



זְכֵרוֹנוֹת
ZichronNote

The Newsletter of the San Francisco Bay Area
Jewish Genealogical Society

VOLUME XII, NUMBER 1

February 1992

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb 17
7:30 PM **Regular Meeting. Use of Computers in Genealogy**
Harry Saal will describe his use of Roots III and Paul Weinberg will discuss using non-genealogy programs for genealogy. Handouts will be available. Congregation Kol Emeth, 4175 Manuela Avenue, Palo Alto.
- Mar 15
1:00 PM **Regular Meeting.** Jewish Community Library, 14th Avenue at Balboa, San Francisco. Research starts at 10 AM.
- Mar 19
7:00 PM Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society regular meeting, *Documentation for the Genealogist*, Carol Harless. Santa Clara Public Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara
- Mar 27
Noon-8 PM California Genealogical Society **7th Annual Family History Fair "goes international"**
Mar 28
9 AM-4 PM Seminars, Exhibits, Booksellers, Supplies, Computer Software. St. Mary's Cathedral Conference Center, Gough St. & Geary Blvd, San Francisco. Visit our table.
- Apr 20
7:30 PM **Regular Meeting.** Congregation Kol Emeth, 4175 Manuela Avenue, Palo Alto.
- May 17
1:00 PM **Regular Meeting.** Jewish Community Library, 14th Avenue at Balboa, San Francisco.
- Jun 15
7:30 PM **Regular Meeting.** Congregation Kol Emeth, 4175 Manuela Avenue, Palo Alto.
- Jul 12
11 AM-3 PM **TENTATIVE ANNUAL WORKSHOP,** We are attempting to have Ron Bremer, author of the *Compendium*, from Salt Lake City, lead this year's workshop
- Jul 26-31 **AJGS 11th Summer Seminar, New York Jewish Experience** Vista Hotel at the World Trade Center, NYC

THE SOCIETY PAGES

The following is a translation from the French (by R. Weiss, D. and R. Leeson, and R. Kohn) of a letter received by our past-president from the President of the Romanian Jewish Genealogical Society. A similar letter was published in the Fall 1991 Avotaynu (Vol VII, No. 3). We are publishing this letter to solicit suggestions from our membership as to how our Society might respond to the offers made by Dan Regenstreif.

ה"ך

Bucharest 26 September 1991

Dear Mr. Armand Cohn,

I beg your forgiveness for writing to you in French. It is much easier for me. My name is Dan Regenstreif, Member and President of the Romanian Jewish Genealogical Society.

First, on the occasion of the new year 5752, I wish to send you my best wishes, in health and fortune and prosperity, for you and your family.

We are 10,000 Jews in Romania, but the Jewish population is aged (70% over 60 years of age) and one thousand Jews dying per year, and one thousand leaving for Israel, therefore, in 5 years...

There are 800-1000 intellectuals and 800 students left. With a few friends we hold meetings for the intellectuals and students, we do historical research, genealogy, etc. But because of inflation, which is enormous (1000-4000%), our resources are very limited.

Furthermore, anti-Semitism is more virulent than ever. Jews are accused of every misfortune. "They were accepted here out of pity in 1300", state the anti-Semitic newspapers. Gross falsehoods, since we came here well before the foundation of the Romanian nation, as soldiers, Jewish Legionnaires, part of the Roman Legions. We came here to the borders of the Roman Empire to fight the Barbarians. Moreover, tombstones with Hebrew and Latin inscriptions were found here, as well as coins from the Hashmonean and Bar Kochba periods.

We are accused of having brought Communism with the goal of destroying the Romanian élite. "Now the Jews, led by the Prime Minister (the son of a devout Stalinist), have insinuated themselves into the Government to sell the country to rich (Jewish) Americans."

"In addition, the Jews are anti-Romanian because the Chief Rabbi (i.e. the Jewish Community) built in the Synagogue courtyard a monument dedicated to the remembrance of the 400,000 Romanian Jews killed through atrocious suffering by Romanian and Hungarian Fascists."

To respond to these accusations, I have written for your review Avotaynu (Bethesda, MD) an article (22 pages) entitled "The origins and the history of the Romanian Jews through 1832". The article is one of a series of seven articles among which are "The Destruction of Romanian Jews", "The Situation of the Jews during the Communist Period", and "The Situation of the Jews after the Revolution of December 1991". This new material has never been published.

Dear Mr. Armand Cohn, we would like to propose to:

- send you, if you would publish them, articles on the situation (historic and current) of the Jews of Romania,
- send you the results of our genealogical research,
- come to the United States (at your invitation) and conduct a conference on the origins and history and the situation of the Jews of Romania,

-do research for American Jews originating in Romania concerning documents in order to establish their genealogy.

Therefore we pray that you respond to these requests. Because of our economic situation we need help to resist and continue our research. In view of our situation, your help (in exchange for our contributions) will be greatly appreciated. The most modest assistance is very important to us.

To you, in thanks, in waiting for your response, and in the hope for your fraternal assistance and in the hope of seeing you one day here, in my home in Bucharest, to see our life, our institutions, and to know the city and the country, I assure you dear Mr. Cohn, of my feelings of friendship. Cordial greetings and Shalom.

