



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

MARILYN GOLDEN VP
membership@jgasgp.org



Happy Hanukkah
From my grandson, Riley

Hi Everyone,

December 10, 2023

**Speakers: Gary Pokrassa, Data Acquisition Director,
and Joel Spector, Director of Metric Record Projects
for the Ukraine Research Division of JewishGen**

**Topic: The Alex Krakovsky Project: Navigating
the Wiki to Locate Town Records**

For several years, Alex Krakovsky, a Ukrainian Jew, has been scanning metrical and census records found in long-closed Ukrainian archives. He has placed the indexes, in Cyrillic, on a webpage where they can easily be accessed by anyone interested. This presentation discussed the origin and method of Alex's data acquisition, and then gave an overview of the contents of his site.

I have also attached the pdf of their handout.

Read below from MyHeritage!

Announcement: Recording of meetings!

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

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/sVpfV4AKCFRXYldRbILD-vIJ4X_vTt0kPyvUmP8ghskPluj4JCE8Y6XUWFxcKDj35.r9312go-ut0E_g9Z

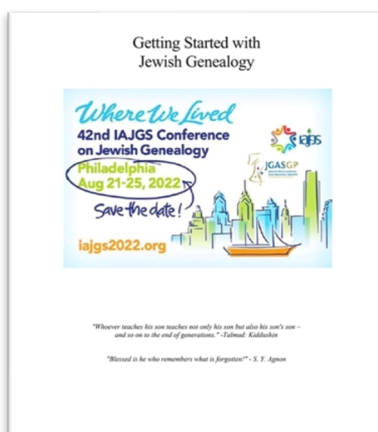
Passcode: AE=qm4Xm

Beginner's Corner and Research Tips



Make sure you dig a little deeper and re-view the documents to check the facts before adding information to your family tree!

Two great resources are available on our website:



(Sign in and look under the Resources Tab)
See the updated version!

Book Club Update



The link will be sent out to all on the morning of each meeting. See our website under Events for updated Book Club titles and descriptions. All members are welcome to join us.

Please join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, December 27th. **RSVP if planning to attend please! membership@jgasgp.org**
We are friendly and welcoming! Here are the next few selections:

1. **The Spy Who Loved: The Secrets and Lives of Christine Granville** by Clare Mulley

Wednesday, December 29, 2023, 7:30 pm

The Spy Who Loved presents the untold story of Britain's first female Special Agent of World War II. In June 1952, a woman was murdered by an obsessed colleague in a hotel in the South Kensington district of London. Her name was Christine Granville. That she died young was perhaps unsurprising, but that she had survived the Second World War was remarkable.



Granville exercised a mesmeric power on those who knew her. *The Spy Who Loved* tells the extraordinary story of this charismatic, difficult, fearless, and altogether extraordinary woman.



2. **The Matchmakers Gift** by Lynda Cohen Loigman

Wednesday, January 24, 2024, 7:30 pm

"Loigman's latest is a gem. A scrappy Jewish teenager newly arrived in 1920s New York struggles to follow her calling as a matchmaker—seventy years later, her cynical divorce-attorney granddaughter realizes she has very inconveniently inherited the family gift for matching soulmates. Both funny and moving, *The Matchmaker's Gift* made me smile from start to finish."

--Kate Quinn, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Rose Code*

Is finding true love a calling or a curse?

Even as a child in 1910, Sara Glikman knows her gift: she is a maker of matches and a seeker of soulmates. But among the pushcart-crowded streets of New York's Lower East Side, Sara's vocation is dominated by devout older men—men who see a talented female matchmaker as a dangerous threat to their traditions and livelihood. After making matches in secret for more than a decade, Sara must fight to take her rightful place among her peers, and to demand the recognition she deserves.

Two generations later, Sara's granddaughter, Abby, is a successful Manhattan divorce attorney, representing the city's wealthiest clients. When her beloved Grandma Sara dies, Abby inherits her collection of handwritten journals recording the details of Sara's matches. But

among the faded volumes, Abby finds more questions than answers. Why did Abby's grandmother leave this library to her and what did she hope Abby would discover within its pages? Why does the work Abby once found so compelling suddenly feel inconsequential and flawed? Is Abby willing to sacrifice the career she's worked so hard for in order to keep her grandmother's mysterious promise to a stranger? And is there really such a thing as love at first sight?

Books are available in the public library, and on Amazon, eBay, etc. Check our website for the comprehensive list of future book club titles.

Please RSVP to membership@jgasgp.org if you want to be on our book club list.

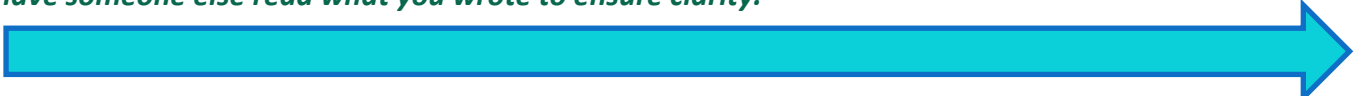
CHRONICLES

Please submit your well-thought-out and organized stories to [Evan Fishman,](mailto:Evan.Fishman@jgasgp.org)
editor@jgasgp.org.

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.



Chronicles is posted on our website. Contact Jim, webmaster@jgasgp.org 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 this year. Your continued kindness is greatly appreciated. We are continuing to accept donations to use for society expenses and for IAIGS 2024 expenses.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Members of JGASGP,

Our society will have much work awaiting us in the coming months as we prepare for the international conference of the IAJGS, which we are co-hosting in August. Now is the time to rest and regroup as we look ahead with eager anticipation to the conference! And remember, we will need all hands on deck to make it a success!

Please note, during the next few months, our monthly meetings will be held virtually but once winter has passed, we will return to our in-person hybrid format.

In the meantime, I wish you all a happy and healthy holiday season spent with family. May the coming year bring peace to our cousins in Israel and an end to the shocking rise in worldwide anti-Semitism. This affects us all, both here and abroad.

I would like to share this lovely version of Hatikvah to close our society's calendar year.

Click to listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=viu48BxOBnA> (Copy and paste if this link doesn't work)

Hatikvah performed by a worldwide community. Credits to the World Jewish Congress 2018



Am Yisrael Chai.

