



# GENERATIONS

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

Volume 9

Issue 3

March 2003

## IMPORTANT DATES AT A GLANCE:

### March Meeting

*"Adventures in Postcards"*  
Fred Longshaw, Speaker

**Thursday, March 20**  
**7:30 p.m.**

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

### March Discussion Group

Questions/Answers  
Bring problems;  
Discuss possible solutions  
**Thursday, March 27**

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

### April Meeting

*"Mind-Mapping"*  
Alan Gerstein, Speaker

**Thursday, April 10**  
**7:30 p.m.**

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

### SEE INSIDE

**For Details  
on the  
Spring Seminar  
Sunday, 8 June 2003!**

## March Meeting

Guest Speaker:  
Fred Longshaw,

### "Adventures in Postcards"

Our guest speaker for the March 20 meeting will be Fred Longshaw who made a presentation to our group in 1997. We are asking him back because so many members have requested a return visit.

Mr. Longshaw has collected picture postcards for 25 years. He has 125,000 of them, from the year 1893 to the present. He organizes his collection by topic and buys and sells cards. Mr. Longshaw will share with us his collection of postcards with a Jewish theme.

He also appraises postcards and will do so if you bring yours to our meeting. For example, old postcards from temples in New York or Europe could be worth \$25. Sounds like the finds on the *Antiques Road Show* on KETC!

Come to the March meeting and learn how to enhance your family history through postcards.

## Coming in April . . .

Guest Speaker:  
Alan M. Gerstein,  
"Mind-Mapping"

Our February meeting was cancelled due to the snow and ice. Therefore, we have rescheduled this repeat of a very successful Discussion Group session held last spring on Mind-Mapping. The participants at that time enjoyed it so much, they asked for the topic to be brought to the attention of the whole group.

Mind-Mapping is a way to free up your creative abilities. This approach is particularly useful in constructing personal histories. Bring a pen, a few pieces of paper, and a memory. It's a great way to begin that family history you've been meaning to write.

Our speaker, Alan M. Gerstein, is an experienced facilitator and adult educator. He never thinks inside the box; in fact, he says he doesn't know where the box is!

**Please note: Due to Passover, the date of our April meeting will be Thursday, 10 April.**

## YIVO Publishes Historic Photos on the Web

Information *From Nu, What's New?* Vol. 4, No. 1, February 9, 2003

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research has placed a portion of their photograph collection, some 17,000 photos of Jewish life in Eastern Europe, on the Internet at <http://yivo1000towns.cjh.org>. Titled "People of a Thousand Towns," it provides a visual record of thousands of communities where Jews lived before the Holocaust. Most of the pictures are of people, and in some cases they are identified by name. There is a search engine that allows you to isolate pictures by town or by keyword. You have to register in order to do a search. The online presentation covers only a small fraction of YIVO's extensive photographic holdings, which is one of the world's foremost collections of photographs of Jewish life.

The pre-World War II Jewish communities are located in Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine. The photos span the late 19th century to the early 1940s and document the lives of large Jewish centers as well as many smaller towns and villages.

# President's Message

## February Meeting

Due to inclement weather, we were unable to have our general meeting in February. We wish to thank Alan Gerstein for his willingness to speak. We have rescheduled his presentation for April because we know this will be a topic of interest to many of you.

## Recap of Meetings in 2002

In the past year, the following have been the programs presented to the members of JGS of St. Louis:

- Jewish Genealogical Resources at St. Louis County Library Headquarters
- Ask a Panel of Experts
- *Zion in the Valley, Volume II* by author Dr. Walter Ehrlich
- Making a Family Video
- Resources at the Mercantile Library
- A Tour of the St. Louis Holocaust Museum
- Using the 1930 Census
- Sephardic Life in Turkey
- Jewish Migration by Rabbi Joseph Rosenbloom
- Jewish War Veterans

As you can see, these programs have been varied; all but one was attended by 30–40 people. Two of the programs attracted 50–60 people. The tour of the St. Louis Holocaust Museum was, of course, a field trip and another program was held “off-campus” and drew the largest crowd of the year. Before and after each program, members and guests have the opportunity to meet and speak with one another. For those who have not attended general meetings on a regular basis, we invite you to come more often and enjoy the efforts of our organization to offer you an interesting and stimulating series of lectures and social opportunities. You may discover a new relative on your family tree, learn a new technique to aid in your research, or simply enjoy speaking to someone new.

