



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

10/24/2022

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 :

Hi Everyone,

On Sunday we co-hosted our meeting along with the Mid-Atlantic - Eurasia Business Council. This was the first of a series of events to recognize and celebrate the life and accomplishments of [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 is credited with saving over 62,000 Jews, the largest rescue operation of Jews of the Second World War.

We watched the film, **Dangerous Diplomacy** and heard from several special guests, including his stepdaughter, Agnes, on Zoom.



It was fascinating to hear from so many involved in this production. Read more in the next Chronicles review by Linda. We had a nice turnout at our meeting and 79 on Zoom from around the world. Everyone had compliments for the filmmakers and the speakers.

If you'd like to watch the film, go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9-M4tyLLDE>. Hope you'll be able to join us for the future programs planned with the Mid-Atlantic - Eurasia Business Council celebrating the life of Carl Lutz.

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!**



**Greater Philadelphia Jewish
Genealogical Resource Guide**

Where We Lived

**42nd IAJGS Conference
on Jewish Genealogy**

iajgs2022.org



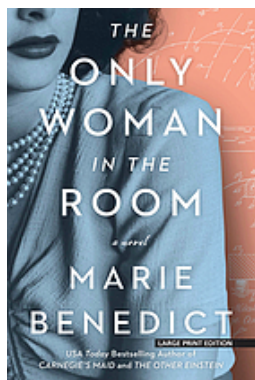
Book Club Update

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

Rebecca will be leading our discussion of **Red Sea Spies: The True Story of Mossad's Fake Diving Resort** by Raffi Berg, Peter Noble, et al.

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

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. Please let us know that you have something in the works.

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.

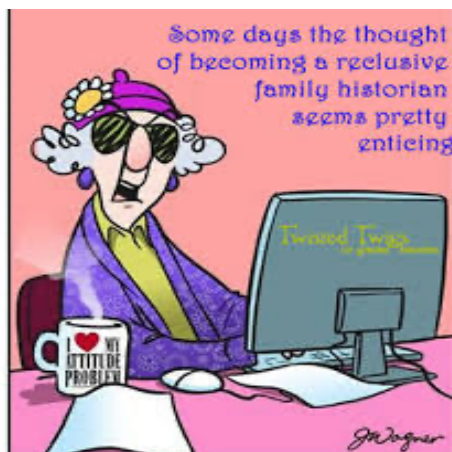
Evan Fishman editor@jgasgp.org

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.



From the President's Desk



GUEST LIST

Yiddish Book Center

JGASGP

JGASGP Paypal link

PHOTOS



You should have received your e-invite.
PLEASE RSVP by Nov 16th. Make sure
you look on the right side of the invita-
tion and scroll down until you see the
three trees.

Keep your volume low if you don't want
to hear the music!

Covid has kept us inside too long! Hope
you can join us!

Celebrate our fabulous
society and our

SPECIAL AWARD RECIPIENT,

HARRY BOONIN!

<https://jgasgp.org/make-reservations>

\$50 per person Feel free to invite guests.

**All payments must be
received by November 16th.**

*Autumn Greetings to you all
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. Our November meeting is for members only.

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.

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

In person and on Zoom

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

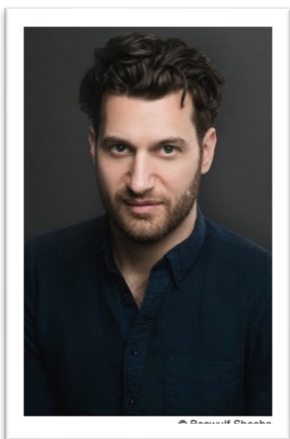
If you didn't get your invitation, make sure you let me know. membership@jgasgp.org

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

Includes a brunch and a special presentation by Music Historian Daniel Goldmark entitled History of Jews in American Popular Music and Rock and Roll.



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 Rotenberg, 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***

ure. You can find a New York Times review

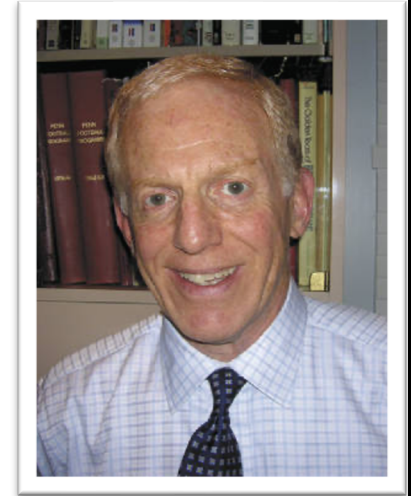
at <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/08/books/review-plunder-memoir-family-property-nazi-treasure-menachem-kaiser.html>. Menachem's website is <https://mnchm.com/>.

