We are very grateful for this renewed recognition of our organization’s leadership role in obtaining Pages of Testimony. Our JGSPBCI has arranged training meetings for new volunteers, paid for the printing of whatever forms have been required, publicized the Names Recovery Campaign in our newsletter throughout South Florida as well as contacting JGSs worldwide.

Last Summer, our Board Member Don Hirschhorn was presented with an award from the Director of the Hall of Names at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem for his work for Yad Vashem.

Sylvia, Sandy and Dennis receiving the award from Cynthia.
Scattered Seeds
Second Quarter 2008

Nu? What's New?
The E-zine of Jewish Genealogy From Avotaynu

Gary Mokotoff, Editor

Volume 9, Number 8 | April 1, 2008

Special Edition

Susan King Retires from JewishGen

How do you get hundreds of people to volunteer for your project? How do you get tens of them to be willing to follow you off a cliff with no questions asked? It is not that difficult; all you have to be is Susan King.

Susan King, founder of JewishGen, has announced her retirement effective March 31, 2008. David Marwell, Director of the Museum of Jewish Heritage, of which JewishGen is a part, stated “Perhaps more than any other person, Susan, through JewishGen, has changed the way research on Jewish family history is conducted...She has left a profound mark on a pioneering institution.”

JewishGen started in 1989 as what was then called a Bulletin Board which today is a small component of the JewishGen environment: the JewishGen Discussion Group. At that time, it required a long distance telephone call to Houston, Texas, where King lived, to connect to her computer to post a message. At the same time, you could read the postings of others and respond to them if appropriate. It then was called the Jewish Genealogy Conference.

In 1995, Apple Computer recognized the value of bulletin boards to the Internet community and invited bulletin board owners to join the Apple World network. After affiliating with Apple World, there was a dramatic increase in the number of researchers utilizing the Jewish Genealogy Conference services. King realized the need for a more extensive presence of Jewish genealogy on the Internet to help newcomers obtain information in a personalized, efficient manner and at the same time avoiding endless repetition for other, more experienced genealogists. Thus JewishGen was born.

As the Jewish genealogical community recognized the value of what King was creating, hundreds flocked to JewishGen to volunteer to make it grow. Today it has more than 100 databases containing more than 10 million records.

In 2005, the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies gave King their Lifetime Achievement Award “recognizing her twenty years of pioneering vision and leadership in making resources freely available to the worldwide Jewish genealogical community. Through her tireless devotion many thousands of people who might never have explored their Jewish roots have successfully done so, benefitting from the continually expanding array of online resources offered by JewishGen. She has changed the face of Jewish genealogy with a clear and focused goal of preserving our history for future generations.”

In January 2003, JewishGen was acquired by the Museum of Jewish Heritage located in New York. At that time, in Nu? What’s New? I stated, “In recent years, JewishGen has been struggling under the enormous weight of a volunteer-based organization that relied on contributions for its operation. This curtailed its growth, which was quite remarkable despite these handicaps. With the burden of day-to-day matters, such as administration and fund raising, lifted from King's shoulders, she can now focus on the growth of JewishGen and the improvement of its quality.”
NEW YORK, NY – Susan King, the founder of JewishGen, the primary Internet source connecting Jewish genealogy researchers from around the world, is leaving the organization after 21 years.

“Susan King’s tenure as Managing Director of JewishGen has ended after more than two decades of extraordinary leadership of that pioneering institution,” announced Dr. David G. Marwell, director of the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust in New York City. JewishGen has been an affiliate of the Museum of Jewish Heritage since 2003.

Dr. Marwell also announced the appointment of Warren Blatt, currently the Editor-in-Chief of JewishGen, to serve as JewishGen’s new Managing Director. Mr. Blatt, who has been actively involved with JewishGen since 1990, was awarded the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies Lifetime Achievement Award in 2004.

“Warren Blatt brings great skill and experience to his new position, and we look forward to working with him,” Dr. Marwell said.

Founded by Ms. King in 1987, JewishGen is the principal Internet source connecting Jewish genealogy researchers from around the world with more than 300,000 registered users. Created to assist those interested in researching their Jewish ancestry, JewishGen, Inc. is staffed primarily by volunteers relying on the generosity of its users to ensure continued growth.

Ed. Note: From Tracing the Tribe a JTA blog about Jewish genealogy by Schelly Talalay Dardashti

More from the Above Blog: According to a release on FamilySearch.org, a nonprofit organization, more than 1,000 names of Jews from Ireland have been added to the Knowles Collection database, which contains information for more than 15,000 Jews from the British Isles.

ITS Distributes Displaced Persons Files
The International Tracing Service now has distributed its digitized collection of records of displaced persons to the Yad Vashem Memorial in Jerusalem, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, and the Warsaw-based National Institute of Remembrance. It provides information about some 3.5 million people. To date ITS has given 67 million images of documents to the requesting organizations. It will take another two years to complete the job.

Additional information can be found at http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080325/ap_on_re_eu/germany_nazi_archive_6

Ed. Note: The above was provided by Nu? What’s New? The e-zine produced by Gary Mokotoff. From the March 30, 2008 issue.
Hello Everyone,

It’s hard to believe that it is May already. Some of you have returned to your Summer quarters but “Scattered Seeds” has come along to keep you reminded of your genealogical interests based here in South Florida. As always we look forward to your return in the Fall.

This has been one of the most significant few months in Jewish genealogy with the departure of Susan King, the founder of JewishGen, Inc., and her replacement by Warren Blatt, long a hard-working member of the JewishGen team. It will be interesting to watch how jewishgen.org will begin to look under a new hand as well as to see if there are any significant policy changes.

This has been a wonderful season for the JGSPBCI. Our meetings have been well-attended and our speakers appreciated, our Luncheon and Mini-Conference were very successful and we made some sorely needed changes to our bylaws. We are finishing up this season with “Share Our Successes” one of our most popular events, on MAY 14th.

Now to next year. Please note that our meeting dates will be a little different in the Fall due to the arrival of many Jewish holidays on Wednesdays (or Tuesday evenings). We have made it a point never to hold a meeting on a Jewish holiday and in order to live up to that, we have had to change a few dates. The complete calendar with some of the upcoming programs will be included in the Third Quarter Issue due out in early September. But, please mark your calendars now. Our first meeting will be on SEPTEMBER 10 which is the usual second Wednesday of the month, but our second meeting will be on OCTOBER 29th which is the FIFTH WEDNESDAY of the month.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meetings.

Sandy
STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Scattered Seeds is the publication of the JGSPBC, Inc., a not-for-profit educational organization. The newsletter is issued four times per year. It is a free publication distributed to all paid-up members and Jewish Genealogical Societies throughout the world in a courtesy exchange program. Back issues may be available at $3.50 (US) per issue.

REQUEST FOR ARTICLES

Contributions of articles of interest are encouraged for possible inclusion in Scattered Seeds. Material should be e-mailed to the editor who reserves the right to accept, reject or publish in revised form. Please use MS Word. The Editor can be contacted by phone at 561.883.8566 or via e-mail at: sdh2381@bellsouth.net. If e-mail is not available, articles should be sent to:

Sandra Hirschhorn, Editor,
P.O. Box 7796,
Delray Beach, FL 33482-7796

MEMBERSHIP DUES PER YEAR

- Individual Membership $25.00
- Family Membership $36.00
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- Patron Membership $100.00
- Life Membership Individual $200.00
- Life Membership Family $300.00

Send dues to: JGS of Palm Beach County, Inc.
Attn. Treasurer
P.O. Box 7796
Delray Beach, FL 33482-7796

Our Objectives

- To establish a scholarly organization with the goal of preservation of Jewish family histories
- To assist and promote the research of Jewish family history.
- To encourage interested persons to pursue and preserve genealogical data.
- To provide opportunities for the sharing of Jewish genealogical information.
- To elevate the status and role of Jewish Genealogy in the Jewish community and in the academic community.
- To publish material in the field of genealogy.
- To engage in only those activities permitted by organizations exempt from Federal Income Tax as described in section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Permission is granted to print all or part of any original article printed in Scattered Seeds in the newsletter/journal of any other JGS, providing proper acknowledgment is given. Acknowledgment should include title, author, issuing society and volume number.
More Than Just a Pair of Candlesticks

By Ann Rabinowitz
Member, JGSPBCI

In retrospect, I ought to explain that I have always been enamored with candlesticks. They have had a strange fascination for me with their fantastic variety of shapes, forms and designs. Over the years, I have collected various types be they metal, porcelain, glass, or otherwise. I have often wondered who had used them and where they had come from before they landed on my table.

With this in mind, I attended a recent JGSPBCI meeting where the speaker, Rafi Guber, was scheduled to help provide identification for member-owned Judaica. In the aftermath of this meeting, I happened to speak to JGSPBCI member Helene Seaman. She had with her a five-branched candelabra that she wanted to have identified and which had belonged to her grandmother, Hudel Glik Barkan, from Dusetos, Lithuania. When the speaker was unable to assist her directly, I told her that I would help her identify her family heirloom.

Helene sent me a picture of her item and I noted the hallmark on the upside of it: Derby S.P., Co., #02572. When I saw that, I realized that the item was not a foreign one made in “der heim” as she had thought, but one whose provenance had originated in the United States.

The Derby S.P., Co. inscription represented the Derby Silver Plate Company which was founded in Derby (originally Birmingham), Connecticut in 1873. At some point in the early 20th Century, Derby joined the International Silver Company which had been founded in 1898 in Meriden, Connecticut.

This company was a conglomeration of a number of independent silver manufacturers and they specialized in making “silver-plated hollowware including pitchers, bowls, mugs, teapots, coffee pots and trays”. Candlesticks and candelabra were also produced by the company, especially what were called wedding candelabra. These items were used at the wedding itself as well as at the reception. In addition, one often found that the groom’s family would give the bride a gift of candlesticks which were used during the ceremony and thereafter.

In all probability, Helene’s grandmother had purchased the candelabra at some point after she had established her household in America. Its elaborate design was symbolic of a time when intricate ornamentation was commonplace and expected. It had come just prior to the next generation of modern clean-cut designs for household items such as candlesticks.

Following this candlestick inquiry, another individual, Shelly Levin, then posted on JewishGen about wanting to identify a wonderful gift that she had just been given. The gift was a pair of brass candlesticks from Szczuczyn, Poland, that had belonged to her great grandmother Nechama Milewicz-Lipowicz. Evidently, Nechama had brought these candlesticks to America in 1939 and Shelly had been told that they had been passed down in her family for over 300 plus years or so. It is always a blessing to receive such a gift which exemplifies family history over such a long period of time.

Continued on Page 7
In response to Shelly’s inquiry, I told her that brass candlesticks were quite popular in the period from the 1600's onward when her great grandmother ancestor’s had reputedly obtained the candlesticks. They were a staple in the Galician woman's arsenal of household items along with her "perina" or goose-down comforter or duvet. Many women prided themselves on their candlesticks which were the main, or sometimes perhaps, the only adornment of their Shabbat table, especially in poorer households.

In fact, my grandmother, Rose Oxenberg Fink, had a number of candlesticks and candelabras of various sizes and shapes which she used on the Shabbat table and which were later divided and given to each of her four daughters. However, the one's given to my mother were supposedly purchased secondhand in 1901 when my grandmother arrived in Manchester, England, from Drogobych, Ukraine. The candlesticks had "Made in England" stamped on the underside. This was her first purchase when setting up her new household as had been the case with Helene Seaman’s grandmother when she settled in America.

At the time, Great Britain produced the best quality of brass in the world; particularly that created in Birmingham, England. The candlesticks were later electroplated with silver which was commonly done and this eventually wore off requiring “re-silvering”. This spawned a whole industry to meet the need for upkeep on the candlesticks.

Many of the British brass products were exported and it is possible that Shelly’s great grandmother's candlesticks could have had a British origin, if there was a hallmark on the side or underside to that effect. However, it is more likely though that the candlesticks were made locally or in a nearby larger city close to where her great grandmother lived in Galicia.

