

*This edition has several articles about DNA!
Including... what can Christopher Columbus's DNA
reveal about his origins? — Page 2*



ATSMI UVSARI
“MY BONE AND MY FLESH”

עצמי ובשרי

Issue #15

Fall 2006

<i>IN THIS ISSUE</i>	
An Unsung Hero: How Paul Shapiro's Vision and Determination Moved Nations	2
ALS and Genetics	2
Origins of Christopher Columbus	2
Breaking Through Brick Walls One Brick at a Time: Missing Ellis Island Records	4
Mitochondria DNA	5
Press Release: My Ancestors Found	6
World's Oldest Living Person Dies	10

Meet the New Editor	10
Press Release: ProQuest Acquired	14
<i>Regular Features</i>	
<i>Book Review</i>	11
<i>Contact Info</i>	14
<i>Minutes</i>	13
<i>President's Message</i>	9
<i>Who We Are</i>	9
<i>Zip Tip</i>	10

An Unsung Hero: How Paul Shapiro's Vision and Determination Moved Nations

From the IAJGS Board of Directors, June 2006

On May 17, an event took place which will benefit all Jewish genealogists, and indeed, many non-Jewish genealogists as well. On that date in Luxembourg, the eleven countries which comprise the International Commission of the International Tracing Service (ITS) unanimously agreed to permit member countries to obtain copies of ITS material and make this wealth of information, said to include information on 17 million individuals, publicly available in their own countries. These countries include every country represented by the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) and the overwhelming share of Jewish genealogists around the world.

If there is one common factor in the family history searches of Jewish genealogists, it is the frustration faced in obtaining information on the fate of family members in the Holocaust. Even those researchers whose immediate family members left Europe well before the Holocaust, know that other family members remained, whether or not their names are known. For those with closer family ties to Holocaust victims, the search has been more immediate and often painful.

(Continued on Page 3)

ALS and Genetics

by Bonnie Frederics

I was reading your latest copy of the AU newsletter and came across the article about Ralph Tannenbaum's passing from Lou Gehrig's Disease (ALS). It was noted that ALS should be researched for genetic disposition.

My father died of ALS in 1994 so I'm reasonably familiar with the ongoing research under the auspices of the MDA. There are two types of ALS: inherited and non-inherited. The problem is that if the person in your family was the first to die of this disease, you won't know if it's the hereditary type until there is either another person in the family displaying symptoms or a test is developed to identify the gene. At this point, they're getting close to the latter but it's still a waiting game. Although we've been told my father had the non-hereditary type, we don't know that for sure.

(Continued on Page 4)

Origins of Christopher Columbus

Saturday marked the 500th anniversary of the death of Christopher Columbus. To commemorate the event, a team of forensic scientists, led by Spanish geneticist Jose Antonio Lorente, have spent the past three years analyzing DNA taken from bone fragments reported to belong to Columbus in an effort to answer the mysteries surrounding the birth and burial of the famed explorer. Where was he born? Is he Italian, Jewish, or ? Does the grave in Seville, Spain hold the remains of the famed explorer, or does Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic hold bragging rights to his final resting place?

At least one of those century-old debates appears to finally have an answer — at least sort of. The team of Spanish scientists are now fairly confident that at least some of Christopher Columbus's remains lie buried inside a cathedral in Seville, Spain. Mitochondrial DNA taken from the Seville

(Continued on Page 7)

Roots Television

When Roots Television debuted on September 29, 2006, it was a quiet launch in beta mode intended to draw enough traffic to test the site and work through the inevitable technical bugs that accompany new ventures into cyberspace. That "quiet" launch quickly became an international roar, as word spread lightening-fast and Roots Television drew viewers from five continents in the first 24 hours. Not surprising really, since family history commands one of the largest and fast-growing markets in the world.

Perhaps what is surprising is that no one thought of launching a family history channel sooner. After all, there's a golf channel, a wine channel, a sailing channel, a horse channel, a poker channel, and even a shipwreck channel. Why not a channel for what's said to be the second most popular hobby?

Visit Roots Television online at <http://rootstelevision.com/>.

