JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF MARYLAND

Meeting of November 24, 2013

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Jewish Community Center – Park Heights

MINUTES

Lara Diamond, Co-President, opened the meeting at 10:30 am.

We were introduced to a visitor from the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Philadelphia, Evan Fishman. Mr. Fishman serves as editor of *Chronicles,* the quarterly journal of the Philadelphia society. Sample copies of the journal were made available to our group.

Susan Steeble reminded our members that we will be publishing an on-line newsletter and we invite members to contribute articles on topics of genealogical interest.

Vice President Laya Bitman has agreed to lead our efforts in Member Services, which includes mentoring of members.

Edie Shlian announced that volunteers are needed at the Jewish Museum of Maryland to organize and index items in their collections. Interested persons can contact Ileen Cohen, volunteer coordinator, or Deborah Cardin, assistant director, at the museum.

Dick Goldman reported that he will be teaching genealogy classes, including one at the Myerberg Senior Center in February and one at the Pikesville Senior Center in April.

A request was made for assistance in translating a document from Yiddish to English. Dick Goldman noted that using ViewMate within JewishGen could yield such a translation. The topic led to a wider discussion of various languages that members have at their command and which could be used to assist other members. A list was circulated to record the languages represented within the group. This information will be added to our membership data base and translation assistance will be a part of member services.

**Guest Presentation**

Our special guest presenter, Elise Friedman, a past president of JGSMD in its earlier existence was introduced. Ms. Friedman operates Relative Roots, specializing in Jewish genetic genealogy and is based out of Boca Raton, Florida.

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| http://relativeroots.net/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/efgen2.jpg | Elise Friedman is a professional genealogist, specializing in Jewish genealogy, genetic genealogy, and technology. She has given lectures and workshops at a variety of venues, from local genealogy and community meetings to national and international genealogy conferences. She has researched her own family history for more than 10 years, and has roots in Belarus, Poland, Russia and the former Galicia region of Ukraine.  Ms. Friedman is very active in the field of genetic genealogy, where she works as a consultant for Family Tree DNA, volunteers as JewishGen’s DNA Projects Coordinator, serves as volunteer administrator for several DNA projects, and co-authored a genetic genealogy case study that was published in the AVOTAYNU and FORUM genealogy journals. |

Ms. Friedman’s presentation, an introduction to genetic genealogy, generated a lively discussion.

**Next Meeting**

The group will next meet on Sunday, December 22 at 1:00 pm, at the JCC – Park Heights. The program will be announced at a later date.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm.