IAJGS ANNUAL REPORT

2013-2014
IAJGS Annual Report 2013-2014

1. Our Strategic Direction
2. Accomplishments
3. Plans
The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)

Network of/for Societies

Advocacy

Education

Crowdsourcing

Recognition & Promotion

to inspire, educate, and advocate for those pursuing Jewish genealogical research
Are We Growing?

IAJGS Collective Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Membership</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>8,499</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>8,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>8,016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>8,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>7,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>8,066</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Are We Growing?

• 15 Societies lost more than 10% of their members

• 8 Societies (>50 members) had greater than 10% growth
The Tip of the Iceberg

- Society Leadership: 200
- Society Membership: 74 Societies, 8,000 Members
- Jewish Genealogists: ?
- The Curious: 50,000 WW, 35,000 US
- Jewish Parents and Households: 18M WW, 8.3M US
Are We Fulfilling Our Purpose?

You told us:

1. Marketing
2. Outreach
3. Attracting Youth
4. Technology
5. Programs
JGS Growth Stages

1. Programs
   - Local Research Guides
   - Local Databases
   - Local Tours
   - Local Consulting

2. Services
   - ???

3. Sticky Services
   - ???
Are We Fiscally Healthy?

- The Conference Business
- The Umbrella Association Business

OK
Are We Fiscally Healthy?

- The Conference Business
- The Umbrella Association Business
## IAJGS by the Numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member Organizations</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subscribers to Records Access Alerts</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries Represented</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Time Attendees IAJGS Boston 2013 Conference</td>
<td>498</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largest 10 Societies % of Collective Members</td>
<td>53.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Member Organizations</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Largest Member’s Membership</td>
<td>833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collective Members</td>
<td>8,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countries with Member Organizations</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIVE! 2013 Recorded Hours</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIVE! 2013 Videos Viewed</td>
<td>2,368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Volunteers &amp; Speakers</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Societies with 10%+ Growth 2012-2013</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Societies with 50 members or less</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posts</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tweets</td>
<td>1,876</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thanks!**

- Committees Projects & Posts Volunteers: 68
- IAJGS Boston 2013 Conference Volunteers & Speakers: 181
Growth Opportunity & Partners

- IAJGS Membership Development Committee
- Jewish Genealogy Organization Partners
- Genealogy Organization Partners
- Jewish Organization Partners

1. Jewish Parents and Households
   - 18M WW
   - 8.3M US

2. The Curious
   - 50,000 WW
   - 35,000 US

3. Jewish Genealogists
   - ?

4. Society Membership
   - 74 Societies
   - 8,000 Members

5. Society Leadership
   - 200

- Virtual Societies
- Stage 2/3 Societies
- Engagement
- Consulting, Mentoring
- Awareness
- Success Stories
- Society-in-a-box
- Local Events-in-a-box
Society – Value Proposition

Survey results indicate genealogists join societies for camaraderie

Posted on July 24, 2014 by Gail Dever

Are you listening, genealogical societies? Here are the results to last week’s survey question: What are the most important factors that make you decide to join a genealogy society?

Background
Due to publicity on blogs, Facebook, and Twitter, 490 people participated in the survey that provided 37 multiple-choice answers. More than 40 people checked the Other box and provided additional responses.
1. Opportunity to network with people passionate about genealogy – 61%
2. Opportunity to meet knowledgeable members to help me – 59%
3. I want to improve my research skills – 54%
4. Society focused on area where my ancestors lived – 48%
5. Library’s resources (books, computers, microfilm) – 47%
6. Informative newsletter/journal/magazine – 46%
7. Research assistance and guidance – 45%
8. Affordable membership fee – 44%
9. Lectures – 43%
10. Members are friendly and helpful – 40%
10. Remote access to “members only” online databases – 40%
## IAJGS Annual Report

### Accomplishments

- Back to Basics
- 3 New Members
- IAJGS Presence at RootsTech and WDYTYA?LIVE
- Member Website Inventory
- Social Media Inroads
- Future Conferences
- Strategic Plan

### Plans
JGSs Can Help You With Your Research

The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IJS) is best known as the organizer and host of the premier annual conference on Jewish genealogy (www.jgsusa.org), but it is much more than that. In addition, IJSG comprises a network of resources to help genealogists and family historians learn about their ancestors. The hubs within this network are 74 Jewish genealogical (JGS) and historical societies that extend across the U.S. and Canada, and into Australia, Belgium, the Caribbean, Central and South America, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Sweden, Switzerland, South Africa and the United Kingdom. Each society is dedicated to providing assistance to those exploring their Jewish family history and provides myriad tools and extensive Jewish genealogical knowledge and information.