Dan Regenstreif, President
Romanian Jewish Genealogy Society
Bd. Mihail Kogalniceanu #5
70601 Bucharest, ROMANIA

MATERIALS AVAILABLE FROM SANTA CLARA LDS FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR

Copies of a number of handouts from the October 19, 1991 all-day seminar can be made available to Society members. Please send a self-addressed Stamped Envelope with your request. They include the following:

- Enhancing Your Family History (including Historical Questions for your Family, Research Principles, Historical Traces to Enhance your Story, Selected Sources for Family Biographers), Jayare Roberts, 6 pp.
- Newspaper Research in the United States, 1 pg.
- New Directions of the LDS Family History Department (including Worldwide Collections for Research in the FHL, What's New in American Family History Research?, and Software), Jayare Roberts, 4 pp.
- Passenger Arrival Lists (including Ellis Island Research, 1892-1954, Records of US Passenger Arrivals, Naturalization and Citizenship, U.S. Passport Records, Border Crossings: Emigration from Canada to the U.S., Information on Sailingships and Steamships) Jayare Roberts, 10 pp.
- Contributing Information to Ancestral File, 4 pp.
- Correcting Information in Ancestral File, 4 pp.
- FamilySearch™ A Means to Simplify Genealogical Research, 3 pp.
- Using Dial-in Library Card Catalogs (Sunnyvale Library and UCB), Sandra Shafer, 2 pp.
- Family History Library and Family History Centers, 4 pp.
- Overview of Santa Clara Family History Library, Carol Haws, 3 pp.
- United States Records Overview (including Getting Organized, What shall I Search?, Helpful Resource Books, Possible Research Priorities, Genealogical Libraries in the Bay Area, State Registration of Vital Statistics, United States Census, LDS FamilySearch™ Automated Compact Disc Program) Carol Harless, 9 pp.
- Scandinavian Research, Duane Dalley, 4 pp.
- Sources and Strategies for Italian-American Research, Jayare Roberts, 8 pp.
- Irish Research (including Place-Names and Jurisdictions, Manuscript Genealogical Collections, Tombstone Inscriptions, Major Sources and Periods Covered, Charts, Dates, Forms) Roberta Gaynor, 17 pp.
- Using PAF in a Family Organization, Bill Minnick, 4 pp.
- Getting the Most from PAF, Allin Kingsbury, 4 pp.

Minutes of the Director's Meeting, January 19, 1992

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 by Bob Weiss. Membership report: 150 members, of which 22 have not yet paid this year's dues. Ten members are from out of the area. These members pay reduced dues, receive publications and are eligible to participate in the *Shtetl Roots* Project. A budget of \$2,320 was approved for the coming year. Steps will be taken to incorporate and to change the Bylaws to operate on a Calendar Year. In attendance: Judy Baston, Armand Cohn, Jerry Delson, Patrick Gordis, Libby Greengard, Sherrill Laszlo, Sita Likuski, Bob Weiss and Martha Wise. Jerry Delson, Recording Secretary

SHTETL ROOTS COMMITTEE REPORT

Participation by Society Members: As previously reported, the 100 requests from 35 members that were filled out on the Request Form distributed in April, 1991, were delivered to St. Petersburg, Russia, and to Vilnius, Lithuania, last August. We have an additional 15 requests submitted on the revised Request Form that was published in November.

Research Activity in St. Petersburg

Léon Oransky is continuing his investigations and we have a new coordinator with the Leningrad Jewish Association, Alik Frenkel, as our previous coordinator, Gennady Farber, is emigrating to San Francisco. In the last *ZichronNote*, we reported that Léon had found **Pobizhe**, the hometown of **Miriam Johnson's** mother. He now reports the population there has been evacuated due to the Chernobyl disaster. He is continuing to search for documents. **Sita Likuski** is researching **Clara Kushner**, whose great grandfather was a personal physician to **Emperor Nicholas I.** Could the physician have been a dentist? Two Jewish dentists served the Emperor's family in **St. Petersburg:** **Samuel Wagengeim** and **David Wallenstein.** Léon has started tracing their families but there are so many descendants he could use more information from Sita. **Eileen Soffer** is searching the **Novik** family near **Grodno;** a spouse is **Miriam (Mera) Dines.** Léon found records on **Lazarus Dines,** from Slonim-Lunna area (Grodno Province) 1870-1930, with son **Ylya** and daughter **Pauline.** "Since the surname **Dines** is very rare, they are probably akin to **Mera.** Léon has found the date of the court action on **Mattityahu Strashun (Jerry Delson's** request). It was February 13, 1886. He is contacting our correspondent in Vilnius to follow that up. For the same family, he has a list for their in-laws, the **Eliashberg** family from **St. Petersburg, Riga,** and **Yivvenets,** which is near Minsk, and from **Dvinsk.** Part of the family from **Dvinsk, Victor** and **Yasha Eliashberg,** now live in Palo Alto. Finally, Léon reports on the **Trachtenberg** family in **Zhitomir (Volhynia).** This is connected with **Nicki Russler's** request.

E-Mail Address: To establish more direct communication with Léon, we now have our own E-Mail address, which can be used for *Shtetl Roots* or SFBA JGS messages. E-MAIL: MCI ID 5005932 From Internet: 5005932@MCI MAIL

Research Results from Vilnius, Lithuania: Our correspondent from Vilnius, Galina Baranova, has sent us birth marriage and death records from the registry of the Jewish rabbinate of Vilno for certain years in the period 1837 to 1915 for three families. We received 32 **Rubin** records, 104 **Strashun** records and 26 **Trachtenberg** records. We have devised a data format to report this in *ZichronNote*.

