



# GENERATIONS

Published by the  
**JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS**  
*Affiliated with United Hebrew Congregation*

Volume 8

Issue 8

August 2002

## IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

**August Meeting**  
“Resources at the  
Mercantile Library”

**Guest Speaker**  
**Bette Gorden**

**Thursday, August 15**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Held At:**  
Jablon Youth Lounge  
United Hebrew  
Congregation  
13788 Conway Road

## August Discussion Group

Discussion and  
Questions/Answers  
Bring Problems;  
Discuss Possible Solutions

**Thursday, August 22**

**Meeting Held At:**  
Room 15, United Hebrew  
1:30 p.m.

**September Meeting**  
**Tour the Holocaust**  
**Museum**  
**and Learning Center**  
**Thursday, September 19**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Meeting Held At:**  
Holocaust Museum  
JCCA Complex  
12 Millstone Campus Dr.  
Creve Coeur, MO

## August's Meeting

**Guest Speaker:**  
**Bette Gorden,**  
**Curator, Mercantile Library**

### “Resources at the Mercantile Library”

Our meeting on Thursday, August 15, 7:30 p.m. will feature Bette Gorden, Curator of the Herman T. Pott National Inland Waterways Collection at the St. Louis Mercantile Library, located at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Bette will tell us about the various resources and collections at the Mercantile Library.

The Mercantile Library houses the “morgue” of the *Globe-Democrat*. The library also has information about railroads, businesses, and westward expansion. Their resources may be helpful to almost every genealogical researcher.

Bette's talk will include general information about the library and will prepare us for a visit to the library on Thursday, Sept. 26, at 1:00 p.m., during the time of the regular September Discussion Group. While we know that some of you cannot make a daytime meeting, more library staff members are available to work with us during the day, so we will make a daytime trip in September.

Whether you can come on the trip in September or visit on your own, we hope you will join us at the August meeting to learn about this excellent resource.

## Special Events for September . . .

### Docent Tour of the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center

Our meeting on Thursday, September 19 will be in two parts. It will take place at the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center in the Jewish Federation Building, 12 Millstone Campus Dr. (the intersection of Schuetz and Guelbreth roads). The first part of the meeting is an Open Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Theater Room. All JGS members are invited to attend this part of the meeting, as your input to the Board is so important.

The second part of the evening will start at 7:30 p.m. and will include a tour of the museum with a docent. If you have never been to the museum or if you have been through the exhibits but without benefit of a docent, you will want to make sure you don't miss this opportunity.



### September Discussion Group

On Thursday, September 26, at 1:00 p.m. the Discussion Group will meet at the Mercantile Library in the Thomas Jefferson Library Building on the campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Road. Please park on the third level of the West Drive Garage located on West Drive. If you want to carpool, please call Ilene Wittels at (314) 692-2444 or send her an e-mail to <igwittel@artsci.wustl.edu>.

## Inside This Issue of *Generations*

As promised, this issue is devoted to the newly revised Bylaws and Standing Rules. Please read them and don't hesitate to ask questions about them. Why should you care? This is your organization. Without your input, your interest, and your efforts, the Society cannot function. Your elected officials and other Board members rely on you for guidance and inspiration. Don't let them down!

# Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis, *Affiliated with United Hebrew Congregation* Bylaws

## ARTICLE I - IDENTIFICATION

### Section A. Name

The name of this organization is *The Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis, Affiliated with United Hebrew Congregation*, hereinafter known as the Society, a nonprofit organization.

### Section B. Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Society shall run from April 1 through March 31.

### Section C. Non-Profit Status

The Society is operated as a non-profit organization affiliated with United Hebrew Congregation.

### Section D. Mission Statement

The purpose of the Society is to collect, preserve, and disseminate knowledge and information which pertains to Jewish genealogy; to encourage interested individuals to pursue and preserve genealogical data by providing instruction, education, and support; to provide opportunities for the sharing of Jewish genealogical information; and to publish worthy material in the field of Jewish genealogy.

### Section E. Memberships in Other Societies

The Society shall maintain memberships in appropriate genealogical organizations, such as the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS)

## ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

### Section A. Membership

Any applicant interested in furthering the objectives of this Society shall be eligible for membership upon submission of a completed application form and payment of dues.

### Section B. Classes of Membership

1. There shall be five (5) classes of membership: Individual, Family, Patron, Benefactor, and Honorary.
2. Family, Patron, Benefactor and Honorary memberships shall be defined in the Standing Rules.
3. Other classes of membership may be defined by the Board as needed.

