



Summer 2014

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Mishpacha

Quarterly Publication of
**The Jewish Genealogy Society
of Greater Washington**



JGSGW members who attended the 2014 IAJGS Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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

JGSGW

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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: Jan R. Fine, at mishpacha.jgsgw@gmail.com.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear JGSGW Members:

I have a question for each of you – where do we go from here?

Our Board of Directors has been working diligently to get ready for the coming membership year. We have some excellent short term goals, but we must also look to the future to ensure that our society will thrive. We are two years away from our double chai (36th) anniversary. What will we be like in 2, 4, 10 or more years.

One thing for sure, we need your input. To collect this data, I will be forwarding a brief survey to you in the next two weeks. PLEASE take the time to complete it.

To create a roadmap for JGSGW we need a committee. It is always hard for volunteer organizations to get members to step up and participate. We have several openings in important positions within our society, but few are as critical as *The Committee for the Future of JGSGW*. You may wonder what will be involved in this role. I anticipate that in about 3 meetings, the committee should be able to develop a vision and goals in areas such as technology, membership, research, etc. The committee will be expected to submit a report to the Board by the end of the calendar year. This information will be shared with our membership. Please contact me directly to volunteer to participate in this important effort.

In the next few months, I hope to be able to set up some training for the Officers and Directors in the areas of the roles and responsibilities of non-profit governing bodies. It is my hope that members of the society might be willing and interested to participate in this education. To that end, in a recent email, I requested the help of members of our society who are lawyers or accountants. I was rather surprised that no one stepped forward. Consequently, I am investigating other sources for this important training.

I would like to note the exceptional contribution of Ernie Fine, our webmaster, who put forth a successful effort to set up web pages to enable JGSGW to move forward with the collection of dues and contributions using *PayPal*. This has proved to be a very successful effort, as dozens of you paid your dues already and at a rate that exceeded the snail mail method (although payment using paper checks is still an option). The very first payment was from a new member – before we had officially announced that PayPal was set up. I am looking forward to receiving your responses to the survey and to your emails to volunteer for open positions on The Committee for the Future of JGSGW and other positions in our society.

Hoping that the remaining days of the summer are happy ones for you and your family.

Warm regards,

Marlene

Marlene Katz Bishow
President

"Finding Mary Berg"

by Barbara Zimmer



Mary Berg, New York 1945

At a recent estate sale in York, Pennsylvania, Glen Coghill purchased a box of photo albums and news clippings about a Polish woman named Mary Berg. Some of the more recent photos led him to remember a woman who lived in his town, but he could not find her with that name. After further research, he telephoned Sarah Ivry at Tablet and asked what he should do with the keepsakes he had purchased. (<http://www.tabletmag.com/scroll/175884/holocaust-diarists-photos-found-at-estate-sale>)

Mary Berg wrote a book, "Warsaw Ghetto", (published in February 1945, by L.B. Fischer) based on the 12 diaries she kept while she lived in Warsaw Poland during the early years of the German occupation. The book was a critical success in the 1940s but went out of print in the early 1950s. Mary Berg tried to disappear with it. No one seemed to know what had happened to her or where she went. When her memoir was reissued in 2006, she wanted to have nothing to do with it.

An article in Tablet in 2008 (<http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-news-and-politics/981/what-happened-to-mary-berg> by Amy Rosenberg) provides scant details about Mary Berg. She was the elder daughter of

a Polish father and an American mother, a fortunate circumstance which provided her an American passport and an opportunity to leave Poland in 1944 in a prisoner of war exchange.

According to Rosenberg, Mary arrived in New York City in March 1944 from Lisbon Portugal. I used that data to start my search for Mary and her family.

Using [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com)'s immigration records, I searched for incoming ships from Lisbon to New York City during March 1944 for any Polish woman whose surname was Berg. There were no matches. Only one ship arrived from Lisbon during that month. The Gripsholm arrived in New York City on March 15 carrying many refugees who had made their way via neutral Portugal to the United States

Thinking that perhaps Mary's name included the letters BERG, I used wild cards, and found the answer. Mary and her sister Anna traveled with their parents Stanley and Lena Wattenberg. Mary and Anna were born in Lodz. Lena was born in New York in 1902; Stanley (Stanilaw) was born in Pultusk about 1893. The 1944 manifest stated that they were headed to Lena's parents in Long Branch New Jersey, to her father, Benno Zol.

My next step was to search for Benno Zol. I found him and his wife as Ben(jamin) Zol. Earlier records (censuses) showed him with the surname Zolotarewski.

At this point, I discovered two pertinent family trees on [Ancestry.com](http://www.ancestry.com) which mentioned Lena Zolotarewski — one for her Zolotarewski family and one for a family named Powell. (The Powell family tree shows Lena's father as Boris).

Comparing the two family trees, I was able to see that Anna Wattenberg, Mary's sister, married a pathologist, Leon Williams Powell Jr. and had four children — three daughters and a son.

Even more intriguing was a link to one of the citations for Mary Wattenberg showing her name as Mary PENTIN, living in New Jersey in the 1950s with her husband William Pentin, a mechanical engineer.

