



# משפחה

Quarterly Publication of  
The Jewish Genealogy Society  
of Greater Washington

“Every man of the children of Israel shall encamp by his own standard with the ensign of his family” *Numbers 2:2*

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## Workmen's Circle and My Genealogy

By Charles Polinger

My genealogical research has often led me to site-visits of local cemeteries, where I have been able to uncover countless dates and correct name spellings and other important information. For example, cemeteries often provide me with birth and death dates, and allow me to compare the accuracy of dates that I have found from other sources like ship arrivals or census records. Cemetery monuments also give me new key information for my genealogy records, such as dates to use in Social Security Death Index (SSDI) searches. Fortunately for my research, many of my relatives were buried close by in the Metropolitan Washington area, at Mt. Lebanon cemetery, or King David Memorial Gardens, although several were buried in Brooklyn, New York.

One detail that often puzzled me was that documents indicated two of my relatives were buried in the Workmen's Circle, but I knew that the relatives were buried miles apart. Furthermore, when I tried to find the Workmen's Circle cemetery, I could not find any listed in phone books or on the Internet. Searches using Google or other search engines gave me no information. I did know that my uncle, David William ROSEN, was buried in Adelphia, Maryland, but my grandfather, Simon POLINGER, was also buried in Workmen's Circle, but at an unknown D.C. cemetery. For a long while, I was totally baffled by this paradox.

I finally queried Wikipedia < <http://www.wikipedia.com> > for any information about the Workmen's Circle, and I was surprised to learn the answer. Workmen's Circle, it turns out, was not a cemetery, as such, but instead it was a Jewish organization, especially popular in the early 1900s.

According to Wikipedia, the Workmen's Circle, also known as the Arbeiter Ring, was founded in 1892 by a group of cloak makers, and became a national order in 1900. "...the founders sought to create an organization that would 'unite by a ring of friendship every worker in the land.'<sup>1</sup>" It was known as a social and cultural Jewish labor fraternal order, similar to a labor union. "Its purpose was to provide members with mutual aid and health and death benefits and to support the labor and socialist movements of the

(Continued on page 4)

Mishpacha

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There is a discount for 3-year membership: \$80 for individuals, \$120 for families.

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JGSGW members are encouraged to submit their genealogical research experiences for possible publication in *Mishpacha*. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject or publish in revised form. Submit articles to the editor:

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Special thanks to Liz Lourie & Fred Kolbrener

The JGSGW Web Site is located at:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw>

**30th IAJGS International Conference  
on Jewish Genealogy  
Los Angeles, California  
11-16 July 2010  
JW Marriott Hotel at L.A. LIVE  
<http://www.jgsla2010.com>**



This promises to be an unforgettable conference!

- ✧ Pioneer Jewish genealogist **Arthur Kurzweil** (author of *From Generation to Generation*), keynote speaker **Daniel Mendelsohn** (author of *The Lost: A Search for Six of Six Million*).
- ✧ Representatives of the American Joint Distribution Committee, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and Yad Vashem; international experts from Vienna, Prague, Vilnius, Warsaw, Jerusalem, among others.
- ✧ Lectures on Converso/Bnai Anousim and Persian Jewish communities to DNA.
- ✧ From Sephardic to Eastern European research to Yiddish theatre and klezmer music.
- ✧ A Market Square Fair; a film festival; film your own biography; discover what your old photographs have to say; “Jewpardy” and much more.

View the full Program here < <http://tinyurl.com/y3nprau> >.



National Capitol Hebrew Cemetery, Maryland, U.S.A. ©Charles Polinger. See article on page 1.

world.<sup>2</sup> Workmen's Circle, among other things, established homes for the aged, and my grandfather, Simon POLINGER, lived late in life in a D.C. home for the aged, which may have been supported by the Workmen's Circle. I have not made a direct connection to date, but recently discovered that he was buried in a Workmen's Circle section of the National Capitol Hebrew Cemetery (see photo on page 3). That cemetery also includes sections dedicated to specific congregations. I had not realized that cemeteries were divided by congregation.

The Workmen's Circle organization started in 1901 in New York City, and I have not yet identified a strong Washington, D.C., presence. It was active in New York, Boston and other major cities. However, several of my relatives did spend time in New York before migrating to the D.C. area, and I understand that David William ROSEN was active in the Workmen's Circle. Today, the Workmen's Circle is still strong and functioning mainly by providing education and the "Folksbiene," a theatrical group started in the 1900s and still performing today. Their educational program was intended to teach children how to read, write and speak Yiddish.

I recently determined that Simon POLINGER was buried at the National Capitol Hebrew Cemetery in Capitol Heights, Maryland, and I decided to visit. The Workmen's Circle, it turns out, reserves a strip of land on the far left side of the cemetery, along the fence-line, and that is where I located three members of my family.

