



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL AND ARCHIVAL SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

April 14, 2024

Matt Weismantel, Professional Genealogist and Ellis Island Volunteer gave a fascinating lecture about the history of Ellis Island and its documents. Matt introduced information that many of us had never heard before. If you missed the lecture, please take the time to watch the presentation on Zoom. He was interesting and inspiring. We look forward to planning a society trip to Ellis Island and the Hospital Hard Hat tour next year with a special guide for our group!

<https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/share/rbjn4ilcbdoVG9VSgIpy-HOBmW6vU3NrKk-jPO4WOysUXRuKNzjsr1jYlo8HtVCz.aTnVRgsOsoNT0WA>

Passcode: H3NYAM^X

If you didn't get the handout it is on our website. Thanks for your patience as we had some glitches signing into the Zoom. Our tech guy, Ray, saved the day and got it all worked out! It was terrific that our members shared information with each other! We are a friendly and helpful group!

I received the following article in a blog from Newspapers.com today.

The official blog of Newspapers.com
"Fishwrap"

- [Blog Home](#)
- [Newspapers.com](#)
- [Home](#)
- [Newspaper Finds](#)
- [Beyond Ellis Island: Immigration at the Port of Philadelphia](#)

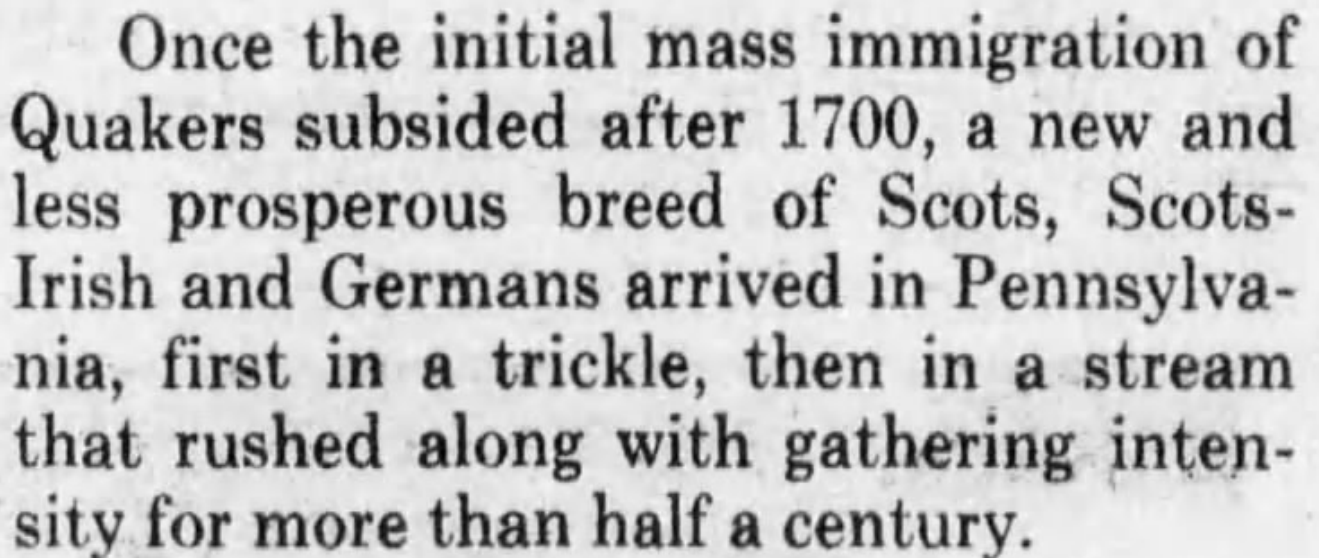
[Family History](#) [Newspaper Finds](#)

BEYOND ELLIS ISLAND: IMMIGRATION AT THE PORT OF PHILADELPHIA

April 8, 2024 [Jenny Ashcraft](#)

In 1681, William Penn received a charter from King Charles II of England to develop the colony of Philadelphia in North America. The proposed society would be built on religious liberty and principles of peace. Beginning in the 1700s, some [1.3 million immigrants](#) bound for America arrived at the Port of Philadelphia.

Philadelphia was more than 100 miles from the Atlantic Ocean and [200 miles](#) longer than the journey to New York. Ships sailed past Cape May at the foot of New Jersey to the Delaware Bay and then up the Delaware River to Philadelphia. The Delaware River [often froze](#) during winter, limiting Philadelphia arrivals to May through November.



Once the initial mass immigration of Quakers subsided after 1700, a new and less prosperous breed of Scots, Scots-Irish and Germans arrived in Pennsylvania, first in a trickle, then in a stream that rushed along with gathering intensity for more than half a century.

