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# GENERATIONS

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Volume 7 Issue 1

January 2001

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## January Meeting

### When Should You Hire a Professional Genealogist?

Ms. Ann Carter Fleming

**Date:** Sunday, January 21, 2001

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**(Please note day and time  
change for the winter months!)**

**Place:** Jablon Youth Lounge  
United Hebrew Congregation  
13788 Conway Road

Ann Carter Fleming is a Certified Genealogist, author, instructor, researcher and volunteer. She serves as the secretary of the National Genealogical Society, is on the board of directors of the Friends of the Missouri Archives, has co-authored *Research in Missouri*, and is the immediate past president of the St. Louis Genealogical Society.

Ann is a member of our organization and has been one of our most popular speakers. Her talks are always very informative and helpful. Be sure to set aside this Sunday afternoon for the answer to this question that often puzzles amateur genealogists.



Jewish  
Genealogical  
Society  
of St. Louis

Affiliated with  
United Hebrew  
Congregation

### Research at Meetings

The JGS of St. Louis Genealogical Library is housed in the United Hebrew Library and is open for research one hour prior to each meeting.

In the event of inclement weather, listen to KMOX or call Jerry at (314) 434-2566.

## February Meeting

### Video Presentation: “There Once Was a Town”

Ms. Ann Greenstein

**Date:** Sunday, February 18, 2001

**Time:** 2:00 p.m.

**(Please note day and time  
change for the winter months!)**

**Place:** Jablon Youth Lounge  
United Hebrew  
Congregation  
13788 Conway Road

Nearly all members of our JGS have one thing in common: if we trace our ancestors back far enough, we are very likely to find roots in one of the shtetls of Eastern Europe. “There Once Was a Town” is a very moving documentary film produced by PBS. It describes one typical town, Eishyshok, Poland (now Lithuania), using wonderful photos and home movies to paint a vivid picture of the rich, full life of its citizens prior to WWII. Then, it follows a group of survivors as they and their families attempt a journey “home” in 1998. Here will be a unique opportunity to learn how our ancestors lived, loved, and flourished for centuries in a difficult environment.

The 90 minute video is based in part on a book by Professor Yaffa Eliach called *There Once Was a World- A Nine-Hundred-Year Chronicle of the Shtetl of Eishyshok*, her exhibit called “Tower of Life” at the U.S. Holocaust Museum in Washington, D. C. and photographs in the Yaffa Eliach Shtetl Collection. (See related book review inside.)

## The Event You Have Been Waiting For...

Internationally renowned author  
and expert on Jewish genealogy

**Miriam Weiner**

will be our guest speaker on  
Sunday, March 25

1:30 p.m. at United Hebrew  
Members’ tickets in advance: \$12

Don’t miss this opportunity to hear one of the best!  
More information and details next month.

# President's Page

## December Meeting Cancellation

Due to inclement weather, we had to cancel our December meeting. If your e-mail address is listed in our officers' membership list (not the roster), then you should have received a notification. Contact Gene Schneider at <geneschneider@worldnet.att.net> to include your name on the list for any notification errors. We also attempted to phone other members that frequently attend meetings. Whenever it appears a meeting may be cancelled, contact Jerry at 314-434-2566 or listen to KMOX or Channels 2 or 5. Unfortunately, the Website will not have the cancellation information, as it requires a few days to update the site.

Numerous members have requested that JGS reschedule the meeting. Ann Greenstein, our program chairperson, stated the speakers would be rescheduled for a spring or summer meeting. Members also inquired if we could change the December meeting to a Sunday afternoon, and that will be discussed at a future board meeting.

## Transportation

I've received phone calls from members needing transportation for a particular meeting or to all meetings. I have tried to secure transportation with little success. The recent publication of the roster should help. For the members who do not drive or cannot drive at night, please send your name, phone number and address to me at 13039 Musket Ct. St. Louis, MO 63146 or to <jerfransl@cs.com>. I will place your name on a transportation list for display at our meetings.