## Volunteers Always Needed

We are always in need of volunteers to work on our special projects or participate as committee chairpersons. Please contact one of your Board of Directors if you can help.

*Cassie Weinberg Buerki*

President, JGS of St. Louis

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## “Challenging Genealogical Myths” Is Topic of Spring Seminar

On Sunday, 8 June 2003, JGS of St. Louis will be holding an all-day seminar called “Challenging Genealogical Myths.” The focus of the conference will be to recognize and try to dispell many of the erroneous beliefs that researchers have about genealogy.

Registration will begin at 8:00 at United Hebrew Congregation; bagels and coffee will be served until 8:45, when the opening remarks are scheduled to begin. Our featured speaker will be Warren Blatt, JewishGen's Vice President for Editorial and Content Management and Editor-in-Chief. Mr. Blatt has written many books and articles on Jewish genealogy. From 9:00 till 10:15 a.m., Mr. Blatt will talk on the history of Jewish surnames. After a short break, two concurrent sessions will take place, both featuring experienced genealogists. JGS member and former St. Louis Genealogical Society president, Ann Carter Fleming, will talk about errors in official records. Ted Steele, author, lecturer, instructor, and technology expert, will discuss how to deal with all those family stories that are passed down to us.

A special treat will occur at noon, when the Kosher lunch that is included in your registration fee

will become the topic of JGS member, lecturer, and food expert, Sally Tofle's interesting discussion of the Crypto-Jews of Spain and Portugal. These “secret” Jews retained the dietary laws of their ancestors as they migrated into other countries and were assimilated into other cultures.

After lunch, two additional concurrent sessions will be held. JGS members, instructors, and lecturers, Ed and Ilene Murray, will talk about tombstones and cemeteries and the information that may or may not be available there. Technology expert and chair of the St. Louis Genealogical Society Computer Interest Group, Alan Rogg, will talk about the Internet and working with genealogical information found online.

The day's lectures will conclude with a final presentation by Warren Blatt. This lecture will be on Jewish given names, from Hebrew, to Yiddish, to their final “Americanized” versions.

Throughout the day, there will be vendors on site with genealogical merchandise for sale. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers in each session.

Look for your registration form in next month's *Generations*. Mark your calendar now so you don't miss what will surely be an outstanding conference!

# What's In A Name?

## Names With Multiple Meanings and Others

By Chuck Jackson

Some names may have multiple meanings. Which meaning applies to the surname you are tracing is probably an unknown. Perhaps, while digging deep in dusty files, you may find the real meaning of the surname. An example from my family: there are two definitions of the surname "Rosenthal." One is "a descendent of Rose" and the other, "the Valley of Roses." I have elected to pick the latter for no reason other than a supposition. Besides, I have found **THE** Valley of Roses! I'll keep that definition until I find a person by the name of "Rose" in my research. Then, I'll have to flip a coin. ("Valley of Roses" is much more romantic and intriguing, isn't it?)

Some other names that appear in this list are names which I believe I missed in previous articles. If the name is a repeat from a previous article, then we may call it a "refresher."

