Press Release

Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County* (JGSCV) (*and surrounding areas)

The JGSCV will hold a general meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim, on Sunday, March 1, 2015 at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The Topic:
Ancient Texts Lead to Genealogical Discoveries
The Lives Our Ancestors Led

The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York is often off the radar screen for many genealogists but the library is home to almost half a million volumes including manuscripts, rare books and archives. The archives are a treasure yet to be explored by so many of us and yet it is a rich repository of records of Jewish communities, institutions and prominent individuals in the US and Europe. We will take a digital trip and explore some of the treasures that can be found at JTS. Included in these archives are transcriptions of notes, memos and correspondence between the State Department and offices in Vienna, St. Petersburg, Warsaw and Bucharest from 1863-1906 that concern the legal position and persecution of Jews; and correspondence and notes about the Jewish community in France from 1700’s until after WWII. We will also explore a variety of ketubot and mohel books and talk about the way all of these materials help us in our research.

Speaker: Dr. Janette Silverman is the JewishGen Ukraine SIG Coordinator. She was the president of the Phoenix Jewish Genealogy Society for 5 years, and is active on the IAJGS Membership Development Committee. Since 2007 she has served as a Moderator for the JewishGen Discussion Group. Her doctoral dissertation, "In Living Memory" is about Jewish genealogical research. Janette has been researching family history for almost 30 years. Janette is the Outreach Director for the William Davidson Graduate School of Jewish Education of The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County is dedicated to sharing genealogical information, techniques and research tools with anyone interested in Jewish genealogy and family history. Meeting is open to the public and there is no charge to attend. Annual dues are $25 for an individual and $30 for a family.

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