Felicia Mode Alexander

President JGASGP

HELP WANTED

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO VOLUNTEERED!



Mentor for new members

Thank you, Alicia Weiss, and Beth Steiner, for joining our Mentor Team!



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.

Most of our programs will be recorded with the permission of the guest lecturer. **If any-one does not wish to be recorded, please do not participate in the live program.** All microphones and 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, January 14, 2024

Time: Check in, Chat, and Shmooze 1 pm – 1:30 pm ET
Official meeting starts at 1:30 pm

Venue: Zoom Meeting

Speaker: Ava Cohn aka Sherlock Cohn, The Photo Genealogist



Known professionally as Sherlock Cohn, The Photo Genealogist, Ava has been the go-to expert on Jewish family photographs since 2009. She is internationally-known with an ever-growing list of clients from Europe, America, Israel, Australia, Canada, Germany, UK and other countries. A Brandeis University graduate, her background includes the study of decorative arts, art history, history of photography and costume/theatre history. In addition to being a popular speaker and writer on the pairing of photography and genealogy, Ava is a collector of 19th and 20th century photographs of all kinds. She is a member of JGSI and has explored her own roots in Canada, Belarus, Ukraine, Romania and the Austro-Hungarian Empire. She can be reached at her email: sherlock.cohn@com-cast.net or on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/SherlockCohn>

Topic: Clued-In: More Cases from Sherlock Cohn, The Photo Genealogist

The best way to learn how to analyze family photographs is by example. This new presentation, a sequel to the popular "Case Studies from Sherlock Cohn", will present more cases to illustrate the methodology of Photo Genealogy. The program is designed to help participants explain the mystery photographs found in their shoeboxes, jewelry boxes and photo albums. After a brief discussion of the types of questions needed to be asked of every photograph, Sherlock will present a variety of her most challenging cases among the thousands she has analyzed since 2009. Depending on time, cases may include "The Case of the Mystery Pin", "The Case of the Lady in the Locket", "The Case of the Trombonist's Mum", "The Case of the Bi-alystoker Photographer", "The Case of the Onboard Mystery", "The Case of the DP Monument". Mysteries will be chosen that represent common problems genealogists face in deciphering the clues found in their family photographs including how to accurately date a photograph, how to identify individuals in photographs, how to determine the correct generation and how to interpret clues from the past. Whether the participant is new to exploring family photographs or a seasoned veteran of photo sleuthing, there will be more tips and tricks on how to get the most information from their photographs.

SEE ADDITIONAL FALL EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE!

FAMILY FINDER PROJECT:

TAKE A LOOK ON OUR WEBSITE!

HAVE YOU MADE ANY CONNECTIONS? LET US KNOW!

Har Jehuda Cemetery Digitization Project Update:



ANNOUNCEMENT!

*Records will be posted on our website soon.
Approx. 18,000 records will be digitized by
the end of December! Would you like to join
us so we can complete our mission?*



Contact Karen Albert (karenalbert48@gmail.com)

if you'd like to volunteer.

**This is tedious work that needs you to take your time and follow all
the directions. We provide guidance and helpful assistance!**

We have a fabulous team of about 25 people volunteering to help us reach our goal!

1. **Helene Rosenfeldt** (Helene.E.Rosenfeldt@gmail.com)

is responsible for scanning and coordinating a group of volunteers.

2. **Karen Albert** (karenalbert48@gmail.com)

is responsible for sending out the assignments and coordinating a group of volunteers.

3. **Alan Kaminsky** (alan.kaminsky.gen@gmail.com) is overseeing the data collection, maintaining a master list of burials, and is responsible for a group of volunteers.

4. **Marilyn Golden** (membership@igasgp.org) is responsible for a group of volunteers.

HAMEC

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

HAMEC is pleased to announce the addition of Fabulous Flores to our professional staff

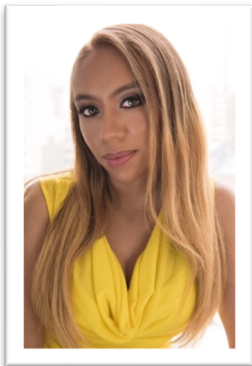


Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center
Preserving History to Learn From the Past | Est. 1961

team as the Education Director.

Holocaust Awareness Museum

Fabulous F. Flores received her Master of Arts degree in Holocaust and Genocide Studies at the Richard Stockton University of New Jersey. Prior to this, she graduated Penn State University with degrees in Journalism and Jewish studies. Her areas of focus include highlighting the experience of the untold stories and victims of mass atrocities. Fabulous' thesis work, which she has named, "Reading the Silences: The Suppressed Voices of the Black Victims in the Holocaust" aspires to correct an erasure of history.



During her time as a student, she worked for the Museum of Jewish Heritage and The Holocaust Awareness Museum as an education intern. Fabulous hopes to incorporate the story of Black victims into

the field of Holocaust studies in order to provide a holistic study of the Third Reich.

IN THE NEWS



IAJGS CONFERENCE 2024

[Fred Blum \(CHAIR\) and](#)

[Felicia Mode Alexander \(CO-CHAIR\)](#)

are
Local Co-Chairs of the conference.
Stay tuned for more information
about
volunteer opportunities!
We are going to count on your help to make our IN-PERSON
conference a huge success!





WHAT IS IAJGS?

The **International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)** is an organization of organizations formed in 1988 to provide a common voice for issues of significance to its members, to advance our genealogical avocation, and to coordinate items such as the annual [International Conference on Jewish Genealogy](#).

Most local and national Jewish Genealogical Societies (JGSs) and several Jewish genealogical Special Interest Groups (SIGs) and historical societies are members.

The purposes and objectives of the IAJGS are well outlined in its [bylaws](#).

Future Conferences

2024, August 18 - 22	Philadelphia, PA	IAJGS and JGASGP	
2025, August 10 - 14	Fort Wayne, IN	IAJGS and Northeast Indiana JGS	

***CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS** – Proposals sought for the 44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. **Sun Jan 28th, 2024, deadline**
Presented by International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)

Dear Fellow Genealogists,

The Program Committee for the 44th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy is pleased to announce that the Call for Proposals is now open. The 2024 Conference will be held in Philadelphia from Sunday, August 18 through Thursday, August 22, 2024, at the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel in Center City Philadelphia.

