



QUEST

THE
JEWISH GENEALOGICAL
SOCIETY
OF
CONNECTICUT

ESTABLISHED 1989

Volume 28, Number 1

Early 2016

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- President's Message
- Review of One Family. One People
- Welcome to Our Newest Members
- 2016 IAJGS Conference Update

QUEST EARLY 2016

We apologize for the lateness of this issue of Quest.

We intend to publish our four issues of Quest in 2016.

Board Member Arthur Meyers honored by Middletown Commission on the Arts. Meyers received the award for his efforts in 19 years as director to make Russell Library a place to connect city residents with local arts initiatives. He said Wednesday that he considered it to be a part of his job to make sure the library offered a wide variety of cultural events, and credited the library's staff with doing most of the work to propose, organize and develop arts and culture events.



JGSC Board Member Arthur Meyers, second from left

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

NEXT MEETING!!

MAY 22, 2016
Hadassah Lipsius
All About JRI-Poland
1:30 pm

JUNE 5, 2016
Avrami Groll
Jewish Migration Patterns

All programs held at
Temple Sinai
41 West Hartford Road
Newington, CT 06111

YOU... Doris Loeb Nabel



By Janet Carlson, JGSC Librarian

You...

- are likely a member of JGSC if you are reading our quarterly newsletter *Quest*
- have ancestors
- may have descendants
- have finished your research?
 - If your reply is 'no', read the next question
- have ancestors about whom you need to find information?
- may have information or family lore you need to document?
- want to learn more about today's resources, and how to use them?
- want to learn about organizing, preserving, or sharing your information?

Why did you join JGSC?

- We would love your response to this question
 - Email your reply to info@jgsct.org

What can *Quest* do for you in addition to providing genealogical information?

- Did you know that you can share the surnames and locations of ancestors about whom you hope to learn more?
 - Email quest@jgsct.org with the names/locations you wish to share

Are you aware that we welcome your suggestions for future programs which would meet your goals?

- Email info@jgsct.org with your suggestions

You...

are our reason for existing!

WALKING, I AM LISTENING TO A DEEPER WAY.
SUDDENLY ALL MY ANCESTORS ARE BEHIND ME.
BE STILL, THEY SAY. WATCH AND LISTEN. YOU
ARE THE RESULT OF THE LOVE OF THOUSANDS."

Linda Hogan
Dwellings

A Spiritual History of the Living World
W. W. Norton & Company, Paperback, 2007

Pickholtz, Israel. **Endogamy: One Family, One People.** Colonial Roots, 2015.

Endogamy is marriage within one's tribe or similar unit.

The Jews are an endogamous people. For thousands of years they married within "the tribe." This results in everyone being related to everyone else and a big problem for the genealogist.

Israel Pickholtz is one such genealogist. He began gathering information about his family at an early age. He finally became serious and methodical in 1994 at the urging of a nine-year-old cousin. Israel discovered that the Pikhholz family, in all its possible spellings, came from two towns in eastern Galicia near Lvov. Finding that given names were repeated through generations led him to a possible conclusion that they were all related, but this needed to be proven.

This book is the result of his genealogical search to find all the Pikhholz family members he could in order to determine the individual family lines. Here he was stymied by endogamy. Because these were small communities the members tended to marry within their own circles.

The author decided to make this book a "look how I did this" instead of a "this is how it's done" work. It is conversational in tone with clear explanations of the processes and procedures he followed so the reader could ultimately, in theory, do the same.