The JGSs provide assistance locally through their educational programs, mentoring, and workshops. In addition, JGSs may provide assistance remotely in the areas where members may have lived—through exploring records indexes, databases, newsletters, research guides, archives knowledge, experts-on-call, random-actsof-kindness and more. Some of the typical local research information that a JGS may have available includes information on the area’s Jewish cemeteries, burial societies, funeral homes, Jewish synagogues, Jewish newspapers, local history and migration patterns, and tours of local Jewish neighborhoods. JGSs also can provide information on how to access vital birth, marriage and death and probate records and how to look for documents in local record repositories.

Examples

Here are a sample of JGSs that provide some unexpected resources:

JGS Great Britain (www.jgs.org.uk) has a wonderful journal, Showeb. The indexes for back issues of Showeb from 2005-12 are available online and specific issues may be ordered. Join JGB to access all Showeb issues via download. The society also has several helpful guides and informational publications in print that may be ordered, including: Jewish Memorial (Tobler) Books in the United Kingdom, The Jewish Victorian 1861-1870: Genealogical Resources within the Jewish Home and Family, A Guide to Organizing Your Family History Records, A Guide to Reading Hebrew Inscriptions and Documents, A Guide to Jewish Genealogy in the United Kingdom, and similar guides for Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland. The JGS provides access to a special database of Marriage Authorizations granted by the United Synagogue from 1888-94. In addition, it has a nicely categorized list of useful links and information resources that highlight United Kingdom research links and also include links of general Jewish genealogy interest as well as research in other countries.

JGS Palm Beach County (www.jspgpalmbeach.org) also provides online access to its newsletter, Scattered Seeds, from 2007 to the present. As well, researchers may purchase a 32-page workbook, Genealogy Resourcees—Searching Your Ancestry in Archives and Repositories, from its website. JGS Palm Beach County also provides an “Experts on Call” service.

JGS Cleveland (JGC) (www.clevelandjgs.org) provides a “Make a Research Request” service specifically for out-of-towners, a great service for those whose family tree has branches in Cleveland, Ohio. Local research tools that the society provides include: obituary indexes, a cemetery database, cemetery photographs, a synagogue database, Cuyahoga County monumental and index, Cuyahoga County Court of Common Pleas civil case dockets. For contact to a Cleveland family history, the society also presents Cleveland Jewish history on its website.

As I started to research my family history, I explored the JGS Cleveland website for clues about my great-grandparents who had lived in that city. Having grown up in Chicago, I had no prior knowledge of my great-grandparents or their lives in Cleveland. Through searching the JGC obituary indexes, I was able to procure a copy of my great-grandmother’s obituary. While I had been told my great-grandmother had no brothers or sisters, the obituary, much to my delight, identified a sister. I discovered a living descendant of that sister who shared a copy of a family tree someone had handwritten 40 years ago. My great-grandmother not only had one sister, she was one of 13 children! Thank you JGS Cleveland! I subsequently made a trip to Cleveland to visit some of my newfound relatives. The trip was coincident with a JGC meeting.

I dropped in to the meeting as a guest to thank the society for its help in giving me such a genealogical break-through. The members were very welcoming. After sharing with one couple at the meeting, they offered to take me on a driving tour of Jewish Cleveland. They took me to the...
Our Digital Presence & Accessibility
Our Logo
The Future Face of Jewish Genealogy
The Future Face of Jewish Genealogy

Yeshiva University's
Family Discovery Club's Opening Event

March 26th, 2014

YU Family Discovery Club's Opening Event
Your Membership Dollars

- Stern/Stedman Awards, 6,000
- Travel Expenses, 3,165
- Accounting fees, 2,415
- Board Meetings, 2,293
- IAJGS Direct Conference Expenses, 2,419
- Insurance, 1,342
- Credit Card Processing Fees, 361
- Dues, 45
- Bank charges, 100
- Postage & Delivery, 124
- Internet, 858
- License Fees (NJ State), 180
- PayPal Charges, 5
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### Plans

- Delivery
- Dashboard
- Communications & Transparency
- Increased Engagement
What is Our Future?
IAJGS Annual Report 2013-2014

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Who Was Jon Stedman – Patron of Jewish Genealogy?

“This was something Jon was really interested in, projects that would open more doors to research records available to all those addicts looking for one more name, or another date.”
## Future Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hotel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jerusalem</td>
<td>July 6-10, 2015</td>
<td>Ramada Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle</td>
<td>August 7-12, 2016</td>
<td>Sheraton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>July 23-28, 2017</td>
<td>Walt Disney World Swan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warsaw</td>
<td>T.B.D.</td>
<td>T.B.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Under Study</strong></td>
<td></td>
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