



THE RESEARCHER

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2014

Inside this issue:

Meeting Preview	1
Scenes From the Meetings	2
MyHeritage Employees Digitize an Entire Cemetery to Kickstart Global Initiative	3
Articles contributed by Jan Meisels Allen	4
Welcome New Members	5
New iPhone App for Find A Grave	5
Registration is now open for this Summer's 34th IAJGS Conference	6
2013-2014 Meeting Schedule	7
IAJGS Alerts	8
Upcoming Meetings of Our Sister Societies	9
Officers and Committees	10
Minutes of the January meeting	10
Membership Application	11
About JGSTB	12
IAJGS Conference	13

GENEALOGY SOFTWARE UTILITIES

by Peter Summers
Sunday, April 13, 2014

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay will meet at Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services, 14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater, Florida on Sunday April 13, 2014 at 2:00 PM with a presentation by Peter Summers on Genealogy Software Utilities. Utilities are software programs that are typically designed to do one or two specific things, and work to support your genealogy research, data management, or data entry. They also often provide a handy reference for information often needed in your research. This presentation explores several utilities that we consider universal in their appeal. The handout that is available goes well beyond what can be covered during the presentation, so attendees will have utility suggestions to take away and explore on their own.

Peter Summers is a graduate of West Point with advanced degrees from Florida State University and the University of Southern California. After more than 20 years in the Service, and 5 years in industry, he spent over 15 years teaching at college level, principally at the University of South Florida. He served a year as the education director and then four years as the president of the Pinellas Genealogy Society of Pinellas County, Florida from 2009 thru 2012. He teaches many genealogy and computer classes locally, and is often a guest speaker at other organizations on those subjects. He has published articles in Everton's Genealogical Helper and Pinellas Genealogist, and he currently publishes a monthly genealogy society newsletter, and writes a monthly genealogy column for a local Florida newspaper. Peter has been working on his own genealogy since 1972.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay's library and research resources are available to all meeting attendees and can be loaned out to members. Anyone interested in learning how to do Jewish genealogy research is invited to participate. Beginners as well as experienced researchers are welcome.

The pre-program social with refreshments and library access begins at 1:30 PM, and the featured program starts at 2:00 PM. For information about the organization or directions to the meeting, call Bruce Hadburg at 727 796-7981.

Upcoming JGSTB

Meetings:

April 13

May 18

June 8

Scenes from the meetings



The December meeting is our annual luncheon and opportunity for members to report their genealogy success stories. Luncheon coordinator, Meg Ziegler, (center above) did a great job and we had a large variety of delicious food to choose from. Barry Pitegoff told us about his very successful trip to Russia to discover his ancestors.



Nolan Altman presented the January program about the Jewish Gen website via Skype.



Emil Isaacson presented his annual two-part seminar in February and March.

The following article is from Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and is copyright by Richard W. Eastman. It is re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at <http://www.eogn.com>.

MyHeritage Employees Digitize an Entire Cemetery to Kickstart Global Initiative

Eighty MyHeritage employees from the company's headquarters in Israel arrived in full force early Sunday morning to the Segula Cemetery in Petah Tikva, Israel, to digitize gravestones using the BillionGraves mobile application. The primary goal was to "practice what we preach." By gaining hands-on experience, the company's employees aimed to create best practices, improve the product and fine-tune methodologies for digitizing cemeteries all around the world in the most efficient manner.

The team managed to take 51,000 gravestones photos. Each photo was automatically uploaded to BillionGraves.com within seconds, along with metadata that included the precise latitude and longitude where the photograph was taken. The immediate uploading of cell phone pictures is an option in the BillionGraves app for both iPhone and Android devices. The photographer also may add a text description while still standing in front of the tombstone or add the information later, as desired.

MyHeritage recently announced a global initiative, together with BillionGraves, to digitally preserve the world's cemeteries. Quoting from the MyHeritage Blog: "It is important to digitize cemeteries because of the key role that gravestones play in family history and in society in general. Most of the world's cemeteries have never been systematically documented nor has their information made available online. In addition, age and exposure to the elements are rendering gravestones illegible, making this project even more urgent."

The article includes a number of photographs showing the team effort. I find it interesting that MyHeritage CEO Gilad Japhet is shown photographing gravestones. I know that Gilad was a genealogist for some time before he founded MyHeritage. Once a genealogist, always a genealogist.

You can read more about this initiative in an article by Esther in the MyHeritage Blog at <http://goo.gl/yHDSmL>.

This sounds like a great project for any genealogy society, class, or anyone else interested in preserving information and making it available to future genealogists! You can read more about the MyHeritage/BillionGraves global crowdsourcing initiative to digitally preserve the world's cemeteries at <http://goo.gl/7gtHqX>.