U.S. RESEARCHJGS (NY) ACQUISITIONS

The Jewish Genealogical Society (New York) has a program of supporting local archives making research material available to researchers in the New York City area. These acquisitions will aid travellers to the Big Apple for the 1992 Summer Seminar. Some of their latest gifts to the New York Public Library are some New York and New Jersey State Census records, the 1890 Police census, Federal Mortality Schedules for NY and NJ 1850-1880. The set of AJGS microfiches have been deposited in 11 local libraries. Funding has been provided to the National Archives Northeast Branch to purchase the Holocaust material from the National Archives in Washington.

OHIO NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM

The Archive/Library Division of the Ohio Historical Society will provide a copy of a catalog of Ohio newspapers on microfilm. Write Ohio Historical Society, 1982 Velma Avenue, COLUMBUS OH 43211-2497, 614-297-2510. (AJGS letter dated October 15, 1991)

WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

A monument to record the history of women in the military will be erected at the main gate of the Arlington National Cemetery. This new memorial will not be a statue, fountain or eternal flame, but rather a high-tech register where visitors can call up the name of a veteran and, on a computer screen, see her photograph, read her biography, and share the reminiscences of her military career. Contact Women in Military Service Memorial, Dept. 560, WASHINGTON, DC 20042-0560, or telephone 800-222-2294 (from *G.A.S. Lites* newsletter of the Genealogical Association of Sacramento, Vol 15, No. 1, Fall 1991, citing *Orange County Genealogy Newsletter*, July 1991) (submitted by member Mary L. Thompson)

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress recently celebrated the 75th anniversary of the first Congressional appropriation of funds for the deliberate acquisition of Hebraica and Judaica. The Congressional mandate resulted in the collection of Rabbinics and Responsa, liturgical volumes, Hebrew periodicals, Yizkor books, and documents relating to Jewish history in the U.S. and abroad. The exhibition *From the Ends of the Earth: Judaic Treasures of the Library of Congress*, arranged by Michael Grundberger, head of the Hebraica Division and Library of Congress Curator, will be travelling to several North American cities. The material included in the exhibition draws upon holdings of the Rare Book and Special Collections, Prints and Photographs, Music, and Geography and Map Divisions, the General Collections and Special Collections, as well as the Hebraic Division of the Library of Congress. (*AMIT Woman*, November-December 1991)

AVAILABLE FROM THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE (Y-Catalog)

Military Service Records in the National Archives, 14pp, 50¢, #462Y. *Where to Write for Vital Records*, 22pp, \$1.75; #148Y. *Using Records in the National Archives for Genealogical Research*, 25pp, 50¢, #463Y. *Your Right to Federal Records*, 25pp, 50¢, #464Y. *Family Folklore*, 7pp, \$1.00, #133Y. Send order to R. Woods, Consumer Information Center-2A, P.O. Box 100, Pueblo, CO 81002

FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

Submitted by Sharon Fingold

MORE ON THE TEXAS SEAPORT MUSEUM (GALVESTON, TX) DATABASE

Last *ZichronNote* described the new Texas Seaport Museum database of 150,000 names that will be available at the museum. According to *Forum* (Fall, 1991 issue), you can write to the museum to request a search of the database. The fee is \$10.00 per name and a check or money order must accompany your request. The museum mailing address and phone number are: 2016 Strand, Galveston Island, TX 77550, (409) 763-1877

FREE RESEARCH CATALOG

You can now obtain a free, 28-page research catalog from NARA- the National Archives! The catalog *Aids for Genealogical Research* can be obtained by writing to: Aids for Genealogical Research, National Archives Trust Board, Publications Services (NEPS), Room IWI, Washington, DC 20408. (*Morasha*, Winter 1991-92)

GENETIC FAMILY TREES

The *Ancestry Newsletter* of May-June, 1991 includes information on doing research in England and on creating a genetic family tree. The genetic family tree is a great way to track ancestors' hair and eye color, blood type, height and weight, age at death, cause of death, and genetic disorders, diseases and tendencies. The issue includes a genetic family tree form that you can copy and use. I've started using this form and have gathered info about my ancestors that I didn't have before. For example, I've learned that one side of the family had a tendency to be short, asthmatic, and have benign cysts.

SEND YOUR GENEALOGY TO THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

According to *Morasha* (Winter, 1991-92), the Library of Congress is happy to receive your genealogy. You only pay postage to get it to them and you don't have to copyright it. They send an acknowledgment describing your gift for tax purposes. Send your genealogy to: Library of Congress, Exchange and Gifts Division, 10 First Street SE, Washington, DC 20540.

CANADIAN SHIP PASSENGER LISTS

Write to: Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, Citizenship Registration and Promotion, PO Box 7000, Sydney, N.S., B1P 6V6. Request an official form called "Application for a Search of Citizenship Registration Records." There's no charge for the search. (*Shem Tov*, Mar. 1991)

BIG NEWS FROM CHICAGO

A "rank amateur" doing research in Chicago City Hall discovered the voter registration records for the City of Chicago for the years 1888, 1890, and 1892. Names of several hundred thousand voters are listed in alphabetical order along with: county of birth, date and place of naturalization, time of residence in precinct, county and state, and address. The lists are available on microfilm at the Illinois Regional Archives Depository at Northeastern Illinois University. Write to IRAD, c/o NEIU, Ronald Williams Library, Lower Level, 5500 North St. Louis, Chicago, IL 60625. These records may help you fill in the gaps left by the loss of the 1890 census! (*Family Finding*, September, 1991)

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL RECORDS FROM THE WESTERN STATESRuth Rafael, Chief Archivist, Western Jewish History CenterJudah L. Magnes Museum

The Western Jewish History Center archival research library concentrates on contributions of Jews to the American West from the Gold Rush to the present. Collections of value to the Jewish genealogist include the California Jewish Community series of the Regional Oral History Project, 300 archival collections in the Voorsanger Archive Room relating to Jewish religious and community life in the West, 1400 titles on Western Jewish Americana in the Jesse C. Colman Library, and a collection of Jewish newspapers and periodicals extending from the mid-nineteenth century to the present. Ruth Rafael's excellent guide *The Western Jewish History Center: Guide to Archival and Oral History Collections* (1987), is found in many Bay Area libraries.

