



# VENTURING INTO OUR PAST

NEWSLETTER OF THE JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF THE CONEJO VALLEY AND VENTURA COUNTY (JGSCV)

Volume 3, Issue 4

January 2008

## President's Message

Our December 9 meeting was a great hit with Ron Arons telling us about the various Internet sites to help us with our genealogy research — beyond JewishGen and Steve Morse! A copy of Ron's handout is on the JGSCV website under past programs, December 2007. Twelve members received Chanukah gifts as part of our annual Chanukah Party and membership renewal drive. Prizes ranged from a World Deluxe Subscription to Ancestry.com, several different genealogical software programs, books and framed artwork. Many thanks to Ancestry.com for donating the subscription, several books and a copy of FTM 2008 to help with our membership renewal drive!

Hal Bookbinder conducted the JGSCV Board election. The slate of six board members was accepted by acclamation. Elected to the board for 2-year terms were: Jan Meisels Allen, Stewart Bernstein, Warren Blatt, Dalya Dektor and Dorothy Drilich. Elected for a one-year term was Fred Land. With the expansion of the board from nine elected directors to 10, the board had previously decided the new position be for an initial one-year term, so that in the future five board positions will stand for election in each 2-year cycle.



**SPEAKER RON ARONS**

JGSCV meetings are open to anyone without charge, and our newsletter goes to all attendees and interested parties, therefore the JGSCV board decided our dues-paying members should be given some special services. Starting in January JGSCV will have several member-only services:

1. Warren Blatt, editor in chief and VP JewishGen.org, is a member of our board. A current (2008) member may ask Warren one question a month on how they may research a topic in order to help one's genealogy pursuits. Warren will have several weeks to reply. You can reach Warren at [Warren@JGSCV.org](mailto:Warren@JGSCV.org)
2. Lina Boardman will provide a translation assistance program beginning with Dutch, German, French and some Russian. If you can translate other languages, please volunteer and contact Lina at [translations@jgscv.org](mailto:translations@jgscv.org). Translations are for such documents as birth, marriage, death records, brief letter etc.
3. JGSCV has arranged for an exclusive members-only research day at the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center on April 6 between 1-5 p.m. Car pooling will help in getting there and back. Ask your fellow JGSCV member to share the trip. People may join JGSCV at the door the day of the meeting.
4. JGSCV members may borrow selected CDs. Our available programs are entitled: How To Begin Your Genealogy Parts 1, 2, 3 & 4. Also available for circulation are our library of CDs and VHS tapes.

Our January meeting with Marian Smith, historian, United States Citizenship and Immigration Service (USCIS) is a "must" to attend. Marian is a well-known and respected lecturer and has so much information to share on what types of documents the government has on immigrants for the period 1882-1954. See page 3 for more on this fantastic opportunity!

On behalf of the JGSCV Board have a happy, healthy and genealogically successful New Year. We look forward to sharing genealogy with you in 2008!

Jan Meisels Allen

**FOR SCHEDULE OF FORTHCOMING MEETINGS, SEE PAGE 3**

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL CYCLE FOR 2008 IS IN PROCESS, SEE PAGE 4**

## ABOUT JGSCV.....

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County meets once a month, usually on a Sunday. Meetings are oriented to the needs of the novice as well as the more experienced genealogist. Members share materials, research methods and ideas, as well as research success or failures. Members have access to the JGSCV library located on a special shelves at the Agoura Hills Public Library. Members also receive our monthly newsletter circulated by email.

2008 dues are \$25.00 for a single membership and \$30.00 for a household unit. To join, please send appropriate amount in check made out to JGSCV and addressed to Helene Rosen at 28912 Fountain wood St., Agoura Hills, CA 91301. Obtain new membership or renewal forms on our website at [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) by selecting the membership button.

## Area Library Systems Add Ancestry.com Library Edition and more.....

The Ventura County Libraries ([www.ventcolibrary.org](http://www.ventcolibrary.org)) (15 branches-see below) have recently added the Ancestry.com Library Edition to their databases. The Library Edition provides extensive coverage of the U.S., including census data, birth, marriage, and death records, World War I draft registration cards, Social Security death records, and immigration lists. The database contains an extensive collection of information from the U.K., including census records, civil registrations, and probate records dating back to the 1500s. Less extensive coverage of Canada, Europe and other areas are covered as well.