The following articles were sent by Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson of the
IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

A site, new to me at least, is “Geograph” whose intent is to photograph every square kilometer of Britain and Ireland, making it a companion to Google Earth. Thus far there are 3,805,890 images covering 270,948 grid squares, about 81.6% of the total area to be covered. It is a free site. Go to: <http://www.geograph.org.uk/> and click on “search” on the left and then type in where you are looking for. In addition to the photograph of the place you put in the search box, the grid number appears as does the date and name of the photographer. There is also the opportunity to look at grid maps which also has an interactive feature. This feature covers England, Isle of Man, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The photographs are of current vintage and not historical, although some of the modern photographs are of historical areas. The site includes photographic collections from various places of interest.

Available on another free website, is Wellcome Library's collection of London health reports. The site includes reports made by health officers. While names of people are not included, if you know addresses, they are included and you may find out not only about the health of the nation at a particular time (typhus, scarlet fever outbreaks, etc.) but what may have occurred in your family's home. The London medical reports span 1848-1972. To research the medical reports go to: <http://wellcomelibrary.org/moh/> .

Wellcome Library also has over 100,000 historic images at their site: <http://wellcomeimages.org/>. On the search box to the right click on the dropdown box to historical images and insert your search word in the box.

Thank you to Peter Calver and his Lost Cousins newsletter for informing of us about these websites.

The new Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw have artists at work creating elaborate wall paintings which tell the story of Jewish life and culture in Poland. The Museum is opened in an area that was the Warsaw ghetto in World War II. Its purpose is to serve as a cultural and educational center by reconstructing the climate of Jewish towns and synagogues through historical artifacts, replicas, multimedia and diary quotations and more.

To read the article and see photographs go to: <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/polands-jewish-museum-gets-interior-decoration>

To learn more about the museum go to their website at: <http://www.jewishmuseum.org.pl/en>

Thank you to Randy Hershaft, Associated Press for sharing the article.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

**Betsy Ilfeld
Monique Keppler
Lee Kichen
Joseph Potash
Armando Rivera
Yolanda Keith-Rivera
Henrietta Silverman
Helen Siswein**

The following article was submitted by Bill Israel

I read this article and installed the App on my iPhone and on Sally's. It works beautifully, and we are getting very good use from it. Highly recommend from personal experience. Bill

New iPhone App For “Find A Grave”

A new iPhone app has been produced for Find A Grave. This is a Find A Grave by Ancestry App, and it does some pretty cool stuff. The App is produced in the following languages: English, Arabic, Bokmål, Norwegian, Catalan, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Malay, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, Traditional Chinese, Turkish, and Vietnamese.

More than 100 million graves in half a million cemeteries around the world are now at your fingertips with the new mobile app. The App requires iOS 7.0 or later. It is compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. The app is optimized for iPhone 5. They say that an Android App is on the way.

From the App, you can search for memorials, and search for cemeteries. Using your location, you can see what cemeteries are nearby, and in many cases you can even ascertain what headstones need to be photographed – either on request, or just to complete the database.

<https://itunes.apple.com/app/id732952190?mt=8&&referrer=click=2589a04c-c533-4180-a4a0-dc061d0af633>

Registration is now open for this Summer's 34th IAJGS Conference

Greetings!

Registration for the IAJGS Conference is now open. It will be held in Salt Lake City starting on July 27, 2014. Check out the conference website at www.iajgs2014.org to learn more about our plans and to sign up.

As the conference will kick off one day shy of the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of World War I, it will focus on the impact of the "War to End all Wars" on our families. Our ancestors served in the armies of all of the participants, lived through horrific fighting across the Jewish heartland of Eastern Europe, fled and immigrated to new lands and started new lives. Many of us have stories to tell and pictures to share. The conference will be encouraging our registrants to upload these stories and pictures which we plan to compile into an important memory book from which we all can learn. We will also have a major picture display at the conference to bring the experience alive as only visuals can do.

Of course, there will be much more, including close up and personal access to the world's largest genealogy library where there are hundreds of thousands of genealogically significant books and hundreds of millions of records that are not on the Internet. The program will be wide-ranging focusing on areas that have not always been stressed in the past, while retaining the best of historic programming and workshops.

You can keep up with what we are planning by visiting our web site, posting to our discussion forum, signing up for our blog and following us on Facebook and Twitter. Just click on links at www.iajgs2014.org to sign up and stay current. Come join your friends for a memorable, genealogically valuable and rewarding experience.

All the best for a terrific year!

