About ten members of our Society were among the 600 or so participants of the 11th annual International Summer Seminar of Jewish Genealogy at the Vista Hotel in Manhattan in late July. For most of us, it was an enormously exciting multi-faceted educational experience. Between intriguing lectures, "birds-of-a-feather" discussions and group outings, we visited libraries, archives and newly-found cousins all over the vast metropolis. Apparently all of us came back having made significant leaps in our personal research.

Mornings and evenings were consumed with lectures, the first beginning at eight, the last sometimes terminating after eleven at night. "Resources in New York" was a key and recurrent theme; a parallel lecture track focussed on computer genealogy.

Received upon registration, the convention syllabus (with lecture handouts) was about 200 pages long and invited -- demanded -- study at every available moment. Crammed with competing offerings, each richer than the next, the program guaranteed that each individual's experience would be unique.

A suite in the hotel became the resource centre. It was filled with computerized lists, enticing microfiche and a forest of notices, displays -- and people. (It became difficult sometimes to see the forest for the trees.) Another room was devoted to computers.

A variety of vendor exhibits, especially in the first two days, enhanced the bazaar-like ambience and the feeling that here was a cornucopia of wonderful, rare, exotic treats. Boris Feldblyum showed off his unique collection of photographs and postcards. Jonathan Sheppard displayed an assortment of reprinted antiquarian maps. Two gentlemen demonstrated a versatile software program that transliterates Cyrillic, Hebrew and Yiddish, and converts names into Soundex code.

(Continued on page 2)
Like eminent rabbis in days of old, esteemed scholars-in-residence held court at various Jewish genealogical shrines around the city to which delegates trekked like devoted pilgrims. Dr. Neil Rosenstein, author of *The Unbroken Chain*, spoke at the Jewish Theological Seminary; Karen Franklin, experienced German researcher, was accessible at the Leo Baeck Institute of German-Jewish Research; Daniel Schlyter, Eastern European specialist from Salt Lake City, answered questions at the Map Division of the New York Public Library; Zachary Baker, chief librarian, was receiving at the YIVO Institute of Jewish Studies.

Excursions to Ellis Island, the fascinating Tenement Museum on Orchard St. and a restaurant in Brighton Beach (recently gentrified by thousands of ex-Soviet Jews) insured that no one could possibly want for something to do. Indeed, a dilemma common to many was simply having to choose between several events occurring simultaneously. Another popular favorite was a walking tour of Colonial Jewish New York led by Rabbi Malcolm Stern.

By any measure, the seminar was a success. Congratulations go to Michael Brenner, president of the JGS of New York, as well as to Jeffrey K. Cymbler and Marsha Saron Dennis, co-chaired the seminar, and to an army of diligent, well-organized volunteers.

For this attendee, highlights included Dr. Neil Rosenstein's talk on "Rabbinic Research" at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America: fascinating from beginning to end. "I could never understand why a Jewish cemetery is called Beit Ha-Chaim, 'House of the Living,' until I began to visit cemeteries and see how their history comes back to life," said Dr. Rosenstein, who is connected to the famous Katzenellenbogen rabbinical line. (He is due to speak to our Society in Toronto on November 18th!)

Gary Mokotoff is editor of *Avotaynu* and president of the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies; his talk on "Holocaust Research" was another highlight. "In documenting my descendents, I discovered the Holocaust -- I found 300 murdered cousins," he said. "It has been my goal to document these 300 people, find out as much as I can about them, as a memorial to them. Because most of the victims of the Holocaust don't have a tombstone."

Miriam Weiner's description of visits to Poland and the Ukraine, and of relevant archival holdings there, was both timely and fascinating. Participants of her "Routes to Roots" tours to these countries routinely make important genealogical discoveries, she said. "One lady from California found her birth certificate and she was rather devastated because she discovered she was three years older than she thought," recounted the newspaper columnist and co-editor of the *Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy*. "I didn't know whether to say 'Congratulations,' or 'Gee, you look good for your age.'"

No less memorable were Steven Siegel's talks on "New York Resources", Harold Rhode's learned dissertation on "Ottoman Census Materials Concerning the Jews", and the various "I'm Stuck, Where Now? Ask the Experts" panels.

Undoubtedly the centerpiece presentation was "Jewish (Continued on page 3)"
Surnames from Russia" by Alexandre Beider, a Russian Jew. A programmer-analyst working in Paris, Beider began studying the subject in Moscow while working on a doctorate in applied mathematics. In the last six years he has collected and categorized some 50,000 Russian-Jewish surnames found in early 20th-century voters' lists and newspapers in the former Lenin Library in Moscow.

