

Belarus SIG Annual Meeting

36th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy
August 8, 2016

Seattle, Washington



Belarus SIG team

- **Co-Leaders**

Dave Feldman (records acquisition and database)

Sharon Fingold (coordination/communication)

- **Records Acquisition Coordinator**

Ruth Silver

- **Database Coordinator**

Paul Zoglin

- **Help desk**

Nancy Holden

- **Webmasters**

Alan Raskin

Developments in 2015/2016

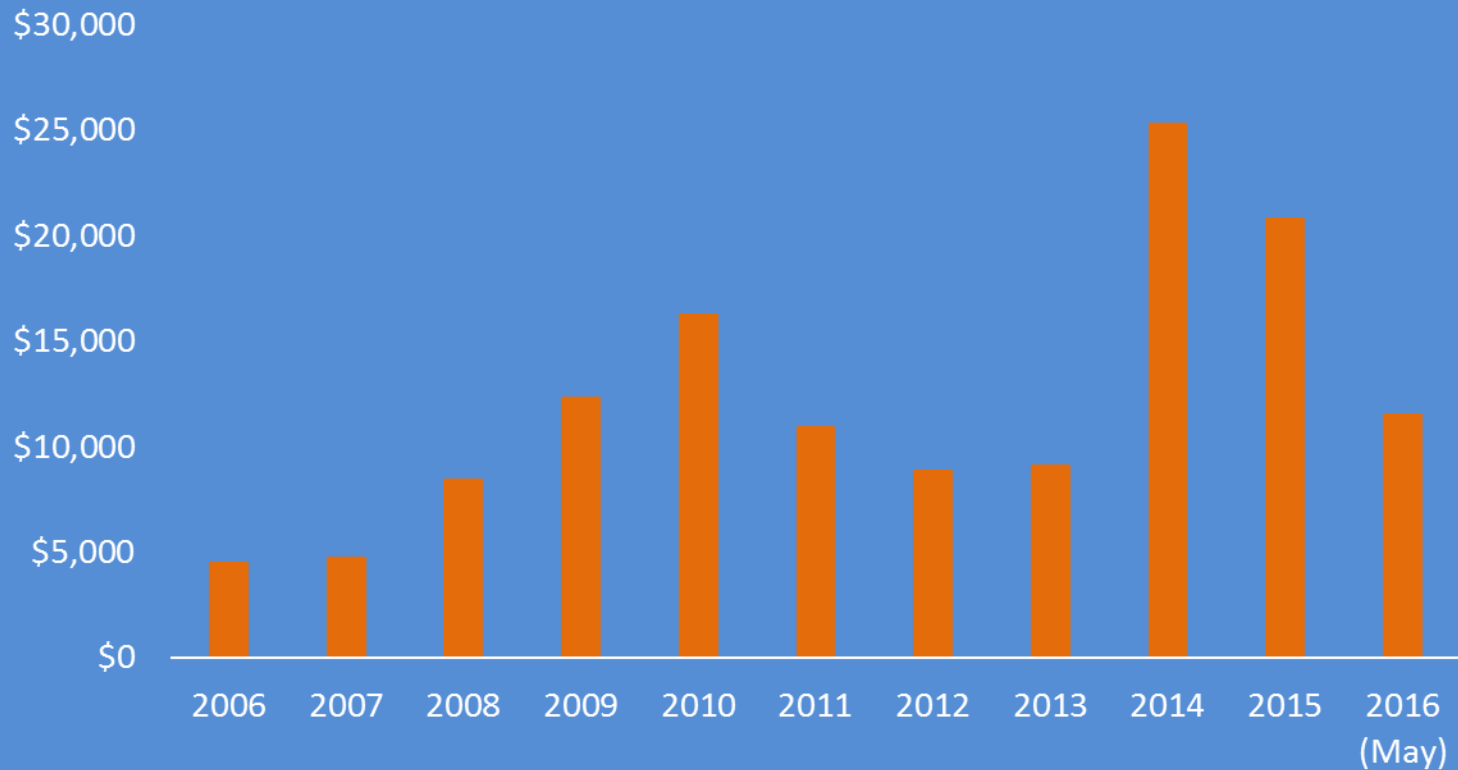
- Re-designed web site
- Uploaded approximately 27,000 new records to the online database
- Translated approximately 50,000 new records
- Acquired Miriam Weiner/Routes to Roots Belarus materials

