Mishpacha

Genealogical Standards & Guidelines

Standards For Sharing Information With Others

Recommended by the National Genealogical Society

Conscious of the fact that sharing information or data with others, whether through speech, documents or electronic media, is essential to family history research and that it needs continuing support and encouragement, responsible family historians consistently—

- respect the restrictions on sharing information that arise from the rights of another as an author, originator or compiler; as a living private person; or as a party to a mutual agreement.
- observe meticulously the legal rights of copyright owners, copying or distributing any part of their works only with their permission, or to the limited extent specifically allowed under the law's "fair use" exceptions.
- identify the sources for all ideas, information and data from others, and the form in which they were received, recognizing that the unattributed use of another's intellectual work is plagiarism.
- respect the authorship rights of senders of letters, electronic mail and data files, forwarding or disseminating them further only with the sender's permission.
- inform people who provide information about their families as to the ways it may be used, observing any conditions they impose and respecting any reservations they may express regarding the use of particular items.
- require some evidence of consent before assuming that living people are agreeable to further sharing of information about themselves.
- convey personal identifying information about living people—like age, home address, occupation or activities—only in ways that those concerned have expressly agreed to.
- recognize that legal rights of privacy may limit the extent to which information from publicly available sources may be further used, disseminated or published.

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משפחה

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The JGSGW Web Site is located at:
http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw

- communicate no information to others that is known to be false, or without making reasonable efforts to determine its truth, particularly information that may be derogatory.

are sensitive to the hurt that revelations of criminal, immoral, bizarre or irresponsible behavior may bring to family members.

JGSGW is a member of the National Genealogical Society.
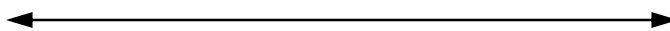
Domestic Research

Google Offers Old Newspapers On-line
From Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter < http://blog.eogn.com/ >

Want to look for great-granddad's obituary? How about a birth announcement from the early 1800s? You may soon be able to find all that and more on Google. However, the articles may not be free.

Google announced yesterday that the company is indexing 200 years of newspaper content. Everyone will be able to search the indexes free of charge. However, purchasing the full article may cost a modest amount of money. The content will come from publishers and aggregators such as The New York Times, Time magazine, The Guardian, LexisNexis, and Factiva, many of which charge fees for archived content.

You can access the Google News Archive Search at < http://news.google.com/archivesearch >

Jews of Philadelphia book on-line
Logan J. Kleinwaks < kleinwaks@alumni.princeton.edu >

< http://books.google.com > has digitized fully many books of potential interest to Jewish genealogists, and recently began allowing downloads of PDFs of books that are no longer protected by copyright.

Among these is "The Jews of Philadelphia: Their History from the Earliest Settlements to the Present Time; A Record of Events and Institutions, and of Leading Members of the Jewish Community in Every Sphere of Activity," by Henry Samuel Morais, 1894, available at
< http://books.google.com/books?vid=OCLC00167906 >.

Browsers in the U.S. should be able to download the book by clicking the "Download" button on the right side of the above webpage, or view it as a series of page-by-page scans by clicking the thumbnail of the first page on the right, but browsers from some other countries might not be able to download or view the book, depending on local copyright law (apparently). A large index including personal names begins on page 545.

Mt. Ararat Cemetery Searchable Database is now on-line
Steven Lasky < steve725@optonline.net >

As promised, I am notifying everyone that the fourth in a series of five new searchable cemetery databases is now online. The cemetery is Mt. Ararat Cemetery. It is located in Lindenhurst, Suffolk County, New York, though its mailing address is in Farmingdale. The cemetery (founded in 1929, first burial 1933) contains more than 45,000 burials but no society plots. This means that using the < www.jgsny.org > database in order to locate a particular landsmanshaft plot will not be useful for this cemetery.

You can search by first name, surname, date of death (not date of burial), section number, range number, and lot number. The URL for the Mt. Ararat Cemetery site is < www.mountararatcemetery.com >.

The last in a series of five searchable cemetery databases will be for Mt. Judah in Ridgewood, Queens, New York, though I wouldn't count on this site being online for at least a couple of months. I will, of course, spread the word once this database is online. I know of no other cemetery that has plans to create a searchable database for their burials.

The first three searchable cemetery databases in this series that were created are:
Mt. Hebron Cemetery (Flushing, Queens, New York): < www.mounthebroncemetery.com >
Mt. Carmel Cemetery (Ridgewood, Queens, New York): < www.mountcarmelcemetery.com >
Mt. Zion Cemetery (Maspeth, Queens, New York): < www.mountzioncemetery.com >
Also, another searchable cemetery database (but not part of this series): Mt. Moriah Cemetery (Fairview, New Jersey): < www.mountmoriahcemeteryofnewjersey.org >

Please remember that within the Cemetery Project section of my own Website < www.museumoffamilyhistory.com >, there exists a cemetery directory, with cemetery contact information, as well as nearly one-hundred maps of forty-five cemeteries located in New York, New Jersey, South Florida, Chicago, Los Angeles and Montreal.

