



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia

JGASGP

<https://jgsgp.org>

Hi Everyone! As we continue to stay at home in quarantine, I'm glad that we can find numerous GENEALOGICAL distractions. I've joined book discussions, watched films, and joined webinars about research. I enjoyed the History of the Catskills and a cooking lesson by the owner/chef of Zahav. [JewishGen.org/live](https://www.jewishgen.org/live) is offering some fabulous webinars. You have to go to the link and pre-register. The one about how to use JewishGen was a reminder that EVERYONE needs to sign up for Family Finder.

BTW, Jewish Genealogy Portal on Facebook is another great place to post your questions.

FROM
MARILYN GOLDEN VP
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
membership@jgsgp.org



CHRONICLES, Our
Quarterly Journal:

Please submit articles to
our Chronicles editor,
Evan Fishman, at
editor@jgsgp.org. We all
have stories to tell!

**Deadline for the next
issue of Chronicles is
August 31st.**

If you want to add
Chronicles to your
membership it is an extra
\$10.

Don't forget VIEWMATE for translations. I recently realized that my great-grandfather signed his name in Hebrew on his Naturalization document. His name was Harry Shotz. I thought he signed it in Yiddish, but two people on Viewmate assured me he signed it in Hebrew. His name was Tzvi Shotz. I never knew that fact!

I'm repotting orchids and working in my garden as the weather has gotten nicer. Still can't find Grandpa Morris! I just heard from a possible 3rd cousin match on [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) who is from Ohio. I'm working on our possible connection.

Our membership continues to grow. We currently we have 288 PAID UP MEMBERS! 891 members are on our Facebook group too!

I have been sending out genealogy related webinars and also posting them on Facebook. When I find interesting topics, I will include them here too. Check out www.emanuelnyc.org for interesting lectures about a variety of topics at no charge. Please continue to send me notices and links to share.

Tony Hausner responded to some of our questions:

a) What factors determined whether or not and when a person was released?

From July to November 1940 the British government released a series of White Papers detailing the categories by which internees could apply for release. Initially these focused mostly on those who were elderly or sick, those who could make obvious contributions to the war effort such as engineers, doctors and agricultural workers, those with visas to emigrate overseas, and those willing to enlist in the Auxiliary Military Pioneer Corps. Internees could only apply for release if they had been classified as category C at the national aliens tribunals (Sept. to Nov. 1939). If they were a B category they had to go before another tribunal on the Isle of Man in order to have their category changed. It was protested that many people were unable to leave the camps so more categories were added in order to increase the options.

b) How many children were interned?

Approximately 400 children were interned with their mothers in Rushen Camp on the Isle of Man.

c) What was the extent of religious practices? My understanding is that religious services were held, but guessed it is unlikely that kosher meat was available.

The camps were frequently visited by local ministers, religious services were held for all denominations, and Orthodox Jews had access to kosher meat after a few weeks in the Isle of Man camps.

Harry Boonin shared: There is an up to date (2017) book produced by Edward Marks, published by the Friends of Fort Ontario, 2017. There is also a Safe Haven Museum in Oswego. I have a copy if anyone wants to look at it or keep it on behalf of our genealogy society.

It is for sale by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing office, Washington, D. C. Price 35 cents. The book has a 7 page bibliography.

The name of the book (150 page up-date) is "TOKEN SHIPMENT, The Story of America's Refugee Shelter." Lots of photos and names. My Keshet Israel book has a story of Alter BLATT, one of the 900+ Jewish immigrants taken on the ship U.S.A.T. Henry Gibson to Oswego, NY from Italy. He ended up being the hazzan at Keshet Israel in Philly.

Carol Robbins shared: I saw the TV movie "Haven" from 2001, a dramatization. (Ruth Gruber)

I borrowed the DVD from The Holocaust Museum at KleinLife. When the building opens again, maybe you and others can borrow it. Or maybe it is available some other way.

Just wanted to recommend. Maybe you can let the group know that a movie is available also.

THANKS FOR SHARING! THANKS FOR SHARING!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

Greetings to all JGASGP Members! This president's message today will be a bit of a folksy departure from previous months. I welcome your feedback as to how you have used your homebound time to do something different, and maybe de-stress, too.

