



VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

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

April 2019

Volume 14 Issue 7

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Lara Diamond was spectacular at our March 3rd meeting. Not only did she fly in and back from Baltimore on the same day! She wowed the almost 60 in attendance with her knowledge and expertise about endogamy – which many of us are experiencing in our DNA results. See page 6 for the highlights of her program, *Success In-And In Spite of Endogamy*.

Thank you to Carol Fleisher for facilitating the schmoozing corner. Each month we have a senior member facilitate this feature for you to be able to ask questions and get general guidance. The schmoozing corner begins 30 minutes before our program begins.

Last month I mentioned the four JGSCV members: Sara Applebaum, Andrea Massion, Helene Rosen and Tammy Williams-Anderson who provided their published books/family histories to the National Library of Israel which asked for “family histories or other books written by members of our genealogical society” to be considered for donation to the library. I am delighted to add to this list: Mark Abbott Stern (2 books) and former JGSCV members Werner Frank and Herb Eckerling. The National Library of Israel either has them or has received them from the authors. This is a wonderful recognition of work by our society members—current and former! If I missed anyone who has published a family history or book, let me know and I can contact the Library to see if they are interested.

JGSCV



Lara Diamond discussing Endogamy at the March 3rd Meeting

NEXT MEETING

MONDAY April 8th 7-9 PM

Branching Out From Sephard- Solving a Converso Mystery



Sarina Roffé is the author of *Branching Out From Sepharad*, outlining the history of Jews in Spain. She is a professional genealogist, editor of DOROT, and founder of the Sephardic Heritage Project.

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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.

April 2019

According to our bylaws, the JGSCV membership year begins in January. Any member whose dues are in arrears for three months or more, after due notice from the Society, shall be dropped from membership and all rights and privileges granted shall cease. This is my least favorite job, but I had to notify those who did not renew (9) that they will no longer be members and will lose those membership benefits. I am waiting until March 31 for responses from four more members who may also be dropped. We ended 2018 with an all-time high as of writing this letter we are at 27 more members than we were last year at this same time! We continue to attract new members: 15 since the beginning of the year. We are very strong and will make up the loss of members throughout the year. If you are reading this and did not renew you are always welcome to rejoin, or if you are an attendee and have not joined, please consider doing so. The membership form is on page 12.

Hal Bookbinder's next installment of "Practicing Safe Computing" *Synthetic Identity Theft* starts on page 9.

Daniel Horowitz, MyHeritage, is our June speaker and he is offering JGSCV members a diesocunt4ed price on DNA tests but you have to fill out a form first. See page

The IAJGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held July 28-August 2, 2019 in Cleveland, Ohio at the Hilton Cleveland Downtown. The actual program will not be listed until mid-April and the speakers hopefully will be notified by the end of March. Registration is now open go to: http://www.iajgs2019.org/register_conference.cfm Please note their new policy on mandatory food voucher to be used against food purchased through the conference such as breakfast with the experts, SIG luncheons and the banquet. If you are planning on attending and want to make your hotel reservations go to: http://www.iajgs2019.org/hotel_reserve.cfm. They require one night's deposit at the time of reservation which is refundable up to three days before check-in. You may subscribe to a discussion list: http://www.iajgs2019.org/discussion_list.cfm and a Facebook group: http://www.iajgs2019.org/facebook_group.cfm.

Our **April 8 meeting** is on **Monday evening** starting at **7:00 PM** with the schmoozing corner and traveling library available starting at 6:30 PM. We meet twice a year on Monday evenings. This is our annual Sephardic program with Sarina Roffé, *Branching Out from Sepharad - Solving a Converso Mystery*. See page 4 for information on the program.

Happy Passover and to our Christian friends and members Happy Easter!

Looking forward to seeing you on April 8th!

Jan Meisels Allen

VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

*Freedom is never really won;
you earn it & win it in every generation.* Coretta Scott King



Family Matters: When a Queen Saved the Jews of Persia

The genealogy for Queen Esther of Purim fame is argued and discussed by both scholars and students alike. The greatest misconception is that Esther was the niece of Mordechai the Jew. Reviewing the Book of Esther in Aramaic and Hebrew, we find the answers.