(Paul Shapiro's Vision, Continued from Page 2)

Over the last few decades publicly available information on Holocaust victims and survivors has expanded exponentially through the work of Yad Vashem, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) and JewishGen, as well as many specialized research groups. However, the mother lode of information held in Arolsen, Germany by ITS remained impenetrable. Managed by the International Committee of the Red Cross and nominally under the supervision of the International Commission, the Swiss management of ITS resisted all attempts to access its holdings. This was true even though compensation claims for forced labor and property and bank seizures required exactly the type of information held by ITS.

Beginning about five years ago, one individual, Paul Shapiro, Director of the Center for Advanced Historical Studies at the USHMM, began his struggle to change this situation. First, he had to convince his own government, and in particular, the Department of State, that this issue was worthy of attention even though it was certain to cause friction with Germany, the country which paid 100 percent of ITS costs

“...all of us will have an opportunity to search for closure and to determine the fate of our family members.”

and which was adamant against "opening" ITS. When direct efforts through the International Council failed to yield results, he turned to the International Task Force for Holocaust Education which was friendlier to this initiative. Gradually obtaining allies, such as France and the United Kingdom, the "issue" became less of "an American idea" and more of a multilateral European effort. Finally, as two of the last opponents, Belgium and Italy, ceased to object, Germany became the sole holdout. With growing international pressure and a change of government, Germany finally joined the international consensus. On April 18, standing on the stage of an auditorium at the USHMM, the German Minister of Justice announced that, at the upcoming May 17 meeting of the Council, Germany would support "opening" of ITS and that access to ITS material could begin, even before formal international ratification would take place.

After a five year struggle, all of us will have an opportunity to search for closure and to determine the fate of our family members. For this, we have one person to thank, Paul Shapiro, for his struggle to develop the international consensus that made this possible.

Breaking Through Brick Walls One Brick at a Time: Missing Ellis Island Records

by Banai Lynn Feldstein

Most genealogists, at one time or another, have had trouble finding relatives in the Ellis Island database. There are usually two main reasons why. First, they are mis-transcribed. (Have you seen some of the transcriptions of names? My Tsivia Mularzewicz is listed as Liwic Milarzewitz on ellisland.org, Ziwie on her Certificate of Arrival, and Leroie Milargewitz on ancestry.com.) Second, they came through a different port — there were lots of them!

There is, however, a third possibility, and I will tell you a story about it. While in New York for the 2006 IAJGS conference, I intended to do some genealogy research; I always have more to do in New York. But I was very busy leading up to the conference and didn't have time to prepare my research queries. However, I did find myself visiting several of the archives. While at the New York Municipal Archives, I learned that I could do a simple computer search of probate records. I didn't want to re-research anything, so the first name that came to mind was Leon Mednikow.

"Uncle" Leon and Aunt Pearl may have been relatives. Several people in my family have said that they "must have been related" because they were so close to our family. I had only their SS-5s (Social Security Application), his obituary, the 1930 US census, and I've been to their gravesite, so I knew that I wouldn't duplicate anything. Lo and behold, Leon Mednikow was in the database and I made copies of his probate petition, death certificate, and his will.

I already knew when he died from his obituary and gravestone, but I now knew that he died at home, which happened to be about a block from where I was staying. I also learned that, in the event of his dying at the same time as his wife (there was no condition for if he died after her), that some money would go to two nieces (Shirley C and Adele S), and the rest to his brother, Abramo Mednicoff of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

(Continued on Page 8)

(ALS and Genetics, Continued from Page 2)

Additionally, there are two ways the disease attacks the body — either lower or upper. With the former, the patient loses function of the lower body first; the latter begins with disabling the respiratory system. It is fatal and most patients die within 2-5 years.

The US military has been doing its own research on ALS because so many veterans came down with it after the Gulf War. We filled out a very detailed questionnaire (since my dad was a vet of WWII) as the thinking at the time was exposure to chemicals around soldiers at certain bases over time. They recently notified us that their conclusion (so far) was negative.