Of genealogical interest, a Workmen's Circle Collection is available and consists of administration, services, separate branches and schools, but note that much of the information is in Yiddish. Apparently, this collection may be accessed through the Archives of the American Jewish Historical Society, 15 West 16<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10011. Others pursuing genealogical data might be able to find information through the Workmen's Circle organization.<sup>3</sup>

Information about the National Capitol Hebrew Cemetery: Cemetery is located partly in Southeast Washington and partly in Capitol Heights, Maryland. The following have burial sites there: Beth Sholom, Ezras Israel, Ohev Sholom Talmud Torah, Yom Tov Society, Workmen's Circle Lodge (contact George Rottenberg), Young Israel-Shomrei Emunah, National Capitol Lodge and George Washington Lodge (merged with Friendship Lodge). Most of Beth Sholom is in Maryland and the rest is in D.C. The address is 4708 Fable Street, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. More information about the Workmen's Circle can be found on Wikipedia (search for Workmen's Circle), or at < <http://www.circle.org/> >. You may also contact them at < [BBWorkCircle@aol.com](mailto:BBWorkCircle@aol.com) >.

#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The Workman's Circle: Jewish Cultural Organization: Long Island Traditions, Inc.  
< <http://www.longislandtraditions.org/artistprofiles/ethnic/workmen/html> >.

<sup>2</sup> Guide to the Records of the Workman's Circle, undated, 1903-1993, I-304: Historical Notes.

<sup>3</sup> YIVO, Institute for Jewish Research < <http://www.yivoinstitute.org/> >.

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Charles Polinger, a retired Federal government worker and Washington, D.C. native, has been engaged in genealogical research since 1990. He focuses mainly on family members in Brooklyn, New York, and Washington, D.C. His family originated in Russia and Romania, and migrated to the United States in the early 1900s. Charles has written other articles for *Mishpacha*.



## The Power of the Press: Finding Family Secrets in Historical Newspapers

By Suzanne M. Fialkoff

Like many family historians, I have pored through many archival newspapers looking for tidbits about my family. I have found lots of genealogical gems in the usual places--obituaries, birth announcements, and wedding and engagement notices. But I've also hit pay dirt--with the emphasis on dirt--all over the pages of the press: advertisements, court calendars, feature stories, and sometimes even headlines.

**How did Uncle really get that scar?** Family lore had it that Uncle Izzy had been a circus performer in the old country. He had injured himself in a fall from the high wire, and as a result had a steel plate in his head.

Steel plate? Yes. Circus fall? Um, maybe not. *The Brooklyn Eagle* reported in 1906 that Uncle Izzy

...shot his wife...23 years old who lived with her mother...in the handsomely furnished flat on the second floor of the address given. [He] fired three shots from a .38 caliber revolver, one of the bullets striking her in the right arm and two lodging in the vicinity of her right eye. Then when [he] saw the police coming toward him he turned the revolver on himself and fired one shot into the right side of his head.

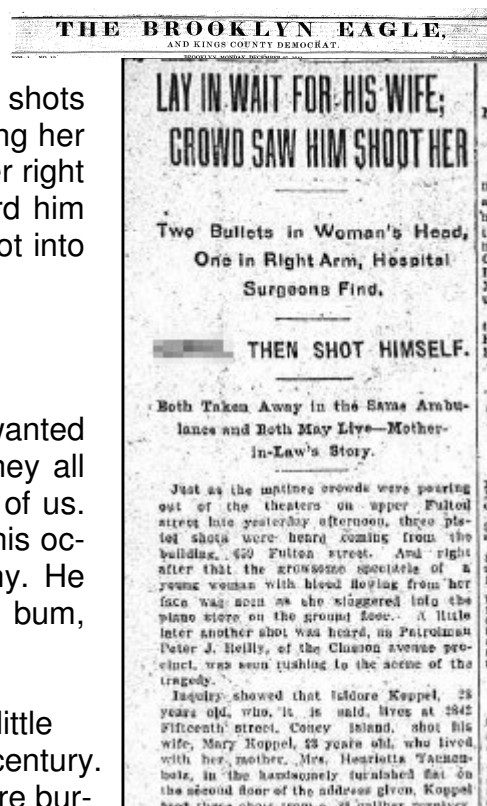
The wife's mother, my great-grandmother, helpfully added,

The reason he shot my daughter was that he wanted money and did not want to work. He wanted money all the time and we naturally objected to his living off of us. The man has decided objections to work. What is his occupation? Why, as a matter of fact, he hasn't any. He has done some waiting, but he is more of a bum, bum, that's what he is.

The young couple both survived and, apparently putting this little quarrel behind them, remained married for more than half a century. They died within a year of each other in the late 1950s and are buried side by side, their headstones proclaiming them "beloved husband" and "beloved wife."

**Trouble at the family store:** In 1908, a robbery at a New York jewelry store is news. A robbery where the proprietor is shot is big news. And a robbery where the perps get away in a taxicab—less than a year after the first gas-powered taxicab pattered down the streets of New York—makes nationwide headlines.

That year, according to several articles in the *New York Times*, a well-dressed stranger came into the Lexington Avenue jewelry store operated by my great-great-grandmother and her sons. After being shown a tray of diamonds rings and earrings, he grabbed the jewelry and ran



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**ROBBER IN TAXICAB  
SHOOTS A JEWELER**

Desperado Grabs Diamonds in  
Lexington Ave. Store and Es-  
capes in Waiting Vehicle.

