

Family from Khotin, Bessarabia

from Fran Schreiber

June, 2013

My father, Irving Schreiber wrote the geneology as well as the remembrance of his grandmother Feyga. My dad was born in 1921; he [died](#) this past March at the age of 91. He would have been living in Queens when he wrote these and began writing in earnest after he retired so that would be about 25 years ago. We self published two volumes of his work, one of which, [The War Years](#) is on Amazon; the other book of short stories are mostly about growing up in NY in the early 20th century and family remembrances. It's no longer in print though I have many of the stories on my computer. We are in the process of compiling a third volume now.

I have found the Ellis Island manifests for my grandfather (my dad's father, Abraham), his grandmother Feyga, and two or three of my grandfather's siblings. Here is an excerpt from a remembrance my father wrote about his father Abe which is perhaps an incentive to other family researchers to pursue every angle as it turns out my grandfather came in under an assumed name!

"As it turns out, my daughter Fran has done considerable research into the arrivals of her ancestors in America. Among a number of interesting items she has turned up is the manifest of the ship, the S.S. Ryndam, on which my father arrived at Ellis Island. Pa's recollection that he arrived on June 5, 1906 was accurate. As to his age, the manifest shows that he was eighteen, not sixteen, when he came to these shores.

It is interesting to me that Pa's story that he came into the country bearing the name of Abraham Brownstein was true because Pa had a habit of exaggerating and making up stories just to be interesting. Pa told me that among the rumors making the rounds among the immigrants was that if an immigrant did not have a blood relative to receive him in America he would be sent

back to Europe. Pa didn't have any such relatives in the U.S. So, he said his name was Brownstein, rather than Schreiber, and that his friend Brownstein who lived in New York was his brother. When Fran looked in vain for an Abraham Schreiber who arrived in the U.S. in 1906, I remembered Pa's Brownstein story. And sure enough, Fran located an Abraham Braunstein, a furrier from *Khotin*, who arrived on June 5, 1906. That was Pa."

best regards, Fran