

# VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

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



# JGSCV

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

March 2017

Volume 12 Issue 6

I hope everyone survived the torrential rain we had this past week without injury or damage. I am very happy the rain did not occur on the 12<sup>th</sup> and held off so that the weather was not a deterrent to attending our Annual Assisted Research Afternoon.

Wow! And, it was a GREAT afternoon at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Library! We had 44 people avidly researching their family history with personal assistance from senior members of JGSCV as well as the LDS Missionaries who gave up their Sunday afternoon to help us with our annual exclusive assisted research afternoon. In addition, Barbara Algaze gave an excellent review of the FamilySearch web site which can be used from the comfort of your home as well as any FamilySearch Center. To top it off, we gained 10 new members—definitely a record for new members joining at a meeting. The new members come from Calabasas, Moorpark, Simi Valley and other communities. We are delighted they joined JGSCV and look forward to seeing them at future meetings. See page 6 for more information on the meeting and Barbara's presentation. The handout from her lecture is posted to the JGSCV website [www.JGSCV.org](http://www.JGSCV.org) under meetings, prior with the February 12 meeting date.

While we continue to gain new members—and are at the same membership numbers we were at this time last year—there are 39 members who have not yet renewed their membership for 2017. According to our by-laws, dues for the current year are due by January 1<sup>st</sup> and “Any member whose dues are in arrears for three months or more, after due notice from the Society, shall be dropped from membership in the society and all rights and privileges granted

**Barbara  
Algaze  
at the  
Los  
Angeles  
Family-  
Search  
Library**



## NEXT MEETING

**MONDAY, March 6<sup>th</sup> 7:00-9:00 PM**

### *Google and Its Tools for Genealogists*

LDS Family History Missionary Mary Kathryn Kozy is a Google expert and has garnered acclaim for her insights on this very relevant subject for genealogists.

## 2017 JGSCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Mission Statement:

JGSCV is a non-profit organization run by enthusiastic volunteers dedicated to the sharing of genealogical information, techniques and research tools with those interested in Jewish genealogy and family history. Members who include beginners and experienced genealogists share with each other.

shall cease.” That means we will soon be required to drop from membership anyone who is in arrears for 2017. In March, I will personally notify each person who has not yet renewed for this year – not my favorite job as president. While our meetings are open to the public, we are a membership organization and have grown each year since our inception. We want **YOU to renew**. Your dues help us provide the excellent programming and research library with over 300 books and journals from around the world. There are benefits to be a member vs. an attendee and you don’t want to miss out.

One of the many membership benefits are the members-only emails with notification of special, free opportunities such as with Ancestry, Fold3 and other genealogical programs. Notifications also provide information on new databases to help you with your research.

Hal Bookbinder continues with his Safe Computing insights. This month Hal digresses a bit to focus on some special federal databases. See page 9. Because the series includes such valuable information for everyone, not just JGSCV members, we will soon be posting the entire series of Hal’s articles on the JGSCV website. We will notify you in *Venturing Into Our Past* when that occurs.

The IAJGS Conference for 2017 will be held in Orlando, Florida July 23-28. Registration will be opening very soon and being on the conference committee I can tell you that some of the attributes of the conference are things you won’t want to miss – including some very special speakers. Go to <http://iajgs2017.org/> for more information on the conference and hotel reservations.

Each year we hold two meetings on Monday evenings to enable those who are not able to attend our regular Sunday afternoons due to business or family commitments. **Our March 6 meeting 7:00-9:00 PM is one of those Monday evening meetings**. Everyone uses Google for some searches, but how many know how to use it for their genealogy? *Google and Its Tools for Genealogists* with Mary Kathryn Kozy is our March 6<sup>th</sup> program. I heard Mary give this lecture at the 2016 IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Seattle – where she lives. You are certain to learn some new search techniques.

