



Bayou Branches

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ORLEANS

VOLUME 6 NUMBER 1

SPRING/SUMMER 2000

20th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy

JGSNO members are invited to submit articles for the next issue of Bayou Branches. All topics related to genealogy are welcome. Please submit before June 1 to Carol Levy Monahan at:

4628 Fairfield Street
Metairie, LA 70006

The 20th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, hosted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogy Societies, will be held July 9 – 14, 2000, in Salt Lake City, home of the Family History Library.

Speakers will include key personnel at the Family History Library; also, Alexandre Beider, author of the important and award-winning *Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Kingdom of Poland* and *Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire*; archivist and historian Vlad Soshnikov, director of RA-GAS [the Russian-American Genealogical Archival Service] has been compiling inventories and obtaining Jewish genealogical records from former Soviet Archives for the past nine years; Angelikka Ellmann-Krueger from Berlin, the author of an important monograph on genealogical library research in Germany and now working on a major bibliography on German-Jewish family research that will be

issued as a CD.

Attendees will have access to the holdings of the library during the conference, where more can be accomplished in four days than in four years at a local FHC.

Registration, hotel and travel information can be found online at:

<http://iajgs/slcy2k>

You can also contact Jacob or Vicki Karno at (504)888-3817 for registration materials and for information about the group traveling from New Orleans.

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Online Resources

Vital Records:

<http://vitalrec.com/index.html>

Hamburg Immigration Lists:

www.hamburg.de/LinkToYourRoots/english/welcome.htm

Southern Jewish Historical Society:

www.jewishsouth.org

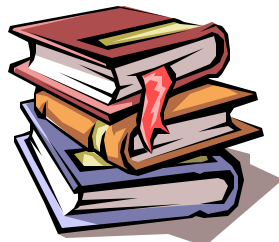
Cemetery Records Online:

www.interment.net



Books Donated to East Jefferson Regional Library for Jewish Genealogy Research

The following is a list of books donated by Jacob and Vicki Karno to the East Jefferson Regional Library. The books will be available in the Special Collections area in a section designated as Jewish Genealogy Research:



From Generation to Generation(3)
Finding our Fathers, A Guidebook to Jewish Genealogy

Beginners Workshop in Jewish Genealogy
Great Jews in Sports

The Jewish 100

Merchant Princes

Portal to America: The Lower East Side
1870-1925

Ellis Island to Ebbets Field: Sport and the
American Jew

Of a World that is no more

Saga of American Jewry

America's Triumph

A Special Legacy

Travels Through Jewish America

Jewish Roots in Poland

Jewish Roots in Ukraine and Moldova

Jews in Small Towns

The Grandees

The Rest of Us (3)

The Business of Jews in Louisiana 1840-
1875

World of Our Fathers (hardcover and paper)
Cologne

Images Before My Eyes

The Downtown Jews

The Promised City

Gardens and Ghettos

Leo Baeck Institute Year Book 1993 1994 (2
volumes)

Jewish Travel Guide

Ukraine Language and Travel Guide

Lithuanian Jewish Community

A Travel Guide to Jewish Europe

A Brotherhood of Memory

The Jews in Russia

The Annihilation of Lithuanian Jewry

History of the Jews in Los Angeles

Swastika Over Paris

Lvov Ghetto Diary

Immigrants to Freedom

The Chronicle of the Lodz Ghetto 1941-1944

Lodz Ghetto, Inside a Community Under Siege

The Russian Jew Under Tsars and Soviets

Documentary History of the Jews in the United
States

The Jews of Czechoslovakia

The Jews of Charleston

The Jewish People in America, A Time for Plant ing ,
The First Migration 1654- 1820

The Jewish People of America, A Time for
Searching, Entering Mainstream
1920-1945

Israel, A History by Martin Gilbert

The Boys, Story of 732 Young Concentration Camp
Survivors by Martin Gilbert

The Holocaust, A History of the Jews of Europe dur-
ing WWII by Martin Gilbert

How We Lived, History of Immigrant Jews in
America 1880-1930

Atlas of the Holocaust (2) by Martin Gilbert

Blackbook of Localities Whose Jewish Population
was Exterminated by the Nazis

Low Life

Mishpokhe, A study of NYC Jewish Family Clubs

The Jews of Nineteenth Century France

The Holcaust, The French, and the Jews

The Jews of Paris and the Final Solution

French Children of the Holocaust, A Memorial

Memoire Juive En Alsace , Marriage Contracts

Index de Memoire Juive En Alsace , Marriage Con-
tracts Vol. I & II (2 sets)

