



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Address: c/o Peter Tannen, 289 B States Street, San Francisco, CA 94114

Published Bimonthly

May 1983

JUNE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

DATE: THURSDAY, 30 JUNE 1983

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL SOCIAL HALL
1575 ANNIE
DALY CITY, CALIFORNIA

PROGRAM: ANCESTOR PARTY Here is your chance to share. Come prepared to introduce us to one of your ancestors. One you met through doing genealogy. You may enhance your talk with photos, maps, charts or other visual materials. Limit your presentation to five minutes.

SOCIETY REPRESENTITIVES

PRESIDENT AND

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: CAROLYN SHERFY
TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP: PETE TANNEN
PUBLICITY DIRECTOR: ALAN WENDROFF
REGIONAL DIRECTORS: MARTHA WISE
BESS SEWELSON

ALAMEDA	521-8593
SAN FRANCISCO	861-4045
SAN FRANCISCO	285-4417
SAN FRANCISCO	564-9927
EAST BAY	653-6382

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 25.....East Bay Regional Meeting.
May 26.....San Francisco Regional Meeting.
June 30.....Our next Regular Meeting
July 31 - August 4, 1983 ...
3rd Summer Seminar for Jewish Genealogists, Sponsored by the Los Angeles Jewish Genealogical Society
September 24 - October 8, 1983 ...
Jewish Roots Tour to Russia

LOCAL MEETINGS

The east bay region will hold its bimonthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 25 at the home of Lillian Alterman, 1081 Clarendon Crescent, Oakland. RSVP to Bess Sewelson 653-6382.

The San Francisco Region will hold its bimonthly meeting at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 26 at the home of Beatrice Kirshenbaum, 2518 Gough St., San Francisco. RSVP to Martha Wise 564-9927.

SUMMER SEMINAR ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

If you are planning to attend the seminar this year and have not received the flyer yet, write now to the JGS of Los Angeles, P.O. Box 25245, Los Angeles, CA 90025. The seminar features field trips to the Hebrew Union College Frances Henry Judaica Library, the UCLA University Research Library and the Genealogical Library of the LDS (Mormon Church); in addition there will be many workshops, and other programs held at the Ramada Hotel, the home base for the conference. The hotel is offering a cut rate price of \$58 per night if reservations are received before July 15,

and the registration for the seminar itself is \$40 until June 1 and \$50 thereafter.

JEWISH ROOTS TOUR TO U.S.S.R.

Want to go? If you have not already received the flyer and would like to join the group please get in touch with the travel coordinator, Ms Barbara Swit, at TravelMate, Rosslyn Center, 1700 North Moore Street, Suite 807, Arlington, VA 22209. Telephone (800) 368-3137. The two week trip is planned to include Latvia, Lithuania, and White Russia and is scheduled to leave New York City after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, on September 24, thus taking advantage of the off-season rates and pre-winter weather. The itinerary includes Riga, Vilnius, Kaunas, and Minsk, as well as Moscow and Leningrad. Efforts are being made to allow for side-trips to smaller towns and visits to Jewish archives or possible meetings with local researchers.

DUES INCREASE

Annual dues for new members only were increased in January of this year to \$15.00 plus \$1.00 for the FGS Fund for the National Archives (Rabbi Malcom Stern's pet project). This makes a total of \$16.00 to join our society and receive the newsletter. If you were a member on January 1st, you will not be charged with a dues increase until August. At that time it is very likely that this will become the dues policy for the 1983-84 year.

We invite new members. Send your dues to our treasurer, Peter Tannen at the address on our letterhead.

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT - CAROLYN SHERFY
WE NEED YOUR HELP

YOUR SOCIETY, The San Francisco Bay Area Jewish, Genealogical Society desperately needs your help. We have had two more resignations from the board of directors. Mary Thompsen as recording secretary due to increased family responsibilities and Susan Sherman as Newsletter Editor as she and her family are moving out of state. Thanks to both of you for all the work you have done for me and the society. I am not going to be able to continue as President beyond our August meeting. Because of the two resignations we have had from the Board this quarter we are really hurting. We also need a Program Chairman. Please won't you step in and help? This means you, our members. We can't progress without you. Duties for the positions are:

Program Chairman: Sets up speakers and other programs for our meetings from suggestions offered by our membership. Coordinates meeting place and program with the Publicity Director and the Newsletter Editor. When possible tapes lectures and takes photographs of the speakers at our meetings.

President: Conduct Regular Membership and Board Meetings. Act as the principal executive officer with the responsibility for general supervision of the affairs of the Society. Appoint all committees and fill vacancies on the board with the approval of the board of directors.

Vice President: Substitute in the absence of the President.

Secretary: Keep a record of the proceedings of the Society and of the Board and carry out any necessary correspondence on behalf of the Society.

We have smaller jobs too. Rather than a few members doing all the work, if all the members would each do a little of the work we would do a lot better and as a result our board members would not suffer from burn out. I beg you to call me for more information.

