



## JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

FROM  
MARILYN GOLDEN VP  
[membership@jgasgp.org](mailto:membership@jgasgp.org)



**CHRONICLES**, Our quarterly award-winning journal:

Please submit articles by for  
the summer edition to our **Chronicles**  
editor, Evan Fishman,  
[editor@jgasgp.org](mailto:editor@jgasgp.org)

5/15/2022

Hi Everyone,

Seeing members and hearing Rich Venezia in person was fabulous! I'm happy to say we had 20 members attend and 107 listen through Boxcast. I hope all your questions were answered. Rich encourages you to write to him if you thought of something else.

**Rich Roots Genealogy**

<http://www.richroots.net/>

<https://www.facebook.com/richrootsgenealogy>

<https://twitter.com/RichRootsGen>

Check out his TEDx Pittsburgh talk: Search YouTube for "How to Grow Empathy from Uncovering Your Roots"

Rich has lots of energy and enjoys sharing it!

The link for Rich's lecture will be made available soon. I will be receiving a download to share. It will be available for one month. As soon as I receive it, I'll share with the membership.

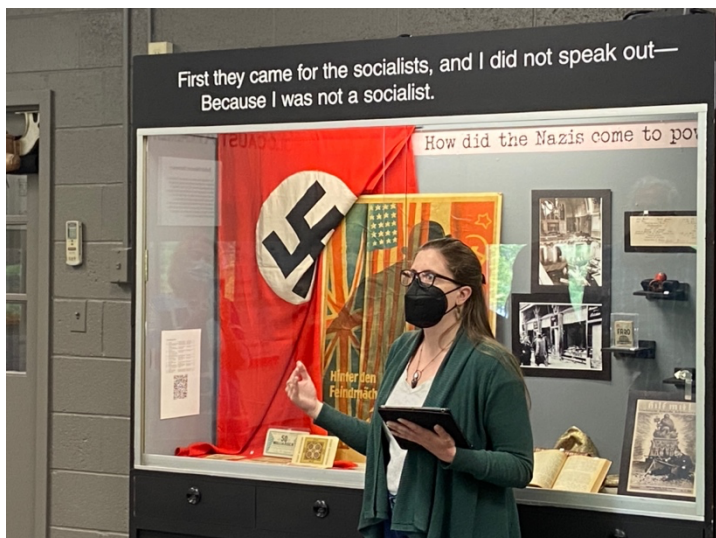
### Beginner's Corner and Research Tips

Don't forget to look for our **Getting Started**  
**with Jewish Genealogy** on our website. We will let you know when the new **JGASGP Resource Guide 2022** is posted.

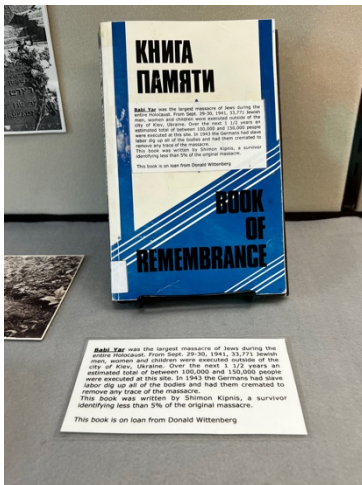
***Genealogists need to get out and explore!*** Felicia and I were the first ones to re-enter the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History on May 5<sup>th</sup>! It was very exciting to return to a venue in Philadelphia. Starting on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor and reading about the history of Jews coming to America and especially Philadelphia! It's a learning experience if you haven't visited before. It's a treasure trove for genealogists and a great place to start your education! My only disappointment...I was the first one in after a 2 yr. closure and I thought for sure I'd get a free pair of Stuart Weitzman shoes!



*JGASGP Board members were invited to tour HAMEC. Adam Denish, our liaison joined us on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. We were given a lecture by Ruth and Leah, an impressive exhibit with a lecture by the experts. Many students are visiting now and learning about the Holocaust for the first time. You need to call KI to make an appointment to visit.*







To learn more about HAMEC, go to their interactive website:

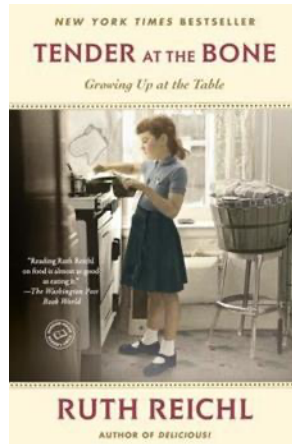
<https://mobile.hamec.yourcultureconnect.com/experiences>



Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center  
Preserving History to Learn From the Past | Est. 1961



## Book Club Update



Our second book club meeting created a discussion about the hardships and life in the 1920's on the Lower East side of NYC. Thanks to Dee Silver who led the discussion and to everyone who joined us. We welcome suggestions for future titles to read: Jewish theme or Jewish author. We will try to pick future books available on Kindle or free on Nook Audible or Hoopladigital.com.