Memorial to the Jews Deported from France
1942-1944

Recueil des declarations de prise de nom patrony-
mique des Juifs du Bas-Rhin en 1808 (4 volumes)
(Name changes)

Proceedings of the 5th International Seminar on
Jewish Genealogy in Paris (July 1997)

Dokumentation zur Geschichte und Kultur der
Juden



(Continued on page 10)

PAGES 3 – 9 OF THIS ISSUE HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS WEB VERSION. THEY CONTAIN THE JGSNO FAMILY RE-SEARCH LIST. A CURRENT VERSION OF THE LIST CAN BE FOUND IN THE FAMILY FINDER SECTION OF THIS WEBSITE.



(Book Donations, Cont'd.)

The Researcher's Handbook – Hebrew words, Hebrew Transliteration and English Equivalent.

Other genealogy resource books:

The Genealogist's Companion and Sourcebook
In Your Ancestor's Image
The Source A Guidebook of American Genealogy
Follow the Paper Trail
How Healthy Is Your Family Tree
Documents of Our Ancestors
Guide to Naturalizations Records of the U.S.

Ancestry's Guide to Research
Genealogy in the Computer Age
Genealogy and Computers for the Complete Beginner
The Genesis of Your Genealogy
1880 Census of New Orleans Vol. I,II,III,IV,V
Occupational Licenses of Louisiana, 1870-1932

Genealogy software:

Roots IV
Personal Ancestral File

Cemeteries: Source of Information About the Living

By George H. Bornside

In the 1980's I thought I had exhausted all of my options to trace members of my mother's family because there were no known family members alive. I learned from the *New York Times*, however, the dates of death for my great aunt (d 1913) and one of her sons (d 1933). From obituaries and certificates of death, I located the cemeteries where they were buried and, in the case of the son, the fact that he had two infant daughters, both of whom would probably have married by the time of my search. Another cul-de-sac! Another frustration!

I wrote to the cemetery in which my great aunt had been buried in 1913 and received the following information: she and her husband were buried there; dates of birth and death for each; and photos of the grave, plus an invoice for upkeep fees for the current year.

Then, I wrote the second cemetery where my cousin, her son, was buried and asked if anyone might be caring for his grave. The cemetery supplied me with a name and address. What an exciting moment. I had found one of

his daughters. I wrote to her, and she was thrilled that a relative from her father's family had contacted her. She supplied much needed information about relatives for me to meet and query. I was fortunate because not everyone is thrilled to discover a relative or is interested in family history.

The lesson here is that a fragile family thread may sometimes be snatched from oblivion by caring strangers, in this case, the cemetery administration.

Note: I understand that it is not accepted practice for a cemetery to supply names and addresses in such cases. But if you find yourself in a similar situation, consider composing a query to your unknown relative. Send it to the cemetery along with a stamped, undressed envelope, asking that it be passed on to the person who owns or cares for the grave.

"The lesson here is that a fragile family thread may sometimes be snatched from oblivion by caring strangers, in this case, the cemetery administration."

We Have Mail



I would like to make contact with relatives of Joseph MILLER who lived in New Orleans. His parents were George MILLER and Esther BONISKE who left Russia in 1890 and settled in Cordele, GA. Joseph had a sister, Bessie, who lived in Tallahassee, FL. Thanks for your help.

Gail Lebowitz, Atlanta, GA
GLEbo111@aol.com



I am trying to find out about my Jewish maternal great-grandmother who lived and died in Louisiana in the early 1900's. Her name was Lettie GOLDMAN. If you know of anyone researching the Goldman name in LA, let me know.

Sharon Shirley
Shirleyfamily@worldnet.att.net



The Cemetery Project Why Am I Doing This?