Along with the butcher and the baker, the candlestick maker was an important facet of urban existence for not only Jewish housewives, but the entire community. Many times, housewives purchased their candlesticks from local craftsmen or at the weekly markets in their Shtetl or from peddlers who traveled on a regular circuit through their communities. If the Shtetl were large enough, there would have even been actual stores where the candlesticks could be purchased and which were often called “colonial goods” stores as they were in Lithuania.

An example of such “colonial goods” was the brass “Made in England” candlesticks purchased by Leah Fein Cohen, a resident of Kupiskis, Lithuania. She bought them from a dealer in her Shtetl and then carried them through Europe, sailed with them across the Atlantic Ocean and finally arrived with them in New York in 1893. They were treasured by her, until her death in 1918, when they passed to her daughter and thence to her granddaughter, Linda Cantor, who has them to this day.

Candlesticks are quite interesting in conformation and shape and you can sometimes determine their origins by this alone. Many were constructed in parts and bolted together. They were made from many different metal materials, from the most expensive such as gold to silver, silver-plate, bronze, and to the least expensive which was brass. In addition, there were also wooden candlesticks as well as ceramic, porcelain, and glass or crystal candlesticks which became popular as well.
In regard to my grandmother's candlesticks, they were the only things that survived, along with the tablecloth they were on, after the family home was destroyed during the World War II Blitz in Manchester, England. I came to think of them as literal survivors as the Jews were. Unfortunately, I was not in possession of the candlesticks after my mother passed away and they disappeared last year and are no longer part of the family heritage. It was a poignant moment when I learned of their loss.

Fortunately, I was given a present of a pair of hand-carved wooden candlesticks from a friend, Morris Rich, who has since passed away. He was a wood carver or turner and a Holocaust survivor of the Kovno Ghetto whose father had been a wood carver before him. It was as a result of his carving abilities that Morris and his brother Abe were able to save themselves in the Kovno Ghetto. They carved toys for the Nazi commandant and other wooden items for his staff and their families. So, these wooden candlesticks that I received from Morris Rich, not only have a ritual meaning for me, but resonate once again, as my grandmother's candlesticks did, with the ability of the Jews to survive over the centuries despite overwhelming odds to the contrary.

An interesting sidelight of Morris Rich’s story is that he opened the first wood-turning shop in Miami and catered to many celebrities, commercial enterprises and governments with his skilled expertise. His brother, Abe Rich, on the other hand, chose to use his wood-turning ability as a carver of pool cues in America. In his small store in Miami Beach, Florida, he came to produce some of the finest cues available which were used by many celebrities and professional pool players. You can read more about Abe and his famous pool cues at: http://www.miaminewtimes.com/1996-07-25/news/shooting-straight/full

As a final note, when I was writing this article, I asked Linda Cantor for a photograph of her grandmother’s candlesticks. Imagine my surprise, when I saw them for the first time and realized that they were eerily reminiscent of my mother’s candlesticks that had been lost. Here were Linda’s candlesticks obtained in Kupiskis, Lithuania, and mine which had been obtained in Manchester, England, at about the same time, and they were identical!!! This confirms the remarkable extent to which international trade played in the distribution of everyday goods such as candlesticks to our ancestor’s shtetls and towns.

An example of such "colonial goods" was the brass "Made in England" candlesticks purchased by Leah Fein Cohen, a resident of Kupiskis, Lithuania. She bought them from a dealer in her Shtetl and then carried them through Europe, sailed with them across the Atlantic Ocean and finally arrived with them in New York in 1893. They were treasured by her, until her death in 1918, when they passed to her daughter Ida and thence to her great granddaughter, Linda Cantor, who has them to this day.

