

VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

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



JGSCV

January 2020

Volume 15 Issue 4

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Our annual meeting was superb! We were privileged to have David E. Rencher, Director, Family History Library and Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch talk on *FamilySearch Historical Collections Tips and Tricks* and our annual Chanukah/Membership prizes for those who joined and renewed by or at the meeting. See page 7 for the highlights of David's presentation and page 12 for which members received which presents. Thank you to our gift sponsors: Ancestry, Fold 3, Newspapers.com, Findmypast, MacKiev FamilyTree Maker, Family Tree DNA, My Heritage, Legacy webinars, Legacy Family Tree, Roots Magic and Susan Gordon for contributing her book *Because of Eva*. There was a total of 14 presents.

Thank you to Hal Bookbinder for conducting the Ask the Expert session preceding the meeting. Once a quarter The Schmoozing Corner is replaced by Ask The Expert.

Marion Werle, chairperson of the 2019 Nominations Committee, conducted the election. The Nominating Committee brought to the November meeting a slate of four persons and there was one member who answered the call to run from the floor. The Nominations were then closed at the November meeting. The bios of each of the candidates were included in the December 2019 issue of *Venturing Into Our Past*. For continuity, we elect half the board every other year with board members serving terms of two years.



David Rencher,
Chief
Researcher at
FamilySearch.
JGSCV's
December
speaker

NEXT MEETING

Sunday January 5th 1:30-3:30 PM

The American Shtetl: Recreating Jewish Communities of the West



Andrea Massion, JGSCV Board member and Page 3 curator, a descendent of Jewish farmers in Wyoming and Blacksmiths in Ukraine, will explain how to envision the life of an entire community by piecing together online and archival resources.

WWW.JGSCV.ORG

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2019 JGSCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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.

The newly elected board members are Warren Blatt, Allan Linderman, Andrea Massion, Israel "Issie" Perel, Ph.D., and Tammy Williams- Anderson. The new board begins in January.

As I mentioned at the last meeting, I would be going in for a total knee replacement which I had on December 10. I am home since the 11th, with lots of pain meds, physical therapy and an ice machine running around my knee to keep the swelling down. I am doing fine, but it does take a while to get back to "normal". I guess I am the bionic woman now, but not Lindsey Wagner!

As I write this, we are at 187 members for 2019—an all-time high and so far for 2020, we have 105 members. If you have not yet renewed or joined for 2020, remember our dues increase by \$5.00 on January 1 to \$30 for a single and \$35 for a family of two, so it behooves you to renew/join before the end of the year! A membership form is available on page 15 and on our website at: <https://www.jgscv.org/membership.html>. Per the bylaws, the board decides the role each board member assumes. Those decisions will be made at the January 5 board meeting and reported in the February issue of *Venturing Into our Past*.

While the elections are over, the bylaws permit up to 12 board members and we currently have 9. In addition, the president, with the consent of the board may appoint up to 2 board members. Therefore, if someone is interested in serving, there is still an opportunity to serve. Of course, we have committees and other activities and are always looking for volunteers. These are not board positions, but very essential to making JGSCV operate effectively. If anyone would like to become more involved in **your** society, please contact me.

Judy Karta decided to retire from the board due to work conflicts. We will miss her guidance and smiling face. She remains a JGSCV member.

Hal Bookbinder's next installment of "Practicing Safe Computing" is: "USB cord and Bluetooth Risks" starts on page 11.

The IAIGS Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be held on August 9-14 in San Diego, CA at Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina. See: <https://s4.goeshow.com/iajgs/annual/2020/index.cfm> for information. Hotel reservations are not yet being taken. Watch this page for information about when reservations at the discounted IAIGS rate will be available: https://s4.goeshow.com/iajgs/annual/2020/hotel_reserve.cfm. As I am on the conference committee and will be coordinating and obtaining the databases for the resource room, you will hear more from me about the conference throughout the year!

Our January 5 program will be JGSCV's own Andrea Massion presenting *American Shtetl: Recreating Jewish Communities of the West*.

Have a very Happy and safe New Year.

Looking forward to seeing you on January 5th!

