

FROM
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CHRONICLES, Our
quarterly award-
winning journal:

Please submit
articles to our
Chronicles editor,
Evan Fishman,

editor@jgasgp.org

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

7/12/2021

Hi Everyone,

Our guest speaker on Sunday was Marian Smith, Retired Historian at INS. Over 80 members signed in to learn about naturalization records!

Marian presented an overview of how to approach researching USCIS Records. US immigration and naturalization records were illustrated using documents of Jewish immigrants. She developed a timeline tool (included in the handout) and demonstrated how plotting an immigrant's life events can identify what records may exist for that particular immigrant and where these records can be found.

There is **NO** one set of instructions. You must know what is appropriate to look for. She was inspiring as well as interesting! If you don't know about A-files and C-files, then you'll want to watch her presentation.

Below is the link to recording of the meeting:

<https://uso2web.zoom.us/rec/share/eDs6U994Evocqt2-hVGdt5DLIQ2dqcwomaccl9-YO3TWbpjQNp7Wirn3SYmEUcgz.ys-5b7oT7FxFxyhl> Passcode: 76Yz^N=C

Crista Cowen talks about naturalization records too. See **Resource Suggestions** below for a link.

Beginner's Corner and Research Tips

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

At our last meeting we learned how to "Utilize the JewishGen Discussion Group". I asked for 3 headstone translations and received numerous responses within a day! It was fabulous! I'd like to know about your successes with the discussion group.

One of our members, Rebecca Parmet, reminded us today to "Never give up"! While researching she found a new branch of her family! Stay tuned for more because she'll be writing an article for Chronicles!

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?

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.

Chronicles

The hard copies have been mailed and you should have received yours if you paid the extra \$10 fee. Contact Jim, webmaster@jgasgp.org for any questions about receiving your copy.

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

Do you have successes to share? Any unusual finds you'd like to share? We are all relentless in our pursuit and enjoy hearing from fellow members. Our editors are happy to help you with your article. We want to hear from you!

Contributions

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

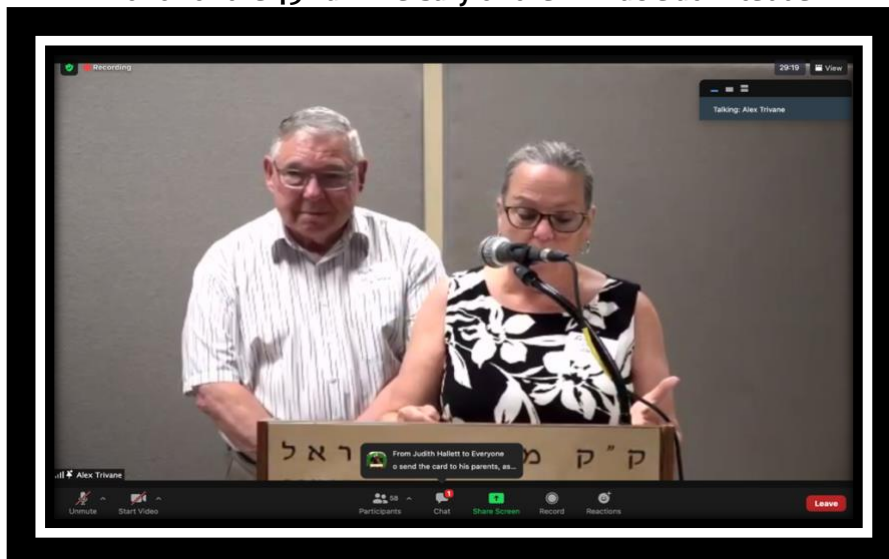
Each quarter we will publish the names of those donations received. Thank you to Fred Block (from Cambria, CA). We appreciate your continued kindness and generosity.

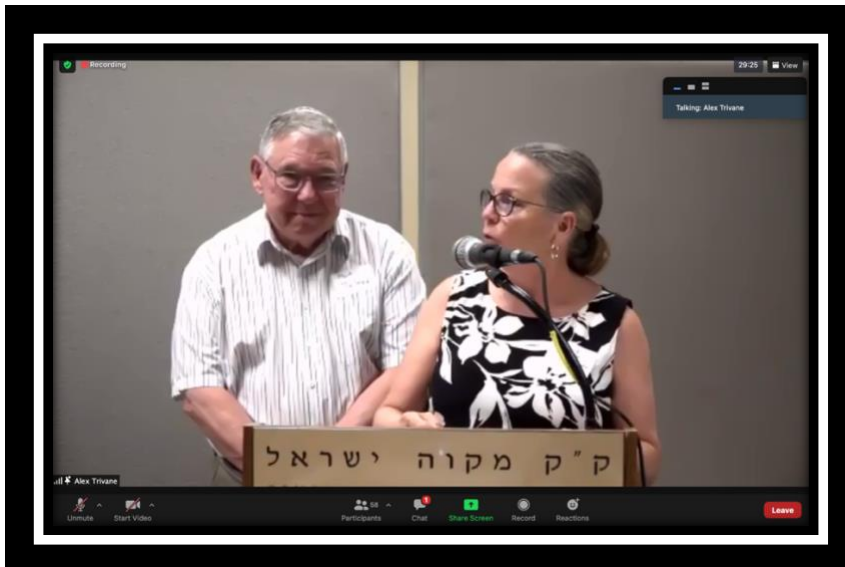
From the President's Desk

The American Nation Community Commemoration of the 45th Anniversary of the Miracle at Entebbe celebration honoring Lt. Col. Yoni Netanyahu took place on July 5th at Congregation Mikveh Israel.