Next title for discussion: "Tender at the Bone" by Ruth Reichl. May 25th 7pm. Please RSVP to [membership@jgasgp.org](mailto:membership@jgasgp.org) to receive the link. We plan to continue to meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month.

It was nice to meet members and relate to each other on a more personal level!

### Speaking of food...

## EXPERIENCE THE TENEMENT MUSEUM

The special premiere of our all-new food documentary, Taste of the Tenement, is coming June 1st!

As this year's free virtual gala celebration, we invite you to join us for a night of local history, family stories, and delicious cooking - all from the comfort of home.

Get a glimpse of what awaits in the newest trailer with special guest Michael W. Twitty!



Taste of the Tenement  
Premiering June 1, 2022, at 8:30PM



#### About the Film

Inspired by Hulu's Taste the Nation with Padma Lakshmi, Taste of the Tenement will be our special spin on the show highlighting the stunning variety of local Lower East Side foods and their role in the cultural evolution of the Lower East Side with cooking demos of historic and archival recipes, oral histories, scholarly interviews, and special guests Padma Lakshmi and Michael W. Twitty!

[REGISTER](#)

## Chronicles

Make sure you read below for an update to Chronicles under Membership and Society News \*Announcement. Changes are coming!

Please submit articles to [editor@jgasgp.org](mailto:editor@jgasgp.org). Let Evan know if you are working on an article. The spring issue will be sent out this month.

Do you have successes to share? Any unusual finds you'd like to share? We enjoy hearing from fellow members. Our editors are happy to help you with editing your article. If you're not sure your topic is appropriate, ask Evan. We want to hear from you!

Contact Jim, [webmaster@jgasgp.org](mailto:webmaster@jgasgp.org) for any questions about receiving your copy. Jim has posted all issues of Chronicles dating back to 1982 (Vol 1 # 1).

## Contributions

*We would like to thank our members who make generous donations to our society. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.*

## From the President's Desk

*My words to all in attendance today May 15, 2022:*

*WELCOME, WELCOME, WELCOME.....BACK!*

*It is so exciting to be back together again, both in person AND virtually for the first time since the start of the pandemic. Special thanks to Reform Congregation Rodeph Shalom for hosting us today! It is a beautiful synagogue and so full of Philadelphia Jewish history. I look forward to returning to for another JGASGP meeting in the near future.*

*When I stepped into the role of president in 2020, little did I know how challenging my first term would be. We were almost immediately faced with the very real possibility of our society shutting down completely.*

*With the very talented board of our society in place, I have had the best possible team of worker bees and colleagues. Since the start of Covid, our society has grown in number, with members now hailing from all over the USA and even from Israel, Canada, and other nations. None of our worse fears were realized!*



*I would like to briefly acknowledge all the hard-working board members who have met with me on Zoom for over two years, planning how we could meet the needs of you, our members, and even expand the work of the JGASGP. You are the best team I could have ever asked to work alongside! Thank you!*

*Our commitment to serve as the local host of the international meeting of Jewish genealogists, headed up by our past president Fred Blum, which was originally postponed due to Covid, will be virtual again this coming August. However, we still plan to host this important event in Philadelphia when it is safe to do so...so stay tuned for information about this in the coming months.*

*Since 2020, our community-based efforts have grown to include a new affiliation with HAMEC (Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center) which is now open to the public at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. We are also actively supporting the massive efforts of Rich Blumberg, the Jewish Federation of Philadelphia, and their team to restore Har Nebo and Har Jehuda cemeteries.*

*Several other major projects have been works in progress, including our heavily utilized Facebook page, our interactive JGASGP website including the revised Beginners Guide to Jewish Genealogy, and soon to also appear on our website, the 2022 update of our 2009 Philadelphia Area Jewish Resource Guide. Of course, all the work on our monthly digitized newsletter and quarterly journal, Chronicles continue unabated. Thanks to all the board members who have spearheaded these projects.*

*JGASGP is a large society now, and what we all have in common is our passion for re-searching our Jewish roots. For most of us, those roots include the Philadelphia area. I look forward to seeing you all at our future in-person hybrid meetings in the coming months. I hope to see many of you come into your own as researchers, and perhaps join the leadership and worker bees of the JGASGP.*

*Last but not least, for those of you who are baseball fans as well, **Go Phillies!***

*Felicia*





Important Dates: A *Guideline*	A-File	C-File
Naturalized before 1 April 1944		X
Naturalized 1 April 1944 – 31 March 1956	*	X
Immigrated on/after 1 April 1944	X	^
Naturalized on/after 1 April 1956	X	
Never naturalized and arrived before 1 April 1944	?	

