

# VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

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



# JGSCV

September 2022

Volume 17 Issue 12

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

We hope this finds you well and safe.

First, a happy update from the Allen household: After 30 days in Los Robles and their Rehab Hospital, Tom is back home! I am relieved to share he is doing much better.

We did not meet in August due to the IAJGS's 42nd Annual Conference. I know some of you attended and know it was a very good conference. I wrote up highlights of the conference, not only the business meetings, but also the sessions I attended. The highlights begin on page 3.

We are six-plus months into the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine. We continue to watch the strength of the Ukrainian people and government as Russia tries to decimate its country. As the situation is fluid, we are all concerned for their well-being. In our previous issues, I have listed several organizations if you wish to donate on their behalf. Links to reputable organizations can be accessed on our website via the May 2022 issue of this newsletter: [https://jgscv.org/pdf/newsletters/Venturing\\_V17\\_N8.pdf](https://jgscv.org/pdf/newsletters/Venturing_V17_N8.pdf).

Half of the JGSCV board is up for election each year; this year it's the officers. Per our bylaws, the board decides at its January meeting who has which responsibility. Therefore, when you vote for a person on the board it is not for a specific responsibility. Helene, Debby, and I have all agreed to run again. Sadly, Karen has informed us that she does not want to remain on the board. She has been a superb treasurer and will be difficult to replace. Allan Linderman is chairing our 2022 Nominations Committee. Serving with him as the board representative is Barbara Finsten and from the general membership Judy Karta. Allan and his committee sent out letters to those members who meet the eligibility requirements to serve on the JGSCV board of directors. With Karen leaving the board at the end of the year, we will need a treasurer. If any of you meet the board requirements and also have banking or treasurer experience, please apply- we need you! Our current board is comprised of eight people and our bylaws permit no less than six and up to 12 members of the board. The person must be a member in good standing for at least one year at the time of serving. If you are interested in serving AND received the letter from Allan, please complete the form at: [https://www.jgscv.org/pdf/board\\_application\\_form.pdf](https://www.jgscv.org/pdf/board_application_form.pdf).

Hal Bookbinder continues with his interesting series on Practicing Safe Computing on page 11. This month's article is number 82! *Cyber Warfare 2022, A Midyear Update*.

(Cont'd next page)

## NEXT MEETING

**Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**1:30-3:30 PM**

*Presented by*

**TENEMENT MUSEUM**

<https://www.tenement.org/>

*"A Virtual Tour of the  
Tenement Museum:  
A Jewish Family from  
Early 1900s"*

**Members Only ZOOM**

*More info page 13*

## OCTOBER MEETING

**Speaker: Leora Raikin**

*"Lithuanian Jews:  
Migration to South Africa"*

[WWW.JGSCV.ORG](http://WWW.JGSCV.ORG)

6052 Hackers Lane  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301  
[818-889-6616](tel:818-889-6616)

## 2022 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.

We have not received any new submissions for our Family Histories column, started after Joan Adler (June 2020 speaker) suggested member stories be featured in our newsletter. We would love to include more of these personal, unique, and fascinating memories. Please send to both Diane Goldin, newsletter editor, at [newslettereditor@jgscv.org](mailto:newslettereditor@jgscv.org) and me at [president@jgscv.org](mailto:president@jgscv.org). If you need assistance, Diane is eager to help you.

See page 14 for more on our upcoming meetings. We will continue to meet by Zoom into the fall and perhaps the end of the year.

I'd like to remind you about an upcoming PBS documentary premiering September 18, 2022: ***The U.S. and the Holocaust***. This three-part, six-hour documentary is directed and produced by Ken Burns, Lynn Novick and Sarah Botstein. It explores America's response to one of the greatest humanitarian crises in history. Americans consider themselves a "nation of immigrants," but as the catastrophe of the Holocaust unfolded in Europe, the United States proved unwilling to open its doors to more than a fraction of the hundreds of thousands of desperate people seeking refuge. Through riveting firsthand testimony of witnesses and survivors, this series delves into the tragic human consequences of public indifference, bureaucratic red tape, and restrictive quota laws in America. Inspired in part by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's "Americans and the Holocaust" exhibition and supported by its historical resources, the film examines the rise of Hitler and Nazism in Germany in the context of global antisemitism and racism, the eugenics movement in the United States, and race laws in the American south. The series, written by Geoffrey Ward, sheds light on what the U.S. government and the American people knew and did as the catastrophe unfolded in Europe. The series will air September 18, 19 and 20 (check local listings. <https://www.pbs.org/kenburns/us-and-the-holocaust/>).