Looking forward to seeing you on **MONDAY March 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM !**

*Jan Meisels Allen*



## Jewish Ghetto of Venice: First mention in 1611 Book

On February 17, 2017 the U.S. Library of Congress posted an article by Nathan Dorn on its website entitled *The First Mention of the Jewish Ghetto of Venice in English – Pic of the Week*. The document on display is a publication by author Thomas Coryat from 1611 and describes several months of travel which he undertook in 1608 to see the cities of Europe. The tone and peculiarities are humorous and famously self-important. You can see some of the details of the book's frontispiece at *The First Mention of the Jewish Ghetto of Venice* (<http://tinyurl.com/ze6ttup>) in English. Dorn describes Coryat's experience in the Ghetto:

*"Coryat describes drawing a Jewish man who was knowledgeable in Latin into a learned discussion about the divinity of Christ. Before long, the crowd that had gathered around them became offended at Coryat's enthusiastic explanation of the inferiority of their faith. With violence imminent, Coryat fled for his life.*

**Join a SIG** JewishGen hosts web pages for several "Special Interest Groups" (SIGs), each with a common geographic region of origin, or areas of common interest like DNA or Yiddish Theatre. Join a SIG at [jewishgen.org](http://www.jewishgen.org) under the *Research* tab. Or join a few of them. Archives of past conversations and topics are available when you join, and posting questions from your research gets good results. <http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen/sigs.htm>

## Family Tree DNA Announces...

"If you have previously tested your autosomal DNA at 23andMe® or AncestryDNA™, you can transfer your results to Family Tree DNA by uploading your raw data file. After transferring your file, your autosomal data is uploaded to our database, but your DNA sample is not obtained by our company. Please note that you can only transfer the following versions:

- |             |                 |
|-------------|-----------------|
| 23andMe® V3 | AncestryDNA™ V1 |
| 23andMe® V4 | AncestryDNA™ V2 |
- You can then find matches in the

Familytreedna.com database.

## A New Season of Genealogy on TLC TV

The Learning Channel (TLC) announced the celebrities to be featured on the new season of *Who Do You Think You Are* (US). Eight new one-hour episodes will premiere on Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 /9PM.

The celebrities are: Jessica Biel; Julie Bowen; Courtney Cox; Jennifer Grey; Smokey Robinson; John Stamos; Liv Tyler and Noah Wyle. Check with your cable provider for TLC channel.



## Queen Esther Ancestry

February 12 is PURIM, so we thought we would look up Queen Esther/Hadassah's genealogy. According to the Torah, and its Book of Ester, our Jewish Persian queen is known to be from the house of Saul, the first king of the Jewish nation and a descendant of the Matriarch Rachel.

Yet Esther's immediate family is hidden from the start, as she is orphaned from birth (Megillah 2:7). In an article by Dr. Janet Sunness, Esther and Mordechai, as well as Saul, the first king of Israel, were all from the tribe of Benjamin (and were more closely related by a common ancestor, Kish).



## Was Your Ancestor a Photographer?

Megan Lewis, reference librarian at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum tells us that the latest online *Belarusian Review* is a special issue focusing on Belarusian Jews. Topics of interest include Jewish photographers of the Mahiliou region, which includes Mogilev. And an article on Jewish agricultural colonies in Belarus and Ukraine in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries of the 20<sup>th</sup> century" The journal is freely available at <http://thepointjournal.com/fa/library/breview-sji.pdf>

# Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County\* (JGSCV) (\*and surrounding areas)

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV) will hold a general meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim on **Monday**, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Temple Adat Elohim 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks, 91362 **7:00-9:00 PM**



## The Topic: Google and Its Tools for Genealogists

Google has been recognized for several years now as a great search engine for genealogy, but it is so much more! It also provides a number of other tools that can be of great help to family historians. In this presentation, she will examine several and discuss how to:

- Use Google Earth and Google Maps to unearth information about where your ancestors lived.
- Educate yourself, meet others and 'hang out' with those who are like minded (and maybe even related!) using Google's social media tools.
- Carry your research with you and kick your research into gear through collaboration on Google Drive.

**Speaker: Mary Kathryn Kozy** has been researching her family history for over 35 years and across many different localities. She has served in multiple positions in societies on the local & state level and is currently serving as an LDS Family History missionary. Mary also serves on the board of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington State and speaks to many groups in the area. She holds bachelor's degrees in both Zoology and Information Technology & Systems and has completed the ProGen online study program with an eye toward certification as a professional genealogist.



There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV. Annual dues are \$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family. The meeting is open to the public.

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 genealogy and family history.

