

FROM
MARILYN GOLDEN VP
membership@jgasgp.org



CHRONICLES, Our
quarterly award-
winning journal:

Please submit articles
to our Chronicles edi-
tor, Evan Fishman,

editor@jgasgp.org

We all have stories to
tell! Deadline for the
next issue of *Chroni-
cles* will be announced
in the spring issue.

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



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

5/23/2021

Hi Everyone,

Sunday's lecture featured Alex Krakovsky who discussed Tracing Jewish Ancestors from Ukraine: Why Many Researchers Fail and How to Succeed. Alex wowed over 80 of us with his story about his family inspiration and the documents he has successfully scanned in the Ukraine. He spends every day in the Ukrainian archives! Starting with just his cell phone and a lawsuit...

My take-away... Not all records were burned and destroyed. Birth records may not exist, but there are plenty of others to look at. I will quote Alex as saying, "There is always a record waiting for you".

Alex is more than happy to answer your questions. If I missed yours from the chat, or if you now have a question after watching the video, feel free to contact Alex. Alex's e-mail address alexkrakovsky@gmail.com

Below is the link to recording of the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/5cEo-JoURGY7dWl1ZXv7PWF6KFJRKwNDRFzgprvxUSulE-QiOK45Rdku5MS1-6A.MEnHrVuKKRaiwlAo> Passcode: B25vOy^+

Below are the URLs from Alex with suggestions from our other members.

*Google translates these indexes into English. The documents are **only** in Russian. Alex scans documents. He does not translate them. (Click on the https: part of each link provided).

<https://gwar.mil.ru/> Military information

<https://forum.j-roots.info/viewtopic.php?t=1942>

<https://uk.wikisource.org/wiki/%D0%90%D1%80%D1%85%D1%96%D0%B2%D0%B8> (Sources from Archival Institutions)

<https://uk.wikisource.org/wiki/> (Sources from Wiki free library. Search: Jewish towns)

If you go to <https://www.jewishgen.org/Ukraine/>, you will find a list of Ukraine towns with their regions and gubernias.

(Chuck Weinstein)

https://www.tkfgn.org/inventory_provinces.html (Michael Levin)

<https://j-roots.info/> (David Brill)

<https://stevemorse.org/russian/r2ebatch.html> (Steve Morse) For Russian name translation

<https://www.rtrfoundation.org/lnintro.shtml> (Miriam Weiner surname database) For Russian name translation

Beginner's Corner and Research Tips

Look for our **Getting Started with Jewish Genealogy** under the Publications tab on our new website for a comprehensive beginner's guide.

As a Jewish Genealogist I am always looking to make connections. I am involved in collaborative endeavors to build my family tree. I continue to search through the internet for records and clues. I find deceased relatives and look for living ones to connect with. I've found many relatives through a variety of sources. Are you putting yourself out there to make as many connections as possible?

Are you utilizing the **JewishGen Discussion Group (JGDG)**? If not, then our next meeting is for you!

Phil Goldfarb will be teaching us how to post messages and find answers to questions!

This is a daily summary for [JewishGen.org Discussion Group](#).

NEW TOPICS:

- [Ancestry Library Edition Available Remotely Extended to September 30, 2021](#) #announcements #general
By Jan Meisels Allen
- [Help Linking a 1915 New York Death Index to the Actual Record](#) #records
By David Levine
- [Identify photo from Cape Town](#) #southafrica
By Yehoshua Sivan
- [How do I find out why my great-grandfather emigrated from Lithuania under an assumed name?](#) #lithuania
By Perry Shorris, Frayda, JoAnne Goldberg
- [Translation from German \(maybe Polish?\)](#) #poland #names
By Jeffrey Grossman
- [Help deciphering a town name on passenger Manifest](#) #records #belarus
By David Levine
- [JGS Toronto. Free Virtual Meeting. Sharing Data on Genealogical Websites: Uses and Abuses. Henry Blumberg. Wednesday, 26 May 2021, 7:30 p.m.. ET.](#) #announcements #jgs-iajgs
By Jerry Scherer
- [Help requested with Polish document below](#) #translation #poland
By Jeffrey Knisbacher