SIG Finances

(Through 5/31/16)

	Donations	Expenses	Net
Overall SIG	\$188,740	\$140,789	\$47,951

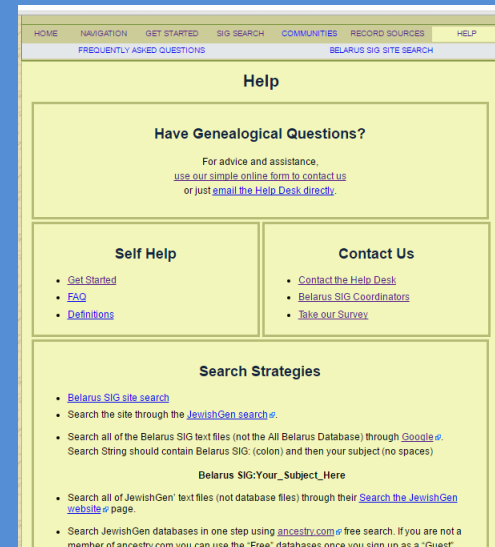
Yearly Donations



Re-designed web site

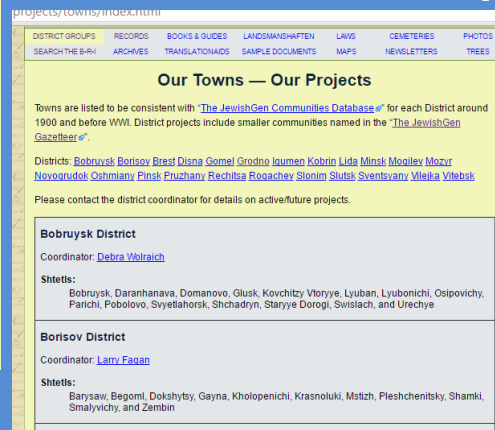


The screenshot shows the homepage of the JewishGen Belarus SIG website. At the top left is the logo with the text "JewishGen Belarus SIG". To its right is a paragraph: "The Belarus SIG, established in 1998, promotes Jewish genealogy research in Grodno, Minsk, Mogilev and Vitebsk Gubernias as well as the Lida and Vileika uyezds (districts) of Vilna Gubernia." Below this is a navigation bar with links: HOME, NAVIGATION, GET STARTED, SIG SEARCH, COMMUNITIES, RECORD SOURCES, HELP. The main heading is "Welcome to the Belarus SIG!". Below this is a map of Belarus with various regions labeled: Kovno, Vitebsk, Smolensk, Vilno, Grodno, Minsk, Mogilev, and Chernigov. A dotted line indicates modern boundaries. Text below the map says: "The dotted line is the modern boundaries. Note that Grodno, Vilno and Vitebsk and a small part of Polesie in Minsk are now in other countries." Below the map are two buttons: "Search for Your Ancestors" and "Take Our Communities Survey". To the right of the map is a text block: "The Belarus SIG website has a new look. To help you navigate, here are some guides: If you are new to the site, begin at Navigation to find out about how the website is organized or learn more about us. If you are new to genealogy, start with our Get Started section. If you want to search for your ancestors, check the SIG Search. Looking for your ancestor's shtetl? The Communities section is where to begin. Open the Record Sources section to learn about the 2016 SIG Projects, District Research Groups, and to search the Belarus Records Inventory. Any Genealogical Questions? Use our simple online form to contact us or just email the Help Desk directly." Below the map is a "New Partnership" section with a photo of Miriam Weiner and text: "We are very pleased to announce a historic partnership with Miriam Weiner and The Routes to Roots Foundation. As a result of this agreement we have received a large amount of material collected by Miriam during her 20+ years of working in the archives of Belarus. The material includes numerous archive inventories and copies of archive documents (with summary translations for much of the material) including thousands of personal names".



