PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Our June 3rd meeting was our annual Sephardic program and Schelly Talalay Dardashti spoke on The Other Side of Jewish Genealogy: Sephardic Research. This excellent program taught both Sephardic and non-Sephardic attendees about history and resources about Sephardic genealogy. Just a few years ago, researchers of Sephardic genealogy were out of luck. However, thanks to the internet, the Sephardic genealogy world has increased exponentially every year. Where once there was nothing, today we have many websites, new books, increased library holdings, conferences, accessible archival records from the comfort of our homes, and increasingly important DNA projects that focus on this field. Schelly’s handout is posted to the JGSCV website www.jgscv.org under meetings, prior meetings with the June 3 date. To read the highlights of the program see page 6.

Thank you to Marion Werle for facilitating the schmoozing corner.

Hal Bookbinder continues with his excellent series, Practicing Safe Computing on page 11. This month the topic is Urgent Demand for Payment.

There were four JGSCV members who staffed the JGSCV table at the Southern California Genealogical Jamboree: Andrea Massion, Diane Wainwood, Paula Poll and Jan Meisels Allen. In addition, we saw several other JGSCV members attend the Jamboree!
July 2018

Remember the Ventura County Fair is coming up on (August 1-12) and will be held at the Ventura County Fairgrounds located at 10 W. Harbor Blvd. in Ventura. Volunteers are admitted to the Fair free but there are no parking privileges. Genealogy volunteers are needed for each day. In the past, JGSCV members have also volunteered. The booth is provided by the Ventura Family History Center and if you wish to learn more about the fair, the opportunity to enter genealogy craft competitions, and about volunteering see page 12.

Now that we have our meeting dates through August 2019 we have started to book our programs, and the programs through December 2018 are announced on page 15. Our August 26 program is Stories from Eastern Europe- I hope some of the JGSCV members who are going to the conference and then visiting their ancestral towns will share their experiences! Our anniversary program is in October with Professor ChaeRan Freeze from Brandeis University talking about Every day Jewish Life in Tsarist Russia. Our November program will be a discussion on Privacy and Genealogy: What are the Rules? Today privacy issues are increasingly affecting our genealogical research and E. Randol Schoenberg (from Woman in Gold fame) and I will be talking about this. JGSCV has not had Crista Cowan from Ancestry visit us in four years and she is our Annual meeting/Chanukah Party speaker on December 9. We are excited about the forthcoming programs and believe you will be too!

The IAJGS Jewish Genealogical Conference in Warsaw, Poland is fast approaching: August 5-10. We have 18 JGSCV members (including family) attending the IAJGS conference. If you have not yet let me know you are attending please do so. If you have been thinking of going, but not yet made up your mind, it’s not too late! For more information, see the conference website: www.iajgs2018.org. This is the place to meet your email genealogy friends researching the same ancestral names and towns, and visiting the ancestral towns either before or after the conference.

JGSCV’s annual Genealogy in the Round where you get to share a success, brick wall or artifact is scheduled for July 15. Thus far, we have six participants and we would like to have several more. This is always a program that is a highlight of the year. Please don’t make me worry until the last minute. Contact me with one sentence of what you want to share at president@jgscv.org.

Looking forward to seeing you on July 15th and please let me know if you will participate and also are attending the IAJGS Conference in Warsaw as I would like to take a group photograph at the conference.

Jan Meisels Allen

VENTURING INTO OUR PAST
Her Father’s Footsteps
Award-winning photographer Hannah Kozak has a new exhibit at the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust. *Survivor: My Father's Ghosts* is a collection of black and white photographs documenting Kozak's visits to eighteen concentration camps in Germany and Poland, including the eight where her father was incarcerated during the Holocaust. The exhibit of photographs is on display through August 20, 2018 at the museum in Pan Pacific Park, Los Angeles.
http://www.lamoth.org/exhibitions/temporary-exhibits/survivor-my-fathers-ghosts--a-/  