Not all A-Files were consolidated, so A-File AND a C-File may exist.

^Should be consolidated into C-File if naturalized before 1 April 1956

Where do I find a C-File number?

No. 4970784

• B Name GREENBERG, Sonia

in residing at 121 Attorney St., NYC

• U Age 33 years Date of order of admission Aug. 7, 1941

• A Date certificate issued Aug. 7, 1941 by the

U. S. District Court at New York City, New York

Petition No. 36052 A.R. #2 44477

Sonia Greenberg

(Complete and true signature of holder)

Images from SCIS and ancestry.com







## Future JGASGP Zoom Meetings

### Virtual and in person meetings continue!

With your permission we are recording all sessions. **If anyone does not wish to be recorded, please do not participate in the live program.** All cameras will be turned off during the lecture but may be turned on during the Q and A. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Date: Sunday, June 12, 2022**

**This meeting will take place in person and be livestreamed.**

**Time:** 3:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional)

Official program starts promptly at 3:30 \*(**NOTE LATER START TIME**)

**Speaker:** Jerry Zaks, Child of Two Survivors

**Topic:** Recovering the Past: Researching the Fate of One's Family in the Shoah

Location: **Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel 8339 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027**



Jerry Zaks is a 2nd Generation Survivor. After retiring in 2016 from a successful career in IT and computer programming, Jerry started a quest of researching and documenting the history of his parents' experiences and hardships growing up in Poland in the 1930's. Utilizing the computer and internet skills learned during his career he has spent over 4+ years assembling a detailed presentation which bears witness to his parents' story.

**Topic: Recovering the Past: Researching the Fate of One's Family in the Shoah**

Jerry will share the amazing details of his family's Holocaust experiences and present his journey into personalized family Holocaust research, with strategies and suggestions for those who wish to dive into their own family histories.

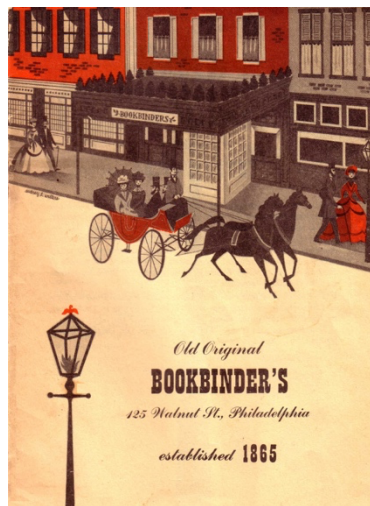
**Date: Sunday, July 10, 2022, Zoom**

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

**Official program starts promptly at 1:30**

**Speaker: Hal Bookbinder, Genealogical Writer, and Lecturer**

**Topic: The Bookbinder Family of Philadelphia Restaurant Fame**





Hal writes and lectures extensively on diverse genealogical topics, including border changes, migration, citizenship, safe computing, Jewish culture, and Jewish history. He has identified over 4,000 relatives reaching back to the mid-1700s in modern Ukraine. Other roots reach into adjacent areas of Moldova, Poland, Belarus, and Russia. He has served as president of the IAJGS and has been honored with its Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Topic: The Bookbinder Family of Philadelphia Restaurant Fame**

The newspaper coverage of the bootlegging trial of Emanuel Bookbinder during Prohibition is especially engaging, with lots of twists and turns. But, as Philadelphians, you may be aware of this. The first Bookbinder, Levi, arrived on the Webster in June 1857. In October, his wife, daughter and 3-year-old son, Simeon, arrived on the Casilda. Simeon would later be known as Samuel and start his oyster house in the 1890s. We may leave this meeting hungry!