How do I know when my genealogy research is complete? You're never really "done" researching your family history. There are always new people, stories, and records to add to your tree. Enjoy the process, and don't forget to *source everything! Sign up for the [Family History Daily](#) and receive a free comprehensive genealogy checklist. See the information below in Resource Suggestions. The more you read, listen, research, and collaborate with others, the more you learn. See the Genealogy Bank series information about citing sources below in resource suggestions.

Chronicles

The spring edition of Chronicles has been sent out. Another fabulous, award winning edition! Keep those research articles coming! We look forward to hearing from you about your Breakout Room successes! We are currently working on the summer edition. Contact Evan, editor@jgasgp.org for any questions.

NEWSFLASH! We now have posted all issues of Chronicles dating back to 1982 (Vol 1 # 1). It is also indexed by author and chronological order. You can use the Find function of Adobe Reader to search for any character string in these indexes.

Contributions

We would like to thank all members who make generous donations over \$10.

Each quarter we will publish the names of those donations received. We appreciate your continued kindness and generosity.

From the President's Desk

In just a few days we enter the month of June! Most of us have been vaccinated! I sense a wonderful air of optimism, and a glimpse of what the future may hold in terms of a return to normalcy. Our Society will continue to evolve as well. In response to our outstanding programs on Zoom during the pandemic, we have experienced a significant increase in members, with new people joining us from all over the country and even some international members. Moving forward, we plan to continue serving both our local and long-distance members. At yesterday's General Meeting, VP of Programming Mark Halpern spoke about a return to our monthly in person meetings sometime in the fall, with virtual meetings held as well as the in-person gatherings. Board members have also been researching the options for live streaming these in person meetings from our usual host synagogues. I find this to be an exciting time of continued growth for our society.

Member Spotlight

The heart and soul of the JGASGP has always been the generous sharing of our members' expertise. This has been through research discoveries and family histories. Jewish genealogy can be an overwhelming and mind-boggling maze of previously unknown names and places, combined with both disheartening and uplifting historical events. In other words, there is much to learn along the way. *Chronicles* has always been our medium for sharing scholarly information with our members. Our mentoring events have provided a way for experienced genealogists to lend a hand to those experiencing brick walls, or just getting started. My own research would never have advanced to where it is today without the incredible help of our late Board member, Monica Leonards Z"l who taught me about the land of my ancestors in German speaking Poland, Posen/Poznan, then part of the Kingdom of Prussia. I am sure each of us can point to one or more individuals who factored into their "Aha moments".

With this spirit of generosity and helping one another, I would like to point out a few members who you may not know well... yet. These are people who have taken on projects that you will be hearing more about in the near future. If you or someone you know has a special project I can share with our members, please email me! jgasgp.president@gmail.com

Dr. Adam Denish, by day a veterinarian, but in his side job, a Board member of HAMEC and our liaison with that organization. <https://hamec.org> HAMEC is the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center, which is now housed at one of our host synagogues, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. It is my goal that we will be able to work more closely with HAMEC now that our in-person meetings will be returning!

Sharon Taylor, a newer member of our society, has created several outstanding Zoom presentations. Most recently, Marilyn and I attended her talk about what it was like for our ancestors living in shtetls across Eastern Europe. Sharon will also be representing our society by presenting this lecture at the IAJGS virtual conference in August!

Karen and Jeff Albert have been actively working on the Har Nebo cemetery restoration project. The project director is Rich Blumberg, but Karen and Jeff are among those working on this massive undertaking.