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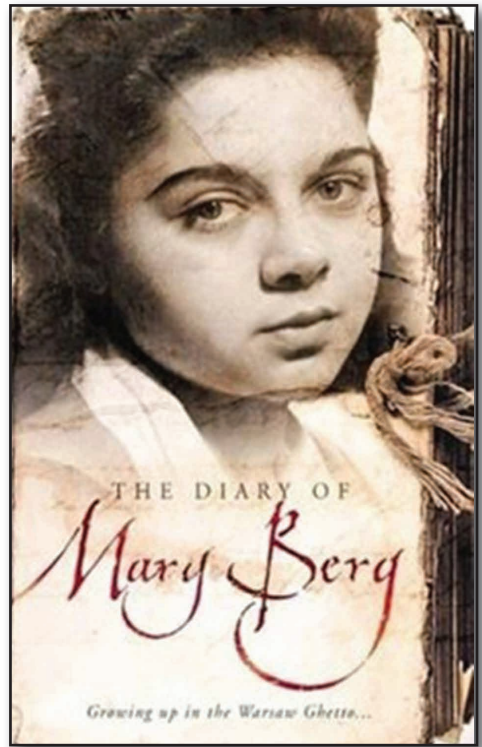
(from page 5)

This led me to search for William Pentin. An 2009 obituary for Gertrude Pentinmaki of Michigan mentioned William Pentin as one of Gertrude's brothers-in-law and Mary Pentin as a sister-in-law. William's parents, Isaac and Selma Pentimaki (or Petimaki), were from Finland, according to the 1930 census. Isaac and Selma raised their children in Michigan where Isaac worked in the mines.

The family tree for Lena Zolotarewski also provided more information on Mary (Berg) Pentin. She died in York, Pennsylvania April 1, 2013 of a heart attack. Mary and William had two children, a son and a daughter. Lena's name is given as Lena Solitar (a variation on Zolotarewski) with a death date in 1989 in Florida. Mary's father, Stanley Wattenberg died in Long Branch, New Jersey in March 1970. He dealt in antiques and made several trips to Europe after World War II. He registered for the WWII draft in Monmouth County, New Jersey in April 1944, a few weeks after his arrival in the U. S. as Shia Stanley Wattenberg. His nearest contact was his brother-in-law Sam Zolotarewski.

As for the photo albums and clippings found by Glen Coghill, I hope they find a home where they are treasured for their rich history.

Barbara Zimmer
Norfolk VA



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The JGSGW DNA Research Group at FamilyTree DNA

Member discounts on test kits
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IS EVERYONE FROM WEST VIRGINIA IS RELATED?

by Lew Cohen

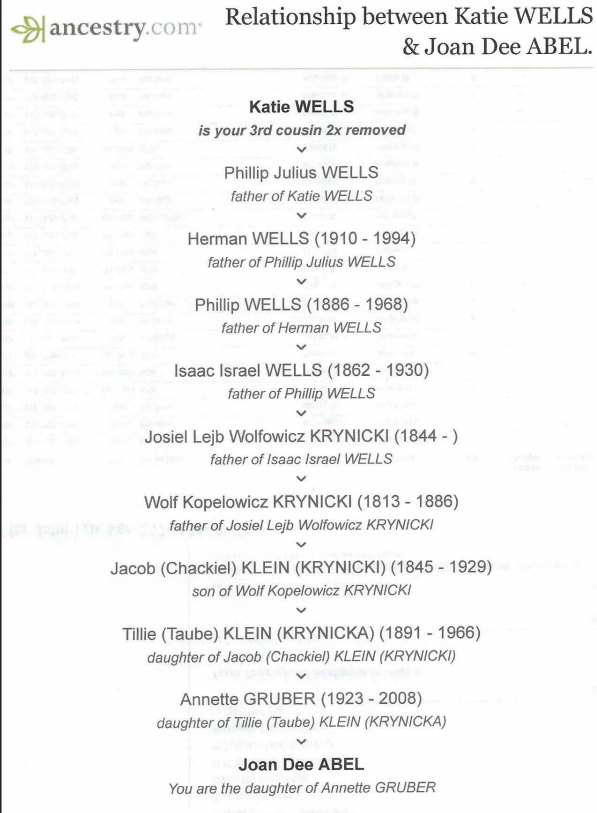
About five years ago my wife and I went to Canton, Ohio for the wedding of my cousin Michael Satin to Katy Wells. Outside of his immediate family, we were the only relatives from his father and my mother's side of our family. Our common Grandfather – Avram Wachatinsky (b.1886 d.1951 from somewhere between Kiev and Korsun in the Ukraine) changed his name to Abraham Satinsky after settling in Philadelphia in 1906. At the wedding we were seated with Katy's parents – PJ and Fran Wells and learned a little of their family history. PJ's mother was a holocaust survivor who settled and raised her family in Charleston, West Virginia, and PJ is a dentist who sings, plays the guitar, and lives in Canton Ohio. There is a book about Kathe Scholl Wells (P.J.'s mom) – "And The World Closed it's Doors" by David Clay Large. Another small world story – one of my daughter Beth's close friends (Jessica Gruber from Indiana University) is also from Canton Ohio – her parents are friends with P.J. and Fran and were also at the wedding. Coincidentally, my wife's best friend from when she was 5-18 (in Queens, New York) had a son who married Jessica Gruber's first cousin - but that's another story.