Massachusetts Death Index On-Line
Jan Meisels Allen < janmallen@worldnet.att.net >
Director IAJGS and Chairperson, Public Records Access and Monitoring Committee

I recently learned from the Eastman Genealogy Blog that the Massachusetts State Archives has placed on line a free INDEX of deaths from 1841-1910. The index provides the following information: last name, first name, town, year, volume, page, type (death). You must click on the button for type+ death... If you want the actual record you still have to order it from the Massachusetts State Archives for a small fee. I tried this with only a last name and no date of death and it worked!

To view the index go to:
< http://www.sec.state.ma.us/vitalrecordssearch/VitalRecordsSearch.aspx >.

Ancestry.com Completes U.S. Census Project

Ancestry.com has announced they have completed their project to make all publicly available U.S. Federal Census—from 1790 to 1930—available online with an everyname index. It took ten years to process the estimated 540 million records. The company stated their combined databases now include more than five billion entries

Between lectures, "some" members of the JGSGW were able to get together...
Submitted by Ben Okner.

From our Members:

A very successful week
Michael Richman < mbrichman@aol.com >

One of the most important parts to the annual conferences, I find, is meeting and interacting with others who share an interest in the same towns (I rarely find anyone sharing an interest in the same families - at least not this year).

Prior to the start of the conference, there was a meeting of people with an interest in the same town in central Poland - Ostrow Mazowiecka - and two of the attendees had actually lived there before the Holocaust. I was able to provide some people with some information that I hope they found helpful from notes I had previously taken of records for the town.

During the course of the conference itself, I met others with an interest in the same towns in Poland (Sniadowo and Zaremby Koscielne) at the Jewish Records Indexing-Poland meeting, and others with an interest in the same town in Ukraine (Belaya Tserkov) at the Ukraine SIG meeting. So that was time well spent.

In addition, I met in person two individuals who had provided much assistance to me by e-mail with New York area records, and a researcher who had recently been of great help to me in Ukraine. It was nice to be able to thank them in person, and hopefully that also will help in following up with them in the future.

In the resource room, I discovered The London Chronicle database, and was able to fill in much information about the British branch of my family.

All in all, a very successful week.✡

My week in New York
Jeff Miller < SingingTM@comcast.net >

For those of us who commuted to the Conference from the surrounding area, we had the challenge of getting up early and navigating the public transportation system. For me, that meant getting up anywhere from 4 to 4:45 AM, showering and dressing, having a bite to eat in the room, catching a 6:30 AM bus in front of the Holiday Inn Fort Lee (New Jersey), crossing over the George Washington Bridge to Manhattan, catching a subway from uptown 175th Street, riding to downtown 42nd Street, and walking the last couple of blocks to the Marriott Marquis in time for the 8 AM opening session (the reverse trip required a subway ride, bus ride, and cab ride).

The first day I accomplished this was on Sunday, because I had signed up for an 8 AM bus to Mt. Zion Cemetery. I had prepared myself for the 5-hour time slot (an hour's ride each way plus 3 hours in the cemetery) in accordance with instructions provided by conference organizers and volunteers. I had suntan lotion, ivy lotion, bug spray, water bottles, gardening gloves, pruning shears, a hat, and a can of peanuts and some dried fruit for snacks. I also had my digital camera ready to take pictures of headstones. I had looked up a number of names in the Mt. Zion online database and had printed out directions back to the conference hotel in case I wound up deciding to leave early or stay late at the cemetery. I also had printed out a number of New Jersey Transit bus route alternatives in case I needed to take that mode of transportation back to my hotel. I had my cell phone in case I got stranded or needed to contact the cemetery office while out in the sections of the cemetery.

As it turned out, the "bus" was smaller than expected. It was more like a small van, with eight of us signed up for this particular excursion. That gave us a chance, once we arrived at the cemetery, to stop at the office and get more detailed instructions on how to locate the Landsmanschaft sections and graves of our ancestors from the office staff who, fortunately for us, were not too busy at that hour of the morning.

I obtained section maps and directions on how to reach several sections and graves. I also had been asked to try to take pictures of headstones for a researcher who was not along on this excursion, time permitting.

Although the temperature was not as oppressive as it had been the week or two prior, it was still a warm sunny day. I was glad to have my hat. The graves were packed close together in this older cemetery, and graves were generally in chronological order within a section, so that family members were typically buried nowhere near one another (the exception was for husbands and wives when prior arrangement had been made to reserve two spots next to one another). Some headstones were completely hidden behind overgrown vines, others substantially obscured. I was glad to have my gardening gloves and pruning shears as I cleared away vegetation in a number of instances to get a clear view of some of the headstones. It was tricky walking in and around the various rows, and it took me quite a while to locate some of the headstones. In a number of instances, I never did find the headstones I sought. And it took me much longer than expected to search the various sections. In fact, it was difficult for me to determine whether I was still in my desired section, or had strayed into another section.

I had met and chatted briefly with another rider on the van over to the cemetery and learned of the unique family name that person was seeking; there were three graves with that name that were being sought. As it turns out, as strange as it seems, I saw all three of the headstones during my walking through the cemetery. In the case of the first two, I saw them from the main roadway just as the person with that surname and her husband approached the area. In the case of the third headstone, the seeker and her husband never did locate the headstone, but I saw it in my

wanderings through the cemetery and took a picture of it.