The Philadelphia Inquirer: April 26, 1976

[Germans](#) and [Scots-Irish](#) immigrants were among the majority of early immigrants headed to Philadelphia, with more than [150,000 arriving before 1776](#). Many were poor and came as [indentured servants](#) or “redemptioners.” They were required to work and pay off their passage upon arrival. Following a [yellow fever epidemic](#) in Philadelphia, construction began in 1799 on a quarantine station about ten miles outside the

“Wreck of the City of Glasgow.—A correspondent of the Mail, at Campbellton, states that on Saturday last, while a heard-boy was walking along the shore at Balloch-gair, he picked a portion of the bow of a vessel which bears every mark of having belonged to the ill-fated steamer. It has on it, in large gilded characters, not much defaced, City of Glasgow, and in the corner, ‘Let Glasgow flourish.’ This memento, which is probably all that will be seen of the noble vessel, was taken to the office of Mr. Watson, from whence it was forwarded to the builders, Messrs- Todd & McGregor, of Glasgow, for indentification’

city called the Lazaretto. The station acted as a hospital and disinfecting station, and immigrant ships were required to stop there for inspection. Officials used steam to sterilize the clothing of anyone who was sick.

In the 1820s, ships brought 20,000 immigrants to Philadelphia. Even more came in the 1830s and 1840s. In 1838, the city bought an ice-breaking boat, increasing the number of immigrants to 120,000 between 1847 and 1854. The Irish Potato Famine, political

unrest in Europe, and workers protesting poor conditions brought many immigrants at this time.

The Portage Sentinel: December 27, 1854

Tragedy struck in 1854 when the steamship City of Glasgow, headed from Liverpool to Philadelphia on March 1, 1854, disappeared with 480 aboard. Anxious relatives waited for word on the ship’s fate, but their hopes were dashed when, seven months later, portions of her bow washed ashore in Scotland.

In 1873, the American Line steamship company opened an immigration station in Philadelphia at the pier on Washington Avenue. In cooperation with the railroads, they offered immigrants an easier immigration experience than New York, with quick access to all points of the country via railroads. Tens of thousands of immigrants arrived at this station and additional stations at Fitzwater Street, Callowhill, and Vine Street. Immigrants disembarked and boarded trains to other destinations. By this time, Philadelphia’s immigrants had become more diverse, with immigrants originating from many different countries.

In 1884, the federal government opened a second quarantine station at Cape Henlopen in Delaware (about 120 miles from Philadelphia and at the mouth of the Delaware Bay). Initially, only ships that sailed from infected ports were required to stop for inspection. However, with mounting concerns over a cholera outbreak, the government required all ships to stop for a screening. Officials soon decided they needed another quarantine station closer to Philadelphia. In 1893, a station opened on Reedy Island, some 50

miles outside the city. The station was equipped with boilers to sanitize clothing and a sulfur generator that produced sulfur dioxide fumes to sanitize the ships.

Weary passengers had to endure inspections at both Cape Henlopen and Reedy Island. If any sickness was found, officials detained and quarantined the ship. In 1893, officials stopped [the British steamship *Annie*](#) at Reedy Island after a cholera outbreak during the voyage. They sanitized the ship and kept her in quarantine for a week until she was deemed safe and [released](#).

The Philadelphia Inquirer: October 27, 1893

Immigration to Philadelphia slowed significantly following the [Immigration Act of 1924](#). The act set immigration quotas that limited the number of immigrants allowed into the country. If you would like to learn more about immigration through the Port of Philadelphia, search [Newspapers.com™](#) today.



Fred Blum, Local Chair and Felicia Mode Alexander, Local Co-Chair

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!



Hi Everyone,

Planning continues for the IAJGS 44th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy. I hope many of you are planning on attending! I will be depending on a lot of volunteers to help make this conference a friendly reflection on our society and the city of Philadelphia.

*I am looking for someone who like to be responsible to Chair the **Hospitality Desk**. If you think you want to be part of this please let me know. We will have shifts of volunteers for 2 hrs. at a time. No one will be asked to do more that that and no one will have to miss a lecture they want to attend!!!

When you register for the conference multiple Volunteer slots will be available. We need people to work in the Resource Room (computers, researching various websites), mentoring in specific areas of expertise (German, Ukraine, Holocaust, Adoptions, etc.), Translations, Yiddish, Hebrew, Spanish, etc. All these questions will be put into Pheedloop (the electronic registration program we'll be using). We will need greeters at the lectures, ticket takers at paid events. We will need people to help give out pre-paid boxed lunches. I hope that everyone in our society will consider volunteering.

Beginner's Corner and Research Tips



Two great resources are available on our website:



Search the On-demand library of RootsTech to watch great videos for Jewish researchers!

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.

