



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

9/18/2022

FROM
MARILYN GOLDEN VP
membership@jgasgp.org



CHRONICLES: THE FALL

EDITION HAS BEEN E-MAILED.

PLEASE SUBMIT ARTICLES TO OUR
EDITOR, EVAN FISHMAN,
editor@jgasgp.org

Deadline : Sept 25th

Hi Everyone,

Sharon Taylor's presentation was a fabulous way to start off our return to in person and zoom (Hybrid) meetings.

After hearing Sharon talk about the bawdy and the bootleggers in Philadelphia, I was made aware of numerous others who were considered shady in our city of brotherly love. Members shared stories of their relatives at the meeting. I've received emails with family history and newspaper clippings showing arrests. I was beginning to think my family was very boring. Then I remembered...sorry I can't share because I don't want to "out" my living descendant!

I can tell you one memory I have. My dad told us a story about one Passover when he was about 6 years old. During the seder there was a knock at the door. In walked a man in a bulky fur coat. My dad yelled out, "Elijah's here!" The man spread open his coat, and there were numerous bottles of wine inside of the pockets in the lining. The neighborhood bootlegger showed up just in time! I always had a picture in my mind of this larger-than-life man in a fur coat with sweat running down his face. That's how my father remembered it anyway!

If you missed Sharon's lecture, here is the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/Vha2CxG2Z-XHmGHRaPak5Co3xq5QLk8VFKMx3SIPBLJB1Kgfguc4UZxuXzUcu5Ei.Bdz-IsoKagxTWyd>

Passcode: 8^#NJ63B

Email: SharonTaylorWrites@gmail.com Follow her on Facebook – Sharon F. Taylor

Page Title: My Great-Aunt Madam: In Search of an Offbeat Ancestor

Beginner's Corner and Research Tips

Two great resources NOW available on our website:

Getting Started with Jewish Genealogy

**Greater Philadelphia Genealogical
Resource Guide 2022!**

Beginners course is advertised by JGSGB
(see page 23)



Greater Philadelphia Jewish
Genealogical Resource Guide

Where We Lived
42nd IAJGS Conference
on Jewish Genealogy
iajgs2022.org



Book Club Update

The link will be sent out to all on the morning of each meeting.

Book Club Meeting #5

Book club meeting #5 will be held on September 28TH at 7:30 pm.

We will be reading:

UNORTHODOX: THE SCANDALOUS REJECTION OF MY HASIDIC ROOTS by Deborah Feldman.

Felicia and Dee will be leading our discussion. You may have seen the tv version, but the book includes more information.



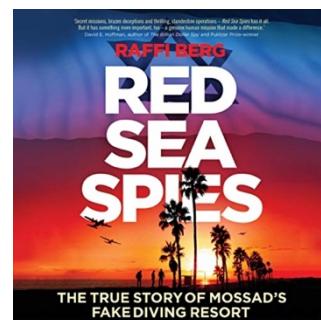
Book Club Meeting #6

Book Club Meeting #6 will be held on October 26th at 7:30 PM.

We will be reading:

Red Sea Spies: The True Story of Mossad's Fake Diving Resort
by Raffi Berg, Peter Noble, et al.

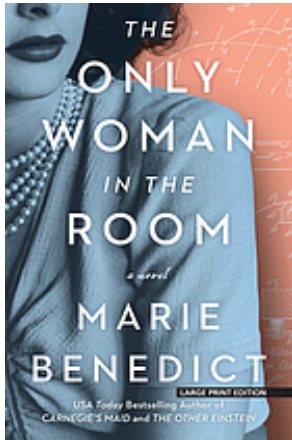
Rebecca Parmet will be leading our discussion.



The true story that inspired the Netflix film *The Red Sea Diving Resort*. In the early 1980s on a remote part of the Sudanese coast, a new luxury holiday resort opened for business. Catering for divers, it attracted guests from around the world. Little did the holidaymakers know that the staff were undercover spies, working for the Mossad - the Israeli secret service.

Providing a front for covert night-time activities, the holiday village allowed the agents to carry out an operation unlike any seen before. What began with one cryptic message pleading for help, turned into the secret evacuation of thousands of Ethiopian Jews who had been languishing in refugee camps, and the spiriting of them to Israel.

Written in collaboration with operatives involved in the mission, endorsed as the definitive account, and including an afterword from the then Mossad director, this is the complete, never-before-heard, gripping tale of a top-secret and often hazardous operation.



Book Club Meeting #7

Book Club Meeting #7 will be held on November 30th at 7:30. (last week of November)

We will be reading: **The Only Woman in the Room** by Marie Benedict

Marilyn Golden will be leading our discussion.

Bestselling author Marie Benedict reveals the story of a brilliant woman scientist only remembered for her beauty.

Her beauty almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer. Underestimated in everything else, she overheard the Third Reich's plans while at her husband's side and understood more than anyone would guess. She devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle, and the whirlwind escape landed her in Hollywood. She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star.

But she kept a secret more shocking than her heritage or her marriage: she was a scientist. And she had an idea that might help the country fight the Nazis and revolutionize modern communication...if anyone would listen to her.

A powerful book based on the incredible true story of the glamour icon and scientist; *The Only Woman in the Room* is a masterpiece that celebrates the many women in science that history has overlooked.

*** These books are available to read at most libraries in Philadelphia and the surrounding areas. Please consider joining us on our reading adventures.**

Chronicles

Did you know that although the 2022 IAJGS Conference has ended their live presentations, you can still register to watch lectures on demand! For those of us registered, we have until October 25th to watch the numerous programs.