I ended up returning to the conference hotel on the van along with most of the original group (two of our party left the cemetery early).

Back at the Conference hotel, I was able to register and enjoyed greeting some of my genealogy friends. I saw that there was a CD with conference materials and a fat notebook with the printed conference materials. I eagerly scanned the Family Finder for my surnames and towns, and made notes of a few people to contact.

On the next day (Monday), I had signed up for a walking tour of the Lower East Side. Our group was to meet outside the conference hotel after lunch. I was looking for a conference organizer outside the Starbucks in front of the Marriott Marquis. Although I saw some people inside the Starbucks huddling, I didn't see any indication that this was my group, so I headed outside. Within a few minutes, about five or six others joined me as we awaited the arrival of the conference organizer. And we waited. And waited. When it was clearly getting quite later, one of our group went inside the Marriott to try to locate an organizer. After a while, he emerged with an organizer who informed us that the bulk of the group had already departed via subway for the tour meeting location. However, we should not despair. He had planned for such an eventuality, and supplied each of us with detailed instructions and Metro cards. Escorted us to the correct subway departure station and we got to the meeting location where we caught up with the assistant organizer and the rest of our tour group, still a few minutes before the scheduled start of the tour, and prior to the time of arrival of the tour guide. As it turned out, the guide herself had experienced a transportation delay.

We enjoyed an opportunity to walk through the lower east side as our tour guide told us about the history of the area and some favorite stories. I recognized some of the street names where members of several branches of my family had lived, based on records I had obtained. I also saw the Forward building and several tenements that I could envision might have been places where various family members had lived. I was excited at being in such an historic section of town, and took many pictures of this section of the city.

When I returned to the Marriott I expectantly anticipated the opening ceremonies. Our keynote speaker, the Archivist of the United States, was a dismal public speaker. Others on the program were more adept, however, at the skills of communicating their thoughts and emotions. Overall, I felt good about that evening's events and looked forward to an exciting conference.

During the first few days of the Conference, I focused on organizing my activities for the rest of the week. This included making arrangements for the weekend after the Conference when I would be meeting my sister, her husband and son at the Fort Lee Holiday Inn and rendezvousing with five different family branches over Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in various parts of New Jersey and New York for reunions or, in most instances, for first meetings with newfound cousins. In addition, I also arranged a first-time meeting during the Conference with a cousin for Wednesday dinner.

I was thankful for the availability of Internet access during the Conference where I was surprised by additional contacts by three Conference participants who had found me in the Family Finder. I tried to meet each of these, but a last-minute schedule change on Friday morning prevented me from meeting with one of these participants.

Because of my off-site and commuting transportation and time requirements, I decided to forego going to any repositories for research. I decided to focus my efforts on the sessions

in the hotel. I also made several visits to the vendor area where I had no difficulty in identifying must-buy volumes to add to my collection.

During the week, I found myself involved in two different meetings that could be described as more political than genealogical in nature. At the IAJGS Board meeting, I represented JGSGW where, in addition to standard business items, everyone awaited with trepidation the new business item that had been debated on the IAJGS Digest in the weeks leading up to the Conference; the posthumous baptism of Jews by members of the Latter-day Saints religion. After first declining to submit his report in an abridged format, Gary Mokotoff, after being granted by the participants authorization to provide a "full" report on the meeting with Church elders on the subject that he had attended, ultimately provided the Board meeting participants a "full" 10-minute summary of what had transpired. This was subsequently described in more detail in the *Nu? What's New?* E-Zine.

I then made my motion to adopt a resolution as provided for by the JGSGW Board. The motion failed to gather a second, dropping to the floor, which according to parliamentary procedure, meant it was not considered for discussion.

My second bit of participation in a political process involved the LitvakSIG, where we held contested elections in a public forum for the first time in our history. As a past Board member and current dues-paying member of LitvakSIG, I was eager to cast my vote for my favorite candidates for office. First, however, we had to decide another issue; namely, the motion to amend the constitution and by-laws, to set the size of the Board. This was done, and the Board was set at nine members. Accordingly, we voted for nominated candidates, and the nine top vote getters were elected. The next day, officer elections were conducted according to the bylaws and a president, secretary, and treasurer were selected. Un-elected past Board members who had been candidates for office were offered positions of consequence in the new year.

The Conference ran quite smoothly. During the week I had to make difficult choices of which sessions to attend from among the many optional sessions available. All in all, I was glad that I had purchased at pre-Conference prices the recording of Conference sessions.

On Thursday afternoon, when I thought I would finally make it to the resource room, I was shocked to find that it had closed for the Conference. Alas, I would be unable to conduct any research at the Conference, except for a few moments earlier in the week when Aaron Roetenberg had given me a guided tour of additions that had been made to the JewishGen database for Lithuania.

I took advantage of some free time on Thursday afternoon to attend one of the movies that was showing at the Conference, and thoroughly enjoyed this offering by the Conference planners.

I enjoyed the lavish spread arranged by the Conference organizers on Thursday banquet evening, which included an amazing reception with hors d'oeuvres, plus a formal sit-down affair with a guest speaker, but found the overall program too long, and left just prior to the announcement of the winners of IAJGS achievement awards for outstanding contributions to Jewish Genealogy, an event I had looked forward to all Conference long.

