PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Founding JGSCV member and former JGSCV Board member Werner Frank gave an informative program to the nearly 70 attendees regarding his newly created genealogical tool: *Push and Pull Genealogy: A Methodology for Finding Deeper Roots*. See page 6 for the highlights of his program.

Thank you to Hal Bookbinder for facilitating the Schmoozing Corner.

Following the program, the JGSCV Board held its first meeting of the year since the elections held in December. According to our bylaws, the Board members determine who does which function. There were no changes to the assignments. The list of who does what is on the masthead on page 2.

On January 23, the board met for its annual budget and planning meeting. This is the most important meeting of the year. What we can do as a society depends on the revenues we receive. Our funding comes from 4 sources: annual dues, Amazon Affiliate Program, Ralphs Community Contribution Program and unexpected contributions. (See page 5 for more on the Amazon and Ralphs programs.) We are unable to do all that we do: excellent programs and bringing in speakers from out of state, the print off handouts, provide coffee/tea and cookies at 4 meetings a year, maintain of two libraries, from dues alone. To do this and more we have to supplement the membership dues revenue. If you have ideas how we can raise funds without raising your dues, please let us know. The board decided to hold the dues to their current level.

Werner Frank, JGSCV’s January Speaker on “Push and Pull Genealogy: A Methodology For Finding Deeper Roots”

NEXT MEETING

Sunday Feb. 11th 1:00-5:00 PM

**Annual Assisted Research Afternoon at the LA FamilySearch Library**

Experienced JGSCV members and FamilySearch Library volunteers will help members get the most out of library resources including computer assistance with many of the most popular genealogy databases and microfilm access.
January Meisels Allen, President
and Program Chairman
president@jgscv.org

Helene Rosen, VP Membership
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Diane Wainwood, Secretary
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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.

We need your help. First, if you have not yet renewed or joined for 2018 please do so: the membership form is on page 14. We are coming close to dropping from the membership roster those who have not renewed. There are benefits to being a member—more than just an attendee. Our upcoming Members-Only program on February 11 at the FamilySearch Library is one such benefit. The members receive emails from me several times a month with genealogical items of interest, which include free access to genealogical programs, such as Ancestry and other genealogical organizations when they are offered. There are other benefits of membership which are mentioned at the meetings. The board is brainstorming about other fundraising ideas to help us—which will be announced soon. Please help your society by paying dues, shopping at Ralphs with JGSCV listed as your charity of choice on your Ralphs membership, and shop at Amazon by first clicking on the Amazon link at the bottom of each page on our website: www.jgscv.org. Amazon and Ralphs combined account for 25% of our budget.

One of the items from our newly revised bylaws adopted in December-January meetings (see our website www.jgscv.org for the bylaws under “about”) was to change to an annual financial review from an annual audit. At the annual budget/planning meeting Allan Linderman was appointed with concurrence from the Board to run the Financial Review Committee. We are looking for two non-board members to join Allan on the Committee. The structure the board approved will not require more than one hour a year for this critical assignment. If you have a business or financial background and are interested in helping your society please contact Allan at newslettereditor@jgscv.org. Current dues-paid members only please!

Hal Bookbinder’s next installment in his excellent monthly series on Practicing Safe Computing is very timely: Meltdown and Spectre. You will find it on page 9.

Our February 11 meeting is our Annual Assisted Research Afternoon 1:00-5:00 PM at the FamilySearch Library located in West Los Angeles. Senior JGSCV members and LDS Missionaries provide hands-on assistance to you and your genealogy. See pages 10-12 for directions to the FamilySearch Library, an article on preparing for the Exclusive Research Afternoon at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Library. We are very fortunate that Barbara Algaze will be there to assist us by giving a new presentation Researching at the FamilySearch Library.

This meeting is our only meeting that is limited to current dues-paid members. Anyone may join at the door. New membership and renewal forms are on page 14 of this newsletter, available on our website, under “about” JGSCV-membership and available at the meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you on February 11th!