Banai Feldstein, Ken Bravo and Hal Bookbinder, co-chairs
34th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy



JGSTB

2013-14 Meeting Schedule

Programs are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

Date	Topic	Presenter
April 13	GENEALOGY SOFTWARE UTILITIES*	Peter Summers
May 18	MEMBERS WORKSHOP	JGSTB members
June 8	THE JOYS OF JEWISH FOLKLORE	Dr. Eleanor Wachs
September 14	DISCOVERING MY POLISH ROOTS	Kim Eisler

* Demonstration of several utility programs useful for genealogy such as: Dropbox, Skype, Google Voice, Google Earth, Evernote, Mozy/Carbonite online backup, Online software (Googledocs), automatic backup software, GEDCOM utilities and more.



IAJGS Alerts

Jan Meisels Allen, Chairperson, IAJGS Public Records Access Monitoring Committee

1. The National Archives [UK] will be raising their prices for charge for public services, including research and record copying effective April 1. To read about this see: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/913.htm> For a list of the new prices go to <http://tinyurl.com/m7v9b>

Original url: <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/documents/summary-of-costs-april-2014.pdf> . Thank you to Saul Issroff for alerting us to the change in prices. Many of us have used Ancestry at one time or another over the years. Last year we heard that Ancestry was planning to end its "old search" functionality in lieu of its more current "primary" search functionality. Ancestry announced last week that they permanently ceased the "old search" functionality as running two different processes was at best "challenging" as it limited their opportunities for making improvements and due to the older nature of "old search" increased the complexity of what Ancestry was trying to do with upgrades. Ancestry's rationale for this is with today's different technology that is used by many to access the databases, such as mobile devices, browsers and operating systems the "old" system just couldn't be modified to keep up with the newer technology and maintain a stable functionality.

2. Last year Ancestry queried a number of bloggers and users about what they liked and didn't like about "old search" and their primary search. They took that feedback and consolidated the two systems. Many of the features enjoyed in the "Old Search" functionality are now available in the primary search experience, such as searching exact, searching only historical records and more. To find out more about the features of "Primary Search" go to: <http://tinyurl.com/m66n5wu>

Original url: http://help.ancestry.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/5569/kw/finding%20success%20with.

To read about the changes and the reasons behind Ancestry's decision, go to: <http://blogs.ancestry.com/ancestry/2014/03/10/a-fond-farewell-to-old-search> . The changes are not without controversy by the users of Ancestry.com but as was announced, "old search" has ended. I have no affiliation with Ancestry.com and am reporting this solely for the information of the reader.

3. Genealogists make requests for government documents under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). The Government has proposed amendments to their FOIA process. The US Department of Commerce has announced in the February 27 Federal Register proposed rulemaking notice on updated and revised FOIA rules, which includes methods of submitting requests and appeals. The notice also updates privacy rules and requests.

Records under the FOIA include all Government records, regardless of format, medium or physical characteristics, and electronic records and information, audiotapes, videotapes, Compact Disks, DVDs, and photographs. A request should include specific information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipient, and subject matter of the record, and the name and location of the office where the record might be found.

Twenty (20) working days (i.e., excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) from date of receipt of the request is the amount of time the regulation proposes to make a determination whether to comply with a FOIA request. Whether the request is approved or not, the requestor must be notified in writing about the decision. If the decision is to approve, payment must be made before the information is provided.

The fees to be charged are based on the cost of the search and the salary rate plus 16 percent for the researcher's time and any copies at 16¢ per page. Details are included in the proposed regulation that can be found at the above-mentioned url.

Upcoming Meetings of Our Sister Societies

Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Southwest Florida currently meets the third Sunday of the month during November—May at Kobernick House, 1951 North Honore Avenue, Sarasota, Florida 34235.

To learn more about JGS, visit www.jgsswf.org.

Suncoast Genealogy Society, Inc.

meets the fourth Saturday of the month at 2 PM at the

Palm Harbor Library 2330 Nebraska Ave. in Palm Harbor, FL.

March 22	1-4:30 PM	Mini Seminar with Debra Fleming
April 22	6:00 PM	Officer Installation Banquet at Kally K's
May 24	2-4:30 PM	"How Cemeteries Can Help Your Genealogy Research" Marianne Bradley
June 28	2-4:30 PM	Topic to be announced

Pinellas Genealogy Society

Meets at 11 AM on the 3rd Saturday of every month at the

Largo Library 120 Central Park Dr. Largo, FL

Phone: 727 586-7410

www.rootsweb.com/~flpgs

NOTE: There are many interesting websites listed in the articles in this newsletter. Check the various websites in the articles throughout this issue to get additional information pertaining to each article.

Officers:

President: Bruce Hadburg
1st Vice President: Sally Israel
2nd Vice President: Barry Pitegoff
Secretary: Carol Jaffe
Treasurer: Linda Zolinsky

Committee Chairs:

Hospitality: Tom & Janet Dixon
Librarian: Chris Burkhart
Library Acquisitions: Emil Isaacson
Membership: Barry Pitegoff
Newsletter Editor: Natalie Armitage
Programs: Sally Israel
Publicity: Pete Tanner
Webmaster: Pete Tanner

If you would like to volunteer to help JGSTB in any way, contact the Officers or Committee Chairs listed above.