The deadline for submissions is 11:59 pm Eastern Standard Time on Sunday, January 28, 2024.

We expect to notify proposal submitters of acceptance of their proposals before March 15, 2024.

Please read this entire message before starting your proposal submission.

Conference Themes

While proposals for all areas of Genealogical research, Jewish Genealogy and related historical and cultural topics are encouraged, the Program Committee has identified six themes, characterized below, that will be given the highest priority.

Tools and Technology: Technology is rapidly expanding how genealogists access data, organize research and analyze results both for personal use as well as for indexing projects. This theme invites practical guidance on the use of third-party DNA tools, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and emerging apps and software, including those specifically designed for genealogy or those that can be applied to genealogical research.

Shoah Rescuers and Holocaust Research: There are stories of Holocaust survivors rescued by diplomats and righteous gentiles. We are interested in these stories as well as stories of Jews rescuing Jews. Survivor and rescuer testimonies provide valuable

background for genealogical searches. Share stories, sources, and techniques to assist in finding survivors and descendants to connect to and for identifying victims.

Disappearing Empires of the 19th and 20th Centuries: Russian, Prussian, Austro-Hungarian, Ottoman, British Mandate, etc.: Many emigrant journeys began in parts of the worldwww.iajgs2024.org that were once part of empires which have ceased to exist. This theme is about understanding the administration of records during this time period and where those records now reside.

The Sephardi, Mizrahi, and Persian Experience: Topics may include records, repositories, new technology and techniques for researching Jews from Mediterranean, Middle East, and North African countries. Themes could include Sephardic settlement in North America, migration from North Africa, Syria, Persia and other countries in the Middle East as well as exploring family history through stories, migration, heritage, and culture.

Building Blocks of Genealogy: Presentations to include sessions for those beginning their genealogical journey, new and innovative methods for finding and documenting sources of information, organizational techniques, presenting family histories and the basics of incorporating DNA results into your genealogy.

Genealogical Research in Philadelphia and Eastern US: This theme recognizes our host city's central location along the U.S. Eastern Seaboard and its historic role as a gateway for Jewish immigration. While sessions will focus on researching Jewish communities in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, proposals are also encouraged on topics from Maine to Florida, including the port cities of early American Jewish settlement.

Type of Sessions

Regular Sessions will be scheduled for 45 minutes of presentation followed by 15 minutes of Q&A (questions and answers), a total of 60 minutes.

Each submitted session needs a visual component for the audience. Either a PowerPoint or other similar presentation illustrations or a handout are expected.

Panel Discussions are for a small group of speakers with presentations on a shared topic and will be scheduled for 60 minutes including Q&A. Examples in the past have been panel discussions on Cemetery restoration and U.S. immigration documents.

A panel discussion should be submitted by the main presenter or the panel moderator. Only the person submitting the proposal will be compensated for the session (see below). Information about the other presenters can be added during the submittal of the proposal or later.

If the proposer of a panel feels that they might need more than 60 minutes for the session, please contact the Program Chair at_program@iajgs2024.org.

Computer Labs will be scheduled for 90 minutes and limited to 25 paying participants.

Film or Video Showing will be scheduled based on its length and whether there is an introduction and/or Q&A period.

Regardless of the number of speakers or panelists, only one person should submit the proposal. When the submitter is prompted to “Review the Submission,” there will be an icon to “Add and Additional Presenter,” which allows the additional speakers to be attached to the proposal.

Speaker Compensation

Speakers may submit up to four (4) unique proposals for regular sessions, panel discussions and computer labs. SIG (Special Interest Group), Research Division and BOF (Birds-of-a-Feather) meetings are not included in this limit.

We expect a large number of speakers to submit proposals with many submitting multiple proposals. The quality of the proposal and the description of the speaker and their experience will be one of the deciding factors in the selection process. New presentations not given before to IAJGS or Jewish Genealogical Societies will be another factor. And finally, proposals that are directly applicable to one or more of the Conference Themes will be a factor.

Financial compensation for speakers is based on the number of accepted sessions. Speaker compensation is provided only to the primary speaker of a session. All primary speakers will receive one free Conference Registration. Only one free registration is allowed per session. Speaking or coordinating a SIG or Research Division meeting or luncheon or a BOF session does not qualify the person for compensation from IAJGS.

Speaker compensation is summarized in the following table:

# of Sessions				
Type of Compensation	1	2	3	4
Speaker Payment	\$150,	\$300,	\$450,	\$600
Travel Allowance	\$150,	\$200,	\$250,	\$300
Hotel Nights	0,	1,	2,	3

The compensation in this table only applies to the primary speaker. Hotel nights will be provided and paid for by IAJGS at the Conference hotel. The one exception to this remuneration table is the travel allowance for speakers living within 25 miles of the Conference Hotel. For those speakers, no hotel nights will be provided, and the travel allowance will be \$50 and is not increased if the speaker has more than one session.

How to Submit

To begin the process of submitting your proposal, click here: Call for Proposals, then scroll down and click on the blue "Start Application" bar. All of the proposals, subsequent processing of proposals and accepted sessions will be handled on the PheedLoop conference software platform.

A submitter must use the same email address for ALL submittals. Your email address is your identity within the PheedLoop platform. This one email address must be used for all Program and Registration activities.

Thank you for your interest in the IAJGS 2024 International Conference on Jewish Genealogy and your proposals.

The Program Committee

Mark Halpern, Chair

David Brill

Rosemary Eshel

Ellen Kowitt

Leah Kushner

Joel Spector

program@iajgs2024.org

For details see www.iajgs2024.org

(KEYWORDS: (CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS))

MEMBERSHIP AND SOCIETY NEWS

It's not too early to renew for 2024!

Thank you to everyone who has paid their membership dues!

****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!

Meetings are for members only starting in January 2024!

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 new fiscal year will run from January 1st - December 31st, 2024.

Our 2024 membership form is on our website. \$10 extra for printed Chronicles.