Dressed formally in black, Sasha Beider spoke in a sombre tone with a thick accent as he divulged details of his book, Dictionary of Russian-Jewish Surnames (available soon under the Avotaynu imprint). Unlike many other scholars in this field, he seems to support his refined, scholarly judgements about the derivations of Jewish surnames with original research.

He asserted, for example, that the official Kahal -- the leadership committee -- of many 19th-century Jewish communities in Russia were responsible for ascribing surnames to the members of their communities ("but how this process took place there is no direct information").

To support this, he noted that in some Russian districts in the early 19th century, certain "metronymic" surnames, based on the name of a maternal ancestor and ending in the suffix 'in', represented about 35 percent of all surnames, an unusually high proportion.

"It's quite unlikely that people decided to do this on their own," he said. "More likely, these surnames were invented at the same time by a Jewish administration."

Beider also remarked that "a common reaction of Jews to their new names was indifference -- they paid no attention." That, it turned out, was just the opposite of how his own audience reacted. At the end of his talk, there was strong applause, and many people jumped to their feet.

"Next Year in Toronto!"

By Dr. Rolf Lederer
Summer Seminar Co-ordinator

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada is proudly looking forward to hosting the next International Summer Seminar in Jewish Genealogy, June 27th to June 30th, 1993.

The Seminar Committee has already begun putting together an attractive program featuring well-known speakers, workshops and discussion groups. The focus will be on a wide variety of genealogical topics and will include a special track on Canadian genealogy.

We hope that our sister societies from Winnipeg and Vancouver will participate as well as interested individuals from Montreal, Ottawa and other larger centers.

There will be an opportunity to visit the Robarts Library at the University of Toronto, which has a large collection of Judaica including an outstanding array of Yiskor books. The Metropolitan Reference Library has, among other items, city directories for Toronto and other Canadian cities.

A guide to the Jewish cemeteries of Toronto will be available, and participants will have the opportunity to visit some of these sites. Other notable resources are the Jewish Archives, the Ontario Archives and the local Family History Library.

We hope to welcome a large contingent to Toronto.

AT OUR MEETINGS

Wednesday June 24: Two members, Mordecai Roitman and Alex Korn, presented aspects of their Polish research. Their presentation coincided with our Annual General Meeting, at which the new slate of officers was installed. Peter Cullman, former membership chairman and founding editor of Shem Tov, was honoured for his years of service and presented with a gift.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday September 23: Beginner's Workshop.

Wednesday October 28: Program to be announced.

Wednesday November 18: Annual Holocaust Remem-
Necrologies
Compiled by Henry Wellisch

The 27 books listed below are all found in the Robarts Library, 130 St. George St., at the University of Toronto. All are listed in the computer under the subject headings, Jewish Cemeteries, Jewish Inscriptions or Jewish Epitaphs.


The list does not include necrological data found in Yizkor books, pinkasim and their like, which are plentiful at Robarts and should be consulted for each locality.

We would appreciate being informed of omissions.

Austria

Brazil
Wolfs, Egon. Sepultures de Israelitas. [P]. F 2659 J5 W67

Czechoslovakia
Herman, Jan. Zidovske Hbitovy V Cechach A Na Morave. [C]. DS 135 C95 H47
Muneles, O. Ketovot Mi-Bet Ha-Ahnin Ha-Yehudi Ha-Atik Bi-Prag. [H,c]. DB 2635 S8 M 815

France
Nahan, Gerard. Inscriptions Hebraiques et Juives de France Medievale. [F,H]. PJ 5034.8 F8 N34

Germany
Duckesz, E. Hakme Ahv (Hamburg, Altona). [H]. BM 750 D 81
Duckesz, E. Iwah Le-Moshav (Hamburg, Altona). [H]. BM 750 D 82
Horowitz, M. Sefer Avne Zikaron (Frankfurt). [H,G]. PH 5034.8 H 116
Rennert, J. Der Gute Ort in Weissensee (Berlin). [G]. DS 135 G4 F734
Tollner, J. F. Die Jud. Friedhofs im Oldenburger Land. [G]. DD 801 O43 T64

Hungary
Scheiber, S. Jewish Inscriptions from the 3rd Century to 1686. [E]. CN 745 S313
Wirth, Peter. Itzkan Ehrjte. [M]. NB 1880 I9 W57

Italy
Almani, G. Avne Zikaron. [H]. PJ 5034.8 S7 A7
Berliner, A. Luhot Avanim. [G]. PJ 5034.8 I8 B4