(Ed. Note: Both Ann Rabinowitz and Helene Seaman are members of the JGSPBCI. Linda Cantor is the President of the JGS (NY).)
Old Time Occupations  Continued from Last Issue

Docker: Stevedore, dock worker who loads and unloads cargo
Dowser: One who finds water using a rod or witching stick
Draper: A dealer in dry goods
Drayman: One who drives a long strong cart without fixed sides for carrying heavy loads
Dresser: A surgeon’s assistant in a hospital
Drover: One who drives cattle, sheep, etc. to market; a dealer in cattle
Duffer: Peddler
Factor: Agent, commission merchant; one who acts or transacts business for another; Scottish steward or bailiff of an estate
Farrier: A blacksmith, one who shoes horses
Faulkner: Falconer
Fell monger: One who removes hair or wool from hides in preparation for leather making
Fletcher: One who made bows and arrows
Fuller: One who fulls cloth; one who shrinks and thickens woolen cloth by moistening, heating, and pressing; one who cleans and finishes cloth
Gaoler: A keeper of the goal, a jailer
Glazier: Window glassman
Hacker: Maker of hoes
Hatcheler: One who combed out or carded flax
Haymonger: Dealer in hay
Hayward: Keeper of fences
Hippster: Itinerant peddler
Hillier: Rooftiler
Hind: A farm laborer
Hostler: A groom who took care of horses, often at an inn
Hooker: Reaper
Hooper: One who made hoops for casks and barrels
Huckster: Sells small wares
Husbandman: A farmer who cultivated the land
Jagger: Fish peddler
Journeyman: One who had served his apprenticeship and mastered his craft, not bound to serve a master, but hired by the day
Joyner / Joiner: A skilled carpenter
Keeler: Bargeman
Kempster: Wool comber

(Ed. Note: This list will be continued in a future issue. It is useful in understanding old documents.)
Our “Experts-On-Call” Help Line is available to assist and mentor beginners and “not yet experts” with the expertise of our most knowledgeable and experienced genealogists on a one-on-one basis. Those member-experts who volunteered for the EOC Help Line are:

- Mitch Heide 561-926-4311
- Hal Maggied 954-725-6442
- Dennis Rice 561-738-7477
- Al Silberfeld 561-495-9839

It is suggested that you check your Membership Directory to determine the mentor nearest to you in case you need to meet. Their addresses are listed in your Directory. Take advantage of their knowledge and call now or e-mail now!

**A Hearty Welcome to Our New Members**

- Friedman, Ron
- Gottlieb, Marsha
- Snyder, Louise

**GENEALOGY JOKE**

A little girl asked her mother, 'How did the human race appear?'

The mother answered, 'God made Adam and Eve and they had children and then all mankind was made.'

Two days later the girl asked her father the same question.

The father answered, 'Many years ago there were monkeys from which the human race evolved.'

The confused girl returned to her mother and said, 'Mom, how is it possible that you told me the human race was created by God, and Dad said they developed from monkeys?'

The mother answered, 'Well, dear, it is very simple. I told you about my side of the family and your father told you about his.'

Please notify Sunshine Chair Phyllis Frank of any member’s simcha, illness, or death in the family so an appropriate card can be sent. E-mail her at JerryPhyllisf@comcast.net. (Please put SUNSHINE in the Subject line.)

Ed. Note: Reprinted with thanks to the JGS of SW FL "Mishpochology" Editor: Kim Sheintal. Sorry, issue date unknown.
I don't know how many of you know that you can obtain the Arrival Card for one of your ancestors from HIAS (the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society). You can find more about this, as well as find a Record Request form (both English and Russian versions) at http://hias.org:80/programs/find-family/arrival-cards.

It should be noted that each request cost thirty dollars. I know nothing more about this, but you can visit the webpage I refer to in order to learn more, as well as contact HIAS if you have other questions, etc.

These cards list the immigrant's name, sex, age, town of previous residence, as well as the name of their contact in the US, relationship of that person, and their address in the US, i.e. their destination.

Best,
Steven Lasky, New York

Ed. Note: Steven Lasky is the Webmaster of an interesting genealogy site www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/. You will find a variety of information such as pre-war photos, listings of former synagogues of New York City, many cemetery maps, information on Jewish stars of the past, etc., etc. Take a look!

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**SOME VALUABLE TIPS FOR BEGINNERS**

Dear Genners:

When you request information, or when one of us supplies it to you, please keep an open mind about such things as your ancestors' actual birth dates (sometimes they didn't know what year they were born) the spelling of their surname (it often varied a lot and might have been changed several times), the Shtetl or town or city (and even the country) of their origin, and the name and/or date of the ship they sailed on. Also, some people went back and forth several times to the Old Country, or went to intermediate countries before they ended up with known addresses that you can be assured are correct.

