



Family Legacies

Linking the past with the present and the future

Jewish Genealogy Society
of Southern Nevada - West

Vol.2, No.2 Spring 1999

Why I Won't Eat Jello

By Charlotte Showel

During the 1930s, jobs and money were both very difficult to obtain, and so many families combined their resources. My mother and father along with my baby sister moved into an apartment in Chicago along with my maternal grandparents.

Grandma and Mom did some very inventive cooking using whatever the butcher would either sell cheap or just give away. I remember there were all sorts of organ food like lung, brains and stomach. Most of the time the meat knishes contained an assortment of these alternatives. Not knowing what was in the little dough packages and because they were wonderfully seasoned and prepared, we ate and enjoyed.

There was one dish which could not be disguised and which to my disgust was eaten by all the family with oohs and ahs. It was a delicacy called "Pitz-yah". This was made with calves or cows feet and was in a lemon flavored gelatinous mass. It consisted of all sorts of little bones and each of the little bones and gristle had shreds of meat on them and there was some marrow too. These were mouthed and worked until each bit of meat and marrow was eaten, then the little bones were deposited into the plate to be trashed.

In those days, there were no special meals prepared for each individual. We just couldn't afford it so you had to eat whatever was served. For me - I would rather starve than eat the "Pitz-Yah". Believe me when I say I went away from the dinner table hungry. The good part, especially living with a doting Grandmother, was that she would sneak me a glass of milk and some home made poppy seed cookies or a piece of her apple strudel when no one was looking.

To this day, I cannot bring myself to eat anything that's jelled.



We're Writing our History

Editorial Note

With this issue, the Family Legacies Newsletter is one year old. During that time we have questioned what we want the newsletter to do for our members.

During the next four issues we will print not only research news but family stories and memories. This underscores our belief that each member needs to write something for future generations, that every family has a story to tell, that stories turn the names on a pedigree chart into "real" people and that all of us can tell a story.

In this issue we have printed stories about, what else?! Food! In future issues we hope to print stories about occupations, grandparents, education, and stories about research successes. Enjoy!



Two Schmaltzy Stories

Nevada Counties

By Blanche Levin

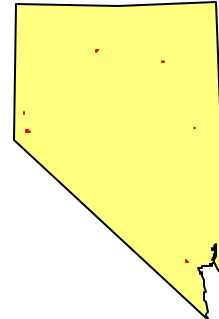
My mother was noted far and wide for the wonderful quality of her schmaltz (rendered chicken fat) which was always a beautiful gold color and very pure. After picking out several plump chickens at the market, koshering them, etc., she would trim off the fat and place it in a frying pan over a low flame to render it.

Then she would add onions, and fry till they and the “grebenas” (cracklings) were well browned. Then she would remove them to another pan and strain the liquid over and over till it turned to “liquid gold.” The fried onions and grebenas were pure heaven when added to fried chicken livers; talk about cholesterol!

My home in, Bellaire, Ohio, was located one block from the Ohio River and perhaps fifty feet from a creek, so every year in the Spring, after the snow thawed and with the Spring rains, we were sure to have a flood. We would leave our home and stay with friends who lived farther from the river. During the winter months, perishable food was placed in a little shelf my father had built outside the dining room window.

Once, Mom had made up a large jar of schmaltz and as she began to place it on the outside shelf, she exclaimed, “Where my schmaltz goes, there go I!” Just then the schmaltz slipped from her fingers and fell into the rising floodwater. Mom began to scream “Save my schmaltz! Save my schmaltz!” Someone in a passing skiff (rowboat) grabbed the schmaltz just as it was about to sink.

Now, my mother was so proud of her schmaltz that every year about two weeks before Pesach (Passover), she would begin rendering. Then she would carefully wrap several jars to ship to her family in Lynn, Massachusetts. On one occasion she received a letter saying that the schmaltz had not arrived. My father went to the post office and complained bitterly to the postmaster about the poor service. The postmaster said, “Oh, so it was YOUR bottles that broke and spilled fat over everyone’s mail! We couldn’t even see the addresses to deliver them!” Hearing this, my father sheepishly turned around and left without saying another word. He just hoped that he wouldn’t have to pay a fine or go to jail. Needless to say, this was the last time that my mother’s famous schmaltz was sent through the U.S. Mail!