### Section C. Dues

1. Dues for each class of membership shall be determined by the Board and listed in the Standing Rules.
2. Annual dues shall be payable on the first day of the anniversary month of an individual's membership. The treasurer shall notify a member two weeks prior to that anniversary date. If dues are not received within one month of the anniversary date, the member will be dropped from the membership roster. However, the member will be reinstated upon payment of dues.

## ARTICLE III – GENERAL SOCIETY MEETINGS

### Section A. Regular Meetings

General membership meetings of the Society shall be held monthly. In case of an emergency, a meeting may be cancelled by the President upon consulting with the Program or Events Chairperson.

### Section B. Annual Meeting

The regular meeting in April shall be known as the Annual Meeting.

### Section C. Special Meetings and Workshops

Special general membership meetings and/or workshops may be planned and held at the discretion of the Board.

### Section D. Quorum

For the purposes of conducting business at a meeting, ten per cent (10%) of the dues-paying membership shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

### Section A. Officers

1. The Officers of the Society shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. These officers, plus the Immediate Past President, shall constitute the Executive Committee.
3. No person shall serve as an Officer unless that person is a member in good standing and has been a member of the Society for at least twelve (12) consecutive months.
4. Duties of the Officers shall be defined in the Standing Rules.

### Section B. Term of Office

Officers shall be elected for a two (2)-year term.

## **ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Section A. Serving on the Board**

1. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the Society, the Immediate Past President, Standing Committee Chairpersons, and a maximum of two (2) Members at Large selected by the Board. One of the Members at Large shall serve as Parliamentarian.
2. The following Standing Committee Chairs shall serve on the Board: Archives, Education, Finance, Library, Newsletter, Programs, Publicity, Research, Technology, and Website.
3. A person who is not an officer may serve as a standing committee chair or a Member at Large on the Board of Directors if that person is a member in good standing and has been a member of the Society for at least six (6) consecutive months.
4. Duties of the Standing Committee Chairs and the Members at Large shall be defined in the Standing Rules.
5. Honorary positions on the Board may be conferred by a simple majority vote of the Board.

### **Section B. Quorum**

The quorum needed for the Board of Directors to conduct business at a Board meeting shall be sixty per cent (60%) of the members of the Board, one of whom must be the President or the Vice-President.

### **Section C. Filling a Vacancy**

Any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors, with the exception of the President, may be filled until the next Annual Meeting by a simple majority vote of the Board of Directors.

### **Section D. Regular Board Meetings**

There shall be at least eight (8) regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually.

### **Section E. Special Board Meetings**

1. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or at the request of a minimum of five (5) members of the Board of Directors. There shall be at least 24 hours advance notice during which all Board members shall be informed of the purpose of the meeting.
2. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the general membership if ten per cent (10%) of the membership (none of whom is on the Board) puts the request in writing to an officer and gives the Board at least 24 hours notice.

### **Section F. Duties of the Board**

The Board of Directors has the following responsibilities:

- a. Transact the business of the Society.
- b. Approve Special Committee chairpersons appointed by the President.
- c. Approve general membership meeting programs.
- d. Authorize disbursements on non-budgeted items as specified in the Standing Rules.
- e. Select and approve Members at Large.

### **Section G. Removal from the Board**

1. At the discretion of the Board of Directors, a member of the Board may be removed for cause upon agreement of two-thirds (2/3) of the Board members.
2. Board members who miss more than three (3) consecutive meetings or four (4) during a year without due cause shall be removed from the Board.

## **ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

### **Section A. Nominations**

1. The Nominating Committee, as defined in the Standing Rules, shall request names of those who would like to run for office from the general membership in December preceding a spring election.
2. The Committee shall present a list of at least one nominee for each office being vacated to the Board of Directors at the January board meeting.
3. At the January general membership meeting, the slate of officers shall be announced.
4. The general membership shall be notified of this slate before the February meeting.
5. Additional nominations may be made and seconded by the general membership from the floor at the February meeting, provided each nominee is present or has given written consent to serve if elected.

### **Section B. Voting Procedure**

1. Voting shall be by written ballot.
2. All members in good standing (those members whose dues are currently paid in full) may vote in Society elections.
3. Ballots shall be distributed to all members early in March of an election year and must be returned at least seven (7) days prior to the March meeting.
4. A simple majority vote of the returns elects the officers.
5. Results of the election shall be announced at the March meeting.

## **Section C. Installation**

Installation of officers during an election year shall be held at the Annual Meeting in April.