Nonetheless, overall, I found the Conference to have been a resounding success, and am eagerly looking forward to future events.

My visits with relatives and newfound cousins were likewise spectacularly successful, and have opened up new avenues for friendships, further research, and future meetings. ✡

IAGHJS Achievement Award Recipients
Renee Steinig < rsteinig@suffolk.lib.ny.us >

We are delighted to announce the recipients of the 2006 IAJGS Achievement Awards. The winners accepted their award plaques at the banquet held on Thursday evening, Aug. 17, at the NY2006 Jewish genealogy conference.

These honorees were selected from a large field of outstanding candidates, whose number and achievements reflect the vitality of our Jewish genealogy community. Many thanks to all the member societies who participated in the nomination process and kudos to all the nominees for their remarkable accomplishments.

IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award
-- Stephen P. Morse
"Recognizing his ongoing work to enhance access to online databases. His versatile 'One-Step' programs have become essential tools for thousands of Jewish genealogists. Thanks to his extraordinary skill and creativity, researchers have made critical discoveries in immigration, census, and vital records, as well as numerous other databases, and they have overcome hurdles presented by unfamiliar alphabets and languages. Extending his generosity beyond cyberspace, he has also lectured widely at conferences and to local societies, contributing to their growth and furthering learning."

Outstanding Contribution to Jewish Genealogy via the Internet, Print or Electronic Product
-- Ada Green
"Recognizing her devoted and meticulous efforts to record burials in Jewish cemeteries in the New York City area and beyond. Since 1995 she has documented over 180 burial society and landsmanshaft plots and has single-handedly cataloged over 36,000 gravestone inscriptions worldwide. She has made records accessible to all on JewishGen and has encouraged and guided individuals and groups undertaking other transcription projects. Her tireless work is a model to other volunteers and a mitzvah to the Jewish souls whose memories she has rescued from oblivion."

Outstanding Programming or Project that Advances the Objectives of Jewish Genealogy
-- Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia
"For creating searchable online databases of Philadelphia's Blitzstein and Lipshutz "ethnic bank" records. These records detail steamship ticket purchases made in the United States, primarily for family members in the "old country." Previously available only in ledgers at the Philadelphia Jewish Archives Center and on microfilm, 55,000 records spanning 50 years of immigration to the Port of Philadelphia are now accessible to researchers worldwide on JewishGen. For some, the records have provided the first written evidence of their ancestral towns."

Outstanding Publication by a Member Organization of IAJGS
-- Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston
"Recognizing the excellence of its quarterly journal MASS-POCHA which informs JGSGB members as well as readers worldwide. Notable features include the variety and originality of its articles, in-depth coverage of guest lectures and the unique resource lists that supplement many articles. A consistent and attractive layout, appealing graphic design, effective use of photographs and illustrations and high editorial standards further enhance the impact of this exemplary publication."

IAJGS Achievement Awards Committee

Carol Davidson Baird	Renee Stern Steinig, Chair
Hal Bookbinder	Ignacio Sternberg
Joel Spector	

Public Records Monitoring Committee and Areas of Concern with Records Access

Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson, Public Records Monitoring Committee

The Public Records Access Monitoring Committee (PRAMC) met quarterly by CHAT conference during the year, and more frequently as needed. Access to vital records worldwide, is a growing concern for genealogists and the IAJGS had a very busy and productive year in addressing these areas of limiting access.

FGS/NGS Records Preservation and Access Committee

In North America, a joint committee of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the National Genealogical Society (NGS) monitors and determines action to be taken by the joint organizations on restrictions to access of public records. The Records Preservation and Access (RPA) Committee meets three times a year and shares information via e-mail. Jan Allen represents the IAJGS on the RPA Committee. By participating with this committee we are able to find out when legislative or regulatory actions are occurring better than if we were operating solo.

Why We Are Seeing an Explosion of Legislation Addressing Records Access

With the explosion of identity theft not only in the United States, but worldwide, we are seeing legislators take the initiative to limit access to vital records believing this will prevent identity theft. But vital records access is not the cause of identity theft.

Hacking into databases–of banks, data collectors, government agencies etc, such, is the cause. As genealogists, we have to educate our legislators as to the real cause of identity theft and keep access to records open.

Information contained in censuses is also of major interest to genealogists. We are seeing new provisions, requiring "affirmative" responses on census forms to make the information publicly released far into the future.

The county clerks are another group, which opposes access to vital records in many cases in the United States.

Your Role in Preserving Access to Vital Records and Census Information

Achieving access to vital records and census information takes everyone's effort. Please get involved by contacting your state or national representatives when there is an access issue that affects you. The basis of genealogical research is vital records. It is not just family history, but the tracing of medical family history, which is very important for genealogists, and the need for access to records. Do your part to keep access alive. We appreciate all the support and contacts individual Jewish genealogists provided this year on various bills that limit access! Keep it up.

To read the full report and achievements of the PRAMC in Australia, Canada and the United States, go to < http://www.iajgs.org/ > and click on "Legislations" (left hand side) and then on "Annual Report."

Ordering U.S. Immigration Records On-line

The National Archives has announced that Immigration records may now be ordered online, effective June 26, 2006. The ordering system is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year at
< https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/start.swe?SWECmd=Start >.