Name	Date Created	Parent County or Territory
Carson	Discontinued	
Churchill	1861	Original County
Clark	1909	Lincoln
Douglas	1861	Original County
Elko	1869	Lander
Esmeralda	1861	Original County
Eureka	1873	Lander
Humbolt	1861	Original County
Lander	1862	Original County
Lincoln	1866	Nye
Lyon	1861	Original County
Mineral	1911	Esmeralda
Nye	1864	Esmeralda
Ormsby	1861	Original County
Pahute	Discontinued	
Pershing	1919	Humbolt
Roop	Discontinued	
St. Mary’s	Discontinued	
Storey	1861	Original County
Washoe	1861	Original County
White Pine	1869	Lincoln



Food, Glorious Food !

From Jo-Ann Klatzman Geller

Easy Grated Potato Kugel

6 medium potatoes (2 1/2 pounds)
1 large onion
1 large carrot - grated
1/4 cup matzo meal
1/4 cup oil
1 1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp pepper
2 beaten eggs

Pare and grate vegetables. Combine all ingredients and mix. Pour into well greased baking dish. Bake at 375 about 1 hour or until well browned and crisp on the edges. Serves 6-8

According to my mother Byrdie (Bertha) this potato kugel was part of the traditional Friday night Shabbat dinner that her mother, my Grandmother Fannie Friedman Burzinsky (born 1888 in Lomza Gabernia, Poland) made. My mother said that they ate this with chicken and gefelte fish every Friday night on the East Side of Manhattan where they lived. When the kugel was made so that it was thin , by placing the mixture in a larger pan, it was called a "potatonik". This kugel is a family favorite and is a perfect dish for Passover an enjoyed year round as well.

Book Searches on the Internet

www.aronson.com - largest publisher of Jewish books in the United States
www.alibris.com - out of print books
www.bibliofind.com - out of print books
amazon.com - in and out of print books
www.abebooks.com - Advanced Book Exchange
www.bookfinder.com

Chicago

Resources at the Chicago Historical Society

Sam and Charlotte Showel

The Chicago Historical Society has an extensive microfilm library of old Chicago newspapers and this can be accessed via "inter-library loan". They also have a newspaper clipping file in their Research Center, but this must be reviewed on location.

They hold the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union records which include archival material, manuscripts and a database, for Chicago and the Central States Joint Board are also available in their Research Center which must be reviewed on location.

A short synopsis of what they have consists of the following:
Correspondence, legal files, topical files (especially 1968-74 from Tom Herriman's office),

Pamphlets of the Chicago and Central States Joint Board, as well as correspondence and minutes from various locals of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union, AFL-CIO, including: Local 6 minute and cash books (in Czech), 1919-1940; Local 39 minute books 1922-1927 and 1939-1949; Local 61 executive board and membership meetings 1922-1939; Local 270 minute book (in Italian) 1949-1969; and Local 275 minutes, 1929-1968.

Four scrapbooks contain announcements, handbills, badges, photographs, etc. of: 1) organization activities of the Chicago Joint Board, 1910-1925; 2) Social and Organization Activities of Locals, 1913-1928; 3) social activities of the Chicago Joint Board, 1920-1927; and Pictorial Review, 1920-1940.

Chicago Historical Society
Clark Street and North Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614
Phone 312-642-4600 FAX 312-266-2077



Twentieth Century Records

Rotterdam Departure Records

By Mary Barkan

During my last visit to the Salt Lake City LDS Library, I set aside time to view records I'd always missed. High on my list was the "Passenger Lists Holland-America Line 1900-1941". This is how I used the record which contains 1,053 microfiches.