Different DNA Companies Tell Different Stories?
Senior writer Tina Hesman Saey is a geneticist-turned-science writer for Science News. Posted June 13, 2018 is her article comparing and assessing her experience with DNA testing using five top companies. Hesman writes that it was this testing that got her hooked on genealogy. It helps to be a geneticist as well! This story is part of a series on consumer genetic testing by the staff of Science News. There’s a link to other related articles there. Read it at:  https://www.sciencenews.org/article/family-dna-ancestry-tests-review-comparison

Spotlight on Aussie “Pioneer Inmate”
The Australian Jewish Genealogical Society was founded in Sydney by Holocaust child survivor, Sophie Caplan z’l (1935-2018), who served as its president for over a decade. One of the first “pioneer inmates” to be sent to Australia in 1788 was Ester Abramson, for the crime of stealing some lace.
A detailed history of Jews in Australia is available on the Jewish Women's Archives.  
https://jwa.org/encyclopedia/article/australia-nineteenth-and-twentieth-centuries

101 Most Common Surnames in Israel
Philip Trauring posts another of his wonderful lists on his website: Blood and Frog. This time it’s the most common surnames in Israel, both in English and Hebrew. Culled from the Israel Central Bureau of Statistics 2016 list of 50,000 surnames, Trauring has linked the 101 Top Surnames article to the surname data at the Museum of the Jewish People (formerly the Diaspora Museum) in Tel Aviv.  

Continuing the Discussion: Where Will Your Research Go?
The Swedish term *dö Stafford* literally means “death cleaning” in English. “It is a word meaning the art of removing unnecessary things and making your home nice and orderly when you think the time is coming closer for you to leave the planet,” writes the author, Margareta Magnusson who is between “80 and 100 years old.” Genealogy author and educator Thomas MacEntee reviews *The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning* and discusses how the valuable advice can benefit genealogy buffs: https://www.genealogybargains.com/review-gentle-art-swedish-death-cleaning-free-family-lifetime-clutter/
The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV) will hold a general meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim on Sunday, July 15, 2018 at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 91362 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The Program – Genealogy In The Round: Success, Failures, Brick Walls and Artifacts

Come and share a genealogical success, failure, brick wall, or genealogical artifact! This is YOUR meeting. We all learn from one another. Take this opportunity to share your genealogical story – whether a success or failure – and ask questions about your brick walls, and more!

If you wish to participate in the program, please contact Jan Meisels Allen at president@JGSCV.org. Each participant will be given 5-10 minutes to share—depending on the number of presenters. Whether you are a JGSCV member or a potential member—we'd love to hear your genealogical story.

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.

There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV. Annual dues are $25 for an individual and $30 for a family.
It’s been more than a year since JGSCV first announced the need for a traveling library librarian. **We still need a traveling library librarian.** This entails bringing 3-5 boxes of books from Jan’s home in Agoura Hills to Temple Adat Elohim for the monthly JGSCV meetings. With board approval, the books may be stored at the librarian’s home. The traveling librarian would not be responsible for watching the books at the meeting. If you are interested in this position, please contact Jan Meisels Allen at president@jgscv.org. This is not a board of director’s position, and therefore no board meeting requirements.

The Schmoozing Corner awaits your questions. Look for Werner Frank, this month’s facilitator, on the right side at the front of the meeting room beginning at 1:00 PM.

In June, JGSCV members received a mailing announcing our display cabinet opportunity for Jewish Genealogy Month at the Agoura Hills Public Library. It is an excellent opportunity to whet the genealogical appetites of library visitors and perhaps spark an interest researching their roots. If you have a document, postcard, ritual object, etc. that has a genealogy story behind it and would like to have it safely displayed in November, please contact Judy Karta at judy@jgscv.org or Andrea Massion at andrea@jgscv.org

See “Noteworthy” on the [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) website for instructions on how to help JGSCV by participating in Ralphs Community Contribution Program. AND, if you shop at Food 4 Less and use your Ralph’s card, JGSCV will benefit as though you shopped at Ralph’s.