At Bar-Ilan University in Ramat Gan, Israel the *Parashat HaShavua Study Center* posted a Purim discussion by Dr. Ari Zivotofsky entitled *Mordchai and Esther: A Relative Matter*. Dr. Zivotofsky reminds us that the Purim text has extended-family names. Who knew that Esther's father's was Abihail, the brother of Mordecai's father? It's in the text. Read it at <https://www.biu.ac.il/JH/Parasha/eng/purim/ziv.html>

A 2005 article by Janet S. Sunness, M.D. on Aish HaTorah website says "specific phrases and events allow us to draw fascinating connections details of Esther's birth, and her affiliation to the Tribe of Benjamin. Read it at the *Women's Jewish Archives* website: <https://tinyurl.com/yvg57tg7>

Moses, Aaron & Miriam:

Supportive Siblings

Moses' family is the subject of numerous drashes and papers throughout history. Here are a few links in honor of Passover:

<https://tinyurl.com/y5zogs8e>

A family tree of Moses, Aaron and Miriam with source citations is posted by Nadene Goldfoot on her blog at Jewish Bubba:

<https://tinyurl.com/y2bjbusc>

Market Researchers on DNA

According to a recent Fact.MR study, the genealogy products and services market is likely to be valued at over US\$ 3 billion in 2019. Demand for kits has risen due to use in criminal investigations, the continued popularity of affordable testing for ethnic sources, increased advertising and TV shows on genealogy. Fact.MR is a marketing research service in Baltimore. <https://www.factmr.com>



**Happy Holidays &
Happy Spring to all
our members.**

Page 3 is compiled by JGSCV Board member, Andrea Massion.

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 **MONDAY, April 8, 2019** at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, 91362 **7:00-9:00 PM**



The Program: Branching Out From Sepharad - Solving a Converso Mystery

Sarina Roffé, author of *Branching Out From Sepharad*, outlines the history of Jews in Spain, the 1492 expulsion, their history in Syria, and their immigration to the Americas. She will discuss the ancestry and significance of the Kassin rabbinic dynasty, which dates to the 12th century, and the 50-year leadership of Chief Rabbi Jacob S. Kassin, who led the Syrian Jewish community in Brooklyn. At the same time, she solves a Converso mystery. Rabbi Kassin's ancestors arrived in Aleppo in 1540. Sarina solves the mystery of the time gap from 1492 to 1540.

Speaker: Sarina Roffé is a professional genealogist, editor of DOROT, and founder of the Sephardic Heritage Project. She is responsible for the translation and databasing of marriage and brit milah records on JewishGen. While on the Board of Governors of JewishGen, she acquired several databases of Sephardic records, including cemetery records from Mexico, Venezuela, Cuba, and Argentina. She serves on the IAJGS Board of Directors and presents often at IAJGS conferences and has completed over a dozen genealogies. She is Co-chair of the Brooklyn Jewish Historical Initiative, the first organization to document Brooklyn's Jewish past.



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

Bring your questions to Hal Bookbinder at the SCHMOOZING CORNER starting at 6:30 PM on April 8th. The SCHMOOZING CORNER is open 30 minutes before each JGSCV meeting where a knowledgeable JGSCV member is available to offer individualized help with your personal family history questions. The SCHMOOZING CORNER is located on the right side of the meeting room as you enter. Carol Flesher led the March SCHMOOZING CORNER (right).



JGSCV member Barbara Algaze is again available for tutoring at the LA Family History Library on Tuesday afternoons 1:30-3:30 – by appointment only. Please contact Barbara: barbara@jgscv.org.

In 2020, *Venturing Into Our Past* will be commemorating the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII with a series of stories about our family members and the war. Start thinking about how you would like to recognize the exploits of someone in your family tree as they relate to that period. If you'd love to tell the story but need assistance writing, please contact Allan Linderman (newslettereditor@jgscv.org).