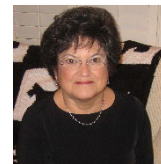
Our September 11 meeting is a virtual tour of the Tenement Museum in New York. We will be seeing an early 1900's Jewish family, the Rogarshevsky family, Jewish Americans from Lithuania who moved to the Lower East Side in New York. The parents, Fannie and Abraham, raised six children at 97 Orchard Street, balancing work, family, and their religious faith during the 1910s. This tour will consider the difficulties of factory work through the experiences of the family's teenage daughters, and learn about labor unions, working conditions, and the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory.

There will be the usual meeting information and zoom link shared with you the Friday before our Sept program, but **ONLY JGSCV members may attend**. We are paying for each attendee so no guests sitting by your side for this one. I will make brief JGSCV business comments starting at 1:20 PM. **Please be prompt**. The program will begin promptly at 1:30 PM and the Zoom is the Museum's-- JGSCV has no controls. If you come late, you may not be able to enter. The tour ends promptly at 2:30 PM and then Zoom will be turned off by the Museum staff. See page 13 for more information.

Looking forward to "seeing you" at our September 11th meeting.

A Happy New Year to all, L'shana Tova

*Jan Meisels Allen*



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# Highlights from: “The 42nd IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy”

By Jan Meisels Allen



## Conference by the numbers

As with last year, the IAJGS conference was 100% virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. There were over 800 attendees from 39 US states and 18 different countries. Fifteen percent were attending their first conference while 13% have attended more than ten. Sixty-seven percent are members of a Jewish genealogy society; 30% are Advanced Researchers; 51% are Intermediate Researchers; 11% are Beginners.

In addition, 36 translators offered services in over 15 languages, and 57 mentors were available to assist with research. All conference attendees had access to the Resource Library, as well as the Attendee Lounge and Expo Hall. Access continues for 60 days (thru October 25, 2022), allowing for downloading of handouts, viewing sessions, and contacting fellow attendees. The Expo Hall still has booth website links and documents, but there are no appointments or chats with booth staff, translators, or mentors.

To the speakers, we thank you for your participation in the IAJGS All Virtual Conference. Your efforts and sessions were key to the success of the conference. There were over 4,900 views of handouts, over 11,000 sign-ins to view the various live webinars and meetings, and over 3,300 unique views of the on-demand sessions so far.

It's not too late to take advantage of on-demand, recorded live sessions and meetings (note: not all live sessions were recorded at the speakers' request). Register at [www.iajgs2022.org](http://www.iajgs2022.org). Go to the REGISTRATION tab and sign up as a NEW REGISTRATION. This goes for SIGs and BOFs s well.

If you want to upgrade your current Registration to access additional sessions, please sign into your Attendee Service Center and "Update Your Registration & Info" and you will be automatically charged the upgrade amount. If you have any questions, contact [registration@iajgs2022.org](mailto:registration@iajgs2022.org) for detailed instructions.

Kudos go to Judi Gyory Missel who chaired the virtual conference and to Hadassah Lipsius who was the program chairperson.

## IAJGS Information

The newly elected IAJGS Board of Directors took over at the end of the conference.

### **The 2022-2023 IAJGS Board:**

Jane Rosen Berenbeim, President,

Dick Goldman, Vice President

Ron Arons, Secretary

Doug Cohen, Treasurer

Marlis Humphrey, Past President

Crista Cowan, Director

Mel Fishman, Director

Emily Garber, Director

Eli Rabinowitz, Director

Jarrett Ross, Director

Susan Weinberg, Director

Amit Moriah decided not to run for re-election.

Mel Fishman, the past president of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Toronto was elected to the board.

There are now 89-member societies, both genealogical and historical societies that comprise the IAJGS membership. While the number of societies has decreased, the overall number of members within the genealogical and historical societies has risen to over 10,000.

The 2021 virtual conference made a surplus due to the high attendance of paying registrants. As of this writing, it is not known if the 2022 conference made a surplus as well.