If anybody is interested in finding out more about ALS and where the research stands at this time, they can contact the MDA or the ALS Foundation at <http://www.alsa.org/>.

Bonnie is a addicted genealogist, as well as her brother Jerry Zeisler. They are active members of JewishGen H-SIG.

Mitochondria DNA

by Robert Neu

I don't know if you are like me, but biology is a subject I barely survived both in High School and College. They probably talked about it, but for sure my memory of it is rather dim. I wouldn't have imagined that it would have anything to do with genealogy, which was already one of my interests even way back then.

I think we can all relate to the Y-DNA enabling to trace back a paternal line, because only males have an XY chromosome, and that the Y portion can only come from the father and is unchanged from father to son, except for mutations. (Females have instead an XX chromosome randomly created from the X chromosome of both partners, from what I understand.)

So what about this mtDNA? Well, it is neither fish nor fowl (male nor female). It is NOT part of the human genome! It has its own genome (though a small one)! They are "organelles" — whatever that is — which are found in the cytoplasm (the main part of the cell, except for the membrane and the nucleus).

They all come from the mother, and are unchanged (again except for mutations), thus enabling mainly maternal line genealogy. Less pleasantly, it is also implicated in a number of genetic diseases, including Alzheimer's and diabetes.

References:

"1491" by Charles C. Man, Copyright 2003-2006, First Vintage Books Edition, October 2006, ISBN-13:978-1-40000-1205-1

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mitochondrion>

France's Jewish Community Ties to Israel, a Workshop

Two sociologists, Erik Cohen and Sonia Lipsyc successively took the floor in the workshop on "What stakes and challenges for the Jewish community?" whose moderator was Méir Weintrater. Erik Cohen described the make-up of France's Jewish community. What stands out is a very strong relationship with Israel. 77% of those surveyed in a poll said they have family links with Israel and 1 in 2 families say they have children who are carrying out a part or all of their studies in Israel. A study has also been carried out on the degree of religiosity of the Jewish population and as one might expect, the involvement of men in religious studies is much greater than among women. As for Sonia Lipsyc, she touched on a very serious and painful subject: the obtaining of a Get by divorced women, without which future children are declared illegitimate.

Source: Representative Council of Jewish French Institutions (CRIF) <http://crif.org/>

Ancestry.com Extends Free Offer to U.S. Immigration Records

Ancestry.com announced in November that it would be offering free access to its entire Immigration Collection through the end of the month to commemorate the launch of the collection. That offer has been extended until the end of December. Ancestry boasts over 100 million names from U.S. passenger lists from 1820 to 1960 including the complete Ellis Island collection from 1820 to 1957, as well as records from over 100 other U.S. ports of arrival.

Just go to <http://ancestry.com/> to access the records before the year is over.

Press Release: My Ancestors Found

My Ancestors Found, a local Utah business, has pinpointed St. George, Utah as the place to be February 9-10, 2007. Family history and genealogy enthusiasts will not be disappointed with the more than 100 classes being offered to help you jump start the process. The great thing about this is you don't even have to have Utah roots.

101 presentations for beginning or expanding your family history have an "International Flare!"

Come learn how to locate exciting documents that detail the life of your ancestor in North America; Central & South America and Mexico; England; Ireland; Germany; Italy; Sweden, and more.

Classes include The Nauvoo Databank, Dead Language/Dead People: Translating Latin Records from the Catholic Church, A New England Primer, A Mac User in a PC World, Just Ask the Computer Guy -- Top 20 Lessons Genealogists Need to Know, DNA for the Clueless, Erin Go Bragh: Music & Myths of Irish Immigrants, Tracking Your Ancestors on the Internet — Getting Started, Scandinavian Life Styles & Naming Patterns, and that is just the beginning.

Gain a deeper understanding of major family history collections available to us such as: Digital Family History Collections, Pedigree Resource File; Ancestry.com, BYU Library, and the world's largest genealogy library —

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Benefits include learning how to Organize, Preserve and Share your Family History, Write a Personal History, Scrapbook Historical Events, Care and Repair for Photos, Mapping Your Family's History, Search the Web. Presenters are flying in from all over the U.S. from Connecticut to California.