Webinars, Conferences, Podcasts, and Meetings of Interest

The **(Bucks County Genealogy Society) Comprehensive Calendar of Events** has been updated through 2024 and available free at [CompCalendarEvents.pdf](#). It continues to be our most popular download and linked to from many genealogy websites. Feel free to submit your organization's public events directly to me. Thanks so very much for your support this year to Bucksgen and to our genealogical community.

Sincerely,

Cathy Ivins

Director of Publicity. publicity@bucksgen.org

As the year ends, we at Bucksgen would like to thank you for your support in publicizing our programs, as well as for the passion you share with us for family history research. Attached and below are our upcoming events which we again ask for your assistance in sharing with your members.

Special Interest Groups - Visit <https://www.bucksgen.org/index.php/special-interest-groups> for complete info

Free to join on Zoom at 7pm:

Irish Research: Dec. 19th and Jan. 16th

Family Tree Maker Official User Group: Dec. 28th (SIG) and

Special Program on using Charting Companion presented by the Company's Pierre Clouthier: Jan. 25th.

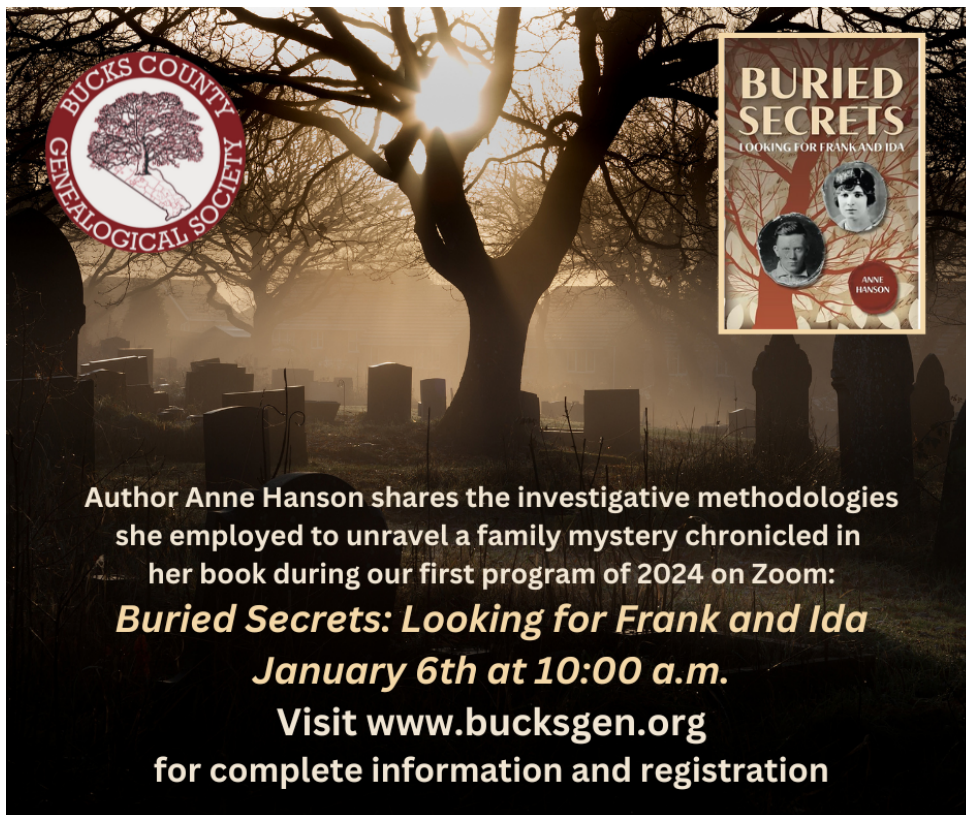
January 6, 2024, at 10am Monthly Program - Visit <https://www.bucksgen.org/index.php/bcgs-programs> for complete info:

**Buried Secrets:
Looking for Frank and
Ida**

Author Anne Hanson shares the investigative methodologies she employed to unravel a family mystery chronicled in her book.

Members \$5 (with 30-day access to recording) • Non-Members \$10

Please also share our popular **Comprehensive Calendar of Events** updated through



Author Anne Hanson shares the investigative methodologies she employed to unravel a family mystery chronicled in her book during our first program of 2024 on Zoom:

Buried Secrets: Looking for Frank and Ida

January 6th at 10:00 a.m.

Visit www.bucksgen.org
for complete information and registration

2024: <https://www.bucksgen.org/images/CompCalendar/CompCalendarEvents.pdf>

Feel free to send your organization's events to publicity@bucksgen.org for free inclusion. The calendar continues to be our #1 download and shared by many societies on their websites. In 2023 we included over 250 genealogical events as well as 18 links to sites offering many other courses.

Happiest holidays to you, your staff, and members! We are looking forward to a great 2024!

The Holocaust Teacher Institute

Is Proud to Announce
The Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Foundation
Holocaust/Jewish Themed Sunday Salon Series

A Virtual Evening with New York Times Bestselling Author

Dani Shapiro

in Conversation with

Dr. Miriam Klein Kassenoff

on her memoir,

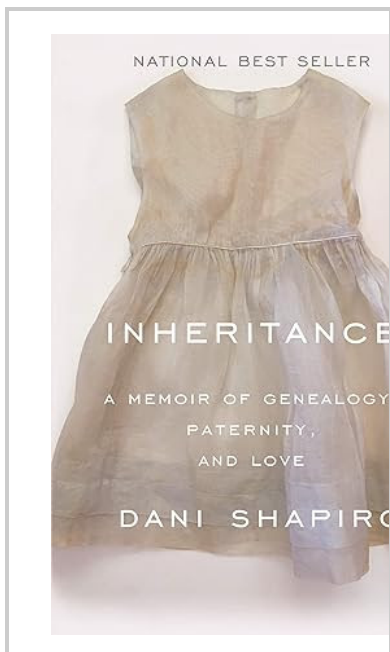
Inheritance:

A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity and Love

A National Jewish Book Award Winner

Sunday, January 7th, 2024

5 PM - EST - (U.S.- Eastern Time) / 2 PM - PST (Pacific)



Inheritance, Shapiro's tenth book and fifth memoir, is a quest to uncover a family mystery involving her identity. This time around, the catalyst is a genetic spit test taken out of idle curiosity in 2016. At age 54, Shapiro is shocked to learn that the devout Orthodox Jewish stockbroker she thought was her biological father — who taught her about the Jewish people, who inspired her to study about the Holocaust, Paul Shapiro, the man who died in that car accident — wasn't a blood relative!