### **The Annual IAJGS Awards presented:**

Lifetime Achievement Award: Harry Boonin, Philadelphia

Nolan Altman Volunteer of the Year: David Rosen, Boston

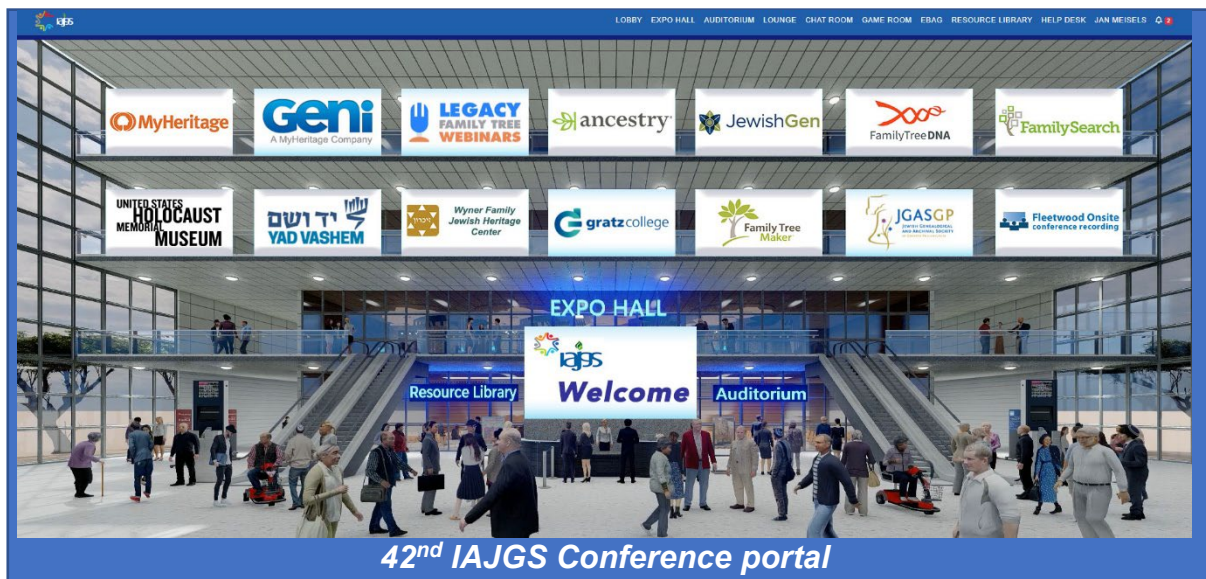
Outstanding Programming or Project that Advances the Objectives of Jewish Genealogy: Jean-Pierre Stroweis, Jerusalem

Outstanding Publication by Member Organization of IAJGS: San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois

Rabbi Malcolm Stern Grant: The Forward

John Stedman Memorial Grant: Stadtmuseum Hofgeismar, Germany – Jewish Department

### **Selected conference highlights:**



The following are highlights of the sessions I attended. I encourage you to log in (as described above) to see the huge variety of topics that are available on-demand through October 25, 2022.

**Topic: JewishGen**

Speaker: Avraham Groll gave the annual presentation for [JewishGen.org](http://JewishGen.org), He is its Executive Director.

JewishGen is an online archive with millions of records and unique search tools for locating Jewish ancestral communities. It is an educational resource for historical and geographic information. It is a networking resource, connecting thousands of people via discussion groups, social media, family finders and family trees, and other resources. It is a global network of volunteers from data acquisition to translations, transcriptions, transliterations, system reports, education and outreach, member support, and engaging with new partners.

Avraham announced the Susan King Volunteer Award to Logan Kleinwaks. They raised \$2 million in funds from 21,000 gifts.

Avraham announced two new partnerships:

- Yad Vashem Pages of Testimony are searchable on JewishGen
- My Heritage will populate search results from JewishGen records with a link back to JewishGen

Theresienstadt Survivors in Israel is a database of 160,000 records that are searchable online.

Volunteers load the information directly onto JewishGen thanks to new tools that eliminate a translation process. This is called "Project Joyce" in honor of Joyce Field who was JewishGen's longtime Vice President of Volunteers. Logan Kleinwaks developed the program. Its success was demonstrated by E. Randol Schoenberg, head of the Austria-Czech Research Division. He was given data at midnight and the next morning it was "up and working."

**Topics: What's New at Ancestry and The 1950 Census (Combined Highlights from Two Lectures)**

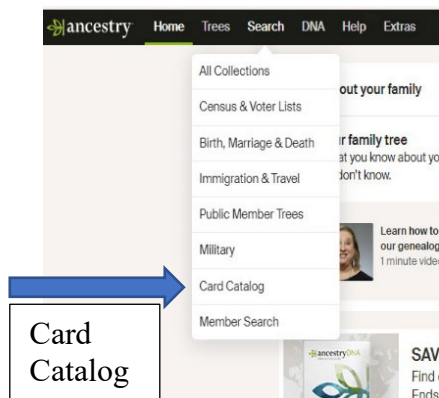
Speaker: Crista Cowan, Ancestry's Corporate Genealogist

[Ancestry.com](http://Ancestry.com) has 30 billion records from 80 countries. They add three million records per day.

Crista emphasized using the card catalog. To access the card catalog, click on search at the top of the page and then look for what is new by date added and date updated. (What is new and updated remains for 90 days.) She also suggested looking in the description of what is covered in the database. Search fields have been updated: birth, lived in, marital status, and relationship to a migrant.

One does not need a subscription to place their tree on Ancestry.