## Membership Forms

A new membership form, gray in color, is now available. The difference from the previous gold color is the new Internet and email address. If you know of someone who would like to become a member, be sure to pick up a new form you can give to them.

## JewishGen ViewMate Site

As mentioned in last month's *Generations*, a new capability has been added to JewishGen at <<http://www.jewishgen.org/viewmate/purpose.html>>. The purpose, as stated in their site, is for JewishGen participants seeking commentary or problem solving advice from others, to use ViewMate for the posting of Jewish genealogy related graphics. Posting can represent:

- Photos: for identification of people, clothing, buildings, scenes, objects, artifacts, etc.
- Letters, documents, book pages, maps, etc. for analysis or translation.

This site looks like a winner for displaying and seeking help for unidentified documents. Be sure to check it out.

## UH Chavurah Meeting

On November 4th, 2000 Cassie Buerki and I were the speakers at a UH Chavurah group. Our host, Sharon Rothmel, requested that we speak on Jewish genealogy resources. The meeting started with a request for each member to document the family ancestry names and towns of genealogical interest. I then discussed various research starting points, such as the names and handouts of local facilities and Internet web sites. Cassie augmented these starting points with examples of how to use these resources and the specific information a researcher could obtain. Additionally, Cassie provided stories of her own research that related to the group's documentation. Following the presentation, discussions among the Chavurah members indicated a commonality of town research.

## Why I Joined JGS

I guess it's sermon time and I want to tell a short story of why I joined JGS. I had recently retired and was devoting time to charitable endeavors. However, my time was not being utilized to satisfy personal goals. They are 1) to exercise my mind (and keep it youthful) with creative projects, learning and developing new ideas and 2) to interact with people. A JGS member and friend of mine suggested that I attend a meeting. So, on a dark and stormy November night, I traveled the short distance from my house to UH. I got lost in that miserable weather. Finally, I found the Jablon Youth Lounge. I was greeted by a group of similarly wet but caring people. They were most helpful in introducing me to the members and seeing that I was comfortable. Perhaps this group could satisfy my inner needs. I wanted to learn about my family and had no idea where to start. So, I attended a few more meetings and was hooked. Well, it turned out that genealogy is an expansion to the study of many fields. Locally, you become aware of specific libraries, historical centers, county and city archives, religious and ethnic organizations. Nationally, you are introduced to the existence of official state facilities, National Archives, and the Family History Center and you gain familiarization with the Internet. Historically, you study your city's streets, business and residential areas, and a country's changing boundaries, its culture and its discrimination patterns, and you learn about the emigration/immigration of people. Renewing acquaintances may not be a reason to become involved in genealogy; however, from my personal experience, I have met many people that I have not seen for many years. A genealogy group offers diversification in its membership, as people that are associated with other organizations join too for a common purpose. That's genealogy!

*Jerry Goldberg*, JGS of St. Louis President

# Research Hints - Business Records

By C. Edwin Murray

While researching city directories, you will notice that one of the pieces of information provided is the person's occupation and sometimes place of employment. Once you have this information, you should check to see if the place of employment is still in business and if the business has any records for their employees. If the place is no longer in business, you need to check local archives, libraries, historical societies, and genealogical societies to see if they might have the records. If there are business records, look for work applications, union memberships, work records, and pension records. In more recent times, (1937-2000) check for a Social Security number.

One of the businesses in St. Louis that was started by Jews and had many Jews working for it was the Rice-Stix Dry Goods Co. In 1912, they put out a 50th Anniversary Catalog - 1861-1911. It represented people who worked in all departments for 1911-1912. It also provided a brief history of the company. In the history it states, "In the year 1861, Henry Rice, Wm. Stix, and Benjamin Eiseman started a small retail and jobbing business at Memphis, Tenn. In 1879, the firm moved the business from Memphis and located in St. Louis, at 410-412 North Broadway." Many employees moved from Memphis to St. Louis at that time. If any of your ancestors worked for this company, and you lose track of them in 1879 in St. Louis, check out Memphis City Directories for 1878 and earlier to see if you can locate them there. You will also find salesmen in the company that are living outside the St. Louis area for periods of time and then returning to St. Louis at a later date.