Daniel Horowitz, JGSCV's June 2 speaker is offering discounts for My Heritage DNA tests with preorders. Fill out the form at <http://bit.ly/JGSCVDNA> and pay just \$59* per test.
*Prices may be less if they are offered less at the Southern California Genealogical Jamboree

When shopping at Amazon.com please go to our website (www.jgscv.org) first and click the Amazon logo at the bottom of any page **before** you start to shop. It doesn't cost you anything.



JGSCV Welcomes New Member

JOHN HIGGINS

Highlights from Success In – And In Spite Of - Endogamy

By Jan Meisels Allen

JGSCV was privileged to have Lara Diamond speak to us on March 3rd on *Success In-And In Spite of Endogamy*. Endogamy is when small groups of people keep marrying distant cousins, even if they are not aware of the relationship. There is little genetic diversity when this occurs. Endogamy is daunting for genetic genealogy for those populations that “practice” small groups marrying cousins, such as Ashkenazi Jews, Native Hawaiians, Cajuns, Colonial Americans and those who grew up in very small towns. This causes great frustration for those of us trying to identify actual relatives from the mass of

other DNA testings showing amount of Ashkenazi Jewish between the two.

Lara showed that her 2nd cousin match did not match either of her parents –the person was a 5th cousin or greater to them. This is assumed to be due to endogamy as Lara received the cumulative amount of DNA from both parents and individually neither had a sufficient amount of DNA to show correctly. She showed another cousin match which was even greater for her than the previous example, and yet neither of her parents matched this DNA “cousin”.

Several graphics showed Lara’s maternal grandfather and maternal grandmother’s DNA matches next to a family tree, demonstrating that people share significantly more than DNA than would be expected for their known relationships. Lara was able to demonstrate how she is related to one of the cousins via their respective mothers although both had DNA segments inherited from their respective fathers.

She showed a chromosome browser with bits and pieces of DNA inherited from both parents—they are displayed in “orange”. A chromosome browser is used in autosomal DNA testing to describe a tool which allows the user to do a comparison between one or more matches to see how much DNA the user shares shared in common with them. A chromosome browser Lara shared to show her parents sharing with an “assumed” cousin” but they were not closely related—each were at best 5th cousins with only 104 and 110 cM shared with the longest segments being 9 or 10—just above the “noise” level.

An example of a chromosome browser from the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG) is displayed (next page) as an example of comparing two siblings. (Not an illustration used in the presentation.)