This past December our Vera Finberg assisted me in locating information on my paternal grandmother's birth records from Wiejsieje, Poland through JRI Poland. Grandma Celia Cohen (Cypa) was born in 1874 to Mejer Jankiel Nejercyk and Leja Finkielsztejn. Vera also put me in contact with Marlene Silverman, a member of the JGSGW and also the editor of LANDSMEN, a quarterly publication of the Suwalk-Lamza Interest Group for Jewish Genealogists. After I subscribed to LANDSMEN, Marlene helped me by tracing my family history back to Jochiel (1784) who married Jocha Braunholz in Liszkowe. Through Marlene and LANDSMEN I "discovered" two old/new relatives – Jenny Brown and Jody Tzucker who are related through the Jochiel/Braunholz connection. We became Facebook friends and have been emailing since early this year. Jody's daughter and my daughter were in the same sorority (SDT) at IU, although at different times.

Several months ago I saw a Facebook posting of Jody's about a visit to the East Coast and it mentioned that she would be in Washington DC in July. In an exchange of emails we discussed meeting while she is in Washington. In one of our emails - Jody (a fellow genealogist) mentioned how important family is to her and that after visiting Washington DC, she planned to go to Charleston, West Virginia where members of her family founded a Synagogue and some are buried there.

Considering the Charleston connection between the maternal and paternal sides of my family I sent Jody an email with a small world question – Do you or any of your relatives know P.J. Wells and his mother Kathe Schohl-Wells? The response – "Know him – he's my cousin, and we're related to all of the Wells' in Charleston". Upon forwarding the emails to Katie and Fran Wells (Michael's mother-in-law) I received a great response – that she also knew Jody from an early part of her life! Then I invited all of them to the reunion (Katie and Michael live in the Logan Circle area of DC and have a 1 ½ year old).

My wife and I had dinner with Michael, Katie, and Michael's mom (my Aunt Roberta) at their home and we were hoping that they could join us for dinner on July 30th with "cousin Jody" and her husband John Tzucker but unfortunately they were unable to join us as Michael was preparing for a trial (he's one of those DC lawyers), Roberta was going home to NJ, and Katie had to take care of baby Isaac.



Joan Dee ABEL is Jody Tzucker.

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My wife and I had a delightful dinner with Jody and John on July 30th. We easily recognized each other from our FACEBOOK postings. Although the conversation focused on our Genealogy interests, we tried not to totally bore our spouses with some general family talk. Some of the small talk centered on our common interests - the love of family, our children, vacations, charity, health (John is a family doctor), retirement, etc. When one of us told a story the others had similar stories to tell. For example, Jody's son Bob lives in Hoboken New Jersey....whenever we go to New York we stay at the Sheraton Lincoln Tunnel...the same hotel they stay in!

We promised to keep in touch. Since our dinner we have exchanged at least six emails on family, genealogy, and DNA Testing (she's helping me figure out how to use the AncestryDNA test I did In May.

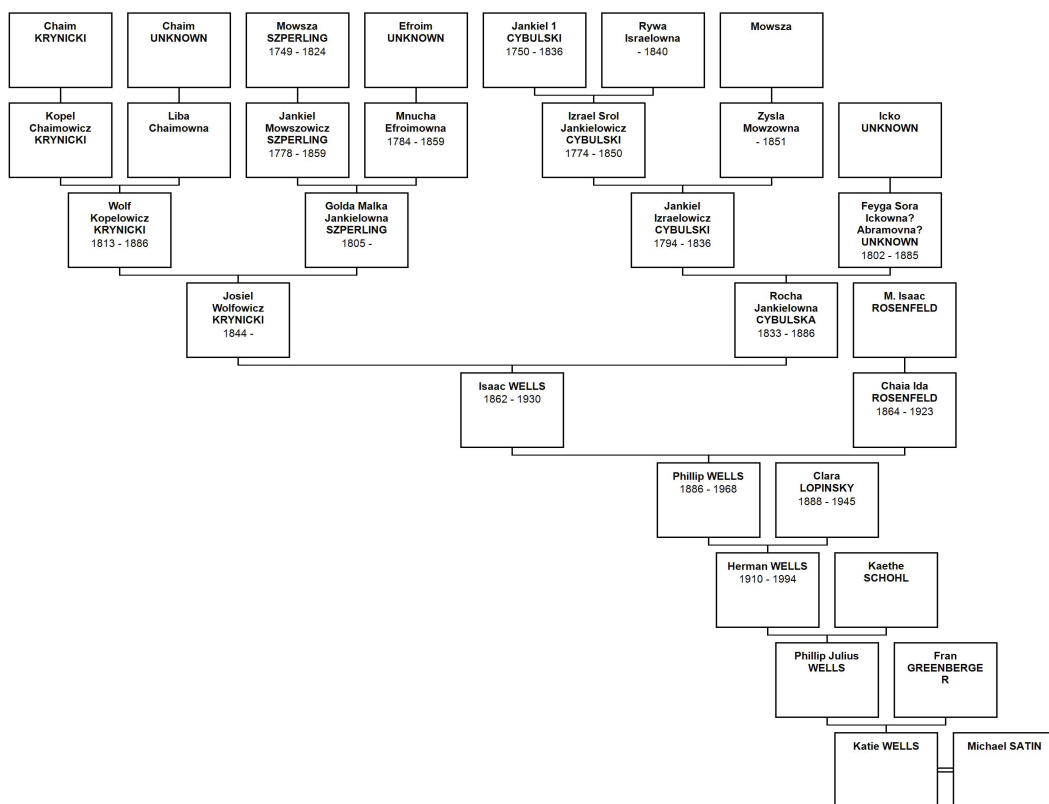
I've kept all interested family members in the loop and hope to have a great family reunion in DC in July.