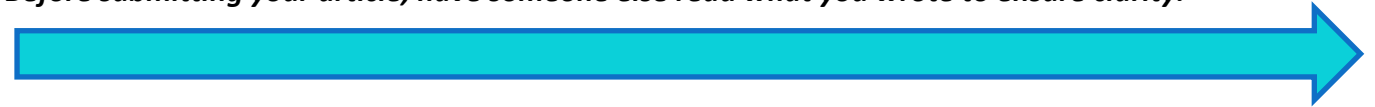
Many of our members spoke to us too! Did you watch any of these lectures. Did you have one or two that inspired you?

From our ***Chronicles*** editor, Evan Fishman:

We heard and learned from many excellent speakers at the recent IAJGS conference. Please share some of your reactions and conference experiences with your fellow JGASGP members. Submit your articles to editor@jgasgp.org. **Please let us know that you have something in the works.**

Please submit your well-thought-out and organized stories to editor@jgasgp.org. Our editors will correct grammar and refine your text so that it's top notch. Please be sure that all links work and documents and photos are not copyrighted by someone else.

Before submitting your article, have someone else read what you wrote to ensure clarity.



Note our second "call for articles" challenge encouraging first time contributors to Chronicles. The first five "newbies" will receive a copy of genealogist extraordinaire, Dan Rottenberg's book, *The Education of a Journalist, My Seventy Years on the Frontiers of Free Speech*.

Thank you.

Evan Fishman editor@jgasgp.org

Jim, our WEBMASTER, has posted Chronicles on our website. Now you won't have to download this copy if you don't want to. https://jgasgp.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Chronicles_Vol_39-1-Spring-2022-ELECTRONIC.pdf

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).

Contributions

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

Thank you!

From the President's Desk

Autumn Greetings to you all! I write today following a very successful hybrid (in person plus virtual) meeting of our society, held yesterday at the Main Line Reform Temple. We had a full room, plus many others participating virtually on Zoom. We also passed our 400 member mark as a result of attendees who chose to join our society following the lecture! Special kudos to Marilyn for being an amazing Membership VP and making everyone feel so welcome in our society.

I must say it was wonderful to greet old friends and meet new members face to face! As I stated in my opening message, nothing compares to the energy created by a room full of passionate Jewish genealogists sharing their newest discoveries with each other!!!

Our speaker, Sharon Taylor, delivered a fascinating and very entertaining talk about researching family members with "questionable" backgrounds. In Sharon's case, this involved a very successful female entrepreneur whose choice of occupations in the early 1900's brought her the wealth to pay for the passage of her entire extended family to come to America! If you were not with us yesterday, be sure to watch the video on our website and download Sharon's handout!

In this era of constantly evolving technology, being president of the JGASGP now requires a great deal of time online: communicating with members, corresponding with our board, the IAIGS and other JGS

presidents, and of course, keeping up with the news of the Jewish Genealogy community and local organizations. This also includes following podcasts and blogs, newsletters and of course, watching new documentaries like the groundbreaking Ken Burns' US and the Holocaust as well as feature films on topics of interest to genealogists. Phew! My dogs do not get enough walks these days! I share my crazy to do list to introduce the next topic today, **Harry's Corner**.

HARRY'S CORNER What about former presidents of our society? Harry Boonin, our award-winning founding president is now setting a very high bar for all who have followed him in this office. At the ripe old age of "80-something", Harry is now ready to share his expertise yet again! **Harry's Corner** will be a new feature in Chronicles in which Harry will continue to serve as a mentor and share his research and historical skills with our members. He will be inviting questions from our members, who will be able to reach out to him by email and his responses will benefit all through Harry's Corner. Thank you, Harry!

HAMEC: Our society is proud to partner with HAMEC, the Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center, which is housed at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park. We even have a board member, Dr. Adam Denish, who serves as liaison with HAMEC. I hope you will join members of our board at the HAMEC Gala fundraiser on the evening of November 12, 2022, when the guest of honor will be our very own Dr. Denish! Watch our website and newsletter for more information in the coming weeks.

FRIENDS OF JEWISH CEMETERIES PROJECT UPDATE: Our society is supporting the Friends of Jewish Cemeteries restoration project at Har Nebo cemetery in Northeast Philadelphia. Many members of our society have been involved in both the physical work as well as doing historical, genealogical research on people who are interred there. Some of these histories have also been featured in Chronicles. We have had a special relationship with Har Nebo for many years, thanks to the combined efforts of Rich Levy, owner of Har Nebo and JGASGP Past President Fred Blum, who spearheaded the digitization of Har Nebo's burial records, all of which are on our website and JewishGen.

HAR JEHUDA CEMETERY: I am thrilled to announce that the JGASGP will soon be working to provide the same type of support to Har Jehuda Cemetery (8400 Lansdowne Avenue Upper Darby, PA 19082), which is the very large and historic resting place of many family members of our society. Larry Moskowitz, the executive director Har Jehuda, has agreed to provide JGASGP volunteers with access to his extensive burial files for the thousands of people interred at his cemetery! This is indeed exciting news. These files will also be fully digitized. Several members of our society are very involved in the leadership of this project, but we will need many hands to make light work of this task. This Har Jehuda database will eventually be added to our website as well as on JewishGen!

The next cleanup day will be at Har Jehuda on October 30th.

Please plan to attend if you can. We hope for a large turnout.

The JGASGP wishes our members a sweet and safe New Year.

Felicia Mode Alexander



JGASGP Meeting Schedule

Hybrid meetings will continue! The link will be posted on the HOME page of our website on Friday prior to each meeting.