# JGSCV Updates

## Librarian

*JGSCV is seeking a librarian for our traveling library.* The Traveling Library Librarian will be responsible for bringing the 3out of 5 boxes (rotation of books) of traveling library books to each meeting from Jan's house in Agoura Hills and returning them after each meeting. If desired and *approved*, the books may be stored at the Traveling Librarian's home. This is a very important role since many members seek out our research tools at each meeting and our Traveling Library is a valuable resource. The current system, in place since JGSCV's inception, is no longer sustainable. We need a volunteer to take over.

## Five Minute Genealogical Hint

JGSCV will be reinstating the 5-Minute Genealogical Hint starting in the spring. If anyone would like to give a 5-minute genealogical hint, or has suggestions for topics please contact Jan at [president@jgscv.org](mailto:president@jgscv.org).

## JGSCV Welcomes New Members

**TED GIPSTEIN**

**LOREN B. GROSSMAN**

**AMY MANCHEL**

**JUDITH AND ADAM PORTER**

**ALEXIS AND TANIA POSTERNAK**

**MARILYN TAYLOR**

**JUDITH WOLKOVITCH**

## JGSCV Also Welcomes New *FAMILY* Members

**MARK FINSTEN**

**MIKE PEZZUTO**

JGSCV continues to participate with both Amazon.com as an affiliate and with Ralphs Community Program. Simply enter the Amazon site from JGSCV's home page. Start at <http://www.jgscv.org> and scroll to the bottom to click on the Amazon graphic. This takes you to the same page you always start at – except JGSCV will receive a marketing fee at no cost to you. See “notices” on the JGSCV.org website for instructions for Ralphs Community Contribution Program, too. AND, if you shop at Food 4 Less and use your Ralph's card, JGSCV will benefit as though you shopped at Ralph's.

## Schmoozing Corner

Will re-open on March 6th after a brief vacation. Please plan on stopping by 20 minutes before the meeting on Monday evening March 6<sup>th</sup>, which will begin at 7:00 PM. The SCHMOOZING CORNER will open at 6:40 PM.

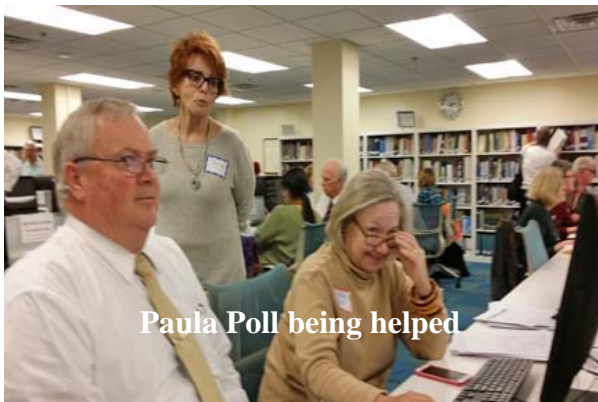
*Venturing Into Our Past* © is the newsletter of the Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley (JGSCV). All rights reserved. Permission is granted to reproduce any original content for non-profit use with prior notification to the editor and proper attribution."

# Highlights from JGSCV's Annual Assisted Research Afternoon

By Jan Meisels Allen

Each year JGSCV is privileged to hold an exclusive assisted research afternoon at the Los Angeles Family Search Library. The missionaries at the LA FamilySearch Library give up their Sunday to open the library exclusively for us and help with providing direction to JGSCV members. In addition to the missionaries, senior JGSCV members provide personal hands-on assistance to those who seek help with their family history research. We had 44 avid genealogists make the long drive to take advantage of this special program available to members only. We are delighted that so many of the JGSCV members attended. We also have ten new members who joined at the meeting!

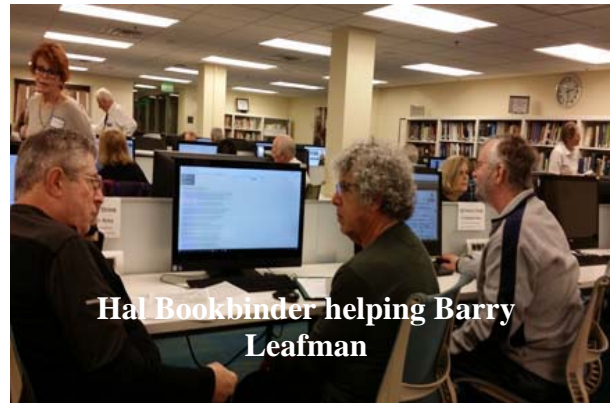
Proving that genealogy takes time and patience, JGSCV founding member, Hal Bookbinder found the record of his paternal grandmother in the 1910 U.S. census that he was seeking for decades. It turned out the transcriber badly misspelled his



Paula Poll being helped

grandmother's surname for the search mechanism. How did Hal finally succeed?

