

# CHAI

*From Colorado*

Fall 2005

Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado

**JGSCO to Present Beyond The Basics Seminar  
With Internationally Recognized Speaker  
Gary Mokotoff**

Sunday, February 26, 2006

9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Denver Public Library Central Branch

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado is excited to sponsor our first "Beyond The Basics Seminar" to be held Sunday, February 26, 2006 at the Denver Public Library Central Branch. This year's speaker will be Gary Mokotoff, one of the foremost lecturers and authors on Jewish and Eastern European genealogical research. Mark your calendar now!

Gary Mokotoff is one of the foremost lecturers and authors on Jewish and Eastern European genealogical research. He has lectured at virtually all annual Jewish genealogical conferences and at most Federation of Genealogical Societies and National Genealogical Society national conferences in the past ten years. He is the first person to receive the Lifetime Achievement Award of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS). As past president of IAJGS and publisher of *Avotaynu*, the International Review of Jewish Genealogy, Mr. Mokotoff is in the forefront of developments in access to genealogical records in Central and Eastern Europe as well as Jewish records in general. He is the author of *Where Once We Walked: A Guide to the Jewish Communities Destroyed in the Holocaust*, *How to Document Victims and Locate Survivors of the Holocaust* and *Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy*.

The seminar is open to the public and will allow for participants to purchase either half-day or full-day passes. A discount will be provided for those who pre-register by February 10th.

*-continued*

Founded in 1995, the Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado is a member of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, a nonprofit organization with 76 member societies in 16 countries. Membership is open to anyone interested in researching Jewish roots. Guests are welcome at monthly meetings.

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**Contributing  
articles are  
welcome!**

## JGSCO to Present Beyond The Basics Seminar With Internationally Recognized Speaker Gary Mokotoff - *continued*

Lectures Will Include:

### **"Holocaust Research: Documenting Victims, Locating Survivors"**

Useful for a general Jewish audience or genealogists, this lecture steps you through the basic resources available for the Holocaust era. Mr. Mokotoff has documented more than 250 members of the Mokotoff family murdered during the Holocaust; he uses many of the documents he acquired as examples of the kind of information available.

### **"Recent Advances in Jewish Genealogical Research"**

There are constant major improvements to Jewish genealogical research as new resources are discovered. Meant for audiences of intermediate and advanced genealogical researchers.

### **"The Human Interest Side of Genealogy: Three Interesting Stories"**

This is a lunch talk which gives three stories of how genealogical research has impacted the lives of people who have traced their family history.

### **"The Changing Geography of Central & Eastern Europe"**

In the past 200 years, the political changes in this area have caused the names of countries and towns to change. This lecture offers guidance on how to locate ancestral towns whose names have changed.

### **"Fundamentals of Researching Jewish Families"**

Designed primarily for a non-Jewish audience of genealogists, it provides an overview of the nuances of Jewish genealogical research and what resources are available today.

Stay tuned for more information by checking the JGSCO website periodically this fall and winter. Our entire year of JGSCO programming can be found on page 7 of this *Chai From Colorado* or on the website located at [www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/](http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/). We look forward to seeing you at monthly meetings and are available to help you with your research obstacles. Give any of the people listed on the left a call.

## Map Your Ancestors

Reported by Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, one new web site offers a very unique service: online maps of where your ancestors were born or lived. The maps are available online, drawn on Google's mapping service.

This new service provides a tool for you to present your family history in a visual format that will enable you to bring genealogy "to life." You will obtain a free web site as you trace your ancestors' paths.

## Online Jewish Internet Research Class

Ancestry offers a reasonably-priced opportunity for learning how to navigate the Internet for Jewish ancestors. The next class begins Nov 3, 2005.

This class will cover information about the Holocaust, what is on Ancestry.com, JewishGen, and the Yizkor Book Project. Micha Reisel and Schelly Talalay Dardashti lead the class. For more information, go to [www.myfamily.com/](http://www.myfamily.com/).

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## Audio Recordings of Las Vegas Conference Available

Own a set of 3 CDs containing 31 recorded presentations at the just concluded IAJGS conference in Las Vegas. Conference attendees as well as those who were not able to attend Las Vegas now have an opportunity to listen to 31 of the sessions.

The complete set is available at a very affordable \$35 plus modest shipping and handling costs. Nothing is charged to your credit card until you approve, so don't be timid about using the system.