The Ethel Heskin Genealogical Fund has greatly enhanced acquisition and generation of Jewish genealogical materials. Included in the Center's collections are the following:

- Vital Data:** 1910 US Census for Bay Area Counties; San Francisco Ship Passenger Lists; Bay Area obituary clipping books (from 1967).

- Family History:** Ernest Lilienthal and Adolph Sutro, and other Family Histories; biographical clippings and articles; family bibles.

- Basic and Jewish Genealogical Sources:** *The Source: a Guidebook of American Genealogy* (Eakle & Cerny), *From Generation to Generation* (Kurzweil), *Finding our Fathers* (Rottenberg), *My Jewish Roots* (Kranzler), *A Guide to Genealogical Research in Israel* (Sack), *Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy* (Kurzweil & Weiner), *Jewish Genealogy: a Sourcebook of Family Histories and Genealogies*, (Zubatsky & Berent),

- Western Jewish History:** Several volumes on American Jewish history including the West (Marcus), *Family History Guide* (Rischin), *Pioneer Jews* (Rochlin), annotated bibliographies of Jews of the California Gold Rush, of LA and SF (Cogan), *Free to Choose—history of Oakland Jewry* (Rosenbaum), *Guide to the Jewish Rockies* (Shapiro), Guide to manuscripts at the University of Washington, *The Making of an Ethnic Middle Class—Portland Jewry after Four Generations* (Toll), *Jews of Contra Costa County* (biographical folders compiled by William Tornheim).

- Periodicals:** Collections of newsletters of Jewish genealogical societies, YIVO, Leo Baeck, American Jewish Archives, American Jewish and other historical societies; early and current Jewish newspapers; index to *Emanuel*, now the *Northern California Jewish Bulletin*.

- Miscellaneous:** Vital Records from Sacramento and El Paso, Texas, Beth Israel, San Francisco marriage records 1882-1935, congregation cemetery records, Material in the YIVO Vilna collection

- Oral Histories of Western Jews:** including Jewish Community Leaders, San Francisco Jews of Eastern European Origin (Indexes and genealogical sheets), Petaluma Jews, and others submitted to the Archive.

The Western Jewish History Center, 2911 Russell Street, BERKELEY CA 94705, 510-549-6932/6956 is open Noon to 4:00 PM Monday through Thursday. On-premise research is free. Appointments should be made. Off-premise requests for non-commercial research is \$15.00 (commercial \$25.00) per hour after one free half-hour.

(from notes taken by Bob Weiss at the November 1991 SFBA JGS meeting)

USE OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY TO OBTAIN JEWISH GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES
Rosanne Leeson, Librarian, Los Altos Public Library

The Los Altos Public Library is one of ten member libraries of the Santa Clara County system. Your local public library is an excellent place to start Jewish genealogical research. Many local libraries have the standard "how-to" books such as Kurzweil, Rottenberg, Mokotoff, Weiner, Kranzler, etc, and what they do not have on their shelves they can usually borrow through the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system from other public and university libraries.

Reference materials found in many local libraries include the *Encyclopedia Judaica*, the *Jewish Encyclopedia*, standard encyclopedias, atlases and gazetteers. Addresses of state archives and libraries, as well as newspaper and telephone book collections are available at local libraries. We are fortunate in this area to have a public library which specializes in genealogy and local history—the Santa Clara City Library. Volunteer docents there can assist you in doing research.

What happens when you request an item not on the shelf of your local branch library? Your reference librarian will determine your needs and then make use of available interlibrary loan (ILL) privileges. Materials are searched on the on-line library catalog (OCLC) or the Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN), which list the inventoried holdings of major libraries and archives. The expense of maintaining these networks is high, and their usage is limited to libraries and universities, necessitating charging small fees for these services. The cost per inquiry in the Santa Clara County System libraries, for example, is 50¢. On-line costs are usually assessed on the basis of time connected, and specialized search training is required. It is therefore important to make your request as specific as possible. Searches can be made by title, key word, subject or call number.

One drawback with on-line databases is that not all of the holdings of a given library may have been entered into the database. Usually only the newer acquisitions are entered, with older holdings still on cards and not available for on-line search. Institutions reserve the right to restrict or refuse loan of their holdings, may charge high fees for the loan materials (sometimes after the loan is completed), or may restrict materials to be read at the receiving library and not taken home or reproduced. A Professor at a university can borrow material for a long time and thereby remove it from circulation.

Some Public Libraries have specialized holdings that may simplify or make less expensive your research. The Redwood City Public Library, for example has national telephone directories for 1987 on CD ROM. One can do a national search free of the \$10-25 usually charged for this service. There is also a Union Catalog of Bay Area Libraries available on CD ROM (but the San Jose library holdings are not listed). Dial-in on-line search of some libraries is provided (Sunnyvale, Palo Alto, and Mountain View, for example). See related information page 9 of this *ZichronNote*.