Besides perseverance, he searched on her *first* name, knowing the city and state she was living in at the time. Lesson learned:



Hal Bookbinder helping Barry Leafman

never stop searching and have patience!

Barbara Algaze, a JGSCV member, and librarian of our sister society, JGS Los Angeles, presented an informative talk introducing the resources at the L.A. FamilySearch Library including exploring the FamilySearch website and ordering microfilms. Her handout is posted to the JGSCV website, [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) under "meetings/prior" with the February 12, 2017 date.

In mentioning the myriad of subscription services available on the FamilySearch Library computers, Barbara noted that the Library has the Ancestry Institution version vs. the version someone would purchase in their home. One of the differences is for the family trees posted on the Ancestry site. If someone uses the library/institutional edition, and accesses the family trees, they would not be able to contact the person on the tree as your email address would not be available on the "public"/library computer. In addition, family

tree content such as private member trees, One World Tree and Family Data collections (individual records, births, deaths and marriages that are appended to someone's tree) would not be accessible. However, for accessing the databases



she used her husband's grandfather, Victor Algaze, which is a common name of Turkish derivation. Barbara entered where he was born, the name of the spouse and children. She suggested placing the results on a flash drive (USB drive) so that you could take the results home to your own computer.

on Ancestry, there are only a few differences between the library/institution/personal subscriptions. The institutional subscription does not allow access to the obituary collection or the information on the side of the screen which provide additional facts about your search. Another area that is not available under the Institutional subscription

Alternatively, one could print off the results or email the results to yourself. A trick Barbara shared with us to facilitate reading a poor quality record on a white background is to reverse to white type on a black background which may be easier to read.

Still using her husband's family as the example, Barbara showed how results for

*These are different records than on Ancestry.*

is the Ancestry DNA section which explores possible matches. That Ancestry DNA site requires an Ancestry.com account to find possible matches.

Barbara's lecture, "Exploring the FamilySearch Website", focused on how to use the FamilySearch website, which is available at the FamilySearch Library, at all FamilySearch Centers, and from the comfort of your home. If you don't wish to travel to the LA FamilySearch Library which is far for many JGSCV members, there is a list of all the Family Search Centers in the JGSCV geographic area on the JGSCV website [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) under resources.

#### **Exact vs Non-Exact Searches**

Barbara reviewed the difference between an "exact" vs. "not exact" search. As an example,

ALGAZI not the ALGAZE was "not exact" as the name is currently spelled.

#### **FamilySearch Website**

Barbara reviewed some of the attributes of the website. The website is sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS). Their goal is to digitize all of their resources, including books, journals, and microfiche. The entire website is free, but one may be required to register to access many of the records...registering is free and easy: <https://familysearch.org/register/1>

Many microfilms are already digitized and on their website. If you are looking for a particular microfilm, before you order it, check to determine if the records on the film which are of specific interest have yet been digitized. Barbara showed us how to do that

search. When one checks on search, they can search the records, genealogies, catalog, books, or wiki. These are different records than on Ancestry.com in some instances, and therefore, we should search both websites.

In the FamilySearch catalog, searches can be by surnames, titles, authors, subjects and keywords. One may find records for your shtetls. When searching, look for what the name was then, unlike JewishGen or Ancestry where you search what the town's name is known as today. While foreign records will be in the native language (German, Polish, Dutch etc.) the index is in English which tells you what is included in the collection. On FamilySearch for Israel, there are two options: what Israel is today, and what it was pre-1948—Palestine, therefore, be specific when doing your search. Barbara cautioned us to put in the local spelling when doing a search, such as *Wien* for *Vienna*. To find the local spelling one can use JewishGen.org on the [gazetteer](http://www.jewishgen.org/gazetteer): <http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocTown.asp> or look at Wikipedia, or Google it!

Books in the FamilySearch Library no longer covered under copyright restrictions have been digitized and are online-including family books.

