# **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

| PLEASE PRINT    |
|-----------------|
| Name(s)         |
| Mailing Address |
| City            |
| State           |
| Zip Code        |
| Home Phone _()  |
| Cell Phone _()  |
| E-mail          |
| Check One:      |
| Membership Type |
|                 |

Individual \$30 Family \$45

Patron \$100 ( ) (Individual or Family)
Patrons are recognized in the Mishpacha
newsletter and at the June Membership
Appreciation Luncheon.

LIFETIME \$500 ( ) (Individual or Family)
Lifetime Members are recognized in the
Mishpacha newsletter and at the June
Membership Appreciation Luncheon.

Apply using PayPal at www.JGSGW.org or mail this form with your check to:

JGSGW PO Box 1614 Rockville, Maryland 20849

# **BECOME A MEMBER**

It's easy to become a member of the JGSGW! Just fill out the membership application on the back of this brochure and mail it with your check to the address indicated or submit your application online using PayPal at www.jgsgw.org. You will receive a confirmation with welcome letter by email and an information packet.

Membership in JGSGW is your stepping stone to admission to exclusive members-only workshops, our annual luncheon, as well as monthly programs. You will be sent meeting notices, items of interest, and Mishpacha (our quarterly journal). At your first meeting, be sure to pick up a copy of our Membership Directory and Family Finder. It all starts with you submitting the Membership Application.

The Society is certified as a non-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code and contributions may be tax deductible according to law.

# **COME JOIN US!**

Our programs and activities offer something of interest to everyone. A sample of our past offerings:

- Behind the Scenes Tour of Iraqi Jewish Archives at the National Archives
- A Walking Tour of Jewish Philadelphia
- GenealogyIndexer Search Engine
- The Immigrant Saga: A Memoir of the Lower East Side & Early Jewish American Writers
- DNA and Genealogy
- Genealogy Resources in the Library of Congress
- INS Board of Special Inquiry Records
- The Changing Borders of Eastern Europe
- How to Design and Construct a Family History Book Entirely by Yourself
- From the Spanish Inquisition to the Present: A Search for Jewish Roots

Margot S. Heckman Memorial Lecture Series will annually sponsor a national expert on family history to speak to the Greater Washington area community.

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington is a member of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, the Federation of Genealogy Societies, and the National Genealogy Society.

We are also a supporter of JewishGen.

# THE JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON



LINKING PAST GENERATIONS
TO THE FUTURE

THE JEWISH GENEALOGY SOCIETY OF GREATER WASHINGTON, INC.
P. O. Box 1614
ROCKVILLE, MD 20849-1614

www.jgsgw.org email: jgsgw@jgsgw.org www.facebook.com/groups/JGSGW/

# WHO WE ARE

The Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington (JGSGW) is one of the oldest societies of its kind. Founded in 1980, we are an independent, non-profit educational organization of members from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. The JGSGW invites you to join our growing membership to enrich your personal journey into your family history and your roots in the Jewish community. Whether you are new to Jewish genealogy, have a few years of experience, or are an expert in the field our many programs, resources and learning opportunities can help you take the next steps toward fulfilling your genealogy goals.

# WHY JEWISH GENEALOGY?

Genealogy has grown to become one of the most popular activities, hobbies, and businesses in the United States. Jewish genealogy is no exception, but is unique in many ways. The lineage of our Biblical ancestors is prominently documented in the Torah, an indication of the priority placed on establishing our origins. Tracing our Jewish roots, or shorashim, is often complicated by family migrations from villages no longer on any map using names that were changed. Pogroms, resettlements and the Holocaust have all served in recent Jewish history to destroy our ancestral communities and break up the continuity of our families. The JGSGW understands the special challenges of researching our Jewish ancestry and can effectively help you to access the record repositories, online resources and local experts needed to assist you in your search.

# **BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP**

As a member of the JGSGW, you will benefit from our many programs, publications and research resources:

# Member Programs

From September through June, monthly meetings offer interesting and informative guest lectures, media presentations, and panel discussions on subjects of relevance to Jewish genealogy. JGSGW hosts an end-of-the-year buffet luncheon and celebration to close out each season. "Brick Wall" discussions with society experts can help you develop strategies for your ongoing research. Special events and opportunities for participation in community events are also available.



**Publications** 

As a member, you will receive our quarterly journal, Mishpacha, containing interesting articles, news, announcements and program information. The society also writes and publishes the important research guide, Capital Collections, the most comprehensive resource for Jewish research in the D.C area.



RESOURCE CENTER

As a member, you will have exclusive access to our Library. The JGSGW maintains a collection of more than 2000 books, published and unpublished works, microfiche, and lectures relevant to general and Jewish genealogy. Our library is located at the B'nai Israel Congregation Library in Rockville, MD. Personalized support and mentoring is offered to members in the use of the resources.



LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Free workshops are held frequently and are open only to members. Our popular Beginner's Workshop is taught twice a year

by experienced members of the JGSGW as a comprehensive introduction to tools and techniques for getting started with your search. Past workshops have featured introductions to the JewishGen website and the "Family Tree Maker" software.

## MEMBERS ONLY WEBSITE ACCESS

The JGSGW redesigned website will feature a members-only section with access to special features and functions, including a Q&A exchange, a photo gallery and an online events calendar.

## RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS

The JGSGW has a long history of performing research projects for the benefit of the genealogical community. Our collaborations have included indexing records for the National Archives, creating a database and website on Jews buried in Arlington National Cemetery, and scanning materials at the Library of Congress. We photograph and index gravestones from local Jewish cemeteries as an ongoing mission, and are collaborating with the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington to preserve a donated archive.