Naturalization Record
A Federal naturalization record usually consists of a petition, and sometimes, in addition, a declaration of intention, and a certificate of arrival. The cost is $10 per record and an additional $6 for certification (includes shipping & handling.)

Passenger Arrival Record
Reproductions for inbound Federal passenger arrival records for ships and airplanes (1820-1959). Fee (includes shipping & handling): $17.25

Other records available on-line from the Archives include:

Census Pages
Copies of individual pages of Federal population census schedules, 1790-1930, used for genealogical research or as evidence of age and place of birth for employment, social security benefits, insurance, passports, and other purposes. Fee (includes shipping & handling): $17.50

Court Records:
Bankruptcy Cases - Docket Sheet
The docket sheet is a list of documents filed in a Bankruptcy case. An outline of the case. The package price includes a maximum of 20 pages. NARA will notify you if the total number of copies will exceed 20 pages. (NATF Form 90 - court case). Fee (includes shipping & handling): $10.00

Bankruptcy Cases - Entire Case File
Includes all documents in a Business and Individual Bankruptcy case file. The package price includes a maximum of 70 pages. Copies over the package maximum will be charged per copy. NARA will notify you if the total number of copies will exceed 70 pages. (NATF Form 90 - court case). Fee (includes shipping & handling): $35.00

Bankruptcy Cases - Pre-Selected Document
Includes the following documents, to the extent that they are contained in the case file: Discharge of Debtor (or Order of Dismissal or Final Decree), Voluntary Petition, Summary of Debts and Property, Schedules D, E and F (Note in some jurisdictions Schedules may be listed as A1, A2 and A3). No substitutions will be made for these documents. The package price includes a maximum of 20 pages. Copies over the package maximum will be charged per copy. NARA will notify you if the total number of copies will exceed 20 pages. (NATF Form 90 - court case). Fee (includes shipping & handling): $10.00

Civil Cases - Docket Sheet
A list of documents filed in a civil action. An outline of the case. The package price includes a maximum of 20 pages. NARA will notify you if the total number of copies will exceed 20 pages. Fee (includes shipping & handling): $10.00

Civil Cases - Entire Case File
Includes all documents in a case file. The package price includes a maximum of 70 pages. Copies over the package maximum will be charged per copy. NARA will notify you if the to-

tal number of copies will exceed 70 pages. (NATF Form 91 - court case). Fee (includes shipping & handling): $35.00

WWI Draft Registration Cards

The information included on each World War I (WWI) Draft Registration Card can differ somewhat but the general information shown includes order and serial numbers (assigned by the Selective Service System), full name, date and place of birth, race, citizenship, occupation, personal description, and signature. It is important to note that not all of the men who registered for the draft actually served in the military and not all men who served in the military registered for the draft. Fee (includes shipping & handling): $10.00

Pension Records

Federal Military Pension Applications - Complete File
Reproduction of the full pension application file, based on Federal (not State or Confederate) military service between 1775 and 1912 (before World War I). It includes the Pension Documents Packet and all other information of an official or personal nature in the file. Fee (includes shipping & handling): $37.00

Federal Military Pension Applications - Pension Documents Packet
Reproduction of eight documents that contain genealogical information about the pension applicant, to the extent they are present in the file. These documents are for Federal (not State or Confederate) service between 1775 and 1912 (before World War I). Select the FAQ at the right for a list of specific documents. Fee (includes shipping & handling): $14.75

HOW TO ORDER MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS

Military personnel records can be used for proving military service, or as a valuable tool in genealogical research. Most veterans and their next-of-kin can obtain free copies of their DD Form 214 (Report of Separation) and other military and medical records several ways:

Required Information
The request must contain certain basic information for us to locate the service records. This information includes:
- Service number
- Social security number
- Branch of service
- Dates of service
- Date and place of birth (especially if the service number is not known).
- If you suspect your records may have been involved in the 1973 fire, also include:
  - Place of discharge
  - Last unit of assignment
  - Place of entry into the service, if known.
- All requests must be **signed** and **dated** by the veteran or next-of-kin.

Most Requested; Compiled Military Service File

Compiled records based on military service in the United States Army for regular forces raised by the Federal Government (officers who served before June 30, 1917 and enlisted men who served before October 31, 1912). Fee (includes shipping & handling): $17.00 . This product usually ships in 60 - 90 calendar days. For more information and forms, see
< http://archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html >

Overseas Research

Index to Jewish Quebec Vital Records

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal has developed a surname index to Jewish vital records for the province of Quebec. They include an extraction of the so-called Drouin collection (1841–1942) and over 10,000 entries from the 1917 to 1954 records of Rabbi J.L. Colton and those of Rabbi Nathan Mendelson.

The JGS will get copies of the records from the Drouin collection for US$13/CAN$15. The order form is at their website < http://www.jgs-montreal.org/vital/search-frame.html >.

Recent additions to JOWBR
Joyce Field < jfield@nlci.com >

In early August many tens of thousands of new records were added to JOWBR, JewishGen's Online Worldwide Burial Registry, a searchable database, bringing the total number of records to almost 600,000. Check the names and locations of all the cemeteries included in this database at < http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/tree/CemList.htm >.