If I asked once, I asked myself the question a thousand times over the last 18 months as I entered the burial records of two of the Hebrew Rest Cemeteries into a database. So determined was I in the early stages to see the project through to completion that I was like someone driven by demons. But as time dragged on (and I became older!), it seemed to become more and more difficult to read the handwritten records. It had been necessary to photocopy the pages of the large book at only 75% of actual size. Most of the little obituary notices that someone had so painstakingly pasted into the record book were almost impossible to read without a magnifying glass. But I did not want to miss any information that might be of interest to genealogists.

As I worked, the stack of sheets seemed to increase instead of decrease. "Why am I doing this?" I asked the walls, as I had so many times before when I let frustration get the best of me. But this time, my voice was louder and I knew that my patience had run out. "I just can't do this any more." I had campaigned long and hard to gain access to the records because I felt so strongly that they should not only be preserved, but made accessible to researchers. "I don't like doing this, and I don't really care anymore". My eyes were weary and my resolve worn thin. "I'll call Jacob tomorrow and tell him (in a nice way!) that I cannot finish the project."

Barely 2 days after that outburst (so soon that I had not had a chance to make that phone call), my sister stopped by. She, who is completely oblivious to my various projects, handed me a bag, saying "I don't know where this came from - I found it in a box at home. It must have belonged to Dad and it might be something that you would

like to have." My sister had lived with my father (Alphonse Levy) for several years prior to his death in 1989, and I was under the impression that we had long since dealt with all of his personal effects, which included a few items that had belonged to his father (Lazare Levy).

Inside the bag was a framed proclamation, dated Nov. 4, 1941, that reads:

"A Memorial Tribute to LAZARE LEVY, inscribed by The Board of Commissioners of Hebrew Rest Cemetery:

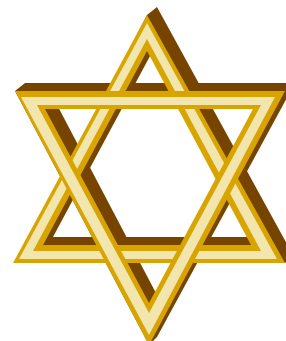
Whereas, the late Lazare Levy devoted many years of his life to the advancement of Hebrew Rest Cemetery, and Whereas, the said Lazare Levy did unselfishly give his time, his energies and his guidance to Hebrew Rest Cemetery as an untiring member of its Board and as President of same Board, and Whereas, his zeal in the performance of his duties has been an inspiration to his fellow Board members, and Whereas, his death has occasioned a deep sense of personal loss to his fellow Board members. Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Board of Commissioners of Hebrew Rest Cemetery, in meeting assembled, does with profound sorrow regret the passing of its beloved President Lazare Levy whose absence and guidance will long be felt."

With renewed energy and sense of purpose, I quickly returned to work on the records, completing the last entry shortly after 10:00pm last night.

Eighteen months and 4,241 records later, the question has been answered.

Carol Levy Monahan
January 23, 2000

"With renewed energy and sense of purpose, I quickly returned to work on the records, completing the last entry shortly after 10:00pm last night."



New Orleans Jewish Cemetery Project Update

The current status of the New Orleans Jewish Cemetery Project is as follows:

Ahavas Sholem – Finished (376 records)

Beth Israel/Canal Street – No information

Beth Israel/Frenchmen Street – No information

Beth Israel/Elysian Fields – No information

Chevra Thilim and Memorial Park – Finished (800 records)

Dispersed of Judah – Finished (1439 records)

Gates of Mercy – Finished (206 records)

Gates of Prayer/Joseph Street – Finished (1342 records)

Gates of Prayer/Canal Street – No information

Hebrew Rest #1 – Finished (2508 records)

Hebrew Rest #2 – Finished (1732 records)

Hebrew Rest #3 – No information yet, but permission for access granted

Jewish Burial Rites Society – Finished (275 records)

Metairie Cemetery - No information

Tememe Derech – No information

Executive Board 1999-2000

Jacob Karno, President

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Vicki Karno, Vice President

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Carol Levy Monahan, Secretary & Newsletter Editor

(504)456-2801 cmonahan26@msn.com

LuLu Levy, Membership

(504)834-8898



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE!

1999-2000
Fiscal Year Dues:

Individual: \$25
Family: \$35

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Jewish Genealogical Society of New Orleans

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