The screenshot shows the "Help" page of the website. It has a navigation bar at the top with links: HOME, NAVIGATION, GET STARTED, SIG SEARCH, COMMUNITIES, RECORD SOURCES, HELP. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Help" with a sub-heading "Have Genealogical Questions?". The text says: "For advice and assistance use our simple online form to contact us or just email the Help Desk directly." Below this are two columns: "Self Help" with links to "Get Started", "FAQ", and "Definitions"; and "Contact Us" with links to "Contact the Help Desk", "Belarus SIG Coordinators", and "Take our Survey". Below these columns is a section titled "Search Strategies" with a list of search tips: "Belarus SIG site search", "Search the site through the JewishGen search", "Search all of the Belarus SIG text files (not the All Belarus Database) through Google", "Search String should contain Belarus SIG (colon) and then your subject (no spaces)", "Belarus SIG:Your_Subject_Here", "Search all of JewishGen text files (not database files) through their Search the JewishGen website", and "Search JewishGen databases in one step using ancestry.com free search. If you are not a member of ancestry.com you can use the Free databases once you sign up as a Guest".

Help desk



The screenshot shows the "Our Towns — Our Projects" page. It has a navigation bar at the top with links: DISTRICT GROUPS, RECORDS, BOOKS & GUIDES, LANDS/ANGHAFEN, LAWS, CEMETERIES, PHOTOS, SEARCH THE BARR, ARCHIVES, TRANSLATIONS, SAMPLE DOCUMENTS, MAPS, NEWSLETTERS, TREES. The main heading is "Our Towns — Our Projects". The text says: "Towns are listed to be consistent with 'The JewishGen Communities Database' for each District around 1900 and before WWI. District projects include smaller communities named in the 'The JewishGen Gazetteer'." Below this is a list of districts: Bobruysk, Brest, Detska, Gornel, Grodno, Jaumen, Kobrin, Lida, Minsk, Mogilev, Mozur, Novogrudok, Ostman, Pinsk, Pruzhany, Rechitsa, Rogachev, Slonim, Slutsk, Svientsyany, Vileika, Vitebsk. Below the list is a section for "Bobruysk District" with a coordinator "Debra Woltraich" and a list of shtetls: Bobruysk, Daranhanava, Domanovo, Glusk, Kovchitz, Vhornye, Lyuban, Lyubonich, Osipovich, Parich, Pobolovo, Svyetlahorok, Shchadryn, Starye Dorogi, Swislach, and Urechye. Below this is a section for "Borisov District" with a coordinator "Larry Fagan" and a list of shtetls: Barysaw, Begoml, Dokshytsy, Gayna, Kholopenich, Krasnoluki, Mstizh, Pleshchentsky, Shamki, Smalyvichy, and Zembin.



The screenshot shows the "Shtetls of Belarus" search form. It has a navigation bar at the top with links: HOME, NAVIGATION, GET STARTED, SIG SEARCH, COMMUNITIES, RECORD SOURCES, HELP. Below the navigation bar is a section titled "Shtetls of Belarus" with a sub-heading "Shtetls of Belarus". The form has a "Town Name" field with a dropdown menu and a "Starts with" field with a text input. Below this is a "Uyezd" dropdown menu, a "Gubernia" dropdown menu, and a "Start search at entry:" field with a dropdown menu. Below this is a "Hits/page:" field with a text input and a "Search" button. Below the form is a small text: "This tool was created using Stephen P. Morse's One-Step Search Tool generator".