PURSUERS HELD OFF BY GUN

But ~~Robber~~, Who Had Seized Him  
on Sidewalk, Is Shot Twice in  
Abdomen and May Die.

A young man entered the diamond and  
silverware store of ~~Mr. J. J. [unclear]~~  
and his mother, Mrs. ~~[unclear]~~,  
on the east side of Lexington Avenue,  
between Fifty-ninth and Sixtieth Streets,  
just after 6 o'clock last night. Mrs. ~~[unclear]~~  
a woman of 80, her son ~~[unclear]~~  
and ~~[unclear]~~, a son by a form-  
er marriage, were in the store with a  
clerk, ~~[unclear]~~ and the watch-  
maker, ~~[unclear]~~.  
The stranger introduced himself to ~~[unclear]~~  
with the remark that he was a  
friend of "Mr. Andrews, President of  
the American Savings Bank," and that  
he had some money to invest in diamonds.  
Then he handed to ~~[unclear]~~ a letter  
written on the stationery of the Hotel  
Cullage. It read:

toward a waiting taxicab. One of the sons pursued him, but the robber pulled a gun and shot him in the stomach. The taxi, belching blue smoke, sped toward Bloomingdale's and disappeared.

The crime captivated the nation. Coverage appeared not only in New York newspapers but in the *Washington Post*, the *Syracuse Post Standard*, and even the *Lima Ohio News*. Each new development—the search for the suspect, his capture several months later, the proprietor's apparent recovery from his wounds, and his death several years later from complications—sparked a flurry of new articles.

Several news stories noted that this robbery was the first appearance of an automobile as an accessory to a crime.

**He's no gentleman:** There was no J-Date in 1875, and my great-great Uncle Moishe wanted a wife. He had wooed a 17-year-old from Montreal who was visiting friends in New Jersey, but, according to the *New York Times* in 1879, "she had rejected [his] advances, but when he renewed them...she thought the easiest way would be to consent to a betrothal, which could be broken off when she got back home."

So, my enterprising ancestor visited a justice of the peace, and "bargained with him to perform a marriage ceremony for \$3. He tried to get the work done for less, but the Justice thought that was low enough."

Moishe then persuaded the young lady to accompany him to the courthouse for what he assured her was a ceremonial Jewish betrothal ceremony. The girl, apparently not the sharpest knife in the drawer, went through with the ceremony, never catching on that they were being legally married. Afterward, Moishe revealed the scheme and demanded his marital rights. Shocked, the girl fled back to her parents in Montreal. Moishe followed, and "offered to 'settle' the matter for \$2,000, and when that was refused, for \$500." Thus began a protracted legal battle, which still had not been settled by the time of the *Times* article four years later.

Subsequent articles showed that the case was dismissed because the New Jersey court did not have jurisdiction over the girl, a minor, whose legal residence was with her parents in Canada. The case set legal precedent and was cited in law journals well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**A Madoff in the making?:** We've often heard that we live in a litigious society, but earlier generations seem to have kept the courts equally busy. Newspapers used to devote column upon column to lists of court proceedings. My great-great grandfather, a shopkeeper, first appeared in court notices in 1869. According to the *New York Herald*, "complaint was made a few days ago for charging fifty cents interest for nine months on goods for which the total amount due should be only \$1.50. The Marshal ordered [him] to deliver the goods for \$1.50."

Apparently unchastened, he was sued by several others over the next few years.

But what if your progenitors were not quite as—let's say, colorful—as these folks? You still may find glimpses of your family's life in the pages of their local daily or weekly. Before the Twitter and Facebook era, curious citizens turned to newspapers to find out what their neighbors were up to. Editors, eager to fill column space, often ran articles on the activities of average Yussels

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and Yentes. In fact, not all of my findings have uncovered treachery and tragedy. I have found out that several relatives vacationed together at an upstate New York hotel (Brooklyn Eagle, 1918); two sisters, members of an embroidery circle, participated in a progressive dinner on Lincoln's Birthday ("ice cream was served in Lincoln molds": Brooklyn Eagle, 1913); and my mother won a departmental award at her high school graduation (Brooklyn Eagle, 1940). One uncle, a national champion court stenographer, shilled for a typewriter company in an advertisement: "upwards of SEVENTY MILLION words—and it has never required a material repair!" (Morning News, Florence, South Carolina, 1936).

With more and more archival newspapers becoming available online, no genealogist should overlook these valuable resources. These news stories add richness to our research by offering a picture of how our ancestors spent their lives.

Just be aware that what you find may not be what you were looking for!

Some sources for archival newspaper search:

Brooklyn Daily Eagle 1841-1902:  
<http://eagle.brooklynpubliclibrary.org> . Free.

Footnote <http://www.footnote.com>: Wide variety of national and international newspapers. Charges apply.

Google News Archive Search: <http://news.google.com/archivesearch>: A wide range of historical newspapers. Charges may apply for individual articles.

