

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY

OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

FROM MARILYN GOLDEN VP membership@jgasgp.org



Hi Everyone, 2/28/23
We had an interesting discovery during Sunday's Chat and Schmooze. Laurel Katz is looking for MEGAN Family members. Several people said they have a connection to her from our society! Please contact her directly laurel@laurelkatz.com to see if you are related. This is something we'd like to hear about! Two others may have a different connection to each other which I al-

ready set up privately! It's so important to make your research names known! You never know where you'll make a connection!

So, don't forget to fill out the membership form with your current research names, with available town, and country. I'm attempting something new for our membership! Stay tuned for more information.

In the meantime, make sure you are signed up for JewishGen.org family finder! Also refer to JewishGen.org **townfinder** for current town and country locations and spelling. We know that name spellings were not always consistent, but that sight is a tremendous help.

Emily Garber's lecture was very popular with our members. It's Hard to Say, 'Good-bye': Russian Jews Emigration to the United States made us aware of why and how our relatives left eastern Europe. 95 people signed in to listen and ask some terrific questions. Please see Emily's handout. She referred to our expert, Harry Boonin's articles from Avotaynu (page 6 of her handout) and Gur Alroey's articles too (page 4). Harry would like to offer to our members a 20-page account of one family who left Russia in 1906.

All a member has to do is request a copy. Contact Harry at harryboonin@gmail.com

Announcement!



We now have a Vimeo Account!

Our lectures will be recorded and posted with the approval of our speakers.

Emily's lecture will be available on our Vimeo page for 3 months. You can download the handout from our website.

https://vimeo.com/user121114834/review/802502720/e6d86fc4ea

And while you're on the Vimeo page, you can also see our 40th Anniversary event honoring Harry Boonin. https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/788102383/6811a49a61

We will add recordings of programs as our speakers allow. This is a NEW member's benefit!

Beginner's Corner and Research Tips

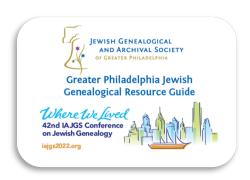
Two great resources are available on our website:

Getting Started with Jewish Genealogy

(Under the Publications Tab)

Greater Philadelphia Genealogical Resource Guide 2022

(Sign in and look under the Resources Tab)



Someone asked me to explain **landsmanshaftn**. I went directly to our resource guide!

Landsmanshaftn in America.

A landsmanshaft (plural: landsmanshaftn) was a Jewish aid or benefit society, formed by immigrants who were from the same town or region. These organizations were set up during the great migration of Jewish people to the United States from the 1880s through 1923. The immigrants could not speak English and often had trouble becoming accustomed to life in the U.S. The landsmanshaftn functioned as a kind of "social clearinghouse" for Jews from shtetls, providing employment as well as aid when sick, as well as burial plots. The landsmanshaftn encompassed the Jewish burial societies, known as chevra kadisha, and in some instances members split off from them to form "independent" societies.

<u>Twenty thousand such organizations once existed</u> in the northeast United States, operating burial plots in scores of cemeteries; however, today most are now defunct. These aid organizations were established to deal with social, economic, and cultural problems, and provided a social framework for mutual assistance. In the early 1900's there were thousands of landsmanshaftn in the New York City area, but few are active today. While landsmanshaftn were often based around a common region they could also be based on a common political affiliation, such as the Workmen's Circle/Arbeiter Ring (Socialist), the International Workers Order (Communist), or the Farband (Labor Zionist.)

Over time, the landsmanshaftn lost members as they passed away, and thus the organizations became defunct. This resulted in difficulties for the relatives of members who had died, because the officers of the landsmanshaftn were required to permit burials to their members. Officials of the state of New York, such as the New York State Liquidation Bureau, have stepped in to be of assistance in such situations. -- adapted from Wikipedia https://www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/landsmanshaftn.htm
See pages 17-28 in our JGASGP Resource Guide for a detailed explanation and multiple lists of Landsmanshaftn and cemetery locations.



The Weekly News Nosh

JewishGen Weekly E-Newsletter

Regards, Phil

pgoldfarb@jewishgen.org

Sign up for The Weekly Nosh!