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.

SAVE THE DATES: Read updates and detailed descriptions on our website.

***Hybrid meeting formats and Zoom links will be sent out on Friday and appear on the home page of our website on Sunday morning before each meeting.**

Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022

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

Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Speaker: Eric Saul, Historian and Founder of Visas for Life: The Righteous and Honorable Diplomats Project

Topic: Documentary Film: Carl Lutz Dangerous Diplomacy (52 minutes)

Location: Congregation Rodeph Shalom 615 N Broad St, Philadelphia, PA 19123



The Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia and the **Mid-Atlantic - Eurasia Business Council** are delighted to invite you to join us in the first of a series of events to recognize and celebrate the life and accomplishments of an often-forgotten hero **Carl Lutz**. His humanitarian action is considered the greatest civil rescue operation of Jews during the Holocaust. This year will mark the 80th anniversary of Carl Lutz's arrival in Hungary. He served as the Swiss Vice-Consul in Budapest, Hungary from 1942 until the end of World War II. **He is credited with saving over 62,000 Jews**, the largest rescue operation of Jews of the Second World War. He also served as **Chancellor of the Swiss Consulate in Philadelphia** from 1926 to 1933.

Please join us in-person. If you cannot attend, the program will be live streamed via a Webinar. For this special presentation honoring Carl Lutz, all are welcome to attend free of charge! CDC protocols will be observed.

Date: Sunday, October 23, 2022

Time: Official program starts promptly at 1:30.

Location: Congregation Rodeph Shalom, 615 N Broad St, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Topic: Carl Lutz: Dangerous Diplomacy

Agenda for the meeting:

Felicia Alexander, President, JGASGP: Welcome and introduction

Val Kogan, President, Mid-Atlantic – Eurasia Business Council and

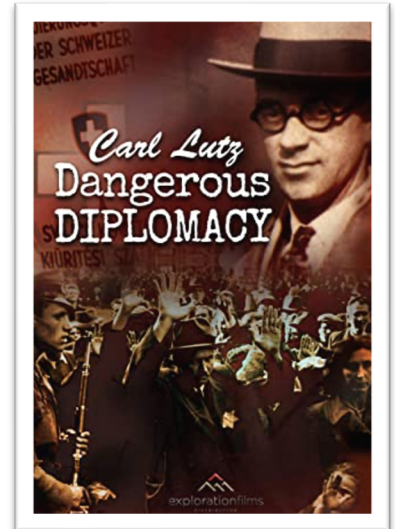
founder of Philadelphia's Carl Lutz commemoration: Carl Lutz's connection to Philadelphia and Introductions of speakers

Eric Saul: Founder and Executive Director of Visas for Life and Institute for the Study of Rescue and Altruism in the Holocaust: Who is Carl Lutz and what did he do.

Bryan Boorujy and Michael Moehring, Directors of *Dangerous Diplomacy*: Introduction of Film *Carl Lutz: Dangerous Diplomacy*

Film: *Carl Lutz: Dangerous Diplomacy* (53 minutes)

Q&A from both in-person and virtual audiences: Bryan Boorujy, Michael Moehring, Eric Saul



**Please register in advance
for this free webinar:**

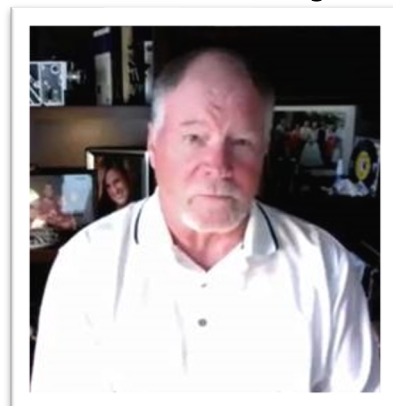
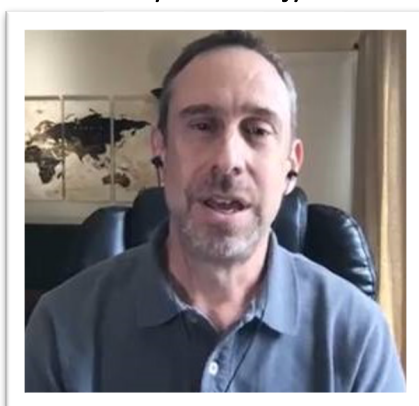
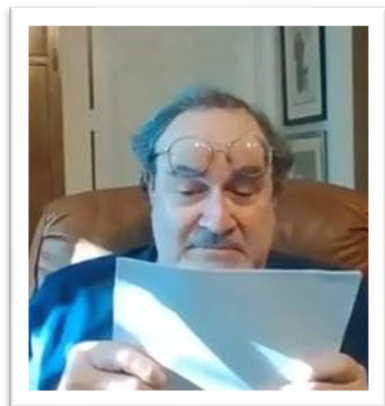
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***To Attend the Carl Lutz program on Zoom Webinar, you must pre-register! This is not a regular Zoom meeting!**

Eric Saul

Bryan Boorujy

Michael Moehring



***To Attend the Carl Lutz program on Zoom Webinar, you must pre-register! This is not a regular Zoom meeting!**

Date: Sunday, November 12, 2022, HAMEC 2022 Dinner and Auction

Time:

Speakers:

Topic: Honoring fellow board member Dr. Adam Denish and staff alum and dedicated HAMEC volunteer Jacqueline Cherepinsky

