

שם טוב

# SHEM TOV

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA (TORONTO)

VOLUME XIV, NO. 3

SEPTEMBER 1998 ELUL 5758

*A Personal Report by Henry Wellisch*

**T**HIS REPORT has been prepared mainly for those who have never attended a seminar on Jewish genealogy in the hope that my impressions will entice them to participate in future events. Let me say at the outset that this seminar was one of the best organized and, with over 800 registrants, certainly the largest I have attended. It is expected that the 1999 session in New York will attract over 1,000 participants.



## *Hollywood "Chai"*

*The 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy*

*Los Angeles, July 12 - 17, 1998*

This seminar took place at the large and comfortable Century Plaza Hotel which is located near Beverly Hills in suburban Los Angeles. The JGS of LA provided an excellent resource room with ten computers connected to the Internet, a large reference library and many maps. There was also a vendors' exhibit with dealers of rare books, maps, computer software programs and other items.

Although these seminars have become quite large, they follow a well-established pattern. The activities usually commence on Sunday morning with registration and distribution of the syllabus, which includes the program, a list of attendees and speakers, brochures for most of the lectures, etc. In the afternoon there is a four-hour "Beginners' Workshop." A dinner break is followed by the opening ceremonies and the keynote address. At this event, Arthur Kurzweil, the well-known author of *From Generation to Generation*, spoke on "The Changing Face of Jewish Genealogy."

Sessions got underway on Monday morning at 9:00 am. Lectures lasted for an hour and a quarter, with 15-minute breaks. There were usually between three and four lectures occurring simultaneously, so one had to make a choice. A typical day might be as follows:

- 9:00-10:15 am Lecture (choice of 3 or 4)
- 10:30-11:45 am Lecture (choice of 3 or 4)
- 12:00-1:50 pm Lunch break, meetings  
of Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
- 2:00-3:15 pm Lecture (choice of 3 or 4)
- 3:30-4:45 pm Lecture (choice of 3 or 4)
- 5:00-6:45 pm Dinner break, meetings  
of SIGs
- 7:00-8:00 pm Lecture (choice of 2)
- 8:15-9:15 pm Lecture (choice of 2)

*(continued on page 3)*

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**Upcoming Events**  
*The Jewish Genealogical Society  
of Canada (Toronto)*  
at the Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue  
470 Glencairn Avenue

**Wednesday, October 7, 1998 at 8:00 pm**  
Brotherhood Hall  
*"The 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy"*  
Reports by Dr. Rolf Lederer and Henry Wellisch  
In view of the High Holydays, the  
September meeting had to be rescheduled.

**Wednesday, November 4, 1998 at 8:00 pm**  
Sisterhood Hall  
*"How to Document Victims and Locate Survivors  
of the Holocaust"*

The speaker, Gary Mokotoff, is publisher  
of *Avotaynu* and one of the leading genealogists  
in North America.

The date of this event has been set to  
coincide with our society's participation in the  
annual Holocaust Education Week.

**Wednesday, November 25, 1998 at 8:00 pm**  
Program to be announced

**Wednesday, December 30, 1998 at 8:00 pm**  
Brotherhood Hall  
*"Beyond the Pale: The Latvian Jewish Community  
1850-1940"*

Professor Anders Henrikson received his Ph.D in  
Russian History from the University of Toronto in  
1978. He is the author of a book on late 19<sup>th</sup> century  
Riga and of numerous articles on Russian and Baltic  
History.



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Canada M2N 5T1.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada was  
founded in 1985 and currently has about 180 members.  
Membership costs \$30 per calendar year, \$20 for persons  
living outside the City of Toronto. Meetings are held  
September to June, usually on the last Wednesday of each  
month at 8:00 p.m. (doors open at 7:30) at Shaarei  
Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Avenue, Toronto  
(unless announced otherwise). Guests are always  
welcome. Details are usually printed in the *Canadian Jewish  
News*.

The goals of the society are to provide a forum for the  
exchange of knowledge and information through meetings,  
outings, workshops and guest lecturers, and thereby to  
promote an awareness of genealogy within the Jewish  
community of Canada. The society is affiliated with the  
Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and is registered as a  
non-profit charitable organization.

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HENRY WELLISCH

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*Illustrations on pages 3, 5 and 6 reproduced  
courtesy of the Joseph Shapiro Fonde, Vilnius.  
Photos on pages 7 and 8 by Olga Zabudoff*

The resource room was open between 9:00 am and 6:00 pm.