The library computer gives a full description of the contents of this record. It explains that "each passenger list begins with the ship's name, destination, sailing date, the amount paid for first, second and third class; the amount paid for sea passage, European and American train passage. There are columns on the ship manifests which contain the following information: "ship contract and agent contract number, passenger's name, number of fares divided between full, half and none; the price arrangement between different shipping companies; city where passage was booked and the destination; whether rail passage was booked, with booking number, number of tickets, class and price; company agent and place of agency where passage was booked; adult fare price; commissions paid to agents and place; net amount of prepaid fares; number and amount, reservation fee; subsequent payments in foreign and/or Dutch currency; sea and rail passage agents, Dutch currency; totals for sea, European and American rail passage; and remarks."

Ships of the Holland-America Line departing from Rotterdam include: Amsterdam, Edam, Leerdam, Maasdam, Nieuw Amsterdam, Noordam, Pennland, Potsdam, Ryndam, Rotterdam, Spaarndam, Statendam, Veendam, Volendam, Warszawa, Werkendam, Westernland, and Zaandam.

I made a list of people from my files who sailed on one of the ships of the Holland-America Line. I found only one person, Emil Moskowitz, who departed from Rotterdam. I have Emil's Arrival Record at the Port of New York. It tells me that Emil Moskowitz, traveling alone, was going to Samuel Kline, in Hudson, New York. He lists his occupation as laborer. His last residence was Szalok. His brother-in-law paid for his passage. He left Rotterdam on 27 Dec 1900 and arrived at the Port of New York on 8 January 1901 aboard the S.S. Potsdam of the Holland-America Line.

The passenger lists are on microfiche. Staat Van Passagegelden 3 mei-27dec.1900 Fiche #6109126 containing 13 microfiches should contain the passenger lists for Emil Moskowitz. I find the fiche for 27 dec 1900 and pop it in the reader. I scanned until I found a place card titled Potsdam. I looked through the first and second class passengers - no Emil. I'm not surprised because I've never heard that Emil came to the United States with lots of money. Under the passenger class Sur-le-Mer, I find Emil. I have a queasy feeling that Sur-le-Mer is at the bottom of the ship, maybe under the waterline! Emil is listed alone, traveling to New York. There's not much here that is different from the U.S. arrival record. However, a bit of previously unknown information

appears in one of the columns.

According to the library computer, the Holland-America Line maintained offices in Amsterdam, Antwerp, Berlin, Budapest, Bucharest, Boulogne-sur-Mer, Geneva, Kiev, Leipzig, London, Mannheim, Nice, Paris, Rotterdam and Vienna. I know that Emil has listed his town as Szalok, which I know is in Hungary. The passenger list informs me that his ticket was purchased in Vienna. Another clue to follow! I'm pleased that I have records for Emil on both sides of the ocean!

What if I hadn't actually known that Emil traveled on the Holland-America line? What if I didn't have Emil's U.S. arrival record? There is an Index to the Rotterdam departure lists. They are arranged by year and then surname. Knowing that Emil arrived sometime around 1900 I could have searched the indexes to locate information leading to the ship passenger lists.

There are some drawbacks to using these records. I'm not sure how they could be ordered to a local LDS library. For instance, the index from 23 sept 1905-maart 1906 A-Z is microfiche group 6109176 and contains 6 microfiches. You would probably need to order all 6 microfiches since the library catalogue does not say which parts of the alphabet are on which microfiches.

However, if you use this record group you may uncover travel information not previously known!

Photos Of Family Lots and Gravestones

New York City, Queens, Long Island

Photographer Barbara Field

\$20 Per Hour Including Travel Time
Plus Film Developing and Postage.

Contact: RitaBarb@aol.com
Barbara Field
6 Wooleys Lane
Great Neck, NY 11023



President's Message

This issue of *Family Legacies* marks our first year of publication. We are quite proud of the newsletter and of our editor, Mary Barkan. Mary has done an outstanding job of blending family stories and genealogical information. As the name implies *Family Legacies* is about families and the memories we each have of our family. Family stories are what we as genealogists live for, along with the documents of our ancestors which we seek.

Our newsletter is not about a President's Message or new sites on the Internet. We do not want to copy information gleaned from other societies' newsletters. We incorporate that information in our News To Note handouts at our monthly meetings. Our newsletter is about family stories tucked away in our memories, stories of our forbearers who have helped shape our lives today.