The 1950 US Census is a major feature of Ancestry. The US census has been taken every 10 years since 1792 and is private for 72 years. The 1950s census was housed in the (U.S.) National Archives until it was digitized and uploaded to the cloud and its server opened to the public at midnight on April 1, 2022. By 4:00 PM on April 2nd, Ancestry had all the images on site. The National Archives did not index the names. Ancestry created enumeration maps pre-release of the census. It took the 1940 census and ran the handwriting indices and made corrections. They also obtained copies of the original blank forms in their original large size for the 1950 census. They filled in "fake" data on the forms for training in handwriting. Ancestry also utilized a new handwriting recognition program so that they completed the index in 12 days and then sent it to FamilySearch. This covered 150 million names and Ancestry worked with FamilySearch who indexed the names and addresses. Four weeks later they published a not fully corrected index. FamilySearch continues to work on the address index.



If the family was not at home when the enumerator came to complete the census form, enumerators were required to make three visits and then ask neighbors for information. It is important to know who provided

the information as it might not have been a family member. Thus far, Ancestry has corrected 12-15 states. As names were considered the most important for their subscribers to search, names were prioritized. The 1950 census is **free access**; you do not need an Ancestry subscription to access this census. You can create a free access account and there are 1,000 free databases on Ancestry.

**Note:** JGSCV had Steve Morse talk to us about *Getting Ready for the 1950 Census* in February 2022 and his presentation is linked in the March 2022 article in *Venturing Into Our Past* at: <https://tinyurl.com/yjhmeznn>

Ancestry recently acquired Geneanet, which has family trees from France with a searchable database along with vital records. This is helpful if you are searching for European families.

They also added 813 million European Phone Book records from the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s.

Ancestry also owns Newspapers.com which has 86 million indexes. It is best used for obituaries and marriage announcements. Newspapers.com does not own the newspapers but has agreements for access on their website. Some records are "Publishers Extra" which requires a different paid subscription. Older newspapers found on microfilm are not under copyright and therefore are free on their website. One can browse on Newspapers.com with no subscription. The product covers Australia, Canada, Ireland, Panama, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Newspapers.com requires a subscription to see most collections. It is not included in Ancestry unless you have an "Ancestry All Access" subscription where Newspapers.com is included.

Ancestry also acquired 79 million wills and probates from FamilySearch, which only listed records by the name of the person whose will or probate it was. Over the past two years, Ancestry budgeted to extract all the names from documents.

Crista also discussed how to edit information that you believe is incorrect. Ancestry will not change the original information, but your correction will appear next to the published one. This way one can search both the original text and the corrected text.

Immigration records often list those traveling together and designate one person as the group's head. Ancestry added the other persons in a group, as well as the person they are coming to and the person they left behind. They indexed all names, as well as age, gender, and occupation.

There are different ways to share one's tree on Ancestry: "Editor" means anyone can modify the tree; "Guest" means permission to access the tree but not change it; "Contributor" means tree access and additions.

Twenty-two million people have tested their DNA on Ancestry. The website adds new communities every 3-4 months. Ethnicity results are an **estimate, and filters** are constantly being refined and updated. On the website, they added eight new regions.

**Note:** In *Forbes* dated August 25, 2022 – published after Crista's presentation - Ancestry announced they are selling their DNA kits in 54 new markets across five continents. Read the article at: <https://tinyurl.com/yck74dk>

The Ancestry mobile app is only on phones and tablets (not on PCs).

Contact Crista by her Facebook and Instagram accounts:

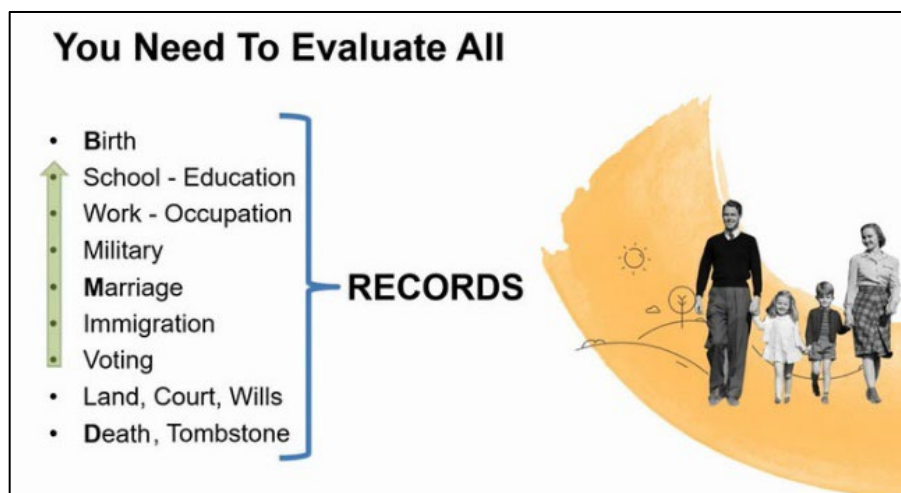
<https://www.facebook.com/TheBarefootGenealogist>

<https://www.instagram.com/cristacowan>

You must have Facebook or Instagram account to access.