The additions included over 50,000 burial records from Canada, over 16,000 records from the United States, as well as new records from England, Hungary, Israel, Mauritius, Netherlands, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia, and Ukraine.

The cemetery visits by participants at the IAJGS conference in New York will, it is hoped, bring many new submissions to JOWBR.

The database can be searched at < http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/cemetery/ >. Instructions are at < http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/JOWBRinstructions.htm > and < http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Cemetery/Submit.htm >.

Please contact me or Nolan Altman, JOWBR Technical Coordinator, < nta@pipeline.com > if you have any questions. We want to extend our appreciation to Warren Blatt and Michael Tobias for their special efforts to get these records online before the Conference.

New Website with Interesting Content for BialyGenners
"Mark Halpern" < bialystoker@comcast.net >

I have become aware of a new website that may be of interest to you. It is < http://www.bagnowka.com/ >. Bagnówka is a district of Bialystok, which contains the Wschodnia Street Cemetery. See < http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/bialygen/BialCem.htm > for information about this Cemetery.

Here are other WebPages to visit.
Photo Gallery < http://www.bagnowka.com/?m=atoz >
Jewish Cemeteries < http://www.bagnowka.com/?m=cm&g=2 >
WW2 Information < http://www.bagnowka.com/?m=ww >
Wooden Synagogues < http://www.bagnowka.com/?m=cm&g=show&idg=346 >

Eight of 11 Nations Sign Off on Public Access to ITS Records
Nu? What's New? Volume 7, Number 12

Eight nations--Britain, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg and the United States--have signed off on the recommendation of the International Tracing Service Committee that the ITS records be accessible to the public. Only Belgium, The Netherlands and Poland remain to make the decision unanimous. These countries require further parliamentary approval and are expected to sign before November 1.

British Records On-Line
Nu? What's New? Volume 7, Number 15

< http://www.1837online.com/ > claims it has 400 million Great Britain records at their site. This includes complete birth, marriage and death records from 1837–2004; census records, 1861–1891, with an all-name index; living relatives indexes; and military records. Future plans call for passenger emigration lists, 1890–1960, with an all-name index. It is expected to be available in the second half of 2007.

For birth, marriage and death records, provided are images of pages from the government index. The 1837online.com index only captures the first and last name on each page. This means you must know the year of the event to find the entry in the government index. Otherwise, you must browse year by year until the entry is found.

Military records include a National Roll of the Great War 1914–1918; Soldiers who died in the Great War; Army Roll of Honor 1939–1945; and Armed Forces births, marriages and deaths.

You can search for records free of charge but retrieving the information is fee based. The cost is £5 for 50 units; £10 provides 110 units. Many records cost more than one unit. Alternately, there are annual subscriptions for unlimited use of certain offerings.

Free Canadian Censuses On-Line

The indices of the Canadian censuses produced by volunteers are available for free at < http://automatedgenealogy.com/index.html >. They seem to be far more precise and less error-ridden than those at < Ancestry.com >. Researchers should check both sources.

Cemeteries in Hungary On-Line
From the Hungary-SIG mailing list

< http://www.oroklet.hu/ > contains a very thorough listing of Jewish burials in Hungary although not all cemeteries are available. You can search by name and cemetery.
The information given is: Name, including maiden name for married women (Hungarian style, thus surname first, given name last), year of birth, year of death, location ot cemetery (plot, row, grave).
TIPS: 1) Because of the colors, the text is difficult to read. On Internet Explorer, go to Internet Options on the Tools menu. On the General tab, click Accessibility. Check the box for "Ignore colors specified on webpages". Click OK. When you finished viewing this website you will need to reset this option.Also, selecting the contents of the page will highlight it in a different colour, and often make it easier to read. 2) Selection by name and date simultaneously results in error messages. 3) It uses diacritical marks, so you will need a Hungarian (or German) keyboard. 4) You can do also partial name searches .

Yad Vashem Issues an Urgent Call for Volunteers Worldwide
Cynthia Wroclawski, Outreach Manager, < cynthia.wroclawski@yadvashem.org.il >

When the Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names was uploaded onto the Yad Vashem Website < http://www.yadvashem.org/ > in November 2004, Yad Vashem announced an International 11th Hour Campaign to recover as many additional names of Holocaust victims as possible, before the generation that best remembers them passes. An urgent call for volunteers to implement grass roots campaigns is now being issued to Jewish communities and organizations worldwide.

Jewish Genealogists: Lend your expertise to this historic project; urge your friends and family members to join the campaign to recover the names and identities of those who did not survive and have yet to be recorded on "Pages of Testimony."

Anyone committed to ensuring that no Holocaust victim is forgotten, would be a significant asset to this endeavor.

With the aid of promotional materials developed by Yad Vashem, volunteers will reach out to survivors and their families and assist them in registering the names of Jews who they know were murdered in the Shoah. Through synagogues, Holocaust centers, JCC's, Jewish student organizations, senior centers, and social service agencies we can reach those who still remember. Time is running out, but, by working together and spreading the word, we can still recover those missing names.

Yad Vashem is also seeking cooperation with research projects to reconstruct pre-war Eastern European Jewish communities. Please contact me directly.

To volunteer send your name, address, phone number and email address to
< names.outreach@yadvashem.org.il > with the subject heading "names volunteer."