## Help Wanted

### Friends of Jewish Cemeteries

**Har Jehuda** July 24 from 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Har Jehuda Cemetery, 8400 Lansdowne Ave, Upper Darby, PA 19082

**Har Nebo** June 26 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Har Nebo Cemetery, 6061 Oxford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19149

**Future projects:** Har Zion Cemetery, 1201 MacDade Blvd, Darby, PA 19023

Mt. Carmel Cemetery, 5722 Frankford Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19133

***We were asked to volunteer in the office. Mark and I showed up at Har Jehuda on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Here is an abridged email I sent to Addie Klein after our disappointing experience.***

Hi Addie,

Mark Halpern and I showed up at Har Jehuda on Sunday morning prepared to work in the office, as pre-arranged. Larry Moskowitz did not show up. He said he had a "furnace" problem at home and would not allow us in the office without him. After driving an hour to get there, you can be sure I was extremely disappointed. It was nice to meet some of our members as volunteers, so that made up for his not showing up. I was impressed that so many attended to help with the cleanup. It was a beautiful day and the service at the end of the morning was touching.

I took a walk around the cemetery and was very sad and angry at the conditions. Overgrown weeds and trash were obvious throughout the cemetery. How one man, David,

could be expected to handle these grounds is beyond my thought process. I could not locate my ancestor's graves and couldn't help others without access to the office, although that was my goal for the morning.

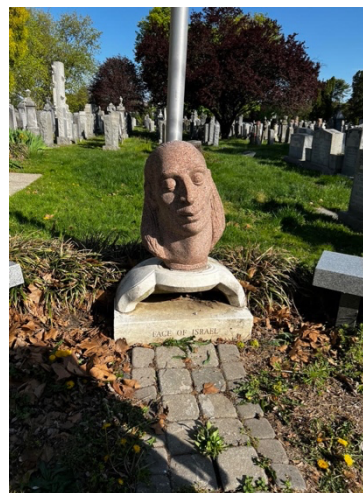
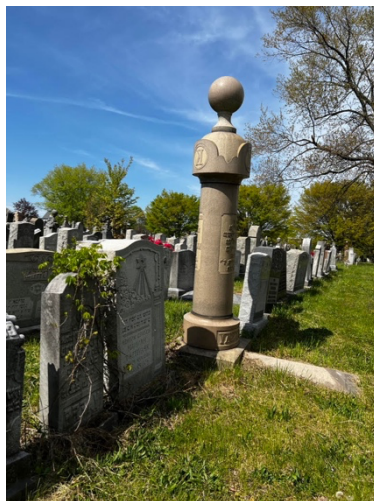
I emailed people who had submitted requests for grave information to me. I told them to contact the office with a request for gravesite information, a photo of the burial card and a photo of the grave. People sent in requests from across the country. I was unable to fulfill any requests. One of our members, Helene Rosenfeldt, has been taking photos for Find-A-Grave throughout the pandemic. We met for the first time in person yesterday. It was also very nice to meet members Stuart Bogum, Karen and Jeff Albert, and Rebecca Parmet. I spoke to many who were unhappy with the management and lack of communication.

Here is the e-mail address and phone number from the Har Jehuda website. [info@harjehuda.com](mailto:info@harjehuda.com) 1-610-789-2104

The last update of their website was May 5, 2004. Not sure if this information is correct. Advertised as four generations of management...so unfortunate the fourth generation has fallen short as a grave disappointment.

Nice to see you in action yesterday. Keep me updated.

Marilyn



**We gathered at the end for a short memorial service. Sadly, I just heard from Helene Rosenfeldt that the cuttings were never picked up and the cemetery looks worse than before.**



## 2022 Association for Jewish Libraries Conference - Volunteers Needed.



### AJL Conference in Philadelphia JUNE 27-29, 2022

The Leading Authority on Judaic Librarianship  
[jewishlibraries.org](http://jewishlibraries.org)



From JGASGP member  
Jackie Ben Efraim:  
Help make the Association of Jewish Libraries conference on June 27-

29, 2022, at the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History a success by volunteering an hour or so of your time. People who are NOT registered for the conference can attend sessions on the day they volunteer and purchase meals separately. THANK YOU in advance for your help! <https://jewishlibraries.org/contact-us/> to offer to volunteer.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfljGyfvHGiPGQAuSXVfmsxoxApknZPngAouplbuOUErz16w/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfljGyfvHGiPGQAuSXVfmsxoxApknZPngAouplbuOUErz16w/viewform?usp=sf_link)

## In the News



**The 42nd Annual International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies will be held as an ALL-Virtual Conference from 21-25 August 2022. Registration is now OPEN! Go to the Conference Website [www.iajgs2022.org](http://www.iajgs2022.org) and click on Registration Overview for all the information you need. Early Bird pricing is available through 31 May 2022**



## Membership Dues and Society News

We currently have 388 members! So far 257 have signed up for our website!  
We are growing and strive to make our society the best!