Every member is encouraged to write something for *Family Legacies* as it belongs to each and every one of us. As we move into our second year our hats go off to Mary and to her editorial assistant, Janet Farino, for a newsletter of which we are very proud. I hope all of you enjoy it as much as we do.

Carole Montello, President

Martha Stewart Living

The April 1999 issue of *Martha Stewart Living* features an article on making and displaying family trees. Included are instructions for binding a family descendant chart printed from the popular Family Tree Maker program. An unusual family tree display is pictured on the magazine's cover. Martha Stewart's transcript of her live chat on genealogy can be found for 27 April 1999 on her website at www.marthastewart.com

Passover In The Islands

By Maxine Muse

In the spring of 1982 my family and I were living on the beautiful Garden Island of Kauai, Hawaii. I feel very fortunate to have lived on this lush island for seven years. We also lived on Maui for nine years and Oahu for sixteen years.

One might think that living on an island like Kauai or Maui may have hindered us from practicing our faith. However, the challenge of observing traditional Jewish holidays while in the midst of a garden paradise made for unique, memorable experiences. We became very close as a Jewish community and celebrated the Jewish holidays as one big family.

One of the most memorable of my Jewish holiday experiences took place in the spring of 1982. I had the honor of organizing the Passover Seder for the community. I was in charge of contacting everyone, organizing what each family would bring to the Seder, and coordinating the decorating of the hall. Seder was held in the cafeteria at the Lihue Elementary School. I would say that it was a Seder like most Seders around the world. The uniqueness about this Seder was that everyone brought something to make it perfect. It was definitely a community effort. The community had the honor of having our Shaliach and his wife fly in from Honolulu to join us. More than seventy people attended this wonderful event. The room was filled with every imaginable traditional Passover food – everything from matzah ball soup, Passover chicken, potato knishes, and Passover desserts. You name it, we had it! We had a lavish meal. The story of Passover was retold. The children searched for the hidden Afikomen, which my son Todd found!

The tables held the Seder plates and the traditional glasses of wine. Each table was adorned with exotic ferns and tropical Hawaiian flowers including plumeria. Some of us wore leis and flowers in our hair. It was definitely a Seder with a Hawaiian touch.



Clark County Newspapers at UNLV

The James R. Dickinson Library on the campus of the University of Nevada Las Vegas contains many newspapers from Clark County, which includes the city of Las Vegas. Many of the newspapers are on microfilm. To verify service hours call: Main (Dickinson) Library 895-3285 (hours recording). Holdings of the library can be accessed on line at:

<http://library.nevada.edu/libinfo.html>

Questions to the reference desk by phone at 895-3280

Among the newspapers held by the library are:

Las Vegas Review Journal Library has: Apr. 10, 1949 - date

Las Vegas Sun Library has: Jan. 1, 1952 - date

Las Vegas Israelite of Nevada Library has: Jan. 29, 1965 - Jun. 10, 1966

Las Vegas Israelite Library has: Jun. 17, 1966 - date

Nevada Legal News Library has: May 1, 1970 -

Las Vegas Tribune Library has: Apr. 2 - Nov. 14, 1943

Las Vegas Morning Tribune
Library has: Nov. 21, 1943 - Dec. 14, 1945

Las Vegas Evening Review Journal (1943)
Library has: Dec. 2, 1943 - Jun. 11, 1945
Box Title: Las Vegas Evening Review Journal and Boulder City Journal for Dec. 2 - Dec. 31, 1943

Nevada Citizen (Las Vegas) Library has:
Apr. 17, 1954 - Feb. 18, 1956 labor weekly

Las Vegas Evening Review Journal and Boulder

City Journal (1945) Library has: Jun. 12, 1945 - Apr. 9, 1949 Box Title: Las Vegas Evening Review Journal for Jun. 12 - Aug. 25, 1945

Las Vegas Morning Sun Library has: Jul. 1, 1950 - Dec. 31, 1951 Msg: Feb. - Mar. & Jun., 1951

Nevada Business News Library has: Jun. 1973 - Sep. 1974 Box Title: Western Business News