Spelling was **not** standardized, and since many of our ancestors had never spelled their surnames in anything but Yiddish/Hebrew or Russian characters, there was every possibility that various family members ended up with different surnames. Even the initial letter could vary, making Soundex searches useless.

And, most important, if one of us supplies you with possible matches that contradict what you had assumed to be true, please don't shoot the messenger! Thanks.

A HEARTY THANK YOU TO: Barbara Zimmer, Virginia

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**RootsWeb Gets New URL** - From NU? WHAT’S NEW? Gary Mokokoff, Editor

RootsWeb, the world’s oldest and largest free genealogy website, is a popular American genealogy site owned by the parent company of Ancestry.com. Until now, it has enjoyed its own web address: rootsweb.com. Shortly, it will be changed to a new address: rootsweb.ancestry.com. All old RootsWeb URLs will continue to work; there are no immediate plan to eliminate them. The decision to host RootsWeb on Ancestry.com is being made, according to the company, “to introduce more Ancestry.com users to RootsWeb and vice versa.”
Warning from Ancestry.com via Schelly Dardashti’s Blog “Tracing the Tribe”: Beware of three websites purporting to allow family history research: SearchYourGenealogy.com, Ancestry-search.com and Australian-Ancestry.com. Apparently, these sites are nothing more than a series of web pages with links to other services. Customers are lured to purchase under what seem to be false, misleading and deceitful promotional material, and get little or no value out of money spent at the websites. Blog and message board posts from the community confirm this opinion.

**JOWBR Now Exceeds One Million Records**

The JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) now exceeds one million records. The total number of cemeteries in JOWBR is now 1,929 and total number of burials is 1,006,675. These cemeteries are located throughout the world. The extraction of the information from tombstones was accomplished by volunteers.

Ed. Note: Information provided by Gary Mokotoff, Editor of “Nu? What’s New” his online e-zine.

**OUR LIBRARY**

By Irv Skorka, Library Coordinator

This year our Library has acquired many books donated by members Ann Rabinowitz (20) and Zev Moshe Lipschutz. (8). The Society wishes to thank both Ann and Zev for their contributions and their help in expanding our Library. Titles and authors’ names of these books have already been placed on our website.

Ann Rabinowitz also contributed many other books that are excellent reading but not for our Library, but still important books that may add to our personal libraries. We started selling these books at our Mini-Conference and continued selling them at our General Meetings. To date we have sold 130 books. We still have books, and will offer them at one of the early Fall General Meetings. You will be notified by e-mail of the sale date.


As always, we welcome you to visit by appointment to take advantage of our extraordinary collection. Please contact Irv at irvela@comcast.net to arrange a visit.
Ed. Note: Please keep in mind that if one knows the social security number, sending for the ORIGINAL APPLICATION will yield a wealth of information, including the mother's maiden name. Fee is $27, but well worth it.

November 24, 1936 Applications for Social Security account numbers (Forms SS-5) were distributed by the Post Office Department to persons who were working or expected to work in jobs covered by old-age insurance.

November 1936 All States, the District of Columbia, Alaska and Hawaii were actively participating in the program of maternal and child health services under the Social Security Act.

December 1, 1936 On that Tuesday the Baltimore office added a night shift which went on duty at 4:00p.m. and stopped work at 11:30p.m. The daytime work shift was 9:00a.m. to 4:30p.m., plus four hours on Saturdays. The total work week was 39 hours.

December 7, 1936 Judge George C. Sweeney of Massachusetts upheld the right of Congress to levy a payroll tax on employers-Title IX of the Social Security Act.

December 15, 1936 A three-judge Federal Court in Alabama granted a permanent injunction restraining the State from collecting the tax provided by the State Unemployment Compensation law.