- ADELMAN** Adel is a form of Edel and it means "noble" in German. "Noble" usually means, in Jewish names, the stature of a person and not nobility. Variations of Edel include Adele and Ethel. The suffix "man" appended to Edel (or its variations) means the "husband of Edel."
- ADELSON** Means "son of Adel." Also appears as Edelson.
- ADELSTEIN** Means "precious stone" in German and was probably a costly "purchase" from the naming authorities. The name may also be an extended form of Adel(e). The name could also have been adopted by a dealer in precious stones.
- ADLER** Means "eagle" in German. There were two houses in Frankfurt with the sign of the eagle: No. 27, the black eagle, and No. 86, the golden eagle.
- ADONOILOM** A popular hymn in the prayer book and was adopted by a number of Galician families. If you pronounce the name, you will recognize the hymn.
- ALBUM** A translation of Weiss and is Latin for "white."
- ALTNEU** Refers to the Altneu synagogue in Prague and was adopted by many Jews from that city. There were two sections of the synagogue - old (alt) and new (neu). There is a legend with this name. Supposedly the first Jews to go to Prague did so immediately after the fall of the Second Temple. They built the synagogue only "al tenai" (on condition) that they remain there until they return to the Holy Land. "Al tenai" evolved into "altneu" and became associated with the two sections.
- ALTSCHUL** Means "old synagogue." Tradition associates this name with the refugees who fled Provence in the 14th century and settled in Prague. They paid a handsome sum to the king to be allowed to take their synagogue with them, which they did, piece by piece. After the expulsion of the Jews in 1542, many of the Altschuls settled in eastern Europe, especially in Poland, Lithuania, and Russia. Caution: Not all Altschuls are descended from the Prague settlers as the name was copied and imitated by many. The name also appears as Altschuler.
- AMSEL** Means "blackbird" in German. House No. 21 in Frankfurt had the sign of the blackbird. Eastern Jews, especially in Silesia, derived the name from Namslau Amsle which later changed to Amsel. Also appears as Amsler.
- AMSTER** Means "hamster" and was given to a person who was deemed as a diligent, industrious individual.
- ANSBACH** A town in Bavaria.
- ARONOFF** Either means the "son of Aaron" or was a name assumed by a "kohen" to denote he was a descendent of Aaron. Also appears as Aronow, Aronin.
- ASHKENAZ** The name is mentioned several times in the Bible and may refer to Ash-ku-za in the ancient Assyrian empire. It is also identified in early Rabbinic sources as coming from Asia. But, beginning in the 9th century, the name became identified with Germany and its meaning became "German." In the 17th century, Turkish Jews invited Jews from Austria, Hungary, Germany, and Czechoslovakia to settle among them. These new settlers became known as Ashkenazi (coming from Germanic lands). When they returned to Europe, some kept the name, but others changed it to Deutch ("German" in the German language). Also appears as Ashkenazi, Askenazy, Asknasy, Askanasi, Esknazy, Schinasi.

Rabbi Kaganoff, Arthur Kurzweil, and Eli N. Evans, many, many thanks.

## Research Hints: St. Louis Jewish Cemeteries New Mt. Sinai By C. Edwin Murray

Cemetery records and tombstones can give us dates of birth and death, plus, for some Jewish people, a Hebrew name and the Hebrew given name of their father. In addition, you might find a place of birth in the records or on the tombstone. Often you will find the spouse and young children nearby. Sometimes whole family groups are located in the same block/lot. This is the third of a series of articles on Jewish Cemeteries in the St. Louis area.

Name: New Mount Sinai  
Address: 8430 Gravois Ave.  
St. Louis, Missouri 63123  
Phone: 314-353-2540  
Contact Person: Mr. Bennett Lerner,  
Executive Director  
Office hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.–Fri.

Records and copy of map are at the office. Cemetery is open during all daylight hours. The mausoleum is closed on Saturdays.

Size of cemetery: 52 acres  
Purchased: 1850; the first acre purchased by the B'nai Brith Society for its burial ground.

First Burial: 1859

Congregations that use the cemetery:  
Owned by Shaare Emeth, Temple Israel, and B'nai El, but open to members of any Jewish congregation. Most of the people buried in this cemetery belong to Reform congregations. The cemetery will also bury non-Jewish spouses of Jews and any Jew not a member of a congregation.

The cemetery has a public mausoleum, a chapel, a "walking garden," 1,441 platted family lots, 40 private mausoleums, 2 memorial mausoleums, and 24 sarcophagi. The cemetery also will place remains or cremains into the ground or into the public mausoleum. Some of the tombstones in this cemetery have Hebrew names on them.

No. of people buried as of January 2003: 10,500  
Number of possible graves in cemetery: there is enough space for burials for about 400 more years

### History of the Cemetery

Copies of a printed history can be obtained from the cemetery office.