Location: Radisson Hotel, Trevoze, PA

More information TBA

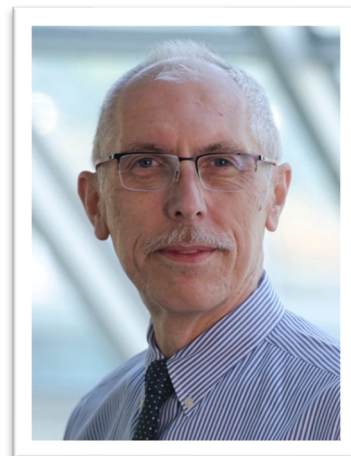
Date: Sunday, November 13, 2022

Time: 1:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional) Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Speaker: Andrew Zalewski, Author, Speaker, and Galicia Historian

Topic: The Path to Modernity: The Jews of Galicia

Location: Hybrid Meeting – In-person venue Main Line Reform Temple, 410 Montgomery Ave, Wynnewood, PA 19096



Andrew Zalewski is past vice president of Gesher Galicia and a frequent speaker at meetings of Jewish genealogical societies and cultural and academic institutions in the US and abroad. His interest and writings have focused on Jewish cultural transformation, educational access, modernizing impact of Jewish physicians, and Jewish political and legal rights in Galicia. Unique archival records—population surveys, maps, and old newspapers—provide the background for his in-depth description of Galicia.

He authored two books on Austrian Galicia: *Galician Trails: The Forgotten Story of One Family* and *Galician Portraits: In Search of Jewish Roots*, in which he traced the story of his ancestors in a historical context.

Andrew Zalewski is retired cardiologist and a former professor of medicine at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. After leaving academic practice, he held executive positions in pharmaceutical industry, focusing on global collaborations to advance new healthcare solutions

Topic: The Path to Modernity: The Jews of Galicia

Join us for a fast-paced journey through the centuries of Jewish experience on the path to modernity. The talk untangles confounding borders of Eastern Europe and the ways how Jewish lives continued to evolve there over centuries. The narrative takes us from a traditional communal autonomy to the Jewish Enlightenment (Haskalah); and then, from increasingly diverse Jewish cultural identities and politics to pressure to emigrate and through the crisis of the First World War. We explore these topics with a focus on Austrian Galicia, home of the largest Jewish community within the Austrian Empire.

The family-history researchers will find several threads connecting the talk with genealogy: surnames, marriage laws, languages, interethnic relations, and schools just to name a few. The presentation—based on a four-part course by Dr. Zalewski at Gratz College—is illustrated by short biographical profiles, unique archival records, and maps.

Date: Sunday, December 11, 2022

Time: 11:30 PM check in

Speaker: Daniel Goldmark History of Jews in Music

Topic: 40+ years of JGASGP

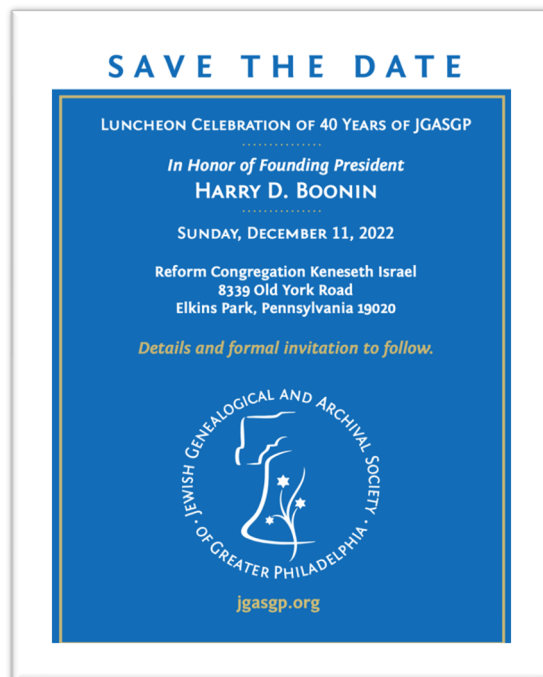
Lifetime Achievement Award: Harry Boonin

Location: Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel 8339

Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027

**In person Special Event celebrating over 40
years of JGASGP and honoring Founding
President Harry Boonin**

**Includes a brunch and a special presenta-
tion by Music Historian Daniel Goldmark
entitled History of Jews in American Popu-
lar Music and Rock and Roll.**



Daniel Goldmark works on American popular music, film and cartoon music, the history of the music industry, and popular music. He is a professor at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio where he is the head of Popular Music Department and the Director of the Center for Popular Music Studies. He is the series editor of the Oxford Music/Media Series from Oxford University Press and is the recipient of a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS). Goldmark also spent several years working in the animation and music industries.



Daniel Goldmark

We are very proud of Harry and look forward to a celebration in his honor! More information will be sent out in October.

Date: Sunday, January 8, 2023

Time: 1:30

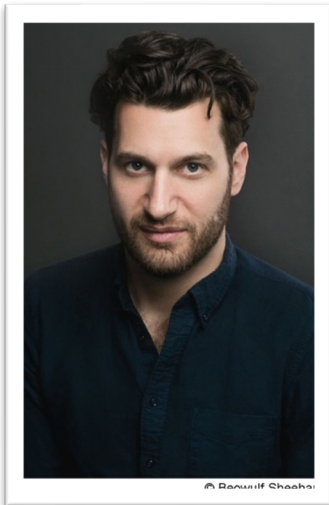
A joint presentation of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal and the Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia

Speakers: Menachem Kaiser, author, to be interviewed by Dan Rottenberg, author and journalist