Here's a tidbit from the Feb. 5th News Nosh:

Ukraine Research Division Uploads 103,078 Revision List Records in January. Each record has a link to the page of the original document where you find your ancestor's listing. You may find additional information in the original record. To explore, go to their database: <u>JewishGen Ukraine Database</u>

Editor's Note: All Special Interest Groups (SIG's) affiliated with JewishGen are now called Research Divisions, a more up-to-date, comprehensive, and inclusive term. To see a list of JewishGen's Research Divisions go to: Research Divisions (jewishgen.org) For example, there is no longer a Belarus SIG or a Bessarabia SIG, or a Germany SIG, as they are now called Belarus Research Division or Bessarabia Research Division or Germany Research Division as it is correctly labeled in the story above from the Ukraine Research Division leader Phyllis Berenson. If your Research Division's Leader or Coordinator is still using the old, obsolete, and outdated nomenclature/terminology of SIG, you need to get them into the 21st century! The only exception is the LitvakSIG which is a separate 501(c)(3) corporation.

BOOK CLUB UPDATE

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

See our website under <u>Events</u> for updated Book Club titles and descriptions. All members are welcome to join us. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we had to cancel the last meeting. A few of us read or tried to read the book and couldn't find any real Jewish content. So, in keeping with our choice of Jewish themes and/or Jewish concepts. we picked out a new title for next month. Our discussions have been friendly, informative, and thought provoking. Let's get our momentum going again. Please join us!

Meeting # 10 March 22nd at 7:30.

Book selection: Big Summer by Jennifer Weiner



Let's think warm thoughts. Big Summer will get us ready for the warm weather!

Jennifer Weiner is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of eighteen books, including *Good in Bed, In Her Shoes*, and, most recently, *That Summer. A* graduate of Princeton University, she lives with her family in <u>Philadelphia</u>. Visit her online at Jennifer-Weiner.com.

A sparkling novel about the complexities of female friendship, the pitfalls of living out loud and online, and the resilience of the human heart, *Big Summer* is a witty, moving story about family, friendship, and figuring out what matters most.

*This book is available in the public library, and on Amazon, eBay, etc.
Please RSVP to membership@jgasgp.org if you want to be on our book club list.

CHRONICLES

Please submit your well-thought-out and organized stories. Everyone should have received their electronic version. The black and white hard copies are currently at the printers. They will be sent out in the next week.

Please submit your material to editor@jgasap.org. We all have stories to share and learning from each other is another benefit of membership in JGASGP." 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 "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@jgasqp.org

Chronicles is posted on our website. Contact Jim, <u>webmaster@jgasgp.org</u> for any questions about receiving your hard 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 continued kindness is greatly appreciated.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

President's Editorial: On Inclusion of Holocaust Topics into the Programs and Publications of JGASGP

I wish I could say that the Holocaust is not part of American Jewish history, but it is an essential theme that is woven into our lives 78 years after the end of WWII. Scholars and genealogists continue to research and study our epic survival of the Third Reich's attempt to wipe out all European Jewry. When politicians appropriate this history for their own gain, claiming a stake in this ghastly crime as Jewish victims or survivors, when not even Jewish, they need to be called out for it. This was eloquently stated in our most recent *Chronicles* editorial written by its editor, Evan Fishman.

Since the early 1980's, I have researched my family history starting off with the passed-down family story that we were not "directly" impacted by the Holocaust. Many of you have shared the same very American view of this topic. Sadly, this is not true. When I speak to youth groups, I ask the kids if they have any "connections" to the Holocaust and they usually shake their heads. If I ask them if their grandparents came from Europe or speak with accents, some do say yes, but know nothing more. The specifics are not always relayed to the generations born here.

This lack of knowledge of the Holocaust, by both Jewish and non-Jewish students and adults, is why educators have fought hard for Holocaust Education to be mandated in schools and why the 2G and 3G organizations have emerged in recent decades. Survivors are rapidly passing away; their descendants are taking up the story so it is known for posterity and so deniers can be addressed with facts and evidence.

A few great examples of this are our recent speaker, Rachael Cerrotti (3rd Genner) whose life is now dedicated to the story of her late grandmother's survival as a teen hiding alone in various parts of Europe and which Rachael

captured in her book and podcast, *We Share the Same Sky*. Similarly, Lisa Gossels (2nd Genner) created a phenomenal feature length documentary *The Children of Chabannes*, which tells the true story of a town of rescuers in the French countryside who were responsible for the safety of mostly German Jewish refugee children, including Lisa's uncle and father.

