

VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

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



JGSCV

June 2018

Volume 9

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our May 6th meeting had Marion Werle as our guest speaker. Her topic: *Ferretting Out Family Stories: Fact, Fiction or Somewhere in Between*. The excellent presentation taught both novice and seasoned genealogist about methodology for analyzing family stories by creating research questions, developing a research plan, creating a time line and analyzing the story to separate fact from fiction. Marion's handout is posted to the JGSCV website www.jgscv.org under meetings, prior meetings with the May 6 date. To read the highlights of the program see page 6.

Hal Bookbinder continues with his excellent series, *Practicing Safe Computing* on page 12. This month the topic is *Best Anti-Virus Protection of 2018*.

We will have 18 members including family of JGSCV members attending the IAJGS conference in Warsaw in August. These include: Jan and Tom Allen, Debra and Warren Blatt, Hal Bookbinder. Jan, Debra, Warren and Hal will be speaking. Also attending will be, Karen F; Pat and Ralph F; Richard, H; Lauren G; Mike M; Christine, Paul and Elysee N; Issie and Beth P; Marion and Steve R. Someone who attended the April meeting told me they will be at the conference but I forgot to write it down. If you mentioned it to me at the April meeting please let me know. 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

Marion
Werle,
JGSCV's
May
Speaker



NEXT MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 3 1:30-3:30 PM

The Other Side of Jewish Genealogy: Sephardic Resources

Genealogist and MyHeritage.com advisor, Schelly Talalay Dardashti will demonstrate how to use the most current resources for researching Sephardic roots.

WWW.JGSCV.ORG

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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

conference. See page 15 for more about the conference.

We have our new meeting dates through August 2019, thank you Temple Adat Elohim! Now the board is working on booking the programs. Mark your calendars and see the meeting dates on page 16. When the programs are finalized they will be publicized here, in *Venturing Into Our Past* as well on our website, www.jgscv.org under meetings, future and on our meeting handout—future meetings.

On page 11 we mention a law suit filed by 23andMe against Ancestry regarding their DNA testing for patent infringement, use of the “generic” name *Ancestry* and more. The lawsuit outcome may or may not affect DNA collection and samples.

JGSCV founding member Dalya Dektor informed the attendees at the May meeting about the upcoming Ventura County Fair (Aug. 1-12). Genealogy volunteers are needed for each day at the booth provided by the Ventura Family History Center. If you wish to learn more about the fair, the opportunity to enter genealogy craft competitions, and about volunteering see page 13.

Remember JGSCV will have a table in front of the exhibit area for the Southern California Genealogical Jamboree on Saturday June 2 from 9AM-3PM. The Jamboree runs from May 31- June 2. If you are going to attend and would like to volunteer at least one hour at the table please let me know. If you want to volunteer and are not attending you can visit the exhibit hall without paying a registration fee. Thus far we have three volunteers. Please contact me at president@jgscv.org if you are willing to volunteer.

Several of the ways to support JGSCV is by shopping at Ralphs or Food 4 Less. See page 5 for more information. Both the Amazon and Ralphs contributions are very important to the JGSCV annual budget as we do not collect enough in dues to do all that we do and the contributions from these two organizations constitute about 20-25% of our annual budget helping us make our budgeting goals. Remember there is a “tzedekah” (charity) box on the registration desk for any voluntary contributions by non-members and members alike.

Due the generosity of one of our board members, we will have coffee/tea at all remaining meetings during 2018. As usual, cookies will only be available at our anniversary, evening and Chanukah programs

Our annual Sephardic program is June 3rd with Schelly Talalay Dardashti. Schelly has spoken before at JGSCV and is an excellent presenter. Even if you don't think you have Sephardic heritage, you might be surprised—as those who fled the Inquisition went east and south into Europe as well as to North America, Central America, South Africa and what was Palestine, and today Israel.

Looking forward to seeing you on June 3rd and please let me know if you are attending the IAJGS Conference in Warsaw as I would like to take a group photograph at the conference.



