

VENTURING INTO OUR PAST



JGSCV

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF THE CONEJO VALLEY AND VENTURA COUNTY

June 2016

Volume 11 Issue 9

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

JGSCV's annual Yom Hashoah program was different this year. Rather than have survivors talk or show a video relative to the Shoah, we invited Professor Holli Levitsky, Ph.D. author of *Creating New Witnesses to the Holocaust: Teaching the Holocaust Locally, Globally and Virtually*. Dr. Levitsky talked about how the Holocaust was experienced in the Jewish Catskills vacation areas and why she wrote a book about it; why the Shoah continues to be so important, and how the Shoah is being made relevant to the next generations. See page 6 for the highlights of her program. Additionally, to see a bibliography of selected books that Dr. Levitsky recommends see page 13. Finally, there is information on the Catskills Institute on page 12.

Thank you to Hal Bookbinder for facilitating the Schmoozing Corner.

The 36th IAIGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy is fast approaching. I know at least 17 JGSCV members are attending—some as speakers and some as attendees. If you plan to attend please let me know at president@jgscv.org. The program is very rich, there will be a film festival and the resource room will have access to subscription databases at no charge as well as hundreds of non-subscription databases. It's a great way to try out different genealogical sites before you subscribe. See an update on page 11. The entire program is posted at: http://s4.goeshow.com/iaigs/annual/2016/program_schedule.cfm



Dr. Holli Levitsky at JGSCV's June Meeting

NEXT MEETING

Sunday, June 5th 1:30-3:30 PM

Exploring Legacy Family Tree

Geoff Rasmussen, host of the Legacy Family Tree webinar series, will explore how to best use Legacy Family Tree to make your genealogical searches easier.

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Mission Statement:

JGSCV is a non-profit organization run by enthusiastic volunteers dedicated to the sharing of genealogical information, techniques and research tools with those interested in Jewish genealogy and family history. Members who include beginners and experienced genealogists share with each other.

One of the many attributes of Google is *Google Alerts*. List your ancestral towns, ancestral names and phrases of interest and Google will *alert* you with an email whenever articles appear that include items on your list. To register your names, towns and key phrases, go to: <https://www.google.com/alerts>. If you need assistance in creating alerts go to: <https://support.google.com/alerts/answer/4815696?hl=en>. This is a free service.

June 19 is Father's Day and a way to celebrate the day is to commemorate your father, uncle, brother, son or other male relative on your family tree with writing a memory about the person. Father's Day is a celebration of fathers started in the United States in the early twentieth century. It's a "newer" holiday as it became official in 1972 while Mother's Day has been celebrated since 1914. Although Mother's Day is over, see "Remembering Special People On Special Days" on page 14 for suggestions how to preserve a memory for a female ancestor as well as a male ancestor.

An exhibit on Baseball Jews and the American Dream is currently at the Skirball through 30 October 2016. The exhibit was organized by the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. To read more about this Los Angeles opportunity see page 16.

Our June 5 program is about Legacy Family Tree Software with Geoff Rasmussen. When Ancestry announced late last year that they were going to cease supporting FamilyTree Maker (and before they announced they sold the product to MacKiev), we invited Geoff to talk about Legacy's Family Tree Software. By all accounts it is an excellent genealogy software program. Legacy supports JGSCV's annual Chanukah party with prizes—subscriptions to both Legacy Family Tree and Legacy Webinars. JGSCV members also have a special price for Legacy Webinars. Geoff will be talking about learning how Legacy Family Tree software helps you plan, research, and share your family tree.

Looking forward to seeing you on June 5th!



Jan Meisels Allen

New to the CA Archives

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla announced the release of nearly 4,000 digitized California trademark images and applications filed with the Secretary of State between 1861 and 1900.

The Public Archives Act created in 1850 established a public archives under the Secretary of State to ensure California's history would be preserved.

Today two laws are fundamental to the public's right to access public records, the California Public Records Act (Government Code section 6250 et seq) and the California Information Practices Act (Civil Code section 1798 et seq).

A summary of the Public Records Act can be found on the Attorney General's website.

The Replevin Law enables state and local government agencies to recover public records and makes it illegal for private parties to possess state or local government records.