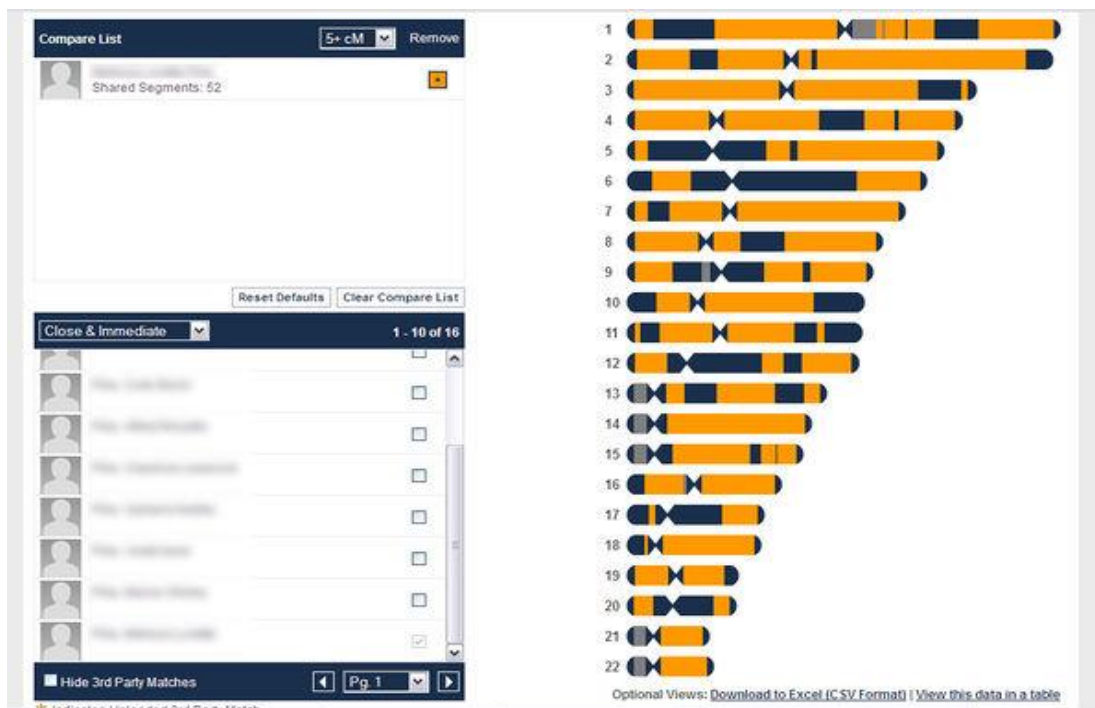


genetic distantly-related family. Using case studies, Lara explained how one can be successful in this.

If the “matches” one receives

from the DNA testing companies do not have the same surnames, you may not know if the persons are cousins. Lara has twenty thousand 4th cousins or closer combined on all her DNA returns. To determine how close a relative is depends on the amount of centiMorgans (cM) that are shared. The more cM the more likely you are actually related. This is not true for endogamy but it is what the testing companies’ algorithms look at primarily.

Lara tested in all four DNA companies. She ranges from 96.8 percent Ashkenazi Jewish by My Heritage to 100 percent Ashkenazi Jewish by Ancestry.com with the



“Jennie” Diamond Dorfman, but he didn’t know her Hebrew or Yiddish name. Anglicization of the name Shaindel is Jennie. She was from Russia—the Russian Empire was huge—and there was no information where she from was in “Russia”. Jennie lived in Detroit, Michigan, and her six children’s families were still alive. Jennie’s daughter, Dave’s grandmother, is his only Jewish

(https://isogg.org/wiki/Chromosome_browser_examples)

The DNA company is advising that these “matches” are closer related than they actually are. Lara was able to show by genealogical research that each person was not related to either of her parents so why is she getting results from millions of related who are not closely related? The results even showed her related to German Jew even though she has no German heritage. The cause is endogamy.

DNA is a tool in the genealogist’s tool kit. One needs to look at traditional research methods. Examples given were a letter with the date of arrival, ships manifest which gave the town of origins providing the evidence needed to determine it was her grandfather.

Finding Someone Who Did Not Die in the Holocaust

By using records along with DNA, Lara proved that her great grandfather’s sister Shaindel had not died in the Holocaust but instead died in 1949 in Michigan. The story was her father had second cousins where “everyone” had been killed. As it turns out, Lara’s grandfather had a great aunt (Shaindel) and she was not killed in the Holocaust, although the family had always thought she was.

A DNA test result came back with “Dave” who is listed as a first-third cousin with 281 cM and the longest chain being 57 DNA segments. His great grandmother was

grandparent, but endogamy still has an impact. One of Jennie’s daughters had written a letter with the date of arrival in New York City, and from this Lara was able to obtain the ship’s manifest. This again proves what Lara said that document research is still vital to doing good genealogical research.

Lara also researched Yad Vashem and the resources available with the Pages of Testimony (<https://www.yadvashem.org/archive/hall-of-names/pages-of-testimony.html>). DNA enters the picture when one is looking for the connection, but *first* one must know of the person’s existence.

Lara said even if someone is only 1/16th Jewish, endogamy is still there to find cousins.

She also said to concentrate on matches with the large segments (30cM) and at least 100cM of total shared DNA. While this may eliminate contact with relatives that are related in genealogical time, it allows you to initially contact those with whom you have a higher likelihood of being able to find a connection.

GEDMatch

GEDMatch is a free, website where the consumer voluntarily uploads their DNA to match with others. This way one may match their results with others who took DNA tests from any of the DNA testing companies.

GEDMatch recently received a lot of notoriety as it is the site that law enforcement organizations upload suspected criminal DNA samples to see if there are any familial matches. If any “hits” occur then the law enforcement agencies use genealogical firms such as Parabon Laboratories where forensic genealogist CeCe Moore heads their genetic-genealogy lab. The catching of the Golden State Killer by familial DNA has brought this company and type of DNA testing into the forefront.