<https://www.jewishexponent.com/2021/01/14/cemetery-restoration-pilot-project-underway/> Although there are a number of Jewish cemeteries in need of restoration, Har Nebo is one of the largest and the owner is supportive of the project. Kudos to Karen and Jeff. To learn how you can help, go to:

<https://jewishphilly.org/get-involved/volunteer/cemeteryrestoration/>

Mark Melmed, one of our long-time members is currently working on a Yoni Netanyahu genealogy book to present to the family of Yoni, who attended Cheltenham High School and the family has strong links to our

area for this reason. For those of you old enough to remember, the older brother of Israel's Prime Minister was the only Israeli commando killed during the historic Raid on Entebbe in 1976. <https://www.britannica.com/event/Entebbe-raid> This raid freed hostages taken in a terrorist attack on an Air France flight that left Israel with 248 passengers. The plane was taken to Entebbe Airport in Uganda. Of those 248 passengers, those not Jewish or with ties to Israel were released by the terrorists, but many passengers were forced to stay on the plane at Entebbe where the stealth rescue mission ultimately saved 103 lives. Yoni will be remembered at an event marking the 45th anniversary of the Miracle at Entebbe, which will be held at Congregation Mikveh Israel on July 4, 2021. More information will be shared in June, as we hope to see JGASGP members in attendance.

Future JGASGP Zoom Meeting

* Some meeting reminders:

1. Closed Captioning will be turned on during the meeting.
2. This meeting will be recorded for members who are unable to attend.
3. Please do not share the link. Our meetings are for members only and we appreciate your cooperation.
4. The chat function between members will be turned off during the presentation.
5. Please type your questions into the chat and they will be read by me during the Q and A. Please ask questions that are relevant to the presentation. E-mail personal questions to me at membership@jgasgp.org.
6. Sign in 1-1:30 to ask questions, tell us about your finds or brick walls. New members introduce themselves.

Date: Sunday, June 13, 2021

Time: 1:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional)

Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Guest Speaker: Phil Goldfarb, Founder and President, Jewish Genealogical Society of Tulsa

Topic: Topic: How to Utilize the JewishGen Discussion Group Effectively

Researching genealogy for 35 years, Phil is the founding and current President of the JGS of Tulsa which started in 2005. He has lectured extensively on various topics in genealogy, published articles on genealogy in numerous periodicals, and authors a monthly column in the Tulsa Jewish Review. He has written two books titled *A Page of History: Passport Applications 1851-1914* and *A Page of History: Passport Applications Volume II 1915-1925*. Phil is a member of the Leadership Team for JewishGen as well as being the Lead Moderator for the JewishGen Discussion Group.

Agenda:

- What the JGDG is all about.
- Ways the JGDG can help you.
- Advantages of the new JGDG platform.
- Discussion Group Rules and Guidelines.
- How to join the JGDG.
- Group settings.
- Options for Group Message delivery.
- How to change an e-mail address or message delivery.
- Two ways to post a message.
- How to find archival messages (back to 1998!)
- Hashtags: how/why important to use them.
- How to "mute" hashtags to only get certain messages.
- How to create an automatic signature.

- How to reply to a message individually or to the group.
- Why messages are rejected or deleted.
- Success stories from the JGDG.
- Need help or are confused? Who to contact.

Help Wanted

Someone to take meeting notes as a backup for Linda, our secretary. You will need to send your typed summary notes to Linda a few days after each meeting. Summaries are published in Chronicles. Please contact Linda if you can help. lbewall623@gmail.com

An artist to help design a cover for the book that Mark Melmed is writing about Yoni Netanyahu. Contact [me](#).

In the News with Harry Boonin

Here is a recent communication between Harry Boonin and Anna Furman, the person in charge of this effort about the victims of Babyn Yar.

Dear Harry,

I sincerely thank you for your help and support and your recommendation regarding the book you have named. When we created an updated database of victims, our scientists used data from this material. This book became one of the sources in the research and made it possible to find new data in the archives of Kyiv about the victims of Babyn Yar.