Over the next few issues, I will list the people mentioned in the catalog who were working for Rice-Stix in 1911-12. There is a

photograph for each person listed. (If you find an ancestor and would like a copy of their photo, contact me at <emurray@ninenet.com>).

**Original Partners:** Henry Rice, William Stix, Benjamin Eiseman (died April 15, 1910), Jonathan Rice (died Nov. 25, 1903), David Eiseman, Elias Michael.

**Officers and Directors:** Henry Rice (board), William Stix (board), Elias Michael (president), David Eiseman, (vice-president), John B. Hogan (vice-president), E.E. Evans (vice-president), William E. Simpson (vice-president), Ernest W. Stix (secretary), Fred B. Eiseman (treasurer), Harry S. Wheeler (director), Aaron S. Rauh (director), Arthur J. Rice (director), B. A. Shelby (director).

**Manager of Daylight Factory:** W.C. Lee

**Manager of Men's Overall and Underwear Factory:** Mrs. F. L. Beckett

**Manager of Muslin Underwear Factory:** A. L. Wildman

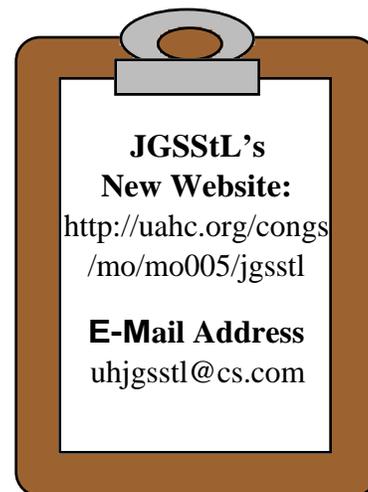
**Manager of Petticoat Factory:** D. M. King

**Manager of Ladies Cloak and Suit Factory:** Arthur Jungmann

**General Salesmen - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa and Nebraska:** John B. Hogan (Division Manager), Ed. C. Brady (Northern, Ill.), Wm. Stanley (Northern Ill.), Frank W. Albright (Northern Ill.), D. L. Swearingen (Northern Ill.), Charles Stief (Central Ill.), M.W. Gordon (Northern Ill.), F. C. Robinson (Northern Ill.) Geo. F. Breitenstein (Northern Ill.), Geo C. Dial (Central Ill.), A. E. Brawner (Central Ill.), Ben A. Drake (Southern Iowa), Bert Harman (Southern, Iowa), J. E. Bonter (Nebraska), J. H. Fudge (Nebraska), A. W. Weil (Indiana), R. S. Phillips (Indiana), J. L. Newman (Southern Ind. and Ill.), W. R. Woodward (Ill. and Indiana), W. J. Grant (Southern Ill.), O. G. Fogel (Central Ill.), Joe M. Steis (Southern Ill.).

(More Rice-Stix employees will be listed next month.)

## A Happy and Healthy New Year to All Our Members and Their Families!



## Officers And Board Members

### Officers

President: Jerry Goldberg  
Vice President - Membership: Cassie Buerki  
Vice President - Monetary Means: Morton Bearman  
Vice President - Program: Ann Greenstein  
Secretary - Recording: Eunice Solomon  
Secretary - Corresponding: Leslie Popelka  
Treasurer: Betty Schneider  
Historian: Phyllis Faintich

### Committees

Computer	Gene Schneider
Librarians	Art & Sylvia Jaffe
Tributes	Jean Heyman
Cemetery Indexing	Phyllis Faintich
Marriage Indexing	Eunice Solomon
<i>Generations</i>	Ilene Murray
Publicity	Betty Landow
Speakers Bureau	Bernice Marcus
Research	Patti Labell

### Members At Large

Chuck Jackson  
Sam Heyman  
Art Lewis  
Martin Enoch

### Past Presidents

Sylvia Jaffe Alan Barasch Art Jaffe

# What's In A Name?

## Occupations

By Chuck Jackson

The discussion of surnames and how a person's occupation, trade, or profession may have played an important role in developing certain surnames continues. Please keep in mind that some surnames were adopted due to the sound, the secondary meaning, or for other purposes, and the family may not have ever performed the occupation defined by the surname.

