

JGSGW November Meeting

## Special Veterans Remembrance Program

# Jewish Aspects of Arlington Cemetery



# November 18, 2018 Beth El Hebrew Congregation, 3830 Seminary Rd, Alexandria, VA

### 11:30 Lunch and Learn: Finding Your US Veteran's Story 1PM- Schmooze and Mavens Table 1:30PM Meeting and speaker Les Bergen

### Lunch and Learn: Genealogical Insights from U.S. Military Records

Bring a dairy lunch, and learn about finding genealogical information from U.S. military records. From draft registrations to unit histories, there are a variety of military records available, and they may provide information about your ancestor's employment, marital status, appearance, and even the detailed stories of their wartime service. In this short program, we will view two brief videos on finding available records, and hear success stories from members.

### Presentation: Jewish Aspects of Arlington National Cemetery

A JGSGW project identified over 5,500 Jews who are buried at Arlington National Cemetery: Sephardi, German, East European, men and women, Orthodox, Conservative, Reform, non-religious, and a convert to Christianity. They were warriors, but also a Supreme Court Justice, U.S. Senators, Congressmen, ambassadors, astronauts, and artists.

This presentation will give an overview of the Jews of Arlington, and will highlight a selection of veterans who served from the Civil War to the Iraq war. It will also tell the Jewish history associated with various well-known monuments in the cemetery.

### **Biography:**

Les Bergen is a member of the JGSGW, and a former Army officer who has lived in Arlington since the mid-1970s.

He leads tours of Jewish sites at Arlington National Cemetery for the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington as well as giving presentations about local Jewish history. He is treasurer of the Southern Jewish Historical Society, and board member of the Biblical Archaeology Society of Northern Virginia.

**JGSGW Guest Attendance Policy:** Meetings and most events are free to JGSGW members. Non-members may attend for a fee of \$5. If they decide to join JGSGW at the meeting or event, the \$5 will be applied toward membership. Members who require personal assistance due to a health condition or disability may bring an assistant at no charge.