(Continued on next page)

## More on City Directories: Jewish Fraternal and Benevolent Societies (Part 3) By Joel Shedlofsky

(Please see *Generations*, January 2003 for a more complete explanation of these listings. Again, note the spelling of the societies and streets came from the various city directories.)

### Fraternal and Benevolent Societies

#### I. O. B. B. (Independent Order of B'nai Brith?)

George Washington Lodge No. 87  
1878 8th & Franklin  
1879–1889 9th, se cor Market  
1890 9th se co Market  
(Lodge listed was No. 82)

#### Improved Order F.S. of I.

Obadiah Lodge No. 12  
1874 4th sw cor Franklin av  
1875–1887 8th, nw cor Franklin av  
1888 Franklin av se cor 11th  
Missouri Lodge No. 25  
1875–1887 8th cor Franklin av  
1888 Franklin av se cor 11th  
Isaac Lodge No. 29  
1877–1878 Wenzel's Hall  
1879–1887 10th ne cor Franklin av  
1888 Franklin av se cor 11th  
Star of the West Lodge No. 33  
1878 10th and Franklin av  
1879 9th se cor Market  
1880 4th nw cor Franklin

#### I.O.B.A.

Nathan Frank Lodge No. 87  
1898 se cor Franklin Av

#### I.O.B.B.

Isidor Bush Lodge No. 557  
1904 3137 Pine

A.J.O.K.S.B. (1874–1886?)

O.K.S.B. (1886?–1889)

#### Improved Order O.K.S.B.

Lebanon Lodge No. 9 (1874-1885),  
Lebanon Lodge No. 10 (1886-1903)  
1874–1886 10th cor Franklin av  
1887–1903 Franklin av., se cor 11th  
Isaac Lodge No. 10 (1874–1885),  
Isaac Lodge No.70 (1886–1898)  
1874 1014 Market  
1875–1891 8th, cor Franklin  
(not listed in 1890)  
1892–1898 Franklin and 8th  
Ben Jacob Lodge No 96 (in 1877 was No 94)  
1874–1877 10th cor Carr  
1878–1883 Wenzel's Hall  
1884–1889 8th cor Franklin av

(To be continued next month.)

## 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	Marcia King
Tributes	Carolyn Altman
Cemetery Indexing	Cassie Buerki & Gene Schneider
Funeral Home Indexing	Jerry Goldberg
Marriage Indexing	Eunice Solomon
<i>Generations</i>	Ilene Murray
Publicity	Betty Landow
Research	Dick Franzel

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Chuck Jackson  
Sam Heyman

### Founders

Sylvia Jaffe Art Jaffe

### Website:

[www.jewishgen.org/jgs-StLouis](http://www.jewishgen.org/jgs-StLouis)

**E-Mail Address:** [jgsstl@att.net](mailto:jgsstl@att.net)

## From the Editor's Desk...

It's hard to imagine after all the cold and snow we've had the past few months that spring is fast approaching. Jewish Genealogy Month will be celebrated this year between 3 April and 2 May 2003. How will you acknowledge this special month? Have you organized your genealogy notes and Xerox copies? Are your family photos out of those dreaded acid-filled old albums and into archival quality sheet protectors, neatly labelled in acid-free ink so your descendants will know who those people are? Have you sent in your registration for a genealogy or technology class or upcoming conference? If you've been meaning to do all or some of those things, what a great time to start!

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*Generations*

## Research Hints: St. Louis Jewish Cemeteries: New Mt. Sinai (Continued)

This is the oldest of the Jewish cemeteries in the St. Louis area. The remains of burials at the Camp Spring Cemetery, owned by Emanu-El Congregation, at Cooper and Pratt, were reinterred at New Mount Sinai Cemetery. There is a marker in the cemetery showing where these burials (43 adults and 53 children) are located. In 1991, the cemetery had the mounds and ivy removed from all single graves and family lots.