January 1, 1937 Workers began to acquire credits toward old-age insurance benefits. Employers and employees became subject to a tax of one percent of wages up to $3,000 a year. Lump-sum payments were first made payable to eligible workers, their survivors or their estates. The Federal unemployment tax payable by employers of 8 or more was increased to two percent of payroll.

January 14, 1937 Judge David J. David of Alabama upheld the right of Congress to levy a payroll tax on employers-Title IX of the Social Security Act.

January 21, 1937 The Department of the Treasury granted a 60-day extension of time for first quarterly payment of payroll taxes under Title IX of the Social Security Act.

February 1, 1937 Judge Learned Hand filed the opinion of the Second Circuit in the case of Theberge vs United States. The case involved an action on a war risk insurance policy under which the claimant had the burden of proving that he was permanently and totally disabled when he was mustered out of the service and that any work in which he was engaged, subsequent to the lapse of the policy, substantially aggravated his malady. The opinion (no insurance against suffering) became the initial approach of Social Security to “pain” cases.

February 5, 1937 The house passed the Appropriation Bill for “independent” offices (for fiscal year 1937-1938), this included $254,000,000 for the Social Security Board.

February 1937 Early February 1937 Walter Hamilton left the position of Director of the Bureau of Research and Statistics. He was replaced by Ewing Clague.
THE HISTORY OF SOCIAL SECURITY  Continued from Page 13


February 12, 1937  Four new field offices of the Social Security Board were opened.

February 19, 1937  President Roosevelt accepted the final resignation of John G. Winant from the Social Security Board and appointed Arthur J. Altmeyer as the new Chairman. Murray W. Latimer was nominated as the third member of the Social Security Board to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Winant’s resignation.

February 22, 1937  The Senate Finance Committee ordered a study of whether the accumulation of reserves for old-age benefits was necessary and recommended the establishment of an Advisory Council to study the problems and report to the Senate Finance Committee and the Social Security Board.

February 27, 1937  The first claims under Title II of the Social Security Act were adjudicated and forwarded to the Social Security Board on February 27. The first claims were actually paid in March.

March 1, 1937  Leroy Hodges became the Director of the Bureau of Federal Old-Age Benefits. He succeeded Henry P. Seidemann who resigned on February 28, 1937.

March 11, 1937  The Social Security Board announced approval of eight lump-sum payments since the inauguration of the Social Security Act’s old-age benefits program began on January 1.

March 16, 1937  The twenty-five millionth old-age benefit Master Name Card was entered in the files of the Social Security Board.

March 19, 1937  The Social Security Board held a conference with its twelve Regional Directors in Washington.

March 30, 1937  The Social Security Board, through the Bureau of Unemployment Compensation, the Department of Labor and the United States Employment Service, agreed to act as a single agency in all matters affecting a State employment service.

28th IAJGS International
Co-Sponsored by the IAJGS, the JGS of Illinois and the Illiana JGS
Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile

DON’T MISS THE GENEALOGICAL EVENT OF THE YEAR.
GO TO THE IAJGS WEBSITE: http://www.iajgs.org and click on Conference for all the
MINI-CONFERENCE PHOTOS

Lecturer Sylvia Nusinov and Mini-Conference Chair Joel Sisitsky

Irv Skorka – Librarian, selling books at the Mini Conference.

Guest Lecturer Jeffrey Denker

Some of the Mini-Conference attendees listening intently to one of our lecturers.

Helene and Ben Seaman at the Check in desk

Dennis Rice Lecturing on Family Tree Maker
Unfortunately, no full list of the Jewish Victims of the Shoah exists. Anywhere. In addition, there is no complete list of the Jewish survivors. Anyone wishing to trace an individual during the Shoah or thereafter may need to utilize a variety of resources, many, but not all of which can be found at Yad Vashem. Following is an outline of resources available at Yad Vashem.

I. Resources accessible online at our website, www.yadvashem.org:

The Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names

The Central Database, the single largest computerized database in the world of Jews who perished in the Shoah, includes over 2,000,000 records from Pages of Testimony and around 1,500,000 records from other sources.

While the majority of the records in the database relate to people who perished in the Holocaust, some of the lists do include records of people who survived. In addition, by searching according to the submitter of the Page of Testimony, some information can be found about survivors.