Jan

Jan Meisels Allen

VENTURING INTO OUR PAST
Sephardi Surnames from Jewish Cemeteries in S.A.

Suriname, officially known as the Republic of Suriname is a sovereign state on the northeastern Atlantic coast of South America. The cemeteries of a Jewish settlement there from the 1600s called Jodensavanne, or Jews’ Savannah still exists. Last month, AvotaynuOnline.com posted the complete list of surnames. The source is a book, Remnant Stones: The Jewish Cemeteries of Suriname: Essays (2009), a companion to Remnant Stones: Epitaph by Aviva Ben-Ur and Rachel Frankel. Find the surnames at: https://www.avotaynuonline.com/2018/01/sephardi-tombstones-found-suriname-index-surnames/?ct=t(Weekly_Avotaynu_Digest4_2_2015)

The Biggest Mistakes

Amy Johnson Crow is a genealogy blogger. She’s written a neat article on “the three biggest mistakes” we make with our research efforts, even experienced genealogists. “Family History is a journey, not a race,” Ms. Crow writes. Find her advice at https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/mistakes-in-genealogy/

Austrian Death Index Makes Online Debut

Traude Triebel of Austria announced recently that, thanks to Johannes Reiss and his staff at Oesterreichische Jüdische Museum/ Austrian Jewish Museum, the death index for Deutschkreutz (former West Hungary, Sopronkeresztur, Nemetkeresztur) for the years May 1833 to July 1895 is now available online. It is the first publication for the Museum located in Eisenstadt. Find the death index here at: http://www.ojm.at/blog/indizes/sterbeindex-deutschkreutz-1833-1895/ This index is searchable not only by name, but by various headers and in different combinations.

Note: Be sure to vary your name spellings through the years, e.g. Sinai, Siney; Schwarz, Schwartz, Schwartz: Guensberg, Ginsberg. The years 1853, 1855, 1856, 1857, 1858, 1859 and 1869 are NOT present.

The Museum also has an interesting database of Jewish cemeteries in Eisenstadt including names and photos of tombstones dating back to the 15th and 16th century. Find it at: http://www.ojm.at/

Genealogy as Family Heirloom (No Tomatoes, Please.)

Our genealogy research is a family heirloom. Designating an heir to that research: computer databases, documents, thumb drives, and original photos, is as important as handing down Bubbe’s candlesticks, or the silver wine cups brought from Russia. “But I’ve completed the research!” you say. “I’ve given everyone a book.” Your research is an evolving organism. As technology and DNA testing evolves, this enlarges our access to more and more documents, genealogical resources and actual people from around the world. Therefore, your app or online database, as well as your library of actual documents that you still might retain, deserves an heir, someone who will pick up your torch and not just update your tree; Someone who will review, add to and improve the data you have already acquired over the years or at least someone who will make sure that this is done and someone who will make contact with the new relatives to be found. Online trees and databases may have an advantage when we think about passing down our genealogy research. It is there for access, and all the “heir” needs are your passwords. But for the genealogist who keeps records solely on their own computer, or still prefers tactile access to vital documents, deciding on an heir and putting that to paper is something to ponder. ~AMassion

Ms. Massion has recently proved a DNA connection to families in Europe who are not Jewish. Results from DNA show a history of Sephardic Jewry, probably from medieval times.
The JGSCV will hold a meeting, on Sunday, February 11, 2018 at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Library (formerly known as the LA Family History Library) 10741 Santa Monica Blvd. West Los Angeles (on grounds of the LDS Temple) from 1:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Parking is free. This special program is open only to current dues paid members of JGSCV! Anyone may join or renew their membership with JGSCV at the door.