**Topic:** *Did My Family Lie or Are the Records Wrong*  
**Speaker:** Daniel Horowitz of [MyHeritage](http://MyHeritage.com)

Daniel reminded us that “every action in lives leaves a trace”-birth, marriage, death, school, work, military, immigration, voting, land, court, wills, and tombstone records are such examples. Daniel suggested going backwards from death to marriage to birth. He also suggested starting from yourself and working backwards up your tree.



Daniel, who was born in Venezuela, showed registration forms from Venezuela that were different than the birth certificate. Originally, he was registered with Daniel spelled as Danniell- with two “n’s”. He tried to correct the mistake his father had made but his father’s name was also misspelled- Sydney was spelled Sydneyy with two “y’s”. Another error was spelling the name Zinger when it should have been Singer with an “S” rather than a “Z”. It was spelled phonetically. These are not major errors but enough to be a possible

problem when requesting information in order to obtain a passport or other legal document. Daniel learned this when he requested a copy of his father’s birth certificate and so that both his father’s mother’s and father’s names were misspelled. The date of birth, address and mother’s maiden name were all spelled correctly on the registration form. The occupation was verified in advertisement for H. Horowitz jeweler in NewspaperArchives.com. It was traditional to change the name -therefore the anglicization of the name prevented him from finding it in the death records. On his father’s birth certificate there was no given name, incorrect mother’s name, father’s name, birthdate, address, mother’s maiden name and father’s profession.

Daniel also showed records from the Republic of Trinidad where the grandmother’s name was spelled Griscla rather Giesla. Also, the grandfather’s name was misspelled Heroch rather than Hirsch. There was enough correct information on the form, such as address and occupation (jeweler) that he knew he had the correct family.

Surprises do occur. In searching on his father’s paperwork he found that his father’s given name was not actually Sidney but Solomon. This intrigued Daniel, and he asked his parents why the name change. Turns out the father was sick and following Jewish Ashkenazi tradition, they changed the name to “fool the Angel of death”. By changing how he spelled Sydneyy they dropped the double “y”. It is always important to ask the question, “WHY” to get family stories.

In 2021, Daniel wrote to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago asking if he could obtain a copy of his father’s birth certificate with all the changes and they sent it to him, but they could not correct the misspelling of his grandparents’ names.

Daniel then showed the *Gaceta Oficial de la Republica de Venezuela*, May 1950, for his mother’s information. But he also found from the Joint Distribution Committee a form from the refugee camp where his mother spent time. He found his mother’s name spelled differently—with a “J” rather than a “Y” for Yonel. Additionally, the date on this form was one year later than his mother being born in the refugee camp. They spelled the name Jonel with a “J” not a “Y”, but his mother was nowhere to be found. They opened the cards by families. The birthdate of his mother was verified by an actual copy of her birth



*Sydney Horowitz's birth certificate*

certificate from Rome, Italy where her name was Maria, and who she was born to. He also had a document from the Auschwitz camp where she spent time, and her name is further spelled differently—this time Sara. Further research showed she was born in 1928 and Romanian privacy law is 100 years, so there is no birth certificate from Romania that is available for Daniel. While a birth certificate may not be available, a certification is available. This caused further problems as Daniel was requesting a birth record for Chanka (Maria) born from Yocheved Eva Polak and Lazer “Ezra” Polak. The actual birth certificate says Sari not Sara according to the Auschwitz record and her mother had a different spelling of her given name—the Romanian spelling of the name not the Hebrew name of Yocheved. The records were not good for a passport! Daniel summarized the problems as follows:

- his father is not his father
- his grandparents are not his father’s parents
- his mother is not the daughter of his grandmother
- the surnames are written in varied ways

Daniel went through his family tree going back multiple generations.

In preparation for the presentation, he asked for others’ who found record mistakes in their research.

Other mistakes were witnesses listed as parents; surnames on burial records vs. the tombstone for spellings-SOSNA vs SUSNER. Daniel encouraged us to look at the original record not just the index.

Another example came from Stanley Diamond, the founder and executive director of JRI-Poland. He went to visit his grandmother’s tombstone and found that the name of her father-in-law listed rather than the deceased’s father. They corrected it on the tombstone.

In other cases, they found conflicted ages and names. An example was from the Lithuanian Revision List. Questions raised included if one of the parents was married previously and all the children listed on the Revision List were from the same or different marriages. There is also the possibility that the person lied to the census taker making herself older so that her sons would not be conscripted to the Russian Army. She not only changed her name, but also her age and more!