Each quarter, Chronicles has been e-mailed to everyone. There will be a change for delivery after this issue. All members will receive a link to read the issue on the members only section of our website. Newsletter will continue to be sent out as pdfs.

**MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE!**  
**It is NOT automatic because you are a JGASGP member.**

Please don't wait until the last minute. Jim is available to help with registration. Let's try to iron out any problems in advance of the summer issue.

Our website has so much to offer members.

Our new Resource Guide will be available and announced when complete.  
(This summer).

As always, we enjoy receiving suggestions. If you come across an error on the website, please let Jim know.

*Only paid-up members have access to our website, JGASGP Newsletters, Chronicles, and meeting notices. Members have access to our members only portal. Tell your friends! Contact Marilyn (me) ([membership@jgasgp.org](mailto:membership@jgasgp.org)) if you have any dues related questions. Contact Jim ([webmaster@jgasgp.org](mailto:webmaster@jgasgp.org)) with web access questions or receiving hard copy problems.*

*Contact Evan ([editor@jgasgp.org](mailto:editor@jgasgp.org)) with Chronicles article questions.*

*Our fiscal year runs from January 1st - December 31st, 2022, membership form is on our website. \$10 extra for printed Chronicles.*

## Websites, Podcasts, and Zoom Meetings of Interest

**Crista Cowen, The Barefoot Genealogist updates us weekly on the 1950 census records**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UEVz6W\\_Sg8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7UEVz6W_Sg8)

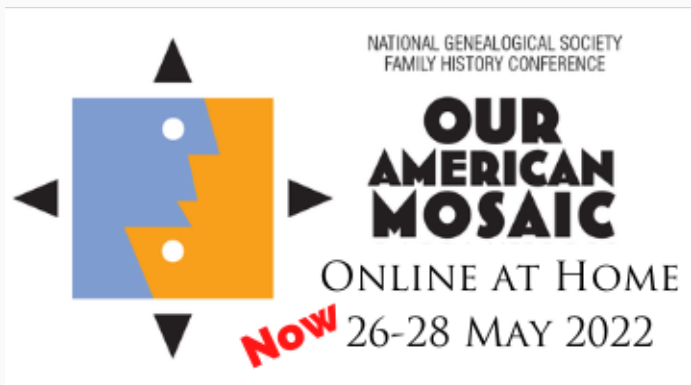
**Do you know about Genealogy in a Minute?**

Say hello to Photomyne: a scanner and image processor stored right in your pocket! Crista Cowan is here with another episode of Genealogy in a Minute. Learn more about Photomyne, a feature that allows you to edit, enhance, and easily share images with your friends and family. Listen to Christa Cowen explain this fabulous technology!

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?ref=saved&v=666833957761004>

Crista discusses updates weekly on Wednesdays at 11 (MT)

<https://fb.watch/cE3OONIQbM/> DNA updates explained and 1950 census reporting updates (free to access for everyone)



**Sessions  
Added on  
26 May 2022**

**Last Chance to  
Register**

**Can't Make it to Sacramento?  
Register for Online at Home**

[Click Here to Register](#)

There's still time to [register for the NGS 2022 Family History Conference Online at Home](#) which has new sessions\* from Ancestry® added on 26 May 2022. Join the conference from the comfort of your home and get access to 19 sessions over three days.

**Online at Home: \$195 Members/\$245 Non-Members**

If traveling to the conference is not an option for you, our Online at Home, three-day virtual conference, 26-28 May allows you to attend virtual lectures, enjoy breaks where you can connect with other attendees, and visit the NGS virtual Expo Hall.

On the 27th and 28th, join Connection Sessions for the opportunity to join a discussion group of your choice. This is your chance to meet others, exchange ideas, and share information about your common research interest. There will be discussion sessions on African American genealogy, census, DNA, newspapers, court records, organizing your research, and more.

**Get even more content by adding one of our  
On-Demand packages.**

**On-Demand Packages: \$100.00 for 20 sessions or \$200 for 40 sessions**

On-Demand video sessions are available for viewing from July until 31 December 2022. You'll have plenty of time to enhance your knowledge of family history research or explore new topics such as what you can learn from the recently released 1950 US Census.

Registration for Online at Home Conference ends at 7:59 p.m. (ET) on 13 May 2022.

\* Ancestry lectures do not include question and answer sessions.

[Register Today](#)



GENEALOGY CONFERENCES, EVENTS, CALLS-FOR-PAPERS, CONTESTS, GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS, TOURS & CRUISES, AND MORE!



**ConferenceKeeper**.ORG  
the most complete collection of Genealogy events online!

ConferenceKeeper.org will keep you busy! There is something for everyone!