Lara strongly encouraged everyone to move your DNA matches to GEDMatch.

Lara reviewed several people who contacted her and reviewed the results and how they were related.

Summary

Lara made the following suggestions in conclusion:

- Look for large shared segments paired with large amounts of shared DNA overall.
 - This gives you a higher chance of finding an actual closer relative but also eliminates some close relatives.
- DNA can point towards where to look for documentation but doesn’t replace it.
- It’s harder to do genetic genealogy when you’re endogamous but not impossible—successes ARE possible.
- Be careful of drawing conclusions from shared matches. This is not for Jews.

Lara suggested taking a survey asking people to fill out how much DNA their known cousins share so that we can get a good picture of what endogamy looks like: <https://tinyurl.com/laradiamondproject>. The survey lists for each DNA testing company where you may find the numbers on the test results. This is only for people with Ashkenazic Jewish ancestry. The form to complete is directly accessible at: <https://tinyurl.com/y2cwwyw2>

The survey is about Ashkenazic Jewish Shared DNA and how we are all related due to marrying cousins. It also contains a link on how endogamy manifests in her own family. There is a link to a form for data for each pair of known relatives of yours who have tested share with one another. The post lists for each DNA testing

company where you may find the numbers on the test results. This is only for people with Ashkenazic Jewish ancestry.

Lara was most generous with her time. Not only did she fly in from Baltimore the morning of the program, she flew home the same evening. She also spent 30 minutes answering questions. During the question and answer period:

She commented that one needs to be able to recognize foreign characters for records in order to be able to do your research.

When people do not respond to your inquiries, send an email, follow-up with snail mail and recognize some people just will not respond.

It is important to look at **all** matches. People in the cluster are all related due to endogamy.

Lara reminded the audience that there are three types of DNA tests: Mitochondrial DNA (maternal DNA); Y-DNA (paternal DNA) both of which are only performed by FamilyTreeDNA. Autosomal DNA which all four DNA companies perform: Ancestry, FamilyTreeDNA, MyHeritage and 23andMe.

Lara also mentioned Alex Krakowsky, a genealogist from the Ukraine who is suing the archives to put records-not indices on line. To read more about Alex Krakowsky see this YouTube video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sRlyXpkrpE8>
Alex turns out to be a cousin to Brooke Schreier Ganz who is the founder of *Reclaim the Records* which sues to get indices from archives in the United States.

Lara Diamond has been researching her family for 25 years, starting as a middle school student. She has traced all branches of her family multiple generations back in Europe using Russian Empire-era and Austria-Hungarian Empire records. Most of her research is in modern-day Ukraine, with a smattering of Belarus and Poland. As she is an Ashkenazic Jew, she gets to have particular fun with her completely endogamous genome. She is president of the Jewish Genealogy Society of Maryland, leads JewishGen’s Sub-Carpathian SIG, and is on JewishGen’s Ukraine SIG’s board of directors. Lara also leads multiple district-and town-focused projects to collect documentation to assist all those researching ancestors from common towns. She blogs about DNA and her Eastern European research at <http://larasgenealogy.blogspot.com>. Subscribe to Lara’s blog –it’s free



Practicing Safe Computing #42: Synthetic Identity Theft

by Hal Bookbinder



Synthetic ID theft is where a thief creates a new identity using some of your information, like your social security number and birth date. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) estimates that as much as 85 percent of all identity fraud involves “synthetic” or fictional IDs. While you can reduce its likelihood, the possibility remains that you will become a victim. So, it is important that you pay attention and then follow up when something seems amiss.

The best way to catch synthetic ID theft is to monitor your credit report closely. If you see anything out-of-the-ordinary, such as addresses you’ve never lived at or jobs you’ve never had, it’s possible you’re a victim of synthetic ID theft. You have the legal right to receive your credit report for free once each year and it is easy to do so. Just go to www.annualcreditreport.com and respond to the quiz. It will ask you such things as your monthly mortgage, rental or car loan payments providing several ranges from which to choose.