When I read Evan's excellent editorial in Chronicles, it sparked a visceral reaction in me as a Holocaust educator and a Jewish genealogist, let alone as president of our society. This is an emotional and personal topic for me. When I discovered, through *extensive* genealogical research, that one branch of my family (which I had never heard about from my family) was deported from Berlin to the Riga Ghetto in Latvia and were murdered in the frigid winter of 1941-1942, I was shocked and horrified. But like all genealogists, I had to know more. This was not part of our family narrative, therefore we did not know of any Holocaust connections "directly impacting our family". That they were in Berlin and not with their extended family living safely in America was a mystery, so I continued to *meticulously* research the paper trail back a century to Posen, Prussia and the 1840's emigration of my g-g-grandfather, his brother, and their children.

I learned that their youngest brother also left Posen but instead moved to Berlin. As I followed the very extensive paper trail, which took me years to complete, I learned they had built an urban life in banking, while the rest of the family was building a life as tailors and shopkeepers in Boston and Manhattan. It is likely that in the years following their departure from Prussia, they lost touch, hence our family's belief that we were <u>all</u> in America by the time of Hitler's Germany and safe.

Learning the facts about my own family's emigration and then the existence of a previously unknown lost branch of the family that was murdered in the Shoah led to yet more research and surprises. This was the remarkable discovery of a solitary survivor of my Berlin relatives, 3 generations of her family living in Israel today and the reconstruction of the entire family history. These folks have now met their previously unknown American cousins and our carefully researched and documented family history has been published in *Chronicles*.

Family stories are not always correct, but deniers are always wrong. American Jews have been impacted directly or indirectly by the Holocaust, hence the ongoing need to call out those who deny or appropriate this history. We all bear this responsibility as Jewish genealogists to do this difficult research, as I did, and share the facts, not just the stories.

UPDATE ON MEETINGS

Spring is right around the corner and with it, the return to our live meetings! Although we will continue to offer streaming of our monthly meetings, we hope that you will be able to join us in-person. For those of you who are new members, our meetings are hosted at several local synagogues: Congregation Rodeph Shalom in Center City, Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, and Main Line Reform in Wynnewood. All three have ample parking. Our website includes specific information about all three locations by clicking https://jgasgp.org/meetings-2.

I am especially excited about our March 19th meeting, which is sure to be outstanding as our speaker will be Zachary Mazur, Senior Historian at the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw! Having toured this

amazing facility when I was at the IAJGS Conference in Warsaw, I am intrigued by our speaker's topic: Rabbis, Innkeepers and Tricksters: Jewish Life in Poland-Lithuania.

From our website: Approximately eighty percent of the world's Jews have a connection to Eastern Europe, and all of them once lived in a unique country called the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Join Zachary Mazur, Senior Historian at the <u>POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews</u>, to discuss the key question of why Jews settled in Eastern Europe and what their lives looked like there. While discussing the larger historical narrative, we will focus on the stories of those living in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to paint a picture of Jewish life before the Great Migration that began in the 1880s. This virtual seminar will incorporate POLIN's <u>Core Exhibition</u>, a journey through 1000 years of the history of Jews in Poland from the Middle Ages to the present day.

I hope to see many of you in the audience at Congregation Keneseth Israel for this session which begins at 1:15.

JGASGP Collaboration News:

Our members are hard at work on several important projects which I am proud to share two with you.

<u>Har Jehuda Cemetery digitization</u>: this massive endeavor, coordinated by members and with a battalion of volunteers, is well underway and you can still sign up! For more information, refer to the article in the most recent edition of *Chronicles* which was emailed to everyone last week.

JGASGP/HAMEC Holocaust themed event: This co-sponsored event on April 23rd, during the week of Yom HaShoah will showcase a locally made film, speakers and Q and A session focused on a family of 3 siblings, the Danons. They are all Holocaust survivors now in their 90's and their history is a fascinating study of their origins in what was then Split, Yugoslavia (now part of Croatia) through the war years and ultimately to freedom in America after the war. We hope to have all 3 Danon siblings present in person or virtually for this event. Students from local schools are also being invited to attend!

We are also working on a follow up event, perhaps in the fall, which will include DNA research and genealogical profile of the Danon family which will be conducted by our members.

Warmly,

Felicia Mode Alexander President, JGASGP



JGASGP MEETING SCHEDULE

The Zoom link will be sent out and posted on the HOME page of our website on Friday prior to each meeting. Link reminders are also sent out on Sunday mornings. Sunday morning. Meetings are for members only.