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

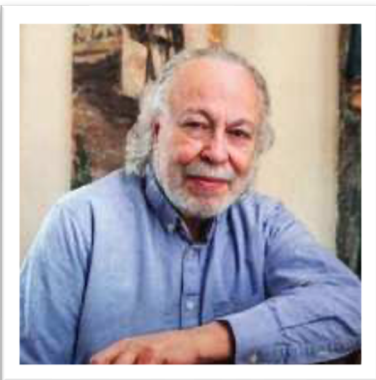
Time: 1:00 PM check in, chat, and schmooze (Optional)

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

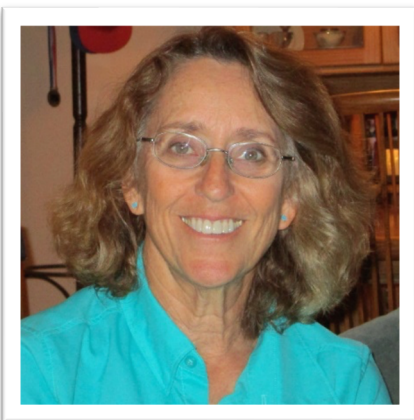
Date: Sunday, Feb. 26, 2023

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

Speaker: Emily Garber 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 HomesteadHebrews.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.

Help Wanted

Friends of Jewish Cemeteries help:

Har Jehuda. October 30, 2022

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

Time: 1pm to 3pm

Registration link for event:

<https://jewishphilly.org/get.../cemetery-cleanups-register/>

Join us for a
Community Cleanup
of a Historic Jewish Cemetery

Sunday October 30, 2022 | 1pm to 3pm

Har Jehuda Cemetery
8400 Lansdowne Ave, Upper Darby



Volunteer tasks will include clipping
overgrown weeds, weed trees, and vines

Bring gloves, rakes, clippers,
branch cutters, loppers, bottled water,
and a kippah (if that is your tradition)

In the News



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>

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

Time: 6:00PM - 10:00PM

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

Location: Radisson Hotel, Trevose, PA

If you are interested in attending contact www.hamec.org



JewishGen

מרכז עולמי לגנאלוגיה יהודית

The Global Home for Jewish Genealogy

New Free Feature - Yahrzeit Reminders #JewishGenUpdates.

Dear JewishGen Community,

According to Jewish tradition, loved ones are remembered annually on the Hebrew date of their passing. This date is known as "Yahrzeit" which literally means "anniversary." One of the most well-known customs and observances is the lighting of a Yahrzeit candle. However, for many people, it is confusing to calculate the date which the Yahrzeit occurs each year, as the solar and lunar calendars do not match. As such, we often hear that people will miss observance of the Yahrzeit either because they did not know the actual Hebrew date that their relative passed away, and/or they forgot when it fell on the calendar that particular year.

For this reason, JewishGen is pleased to provide a new free service whereby you can enter the names of loved ones, and the dates they passed away into our system. We will then send you automatic reminders before the Yahrzeit approaches each year, and let you know on which date it will occur on the "English/Gregorian" calendar.

For example: If your relative passed away on the 12th day of the Hebrew month of Adar during the

Hebrew year of 5779, JewishGen will automatically let you know that this coming year's Yahrzeit will occur on March 5th, 2023.

The system has also been designed to help you calculate the Hebrew date of your relatives passing if you are not sure of it. You can simply enter the "English/Gregorian" date that the person passed away, and we will automatically convert the date for you.

In addition to receiving the annual email reminder, you may choose to see a list of upcoming Yahrzeits over the next 5 years.

Note: For some dates of death, you might see two Yahrzeit dates listed in the same year. This happens in situations where there are differing traditions about when to observe the Yahrzeit, due to complexities in the Hebrew calendar. Some Jews would observe it on date #1, some on date #2, and some on both dates. If you see two Yahrzeit dates and are unsure which tradition to follow, we recommend consulting your rabbi.

As with everything offered on JewishGen, this service is completely free, and we hope it will be useful as you remember your loved ones each year. You can easily sign up and enter your names by visiting [JewishGen.org/Yahrzeit](https://www.jewishgen.org/Yahrzeit) (note, you must be logged in).

If you have any questions, or feedback, please email support@JewishGen.org

Wishing all a Gmar Chatima Tova - stay tuned for announcements of newly added records!

- Avraham

Avraham Groll
Executive Director
JewishGen

Membership and Society News

We currently have 406 members!
We are growing and strive to make our society the best!
Suggestions are always welcome!

It's time to renew for 2023!

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

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.

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

Thanks to Walt Spector for letting us know about the First Friday Genealogy Group!

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

Meets at the City Archives 6th and Spring Garden Sts. Free parking in the Target lot! Chat and hew open to all! Access to do research!

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

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

Oct 9 #672398

Dear Friends, We at Gesher Galicia hope that all of you had an enjoyable high holiday season and that you were all sealed in the Book of Life for a healthy, joyous and prosperous 5783. **We would like to inform you that we are planning a Zoom membership meeting on Sunday, November 6th at 12-1 PM ET (9-10 AM Pacific, 5-6 PM UK, 6-7 PM Central Europe, 7-8 PM Israel, 4-5 AM**

next day Australia). This seems to be the most convenient time for our membership across the world.

Please save the date and time to your calendar. The zoom link will be provided soon in a subsequent email. All members of our Board will be attending. There will be just a few announcements on what is new in the organization. We will use the majority of the time for members to query the board so please get your questions ready.

You will have to be a member to enter the meeting so please make sure your membership is up to date. Please log in to our website to check your membership status or to join click [here](#).

We look forward to seeing you there.

Chag Sukkot Sameach.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven S. Turner, President, Gesher Galicia

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 IAIGS 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.