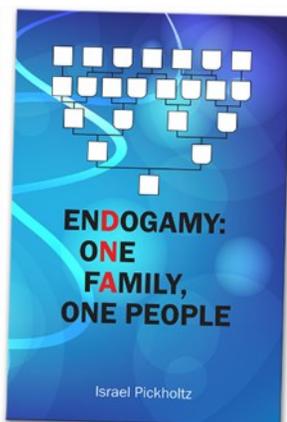
While following tried and true genealogical methods, Israel added and mastered the use of DNA testing. Beyond looking at haplogroups and lists of possible matches, he used genetic genealogy to determine relationships to the point of plotting pieces of chromosomes to find out which relatives shared which and how much DNA. This also proves who is not related as well. The reader learns what DNA can determine as well as what it cannot. He wishes he could get more family members to

(Continued on page 3)

BOOK REVIEW

(Continued from page 2)

test and will continue to try convincing them to do so. This book is for the experienced genealogist who wants to get beyond the brick walls that exist because of incomplete and destroyed records. It is a challenging process but it can lead to stunning results.



From “Nu? What’s New?”

Jan. 17, 2016

Arthur Obermayer (1931–2016) ז"ל

Avid genealogist and philanthropist Arthur Obermayer died on January 10. He was co-founder of the JewishGen German Special Interest Group, but was best known for his establishment of the Obermayer German Jewish History Awards which, since 2000, honor the volunteer efforts of non-Jewish Germans, whose work ensures that the lives, culture and contributions of Jews in these German communities will never be forgotten. Lars Menk, author of *A Dictionary of German Jewish Surnames*, published by Avotaynu received the award in 2007. Information about this award can be found at <http://www.obermayer.us/award/>. In 2007, Obermayer received Germany’s highest honor, the Cross of the Order of Merit, for creating his award. Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/Obermayer>.

EFFECTIVE SEARCH TIPS

Deborah Samuel Holman, Quest Co-Editor

The following tips have been summarized from the post “How to use search like a pro: 10 tips and tricks for Google and beyond” by Samuel Gibbs (“The Guardian Jan. 15, 2016)

Use Exact Phrase – Putting quotes around your query terms will return results for those exact words in that exact order. “Joe Bloggs” will return articles containing that exact name – not “Joe” or “Bloggs” in isolation.

Exclude Terms – Using the minus symbol as in this example: “Joe Bloggs” -jeans will find results for Joe Bloggs, but it will exclude those results for the Joe Bloggs brand of jeans.

Either OR – Using the term **OR** in your search query will return hits for one or another term. This can be useful when you’re not sure exactly which term will be used.

Synonym search – Another tip to use when you’re not sure which term will be used is to use synonyms. Using “plumbing ~university” will bring up results for plumbing from colleges as well as universities.

Search within a site - Use Google to improve searches on specific sites. Searching with “site:theguardian.com” followed by a search term like “genealogy”, will find articles about genealogy from only theguardian.com.

Use the Asterisk – The asterisk acts like a wild card. It can be used as part of a word or in place of a missing word. A search for “architect*” will search for architect, but also architectural, architecture, architected, architecting and any other word which starts with architect.

Searching Between Two Values – This is great for searching a range of dates. For instance, if you’re looking for the who were the British prime ministers between 1920 and 1950 a search using “british prime minister 1920.. 1950” will bring up results with dates ranging between 1920 and 1950. Be sure you type your search term followed by two full stops and a space.

Search for Word in the Body, Title, or URL of a Page – If you only want to find text either within the URL, body or title of a page, use the qualifier “inurl:” This will search just within the url. The qualifier “intext:” will search within the body, while “intitle:” will search only within a page title. For example, “intitle:review” will bring up all the articles with “review” in the page title.

Search for Related Sites – This is useful for finding similar sites. Searching for “related:theguardian.com”, will bring up the websites of other news organizations that Google deems the most similar to the Guardian.