Most of our programs will be recorded with the permission of the guest lecturer. 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, March 19, 2023

Time: at 1:15 pm (Note the earlier time)

Speaker: Zachary Mazur, Senior Historian at the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews in War-

saw

Topic: Rabbis, Innkeepers and Tricksters: Jewish Life in Poland-Lithuania

Location: Hybrid Meeting

In Person at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, 8339 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA 19027



Approximately eighty percent of the world's Jews have a connection to Eastern Europe, and all of them once lived in a unique country called the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. Join Zachary Mazur, Senior Historian at the POLIN Museum of the History of Polish Jews, to discuss the key question of why Jews settled in Eastern Europe and what their lives looked like there. While discussing the larger historical narrative, we will focus on the stories of those living in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth to paint a picture of Jewish life before the Great Migration that began in the 1880s.

This virtual seminar will incorporate POLIN's <u>Core Exhibition</u>, a journey through 1000 years of the history of Jews in Poland from the Middle Ages to the present day.

Date: Sunday, April 23, 2023

- 1. There will be several events to choose from on this day . We(JGASGP) are sponsoring a joint program with HAMEC at Gratz College. More information will be sent out in a separate e-mail.
- 2. It is also Israel 75 Mitzvah Day



Jewish Federation

Multiple events sponsored by the

of Greater Philadelphia can be found on their website.

https://israel75.jewishphilly.org/events/community-mitzvah-day/ Check their website and register in advance.

EVENT INFO: 9:00 am - 11:00 am Friends of Jewish Cemeteries Cemetery clean up day!

Har Jehuda Cemetery 8400 Lansdowne Avenue

Upper Darby, Pennsylvania 19082

Register here:

CEMETERY CLEANUP

Date: Sunday, May 21, 2023

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

gram starts promptly at 1:30

Speaker: 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.



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.

Date: Sunday, July 9, 2023

Time: 1:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting In Person Venue TBD

Speaker: Dr. Robert Watson, Professor, Author, Historian, and Media Commentator

Topic: The Legacy of the Nuremberg Trials



Robert Watson is an award-winning author who has published over 40 books and 200 scholarly articles and essays on topics in political, military, and social history, as well as two multi-edition, multi-volume encyclopedia sets on the presidents and first ladies. Some of his recent books include Affairs of State (2012), America's First Crisis (2014), The Nazi Titanic (2016), The Ghost Ship of Brooklyn (2017), George Washington's Final Battle (2021), and Escape (2021), as well as the forthcoming books When Washington Burned (2023) and American's First Plague (2023). Watson's books have won numerous awards including the Independent Publishers' Gold Medal in History and Silver Medal in History, John Barry Book Award, and John Lyman

Book Award, have been featured on C-SPAN's Book TV and at prominent literary festivals around the country, and are available in both audiobook and international translation.

Topic: The Legacy of the Nuremberg Trials

This presentation examines the philosophical, legal, and political debates surrounding the decision to hold the trials as well as the format for the trials, types of trials, and categories of charges and crimes. We will consider the important legacy of these historic trials on international law and human rights, but also their impact far beyond the courtroom.



HELP WANTED: VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY HAR JEHUDA CEMETERY DIGITIZATION PROJECT

Karen Albert, Helene Rosenfeldt, and Alan Kaminsky are our Project Coordinators for the Har Jehuda rec-

ords digitization project! Read about us in Chronicles! If you wish to be part of this project, contact Karen or Helene. We have 20 volunteers working with us so far!

It doesn't matter where you live or what time zone you are in!

- 1. **Helene Rosenfeldt** (<u>Helene.E.Rosenfeldt@gmail.com</u>) will be responsible for scanning.
- 2. **Karen Albert** (<u>karenalbert48@gmail.com</u>) will be responsible for sending out the pictures of the cards.
- 3. Alan Kaminsky (alan.kaminsky.gen@gmail.com) will oversee collecting our spreadsheets and collating them.



IN THE NEWS



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

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

1) HAMEC is sponsoring a Yom HaShoah event On Tuesday April 18th. This year's Yom HaShoah event will focus on themes of resistance and remembrance, with particular emphasis on how remembrance is a form of resistance against contemporary antisemitism and Holocaust denial. The event will feature active resistance and remembrance efforts across different faiths, generations, and professions. It will

consist of a panel discussion including Dr. Anne Parsons (UNC Greensboro), Stacy Seltzer (3GPhilly), a representative from the Jewish Genealogical Society, and more. We are looking to add a survivor, second generation individual, and non-Jewish historian/advocate to the panel. The evening will also feature a performance by Avi Wisnia and art pieces created by students who will have received yearlong Holocaust education from the museum. Felicia graciously agreed to be on the panel and represent JGASGP

2) HAMEC event that is open to the public

March 12 - Hidden: Scenes from a new musical theater piece based on the Holocaust experiences of Ruth Kapp Hartz. Produced and performed by **Two of a Kind**. Presented in partnership with KI Adult Education, Meyers Library and Women of KI.