Montgomery County Public Library: <http://proxy.montgomerylibrary.org:2072/hnweb/hnpl/do/search>: New York Times 1851-2005 and Washington Post 1877-1992. Free.

Old Fulton Postcards, [www.fultonhistory.org](http://www.fultonhistory.org): Despite the name, this site provides a goldmine of newspapers from throughout New York State, 1817-2007. Free.



## Mishpacha needs your stories!

I would like to hear what YOU are interested in.....

- \* Do you have a problem finding your ancestor in some database? Write your questions and we'll try to answer them.
- \* Did you find your ancestor in some database? Tell us what steps you followed so that others can learn.
- \* Did you find/meet an x-times removed cousin? Share your joy with us.

Please participate in the continuing success of our newsletter by sending your comments, questions, findings or stories to me at < [mishpologia@uzidog.com](mailto:mishpologia@uzidog.com) >.

## How are we related?

By Jeff Miller

I met my newfound cousin Sylvia KAHN for the first time at a family reunion in Maryland in 2004. She and her brother Amor LANE are children of Isadore LANE (younger brother of my grandmother Bertha) and grandchildren of my great-grandparents Tsippora and Akiva LANE. At that time, and continuing in various ways over the next few years, in person, by telephone and e-mail, they told me about growing up in the Roosevelt Boulevard section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the 1940s, '50s and '60s.

Although Amor provided me with a copy of his father's naturalization certificate, which identified the street address for his family in Philadelphia, I knew almost nothing about the first cousins to Isadore LANE. I did not know where they lived in the Philadelphia area, or exactly how they were related. In order to learn more about these relatives, I developed a multi-pronged plan of research.

I posted a message on the JewishGen LitvakSIG < <http://www.jewishgen.org/Litvak/> > mailing list, seeking information about relatives David LANE, Belle KUMENS, Gertrude HIRSHHORN and her son Bruce.

Preparing for the 29th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, held in Philadelphia on August 2-7, 2009 < <http://philly2009.org/> >, I posted a message on the Philly2009 discussion group, seeking anyone interested in the above families, plus the family GREENWALD which I had identified as related in a follow-up conversation with cousin Sylvia.

I also contacted my cousin Amor LANE for additional family information. He wrote:

*David Lane, Belle and Gertrude were first cousins to my father and to your grandmother. In fact, they came to my bar mitzvah and I remember them. Since we all lived in Philadelphia, we saw them from time to time. When I got married, we bought our bedroom furniture from Gertrude. I do not remember Greenwald.*

*I do not know what the addresses are today.*

*I'd be interested to know how you learned about them.*

*Amor*

I questioned one aspect of Amor's message. I knew a David LANE, who had been a brother of Isadore LANE and my grandmother Bertha, but I didn't know of any other David LANE, and I wondered whether Amor was confusing names.

At the Philadelphia Conference, I visited the Resource Room where databases had been placed on computers and a list of websites was available as a handout. I accessed the genealogy website *Footnote* < <http://www.footnote.com/> > and eventually located the 1922 Philadelphia City Directory for one David LANE, not known if related, plus one listing of Isadore LANE, a tailor, living on Delancey St., who I determined was my relative, based on the papers I had received from Amor. At the time I thought I was looking for a brother of Isadore named David who had lived in New York.

I next went to the Free Library of Philadelphia, about two blocks from the Conference hotel. The information was easy to access and the staff was helpful. I examined city telephone directories from 1930 to 1950, both white and yellow page listings. I found a number of listings but

*(Continued on page 9)*



had no way of confirming which addresses for the various LANEs, HIRSHHORNs and GREENWALDs were related to my LANE family.

I called my cousin Amor who clarified that David, the brother of Isadore, had never lived in Philadelphia. The David living in Philadelphia was in the electrical business. Amor reinforced the fact that Gertrude HIRSHHORN and her son Bruce had a furniture store. He also noted that he believed that his cousin David LANE lived in the Wissahicken area of north Philadelphia. I finally “got it” – this was a different David LANE from the one I knew about, and it dawned on me that I had uncovered another LANE family branch that had lived in Philadelphia that I had not known about, and my mother and other relatives had never identified or discussed.

To further my understanding of the Philadelphia area where my LANEs had lived, I went on the bus tour to North Philadelphia and historic synagogues. The tour was well organized, and people knowledgeable about synagogues and their historic and current locations, were available for informative discussions.

### **Family success story and surprise medical history**

After the Conference, I made a follow-up posting on the JewishGen Discussion Group < <http://data.jewishgen.org/wconnect/wc.dll?jg~jgsys~archpop> >, as well as the Philly2009 and Litvak-SIG Discussion Groups in which I listed some possible addresses for my newfound David LANE and his relatives. I mentioned in the posting the furniture business operated by Gertrude HIRSHORN and her son Bruce.

I received an e-mail from Lois S. who said she recognized one of the names - that of Bruce HIRSHORN. After exchanging e-mails with me and consulting with Bruce, Lois stated, “My deceased sister-in-law worked for him in his furniture business for many years. I just spoke to Bruce and he verified some of your info. His mother’s maiden name was KUMINS and one of Belle’s children is still living.” She added, “I hope I got that straight.”