As you will see from the complete listing of lectures on pages 11-12, the emphasis of this seminar was typically on Eastern Europe. However, there were also a number of lectures and SIG meetings on Central and Western Europe and other parts of the world.

Dr. Rolf Lederer of our society addressed a well-attended meeting on the subject of "How to Read Jewish Tombstones."

Since my family originated in the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, I focused on lectures and meetings concerning this area as well as the Holocaust and various subjects of general interest.

As a participant in the Hungarian discussion group on the Internet, it was thrilling to come face to face with people with whom I had previously only communicated via cyberspace.

The experience of meeting people of common interests and sharing triumphs and failures was highly enjoyable and rewarding for me. An extra bonus was my encounter with one of the speakers, Deborah Senn, who is the Insurance Commissioner for the State of Washington. She kindly offered advice on how I might proceed with my claim regarding a life insurance policy which belonged to my uncle who perished in Auschwitz.

I look forward to next year's seminar in New York and hope my enthusiasm will encourage other members to participate as well. ☆



*We Welcome These New Members  
to Our Society*

*Jeanette Delevie  
Lois Greisman  
Molly Neufeld  
Peter Spiro  
Mark Steinberg*

SEARCH AD

GELWACH/GELBWACHS, Dwoira/Deborah,  
daughter of Mendel Gelbwachs of Glogow,  
Galicia, Poland.

Born approx. 1900-1910, resided in Toronto  
about 1930 to 1940s; may have married  
(possibly SOLOMON) and moved to the U.S.  
Anyone having information is asked to  
contact:

Monique Charlebois  
Legal Counsel, Office of the Public  
Guardian and Trustee  
595 Bay Street, 8th Floor  
Toronto, Ontario M5G 2M6 CANADA  
Fax: (416) 314-2781

## Genealogical Information in Canadian First World War Military Records

by Glen Eker

Canadian First World War Records are formally called The Registers and Personnel Files of the Canadian Expeditionary Force 1914-1918. The original registers and personnel files are held by the National Archives of Canada at 393 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N3. The information in these records is governed by The Privacy Act and may be disclosed for research or statistical purposes. Proof of death and relationship may be required in certain circumstances. Requests for these military records should be directed to The Personnel Records Unit, Researcher Services Division, National Archives of Canada, 393 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N3.

There are microfilm reels of personnel in the Canadian Expeditionary Force that cover the period 1914-1917. They are arranged by military division and unit and contain information such as name and rank and residence. They are not indexed. In order to find someone on these reels, the researcher must know what military division or unit the member of the military was in. This will, however, not necessarily make the search for the member any easier since there is no index as to what military divisions and units are on each microfilm reel.

A more practical approach to finding out if someone was in the military during the First World War is to consult the National Archives of Canada website on the Internet at <http://www.archives.ca>. There is a nominal index to the personnel of the Canadian Expeditionary Force that covers the period 1914-1918. This index provides the name and serial number of the member. It also provides the file or box number location of the original record. This information will allow the researcher to make a request for a military member's records.

When making a request, the researcher should state that the request is being made under The Privacy Act, state the reason for the request and the relationship to the military member, provide any known identifying information about the member, such as approximate year of birth, country of birth, and exact date of death. It is best to send some proof of death if it is available. The information contained in the online index should be sent. In some cases, this information may be all that is required to obtain the records. The archives will either process the request directly or provide notification that further