Lew Cohen



*Lew and Linda Cohen (middle),
Jody Tzucker (left) John Tzucker (right).*

Vertical Pedigree Chart for Katie WELLS



"A Letter To My Son"

as told to Vic Cohen by his mother, Annette

Dear Vic –

This is what you asked for – It may be important for future generations, even tho they may not be interested at present.

I think this should suffice even tho I think I could have written more – I spent quite a few hours on this –

Love –

Mother



October 1986

Dear Vic:

You asked for a chronicle of Grandpa Myer's (Warsaski)* early life in coming to the America. I will try to relate it to you as it was told to me. I heard this in my early years many times, sometimes with humor, sometimes with sadness.

After reaching Bar Mitzvah in Czenstochova (Czestochowa), Poland, where he lived with five brothers (Aron, David, Ruben, Herman, and Arnold), Mother and Father (Mendel & Tsiwia), he was sent to Warsaw, Poland, to become a Master Barber, or Feltcher, as it was called there. Feltchers also assumed duties of minor surgery in those days, such as lancing boils, pulling teeth, etc.

He spent two years in Warsaw as an apprentice, after which he returned home. But he was unhappy with the conditions he saw for Jews in Poland.

The Warsaski family lived in a complex with small apartments, occupied by other family members as well, which they owned, with a court in the center. Apparently, at night, they were locked in after a curfew. Grandpa came in after curfew one night, tried to get in, and had a confrontation with the Police or Guard, whomever was there. That settled it! There had to be a better place to live!

As you may well imagine he had little or no money, this boy of fifteen, but he had heard of HIAS (the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) which would pay half the fare to America, if the immigrant would agree to go somewhere else in the US other than New York. It seems that they thought there were enough Jews in the New York area already, and it would be in the best interest of all to go elsewhere in the vast New Land. There were wide open spaces with plenty of room for newcomers.

He went to the IHAS office—I'm not sure where it was—and they told him it would cost him \$40.00 for a steamship ticket. They would pay the other \$40.00, but he would be headed for Galveston, Texas. He said "FINE", not knowing where in the world Galveston, Texas was.

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He worked long enough to save the required amount, said ‘Good-bye’ to a fearful family who thought they would never see him again.

He sailed from Bremerhaven, Germany, aboard the “Castle” (Cassel) and set out to sea -- a lad of fifteen or sixteen years old!

The ship was loaded with immigrants, many to a room with squalid conditions. The first place it stopped in the "New World" was Halifax, Canada, to unload some of the passengers immigrating to Canada. Then it continued down the coast of the Eastern United States.

All was fine until they reached coastal Florida when the passengers started to feel heat they had never before experienced. Nowhere in Europe is there heat and humidity like in Florida, and probably unbathed and unshaven, they started to itch and scratch themselves. Long hair... beards...Grandpa had an idea!

He hung a sign on the door of the cabin he was occupying which read “Barber” – which is, in many cases, an international word. He took out his barber tools and started to cut and shave. The line was snaked around the passageway for the rest of the voyage to Galveston. He had them drop whatever money they wanted into a bag. All denominations of money: German, Polish, Russian, French, Balkan, even some Chinese. He didn’t know what he had nor how much.

The ship finally landed in Galveston, he marched off the ship to the wharf, and promptly saw some cantaloupes, which he had never before seen. Being hungry, he approached the person in charge, and pointed to one cantaloupe. Then he took some of the coins from the bag (he could not speak English) and had them choose which coins they wanted. He walked away with the melon, took a bite from the outside, and threw it promptly away. He thought it an awful piece of fruit!

Then he decided he had better do something with the heavy bag of coins he was carrying and knew that the word “bank” was also an international word he could decipher and also that banks were honest. He walked up to the teller, deposited the heavy bag on the counter, and the teller stacked the coins in different piles denoting various countries.

He left the bank with a bank book, the first in his life.

Now he needed a job. He walked around a bit, looking for a Barber Shop – the sign with the striped Barber Pole. He found one and entered. He was lucky because the Barber was a German, and Grandpa could converse with him. He could also use a good Barber and gave Grandpa a job. He was also kind enough to direct Grandpa where he knew a lady would rent him a room. Grandpa was lucky and on his way!