Jan Meisels Allen



Check-List in a Changing Field

The hobby of genealogy is fluid and changeable due to the advent of the Digital Age. There is always something more to learn and to research and one finds new sources and records just by checking in online where databases, free or for pay, are updated and added to *daily*. Even using Google Earth allows one to get the “lay of the land” on distant homelands. So, it makes sense that there is always something to do with one’s genealogical research. Here are just a few:

- Digitalize your work either online or on your chosen genealogy app.
- Catch inconsistencies, correct problems and expand on details. Confirm or correct through-lines and duplicates.
- Create and organize a digital filing system for recent finds: vital records, screenshots, pdfs and misc. photos until you have time to...
- Make sure every name, date and location are backed by a source document or reasonable alternative first.
- Include in estate planning some form of instructions concerning your genealogy research. Talk with the person to whom you might pass along your research to ensure its future.

WWII Refugees in the Indian Ocean

The Mauritian Shekel: The Story of Jewish Detainees in Mauritius, 1940-1945 by Genevieve Pitot was published in 2000. This is another World War II story of Jews who could not enter Palestine due to the British blockade. Eighteen-hundred refugees were eventually relocated to a detainment camp in Beau-Bassin, Mauritius, an Indian Ocean island nation known for its beaches, lagoons and reefs. At the time, it was a British colony. Donations and goods were sent by the South African Jewish Community and other agencies. Five years later, most of these refugees from Danzig and Poland chose to live in Israel.

Jewishgen.org has some of the records online for this camp. Find them at https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/holocaust/0155_Danzig_Polish_nationals.html#P2

The Feast of Lights by Emma Lazarus: the stanza where Ms. Lazarus names the sons of Mattathias

Hear the entire poem at <https://youtu.be/XZJObfZXq6E>

*With crowns and silken spoils, and at the shrine
stood, midst their conqueror-tribe,
Five chieftains sprung from one heroic stock,
one seed divine.
Five branches grown from Mattathias' stem:
The Blessed John, the Keen-Eyed Jonathan,*

*Simon the fair, the Burst-of Spring, the Gem,
Eleazar, Help of-God; o'er all his clan
Judas the Lion-Prince, the Avenging Rod,
Towered in warrior-beauty, uncrowned king,
Armed with the breastplate and the sword of God,
Whose praise is: "He received the perishing."*

Page Three is curated by 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 meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim on Sunday, January 5, 2020 1:30-3:30 p.m. at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 91362



The Program - American Shtetl: Recreating Jewish Communities of the West

Cluster studies bring together multiple threads of a community or neighborhood by using all available resources online, in archives, and on site. Massion will outline this process, and elaborate on how to coax out and reimagine the life of any American Jewish community by piecing together found information. She will also share research results from her cluster study of a Jewish farming community in Wyoming at the turn of the 20th century.



Speaker: Andrea Massion, a native of Los Angeles, is a descendent of Jewish farmers in Wyoming and blacksmiths in Ukraine and has been engaged in Genealogy for over 20 years. Massion is retired from Jewish Arts Education and from LAUSD school libraries. She serves on the board of JGS Conejo Valley & Ventura County. Visit her Ananiev Kehilalinks webpage:

https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/ananyiv/Ananiev/Ananiev_Introduction.html

There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV. Annual dues are \$30 for an individual and \$35 for a family. The meeting is open to the public.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County is dedicated to sharing genealogical information, techniques and research tools with anyone interested in Jewish genealogy and family history.

JGSCV Updates

Jan Meisels Allen, JGSCV's first and only president underwent knee replacement surgery on December 10th. Jan's been home since the 11th working her way through physical therapy and hoping to lead the meeting on Jan. 5th. Get well cards and chocolate are welcome.

JGSCV's SCHMOOZING CORNER will be open again in January. Please bring your genealogical questions to Marion Werle who will be facilitating at next month's meeting.

See page 12 for JGSCV's Chanukah Party winners! A total of 14 JGSCV members received special presents including a worldwide subscription to Ancestry.com as well as subscriptions to newspaper.com, MyHeritage, FindMyPast and more. To be eligible, members must be dues paid and present. Fun!

If you are last minute shopping at Amazon.com remember to start by clicking on our website www.jgscv.org. There is an Amazon link at the bottom of each JGSCV web page (see below). It is a simple first step that costs you nothing.



