenc=p2ANqtz-8gBsXTNBQ8pUQqTnbgrJpK1aY2RbUkRekBSIryzakj5RS tzPoXeCJpdZawuqi7TPH5mJL_QzHdmdcpld1YcejG7jM7XQ&_hsmi=57479329

Piers Morgan and Susanna Reid Discover Their DNA Origins on Good Morning Britain

https://blogs.ancestry.com/cm/do-you-come-from-royal-blood-your-last-name-may-tell-you/?o_xid=69189&o_lid=69189&o_sch=Content+Marketing
Popularity of Surnames in United States in 1920

<https://datayze.com/alternate-spelling-finder.php>
Alternate Spellings of Names

<https://genealogy.coach/>
Genealogy Coach

<https://www.findmypast.com/>
UK-based online genealogy service

<https://familytreewebinars.com/lisaalzo>
specialist in Slovak/Eastern European genealogical research

<https://www.loc.gov/coll/nucmc/>
National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections
<https://search.ancestry.com/search/cardcatalog.aspx#ccat=hc%3D25%26dbSort%3D1%26sbo%3D1%26>
Ancestry Card Catalog

<http://abcnews.go.com/Lifestyle/woman-meets-birth-mother-1st-time-30-years/story?id=51173564>
My Heritage DNA Unites Mother with Biological Daughter

<https://pipl.com/>
Pipl (people search engine) is the place to find the person behind the email address, social username or phone number.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2a-FAq_NzoY&feature=youtu.be&utm_campaign=MyHeritage+on+the+Today+Show+and+details+about+our+next+special&utm_source=youtube&utm_medium=social
MyHeritage on Today Show

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BL-tSfY045k&utm_campaign=DNA+Babushkot+video+%2B+sale&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=58379057&_hsenc=p2ANqtz--laYfsj3tY2G6VkUVNePwU2a9zEVuZDwfeNo6zI4eD6u3NjmzIwL_dnTClS7Sbj-fB4wdkISdGzyxavYVWS9P7euJ1g&_hsmi=58379057
MyHeritage commercial

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gK28eZ930zg&o_xid=80217&o_lid=80217&o_sch=Email+Campaigns
Kids and DNA

<https://promethease.com/>
<https://dna-explained.com/2013/12/30/promethease-genetic-health-information-alternative/>
Promethease – Genetic Health Information Alternative

<https://www.geni.com/>
Geni is a commercial genealogy and social networking website.

<https://www.wikitree.com/>
WikiTree is a free, shared social networking genealogy website that allows users individually to research and contribute to their own personal family trees.

<https://www.livingdna.com/en-us>
Living DNA is British company, registered in England and Wales.

<https://www.yourdnaguide.com/upload-to-gedmatch/>
Gedmatch can be a great place to collaborate with others who have been tested at other companies.

<https://thednadetectives.com/>
CeCe Moore's DNA detectives

https://isogg.org/wiki/Y_chromosome_DNA_tests
A Y chromosome DNA test (Y-DNA test) is a DNA test which is used to explore a man's direct father's-line ancestry.

https://isogg.org/wiki/Mitochondrial_DNA_tests
A mitochondrial DNA test (mtDNA test) traces a person's matrilineal or mother-line ancestry using the DNA in his or her mitochondria. mtDNA is passed down by the mother unchanged, to all her children, both male and female. A mitochondrial DNA test, can therefore be taken by both men and women.

https://isogg.org/wiki/Autosomal_DNA
Autosomal DNA is a term used in genetic genealogy to describe DNA which is inherited from the autosomal chromosomes. An autosome is any of the numbered chromosomes, as opposed to the sex chromosomes. Humans have 22 pairs of autosomes and one pair of sex chromosomes (the X chromosome and the Y chromosome). Autosomes are numbered roughly in relation to their sizes. That is, Chromosome 1 has approximately 2,800 genes, while chromosome 22 has approximately 750 genes.

<https://www.familytreedna.com/>
Family Tree DNA

<https://www.ancestry.com/dna/en/legal/us/faq>
Ancestry DNA

<https://www.myheritage.com/dna>
My Heritage DNA

<https://www.23andme.com/>
23andMe