The updated database of names is now available on the BYHMC online platform-
<https://babynyar.org/en/names>

If you know something about the descendants of Babyn Yar, about the people who lost their relatives in occupied Kyiv, please share this information and contacts with us. This is very useful.

Thanks for your letter! I hope to hear from you soon.

With best regards,

ANNA

ANNA FURMAN <A.FURMAN@BABYNYAR.ORG>

If you know of names that are not among the 18,000 or have any information about the names already identified and, in the database, please send an email to Anna and write to her what you know.

The listing is of 18,000 names of Jews killed at Babyn Yar, on the outskirts of Kiev Russia. Babyn Yar was 60 yards long and 8 feet wide. On September 29, 1941, 32,771 Kiev Jews were killed or thrown live into the Ravine. In a few more days the number had increased to 52,000 Jews, mostly oldsters, the infirm and the little children. At the end of the killing, the ravine held approximately 100,000 Jews.

In the late 1970s to the early 1980's my wife and I helped arriving Russian-Jewish immigrants settle in this area. Probably, the most important undertaking this group created was a memorial book to those killed at Babi Yar, containing 2,000 names and published the book in Russian, English, and Yiddish: "Kniga Pamyati,"

the “Book of Remembrance.” The book is hard to find, and I do not own one. It was published in 1983 and was edited by Professor Nora Levin, author of “**The Holocaust**,” and Shimon Kipnis & Joseph Vinokurov, recent arrivals then from the USSR. *Does anyone have a copy of this book? Please contact me.*

Thank you for helping Anna,
Harry
Harry Boonin harryboonin@gmail.com

IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy



You can now register for the IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy.

The Early Bird Registration fee is \$250 until June 10. It will be an all-virtual conference held from August 1–5. The conference will feature live-stream presentations as well as more than 100 pre-recorded, on-demand video presentations, both available for 60 days after the conference ends. Sessions will cover virtually every aspect of Jewish genealogy.

The special Conference tracks this year are:

- Early Jewish Settlers of the Americas
- Innovative Methodology
- Keepers of the Shoah Memory
- Beginners Research
- DNA Insights for Genealogy
- Heritage and Cultural Materials

Conference programs will range from those geared to first timers through conference veterans. Zoom-type networking will be available through Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and Birds of a Feather (BOFs).

Additional information, including how to register, is at the conference website: <http://iajgs2021.org>.

What will VIRTUAL look like? For this year's Conference, we're adding some high-tech visuals, but not to worry there will be plenty of directions and help.

All Attendees must be registered and then sign in at the Entrance. Once you are signed in, you will automatically be whisked into the Lobby area. The Lobby area gives everyone access to two main areas. The Expo Hall gives everyone access to all the sponsors, exhibitors, mentors, and translators. In the Auditorium, you will find the "Schedule at a Glance" to link to a session, presentation, or meeting within your attendee level.

Find out more at www.iajgs2021.org



Membership Dues

Our fiscal year runs from January 1st - December 31st, 2021. Our 2021 membership form is on our website. \$10 extra for printed Chronicles. Only active members will have access to our new members only portal on our website, receive the JGASGP Newsletter and emailed Chronicles. All meetings are for paid members only. Please do not share the Zoom links. Our fabulous meetings are a member benefit!

Tell your friends about us and send them to our website to join!

Resource suggestions:

Sephardic World Lectures on YouTube

Sephardic World is a weekly series on online talks, lectures and discussions on Sephardic genealogy, history, and culture. They are broadcast live on YouTube on Sunday afternoons, European time, and Sunday mornings, American time. Currently there are 40 videos online. They also publish an online newsletter.

Connect with Sephardic World at <https://tinyurl.com/3dtx3hyv>.

Sign up for "Nu? What's New?" The E-zine of Jewish Genealogy

Keep abreast of the most recent news in Jewish genealogy. Be informed of what is going on in Jewish genealogy worldwide. Read about the latest discoveries in DNA and how it can influence your methods of research.