Shapiro is shaken to her core by this discovery. If Paul wasn't her real father and she isn't who she thinks she is, then who is she? Where did the non-Ashkenazi French, Irish, English, and German 48 percent of her DNA come from? And, even more upsetting: Did her parents know this and deliberately hide it from her?

[Click HERE for Dani Shapiro's Bio](#)

After registering, you will receive an immediate confirmation email with your ZOOM link. A reminder will be sent as well.

[Click HERE to Register](#)



All Sunday Salon Series Programs are In Honor of Hidden Child Survivor, Judy Rodan

DONATE NOW



"I never saw another butterfly"

Institute.UJ@gmail.com

Gesher Galicia is pleased to offer this six-part online program hosted by Gratz College and open to participants from around the world. For beginners and seasoned family-history researchers, this continuing adult education course will explore the social and cultural transformation of Galician Jewry, drawing on unique material.

The Path To Modernity: The Jews of Galicia

Dr. Andrew Zalewski

Tuesdays: January 30, February 6, 13, 20, 27, and March 5, 2024

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. US Eastern Standard Time

Class size is limited so register early! Scroll down to the registration.

Recordings will be made available if you are unable to attend live.



THE PATH TO MODERNITY

What drove Jews to have a participatory voice in modern society? How did they respond to new ideas from within and without? Which laws misfired on the Jews' path to civil integration? We explore these questions with a focus on Galicia, home of the largest Jewish community within the Austrian Empire. Passing through European capitals, we witness the Jewish Enlightenment (Haskalah) and the controversies it provoked. Back in Galicia, home-reared intellectuals challenged the traditional community, while increasingly diverse cultural identities were embraced by 19th-century Jews. As part of the continuum, the next century brought pressure to emigrate, World War I, and the collapse of the old order. The course is illustrated with unique records, maps, and documents.

CLASS 1: LOOKING FAR BACK

The big picture: Jews under Muslim rule (from the Middle East to Spain) versus Jews under Christian rule (Europe). Ashkenazi Jews, between Hebrew manuscripts and modern genetics. Jewish migrations in medieval Europe and Jewish communal autonomy in Poland. The Partitions of Poland and their consequences on the Jewish civilization in eastern Europe.

CLASS 2: DISCOVERING AUSTRIAN GALICIA

Traveling with the Habsburg emperor through Austrian Galicia in 1773, stopping in several towns, meeting the countess, and visiting synagogues. The transformation of Jewish communities, from the adoption of new names to military service, marriage laws, and much more.

CLASS 3: THE JEWISH ENLIGHTENMENT (HASKALAH)

Brave Jewish students in Padua before the Haskalah. The Jewish Enlightenment in Berlin and Vienna: how a thin pamphlet unleashed fury in eastern Europe. A Jewish school superintendent arriving in Galicia and provoking a cultural clash. The Haskalah movement in Galicia: Jewish students, vocal *maskilim*, and a debate over language.

CLASS 4: JEWISH POLITICAL EMANCIPATION

Unrest in the streets of Vienna and Lemberg in 1848: the Polish-Jewish dialogue, the first elections, and Jewish petitioners from Galicia. The impact of the emancipation of 1867 on education and Jewish political associations. Pioneering women exploring new opportunities, from Austria to Switzerland, America, and Palestine.

CLASS 5: FROM THE END OF THE LONG CENTURY TO THE BEGINNING OF THE NEXT

How new inventions changed Jewish lives in Galicia. The rise of ethno-nationalism, pogroms in Russia, the Jewish press, and pressure to emigrate. The forgotten

World War I in Galicia. Galician Jews in Vienna. The collapse of Austria-Hungary, the loss of belonging, and local national conflicts.

CLASS 6: AFTER GALICIA: BETWEEN THE WARS, POLISH JEWS UNDER THE SOVIETS DURING WWII

The contribution of Galician Jews to the revival of Poland (1918–1939). The rise of antisemitism in the 1930s—boycotts and unrest at universities. The outbreak of World War II, with Germany and the Soviet Union dividing Poland. Jewish refugees under Soviet rule: their experiences illustrated through material in the Soviet archives. Untold personal stories, pictures, and letters.

COURSE ORGANIZATION

Classes will be offered via Zoom, with a recording of each module available for viewing for one week. Participants are encouraged to join each session live for optimal educational benefit. Course attendees will receive reading material. Although not required, participants are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the recommended reading.

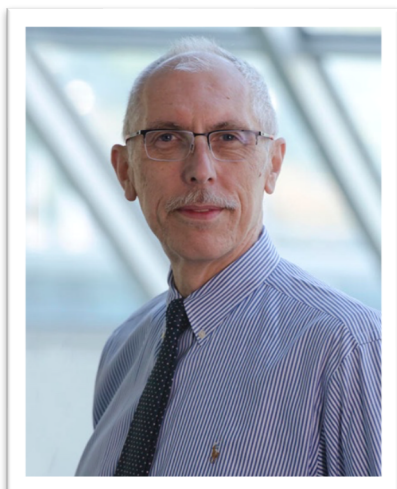
During each module, the following course structure is envisioned:

- Introduction of the learning objectives (15 min)
- Review of illustrated didactic material (60 min) with a break (10 min)
- Discussion and the participants' questions (20 min)
- Recap of the major themes covered and the objectives for the next module (15 min)

Tuition: \$195; Gesher Galicia members: \$145*

*** Current Gesher Galicia members, please email <membership@geshergalicia.org> to receive a discount code**

[Register](#)



Andrew Zalewski, MD is a physician and former professor of medicine at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia. He has authored two books on Austrian Galicia: *Galician Trails: The Forgotten Story of One Family* (2012) and *Galician Portraits: In Search of Jewish Roots* (2014), both of which reconstruct the story of his ancestors in a broader historical context. As the vice president of Gesher Galicia, he led archival research on Jewish educational access, in part supported by a grant from the Republic of Austria. His writings have focused

on Jewish cultural transformation, the impact of Jewish physicians, and Jewish legal rights in Galicia.