Meeting handouts that are available on request by SFBAJGS members:
Who's Who in the Santa Clara County Historical & GS, 1991-2, 2pp;
Selected Guide to Sources for Genealogy in the California Section,
California State Library, Sacramento, 10pp; Genealogy Beginners' Manual,
18pp; Search and Research, Materials available on ILL, etc, 9pp.

(from notes taken by Bob Weiss at the December 1991 SFBA JGS meeting)

LOCAL RESEARCH SOURCES

SANTA CLARA LDS FAMILY HISTORY CENTER UPDATE

The Santa Clara LDS FHC has just received the October 1991 version of the Family History Library Catalog (FHLC) on CD-ROM, according to Gail Call. Other recent donations to the permanent holdings include:

- California Death Index 1905-1939, Alpha by surname, includes initials of spouse, age and place of death. Films 1686044-1686050.

- Washington (State) Death Certificates 1907-1952; Index to Death Certificates 1907-1959, 1960-1979. Films 230399-230405, 230407, 230408, 1308463-1308466.

- Oregon Death Records Index, 1903-1970. Most include one or more of the following: Name of deceased, spouse, county of death, certificate number, date of death, age. Films 1373873-1373880.

- Texas General Birth and Death Record Index ca. 1900-1945. Films 1380775-1380783, 1503830-1503834, 1503850.

INTERLIBRARY LOANS OF US CENSUS MICROFILMS

This in from Gail Call, our local resources Contributing Editor. Gail has ordered 1900 New York City Federal Census films from the Sutro State Library collection which came to her in the Santa Clara Public Library. The cost of this interlibrary loan is 50¢, and it can take from two weeks to two months for a request to be filled. Films will be held for use for two to three weeks. When requesting a film be sure you have all the necessary information, available through Census Catalogues available at the Santa Clara Library and also at the Santa Clara LDS FHC. The Census Catalogue is kept in a file cabinet in the Equipment Room of the Santa Clara Library. The cabinet contains local census microfilms, Federal Population Census Catalogue 1790-1890, 1880 Soundex, 1900 Federal Population Census Catalogue. The last is arranged alphabetically by state and gives the NARA film number for each state and territory. Gail notes that if Sutro gets the 1920 Census, interlibrary loans will make it accessible to each of us at our local Public Library. (See related article on page 8). (Submitted by Gail Call)

SAN FRANCISCO NEWSPAPERS INDEXES

The California Genealogical Society has an index of the San Francisco newspapers from 1904-1949. Newspapers included in the index are the *San Francisco Call*, the *Examiner*, and the *Chronicle*. The index is available at the CGS library at 300 Brannan St. Access is free the first Saturday of each month. (*Diablo Descendants*, Nov, 1991) (Submitted by Sharon Fingold)

MORE ON CALIFORNIA DEATH RECORDS

As mentioned in the last *ZichronNote*, there is a statewide death index from 1905-1984 in ten-year increments. Here's more information: The index to years 1905-1939 are in book form and located at the State Library in Sacramento. The library will check books free of charge via mail. The years 1940-1986 are on microfiche and are available at the County Records Officer in each county. (*Diablo Descendants*, Dec '91) (Submitted by Sharon Fingold)

COMPUTER BITS

SILICON VALLEY PAF USERS GROUP

Submitted by Sita Likuski

If you use Personal Ancestry File (PAF) to computerize your family records, consider joining or attending the Silicon Valley PAF Users Group. This friendly group meets the second Saturday of each month in Santa Clara. There are classes for both Macintosh and IBM PAF-users, for beginners and intermediates. I have had many questions answered during these classes, and have found out about features in PAF that I hadn't discovered on my own. I even learned short cuts on the Macintosh that apply to any programs.

The Silicon Valley Users Group meets at 9:00 AM at the Santa Clara LDS church at 875 Quince Avenue, north of Homestead, about half way between Keily Blvd and Lawrence Expressway. Classes continue until 11:30 AM. An excellent newsletter *PAFinder* is distributed at each meeting. If you cannot attend meetings but wish to receive the newsletter, you may send a year's dues of \$15:00 to Silicon Valley PAF Users Group, 4417 Pitch Pine Ct., San Jose, CA 95136.

Any member of the Group may participate in the Name Matching Database. Submit your GEDCOM disk and receive back your disk with any matches that appeared in the (currently) 430,000-name database.

Occasionally, instead of classes there is a guest speaker. At a recent meeting L. Reynolds Cahoon, the Director of the LDS Church Family History Department described the current state of microfilming of genealogical records in Europe. He stated that filming is currently taking place in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria, with permission to film pending in Romania; major filming has taken place in the British Isles in the last five years; Scandinavian filming is almost complete. Of the 70 billion people who ever lived, about 7 billion lived prior to 1900, and microfilmed records identify about 2.5 billion of these. Current filming identifies about a half billion people each year.

Mr. Cahoon feels that the availability of compact disks (CD ROMs) has introduced a Renaissance of family history as important as the advance of the Gutenberg press was over clerical scribes. Among the projects currently in development for CD ROM are the 1881 British Census Project of 27 million names and the 1880 U.S. Census Project of 50 million names.

DIALUP ACCESS TO LOCAL CATALOGS

With the increasing use of personal computers and modems it is becoming possible to search large library databases in the comfort of your home. We will try to keep you informed as to the phone numbers and modem settings for local libraries and universities. We would like feedback from our readers as to their experiences in doing genealogical research by this method, and any additional accesses of which they may be aware.