Subscribe to Nu? What's New? our weekly e-mail magazine. Each week (usually on Sunday) you will receive a copy of this publication by e-mail. The cost is only \$12 per year; that's only \$1 per month or about 25 cents per issue.

Sign up for the Family History Daily and receive a free comprehensive genealogy checklist!

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/your-most-common-genealogy-questions-answered/>

Your Most Common Genealogy Questions Answered

Family History Daily has produced an article on "Your Most Common Genealogy Questions Answered." Many are oriented toward the needs of people starting their family history research, but others, such as "Is there a good way to break down a brick wall" applies to all levels of research

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania

With more than 21 million items in our collections, from diaries and letters to deeds and directories, HSP is one of the most complete and professional genealogy centers in the nation—and the largest in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, HSP is currently closed until further notice. You can contact them for more information.

<https://www.portal.hsp.org//for-genealogy>

What's New at Ancestry - May 2021 Edition

From Crista Cowan: An all-new episode of The Barefoot Genealogist dropped on Thursday of this week. Be sure to check out the video description as soon as you click the link. I tried something new by putting in video segments and descriptions and links to all the things I talked about. As always, if you have a question about something I talk about there, please leave a comment on the YouTube video. That's the fastest way to get a response from me or a member of the Ancestry® Social Media Support Team.

It's the first video on the top playlist here:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/CristaCowan>

Ancestry® Facebook Live Three months ago, I started doing regular Facebook LIVE Q&A sessions on the Ancestry® U.S. Facebook page. We don't have a hard and fast schedule for when they are going to occur due to all the other moving parts of my schedule. But typically, they are held on Tuesday afternoons. If you follow the page, you'll get notified when a LIVE session starts. And, you can always watch the replay at any time.

As a matter of fact, here's the whole playlist of past videos:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/7483836629/2043384795940392>

GenealogyBank has created a four-part series titled “Easy Guide to Citing Source’s in Genealogy.” Citing your sources is an important part of documenting your family history.

The four parts are located at:

- <https://tinyurl.com/kncb2w2x>
- <https://tinyurl.com/5d4tkyfp>
- <https://tinyurl.com/t9ptmrxa>
- <https://tinyurl.com/y5bfn4ab>

Recommended Genealogy Websites with links from Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

JewishGen

“The first source to go to for Jewish Genealogy.” Info files by topic and country. Family Finder, Family Tree of the Jewish People, Yizkor book translations and more. First Timer videos for the beginner.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

Monthly educational programs, extensive reference library of worldwide resources, one-on-one assistance.

Ancestry

Comprehensive source for U.S. and foreign materials. Free at many libraries. Paid subscription needed. for home use after free trial period

Family History Library Catalog

World’s largest collection of genealogical records available on microfilm and online.

My Heritage

International genealogy research website and social network service. Available by paid subscription.

Ellis Island

For immigrant arrival records from 1892-1924. Use the Steve Morse website (next) for easier searches.

Steve Morse

Find your ancestors more effectively in the Ellis Island database and the U.S. and N.Y. census. A wealth of other genealogical material.

Routes to Roots Foundation

Identifies which Jewish vital records can be found in state archives in Eastern Europe.

Yad Vashem

World’s largest searchable database of Holocaust victims’ names and information.

Center for Jewish History

Located in NYC; a partnership of major institutions: American Jewish Historical Society, American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum; genealogy research library.

JRI-Poland (Home of Jewish Records Indexing-Poland)

Database of indices to the 19th century Jewish vital records of Poland.

Italian Genealogy Group

They have digitized many New York based vital records, especially bride and groom indexes.

Volunteers:

We need a volunteer to take meeting notes for Linda when she is unavailable. Please contact Linda

(lbewall623@gmail.com) if you can take notes for a meeting.

Working on the Philadelphia Resource Guide 2021 continues. **Thank you to everyone** who has helped us with this project so far! We couldn’t have done it without you! Our plan is to have a newly revised 2021 Resource Guide for the City of Philadelphia ready for the IAJGS Conference 2021. The previous guide from 2009 is currently on our website for you to use. It has a lot of information and is worth checking out! Remember though, some of the information may be out of date! There will be more ways to volunteer in the future!