BRANDER, BRENDER	The German name for the alembic method of distilling and the name was adopted by a distiller. See ALEMBIK.
BRANDLER	Alcohol production was a government monopoly and the government leased the privilege to selected people. These people then enjoyed a certain status within the community. Brandler is the name for such a distiller.
BRAVERMAN	A brewer.
BREGER	From the German "Breuer," a brewer.
BREYER, BREIER	Other forms for brewer.
BRILLIANT	The name for a dealer in precious stones, especially diamonds, as brilliant means, in Yiddish, a very expensive diamond.
BROITMAN	Means bread man in Yiddish and was adopted by some bakers.
BRONFMAN	Shortened from Bronfen-man, the man who made or sold whiskey. "Bronfn" is Yiddish for the German "Branntwein" - spirits or whiskey.
BUFMAN	The name assumed by a "badhan," the traditional entertainer at Jewish weddings. The name was adapted from the Slavic for jester or wag.
BULKA	Means "roll" in Polish and was adopted by some bakers.
BURACK	A dealer in beets.
BURLA	The name was adopted by Jews in the jewelry business and means onyx.
CASSIRER	From the Yiddish/German "Kassirer" and means cashier. "Kassirer" was the title of the community's collector of taxes.
CHAIT	From the Hebrew "hayat" - tailor.
CHALEF	The "halef" was the knife used by the "shohet."
CHASIN	From the Hebrew "hazan" - cantor. Also appears in the forms of Chasins and Chason.
CHERNIAK	From the Slavic for cuttlefish, the source of the black secretion from which sepia is made. The person either sold sepia, used it in writing, or dispensed it as a medicine. Also appears in the form of Chernik.
CITRON	A person who sold lemons; from the German "zitrone."
DASKAL	Rumanian for a cantor's assistant or a member of the choir. Also appears as Daskelowitz.
DEKOVNICK	From the Polish "dekownik" - a maker of straw roofs.
DRATWA	From the Polish word for the thread used in stitching shoes and boots. The name was adopted by some shoemakers.
DRECHSLER	From the German for "turner" - one who made objects on a lathe. Also appears as Dressler, Drexler, and Drexler.
DRUCKER	From the German for "printer."
EINSTEIN	From the German for "to enclose with stone" and was adopted by some masons.
EMALE	From the Polish "Emalja" - enamel ware - and was adopted by some dealers in enamel ware.
FEDER	From the Yiddish/German word for "quill" and was adopted by scribes. Also appears as Federman.
FEDERBUSCH	Means "plumed crest," as used in women's hats. The name was adopted by some dealers in special feathers.
FEINER	From "Weiner," a dealer or producer of wine.

To be continued. Rabbi Kaganoff, again, many thanks.

# Getting The Address Right

By Norman Kling

Earlier this year, I embarked on my first real venture to find out more about my father's early life by making a Freedom of Information Request for his application for citizenship. First, I went to the Immigration and Naturalization Service site on the web and retrieved a copy of Form G-639. At the web site I was informed that, "You may submit this application to the INS office nearest your place of residence," so, on October 5, I sent my form to the INS office here in St. Louis.

About two weeks later, my letter and Form G-639 were returned together with an anonymous note and a small brochure (Form M-383) with the grand title of "U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service Records, Genealogical Research, & The Freedom of Information Act." The note informed me that because I had "an exact record," I would get faster service if I were to send my request directly to the address on the brochure. When I looked on the brochure, I found the highlighted address at the end for the INS Historical Reference Library and Reading Room Section in Washington, DC.

I wrote another cover letter and sent it together with my Form G-639 to the new address. In my letter, I mentioned my earlier submission and the instructions I had received. About ten days later, I received a phone call from the Reading Room to let me know that I had sent my form to the wrong office but that they would forward it to the correct one. On November 13, I received a very nice letter from what must have been the right office informing me that my material had been received, some general information on how charges are levied and that my request was being placed into their system.