6. M. D.	1st	Depot Battalion	Nova Scotia	Regiment
				Regt. No. 5199818
<b>PARTICULARS OF RECRUIT</b>				
DRAFTED UNDER MILITARY SERVICE ACT, 1917				
(Class.....) <b>DUPLICATE</b>				
1. Surname <b>EKER</b>				
2. Christian name <b>BENJAMIAN</b>				
3. Present address <b>WORK ST. GLACE BAY, C.B.</b>				
4. Military Service Act letter and number <b>62860100</b> <small>(If man is deserter, i.e., has not registered under Proclamation, this fact should be stated, together with date of apprehension, or surrender.)</small>				
5. Date of birth <b>JUNE 6th, 1894</b>				
6. Place of birth <b>KHAKIA TULCHIN, RUSSIA.</b> <small>(town, township or county and country)</small>				
7. Married, widower or single <b>SINGLE</b>				
8. Religion <b>HEBREW</b>				
9. Trade or calling <b>LIFE INSURANCE</b>				
10. Name of next-of-kin <b>RUBEN EKER</b>				
11. Relationship of next-of-kin <b>FATHER</b>				
12. Address of next-of-kin <b>YORK ST. GLACE BAY, C.B.</b>				
13. Whether at present a member of the Active Militia <b>NO.</b>				
14. Particulars of previous military or naval service, if any <b>NO.</b>				
15. Medical Examination under Military Service Act :-				
(a) Place <b>ALDRERSHOT, N.S.</b> (b) Date <b>18-7-18</b> (c) Category <b>VA-2</b>				
<b>DECLARATION OF RECRUIT</b>				
I, <b>BENJAMIAN EKER</b> , do solemnly declare that the above particulars refer to me, and are true.				
<i>Benjamin Eker</i> (Signature of Recruit)				
<b>DESCRIPTION ON CALLING UP</b>				
Apparent age	<b>24</b>	yrs.		Distinctive marks, and marks indicating congenital peculiarities or previous disease.
Height	<b>5</b>	ft.	<b>4 1/2</b> ins.	
Chest measurement	fully expanded		<b>34 1/2</b> ins.	
	range of expansion		<b>3</b> ins.	
Complexion	<b>Dark</b>			
Eyes	<b>Blue</b>			
Hair	<b>Black</b>			
<i>E. Mulholland Capt.</i> for Lt-Col. O. C. 1st. Depot Bn. Nova Scotia Regt.				
Place <b>ALDRERSHOT, N.S.</b> Date <b>18-8-18</b>				

information is required. They may send an application form and request a search fee.

The requirements for obtaining First World War military records have changed numerous times over the years. It is best to simply make an initial request with the information from the online index. The archives will then specify whether any further information is required.

There is a great deal of valuable genealogical information contained in the military records. A typical record begins with a sheet stating the contents of the file. The Particulars of Recruit form provides the name, present address, military service letter and number, date and place of birth, marital status, religion, trade or calling, name and address of next-of-kin, previous militia and military activities, and place and date of medical examination. There is an enlistment record sheet that duplicates some of the information and lists all dates and places where the military member was posted in Canada and overseas during the war. Other papers in the file may include Proceedings on Discharge (Demobilization), Casualty Form-Active Service, War Service Gratuity, Discharge Certificate, payroll forms, and medical and dental records.

These records provide a valuable overview of a military member's life in active service during the First World War.

The reproduction is from the First World War military record of my grandfather, Benjamin Eker of Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. He was in the Canadian Forestry Corps Unit of the Canadian Expeditionary Force for eleven months between 1918 and 1919. He served in the United Kingdom. The military record shows that he was born in Tulchin, Russia. Tulchin is located in the Ukraine. My grandfather's military record allowed me to discover his place of birth. ☆



## SOURCES FOR CIVIL RECORDS IN CANADA

### Alberta

Registration started in 1898, with a few earlier records; write to:

Alberta Registries, Vital Statistics  
Box 2023  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4W7  
Tel: (403) 427-2683  
Fax: (403) 422-9105

### British Columbia

Registration started in 1872; write to:

Vital Statistics Office  
B.C. Ministry of Health  
818 Fort Street  
Victoria, British Columbia V8W 1H8  
Tel: (250) 952-2681  
Fax: (250) 952-2576

The FHL (Mormons) were allowed to microfilm marriages 1872-1921 and deaths 1872-1976. The indexes for these records are on the Internet at: [www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca](http://www.bcarchives.gov.bc.ca)

### Manitoba

Registration started in 1882; write to:

Vital Statistics Agency  
Manitoba Consumer and Corporate Affairs  
254 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 0B6  
Tel: (204) 945-8177  
Fax: (204) 948-3128

### New Brunswick

Registration started in 1888; write to:

Department of Health and Community Services  
Vital Statistics Branch  
Box 6000  
Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1  
Tel: (506) 453-2122  
Fax: (506) 453-3288

### Newfoundland

Registration started in 1892; write to:

Newfoundland Vital Statistics  
Box 8700  
St. John's, Newfoundland A1B 4J6  
Tel: (709) 729-3111  
Fax: (709) 729-0946

(continued on page 6)

### Northwest Territories

Registration started in 1925; write to:  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Vital Statistics Office  
Box 1320  
Yellowknife, NWT X1A 2L9  
Tel: (403) 920-3143  
Fax: (403) 873-0272

### Nova Scotia

Registration started in 1908; write to:  
Nova Scotia Department of Business and  
Consumer Affairs  
Division of Vital Statistics  
Box 157  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2M9  
Tel: (902) 424-4381  
Fax: (902) 424-0678

There are some earlier records available  
starting in 1868; write to:  
Public Archives of Nova Scotia  
6016 University Avenue  
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1W4  
Tel: (902) 424-6060

These records are also available at the FHL  
(Mormons)

### Ontario

Registration started in 1869  
Births 1869-1899  
Marriages 1869-1914  
Deaths 1869-1924  
are available at:  
Archives of Ontario  
77 Grenville Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 2R9  
Tel: (416) 327-1600

Microfilm copies of these records are  
also available at the FHL (Mormons).