He worked and lived in Galveston in Galveston for about six months, until the Passover season approached. Then he received a letter from an aunt in Toledo, Ohio. His mother’s sister, Helen Markovich, had received a letter from Poland from Grandpa’s family. In that letter it said that Myer had emigrated to the US and contained



Myer Wasraski, left, with his cousin Oscar Markovick, right. Toledo ,OH about 1915.

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Grandpa's address. Little did Grandpa's family in Poland realize the vastness of the United States and distance from Galveston, Texas to Toledo, Ohio.

Tanta Chia (Aunt Helen) immediately wrote Grandpa a letter, enclosed a train ticket to Toledo, and said to come up to Toledo for Pesach. "No way are you going to be with the 'goyim' for Pesach," she wrote. "You're coming to me and be with my family. You are my sister's son."

Thereupon, Grandpa told his Boss that he wanted a week off to visit Toledo, spent the week in Toledo, and when he was ready to return to Galveston, Tanta Chia had his clothes locked in a closed and refused to allow him to return. She carried on so, stating that her own flesh and blood, her sister's son, had no business living with strangers in a strange land, and he had to remain in Toledo. He could get a job in Toledo as easily as he did in Texas, and he had to stay and live with her, even though there were was a houseful of people - her own family of about six children, plus boarders as she was always taking in to make a few dollars. Besides, in those days, everyone was making room for 'Landsmen' – people they knew in the old country as they were making their way in a new land.

Uncle Markovich was a tailor with a store in front and living quarters in the back and upstairs. This was the familiar thing. Grandpa said that when he went to bed at night, he didn't know whom he would awaken with in the morning. In the middle of the night he would feel something tickling him, and it would be the long beard of some old Jew who had climbed into bed with him during the night. There were many funny stories to relate, such as Tanta Chia's distrust of the Banks as she would keep sizable amounts of cash in a shopping bag hanging on the back of her bedroom door.

She was quite a character, running around the house, barefoot, unkempt, cooking, yelling at all the kids. Incidentally, they grew up to very successful and some millionaires, such as Oscar Markovich, who was Grandpa's age. He was very enterprising and had concessions in all the theatres and Ferry Boats in New York. Later he acquired Miami hotels and parking lots, etc.

Meanwhile, back in Columbus, little Lena Shusterman, age 17, lost her Mother and relocated to Toledo to live with her older sister Sarah. Sarah also rented out rooms in her home for the few extra dollars. And it seemed that a roomer skipped, owing her money.

Grandpa Myer in Toledo worked for awhile, then opened his own barber shop. This same man who skipped out on Sarah also had borrowed some money from Myer and skipped out. But Myer knew his address and went looking for this guy on his bicycle. He always rode a bicycle.

He rang Aunt Sarah's bell and she answered. Myer told her who he was and what he wanted, and Sarah was immediately interested, wanting to collect her missing sum, thought that Myer knew more about this guy than she did. So, she invited him into the house and they sat down to chat. Aunt Sarah, being the diplomat, always, asked Grandpa his name and what he did, learned he had his own establishment – and that he was SINGLE! She immediately called to the other room for her younger sister, Lena.

Needless to say, Myer came to call (on his bicycle) frequently, under the guise of looking for the guy who



*Myer and Lena Warsaski, 1917.
Myer was born in 1894 and Lena in 1899. This photo was taken right after their marriage; she was 18.*

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(from page 10)

owned him money or if Aunt Sarah had any mail from him. He saw more of Lena and liked what he saw. He took her out.

He did not like her living conditions as she worked all day at La Salle & Cooke, a large department store in Toledo, and would come home to a house of dirty dishes and dirty diapers left by her sister. Myer would come to pick Lena up for a date, and she would be scrubbing the floors or washing diapers. Aunt Sarah was always very social, visiting with neighbors, and domestic chores did not take priority.

Then Myer and Lena got engaged. He was so angry at Lena's living conditions that he brought his shop's shoe shine boy with a wheel barrow, marched into Sarah's house, ordered Lena to pack her trunk, and relocated her to the home of a friend. Of course Sarah refused to speak to either of them for awhile. Myer and Lena were married on August 16, 1917.

By now, World War I was raging, Grandpa was going to be drafted, and was scheduled to go to Camp Chillicothe, near Columbus. Myer and Lena sold the barber shop and moved to Columbus so that Lena could be near him.

While waiting to be called, Myer got a job as a barber at the Columbus Athletic Club. He had as clients many of the brass from Fort Hayes. His clients liked him and told him they wanted him kept at the Athletic Club. So whenever his name in the draft file crept to the front of the file, they moved it to the back. As a result, war ended without Myer's ever having been called.

Then came the barber shop in Columbus. The first was at 374 East Main where I was born – the same situation with the shop in the front and living accommodations in the rear and upstairs.

This is where he brought the first immigrants of his family in 1920. Two younger brothers, David and Ruben, had been trying to get to America since before the war. They had been stuck in France working in coal mines during the war.