## **ARTICLE VII - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The Parliamentarian shall ensure that the rules contained in the latest edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the Society in all cases in which they are applicable and which are not inconsistent with these Bylaws and the Standing Rules.

## **ARTICLE VIII - DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY**

Upon dissolution of the Society, the Board of Directors shall, after payment of all liabilities, distribute the remaining assets to a non-profit foundation, corporation, or organization with goals and objectives similar to the Society and within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. No assets shall be distributed to any individual.

## **ARTICLE IX – AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS**

These Bylaws may be altered, amended, or repealed, or new Bylaws may be adopted by the Board of Directors by using the following procedures:

1. The Bylaws must be reviewed every three (3) years or more often, if necessary, by a Bylaws Committee whose chair is appointed by the President.
2. Additional proposed amendments or revisions may be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Society by the membership if there are at least six (6) members in good standing authoring the proposal.
3. The Board of Directors must approve amended or revised Bylaws by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.
4. Once approved by the Board, amended or revised Bylaws must be published in the newsletter and on the website for all members to review.
5. Amended or revised Bylaws shall be adopted only after a simple majority vote by the general membership at a meeting, at which a quorum of the membership is present, held within thirty (30) days of publication of the proposed changes.

These Bylaws were adopted by the Board of Directors of The Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis, Affiliated With United Hebrew Congregation on the 16th day of May 2002.

*Cassie Buerki*

Board President

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# **Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis, *Affiliated with United Hebrew Congregation*** **Standing Rules**

## **ARTICLE I - OFFICERS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **Section A. President**

1. Shall represent the Society at all times, which shall include being the liaison to local libraries and societies.
2. Preside at all meetings of the general membership and the Board of Directors.
3. Appoint members-at-large and all committee chairpersons, with approval of the Board.
4. Sign all contracts, grants and documents authorized by the Society.
5. Sign checks with the Treasurer for authorized disbursements over Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) on behalf of the Society.
6. Be an ex-officio member of all committees, except the Nominating Committee.

### **Section B. Vice-President**

1. In the absence of the President, or at his/her request, assume the duties of the President.
2. Assume the duties of the President in the event of a vacancy in the Office of President for the remaining term of office.
3. Be the Director of Membership Services and appoint committees and/or assistants, as necessary to:
  - a. Keep attendance records.
  - b. Create nametags for members and visitors.
  - c. Send out membership packets, including letter of welcome.
  - d. Communicate with members whose dues have expired.
  - e. Maintain a copy received from the Treasurer, of the current membership list of all members in good standing.

# Officers and Board Members

## Officers

President: Cassie Buerki

Vice President - Membership: Joel Shedlofsky

Vice President - Finance: Morton Bearman

Vice President - Program: Ilene Wittels

Secretary - Recording: Eunice Solomon

Secretary - Corresponding: Marcia King

Treasurer: Betty Schneider

Historian: Patti Labell

## Committees

Computer Gene Schneider

Librarian TBA

Tributes Jean Heyman

Cemetery Indexing Cassie Buerki &  
Gene Schneider

Marriage Indexing Eunice Solomon

*Generations* Ilene Murray

Publicity Betty Landow

Speakers Bureau TBA

Research Dick Franzel

**Webmaster** Joel Shedlofsky

## Members At Large

Chuck Jackson

Sam Heyman

## Founders

Sylvia Jaffe Art Jaffe

### Website:

<http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-StLouis>

### E-Mail Address:

[jgsstl@worldnet.att.net](mailto:jgsstl@worldnet.att.net)

4. Coordinate with the chairpersons of the Education, Newsletter, Programs, Publicity, and Website committees to increase membership.
5. Present monthly membership reports as well as a yearly report at the Annual Meeting.

## Section C. Secretary

1. Take and maintain the minutes of the Board of Directors and general membership meetings.
2. Ascertain the presence of a quorum and advise the President accordingly.
3. Distribute the minutes to all Board members, to be received at least two (2) days prior to each meeting.
4. Provide to the Archivist a copy of the final approved minutes.
5. Send out Board meeting agendas, to be received at least two (2) days prior to each meeting.
6. Summarize the general meetings and forward the information to the newsletter editor and the archivist.
7. Keep and have available for reference at all meetings, one book in which copies of the Society's Bylaws and Standing Rules are kept current.
8. Furnish the Officers and Committee Chairpersons with copies of all papers and books necessary for the proper performance of their respective duties.
9. Notify Officers, Committees, Delegates, and the general membership of any special meetings as necessary.
10. Conduct the correspondence of the Society and report to the Board monthly.
11. Maintain a file of Society correspondence.
12. Maintain an organizational chart of Board members and Committee members. The charts shall be published on the website.
13. If requested, be the Society's delegate to other genealogical organizations.
14. Present monthly reports as well as a yearly report at the Annual Meeting.