The Shoah Victims' Names Recovery Project
Yad Vashem, P.O.B. 3477 Jerusalem 91034 ISRAEL

Yad Vashem's New Major Database: "Shoah Related Lists Database"
Nu? What's New? Volume 7, Number 12

Known internally as the "List of Lists," this major online database official name is "Shoah Related Lists Database." It can be linked to from the Yad Vashem Home Page at < www.yadvashem.org >.

It is a collection of 12,000 lists that name people caught up in the Holocaust: 1,041 from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum collection and the rest from Yad Vashem. About two-thirds of the lists can also be viewed as scanned images. Yad Vashem considers the database to be a "work in progress," and in the future they hope to offer lists that can be found outside Yad Vashem.

The primary method of searching is by place. After clicking the Search button, the system displays a description of each list that includes the named place. An icon appearing before the description indicates that the actual images are available online. Clicking the word "Details" provides additional information about the list as well as the first page in PDF format. If the list is not available online, a message describes why the actual document is not available. It is possible to save lists to your computer.

Eventually the lists will be indexed and entered into the Shoah Names Database.

Society News

Current Newsletters available electronically from the editor:

"Atsmi Uvsari" - Utah JGS
"Chai from Colorado" - JGS of Colorado
"JGS-NYT" - JGS of Denmark (in Danish)
"Family Gatherings" - JGS of Broward County, FL
"Family Legacies" - JGS Southern Nevada
"Generations" - JGS of Michigan
"Illiana" - Illinois JGS
"Looking Back" - JGS of Tampa Bay, FL
"Montreal Forum" - JGS Montreal
"News 'N Notes" - St. Louis Genealogy Society
"Perth Jewish Roots" - Jewish Historical & Genealogical Society of Western Australia
"Shem Tov" - JGS of Canada (Toronto)
"Shemot" - JGS of Great Britain
"The Evergreen Mishpacha" - JGS of Washington State
"The Galitzianer" - Gesher Galicia
"Venturing Into Our Past" - JGS Conejo Valley & Ventura County, California
"Zichron Note" - San Francisco Bay Area JGS

Just send me an email request < SKranz_99@yahoo.com > and I will forward any of these news-letters to you.

Condolence

A belated condolence to the family of long-time JGS member Rose B. Mensh, who died on July 22, 2006 in Chevy Chase. Rose worked on one of JGSGW's indexing projects at the National Archives; she and her husband, the late Sidney Mensh, were both members of our Society. Rose was buried at Adas Israel Cemetery; memorial donations in her memory were made to the National Yiddish Book Center.

Conference CD

Marlene Bishow reports that JGSGW has purchased a full set of the recorded lectures from the New York 2006 Conference. There are six CD's in the MP3 format. This means that you can play the CD on your computer or on an MP3 CD player. The first CD includes downloadable MP3 soft-ware, so these should play on any PC with a CD drive (not sure about MAC). The clarity and qua-lity is excellent on the lectures tested.

To borrow the set, please send an email to < JGSGW_DC@comcast.net > or call Marlene at (301) 330-3882 after yom tov. You will be responsible for picking up and returning the set to Rockville.

Message from the President

Why should people interested in genealogy belong to a genealogy society?

Some of the possible answers include: networking, access to resources, and opportunities to learn new skills and information. Surely there are many other reasons. The Officers and Board of JGSGW have focused on making membership in our society more attractive. We want current members to retain their membership and we are actively seeking new members to grow our membership base.

In 1983, the first year for which we have records, our fledgling society had 103 members. Ten years later, in 1993, membership was up to 306. In 2003, there were 330 members. These numbers were taken from membership directories and indicate a positive trend. In December, 2005, however, membership had dipped to 247. Presently, as we approach the beginning of our fiscal year, we are showing 277 memberships on the rolls. This includes family memberships, where two or more people in a household are members. Invoices were mailed around July 1, with a follow-up in August. We included return envelopes to facilitate the process. As we go to press with our new directory on October 5, we note that some invoices are still unpaid.

In June, the board voted to hold the line on membership dues and to restrict participation in all workshops to members-only. There was discussion indicating that some people do not feel the need to pay dues, but they come to workshops and meetings anyway. To validate the membership, the Board also voted to permit non-members to attend one meeting per year at no charge and to charge $5 per person, per meeting thereafter. Only those members whose dues are paid by October 1 will be listed in the new directory and will receive *Mishpacha* and meeting notices.

In the past week, the value of membership in JGSGW increased further because we have made arrangements to hold members-only genealogy-related computer classes at the computer classroom at the JCC in Rockville. For several years, JGSGW has been searching for a facility with a computer lab suitable for group instruction. Chief among the requirements was affordability and size and stability of the environment. The facility meets all of those requirements.

The program for the coming year is excellent. The quality of the speakers is top-notch and the breadth of subjects is great. We will hold one meeting in DC and another in Virginia, in addition to seven meetings in Maryland and a bus trip to Baltimore. The number of workshops will exceed the number of programs and the content will be varied and of equal quality. Most of the workshops will be run by members.

We have reactivated the Speaker's Bureau and members are teaching eight sessions of a course on genealogy at the JCC, in addition to providing presentations on genealogy to local congregations and other groups.