Created by Alan Raskin
and Nancy Holden

District
Coordinators

Lookup
District

Newly Uploaded Records

- Over 27,000 newly uploaded records:
 - Bobruysk District: 4,014 records
 - Brest District: 5,696 records
 - Grodno District: 2,683 records
 - Mogilev District: 6,273 records
 - Novogrudok District: 5,433 records
 - Slonim District: 47 records
 - Slutsk District: 1,958 records
 - Vilejka District: 1,145 records

Newly uploaded records (details)

- Bobruysk marriages: 1886-1904 (3272 records)
- Bobruysk district: 1867 -1874 additional revision lists for Bobruysk, Domanovo, Glusk, Gorki, Lyuban, Lyubonichi, Ozaraich, Parichi, Pobolovo, Svisloch, Urechye, Zakalnoe (742 records)
- Brest deaths: 1895-1901, 1906 (5696 records)
- Grodno births: 1838, 1841, 1842 (1494 records)
- Grodno deaths: 1841, 1842 (953 records)
- Grodno marriages: 1841, 1842 (236 records)
- Lyakhovichi and Medvedichi: 1850-1852 revision lists (705 records)
- Mogilev births: 1890-1892 (1956 records)
- Mogilev marriages: 1893-1917 (4317 records)
- Novogrudok district: 1870-1884 additional revision lists for Korelichi, Kroshin, Lyubcha, Novogrudok, Turets (5433 records)
- Nesvzh: 1816 revision lists (1253 records)
- Slonim district: 1873-1875 additional revision lists for Byten, Derechin, Dyatlovo, Golyinka, Ruzhany, Slonim (47 records)
- Vilejka district: 1834, 1850 revision lists for Dolginovo, Dunilovichi, Gorodok, Ilya, Krasnoselie, Krivichi, Kurenets, Myadel, Postavy, Radoshkovichi, Vilejka (1145 records)

Records are searchable using the JBD search engine:

www.jewishgen.org/databases/belarus

Translated but not Uploaded Records

- Almost 50,000 translated but not yet uploaded records
 - Bobruysk district: 3,856 records
 - Brest district: 7,687 records
 - Gomel district: 13,213 records
 - Grodno district: 2,640 records
 - Kobrin district: 2,736 records
 - Mogilev district: 921 records
 - Mozyr district: 1,580 records
 - Novogrudok district: 2,305 records
 - Pruzhany district: 3,914 records
 - Rogachev district: 1,608 records
 - Slonim district: 3,820 records
 - Slutsk district: 4,426 records

Donations to District Funds

– Donors of \$100 to a district fund get spreadsheets of the translated but not uploaded records. For a list of available records contact the district coordinator or go to www.jewishgen.org/belarus/original/recordtranslations/districtname.html

For example

www.jewishgen.org/belarus/original/recordtranslations/Bobruyskdistrict.html

Bobruysk District

Below is a list of recently translated records in Bobruysk district. Click on the record set to view the surnames appearing in that file. These records will be uploaded to the JewishGen Belarus database in about 1 year from when they were translated. If you want to obtain excel spreadsheets of these records now please make a donation of \$100 to the JewishGenerocity fund listed and email the contact person with confirmation of your donation.

- [Bobruysk_births_1882-1885 \(920 records\)](#)
- [Bobruysk_births_1901-1903 \(2193 records\)](#)
- [Bobruysk district additional revision lists 1867-1876 \(743 records\)](#)

Links to list of surnames appearing in record set

Donate to: [Bobruysk Research Project](#)

Contact: [Debra Wolraich](#)

	Bobruysk_births_1882-1885		
	Surname	# records	Most records contain
3	ABRAMOVICH	2	given name
4	AIN	1	sumame
5	AIZLIN	1	father's given name
6	ALTERMAN	2	paternal grandfather's given name
7	ALTSHUL	1	mother's given name
8	AL'TSHUL'	1	date of birth
9	AMINSHOVITS	1	
10	ANIGOVSKII	1	
11	ARKUS	1	
12	ASHKNAZI	1	

After a donation is made the district coordinator will send you the spreadsheets

District Coordinators

Bobruysk District	Debra Wolraich djwolraich@juno.com
Borisov District	Larry Fagan LMFagan731@gmail.com
Brest District	Jenni Buch jennibuch@hotmail.com
Disna District	Ralph Salinger salinger@kfar-ruppin.org.il
Gomel District	Paul Zoglin paulmz@hotmail.com
Grodno District	Jim Yarin jimyarín@verizon.net
Igumen District	Carola Murray-Seegert cmseegert@icloud.com
Kobrin District	Diane Baer drbaer11@hotmail.com
Lida District	Judy Baston jrbaston@aol.com
Minsk District	Dave Fox davefox73@comcast.net
Mogilev District	Steve Zivin stephenzivín@yahoo.com