Pages of Testimony

“Pages of Testimony” are forms on which survivors and other relatives or friends recorded what they knew about Shoah victims. Yad Vashem has been collecting these Pages of Testimony since the mid 1950’s. Anyone who cannot find their relatives in the database is encouraged to submit Pages of Testimony for them, and thus to commemorate their memory.

Other sources in the database

The database includes information on Holocaust victims from archival and bibliographical sources. Many of these sources were computerized at Yad Vashem, and others by our partner organizations. Following is a partial list of the sources in the database:

- Lists of those perished from Western Germany, Berlin, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Austria.
- List of those deported from France and Yugoslavia.
- Census from the Lodz ghetto.
- Partial lists of victims from Hungary, Theresienstadt, Slovakia.
- List of prisoners from the Mauthausen camp.
- Tens of thousands of names of those perished from the former Soviet Union from the Soviet Special Committee lists (CHGK)
- Lists from Yizkor books from various locations
- Other lists from archival sources.

Plans are underway to computerize and add all lists existing at Yad Vashem to the database within the next few years. The database is updated approximately four times a year with new material.

The Shoah-Related Lists Database

This database includes an index of existing lists at Yad Vashem and at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. In addition, many of the records from Yad Vashem include a scanned image of the list involved. Note that you cannot search in this database by an individual’s name, but only by the description of the list, such as, place names, date of deportation etc. In the cases where a scanned copy exists in the database, it is possible to read through the list looking for specific names. Continued on Page 17
I. Resources available at Yad Vashem, Jerusalem

Other archival documentation

The Documents and Photo-Archives include many thousands of files containing information about individuals. In some cases, the information is quite extensive, in others sparse. The Photo Archive is fully digitized and will be uploaded to the Yad Vashem website during 2008. More and more of the other materials are digitized, and a computerized catalogue exists for much of the Archives’ holdings.

Yizkor Books

The Library has the world’s largest collection of Yizkor Books (books of commemoration about specific communities), often published by survivors of the community and often including lists of victims from that community. As noted above, some of the lists from Yizkor books have been computerized and added to the central database. There are also additional books containing information on some groups of individuals.

Our catalogue is integrated into the Israel Union Catalogue, available at the following url: http://aleph1.libnet.ac.il/F/?func=file&file_name=find-b&local_base=uli02&con_lng=eng

The International Tracing Service (ITS, also known as Arolsen)

The ITS, situated in Arolsen, Germany, has collected enormous amounts of archival documentation pertaining to individuals, Jews and non-Jews, during WWII.

For many years, the ITS was closed to the public, only answered questions for relatives of those being searched for, and took up to 2 years to answer a query. As a result of international pressure, an agreement has been made to open the archive to the public, and deposit copies of it in various locations. We hope this will happen in the next few months.

A copy of a sizable portion of the collection exists at Yad Vashem. Most of the material is scanned, but available at computers at Yad Vashem only and not through the Internet. The part of this collection most often used by researchers is the Master Index, containing index cards with information on millions of individuals. There are no computerized indexes. There is an index, which allows researchers to identify the scanned microfilm reel, which should contain the index cards they are seeking.

Success in tracing individuals depends on a number of things:

- The existence of documentation (anywhere, or at Yad Vashem).
- The amount and quality of prior information known to the researcher. The more one knows in advance, the more precise a search can be carried out, and the greater the chances of finding something. Names alone will generally not be enough; dates, places, location, and so on will enhance the search possibilities.
- Proficiency in languages: The documentation exists in many languages, some neatly typed, some handwritten, in a multitude of scripts.

Please note: There is a small collection of genealogical sources in our library collection, but generally, it is not productive to engage in genealogical research, not pertaining to the Holocaust, at Yad Vashem.

If you cannot come to Yad Vashem, queries may be sent to us by mail, e-mail or fax. This service may entail a fee and it can take up to a month to receive a reply. Our addresses: Ref@yadvashem.org.il, Fax: (972-2)-644-3669, Reference and Information Services Yad Vashem P.O.B. 3477 Jerusalem 91034, Israel
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