Lithuania
Klawuner, I. Korot Beit Ha-Olamim Ha-Yashan B’Vilna. [H] DS 135 R93 V5489

Poland
Krajewska, M. Time of Stones. [E]. DS 135 P6 K68
Podgarbi, B. The Jewish Cemetery in Lodz. [E]. DS 135 P62 L 6425
-- , Bate-Kneset Uvate Almin Be-Polin. [H]. NA 5955 P6 T44

Rumania
Erdely, Lajos. Regi Zaido Temetok Muveszete. [M]. NB 1880 R6 E73

Spain
Caretera and Milas. Las Inscriptiones Hebraicas de Espana. [S]. PJ 5034.8 S7 C35

United States
Levy, B.H. Savannah’s Old Jewish Community Cemeteries. [E]. F294 S2 L47

Help our Society build a library collection

This year, our Society achieved a milestone by becoming a federally registered charitable organization. Donations have always been welcome but now we are especially encouraging them because we are able to supply income-tax receipts.

If you donate money towards a book for our library, we could have the flyleaf inscribed with the name of the person or persons the gift was meant to honour or remember. Helping our Society purchase an important work for our members could be an appropriate way to commemorate a birthday, anniversary or yahrzeit.

We have a long wish-list of titles we would like to purchase, and your generosity may help us attain some of these works. For more information, please contact any member of our executive committee.

New Members
We welcome these new members to our Society:

SIDNEY BRICKMAN  JEANETTE DE LEVIE
NORMAN DIAMOND  STANLEY DIAMOND
SCHILD ALMAN  DR. ARNOLD GOLDBERG
SCHILD ALMANN  DIANE KRIEGER
CHARLES B. LAPKOFF  RUTH MANDEL
LINDEE REES  RANDI SKURKA
EDWARD M. STRASSER  SANDRA TEMES
Surveying the Jewish Cemeteries of Poland

By Miriam Weiner

Two summers ago, a group of American Jews traveled to Poland to visit ancestral towns and research family records in the Polish State Archives and at Auschwitz. An integral part of the tour involved evening speakers from local Jewish communities who shared their expertise in areas of interest to family historians.

The speaker who drew the most "raves" and unanimously touched the hearts of everyone with his dedication and knowledge was Jan Jagielski who has photographed Jewish cemeteries in small towns throughout Poland for more than 25 years. During his presentation, Jagielski responded to numerous raised hands from tour participants as they called out the names of their ancestral towns. For each town he was able to produce photos, describe the present cemetery condition, even draw small maps with directions on how to find it along with the person who held the gate key!

Jagielski is among a small core of dedicated Poles who are documenting the remnants of Jewish sites and monuments in Poland. As a founding member (1981) of the Citizens Committee for the Protection and Preservation of Jewish Monuments, he is currently conducting an extensive survey of Jewish cemeteries in Poland sponsored in part by the Polish Academy of Sciences, Institute of Art. He is general editor of a series of guide books on Jewish Poland (Warsaw and Krakow are completed with others to follow) and has recently assumed a new position with the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw.

Jagielski lives in a small flat (by our standards) in the former Jewish quarter of Warsaw. The sparse furnishings are crowded because of the extensive library, thousands of photographs and numerous files of correspondence from all over the world from people who have heard of his work and want information about the Jewish cemetery in their ancestral town. His Judaic library would make many of us envious.

Jagielski described how he would travel by bus or train to small towns and photograph Jewish cemeteries. He saw Jewish monuments in terrible condition when he first began and now, many of the tombstones have disappeared or been completely destroyed.

According to Jagielski, 130 cemeteries in Poland have 100 or more tombstones remaining. Forty cemeteries have 18th-century monuments with the oldest in Breslaw dating from 1243. At the sites of 130 Jewish cemeteries, one can now find office buildings, schools, stadiums, bus stations and other buildings.

Committee members are now building fences and walls to preserve sites even where stones have been removed, as in Radom where our tour group recently watched workers erecting a wall around the cemetery. In the Jewish cemetery in Warsaw, about 150 tombstones from the early 19th century have been renovated. This is an ambitious project when one considers there are more than 200,000 tombstones in the Warsaw cemetery!

In Kozmin, school children are cleaning up cemeteries and helping with preservation efforts. In Lublin, 50 tombstones were restored dating from the 16th and 17th centuries; however, some have since been damaged. In Opatow, about 20 monuments were retrieved from the river where they were thrown after the war and have now been placed in an unused section of the cemetery. In Pinczow, fragments of old tombstones were rescued from ruined buildings and now form part of the wall surrounding an old synagogue.