## Invite a Friend

If you know of someone who might be interested in joining the JGS, you can have a complimentary copy of *Generations* sent to them by forwarding their name and address to:

Ilene Murray  
8724 Teasdale Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63124-1926  
(314) 991-3593

or e-mail to: <ilenemurray@primary.net>

Better yet, bring them to one of our meetings where they can not only get a complimentary copy of the newsletter, but can experience first-hand the benefits of membership in the JGS.

Please forward any news of member activities, changes of address or comments to Ilene, as well.

From their letterhead, it appears that the correct address for such Freedom of Information requests to the INS is

U. S Department of Justice  
Immigration and  
Naturalization Service  
FOIA/PA Unit  
2nd Floor ULLICO Building  
425 I Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20536

I believe that the reference above to my having, "an exact record," referred to entries on Form G-639 of information from my father's Certificate of Naturalization. In addition, I had enclosed a copy of the certificate.

### At Last- Success!

On December 11, 2000, I received six pages of material from the INS, including my father's Declaration Of Intention and his Petition For Naturalization. The Petition was unreadable but the Declaration Of Intention was very clear. I now knew my father's exact name before he changed it, the name of the town in which he was born,

the name of the ship he came on and the date of arrival. With this information, I could go forward with my research on his background.

On December 14, I called the office of the Clerk of the Federal Court here in St. Louis to see if they still had copies of my father's immigration papers, in order to get a readable copy of his Petition. They said that in the early nineties they had sent all of that material to the National Archives, Central Plains Region, in Kansas City. I was given a phone number, 816-926-6934, which I called, and was passed on to a very nice lady named Mary who said she would check her records to see if they had the material on my father. About two hours later, she called to inform me that they had the paper records and could send me copies. On December 26, I received beautifully clear copies of the Petition, the Declaration and, as a kind of bonus, a copy of his Certificate of Arrival!

## JGS Tribute Cards Enhance Library Fund

For the past three years, the JGS of St. Louis has sold tribute cards at each monthly meeting. For a minimum donation of \$5.00, you can show someone that you are thinking about them and, at the same time, support our library fund. Proceeds from the Tribute Fund are used to purchase genealogical books/supplies for the JGS Library housed in the United Hebrew Library.

Tribute cards are available at each JGS meeting or from Jean Heyman, the Tribute Fund chairperson. Jean can be reached at (314) 434-2345. Please remember our tribute cards when you need to let someone know you are thinking about them. It is a way to show you care that also helps our whole organization.

## Book Review:

### *There Once Was a World: A 900-Year- Chronicle of the Shtetl of Eishyshok*

by Yaffa Eliach, 864 Pages.

(October 1998).

By Ann Greenstein

As mentioned in last month's *Generations*, the JGSStL Library at United Hebrew recently received a donation of *There Once Was a World* from the great-niece of Art and Sylvia Jaffe. In addition, our Sunday afternoon program in February will be a showing of the movie that was inspired by this book. For most Jewish genealogists in this country, both the book and the video can be very helpful because they enable us to have a rare glimpse into the everyday lives of our shtetl-dwelling ancestors. The focus of the book, especially, is on the rich, vibrant societies Jewish people often developed in their basically hostile environment.

My own interest in tracing family roots began when I was contacted by the remarkable author of this book, Professor Yaffa Eliach, about ten years ago. During the many years it took her to gather all her information and photographs, she made strenuous efforts to contact descendants of every family that had emigrated from the town between the late 1800s and the early 1940s. My own father and his mother were in this group. When they departed in the 1920s, they were the last members to leave of an enormous family of first, second, and third cousins who had started arriving in the U.S. 50 years earlier.

Once in America, the Broidas, as they were called here, settled in many cities, but they maintained contact through a "club," reunions, and a newsletter. When Ms. Eliach wanted to contact this clan, she was referred to me as the current keeper of the reunion mailing list. When she chose to feature the Broida Family as one of two to illustrate emigration patterns, she gave me my first genealogy research assignments.