The Topic: Assisted Research Afternoon at the L.A. FamilySearch Library (LAFSL)

Experienced JGSCV members and FamilySearch Library volunteers will be available to help members get the most out of the L.A. FamilySearch Library's (LAFSL) resources, including computer assistance with many popular genealogical databases including Ancestry.com FindMyPast, Fold3.com, MyHeritage (Library edition), ProQuest Obituaries, World Vital Records, and more! The LAFSL has many computers so everyone can use them simultaneously. In addition, there are Jewish microfilms of Eastern Europe and a selection of others, including maps and gazetteers. Bring your research documents with you and bring a flash drive if you want to download electronic images of online images. Hard copying is also available. Our sister JGS, JGSLA’s library is available for research at the LAFSL.

Barbara Algaze, JGSCV member, volunteer at the LAFSL, and librarian for the JGSLA book collection, will give a new talk, Researching at the FamilySearch Library. The talk focuses on all the research you can do ONLY at the FamilySearch Library, i.e. accessing: the subscription genealogical websites for free; the Jewish book collection; the microfilms we still have at the Los Angeles location; online microfilms that are only available at a FamilySearch facility computer as well as classes and society meetings that take place at the FamilySearch Library.

This meeting is open only to current dues-paid members of JGSCV. Anyone may join at the door. Annual dues are $25 for an individual and $30 for a family. JGSCV is open to anyone interested in researching their Jewish roots.

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.
Reminder: There will be no Schmoozing Corner before the Feb. 11 meeting at the LA FamilySearch Center. The Schmoozing Corner will return for the following meeting Monday evening, March 5th.

We also have tentative dates for meetings starting in August 2018 that will be presented to the Temple. Sometime late spring the Temple will advise us as to the availability of the Social Hall on the dates we requested. We announce dates we get the word! Until then we can’t invite speakers so we do not yet know the programs—other than they will continue to be on the same *par excellence* that JGSCV is known for.

HELP WANTED 1
JGSCV is seeking TWO (2) volunteers from the membership to help in completing an annual *Financial Review* of JGSCV. In keeping with best practices, the Financial Review Committee will track JGSCV revenue and expenses to ensure that the society continues to maintain its extraordinary financial strength. A desire to help JGSCV is the main requirement as long as you remember how to balance a checkbook. Any business or financial acumen is a plus. Please contact Allan Linderman at newslettereditor@jgscv.org with questions or to volunteer.

HELP WANTED 2
JGSCV is **STILL** seeking a librarian for our traveling library. The Traveling Library Librarian will be responsible for bringing the 3 out of 5 boxes (on a rotating basis) of traveling library books to each meeting from Jan’s house in Agoura Hills and returning them after each meeting. This could be divided between several members. If desired and *approved*, the books may be stored at the Traveling Librarian’s home. This is a very important role since many members seek out our research tools at each meeting and our Traveling Library is a valuable resource. We need a volunteer to take over so these resources may continue to be available at every meeting.

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

Please see “Noteworthy” on the [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) website for instructions for Ralphs Community Contribution Program, too. AND, if you shop at Food 4 Less and use your Ralph’s card, JGSCV will benefit as though you shopped at Ralph’s.
Highlights from Push and Pull Genealogy: A Methodology for Finding Deeper Roots

By Jan Meisels Allen

Founding JGSCV member, Werner Frank, presented the premiere of his latest research, *Push and Pull Genealogy: A Methodology for Finding Deeper Roots*. Frank was able to find ancestors from both the rabbinical and merchant banking dynasties of the Middle Ages that helped him to extend his family tree. Frank showed how the rest of us could use the same Push and Pull Methodology to find ancestors. Frank's research is recorded in an article appearing in the current issue of *Avotaynu* (Volume XXXIII, #3 Fall, 2017) that is the basis for his presentation. (JGSCV's issue of *Avotaynu* is in our permanent library, located at the Agoura Hills Public Library. See our website www.JGSCV.org for more information on the library.) The talk illuminated the small world of Jewish genealogy that leads to the rationale that most Ashkenazi Jews are at least 30th cousins.