Once the system is satisfied that it is indeed you, it will ask you to indicate which of the three credit agency reports you would like. You can choose to view one, two or all three of them. I recommend you choose just one and do this every four months cycling through the three over the course of a year. I put reminders on my calendar to do so (e.g. January: Equifax, May: Experian, September: TransUnion). The credit report will be displayed as a PDF which you can review, print

and save. The website includes actions you can take if concerned.

Other things which might indicate possible Identity theft are charges on your credit card statements that you do not recognize or bills that have not arrived. A credit card, utility or bank statement that has not come may indicate that someone has changed your billing address to hide their activities. So, it is vital that you recognize when bills have not arrived and not just react to them when they do.

Of course, it is far better to avoid becoming a victim. The California Department of Justice website shows these “Top 10 Tips for Identity Theft Protection”.

1. Protect your Social Security number.
2. Fight "phishing" - don't take the bait.
3. Polish your password practices.
4. Be mysterious on social networks.
5. Shield your computer and smartphone.
6. Click with caution.
7. Check your statements.
8. Stop pre-approved credit offers.
9. Check your credit reports – for free.
10. Ask questions.

Select <https://oag.ca.gov/idtheft/facts/top-ten> to read more about each of these tips. Additionally, <https://oag.ca.gov/idtheft/information-sheets> provides a number of useful reference sheets about avoiding, recognizing and responding to identity theft.

This is the forty second 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.

Genealogy Odds and Ends

Recent natural disasters occurring globally should have every genealogist wondering how to best protect their family history documents. For tips and a podcast with suggestions, click here: <https://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/protecting-your-genealogy-from-disaster/>

The publisher of *FamilyTree Magazine* has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. They cited their failed attempt to build a successful e-commerce business as a major cause. If a buyer cannot be found, they plan to liquidate all assets. It is unknown if there will be any compensation for remaining subscriptions. *FamilyTree Magazine* has already laid off 40 percent of employees. **Note:** do not confuse the FamilyTree name with FamilyTree DNA- they are not affiliated and are not part of F&W Media.



According to Laurie Bradshaw's FamilySearch Blog, FamilySearch added more than 13 million new indexed records from the US (CA, GA, HI, IL, IA, MN, NH, NY, OK, OR, PA and TX) and 10 other countries (Argentina, Australia, Colombia, England, France, Italy, Mexico, Russia, Spain, Switzerland). Go here to start:

<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/familysearch-records-february-2019/>

In March see what they added at:

<https://media.familysearch.org/new-free-historical-records-on-familysearch-week-of-march-11-2019/>

<https://media.familysearch.org/new-free-historical-records-familysearch-march-18-2019/>

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research hosts 40-50 public programs each year many of which are recorded and available on their YouTube Channel. The recordings vary from music, Yiddish stage, history, lecture series, folklore, European Jewish experience and more. See: <https://www.youtube.com/user/yivoinstitute> for a list of all the videos. They are free to play.

Do you have a Family Group Sheet? Do you know what a Family Group Sheet is? *Family History Daily* has an excellent description with details of how and why one is helpful AND provides free templates to download. You can fill in the details by hand or use what's in your family tree programs Go to:

<https://familyhistorydaily.com/genealogy-help-and-how-to/family-group-sheet/>

Family History Daily



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

MONDAY, APRIL 8TH 7:00-9:00 PM *Branching Out from Sephardic-Solving a Converso Mystery with Sarina Roffe, founder of the Sephardic Heritage Project*

SUNDAY	MAY 5, 2019	1:30-3:30 PM	Annual Yom Hashoah Program - Program, Documentary, "The Forgotten Ones: The Story of Yugoslav Jewry"	(Yom Hashoah actual date: May 2)
SUNDAY	JUNE 2, 2019	1:30-3:30 PM	"MyHeritage New Features and New Records"	Speaker, Daniel Horowitz, Genealogy Expert, MyHeritage
SUNDAY	JULY 14, 2019	1:30-3:30 PM	Genealogy In The Round	Members and Friends share successes, brickwalls and artifacts

2019 IAJGS CONFERENCE JULY 28-AUGUST 2 CLEVELAND, OH (See story below)

Check www.jgscv.org for meeting updates

2019 IAJGS CONFERENCE CLEVELAND, OH



Registration: Registration for the Conference is now open. See the various pages under the REGISTRATION tab at <https://www.iajgs2019.org> and read the Overview page for all the registration details, including fees. Note in particular the new Mandatory Meal Voucher which is new this year.