To see a complete listing of which of the sessions were recorded, visit the JewishGenMall at [www.jewishgenmall.org](http://www.jewishgenmall.org). The quickest way to find the complete description is to either enter the full title into the search field, "IAJGS 2005 Conference Lectures in a 3 CD Set (MP3 audio files)" or just select "Recorded Lecture's from the Topic drop down box."

## 26<sup>th</sup> IAJGS INTERNATIONAL JEWISH GENEALOGY CONFERENCE

<http://www.jgsny2006.org/>

The next annual international conference on Jewish genealogy will be held at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City's Time Square August 13-18<sup>th</sup> 2006.

## Seeking Information on Jews Living in Great Britain in 1851: The Anglo-Jewry Database

This is a major project that puts together lifetime biodata - where people were born, where they later lived, who their families were, what their occupations were, where they worshipped, where they were buried - on anyone who qualifies by being nominally Jewish and living in either England, Scotland, or Wales in 1851.

It will prove an exceptionally rich resource for genealogists, social historians, demographers and others. So far, data on about 7,000 of the 30-35,000 Jews living in Britain in 1851 are in the database.

If you have any data on anyone who was living in Britain in 1851, please contact Petra Laidlaw at [thompsonlaidlaw@btinternet.com](mailto:thompsonlaidlaw@btinternet.com) or by post to 2 Alwyne Villas, London N1 2HQ, United Kingdom for details on how to contribute.

## 2005 IAJGS Stern Award Granted to JGS Montreal

\$2,000 was awarded for a project to digitize and index Canadian naturalization records 1932-1951. The data will be added to the 400,000 records 1914-1932 that are already available on the Internet at the Canadian Genealogy Centre's website [www.genealogy.gc.ca/06/0603\\_e.html](http://www.genealogy.gc.ca/06/0603_e.html).

[www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/](http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/)

## Genealogical Connections to Our Community

It was simply an opportunity to do a mitzvah which would be unhampered by the cast encircling my broken right arm. There was to be a funeral or a memorial service for someone at Mt. Nebo cemetery, an event arranged through the cooperation of Rabbis Brant Rosen of Glencoe, Illinois and Steven Booth-Nadav of Denver. The family was coming in from the Chicago area and would appreciate having a minion in attendance. The grave was hardly a new one, but I became fascinated by the story that was told of a woman who had once spent many years at the Jewish Consumptive Relief Society, who had married another patient there and, reached out to her family back east by writing positive uplifting letters about the wonderful care she was receiving, her positive focus on life and the beauty of the mountains she could view from her window.

She had been an immigrant from Hungary, had worked in sweatshops, had taken over the rearing of her younger siblings when their parents had died. It had been the concern of her younger brother as he approached death that she be properly memorialized that brought the four members of Barbara Goodman's family to Colorado. It was through Barbara's research that they were able to collect Gene Silver's story, much coming from the patient records of the JCRS. I felt especially honored, especially fulfilled to know that the work that we members of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado, in digitizing the records of that sanitarium, could result in what turned out to be not only a lesson in Jewish-American immigration history, but in addition a moving family reunion across the generations.

It is truly fitting that as our first activity of the new season that we join with the Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society and the JCRS Isaac Solomon Historic Synagogue Foundation to explore the history of the Jewish Consumptive Relief Society by attending a program entitled "Take a Step Back in Time." It will be held at the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design, 1600 Pierce St. (North of Colfax and Pierce), Mary Harris Auditorium on Sunday September 11 at 1:30 p.m.

In addition to a historical presentation by Dr. Jeanne Abrams and a special presentation by students of the College of Art and Design, there will be a tour of the JCRS campus including the Isaac Solomon Synagogue. Light refreshments will be served. For reservations phone 303-871-3016. To car pool call me at 303-759-9824.

By the way, we still could use volunteers to help on the JCRS online indexing project by replacing old acidic patient folders and entering pertinent information into a computer database. The patients who were treated at JCRS came from all over the country. Perhaps your efforts could help someone else find a long lost relative.

-Anne Fendrich  
JGSCO President

## Allegro.pl - Polish Online Auction Site

### Guide to Navigating the Web Site by Shelley K. Pollero

Reprinted with permission from Nov. 2004 issue of The Galitzianer, journal of Gesher Galicia

A Polish version of eBay provides the opportunity to see and/or purchase items, including old postcards and photos from towns in Poland. I managed to find my way around the website to a certain extent and was able to find many items for towns in Galicia.