Dr. Zalewski is a frequent speaker at cultural and academic institutions in the US and abroad. His Gratz College course on the Jews of Galicia examines the internal and external forces behind the Jewish path to modernity. Unique archival records provide the background for his in-depth description of multiethnic Galicia.

MYHERITAGE LAUNCHES FREE WIKI SITE WITH VALUABLE EASTERN EUROPEAN GENEALOGY RESOURCES



Vera Miller

Dec 16

Nothing beats a new genealogy resource that covers Eastern Europe when it comes for free in English.

MyHeritage launched [its new Wiki site](#) this week. Users don't need to register nor are limited in how much material they can view for free.

A promotional graphic for the MyHeritage Wiki. On the left, the MyHeritage logo is at the top, followed by the text "Introducing the MyHeritage Wiki" and "New Community-led Encyclopedia for Genealogy and DNA". Below this is the URL "myheritage.com/wiki". On the right, a screenshot of the MyHeritage Wiki homepage is shown. The homepage features the MyHeritage Wiki logo, a decorative banner with various genealogy-related icons, and the heading "Welcome to the MyHeritage Wiki". Below the heading is a search bar labeled "Search the Wiki". At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a list of featured topics: "Genealogy research by location", "Genetic origins", "Naming traditions", and "Primer on historical records".

MyHeritage

Introducing the
MyHeritage Wiki

New Community-led Encyclopedia
for Genealogy and DNA

myheritage.com/wiki

MyHeritage Wiki

Welcome to the MyHeritage Wiki

Search the Wiki

- Genealogy research by location
- Genetic origins
- Naming traditions
- Primer on historical records

I know more about this great project than roaming about the new site. MyHeritage asked me to confidentially write as a volunteer for the new Wiki in March and I contributed [13 articles](#), which mostly focus on Ukrainian and Russian genealogy.

(Full disclosure: The MyHeritage staff showed their gratitude toward my efforts on a regular basis, extended my MyHeritage membership as a thank you and sent me a gracious gift for being a founding member of the Wiki. No, I wasn't offered any perks for promoting the Wiki.)

The amount of time I dedicated to the Wiki explains the slow down of posts to this blog this year but I felt the Wiki was worth my time and I wanted to make sure that Ukrainian and Russian genealogy were given their proper spotlight. Anyone can apply to write for the Wiki by filling out [this form](#).

The MyHeritage Wiki is user-friendly, covers genealogy in many countries and gives a better understanding of using DNA testing as a tool for genealogy.

Here are some quick links: [Russian genealogy](#), [Ukrainian genealogy](#), [Polish genealogy](#), [Belarussian genealogy](#), [Lithuanian genealogy](#) and [Estonian genealogy](#).

Don't forget to check out the sections on [primer on historical records](#), [how to guides](#), [genetic origins](#) and [naming traditions](#). MyHeritage released [this video](#) to give a peak into these new resources.

It only takes discovering one piece of new information to help make a genealogy brickwall chip away.

Related posts:

[Top tips for researching Ukrainian and Russian resources on Genealogy Indexer](#)
[Artificial Intelligence makes more than 2.5 million Russian archive records accessible to all](#)
[Secrets of searching the Internet in Russian and Ukrainian like a native speaker](#)
[Expert guide to using Google Translate in Russian and Ukrainian genealogy](#)

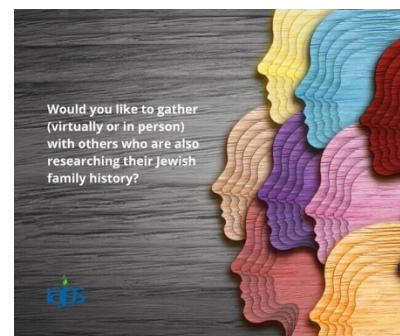
INTERNATIONAL JEWISH GENEALOGY MONTH: GET HELP WITH RESEARCH CHALLENGES!

#JGS-IAJGS

Do you have a confounding brick wall in your family history?

Sometimes it helps to review what you know with others who are working with similar records, places, and time periods. With that kind of teamwork, you can be back to climbing your family tree in no time.

Many Jewish genealogy societies hold both virtual and in-person meetings. Visit our member page to find a group that meets your needs.



<https://www.iajgs.org/membership/member-societies/>

Emily Garber Director, IAJGS

American Ancestors.org

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.

One of our genealogists will quickly respond to help 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

Santa Cruz Jewish Genealogy Society

Event: **Finding Immigration and Naturalization Records: Advanced Strategies and Techniques**

Guest RSVP: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=RHXAXLG74F6AW

Sunday, December 17, 1 pm Pacific Time Zone

Speaker: Lisa Alzo, Eastern European Specialty Genealogist

Description: Every immigrant has a story. This webinar will discuss how to leverage the data in passenger lists, naturalization records, and other documents of ethnic-based communities and neighborhoods (such as historic newspapers and oral histories,) to uncover key clues about your immigrant ancestors.

Learn strategies and techniques to find your elusive ancestor among others with the same name and how to deal with name changes, as well as how to locate missing manifests due to transcription or other database errors. A brief overview of how social history and migration patterns can help you track your ancestors on both sides of the ocean will also be provided.

Bio: Lisa A. Alzo, M.F.A., is a freelance writer, instructor, and internationally recognized lecturer, specializing in Eastern European genealogical research and creative nonfiction writing. She earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in Nonfiction Writing from the University of Pittsburgh in 1997.

Lisa is the author of eleven books, including The Family Tree Polish, Czech and Slovak Genealogy Guide, and the award-winning Three Slovak Women, and hundreds of magazine articles. Lisa is a contributing editor for Family Tree Magazine and frequent contributor for Internet Genealogy.

She also developed the Eastern European Research Certificate Program for the International Institute of Genealogical Studies and works as an online educator and writing coach. Lisa is a frequently invited speaker for national conferences, genealogical and historical societies, and webinars. An avid genealogist for more than 30 years, Lisa also chronicles her family history adventures on her blog, The Accidental Genealogist.

