President’s Letter:

Our 4th anniversary was a smashing success due to our two program participants. First, The Klutzmer Band from Congregation B’nai Emet played nostalgic Eastern European music. The members of the Klutzmer Band are: Franklin Tessel, JGSCV founding member, Vincent Chang, Irwin Cohen, Gail Demirtas and Gail Matulaitis.

The main program was by our own founding member and board member, Warren Blatt, Managing Director and editor-in-chief, JewishGen.org. Warren presented in-depth explanations of how immigrants’ given names shifted between Yiddish, Hebrew, their native language, biblical associations, calques and more. He reiterated that no names were changed at Ellis Island, but many chose to ‘Americanize’ them later. Warren’s handout is available on JGCV’s website www.jgscv.org. Click on “meetings”, “prior meetings”, “August 30”.

This newsletter begins our 5th year of publication! JGSCV is most fortunate to have as members our founding editor Werner Frank and our new editor, Allan Linderman—without them we would not have such a great publication! The newsletter is a great communication for our members, but are you aware that it is shared with many of our sister JGS’s around the world? Their newsletters are located on JGSCV’s dedicated book shelves at the reference desk in our non-circulation, permanent library at the Agoura Hills Library. To view the list of publications (updated monthly) in our permanent library visit the JGSCV website and click on ‘library’ and ‘permanent’. These materials are available for your genealogy research at the library.

The Nominations Committee has been selected: Hal Bookbinder, Chairman; Helene Rosen, board member; Diane Wainwood, general member. The committee will be e-mailing all JGSCV members who have been a member for at least one year to determine your interest in serving on the JGSCV board. Application may be downloaded from the JGSCV website under ‘contact us’. Please consider serving.

The October meeting we will begin our annual membership renewal drive for 2010—see page 5 (as well as our website) for the renewal form. As we have in the past, those who join or renew by or at our December meeting will be eligible for great genealogical prizes at our Dec. 6 meeting.

Our October 5th meeting is on a different day of the week and time: Monday, 7:00-9:00 p.m. The board decided to hold an occasional meeting on a weekday evening for the benefit of those who otherwise are not able to attend Sunday afternoon meetings—we return to Sunday afternoons in November. Dan Brown, Dean, Moorpark College will talk to us about his work with Stephen Spielberg’s “Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project”. His book, The Beautiful Beast: The Life and Crimes of Ss-Aufseherin Irma Grese will be available for purchase.

Looking forward to seeing you on Monday October 5th.

Jan Meisels Allen
NEW YORK CITY BIRTH RECORDS
An index to New York City births, 1901 to 1907, is now online on Long Island's German Genealogy site http://tinyurl.com/knljxx and Italian Genealogy site http://tinyurl.com/r2g88q

When completed, the index will cover births from 1881 to 1909. Steve Morse has created a One-Step search tool for these records: http://tinyurl.com/knl3vh

Copies of the actual birth records can be viewed on microfilm located at NYC's Municipal Archives or ordered from the Archives online or by mail. See http://tinyurl.com/lpdbqj

Salt Lake City's Family History Library also has microfilm of NYC birth records that can be ordered for viewing at local Family History Centers. To identify microfilm roll numbers, do a keyword search at http://tinyurl.com/vz5hqh for Manhattan (or Bronx, or Brooklyn, or Queens) birth certificates. Once you have succeeded in finding the right records, click Film Notes to find film numbers.

YAD VASHEM
If you have not already commemorated those who perished during the Holocaust with a Page of Testimony on Yad Vashem, this is the time of the year of remembrance to do so by going to the Central Database of Shoah Victim's Names and complete a page of testimony: http://tinyurl.com/5r163

RAVEL'S COMMUNITY PROGRAM
Don’t forget about Ralph's Community Contribution Program. It is a great way to help your JGS at no cost to you. Even if you are already registered, Ralph's requires all participants to reregister each September. Information on how to sign up is on our website: www.jgscv.org and click on "notices".

GOOGLE TRANSLATE ADDS YIDDISH
Yiddish has been included with the other 50 languages for online translation at http://translate.google.com
Some other languages available include Galician, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Polish, Romanian and Russian.

FREE FAMILY TREE MAKER WEBINAR
On Sept. 30th at 8PM eastern, Ancestry.com will lead a webinar to demonstrate the new features of Family Tree Maker 2010. Prior registration is required at http://tinyurl.com/p3bj7m

FINDING PHOTOGRAPHIC PORTRAITS
According to Steve Lasky, The Museum of Family History http://tinyurl.com/mfozeq maintains about 200 studio photographs from pre-World War I Europe; only a portion of these is on display. Many of the photos (mounted on cardboard) contain what could be important genealogical information.

The photographic studio name is most often imprinted under the photograph; usually a lithographic design covers most of the photo backing. Many of these designs contain graphics and medals the studio claims to have won at an exposition, or was supposedly awarded by a monarch.

After WWI, these attractive designs were generally replaced with a simple, non-descript stamp imprint with the name of the studio and the studio's address.