[California State Archives](#)

EXPEDITIONS RECORD TRIBAL GENEALOGY ON SITE

My Heritage recently announced a new, non-profit initiative, [Tribal Quest](#), to record the family histories of communities lacking access to modern technology.

They have already completed two Tribal Quest expeditions: Namibia and Papua New Guinea, meeting elders and families of the Himba people in Namibia, and different tribal groups in Papua New Guinea. Collaborating with local guides, teams spent three weeks in each destination, interviewing hundreds of community members, taking thousands of family photos, gathering information at cemeteries

The teams then processed all the data they gathered, cross-correlate and tag it, organizing the family history information of over 6,000 members of tribal communities in 55 richly-detailed family trees. See photos and read about this amazing project at

[Tribal Quest](#).

Who Named the Steamships?

According to a 1922 article on the website of the Gjenvick-Gjonvik Archives, each shipping company had its own way of naming its fleet. For example, Williams Steamship Company names of vessels are compounded from "Will," the first syllable of the name of the president George T. Williams, and from some game or sport: Willpolo, Willsolo, Willfaro, Willhilo (high-low).

This absorbing website displays historical ship ephemera from the 1880s through 1954, including but not limited to brochures, menus, tickets, photos and even fashion. Read more at: <http://www.gjenvick.com/#ixzz48PvEZpVJ>

Ventura County, Rincon 1912



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, June 5, 2016 at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The Topic: Exploring Legacy Family Tree Software

Learn how Legacy Family Tree software helps you plan, research, and share your family tree. See how Legacy helps you site sources correctly and easily,



Evidence Explained style, and learn how to create shareable CDs, migration maps, customized wall charts, publish books, get automated research suggestions, and much more.

Learn how to import a FamilyTreeMaker (FTM) file in two simple steps.

Speaker: Geoffrey D. Rasmussen is the recipient of the

"RootsTech Distinguished Presenter" award, is father of four budding genealogists. He graduated with a degree in Genealogy and Family History from Brigham Young University and has served as director and vice-president of the Utah Genealogical Association. He is a dynamic genealogy speaker on all forms of genealogy technology, and as host of the Legacy Family Tree webinar series, has spoken virtually to nearly 100 different countries. He has authored books, videos, articles, and websites, and develops the Legacy Family Tree software program. On a personal note, Geoff enjoys playing the piano, organ, cello, basketball and bowling. His favorite places are cemeteries, the ocean, and hanging out with other genealogists. He met and proposed to his wife in a Family History Center.



There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV. Annual dues are \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. The meeting is open to the public.

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 genealogy and family history.

JGSCV Updates

See page 17 for the program schedule through October, 2016. There is something for everyone and a calendar rich in genealogy insights.

JGSCV continues to participate with both Amazon.com as an affiliate and with Ralphs Community Program. Simply enter the Amazon site from JGSCV's home page. Start at <http://www.jgscv.org> and scroll to the bottom to click on the Amazon graphic (like the one here).

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This takes you to the same page you always start at – except JGSCV will receive a marketing fee at no cost to you. See “notices” on the JGSCV.org website for instructions for Ralphs Community Contribution Program, too.



The SCHMOOZING CORNER is open 20 minutes before each monthly meeting is scheduled to begin. Just come to the front right corner of the meeting room and look for the “SCHMOOZING CORNER” sign where next month you will find JGSCV founding member Werner Frank waiting to field your individual questions and provide one-to-one help until the meeting begins. On the right in the photo left is Hal Bookbinder leading the Schmoozing Corner prior to the May meeting.

While JGSCV's stimulating and informative monthly meetings are open to all at no charge, there are significant benefits to being a member. Only members receive special email notifications of new database releases as well as discounts for things like the Legacy Family Tree Webinars (50% off for new subscribers) and Findmypast (50% off worldwide subscription). In addition, since JGSCV is a member of the Federation of the Genealogical Societies (FGS), all JGSCV members are entitled to discounts on products sold through the Dell website including laptops, desktops, cameras, smartphones and televisions. Each of these benefits save considerably more than the cost of membership. Members can contact Jan Meisels Allen (president@jgscv.org) for more information on how to take advantage of these JGSCV benefits.