Zoom link will be sent to your email the week of the event, please check your Spam folder.
For more information or membership information

Non-Members pay \$5, Zoom link will be sent the week of the event. Members automatically receive a free Zoom link.

Zoom link will be sent to your email the week of the event, please check your Spam folder.

For more information or membership information

Please send inquiries to: [INFO@ SCJGS.Org](mailto:INFO@SCJGS.Org)

Membership questions: membership@scjgs.org

Leah Kushner, President SCJGS president@scjgs.org

Visit our website: <https://scjgs.org>

Subscribers: If you already registered for this event via PayPal, you are on our RSVP list and will receive the Zoom link the week of the event.

Jewish Genealogical Society NY Meeting

Sunday, December 17 at 2:00 PM Eastern, In Person at the Center for Jewish History, Manhattan, and via Zoom

Mapping Your Family History: How to Create a Customized Google Map

Speaker: Alex Calzareth

Learn how to create maps with your own data on Google Maps. This presentation will teach you how to create a custom map, import location data associated with family history events or source records and then customize the appearance of that data on the map. Custom maps can be used in many ways, including visually conveying family migration patterns, showing the location of regional cemeteries, or which towns hold certain vital records. Resulting maps can also be imported into Google Earth.

Alex Calzareth is a genealogist focusing on Southwest Germany, the Czech Republic and Southern Italy who began researching his family roots twenty-five years ago. He is a board member of Reclaim The Records and the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island, serving as JGSLI's webmaster. Alex is also the JewishGen Research Director for Germany. He lives in New York City and works as a CPA.

This meeting will be held in person at the Center for Jewish History, 15 West 16th Street, Manhattan, and via Zoom. All are welcome.

Zoom participation is free to all. Pre-registration is required [HERE](#) to obtain a Zoom registration link.

In-person attendees should RSVP to program@jgsny.org with the subject line: RSVP December Meeting. Admission is free for members; \$5 at the door for non-members.

Submitted by:

Lynn Diamond

JGSNY VP Communications

jgsny.org

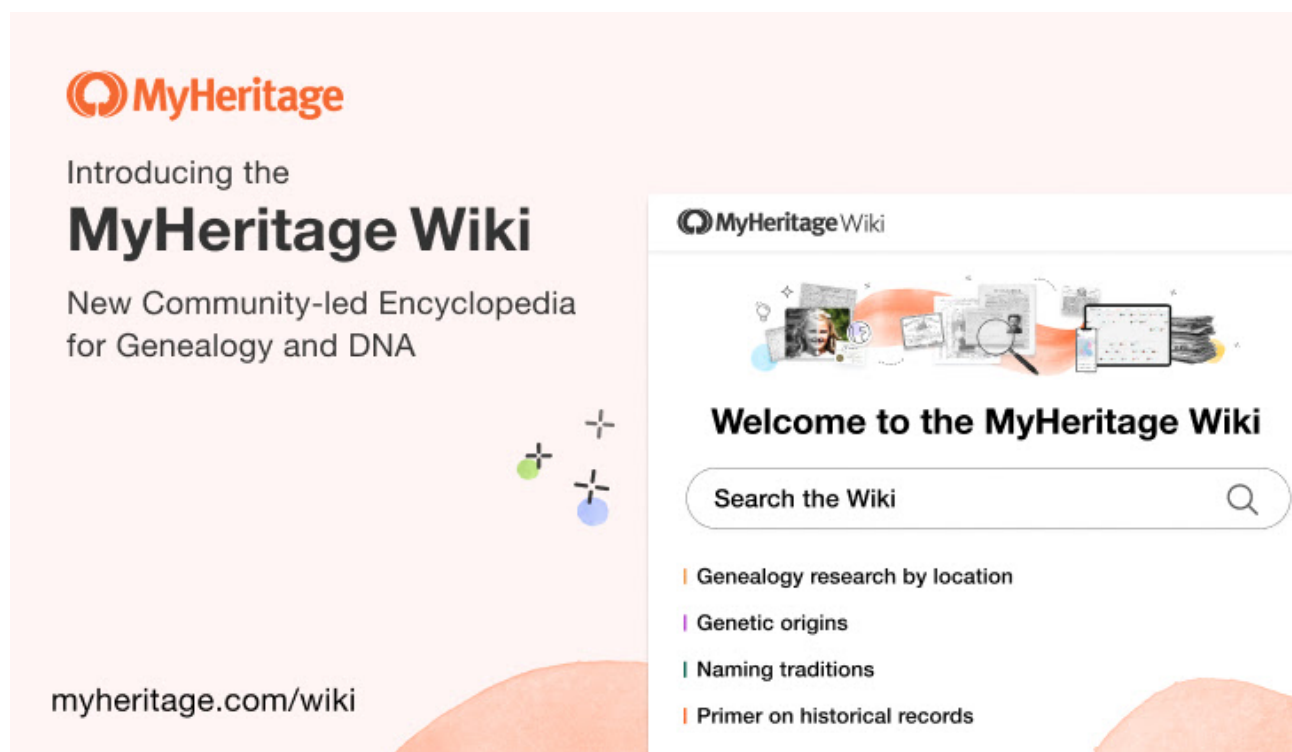
New York, NY

From Daniel Horowitz:

I'm thrilled to announce the launch of the [MyHeritage Wiki](#): the new, community-led online encyclopedia for genealogy and DNA. I invite you to both explore the wiki and also to join us on a meaningful and ambitious journey to transform it into the ultimate online encyclopedia covering every family-history and DNA-related topic under the sun, in dozens of languages. By becoming a contributor, you can help us make it happen!

Watch [this video](#) to learn more about the MyHeritage Wiki.

[Apply here](#) to become a contributor.



At launch, the MyHeritage Wiki contains hundreds of useful articles covering a wide range of topics, such as researching family history in various countries, leveraging DNA to find new family members, exploring surnames and naming traditions, different kinds of historical records, and more. But this is just the beginning. With the help of our devoted contributor community — composed of family

history enthusiasts like you, with complementary areas of expertise — we aim to build a comprehensive resource that will provide family history enthusiasts of every level, background, and origin with the information they need to take their research to the next level.