Mozyr District	Gayle Justman grjustman@comcast.net
Novogrudok District	Robinn Magid RobinnM@aol.com
Oshmiany District	Judy Baston jrbaston@aol.com
Pinsk District	Debra Wolraich djwolraich@juno.com
Pruzhany District	Dave Feldman dfeldman@sdrnet.com
Rechitsa District	Philip Minkin philip_minkin@hotmail.com
Rogachev District	Paul Zoglin paulmz@hotmail.com
Slonim District	Steven Rosenberg stvnrsnbg@hotmail.com
Slutsk District	Philip Minkin philip_minkin@hotmail.com
Sventsyany District	Rhoda Miller rhodamiller104@gmail.com
Vilejka District	Steve Cohen gen@optonline.net
Vitebsk District	Leslie Gut lesliegut@bluewin.ch

Go to: www.jewishgen.org/Belarus/tools/projects/towns/index.html

for this list of district coordinators and lists of the major towns in each district

Miriam Weiner's Archives

- Summary translations of records for specific surnames from about 50 towns in Belarus. The records include
 - Census records (family lists, resident lists, revision lists)
 - Vital records (birth, death, marriage, divorce)
 - Army and Draft registrations
 - Election and Voter lists
 - Property owner lists
 - School records
 - Police files/government files
 - Correspondence
 - Passport applications
- Inventories of National archives in Minsk and Grodno and various regional archives

Miriam Weiner Archive sample summary translations

List of Jewish Inhabitants (Reviskiy Skaskiy) / Slutsk / 1834 Fond 333, Opis 9, Delo 573

Town of Slutsk, 1834, pp. 191 (reverse) - 192

Number	Names	Age on previous revision (1816)	Age on current revision
65	Izrael Marder, son of David	22	40
	Izrael's son, Zelik	not born	8
	Izrael's wife, Sora		36
	Izrael's daughter #1, Feiga		6
	Izrael's daughter #2, Sosya		4

census/revision list sample

Birth records of Vitebsk Synagogue Fond 2502, Opis 1, Delo 484, p. 38 (rev).

#452, dated October 4, 1894.

Son, Ber, was born to Vitebsk Petty-Bourgeois: Zalman Khedekel, son of Berko, and his wife, Mlaka, daughter of Yankel-Zelik.

Ber died 26 Oct 1895.

Vital record (birth) sample

List of Voters / Pinsk July 15, 1907 Fond 295, Opis 1, Delo 7785, Page 182 (reverse)

Second Election (Run-off election)

Itsko Aizinberg	Evrei	ul. Sobornaya
Chaim Aizinberg, son of Leib	Evrei	Liskovskaya Street
Morduch Aizinberg	Evrei	ul. Yaseldskaya
Pinchus Aizinberg, son of Iosel	Evrei	ul. Yaseldskaya
Zelik Aizinberg, son of Movsha	Evrei	ul. Stryanchevskaya
Morduch Aizinberg, son of Yankel	Evrei	ul. Liskovskaya Street

Voter list sample

Draft List of Vitebsk Petty-Bourgeois, 1895 Fond 2496, Opis 1, Delo 2722, pp. 81 (rev.) - 82

#320/1138, Dovid Khazansky (son of Movsha), born 16 Feb 1874, died 9 Apr 1875
Movsha, age 35 in 1895
Dovid's mother, Sterna, age 45 in 1895
Dovid's brother, Mendel, age 18 in 1895

Draft list sample

Miriam Weiner Archive sample summary translations

**List of Property Owners
Fond 295, Opis 1, Delo 7785
pp. 219 - 219 (reverse)**

Shimon Aizinberg, son of Leizer	Evrei	ul. Severskaya
Ruvn Aizinberg, son of Movsha	Evrei	ul. Severskaya & Bezimyanii
Lozer Aizinberg, son of Kopel	Evrei	ul. Zamkova
Volf Aizinberg, son of Abram	Evrei	ul. Productova Zamkovaya
Shlioma Aizinberg, son of Itsek	Evrei	ul. Leshen
Leiba Aizinberg, son of Movsha	Evrei	ul. Vishnevet