For later records, contact:  
Office of the Registrar General  
Ministry of Consumer and  
Commercial Relations  
Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 6L8  
Tel: (807) 343-7420  
Fax: (807) 343-7411

### Prince Edward Island

Registration started in 1906; write to:  
Department of Health and Social Service  
Division of Vital Statistics  
Box 2000  
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island C1A 7N8  
Tel: (902) 368-4420  
Fax: (902) 368-4492

### Quebec

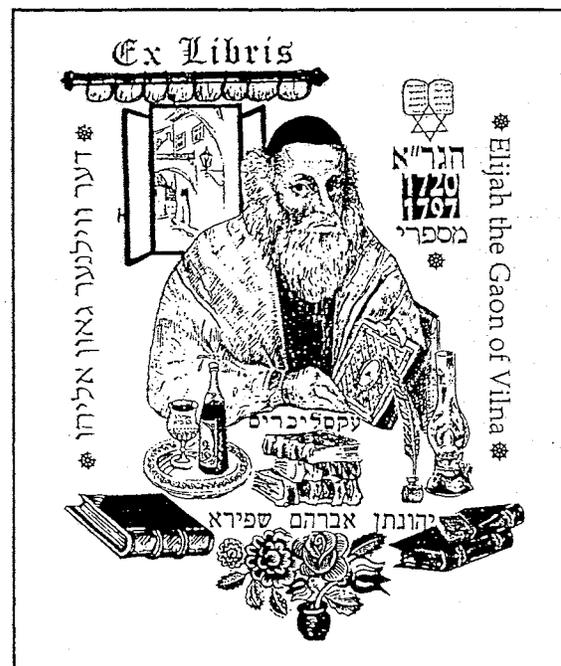
See *Shem Tov*, Volume XIV, No. 2, June 1998

### Saskatchewan

Registration started in 1905, with some  
scattered earlier records; write to:  
Finance and Management Services Branch  
Saskatchewan Department of Health  
1942 Hamilton Street  
Regina, Saskatchewan S4P 3V7  
Tel: (306) 787-3092  
Fax: (306) 787-2288

### Yukon Territory

Registration started in 1898; write to:  
Vital Statistics Office  
Department of Health and Social Services  
Box 2703  
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6  
Tel: (403) 667-5207  
Fax: (403) 393-6486



## *A Return to the Shtetl*

*by Lily Poritz Miller*

**D**uring a journey to Lithuania in 1992, I met an old woman in the shtetl of Butrimantz where my mother was born. My sister and I had come here with our Lithuanian guide, and we were soon surrounded by curious spectators. In Vilna we had managed to assimilate into the crowd, but here as Americans we were clearly an oddity.

Walking along the main street, we sought the house of my mother's birth based on old photos from the album my parents had brought from Lithuania. We stopped before a large brick structure with upper balcony which seemed to match our image of the house. In moments clusters of townsfolk had formed, speculating on these aliens who had landed in their village.

The house before which we stood had been converted into six apartments, and the woman who occupied one of the lower units invited us into her premises. Passing through a narrow, dim vestibule dominated by an iron stove where gnarled roots and mushrooms were drying, we meandered along the creaking floors to the livingroom, overwhelmed by the display of dolls - the handiwork of the resident.

We lingered awhile, treading in the footsteps of our mother as a child, and in the footsteps of a grandmother we never knew - she who now lay in the mass grave in the forest.

As we left the house and returned to the main street, the crowd had swelled, and now a man stood on a ladder, extricating the plaque on the front of the house. Our interpreter reported that they were offering the plaque as a memento.

A new woman had presented herself, and she was talking to our interpreter, pointing further up the street. "There lives a lady in this town," our interpreter told us, "who used to work in Jewish homes and speaks the language."

And so we came upon the house which stood off the main street, and found an old woman stooped over her vegetable garden in the rear. As our interpreter called to her, she looked up. Shyly and tentatively she made her way to the wooden gate.

Before long my sister and I were showing

her the photos from our family album, reviving the Yiddish we heard as children in our parents' house. The old woman was transported to the days of her youth. As her eyes clouded over, she looked into the distance and began calling out the names of my grandmother, my uncle and aunt and cousins.