***WE HAVE TO DELAY OUR MARCH MEETING. THIS IS A LONG BOOK!**

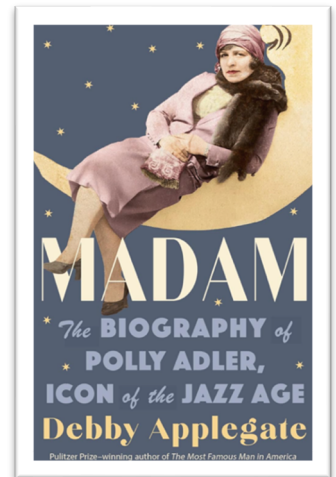
Please note the change of date!

Please join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, May 1st at 7:30 pm. Let me know if you are planning to attend!

Madam: The Biography of Polly Adler, Icon of the Jazz Age
by Debby Applegate

All are welcome to attend.

The link will be sent out on Wednesday morning, prior to the meeting.



Chronicles

Chronicles is seeking new editors.

If you have writing and/or editing experience, this might be up your alley.

Current editor, Evan Fishman, will be available to train and mentor.



Please submit your well-thought-out and organized stories to [Evan Fishman](mailto:Evan.Fishman@jqasqp.org), editor@jqasqp.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@jqasqp.org for any questions **about receiving your hard copy**. Jim has posted all issues of Chronicles dating back to 1982 (Vol 1 # 1). Hard copies will be mailed out in about a week.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We would like to thank members and friends who have made generous donations to our society. Your continued kindness is greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you want to send a donation **in honor of**, or **in memory of** someone special.

Contributions for the conference need to be labeled “**For the 2024 conference**”.

- 1) *Barbara Ayes*
- 2) *Henry Bernstein**
- 3) *Jon Broder**
- 4) *Ellen & Stanley Fayer*
- 5) *Adele Greenspun*
- 6) *Steven Peitzman*
- 7) *Dan Rottenberg*
- 8) *Bobbe & Richard Schmeltzer**
- 9) *Christine Spaulding*

NEW MEMBERS

Have you filled out the Family Finder information and sent it to me? All new members are requested to keep me informed about their family research names.

JGASGP MEETING SCHEDULE

The Zoom link will be sent out to members by Friday and posted on the HOME page of our website on Sunday prior to each meeting.



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 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!

Zoom Meeting links will be sent out to members on Friday mornings before the meetings. Link will be posted on our website on Sunday morning. **We use CLOSED CAPTIONING on Zoom.**

AS THE WEATHER GETS NICER, WE ARE GOING TO MEET IN PERSON! JIM AND CINDY WILL BE BRING BOOKS TO GIVE AWAY AND WE WILL HAVE SOME YUMMY SNACKS! THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR HUMAN INTERACTION!

Date: Sunday, May 5, 2024.

Time: 2:00 check in, chat, and schmooze in person.

official start time 2:30 on zoom and in person. Note the later start time!

Location: Shir Ami, 101 Richboro Road Newtown, PA 18940 Bucks County Hybrid (Zoom link will be sent out to membership and posted on our website on Sunday morning).

Guest Speakers:

Linda Ewall, JGASGP Board Member and Jeffrey Freedman, Emeritus Associate Professor of Physiology, State University of New York, Upstate Medical University

Jeffrey Freedman is Emeritus Associate Professor of Physiology in the Department of Neuroscience and Physiology at State University of New York, Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York. His Ph.D. in Biology is from Penn, and he is retired from a 45-year academic career that included biomedical research and graduate and medical school teaching. He hails from Philadelphia and has been working on Genealogy for over 30 years. His third cousin, Linda Ewall's M.A. in Computer Science Education is from Beaver College, now Arcadia University. Her career in computer networks, technical training and documentation, hardware, and software installations and troubleshooting in the pharmaceutical and medical fields complement her 47-yearlong interest in genealogy. She has been the recording secretary of the JGASGP for the past six years.

Topic: Goldman family DNA research group and how we discovered hundreds of relatives and ancestors

This talk will describe how the G3 "Goldman Genealogy Group", a group of newfound 3C to 4C DNA cousins found each other and together built a six-generation tree that was subsequently extended using DNA methods. We will explain how DNA matches can be tracked on a tree to gain evidence pertaining to hypothetical connections, how a chromosome map of shared DNA segments is constructed, and how triangulating shared DNA segments with those also shared by an individual with known lineage leads to the discovery of common ancestors. Examples from the extended Goldman tree will be presented. Looking at shared matches on ancestry.com and other sites is like looking through a low powered microscope; looking at shared DNA segments on the GEDmatch and DNA Painter sites is like looking through a high-powered microscope. Your DNA directs, controls, and regulates all the biochemical processes in your body but is also your ancestral memory; the use of DNA methods in genealogy can thus enhance understanding of your individual ancestry and your genetic connections with others.

Date: Sunday, June 9, 2024

Special BRUNCH to honor our Har Jehuda volunteers!

Guest Speaker: Rich Blumberg: FJC

Special slide show presentation!