A collection of over 3500 photos with fronts and backs of such studio photographs can be found at http://www.fotorevers.eu/. This Polish and German language website documents the activities of photographers and their studios mostly during the years 1850-1914. (You may choose to use Google to translate.)

On this site, you can search for a particular photographer and studio by the surname of the photographer. If successful, you will be given a list of what photos exist on the site for a particular photographer. Then you can see if one of the surnames listed is the one you’re looking for.
Come to the Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County* (JGSCV)
(*and surrounding areas)

Note Different Day of the Week and Time
Monday, October 5, 2009 7:00 p.m.– 9:00 p.m.
at Temple Adat Elohim
2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks

"Remembering the Victims: The Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project"

Daniel Patrick Brown will examine his work with Stephen Spielberg's "Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project" as well as examine the memorials to the memory of those slaughtered by the Nazis during World War II. He will also address the need to educate today's youth to the dangers of hate groups. Professor Brown is a Holocaust instructor and Dean, Business and Computer Studies Division, at Moorpark College. He serves as a member of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust Advisory Board and has authored several books on the Holocaust.

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.

Meeting co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim. No charge to attend. Anyone may join JGSCV.

For more information contact information@JGSCV.org See: www.JGSCV.org
Or call Jan Meisels Allen@ 818-889-6616

Future JGSCV Meeting Dates
All Meetings are held at Temple Adat Elohim
2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>April 11</td>
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<td>Sunday, 1:30 -3:30 PM Rabbi Shimon Paskow, Rabbi Emeritus, Temple Etz Chaim, 'Searching for the Jewish Treasures'</td>
<td>Sun. 1:30-3:30 PM JGSCV board members, “How to Start Your Genealogy”</td>
<td>Sun. 1:30-3:30 PM National Geographic Channel documentary “Hitler’s Hidden Holocaust”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 6</td>
<td>Feb. 1*</td>
<td>May 2</td>
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<td>Sunday, 1:30-3:30 PM Steve Morse, “Hodge Podge of Lesser Known Gems” and</td>
<td>Mon. 7-9 PM Ron Arons “Mapping Madness”</td>
<td>Sun. 1:30-3:30 PM TBA</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
<td>June 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Sun. 1:30-3:30 PM Steve Luxenberg, “Annie’s Ghosts”</td>
<td>Sun. 1:30-3:30 PM TBA</td>
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*Note: Feb. 1 Meeting is on a Monday Evening
Yahoo's GeoCities will be closing on October 29th this year. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of websites hosted on GeoCities that contain crucially important information for people researching their Jewish ancestry.

Avraham Groll, Administrator of JewishGen, announced that JewishGen will assume full responsibility - at no cost - for any existing GeoCities site that contains information valuable to people researching their Jewish roots. JewishGen will ensure that the data and information will remain accessible for generations to come.

If you have such a GeoCities website, (or know of others that exist), please notify JewishGen at info@JewishGen.org and you will be contacted quickly to make the easy transfer.

Please forward this message to anyone whom you feel can help in this effort.

The LA Regional Family History Center, where we meet annually for an exclusive research afternoon, closed for renovations and expansion at the end of April. It was expected to reopen this Fall. We have been advised that the new re-opening date will be sometime in Spring 2010. No specific date was announced. When more details are available, we will share them with you.

Remember when shopping at Amazon.com to go through the IAJGS website portal to Amazon.com. This does not raise your costs and it helps IAJGS. Whether you are buying a gift card, books, music, software, electronics, household goods, clothes, and of course anything related to genealogy--remember to enter through the IAJGS website www.iajgs.org and scroll down to the bottom of the home page and click on the Amazon.com logo -- that takes you to the Amazon.com home page and shop as you normally shop!

JGSCV WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS SARA HYMAN, ANITA HYMAN, MARK A. STERN

JGSCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jan Meisels Allen, President president@jgscv.org  Stewart Bernstein, Member-at-large stewart@jgscv.org
Warren Blatt, Member Education education@jgscv.org  Debra Kay Blatt, Information Chairman information@jgscv.org
Dorothy Drilich, Secretary secretary@jgscv.org  Werner Frank, Member-at-large werner@jgscv.org
Fred Land, Treasurer treasurer@jgscv.org  Helene Rosen, vp Membership membership@jgscv.org

***********************************************************
Allan Linderman, Newsletter Editor newslettereditor@jgscv.org
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Mailing address: 6052 Hackers Lane, Agoura Hills, CA 91301   Phone: 818-889-6616
Website: www.jgscv.org    David Oseas, Webmaster: webmaster@jgscv.org
2010 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 2010

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 payable to JGSCV and send along with application to:
Helene Rosen
28912 Fountainwood St.
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Name (Print) _____________________________________________
Address  ________________________________________________
City     _________________________________________________
State _____ Zipcode + 4 _____________
Day telephone ______________ Evening telephone ______________
E-mail address ____________________________________________

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