Financing for this work comes from the government (via the Polish lottery) and from donations from individuals, organizations and institutions throughout the world -- though not nearly enough for the rapidly deteriorating remaining cemeteries. The Nissenbaum Family Foundation, established 1985, has funded cemetery restoration in Praga, Kielce, Slubice, Buk, Sanok, Lodz and Krosno.

When asked about pending projects, Jagielski's eyes light up as he describes several "books in progress." Currently, he is working on a book based on his research in the Jewish cemetery in Warsaw which will be accompanied by Monika Krajewska's photos; also in the works is a catalog which he will edit of Jewish cemeteries throughout Poland with articles submitted from local historians.

Between his travels to Polish towns, Jagielski has visited Israel on three occasions for meetings and research at Yad Vashem. Two years ago, he was a featured speaker at the International Conference on the Future of Jewish Monuments held at Hebrew Union College, New York.

When asked why he was doing all this, he replied, "If not me, who? It is not so difficult for me (to spend so much time) as I have no family. The cemeteries are dying as are the people. It is a tragic part of the history of Polish Jewry."
Reaching back into the Austro-Hungarian Empire
By Robert T. Löwy

As a first generation Canadian with few living relatives, I imagined that doing genealogical research would be difficult. However, since I started my research about three years ago, my family tree has grown to have almost 400 relatives, going back to 1808.

Finding a starting point may be the hardest part about beginning the quest into your family history. If your roots lie in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, it may not be as difficult as you may imagine.

As a first step, try to get as much information as you can about your parents or grandparents, such as the dates and places of birth, marriage and death. Next, find the cities or towns where your ancestors lived on a modern map of Europe.

At this stage, you may wish to visit the Mormon Family History Library in Salt Lake City or the regional branch in Etobicoke. The Mormon records date back to the early 19th century. If you plan to use the Mormon archives, start with the Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy, Volume 1. This book has a detailed list of microfilm numbers for Hungarian Jews.

Other lists were published in Toledot, Winter 1977/78, and Avotaynu, Volume IV, Winter 1988. However, don't neglect to check the Locality Catalog at the Mormon Library itself for the latest and most accurate listings. (For assistance translating documents, request a Hungarian Genealogical Word Guide from the Mormon Family History Library, 35 N.W. Temple St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84150.)

The Mormon Hungarian-Jewish collection consists of birth, marriage and death records kept by the Jewish communities until 1895. After that year, vital record keeping was centralized. The Mormons also have an 1828 tax census, the 1848 Jewish census for some countries, and the 1868 census for Zemplen County. Also available is the Jewish census for 1770, but it should be noted that in most cases Jews are listed without family names.

A Visit To The Old Country

Naturally, a visit to your ancestors' home town or towns would provide an extraordinary opportunity to make genealogical progress as you learn about your family's history. Make sure to visit the town city hall to look at the original records of births, deaths and marriages. Words like 'zsido', 'izr', or 'heber' appear on civil records to indicate that the individual was Jewish. These records usually contain information on parents of the individual, their age and their town of birth. Unfortunately, birth certificates show the parents' age in number of years rather than providing birthdates.

If your parents were young when they left their town of birth, they may be mistaken on the location or date of birth concerning your grandparents. Check city halls in neighbouring towns or villages; you may be surprised to find that your grandfather was born in a different town and he may even be younger than your grandmother. Also
keep in mind that many small towns and villages did not keep their own vital records. Instead, records were under the jurisdiction of a larger neighbouring community. In small villages or towns, local government workers can be very helpful.

Another problem you may encounter is that small towns do not have photocopiers allowing you to make copies of all pertinent documents. For a small fee, it may be possible to get handwritten copies of documents such as birth certificates. I was very lucky to obtain my paternal grandparent's original marriage license dated May 3, 1921 (shown).

Finding Hungarian-Jewish Tombstones

When visiting small towns and villages in Hungary, knowledge of the language is practically essential, since most citizens there do not speak English. In large cities such as Budapest, it is much harder to obtain information. Before going to any city hall or archives (leveltárak), write to the city indicating your intentions. The advance notice will allow the historian/archivist to prepare for your visit and requests.

Cemeteries are excellent sources of information, although many have fallen into disrepair. Don't limit your visit to Jewish cemeteries; to avoid detection and subsequent persecution many Jews requested burial elsewhere. Locating a particular headstone may be quite difficult if you don't know the exact location. Ask the caretaker, if there is one, for the location of your relative.