The Exhibitors will be first class with products and services including Professional Research Assistance from My Ancestors Found and The Genealogical Institute. Family History Software including: RootsMagic, Legacy, Passage Express, LifeStory, and AniMap to name a few. Genealogy books, CDs, scrapbooking supplies and gift ideas include: Rootstamps, Generation Maps, GenCharts for PAF, and other terrific goodies for genealogists. Exhibitors are coming in from Arizona, California, Connecticut, Idaho, New Jersey, Washington, and beyond with several local vendors from right here in Utah.

Register today and take advantage of the Early bird price of \$38 before it ends Nov 30. (Regularly \$50 - \$60 at the door.) You can also mail a check to: My Ancestors Found - PO Box 187 - Morgan , UT 84050.

Full details are available online at <http://www.myancestorsfound.com/> or Contact Holly Hansen or Kimberly Savage by phone 801-829-3295.

Source: My Ancestors Found

Mark Your Calendar: UJGS Meetings

The UJGS Meeting schedule for 2007 has been set. Even if you are not a member or a local, but planning to visit Salt Lake City at these times, please consider joining us. We meet at 7 PM at Congregation Kol Ami. The address and directions can be found on our web site, <http://ujgs.org/>.

The dates are: January 16, March 20, May 15, July 10, September 18, and November 13.

(Christopher Columbus, Continue from Page 2)

tomb of Columbus matches that of DNA taken from the remains known to be from Columbus's brother, Diego, who is also buried there.

"There is absolute match-up between the mitochondrial DNA we have studied from Columbus's brother and Christopher Columbus," said Marcial Castro, a Seville-area historian and high school teacher who is the mastermind behind the project, which began in 2002.

That doesn't mean that Santo Domingo is out of the running, however. Castro said that although Columbus has now been proven to be buried in Spain, it is also likely that some of his remains could still lie in Santo Domingo. Columbus traveled almost as much after death as he did in life. He was first buried in Valladolid, Spain when he died, and his remains were later moved to a monastery near Seville. When Columbus's eldest son, Diego, died in 1526, he was buried beside his father.

In 1537, honoring the wishes of Columbus — expressed in his will — to be buried in the Americas, Diego's widow petitioned the Spanish court to move both Columbus and his son across the Atlantic to the cathedral in Santo Domingo where they rested for over two centuries. In 1795, the bones were again moved — to Havana, Cuba — to protect them from the "foreigners" as Spain seceded Hispanolia to France. There they remained for over 100 years, until the Spanish-American War prompted their removal back to the cathedral in Seville, Spain.

“...versions of the story have Columbus as a Catalan Jew who fled to Genoa to hide from the Spanish Inquisition...”

In the meantime, workers digging in the Santo Domingo cathedral in 1877 found a lead casket containing bone fragments and a bullet and bearing the inscription "The Illustrious and Prominent Varon Don Cristobal Colon," the Spanish name for Christopher Columbus. Thus it isn't too much of a stretch to believe that some of Columbus's bones remained behind in Santo Domingo — either accidentally, or through the work of some sentimental Dominican caretaker who wanted to ensure "that at least part of the explorer would never leave the city that he founded, governed, and named for his father."

Castro says the team is now focusing their DNA analysis on another Columbus mystery: his country of origin. Traditional theory says he was from Genoa, Italy, but others argue that Columbus was actually from the Catalonia region of northeast Spain. Other versions of the story have Columbus as a Catalan Jew who fled to Genoa to hide from the Spanish Inquisition, and the illegitimate son of Spain's prince of Viana, born in Majorca. The scientists have collected hundreds of samples from Spanish men sharing the surname Colón (Columbus) in the effort to find a common link to the great explorer. Their DNA will be compared to DNA from the identified bones of Hernando — Columbus's son through an extramarital affair — to see if they carry the same Y-chromosome markers, identifying them as a descendant.