Minutes of the January 2014 Meeting
Carol Jaffe, Secretary

January 12, 2014

The January meeting of the JGSTB on January 12, 2014 was opened by Bill Israel. He welcomed new members and visitors. He then presented the names of the officers for 2014 and a motion to accept was made by Larry Blum and accepted. Bruce Hadburg then conducted the meeting. VP Barry Pitegoff was unable to attend due to car problems.

Bruce then welcomed new members, visitors and current members. New members introduced themselves and told of names/areas they are researching. Current members told what names/areas of research.

Emil Isaacson told of 3 new books purchased for our library.

Our special guest this month was Nolan Altman in New York via videoconference. He explained the Jewish Gen website and discussed the different services available for research, which some people might not be aware of.

After our guest speaker, Bruce gave the state of our membership, total monies in our account and then our plan to help everyone with their research. He then announced of the boards approved donations for 2014. Jewish Gen \$100, WMNF Radio/Sunday Simcha \$50, Jewish Press \$100, Gulf Coast Jewish Family Service \$100 and IAJGS \$18.

The programs for February & March will be Dr Emil Isaacson's Introduction to Jewish Genealogy Research.

Food Bank Request

When you arrive for meetings you may have noticed the bags and boxes of food in the hallway just past the reception desk. The Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services operates a food bank for the benefit of those in need and our donations help make it possible for them to carry out their mission. If you are able to contribute non-perishable food, it will be greatly appreciated.

Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services provides JGSTB, at no cost, a meeting facility, a mail room, wifi Internet service, storage for our library and hospitality supplies and use of its audio-visual and computer equipment. The food donations requested are a small token of appreciation for all of that.

Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Annual dues - \$25 - make check payable to *JGSTB*

Mail check and application form to:
Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay
c/o Treasurer
14041 Icot Blvd.
Clearwater, FL 33760

DATE OF APPLICATION: _____

NAME OF APPLICANT: _____

MAILING ADDRESS (street, city, zip): _____

HOME TELEPHONE: _____

BUSINESS TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____

APPLICANT'S FAMILY NAMES AND LOCATIONS BEING RESEARCHED

SURNAME	TOWN	COUNTRY

DUES PAYMENT RECEIVED: Date _____ Amount _____

Payment in (cash or check #) _____

Received by _____

For further information contact :

jgstampabay@gmail.com

We're on the web!

<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fljgstb/>

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay meets on the 2nd Sunday of each month, except for the months of July and August. Meetings are held at the Gulf Coast Jewish Family and Community Services, 14041 Icot Blvd., Clearwater, Florida. Library access & pre-meeting social begin at 1:30 PM; the meeting is at 2:00 PM.

JGSTB was founded in 1999 by a group of individuals in the greater Tampa Bay area who were interested in learning how to research their Jewish family roots. Anyone interested in learning how to do Jewish genealogical research is invited to attend our meetings. Beginners as well as experienced researchers are welcome. An extensive library of books, maps, videos, CDs, periodicals and other materials on Jewish genealogy, as well as genealogy in general, is available for use by all members. Members may check out items to take home. A listing of the library contents can be viewed on our website.

The JGSTB is a non-profit educational organization affiliated with the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)—an independent non-profit umbrella organization coordinating the activities and annual conference of more than 80 International and local Jewish Genealogical societies around the world.

You can contact us by email at: jgstampabay@gmail.com

The newsletter of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Tampa Bay (JGSTB)
Natalie Armitage, Editor Email: nrarmitage@centurylink.net Telephone: 352 341-5188
Web page: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~fljgstb/>
Published quarterly in March, June, September and December
Permission to reprint articles is granted providing credit is given to the author and JGSTB



Mark your calendars and register today!

Come to the Premier Annual Conference on **Jewish Genealogy** At the Hilton Salt Lake City Center

- Over 150 programs to enhance your family history research.
- Commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I.
- Contribute to a memory book of ancestors' WW I experiences.
- Attend sessions for beginners including hands-on workshops.
- Network with fellow genealogists from around the world.
- Make family connections through the conference family finder.
- Research at the world's foremost genealogy library.
- Enjoy films, reception, gala banquet and all that SLC has to offer.
- See the latest genealogy products and services available.
- Extend your stay to explore SLC at great conference hotel rates.
- Register to attend in person, for IAJGS LIVE! * or for both.



Family History Library



Hilton Salt Lake City Center



Convenient transportation

* IAJGS Conference LIVE! will offer over 50 programs live on the Internet with continuing availability for 3 months after the conference.

Co-hosted by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies and the Utah Jewish Genealogical Society

For more information
and to register, visit
www.iajgs2014.org