Another month of Covid-19 is now in the books and hopefully closer to a vaccine. The optimist in me is telling me that life will be back to normal before we know it. I recently read that during unusual times like this, it is normal and healthy to forget about following a strict schedule or being as productive as before the pandemic hit. I think there is wisdom in that school of thought. So how have I met this challenge to stay positive and reasonably active?

- *Facetiming much more with my adorable five year old grandson, Phoenix. We read together and do sign language lessons too.*
- *Spending time on projects I did not have time for pre-quarantine. 7 large planters are now in place on our back deck and front steps. My husband and I enjoy the beautiful flowers when we sit on our deck with Bongo and Yukon- our black and white (respectively) standard poodles.*
- *Birdwatching! Since I can't be with my extended family or friends in person, I have become a crazy bird-lady, obsessed with identifying each new visitor to our birdfeeders. This is my "ornithological genealogy" hobby....I love the redwing blackbirds,*

goldfinches, two pairs of cardinals, downy woodpeckers, juncos, catbirds, bluejays, purple finches, a mom and baby pair of mourning doves plus the breathtaking pair of bald eagles that soar on thermal currents high above my house and live in the state park adjacent to our neighborhood.

- *Audiobooks, podcasts and webinars!! Mitch Albom has just released a new book called Human Touch. He wrote this in real time to parallel the pandemic as a weekly serial, and reads it in his own voice on the Audible app (www.audible.com). You probably know his name from one of his previous books, Tuesdays With Morrie, written about his Brandeis College professor who had ALS. Give Human Touch a listen, and have a kleenex or two ready.*
- *Lest I not mention my wonderful husband, David...he is our landscaper and has been busy creating a new garden patio and flagstone path for us.*
- *Last but not least, I have jumped back into organizing my office and all of my personal genealogy files. Not finished yet, but I am making progress.*
- *That's what I have been up to, but does not include my quest to continue finding every family story, secret and cousin out there.*

To everyone who has joined in our Zoom meetings, thank you. I hope you have enjoyed our speakers. Kudos to our VP Mark Halpern for all of his work on lining up a slate of very interesting speakers for the next few months! Please make sure to register when you get your email for each session.

I look forward to seeing you all on our next Zoom meeting!

Stay home and stay healthy!

Felicia Mode Alexander

President JGASGP

PROGRAMMING INFORMATION:

Mark has been very busy programming for us. We are very lucky to have 2 sessions by Daniel Horowitz from MyHeritage. These webinars are different topics. You need to register for both. After the sessions, we will be offered a discount for joining MyHeritage. These meetings are for active members only.

Dr. Robert Watson will be discussing his novel, The Nazi Titanic. His book is an extensive research into this event that occurred in the final hours of the Holocaust.

This is a special meeting open to members and all guests. (we can have 500 attend our Zoom meetings). You may share the link for this meeting only. I have attached files with more information about these meetings.

"The Nazi Titanic" lecture: my suggestion is to purchase the book in advance of this lecture. I needed a few weeks to read it. There was a lot to digest. You will be impressed by his research!

JUNE MEETINGS:

Wednesday, June 17, 2020 **5PM** start

MyHeritage

JGASGP MEMBERS ONLY – MUST REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR in advance.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8992097869968949775>

Wednesday, June 24, 2020 **5PM** start

MyHeritage

JGASGP MEMBERS ONLY – MUST REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR in advance.

Registration: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/430656022291095823>

Sunday, June 28, 2020 1-1:30 check in. JGASGP meeting and program begins at 1:30. Members should check in 1-1:15. We will be having many guests.

Speaker: Dr. Robert Watson

JGASGP MEMBERS and Guests are invited to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting at the scheduled time. Click on the link below at the scheduled time. Please practice with a Zoom sign in, see the attached instructions, or contact me for help **prior** to Sunday! You do not pre-register for this meeting.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81913704025?pwd=MWsyLzNIY2F2UEhzVkF5ZEozNzhKQT09>

JULY MEETINGS:

Sunday, July 19, 2020 1-1:30 check in. JGASGP meeting and program begin at 1:30.

Speaker: Sandy Lanman

Join Zoom Meeting JGASGP MEMBERS ONLY

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3280768188?pwd=TDZhSFpoNytiVTFSOXVLSGIMT0o0QT09>



Sandy began her career as a staff writer for a NJ daily, winning awards for health, medical and human interest writing. As a public relations professional, she has worked in the arts, public television and higher education and continues to serve as a p.r. consultant. She serves on the boards of the Friends of the East Brunswick Environmental Commission and Central Jersey Jewish Historic Society and is a member of the Mercer County Jewish Genealogical Society at Beth El Synagogue. She has been presenting programs on her search for her mother's biological family

for over 20 years. Sandy holds a bachelor's degree in English and master's in communication from Rutgers University.