Away to support JGSCV is to shop at Ralphs and list JGSCV as your charity of choice. If you are already registered and have selected JGSCV as your charity of choice you have nothing to do. If you have not registered with Ralphs or selected us as your charity of choice, go to our website www.jgscv.org under "Noteworthy".

Our meeting co-host, Temple Adat Elohim has instituted new security measures. When driving onto the Temple's property you will encounter a security guard. Be sure to tell the guard you will be attending the JGSCV meeting whereupon the gate will be opened and you will be admitted and directed to the appropriate parking area.

JGSCV Welcomes New Members
MARSHA and MAYER WIEDDER-ALSON
CAROL HANSON

NEW JGSCV BOARD ELECTED

Below are the bios of the JGSCV Board Members elected at the December 8th meeting.

Warren Blatt, a founding member of JGSCV has served on the JGSCV Board for the past 14 years. Warren is the JewishGen Senior Genealogist as well as author of many JewishGen databases. Warren has been involved in genealogy research for over thirty-five years. He is a winner of the IAJGS' Lifetime Achievement award. He is a presenter at many JGSCV meetings, and an annual presenter at the IAJGS conferences. He is the author of two books and numerous journal articles.

Allan Linderman is a member of JGSCV since 2008 and became JGSCV's newsletter editor in the Spring of 2009. He has been engaged in genealogy for nine years. Allan is an advertising and media consultant and is president of The Linderman Media group and brings to his role his writing and editing skills.

Andrea Massion has been researching family history for over 20 years. A native of Los Angeles, Andrea is retired after over 30 years as a Jewish music educator, family program specialist, and from school library management for LAUSD. She writes for JGSCV newsletter's page 3. Andrea is a living resource for the Jewish Farming Community of Iowa Center, outside Chugwater, Wyoming where her family homesteaded for 20 years. Visit her shtetl page at [https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/ananyiv/Ananiev/Ananiev Introduction.html](https://kehilalinks.jewishgen.org/ananyiv/Ananiev/Ananiev%20Introduction.html)

Israel "Issie" Perel, Ph.D. is on the JGSCV board as well as JGSCV librarian. Issie has been involved in family genealogy research for eight years. He visited France where he met with cousins discovered through his genealogy research. Issie received his B.Sc. degree from McGill University in Montreal, Canada and his PhD degree in Psychology from University of California, Santa Barbara. He is on the board of the Ray Hosford Foundation at UCSB. He is a member of the California Health and Human Services Agency Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects.

Tammy Williams-Anderson has been a member of JGSCV since 2008—eleven years! She served for one year in the role of Librarian in 2012. She has been doing genealogical research on her family tree for twenty years, primarily North American research on her paternal family pre-Civil War and early Colonial time periods, and on her maternal side two Jewish lines going back to Austria-Hungary and Poland-Russia.

She is a recent career transitioner, having interrupted academic goals until 2011 until graduating from Cal State Northridge with a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies and Planning. Tammy is currently seeking her next opportunity in public service. She is accustomed to modern technology and computerized methods of storing, researching, retrieving, and organizing data. She is well-versed in reading and interpreting handwriting, and is geographically literate, and good with identifying time periods of clothing in old photos.

Tammy is a cooperative individual who enjoys hearing about other people's family histories and would love to participate further in this genealogical group, to further its endeavors.

Highlights from:

FamilySearch Historical Collections: Tips and Tricks



By Jan Meisels Allen



JGSCV was privileged to have as its speaker for our annual meeting, David E. Rencher, Director, Family History Library and Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch. A handout not provided at the meeting is available on our website at: <https://www.igscv.org/meetings-prior.html> under the December 8 meeting date.

FamilySearch is one of the premiere genealogical research sites. This session shared tips and tricks to searching record collections in FamilySearch and learning new techniques for searching the collections, compiled genealogies, and the Library Catalog. FamilySearch is a nonprofit organization and website offering genealogical records, education, and software. It is operated by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

FamilySearch is the largest genealogy organization in the world. Since 1894, FamilySearch has worked with archives, libraries, and churches in over 100 countries to facilitate economical access to records that help people find their ancestors. The Genealogical Society of Utah was established in 1894, and today is known as FamilySearch. Every month, over three million people use records, resources, and services to learn more about their family history. FamilySearch adds 400 million new historic records every year, and these records and services are available online at [FamilySearch.org](https://www.familysearch.org), or through over 4,600 <https://www.familysearch.org/help/fhcenters/locations/> in more than 130 countries, including the renowned Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah. To learn

more about the flagship Family History Library located in Salt Lake City (built in 1985) see: <https://www.familysearch.org/help/fhcenters/locations/saltlakecity-library>.