Daniel also shared that Dick Eastman, of the *Eastman Genealogy Newsletter*, found a record on FamilySearch for a Mary Allyn someone born in Connecticut listed in 1564. But Connecticut was not formed that early -- the first European explorer was the Dutch who explored the region in 1614 for a trading post. Hartford settled in 1636, making it impossible to have this person born in 1564. Daniel went to Wikipedia and found that Connecticut was founded in 1614.

Additional errors were discussed. All facts need to be checked. List your sources. Not all information can be corroborated. Records may contain a current name of location rather than original name. Check the documents relevant to you as soon as possible such as marriage, death and birth records as clerks make errors by spelling and placing the persons of the record as witnesses, etc. Relationships may be incorrect on the record. The problem may be how they may be presented to enumerators on a census.

Daniel also showed errors in transcription by MyHeritage. The transcriber didn’t do their due diligence resulting in incorrect spelling. MyHeritage permits comments to provide alternative spellings but does not change the original. One can search names with multiple spellings as well as determine who provided the alternative spellings.

We do not “fix” the records but remain as witnesses to history and perhaps add an explanation.

Daniel says you must see it to believe it!

**Topic:** **Records Indexing-Poland ([JRI-Poland](#))**

**Speakers:** Stanley Diamond and Robinn Magid.

Poland’s 100-year privacy law for birth records expires in 2045 – 100 years since World War II. The privacy period for death and marriage records is 80 years.

While JRI-Poland's website will always be free to access the records, JRI-Poland has started a membership fee of \$54 which will be used to support the new website and obtain more records. JRI-Poland is an independent 501-3(c) corporation which is different than JewishGen. Currently, about 90% of what is available is on the Legacy System. The beta system does not link to the Polish State Archives documents, but the legacy system does.

The original goal of JRI-Poland was the "I" in indexing. It was a tool for finding ancestors. They had birth, marriage, and death record indices along with a few census records. Today, that has changed -- for the better! They have scanned in views of documents. JRI-Poland now includes notarial, cemetery, population and census records. The website has 2.6 million images through the Polish State Archives (PSA) and their own collection of scans.

They talked about acquiring "Books of Residents" analogous to a census for finding people at a specific time and place.

The results are in their legacy website. They also have a link with results to Yad Vashem. One can search both JRI-Poland and Yad Vashem by clicking on the Yad Vashem logo on JRI-Poland's website. They are working with Yad Vashem to create an integrated view of the person and have a signed agreement with them allowing search results to be displayed such as Pages of Testimony matches to known Holocaust persons on the Yad Vashem site.

Through their integrated data utilization one can visualize a composite of the person. Where usually one only sees the spread sheet, now one sees the connection of records through Artificial Intelligence (AI) which provides more than indexing—you can understand in context of the family which is a major improvement from only one person on the record. The new file format includes grandparents, landlords, and rabbis being recorded. It reviews life events in social and historical perspective and provides background on milestones, places and more. The new website also offers the opportunity to attach photographs, articles and more.

Go to the landing page for JRI-Poland <https://jri-poland.org/> and scroll to news and insights for the latest tips and advice. Stanley recommended reading an article on their website on notarial records and their importance: <https://tinyurl.com/8cap4k6m>.

In 1997, JRI-Poland became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and a totally independent organization, although they are currently hosted by JewishGen on their website. In order to build a new website and communicate with members, they have moved to a new website which is still being finalized. This is the same as the other independent SIGs/research groups: Geshet Galicia and Litvak SIGS.

Subscribe to their newsletter; it's free and easily accessed via the sign-in on the bottom of the website. Contributory members have access to attributes on the website. However, to help them build their new website with these enhanced features, an annual donation of \$54 is suggested.

Both Stanley and Robinn spoke to JGSCV on *The Next JRI-Poland* on May 2, 2021, and the writeup on the new system is in the June 2021 *Venturing Into Our Past* at <https://tinyurl.com/429a3v95> on page 6.

**Topic: Geshet Galicia**

Speaker: Steven S. Turner, D.D.S., president of [Geshet Galicia](#). Via a taped presentation.

He thanked members who contributed to help those in the Ukraine. There are 1,500 members of Geshet Galicia and 2,000 vital records indexed just this year! They have an extensive map room on the website which includes among its map collection cadastral maps of highly detailed graphical property records – which in many cases can be used by genealogists to determine precisely where their ancestors lived in Galicia under the Austrian Empire.

Shelly Pollero gave an overview of Galicia. There are 6,000 places by community and also in the JewishGen Gazetteer, <https://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/>.

Galizianers are predominately Ashkenazi or of German origin. Ninety percent of Europe's Jews are Ashkenazi. The vital records are in Polish and German. Some used Yiddish. The intelligentsia spoke Polish. In 1857 Polish was made the language in schools. Food for Galizianers was predominately sweet while food

for Litvaks was predominately savory. Immigration in the 1880-1910s was spurred due to poor economic situations and being heavily taxed, not pogroms. Additionally, the anti-Semitic laws restricted professionals.