Western Business News
Library has: Dec. 1974 - Aug. 1975

Las Vegas Times Library has: Apr. 1, 1905 - Nov. 3, 1906 Republican weekly

Las Vegas Age
Library has: Aug. 19, 1905 - Nov. 30, 1947.
Msg: Most of 1908; Jan. - Jun. 1909

Clark County Review
Library has: Sep. 18, 1909 - Feb. 24, 1922

Las Vegas Review Library has: Mar. 3, 1922 - Jan. 25, 1929 Box Title: Las Vegas Evening Review for Jan. 2 - 25, 1929

Nevso News Library has: Oct. 11 - Dec. 17, 1954
Box Title: Yell Student newspaper of Nevada Southern University **Rebel Yell** Library has: Apr. 20, 1955 - Nov. 16, 1970 Box Title: Yell Student newspaper of Nevada Southern University **Rebel Yells** Library has May 23, 1968 Published by a group of interested students at their own expense, at UNLV **Yell** Library has: Dec 11, 1970- May 8, 1980 Student newspaper of University of Nevada Las Vegas **UNLV Yell** Library has: Aug. 28, 1980-Jul 8, 1982



Searching For ...

Judy **DAVIS** (702-655-9449) 2801 N. Rainbow #113, Las Vegas, NV 89108 seeking ancestors/descendants of Morris **SPITZER** (b. 22 Feb 1889 in Romania d. 1972) lived in Chicago with wife Dora **BERG SPITZER** (b. 1886 Odessa, Russia) children, all born in Chicago: Goldie b. 1911, Sam b. 1913, Joe b. 1917, and Ruth b. 1926. Morris **SPITZER** had four known siblings, one sister Clara **SCHWARTZ** and had a restaurant in or outside of Chicago where she had four children.

Mary **BARKAN** 3894 W. Spring Mt. Road #8, Las Vegas, NV 89102 GETH91A@prodigy.com information on Necka **MAKAGON/COHEN** (b. probably near Starokonstantinov, Ukraine) m. (?) **PUGATCH** in NYC after 1928 then moved to Brooklyn. One known child Harold (?) **PUGATCH**, bar mitzvah 1946-1950, died unmarried in his 20s.

JGSSouthern Nevada West Library

The Case of the "Lovelorn Jewish Wives" Gender Bias and the Response to Immigration during the Great Depression printed in *Prologue: Quarterly of the National Archives and Records Administration*, Spring 1999 issue is available for loan from our librarian. The article tells the story of Jewish wives who were naturalized American citizens, who could not bring their husbands to the United States. The 14 page article describes the efforts of Jewish wives to change U.S. immigration law in order re-unite their families. Accompanying the article are terrific photos, reproductions of documents, and reprints of newspaper clippings.

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

_____ \$20.00 Family Membership

_____ \$15.00 Individual Membership

Please make checks Payable to JGSSN-West
Mail To: JGSSN
P.O. Box 29342
Las Vegas, NV 89126

JGSSN-West membership runs from
September to September

JGSSN-West Information:
Carole Montello at: carmont7@juno.com

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JGSSNWest
P.O. Box 29342
Las Vegas, NV 89126

Queries are printed on a space available basis at a cost of \$2.50 for 50 words, then 25 cents for each additional word, excluding name and address.

JGSSN-West does not endorse or recommend any services or product advertised or mentioned in Family Legacies.

Family Legacies is exchanged with those member societies of IAJGS which provide copies to JGSSN-West of their newsletter. Subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. Back issues

Calendar 1999

JGSSN-West Meeting Schedule

Sahara West Library 9600 W. Sahara 1pm

June 20th "1900 U.S. Federal Census"

July 18th - Karen Lamp "How to Display and Still
Preserve family papers and artifacts"

August 15th - Summer Re-Run - Every picture
Tells a Story

Officers and Board of Trustees

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Jewish Genealogy Society of Southern Nevada - West
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Las Vegas, NV 89126

**19th Annual International Seminar on Jewish Genealogy Gateway to America - New York City
August 8-13, 1999. For seminar information: <http://members.aol.com/nyc99conf>**