Property owners sample

**Minsk Guberniya / 1911
Petition Requesting International Passport
Fond 295, opis 2, file 124, pp. 279-283**

This document is a petition from Shlema **Brevda** (son of Chaikel), age 45, a merchant living in Baranovichi, Novogradok Uezd, requesting an international passport for himself, his wife, Goda (age 40) and children:

Aron	age 15
Iosel	age 8
Movsha	age 3
Kalman	age 12
Rochla-Lea	age 20

Passport application sample

**Police Report / Minsk Guberniya / March 19, 1884
Confirmation of Appointment
Fond 299, Opis 2, file 8530, pp. 5-6**

Police report confirming appointment of Nevach **Litovskiy** as Chairman of the Lyakhovichi Merchants Jewish Community.

Police report sample

**Inquiry of Vitebsk Petty-Bourgeois Authority
To the Vitebsk Municipality regarding age of Lev Khedekel
Fond 2511, Opis 1, Delo 86, pp. 313-313 (reverse)
Dated: June 26, 1915**

Petition regarding age of Lev Khedekel, son of Itsko (son of Geshel), subjected to conscription of 1915. Regarding Itsko's son, Semen.

Reference from family list #852/822 regarding Shlema-Itsko Khedekel (son of Geshel), his wife, Musya (daughter of Efroim) and their children:
Lev, born 9 Dec 1895
Semen, born 9 Dec 1901

Special inquiry sample

Miriam Weiner Archive database

Surnames in the summary translations will be indexed and searchable in an online database

It will take about 1 year to index all the surnames appearing in all the summary translations

Miriam Weiner Archives

Search the Database

Miriam Weiner and The Miriam Weiner Archives have generously donated a large number of documents to the Belarus SIG. The surnames appearing in these records have been indexed and can be searched using the search engine below. In the search results will be a link to the summary translation of the original document and, if available, an image of the original document.

Search the Miriam Weiner Archives

is exactly
 sounds like

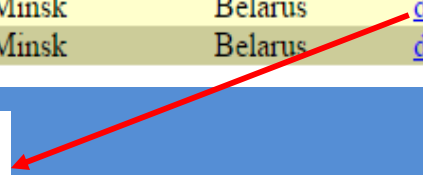
Surname starts with
 contains
 ends with

Town

Start search at entry: hits/page:



	Surname	Type of record	Year of record	Town	District	Province	Country	
1	Mardar	census	1834	Slutsk	Slutsk	Minsk	Belarus	details
2	Mardar	military	1885	Slutsk	Slutsk	Minsk	Belarus	details



List of Jewish Inhabitants (Reviskiy Skaskiy) / Slutsk / 1834
Fond 333, Opis 9, Delo 573

Town of Slutsk, 1834, pp. 191 (reverse) - 192

Number	Names	Age on previous revision (1816)	Age on current revision
65	Izrael Marder, son of David	22	40
	Izrael's son, Zelik	not born	8
	Izrael's wife, Sora		36
	Izrael's daughter #1, Feiga		6
	Izrael's daughter #2, Sosya		4

Ways to Help

- Volunteer
 - Leadership roles
 - Volunteer coordinator
 - Fundraising coordinator
 - Records inventory coordinator
 - Records translation coordinator
 - Specialized roles
 - Translator/Transcriber/Reviewer (Russian, Hebrew/Yiddish, Polish)
 - District coordinator (Gorki, Klimovichi, Mstislavl, Rogachev, Volkovysk)
 - Town coordinator
 - Complete the help desk survey:
<http://www.jewishgen.org/Belarus/about/survey/index.html>
- Donate to the Belarus SIG general fund and/or a district fund:
http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen-erosity/v_projectslist.asp?project_cat=1
- Donate data/private researcher reports to the SIG