When shopping at Amazon.com please go to our website first and click the Amazon logo at the bottom of any page before you start to shop. It doesn’t cost you anything and JGSCV receives a marketing fee.

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**JGSCV Welcomes New Member**

**ELAINE LASKOWSKI McKEARN**
It was a delight to have Schelly Talalay Dardashti speak to us about Sephardic research. For some 30 years, Schelly has traced her Ashkenazi, Sephardi and Mizrahi families across Iran, Spain, Russia, Belarus, Lithuania, and Ukraine. Just a few years ago, researchers of Sephardic genealogy were out of luck. However, thanks to the internet, the Sephardic genealogy world has increased exponentially every year. Where once there was nothing, today there are many websites, new books, increased library holdings, conferences, accessible archival records from the comfort of our homes, and increasingly important DNA projects that focus on this field. Included in this presentation were numerous archival documents, and many examples of online resources that simply did not exist in the recent past.

Who We Are: 
Schelly began by talking about who we are:

- **Sephardim** from Iberia (Spain and Portugal), although the definition has expanded to include the Mediterranean, North Africa, Greece (Crete, Rhodes, and Salonika), Turkey and the Balkans;
- **Ashkenazim** from Central and Eastern Europe; and
- **Mizrahi**—(“Eastern”) from Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, India etc. These resulted from the Assyrian and Babylonians exiles from the land of Israel.

In the 12th century 90% of the Jews were Sephardic; by the 1700s 50% of the world Jewry was Sephardic. In the 1700s, only 10% of world Jews were Ashkenazi, but by 1990, 25% of world Jewry was Ashkenazi. In the Roman Empire, 25% were Eastern Mediterranean Jews; 10% of the entire Roman Empire and about 48 CE the census showed 7 million Jews. Jews in Rome are considered the oldest Jewish community in Europe, at some 2,000 years dating from the Roman Empire.

The definition of Sephardic, if taken broadly, is anyone who is not Ashkenazi, non-Yiddish speaking, non-Eastern European. Those who use a narrow definition of Sephardic, refer to those whose roots can be traced to Iberia: Spain and Portugal, including those around the world who fled the 1492 exile or earlier, and settled in Turkey, Greece, Syria, North Africa etc.

**History of Sephardic Jews in Spain**
Most people believe the Inquisition of 1492 was the start of the anti-Jewish actions in Spain. However, in the mid 14th century there were murders, suffering and expulsion especially for Castilian Jews. Castile was in the Iberian Peninsula and a large powerful state in northwest Spain. Later in the 1380’s again Jews were murdered, mutilated and expelled. In 1391, riots broke out across the region, Jewish communities were decimated, thousands were
murdered and many more were converted by force to escape death. Some left over the Pyrenees from Catalunya into France and beyond, while others went south to Tunisia and Morocco. In some ways, 1391 was the catalyst for the 1492 events. The New Christians stayed in contact with their still-Jewish families, celebrated holidays, and interacted. The laws made in 1492 expressly prohibited New Christians from interacting with their Jewish families. That is one indicator of the fact that they were still interacting. Laws are not passed prohibiting certain actions unless those actions are already commonly being practiced.

In the 15th century persecution of the Jews continued with Jews being forbidden to study Talmud, read anti-Catholic writings and were prohibited to be certain professions, sell or bake matzah, to build new synagogues, to hold public office and more. When Catholic monarchs Ferdinand and Isabella ascended to their thrones, Jews were segregated from both the Conversos (the converted Jews who in many cases continued to practice Judaism in secret) and from their fellow countrymen. Conversos was but one name for these “hidden Jews,” other names were New Christians and Marranos (a pejorative, offensive derogatory word meaning swine; its use is frowned upon today).

In 1492, the edict of expulsion was issued against all Jews of Spain. They had to leave the kingdom by the last day of July or convert or were murdered. Some went to Morocco, and other North African countries, some went to Eastern Europe where Poland welcomed them wanting a middle class, many were welcomed by the ruler of Turkey (the Ottoman Empire), while still others began to explore the New World. Many went to Sicily, where they were expelled in 1493.