You will need to have some idea of the Polish spelling of the town to search on the website, but most of the town names are recognizable in some form. Some Polish letters and characters did not show up on my screen and are not used in this article, for example, [?] instead of the [slashed I].

**For postcards and photos:** On the home page, <<http://www.allegro.pl/>>

See *Kategorie* (Categories) on the left,

Select *Antyki i Kolekcje* (Antiques and Collectibles)

Select *Pocztowki* (Postal)

Then, see **Wyświetl [z całej Polski]** for all of Poland, which is on the top left of the page, and an arrow to select other areas.

Use the arrow to select **[z malopolskiego]** (Galicia).

Click on *Zmien'* to enter your selection..

On the left, find *Kategorie* and a subheading *Pocztowki*

Under **Pocztowki**, there are several subtitles. Click on these to see the list of items offered: *Kresy Wschodnie* lists quite a few postcards for Galicia towns, including Stanislawow, Bursztyn, Zaleszczyki, Lwow, Tarnopol, Jaroslaw, Brody (There are non-Galicia towns here also.)

**Malopolska** - for Galicia. Listings for Krakow, Tarnow, Rzeszow, Nowy Sacz, Sanok, Przemyśl, Brody, Lesko, and Chrzanow, for example. There may be several pages of listings. *Pozostale Miasta i Regiony*. I saw some Galicia towns here, including Nadworna.

**For a wide variety of items, including Judaica:** You can also enter your town name or keywords (*synagoga*, *Judaika*, for example) in the search box in the upper right corner of most pages (*Szukaj*).

There are a few other boxes. The default is *[jako tekst i obrazki]* text and images; *[wedlung daty/nazwy/ ceny/liczby ofert]* by date, name, price, offer number. I used the default for all the boxes on this screen. I entered Brzozow and saw 4 postcards. For Sanok, there were 12 items. For Lezajsk, there was a postcard, a baseball cap, beer glasses and related items, etc. For some towns, there was nothing but a template to look for your items elsewhere on the site.

**For all items:** Click on the item you wish to see. Make note of the title. Scroll down to *OPIS* (in black lettering on a yellow band). Below this is the photo and its description in Polish. Save the title and the descriptive phrase and later find someone to translate it. Voila!

Remember that this is an active commercial web site. A listed item may be gone in a few minutes, hours, or days. I saw a Mielec postcard the other day. It was not there today. If you read Polish, you might wish to explore this website and see if there are any other items or Polish language keywords that might be useful to Galitzianers, possibly Yizkor books or other Judaica. Those of you who have a ShtetLink webpage or plan to start a ShtetLink webpage may find some material for your pages on this interesting web site.

## HAPPY 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY JGSCO!

The time was right and the need was strong in August 1995. The Jewish Genealogical Society of Colorado was born.

Miriam Ohr and I started by contacting the Denver Public Library, the Intermountain Jewish News, many Jewish organizations, synagogues and temples, the LDS Family History Centers and everywhere we could think of to announce our first meeting.

The Virginia Village Branch of the Denver Public Library graciously allowed us to hold our first and subsequent meetings there.

We didn't know how many people would come to that first meeting or quite what to expect. I think we hardly expected very many people to attend at all. We were astonished to see 72 people walk in that evening to find out what we were all about. Many of the people who attended volunteered on the spot and we still have some of those original members.

Other JGS societies helped along the way with advice and good wishes as did Gary Mokotoff and Eileen Polakoff. We thank them all as well as our past president Myndel Cohen who picked up where we left off. Thank you and best wishes to our newest president Anne Fendrich and to a wonderful board of directors. And most of all, thank you to our members. Without you, where would we be? We look forward to working with all of you in the future.  
-Sandra Greenberg & Miriam Ohr, Co-Founders JGSCO

### Canadian 1911 Census Now Online and Accessible!

Conducted under the provisions of the Census and Statistics Act (1905), the Fifth General Census of Canada began on 01 June and collected information related to each inhabitant of the country, including place of habitation, marital status, age, place of birth, religion, occupation, education, etc. The Census of Canada 1911 covered the nine provinces (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island) and two territories (the Yukon and the Northwest Territories) that were then part of Confederation.