### Famous People Buried There

In this cemetery you will find the final resting places of many famous individuals, such as the following:

Major Adolph **PROSKAUER** who fought at Gettysburg during the Civil War

Fannie **HURST**, author

Nathan **FRANK**, U. S. Congressman and publisher of *The St. Louis Times*

Louis P. **ALOE**, president, Board of Alderman, after whom Aloe Plaza was named

Jerome **GOLDMAN**, after whom the American Legion Post was named

Moses **FRALEY**, one of the founders of Temple Israel

Rabbi S. H. **SONNESCHEIN**, pioneer of the Reform Movement in the United States

Rabbi Leon **HARRISON** and Rabbi Ferdinand M. **ISSERMAN** of Temple Israel

Rabbi Samuel **SALE**, Rabbi Julius **GORDON**, and Rabbi Julius **NODEL** of Shaare Emeth

Rabbi Moritz **SPITZ**, Rabbi Julian **MILLER**, and Rabbi Bertram **KLAUSNER** of B'nai El

David **MAY** and Col. Moses **SHOENBERG**, co-founders of the May Company

Samuel **KOPLAR**, builder of the Chase-Park Plaza

Julius **BAER**, Aaron **FULLER**, and Charles **STIX**, co-founders of Stix, Baer & Fuller

Morton J. **MAY** of Famous Barr

David P. **WOHL**, founder of Wohl Shoe Co.

Aaron **WALDHEIM**, president of Jewish Hospital

David **SOMMERS**, builder of Powell Symphony Hall

Charles **YALEM**, founder of Aetna Finance Company

Howard **BAER**, Civic Leader

**(See the special insert pages for cemetery map and photos.)**

### *With Sympathy*

*We mourn the loss of one of our newer members, Adolph W. Baum, who passed away on 1 Feb 2003. Our condolences to his wife, Pearl, and to his family.*



## New Members

Welcome! We wish to welcome the following new members to JGS of St. Louis: **Susan Bishop Abramson**  
**Jack Edelman**

If you know of any prospective members, please submit their names to Joel Shedlofsky, Membership Chairperson. He can be reached at (314) 275-7804 or e-mail him at [jshedlofsky@att.net](mailto:jshedlofsky@att.net).

# What We Learn from Others: The Sharing of Ideas

By Marilen Pitler

*JGS of Montreal News*, March 2002

For those of us researching family in Canada, check out the Jewish Heritage Centre's website at <[www.jhcwc.org](http://www.jhcwc.org)>. The Centre began compiling its archival collection in 1967 and has since linked with other cooperating organizations, attracting both local and international genealogists and other researchers.



*Etz Chaim*, The Quarterly Journal of the JGS of Greater Orlando, Spring 2002

## Oral Histories

Just as oral histories are important in remembering our past, they bring the past back to life. In the article, "Let's Do An Oral History," we are reminded that, "During the depression, the WPA (Works Progress Administration) hired unemployed writers to interview 'ordinary citizens' and write their stories. Especially valuable was the WPA's interviews with former slaves whose stories altered fundamentally the 'historical interpretation of American slavery.'"

"Another important step came during WWII when President Roosevelt ordered all military facilities and agencies to prepare records of their wartime experiences. The U.S. Army actually used heavy reel-to-reel tape recorders on the battlefields to make the interviews part of the War's history."

If you don't have a video camera, borrow one. Seeing the expressions on faces brings the words to life, provides the stories with added meaning. About eight years ago, my mother was cleaning her closets and came across a small reel of film. She had no idea what was on it, so she brought it to her local camera store where they had a projector that could play the ancient footage. It turned out to be images of me (first learning to walk), my sister and mother, my aunt, and my grandmother. The film was shot in 1945. My mother had it transferred to tape and made copies for the family. I now show that tape to my six-year-old granddaughter, who stares with wonderment in her eyes as she watches her grandmother as a toddler. Not only is she watching childhood images of her grandmother, she is becoming acquainted with a very mobile great, great, grandmother!

The article goes on to state, "When the interviewee responds to your question, you may want to encourage him or her to provide an anecdote to illustrate the situation. That in turn will bring out more information and very possibly allow the interviewee to recall a particular individual. If that occurs, you may want to ask about the individual's physical characteristics and personality."

"In any interview it is most important to avoid questions that can easily be answered with a 'yes' or

'no.' For example, 'Did you have a happy childhood?' One could answer yes or no to that. But phrase it as, 'What were some of the happy or difficult times in your childhood?' Those require a thoughtful response and as such, may bring back some specific memories."