Time: 2PM. @Abby Gilbert, please confirm.

Location: KI

- 3) HAMEC inventory of artifacts are available for the general public and researchers to view via https://hamec.catalogaccess.com/home
- 4) April 23rd-event at Gratz College information to be e-mailed out ASAP.

MEMBERSHIP AND SOCIETY NEWS

Thank you to everyone who has paid their dues for 2023. We currently have 385 members!

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

Only paid-up members have access to all areas of 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, 2023.

Our 2023 membership form is on our website. \$10 extra for printed Chronicles.

WEBINARS, CONFERENCES, PODCASTS, AND MEETINGS OF INTEREST



Free Live Chat Available: Ask a Genealogist

Whether you are beginning to research your family's history or are a seasoned genealogist, you'll constantly be finding yourself asking questions.

"What's a good source to find the name I'm looking for?"

"How can I navigate this database to make it useful to me?"

"What does this term mean?"

Our expert family historians are here to answer these questions and more! Our **free Ask a Genealogist live chat** is available every week, Tuesday-Saturday. When you visit **AmericanAncestors.org/chat**, find and click the chat icon in the lower right-hand corner of the American Ancestors website and enter your question.

One of our genealogists will quickly respond to help out with your brief inquiries about: How to use a particular website or resource Local history
Unfamiliar terms or phrases in a record
Recommendations for where to find records

Chat with a Genealogist

Don't Forget to Activate Your Free Guest Membership

You still haven't created your free guest membership with American Ancestors. Don't miss out on this opportunity to experience a sampling of the databases and resources our members have access to.

Become a Guest Member

Jewish Genealogy Society of Cleveland



Join the Jewish Genealogy Society of Cleveland for our next Zoom program on Wed, March 1, 2023, 7-8:30 pm ET: "Finding and Understanding Bubbe and Zayde's Galician Vital Records" with Mark Halpern.

Program: A great many Galician researchers have acquired copies of family records from repositories in Poland and Ukraine or online images provided by a State Archive or a Genealogical organization. Over the past twenty years, the work of Jewish Records Indexing - Po-

land and Gesher Galicia has made these records more readily available to all Galician researchers. This session offers an in-depth examination of Galician vital records along with a strategic framework to help researchers in acquiring records to further their research. A historical perspective covering the regulations that governed Jewish recordkeeping in Galicia will be provided. Most importantly, this talk will make sense of the regulations covering civil marriages that impacted the legitimacy and surnames of children. Close examination of sample birth, marriage, and death records will reveal the information contained in the records, identify the records having the most genealogical value, and uncover surprises found in many of these records.

Speaker: In 1996, while on business in Poland, Mark Halpern visited Bialystok, his mother's birthplace. Upon his return home to Philadelphia, Mark dove down the rabbit hole searching for his Galician and Polish roots. Now retired, Mark works with JRI–Poland, JewishGen, IAJGS, and Jewish Genealogical and Archival Society of Greater Philadelphia (JGASGP) helping others research their roots. Mark is on the Board and Executive Committee of JRI-Poland, the founder of BIALYGen – the JewishGen Bialystok area research group, and past President of JGASGP. Mark chaired the program committees for the 2009 and 2013 IAJGS Conferences, served on the Program Committees of the 2018, 2020, and 2021 Conferences, and served as advance coordinator for the 2018 Warsaw Conference. Mark was honored in 2018 with the IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award.

Registration: Required and free – Sign up by noon on Mar 1^{α} at https://jgscleveland.org/event-5091685 to receive a Zoom link.

Go to https://jgscleveland.org/ for more program, speaker, and membership information.