## Section D. Treasurer

1. Be custodian of all funds and financial records of the Society.
2. Collect dues.
3. Pay all bills approved by an officer or a standing committee chairperson in a timely fashion.
4. Sign checks with the President for authorized disbursements over Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) on behalf of the Society.
5. Be in charge of the various types of the Society's Tribute Cards.
6. Supply Delegates of the Society with credentials, such as tax exempt letters.
7. Present a statement of finances at each meeting of the Board of Directors and at general membership meetings, if necessary.
8. Notify members of delinquent dues and report such delinquencies to the Vice-President.
9. Notify the President, the Vice-President, and the Newsletter Committee Chairperson regarding new members.
10. Maintain a current membership list of all members in good standing.
11. Be a member of the Budget Committee.
12. Make all financial records available for audit six weeks prior to the Annual Meeting
13. Present at the Annual Meeting a financial report covering the previous year.

## ARTICLE II - SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### Section A. Auditing

1. Be called into existence no more than thirty (30) days prior to the Annual Meeting of an election year and be dissolved at the Annual Meeting after its report is given.

2. Consist of the Treasurer, the Treasurer-elect (in an election year), the President, the President-elect (in an election year), and the Finance Committee chairperson.
3. Audit the books of the Society prior to the Annual Meeting and submit the report with the Treasurer's report.

### **Section B. Budget**

1. Be called into existence no more than four months prior to the Annual Meeting and dissolved when its proposed budget is approved.
2. Consist of no less than three nor more than five members with the Treasurer serving as Chairperson.
3. Prepare an annual balanced budget to be presented to the Board of Directors prior to the Annual Meeting.
  - a. Budget shall be based on the needs expressed by the committee chairpersons and officers.
  - b. The Board shall adopt the budget by a simple majority.

### **Section C. Nominating**

1. Be called into existence in November preceding an election year and shall consist of the Immediate Past-President as chairperson, plus four members selected by the chairperson. If the Immediate Past-President cannot serve, the current President shall appoint a chairperson.
2. Nominate candidates for those Offices to be filled at the Annual Meeting.

## **ARTICLE III - STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Section A. Archives**

1. Prepare and maintain permanent records chronicling the activities of the Society.
2. Collect and preserve the newsletter and maintain an index of the same.
3. Collect and preserve the reports presented by the Officers and Committees.
4. Collect and preserve all items of historical interest to the Society.
5. Maintain a current inventory of all legal documents, records, and equipment belonging to the Society.
6. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **Section B. Education**

1. Conduct workshops and classes for the Society.
2. Counsel the members about genealogical research.
3. Organize study groups as needed, with attendance at such meetings being limited to members of the Society.
4. Bring items of genealogical interest to the attention of the members.
5. Provide speakers to other organizations, as requested.
6. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **Section C. Finance**

1. Responsible for obtaining outside funding and/or grants.
2. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **Section D. Library**

1. Maintain the library of the Society, and make the contents thereof available.
2. Administer Library Funds, arranging for the purchase of items requested by the Society.
3. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **Section E. Newsletter**

1. Collect and receive articles to be published in the Society newsletter.
2. Publish the official newsletter of the Society on a regular basis.
3. Publish in the Society newsletter any items specifically requested by the Board.
4. Exchange newsletters with other Societies as requested.
5. Submit extra copies of the Newsletter to the Archivist and the Librarian.
6. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **Section F. Programs**

1. Arrange and coordinate programs for the general membership meetings.
2. Provide written information on upcoming programs, in a timely fashion to the newsletter editor, the publicity chairperson, and the webmaster.
3. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **Section G. Publicity**

1. Develop good public relations for the Society, including advertising for special projects such as fund-raising activities and Society seminars.

2. Provide information concerning the Society and its forthcoming activities to individuals, to other genealogical and related organizations, and to the news media when appropriate.
3. Be in charge of Society displays.
4. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

#### **Section H. Research**

1. Answer e-mail and other requests regarding St. Louis Jewish genealogical inquiries.
2. Provide information regarding the inquiries to the newsletter editor.

#### **Section I. Technology**

1. Maintain the Society's electronic equipment.
2. Assist in setting up and using electronic equipment at meetings and special programs.
3. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.
4. Provide technology assistance to other committees as requested.