Combine Them – Use all or some of these combine to narrow down or expand searches.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

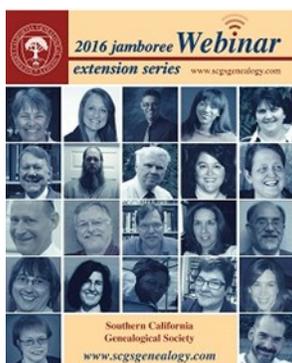
- **Craig Banks** is researching Romania, Russia and Poland. Names of interest are BANK (S), COHEN, SHIDER and WIDEM.
- **Sol and Marlene Silverstein** are researching Poland, Russia, Austria and Spain. Their names of interest are: ZYLSTEIN, KATZ, SAGER, SPITZ, LEVY and PUKATZ.
- **Elinor Klein and Rachel Klein Buck** are researching Poland, Galicia, and Russia. Their family names are FEURSYEIN, BOCIAN, ZUCKERKANDEL, RAJCZYK, HALICZER, GIPSTEIN, SCHWODRON, GLASSBAND, KRELL, STERNBERG, KAC, HUBER, KLEIN, GILBERT, GROSSMAN, SCHRADER, MILLER, COHEN and GOLDMAN.
- **Martin Lambert** is researching: USA, Ukraine, Estonia, Latvia, Germany, Belarus, Spain, Portugal and England. His family names are: LEVINE, BENDER, SIRULNIK, ZILBER, BURGER, NITKIN, LEVINSON and LERNER.
- **Gail Adler** is interested in the countries of: Russia, Ukraine, Poland and Austria. Surname she is researching are: BERNSTEIN, KAPPER, NAKATIN, PINZUR, TEMKIN, ADLER, SILVERING and STERN.
- **Marcia Henson** is researching the countries of Russia, Poland, and England. Family names are: LYONS, DUNN, LAUDON and GOLENSER.
- **Dana Ranani** is interested in the countries of: Russia, Poland, Austria-Hungary and Ukraine. Family names are: CHARASH, KATZ, LOCACHER, BRITZ, ROTH, WENIG, CZWAIGEUHAFT, MEKLER, DESCHER, SLUCHAM, and RUBIN.
- **Darlene Hart and Denise Daniels** are researching the countries of Russia, Ukraine, and the United States. They are interested in the family names ETENGER, GROSSMAN and DAVIDOWITZ.
- **Jack and Paulette Bush** are interested in the country of Belarus (Minsk) and the surnames BUSHLEVITZ, BUSHLOFF and BUSH.
- **Avra Novarr** lists her areas of interest as Grodno and Vilna. The family surnames are: LEAVITT, GOPAN, KATZ, GRODINSKY, NOVARR and GREENBAUM.
- Welcome also to **Nancy Polk** and Bert Reiner's wife **Sandy!**



FROM THE IAJGS LEADERSHIP DIGEST

Southern California Genealogical Society Announces 2016 Webinar Series

The Southern California Genealogical Society (SCGC) announced their 2016 webinar series of 22 programs throughout the year. The webinars are free to attend at the time they are live, for non- SCGC members. SCGC archives are only available to SGSC members. Webinars are offered on the first Saturday at 10:00 AM Pacific and third Wednesdays at 6:00 PM Pacific.



You must register to participate. Go to: <http://www.scgsgenealogy.com/webinar/jes-index.html> and click on the webinar title you want to attend. Register at gotowebinar.com and provide your name and address and receive your confirmation by email. This is open to anyone worldwide. There is a link for the world clock for you to confirm the time in your time zone on the link above.



The Jewish Genealogy Society of Long Island (JGSLI), winner of the IAJGS 2015 Outstanding Publication Award for its YouTube Channel, is pleased to announce the latest video, "8 Ways to Get the Most out

of JewishGen's Communities Database."

JewishGen's Communities Database is a powerful centralized page of vast information having to do with each town. JewishGen puts all the information by town at your fingertips, by simply accessing a Town page with any of its historical names. Here are 8 ways to get the most out of this excellent resource for discovering information on your ancestral town.



The latest JGSLI video is "4 Census Reports Beyond the Regular 10 Year Federal Census".

You're probably already familiar with the Federal census which is taken every 10 years. But there are other census reports and schedules to the Federal census, where you might find valuable information. Here are 4 enumerations, other than the regular Federal census, that might be worth reviewing.