When transcribing the stone, knowledge of Hebrew is also advantageous; some headstones are written only in Hebrew. If you can't read Hebrew, be sure to copy the deceased person's father's name as well as the date of birth and death for future translation.

Hungary is undergoing many changes. Since most Hungarians do not want any reminders of Communist ways, some street names have been changed, usually to the original name prior to Communist rule. A new book called Nevek (Names) lists Jews deported from Hajdu County and provides information from the county's Jewish census of April 1944. The book lists the citizen's name, parents' name, year of birth and place of residence. Similar volumes for other counties will reportedly be published within two years.

Table Of Hungarian Regional Archives:

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<th>City Archives</th>
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<tr>
<td>Iszraelita Miközeg Ortodox Tagazata, Dob Utca 35, 1074 Budapest</td>
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<td>Jewish Museum, Sip Utca 12, 1075 Budapest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magyar Zsidó Levéltár, Archivist: György Landesman, 27 Josef Krt. 1075 Budapest</td>
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<td>Bács-Kiskun: Kossuth Tér 1, 6001 Kecskemét</td>
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<td>Baranya: Kossuth ut 11, 7621 Pécs</td>
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<td>Békés: Petőfi Tér 3, 5701 Gyula</td>
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<td>Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén: Tanácszár Ut 1, 3525 Miskolc</td>
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<td>Budapest: Városház ut 9-11, 1350 Budapest</td>
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<td>Csongrád: Honvéd Tér 5-6, 6701 Szeged</td>
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<td>Fejér: István Tér 9, 8001 Székesfehérvár</td>
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<td>Győr-Sopron: Beloánisz Tér 1, 9400 Sopron</td>
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<td>Hajdú-Bihar: Piac ut 20, 4024 Debrecen</td>
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<td>Heves: Kossuth Lajos ut 9, 3301 Eger</td>
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<td>Komárom: Dek Ferenc ut 2, 2500 Esztergom</td>
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<td>Nógrád: Bajcsy-Zsilinszky ut 1, 3100 Salgótarján</td>
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<td>Pest: Városház ut 5-7, 1052 Budapest</td>
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<td>Somogy: Rippel Ronai Tér 1, 7400 Kaposvár</td>
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<td>Szabolcs-Szatmár: Benczúr Tér 1, 4400 Nyíregyháza</td>
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<td>Vas: Hefele Ménhért u 1, 9700 Szombathely</td>
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<td>Veszprém: Pf 152, 8200 Veszprém</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zala: Széchenyi Tér 3, 8900 Zalaegerszeg</td>
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Shem Tov
Finding Ancestral Towns

Q

I need some help locating three cities in Poland: Vasacin, Jenjiaf and Chenchin. These three cities (or villages) have been identified by members of my family as places where ancestors came from, but no one seems to know where they are and I cannot locate them on any map. Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Wendy V. Smith
Rexdale, Ontario

A

It was a challenge to locate the three towns you named, but we believe we have done so with reasonable certainty for at least two of them.

You didn't mention how you came by those spellings, so we'll assume they're based on how you've heard them pronounced. Until recently, there was traditionally a great deal of difficulty associated with locating towns based on phonetic renderings of their names. Basically utilizing a hit-and-miss method, researchers were forced to consult a wide variety of foreign-language gazetteers, atlases and encyclopedias, hoping for the best.

Two years ago, an extraordinarily helpful sourcebook was published, Where Once We Walked, by Gary Mokotoff and Sally Ann Sack, lists more than 21,000 Jewish communities of Eastern Europe destroyed in the Holocaust. Including alternate spellings, there are more than 37,000 entries in the book. WOWW also lists exact map coordinates and indicates where one might obtain additional information about each town. Perhaps the book's most important feature is the nearly 100 pages at the back that list towns phonetically using the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex system.

WOWW has nothing for Vasacin or Jenjiaf spelled as such, but for Chenchin we had more luck: "Chentchin, see Checiny," the reference advised. Under Checiny, the following typical entry is found:

Checiny, Pol. (Chenciny, Chenchin); pop. 2,825; 88 km
NNE of Krakow; 50°48′20″27′′; AMG, CAHJP, COH,
EDRD, EI, GA, GUM3, GUM4, GUM5, GYLA, HSL,
HSL2, JGFF, LDL, LDS, PHP1, POCEM, SF.