There were unique marriage and naming patterns for both civil and religious marriages. One was not considered legally married if they only had a religious marriage. This accounted for some children's birth records being recorded as "illegitimate". As a result, children may have taken the mother's maiden name, rather than the father's name and we were reminded to research under the mother's surname. However, in the Jewish community, they used the father's name, but it is still a problem decades after the fact when looking on a ship's manifest—remember to also look for the mother's maiden name.

### **Announcing 2023 IAJGS Conference**

The 2023 IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy is being planned for London, England, United Kingdom on July 30-August 3, 2023 at the Hotel Park Plaza Westminster. It will be an in-person conference only. No virtual option is being planned.



# Practicing Safe Computing Article #82: “Cyber warfare 2022, a midyear update”

By Hal Bookbinder



My February article, “[Cyber warfare, 2022](#)”, shared *The Jerusalem Post* prediction that, “Cyber warfare 2022 will be 2021 on steroids”. I just reviewed “[Cyber Attack Trends](#)”, a mid-year report by Check Point Research, an Israeli firm that is a major player in network security. Here are some of its highlights:

In February, just one day before Russia’s invasion of Ukraine, Russian cyberattacks were carried out against hundreds of Ukrainian government targets, financial, IT and energy institutions. These attacks were geared to not only disrupt services but to destroy underlying data and applications and so make restoration all the more difficult. Ukraine was better prepared than Russia had expected.

On March 1, Russia took down a Kyiv TV tower with both missiles and a cyberattack. Russia has also repeatedly attacked utilities in various parts of Ukraine, cutting services to hundreds of thousands. In response, Ukraine has recruited an international army of hackers to act on its behalf. Ukraine hacked into the Russian TV platform and beamed live antiwar messages into homes across Russia.

While Russia has far more advanced cyberwarfare capabilities, this voluntary army of international hackers, numbering in the tens of thousands, has blunted the Russian advantage, has helped protect Ukrainian infrastructure, and has launched occasional counterattacks. This has included the leaking of hundreds of thousands of Russian government documents.

Bold cyber-attacks are growing Worldwide. The Conti Ransomware group, which operates out of Russia, launched a cyberattack in April that crippled essential services across Costa Rica. In May, it launched an attack that disrupted services in Peru. Neither country would pay the demanded ransom and opted for the painful process of restoring services on their own. The Conti website posted the following:

**“WARNING”**

The Conti Team is officially announcing a full support of Russian government. If any body will decide to organize a cyberattack or any war activities against Russia, we are going to use our all possible resources to strike back at the critical infrastructures of an enemy.

Wars have always provided laboratories for testing and improving weaponry and tactics. Cyberwar is no different. State actors and private cyber warriors are likely to come out of this war more capable and dangerous. Russian cyberwarriors are certainly learning ways to circumvent the defenses that Ukrainian volunteers are able to create and so will be better prepared to overcome our cyber-defenses.

Expect the future to include temporary government, utility, and financial disruptions. Expect data dumps of sensitive information, including medical, financial and security information. While we, as individuals, can do little to prevent this, we can take precautions. See my November 2021 article on “[Contingency Planning](#)” for ten steps to consider to prepare for a range of cyber-disruptions.

In addition, consider having extra cash on hand to ride out a temporary disruption to financial services, including credit card processing. Back up your data locally as well as to the cloud to ride out a cloud disruption. Maintain different strong passwords for your various online accounts so that a breach in one area does not leave your other accounts exposed.

*This is the eighty-second 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 <https://www.jgscv.org/noteworthy.html>.*

# JGSCV Updates

## In memoriam

Carol Paskow, a JGSCV member since 2009, passed away in August. She was the wife of Rabbi Shimon Paskow, Rabbi Emeritus Temple Etz Chaim in Thousand Oaks and mother of Rabbi Michelle Paskow, Rabbi of Congregation B'nai Emet in Simi Valley.

Our deepest condolences to Carol's family.



## JGSCV Family Histories

This is your space to share your family stories.

Joan Adler, our June 2020 speaker, suggested our members write up memories and genealogical discoveries to publish in our newsletter.

This month we did not receive any submissions.

We would love to continue the series. If you have something to share please send to Diane at [newslettereditor@JGSCV.org](mailto:newslettereditor@JGSCV.org) and Jan at [president@jgscv.org](mailto:president@jgscv.org)

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### *Future Meetings: Zoom vs In-person*

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As COVID is still in the Los Angeles-Ventura County area, we are going to meet virtually for a while longer. We know many members who are anxious to get back to "normal" but that will not occur just yet. We also await direction from the steering committee of Temple Adat Elohim about their requirements for JGSCV to meet there again.

Details to follow soon.