We came back to see this woman on another day, and now she led us into her cottage and opened a door into an inner sanctum where a table was spread with delicacies - soft-boiled eggs, butter, cheese and fresh white bread. Speaking in the Yiddish we had heard in our mother's house, she relived the events which occurred on that fateful September day in 1941 when she watched from her window as the Jews, hands tied, staggered up the hill to the pit awaiting them in the forest. And then, just as my mother used to do, she began to chant a Yiddish melody, tears slipping down her face.

We went into the forest, crossing the ramp to the killing grounds, and stood before the monument which had been erected:

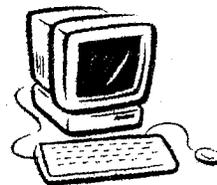
"Here was spilled the blood of 965 innocent people, Jewish women and men, who were murdered by the Nazis and their helpers. 1941, IX - VIII."

Before we left the shtetl of my mother's birth, the woman took us into her garden and shook her apple tree, filling our arms. Laden with the fruit and the hand-embroidered doilies she had

given us, we waved goodbye from the Lada, choking with emotion.

A year after this encounter, during which time we maintained the bond with letters and packages, my sister discovered a Jewish survivor from this shtetl who was now living in Vilna. When the survivor learned that we had visited her country with a Gentile guide and heard the name of this old Lithuanian woman, she was distraught. She accused her of looting and taking her most valuable goods, the fruit of which paid for the house in which she now lived. "Do not have anything more to do with her," the Jewish woman pleaded. "She is our enemy. They are all our enemies."

This spring I returned to the shtetl. During the six years since my first visit, I had longed to go back, to walk those streets again, to stand before the mass grave where my grandmother lies, and to search the old Jewish cemetery for further clues. But the scene I encountered was even more disheartening. In the old cemetery most of the stones were eclipsed by the high grass and many had receded deep into the earth. Going into the forest, I sought the path to the mass grave, only to have a bull lunge towards me. The ramp to the killing fields was decaying, floating on the stream which had overflowed. The Jewish survivor who had dedicated herself to preserving the memory of her lost people was now too fragile to leave her quarters in Vilna. Only the cows and bulls continued to graze in the fields, and as we drove past the cottage of the Lithuanian woman, she was still tending her crops in the garden. ☆



**Links for Jewish Genealogy**  
**A JewishGen Searchable Database**  
*Bernard I. Kouchel*  
<http://www.jewishgen.org/links/>

Find links to various topics of interest, including (but not limited to):

- Adoption
- Agencies and Organization
- Books Sellers
- Calendars
- Directories
- Family Sites
- Finding People
- Genealogy Europe (incl. European Russia)
- Genealogy Israel
- Genealogy USA
- Genealogy Other Countries
- Genealogy Books
- Genealogy Groups and Associations
- Genealogy Resources
- Genealogy Software
- Health and Heredity
- History
- Holocaust
- Jewish World
- LDS Family History Sites
- Library Resources
- Lookups
- Maps and Gazetteers
- Newsgroups
- Other Cool Sites
- Products, Commercial
- Professional Services
- Reference Materials
- Recipes and Traditions
- Search Engines
- Sephardic Sites

## **Jewish Genealogy in Australia**

*Gary Luke*

<http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy>  
Links to Australian archives and information about local research. References and links for UK and international Jewish research. Main page for the organizations listed below, and more.

### **Australian Jewish Genealogical Society**

<http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/ajgs> - meeting times, library catalogue, "Kosher Koala" journal indexes.

### **Australian Jewish Historical Society**

<http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/ajhs> - their holdings, and links to other Australian Jewish centres.

### **Archives of Australian Judaica**

<http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek/genealogy/aa> - catalogue and general information.

All these pages are available from <http://www.zeta.org.au/~feraltek>

## **South African Jewish Genealogy Page**

*Megan Crawcour*

If you are interested in genealogy in South Africa, you can visit the following website: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/8256/others.html> - and click on each of the following two entries in the index:

Yichus - Official Publication of the Jewish Genealogical Society, Johannesburg  
Journal of the Jewish Family History Society of Cape Town.

There is a short write-up as to how to contact these societies.

## **Latin American SIG now online at JewishGen**

*Carol Skydell*

Officially formed at the Los Angeles Jewish Genealogical Summer Seminar, the Latin American SIG - LatamSig - is ready to launch a mailing list which will be hosted by JewishGen free of charge.