Source: About:Genealogy

Copyright Notice

Permission is granted for the quoting, in whole or in part, of any original article included in this issue of Atsmi Uvsari by the newsletter/journal of any other IAJGS member society, providing acknowledgement of the source is given and notice is sent to the editor and/or publisher of this newsletter. Acknowledgement should include the title of the newsletter, the issuing society, and the volume number or date of publication.

Steve Morse's Gold Form for Ellis Island Ship Passenger Lists

Steve Morse has added another Ellis Island search form, called the gold form, capable of searching on every transcribed field. Users can now search on traveling companions, marital status, exact date of arrival, and precise year of birth. You can also specify how you would like to have the results sorted and which fields you want displayed.

The gold form can be found along with all of Steve Morse's other useful search forms, at <http://stevemorse.org/>.

(Breaking Through Brick Walls, Continued from Page 4)

One brick removed! I was always told that Leon and Pearl traveled to Sao Paulo to visit relatives, and now I know that his brother was one of those relatives.

I already knew both Leon's and Pearl's parents' names, birth dates, and birth places from their SS-5s, but I could never find their ship lists. I knew that they were married in the US. I never could find Leon. But Pearl was born as Paula Landau, and that name was too common for me to even know if I had the right person. A quick search of the database at italiengen.org for their naturalizations and the NARA office was due for another visit.

Both Leon and Pearl were naturalized separately in 1944; Pearl on January 13th and Leon on July 25th. (Coincidentally, July 25th is both my birthday and Pearl's. She was the first other person in my entire database to share my birthday for any event.)

Both had the same two witnesses (one of which was Leon's niece, Adele). I now had a Declaration of Intention (with a picture) for Pearl and all the other documents (Certificate of Arrival, Petition for Naturalization, Affidavit of Witnesses, and Oath of Allegiance) for both. Pearl arrived as Polka Landau and a quick search of ellisland.org produced her ship list. Leon was more difficult.

I had searched many times for Leon Mednikow,

trying a multitude of spellings. His Certificate of Arrival listed his name spelled exactly the same way as I have always seen it in the US. But now that I had the ship information, date, and port, I searched the manifest page by page using stevemorse.org. About halfway through the manifest, I came across the name Joch Feldstein, who became Jacob/Jack Feldstein, my grandfather's brother. I hadn't even realized it was the same ship and date. And did I mention that we believe Leon to be related on the Feldstein side? Sadly, I never found Leon's name, not even in the detainee list at the end. I did note that the first few pages of the manifest were a mess; only the second page showing, only part of the page, folded over, unreadable. I checked the microfilm at the Family History Library, but found it to be identical to the ellisland.org scan (as I figured, but I still had to check).

“...if you can't find your relatives, they may have been lost to the ravages of time.”

So the third option, if you can't find your relatives, is that they may have been lost to the ravages of time. But just because you can't find them, don't assume that this is the case unless you have clear evidence. Don't give up until you have their naturalization documents, or something else that tells when and where they arrived, and you've searched the entire manifest yourself, possibly finding illegible or obviously missing pages.

And unfortunately no, I still don't have enough to figure out how or if Leon is related to us.

President's Message

by Robert Neu, UJGS President

If I was to give a title to this month's message it would be "The Real Thing." I would also start by having each and every one of us ask themselves a few questions: Why are you doing genealogy? What do you enjoy about it? Are you doing "real" or "virtual" genealogy?

I am sure you are interested in finding "about" your ancestors. Probably being an "American" is not enough for you. Whether it was 2 or 30 generations ago, you want to find out, among other questions: When they came? Where they came from? Where they arrived? Why they came?

We are lucky as many of us can find out quite a bit, just on the click of a button, thanks to the Internet and all the data that has been and is getting added each day. Libraries and microfilms get you one step closer to "the real thing."

Maybe you are starting to get my drift, as they say. This is all "virtual" research, none of it is "the real thing." Then what is the real thing?

Short of communicating with a live parent or living dead it is touching, seeing, discovering actual documents or artifacts, be they tombstones, birth, marriage, death certificates, actual entries on original records, etc. Some of these records have the handwriting of either the person themselves, or of someone who either

saw them or knew them. You can't get any closer to "the real thing."