Jan Meisels Allen



Police Departments Looking at Legal Use of DNA Websites

After the “Golden State” serial murderer was found, the news around the nation is reporting how police and law enforcement are looking at the legal ramifications of using DNA test websites for matches.

In an April 27, 2018 article in the Atlantic online, writer Sara Zhang wrote: *This way of finding people by DNA is new to law enforcement, but it is not new to genealogists, who immediately recognized their methods in the police’s vague descriptions.* The article imagines how the Sacramento, California police may have found and used matches and from where.

In the meantime, it was announced on May 8, 2018 that famed geneticist, CeCe Moore has teamed up with Parabon NanoLabs of Reston, Virginia to present *Snapshot Genetic Genealogy Service*, providing law enforcement investigators with a new tool for solving crimes using evidence from an unknown DNA sample, similar to the process used by the investigators in Sacramento.



Read the Atlantic article at

<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2018/04/gold-en-state-killer-east-area-rape-dna-genealogy/559070/>

For information on Parabon, go to

<https://snapshot.parabon-nanolabs.com/>

Free Guide to Jewish Prague

Written with the cooperation of the Prague Jewish community, *Jewish Heritage Europe* has posted a guide to Jewish Prague that is downloadable in multiple languages. The brochure presents uniquely preserved monuments and cemeteries, important personalities, eating, culture and a historical view of the more than a thousand-year presence of Jews in Prague.

<https://www.praguecitytourism.cz/cs/media/mapy/praha-zidovska-14409>

Discussing the Current Law on Polish Citizens and the Holocaust

The IAJGS 2018 Warsaw Conference Program Committee announced the addition of an intriguing new lecture by Professor Jolanta Ambrosewicz-Jacobs of Jagiellonian University of Krakow at its upcoming conference. Called *Memory Conflicts in Poland Related to the Jewish Past & the Holocaust*, Professor Ambrosewicz will address a 2017 law enacted by the President of Poland called *the Amended Act on the Institute of National Remembrance*. This lecture addresses the current public discourse in Poland and will occur on Tuesday, August 7th, 2018. The presentation includes an evaluation of existing educational projects in Poland as they relate to Jewish history and the Holocaust. It is just one of the more than 200 special events occurring at the next IAJGS 2018 Warsaw Conference, from at least 22 different countries. Review the Preliminary Conference Schedule and other registration details at iajgs2018.org. Audio-digital purchases information forthcoming.

For information on this law via the Polish government, please go to <http://ipn.gov.pl/en/news/1014,Statement-of-the-Institute-of-National-Remembrance-IPN-in-reference-to-the-appea.html>

Lodz Registration Cards

JRI-Poland has announced the addition of 25,000 Jewish names now available on the JRI-Poland database from the *Lodz Registration Cards 1916-1921*. This brings the total of identified Jewish names and families to 110,000. Margalit Ashira Ir, its program leader, wrote

“The Lodz Registration Card Project is a marathon and to date we are at 50% completion. There is so much more to do. We welcome additional volunteers to join our team. Contact Margalit.a.Ir@gmail.com with your interest.” Visit the JRI-Poland web site at <http://www.jri-poland.org>

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

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, June 3, 2018 at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 91362 1:30-3:30 p.m.



The Program: The Other Side of Jewish Genealogy: Sephardic Resources

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. Included in this presentation will be numerous archival documents, and many examples of online resources that simply did not exist in the recent past.

Speaker: Schelly Talalay Dardashti 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 20,000 global members. She is the US Genealogy Advisor for MyHeritage.com and co-admins several DNA projects a FamilyTree DNA.

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.

JGSCV Updates

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 five participants and we would like to have 3-4 more. This is always a program that is a highlight of the year. Please don't make Jan worry until the last minute. Contact me with one sentence of what you want to share at president@jgscv.org.

It's been a year since JGSCV first announced the need for a traveling library librarian. **We still need a traveling library librarian.** A member who chooses to remain anonymous has offered a 'Librarian Grant' to JGSCV pay a **stipend for this much needed service**. 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.