If you have any questions, you can email either of the co-coordinators: Rob Weisskirch <[rweisskirch@fullerton.edu](mailto:rweisskirch@fullerton.edu)> or me, Carol Skydell <[skydell@vineyard.net](mailto:skydell@vineyard.net)>

## **Hungarian Telephone Book**

*Oblath Andras*

I would like to inform you that the Hungarian telephone book is available online from the net in the following URL:

[http://www.matav.hu:8080/tqw/istart\\_h.html](http://www.matav.hu:8080/tqw/istart_h.html)

## **Hungarian Jewish Website**

*Bruce R Rozett*

While browsing the Internet today, I came across an interesting site called the Hungarian Jewish Homepage. It includes a brief history of Jewish presence in Hungary and some interesting information for anyone planning to travel there.

<http://www.interdnet.hu/Zsido/HJEWISHE.HTM>

## **Netherlands Society for Jewish Genealogy**

We have added three new links to our page: <http://www.nljewgen.org/dutlinks.html>:

1. Rob and Nechamah's homepage.  
List of people who were born, got married or died in Arnhem and of people who were born or died in Amersfoort.
2. The official site of the Jewish Historical Museum in Amsterdam.
3. National Archives search.  
Search the index of births, marriages and deaths in a number of provinces.

Our Jewish Atlas of the Netherlands (at <http://www.nljewgen.org/atlas.html>) is being turned into a clickable map. Some links are operational already. This provides you with a graphical interface to information about Jewish communities in Dutch towns.

## **Who's Who of Canadian Jewish Women 1983**

*Leonard Harris*

I have copied all the names from the book *Canadian Jewish Women of Today: Who's Who of Canadian Jewish Women 1983*, edited by Edmond Y. Lipsitz, and have posted it to: <[http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Valley/9382/whos\\_who.htm](http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Valley/9382/whos_who.htm)>.

I hope this online index will help fellow researchers determine whether or not their relatives are included in this book. Hopefully I will be able to do the same for other "Who's Who" books in the future.

## London - Birth, Marriage and Death Records

Harold Pollins

It is undoubtedly better to apply to the appropriate official office:

General Register Office  
Office of National Statistics  
PAS Section  
Smedley Hydro  
Trafalgar Road  
Birkdale  
Southport  
PR8 2HH  
England  
Tel: 01704 569824

## Jews in the Yukon

Anthony Lewis

There is an interesting article about current Judaism in the Yukon in the on-line version of the Yukon News. The web page is:

[http://www.yukonweb.com/community/yukon\\_news/aug26.html#ceremony](http://www.yukonweb.com/community/yukon_news/aug26.html#ceremony)

Apparently, there are about 30 Jews in the Yukon. There is also a Jewish Historical Society of the Yukon and there is research of at least one Jewish cemetery.

(See the article "The Jewish Historical Society of the Yukon" in *Shem Tov*, Vol. XIV, No. 2, June 1998, page 6.)

## Belarus SIG Website Now Online

Risa Heywood, Belarus SIG Webmaster

We are pleased to announce that the Belarus SIG website is now online. It can be accessed at: [www.jewishgen.org/belarus](http://www.jewishgen.org/belarus).

The Belarus SIG was begun this summer at the Jewish Genealogy Conference in Los Angeles. Its purpose is to aid Jewish genealogy researchers with an interest in the gubernii of Minsk, Mogilev and Vitebsk.

The Belarus SIG has started a number of translation projects:

1903 Russian Business Directory  
Minsk Yizkor Book name index  
Mogilev Vital Records  
(including indexing)  
1834 Borisov Revision List  
Minsk Gub. Revision Lists  
(including indexing)  
Senno 1861-64 Birth Records

The results of all of these projects will be available at our website and will eventually be part of a Belarus database. We are in need of project leaders, translators, and, of course, financial support. To volunteer, contact Dave Fox, SIG coordinator at [fox@erols.com](mailto:fox@erols.com). To provide financial support, go to:

[www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen\\_erosity/belarus](http://www.jewishgen.org/JewishGen_erosity/belarus)

In addition, the website will include an online newsletter. A newsletter editor is also needed.

The SIG hosts a discussion group to which 210 people have already subscribed, and the number grows daily. To subscribe to the Belarus SIG discussion group, go to:

[http://www.jewishgen.org/listserv/sigs\\_add.htm?](http://www.jewishgen.org/listserv/sigs_add.htm?)