New Pages: Several new web pages have been added to the site. Under the FAQ/INFO tab there is an extensive FAQ page with many Frequently Asked Questions and their answers. There are also two pages with tourist information and a page about Religious Services.



2019 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 2019

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 _____

Home telephone _____ Mobile telephone _____

E-mail address _____

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

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS (Cont'd on next page)



WEBSITE REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

No Need To Reregister for 2018-2019 If Already Registered

Note: Ralphs Changed our NPO Number Please use the one listed below when searching for JGSCV: RG981

Help support JGSCV by enrolling in **Ralphs Community Contribution Program!** This year only! Those registered do not have to reregister as Ralphs rolled everyone over. They are updating their system and felt it easier for this year not to require. For those who have not yet enrolled in the Ralphs Community Contribution Program please follow these directions:

Join Ralphs' Club and they will contribute a percentage of what you purchase to JGSCV! Registration is easy and helps your local Jewish genealogy society! Having a Ralphs card also helps you with discounts on purchases and their website **saves you money** too by downloading coupons. See the step-by-step directions below.

Remember: You can renew or register for the first time at the JGSCV's meetings—but you must first have a Ralph's Card. You can easily obtain a card by going to a Ralphs near you at their customer service desk. For information contact Karen Lewy at Karen@jgscv.org.

IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED YOUR REWARDS CARD ONLINE

(This means that you have already entered your email address and assigned yourself a password)

1. Log in to www.ralphs.com
2. Click Sign In
3. Enter your email address and password that you registered with.
4. Click on person icon (in top right hand corner)
5. Click on My Account
6. View all your information and edit as necessary
7. Link your card to JGSCV by clicking on:
 - a. Community Rewards – Re-Enroll
 - b. **Type JGSCV's NPO number: RG981 or Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley &" OR: Type in the first words of our organization i.e. "Jewish Gen" (if you only type in "Jewish" a number of organizations appear including ours, so by typing in the first few letters of our second name only we appear) and click on "search" and our name will pop up:**

Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley &" **Make certain it's our Society as there are other Jewish Genealogy Societies registered!**

c. Remember to click on the circle/bubble to the left of JGSCV's name

d. Click in save changes

Our name Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley &..) will appear on the right side of this page

e. Click on Enroll to finish your enrollment process

Remember even if you are only an occasional Ralphs shopper, your purchases help JGSCV!

How to Find Some of the More Obscure Collections of Genealogy Records

Reprinted from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter, March 22, 2019

<https://blog.eogn.com/2019/03/22/how-to-find-some-of-the-more-obscure-collections-of-genealogy-records/>

By Dick Eastman

Google, DuckDuckGo, Bing, and other search engines are great for finding online databases that are useful to genealogists. However, smaller collections and even obscure ones are not prominently listed in the big search engines. Yet there are a few online listings that can point the way to finding what you seek.

The **Genealogy Roots Blog** at <https://genrootsblog.blogspot.com> contains pointers to many online genealogy databases, records and resources. The focus is on vital records (birth, marriage and death records), obituaries, census records, naturalization records, military records and ship passenger lists. Although the blog is based in the USA, online European, Canadian, and other records sources are sometimes included. You may also occasionally see a fun post or genealogy news. Joe Beine does a great job of adding more and more links as time goes by.

Another huge resource is **Cyndi's List**, available at:

<https://www.cyndislist.com>. The site contains roughly 336,000 links to genealogy-related web pages in more than 200 categories. The various categories include many sources online records as well as pointers to newsletters, religious groups, historical information, geography, and much, much more.