JGSCV MEMBERSHIP Annual dues are \$25 for a single membership/\$30 for a household. To join, printout the membership form on our website www.jgscv.org by selecting the membership button. Send it with a check in the appropriate amount payable to: JGSCV and mail to Helene Rosen at 28912 Fountainwood St., Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Creating New Witnesses to the Holocaust: Teaching the Holocaust Locally, Globally and Virtually

By Jan Meisels Allen



Holli Levitsky, Ph.D., Director of Jewish Studies and professor of English at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, gave the annual JGSCV Yom Hashoah program. Dr. Levitsky talked on how the Holocaust was experienced in the Jewish Catskills vacation areas and why she wrote a book about it; why the Shoah continues to be so important, and how the Shoah is being made relevant to the next generations. She focused on the importance of teaching the Holocaust to new generations and how to make it relevant in a globalized, digitally connected world.

Yom Hashoah, the Day of Remembrance is commemorated on 27 Nissan, one week past Passover and a week before Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day for Israel's fallen soldiers). It also marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

The Catskills

Sullivan and Ulster Counties in New York State are the geographic areas of the Catskills Mountains where Dr. Levitsky concentrated her research. This area was home to the celebrated Jewish resort area for New Yorkers who wanted to leave the hot and muggy City for mountain air, good food and the American leisure life that

came to the world of “summer bungalows”, summer camps and small hotels. While most of us know the area for its “Borscht Belt” entertainment with Jewish comedians, musicians and other performers, the area was also a job magnet for college students. It was also a place for immigrants pre and post-World War II to get



Catskill Counties

Ulster is the closest Catskills County to New York City. Sullivan County, west of Ulster and south of Delaware, is the heart of the “traditional” Catskills, and was home to the famous Catskill resorts like Grossingers and the Concord.

Map from Catskills Buyers Agency

away from the city and be with others who had similar experiences.

Teaching about the Holocaust keeps students

involved in social and ethical issues. The juxtaposition of beautiful writing and the catastrophic history offered Dr. Levitsky the opportunity to create a book about the Holocaust in the Catskills. Students

find in the details of a study of the Holocaust many ways to address contemporary social problems.

Post-World War II was a new world for Jews. Although there were already European Jewish immigrants in the United States, whose thick foreign accents and Yiddish distinguished them from native-born Jews, the refugees brought with them a unique set of challenges. Yet while Jews were being shunned in other areas and were restricted from staying in other hotels, country clubs and purchasing homes elsewhere, the Catskills welcomed all Jews to vacation from New York City—as they were only two hours from Brooklyn. The Catskills became a haven for all Jews, as this was the time period when Father Coughlin—a Catholic priest in Michigan—spewed his anti-Semitic ravings on the radio and Henry Ford used his *Dearborn (MI) Independent* espousing to “kill Jews”. The rural and open landscape of “The Mountains”—as demonstrated by Ellenville—which had chickens and hay rides, afforded the visitors a home away from home. The refugees, especially were always looking for *landsmanschaften* so they could bond as a Jewish family practicing the culture of Judaism without the pressure to assimilate.



Post World War II—A New Jewish World

Following World War II, Jews purchased property in the Catskills. The immigrant Jews were from a lost and vanished world having lost their families and homes in

war-ravaged Europe. Each survivor went through a traumatic experience—ghettos, concentration camps, hiding in various places, displaced persons camps, etc. The “community” of Jews lost everything—however, individuals survived. When the war ended they were alone, for the most part, and mostly young. Germany and Poland offered little to World War II displaced persons. Between 1946-1954 140,000 European Jews came to the United States. The Truman Directive on Displaced Persons led to a surge of immigration.

(See: https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/jsource/Holocaust/truman_on_dps.html for more information on the Truman Directive.)

The United Service for New Americans (USNA)—New York Branch: NY Association of New Americans was an agency of the United Jewish Community—today known as the United Federations of North America. The USNA was founded in 1946 to help Jewish refugees from Europe-Holocaust survivors from the camps who were often the sole survivor from their families. At first, the organization did not have experience dealing with immigrants. The organization provided services such as assistance in finding housing, and physical and health, mental health and family services.

