Alan Levitt spent 42 years in the Federal government, the last 15 in the White House Drug Policy Office. He also worked at the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In each position he focused on educating the public and changing attitudes and behavior. Since retiring more than 10 yrs ago, he has spent much time advocating for greater support and awareness of disabilities and inclusion with the Jewish Federation and his synagogue in Maryland.

Levitt is from Los Angeles and has communication degrees from UC Berkeley and American University. He has been a member of JewishGen for more than 30 yrs and the Bessarabia SIG since its founding.

Most important to him is not how far back one can go in searching for ancestors, or how many people are on a family tree. What's most important to him are the conditions that his ancestors faced and how they impacted his family's trajectory.

Session:

Even a single old photograph can be useful in telling a story