**JewishGen Talks free webinar:**

**Date:** Wednesday, May 18th, 2022

**Time:** 3:00 PM Eastern Daylight Time

**Registration:** Free with a suggested donation. [Please click here to register now!](#)

**Topic:** Jewish Surnames and Patronymics: Tracing Your Ancestors Before They Had Surnames

Anyone researching their Jewish ancestry prior to the 18th century encounters the challenge of identifying relatives with no family surnames. In this presentation, Dr. Thomas Fürth will demonstrate, using case studies, how these obstacles can be overcome.

**Speaker:** Dr. Thomas Fürth lives in Stockholm, Sweden and is the Associate Professor of History at Stockholm University. He serves as President of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Sweden (Judiska släktforskningsföreningen i Sverige) and the Genealogical Society of Sweden (Genealogiska föreningen) and is the Avotaynu Contributing Editor for Sweden.

**The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay** will meet virtually on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, using Zoom.

Date: Wednesday, May 18

Time: Zoom sign in – 2 pm; Program – 2:30 PM

Place: Zoom website – RSVP to [jgstb-res@...](mailto:jgstb-res@...) to receive sign-in instructions.

Program (Webinar): Jewish Genealogy Collections in the New York Public Library

Speaker: Amanda Seigel librarian, Dorot Jewish Division of The New York Public Library

The New York Public Library holds one of the largest and most publicly accessible Judaica and general research collections in the world. Amanda Seigel, a librarian for instruction and outreach in the Dorot Jewish Division of the library, will demonstrate how to find and use sources such as yizkor books, registers, family histories, historical newspapers and other biographical and genealogical materials in the collection. She will give participants the tools to begin or continue their genealogy research and share insider tips on how best to utilize the NYPL's collection, its staff expertise and other free resources, from afar.

As a veteran research librarian specializing in Yiddish Studies, Seigel has fielded countless genealogical inquiries and presented on genealogy topics for the Association of Jewish Libraries, JewishGen, and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Long Island. Seigel's book projects include "Jews in New York: From New Amsterdam to the Yiddish Stage", and the forthcoming "Women on the Yiddish Stage", as well as several other scholarly articles on Yiddish theater and music research.

For further information about this program and how to attend, contact Chris Burklund by email at [jgstb-res@...](mailto:jgstb-res@...).

An RSVP is required for security purposes to receive sign-in instructions. For more information about the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay, go to <http://www.jgstb.org/>

The program is free. A small donation by nonmembers is optional but appreciated

Cheryl Segal, JGSTB Publicity

**Center for Jewish History presents:**

**Family History Today: Ask a Genealogy Librarian - Online & Archival Resources for U.S. Research**

Featuring Moriah Amit, Senior Genealogy Librarian, Center for Jewish History

Wednesday, May 18, 7 pm ET

In our second genealogy Q & A session on Zoom, Moriah Amit, the Center for Jewish History's Senior Genealogy Librarian, will answer your questions about where to find specific types of U.S. records and how to use U.S. databases more effectively. This program is appropriate for beginner and intermediate level researchers and for people from all Jewish communities, including those of Ashkenazi, Sephardi, and Mizrahi descent. We highly recommend that you send us your most important question in advance by replying to your registration confirmation email.

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

## The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois

### "Getting the Most from Revision Lists" by (our member) David R. Brill

Date: May 22, 2022. SAVE THE DATE

Time: 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (Central time) (One hour earlier than our time)

<https://www.jgsi.org/event-4559078>

Revision lists (revizskie skazki) are among the most important genealogical resources from the Russian Empire and are often the only available confirmation that an ancestor actually lived in a particular shtetl. With the growing number of revision list translations on JewishGen and elsewhere, it is easier than ever to expand one's research beyond U.S.-based sources and discover previously unknown genealogical connections.

This talk will help both the novice and the experienced genealogist learn to navigate the world of revision lists.

David will cover:

What are revision lists? When and why were they created?

What are the differences between censuses and revision lists?

What can revision lists tell me about my family and about shtetl life in general?

Where can I find revision lists for my town? Are they online?

**Podcasts:** There are about numerous different genealogy podcasts available. Click the link to see.

If you come across a good one, let me know and I'll post it. These have been recommended by members.