Survivors tried to adjust to a “normal” family life—however, their trauma did not end with the end of the war. While half of the immigrants settled in New York City, forty percent of the immigrants settled outside of New York. The Displaced Persons Act was enacted to avoid large concentrations of Jews in any one

geographic area. Some settled in North Dakota, Minneapolis, New Orleans and Los Angeles. (The Displaced Persons Act was a result of President Truman's Directive on Displaced Persons and authorized admission of European Displaced Persons into the United States. It limited to 200,000 immigration visas for the first 2-years from the Act's being passed by Congress. To read more see:https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Displaced_Persons_Act.)

American Jews felt guilty being safe in the United States while Jews in Europe were being murdered.

Some thought being immigrants were "enough". However, research contradicts the attitude that survivors came out of the War intact. These survivors had left friends, family, neighbors behind and witnessed the worst atrocities known to humans, yet they survived. Social workers at the time did not know then how to address these problems and survivors were encouraged not to talk or write about their experiences. The advice they got from the American community was to start over and leave their experiences at "the door". Moreover, at the time there was little regard for psychological needs—and therefore, first responders especially did not deal with survivors' mental health issues—such as the inability to confront the horror of the Holocaust.

Americanization of the Survivors

In 1953 the most watched television program—*This Is Your Life*-- featured the story of Hanna Bloch Kohner—a Holocaust survivor. It was not usual for people to talk about the Holocaust then, and yet 8 years after the Holocaust—Americans heard

things they had not heard before. She was looked at as an American hero. (To watch the show go to: <http://kmuw.org/post/your-life-hanna-bloch-kohner-story-holocaust-survivor> and click on the video.)

Survivors had a loss of identity, yet American Jews who immigrated earlier did not understand how the new immigrants survived. A "conformity of US identity" didn't identify with American Jews and immigrants. In the Catskills, many found other survivors who shared the same Holocaust experiences.

As a child, Dr. Levitsky would go to the Catskills from the midwest and see cousins. Her parents also spent their honeymoon in the Catskills. Dr. Levitsky mentioned a number of books relevant to the Catskills, immigrant Jews and the Holocaust—see the bibliography on page 13. Her thesis is that stories about the Holocaust can become a way to memorialize the Holocaust and the many fields of loss.

The Second Generation of Survivors

Dr. Levitsky teaches at a Jesuit University—Loyola Marymount. Here she became a vocal Jew and started the Jewish Studies Program at the University. She said her research shows that second generation Holocaust survivors became overachievers, and she shared some theories about what they inherited with — intergenerational trauma.

Children of survivors found it was common to suffer from loneliness, alienation, and depression. They had the burden of seeking perfection to make up for their parents' losses.

During the question and answer period, the issue was raised that not all Jews could afford to go to the Catskills. Dr. Levitsky replied that “cook alones” (kuchelyns) and rent-a-vans and trains to go to the Catskills made it “affordable” for many. Additionally, the families would go to the Catskills and the husband/father would come up on weekends when they were not working. This way the family could avoid the sweltering summer heat of New York City and provide activities for the children. The wealthier Jews went to Grossinger’s Hotel with an excess of food and luxury. Today there are only a few hotels remaining, and several have become Chassidic communities.

Catskills Institute

Phil Brown—his family ran the famous Brown’s hotel --is at Northeastern University --formerly from Brown University—has a website which includes

the Catskills Institute- a clearing house— and information on the hotels, bungalows and more. See page 12 for more on the Catskills Institute.

Summer Haven: The Catskills, the Holocaust, and the Literary Imagination (Jews of Russia & Eastern Europe and Their Legacy)

The book co-authored by Dr. Levitsky and Phil Brown did not arrive in time from the book publisher to be sold at the meeting. However, order forms were distributed. The paperback version is being offered at the special discounted author’s price of \$20.30. Shipping is free within the United States, but sales tax may apply. A copy of the order form is on the JGSCV website, www.jgscv.org under Meetings, Prior Meetings and the May 1, 2016 date.