It is easy to see why this handsome publication was nominated for a National Book Award. Its chapters on the community synagogue and study house, its schools, bathhouses, mutual aid societies, libraries, and theaters, its rabbis and their wives, as well as every possible occupation are absorbing and bring the people vividly to life. For our purposes, her extensive use of letters, interviews, diaries, memorabilia, contemporary books and periodicals, as well as documents, such as birth, marriage, divorce, and death certificates, to bring the history of her town and its inhabitants to life, is most instructive.

For Yaffa Eliach, the emphasis is always on **life**, the life the Jewish people led in Eastern Europe for nearly a thousand years. You will see your own shtetls of origin reflected in her lyrical descriptions, and you will be proud!

## From the Editor's Desk...

My apologies to all of you on the tardy delivery of this issue of the newsletter. Many of you know that I was out of town for a while, and during that time, my new iMac was getting a bit of surgery. The good news is that my computer is back in fine working order, and I hope this issue was worth waiting for!

Thanks to those of you who have sent me articles. This newsletter is such a valuable resource for all of us if we continue to publish a variety of interesting and well written pieces. It is my goal as well as President Jerry's to bring you as much genealogical information each month as possible in the most attractive format.

Please share your stories with me. Continue to let me know what you like or don't like and what you would like to see in future issues. Please feel free to write an article or a series of articles for publication. Our newsletter is only meaningful to us if we all contribute to it; it represents our society and unites all of us members.

Deadline for submission of articles will continue to be the 20th of each month, and now that my computer is working properly, I will try to have the newsletter to you the first week of each month, as in the past.

Ilene Murray, Editor

8724 Teasdale Ave.

St. Louis, MO 63124-1926

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e-mail: <ilenemurray@primary.net>

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## Inquiries

Whenever space permits, *Generations* will publish a summary of out of town documented inquiries pertaining to Jewish genealogy. Publishing these requests is another resource for our members. Anyone having information pertinent to an inquiry should contact the requestor. The original emails are placed on a table at each meeting and then filed in our library.

I am seeking information from the years 1900 to 1910 pertaining to the Factor (Faktor) family. Some of the family members originated in Lodz, Poland. A family member was Max Factor of the Cosmetics Company. Max married Huma Sradkowska on August 15, 1906 via Rabbi S. Rosenberg, Temple Tiphareth. They were divorced in 1907. He then married Jennie Cook on January 21, 1908 by Rabbi Z. Rosenfeld, Sharith Sphard Congregation.

Nathan Kantrowitz

773 878 5032 or <kant@21stcentury.net>

Looking for genealogical information on an Aaron Straus in the wholesale liquor business in St. Louis in the early 1900's. This was my grandfather. He was married to Selma Freidheim and had two children: Herbert Cerf Straus and Maxine Straus

Aaron Straus

amstraus@earthlink.net



# Tighten the Search: DNA Testing



By Marilen Pitler

How difficult it is when we reach that dead end in the road and two or more branches of the tree in front of us just aren't connecting! This is the frustration with which all genealogists are faced at one time or another. We are convinced we have located cousins, but we just can't connect them to the main trunk of our tree.

Now, there is finally a way: DNA testing. According to Bennett Greenspan, the founder of *Family Tree DNA*, "Genealogy by genetics is the greatest addition to Genealogy since the creation of the Family Tree!" He continues, "Family Tree DNA is intended to help people connect with relatives when the conventional paper trail ends. Our tests are perfect for individuals who want to determine if they have a common ancestor, or for Surname based family tree reconstruction. Through Family Tree DNA, males will be able to see if another male is a descendant from their paternal grandfather's paternal side (Y Chromosome). Our 12-marker Y Chromosome test offers the highest accuracy level in the industry, yielding much tighter parameters to a 99.9% Relative Match."