FamilySearch started microfilming records in 1938, with 12 rolls of film. By the 1960s they had so many microfilm rolls they had to find a storage place for its 2.4 million rolls. Today, they have 300 cameras worldwide copying/digitizing archival records. Before the Berlin wall came down, they had put the cameras to work in the United Kingdom. Once the Berlin wall was lifted, they shifted the cameras from the British Isles to Eastern Europe. Today, the cameras are in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Czech Republic and Serbia.

Where they plan to focus in 2020: Belarus, Slovakia, Ukraine, Romania and Moldova.

Ukraine:

There is a new archivist in the Ukraine, Anatoly Khromov, who is genealogically-friendly.

Czech Republic:

In 2020 FamilySearch will focus on the records in 50 regional archives and the national Archive in Bratislava (Czech Republic).

Hungary:

They have had neither a new agreement in Hungary nor new camera captures since 2012. They have 1895-1980 birth, marriage and death records (90 years/60 years and 30 years embargo periods). They have 26 million **indexed** records online. A ruling by Hungary in 2015 prohibits digital images from being released outside the country which prevents those of us outside of Hungary from viewing the records.

Latvia:

They are in negotiations to acquire birth, marriage, death, passport and household records. This is about 3 million records, primarily from the interwar period.

Belarus:

Negotiations continue and the project is expected in 2020.

Moldova:

FamilySearch is currently in a second round of acquisitions. It is slow now as they are waiting for a new minister to come on board.

Romania:

FamilySearch is continuing to negotiate with the Romanian archives, but as of now do not have a signed contract.

Some of the contracts with archives range from 1895-1980 which was pre-digitization. As a result some countries are requiring FamilySearch to sign new contracts with stronger and more limitations. For example, a country may now restrict access to a FamilySearch center or the central Library or only to a member of their Church. Because interest in family history is not limited by culture, ethnicity, or religious faith, FamilySearch's resources are available to

England 7 %

Sweden 4 %

Mexico 3 %

Norway 3%

Poland 3 %

Other countries 10 %

84% of interactions take less than 60 minutes.

FamilySearch suspended the microfilm distribution service as of September 1, 2017. They also required most microfilms to be returned to Salt Lake City by the branches in anticipation of digitizing all microfilms when permitted.

Today, in addition to archival/historical documents they have compiled genealogies. FamilySearch provides access and availability, staff and volunteer training, and collections including periodicals, books, microfilm and digital images. Rencher announced that starting in June 2019, the Salt Lake City based Family History Library will be open Sunday afternoons while extending their Monday through Saturday hours from 8:00 am to 9:00 pm. The Library is open most major holidays, except New Year's Day, Easter Sunday, July 4th, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Historical Records

There are over 2,460 collections which cover a variety of record types and geographic locations. One may search by the entire collections, specific locality or by specific record.

Search Tips

Rencher gave several search tips for searching historical records:

- Start with a narrow search and expand
 - Exact name, date and place
- Start with a broad search and refine it depending on the results
 - This casts a broad net and fills the result set with numerous possibilities
- Resist the temptation to include too much the information as it limits the results.

Functionality

- Web browsers—FamilySearch works best with Mozilla Firefox. It plays well with Bing,



everyone who wants to discover more about their family and their heritage, from church records in Europe to oral histories in Africa.

FamilySearch

FamilySearch is operated primarily by volunteers. They do have full-time accredited staff and certified genealogists, interns, local volunteers and full-time missionaries.