Family Tree Maker Update

Several months ago it was announced that Ancestry would cease to support FamilyTree Maker as of December 31, 2016 and that MacKiev had purchased Family Tree Maker from Ancestry. MacKiev announced they would be providing new, free updates that would be available in March, 2016 to those who had FTM 2014.1 and MAC 3 and had registered the software with Ancestry. MacKiev recently sent out notices that their beta testers were still working on finding items they want fixed before they send out the new patch. This is not a new edition, but a patch—there are no new features—that’s why it’s free. The free updater has not yet been released and they are hopeful it will be released in weeks vs. months. The best way to make certain that you are informed when the new update is available is to sign-up on their mailing list at: www.familytreemaker.com.

MacKiev is sharing responsibility for the rest of the year with Ancestry.com but Software MacKiev now supports all versions of Family Tree Maker for Mac, as well as all users of their new FTM 2014.1 for Windows. Ancestry provides support for all other Windows versions, including their original FTM 2014 release. To learn more read their FAQs at: <http://www.mackiev.com/familytreemaker/ftm3/fag.html>

Social Engineering

Ninth in a series

By Hal Bookbinder



Ever notice that when a big headline hits the news you get emails on the topic? This is a typical way social engineers get through your defenses. Prince suddenly died this past April. The news, the blogs, television and radio contained almost non-stop coverage of the tragic event, speculating on the cause of his death and extolling his memory. You likely received at least a few emails on the event.

Since the story was all over the place, we tend to be less suspicious of an email on it. So, if you are into pop music, or just a news junkie, you may have opened the email without thinking whether it might contain a virus. You might have even clicked on the button in the email to play a commemorative Prince tune. Social engineers recognize that folks let their guard down in such circumstances.

But, you feel that this will never happen to you because you would just delete such a message. After all, you are not into such pop music culture and know not to open emails from sources you do not know. Ok. But now substitute a recent bus bombing in Israel or the latest outrageous thing that Donald Trump said or (and I love this one) an email about the latest scam in the news.

Social engineers use topical news to send out viruses to infect your computer and possibly steal your personal information. So, maintain your guard when you receive emails on the latest headline. If you do not recognize the source, be wary about opening the email. And, never, never, click on any link or button contained in the email. You will be inviting viruses to come aboard your computer.

When you get a call from Citibank letting you know that they have a thieving teller who has been inappropriately accessing customers' accounts and that they need your help to trap her, be wary. They may even offer you an award if you help provide evidence for this. Of course they will need some information from you. The person is friendly and seems sincere and very believable, which is typical of a good social engineer. You want to help, and the \$500 reward could be useful.

You think that you would never be fooled by such a call. You know it is likely a scam. However, when it occurs, you may not be thinking as clearly. And, the caller seems so nice, friendly and believable. Enough people fall for such approaches to provide the social engineer with a regular stream of stolen identities and cash. When you are contacted by phone, email, instant messenger or at your door, never be fooled into giving out personal information.

Additionally, older people tend to be more trusting. Possibly it is because we grew up in a different age. Whatever the reason, do not let yourself be fooled into sharing your personal information, opening emails or linking to websites when contacted by social engineers who rely on our good nature, greed, curiosity, trust and desire to be helpful.

This is the eighth in a series of articles by JGSCV founding Board Member Hal Bookbinder. Hal is also a Past President of JGSLA and IAJGS. He is the 2010 recipient of the IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award and his online skills are well documented.

36th IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy



The newest addition to the Conference lineup is a performance of the highly acclaimed play, “From Door to Door,” by the Seattle Jewish Theater Company. Written by award-winning playwright James Sherman and directed by SJTC artistic director Art Feinglass, “From Door to Door” follows the lives of three generations of a family of Jewish women, from impoverished immigrant to successful American. The heart-warming, bittersweet comedy takes its title from the Hebrew song L’dor V’dor, or From Generation to Generation. The performance is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, August 9, in the Grand Ballroom and will be followed by an audience discussion with the director and cast. Attendance, at no additional cost, is only for those who registered for the full Conference or for Tuesday.

See the conference schedule: http://s4.goeshow.com/iajgs/annual/2016/program_schedule.cfm

The schedule contains the more than 300 events during the week – lectures, presentations, meal events and computer workshops – nearly 250 of them hosted by a speaker or panel. It’s an interactive listing you can use to search by title, keyword, speaker’s name and session date, or just to scroll from A to Z – or rather, from Saturday, August 6, to Friday, August 12. JGSCV presenters include Jan Meisels Allen, Debra Kay-Blatt, Warren Blatt, Hal Bookbinder, Andrea Massion and Marion Werle.