- University of California, Berkeley GLADIS and MELVYL on-line catalogs:
510-642-9721, -7400, -6870, -6092 for 300,1200,1200 Racal-Vadik
modem,2400 Baud Rates respectively, 7 Data Bits, Full Duplex, 1
Stop Bit, No Auto-line-feed, No Strip Characters, Even Parity,
Xon/Xoff yes for 2400 Baud only.
- Sunnyvale Public Library, 408-245-7827, 300, 1200, 2400 Baud Rate, 8,0,1
- Palo Alto Public Library, 415-322-5441, 1200 Baud Rate, 8,0,1

EUROPEAN RESEARCH SOURCES

VICHY POLICE LISTS OF JEWS

A long-missing master file that helped the Vichy police round up tens of thousands of French and foreign Jews for deportation to death camps early in World War II has been unearthed in the Ministry of Veterans' Affairs, Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld announced recently. The list contains the names and addresses of nearly 150,000 Jews, foreign and native, living in Paris in October 1940. (*The Northern California Jewish Bulletin*, November 15, 1991)

BULGARIAN, SLOVAKIAN AND ESTONIAN RECORDS BEING FILMED

Jayare Roberts of the LDS FHL stated at the recent genealogy workshop held in Santa Clara that the LDS has started filming records in **Bulgaria, Slovakia, and Estonia**. (submitted by Sita Likuski)

PROJECT JUDAICA

Project Judaica is a joint project of the Jewish Theological Seminary of New York (JTS) and the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research and the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow. The project is a joint academic program of training and research involving a five-year academic program in Jewish Studies leading to the Baccalaureate and Candidate of Science degrees. Another goal of Project Judaica is to seek out and discover vast quantities of Jewish documents and other materials that were stored in Soviet archives, and to train people with the skills to catalog and study them. Computer searches of the records of the Central Archival Administration of the USSR have revealed the existence of approximately 200 Judaica collections. A questionnaire has been sent to the directors of over 100 Soviet state archives asking them to detail the contents of their Judaica collections. Information gathered will be sent to YIVO for entry in a database, to be published as *A Guide to Jewish Archival and Documentary Collections in the Soviet Union*. (*Newsletter, Project Judaica*, Fall 1991)

LITHUANIAN LANGUAGE BOOKS AND MAPS

The "world's largest collection of Lithuanian books and books on Lithuania" is on sale in the gift shop of the Balzekas Museum of Lithuanian Culture, 6500 South Pulaski Road, CHICAGO IL 60629, Tel.312-582-6500. Included in their recent newsletter are Lithuanian-English dictionaries, language lesson books and cassettes and a catalog of the Museum map holdings. (*Lithuanian Museum Review*, No. 136, May/Jun/Jul 1991)

ANDRYCHOW JEWISH CEMETERY LIST

The Fall 1990 issue of *Polish Genealogical Society Newsletter* has a list of persons buried in the Jewish Cemetery in **Andrychow, Poland**. Write to Polish Genealogical Society, 984 North Milwaukee Avenue, CHICAGO IL 60622. (AJGS letter dated October 15, 1991).

NORWEGIAN RESEARCH

The Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs has published the 7th edition of *How to Trace your Ancestors in Norway*. It is free and may be obtained by writing to Norwegian Information Service, 825 3rd Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10022. (*Santa Clara County Historical & Genealogical Society Newsletter*, Vol. 34, No. 1, Sept 1991)

HOLOCAUST RESEARCH AND YIZKOR BOOKSYIZKOR BOOK SOURCE

In a recent letter from Gary Mokotoff, President of the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies, was a list of yizkor books available from an Israeli source, Chaim E. Dzialowski, P.O. Box 6413, JERUSALEM 91063, ISRAEL. The list of 121 entries was in Hebrew, but I have translated the names of the Shtetls into Roman alphabet to aid those readers who cannot read the Hebrew or Yiddish titles. City names and countries correspond with the spelling in *Where Once We Walked*. (Submitted by Bob Weiss)

<u>City</u>	<u>CTRY</u>	<u>Number in List</u>	
Auschwitz	POL	6	Radom POL 115,116
Baranow Sandomierski	POL	84	Rifin 98
Barniv	POL	84	Rovno UKR 117
Bessarabia	MOL	101	Sarny UKR 85
Biala-Podalska	POL	10	Sasov UKR 81
Bialystok	POL	5,21	Siauliai LIT 108
Blizyn	POL	13	Siedlce POL 86
Bobruysk	BYE	7,110	Siemiatycze POL 111
Busk	UKR	8	Sighet ROM 68
Cluj	ROM	82	Skalat UKR 99,102
Dabrowa Gornicza	POL	94	Slonim BYE 106
Drogichin	BYE	23	Sokal UKR 89
Dubossary	MOL	17	Sosnowiec POL 88
Gomel	BYE	24	Stanislav UKR 54
Ivano Frankovsk	UKR	54	Stoyanov UKR 89
Kalisz	POL	93,121	Stryy UKR 90
Kapishuk		36	Tarnow POL 43
Kishinev	MOL	49,114	Tartakov UKR 89
Klausenberg	ROM	82	Ternopol UKR 45
Kock	POL	96	Thessaloniki GRE 118
Korets (Volnhia)	UKR	112	Treblinka POL 1
Kozienice	POL	95	Vilnius LIT 14,31,39,41,55,56
Krakov	POL	97	Vilnius Ghetto LIT 32
Kremenets	UKR	107	Vitebsk BYE 30
Kurow	POL	53	Volkovysk BYE 33
Lancut	POL	59	Warsaw POL 2,16,27,38,40,50,51,103,105
Leczyca	POL	87	Warsaw Ghetto POL 28,79
Lodz	POL	57	Wloclawek POL 35
Lodz Ghetto	POL	58	Zamosc POL 37
Lomza	POL	83	LAT 46,109
Lublin	POL	61,62,71	LIT 42,47,64,65
Lvov	UKR	52,60	ROM 15,48
Majdanek	POL	67	RUS 9
Markuleshty	MOL	69	UKR 119
Marmaros	ROM	68	LEGEND:
Minsk	BYE	72	BYE=Belarus
Motyli	BYE	100	GRE=Greece
Ostrog	UKR	104	LAT=Latvia
Pinsk	BYE	44	LIT=Lithuania
Plonsk	POL	92	MOL=Moldavia
			POL=Poland
			ROM=Romania
			RUS=Russia
			UKR=Ukraine