The classical genealogical research strategy has been the typical paper trail process. However, the Paper Trail Methodology is unfortunately limited by the 30 Years' War (1618-1648), the conflict causing a virtual “brick wall” due to the vast destruction of metrical records. Most recently, the employment of DNA analysis has added a “piggyback” strategy by facilitating the identification of “cousinhood” (but not necessarily adding a paper trail). These limitations have led Frank to the notion of jumping over the mid seventeenth century barriers and searching for possible roots in the Middle Age period that might be brought forward and connected to the more recently known family pedigree. Frank calls this new concept Push-Pull Methodology.

What Is Push and Pull Methodology:

By pursuing the typical paper trail process that Frank calls *Push Genealogy*, he has identified over 35,000 family members dating to the late 17th century. Faced with the inevitable metrical data roadblock of the Thirty Years' War (1618-1648), he conceived the notion of jumping over this brick wall to seek family harbingers within the relatively small European Jewish population that existed in the Middle Ages. It was his hope to identify such antecedents and to pull down a descendant chain from medieval times to the seventeenth century and consequently close his family tree gap by this *Pull Methodology*.

The *Pull Methodology* has much promise since there is a surprising amount of genealogical data associated with prominent Jewish families of the Middle Ages highlighted by Rabbinical and merchant banking dynasties. Whether it was by surname, location, prominence or sheer selection by chance, our speaker was successful in identifying individuals whose descendant
history revealed a family connection to his "pushed" data and led to an unexpected direct link to eleventh century Rashi of Troyes and seventh century Rabbenu Meshulam of Tuscany. Employing this technique, Frank was able to add more than 1,000 years to his family tree by finding deep roots from Germanic lands to the Austro-Hungarian Empire and 7th century Italy.

**Why the Methodology is Successful**

Frank assumes the genealogical standard of 25 years for a generation. Each prior generation doubles the number of antecedents: two parents, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents etc. Using this assumption it would take 40 generations to reach back 1,000 years leading to over 549 billion ancestors living in the 11th to 13th centuries—a staggering number exceeding our current world population. The actual world population during the Middle Ages was only 300 million with only 40 million living in Europe—therefore the hypothesis above does not reflect reality. Instead, it means we share a relatively small pool of ancestors—making us likely distant cousins.

This observation is ever more applicable to the Jewish population due to isolation from each other in ghettos, shtetls and Judengasse (segregated streets). Another factor was the inter-marriages among Jews living in the same area—and intra-marriages with cousins marrying cousins. In many instances when the first spouse died during childbirth, the husband married someone related to this deceased. Inter-marriages were prevalent amongst rabbinical and merchant banking families in order to preserve Yichus (noble connections). For example, Frank cited his own parents who were fourth cousins, a fact that he discovered through his research.

Frank concluded that the small populations in the Middle Ages propagated our contemporary societies making it likely that most of us share this ancestry and are therefore likely to be related. This factor has even more relevance to the Jewish population, and hence Jewish genealogy, since the Jewish population had such great fluctuations due to persecutions that led to mass annihilations including the impact if the Crusades, the Black Plague, cholera outbreaks and not to be forgotten, the accusations of blood libels, well poisoning and ritual murder leading to Jewish martyrdom. In modern times, the Holocaust further decimated the Jewish population. These external events caused families to die out and certainly limited the number of marriage partners. These events further consolidated Jewish families causing more inter and intra-marriages among Jews.

His research methodology included searching the literature by access to:

- Google books which has books online for free download. Through this he was able to access a book from 1913.
- WorldCat (http://www.worldcat.org/) where you can put in any book name and it will show which libraries have the book.
- Interlibrary loans which simplify borrowing from distant libraries.
A specific example of searching for a missing connection to the famous Banking Oppenheimer family was the identification of a Daniel Oppenheimer that would link to Frank's Oppenheimer family. Accessing Geni.com, Frank found a likely candidate with a footnote that led to the noted historian and genealogist, Berthold Rosenthal, whose digitized archives are available at the Leo Baeck Institute website (https://www.lbi.org/). Further search in Rosenthal's correspondence file led to a four-year exchange between Berthold Rosenthal and Fritz Ettlinger seeking a Daniel Oppenheimer. Happily, noted genealogist Ettlinger provided the persuasive data that produced the sought after connection.