Remember, the Schmoozing Corner is open 30 minutes prior to each meeting. That is where a senior JGSCV member can provide individual help with your family search questions. Look for the sign on the right side of the room, near the stage.

See "Noteworthy" on the <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.

When shopping at Amazon.com please go to our website 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.



JGSCV is a participant in the Amazon Services LLC Associates Program, an affiliate advertising program designed to provide a means for sites to earn advertising fees by advertising and linking to Amazon.com

The Los Angeles (County) Public Library has changed its name to LA County Library removing the word "public" and adding "county". The new website address is: <http://lacountylibrary.org/>. JGSCV's permanent library is housed at the Agoura Hills Branch of the La County Library <http://lacountylibrary.org/lib/agourahills/>.

Celina Biniiaz, JGSCV's April speaker will give the commencement address at her alma mater, Grinnell College will she will be awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. Ms. Biniiaz is the youngest female on Schindler's List and a 1952 graduate of Grinnell College.

JGSCV Welcomes New Member

LOIS ROSEN

Highlights from Ferreting Out Family Stories

By Jan Meisels Allen

JGSCV's May program was Marion Werle presenting *Ferreting Out Family Stories: Fact, Fiction or Somewhere in Between*. Whether a seasoned genealogist or a newbie, everyone learned something from this very interesting presentation. Every family has its stories, some more colorful than others. Some seem too fantastic to be true. Others have the ring of truth, but don't stand up to close examination. How do we tell the difference? Marion presented a methodology for analyzing family stories – creating one or more research questions to focus our inquiries, developing a research plan, creating a potential timeline, and finally, analyzing each component of the story to separate fact from fiction.

Family stories are fun and can be a source of genealogical gold for your family history! Whether any unverified story or fact about your family history whether fanciful or not can lead to a genealogical "treasure hunt". Marion gave an example of a seemingly simple unverified story: "Samuel Wilson was a greengrocer in Ohio."

The overall approach presented was to divide the story into its component parts, create multiple **research questions**, and gather **evidence** to answer each research question by formulating and executing a **research plan**.

Marion referenced Chapter 1 of Elizabeth Shown Mills' book, *Evidence Explained: Citing History Source from Artifacts to Cyberspace* for a discussion of genealogical evidence. A copy of this excellent resource in JGSCV's permanent library located at the Agoura Hills Library a branch of the County of Los Angeles Public Library.

Research log: Record your results in a research log with sources/citations. The log is critical so that you can later go back to see what you included or eliminated, but did research. The log helps you document your process and any open questions, and may save unnecessary repeat processes later on, if you forgot you already researched that item.

Timeline: It is important to create a timeline as your search progresses. This helps put in perspective both facts and what was happening to the family, and identifies any gaps in your research.

Analyze, Write-Up and Share: Once you have analyzed your research findings then it is time to write up your findings-both things you found as well as eliminated due to the research—then it is time to share your findings with your family.

Creating a Research Plan

As we do with any problem in genealogy, start with what you know. Answer the questions, who, where and when? It is important to place the people and story you are researching in a correct historical and geographical context. It is best to separate stories into multiple parts and create research questions to address each one. Research questions will help to frame your research and should be specific.

A research plan is a road map or blueprint for your research. List anything that is a potential source and which information source may provide resources for the location during the time period you are researching. Add to it as you identify new sources and avenues of research. The use of the FAN principle - researching friends/family, associates and neighbors in addition to your subject - can assist you in your research.

Resources

When looking for vital records find out what is available. There is no point in looking for records in a jurisdiction before records were officially kept. Use census records, tax records, immigration records—as they are available. Try nearby localities if the town you are researching does not appear to have the records, as in some cases

nearby locales have the records for several nearby towns. If you are unable to find records use record substitutes.

The Where

Maps are an invaluable tool for genealogical research. Familiarize yourself where an ancestor lived, including neighboring towns. The JGSCV website – www.jgscv.org under resources has a map section with about two dozen sources for maps.