The Library Edition can be used at any of the 15 branches: Avenue Library, Camarillo Library, Fillmore Library, E.P. Foster Library, Historical Museum Library, Meiers Oak Library, Oak Park Library, Oak View Library, Ojai Library, Piru Library, Ray D. Preuter Library, Saticoy Library, Simi Valley Library, Albert H. Soliz Library, H.P. Wright Library.

Also of interest to genealogists is the Ventura County Library System's database, Heritage Quest On-line which may be accessed both remotely (from the comfort of your home) or at the library. This database complements *Ancestry Library Edition*. Besides U.S. federal census data (1790-1930), *Heritage Quest Online* includes over 20,000 family and local history books and over 250 primary-source documents such as tax lists, city directories, and probate records. The database includes other unique sources of information such as PERSI, an index of over 1.9 million genealogy and local history articles, the *Revolutionary War Pension and*

*Bounty Land Warrant Application Files* and the *Freedman's Bank Records*.

Remember, the Ventura County Library System also has ProQuest Historical newspapers — The Los Angeles Times (1881-1986) and the New York Times (1851-2004) and 350 other newspapers — both national and regional in ProQuest Newstand. More about the newspaper resources was written in *Venturing Into Our Past* February 2007 which is accessible on our website: [www.JGSCV.org](http://www.JGSCV.org) under newsletters.

Any California resident may obtain a free Ventura County Library Card by going in person to any of the 15 branches mentioned above.

The Grant R. Brimhall Thousand Oaks Library (and their Newbury Park branch) [not part of the Ventura County Library System] <http://www.toaks.org/library/> also has the Ancestry.com's Library Edition – which is accessible only at the library and Heritage Quest which may be accessible remotely with a Thousand Oaks Library Card. There is a fee for non-Thousand Oaks residents to obtain a library card.

County of Los Angeles Public Library (COLA) ([www.colapublib.org](http://www.colapublib.org)) has 88 branches and bookmobiles (the closest branches for JGSCV members are located in Agoura Hills and Westlake Village). The COLA has Heritage Quest which may be accessed remotely with a COLA library card available free in person from any branch for a California resident. COLA has a remotely accessible subscription to ProQuest National newspapers (27) — not historical newspapers but from the late 1980s to 1990s and full text of nine national U.S. newspapers from 1986 to current including the LA Times and the Chicago Tribune.

The Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL) <http://www.lapl.org> has 71 branches plus the main library (the closest branch to the JGSCV is located in Woodland Hills) also has a subscription to Ancestry.com Library Edition, accessed only at the main library or one of its branches. They also have Heritage Quest on Line, accessible remotely or at the library. The LAPL offers ProQuest Historical Newspapers for the Los Angeles Times (1881-1986) and ProQuest Newstand which offers hundreds of newspapers. Any California resident may obtain a free library card by personally going to one of the branches.

The City of Calabasas Library has neither Ancestry.com Library edition nor Heritage Quest. It does have a ProQuest subscription to the Los Angeles Times (1985-present) which is accessible remotely from the website with the needed password (no library card required). See: [www.cityofcalabasas.com/library.html](http://www.cityofcalabasas.com/library.html)

Come to the Jewish Genealogical Society of the  
Conejo Valley and Ventura County\*

(\* and surrounding areas)



Sunday, January 6, 2007 2:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.  
at Temple Adat Elohim  
2420 E.Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks

The Topic:

**Documenting Immigrants to America 1882-1954**

Both the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS, formerly INS) and the National Archives have records of genealogical interest, including ship passenger lists, Board of Special Inquiry records, land border arrival records, visa files, legalization records, Alien Registration, and naturalization and citizenship records. The lecture will focus on immigration and naturalization records of a typical late 19th and early 20th century immigrant. The presentation will conclude with a lively Q&A session.

Guest Speaker: Marian L. Smith is the Senior Historian at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security. She regularly lectures at national and international genealogy conferences on the history and uses of immigration and naturalization records. Her articles appear in the National Archives journal *Prologue*, the *FGS Forum*, and other publications. Her research focus primarily involves official immigration agency records held in the National Archives.

In anticipation of the January talk on immigration to the U.S. by Marian Smith we provide a reference to her article dealing with the treatment of women in the naturalization process during the period 1802-1940. See <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1998/summer/women-and-naturalization-1.html>

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County is dedicated to sharing genealogical information, techniques and research tools with anyone interested in Jewish genealogy and family history.

Meeting co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim

There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV.

For more information contact [information@JGSCV.org](mailto:information@JGSCV.org)

See: [www.JGSCV.org](http://www.JGSCV.org) or call Jan Meisels Allen @ 818-889-6616

Future JGSCV Meeting Dates

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

February 10, 2008, "Using Maps in Genealogical Research," presented by Robert Sherins, MD.