Jews were expelled from Portugal in 1497.

Languages
Jews spoke different languages in addition to Hebrew:

  Sephardim spoke: Ladino, Judeo-Espanyol, Judezmo, and local and secular dialects.

  Mizrahim spoke: Judeo-Farsi, Judeo-Arabic, Judeo-Tat, Aramaic and even city dialects (Kashi and Isfahani in Iran), varying by country.

  Romaniote was spoken by the indigenous Greeks.

  Romani/Italki Jews in Rome are neither Sephardic nor Ashkenzi and had their own dialect.

Mizrahim, Romanite and Italki are sometimes termed Sephardic because they have similar liturgy, food traditions such as eating rice on Passover not permitted by Ashkenazi, and lifestyle traditions are similar.
Schelly mentioned the Cervera Archives in Catalonia, Spain. Catalonia is a triangular area in Northeastern Spain whose capital is Barcelona. There is a project by Maria Jose Camps Surribas, of Barcelona, using the Notario Archive of Cervera to examine the 14th-16th centuries tracing all the Jewish families referred to in the archive. Their names are in the studies as well as the migration routes, as the crossroads of Cervera lead to France, Barcelona and other parts of Spain. To read more about this study see: https://www.iijg.org/research/cervera-archives/

Names

Sephardic women were rarely identified with surnames, but only as daughter of, wife of, widow of. In the Cervera Archives the surnames are documented.

Converso names changed from their old names which were Jewish in origin such as Yssach to Darnia Nuix, Issac Adret to Antoni Girgos and Samuel Baruc to Manuel de Ribelles. There are some extant city lists that list the old Jewish name and the newly-adopted name.

It is usual for people of Spanish heritage to carry both the father’s and mother’s surnames. Traditionally, the father’s surname is first and the mother’s surname second. In 1999 the Spanish gender equality law allowed surname transposition as long as the siblings have the same name order in recording in the civil registry. When parents could not chose on the naming order, an official would decide. However, in June 2017, the paternal name stopped being the default, and parents are required to sign an agreement where the naming order is expressly given. This lack of uniformity is a frustration for genealogists.

Inquisition

The Inquisition lasted for 350 years from 1492 to 1822 –from Iberia to the New World—with the last person (a woman) burned alive in Mexico City in 1821. Some crypto-Jewish families still maintain traditions. Some will burn the first tortilla, when making the commonly eaten bread substitute, as a symbol of the sacrifice that many observant Jews will follow when baking challah, with throwing a piece of dough into the fire (Separation of Challah). In New Mexico, the symbol became the burning of the first tortilla. Some families will prepare – for Passover – a very crisp tortilla that is matzoh-like.

The Inquisition forced conversions from Judaism to Catholicism, immigration and exile. The Inquisition spread:

1391 The aforementioned riots and massacres across Spain
1492 Spanish expulsion
1493 Sicilian expulsion
1497 First Portuguese expulsion
1537 Second Portuguese expulsion
1528 the first auto de fe occurred in Mexico which went on for centuries – the public declaration of the judgment passed on persons tried in the courts of the Spanish Inquisition, followed by the execution by the civil authorities of the sentences imposed, especially the burning of condemned persons at the stake.(Definition from Wikipedia)
1821 Mexico City burned a woman alive at the stake

In Sicily, Jews had to convert or be killed although the Jews ran the agricultural, vineyards and textile industries.
The Inquisition Archives still exist in Mexico City, with other places having some records. In Cartagena, the remaining archives are in private hands.

In the New World—New Spain’s capital was Mexico City. This area covered today's southwest United States, Mexico and Central America, Spanish Caribbean and the Philippines. In the early 1600's, there were 3-5,000 Portuguese New Christians. Of these, 2,000 settled in Mexico City, Guadalajara, Puebla, and Guatemala City. Another 2,000 Jews went to Lima, Potosi, Tucuman and Cordoba. In Jamaica there were 400 plantations of which 115 were Jewish owned.