An excellent source for maps is the Internet—especially Google. Other resources include: regional genealogical societies, Special Interest Groups (SIGS), regional archives, atlases, and genealogical websites such as Ancestry.com. Don't forget to use the JewishGen Communities database: <https://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/Search.asp>. The FamilySearch wiki for localities is very helpful https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page. Remember to look for boundary changes. Hal Bookbinder's lecture on Changing Borders is very relevant when tracing the history of a town. [JMA Note: For example, the town of Brody, used to be in the Austrian province of Galicia, after World War I it was in Poland and today in the Ukraine—yet the town never moved.] In U.S. research, county and town borders also changed over time.

Newspaper Resources

Historical newspapers are an excellent source of information about people as well as locales. Several sources Marion suggested include:

The Library of Congress produces *Chronicling America* <https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/>

California Digital Newspapers Collection <https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc>

ProQuest Historical Newspapers which can be accessed through local and university libraries, also from home in some cases with an appropriate library card. Check with the libraries in your area. Anyone who is a California resident may obtain a library card from any public library in the state. Genealogy friends in other cities may have public library access from home to newspapers from their localities and may be willing to swap lookup favors with you.

[JMA note: *Ancestor Hunt* also has links to many newspapers:

<http://www.theancestorhunt.com/newspapers.html>]

The JGSCV website resources have a category for newspapers which has many US and international sources for newspaper resources.

Research Logs

Recording research activities, documents found, citations, and recording where you placed the document-such as downloaded to your computer- and the file where it is located, Ancestry shoebox, etc. Create your own template to help you remember. The template can be as simple as:

Ancestor Name	To Do Date	Event Year	Search name	Citation

Timeline

You can build you own timeline or use one from the family tree software program you are using as they include that aspect in their programs. A timeline is a visual aid to help you in your research, and may point out areas that you might have missed in your search.

Case Study

To exemplify the research attributes Marion discussed above, she presented a case study: “Samuel Wilson was a green grocer in Ohio.” Very little was known: Samuel was her brother-in-law's great grandfather, both grandfathers were born in Los Angeles and he had the names of his paternal grandmother and grandfather. This did not leave much to go on.

Using the 1900 US census she found the family of Samuel Wilson residing in Santa Ana, California not Los Angeles. According to the census, Sam was born in September 1851 in Pennsylvania not Ohio. His father was born in Scotland, his mother born in Ireland, the home had a mortgage; his wife Cynthia C. was born in Pennsylvania, as were her parents, and they had two California-born children, one of whom matched the known name of the grandfather.

1900 United States Federal Census for Sam Wilson
 California > Orange > Santa Ana > District 0149

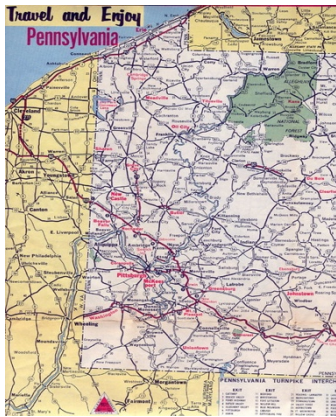
73	Wilson, Sam	Head	M	Sept 1851	48	M	12	Pennsylvania	Scotland Ireland	At school	1	Yes	Yes	M	F
74	Cynthia C. Walker	Wife	F	Dec 1827	72	M	22	Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania Pennsylvania						
75	John C. Love	Son	M	Dec 1887	11	S	-	California	Pennsylvania Pennsylvania	At school					
76	Willie N. Daughter	Daughter	F	Nov 1896	3	S	-	California	Pennsylvania Pennsylvania						

Further research showed the 1910 US Census with wife Cynthia widowed, owning her home with no mortgage, living with her daughter and unmarried sister. A marriage license for son John, who married in Los Angeles, included his mother’s maiden name, Cynthia Cree Walker.

The Family Research Questions

- Did Samuel Wilson, born about 1851 in Pennsylvania, married to Cynthia Cree Walker (also from Pennsylvania) about 1887-8, ever live in Ohio?
- What was Samuel Wilson’s occupation? Was he ever a greengrocer?

The first step was to look at maps. The map below shows that part of Western Pennsylvania borders on Eastern Ohio, making the story about Ohio residence possible.