I was a baby then and Uncle David used to push me in the baby carriage downtown (we were very close to downtown at 374 E. Main St.) into the Deshler Hotel's lobby and stay awhile. Lena was horrified and had to teach David the social amenities of the "New Land!"

Then in 1922 we moved to 623 South 22nd Street, a private home. I was about three years old when Grandpa with much effort finally brought the rest of his family – brothers, parents, aunt, and uncle – to Columbus.

There is an interesting side-light to bringing the rest of his family over from Poland. He had been trying for several years, but beginning in 1920 the immigration gates began to close. He knew his family was hungry during the war, and he would often stick a \$20 bill into a letter and hope it would reach them so they could buy a little food.

Grandpa tried every device he could muster. He saw politicians and immigration officers, running around like a mad man, trying to extricate his family from Poland. In desperation he finally decided to try a daring attempt to see the President of the United States, Warren G Harding.

He boarded a train for Washington, went to the White House and tried to get in one door and was thrown out. Then he tried another. Security in those days was not what it is today and he managed to sneak in another door. He made his way to some official or secretary, stated his case, and stated he wanted to see the President. They told him to wait; and he waited.

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Finally, he was ushered into the office of the President! Armed with official documents of his citizenship, taxpayer ID, and property ownership and papers stating that his family would never be a burden to the United States, he made his appeal to the President. President Harding then called the Secretary of State and ordered a cable sent to the Immigration Department at the American Embassy in Warsaw to issue the necessary visas and passports immediately to the following:

- Mendel Warsaski
- Tsivya Warsaski
- Herman Warsaski
- Aaron Warsaski
- Arnold Warsaski

The Columbus Citizen, the local newspaper carried a picture of Grandpa and a rather large write-up, headed as follows: "LOCAL BARBER SEES PRESIDENT"

**Noted by Vic Cohen: my grandmother Lena did not like the complicated Eastern European spelling of her husband's last name, Warszawski. She got rid of the Polish consonants thereby simplifying the name to Warsaski. The names of the rest of the family also became Warsaski, and anyone with that name is guaranteed to be part of my family.*

Vic Cohen is the Treasurer of JGSGW



Annette, Vic's mother, at High School graduation in 1937.



Lena and Myer Warsaski 1950.

JGSGW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

“DNA FOR GENEALOGY”

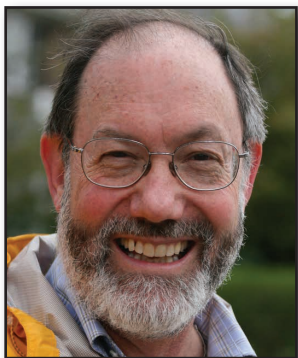
Speaker: Jay Sage

With the incredible drop in the cost of DNA sequencing, DNA testing is now affordable for individuals. Mr. Sage will discuss the role that DNA testing can play in genealogical research. The basics of human genetics will clarify what can and cannot be learned from DNA testing. The talk covers how the testing is done, how much it costs, and how to interpret the reported results.

Date: Sunday, September 14, 2014

Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze,
1:30 PM Meeting with announcements

Location: B'nai Israel Congregation, 6301 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD
[click here](#) for directions



Jay Sage served as co-president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston (JGSGB) from 2000 to 2003 and is currently co-editor of the Society's journal, Mass-Pocha. Professionally, Sage worked as a research physicist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

JGSGW October Meeting

JGSGW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE:

"Genealogy Resources in the Library of Congress"



Discover world class genealogy resources in your own backyard! This program features two presentations from representatives of the Library of Congress, one from the Map Division and one from the Genealogy & Local History section. Each speaker will highlight many resources of interest to genealogists and how the Library's unique collections can further family history research.

Date: Sunday, October 19, 2014

Time: 1:00 PM Schmooze,
1:30 PM Meeting and Program

Location: The Lillian & Albert Small Jewish Museum, 701 Third Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20001.

Click here for directions or go to: <http://www.jgsgw.org/directions.html#LASJM>.

Presentation One:

Genealogic and Historical Research Using Sanborn Maps

Speaker: Dr. Habte Teclemariam,
Library of Congress

Sanborn Maps provide a unique close-up view of the American communities our ancestors knew. Published from 1867 to 2007 to assess fire and flood insurance risks, the maps show not only property numbers and building outlines, but wells, pipelines, dumps and railroads. These details can provide valuable historical information and confirm data provided in vital records and newspaper accounts. The Map Division of the Library of Congress has a complete collection of Sanborn Maps, covering approximately 12,000 towns and cities throughout the United States.

Presentation Two:

Finding Jewish Ancestors and Their Stories

Speakers: Susan Garfinkel and Anne
Toohey, Library of Congress

Many ancestors—immigrants, women, minorities, and others—do not have compiled biographies. While their presence is duly noted in public records, the richness of their lives can seem lost to history. Yet, when the dry “facts” of records are placed in context with a broad variety of social and cultural artifacts, a fuller story soon emerges. The presenters will discuss resources and strategies for reconstructing the life stories of our ancestors using materials available on site at the Library of Congress and digitized on its website, with special attention to the historical context that enriches Jewish genealogical research.