Microfilms not in the local FamilySearch Center, may be ordered from the FamilySearch website. You must be subscribed to FamilySearch in order to get to that part of the website. When you are in the catalog, you can put in Salt Lake City and order the film on-line. A short-term loan of 30 days is \$7.50 but if you want the film on permanent loan in the LA Family Search Library or one of the local branches, it's \$18.75. Again, one must register to be able to borrow films. If the microfilm is listed in red then it has been digitized and is online on the [www.FamilySearch.org](http://www.FamilySearch.org) website. When using

the catalog at the Los Angeles FamilySearch Library use the “keyword” to look up topics. For example, to access the JGSLA library, use



“JGS”. Results for “JGS” are 1,222 items of which 650 are books and the remainder their journals and newsletter collection.

### **FamilySearch Wiki**

Family Search has a Wiki on its website. A Wiki is similar to Wikipedia, except that it has everything but records on genealogy. However, the wiki does advise you where to look and how to do research. See: [https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main\\_Page](https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Main_Page)

The former brochures or booklets, for example the one on Jewish Genealogy published by FamilySearch are now included in the wiki.

Barbara recommended getting a free account on FamilySearch.org which will permit you to search their vast digitized records. If you need assistance on the FamilySearch website at the bottom of the page, use their “live chat”: or call 1-866-406-1830.

Barbara volunteers most Tuesday afternoons at the LA FamilySearch Library. If you would like personal assistance from her at the Library, she strongly suggests that you make an appointment in advance to ensure that she can spend adequate time with you. You may reach Barbara at [barbara@jgscv.org](mailto:barbara@jgscv.org).



# Practicing Safe Computing #17 – Searchable Government Databases

By Hal Bookbinder (Seventeenth in a series)



The articles in this series have focused on avoiding computing problems. This article shifts to some government resources that may help find people. We will get back to avoiding

problems next month.

Government agencies maintain numerous interesting searchable databases. For example, the Office of Inspector General at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services maintains a searchable database regarding individuals and entities currently excluded from participation in Medicare, Medicaid and all other Federal health care programs. As of February 2017, it contained 2,974 entities and 63,306 individuals. One can search by the first letter(s) of the entity name or surname (Entering the wildcard “%” retrieves everything).

Searching the Entity database for “Los Angeles” returned three hits. Here is the first entry:

Entity: LOS ANGELES DOCTORS  
HOSPITAL CORPORATION,  
General: OTHER BUSINESS,  
Specialty: HC CONGLOM –  
PARENT, Address: 2231 S  
WESTERN AVE, LOS ANGELES,  
CA 90018-0000, Excl. Type:  
1128(a)(1)- PROGRAM-RELATED  
CONVICTION, Excl. Date:  
06/14/2012

Searching the Individual database for “COHEN” returned 37 hits. The first one is:

First Name: ABBOTT, Middle Name:  
B, Last Name: COHEN, DOB:

12/25/1968, General: PODIATRY  
PRACTICE, Specialty: PODIATRY,  
Address: 105 PRENTISS, ALPENA,  
MI 49707-0000, Excl. Type:  
1128(a)(4)- FELONY CONTROLLED  
SUBSTANCE CONVICTION, Excl.  
Date: 08/19/2004

You can use this database to check out individuals and entities about whom you might have a concern. You also might be able to find information on lost or potential relatives. Try it with the surnames you are researching. Access it at <https://oig.hhs.gov> and select the “Exclusions” tab. The first option is its Online Searchable Database. It also contains a helpful FAQ.

Various federal and state entities maintain publicly accessible staff directories. For the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services go to <http://directory.psc.gov/employee.htm>. It provides the specific organization for which the person works, his/her job title, location, phone and email.

If interested in seeing if an organization has a publicly accessible directory, enter “Staff Directory - DHS CA” (citing the specific agency you want). In this case you will find a staff directory for the California Department of Health Services. Try it with federal, states or local agencies. Be creative. If your search does not work try alternative wording like “phone directory” or “employee directory.”

The first several listed responses to such searches will often be commercial search facilities which themselves scour many publicly available databases for information on individuals...for a fee. They pay to be listed

at the top. If you skip over them and look for URLs ending in “CA.GOV”, “NY.GOV” or just “GOV” you have gotten beyond the commercial sites. If you are interested in California governmental sites, include “CA.GOV” in your Google search.