In 1610 New Granada near Cartagena covered Venezuela, Colombia, Panama and parts of Ecuador.

In 1776, the Rio de la Plata - with Buenos Aires as its capital, today it’s Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay.

By 1630, Jews had settled in every town in the Spanish Empire.

Resources
Schelly provided a four-page handout on Sephardic Research. This is posted to the JGSCV website. The resources include books, journals, websites and Facebook groups. She talked about archives and blogs, and highlighted certain websites: Sephardic.com and Sephardicgen.com. Award-winning author and pioneer Sephardic genealogist Dr. Jeff Malka runs Sephardicgen.com. This website has databases, Sephardic surnames as well as information on archives. Malka also established the Sephardic Special Interest Group on JewishGen https://www.jewishgen.org/Sephardic/, which is generally inactive. He created Sephardicgen.com to counter the Eastern European-centric JewishGen.

Schelly showed examples of archival records from the 1300s-1400s. Castilian scribes were sent to the Inquisition and as they only spoke Catalan, the scribes wrote phonetically. The archival documents include names, family relationships and details. One can determine the names are Jewish by the given names and because – even after 100 years – individuals of Jewish heritage are still referred to in archival records by their original Jewish names or similar wording. The courts had to be very careful in cases of inheritance that the people they were dealing with were the same families, so the records are fascinating in the way individuals are identified. The endings of –ez or –es do not have anything to do with Jewish or non-Jewish names; they are merely the difference between Castilian and Portuguese spelling. Examples of surnames include Chavez/es; Mendes/ez, Martin/ez/es Martinez. In other cases, letters were transposed as in Garcia and Gracia or Castro or Crasto.

Since 1391 in Palma Mallorca, 15 forcibly converted families have only married each other. The book Sangre Judia (fourth edition augmented) by journalist and genealogist Pere Bonnin, lists thousands of documents identifying individuals as Jewish in specific documents listing the place and year of that record. It is an excellent clue to beginning research. The name of the book translates into “Jewish Blood: Spaniards of Hebrew descent and Christian anti-Semitism.”

Other websites Schelly mentioned included: Yad Vashem archives covers both Sephardic and Ashkenazi Jews. www.yadvashem.org
SephardicStudies.org which is the Foundation for the Advancement of Sephardic Studies and Culture

JewishGen.org-Sephardic SIG
https://www.jewishgen.org/Sephardic/

American Sephardic Federation
http://americansephardi.org/

CryptoJews.com

Saudades.org-Portuguese Jewish History Archives with extensive Sephardic documents include Notre Dame University and the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Inquisition Archives are located in Mexico City, Mexico; Lima, Peru and Cartagena, Columbia; and in Spain: Cervera, Tarrego and Lerida.

15th and 16th century passenger lists are located in the Portal de Archives Espanoles.

In Amsterdam there are lists of dowries which show women moved to Brazil, Suriname, and all over Europe to find husbands

Blogs

Schelly is the founder of Tracing the Tribe-The Jewish Genealogy Blog http://tracingthetribe.blogspot.com/. It is currently on hiatus but 3,000 posts are available. Schelly is also the founder of Tracing the Tribe-Jewish Genealogy on Facebook which currently has nearly 23,000 global members and continues to grow. https://www.facebook.com/groups/tracingthetribe/

Another blog Schelly recommends is the Maduro Family Branches.com. This blog covers the Maduro family and associated families including Brandon, Cardoze, de Castro, Delvalle, Lindo, Robles, and more. These are Sephardic Jewish families from Curacao, St. Thomas, Panama, Jamaica, and other parts of the Caribbean, North America and Europe.

Schelly said to remember that Google is your friend as there are more blogs. In conclusion, using Schelly’s handout:

- Check each site as there are many links for more sources including online information.
- Set up Google alerts for Sephardic topics https://www.google.com/alerts.
- Attend Sephardic programs at general conferences and specialized Sephardic conferences.
- Join discussion groups specialized for Sephardic topics on JewishGen and other sites.
- Read and subscribe to Jewish Genealogy blogs for Sephardic events, programs books and more.