Besides an estimate of the pre-war population, WOWW provides map co-ordinates and sources where further information about the town may be found. The acronyms refer to the more than three dozen sources that were used to compile the gazetteer. The above short-forms stand for the following sources:

AMG = American Gathering/Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors
CAHJP = Central Archives for the History of the Jewish People
COH = Chamber of the Holocaust
EDRD = Everyday Remembrance Day
EI = Encyclopedia Judaica
GA = Ghetto Anthology
GYLA = Guide to Unpublished Materials of the Holocaust Period
HSL = Hebrew Subscription Lists
JGFF = Jewish Genealogical Family Finder
LOL = Latter Day Leaders, Sages and Scholars
PHPI = Pinkas Hakehilot: Poland, Lodz and Region
POCEM = Informacje Dotyczace Cmentarzy Wyzania Mojeszowego w Polsce = Jewish Cemeteries of Poland
SF = Shtetl Finder

For further information on locating these works and/or institutions, refer to WOWW, which is in the North York Central Library, 6th floor, as part of our Society's collection. (Ask for the JGS catalogue at the desk.) WOWW is also available for reference in the Map Room of the Robarts Library.

Regarding Jenjiaf, WOWW lists nothing spelled even remotely like that. Using the Soundex system which translates sounds into numeric code, Jenjiaf becomes 161170. Other towns in that numeric vicinity include Jendrzejow, which is shown as an alternate spelling for Jedrzejow. This is probably your town -- and it happens to be only a short distance from Checiny!

Vasacin, which translates into Soundex code as 744700, presented the greatest difficulty. The closest possibility is a town called Wozuczyn which is situated about 150 km east of Jedrzejow and Checiny. Wozuczyn is probably the town you are looking for.

Wendy Smith replies: I would like to thank you so very much for the effort you put into answering my questions regarding "Vasacin" (Wozuczyn), "Jenjiaf" (Jedrzejow) and "Chenchin" (Checiny). The names were given to me by the children of the people from these villages and I suppose that they only heard their parents talking about the places, resulting in the phonetic spellings. I would certainly have been lost without your assistance.

I have written further to the Hebrew University in Jerusalem to see what they might have.

Just as a note of interest, the woman from Wozuczyn often told her grandson about how the Cossacks would come and raid her village. The grandson's mother dismissed the stories as an old woman's mind wandering. To find that Wozuczyn lies right along the border of Poland and Russia certainly lends credibility to a bubby's tale.
MHSO has rich Jewish collection

Multicultural History Society of Ontario, 43 Queen's Park Crescent East

The Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO) was established in 1976 to preserve the records of immigrant lives and ethnic associations, and to promote research into the history of all ethnocultural groups within the province.

Since its founding, the MHSO has amassed an astonishing quantity of papers, oral histories and artifacts pertaining to more than 50 ethnocultural groups. To gain access, contact Ms. Renee Rogers, assistant librarian, (416) 979-2973.

Scheduled for publication this month, the 700-page Guide to the Collections of the Multicultural History Society of Ontario contains 28 pages devoted to the Jews of Ontario. Our thanks to Dr. Gabriele Scardellato, Head, Research of Publications, for allowing us to excerpt the following representative sample from the guide.

Although representing only a small part of the Jewish collection, these listings provide a sense of its richness:

**Allen, Gurston**
TORONTO, ONT.
Allen family papers, 1921-53, consist of scrapbooks, clippings, letters, and booklets. 685 items. 81 photographs: the Allen, Fauman, and Birtbaum families in Pennsylvania, Brantford, Cobourg, and Toronto, 1890-1963; business enterprise (a theatre) in Brantford, and Kitchener, 1907-52; members of the Allen family during military service at Camp Borden, Toronto, 1939-44; dwelling of the Allen family in Cobourg, 1915; and members of the fraternity, Pi Lambda Phi, 1926-34.

**Bauer, Werner**
OTTAWA, ONT.
Immigration papers, including Palestine passport, 1940s. .25 cm (10 items). Taped interview. Interviewed on 17 Aug. 1977; 2.5 hrs.; 3 tapes; English; by Zvia Schwartz. Post-WWII immigrant.

**Biderman, Daisy**
TORONTO, ONT.

**Burton, Susan**
TORONTO, ONT.
Burton family papers, 1921-42, which include letters, cablegrams, certificates, and clippings. [Also 3 Romanian passports and other immigration documents, 1939-42.] 1 reel of microfilm. 83 photographs: members and business enterprise of the Budabin (Burton) family in Romania and Vienna, 1930-39.

**Dardick, Fagel**
TORONTO, ONT.
Parchment certificates, 1922, and a poem written by Lil Ilomuk in honour of the 75th birthday of J. Dardick, n.d. .5 cm. 6 photographs: members of the Fur and Leather Workers Union, and the Jewish Arts Circle (Labour League), Toronto, 1920-54.