- Conference Keeper <https://conferencekeeper.org/genealogy-podcasts>
- Genealogy Guys. <http://genealogyguys.com/>
- Genealogy Gems with Lisa Louise Cooke <http://genealogygemspodcast.com/>
- Extreme Gens with Fisher <https://www.extremegenes.com/blog?tag=podcast+episode>
- Research at the National Archives and Beyond. <https://www.blogtalkradio.com/bernicebennett>
- Modern Genealogy Made Easy <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/category/podcast/>
- <https://www.audible.com/pd/Beating-The-Angel-Of-Death-Jewish-Genealogy-Podcast/B08W1PPRXN>
- <https://www.theordinaryextraordinarycemetery.com/episodes/?page=2>

#### Click on Nolan Altman episode #52

The Blast From My Past podcast features the incredible true stories of people whose lives were changed

- Episode 1: "[The Secret of Ereikoussa](#)" — Yvette Corporan had to know: did the entire Greek island community where her grandmother grew up really conspire to hide a Jewish family, right under the noses of their Nazi occupiers? Follow her quest to confirm this extraordinary story... and find out what happened to the family her grandmother helped to rescue.
- Episode 2: "[The Missing Piece](#)" — Abandoned at the same train station in Daegu, South Korea, just weeks apart, Kim and Christine were placed for adoption on opposite sides of the globe and grew up unaware of each other's existence. Then came the DNA test results that changed everything.
- Episode 3: "[The Hero Who Fought Both Sides](#)" — In a 1933 photo, a Jewish shopkeeper, decorated with



a German military medal from WWI, smiles wryly right next to a Nazi guard outside his shop. Who was this man, and what happened to him in the dark years? The answer tells an astonishing story of courage.

- Episode 4: "[The Real Uncle Sam](#)" — He wants YOU to join the U.S. Army. But who is this Uncle Sam in that iconic recruitment poster? It turns out that he was based on a real person — and this is his fascinating story.
- Episode 5: "[The Colombian Link](#)" — When a pair of Colombian half-brother adoptees reunited thanks to a DNA test, they couldn't have known that their journey to find their birth families had only just begun... or exactly how far that journey would take them.

\*See many link suggestions for research websites on our website [www.jgasgp.org](http://www.jgasgp.org).

## JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF TORONTO

### DNA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) Q&A WORKSHOP

Speakers: Featuring our new JGS Toronto members, Gil Bardige and Arthur Sissman

Date: Tuesday, 24 May 2022

Time: 7:30 p.m. ET **VIRTUAL MEETING**

We are pleased to welcome **Gil Bardige** and **Arthur Sissman**, both recognized as experts in Jewish DNA (see bios below), as new members of JGS Toronto. These two DNA mavens will answer your questions and provide general mentoring on your DNA brick walls. Here's an opportunity to submit your DNA questions so that our mavens can try to provide you with guidance by directing you to specific methods and tips to further your research. By submitting your questions for this programme, you agree, if necessary, to give permission to share your screen and the name of DNA matches and family tree members. This will allow others to benefit from observing the techniques used by our experts. We ask that you include as much information as possible with your question and indicate what research you've done.

We are pleased to announce that this DNA Special Interest Group (SIG) programme will be open for both members and non-members. The DNA SIG is scheduled to meet at least 4 times per year. Future DNA SIG programmes may be open only to JGS Toronto members to allow for the interactive presentations and discussions that are the hallmark of our SIG meetings.

**Gil Bardige**, originally from Chicago, has been a genealogist for over 40 years and a Genetic Genealogist since 2007. He has tested at the 4 major testing companies and is the Co-Administrator of 3 projects at FTDNA including Jewish R1B and R-A11711 Subclade Projects. He is Chair of the Columbus Ohio JGS, a volunteer at IAJGS Conferences (including the Program Committee), and Director of the Mentoring Program. Gil is a firm believer that you can use DNA results as a tool in your genealogy research. Over the last five years, he has regularly helped people navigate their DNA matches by speaking at dozens of Jewish Genealogical Societies. After his presentations, people say: "Thank you, Gil, I am no longer confused!"

**Arthur Sissman** has been engaged in family history genealogy since 1999 and genetic genealogy (DNA) since 2015. Arthur has built over 25 family history trees for his various family surname lines. In addition, he has tested his autosomal DNA at all the major DNA testing companies, and his Y-DNA and MtDNA at FamilyTreeDNA. Using his methods in DNA matching, Arthur has found relatives previously unknown to him and has built out one family history tree by 150 persons in 10 days. For information on Arthur's Jewish Genealogy SIG monthly meetings and scheduled workshops, email [genresearch13@...](mailto:genresearch13@...)