Questions, Objectives and Issues

Samuel Wilson is a common name. As the family did not know the names of his parents or where he lived in Pennsylvania, Marion could not research him in either Pennsylvania or Ohio. She could, however, research him when he came to California. Possible sources of information included a death record with Cynthia as informant, marriage record 1887-1888 and birth records. Was he married in Pennsylvania or California? When did Pennsylvania start keeping vital records?

Creating a Research Plan

From the information contained in the U.S. Census, Samuel Wilson died between 1900 and 1910, likely in Orange County, California. The research log below lists the research objectives and potential sources for research.

Item #	Research Goals	Source Notes
1	Find Samuel's death date, between 1900 and 1910 censuses, probably in Orange County.	"California Death Index, 1905-1939", Ancestry.com and "California, County Birth and Death Records, 1800-1994", FamilySearch
2	Find Samuel's grave	Findagrave and Billiongraves
3	Find Samuel's obituary – <i>Los Angeles Herald</i>	California Digital Newspaper Collection, https://cdnc.ucr.edu/cgi-bin/cdnc?a=p&p=home&e=-----en--20--1--txt-txIN-----1
4	Find Samuel's obituary – <i>Los Angeles Times</i>	<i>Los Angeles Times</i> , ProQuest Historical Newspapers, via LAPL
5	Find Cynthia's death date – between 1930 and 1940 (does not appear after 1930 census)	"California Death Index, 1905-1939", Ancestry.com
6	Find Cynthia's grave	Findagrave and Billiongraves
7	Order death records from Orange County	http://www.ocrecorder.com/services/records
8	Check PA census records for Cynthia Cree Walker	Ancestry.com
9	Search California Great Registers for Samuel's residency history	FamilySearch (indexes only) and Ancestry (registry copies) - "California Voter Registers, 1866-1898"

Results

Samuel Wilson was not found in any death indexes. His grave was not found on Find A Grave or Billion Graves. In her obituary search Marion found obituaries in the *Los Angeles Herald* and *Los Angeles Times*. The *Los Angeles Times* obituary gave a date of death: 20 June 1904 and the obituary said that he was shipped back to Pennsylvania for burial - the answer as to why she could not find him on the cemetery databases in California. Cynthia's death date was in the California Death Index and her grave was located on Findagrave.com. The 1880 census showed Cynthia living with her family in Cross Creek Township, Washington County, Pennsylvania. Samuel registered to vote in California 1882 and his occupation was listed as clerk. He was also registered to vote in 1884 and 1896. In 1884 his occupation was listed as clerk, while in 1896 he was listed as a watchman. Orange County found Cynthia's death certificate, but not Samuel's. Marion had to call the Orange County Archives to locate the death certificate, issued on the local level, before California required state registration. Unfortunately, this was a bare-bones certificate which did not provide any information on Samuel's specific birthplace or names of his parents.

Timeline

The timeline below lists the information obtained from the initial research specified by the research plan:

Event	Year	Source
Alternate birth of Samuel in PA	c 1849	Obituaries, death cert (age 55 in June 1904)
Birth of Samuel in PA	1851	1900 Census
Poss. auditor in Washington Co.	1875	Crumrine, <i>History of Washington Co., 1882</i>
Samuel possibly in CA?	1879	Obituary, <i>LA Times</i>
Cynthia C. Walker living in Cross Creek Twp, Washington Co., PA	1880	1880 Census
Samuel registered to vote in Santa Ana, occupation clerk	1882	CA Voter Registers, Ancestry.com
Cynthia possibly in CA?	1885	Death cert, reported by son (resident for 47 yrs.)
Marriage of Samuel and Cynthia	1887-88	1900 Census
Living in Santa Ana, CA with wife, 2 children	1900	1900 Census
Died on 19 June 1904 in Santa Ana – probably buried in PA	1904	Obits., death cert

Moving Forward

Marion continued to look for marriage certificate in L.A. County, since Orange County was not incorporated until 1889. A four-volume digitized copy of a book of transcribed marriage record index cards assembled by the LA FamilySearch Library was not indexed, but searchable, and she found Samuel's name as a witness for somebody else's wedding. Even though he was a resident in California at this point, it listed a specific residence in Pennsylvania – West Middleboro in Washington County, the same county where Cynthia had lived. Unfortunately, there is no such town as West Middleboro. She searched the California marriage records and found a copy of the original record (there were multiple transcription errors in the index card, including the name of the groom), which showed Samuel's residence as West Middletown, not Middleboro. This was easily located on a historical map of Washington County, Pennsylvania.