Webinars, Podcasts and Zoom Meetings of Interest

Utah Jewish Genealogical Society

June 21 – Chuck Weinstein, *The Three Great Myths of Jewish Genealogy* (future meeting info and registration to be announced in June)

- <https://ujgs.org/blog/news/> Meetings are free to attend, both in person and via webinar.
- Our blog is free to all subscribers or RSS readers.
- Issues of our past newsletter, *Atsmi Uvsari*, are available to download from our web site.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois will hold a virtual “Kvell and Tell” session on Sunday, June 27, 2021, as part of the group’s annual meeting. Several JGSI members will take turns sharing family history discoveries and research tips. <https://www.jgsi.org/Events-calendar> You will need to register on their website.

ConferenceKeeper.org has many events, conferences, and podcasts, listed for the month. Sign up for their weekly e-mails. Check out their virtual listing of events. <https://conferencekeeper.org/virtual/>

Legacy Family Tree Webinars General research <https://familytreewebinars.com/upcoming-webinars.php>

**ALL JEWISH GENEALOGY RESEARCH CLASSES FREE IN MAY –
CELEBRATING JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**



Through the end of May, our entire library of Jewish Genealogy classes at www.FamilyTreeWebinars.com/Jewish is free to the public.
[continue reading...](#)

MyHeritage.com is continuing to offer many live or recorded lectures. Even if you can’t make it to the live events, you can still enjoy all recorded FB Live sessions in the Videos section of the [MyHeritage Facebook page](#). Many of the webinars are available for free viewing on the [MyHeritage Knowledge Base](#).

Podcast: The US National Archive "On the Record" <https://conferencekeeper.org/genealogy-podcasts/>

News from JewishGen. [JewishGen.org/live!](https://www.jewishgen.org/live/) Has many recorded lectures and continuously adds new programs to their site.

JewishGen Virtual Conversations provides helpful suggestions, strategies, resources, and support with your genealogical research. These private sessions are designed to empower you to find the answers you are looking for. Just \$36 for a 45-minute Zoom session. To learn more, or to complete the questionnaire to get started, go to <https://www.jewishgen.org/Education/edu-virtual.html>.

Researching Jewish Families in America: Focus on Southern Jewish Resources

May 25, 2021, at 2:00 PM Eastern Time

Speakers: Jeremy Katz, Ellen Kowitz, Josh Parshall, Dale Rosengarten, Anna Tucker. [Click here to register](#)

To find online links to other Jewish genealogical societies, check out the list from the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies at: <https://www.iajgs.org/membership/member-societies/>

Website Update

186 members have registered for our new jgasgp.org website!

If you need help contact Jim, webmaster@jgasgp.org

Send your personal photos to Jim to be included in a future slideshow! If you haven't seen the slideshow yet, check it out! FYI: Jim has uploaded all past issues of *Chronicles*, from the original issue in 1982 through Winter 2020 under "Chronicles". It's all there behind the paid member firewall and works super easily!

Condolences



JGASGP extends condolences and well wishes to member's families. If you know of the illness or passing of a past or current member, please email a link of the obituary or provide the information for me to share.

ORENBUCH, DONALD IRWIN. Age 87, on Friday, May 7, 2021, at his home in Sandy Springs, GA. For most of his life, Don lived in suburban Philadelphia, PA. The son of Polish immigrants, he was active in the Philadelphia Jewish Genealogical Society and enjoyed teaching about the Jewish American immigrant history. A lifelong learner, Don took a variety of classes, including one called "Great Discussions," which turned into a weekly conversation with a special group of friends lasting nearly 15 years.

Disclaimer: The purpose of our group is to help foster research, education, collect family records and family connections. No political comments or advertising for services or merchandise are permitted.