The top countries searched are:

United States 39 %

Germany 12 %

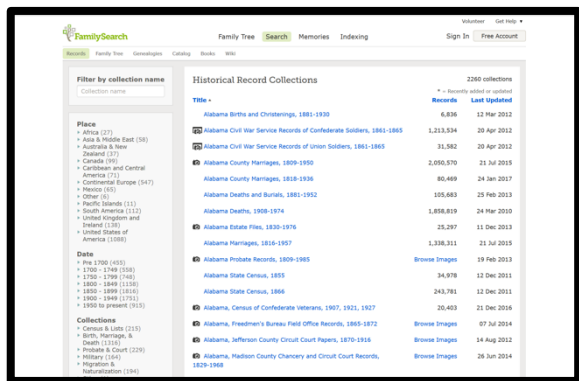
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Microsoft Edge and Google Chrome. It does not play nicely with Internet Explorer (IE) as it is outdated.

Bookmark

Bookmark the Browse Historical Collections Feature. One can search by initials, title as well and the full



name. Under historical records one can also search by parent search using both the parents' names; locality, and type of records (birth, marriage, death), date, collection (i.e. census, military, court records) and exact search. Exact search on names returns exactly what you enter, with four allowances:

- Case is ignored (upper or lower)
- Spaces are ignored (_)
- Diacritical marks are ignored (é á ü)
- Punctuation is ignored (. , -)

If a place is marked exact, it must be present in the records however dates are a different story. Family Search handles dates as exact, and the year on the record must fall within the specified range. However, the date field in the record can be blank and the record still matches.

Wild Cards (*)

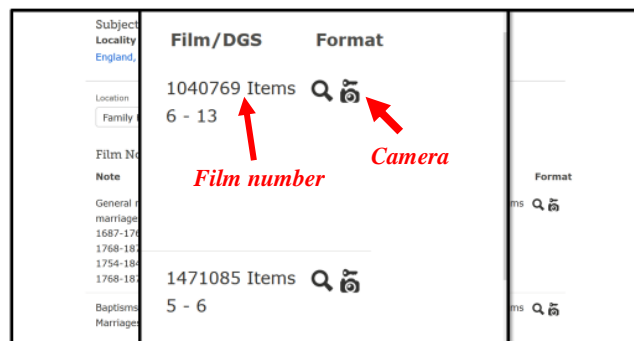
Wild cards are a way to search through multiple words with "missing" letters using an asterisk or wild card marker (*) in place of the missing letters. For example, RE*cher returns Rencher and Reucher. Da* returns David and Daniel.

FamilySearch does not have a place for immigration but does have birth, marriage and death. A hint given

was if you are trying to find someone who was in the passenger lists, use "restrict by" "emigration" and the year range for emigration. All ports will be searched. You can also search by film number in historical records. You can search by batch number, film and location.

If your search results give you an index entry without an image, check the film number in the catalog to see if the images that are not in the historical record may

Historical Records – "No Image"



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be up. A camera icon may appear which has a page reference

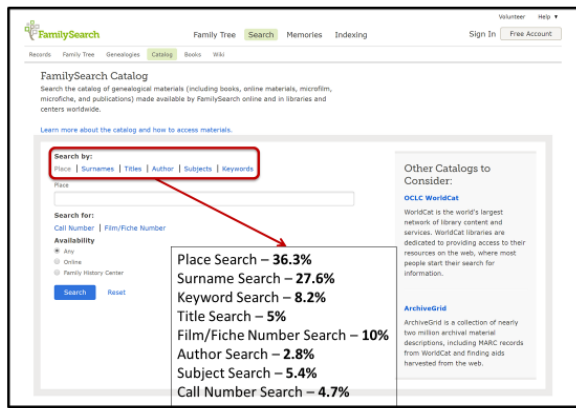
FamilySearch also uses the International Genealogical Index (IGI), a computer file created by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The IGI was first published in 1973 and continued to grow through December 2008. It contains several hundred million entries, each recording one event, such as a birth, baptism (christening), marriage, or death.

Family History Library Catalog

A few suggestions:

- Search on multiple factors: surnames, title, authors, subjects and keywords
- In the box type "online" then only the results will be the microfilms and books that are online.
- You can also search by family history centers.

If one is not near Salt Lake City, FamilySearch has more than 850 affiliate libraries. Affiliate libraries (whether public, special, or university) have access to FamilySearch's digital genealogical collections that are otherwise accessible only through a FamilySearch family history center. To learn more about affiliate libraries see: <https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/familysearch-affiliate-libraries/> FamilySearch also has a collection by "noted genealogists" found by state, country and name.