Genealogy is not, in my opinion, "just" gathering information about the past, but also passing it on, whether to your progeny, your nieces, nephews, and other relations, what you gathered, or even, in an understandable way, to a library/libraries.

I still have in front of my eyes (figuratively and on a photograph) the tombstone of one of my great-grandmothers in the Jewish cemetery in Nagykanizsa, Hungary which I visited a few years ago. It was actually first located by one of my sons, linking him five generations back. I am sure he'll remember it for the rest of his life and will hopefully pass it on to the next generation, hopefully as both him and his younger sister are our two youngest children and not yet married.

I also always see the "muster roll" of the same town, or as we would call it, selective service roll, which gives the physical description of my grandfather, his twin brother, and their sons, reported separately, but on the same roll. Yes, I have a photograph for each of them, but it's not the same thing.

As you are probably partaking of the season of giving, these are gifts that do not age, and are good any time of the year or of life.

Who We Are

The Utah Jewish Genealogical Society is a non-profit organization which provides a forum and assistance to members researching their Jewish ancestors. Our goal is to bring together all Utahns interested in pursuing their Jewish genealogy, regardless of faith.

UJGS meets bi-monthly at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of the month at Congregation Kol Ami in Salt Lake City, Utah.

World's Oldest Living Person Dies (or... Have You Interviewed Your Family Elders Lately?)

by Banai Lynn Feldstein

One of the first rules every genealogist should learn is to interview their family elders. The elders are not always the oldest living relatives, but they usually are. (The genealogist soon becomes the family elder as the carrier of the family history knowledge.)

I was fortunate to begin my genealogy research as a young child. I always had an unusual fascination with genealogy, which led me to question my three living grandparents when I was only twelve. I didn't become a serious researcher until my late twenties, but even then, several of my grandparents' siblings were still alive.

However, most genealogists get started a lot later in life than I did and it is more likely that they themselves will be the elders. You just can't count on people living as long as Elizabeth Bolden.

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Bolden was the record holder for the title of the world's oldest living person until her death on 11 December 2006. The daughter of freed slaves, she was born as Elizabeth Jones in Somerville, Tennessee on 15 August 1890, the same year that Idaho and Wyoming became the 43rd and 44th US states, Dwight D. Eisenhower was born, and Vincent Van Gogh died. Lizzie was married in 1908, and her first son was born in 1909. She lived to be 116 years and 118 days old.

At the time of her 116th birthday, she had a total of seven children (two still living), 40 grandchildren, 75 great-grandchildren, 150 2nd-great-grandchildren, 220 3rd-great-grandchildren, and 75 4th-great-grandchildren.

It makes a genealogist wonder, could she remember all of their names?

Zip Tip

by Marelynn Zipser

We have gotten so involved with searching for US census data from commercial sources on the Internet, that we tend to forget that Soundex cards for the entire US exist for 1900 and 1920 censuses. The information was extracted by people (and checked by their supervisors) rather than by optical character recognition. All you need to have is the state and the Soundex code (or codes) for the surname or variation. Listings are arranged by given name of the head of the household, but you can see the names of all in the household on the cards.

I wish it was available for 1930!

Meet the New Editor

Atsmi Uvsari has a new editor, UJGS member, Banai Lynn Feldstein.

Beginning as a young child, Banai had an unusual fixation with genealogy. After a break that began in her teenage years, she returned to her genealogy research in her late twenties.

In November 2003, Banai moved to Salt Lake City to gain better access to the Family History Library so she could further pursue her own genealogy research, and also to become a professional researcher. She joined the UJGS in the following year.

Since she was young, Banai has been a writer using various formats, as well as having a knack for copy editing, having happily taken on the seemingly undesirable position of copy editor for her high school yearbook.

In 2004, Banai created her own Feldstein Family Forest Newsletter. She is happy to be volunteering her skills to the UJGS.