The schedule is preliminary, and changes are likely over the next few months – even up to the day of the event – so be sure to watch for announcements and check back from time to time.

You can register for meals and workshops like:

- SIG and JewishGen luncheons
- Friday night Shabbat dinners
- The Gala banquet
- Computer workshops
- Daily box lunches

If you are already registered for the conference, log in to the Attendee Service Center with your e-mail address and the password from your registration confirmation, and update your registration.

Catskills Institute



AN ORGANIZATION TO PROMOTE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE
CATSKILL MOUNTAINS FOR AMERICAN JEWISH LIFE

During Professor Levitsky's presentation on the Catskills and the Holocaust she mentioned the Catskill Institute by Phil Brown—her co-author of the book *Summer Haven: The Catskills, the Holocaust and the Literary Imagination*.

The Catskills Institute is an organization to promote research and education on the significance of the Catskill Mountains for Jewish-American life. It was created by the organizing committee of the History of the Catskills conference that was held in Woodridge, New York on Labor Day Weekend 1995. The energy and interest from the first conference has led to the formation of the Catskills Institute, an organization to promote research and education on the significance of the Catskill Mountains for Jewish-American life. The Institute has accomplished the following:

- Huge website with thousands of graphics, list of hotels and bungalow colonies, book list, self-posting bulletin board, links to other Catskills websites, fiction and nonfiction writing.
- 13 annual History of the Catskills Conferences.
- Creation of the world's largest archive of material on the Jewish Catskills.
- Periodic newsletter.
- **Genealogical assistance.**
- Assistance with research queries and reunions.
- Research infrastructure and support for scholars.
- Maintain a listserv on the Internet to provide interactive exchange on Catskills events.
- Assist in developing exhibitions at museums (Jewish Museum of Maryland, Spertus Museum, Museum of Jewish Heritage), synagogues, and Jewish Community Centers.
- Teach courses on the Jewish Catskills at Brown University and Pennsylvania State University-Harrisburg.
- Speak at universities, synagogues, and Jewish Community Centers.

For the purposes of this website only Sullivan and Ulster Counties in New York State are mentioned. There is a link to browse/search the Catskills on hotels and bungalow colonies. Under their links and resources tab one may find about the history of the Catskills—the website includes information on Grossinger's, Ellenville, Monticello, Kutsher's, and many bungalow colonies. There is a place for research queries as well as the history of the Catskills.

To search the site go to: <http://catskills.brown.edu/>

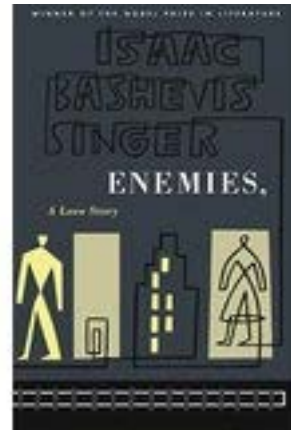
Bibliography of Books on the Catskills

Recommendations by May's Speaker Holli Levitsky, Ph.D.

During Professor Levitsky's lecture on the Catskills and the Holocaust she mentioned several books on the Catskills that might be of interest. The following are the lists of those books:

Novels, short stories, and memoirs dealing with the Holocaust in the Catskills

- 1957. Dusk in the Catskills Reuben Wallenrod
- 1972. Enemies: A Love Story, Isaac Bashevis Singer
- 1975. Summer on a Mountain of Spices, Harvey Jacobs
- 1980. Woodridge 1946, Martin Boris
- 1992. MAUS II, Art Spiegelman
- 1998. Paradise, New York, Eileen Pollack
- 1996. "Bingo by the Bungalow," Thane Rosenbaum
- 2001. Displaced Persons: Growing Up American after the Holocaust, Joseph Berger
- 2010. A Jew Grows in Brooklyn, Jake Ehrenreich