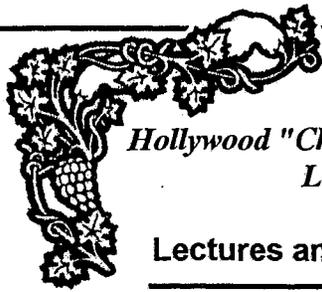
Our goal is for this website to become a well-used resource for Belarus SIG members. We encourage you to send us your suggestions and additional data to add to the site. Please visit the website often. We have many exciting additions planned.

## Advertising Rates

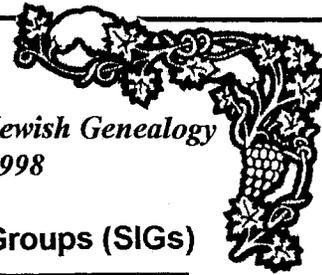
*SHEM TOV* is now accepting display advertising for publication. Advertisers are requested to supply camera-ready art and payment by November 1998 for the Winter issue. Please indicate how many insertions you would like. As the chart indicates, our basic rate is discounted for advertisements placed in four consecutive issues (one year) instead of a single issue only. By placing an ad in *Shem Tov*, you are reaching a growing number of readers in Toronto, across Canada and internationally, and helping to support a unique and vital journal.

	One issue	Four issues (one year)
Full page	\$60	\$200
Half page	\$30	\$100
Quarter page	\$18	\$ 60
Eighth page	\$10	\$ 32

Search ads are also available. Rates are \$5 for the first 25 words and 25 cents per word thereafter; your name and address are free. Please write advertisement clearly, with family surnames you are researching in *uppercase* letters. Make your cheque payable to the Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (Toronto) and mail to: JGS of Canada (Toronto), P.O. Box 446, Station A, North York, Ontario, Canada M2N 5T1.



*Hollywood "Chai" - the 18th Annual Seminar on Jewish Genealogy  
Los Angeles, California, July 12-17, 1998*



**Lectures and Meetings of Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

**General Genealogical Research**

Keynote Address: The Changing Face of Jewish Genealogy (A. Kurzweil)  
Beginners' Workshop (N. Arbeiter)  
How I found 14,000 Relatives in Three Years (W. Frank)  
Publishing a Family Newsletter  
Gathering and Sharing Your Family History (S. Hoffman, A. Edwards, D. Seligman)  
Yizkor Book SIG meeting  
Unusual Resources (G. Riley, R. Gruber, Rabbi J. Marx)  
AJGS Cemetery Update (A. Sachs)  
Genealogy and the Internet (B. Kahn)  
Digital Imaging and Genealogy: Principals, Possibilities and Pitfalls (B. Kahn)  
An Introduction to JewishGen (S. King)  
JewishGen Advanced Topics (S. King)  
Our Roving Ancestors: Why You Must Broaden the Geographic Scope of Your Search (H. Rhode)  
The Nuts and Bolts of Oral History Interviews (E. Kahn)  
Living Vertically: Urban Research Methods (E. Polakoff)  
The Jewish Historical Clock (M. Honey)  
Getting Started: Organizing Your Research (S. Benedikt)  
An Introduction to Rabbinic Genealogy (Dr. N. Rosenstein)  
Advanced Rabbinic Research: The Choice is Yours (Dr. N. Rosenstein)  
Fleshing Out the History of Our Ancestors (R. Gruber)  
Jewish Personal Names (W. Blatt)  
How to Read Jewish Tombstones (Dr. R. Lederer)

**Israeli, Middle Eastern and Sephardic Research**

The Douglas E. Goldman Jewish Genealogical Center (D. Sommer)  
Jewish Genealogical Research in Israel (S. A. Amdur Sack)  
The Jews of the Ottoman Empire (Dr. S. Shaw)  
Center for Iranian Jewish Oral History (D. Adhami)

History of the Jews of Iraq: Tracing Sephardic and Mizrahi Families in the Land of Judaism's Birth (V. Ozair)  
Being Sephardic - Children of the Diaspora (V. Perera)