NEWLY DISCOVERED HOLOCAUST DOCUMENTS

Long-hidden Soviet World War II documents uncovered by Israeli researchers about two years ago are being studied at Yad Vashem. These documents brought from Moscow include diaries, letters and memoirs collected by the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee established by the Soviet government at the end of the war. The documents, including survivors' testimonies, Nazi records and Soviet war chronicles, show that ghettos existed in eastern Ukraine, in Gomel, Byelorussia, in Smolensk, Russia, and in other places. The files were first seen by Shmuel Krakowski, head archivist and Yitzhak Arad, director of Yad Vashem on a visit to Moscow in 1989. (*San Jose Mercury News*, December 16, 1991 from Associated Press)

WAR CRIMES WITNESSES SOUGHT

The government of Australia has requested the World Jewish Congress to assist them with their ongoing prosecution of Nazi war criminals and their collaborators. It is seeking witnesses to murders committed in the Vinnitsa district of the Ukraine. These investigations involve the participation of Ukrainian police with the German Sicherheitsdienst (SD) in the murders of Jews and partisans between 1941 and 1943 in Vinnitsa, Tyvrov, Gorbaniyka, Sytkivtsi, Illinetsky, Gnivan Selyschi, Gryzhintsy, Shabelnya and Brailov.

The U.S. Department of Justice would like to interview persons regarding the persecution and murders of civilians in the Joniskis, Lithuania in the Summer of 1941. It would also like to interview survivors of Austria's Gusen 1 (sub-camp of Mauthausen) from February 1940 to May 1945 or of Ebensee (sub-camp of Mauthausen) from April 1944 to May 1945.

Please contact Ms. Bessy Pupko, World Jewish Congress, 501 Madison Avenue, NEW YORK NY 10022, 212-755-5770 (*Lest We Forget*, Emunah Women of America, Vol XII, No. 3 December 1991)

U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

The U. S. Holocaust Museum is scheduled to open in April 1993, the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. The museum has received, on long-term loan from the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, one of three milk cans in which historian Emanuel Ringelbaum placed archival materials documenting the life and destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto. Among scholars of the Holocaust, Emanuel Ringelbaum is regarded as a holy person. In the Warsaw Ghetto he directed the group called Oneg Shabbat, which collected archival materials relating to the deportations and murder of Jews and stuffed them into three milk cans to be hidden and provide evidence of the crimes perpetrated against the Jewish community. In March 1944 Ringelbaum and his wife and child were shot to death. Two of the three cans have been found. (*Lest We Forget*, Emunah Women of America, Vol XII, No. 3 December 1991)

VIDEOTAPE ON FRANKFURT JEWISH COMMUNITY

The Media Department of the Bureau of Jewish Education offers a 45-minute video tape called *The Jew Street*, which takes us through the history of Die Judengasse (the Jew Street), center of a once thriving main street through the Jewish ghetto of Frankfurt, Germany.

BOOK REVIEWS

THE COMPLETE CATALOGUE OF RECORDS FOR THE JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA, EXCLUDING PRAGUE, NOW AVAILABLE ON MICROFICHE

A complete inventory of the remaining records of the pre-Second World War Jewish Communities of Bohemia and Moravia is laid out in detail in an issue of the periodical *Judaica Bohemiae* (Vol. 7, No. 21, 1971), as reported in an informative article by Edward David Luft in a recent issue of *Avotaynu* (Volume VII, No. 3). The first forty pages consist of (1) a brief history of and introduction to the records currently in possession of the State Jewish Museum and Central State Archive in Prague; (2) a key to the forty-two different categories of records found in twelve oversized, supplemental charts; (3) a "list of Jewish institutions and societies whose written archive material has been partially preserved," providing towns of origin and periods of time covered; (4) an index of personal and family names comprising "mainly complete collections of papers, endowments and individual correspondence" (approximately 800 separate entries); (5) an exhaustive and helpful index of place names, which, in the case of smaller towns, refers one to the Jewish religious community where the records were kept at the outbreak of the Second World War. The text, which is entirely in English and reasonably self-explanatory, is contained on the first piece of microfiche.

The remainder of the issue consists of twelve oversized charts listing the forty-two different types of records alluded to in (2) above. Where applicable, the years covered are listed separately for each and every record group. There are main entries for 170 localities with numerous subentries as explained in (5) above. Those wishing a more detailed explanation of this valuable resource for Czech-Jewish Genealogy are referred to the aforementioned article by Edward David Luft in *Avotaynu*. The twelve charts are contained on two additional pieces of microfiche. This set of microfiche is available for use by members at meetings of the San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society.