Topic: Book Talk: *Plunder: A Memoir of Family Property and Nazi Treasure*

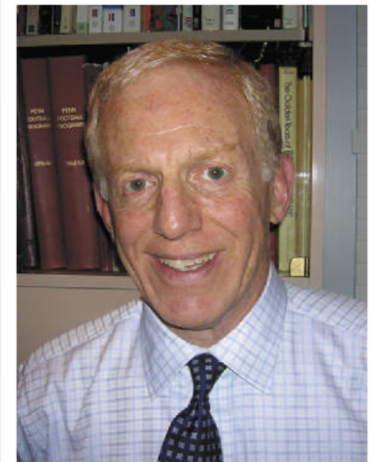
Location: ZOOM co-hosted with JGS of Montreal

The book is available everywhere including e-book versions. The full title is *Plunder: A Memoir of Family Property and Nazi Treasure*. You can find a New York Times review at <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/08/books/review-plunder-memoir-family-property-nazi-treasure-menachem-kaiser.html>. Menachem's website is <https://mnchm.com/>.



Menachem Kaiser is a writer living in Brooklyn, NY. His debut memoir, *Plunder*, won the 2022 Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature and was named a New York Times' Critics Best Book of the Year.

Dan Rottenberg, a member of JGASGP, is an author, editor, and journalist. He is best known to us as the author of *Finding Our Fathers: A Guidebook to Jewish Genealogy* published in 1977. This book was instrumental in the growth of pursuit of Jewish family histories.



Topic: In Conversation with Menachem Kaiser, award winning author of *Plunder: A Memoir of Family Property and Nazi Treasure*

This book describes the author's quest to reclaim his family's apartment building in Poland — and of the astonishing entanglement with Nazi treasure hunters that follows.

Date: Sunday, January 29, 2023

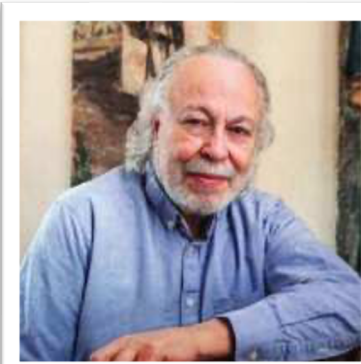
Time: 1:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional)

Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Topic: Topic: Book Talk - *The Stolen Narrative of the Bulgarian Jews and the Holocaust*

Location: Via Zoom

Speakers: Jacky Comforty, Award-winning documentary filmmaker, oral historian and media creator and Martha Bloomfield, Award-winning author, oral historian, and artist



Jacky is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning documentary filmmaker, oral historian and media creator who has worked for over thirty-five years creating films and videos in the United States, Germany, Israel, and Bulgaria. He has worked on groundbreaking films in Holocaust Studies. He is the director, editor, producer, and distributor of three full-length documentaries and a dozen short videos about the Holocaust.

Martha is an award-winning author, oral historian, artist, and independent scholar who has written several books about immigrants, migrants and the formerly homeless. In an effort to help dissipate prejudice and discrimination, she conducts oral histories to discover people's voices and stories to share within the social historical contexts with other people.



Topic: Book Talk - *The Stolen Narrative of the Bulgarian Jews and the Holocaust*

The speakers share a complex tapestry of voices and memories previously underrepresented, ignored and denied. It is an alternative perspective that includes stolen, silenced but now reclaimed Jewish narratives based on our peoples' experiences. It contextualizes and personalizes the history, reconstructs the puzzle, praises those who helped the Jews and shares their exemplary acts of humanity for future generations. It fills a void in the Bulgarian Holocaust literature—specifically first-hand accounts of memory of survivors, eyewitnesses, photographs, official publications, laws, and newspaper articles. They will also talk about the importance of oral histories and their journey together to write this ground-breaking book. Jacky will also share an excerpt of the movie he is working on based on their book

Date: Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023



Time: 1:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional) Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Speakers: Writer, Speaker, and Professional Genealogist

Topic: Topic: It's Hard to Say, 'Good-bye': Russian Jews Emigration to the United States

Location: Via Zoom

Genealogy researcher, writer and speaker, Emily is an anthropological archaeologist by training and has been researching her family history since 2007. She holds a certificate from Boston University's Genealogical Research program and owns Extra Yad Genealogical Services.

Emily blogs at <https://extrayad.blogspot.com/>, has written two books and several articles on genealogical research that have appeared in Avotaynu. She serves as chair of the Phoenix Jewish Genealogy Group, and a member of the Board of Directors of both the IAJGS and the Arizona Jewish Historical Society.

Topic: It's Hard to Say, 'Good-bye': Russian Jews Emigration to the United States

There were times when it was more difficult for many Jews to leave the Russian Empire than to enter the United States. What did emigrants have to do to get from their towns of origin to their ports of departure? What were the steps they had to take before leaving their communities? What did the Russian government require of potential emigrants? How and where did emigrants acquire tickets to sail? What routes might our ancestors have taken to get from their homes to ports of departure?

This presentation will answer these general questions and suggest how we can find likely answers for our relatives.

Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023

Time: 1:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional) Official program starts promptly at 1:30

Speakers: Tammy Hepps, Local Historian and Genealogist

Topic: The Ancestor Deep-Dive: How You Can Find Out Everything There Possibly is to Know About Your Ancestor

Location: Hybrid Meeting – In-person venue TBD



Tammy is a genealogist and local historian who focuses on topics within American Jewish history, especially small towns and synagogues. Her projects combine research techniques from genealogy and history and draw heavily upon her technology expertise to break new ground in data gathering and interpretation. She is best known for her community reconstitution

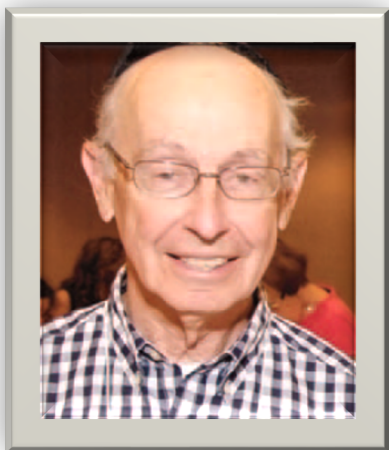
project focusing on the Jewish community of Homestead, PA, available online at HomesteadHerbrews.com. Tammy earned her AB in computer science from Harvard.

Topic: The Ancestor Deep-Dive: How You Can Find Out Everything There Possibly is to Know About Your Ancestor

Too often our research is driven by sources. We look for an ancestor in all the sources we've heard about, and we only break new ground when we hear about new ones. How do we assess how comprehensive our search has been? How do we know if we're even on the right path to get the answers we long for? This presentation will teach a methodology for creating a research plan centered on the discoveries we want to make, not just the sources we think we are limited to.

Introducing our newest feature:

"Harry's Corner"



I would like to help our members who have an interest in Russian pogroms. I have researched a lot of information concerning the Pogrom of October 1905. It is no coincidence that Russian Jews, mostly in Southern Russia (today, Ukraine) started to increase the immigration numbers after the Pogrom in Kishinev in 1903, and by 1906, and for several years afterwards, most of our ancestors who came to South Philadelphia came in those years.

My mother was born in Elizavetgrad in 1904. I researched Elizavetgrad, where the immigrants crossed the Russian border (not much on that), my Zionist uncle who was killed by Cossacks, the role that charity played in immigration, the port of Rotterdam, a little about Ellis Island, and other matters. I have written a 19-page summary, divided into two categories: (1) page 1 - 17, my family's story, and (2) 48 endnotes on pages 18; 19 (the last item is a New Jersey newspaper, describing our 90th anniversary of our arrival in 1906). For your purposes, the 48 endnotes may be the most helpful. Some facts are of the one pogrom our family experienced and other facts may be useful for any pogrom (for one week in October 1905, there were over 600 pogroms, most lasting two or three days and most in Southern Russia).

If any members would like a copy of the 19 pages, just email harryboonin@gmail.com If questions arise, please get back to me (If you would like the Ellis Island account, make sure you ask for it separately; it is No. 48, endnote.) The document is not copyrighted. On the downside, a number of end notes will lead you to a foreign language, your largest challenge.

*All the best,
Harry*

Read continued episodes of Harry's corner in future Chronicles issues.

Help Wanted

Friends of Jewish Cemeteries help:

Dates added for Har Nebo and Har Jehuda

Har Jehuda. October 30, 2022

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

Har Nebo. TBA

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

The Jewish Federation asks that you sign up in advance if you are attending the cleanup. Future dates will try not to conflict with our meetings. <https://jewishphilly.org/get-involved/volunteer/cemeteryrestoration/>



Dear JGS Presidents:

I would like to bring to your attention an interesting new volunteer opportunity for genealogical researchers that I encourage you to share with your members.

Thanks to a recommendation from former IAJGS President Ken Bravo, we learned recently about an organization called **Operation Benjamin**. The aim of **Operation Benjamin**, according to its website (www.operationbenjamin.org), is:

“...to locate Jewish personnel at American military cemeteries all over the world who, for various reasons, were buried under markers incorrectly representing their religion and heritage. Our mission is to correct these mistakes and provide, these many decades later, comfort to the families of the fallen. We work quietly and with dignity, without any cost to the families involved.”

Operation Benjamin employs a senior genealogist but would very much welcome the research efforts of JGS volunteers. The volunteers would research the genealogy of WWII soldiers who are believed to be Jewish based on initial research, to confirm ancestry, and identify living descendants.

Any JGS member interested in volunteering as a researcher for **Operation Benjamin** should send a brief bio highlighting his/her genealogical experience to my Board colleague Mel Fishman (Mel@iajgs.org) by October 12th. Mel, who has agreed to serve as liaison between IAJGS and **Operation Benjamin**, will forward all expressions of interest to the organization's senior staff.

The program is looking for those with high level genealogical expertise but also has tasks appropriate for less experienced researchers who are passionate about the mission of the organization.

Do have a look at this article which appeared last spring in the NYTimes (click [HERE](#)), reporting on a public ceremony in which a WWII Jewish soldier's incorrect grave marker is replaced with a Star of David.

Best,

Jane

Jane Rosen Berenbeim
President IAJGS
president@iajgs.org

In the News

I



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

To learn more, go HAMEC's interactive website: <https://mobile.hamec.yourcultureconnect.com/experiences>

More information to follow about the 2022 Dinner and Auction on November 12th honoring fellow board member **Dr. Adam Denish** and staff alum and dedicated HAMEC volunteer Jacqueline Cherepin-sky.

Membership and Society News

We currently have 404 members!

We are growing and strive to make our society the best!

Suggestions are always welcome!

Each quarter, **Chronicles** will be e-mailed to everyone. All members will be able to read the latest issue on the members only section of our website. **JGASGP Newsletters** will also continue to be sent out as pdfs and be available on our website.

MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE!

It is NOT automatic because you are a JGASGP member.

Our website has so much to offer members.

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) if you have any dues related questions.

Contact Jim (webmaster@jgasgp.org) with web access questions or receiving hard copy problems.