I was successful in connecting with Bruce HIRSHORN and other LANE family cousins who, I learned to my amazement, came from Panevezys, Lithuania, the same town as “my” LANE family, but arrived directly to the Port of Philadelphia. Also, to my amazement, the same Jewish names prevalent in “my” LANE family, including Tsippora and Akiva, run in this family as well; hence, I had finally succeeded in making a family connection after five years of research. But how was this new branch related to “my” branch that descended from my great grandparents Akiva and Tsippora?

Sadly, in conversations with several cousins with whom Bruce put me in touch, I learned that macular degeneration runs in this branch of the LANE family, and has affected quite a few family members, two of whom are legally blind today. I wondered whether any others in my direct family, or other relatives, might have this affliction. Using e-mail and contacts made in Philadelphia with medical experts, I learned more about the disorder and was able to confirm that my direct family is not affected and our chances of contracting the malady are no more than that of the general population.

I then searched for U.S. Census records, using the *SteveMorse* < <http://stevemorse.org/> > and *Ancestry* < <http://www.ancestry.com/> > websites. Subsequently, I attempted to correlate Census listings for 1910, 1920, and 1930 with other information obtained from family interviews, as well as from telephone and city directories, to identify which listings were for my relatives.

(Continued on page 10)

**How are we related?** (Continued from page 9)

I found the Samuel LANE family in the 1910 Census: Samuel, wife Annie and children Bella, Sarah, Dora (Dot), David, Philip, Gertrude, Edith, and Bertha (Bea), had been living at the same address (2923 Frankford Ave.) as a GREENWALD family. Family information informed me that Sam's daughter Bella had married KOMINS, Dot had married KESSEN and Gertrude had married HIRSHORN. This confirmed that the "first cousins" of Isadore LANE identified by Amor in his e-mail message to me prior to the IAJGS Conference in Philadelphia were children of the Samuel and Annie LANE whom I had found in the 1910 Census. My big breakthrough, in reviewing interview summaries and supporting documentary evidence, was when I realized that Samuel must have been a brother of my great grandfather Akiva.

In addition, the 1920 Census included David LANE as a 23-year old sheet metal worker, wife Mollie, and children Marv and Ethel. I spoke with Marvin LANE, son of David LANE, who informed me that he is now 91 and Bea, the only surviving child of Samuel, was nearing 100.

The GREENWALDs listed in the 1910 Census record included Julius and wife Louisa, and their children Olga, Reinold and Lydia.

Every success story creates new questions and leads to additional research avenues. I have learned some interesting facts about my LANE family, opening up a whole new branch of LANEs from Panevezys, Lithuania. Now I can review records I have obtained over the years from Lithuania to see if I can identify any additional family connections. I would love to further extend my family tree. Interestingly, my grandmother's grandparents were named David and Beila LANE (LAN). Each of these individuals had given names that correspond to given names of Samuel's children.

The known children of David and Beile include my grandfather Akiva, Shlomo (Solomon), Chaim-Gersh and Rocha-Malka, and now Samuel.

I learned from Marvin LANE, that his grandfather Samuel was an orphan and the names of his parents were unknown to his family. Based on my insights thus far, and additional research I will undertake to corroborate my hypothesis, I believe I can verify that David and Beila LANE (LAN) were Samuel's parents.

I have made many contacts with people from Philadelphia, which provide possible leads to learning more about the area and my family. Of course, my newly found relatives offer the prospect of face-to-face meetings which could result in my learning more of their family stories. Another possible tool that might be of assistance in identifying family connections is DNA testing. ☆

### **Auschwitz tattoo numbers photography project**

There is no official document that identifies the people who were subjected to having these numbers tattooed on their arms. Please help us assemble information about as many people as we can reach.

Please contact:  
Gabriella Y. Karin  
c/o Los Angeles Museum of Holocaust  
6435 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90048  
Telephone: 323-934-7987  
E-mail: [auschwitznumbers@earthlink.net](mailto:auschwitznumbers@earthlink.net)





## Surfing The Net

Gloria Mound, of Casa Shalom, the Institute for Marrano-Anusim Studies, collects material on secret jews from all over the world. The Institute has books, documents and testimonies telling the story of the Jews who converted to Christianity or fled from Spain and Portugal during the Inquisition. < <http://www.casa-shalom.com/> >

*La Liste de Saint-Cyprien* by Marcel Bervoets. A list of names of foreign Jewish refugees deported from Belgium between 10-15 May 1940 and detained in the internment camp of Saint-Cyprien, France, is available at < <http://bit.ly/bcYuA7> > (opens a document file).

A database of more than 25,000 persons who fled to neutral Switzerland during World War II is available at < [http://etat.geneve.ch/dt/archives/a\\_votre\\_service-liste\\_refugies-1700.html](http://etat.geneve.ch/dt/archives/a_votre_service-liste_refugies-1700.html) >. The complete list is presented alphabetically. Information about each individual includes name, date of birth and nationality. The site is in French. Use Google translate to convert the descriptive information in your native language. (From *Nu? What's New?* - Vol. 11, No. 7)

*The Source: A Guidebook to American Genealogy* and *Red Book: American State, County and Town Sources* can be now read on-line < <http://www.ancestry.com/wiki> >.