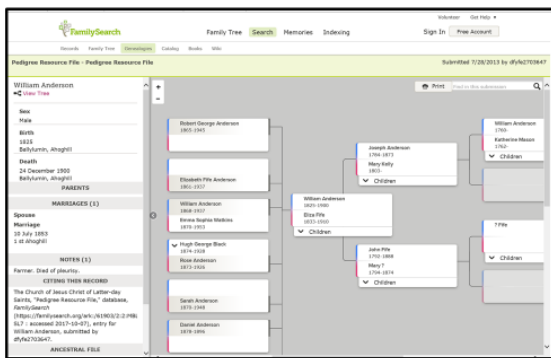


FamilySearch

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Another source are compiled genealogies. These may be found by the guild of one-name studies; community trees, oral genealogies, partner trees,

Compiled Genealogies



FamilySearch

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pedigree resource file, ancestral file and the IGI from Community Contributions.

You can find the card index for the repository you are searching, including which films are located where. Other items you may be able to research include **scanned books**. Family Search has over 375,000 books both copyright and non-copyright available online. There are major genealogical centers and all Brigham Young University education facilities. Hint is to use Firefox as the browser as it is easy then to search within the pdf. To perform an exact search, use quotations around the term searching, i.e. "David Rencher" versus David Rencher. The first returns are 137 matches ("David Rencher" while the later match is 559 hits as it returns every book that has a David **and** a Rencher.

Another hint if you plan to search the family name or person again, change the sort to date-newest, so you only search through the list once and then you can quickly see what is every few months.

Rencher concluded with the following advice:

- Learn all of the "collections" in the FamilySearch website
- More will be digitized, indexed and posted online
- Search Historical Records and sort by the most recent date to see the new collections
- Compare the search results in FamilySearch with other major websites to see the differences in the search engines and their results

David E. Rencher, AG®, CG®, FUGA, FIGRS, is employed as the Director, Family History Library and Chief Genealogical Officer for FamilySearch. A professional genealogist since 1977, he is one of the rare few who is credentialed as both Accredited Genealogist® with ICAPGen in Ireland research and Certified Genealogist® with the Board for Certification of Genealogists. He is a past-president of the Federation of Genealogical Societies.



Practicing Safe Computing #50: Discovering If You Have Been *pwned*

By Hal Bookbinder (50th in an ongoing series)

In one of the most massive recent data breaches, 267 million Facebook users had their IDs, phone numbers and real names exposed. This was confirmed on December 19, 2019.

'--have i been pwned?

Do you wonder if your email or password might have been part of a data breach? <https://haveibeenpwned.com/> may let you know.

If you enter your email address you will either see

Good news — no pwnage found!

or

Oh no — pwned!

Along with the number of breached sites and pastes in which your email was found. A “paste” is any of a number of sites in which compromised emails have been published. Each of the breaches and pastes are then described including when the breach occurred and the data fields that were exposed.

Many of these are marketing or sales lead sites. Discovering that your email has been scooped up on one or more of these may be annoying but is probably not a serious issue. However, if you see a site that you log into or one where the breach exposed IDs and passwords, pay attention. Immediately change your password on any such site AND on any other sites where you use the same password. Once they have your password, they will try it on other sites knowing that we often reuse passwords.

Select the “Passwords” tab at haveibeenpwned.com to see if a password you use has been seen in a data breach. If something common, like “mary123” it has likely come up many times, and not only when used by you (this one popped up 14,157 times). Of course, you should never use easy-to-guess passwords. If a more complex password you use shows up as having been pwned, change it immediately, wherever you use it.

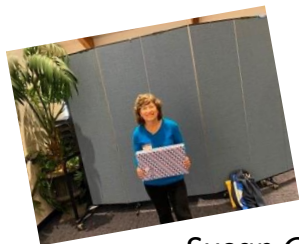
Different, strong, complicated, impossible to remember passwords are best, like “R2&t&pPPTx2o”. I just used my Password manager, LastPass, to generate it. I do not need to remember it as the password manager will do so. When I set up (or change) passwords on a site, I bring up LastPass and select, “Generate Secure Password”. I had set it to generate 12-character passwords containing uppercase, lowercase, numbers and symbols. I then paste the generated password into the password field on the form (as well as the “confirm password” field). LastPass recognizes that I have done this and offers to save it along with the other information for that website so that it can log me on in the future.