Schelly Talalay Dardashti is a native New Yorker. Dardashti resides in New Mexico, after having lived with her family in Teheran, Miami, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Tel Aviv. For some 30 years, she has traced her Ashkenazi, Sephardi and Mizrahi families across Iran, Spain, Russia, Belarus, Lithuania, and Ukraine. A journalist and genealogist, she was the genealogy columnist for the Jerusalem Post created the award-winning Tracing the Tribe - The Jewish Genealogy Blog (since 2006), and founded the Facebook group "Tracing the Tribe - Jewish Genealogy on Facebook," with some 23,000 global members. She is the US Genealogy Advisor for MyHeritage.com and co-admins several DNA projects at FamilyTree DNA.
Practicing Safe Computing:
Urgent Demand for Payment

by Hal Bookbinder
34th in a series

On June 6, 2018, the following notice was issued:

UCLA Office of the Administrative Vice Chancellor

Urgent Notice

To the Campus Community:
An unknown suspect has been calling UCLA students claiming to be a UCLA Police Officer and demanding money. The UCLA Police Department (UCPD) does not call students or anyone else asking for money.

Do not send money to any law enforcement or government agency via wire transfer.
The suspect is falsely claiming that UCPD has a warrant for the student’s or family member’s arrest and a payment via wire transfer (Western Union, Money Gram, etc.) will resolve the issue. In one instance, the student was instructed to purchase gift cards and ship them to a PO Box. Even if a student does have an outstanding warrant, fines for such violations are always paid to a court and never to an individual or company. There are no circumstances in which UCPD would ask for money via a wire transaction.

This is true for other enforcement agencies as well, including the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). If you owe back taxes or action is required regarding your student Visa status, you will be notified via official channels. None of these agencies or departments would ask for money over the phone or via a wire transaction.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact UCPD at (xxx) xxx-xxxx.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Beck
Administrative Vice Chancellor

While you may well believe that you would never fall for such an attempt to scam you, in the heat of the moment when a con artist connects with you and demands immediate payment, can you be sure you will be thinking so clearly? These con artists are very good at what they do. They may have some of your personal information and use it to convince you that they are indeed from the government or they might scare you with the story of a relative or friend trapped overseas. There will be a sense of urgency with dire consequences if you do not comply. Requiring immediate payment by wire transfer or through untraceable items (like Bitcoin or gift cards) is a clear red flag.

Consider this...Do your family or friends post updates on Facebook while traveling? Think of how easy it is for a con artist to identify family members and friends and their vacation location and then to use this information in contacting you with an urgent request for money to get your family member or friend out of a terrible jam in a faraway place. Be on your guard and do not fall for such scams!

This is the thirty fourth in a series of articles by JGSCV founding 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. All the Safe Computing articles by Hal Bookbinder are available on the JGSCV website www.jgscv.org under Noteworthy.
Ventura County Fair

During the JGSCV May 6th meeting, JGSCV founding member, Dalya Dektor mentioned the Ventura County Fair, entering into competition for genealogy and volunteering during the Fair. Dalya has been a volunteer at the Fair for a number of years for the genealogy area and is a good source of information. You can contact Dalya with questions at: dilly@roadrunner.com

The 2018 Ventura County Fair (August 1-12) “A Country Fair with Ocean Air” will take place at the Ventura County Fairgrounds located at 10 W. Harbor Blvd. in Ventura. Genealogical awards and prizes are offered as part of the Hobbies Department See Division 465 (Page 6). For entry details go to:

You can enter Online – June 1-July 16, 2018.
Online entries close at 7:00 PM on July 16, 2018 or bring your items to the Gem & Mineral building at the fairgrounds on July 27-29, 2018 between 10 am -5 pm. You do not have to enter online to exhibit at the fair – just bring your items on July 27-29, 2018 between 10:00 am and 5:00 pm. The entry guide may be found at: http://www.venturacountyfair.org/fair/entryguides/. Click on the blue rectangle on the aforementioned website.