Topic: Haven or Hell? Jews in the Philippines During WWII

For years, Sandy Lanman knew her grandmother Elsie had escaped Germany to the Philippines only to lose her husband Gunther in the brutal Battle of Manila at the end of World War II. Aside from a few photos and family stories, she knew little else. In 2019, a serendipitous encounter on Facebook led her to Gunther's great-nephew and a trove of photos of Elsie and Gunther in Manila. The discovery sparked her interest in the history of this little-known Jewish haven. Through film, photos and Elsie's own words, Sandy's presentation tells the story of the rescue of 1,300 European Jews and the terrors they faced under Japanese rule during World War II.

AUGUST MEETINGS:

Sunday, August 2 **Finding your Litvak family** (more info to be announced) **JGASGP MEMBERS ONLY**

August 10-13 IAJGS (International Conference information to be announced)

Sunday, August 23. **DNA and Genetics** (more info to be announced) **JGASGP MEMBERS ONLY**

Translators and Researchers

Translators Recommended:

1. ViewMate on Jewishgen.org. FREE

2. Yiddish and Hebrew:

I do translations from **Yiddish and Hebrew**, and I specialize in handwritten letters and documents.

Mark Alsher

email: alsher21@icloud.com

3. Genealogy Translations of Facebook

Researchers: If you wish to hire a researcher, consider one of our members. All are experienced researchers! Presented in Alphabetical order.

Evan Fishman

30 years expertise researching.

ebf2001@comcast.net

Lois Sernoff

(30 years expertise researching Philadelphia. Has worked for Miriam Weiner)

Jglois@verizon.net

Keren Weiner

413-499-9980

Kweiner2@gmail.com

www.kerenweinergenealogy.com

member of Association of Professional Genealogists

Alicia Weiss

Graduate of the Boston U certificate Research Program.

Current participant in the ProGen Study program

reclaimingyourtribe@gmail.com

And now for something completely different!

Sarina's Sephardic Cuisine

Salad is one of those things, like morning coffee, that we are particular about. What we put in it and how we dress it. Do we want tomatoes? Cherry or grape tomatoes? Onions or not, only red onions, please. With coffee it's the type of sweetener, milk or soy, no fat, low fat or full fat, flavoring or not, decaf or regular? So many ways to have the coffee that keep coffee bars in business.

Back to salad. As different as our preferences are for salads, so are our preferences for dressing. So here is the how to:

Start with a **vinaigrette** by mixing ½ C oil, 2 TBS wine or sherry vinegar, 2 TBS fresh lemon juice, 1 clove minced garlic, 1 tsp mustard, and ½ tsp Kosher salt. Now for the variations. Use olive, grapeseed, avocado or nut oil.

For a **Fennel Dill** dressing use white wine vinegar, and 1 tsp of fresh dill or fennel fronds and a sprinkling of fennel seeds.

For a **Maple Balsamic** dressing, add a minced shallot and 1 tsp maple syrup. Replace lemon juice and sherry vinegar with balsamic vinegar.

For **Cumin Lime** dressing use lime juice instead of lemon and sunflower oil. Add ½ tsp cumin.

For a more **Asian** dressing, use grapeseed oil and rice vinegar and add 1 tsp ginger, 1 tsp sesame oil and 1 tsp honey.

Basic Italian dressing combines the basic vinaigrette with 1 tsp of basil and/or oregano. I like to add thyme as well.

Add in crunch with chick peas, croutons, and some type of nuts (try pepitas) if desired.

Tori Avey 

EVERY DAY INSPIRED BY THE PAST

Fabulous website ToryAvey.com with terrific recipes. Try Salmon with Strawberries, balsamic vinegar and basil!

I WILL SEND OUT REMINDERS WITH MEETING LINKS!

Meetings are for members only except for June 28th. Feel free to invite guests to hear Dr. Watson speak about The Nazi Titanic.

Hope everyone remains healthy!

Marilyn, VP Membership Secretary mazergoldenjgsgp@gmail.com