Books by Reuben Wallenrod

- 1937. B'diyota hashelishit. Tel Aviv: Dvir.
- 1942. Modern Hebrew Reader and Grammar. Part One. Written by Wallenrod with Abraham Aaroni. Copyright Zevi Scharfstein (connected with Shilo Publishing, New York.)
- 1945. Modern Hebrew Reader and Grammar. Part Two. Written by Wallenrod with Abraham Aaroni. Hozaat Shiloh (Shilo Publishing, New York.)
- 1946. Ki fanah yom. New York: Ohel.
- 1949. Fundamentals of Hebrew Grammar. Written by Wallenrod with Abraham Aaroni. Shilo Publishing New York.
- 1950. Derakhim v'derekh. New York: Ohel.
- 1952. Bein Homot New York. Jerusalem: Mosad Bialik.
- 1953. Be'ain Dor. Tel Aviv. Am Oved.
- 1956. The Literature of Modern Israel. New York: Ram's Horn Books.
- 1957. Dusk in the Catskills. New York: The Reconstructionist Press.
- 1958. Mesaprei Amerika. Tel Aviv: Dvir.
- 1965. Bayit B'kfar. Tel Aviv: Dvir
- 1987. Fundamentals of Hebrew Grammar (copyright 1978). Reprint of parts one and two of Hebrew grammar by Wallenrod and Aaroni. New York: Shilo Publishing.

Remembering Special People on Special Days



Mother's Day may have passed, but it is not too late to put into writing how your mother, grandmother, aunt, sister or other female relative was special for you. It could be baking a recipe together—and include the recipe. Or perhaps when you were a child how they took care of you when ill, or took you to a movie, a play or other outing. The important thing is to write down the story. This is the best way to remember a family member who was important to you and document it in your family tree notes or stories. It will also guarantee that generations from

now, the true story will be passed along.

Father's Day is June 19. Write a Story about One of Your Male Ancestors

Write a story about your father, grandfather, uncle, brother, son or other male relative. Something you did together or something you remember will be well received by future generations. It could be a family vacation, a day at a sports event, building something together or helping you with your homework. This is a way to remember a family member who was important to you and document it in your family tree notes or stories so others will hear the story in your words.



What to Do With Your Family Heirlooms

The United States just celebrated National Preservation Week (April 24-30, 2016), sponsored by the American Library Association. While intended for archives, libraries and other institutions, we as individuals have artifacts, documents, photographs, fabrics, recordings and more that need to be preserved.

We may have family heirlooms—grandmother's Shabbat candles, Passover Plate, grandfather's pocket watch, gold coin he came over to the US with to start a business, etc. Have you documented the history of those precious family heirlooms, both in writing and by photographs? And, what about photographs? Have you noted on the back the names of people in the photos and date them? If not future generations may toss them out as they won't know who the people are or their significance to the family.

Acid-free cotton paper can be purchased in packages for you to write down the history of the artifact, using archival ink, if possible. Give the history and description of the item and why it is important for your family. You can also purchase archival boxes for photographs which should be stored in a **temperature and humidity consistent location**. If you purchase archival products – or ANY products - on Amazon.com remember to go to jgscv.org first and scroll to the bottom of our home page where you will find an Amazon logo. When you click on that logo you will enter the Amazon.com site and may shop as usual. By using this method, Amazon provides a 'marketing fee' to JGSCV while your cost is unchanged.

USCIS to Raise Charges for Genealogy Research

By Jan Meisels Allen



If you have been thinking about ordering any files from the United States Citizenship and Immigration

Services (USCIS) **this is the time to do so** as they have proposed raising their charges in a new proposed rule with a reply period through July 4, 2016 and then we don't know how long it will be for it to take effect .

The fee schedule was last adjusted on November 23, 2010. USCIS calculates its fees to recover the full cost of USCIS operations, which do not include the limited appropriated funds provided by Congress. USCIS anticipates if it continues to operate at current fee levels, it will experience an annual shortfall. When Congress created the Genealogy Program under USCIS it required that the program be self-funded and cover all costs. DHS proposes to charge a single \$65 fee for Form G-1041A. Currently, fee is \$20 for each file copy from microfilm and \$35 for each hard copy. An administrative fee is also contemplated.