Genealogy is division 465 (page 5 of the entry guide). There are 7 genealogy entry classes.

JGSCV members have volunteered in past years in the genealogy booth and enjoyed it! Genealogy volunteers are needed for each day. The genealogy booth location is the same corner of the Gem & Mineral/Hobby building as it has been in the past several years. There are three shifts per day. You can select more than one shift. Volunteers participate in 3.5 hour shifts 11:00a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; 2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. There are no parking passes for volunteers. It is suggested the best park and ride is at the Stanley Avenue exit off the 33. I understand it is small, well-lit and does not have a line! More information will be sent to the volunteers as 'Fair Time' draws nearer about shuttle buses and picking up tickets for free admission at the 'Will Call' desk.

It is best if volunteers are familiar with Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.org as well as other popular programs to show the fair attendees how genealogy is researched. Training sessions will be held for those needing an update on the latest programs.

For general information about the Fair see: https://www.venturacountyfair.org/fair/

There is a sign-up form on the website of the Ventura Family History Library website. You need to provide your first and last names, email address and phone number.
https://sites.google.com/site/vfhlibrary/. Right now all of the shift time slots are open but one by one as they become populated they are automatically deleted from the listings.

If you have any questions about volunteering contact Bettye Berg by email, phone or text at bettyeberg@yahoo.com or call her at 805-797-7084.
California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 Negates a Ballot Initiative

California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (AB 375) was signed by Governor Brown on June 28, 2018, hours after it passed the Legislature. It becomes effective January 1, 2020. Enactment of this bill negates the proposed ballot Initiative that would have essentially covered the same points. The impetus to work so quickly was a statement by the sponsor of the ballot initiative, Alastair Mactaggart who donated $1.6 million to further this effort. Mr. Mactaggart stated last week, “If the bill passes before next week’s deadline to withdraw, we will withdraw our initiative. If it doesn’t, we will proceed to the November election.”

To prove a legislature can move expeditiously when it wants to, as it was too late in the legislative session to introduce a totally new numbered bill, the Senators sponsoring the bill, took another bill, AB 375 introduced—last year, regarding Internet access privacy and customer privacy and changed it to address privacy: personal information. California’s legislature has a two-year session cycle and last year’s bills are the first year of the two year cycle and under certain circumstances are still able to be used a vehicles in the second session. To read the bill as signed into law see:

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billCompareClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB375](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billCompareClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB375)

On June 21 the bill was amended to include essentially the proposed ballot initiative wording that had garnered the needed signatures to be on the November 2018 ballot. It passed the Senate on June 25 and sent to the Assembly which passed it on June 28 and sent it to governor who signed it within hours. This met Mactaggert’s deadline for him to pull the proposed initiative from the Secretary of State. June 28 was the deadline to pull the proposed initiative from the November ballot.

Some of the aspects of the new law include:

- Granting the consumer the right to request a business to disclose pieces of personal information that it collects;
- Granting the consumer the right to request to delete personal information and for the business to delete that information upon request.
- Permitting the consumer to opt out of the sale of personal information and prohibiting the business from "punishing" the consumer by charging the consumer who opts out a different price because they opted out or different quality of service.

The law defines "personal information" as something that identifies and relates to the consumer including biometric information, geolocation information, audio, electronic, thermal information and more. Biometric information includes a person’s physiological, biological or behavioral characteristics, including their DNA, imagery of their eye, fingerprint, face,
Genealogy Odds and Ends

The U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services Office and Library released a documentary film project, *UCVIS and the Legacy of Ellis Island*. The project, which began in 2016, tells the story of Ellis Island from the perspective of those who worked there. You can read the story on the National Archives blog [http://tinyurl.com/y97pj4f4](http://tinyurl.com/y97pj4f4) and view the video on Youtube [http://tinyurl.com/yanzmjda](http://tinyurl.com/yanzmjda) or the link provided on the blog.