You can further protect yourself from being compromised by setting up two-factor authentication at the site. Many now offer this, in which they will send a text or voice message to your smart phone which you must then enter to complete your login. This ensures that someone (or some tool) that has gotten hold of your ID and Password cannot log in as you without also having your smart phone to complete the two-factor authentication. Yes, it is annoying. But, weigh this against someone hacking you.

The haveibeenpwned.com website recommends the password manager, “1Password”. It is one of the 10 best as assessed by [PC Magazine](#), as is LastPass, the one I use. All are likely good choices. Read the comparisons and try them yourself to decide which works best for you.

This is the fiftieth in a series of articles by JGSCV founding member Hal Bookbinder. Hal is also a Past President of JGSLA and IAIGS. He is the 2010 recipient of the IAIGS 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.

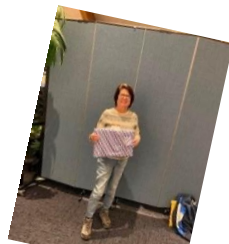
JGSCV 2019 Chanukah/Membership Gift Winners



Susan Gordon—Marsha Wieder



*Ancestry DNA Kit---
Carol Hansen*



Because of Eva- by

Findmypast Subscription—Judy Wolkovitch

*MacKiev's FamilyTree
Maker 2019—Pat Fuller*

*My Heritage Subscription
Sharlene Pass*



*Ancestry
DNA - Carol*



Flesher



*Fold3.com subscription - Sara
Applebaum*

Newspapers.com Subscription - Suzanne Scarberry

Ancestry Worldwide Subscription - David Oseas



*Legacy FamilyTree Software -
Michael Pershing*

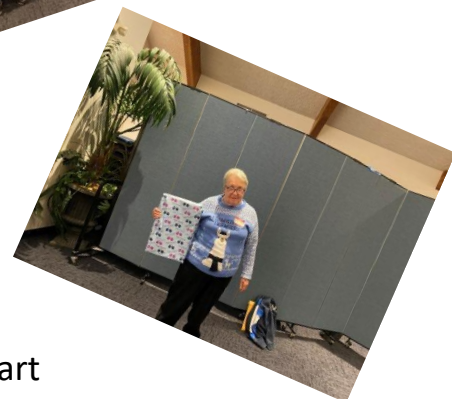


Massion

Ancestry DNA Kit - Steve Feldman

FamilyTree DNA - Judy Karta

Legacy Family Tree Webinars - Andrea



Roots Magic Software - Debbie Wenkart



Genealogy Odds and Ends

Per Jan Meisels Allen, JewishGen has changed the designation of SIGS (Special Interest Groups to JewishGen (Name of Area) Research Division. For example, if you subscribe to the Ukraine digest it is now called the JewishGen.org Ukraine Research Division digest. Belarus is now JewishGen Belarus Research Division.

Christian Hermann, author of the Vanished World blog has made available for free download, his 2020 calendar which includes 2019 photos from his travels to Kyiv, Cologne, Ukraine and Belarus. Visit <https://vanishedworld.blog/2019/12/07/vanished-world-2020-calendar-for-free-download/> to download. Be sure scroll down to read and follow the 'Creative Commons License' information.

Recent JGSCV speaker Daniel Horowitz, Genealogy Expert at MyHeritage shared some of that site's available educational webinars:

- **I Received DNA Matches. Now What?** <https://education.myheritage.com/webinar/i-received-dna-matches-now->
- **Genealogy for Beginners: Start Your Online Family Tree** <https://education.myheritage.com/webinar/genealogy-for-beginners-start-your-online-family->
- **How DNA Testing Can Reveal Your Ethnic Roots** https://education.myheritage.com/webinar/how-dna-testing-can-reveal-your-ethnic-roots/?utm_campaign=Education&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=80127339&hsenc=p2ANqtz-
- **Find Your Immigrant Ancestors AND Their Relatives in the New York Passenger Arrival Records** https://education.myheritage.com/webinar/find-your-immigrant-ancestors-and-their-relatives-in-the-new-york-passenger-arrival-records/?utm_campaign=Education&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=80127339&hsenc=p2ANqtz-
- **Discover Your Family in School Yearbooks** https://education.myheritage.com/webinar/discover-your-family-in-school-yearbooks/?utm_campaign=Education&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=80127339&hsenc=p2ANqtz-