#### **Section J. Web Site**

1. Responsible for the accuracy, updating and maintenance of the Jewish Genealogy Society of St. Louis's website.
2. Present an Annual Summary Report to the Board with a copy placed on file with the Archivist.

### **ARTICLE IV - DUES**

#### **Section A. Payable**

1. Individuals shall pay \$20 per year.
2. Family membership shall consist of two (2) individuals in the same house. Family membership shall be \$35 per year.
3. An individual may elect to pay \$100 per year to become a Patron.
4. An individual may elect to pay \$200 per year to become a Benefactor.

#### **Section B. NonPayable**

1. At the discretion of the President, an individual may be nominated to receive a non-paying Honorary Membership.
2. Honorary membership will be conferred by a simple majority vote of the Board.

### **ARTICLE V - MEETINGS**

Location, time and date of meetings shall be publicized in the newsletter and on the web site.

### **ARTICLE VI - SPECIAL DISBURSEMENTS**

#### **Section A. Annual Gifts**

1. A contribution of at least One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be made to JewishGen for hosting the Society's website.
2. A contribution of at least One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) shall be made to United Hebrew Congregation in appreciation for the use of their facilities.

#### **Section B. Annual Dues**

Payments shall be made to national and international organizations, such as Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) and International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS), of which the Board approves.

### **ARTICLE VII - INSTALLATION PROCEDURES**

1. Outgoing officers shall be thanked for their service.
2. Incoming officers shall be welcomed.
3. Individuals that have significantly contributed to the Society in the past two years shall be recognized.
4. Gavel is passed from the outgoing to the incoming President.

### **ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS AND/OR REVISIONS**

These Standing Rules can be revised or amended at any time by a simple majority vote of the Board at which a quorum is present.

These Standing Rules were adopted by the Board of Directors of The Jewish Genealogical Society of St. Louis, Affiliated With United Hebrew Congregation on the 16th day of May 2002.

*Cassie Buerki*

Board President

# Inquiries

Seeking information about Philip/Phillip BLOOM, a Russian Jewish immigrant, a tailor or furrier, b. 1867, came to US 1887. Married Etta/Attie SCHULTZ, also born Russia and came to US 1890. They probably married in Kansas City, 1890-1893. First child, Sadie, was born Nov. 1893. My grandfather, Maurice or Morris, was born Mar. 1895. Two other children, Clara and Bessie, subsequently born, all in Kansas City. They all moved to St Louis, probably between 1898 and 1905, when Philip remarried a woman named Anna WILES. A son, E. Leslie BLOOM, born to this second marriage in June 1906 in St Louis.

phyllisstice@hotmail.com

Seeking information about my grandfather, Samuel SHEAR (SCHER), and my grandmother, Ida CURTUN SCHER, life-long residents of St. Louis. They are buried at Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery. I am interested in knowing about their background/country of origin--their lives. Can you please help me?

jbshear@email.msn.com

Seeking information about Therese OPPENHEIMER. I have a marriage "license" which states that she was married to Adam Michael BERNAYS at B'nai El on 30 April 1865. Trying to find out if this is my great

great grandmother and if she had any other relatives in the city (ie., looking for more info. on this marriage: witnesses, parents, siblings, etc). Thanks!

Kristin Backstrom  
12650 Roberts Drive  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
krbackstrom@Juno.com

Seeking information about my uncle, Joe BILETSKY. I know he is buried at the United Hebrew Temple Cemetery with his wife, Ferne. Joe died June 5, 1979. I know they lived in Creve Coeur. I don't know if there is more than one cemetery with that name or only one. Can you give me an address of this cemetery?

Joyce Bethune  
Lake Hopatcong, NJ 07849-1302  
joybeth@optonline.net

The LEVI family came to St. Louis about 1843. One daughter married Elias HAAS and their daughter Julia married Fred MAYER. The MAYERS had three children: Minnie, Irving, and (sp?) Tjanita. Other names in the family are Carrie and Ben BERGER and their children Milton, Bella, and Josie (?)

Alice Levine  
tatelevine@msn.com



Dog Days of Summer got you down? Buy a Tribute Card and cheer yourself up. Your donations help us expand our library. Contact Jean Heyman at (314) 434-2345 for more information.

**JGS of St. Louis**  
8724 Teasdale Ave.  
St. Louis, MO 63124



**JEWISH  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF ST. LOUIS**

*Affiliated with*  
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Congregation

## First Class