## International Survey of Jewish Monuments (ISJM)

The ISJM website at <[www.isjm.org](http://www.isjm.org)> carries news about Jewish art, architecture, historic sites, etc. The introduction states, "The International Survey of Jewish Monuments is . . . dedicated to the documentation, study, care and conservation of historic Jewish sites throughout the world. ISJM recognizes that this heritage is of vital importance to the understanding and appreciation of Jewish culture . . . and the creative traditions of the majority cultures with which Jewish communities co-existed." Take a moment to visit the site; it will take you on a memorable journey.



*Branches*, Newsletter of the JGS of Greater Miami, Inc., October 2002

From *Branches* came this interesting tip: "To read a faded document, try to scan it. Then using your graphics program . . . you can make it darker or lighter or make the very light lines darker until you are able to read it." The author used the graphics program that came with the scanner, stating the scanner was not an expensive one.



*Family Finding*, Wisconsin JGS, March 2002

*Family Finding's* article, "Why Genealogy is Important for Children," reminded me of a book I recently purchased for my six-year-old granddaughter, *Journey to Ellis Island* by Carol Bierman. (Madison Press, Ltd/Hyperion Books for Children, NY, 1998) On the cover is a samovar similar to the one my great-grandmother carried with her. My granddaughter loves curling up in my arms, looking at the pictures in the book as I read to her. I was able to purchase my copy at Amazon.com, <[www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)>, for \$12.57. Used copies can also be purchased through Amazon, starting at \$6.99. **(Editor's Note:** This book is in Special Collections at the St. Louis County Library Headquarters on Lindbergh. When I was shown the book by one of the librarians, I had the same reaction as Marilen. My great-grandmother also came with a samovar, plus a pair of brass candlesticks, a feather bed, and three children under the age of eight! I have this book on my Chanukah list already for my two youngest nieces.)

# What Did Your Ancestors Read?

By Sylvia Letvak Jaffe

The words *Bintel Brief* caught my eye while I was browsing through the stacks in the headquarters of the St. Louis County Library. Immediately, I was transferred back into the kitchen of my childhood home and I could see and hear my parents' voices discussing a *bintel brief* that they had read in the *Jewish Daily Forward*. I thought then that they were discussing a fictionalized story in the newspaper. I really hadn't given much thought to their reading habits then or in the following years. However, the two volume set titled *Bintel Brief*, compiled and edited by Isaac Metzker, triggered memories. This happens a lot to me at the sight of a word or a photo since becoming immersed in genealogy research eight years ago.



The *bintel briefs* are not fiction but letters written by readers asking for advice from the esteemed editor of the *Jewish Daily Forward*. Today, people seek advice from columnists such as Dear Abby and in the recent past from Ann Landers. Yet, the *bintel briefs* have a flavor that escapes the letters written to today's advice columnists. The tone of each letter in the *Jewish Daily Forward* reflects the respect of the writer. The substance of the letters provides the reader with a picture of relationships between husband and wife, parent and children, sibling with sibling.

It's important for a family researcher to read the *bintel briefs*, for the letters introduce the reader to life as known by their ancestors. Sharing the reading interests of ancestors in a family history brings the ancestor alive for the descendant. The *bintel briefs* might even include a letter that describes a situation that awakens memories for the researcher. Such memories might provide clues to further genealogical research.

The *Jewish Daily Forward* played an important

role in helping the Eastern European Jewish immigrants adjust to living in America. It was mainly a workingman's newspaper, written in Yiddish. Thus the newspaper was like a teacher to the new Americans. The *bintel brief* was just one of the features of the newspaper. Like all newspapers it covered the news of the day and published articles dealing with daily living. The *Jewish Daily Forward* became the biggest and most influential Yiddish newspaper in America. It had a circulation of a quarter of a million in the early thirties. The *Bintel Brief* was first published in 1906 and mirrored real life. The two books contain condensed letters from 1906 through 1980.