(Submitted by Patrick Gordis)

AMSTERDAM MARRIAGE RECORDS, 1598-1811

Publication has just been announced of the two-volume historical document *Trouwen in Mokum 1598-1811 Jewish Marriages in Amsterdam*. This 1124-page adaptation of primary source material lists about 15,000 betrothals of Jews registered in the municipal archives of Amsterdam. In addition to listings by bride's and groom's patronymics and family names, an index of witnesses is found. This hardcover work is available from the publisher, Warray Publishers, Postbus 16268, 2500 BG Den Haag, NETHERLANDS for 320 Dfl plus 60 Dfl postage, insurance and handling to the U.S. (which amounts to approximately \$209.00)

AMERICAN JEWISH FAMILIES

The third, all-new edition of Dr. Malcolm Stern's book, *First American Jewish Families, 1654-1988* is available. This over-sized standard work on the pioneer families presents the family trees of families of Jewish origin known to have been established in America prior to 1840, tracing many of them to the present. The extensively annotated genealogical charts are arranged by family name and are followed by an index containing over 50,000 names. The 464-page softcover book lists for \$75.00.

MEMBERS' PAGE**SEPHARDIC JEWRY**

The bureau of Jewish Education of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties has announced availability of media materials about Sephardic Jews. These materials may be of interest to searchers of Sephardic roots, and can be obtained if sufficient interest is expressed.

- VIDEO TAPES *Heritage: Civilization and the Jews-Part 4*, 60 min, '84
 My Family Came From Rhodes, 30 min, 1991
 Sephardic Melody, 40 Min, 1987
 Trees Cry for Rain-A Sephardic Journey, 30 min, 1991
 We are Sephardim, 30 min, 1991
- FILM STRIPS *Rebirth After 500 Years: Jewish Communities in Spain*,
 87 frames, 1977
 Jews of Spain, 22 min, 1977
 Jews of Spain: Glimpses of Their Life and History, 59
 frames, 1991
 Spanish Inquisition, 28 min, 1980
- AUDIO CASSETTES *The Hidden Jews of New Mexico*, 14 min, 1988
 Stairway to Gold, 36 min, 1990

GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH TOUR TO SALT LAKE CITY

For those members who missed the International Seminar in Salt Lake City last July but still want to research the Family History Library, there is a tour being organized by Alamo World Travel, 3160 Danville Blvd., ALAMO CA 94507. The tour will be from February 23 to March 1, 1992 and will cost \$480.00 per person (double occupancy) including charter round trip on Morris Air Service, 7 nights at Howard Johnson's, transfers, orientation breakfast, and Saturday night dinner. Contact Frances Becker at Alamo World Travel for details.

STANFORD JUDAIC RESOURCES

Stanford University has become a center of Jewish learning in the past decade. Twenty two courses in Jewish studies are offered by eight full-time members of the Jewish studies program. The recently-acquired Taube-Baron Judaic Library is viewed as "the single best private collection of Judaica on offer in the U.S., maybe in the world" according to Steven Zipperstein, new Chair of Stanford's Jewish Studies Program. Zipperstein is a specialist in pre-1917 Russian Jewish history who has published a cultural history of 19th-Century Odessa Jewry. The Curator of the Taube-Baron collection, Roger Kohn, is former head of manuscripts at New York's Jewish Theological Seminary and an expert in Medieval Jewish history.

INDEX TO THE 1784 CENSUS OF THE JEWS OF ALSACE

Local Jewish genealogist Dan Leeson is reported to be working on indexing of the 20,000 names and towns in the 1784 census of the Jews of Alsace, France. He has agreed to give us a progress report at our August meeting.

FAMILY FINDER

Deborah S. Friedman, 5729 Dogwood Place, Madison, WI 53705, (608) 238-0192. Seeking information about any of the following names: DINKELSPIEL, SILVERMAN, BENIOFF, FRIEDMAN (of Kopaigorod, UKR), SCHLOSS, SANGER, HESS, SCHEIDT, MEYER, SHULMAN, ZASSLER, SELLING, SICHEL.

Family Finder queries are free to Society members. Non-members may place queries for \$5.00 each, limited to 25 words not including searcher's name, address and phone number

Correspondence relating to items for publication and requests for back issues should be addressed to Editorial Board, c/o Bob Weiss, 3916 Louis Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303.

Meetings: Odd-numbered months— 3rd Sunday of each month, starting at 1:00 PM at the Jewish Community Library, 639 14th Avenue (at Balboa), San Francisco.

Even-numbered months— 3rd Monday of each month starting at 7:30 PM at Congregation Kol Emeth, 4175 Manuela Avenue, Palo Alto.

Membership is open to anyone interested in Jewish genealogy. Dues are \$20.00 annually payable in August. Out-of-Area memberships are \$10.00. Make membership checks out to "SFBA JGS" and send to S. Laszlo, Treasurer, 34 Craig Avenue, Piedmont, CA 94611.

President: Bob Weiss (415) 424-1622

Vice President: Martha L. Wise (415) 564-9927

Recording Secretary: Jerry Delson (415) 493-0404

Treasurer: Sherrill Stern Laszlo (510) 655-6789

Membership: Sita Likuski (510) 538-4249

Program: Patrick & Ilyse Gordis (510) 848-4235

Past President & Librarian: Armand S. Cohn (415) 342-3485

Contributors to this Issue: Gail Call, Jerry Delson, Patrick Gordis, Roger Kohn,

Dan and Rosanne Leeson, and Sita Likuski

**San Francisco Bay Area
Jewish Genealogical Society**

3916 Louis Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303-4541