Of course, not all government databases are free. For example, I was searching for a nurse and knew that each state maintains a registry of licensed nurses. In another search I was trying to find someone based on mortgage information. A friend has a professional practice that subscribes to various licensure and property databases. Accessing these databases quickly located the individuals.

The scope and availability of governmental databases are more than you might imagine. Happy hunting!

*This is the seventeenth in a series of articles by JGSCV founding member Hal Bookbinder. Hal is also a Past President of JGSLA and IAJGS. He is the 2010 recipient of the IAJGS Lifetime Achievement Award and his online skills are well documented.*

## Jakub Leipzig Interview: Jewish Displacement in Italy through ITS Documents

*The blog reproduced below is the ‘Introduction from the Jakob Leipzig Interview’ 1/23/17 from The European Holocaust Research Infrastructure (<https://ehri-project.eu/>)project. EHRI is an international project aimed at providing online access to information about dispersed sources relating to the Holocaust and making these documents and resources more accessible. EHRI is funded by the European Commission under the FP7 and Horizon 2020 programs. For the entire blog go to Jakob Leipzig.. <http://tinyurl.com/zouwgt2>*

The following report is one of approximately 30 million documents held in the Archives of the International Tracing Service (ITS) – an extensive and unique collection that provides information about the fates of millions of refugees uprooted during World War II.

In addition to the economic, political and social damages, World War II drastically altered the geographic, as well as demographic structure of Europe. The overall death toll was staggering (about 36.5 million European citizens died during the conflict), leading to an increase in the number of the orphans and a large imbalance in the numbers of men and women. Nevertheless, the most pressing legacy of the war was an endless movement of refugees across the changed borders of Europe.

Europe had never seen so many refugees until that time. Between 1939 and 1945, around 30 million people were transplanted, expelled, and deported from their towns, villages, countrysides and cities. When the Allied Army arrived in Europe, the number of the refugees continued to grow constantly. After V-E Day in May 1945, this humanitarian crisis was managed by the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Forces (SHAEF), which established specialized military sub-commissions in each of the occupation zones to deal with the large numbers of refugees. Nonetheless, the challenging task of handling the civilian movements in post-war Europe required the intervention of other agencies and institutions that began to operate – supervised by SHAEF – some months after the end of the war.

# Genealogy Odds and Ends

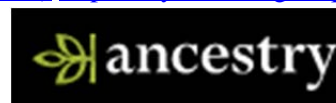
Logan Kleinwaks of H-SIG recently added about 70 Hungarian business, address, and telephone directories from hungaricana.hu to the full-text search engine at genealogyindexer.org. These additions span 1845-1932 with full-country coverage and 1822-1950 limited to Budapest. For a list of these and other Hungarian directories searchable at genealogyindexer.org, see <http://genealogyindexer.org/directories#Hungary>.

Santa Barbara Jewish Film Festival slated for March 23-27 at the New Vic Theater (33 W. Victoria St., Santa Barbara). Highlights include *The Settlers* (Friday, 3:15 pm), which examines the current controversial movement in Israel, followed by a discussion with the director; *Who's Gonna Love Me Now?* (Saturday, 8:00 pm), the story of a gay Israeli paratrooper and member of the London Gay Men's Chorus who must confront his religious family, followed by a special live performance of *Z. Wilde's Fratelli: A Men's Chorus*; and *There Are Jews Here* (Sunday, 11:45 am), which looks at smaller Jewish communities around the U.S., followed by a discussion with representatives from outlying communities in the tri-counties. The Festival will conclude with *Time to Say Goodbye*, (Monday, 7:30 pm) a German comedy about circumcision!



Some of the new records now available on ancestry.com:

- [Romania, Vital Records from Selected Regions, 1607-1914 \(in German\) http://tinyurl.com/gwhqcgx](http://tinyurl.com/gwhqcgx)
- [1860 United States Federal Census http://tinyurl.com/gp9dcqz](http://tinyurl.com/gp9dcqz)
- [Texas, Naturalization Records, 1865-1991 http://tinyurl.com/zathxlo](http://tinyurl.com/zathxlo)
- [Canada, WWII Service Files of War Dead, 1939-1947 http://tinyurl.com/z6kumpu](http://tinyurl.com/z6kumpu)



If you haven't done so lately, visit the FamilySearch wiki at <http://tinyurl.com/gwo4dka> where you will find dozens of hyperlinks to websites and guides that may be new to you. You will also find answers to these questions: Why did Columbus bring Jews with him on his journey to the new world? Can you find Jewish birth records in churches? What is the connection between the Statue of Liberty and Sephardic Jews?