**Eigier, Arthur**
TORONTO, ONT.
23 photographs: Jewish Canadians, in particular the Eisenberg, Eigier, and Turner families in Toronto, 1915-60; and the interior of Goel Tzedec Synagogue, n.d.

**Eisen, David**
TORONTO, ONT.
Scrapbook of articles by Dr. Eisen, 2 volumes of Eisen diaries, and a list of doctors practising in Toronto, 1900-1956. 1.5 cm. 6 photographs: Jewish-Canadian members of the medical profession, including Phi Delta Epsilon at the University of Toronto, 1926-57.

**Feiterman, Benny**
TORONTO, ONT.
25th jubilee programme of the Toronto Hebrew Peddlers Protective Association, 1913-38. .5 cm. 1 photograph: of 25th anniversary banquet of the Montreal Junk Peddlers Union, 1948.

**Gittleman, Barbara and Carol**
TORONTO, ONT.
1 letter discussing immigration to Canada, n.d., and a genetic family tree of the Gittleman and Lesser families. .5 cm.

**Levant, Anne**
TORONTO, ONT.
62 photographs: the Levant, Sacks, and Smith families in England, Winnipeg, and Toronto, 1902-52, including military service in WWI and WWII.

**Krapikfo, Ellen**
TORONTO, ONT.
Certificate of naturalization for Joe Krapikfo, Lithuanian, 1911. .25 cm. 1 photograph: business enterprise (ice cream parlour) in Toronto, 1912.

**Magnunson, Marion**
TORONTO, ONT.
Personal papers; contact book which mother of donor brought from Russia, 1911; father's English vocabulary book, n.d.; series of postcards and letters (translated) exchanged between father and mother, 1910-11; also, 1915 Jewish yearbook published by the Jewish Socialist Federation of America, New York as well as certificates, and souvenir convention badges, n.d. 7 cm. Photographs. 33 photographs: the Nodelman family in Russia, and Toronto, 1908-40; business enterprise, a delicatessen/ice cream parlor, Toronto, c. 1919-40; activists in various organizations and labour unions, such as the Workers' Sport Association, Fur Workers Union, Workmen's Circle, and Jewish Socialist Territorialist Labour Party, 1915-49.

**Markus, Louis**
TORONTO, ONT.
1 Ternaim (engagement contract), 1877; and 1 Ketuba (marriage contract), 1877. .25 cm.

**Okranta, Mr. and Mrs.**
TORONTO, ONT.
Birth certificate, 1908 (issued in 1966), Jewish marriage certificate, 1935, and British passport, 1965. 1 cm.

**Rosen Granatsstein, Dina**
TORONTO, ONT.
1 Romanian passport, and Canadian immigration identification card, 1925. 2 photographs: the Rosen family, in Romania, and Canada, 1925-30.

**Simms, Mrs. F.**
DUNDAS, ONT.
Letters (1939), a Polish document Wyciag Zaktu Slubu j(1938), and a 1927 Jewish newspaper (no title). .5 cm. 1 photograph: Toronto Cloak Manufacturers' Association, Royal York Hotel, 1943.
REPORT FROM NEW YORK

(Continued from page 3)

Part of the exuberance seemed to derive from sheer gratitude that someone with a scientific mind has finally fixed it on this important subject. From the beginning of the emancipated era roughly two centuries ago, when most Jews in Europe and Russia were compelled to adopt surnames, the very rich field of Jewish onomastics has been characterized by a paucity of original scholarly investigation. Now this is changing.

So are many other elements in the field of Jewish genealogy -- for the better. There has never been a better time to be researching one's Jewish family tree: New York demonstrated that. Our Society hopes to demonstrate that again next summer from June 27th to 30th, as we host the 12th International Summer Seminar of Jewish Genealogy at the Park Plaza Hotel in Toronto. Please join us. To paraphrase a timeless motto of our people: "Next year in Toronto!"
Software

Brother's Keeper is faster and improved

Brother’s Keeper 5.0. Available from John Steed, 6907 Childsdale Rd, Rockford MI 49341 USA. $45 US.

Review by Howard Shidlowsky

Why improves with age. Software usually does as well. Brother’s Keeper (BK) 5.0 is pretty much a case in point. The author lists 36 changes from version 4.5 -- technical improvements to the program, changes of genealogical significance, and minor changes.