Tradukka < <http://tradukka.com/> > is a free real-time translator. While you write the words in any language in the left box, the translation will appear automatically in the box to the right.

"Forced Labor 1939-1945" < <http://www.zwangsarbeit-archiv.de/> > commemorates the more than twelve million people who were forced to work for Nazi Germany. Nearly 600 former forced laborers from 26 countries tell their life stories in detailed audio and video interviews. The interviews were digitized and have been made accessible online to support education and research.

*Common Craft* < <http://www.commoncraft.com/> > offers short and simple videos "in Plain English." The technology videos cover such wide topics as how does the World Wide Web work, basic parts of a computer, blogs, cloud computing, phishing scams to social networking and more. All "in Plain English" and most also in Spanish, Portuguese, French and German.

## Hungarian Surname Changes

If you can't find your Hungarian ancestors in 19<sup>th</sup> century Greater Hungary, it might be because they have changed their surname. The book *Századunk névváltoztatásai 1800–1893* (Surname changes of our century), published in Budapest in 1895, lists 19th-century name changes of Hungarians, many of them Jewish.

Go to the Pécs University's KlimoTheca website < <http://kt.lib.pte.hu/cgi-bin/kt.cgi?konyvtar/kt04112203/index.html> > and click on **Tartalomjegyzék**. Except for the years 1848 and 1849, the book is arranged alphabetically by new surname. The information includes: surname taken, former surname (in parentheses), occupation, town name (not clear if birth-place or abode), the name of children who also changed to the same surname, number of the decree which authorized the name change and two digits that indicate the year in which the change was granted. To see the previous page, click on **előző oldal**; to see the next page, click on **következő oldal**.

# Society News



## Current Newsletters available electronically from the editor:

- "Atsmi Uvsari" - Utah JGS
- "Branches" - JGS of Greater Miami
- "Family Gatherings" - JGS Broward County
- "Family Legacies" - JGS Southern Nevada
- "Generations" - JGS Michigan
- "Illiana" - Illinois/Indiana JGS
- "Mishpochology" - JGS Southwest Florida (Sarasota)
- "Morasha" - JGS Illinois
- "News 'N Notes" - St. Louis Genealogy Society
- "Newsletter" - JGS Great Britain
- "Quest" - JGS Connecticut
- "Scatered Seeds" - JGS Palm Beach County
- "Shalshélet" - JGS Oregon
- "Shem Tov" - JGS Canada (Toronto)
- "Toldot" - JGS Argentina (in Spanish)
- "Venturing Into Our Past" - JGS Conejo Valley & Ventura County, California

To request a newsletter, send an e-mail to < [mishpologia@uzidog.com](mailto:mishpologia@uzidog.com) >.

## PATRONS

Lois Hechinger England

Stephen Rockower

Ruth W. Hurwitz

Evelyn R. Saile

Harvey Kabaker

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

Marilyn & Charlie Bernhardt

David B. Marblestone

Richard L. Gross

Don Moldover

Hanna K Grossman

Barry Nove

Charles Konigsberg

Joshua S. Perlman

Alan Levitt

Paul Turkeltaub

I. Marshall Levy

Norman Weaker

## HELP!

Please consider participating in the production of *Mishpacha* by volunteering as an editor or an assistant. Due to personal reasons, I will not be able to continue editing your newsletter on a timely basis. If you would like to help, please send me an e-mail at < [mishpologia@uzidog.com](mailto:mishpologia@uzidog.com) >.

## The President's Perspective

It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve you, the Members of JGSGW, the past two years. As a Society, we have had some successes, undertaken some exciting projects, and experienced some changes.

Your Board has accomplished some things that are quite visible, others that may be less so. We have continued to expand and update the resources in our genealogy library in the Chod Media Center at B'nai Israel Congregation to provide you with the best possible support for your research. This includes recordings from program meetings.

The Board completed, and the membership approved, a revision of our by-laws to eliminate inconsistencies, clarify position responsibilities, and add provisions to reflect technological advances and current ways of doing business and conducting research.

We have attracted new members who have invigorated our Society with their enthusiasm and energy. We have undertaken the project of indexing the Jewish burials at the Arlington National Cemetery and have continued to advance this effort through the hard work of many volunteers.

We have had representatives of the Society make presentations throughout the area, both as representatives of the Board and the Speakers Bureau, but can do much more to expand our visibility in the community. If you would like to contribute in this way, please let us know by contacting an officer or by e-mailing me at < [jgsgw\\_dc@comcast.net](mailto:jgsgw_dc@comcast.net) >.

The Society has exhibited at the recent National Archives Genealogy Fair, but there are many other opportunities throughout the area, in Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., to make our presence known. If interested in assisting with future exhibitions, please let us know by contacting an officer or by e-mailing me.