"Tiszafüred Booklets No.5"

*by Mrs. Orbán, Ágnes Szegő Ph.D. (Hungarian)
translated into English by Agi Casey of Sydney Australia.*

© Tiszafüred, BlonDekor Printery 2004

Reviewed by Robert Neu

The booklet is available at the shown web site link: <http://adale.org/Tiszafured%20Jews.pdf>. It is a 28 pages booklet entitled "To the memory of the Jews of Tiszafüred and surrounding district (Tiszafüred és vidéke zsidóságának emlékezete.)"

If you do not want to read one more story about what happened to a Jewish community, you may as well stop right here.

The history of the Jews of Tiszafüred and surrounding area is no different from the rest of most of Greater Hungary. This means that up to the 18th century it falls under the general history of Hungary, indicating that there have been records of Jewish presence since Roman days when it was known as Panonnia. Larger settlements, by Jews and others (the Turkish wars had decimated the population) came at the end of the 17th century and into the 18th century, though Jews did not get "rights" until 1867.

In certain counties they were not even allowed to settle until 1850. Jews first settled as allowed by landowners, and were instrumental in starting the buying and selling of agricultural products.

In 1788 there were only 4 Jewish families in Tiszafüred. The listing of "Innkeeper" can be misleading, as it was at the same time a general store and exchange place for produce and buying/selling on credit. By 1816 in Heves and Külső-Szolnok, there were 1,592 Jewish people. In 1869, they were 11,533 in 166 villages.

The oldest headstones date back to 1770. The first rabbi in the 1790s was Menachem Bleier.

Some Jews, as time went on, climbed the social ladder. Gaspar Ernst was the richest. There was a synagogue on the Nanassy estate since at least since 1847/48.

The Jews of Tiszafüred took part in the 1848 Revolution and after had to pay their share of the 2,300,00 forint imposition by Austria. On surviving rolls listing 150 conscripts for the city, 23 had Jewish names. After 1869, Tiszafüred remained an orthodox congregation. After 1867, being literate enabled Jews to get an education and move into the professional ranks, and adopt Hungarian as their language. They could also by now acquire land. Some became wealthy. Jews were involved in industries from steam mill, brick yard, printing, watchmaking, button factory, local banking etc. A 1994 documentary film, in the interviews, shows the importance of Jewish commerce in Tiszafüred. Elderly local residents still remembered the Jewish merchants who were there. By the 1940s, Jewish merchants and landowners were at the top of the social ladder. The next generation included lawyers, doctors, pharmacists, journalists, etc. Some moved to larger towns, some emigrated.

A new synagogue was dedicated in 1916. Social life was active with a ladies association, charitable works, a fire brigade association, a casino with a library, organized balls, etc. Jewish people were assimilated into the Presbyterian church. In World War I, 63 served and 13 died. In 1929, there were 142 families, most of them farmers, shopkeepers, professionals, etc.

(Continued on Page 12)

(Book Review, Continued from Page 11)

Official anti-semitism started between the two wars and became full fledged with the special laws in the 1930s. By 1944, discrimination had sent Jewish men to forced labor battalions. Many died; by March 1944, the count was 35. The Jews were put in a ghetto, the Jewish brick factory which was only half covered. On April 28, 1944 their properties was seized and looted.

They were searched and tortured, all under the leadership of local Hungarian sheriffs, gerndarmes, army officers, etc.

On June, 8 they were taken to the railway station in a round-about way. Children, women, men were loaded in separate freight cars. Their suitcases were just thrown together as those in charge told the helpers that it didn't matter as they would not get them back. Dr Pál Polgary in his speech declared "See you again as fertilizers." On the way to Auschwitz, several went mad or committed suicide. They arrived there on June 13, 1944. German SS took away whatever they still had in their possession.

There is no reason to detail what happened either in their journey, or as they were sent their different ways before and after Dr. Mengele, though it is described in the words of survivors, as it is, I am sure, known to most of us.

When freed by the Red Cross on January 17, 1945, 108 had survived naked in the gas chambers. In 1941, there were 442 Jews in Tiszafüred. "After the liberation only 70 were alive." Not one family survived with all its members.

As this a genealogy periodical, let me list some of the names mentioned throughout the booklet:

“The history of the Jews of Tiszafüred and surrounding area is no different from the rest of most of Greater Hungary.”