You can access all the videos from the website <http://jgсли.org/> or directly from their YouTube Channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUV8xttln93AwJX2_I0AIAg/feed



The Ancestor Hunt has a list of free online European Historical Newspapers...wells some are subscription-based, and some are free to search but not to download. See the list at: <http://www.theancestorhunt.com/blog/europe-free-online-historical-newspapers#>.

FROM THE IAJGS LEADERSHIP DIGEST (continued)

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and Ancestry.com started to collaborate 5 years ago by indexing the names of individuals that were persecuted by the Nazis in World War II. They have reached the milestone of having one million searchable online records due to innovative crowdsourcing initiative, the World Memory Project, where 3,500 people from around the world volunteered to index name-related materials from the USHMM's extensive archival holdings. The project continues and will be the largest online resource for information of all those victims of the Holocaust.

To learn more about the World Memory Project, including how to become a contributor (volunteer) see: www.WorldMemoryProject.org.

To read the press release see: <http://tinyurl.com/jmambva>

Original url:

<https://www.ushmm.org/information/press/press-releases/museum-and-ancestry-reach-one-million-searchable-online-records>.



The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society (NYG&BS) posted updated to their *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* on line at: <http://tinyurl.com/jepw73>

Original url:

<http://newyorkfamilyhistory.org/global/others/additions-and-corrections-new-york-family-history-research-guide-and-gazetteer>.

Originally published in 2015 many societies and individuals may have purchased the research book for their libraries and may find this information of interest.

Suggested additions and locations of original records, updates and corrections with citations may be sent to : NYGuide@nygbs.org



This notice was originally published in the *New York Researcher*, Spring 2016 Volume 27 Number 1. The *New York Researcher* is a publication of the NYG&BS)

The New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) has produced a webinar on 'Choosing a Genealogical Software Program. It is available on their YouTube station for free. It runs 45 minutes presented by Rhonda McClure.

Over the past 18 months several genealogy software programs have either already (The Master Genealogist)—or will be no longer supported after the end of this year (Family Tree Maker). The purpose of the webinar is to assist the individual in making an informed decision as to which program to consider using. The genealogy programs that are discussed are: Ancestral Quest, Brother's Keeper, Heredis, iFamily, Legacy, MacFamilyTree, Reunion, and RootsMagic. The webinar teaches on how to select the software that is right for the individual and how to transfer your files from the old program to the new program. The webinar is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PcRPsUVKwLk>



ODDS AND ENDS

Helpful Resources



The Digital Public Library of America provides FREE access to more than 11 million digitized items. DPLA is a project involving more than 1,600 libraries, archives, and museums across the U.S. Together, these libraries have contributed more than 11 million digitized items, such as photographs, books, newspapers, posters, and diaries. DPLA has links to where you can find the items online. If you find it on DPLA, there will be a link to the image. Look for the “View Object” link and it will take you right to it.

For more information on using this resource see Amy Johnson Crow’s [1/13/2016](http://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/) blogpost, “A Growing Source for Free Genealogy: Digital Public Library of America.” (<http://www.amyjohnsoncrow.com/>)

Old Photographs Online

Yale University posted online 170,000 Library of Congress photographs taken in the United States from 1935 to 1945 with the original captions. The photos come from all over the U.S., and can be accessed with an easy-to-use interactive map. To view the site, go to: <http://photogrammar.yale.edu/>

One can also search by a specific term. Putting “jewish” into the search box returned 83 pictures, many of which were related to Jewish farms at the time.



The caption of this 1936 photo from Hightstown, New Jersey: “Who says Jews can’t farm?”

Good News for Genealogists! The CT State Library Awards Historic Documents Preservation Grants to 154 Municipalities

Arthur Meyers (Past Quest Co-editor and current Board member) alerted us to the following information from the Connecticut State Library newsletter:

The Connecticut State Library has awarded grants totaling \$516,500 to 154 municipalities through the Historic Documents Preservation Program. The program provides funding for projects that improve local government records preservation, management, and access. Established in 2001, the program has funded over two thousand records projects and has distributed over \$14 million in grants to municipalities to date.