Have you ever been to an international Jewish genealogy conference? If not, I hope that you plan to attend the 2011 IAJGS Conference which we will be hosting in Washington, D.C., from August 14-19 at the Grand Hyatt. If you have participated in one or more conferences, consider what you enjoyed about your experiences and how you have benefited from those experiences. If you wish to contribute to making our conference successful, consider volunteering by contacting the conference committee at < [dc2011\\_conference@comcast.net](mailto:dc2011_conference@comcast.net) >.

We have had some excellent programs. The recent brick wall session was quite popular with our members, and we have had an array of knowledgeable and informative presenters. What would you recommend in the way of programming to make it successful? Whom would you like to hear at future meetings or at the conference? Let us know about your interests.

We have an excellent newsletter, *Mishpacha*, which is reliably produced and distributed in a professional manner by a dedicated group of volunteers. If you would like to join our team as a new editor or assistant, please let me know.

We have many opportunities for you to make a difference. Consider volunteering for one of the leadership or committee positions that are available. Consider contributing sometime to assist with a mailing or making some telephone calls. If you would like to explore an opening, or learn more about the requirements of a position, please call me at 301-774-7952, or send an

(Continued on page 14)

e-mail to < [jgsgw\\_dc@comcast.net](mailto:jgsgw_dc@comcast.net) >.

I would also like to hear from you if you have knowledge or experience with fundraising. I am working on raising funds from individuals and foundations to support our upcoming conference, and I would welcome to my committee anyone who wishes to assist with making contacts, contributing ideas on how to approach foundations, or who wishes to assist with mailings, telephone calls, to individuals or foundations.

We all gain by sharing our experience with our fellow members, and learn from others through involvement and participation in the programs of our Society. I look forward to celebrating with you the accomplishments of this past year at our upcoming June 6 Annual Member Appreciation Luncheon (see page 17). We will be having a fascinating guest speaker and fellow member, Dr. Rand Fishbein, explore with us the future of JewishGen.

Yours in friendship,

*Jeff Miller*  
President

## Announcements

Marlene Bishow presented a program on the Jews Buried in Arlington National Cemetery Project on Wednesday, April 21, 2010, to the Annual meeting of the Baltimore Jewish Cemetery Association.

The JGSGW has been awarded a grant of \$2,000 from Genzyme, one of the world's leading biotechnology companies, dedicated to making a major positive impact on the lives of people with serious diseases.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

### LIBRARY FUND

Jacob and Harriet Armoza

Alan Cooper

Hanna Grossman

Sue Swift

### GENERAL FUND

Alan Levitt

Lauren Stewart

Julia Tossell

### DC-2011 CONFERENCE FUND

Dennis Marlett in honor of Marlene Bishow's research

Lois H. England

Irene Saunders Goldstein

Morton J. Posner

James R. and Sheila Young in honor of Jeff Miller

Nancy A. Weinberg

### NON-CASH DONATIONS

Ernest Fine - software

Alan Herson - book

Rabbi Jonathan V. Plaut - genealogy books

## JGSGW at NARA Annual Genealogy Fair

Submitted by Marlene Bishow

For the sixth year in succession, the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) held its Annual Genealogy Fair < <http://tinyurl.com/c3qry5> > at the Archives building in Washington, D.C. This year's theme was "The World of Genealogy." On April 14 & 15, 2010, the Archives erected four tents outside its Pennsylvania Avenue entrance where genealogy societies and repositories staged displays and provided guidance to researchers. Meanwhile, inside the Research Room and adjacent areas, members of the Archives staff provided one-on-one guidance and conducted lectures on a wide variety of genealogy-related subjects.

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) was one of the participants. This was our first time to display at the NARA Fair and it was an exciting experience for all. Marlene Bishow chaired the event and organized the display for JGSGW. The display included brochures on our society, the Arlington National Cemetery (ANC) Indexing Project and also on the forthcoming IAJGS Conference in DC in August, 2011. We had a collection of photographs of the ANC grave markers included in our collection. We also answered questions from visitors. Staffing our table were JGSGW volunteers: Faith Klein, Jeff Miller, Barbara Garrard, Rita Margolis, Michael Kaltman, Ernie Fine, and Marlene Bishow. Many members stopped by and all expressed excitement and interest in the event.



Marlene Bishow and Faith Klein at NARA's Annual Genealogy Fair.  
Photo courtesy of Ernie Fine.

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The National Archives and Records Administration (USA) announced the move of the New York Archives from its current headquarters at Varick Street to the U.S. Customs House at One Bowling Green in the Fall of 2011. Read more at < <http://www.archives.gov/northeast/nyc/> >.