Felicia Mode Alexander and Mark Melmed present the Netanyahu genealogy to Gil Hoffman, Seminar MC - Jerusalem Post Chief Political Reporter/Analyst

In honor of the 45th anniversary of the "Miracle at Entebbe"





Here is the speech that Felicia gave at the celebration:

As president of the Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia, I would like to extend a warm local welcome to emcees Ambassador Aharoni and Gil Hoffman, the team of organizers for today's event, distinguished speakers and guests, and especially to the representatives of Lt. Col. Yoni Netanyahu's family.

The Jewish Community in Philadelphia is as old as our nation, with an amazing history. Our genealogy society, the JGASGP, is one of the largest and most respected organizations of Jewish family researchers in the US. Founded in 1979, we were formed before genealogy research could even be done on computers, let alone the internet!!

Since we do go back more than four decades, Yoni's connection to Philadelphia is still remembered by some of our members, including our society's webmaster, who attended Cheltenham HS with him.

I am here today with another member, Mark Melmed. Mark has been active in the Miracle at Entebbe events over the years and brought an idea to our JGASGP board. We heartily approved and the result is a special gift for Yoni's family from our society.

Mark has compiled a beautiful, written history of the Netanyahu family including family trees, descendant and ancestor reports, biographies, photos and more.

There is also a flash drive with all of the information uploaded for the Netanyahu family to use and share with each other.

This information will also be privately shared with the members of our society through our website. The story of the Miracle at Entebbe and Yoni's heroism will continue through the Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia.

It is my pleasure to be part of this very important day, honoring the supreme sacrifice of Lt. Col. Yoni Netanyahu and the incredible and historic rescue mission for which he gave his life at Entebbe. Thank you.



Future JGASGP Zoom Meetings

* Some meeting reminders:

1. Closed Captioning will be turned on during the meeting.
2. These meeting will be recorded for members who are unable to attend.
3. Please do not share the links. 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 moderated 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, August 29, 2021

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

Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Guest Speaker: Erin Smith

Topic: Stoozeum (Stay tuned for more information)

We plan to meet in person starting in October! Please note the later start time!

Guests are invited at no charge!

The Steve Schechter Memorial Lecture for 2021

Date: Sunday, October 3, 2021

Time: 2:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional)

Official program starts promptly at 2:30*

Location: Congregation Rodeph Shalom
615 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Live and virtual presentation! MORE information to be announced!

Congregation Rodeph Shalom of Philadelphia, founded in 1795, is the oldest Ashkenazic synagogue in the Western Hemisphere.

When using Uber or Lyft, enter 1339 Green Street as your drop-off or pick-up location.

*Note that there is SECURED FREE PARKING during services and synagogue events.

Get directions and see a map or follow the directions below

RS is easily accessible by public transportation. Please check SEPTA trip planner for specific directions from your location. We are a half block from the Spring Garden Stop of the Broad Street Line (615 N Broad Street/1338 Mount Vernon Street). For driving directions: <https://rodephshalom.org/directions/>

**Guest Speaker: Dr. Robert Watson, Historian, Author, Political Commentator,
and Professor at Lynn University**



Robert Watson is an award-winning author who has published over 40 books and 200 scholarly articles and essays on topics in history and politics, as well as two multi-edition, multi-volume encyclopedia sets on the presidents and first ladies. His recent books include *Affairs of State* (2012), *America's First Crisis* (2014), *The Presidents' Wives* (2014), *The Nazi Titanic* (2016), *The Ghost Ship of Brooklyn* (2017), *George Washington's Final Battle* (2021), *Escape* (2021), a story about a notorious Confederate Prison and the Union soldiers who escaped, and the forthcoming books *When Washington Burned* (2022) and *100 Days of Terror*, a story about a pandemic that struck the capital city in 1793. His books have won the John Barry Book Award, John Lyman Book Award, Independent Publishers' Gold Medal in History, and others, have been published in international translation, and featured on C-SPAN's Book TV and at prominent literary festivals around the country.

Dr. Watson co-convoked several national conferences, co-founded the annual Truman Legacy Symposium for the Truman Presidential Library, and served on the boards of numerous academic associations, community organizations, and the Harry S. Truman Foundation, Calvin Coolidge Foundation, and George McGovern Center for Leadership. Watson is the recipient of many awards for his contributions to the study of the presidency, election commentary, community service, civics programs, and efforts to combat anti-Semitism and incivility.

Topic: This talk takes you behind the scenes to the challenges, debates, and deals that resulted in the US supporting statehood for Israel in 1948. It is based on numerous interviews conducted over many years with former aides to President Truman and Israeli officials, and on extensive research in the archives of the Truman Presidential Library. What emerges is an inspirational story of enlightened leadership both by Truman and Chaim Weizmann and Abba Eban.