Members: Do you have a World War II story to share? Please contact newsletter editor, Allan Linderman- newslettereditor@jgscv.org

Pledge for Holocaust Survivors

As reported by Jan Meisels Allen in her role as Chairperson, IAIGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee, the German family behind Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Panera Bread, Pret A Manger and more pledged 5 million Euros (\$5.5 million USD) to Holocaust survivors and another 5 million Euros to an assistance fund for Holocaust survivors after learning that the family business once used forced labor and supported the Nazi regime. The Reimann family pledged the funds through its foundation the Alfred Landecker Foundation. The Reimann family controls the JAB Holding Company, valued at more than \$20 billion and also owns or has controlling stakes in Peet's Coffee, Einstein Bros. Bagels, Stumptown Coffee Roasters, Keurig and other breakfast brands in addition to those mentioned above. The Claims Conference will absorb 100 percent of the administrative costs associated with management and distribution of the five million euros to ensure that the full amount of funding goes to Holocaust survivors. Funds will be disseminated to the Claims Conference over three years, starting in 2020 with \$2.2 million (€2m), another \$2.2 million in 2021, and the final installment of \$1.1 million (€1m) in 2022.



To read more see: <http://www.claimscon.org/2019/12/landecker/> and <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/12/world/europe/reimann-family-holocaust.html>

Jan has no additional information above so please do not reach out with questions.

Top Online Tools for Genealogists

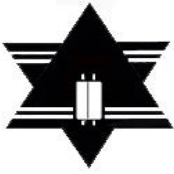
As each year comes to an end one can find a list for the 'best of' almost anything – including genealogy tools. Here are 2 best of lists: “Best Genealogy Search of 2019” from *Top Ten Reviews* and “Best Genealogy Websites for Beginners” from *FamilyTree Magazine*.

Top Ten Reviews

- 1 Ancestry.com
- 2 FamilySearch
- 3 FamilyHeritage
- 4 FindMyPast
- 5 Archives
- 6 OneGreatFamily
- 7 GenealogyBank
- 8 MyTrees

Best Genealogy Websites for Beginners

- ThoughtCo.com
- Ancestry.com
- AfriGeneas
- Archives.com
- Atlas of Historical County Boundaries
- BillionGraves.com
- Chronicling America
- Cyndi's List



2020 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

Join/Renew Now! Dues Will Increase Effective January 1, 2020 by \$5.00.

2020 Dues received before then remain at current rate!

Dues paid now are good through December 2020

Date _____

Check one: New Membership _____ Renewal _____

Single \$ 25.00/\$30.00 _____ + \$1.00** Family* \$30.00/\$35.00 _____ + \$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 \$ _____

Security Fee Fund \$ _____

(suggested minimum voluntary contribution for any 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 _____

Your talents to share (i.e. accounting skills, language skills, computer skills, etc.)

Future JGSCV Meeting Dates through August 2020



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

Sunday January 5th, 1:30-3:30 PM American Shtetl:
 Recreating a Jewish Community in the West with Andrea
 Massion, JGSCV Board Member

Sunday	FEBRUARY 9	1:00-5:00 PM	Annual Assisted Research Afternoon LA Family History Library	
Sunday	MARCH 1	1:30-3:30PM	Comparing Jewish Resources on Ancestry, FamilySearch, Findmypast, JewishGen	Ellen Kowitt, professional genealogist
MONDAY	APRIL 6	7:00-9:00 PM	Annual Sephardic Program: Movie "Sefarad"	This is known as the Portuguese Dreyfus Affair. Sefarad tells the sweeping story of Jews in Portugal across 500 years
Sunday	MAY 3	1:30-3:30 PM	Annual Yom Hashoah Program	
Sunday	JUNE 7	1:30-3:30 PM	TBA	
	JULY			
AUGUST NO JGSCV MEETING IAJGS CONFERENCE AUGUST 9-14, 2020 SAN DIEGO, CA				



**Enjoy the Holidays AND
 Be Safe!**