"It is known that all male DNA (Y Chromosome) can be traced back to a single individual as female (MtDNA) can be traced to a single female. The thrust and importance of Family Tree DNA is our ability to help find the Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) based upon comparing the results of testing two people."

"Women will be able to see if another female is descended from their maternal grandmother's maternal side through an analysis of MtDNA."

Greenspan further states that the testing of DNA is not meant to replace conventional genealogy research; it is meant to act as an important additional tool.

## A Personal Experience

My husband and I were recently in the Washington, D.C. area, meeting potential new cousins. We took one look at their faces, and we knew we had to be related. We had the same

last name and our ancestors came from Zhitomer, in Ukraine. What we didn't know, and what we still don't know, is exactly how we're related, if indeed we are. Both of our sides had hit that proverbial dead end in the road where our "Unknown Pitler" branches were not fitting into the trunk of the tree. We discovered each other through JewishGen (<[www.jewishgen.org](http://www.jewishgen.org)>), the major source on the Internet for Jewish genealogy researchers throughout the world. I had posted a note in one of their digests asking if anyone knew of Pitlers who came from Zhitomer. I received an answer from this potential cousin. After meeting each other and realizing we were at a dead end, we decided that each of us (my husband and the potential cousin) would participate in the DNA testing program. We're still waiting for the results, but have decided we'll remain "cousins" no matter what!

## JewishGen's Involvement

JewishGen has partnered with Family Tree DNA to help give this service broader range, and the cost is affordable. For more information, click on JewishGen's site, scroll down to "Genealogy by Genetics" and click there, or <[www.jewishgen.org/dna](http://www.jewishgen.org/dna)>. To reach Family Tree DNA directly, go to <[www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com)>.

Even if you aren't trying to find a common branch between you and another individual, it is important and helpful to both yourself and other researchers to have your information on file in Family Tree DNA's database. Potential family researchers as well as future generations might find your name listed in the database and decide to have their DNA tested. If there were to be a match, Family Tree DNA would notify you and you would then have the option of contacting this other person. All information in the database is confidential and Family Tree DNA will not give out any information other than to notify you of another match.

Two other very important

elements being researched through DNA testing are the history of the origins of the Jewish people and Jewish genetic diseases like Tay-Sachs. Dr. Michael Hammer, from the University of Arizona, has been researching the genetic markers that are inherited from father to son to test the hypothesis that all Cohanim are related through a single paternal line. He believes that this line can be traced all the way back to Aaron.

## Jewish Male DNA Needed

Dr. Hammer is also working on the larger picture of Jewish origins and migration to learn more about the Jewish Diaspora. He, therefore, needs the DNA from Jewish men who can trace their father's father and/or mother's mother to a village or community in Europe. To properly conduct the research, Dr. Hammer needs the participation of 100 men from each geographic location, especially from Germany.

The other focus of this research has to do with the historical factors that have led to the higher frequency of rare diseases found in Ashkenazi communities. To date, at least 14 genetic diseases have been found in either greater number or are unique to Ashkenazi Jews.

What fun not only to be able to help bridge the gap in our family trees through DNA testing, but to be able to help fill in those missing links found in the much broader tree, that of the Jewish people; and to help in Jewish genetic disease research. For further information, please write Family Tree DNA or look at their website.

Family Tree DNA

Genealogy by Genetics, Ltd.

1919 North Loop West,

Suite 685

Houston, TX 77008

Fax: (713) 316-0648

E-mail:

[info@familytreedna.com](mailto:info@familytreedna.com)

Website:

[www.familytreedna.com](http://www.familytreedna.com)

# Membership Form

Please use this form (or duplicate it) to join the JGS of St. Louis.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual membership is \$20 per year. Two people in one household is \$35 per year.

Make check payable to JGS of St. Louis and mail to:

JGS of St. Louis  
1001 Pocono Trail  
Ballwin, MO 63021-7624



It's a new  
year and  
finally,  
officially,  
a new  
millennium.  
Tribute cards  
are just right  
for  
celebrating  
this exciting  
time. See  
inside for  
details.



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**First Class**