It was important to the immigrant to be able to read a Yiddish newspaper while living in America because it was the language of their homeland and the language they knew best. My grandparents and parents were able to read English and write in English. Yet, my mom always wrote letters in Yiddish to her sisters in California as well as to the family that remained in Europe. I can still recall my delight in finding books written in Yiddish for my mom at the University City Public Library after she suffered a stroke. Yiddish was her first language and the language that came easiest to her after the stroke. She also regained the ability to speak in English but was more fluent in speaking Yiddish.

My mom was always referred to as Badonna, her Yiddish name, by friends and relatives. Her English name, Beatrice, was only used to fill out the forms required in American life. My dad was Labisch to his friends and relatives. Louis was the name he was known by at work and in documents. Recognizing the importance of Yiddish in an ancestor's life is to acknowledge that ancestor's roots. The information is of an added value to the family history. Yiddish now is considered a dying language, but for our ancestors it was the mother tongue.

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## Genealogy Event of Interest

**St. Louis Genealogical Society's Annual Fair:** The Largest Single-Day Genealogical Fair in the Midwest

**"Time for New Ideas"**

Saturday, 5 April 2003: Maryland Heights Centre; 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Featuring **nationally known genealogist** Elizabeth Shown Mills

**Local genealogists:** Dr. Linda Fisher, David Marjamaa, Cynthia Millar, Alan Rogg, Dr. Steven Rowan, Ted Steele  
**Lectures** on digital images, family health history, computer file management, locating females, finding parentage and origins, German research, proving a case without documents, using maps, the St. Louis Public Library website, ancestors with similar names



**New Features:** Translators (French, German, Latin, Polish, Russian, Spanish) and Ask the Experts  
**Registration** before March 10: StLGS members: \$30; non-members, \$40; after March 10: StLGS members, \$35; non-members, \$45; Lunch (prepaid) available for \$10

**More information** on the StLGS website: <[www.stlgs.org](http://www.stlgs.org)> or call the Society at 314-647-8547

## Inquiries

Seeking information about the FLEISHMAN (also spelled FLEISCHMAN) families that lived in St. Louis, Mo. from late 1890's and onward until the present time. I am specifically interested in any congregation information that might exist (family histories, cemetery, death records, etc.) on Selig FLEISHMAN and his family and Devaira TAUROG Fleishman (his wife).

Stella Baldev  
705 Whitenack Ct.  
Hillsborough, NJ 08844-3423  
908-874-8660/sbaldev@rcn.com

Seeking information about the family of Samuel BRASCH & Lena COHEN, sons Charles and William They lived in Muskogee, Ok. and are buried at United Hebrew cemetery in University City, Mo. I am Charles's granddaughter and want to know if I have more family and any and all information about my family. Charles died 7/26/1917 three months before my father (his son) was born. Charles was married to Hedwig HEINEMANN. They also had a son, Leon Sol, born Dec. 1914.

Susan Stamps  
205 N. Main St.  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701  
270-234-9432/susan\_stamps@hotmail.com

Seeking information regarding an Isaac SAKOWSKI. I have a Missouri death certificate for him. The "parents" section is incomplete. I am showing it was handled by Oxenhandler. Sometimes the mortuaries have more detailed info about parents. Who is Oxenhandler and where might I find these records - burial was at Chesed Shel Emeth, 1-15-37.

Jay Cupples  
819 Calhoun  
New Orleans, LA  
504-400-6519/alpine258@aol.com

Seeking information about my great-great-great grandparents, Sara Rose PRICE COHN and Benjamin Abraham COHN. It is believed that Sara died in 1914 and Benjamin died in 1921, but they did not find their death records at the St. Louis Recorder of Deeds. Also, my great-grandmother, Goldie COHN (COHEN) was supposedly born in St. Louis in 1893, but again there were no records at the St. Louis Recorder of Deeds. Thank you very much for assistance.

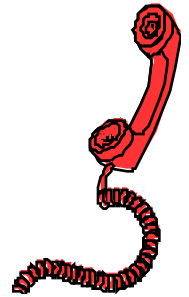
Carol Zolla  
1157 Norval Way  
San Jose, CA 95125  
carol@zollalawfirm.com

## Don't Miss Out!

Moving?  
New telephone number?  
New e-mail address?