**How Do We Do What Frank Did?**

We wanted to know how we can do what Frank did. These are the provided suggestions:

- Network among related families.
- Exploit all data, even myths.
- Network among spouses.
- Pattern of given names is powerful and note the pattern.
- Check Church and municipal records. Many Jewish records were recorded by Churches.
- Check migration references.
- Contact local historical societies.
- Navigate the Internet.
- Use the JewishGen Rabbinical Special Interest Group (https://www.jewishgen.org/Rabbinic/).
- *The Unbroken Chain* by Neil Rosenstein (JGSCV has the two volume second edition in our permanent library.) The first two out of five contemplated volumes of the third edition are now published.

Frank wrote a book on his family: *Legacy: The Saga of a German-Jewish Family Across Time and Circumstance* which JGSCV has in its permanent library at the Agoura Hills Library.

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**Werner Frank** is a founding member, former board member and founding newsletter editor of JGSCV. He was one of the founders of GERSIG (the German Special Interest Group of JewishGen, Inc.), and has written articles for *ROOTSKEY*, *Maajan*, *Avotaynu* and *Stammbaum*. Frank has been researching his family’s history, amassing a genealogical database of over 33,000 names, resulting in the publication of the history of his family, *Legacy: The Saga of a German-Jewish Family over Time and Circumstance*, published by Avotaynu Foundation in 2003. He has spoken at numerous IAJGS conferences and other venues.

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**JGSCV Welcomes New Members**

**ROBERT and JUDITH STERNBERG**

February 2018
You may have heard of two widely-reported vulnerabilities, Meltdown and Spectre. They take advantage of the way personal computers, mobile devices and the cloud intuitively pre-position data in “cache” to speed performance. This data may then be exposed to other programs running on the device or otherwise sharing workspace. This risk can impact iPhones, iPads, Android devices, Macs, Windows and Linux computers.

This is a difficult issue to fix as the problem is inherent in virtually all processors created in the past 20 years. Software fixes reduce but do not eliminate the exposure. Further, these software fixes may slow processing 10% to 30%. In their haste to respond, Intel released fixes that actually introduced problems in which computers rebooted themselves unexpectedly. They then advised customers not to install available updates. On January 22nd, Intel announced that it was testing a fix to address this rebooting problem. By the time you read this, it will likely be available. For the latest from Intel, go to http://www.intel.com and click on “Find out the latest news…”

While the likelihood of you being impacted is slight, there are some precautions you can take to further reduce the risk. Keep your software programs current, close individual browser windows when you no longer need them and rather than simply walking away from your computer or just locking it, log off. If you are using an older operating system that is no longer being maintained (like Windows/XP or Windows/ME) upgrade to a current version (Windows/7 or later).

Notwithstanding the recent Intel issue, you are likely better served by updating your devices with the latest software patches and versions as they are released. Generally, devices are set to check for updates automatically and either accept them or ask whether to install the update. Sometime we opt to defer so as not to interrupt our use of the device. As these updates may contain fixes to these or other vulnerabilities, it is best to accept them, especially if noted as a “security patch” or a “critical update”.

If you are not sure whether you have all current updates and patches, check the vendor’s website. This applies to your browser (Internet Explorer, Edge, Safari, Chrome and Firefox), your operating system (iOS for Apple devices, Windows and Linux for PCs and Oreo for Android devices) and your hardware (Intel, AMD and ARM). Once on their website, search for “Meltdown” or “Spectre”.

Be wary of folks who may try to trick you. Do not click an email link purported to contain critical security updates. These are generally scams. Rather, go directly to the vendor’s website. You will likely find that you are already current due to automatic updates. Legitimate fixes do not come through links in emails!