All are welcome to attend free of charge!



Time: 11:00 In person only

Location: Main Line Reform 410 Montgomery Ave,
Wynnewood, PA 19096

Guest Speaker: Rich Blumberg, JGASGP Member and Volunteer FJC

Topic: Har Jehuda Project : It's a Mitzvah Celebration

Bagel Brunch honoring the volunteers of the Har Jehuda Project: It's a Mitzvah. We will be discussing the Har Jehuda Project and the future of cemetery cleanup projects in the Philadelphia area. ALL are welcome to attend our in-person event.

We have completed our digitization project of the approximate 26,000 burial cards.

I am so grateful to all our wonderful volunteers. We couldn't have done this without you! Some of us are continuing to work on the "Burial Books". A genealogist's work is never done!

SEE ADDITIONAL EVENTS ON OUR WEBSITE! CHECK OFTEN. NEW LECTURES WILL BE ADDED MONTHLY AS THEY ARE SCHEDULED.

HAMEC



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

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

IN THE NEWS

Dear JewishGen Community,

We are pleased to announce that the pilot episode of *Generations*, the first Jewish-themed genealogy television series produced by the Museum of Jewish Heritage — A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, JewishGen, and JLTV, has been completed.

The show features actors Camryn Manheim (*Law and Order*, *The Practice*) and her son, Milo Manheim (*School Spirits*, *Zombies*), and explores their DNA and family roots, while revealing artifacts, objects, documents, and photographs to paint a full family portrait.

This pilot episode will air later this spring, and we are pleased to share advanced access to the trailer: <https://www.jewishgen.org/generations>.

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

Sincerely, Avraham

Mentors

Alicia Weiss and **Beth Steiner** have joined our JGASGP Mentor Team! If you need a mentor, let me know!



NETWORKING



Felicia and I at the KI Purim Festival with our new fancy tablecloth!





Tom, Linda, Marilyn, Felicia, and Jonathan Schmalzbach Community Engagement Specialist, and **Mark**, at the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia offices.

WHYY's Finding Your Roots event: Dead Ends to Discoveries: Overcoming Roadblocks in Genealogy

Some of us were able to sign up for tickets to attend the Finding Your Roots presentation and panel discussion. It was a free event at the KROC Center at 4200 Wissahickon Ave., Philadelphia, PA. We were given some beginner packet information and watched a little of the program, Finding Your Roots. It was interesting to hear the different perspectives from some experts in our field. There were some societies represented. Next time, I hope they ask us! We didn't know about this event until it was too late to advertise it to our members.

Let us know if you hear of anything special going on in the area!



- **James P. Leonard**, Esquire - Commissioner of Records for the City of Philadelphia Department of **Phila.**
- **Hollis Gentry** - Genealogy Specialist at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture Library and Archives
- Moderator - **Vicky Diaz-Camacho**, Multiplatform Producer, WHYY News
- **Katy Bodenhorn Barnes** - Director of Genealogical Services and Programs, Historical Society of Pennsylvania
- **Dr. Amanda Kingston**, Chair of Psychiatry, Jefferson Abington



Marilyn Finding surprises (Ha Ha) in a photobooth with a virtual Dr. Gates.

Photomyne

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



MEMBERSHIP AND SOCIETY NEWS

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!

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 Jewish Genealogical Society of Oregon invites you to a free Zoom presentation:

The Jewish Communities of the Caribbean, with W. Todd Knowles,

Sunday, 21 April 2024, 10:30 a.m. Pacific Time.

All our Zoom presentations offer closed captioning.

Please register in advance:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0odOGvqTwpG9Yq49YdyvnqfOO1mIJCtWu6#/registration>

Linda W. Kelley

Secretary, JGSO

Portland, OR, USA



Register for our May Zoom Program:

Comparing and Choosing Genealogy Software

Date & Time: Wed, May 1, 2024, at 7:00 - 8:30 PM ET

Program: As family historians, we are faced with the fundamental question of how to "best" organize our research and records. **Chuck Weinstein** will walk us through the maze of software options available and provide criteria he uses to record and track family information. Please join us for this much requested topic of interest.

Speaker: Chuck has been tracing his family history for more than thirty years. A Past President of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island, Chuck has also been active with

JewishGen for over 28 years. In that time, he served as a Moderator for the JewishGen Discussion Group, Director of KehilaLinks, and a board member of the JewishGen Ukraine Research Division. Chuck has served as Co-chair of the 2016 IAJGS Conference in Seattle and Lead Chair of the 2023 IAJGS Conference in London.

Registration: All participants must REGISTER. Members free. Non-members \$5. A zoom link will be emailed to you the day before the program. Registration ends at midnight on Tuesday, Apr 30th. Sign up today!



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.jewishgen.org/g/main> and Eastman's online genealogy newsletter Eogn.com.

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