Dr. Habte Teclemariam is Senior Reference Librarian of the Geography and Map Division of The Library of Congress. He is a graduate of the University of Asmara, Hope College and has pursued advanced studies at the University of Michigan. Dr. Teclemariam specializes in European and Middle Eastern geography. He is fluent in a number of languages, including Hebrew.

Dr. Susan Garfinkel is a research specialist at the Library of Congress specializing in digitized historical materials. She earned a PhD in American Civilization (Penn) and MA degrees in folklore (Penn) and in American material culture (Winterthur). Dr. Garfinkel taught at several universities before coming to LC in 2002. She has published a variety of works and is now researching her own family's history.

Anne Toohey has served as a reference librarian in the Local History and Genealogy Section at the Library of Congress since 1991. She earned an MLS (Western Michigan) and pursued doctoral research in Bologna, Italy. She has worked as a reference librarian at Catholic University, the National Library of Medicine and the Virginia Room at the Fairfax Public Library. Toohey specializes in genealogy and local history for Virginia, Canada and France, focusing on groups such as Loyalists, Huguenots and Quakers.

JGSGW November Meeting

JGSGW IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE A BEGINNERS WORKSHOP FOLLOWED BY A DOUBLE HEADER PROGRAM

Date: Sunday, November 9, 2014
Time: 10:00 AM Beginners Workshop*
1:00 PM Meeting and Program
Location: B'nai Israel Congregation, Fanaroff Hall, 6301 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852
[click here](#) for directions or view at jgsgw.org

* Registration for the Beginners Workshop to be announced. **Registration Required.** The workshop is for members only.

Part One: "The Name Remains the Same: Adventures in Finding Sid Caesar's Grandmother" Speaker: Robin Meltzer

When Sid Caesar, the architect of television's Golden Age, passed away in February 2014, hundreds of press reports repeated the myth that the family name had been "changed at Ellis Island" on their arrival from Austria. Of course, no one's name was changed at Ellis Island (or Castle Garden). But careful research proved that the family's surname remained unchanged from the time they lived in Galicia through their immigration to the United States. This presentation will explain the search techniques used to find the embarkation list and passenger manifest for Sid Caesar's grandmother and great-uncle, and how attendees can apply these methodologies to their own research.



An attorney and genealogist, Robin Meltzer has 30 years of research experience. She is Vice-president for Communications of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW), co-founder of the Jewish Community of the 15th Ward, Syracuse New York Facebook group and Associate Producer of the documentary film "Stories from the Syracuse Jewish Community." She lectures on topics in Jewish genealogy and research methodology. Robin has written and co-written several articles on Jewish genealogy and local history appearing in several publications, including the *Jewish Observer of Central New York*, *Mishpacha* and *The Galitzianer*.

(PART TWO is on the next page)

JGSGW November Meeting

(from page 15)

Part Two: “Researching the Man With Many Names”

Presenter: Marlene Katz Bishow

For 42 years, Grandpa Jack was an important part of my life. While I loved and admired the man, it was not until more than a dozen years after his death that I uncovered more of his story. Using skills that I learned as a genealogist, I developed a fuller and richer understanding of this man of many names, whose life had a profound influence on me. In this presentation, I will tell his story with emphasis on the sources and resources that I used.

Date: Sunday, November 9, 2014

Time: 10:00 AM *

Location: B'nai Israel Congregation, Fanaroff Hall, 6301 Montrose Road, Rockville, MD 20852

[click here](#) for directions or view at jgsgw.org



Marlene Katz Bishow is President of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington. She has served five terms in that capacity, as well as holding offices as Program VP, Membership VP, Research Chair and Database Manager. She has lectured widely on genealogy-related subjects throughout Maryland and the District of Columbia, as well as at three IAJGS International conferences. For fifty-eight years, Marlene has researched her family with ancestral roots in the Russian and Austrian Empires. In addition, she has worked with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington to provide genealogical insights in response to inquiries. In 2011, Marlene was a Co-Chair of the 31st IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy and prior to that she was the Project Manager for the JGSGW “Jewish Burials At Washington National Cemetery” and several contributions to the JewishGen JOWBR database.

JGSGW Guest Attendance Policy: As of January 1, 2014, a non-member may attend the monthly JGSGW meeting as a Guest for a \$5.00 fee payable at the sign-in table. The \$5.00 Guest fee may be applied toward payment of annual JGSGW membership dues if dues are paid at the same meeting at which the guest fee was paid. JGSGW members requiring personal assistance at a meeting due to a health condition or disability may bring someone to assist them free of charge.

JGSGW Library

JGSGW Genealogy Library Hours and Information

The library is closed for the Summer.

The JGSGW Library will be open Wednesdays from 11-3 by appointment.

We will be open Sept 10 and Sept 17, then all Wednesdays in Oct, and Nov. 5, 12 and 19. We will also be open Sunday Sept 14 and Nov. 9, 2014. No appointment is necessary for Sunday hours.

Please email Vera Finberg, Librarian at vera.finberg@verizon.net for an appointment.

The JGSGW Library is closed for Jewish and Federal Holidays.

Recent Additions:

Baxter, Angus.