The creation of the microfilms was authorized in 1955 with the paper records destroyed afterwards. The microfilming of these records was not of consistent quality and therefore not all images are decipherable. Unfortunately, the destruction of the paper records means that there is no recourse when a record is unreadable.

This database of 1911 census data allows researchers to search by geographic location only. **As this is not a nominally indexed database, it is not searchable by family name.** The information on these images can be used to prepare family or town/village histories, research immigration trends and a great deal more.

<http://www.collectionscanada.ca/archivianet/1911/index-e.html>

[www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/](http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/)

### Jewish Family History Centre in Prague, Czech Repub.

This unique institution coordinates genealogy projects, develops Jewish genealogy databases, cooperates with other institutions, and preserves the heritage of those who lived there and formed it.

The Centre provides research tools for Jewish records dispersed in the state central, regional, district and town archives. The research tools and kits enable visitors to understand the richness of Jewish history and culture as it was imprinted in various archival collections.

There are a number of different documents stored in the state archives of Czech Republic. Nowadays these amazing archival record collections await exploration. These include Jewish vital records and the Catholic duplicates, Jewish familiar books, Jewish censuses, regional court and domicile agendas, and town and village taxation books.

For more information, contact Honig Muller at [jmuller@toledot.org](mailto:jmuller@toledot.org)

# JGSCO Programming Schedule 2005-2006

- Sunday, September 11** "Chasing the Cure: Exploring the History of the JCRS"  
Jeanne Abrahams  
Rocky Mountain Jewish Historical Society  
Rocky Mountain College of Art & Design, 1:30 pm
- 
- Tuesday, October 11** "Researching the Cantonists"  
Larry Domnitch, Author  
Congregation Emanuel, 6:30 pm
- 
- Sunday, November 6** "Documenting the Cotopaxi Jewish Community and Its Descendants" with Jen Lowe  
B'nai Havurah, 1:30 pm
- 
- Tuesday, December 13** "History and Creation of Birabidzhan: The Russian Jewish Autonomous District"  
Galina Derevyanko, Librarian  
Glendale Public Library, 6:30 pm
- 
- Tuesday, January 10** "Photo Preservation and Enhancement"  
Gary Ratay  
Congregation Emanuel, 6:30 pm
- 
- Sunday, February 26** "Beyond the Basics Seminar"  
Gary Mokotoff  
Denver Public Library Central Branch, 9:30 am - 4 pm
- 
- Sunday, March 19** "Planning a Trip to the Old Country: Ancestral Shtetl Travel Panel"  
B'nai Havurah, 1:30 pm
- 
- Sunday, April 9** "Beginner's Workshop"  
Congregation Emanuel, 1-5 pm
- 
- Tuesday, April 25** "Jews on the Move: Modern Jewish Migration Patterns and Genealogical Research"  
Prof. David Shneer, D.U. Judaic Studies Dept. Chair  
Congregation Emanuel, 6:30 pm
- 
- Tuesday, May 16** "City Directories: New, Old & Worldwide"  
Joe Cahn, DPL Reference Librarian  
Congregation Emanuel, 6:30 pm
- 
- Sunday, June 11** "Sharing Trials & Tribulations"  
Members  
Congregation Emanuel, 1:30 pm

**CONGRATULATIONS and welcome Cindy Ward!**

Cindy is the winner of a free one year JGSC membership drawing conducted at the Boulder Jewish Festival, Sunday June 10th on the Pearl Street Pedestrian Mall.

Special thanks to our volunteers Terry Lasky, Ellen and Shai Kowitz, Howard Steinmetz, Bunny Welch and David Bornstein for manning the table.

**The JGS library is housed within the Temple Emanuel Library.**

Winter hours for the library, which begin on Sept. 11, 2005, are listed below.  
Monday and Tuesday: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Wednesday: 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday: Closed.  
Sunday: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Colorado State Society Daughters of the American Revolution Seeks Jewish Colorado Publications**

The Colorado State Society Daughters of the American Revolution is seeking assistance in locating new or recent publications (published within the last five years) pertinent to the Jewish history of Colorado circa 1776-1850 to add to the significant collection of the DAR Genealogical Library located at the National Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Please contact new State Librarian Jeannine Angle Dobbins at <durj91@mindspring.com> or (970) 382-0966.

**JGS of Colorado**  
**1819 S. Kearny St.**  
**Denver, CO 80224**  
[www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/](http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-colorado/)