Contact Evan (editor@jgasgp.org) with Chronicles article questions.

Our fiscal year runs from January 1st - December 31st, 2022.

Our 2022 membership form is on our website. \$10 extra for printed Chronicles.

Webinars, Conferences, Podcasts, and Zoom Meetings of Interest

New Podcast with **Dr. Andrew Zalewski** Talking About his Years at Gesher Galicia

Dear Friends:

Andrew Zalewski is past vice president of Gesher Galicia and a frequent speaker at meetings of Jewish genealogical societies and cultural and academic institutions in the US and abroad. His interests and writings have focused on Jewish cultural transformation, educational access, modernizing impact of Jewish physicians, and Jewish political and legal rights in Galicia. Unique archival records—population surveys, maps, and old newspapers—provide the background for his in-depth description of Galicia.

He authored two books on Austrian Galicia: “Galician Trails: The Forgotten Story of One Family” and “Galician Portraits: In Search of Jewish Roots”, in which he traced the story of his ancestors in a historical context. Andrew Zalewski is a retired cardiologist and a former professor of medicine at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. After leaving academic practice, he held executive positions in the pharmaceutical industry, focusing on global collaborations to advance new healthcare solutions.

I spoke with Andrew recently and I think you will find our conversation to be very interesting. You can [listen to the podcast here](#).

We look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions at info@geshergalicia.org.

Sincerely, Dr. Steven S. Turner
President, Gesher Galicia

Temple University Libraries presents

Here's the link to next week's event featuring **Elaine Goldstein Terranova**: <https://library.temple.edu/events/1321> We'd love to have your members join us next week—and also for our Book Club discussion of Elaine's book on October 6.

All best,
Margery

Margery N. Sly
Director
Special Collections Research Center
Temple University Libraries
Philadelphia, PA 19122
215-204-1455
[Library.temple.edu/scrc](https://library.temple.edu/scrc)

Midday Arts Featuring Elaine Terranova

Tuesday, September 20, 12:30 pm, ET

Join us for the return of our Midday Arts Series, presented in collaboration with the Intellectual Heritage program. This program will feature an interview with poet and writer [Elaine Goldstein Terranova](#), *CLA '61*, led by Rebecca Alpert, professor of religion emerita at Temple University. Terranova will also read from her memoir, *The Diamond Cutter's Daughter*.

Terranova donated her papers to the Libraries' Special Collections Research Center. They document her career as a poet, writer, editor, and teacher. Stop by Charles Library in October to view an accompanying pop-up exhibit of her papers in the Albert M. Greenfield Special Collections Research Center Reading Room.

We also invite you to save the date and join us for our online [book club discussion of *The Diamond Cutter's Daughter*](#) on Thursday, October 6 at noon.

About the speakers

Elaine Terranova is the author of *The Diamond Cutter's Daughter: A Poet's Memoir* (Ragged Sky Press, 2021), and 10 books of poetry. Her most recent poetry collection, *Perdido*, came out in 2018 from Grid Books and her next, *Rinse*, is forthcoming in 2023.

Her poems have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The American Poetry Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Prairie Schooner*, *The Virginia Quarterly Review* and, including prose pieces, more recently in the magazines *Cincinnati Review*, *Boulevard*, *Hotel Amerika*, *South Loop Review*, *Storm Cellar*, *Mom Egg Review*, *Laurel Review*, *The Alaska Review*, and *Valley Voices*, where an interview with her appears in the spring 2022 issue.

Among her awards are a Pushcart Prize, a Pew Fellowship in the Arts, the Banister residency at Sweet Briar College, the Judah Magnus Award in 1992 for a Poem on the Jewish Experience: "The Stand-Up Shtetl," two Pennsylvania Council on the Arts fellowships, and a National Endowment in the Arts Fellowship in Literature.

She taught English and creative writing in the Philadelphia area for 30 years, at the Community College of Philadelphia where she was also a reading-writing specialist in the Learning Lab; at Temple University, where she held a Dean's Appointment; at the University of Delaware as Assistant Visiting Professor; at the Curtis Institute of Music as Assistant Professor in Humanities; and as Distinguished Visiting Lecturer in the Rutgers, Camden MFA Program.

Rebecca T. Alpert, professor emerita of religion at Temple University, was among the first women in America ordained as a rabbi, at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in 1976. Her primary field of study is American Judaism in the twentieth century, focusing sports, race, and sexuality. Her best-known works include *Like Bread on the Seder Plate: Jewish Lesbians and the Transformation of Tradition*; *Whose Torah? A Concise Guide to Progressive Judaism*, *Out of Left Field: Jews and Black Baseball*, and with Jacob Staub, *Exploring Judaism: A Reconstructionist Approach*. She is a recipient of Temple's Great Teacher Award (2016), a member of the Rabbinic Council of Jewish Voice for Peace, and a Commissioner on the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations.

This program will be presented via Zoom. On the day of the program, use this link to join: <https://temple.zoom.us/j/92702581020>

[Register](#)

Click on the word "Register" above. If it doesn't work, use the link to join above.

2022 Comprehensive Calendar of Genealogical Events

compiled by the [Bucks County Genealogical Society](#)

Conference Keeper [Conference Keeper](#), "the most complete collection of Genealogy events online!" Sign up for the weekly Newsletter.

The Main Line Genealogy Club sends out a great Newsletter Subscribe here for **The Dispatch** and future meeting information

<https://mainlinegenealogy.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=874962702de67e596050fc4cf&id=a4ddc48ca8>

JewishGen.org Discussion Group Sign up for daily discussion questions, meeting information from other societies, or post your own.