**PLEASE,**  
notify treasurer,  
Betty Schneider:

636-861-7117  
or <bludwig@att.net>  
Thank you!



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



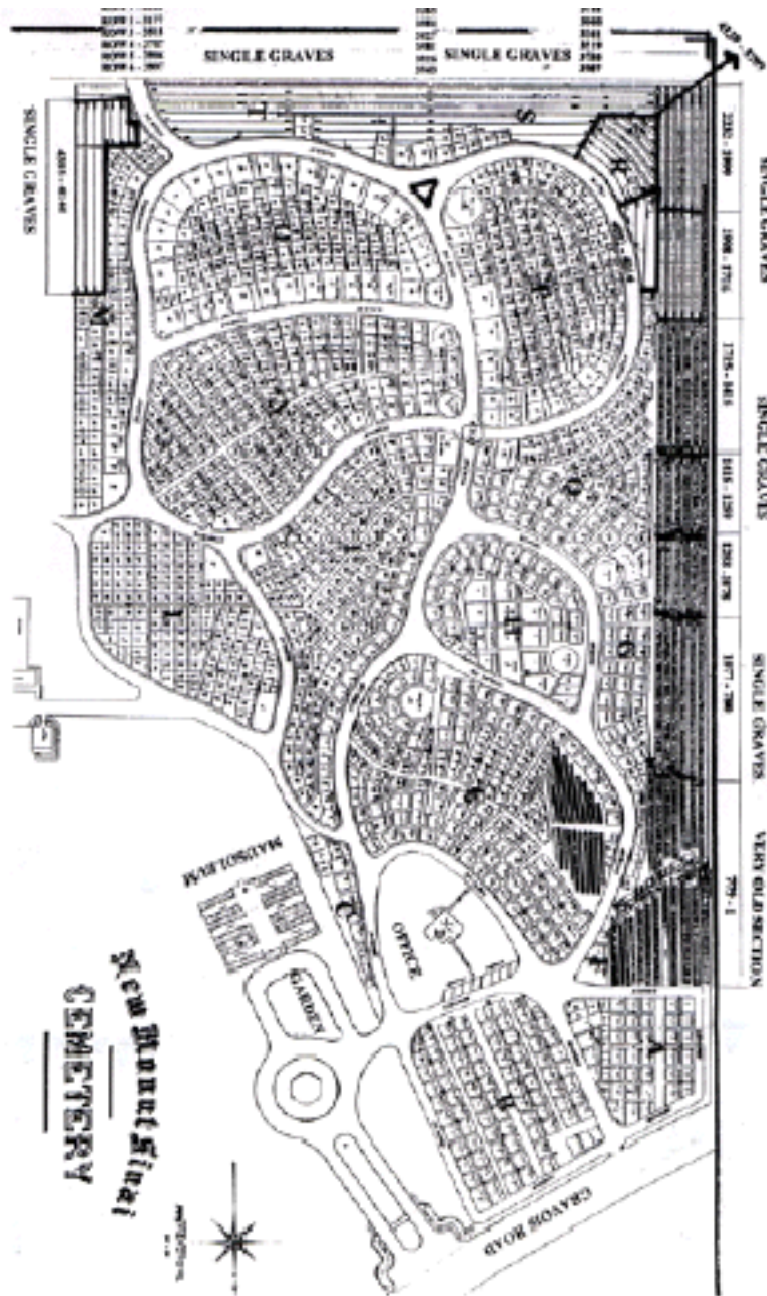
**JEWISH  
GENEALOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF ST. LOUIS**

*Affiliated with*  
United Hebrew  
Congregation

**First Class**



# Map of New Mt. Sinai Cemetery



Full size maps available at the cemetery office. See article in *March Generations* for office hours, address, and phone number.

## Entrance Gate to New Mt. Sinai Cemetery Facing Gravois Road



Photo Courtesy of New Mt. Sinai Cemetery

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## New Mt. Sinai Cemetery Mausoleum



Photo Courtesy of New Mt. Sinai Cemetery

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## New Mt. Sinai Cemetery General View

Photo Courtesy of New Mt. Sinai Cemetery  
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*Special Insert to Generations  
March 2003*