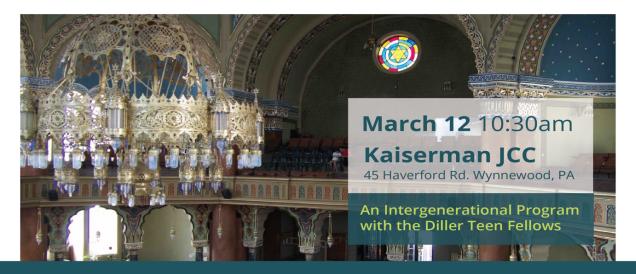
Contact: Deborah A. Katz, JD, PhD

President, JGS Cleveland president@igscleveland.org



Free Virtual Conference: Register to attend! https://www.familysearch.org/rootstech/home

How the Bulgarian Jews Survived the Holocaust with Joseph Benatov



This year marks the 80th anniversary of two interconnected events. In 1943, Bulgaria complied with German demands and deported nearly 11,400 Jews from occupied territories in northern Greece and Yugoslavia (Macedonia). At the same time, Bulgaria successfully resisted German pressures to deport the 50,000 Jews living in Bulgaria. Dr. Benatov will offer an overview of the facts surrounding these historical events and will focus on the conflicting opinions about the role played by King Boris III, church officials, and politicians in the rescue of Bulgaria's Jewish population. Dr. Benatov will also discuss the international debate over the way in which this historical moment should be interpreted, remembered, and commemorated.



Joseph Benatov

Joseph Benatov holds a Ph.D. in comparative literature from the University of Pennsylvania, where he teaches Hebrew. He is originally from Bulgaria and a member of Sofia's Jewish community. Joseph has over 20 years of experience leading travelers across the Balkans, including UNESCO representatives, 92nd Street Y visitors, JDC board members, and Anti-Defamation League officials. He lectures regularly on the history of Jewish life in Bulgaria and on Balkan Sephardic culture. Every summer Joseph leads Jewish heritage tours to the Sephardic Balkans. You can find out more at sephardicbalkans.com.

Learn More & RSVP: phillyjcc.com/adultartsandculture







In person event! It's a free event and lunch will be served. They're asking for a \$10 donation, but not required or expected. You need to <u>register in advance,</u> so they know how much food to order.

The JGS of Greater Boston presents Risa Daitzman Heywood speaking on The Importance of Thorough American Research in Jewish Genealogy: Finding Your Family's Town and Original Surname. Free for JGS of Greater Boston members, \$5.00 for non-members. Information at www.jgsgb.org
March 19 1:30-3:30PM EDT
Jessie Klein
Co-President
JGS of Greater Boston

First Friday Genealogy Group! Meetup in center city Philadelphia!

https://www.facebook.com/firstfridaygenealogy/
Meets at the City Archives 6th and Spring Garden Sts.
Free parking in the Target lot! Chat and chew open to all!



klein@jgsgb.org

LitvakSIG's *Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research: Getting to Know LitvakSIG with Rhoda Miller* held a virtual program on January 29, 2023. This session provided an introduction to the LitvakSIG organization and addressed common questions regarding LitvakSIG's relationship with JewishGen, passwords, structure of research groups, and other general information.

A recording of the program, about one hour long, free and publicly available on the homepage of www.litvaksig.org All the presentations listed below will be recorded and available as they occur.

Save the date for the following Zoom presentations in the series:

Mar. 26 - Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research: Finding Your Shtetl with Susan Feinberg and Ann Brody

April 23 - Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research: Getting to Know Lithuanian Archives with Russ Maurer

May 21 - Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research: Use of Collective Data with Hatte Blejer

June 11 - Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research: Navigating the FamilySearch Library and Polish State Archives with Jody Tzucker

July 16 - Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research: When One Place is in Two Countries with Judy Baston [Note this corrected date from that which appears in the video.]
Rhoda Miller
Cornelius, NC

If you missed the session or if you'd like to view it again, you can view the recording at: Power Up Your LitvakSIG Research. All sessions are offered at no charge, and all are welcome to join us. You must register separately for each session. Information about registration will be published via the LitvakSIG Digest, JewishGen Digest, and on the LitvakSIG Facebook page.

Our next program in this virtual series will take place on Sunday, February 19th at Noon Eastern Standard Time. All programs in this series will be recorded and will be available for viewing within a few days after the session. The program on February 19 will be led by David Ellis and cover the topic: Using Excel Spreadsheets to Enhance Your Research.

Register

<u>Be sure to check</u>: the <u>2022 Comprehensive Calendar of Genealogical Events</u> complied by the <u>Bucks County Genealogical Society</u> for more events and lectures! And Conference Keeper, "The most complete collection of Genealogy events online!"

WEBSITE UPDATE

Check out our new features! Our book club is listed under our events page!

MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE!

It is NOT automatic because you are a JGASGP member. If you need help contact Jim, webmaster@jgasgp.org.

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

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.