**To register for the 24 May DNA SIG event , please go [jgstoronto.ca/register](http://jgstoronto.ca/register).**

**You will then receive an immediate acknowledgement plus the link to access the event on 24 May.**

Note: the video recording of this event will be available to JGS Toronto members only.

**If you would like to ask our speakers one or more questions for this programme, please complete this [questionnaire form](#) and submit it by 16 May.** Our DNA mavens will try to get to as many questions as possible with priority given to JGS Toronto members.

To our guests: consider joining JGS Toronto for only \$40.00 Canadian per year (\$50 for couples) by [Clicking Here](#), or consider a donation to JGS Toronto by [Clicking Here](#) to assist us in continuing our mission of providing a forum for the exchange of genealogical information. (Tax receipts are issued to Canadian donors.)

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Jerry Scherer

DNA SIG Co-Ordinator

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## JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF TORONTO

**Topic:** Comparing the Genealogy Giants

Ancestry.com, FamilySearch.org,  
Findmypast.com, and MyHeritage.com

**Speaker:** Sunny Morton

**Date:** Wednesday, 1 June 2022

**Time:** 7:00 PM. ET. Virtual meeting: Join from home. Virtual doors open at 6:50 PM ET.

The “genealogy giants”, all provide tools and records for researching family trees online. But which should you use? Learn why you should be familiar with all four sites; subscription and free access options; and how they compare for historical record content, family trees, and DNA tools. Get insider tips on each site's best features, and cautions or challenges while working with each. This has been an extremely popular lecture with audiences at RootsTech, RootsTech London, Legacy Tree Genealogists, and elsewhere.

Sunny Morton is an award-winning writer and a globally popular lecturer. She is a long-time Contributing Editor at Family Tree Magazine, Contributing Editor and Content Manager for Your DNA Guide, frequent contributor to the blog at FamilySearch (the world's biggest free genealogy website), and past Editor of Ohio Genealogy News. Known internationally for her astute comparisons of the giant genealogy websites, she is author of How to Find Your Family History in U.S. Church Records, with Harold Henderson, CG, and Story of My Life: A Workbook for Preserving Your Legacy, now in its 2nd edition.

To register for the 1 June event , please go [jgstoronto.ca/register](https://jgstoronto.ca/register).

You will then receive an immediate acknowledgement plus the link to access the event on 1 June.

## Website Update

**Don't forget to register for our website! It is NOT automatic because you are a JGASGP member. If you need help contact Jim, [webmaster@jgasgp.org](mailto:webmaster@jgasgp.org). If you come across any errors or broken links, please let Jim know. He appreciates your help.**

Send your personal photos to Jim to be included in a future slideshow! If you haven't seen the slideshow yet, check it out!



## Condolences and Charitable Help for Ukraine



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.

*Mark Halpern*

*Dear Fellow Genealogists:*

*As you know, Poland has been the main country accepting people displaced as a result of the unprovoked attack by Russia on Ukraine. Many cities and towns on the border of Ukraine and Poland have been in the news helping their neighbors from Ukraine with shelter, food, clothing, education, and jobs.*

*While not in our news, the city of Bialystok (one of my ancestral towns) and nearby communities are also helping people from Ukraine with places to live and essentials to sustain these temporary residents. These Ukrainians do not have access to their funds and their Polish caretakers are not being fully reimbursed for their humanitarian efforts. We can help!*

*A Polish friend asked the Mayor of Bialystok, Tadeusz Truskolaski, how to help. The Mayor provided the name of a local Bialystok Charity - Fundacja Robert Adam. You can see their webpage at <http://www.era-fundacja.pl>. Open this URL in Google Chrome and have the website translated to English. One of their projects is "Help for refugees from Ukraine." There are also organizations in other area towns helping displaced Ukraine families.*

*Please join me in helping the Bialystok region help the displaced Ukraine citizens escaping the indiscriminate Russian attack on their country. For this purpose, I have set up a GoFundMe fundraiser. My promise to you is that all the funds collected will be transferred to Fundacja Robert Adam for "Help for Refugees from Ukraine" and other local charitable organizations also helping Ukraine families.*

*The GoFundMe webpage is at <https://gofund.me/15ef4d8b>.*

*I recently read that the Jewish concepts of tzedakah (charitable giving), tzedek (justice) and chesed (mercy or kindness) compel Jews to give to charity and treat people who are less fortunate with compassion.*

*Be compassionate and give more to help our ancestral towns help the less fortunate.*

*Mark Halpern*

*JRI-Poland Bialystok Area Coordinator*

*Founder of JewishGen's Bialystok Area Research Group*

*Connected to Jewish Community of Bialystok since 1997*