Please share this wonderful news with your audience and help spread the word about this fantastic new genealogy resource. In addition, please invite your audience to [apply to become contributors](#). You can find more details in the [blog post](#).

Daniel Horowitz
Genealogy Expert

There are MANY programs from other societies. These sites are my favorite for comprehensive information. I have decided to cut back on the number of programs that I personally post. If you come across something you think is relevant to us, please let me know. Also, you can share on Facebook too!

See <https://conferencekeeper.org/> for a calendar of Genealogical events.
<https://conferencekeeper.org/calendar/>
See <https://www.bucksgen.org/index.php/bcgs-programs>

Sign up for Newsletters too: JewishGen.org Discussion Group - Daily Summary <https://groups.jewish-gen.org/g/main> and Eastman's online genealogy newsletter Eogn.com.

***Welcome to the Center for Jewish History**
Another wonderful source for information and learning opportunities!
[HOME TO FIVE DISTINGUISHED PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS](#)

THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPREHENSIVE ARCHIVE OF THE MODERN JEWISH EXPERIENCE OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL

[Center for Jewish History and partner collections](#) span five thousand years, with tens of millions of archival documents (in dozens of languages and alphabet systems), more than 500,000 volumes, as well as thousands of artworks, textiles, ritual objects, recordings, films, and photographs. The Center's experts are leaders in unlocking archival material for a wide audience through the latest practices in digitization, library science, and public education. As one of the world's foremost research institutions, the Center offers academic [fellowships, symposia, conferences and lectures](#) as well as a wide array of cultural, educational and genealogy [programs](#) for the public. Please [visit the Center](#), [search our collections online](#) and join our [Email List](#).

Condolences: Shelly Krocker passed away on November 18th. He was a kind and caring man with many talents. Please donate to the charity of your choice. Cards of condolence may be sent to our JGASGP Secretary, Linda Ewall-Krocker 623 Bellflower, Langhorne, PA 19047.

GALLERY NEWS

Tribute to an excellent artist

Beginnings

“One day while visiting my favorite place, Longwood Gardens, I submitted several dozen Longwood photos to them as a gift. The rest became history. They invited me to join their volunteer photography group and my answer was, YES!”

Sharing

“Most of my work ends up as birthday gifts for family and friends.”

Joy

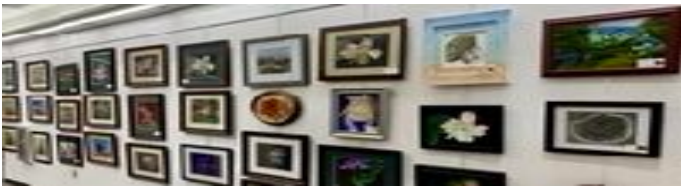
“When I combine my love for photography with being a volunteer at Longwood I become a happy camper.”

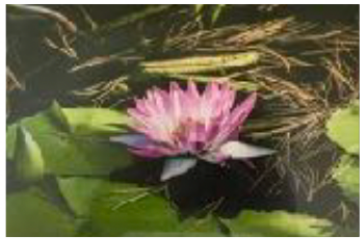


Shelly Krocker

“A picture is worth a thousand words,” if true, Shelly Krocker wrote volumes with the beauty of his photography. His photos graced the VOFM Gallery and he was the Featured Artist July-September of 2022. **Shelly was lost to us after a fall left him paralyzed. He died peacefully on November 18, 2023.**

This soft spoken man was a mainstay of our artistic community and his photographs displayed a unique view of the beauty of nature in all its glory. The highlight of his artistry was found as a volunteer photographer at Longwood Gardens. Shelly was selected along with five other photographers to capture different flowers at special times of the year. The five would arrive at the





The Camera's Eye

The camera captures a moment in time, it captures what is True, Good, and Beautiful because it cannot lie. Of course, in the hands of a professional it can produce memories that last a life time. The cover of Look magazine of the sailor and nurse clutched an embrace frozen in time in the Time Square photo of thousands celebrating the end of WWII. Not a picture of the thousands, but of the two, strangers swept up in the celebration, one that knocks the cap off the nurse.

The mother sitting on the running board of an old car, a forlorn look in her eye as she touches her face with delicate fingers tells the story of hardship during the depression. That stunning photo atop Mt. Suriabachi when battle weary Marines raised the flag. The power of photography opens the world to us and captures memories that make history. This is what Shelly Krockner was able to do as he brought nature in its beauty to our community.

Gardens and receive their assignments to capture various portions of the extensive Gardens. At the end of the day each gave their photos to the Gardens executives and they would pick the best to create calendars, greeting cards, and posters.

During his career as a microbiologist Shelly worked in numerous areas of the pharmaceutical industry. He came to the art of photography within the past 10 years when he discovered thousands of travel points. He decided to use them to buy his first professional camera. An explosion of creativity followed. A new world of artistic recognition opened to him as he began sharing his gift at various local art shows in the township and at libraries where he sold several pieces. His work has graced the VOFM Art Gallery for the past several years as well.

Thank you Shelly for your gift of Beauty, Goodness, and Truth captured through the lens of your camera. Thank you for the volunteerism you so graciously gave to your community and thank you for sharing your gentle smile and quite presence with everyone who knew you. And a special thank you to Linda Ewall Krockner, an artist in her own right, for sharing her husband and his talents with the community.





Joan Steel

Joan (née Krechmer) Steel, 86, passed away peacefully on December 12, 2023. She was loving and devoted wife of Philip Nathans Steel, Jr., and wonderful mother of Elizabeth, David & Adam Steel, mother-in-law of Scott Miller, Amy Miller Steel, and Graciela Perales Steel. Doting grandmother of 6 granddaughters —Sharon Miller, Claudia, Cecilia, Lucia, Cal & Kate Steel. Her parents were Dr. Abraham & Zelda Krechmer of Atlantic City. She was born and raised in Atlantic City, where she was proud to be an “Inlet Girl.” She met Phil at Atlantic City High School, married in ‘56 and they were married for 67 years. Joan was an artist and animal lover. She loved to travel the world collecting art and antiques.

Condolences to Phillip Steel, 323 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106-3818

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.