In 2010 DHS established a genealogy program to reduce delays for these requests. At the time, USCIS averaged 10,000 such requests over four years, and USCIS expected the workload to increase to 26,000 a year with the new program. The current genealogy program

fees \$20/\$35 were not established based on the projected full cost of operating the genealogy research and information services of USCIS, although that was permitted by the authorizing law. At the time, USCIS did not have clearly segregated records of the full cost of operating its genealogy research and information services, and DHS has not since adjusted the genealogy program fees. After seven years of operating the program, DHS now has reliable data to determine the new fees.

To review the types of records that are available of genealogical interest under the USCIS genealogy program see JGSCV's Venturing Into Our Past - June 2013 issue which is posted to our website at: www.jgscv.org and go to newsletters, 2013 and then June 2013 and Highlights from: "Obscure Records of Citizenship and Nationality Program".

To order records go to: <https://www.uscis.gov/genealogy> and click on "order on line" you can submit your electronic request for a search and if the file number is known to request the documents in the file. Genealogy requests to the USCIS are under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). If the birth date is less than 100-years from date of request, proof of the person's death is required—a photograph of a headstone or an obituary notice are examples that are acceptable if a death certificate is unavailable.

Tom Allen Inducted Into Sons of the American Revolution

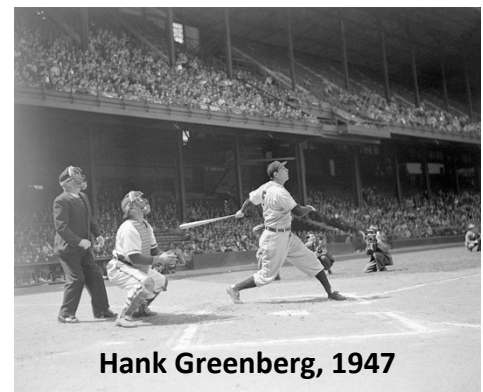
JGSCV founding member Tom Allen was inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR). Tom's paternal fifth great grandfather Abel Johnson served in the American Revolution. In order to be accepted into the SAR, Tom provided proof of lineage for each previous generation back to Abel Johnson. Tom, a retired colonel, US Army Reserve, can trace a family member's service in the US military from the Revolutionary War through to Iraq. Congratulations Tom!



At the Skirball through October 30, 2016

Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American

Featuring over 130 artifacts, original films, and interactive experiences, *Chasing Dreams* is the first large-scale exhibition to use the story of Jews and baseball to highlight ways in which our national pastime is part of the history, and ongoing story, of how immigrants and other minority communities—including Italians, Asians, Latinos, African Americans, and many others—became American. It asks the following questions: Why have so many immigrant groups and minority communities identified with, taken pride in, and felt connected to the nation's pastime? Did baseball impact how American Jews established affinities with other racial and ethnic minorities? And how did baseball shape Americans' views of American identity? Beginning with the Civil War era and continuing to the present day, the exhibition addresses these questions and explores how baseball has served as an arena in which values, identity, ethnicity, and race have been projected, contested, and occasionally solidified. The Skirball Cultural Center is located at 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd. Admission is free on Thursdays; \$12 General; \$9 for Seniors (over 65), full-time students and children over 12; \$7 for children 2-12.



Future Meeting Dates through October 2016

Sunday afternoons starting at 1:30 Monday evenings starting at 7:00 Programs co-sponsored by Temple Adat Elohim.

Check the website and this newsletter for future updates

June 5, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Program: *Exploring Legacy Family Tree Software*, Speaker Geoff Rasmussen - Learn how Legacy Family Tree software helps you plan, research, and share your family tree. See how Legacy helps you site sources correctly and easily, *Evidence Explained* style, and learn how to create shareable CDs, migration maps, customized wall charts, publish books, get automated research suggestions, and much more. Learn how to import a FamilyTreeMaker (FTM) file in two simple steps.

*July 10 Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Genealogy in the Round Members and guests share their successes, brickwalls and artifacts

*August No Meeting IAJGS International Conference August 7-12 Seattle, WA

*September meeting date to be announced

*October 16 Sunday 1:30-3:30 pm Speaker: Judy Russell, "The Legal Genealogist". Through the Golden Door-Immigration After the Civil War". JGSCV's 11th Anniversary (Note: Meeting Location Change for this one meeting only: Cal Lutheran University). Meeting Co-Sponsored with JGSLA

Programs are subject to change - check JGSCV website www.jgscv.org