With these grants, municipalities are preserving historical town records, scanning records to provide for electronic public access, microfilming records to ensure long term records security, purchasing records storage equipment, software and hardware, and improving records organization and management. Additional information and a list of municipalities awarded grants is available on the State Library website at <http://ctstatelibrary.org/publicrecords/hdpp> .



ODDS AND ENDS

Check Out the National Archives History Hub

History Hub is a crowdsourcing platform for American history. It is a place to share information, work together, and find people based on their experience and interests. Subject matter experts from the National Archives and Records Administration as well as other experts, history enthusiasts, and citizen archivists are available to help with your research.

The goal is to create a support community for history enthusiasts, researchers, citizen archivists, family historians, and archival professionals.

Visit us at now at historyhub.archives.gov!

The History Hub offers tools like discussion boards, blogs, and community pages to bring together experts and researchers interested in American history. Think of it as a one-stop shop for crowdsourcing information related to your research subject.

The National Archives aims to connect with and better serve customers interested in the historic records we hold. They are launching the History Hub as a limited 6 month pilot project so that they can test its usefulness as a crowdsourcing platform. They also hope to apply what we learn to a longer-term solution that can be used by federal government agencies and other interested organizations looking to expand public participation.

Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Records

Charles R. Hale Collection of Connecticut Cemetery Inscriptions contains vital information from headstone inscriptions in over 2,000 **Connecticut cemeteries** that were recorded in a W.P.A. project directed by Charles R. Hale ca. 1932-5. These records are bound in volumes for each town and are indexed on slips in a single alphabetical file. Many cemeteries had been

abandoned and long-forgotten when Mr. Hale began his research. For example, the town clerk in North Stonington knew of only nine cemeteries in the town; Mr. Hale found 95. He made house-to-house inquiries about old vaguely remembered plots, and then crawled through the woods to find them. He even located a cemetery under Route 9 in Middletown and several that had been flooded by reservoirs. In total 2,269 cemeteries came to light.

This website is a collection of cemeteries I have transcribed from the Hale Collection of **Connecticut Cemetery Records** as found in the Connecticut State Library. I have also linked to some of the cemeteries transcribed by various transcribers to help fill in the gaps and make this collection more complete.

Visit <http://hale-collection.com/index.html>

JEWISHGEN BELARUS SIG Website Has A New Look

The Belarus SIG website, <http://www.jewishgen.org/Belarus>, has been redesigned. Take a look if you have ancestors from Belarus.



Red line indicates boundary of modern Belarus

2016 IAJGS CONFERENCE



The focus for the 2016 conference is: ***The Wandering Jew.***

Tracks will include:

- The Sephardic Experience in the United States
- European Migrations
- South American, Australian and South African Branches
- Westward Ho! Jews in the Western US
- Coming Home to Israel

Conference registration begins January 3, 2016, with early bird discounts applying through April 30, 2016.

Keynote Speaker Devin E. Naar

Naar is an accomplished genealogist. Naar has approached Sephardic genealogy, history, literature and culture with a fresh approach.



The keynote will be on the first night on the conference, Sunday, August 7.

Acclaimed Legal Genealogist Judy Russell will be the banquet speaker at the 2016 IAJGS Conference in Seattle, August 7-12, 2016.

Judy has enthralled audiences nationwide with her fascinating blend of legal and genealogical expertise and it is truly thrilling to have her join us at our conference.

We are very proud to have both Judy speaking on the last night of the conference, August 11 (the conference ends at noon on August 12)

For more information about the conference, contact the conference co-chairs Janette Silverman, Phyllis Grossman, and Chuck Weinstein at co-chairs@iajgs2016.org or visit <http://www.iajgs2016.org>

WWW.JGSCT.ORG



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