March 2, 2008, "100 years of the Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring," presented by Eric Gordon.

April 6, 2008, Research Day at the Los Angeles Regional Family History Center

May 4, 2008, Film "Hiding and Seeking: Faith and Tolerance after the Holocaust," a documentary commemorating Yom Hashoah Day (Holocaust Memorial Day)

2008 Membership Renewal Form

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

2008 Annual Dues:

**Dues paid now are good through December 2008!**

Check one:

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 to: Helene Rosen  
28912 Fountainwood st.  
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip+4 \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**(This is very important as all communication is done by e-mail!)**

REMINDER TO REGISTER


Ralphs Community Contribution Program will support JGSCV through your purchases of goods at Ralphs markets, and at no cost to you. Please register for this community outreach program by following the steps outlined on our website: [www.jgscv.org](http://www.jgscv.org) and click on "notices."


Now whenever you shop at Ralphs, JGSCV will receive a percentage of what you spend.





# IF HUNGARY IS YOUR AREA OF GENEALOGICAL INTEREST AND RESEARCH.....


Look no further than the rich source of Hungarian Jewish genealogical data on the pages of [www.JewishGen.org](http://www.JewishGen.org) Visit the comprehensive website at [www.jewishgen.org/hungary/](http://www.jewishgen.org/hungary/) and also check out the fabulous All-Hungary Database at [www.jewishgen.org/databases/Hungary/](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Hungary/) as shown below:


 [1828 Hungarian Property Tax Census](#)  
Names of 30,000 Jews owning taxable property, listed in the 1828 Property Tax Census.


 [1848 Hungarian Jewish Census](#)  
Names of 88,000 Jews in the *Conscriptio Judaerum*, a survey of Jews in Hungary compiled after the 1848 revolution.


 [1869 Hungarian Census](#)  
Names of over 88,000 Jews, in the 1869 Census, for Abauj-Torna, Bars, Esztergom, Győr, Komárom, Nyitra, Sáros, Szepes and Zemplén counties (some now in Slovakia).


 [Other Hungarian Census Records, 1781-1850](#) **UPDATED**  
Names of over 36,000 Jews, from various census records for the late 18th and early 19th centuries.


 [Hungarian Births Database](#)  
Over 38,000 records, from Abauj-Torna, Arva, Borsod, Hajdu, Moson, Sáros, Szabolcs, Trencsén, and Zemplén counties.


 [Hungarian Marriages Database](#)  
Over 5,300 records, from Abauj-Torna, Hajdu, Moson, Sáros, Szabolcs, Trencsén and Zemplén counties.


 [Hungarian Deaths Database](#)  
Over 15,000 records, from Abauj-Torna, Hajdu, Moson, Sáros, Szabolcs, Trencsén, and Zemplén counties.


 [Hungarian Holocaust Memorials](#)  
Names of more than 17,000 martyrs, whose names are recorded on Holocaust memorials in 28 communities in Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Ukraine.

 [Who's Who in Budapest, 1837, 1845](#)  
References to 1,380 Jews in Pest.

 [Yizkor Book Necrologies](#)  
16,000 entries from lists of Holocaust martyrs in Yizkor Books for towns in Hungary, Slovakia, and former Hungarian regions now in Romania and Ukraine.

 [JewishGen Holocaust Database](#)  
200,000 names from various datasets with information about Holocaust victims and survivors.

 [JewishGen Family Finder](#)  
Over 15,000 entries by Jewish genealogists researching families in Hungary, Slovakia and Croatia.

 [JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry](#)  
22,000 burial records in Hungary, Slovakia, Máramaros and Transylvania (Romania), and Transcarpathia (Ukraine).

## Future IAJGS Conferences

The 2008 IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will take place at the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, on 17-22 August 2008. For further information refer to the website [www.chicago2008.org](http://www.chicago2008.org). To get a head start on research possibilities in Chicago go to Mike Karsen's website [www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Chicago](http://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Chicago). A Google search for "Jewish Chicago" will also lead to many interesting items. The 2009 IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy will be in Philadelphia, PA in the period August 2-7, 2009 at the Sheraton Philadelphia City Center Hotel.

- We welcome contributions from our members regarding their genealogical research experience. Submit your story to this Newsletter at [newslettereditor@jgscv.org](mailto:newslettereditor@jgscv.org) .

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: Larry Bugaisky, Jane D. Lovitts, Steve Stelman

## JGSCV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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