FamilySearch Wiki was very helpful with Washington County resources. There are detailed maps on multiple websites, including Ancestry, the Pennsylvania State Archives and local genealogy societies. Land records are held at PA State Archives and in unindexed digital collections on FamilySearch. Marion recommended a video on FHL unindexed digital collections <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rn2VY-wSfkw> . JGSCV webmaster, David Oseas will be doing a genealogical hint at the July meeting on this topic.

The Internet Archive (<https://archive.org/>) holds three local histories of Washington County, including biographies of local notables, including Cynthia's father and uncle and Samuel's brother, and some historical Washington County newspapers have been digitized by Google.

Breakthrough

An unsourced collection of biographies on the Internet Archive proved to be a breakthrough. Samuel's brother was profiled in an article that included information on his parents and siblings, including his brother "Samuel, married and residing in California". Although the article had no sources, most of the information has been substantiated by further research, including four U.S. censuses from Independence and Hopewell Townships in Washington County, Find A Grave markers for his parents, local atlases and directories and probate records. Samuel's adult occupation was listed as farmer during his Pennsylvania residency, and he served as auditor of Washington County in 1875.

Conclusion

No evidence has been found that Samuel ever lived in Ohio, although his father's farm (between Independence and Hopewell Townships) was very close to Ohio

Samuel's occupations do not indicate that he was ever a greengrocer, although his activities between census enumerations are mostly unknown

Breaking the News to the Family

Marion suggests writing up your findings as most families will appreciate the results of your research. While documentary evidence can provide much information on family stories, we also need to accept that some things are just not knowable.

Marion Werle began family history research 23 years ago, researching family from Lithuania, Latvia and Belarus, who settled in the US, Canada, UK and Israel. She has been on the boards of JGSCV and JGSLA, and is a past president of the Latvia SIG. A retired IT professional with master's degrees in both European History and Library Science from UCLA, she wrote *The Skuders from Skud*, about one of her Litvak branches, to share with family members. She recently completed the Boston University Genealogical Research Certificate, and has an ongoing interest in applying general genealogical methodology standards to Jewish research.

Ancestry.com Sued by 23andMe

23andMe, Inc. has sued [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) over false advertising and patent infringement on May 11, 2018 in a U.S. District Court in Northern California. 23andMe is trying to invalidate "Ancestry's" trademark and further claims the company sells a DNA-based ancestry test that infringes on 23andMe's patent. The accusation of infringing on the patent goes back to 2013 stating they are selling DNA Ancestry tests that "identify a person's relatives who share parts of their DNA". The accusation further states that Ancestry is misleading the public by falsely claiming in ads that it tests five times more regions than other DNA testing companies, and that Ancestry runs perpetual sales.

The lawsuit contends that 23andMe invented a patent titled "Finding Relatives in a Database" that describes

how two individuals may share a common ancestor. This is achieved by comparing recombinable DNA sequence information of two persons in their database—not comparing the whole genome. They are asking for damages and disgorgement of the company's profits plus attorney's fees and interest. They are also asking the court to find that Ancestry's trademark invalid since the term is generic. They are also asking the court to bar [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) from "continuing to use allegedly misleading ads". The patent that 23andMe alleges has been infringed upon is U.S. Patent 8,463,554.

Thank you to Dick Eastman and the Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter for informing us about this litigation.