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One of the ways JGSCV obtains revenues in addition to membership dues is voluntary participation by members and friends in Ralphs Community Programs and through the Amazon Smile program.

We recently received \$105.74 from 22 members who participate in the Ralphs Community Contribution!

Whether you are a friend or member we appreciate your support and hope you will sign up for when you shop-even occasionally-at Ralphs or Food For Less, or Amazon Smile.

For more information and signing-up go to JGSCV's website under Noteworthy

<https://jgscv.org/noteworthy.html>.



# Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV)

will hold our September meeting on **Zoom**.

This is a special meeting, and the Zoom session will be run by the Tenement Museum.

No non-members may attend (please see below for membership app link).

**Zoom link will be emailed to members before the meeting.**

**Sunday, September 11, 2022, from 1:30-3:30 p.m.**

There will be NO “ask the experts session”.



## SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

### *“Virtual Tour of the Tenement Museum ~ Focusing on a Jewish Family from Early 1900s”*



Rogarshevsky Kitchen

The Rogarshevsky family are a Jewish American family from Lithuania who moved to the Lower East Side in New York. The parents, Fannie and Abraham, raised six children in 97 Orchard Street, balancing work, family, and their religious faith during the 1910s. This tour will consider the difficulties of factory work through the experiences of the family's teenage daughters, and learn about labor unions, working conditions, and the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory. Just like an on-site building tour, a Tenement Museum Educator will virtually guide you through their home and discuss how the family balanced their traditions with working outside the home at garment factories across the city.

### Museum Description

The Tenement Museum provides many opportunities to understand the experiences of immigrants and migrants, and the fundamental role they play in defining our national identity. The museum's two historic buildings were home to thousands of residents in the Lower East Side neighborhood in Manhattan, New York. Since 1988, the museum has forged emotional connections between visitors and immigrants & migrants past and present, through educator-led tours of its historic tenement buildings and the surrounding neighborhood. The museum has become one of New York City's preeminent cultural and educational institutions.

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

<https://www.jgscv.org/pdf/membership%20application.pdf>



## 2022 JGSCV Meeting Dates

**ALL MEETINGS WILL BE RESERVED FOR MEMBERS ONLY VIA  
ZOOM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY, September 11<sup>th</sup>  
1:30-3:30PM via Zoom**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>PRESENTER</b>	<b>PROGRAM</b>
<b>Sept 11</b>	<i>Tenement Museum</i>	<b>Virtual Tour focusing on a Jewish Family from Early 1900s</b>
Oct 9	Leora Raikin	Lithuanian Jews: Migration to South Africa
Nov 6	TBA	
Dec 11	TBA	Annual Meeting, Elections, Chanukah Party

# Genealogy Odds and Ends



Legacy Family Tree, a member of the MyHeritage Family of companies, will be holding a Webtember event all five Fridays throughout September. They are hosting 31 live and pre-recorded free webinars. The presentations will be free to view until the end of the month at your convenience.

To see the lineup of presentations, please see:  
<https://tinyurl.com/23bw3zev>

Register at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/yj9627ce>

## USC Dornsife

College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

### **#LastSeen Project — Pictures of Nazi Deportations**

USC Dornsife's Center for Advanced Genocide Research is requesting your help for its new multi-institutional initiative.

The Holocaust research project, launched in November 2021 and funded by the German government, aims to gather, analyze, and digitally publish pictures of Nazi mass deportations of Jews, Romani people and people with disabilities from the German Reich between 1938 and 1945.

<https://dornsife.usc.edu/news/stories/3741/quest-for-holocaust-images/>



### **JewishGen Discussion Group (JGDG) surpasses 20,000 members!**

The JewishGen Discussion Group in August surpassed the 20,000-member mark with 1,165 new members being added this past year.

If you have not yet searched the JGDG archives, there are over 670,800+ messages going back to 1998 that can be searched by names, towns, almost any subject or topic and can be a terrific, untapped, genealogical resource for you. To join the JGDG go to: [main@groups.jewishgen.org](mailto:main@groups.jewishgen.org) | [Home](#) To search the 670,800+ messages, once you sign in, simply go to "messages" and then "search." For help go to: [support@jewishgen.org](mailto:support@jewishgen.org)

### **JewishGen Announces Viewmate Update.**

JewishGen recently updated Viewmate to make the main page run much faster. Viewmate is a service where researchers post images, they want information about - translations, or other information - and volunteers help them out. To read more see: [Viewmate Runs Faster \(jewishgen.org\)](#)



### **Identity Theft and Fraud**

Valuable information about protecting yourself:

<https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2019/identity-theft.html>



## 2023 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](http://www.JGSCV.org)

**Dues paid now are good through December 2023**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Check one:

This is a New Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Single \$ 30.00 \_\_\_\_\_ + \$1.00\*\* Family\* \$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 \_\_\_\_\_

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