A NOTE FROM OUR FOUNDER, MARTHA WISE

It is with regret that we see Carolyn Sherfy stepping down as president in August. I think I can speak for all of us in saying thank you, Carolyn, for your hard work and dedication. In June we will have nominations and in August we will vote for officers. Your vote is important and needed. (VOLUNTEERS ARE ALSO NEEDED TO FILL OUR VACANT OFFICES UNTIL AUGUST). When I founded this society I had in mind just that, a society, a group of people banded together by a common object or

interest. Unfortunately there are those who are under the impression that the SFBAJGS is a lecture bureau, the inner functions of which are no concern of the attendees. A lecture bureau supplies paid speakers and supports itself from its charge for this service. We are not a lecture bureau. We cannot pay our speakers and we do not charge admission. Our meetings are for our members with prospective members more than welcome to attend three meetings before joining to see whether they care to become members. Obviously then if we are to thrive and grow we must have a cadre of workers. That this will be a small group is clear to all who have ever belonged to anything but we also need caring members who even though they are not in a position to do much will offer strong and steady support. We do need input from those who are not on the board. We must have business meetings before the evening's program. To resent this is to fail to think of this as a cohesive society to which one should contribute more than simply one's presence or one's dues. Is there a topic you would like to hear discussed? Suggest it. If you know someone who can speak on the subject tell us. If you don't at least let us know what you would like to hear. When you pay your dues in August do not think of it merely as your entitlement to meeting notices, but as part of your contribution to what should and must be a cohesive society. Do care. We need you all.

A NOTE FROM OUR TREASURER, PETE TANNEN
Frankly, I am concerned for the survival of our Society. We need to get more involvement from our membership in helping run the Society, - it will not run itself. I am personally very short on time. I am willing to continue to maintain our mailing list and treasury, but I absolutely cannot assume any additional responsibility during the next six months. Since there is lots to do and fewer of us with the time to do it, we should concentrate our efforts where they are most needed. If we are short staffed, I think we should cut back on the number of newsletters and programs per year, and tell our members why we are doing it. Either they step forward and help, or they will get less from our Society.

NEWS ITEM

Our member, Dr. Brian KAYE was married April 30, 1983 in New York to Fran Alic TANNENBAUM. Congratulations, Brian.

YISKOR BOOK FOR RADIN

Efforts are being made to locate former residents or descendants of those residents from Radin [Radun] Lithuania. Object to publish a yiskor book. Write:
Dr. Franklin G. Kasman, 1500 W. 38th Street Suite 46, Austin, TX 78731 (512)454-7786

FAMILY FINDER

You may send your queries to Mrs. Warren (Martha) Wise, 1990 20th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116 for inclusion in a forthcoming issue. Please limit your queries to fifty words, not including your name and address.

As we exchange newsletters with other Jewish genealogical societies, your query will go beyond the Bay Area.

S-1 Dr. Brian R. KAYE, 309 No. 3rd St. Apt 3, Campbell, CA 95008 (408)374-3130. Seeking information on the EISENBERG, WUTSKY, PAIN, SOLOMYONIK and SCHWARTZ families from David HOIRODOK (nr. Pinsk) Pinsk Gubernia, Russia. Also the LaZEBNIK family from Olshan (nr. Pinsk), KAMINSKY family from Kiev Gubernia. RABINOVITCH (RUBIN) Family from Odessa. ARNAWITZ (ARNOLD) from Vilna Gubernia. BERMAN from Suwalki Gubernia, Poland.

T-1 Jo Marcus, 121 Edgehill Way, San Francisco, CA 94127. (415)661-6622. Seeking information on the parents of Madison Joseph MARCUS presumed to have been Salomon and Simi MARCUS who lived in N.Y. or Penn. in the early 1800's. Birthplaces unknown although Salomon may have been English born. Madison Joseph himself lived in Augusta, GA. and was married to Alice LEVY.

S-1. Carolyn SHERFY, 918 Willow St., Alameda, CA 94501 (415) 521-8593. Seeking all descendants of Moshe and Alta Esther GHEDALE or GIDAL; Fred Ephram SCHWARTZ and Carolin Chaya LENDER.

T-1. Tonya YOUNG, 1739 22nd Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122. (415) 664-3329. Seeking all descendants of David & Celia SELTZER, Harry SELTZER, Oscar SELTZER and Leo SELTZER who lived in Portland, OR 1910 and later. Also seeking information and/or family of Isaac and Yetta Young ALEXANDER; daughter Rosalind Frances ALEXANDER died in Cincinnati in 1979; Edith (Ethel) YOUNG who lived in Winnipeg, Canada.

W-2. Martha L. WISE, 1990 20th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94116 (415) 564-9927. Searching for descendants and ancestors of Jeremias BLUMENTHAL born 1789 in Wollmarshausen nr. Gottingen, Germany. Lived most of his life in Harberg. Also descendants of Joseph MICHAEL by his 2nd wife, Friedchen (Frummet) nee HESS born 1794. Lived in Hamberg.

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

NATIONAL (NEW YORK) Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc.
President: Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern, 300 East 71st St., New York, NY 10021.