Let’s look at the more technical changes. While not always apparent, these affect the way BK runs and how fast it runs. The best news is that BK 5.0 now runs under DOS 5.0 and 4.0. Btrieve, a memory resident program, manages the data files. Since the data files now include the indices, BK starts faster than ever but really demands a hard drive. The new file structure also helps BK run faster. This is noticeable only if you have more than one thousand names in your family tree.

The less technical side involves changes that make BK a little smarter. For example, BK stores unique locations only once. Similarly, entering "*UNKNOWN" for a spouse no longer creates a record for that person. The file size limit is now your disk size so you can add as many names as your disk will allow. However, the BK 5.0 files use 10 to 15 percent more than BK 4.5 for the same data, so be careful.

Knowing how genealogists love to take notes, the built-in editor can now process 120 lines, and includes word wrap. Each date/location line can also store source information and a quality of data indicator.

Changes to the data that can be stored are usually of more importance to genealogists. This is the area I look to for the greatest improvement. There are some major steps, but also some half steps:

1. A person can now have a second set of parents. This allows you to track both the genetic and the adopted lines for adopted children.
2. Parents can be designated as birth, adopted, step, foster or other.
3. Three fields have been added: (a) "Marr. ceremony Y/N" designates a couple as married or unmarried; a choice of civil ceremony, religious ceremony, both or none would cover all possibilities. (b) "Divorced/Annulled/Separated" and (c) "End year" record how a marriage ended; perhaps "Death of Spouse" should also be included.
4. You can now add a single person to the database who is not linked to any family.
5. Alternate names can be stored. Useful for previous names, religious names and nicknames.
6. BK 5.0 can log changes to a person’s name, five stored dates, reference and occupation fields. Changes to location and marriage information are not recorded.
7. You can now browse through an ancestor chart, tracing the line of the individual’s father, mother, older sibling, younger sibling or children. If the person had more than one spouse, you’re out of luck. BK picks the spouse it will track, not you. I’m certain this will be corrected in the next version.
8. BK 5.0 now runs under DOS

In future releases I hope to see:

• More commands to navigate charts on screen. For example, use HOME to move to the first entry, END to move to the last.
• Place the selected individual at center-screen when displaying a chart.
• Improved on-line help and a reference guide.
• More forms instead of questions. Forms are easy to read.
• Drop down menus. This would make it easier to find commands and to use a mouse.

Recommendation: If you have Brother’s Keeper 4.5 on a hard drive, get 5.0. If you are looking for a computer program to help you with your family history, Brother’s Keeper 5.0 deserves serious consideration.

SEARCH ADS

GOLDENBERG/NOEL -- Born in Russia, my great-grandparents Arthur & Molly Goldenberg & son Benjamin may have used surname Noel. I’m told he ran a Jewish bookstore in Toronto & died age 48 (ca. 1948?). Molly supposedly died ca. age 102. Seeking info & possible descendants. Charmene Palmer, 2310 Calumet St., Flint, Michigan 48503. (SP92)

PETERTSON -- Seeking info on ancestry of Ray Peterson, born Toronto May 1884. Fred J. Limetz, 3848 W. 226 St. #114, Torrance Calif. 90505-3623. (SP92)

SOLOMON -- Tilly Solomon (my great-great-grandmother) and her sons emigrated to Canada in 1890s; she was born ca. 1826 and died in Toronto ca. 1940 at age 114. Seeking info and possible descendants of the Solomon family. Lauren Strauss, 25 Beagle Close, Brookside, Feltham, Middlesex TW13 7DJ England. (UJ92)
AUNT LORNA, I'M MAKING A FAMILY TREE. COULD YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW?

WELL, ACTUALLY, HONEY, I'M NOT EXACTLY YOUR AUNT. I'M YOUR FIRST COUSIN, ONCE REMOVED.

YOU SEE, YOUR FATHER AND I ARE FIRST COUSINS, ON MY MOTHER'S SIDE.

HIS MOTHER, GOLDIE, YOUR GRANDMOTHER, WHO DIED, REST HER SOUL, WAS THE SISTER OF MY MOTHER, BUBBY PEARL.

THAT MAKES YOUR DAD BUBBY PEARL'S NEPHEW AND YOU HER GRANDNIECE.

WHILE MY CHILDREN AND THE CHILDREN OF MY SISTER ROSIE WHO LIVES IN ISRAEL, ARE YOUR SECOND COUSINS.

WHEN YOU GET MARRIED AND HAVE CHILDREN THEY'LL BE MY FIRST COUSINS TWICE REMOVED AND THE THIRD COUSINS OF MY CHILDREN'S CHILDREN.

UNDERSTAND?

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Shem Tov