Podcasts: **Extreme Genes.** <https://www.extremegenes.com/>
Crista Cowen. <https://cristacowan.com/>

Three-part Series from Filmmakers Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein Explores the U.S. Role Before, During and After One of the Greatest Humanitarian Crises in History

Narrated by Peter Coyote; Voice Actors Include Liam Neeson, Matthew Rhys, Paul Giamatti, Meryl Streep, Werner Herzog, Joe Morton, Hope Davis, Bradley Whitford and Helena Zengel

Arlington, VA; April 25, 2022 – THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST, a new three-part documentary directed and produced by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein, explores America's response to one of the greatest humanitarian crises in history. The series will air **September 18, 19 and 20, at 8:00-10:00 p.m. ET** (check local listings) on PBS, [PBS.org](https://www.pbs.org) and the [PBS Video app](#). **THE U.S. AND THE HOLOCAUST** will be distributed internationally by PBS International.

Inspired in part by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's "Americans and the Holocaust" exhibition and supported by its historical resources, the film examines the rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany in the context of global antisemitism and racism, the eugenics movement in the United States and race laws in the American south. The series, written by Geoffrey Ward, sheds light on what the U.S. government and American people knew and did as the catastrophe unfolded in Europe.

The series will air September 18, 19 and 20, at 8:00-10:00 p.m. eastern/pacific 7:00-9:00 PM Central (check local listings) on PBS, <https://www.pbs.org/kenburns/us-and-the-holocaust/>

To read the release see: <https://www.pbs.org/about/about-pbs/blogs/news/the-us-and-the-holocaust-to-premiere-september-18-2022-on-pbs/>

A new podcast from Rachael Cerrotti

Hi Friends and Family,

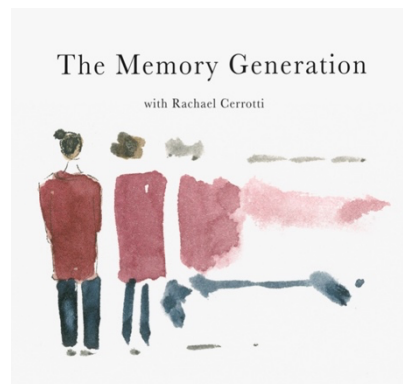
I'm excited to share with you my new podcast -- a show called [The Memory Generation](#). This is my second podcast collaboration with [USC Shoah Foundation](#). I've developed and produced the show during my time as the Institute's inaugural Storyteller in Residence. The Memory Generation has been a really exciting follow-up project to [We Share The Same Sky](#). Unlike We Share The Same Sky which was a narrative show (one story over 7 episodes), The Memory Generation is a series of conversations with some remarkable humans about the memories they have inherited and the impact stories have as they are passed from one generation to the next. In each episode, I get to dig into the themes that have kept me entrenched in my grandmother's story for all of these years, except now I get to learn about other people's cultures and inherited histories.

We are 9 episodes in with another 9 to follow in this first season. Scroll down to see the line-up and start listening. Please share with your community, follow us on [Instagram](#), peruse the [website](#), and if you like the show, rate and leave a review! (These ratings are so helpful!)

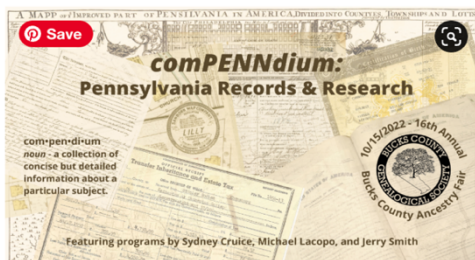
I'll be back in your inbox soon with more information about the paperback release of We Share the Same Sky and some other exciting news.

I hope you enjoy the new show and as always, thank you for the support!

Rachael



16th Annual Ancestry Fair Save the Date!



**Saturday,
October 15, 2022**

This is a virtual event from
9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

Go to www.ancestryfair.org
for more information and to
register. Registration will
open on September 1st.

In our 2022 Ancestry Fair, the Bucks County Genealogical Society will explore the vast Pennsylvania record sets that have accumulated since 1681 as many millions of people have made their homes here. **Michael Lacopo** will lead off with an overview of Pennsylvania history and genealogical research. **Sidney Cruice** will present two lectures — one on Pennsylvania Vital Records and another on Pennsylvania Database Treasures. **Jerry Smith** will cover Pennsylvania land records.

<https://www.ancestryfair.org/index.php> REGIS-
TER HERE Cost \$25



Jewish Genealogy: Discover Your Family History Annual Course Begins November 2nd



Learn how to research your Jewish family history. Our award-winning, interactive course is designed for beginners and for those who have started their research.

We provide a structured approach with in-depth lectures, workshops on using the major websites, and individual coaching.

Learn research strategies, how to find immigrant ancestors, how to search European and U.S. archives online, how to use DNA tests, and more. Students will receive free access to Ancestry and MyHeritage websites for the duration of the course and a 1-year membership to the JGSGB.

The course will be taught remotely on Zoom on 8 Wednesday evenings from November 2, 2022, through January 4, 2023, with breaks for holidays. Tuition is \$250. The class is limited to 20 students and is expected to fill quickly.

For more information and to register, click [HERE](#)

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.

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

Looking forward to being face to face with fellow genealogists next year at the IAJGS 2023 43rd Annual Conference in London. Dates July 31st- August 3rd. Stay tuned! This is being planned as a live conference!



Condolences



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.