Expect further fixes to be issued over time as hackers discover creative ways of exploiting these vulnerabilities. As of this time, however, no such misuse has been detected. If you want to better understand Meltdown and Spectre, check https://meltdownattack.com. It offers a quick description, an excellent set of FAQs and a lengthy research paper on each. Access it through Chrome, Firefox or Safari. It was not created to operate correctly under Internet Explorer or Edge.
Preparing For the Exclusive Research Afternoon at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Library

February 11, 2018 1:00-5:00 PM

JGSCV members are privileged to have an exclusive research afternoon at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Library (LAFSL). This meeting is open only to JGSCV 2018 current-paid members. Anyone may join or renew their JGSCV membership by paying their dues at the door—and if you prefer to pay before the meeting a form is on page 14 of this newsletter. The LAFSL is the largest FamilySearch Library outside of Salt Lake City making this an opportunity to visit and receive assistance with your personal genealogy that is not to be missed!

Car-pooling is best, so ask your friends from JGSCV about sharing. JGSCV does not organize car pools.

Directions:

The LAFSL is located at: 10741 Santa Monica Blvd in Los Angeles on the grounds of the LDS (Mormon) Temple. From the 405 freeway get off at Santa Monica Blvd. and go east to Manning Ave. Turn north on Manning Ave, make the first left into the LDS Temple compound, proceed right until reaching the Visitor’s Center. Park along the fence. The entrance to the library is on the right (east) side of the building. The library is on the lower floor, there are stairs and an elevator from the first floor.  (See schematic below).

LAFSL has the largest holdings of any branch outside of Salt Lake City! It would be helpful to take the time to explore either of the following two websites at: http://www.lafhl.org/index.htm or https://www.familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Los_Angeles_Family_History_Library for a listing of the resources that are available. In addition to microfilms, microfiche, maps and books, they have 86 computers (PCs not Macs) that have access to many genealogical sites at no charge that are available on their computers! These sites include: Alexander Street Press, American Ancestors, Ancestry.com (full institution subscription), ArkivDigital Online (Swedish), FindMyPast.com (institutional version), Fold3.com, The Genealogist-Gold Level, Geneanet, MyHeritage (Library edition), Newspaper Archive, ProQuest Obituaries, 19th Century British Library Newspaper Digital Archive, The American Civil War, Women and Social Movements in the United States, and more!

The number of microfilms, microfilm readers, microfiche, microfiche readers and books has been reduced, as many of these records and books are now digitized. However, the foreign vital records microfilms, including the Jewish ones are still available at the facility. JGSLA has a list of the Jewish microfilms on their website that are currently located at the LAFSL: http://jgsla.org/microfilms-available-at-lafhl-2/
At 1:30 p.m. there will be a presentation by Barbara Algaze, volunteer at the LAFSL, JGSCV member and librarian for the JGSLA book collection, who will give a new presentation, Researching at the FamilySearch Library. The talk focuses on all the research you can do ONLY at the Family History Library including: free access to the subscription genealogical websites; the Jewish book collection: the microfilms still available at the Los Angeles location; microfilms that are only available at a FamilySearch facility computer and classes and society meetings that take place at the FamilySearch Library.

To make the best use of this experience you should prepare in advance and take your research papers with you. Be sure to have copies of your family group sheets, documents, family time lines, and family trees!

**Prioritize your research lists:**
- Foreign and state censuses, city directories, vital records (birth, marriage or death records), maps, naturalization records, WWI and WWII draft registration records.

**For traditional methodology**, bring:
- Paper pads, post-it notes, pens, pencils and a magnifying glass.

**For electronic methodology**, bring:
- Laptop computer, genealogy program, USB storage drives, writable CD Rom, digital camera—to use if making photos from microfilms. There is Wi-Fi in the library. In addition, you can connect to the internet by using internet cables. These cables are available for rent from the library with a deposit of $3.00. One can also connect to the Internet using Bluetooth. They sell 8 gig thumb drives (flash drives) for about $4.60 each.