Practicing Safe Computing: Best Anti-Virus Protection of 2018

by Hal Bookbinder
33rd in a series

Prior articles in this series (January 2016 – “Is Your Virus Protection Actually Working?” April 2017 - “Viruses, Worms, Trojan Horses, Spyware”, May 2017 – “Malware Protection”) discussed the need for a properly running antivirus program on any computer connected to the Internet. Each year, PC Magazine publishes its recommended list of the top ten antivirus programs. This year’s list includes:

<u>Antivirus Program</u>	<u>2018 Rank</u>	<u>2017 Rank</u>	<u>2016 Rank</u>
McAfee AntiVirus Plus	1	1	3
Webroot SecureAnywhere Antivirus	2	2	4
Symantec Norton AntiVirus Basic	3	4	--
Bitdefencer Antivirus Plus	4	3	1
Kaspersky Anti-Virus	5	5	2
Avast Pro Antivirus 2017	6	6	5
ESET NOD32 Antivirus	7	8	9
F-Secure Anti-Virus (2017)	8	9	10
Sophos Home Premium	9	--	--
Trend Micro Antivirus Security	10	10	--



For more information about these antivirus programs, pricing and a side-by-side comparison, see <https://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2372364,00.asp>. All of these products function well. Pick one that you prefer and be sure to configure it to check all of the files, emails and websites you access. While many have higher “regular” prices, watch for sales and spend \$25 or less per computer.

PC Matic, which advertises heavily as the only product fully American-made and based on whitelisting is not on the list. While I like both concepts, PC Magazine testing has found that whitelisting blocks too many legitimate sites and is not significantly more effective than competing commercial tools. PC Matic claims to include legitimate sites quickly once identified.

Below are rules to remember regarding antivirus software:

1. Antivirus programs include an “engine” and a list of current virus profiles. Both are automatically updated so long as the subscription is maintained.
2. Once the subscription ends, the engine may continue to run. However, without updates both to the engine and to the profiles, protection is incomplete and may miss current viruses.
3. New computers typically include a “free” antivirus program for a limited period. Be sure to pay to extend the subscription or install another program when the subscription ends.
4. Antivirus programs may provide you with the ability to raise or lower the level of protection. Setting this too high may block things you want. Setting it too low may put you at risk.
5. If you are instructed to turn off virus protection while installing new software, be sure to promptly turn it back on as soon as you are able to do so.
6. Multiple antivirus products on the same computer can dramatically slow it down. If you decide to switch antivirus programs, be sure to uninstall the old one before installing the replacement.
7. If unsure whether your antivirus software is configured and running properly, go to the vendor’s website. Most will provide a facility to check your settings and suggest appropriate changes.
8. NEVER accept unsolicited offers to scan your computer, to provide antivirus software, or any other service. If you do, you will likely end up with more issues than solutions.

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: <https://www.venturacountyfair.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/2018-Hobbies-Models-Collections.docx.pdf>

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 11:00 a.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 although they are admitted to the Fair free. It is suggested the best park and ride is at the Stanley Avenue exit off the 33 which 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 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.

Genealogy Odds and Ends



The new season of Who Do You Think You Are begins on May 21 at 9PM on TLC. To catch up on last year's episodes go here: <https://www.tlc.com/tv-shows/who-do-you-think-you-are/>

A recent posting in Dick Eastman's *Online Genealogy Newsletter* (<https://blog.eogn.com>) included a story by Sophie Yeo from the *Pacific Standard* website regarding preserving old paper documents to prevent loss or damage due to disasters or changing temperatures. Read it on Dick Eastman's blog: <http://tinyurl.com/yac4pmce>

JRI-Poland recently added to its online database. Records for 10 additional towns in Galicia can be found at: <http://www.jri-poland.org>. All these records are found at the AGAD Archive in Warsaw, Fond 300.

- Bobrka 1904,1912,1914-1917,1927-1927 deaths
- Drohobycz 1916 births
- Dunajow 1925-1934 marriages (These are the first records in the JRI-Poland database for this town which was in Tarnopol province near the towns of Pomorzany, Narajow, and Gologory.)
- Gliniany 1898-1914 deaths
- Mikulince 1911-1914 births
- Podkamien 1914, 1920 marriages
- Rozdol 1903-1916 births; 1898-1914 deaths
- Skole 1916 births
- Sokal 1916-1936 marriages
- Zbaraz 1911-1929 marriages

With the addition of these records, there are now nearly one million record indices included in the JRI-Poland online database for towns in Eastern Galicia. This covers 98 towns now in Ukraine.