Help Wanted

Someone to take meeting notes as a backup for Linda, our secretary.

Please contact Linda if you can help. lbewall623@gmail.com

In the News

IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy August 1-5, 2021



Additional information and how to register: <http://iajgs2021.org>.

You do not have to register for the entire conference. See their website for more information.

Many of our members are giving lectures. This is a great opportunity to hear them speak. If you never attended a conference and want to ask questions, check out their website, Facebook group, or ask me. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn a lot about researching techniques, your ancestral towns, DNA, etc.

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:

Evan shared this article and Youtube links with me that are full of information.

A New look at Immigrant Passenger Manifests:

Steve's Genealogy Blog. <https://stephendanko.com/blog/268>. Louise Cooke put the information in a document that we can print out and use as a guide. https://lialouisecooke.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/Passenger_Manifests.pdf

There are two youtube videos that shed light on this topic:

1. JGSLI: "8 Pieces of Information on a Passenger Manifest"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sg4IZOPRJfE>

2. Crista Cowen/Ancestry: "Naturalization Records: What They Tell Me and Where to Find Them/Ancestry"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8oBNRJGqSbo>

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>

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/t9ptmrxs>
- <https://tinyurl.com/y5bfn4ab>

Recommended Genealogy Websites with links. Thanks to the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston for this list!

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.

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.

[Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston](#)

Monthly educational programs, extensive reference library of worldwide resources, one-on-one assistance. Check out their calendar.

Volunteers:

Please contact Linda if you'd like to take help take notes for her when she is unavailable. (lbewall623@gmail.com)

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! 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

from Joel Weintraub 1950 Census Update workshops on Youtube

I've been working the past few months upgrading our 1950 census tools for Philly on the Morse One-Step site. That culminated yesterday in my putting online a workshop for Philly researchers that I think you will be interested in.

Here's the details: On April 1st, 2022, the 1950 federal census will be released to the public. To support that effort for Philadelphia, the 3rd largest city in 1950, I have put on my **YouTube channel, "JDW Talks"**, a two hour plus workshop in four parts on finding residents of Philly on the 1950 population schedule and finding information about block socioeconomic information on the 1950 Housing census schedule. The series is titled **"Yo Philly: 1950 Census Four Part Workshop"** and it is divided into:

Part A. Resources for your 1950 folder, information about Philly's 1950 census, name vs location searches for 1950 population schedules.

Part B. Addresses to EDs, using the One-Step Unified Tool, using, and understanding the 18 Philly 1950 Enumeration District maps.

Part C. Getting information about the 1950 Philly block your people lived on.

Part D. Addresses to tracts to EDs, 1952 Philly Report, problems with missing streets. I hope to shorten your learning curve on the use of locational search tools and prepare you for problems you could face.

Good luck with your searches. Please spread the word. Thanks, Joel

Family History Today: Creative Nonfiction Writing for Genealogists

Tuesday, July 20 at 3 PM Eastern Time

As genealogists, we often focus on facts and undertake research that produces nothing but boring lists. But do you really know what happened between the dashes of your ancestors' lives? How can you share that information in a compelling way? [Lisa Alzo](#), an acclaimed author and instructor who specializes in family history writing, will teach you how to use creative nonfiction writing techniques to produce a family history page-turner.

Ticket Info: Pay what you wish; register [here](#) for a Zoom link.

This program is sponsored by the [Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute](#) at the Center for Jewish History. It is funded, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

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<https://www.jgsgb.org/events/>

[https://www.jgsgb.org/event/thomas-macentee-two-lectures-google-for-genealogists-the-genealogy-do-over-a-year-of-learning-from-mistakes/Thomas MacEntee](https://www.jgsgb.org/event/thomas-macentee-two-lectures-google-for-genealogists-the-genealogy-do-over-a-year-of-learning-from-mistakes/Thomas%20MacEntee) – Two Lectures: Google for Genealogists & The Genealogy Do-Over™: A Year of Learning from Mistakes

September 19, 2021 @ 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm EDT Zoom Meeting

Google for Genealogists

Much of the information and resources available through Google go unnoticed by the average researcher. This presentation will explain how Google components can be leveraged for better search results. Google allows you to access maps, books, journals, abstracts, patents, and much more — you may find just what is needed to make advances in your genealogy research.

The Genealogy Do-Over™: A Year of Learning from Mistakes

Frustrated with the way you originally researched your genealogy? Did you not care or not even know about citing sources? Thomas MacEntee shows you how to embark on a genealogy “do-over.” Follow him as he basically re-starts his genealogy research from scratch but includes sound research practices and methodologies as well as new templates, tools, and the latest technology to create a better body of family history research.

Thomas MacEntee, a professional genealogist, is a well-known blogger, educator, author, and social media connector. He created GeneaBloggers, a popular online community of over 3,000 family history bloggers. Considered an expert on many aspects of genealogy research, he is a frequent and popular speaker on a vast variety of genealogy topics.

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/>

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/>

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

190 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".

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.



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.