If you are planning to use the foreign microfilms, remember the records are in their native language. Unless you are knowledgeable in the language, it is best to bring some key-finding words in that language such as male, female, birth, death, marriage, wife, husband, father, and mother. While there are some foreign language dictionaries available at the LAFSL, the more you prepare in advance, the more your limited time will be used to its best advantage.

The JGSCV permanent library located at the Agoura Hills Public Library (see address on our website) has a number of foreign language dictionaries in addition to several books by Jonathan Shea and William Hoffman: *Following The Paper Trail A Multilingual Translation Guide; In Their Words: A Genealogist's Translation Guide. Vol I: Polish and In Their Words: A Genealogist's Translation Guide to Polish, German, Latin, and Russian Documents. Vol II, Russian and Vol III German*. The books must be used at the Agoura Hills Library-our collection is not circulating. There are copy machines at the library if you wish to copy any of the pages. Many records are handwritten, are in chronological rather than alphabetical order, and may not be indexed. Bring a magnifying glass to help you read the handwriting.

An extra feature at the LAFSL is the availability of permanent libraries of genealogy societies including our sister society, JGSLA. The books are available for anyone to use. You may wish to review and explore...
the JGSLA website to see which books and materials are available: http://jgsla.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/JGSLALibraryIndex-update.pdf

The Polish Genealogical Society of Southern CA, also has their permanent library housed there and we can use their materials at the library. To see which books the Polish Society has, check out this link: http://www.pgsca.org/Library_Directory.htm. Remember, all books, microfilms, microfiche, maps, etc. may only be used at the FSL it is not a lending library therefore, nothing is permitted to be removed from the facility.

There is a small lunchroom with vending machines. There is a refrigerator in the lunchroom where you can store your bag lunches and drinks. There is a microwave that is also available for use. The vending machines only sell snacks, cookies and drinks—no “real” food. We don’t know what (or even if) food will be available on a Sunday. If you want to bring a snack or lunch you may eat and drink ONLY in that designated area.

There are lockers with keys available at no fee for members to keep their valuables. There is a coat rack for coats, jackets, and sweaters. Sometimes they forget to ask maintenance to turn on the heat on Sundays (when they are usually closed) and it gets very cold down there--especially in the classroom. You might want to bring a sweater, sweatshirt, or jacket—just in case!

You may print a document off a computer, microfilm or microfiche reader, or copy machine and pay at the front desk (10 cents per page). We don’t know how much change they will have so it would be appreciated if you bring change and small denomination bills.

Have a very successful research trip!
As reported by Gary Mokotoff: **Index to 1897 Russian Census Head of Households in Kyiv Guberniya** Online Professional genealogist Sarah Nadia Lipes has placed online an index to heads of households in Kyiv guberniya found in the 1897 Russian Census. It is located at [http://jewua.info/jewish-genealogy-search-at-ukraine/](http://jewua.info/jewish-genealogy-search-at-ukraine/). Information provided is surname; given name; patronymic; age; and fond, document and page numbers. There are approximately 50,000 entries. The search engine uses a "Starts with" algorithm. Searching for "Kagan" also produces results for "Kaganovich."

Lipes stated that the project is a work-in-progress, and she expects "to add many thousands of additional names in coming weeks and months." She recommends researchers read the instructions page at [http://jewua.info/how-to-make-a-search/](http://jewua.info/how-to-make-a-search/) before attempting a search. That page has, for example, the transliteration scheme used to go from the Cyrillic to the Latin alphabet.

For a fee, Lipes will provide a photocopy of the original census document which includes full family information.

The project was funded by a grant provided by Henry Louis Gates, Jr., host of the American genealogy show *Finding Your Roots*. Gates had a person of Ukrainian ancestry on his show and provided documents to demonstrate the person's ancestry. Lipes informed Gates that the research was faulty and provided him with the correct documents. Gates was so impressed by Lipes work, that he donated his honorarium for speaking at the recent IAJGS Orlando conference to make it possible to place the Kyiv census records online.