PHILADELPHIA: Philadelphia Jewish Genealogical Society
President: Harry Boonin, 112 Pocasset Road, Philadelphia, PA 19115

WASHINGTON: Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Washington
President: Dr. Sallyann A. Sack, 7604 Edenwood Court, Bethesda, MD 20034

CHICAGO: The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois
President: Freya Maslov, 5819 West Keeney, Morton Grove, IL 60053

ST. LOUIS: (title unknown - seeking a president)
Secretary: Barry Demba, 8 Lisa Drive, St. Louis, MO 63132

LOS ANGELES: Jewish Genealogical Society
President: Laura H. Klein, P.O. Box 25245, Los Angeles, CA 90025

SAN FRANCISCO: San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society
President: Carolyn L. Sherfy, 918 Willow, Alameda, CA 94501

PITTSBURGH: Pittsburgh JGS
President: Julian Falk, 2131 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219

SAN DIEGO: San Diego JGS
President: Roberta Berman, 5835 Kent Place, San Diego, CA 92120

DETROIT: Detroit Jewish Genealogy Group of Michigan Jewish Historical Soc.
President: Betty P. Starkman, 1260 Stuyvesant Road, Birmingham, MI 48010

BOSTON: Jewish Genealogy Study Group of Boston
P.O. Box 623, Lexington, MA 02173
Co-Leaders: Judith Izen & Myles Kleper

MIAMI: JGS of South Florida
Acting President: Herbert Unger, 8045 SW 107 Avenue #313, Miami, FL 33173

NORFOLK: JGS of Tidewater Virginia
President: Irwin M. Berent, 560 Roland Drive, Norfolk, VA 23509

Jewish Genealogical Society
Computerized Family Finder

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT YOU READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO FILLING OUT YOUR APPLICATION.

Introduction

Each member of the Jewish Genealogical Society is searching for information about specific families that had their origin in certain towns and countries throughout the world. It is desirable to have a central clearing house that would match persons doing independent work on similar names or towns. This list could easily get into of thousands of items if not tens of thousands. Consequently it is best computerized.

There is a problem in computerizing this service, however, in that persons doing research on the same town might spell the town's name differently or they may be researching similar but not identical surnames. Furthermore, persons tend to relate to their country of origin based on the political maps as they existed when their ancestors came to the United States. To resolve these conflicts, members of the Jewish Genealogical Society met to establish a set of standards to be used when individuals submit information for the computer.

These standards may require a bit of effort on the part of the individual, but it is assumed that the person is a conscientious genealogist and in the interest of accuracy would be willing to do some additional effort to put the request into the standard format.

Towns

The names of many cities and towns, especially in Eastern Europe, are spelled in many ways. In some cases there is the Yiddish version as well as a national version. For example, the town of Gora Kalwaria in Poland in Yiddish was known as Ger. Some towns have had name changes based on which political force was in power in a given year. For example, the town of Lvov in USSR was once known as Lemberg. In other cases, there is an Anglicized version that appears in America atlases even though the natives spell the name differently. For example Warsaw, Poland is the Anglicized version of Warszawa. If all these various combinations were allowed in providing a computerized list of towns, two identical requests would not match.

The committee has decided to establish a standard way of spelling town names: the name as it is known today will be used. In addition, it must be that name which is used by the native country as written in the Roman alphabet not the Anglicized version. An international standard for atlases is The Times Atlas of the World. Another atlas which uses the same naming convention, is Rand Mc Nally New International Atlas. Persons submitting information will be required to use town names indicate the atlas used next to each town on the application. If the town does not appear in either atlas, you may use and name another source.

Countries

The country in which the town is located will be that country where the town is on modern day maps. This means that such locations as Prussia, Austro-Hungary and Galicia will be considered unacceptable, as these political entities do not exist today.

There are four republics of the USSR of such great interest to Jewish genealogists that they will be considered "countries" for the purpose of the computerized search services. They are Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine and Byelorussia (White Russia). Persons submitting information about towns in the USSR must determine whether these towns are located in one of these four republics. In these cases the republic's name should be used; otherwise, the country name should be USSR.

How It Will Work

Return the enclosed application with a self-addressed stamped legal-sized envelope. After the information is keyed into the computer, it will print out the information you supplied exactly as you presented it. This information will then be returned to you in your SASE. You will then have an opportunity to examine the print-out. If you find any errors, return the corrected print out within 30 days. There is no need to return the print-out if it is correct.

Costs

The cost is \$2.50 for up to 16 entries. An entry is either a family name or a town name. For example: if you enter Family: Cohen, Towns: Tel Aviv, Israel and Philadelphia, USA, that equals 3 entries (ie, one family name and two town names).

Each additional 16 entries or any part thereof costs an additional \$2.50.

Print-outs will be made available free of charge to the following Jewish Genealogical Societies for your use: New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago, St. Louis, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Pittsburgh Tidewater (Va.), San Diego, Detroit, Boston and Miami.

The price of print-outs to be purchased by individuals and/or other organizations will be determined at a future date and will be dependent upon the cost of production.

Make your check or money order payable to The Jewish Genealogical Society and send it with your application to:

Jewish Genealogical Society
c/o Data Universal Corporation
1485 Teaneck Road
Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

San Francisco Bay Area
Jewish Genealogical Society
c/o Peter Tannen
289 B States Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