In search of Your European Roots; A Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in Every Country in Europe. 1994 2nd edition, Genealogical Publishing, Baltimore, MD

Bechar, Avraham.

Hartuv Memories.

Baltimore, MD, Afikommen, 1989.

Beck, Stephen M.

Year of Crisis, Year of Hope: Russian Jewry and the Pogroms of 1881-1882.

Westport, Conn, Greenwood Press, 1985.

Colletta, John.

They Came in Ships; A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record.

2nd edition, Ancestry, Salt Lake City, Utah. 1993

Gerber, Jane S.

Jews of Spain: A History of the Sephardic Experience.

Free Press/Simon and Shuster, New York

Greenberg, Michael.

Graves of Tzaddikim in Russia.

Jerusalem, Sharmir Publishing, 1989

Kleiman, Yaakov.

DNA & Tradition; The Genetic Link to the Ancient Hebrews.

New York, Devora, 2004.

Lewin, Harold and Miriam.

Burial Records of the Great & Hambro Synagogues-London 1791-1837.

Jerusalem, 2013

Messinas, Elias V and Ion.

Synagogues of Salonika and Veroia.

Athens, Gavrielides Editions, 1997.

Mills, Elizabeth Shown

Evidence explained: Citing History Sources from Artifacts to Cyberspace.

Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing, 2007.

Volumes 9-24 of Landsmen; The Suwalk-Lomza Journal.

This journal excerpts vital records from the Suwalki and Lomza gubernia. The area encompasses the former Russian-Polish gubernias (provinces) of Suwalki and Lomza -- today in southwestern Lithuania and northeastern Poland -- as constituted in 1866-1914.

JGSGW

Other Society Newsletters Available Electronically

Mishpachology, Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida, June 2014

Shalshalet, Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon, Summer 2014

SPEAKS, Anne Arundel Genealogical Society,
June 2014

News 'n Notes, St. Louis Genealogical Society, August 2014

Shem Tov, Jewish Genealogical Society of Toronto,
June 2014

Venturing Into Our Past,
JGS of the Conejo Valley and Ventura
County, July 2014

Contact the editor at mishpacha.jgsgw@gmail.com if interested.

MISHPACHA NEEDS YOUR STORIES!

* Do you have an interesting story about your family or research?

* Do you have a problem finding your ancestor in one or more database?

Write your questions and we'll try to answer them.

* Did you find your ancestor in any particular 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.

* Have you used or developed a technology or technique that would be useful to others?

Please participate in the continuing success of our newsletter by sending your comments, questions, findings or stories to janrandyfine@gmail.com

READING RECOMMENDATIONS

If you would like to share reading recommendations with Mishpacha please submit the title, author and a brief description of the book to the editor at mishpacha.jgsgw@gmail.com.

JGSGW

Welcome to our New Members

J. Jane and R. Scott Cohen, Alexandria, VA
Susan and Donald Davis, Alexandria, VA
Judith Furash, Silver Spring, MD
Bernie Goodman, Olney, MD
Linda Jarschmauer Johnson, Alexandria, VA
Nancy Kotz, Kensington, MD
Jonathan Mark, Alexandria, VA
Julia Medin, Potomac, MD
Caren and Louis Novick, Rockville, MD
Eric Singer, N. Potomac, MD
Roz Timberg, Rockville, MD
Renee Stevens, Bethesda, MD
Linda and Larry Vogel, Herndon, VA
Jan Weiner, Ashburn, VA
Annette Ruth Wolf, Potomac, MD

Lifetime Members

Jonina Duker & Alan Lichtman
Susan E. Iseman & Dennis J. Berg
Elizabeth H. Margosches & Donald B. Melman

Patrons

Vic and Marla Cohen
Alan Levitt
Stephen Rockower
Steve Rabinowitz
Rochelle Gould Zohn

Condolences

JGSGW mourns the passing of

Elaine S. Levine, JGSGW member since 1997.
Lena Brott, sister of member Sonia Pasis

May their memories be a blessing.

Donations

Harriet Armoza, Library Fund
Jan R. Fine, General Fund, in memory of
Marlene Bishows brother
Irv Hecker, General Fund & Library Fund
Robert and Florence Jones, Library Fund
Judith Katz, Library Fund
Jim Lieberman, Library Fund
Marlene Silverman, Library Fund

R'Fuah Shlayma

to

Robin Nelson
Shelley Kellerman Pollero

Please remember JGSGW when making a donation in honor or in memory of friends and relatives. JGSGW has the following funds established:

- General Fund
- Library Fund
- Research Fund
- Joanie Miller Fund

JGSGW Meeting Calendar Fall 2014 - Summer 2015

Sunday, September 14, 2014

Sunday, October 19, 2014

Sunday, November 9, 2014

Sunday, December 7, 2014

Sunday, January 25, 2015

Sunday, February 8, 2015

Sunday, March 8, 2015

Sunday, April 19, 2015

Sunday, May 17, 2015

Sunday, June 7, 2015

Please Visit Our Website for Updates
www.jewishgen.org/jsgw
[Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/JSGW/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/JSGW/)



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