Columbia University Libraries launched a website for the study of Central and East European language, literature, folklore, music and much more regarding Ashkenazic Jewry. The archive is a resource for research in Yiddish studies and consists of more than 600 interviews conducted between 1959 and 1972 with native Yiddish speakers: [http://tinyurl.com/ycf39bne](http://tinyurl.com/ycf39bne)

The Institute for Jewish Policy Research (JPR) will conduct the second major survey of the perceptions and experiences of antisemitism among Jews in 13 EU member states. (The first survey was completed in 2012.) The study covers Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland Spain, Sweden and the UK.

JPR’s hub for European Jewish research and current affairs also contains demographic information about every Jewish population in Europe: [http://tinyurl.com/y86jzgy](http://tinyurl.com/y86jzgy)

Due to changes at FamilySearch, many previously accessed records from your home computer may now only be accessed at one of the FamilySearch libraries. This is due to FamilySearch implementing contract reviews that impacted access to some of the record contracts. These restrictions will be ongoing and could impact further records. They have to renegotiate all of their microfilming contracts to obtain digital access. Users will likely see further images moved to the FamilySearch Centers restriction status. Another reason to attend our February 11—exclusive to 2018 dues paid members—Assisted Research Afternoon!

JGSCV’s newest member, Robert Sternberg’s family immigrated to the Boyle Heights area in Los Angeles, from Winnipeg, Canada, in the early 1900’s. He would very much like to get old pictures of Boyle Heights to copy and restore if anyone has any. Please contact him at: robertsternberg@hotmail.com
2018 Membership/Renewal Form
Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV)*
*Member of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)

www.JGSCV.org

Dues paid now are good through December 2018

Date ________

Check one:
This is a New Membership________ Renewal_________
Single $ 25.00____+$1.00** Family* $30.00 ______+ $2.00**

*family defined as two people living in the same household
** $1 per person is a voluntary donation to the IAJGS Stern Award, granted annually when it recognizes institutions for outstanding work in the creation and availability of resources for Jewish Genealogy.

Additional voluntary contributions:
Library Acquisition Fund $_______ Programs Fund $________
(suggested minimum voluntary contribution for either fund $5.00)

Make check out to: JGSCV Mail application to: Helene Rosen,
28912 Fountainwood St.
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Name (Print) ______________________________________
Address __________________________________________
City     __________________________________________
State ____________________________________________
Zipcode + 4 _______________________________________

Day telephone ______________ Evening telephone __________
E-mail address _____________________________________

Talents that you have to share (accounting skills, language skills, computer skills, translation, etc.)

_________________________________________________________________

February 2018 VENTURING INTO OUR PAST
Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV) www.jgscv.org

Future JGSCV Meeting Dates through August 2018

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

February 11 Sunday 1:00-5:00 PM Annual Assisted Research Afternoon LA FamilySearch Library MEMBERS ONLY

March 5 Monday 7:00-9:00 pm Video—Jewish Soldiers in Blue and Gray
Explores little known history of the 10,000 Jewish soldiers fought in the Civil War on the Union and Confederacy.

April 8 Sunday 1:30-3:30 pm Celina Biniaz, “A Second Chance at Life” The Youngest of Schindler’s Jews Annual Yom Hashoah Program

May 6 Sunday 1:30-3:30 pm Marion Werle, “Ferreting Out Family Stories - Fact, Fiction or Somewhere in Between?”

June 3 Sunday 1:30-3:30 pm Schelly Talalay Dardashti, “The Other Side of Jewish Genealogy: Sephardic Research”

July 15 Sunday 1:30-3:30 pm Genealogy In the Round Members and guests share their successes, brickwalls and artifacts

August no meeting IAJGS Conference Warsaw, Poland August 6-10

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

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