FamilySearch has made available for FREE all its filmed records from Ukraine. *Lara’s Jewnealogy* has compiled a series of tips to help determine what records may be available on FamilySearch: [http://tinyurl.com/y9d8gnnn](http://tinyurl.com/y9d8gnnn). You can use these tips for all locations, not just Ukraine.

**Stumbling Stones Art Project is 18**

The *stolperstein* art project was initiated by the German artist Gunter Demnig in 1992, and is still ongoing. As of March 2018, there are over 67,000 stones throughout Europe. A *stolperstein*, literally a "stumbling stone", is a cobblestone-sized (3.9 in × 3.9 in) concrete square bearing a brass plate inscribed with the name and life dates of a victim of Nazi extermination or persecution during WWII. It is set into the pavement near the victim’s last-known place of residence or work. Pictured here is a photo recently taken in Italy. Gunter Demnig talks about the project at a TED talk found on YouTube: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLuGXu3Glzl](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VLuGXu3Glzl). Website for the project is [http://www.stolpersteine.eu/en/](http://www.stolpersteine.eu/en/)

According to Mark Jacobson, Gesher Galicia Board Member, the AGAD Archive in Warsaw, Poland has added descriptions for almost 800 recently released books of marriage and death records for Galician towns from Fond 300 extending into the mid 1930’s. Gesher Galicia’s own online inventories of AGAD Fond 300 records has also been updated. Here, images can be viewed by town or file number [https://www.geshergalicia.org/agad_fond_300/](https://www.geshergalicia.org/agad_fond_300/)

JewishGen has added approximately 8,400 records and 6,900 photos to its Memorial Plaques Database: [http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Memorial/](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Memorial/) This database includes information from plaques and Yizkor lists from synagogues and other organizations. There are now 177,500 records and 124,000 photos from 263 synagogues or institutions representing 11 countries.
**Future JGSCV Meeting Dates through August 2019**

**Sunday at 1:30 p.m. OR Monday at 7:00 p.m.**

Programs co-sponsored by Temple Adat Elohim.

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**Sunday, July 15 1:30-3:30 PM “Genealogy In The Round” Members and guests share their successes, brickwalls and artifacts**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>INFO</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AUGUST 6-10 2018 IAJGS Conference, Warsaw, Poland</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>AUGUST 26</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>Stories from Eastern Europe</td>
<td>IAGJS Warsaw Conference Attendees Tell of Visits to Ancestral Towns</td>
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<tr>
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<td>AUGUST 2018 NO MEETING DUE TO JEWISH HOLIDAYS</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>OCTOBER 7</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>Jewish Family Life in Tsarist Russia and JGSCV Anniversary</td>
<td>Speaker, ChaeRan Freeze, Professor, Dept. of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, Brandeis Univ.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>NOVEMBER 5</td>
<td>7:00-9:00 PM</td>
<td>Privacy and Genealogy: What Are the Rules?</td>
<td>Speakers E. Randal Schoenberg and Jan Meisels Allen</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>DECEMBER 9</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>What’s New at Ancestry and Annual Membership Meeting/Chanukah Party</td>
<td>Speaker, Crista Cowan, Ancestry Corporate Genealogist</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>JANUARY 6</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>FEBRUARY 10</td>
<td>1:00-5:00 PM</td>
<td>Members Only: Annual Assisted Research Afternoon</td>
<td>LA Family History Library (Anyone may join at the door)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>MARCH 3</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>MONDAY</td>
<td>APRIL 8</td>
<td>7:00-9:00 PM</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>MAY 5</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>Annual Yom Hashoah Program - TBD</td>
<td>(Yom Hashoah actual date: May 2)</td>
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<td>SUNDAY</td>
<td>JUNE 2</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNDAY*</td>
<td>JULY 14*</td>
<td>1:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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*2019 IAJGS CONFERENCE JULY 28-AUGUST 2 CLEVELAND, OH*

*Tentative*

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Be sure to check future issues of *Venturing Into Our Past* and the website www.jgscv.org for updates