We hope that we can continue to count on your support and that you will help us to spread the word that membership in *The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington* is an asset to your interest in genealogy.

Wishing you a year of happiness and health,
Marlene Bishow
President

UPCOMING JGSGW PROGRAMS

Date: Sunday, October 22, 2006
Time: 2:00 PM
Location: Adas Israel, Washington, DC
Topic: Yaffa Eliach, Ph.D.
Speaker: Once There Was a Shtetl

Professor Yaffa Eliach is a pioneering scholar in Holocaust studies and a Professor of History and Literature in the Department of Judaic Studies at Brooklyn College, with areas of specialty in Eastern European history, Russian intellectual history, Holocaust studies, and Hasidism. She is a founder of the first Center for Holocaust Studies in the United States and, an East European historian. Her scholarship has included contributions to the Encyclopedia Judaica, the Women's Studies Encyclopedia, the Encyclopedia of Hasidism, as well as to numerous scholarly, literary, and popular publications in the nationally and internationally. Professor Eliach is the author of numerous books and is a recipient of many awards and honors.

Date: November 12, 2006
Time: 2:00 PM
Location: B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium, Rockville, MD
Topic: Organizit: Reducing Your Research Clutter
Speaker: Rhoda Miller, Ed.D.

Organizit presents creative solutions and problem solving ideas to genealogy researchers who are interested in getting organized in order to free up mental and physical space for more research! The concept of clutter, how it happens, and what to do about it, will be discussed. The organization of computer and paper files, documents, photographs, correspondence, research projects, and research materials will be presented in a lively and entertaining manner. Methods of approaching a genealogy project, or subparts of a project, as well as planning for a research trip, are also discussed.

Rhoda Miller is a Certified Genealogist.

Date: December 3, 2006 NEW DATE
Time: 2:00 PM
Location: B'nai Israel, Gudelsky Auditorium, Rockville, MD
Topic: **Not For Israel Only**: Using Israeli Archives & Resources for Worldwide Jewish Records
Speaker: Michael Goldstein

Israel holds a treasure of data relating to Jews throughout the world who have lived in Palestine or Israel--as well as those who never set foot in the Holy Land. The presentation will explore such prominent Israeli archives as The Hebrew University and National Library, the Joint Distribution Committee, The Central Archives of the History of the Jewish People, Yad Vashem, and more. Mr. Goldstein will touch on the importance of each as a repository for records, books, photos and documents, as well as their particular area of concentration.

In addition, he will explore a range of known and lesser-known sources consisting of Israeli government databases, cemetery records, landsmenshafts, and others. In the case of Yad Vashem, he will go much beyond the Pages of Testimony to look at the resources which help trace individuals (or

their descendants) who gave testimony in the early 1950's and the resources of our lost communities.

Michael Goldstein, born in Canada, is a Jerusalem-based genealogist who researches, mentors, lectures, and conducts workshops in Israel and North America. His expertise is in tracing Israelis whose testimonies are found in Yad Vashem records. Michael Goldstein is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, The Israel Genealogical Society and the Jewish Genealogy Society of Montreal.

Date: *January 14, 2007*
Time: *2:00 PM*
Location: *B'nai Israel, Stearman Auditorium, Rockville, MD*
Topic: Yiddish Language and Culture: Understanding the Context of Our Ancestors' Lives
Speaker: Miriam Isaacs, Ph.D.

Yiddish was the language spoken and written by so many of our ancestors. They also immersed themselves in Yiddish culture even as immigrants to the United States. This presentation will help us to understand better the life our ancestors lived. Dr. Isaacs will focus on Yiddish culture as a trans-national culture. She will speak about the history of Yiddish, and will then focus on names, personal and place names and Jewish geography.

Miriam Isaacs holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from Cornell University. She is currently a Visiting Associate Professor in Yiddish Language and Culture. Dr. Isaacs is a native speaker of Yiddish, and was born in Germany in a Displaced Persons Camp.

Domestic Research *(Continued from page 4)*

United States Newspaper Program

The United States Newspaper Program < http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html > is a cooperative national effort among the states and the federal government to locate, catalog, and preserve on microfilm newspapers published in the United States from the eighteenth century to the present.

In addition to state projects, the National Endowment for the Humanities has funded the cataloging of newspapers at eight national repositories < http://www.neh.gov/projects/usnp.html#ENR >and also funded preservation at one of the eight. Each of these libraries has extensive newspaper collections containing titles from most of the 50 states.

Most state projects have their own website and many of them prepared either a list of their state's newspapers or created a searchable database. Unfortunately it can be difficult to locate the web page that has these useful indexes. The American Antiquarian Society
< http://www.americanantiquarian.org/newspapers9.htm > has a list of those lists or databases and links to them.

2006-7 MEETING SCHEDULE

October 22 - Adas Israel, Washington, DC
November 12 - B'nai Israel, Rockville, MD
December 3 - B'nai Israel *NEW DATE*
January 14 2007 - B'nai Israel
February 11 - B'nai Israel
March 11 - B'nai Israel
April 22 - Olam Tikvah, Fairfax, VA
May 6 - B'nai Israel
June 10 - Potomac Community Center, Potomac, MD

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