Americans and the Holocaust, a new exhibition at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum examines the knowledge and understanding of the Nazism, the war and genocide. One focus is the apparent disinterest of the Jewish plight as expressed by FDR. Read the entire story: <http://www.tabletmag.com/jewish-arts-and-culture/260862/m-project-franklin-delano-roosevelt-jews>

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Computer Workshop Registration Open at 2018 IAJGS in Warsaw



*By Robinn Magid, Lead Co-Chair
Judi Gyori Missel, Program Committee
Harvey Kabaker, Registration chair*

There are now seven workshops scheduled for family researchers with beginning to advanced computer skills to learn how to make the most efficient use of your time online and to provide some useful new tools.

Participants will bring their own computers to a classroom with free Wi-Fi to follow the instructor's lead on a projection screen. Sessions cost just \$25 each, and space is limited, so check out the offerings and make your selections as soon as possible.

Subjects include how to get the most out of resources available at JewishGen, FamilySearch, the Israel Genealogy Research Association, Jewish Records Indexing-Poland and a new Website on Jewish heritage in Krakow and Western Galicia.

For those with skills beyond beginning, a session will demonstrate how to build maps showing places where your ancestors lived using information from such sources as grave locations, land registries, old maps from different time-

frames (cadastral maps) and current mapping services. Another will guide you in the use of online tools such as JewishGen's Viewmate and Google Translate to get translations of your documents and gravestone photos in Hebrew or Cyrillic characters or in Polish, Lithuanian, Italian and German, if your mysteries lie there.

For more details, please refer to the Computer Workshops page or the Conference Program and schedule, available at www.iajgs2018.org

How to sign up

If you have already registered for the Conference. Go to the Attendee Service Center from the REGISTRATION menu on the Conference Home Page (www.iajgs2018.org). Sign in with the Email address you used for registration and the password from your confirmation message. On the Welcome page, **Click Update Your Info**, then click **Edit** and continue through the registration form. Now would be a good time to update or add information and to review your family surnames and historical towns.

On the **Fee-Added Events** page, make your selections and continue through to payment and confirmation.

The fine print

You must be registered for the Conference to buy a workshop ticket. **No refund will be issued** for a cancellation, but the paid fee may be applied to another computer session, if space is available, or to any other fee (e.g., a meal), subject to availability.

See you in Warsaw!



Future JGSCV Meeting Dates through August 2019

Sunday starting at 1:30 p.m. Monday starting at 7:00 p.m.

Programs co-sponsored by Temple Adat Elohim.

2018

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

June 3rd Sunday 1:30-3:30 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 6-10, IAJGS Conference IAJGS Conference Warsaw, Poland

August 26, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Stories from Eastern Europe: IAJGS Warsaw Conference Attendees Tell Their Stories of Visits to Their Ancestral Towns and More

September No Meetings Due to Jewish Holidays

October 7, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM JGSCV Anniversary Program TBA

November 5, Monday 7:00-9:00 PM Program TBA

December 9, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Annual Membership Meeting, Chanukah Party—Program to be announced...Members who renew eligible for great gifts.

2019

January 6, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Program TBA

February 10, Sunday Annual Assisted Research Afternoon Los Angeles Family History Library 1:00-5:00 PM 2019 JGSCV Members—Anyone may join at the door

March 3, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Program TBA

April 8, Monday 7:00-9:00 PM Program TBA

May 5, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Annual Yom Hashoah Program TBA
(Yom Hashoah actual date May 2)

June 2, Sunday 1:30-3:30- PM Program TBA

Tentative: July 14, Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Program TBA

August IAJGS Conference July 28-August 2 Cleveland, OH No Meetings

Programs are subject to change - check JGSCV website for updates:

www.jgscv.org