The next page highlights Werner Frank's new book, "Judenhaus: Small Ghetto at Grosse Merzelstrasse 7". If that whets your appetite, check out the 'Hot New Releases in Genealogy' on Amazon.com <http://tinyurl.com/jb8tp8j>. And, when you do that, be sure to enter the Amazon.com site by first going to [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) and clicking on the Amazon banner at the bottom of our homepage.

# A New Book By Werner Frank

JGSCV founding board member Werner Frank has published a new book, "Judenhaus: Small Ghetto at Grosse Merzelstrasse 7". Germany under National Socialist rule, issued over 2,000 anti-Semitic decrees. Some are well known, including the notorious boycott of Jewish businesses on April 1, 1933, followed quickly by the "Law of the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service," denying employment to Jewish civil servants and restricting the practice of Jewish lawyers and doctors. Paramount, however, were the Nuremberg Laws of 1935 that formally stripped Jews of their German citizenship, defined who was an Aryan and prohibited marriages and sexual contact between ethnic Germans and Jews.



What did not receive headlines was the Nazi policy of Jewish containment which eliminated Jews from society by taking away means of earning a living, prohibiting children from attending the public schools and universities, and limiting freedom of movement with enforced curfews.

An even lesser known restriction was The "Law on Tenancies with Jews" imposed on April 30, 1939, forcing the Jewish population to give up their personal residences in order to be crammed into a limited number of specially designated houses throughout Germany; the so-called Judenhaus, the Jews' House, or sometimes called "small ghetto."

This book focusses on one such Judenhaus located in the city of Mannheim where some of Werner Frank's family resided. The narrative identifies and follows the fate of 80 individuals who were residents of this apartment building in the period 1938-1940, reflecting their experiences during the pogrom of Kristallnacht in November 1938 and the massive October 1940 deportation of all Jews in the Baden/Pfalz/Saar area to Camp de Gurs in Vichy France.



The book also identifies by name the 2,000 Jews of Mannheim that ended up in Gurs, a temporary internment camp from which most were ultimately transported to their death at Auschwitz.

"Judenhaus: Small Ghetto at Grosse Merzelstrasse 7" is available from Amazon in both print and e-book (Kindle) format.

Werner will talk to us about his new book sometime in the fall 2017-Spring 2018 programs. We are waiting for the meeting dates from the Temple in May and then we will schedule Werner to speak on his latest book.

Remember: Next JGSCV Meeting is MONDAY, March 6<sup>th</sup>  
at 7:00 PM

## Future JGSCV Meeting Dates through August 2017

Sunday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. **Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m.**

Programs co-sponsored by Temple Adat Elohim.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Mark your calendars. As soon as additional programs are finalized they will be added to this list and the website

March 6, 2017 **MONDAY 7:00-9:00 PM** Speaker:  
Mary Kozy "Google and Its Tools for Genealogists"

Using Google Earth, Google Maps, Google Drive and social media tools for family history searches

April 2, 2017 Sunday 1:00-4:00 PM Movie: *Persona Non Grata*. Japanese film about Chuine Sugihara vice-counsel of Japan in Lithuania and how he saved 6,000 Jewish lives. English and English subtitles when English not is spoken.

May 7, 2017 Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Speaker: Marcia Fine "A Sephardic Journey" Story of Jews who were persecuted around the world for almost 400 years by the Inquisition.

June 4, 2017 Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Speaker: Jan Meisels Allen "How to Begin Jewish Genealogy"

July 2017 no meeting IAJGS Conference July 23-28, 2017 Orlando, FL

August 6, 2017 Sunday 1:30-3:30 PM Genealogy In the Round Members and guests share their successes, brickwalls and artifacts.

# 2017 Membership/Renewal Form

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

\*Member of the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies  
(IAJGS) [www.JGSCV.org](http://www.JGSCV.org)



**Dues paid now are good through December 2017**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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 out to: JGSCV Mail application to: Helene Rosen,

28912 Fountainwood St.

Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code + 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Day telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_