## JGSGW Library News

Updated by Vera Finberg, Assistant Librarian

< [vera.finberg@verizon.net](mailto:vera.finberg@verizon.net) >

*Genealogy Fest - a comprehensive "Brick Wall" Question and Answer Discussion.* JGSGW Program, Jan. 10, 2010. CD 30

Herson, Alan, *Josel Hirshowitz the story unfolds (Kovno, Lithuania, Kelme, Lithuania; Hirshowitz family, Herson family)*, Baltimore, Otter Bay Books, 2009. CS71 .H47 2009

*IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy - Philadelphia, 2009* [1 DVD]. 09PH001

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia, *Philadelphia Area Jewish Research Guide*, 2009 [1 DVD]. 09PH002

NARA Discussion of research experience at Archives I (Washington, DC) and Archives II (college Park) by NARA Archivists. Changes brought by Technology, January 29, 2010. CD 31

Plante, Trevor, *Military Service Records at the National Archives*, Washington, D.C. Revised 2009. Reference Information Paper #109. CD 3023 .M56 2009

Plaut, Elizabeth S., *Gumprichs of Münster/Westphalia: A Tale Of Four Ccontinents*. CS 629 .G852 1999

Plaut, Elizabeth S., *Guggenheim/Wormser family: A Genealogical 300-Year Memoir*. DS 135 .G5 G846

*Records Relating to Personal Participation in World War II: American Prisoners of War and Civilian Internees*; compiled by Ben and Jennifer Davis Heaps. U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C. 2008., CD3023 .A351 2008

Ron Arons, *Mapping Madness! How to Find Anyone, Anywhere, Anyhow, Using the Latest in Online Mapping, Tracking and Detecting Techniques*. JGSGW Program, Feb. 17, 2010. CD 29 2009

*The Mauthausen Concentration Camp Complex: World War II and Postwar Records*; compiled by Amy Schmidt and Gudrun Lehrer. U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C. 2008. CD3023 .A35 2008

### JGSGW Library opening hours

First Sunday of the month: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Wednesdays: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

After JGSGW general meetings at B'nai Israel: 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Summer Hours** - June 2, 2010 - July 21, 2010

Wednesdays: 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

closed: July 22 - Sept. 14, 2010

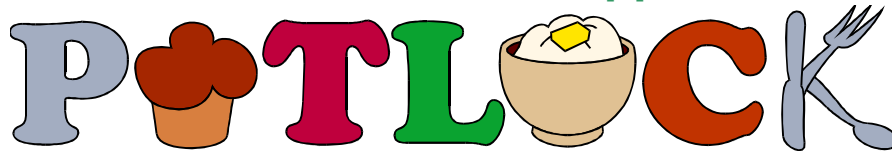
for assistance, please contact Vera Finberg - 703-978-6990, < [vera.finberg@verizon.net](mailto:vera.finberg@verizon.net) >

The Genealogy Library is not open on Jewish or Federal Holidays

For current times, please see our website < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw> >



## Join us at the Member Appreciation



Sunday, June 6, 2010

Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 Macarthur Blvd, Cabin John, MD 20818

### Annual Member Appreciation Luncheon - Members Only

**12:30 p.m.** Luncheon and member recognition

**2:00 p.m.** Speaker: Dr. Rand Fishbein, JewishGen Board of Governors' member  
Topic: The Future of JewishGen

Dr. Rand Fishbein, a member of JGSGW, is President of Fishbein Associates, Inc., a public-policy consulting firm based in Potomac, Maryland. Dr. Fishbein will facilitate a discussion on the future of JewishGen. Click < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw/Bios/FishbeinBio.html> > for bio.

For up-to-date information, please visit our website < <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw> >

### **Urgent Message from the JGSGW President Leadership and Volunteer Opportunities**

As we approach the end of our year, we are seeking a Chair and Members of a Nominating Committee. Although I can recommend people to the Nominating Committee, and I have some excellent recommendations for several positions, I am not allowed by the bylaws to serve on the Nominating Committee ( I think I'm a shoo-in for Immediate Past President :>)

Without people stepping up at this time, we will not be able to operate the Society. I have been working hard to identify good candidates for various Board and staff positions, but I need your help.

I have identified several who are interested in serving, but I am looking for a few more good candidates. Anyone interested in volunteering for any position should contact me. I am particularly interested in someone to handle the VP Programs position. I guarantee that you will be supported both by those of us who have recommendations for good speakers, and by some who will help with the contacts. I am also particularly eager to speak with anyone with accounting or technical skills who would like to take on the Treasurer position for the year. Our outgoing Treasurer will gladly assist you both during the transition and throughout the year. We can also use some help in Membership.

Other areas of need include Recording Secretary, Library, and Mishpacha editor or assistant.

Please contact me at 301-774-7952 or by e-mail at < [jgsgw\\_dc@comcast.net](mailto:jgsgw_dc@comcast.net) >.

Thank you.

Jeff



## 2010-2011 MEETING SCHEDULE



### 2010

June 6 - Clara Barton Community Center,  
Cabin John, MD

September - TBA

October - TBA

November - TBA

December 12 - Beth El, Alexandria, VA

### 2011

January 19 - Beth El, Bethesda, MD

February 13 - Adas Israel, Washington, DC

March - TBA

April 17 - Beth El, Alexandria, VA

May - TBA

June - TBA

August 14-19 - 31st IAJGS Conference, Washington, D.C.

Please see our website for updates  
< <http://www.jewishgen.org/jgsgw> >

The Jewish Genealogy Society  
of Greater Washington, Inc.  
PO Box 1614  
Rockville, MD 20849-1614

First Class Mail