**Eastern Europe: (Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Romania, Moldova, Baltic States)**

Surveys and Preservation of Jewish Monuments in Eastern Europe (S. D. Gruber)  
Locating the Ancestral Home: Geographic Resources for Central and Eastern Europe (D. Schlyter)  
The Changing Borders of Eastern Europe (H. Bookbinder)  
Eastern European Jewish Memorial (Yizkor) Books (Z. Baker)  
Eastern European Microfilming at the FHL to 1998 (K. Mehr)  
Breaking Through a Brick Wall (B. Feldblyum)  
Routes to Roots: Travel and Archival Research in the Ukraine, Moldova and Belarus (M. Weiner)  
Reading Polish Vital Records from the Former Russian Territory (D. Schlyter)  
Jewish Records Indexing - Poland (S. Diamond)  
Jewish Records Indexing - Poland, Workshop  
The Missing Peace: Applied Genealogy in Poland (Y. Reisner)  
Tracing Your Jewish Roots in Galicia (S. Wynne)  
Kielce-Radom SIG meeting  
Geshet Galicia annual meeting  
Geshet Galicia SIG meeting  
Russian Revision Lists (B. Feldblyum)  
Limitations in the Use of 19th-century Russian-Empire Records (B. Weiss)  
The Russian Consular Records Revisited (S. Wynne)  
Grodno SIG meeting  
Memorializing the Lithuanian Shtetl Kelme: A Case Study (B. Weiss)  
All Lithuania Database: How to Streamline Your Litvak Research (D. Hoffman, D. Handler)

Litvak SIG meeting  
Jewish Genealogical Resources at the Kaunas  
State Archives (V. Gircyte)  
Research and Travel in Lithuania  
(B. Kahn, S. Issroff, H. Margol)  
Remembering Lithuanian Shoah Victims: A  
Research Project (S. Issroff, R. Lerer-Cohen)  
Jewish Genealogical Research in Latvia  
(M. Getz)  
Latvian SIG meeting  
Sources for Jewish Genealogical Research in  
Romania (L. Gyemant)  
Dr. Gyemant, a professional genealogist  
and researcher, was also available for  
personal consultation.

**Central Europe: (Germany, Austria, Hungary,  
Czech and Slovak Republics}**

Hungarian-Jewish Research in Israel  
(L. Schonfeld)  
Hungarian Research: Jewish Resources at the  
FHL (D. Schlyter)  
Hungarian SIG meeting  
Jewish Genealogical Research at the Leo Baeck  
Institute (K. Franklin)  
Resources for German-Jewish Genealogy  
(P. Lande)  
German SIG meeting  
Bohemia-Moravia SIG Formation

**Western Europe: (France, England)**

Jewish Genealogical Research in Great Britain  
(D. Fielker)  
Doing Alsatian Research from the U.S.  
(R. Leeson)  
Research Tools for Alsatian Genealogy  
(D. Leeson)

**North American Research**

Census Research for Beginners (L. Gudis)  
Southern California Public Records (T. Gostin)  
Genealogical Resources in New York (S. Siegel)  
Los Angeles Judaica Libraries (H. Horowitz,  
R. Burke, D. Hirsch, A. Klein)  
From Pariah to Pardner: Pioneer Jews of the  
West (H. Rochlin)  
History of the Jews of Los Angeles (S. Sass)  
Jewish Genealogical Research at YIVO  
(Z. Baker)  
Tracking Jews in the Motion Picture Industry  
(V. Almandarez)

The Center for Jewish History (S. Amdur Sack,  
K. Franklin, Z. Baker)  
Crypto Jews of the Southwest (A. Benveniste)  
Jewish Genealogical Research in Canada  
(L. Tapper)

**Australian, South American, South African  
Research**

Your Cousins in Australia (S. Kaplan)  
Jewish Genealogical Research in Argentina  
(D. Nimcowicz)  
Jewish Genealogical Research in South Africa  
(R. Ogus)  
South African SIG meeting

**Holocaust Research**

The Holocaust and Insurance: How Jewish  
Genealogy Can Help Achieve Results  
(D. Senn)  
Survivors of the Shoah Visual History  
Foundation (Dr. M. Berenbaum)  
An Introduction to Holocaust Research  
(G. Mokotoff)  
What Happened to Schmul and Rebeka:  
Sources of Information on Holocaust  
Victims and Survivors (P. Lande)

**Four films**

Island of Roses: The Jews of Rhodes in  
Los Angeles  
West of Hester Street  
Meet Me at Brooklyn & Soto  
(Jews of East L.A.)  
Nobody's Business\* by Alan Berliner  
*\*Available at our society*

Entertainment at the closing banquet was  
provided by Theodor Bikel.

Audiocassettes of the lectures can be obtained  
from:

Repeat Performance  
2911 Crabapple Lane  
Hobart, IN 46342 USA  
Tel: (219) 465-1234

The tapes are US\$7.50 each, with US\$2.00  
shipping for the first tape and US\$0.75  
shipping for each additional tape, up to a  
maximum of US\$8.00 shipping.