Salomon Moyzes, Borgen Caleyv Monosses, Clamon Gasparus, Lörincz Jacobus, Abráhám, Gáspár, Vilmos, Jakab and Peter Ernst, Jozsef Grün, Lörincz Róth, Rabbi Mozes Schönfeld, Rabbi Herman and Lörincz Rosenberg, Rabbi Nathan Jungreis, Gerszon Cserhát, József Löwinger, Cecilia Czobel, Boriska Shwarcz, Mór Szofer, Jakab, Zsigmond, Albert. Bertalan, Lajos and Lászlo Blau, Herman Leuchter, Dr. Ignác and Béla Menczer, the Lederer brothers,

Jakab, Artur. Sándor, and Zsigmond Klein, Ignác Flam(m), Dr. Henrik Soltész (wife sister of Lajos Rosinger), Soma Czeizler, Adolf Nemethy (formerly Deutsch), Izraël Stern, Mor Schwarcz, Samuel and Jenő Funk, Alajos Spitzer, Henrik and Laszlo Fisher, Henrik (Chajem) Herskovich, David, Ignác, Zakarias, David, Jozsef and

Miksa Weizsmann, Samuel Löw, Jakab, Géza and Jenő Epstein, Lajos Rosinger, Miksa Strausz, Dr. Abraham Brieger, Gyula Glück, Ernő Weiner, Salomon, Herman, Samuel and Laci Rubinstein, Jozsef Barna (Braun), Jakab Kohen, Dr. Lipot Schönfeld, Doma Szigeti (Samuel Sidlauer), Dr. Aladar and Pál Kiss, Dr. Istvan Aszodi, Dr. István Vadasz, Dr. Kálmán Szántó, Dr. Jenő Nagy (Jakab Groszmann), Dr. Lajos Békefi, Dr. Dezső and Klára Weinberger, Lipot Ungar and sons Ödön and ? Tisza and grandson Lászlo Tisza (of MIT), Zsigmond Szöllösi, Rozsa Brody, Ádám Zsigmond (mother Schwarcz), Dr. Imre Lebovits, Dr. István Aszodi, Rabbi Samuel Strasser and wife (daughter of Rabbi Mor Szofer), Márton Vagner, Endre Várkonyi, Ernő Szegő, Lili and Klara Weinberg, Matild Radványi.

The names are mainly in the order they appear in the booklets, except that family members have been listed together.

UJGS Meeting Minutes
21 November 2006

by Rochelle Kaplan

Present:

Robert Neu, Wilma Odell, MaryAnn and Gerald Jacobs, Marelynn Zipser, Banai Feldstein, Robert Lovell, Rochelle Kaplan

1) Minutes of last meeting accepted.

2) Announcements:

a) The Jacobs mentioned a book about Utah's Jewish history related to Ogden. It was mentioned that R. Benowitz might have a copy. He now lives in SLC.

b) The group agreed to give a check for \$90 to Kol Ami in Ralph Tannenbaum's memory. Rochelle agreed to send a note and the check.

c) Marelynn said she would send out an updated membership list, after Robert went over the current list.

d) Gerald gave a dues report.

e) Robert reminded folks of the Project Names Recovery Campaign being conducted by Yad Vashem. We agreed to send an announcement of this project to the JCC, the congregations, and if possible to elderly Jews. Regarding filling out Pages of Testimony forms for those unsure of the process, we agreed to discuss this further at January 16 meeting.

f) Banai said that Daniel needs to update the UJGS webpage.

g) Some updates on IAGJS Conference coming up in July. Rochelle mentioned revising brief outline of the history of the Jews of Utah, kosher food provisioning for conference. Robert has not yet followed up on other tour operators.

3) Calendar for next year will remain on Tuesdays at 7 PM at Kol Ami. The dates are: January 16, March 20, May 15, July 10, September 18, and November 13.

4) Election for officers. All officers re-elected except for Don Fallick, who has moved away and no longer does the newsletter. Banai Feldstein will take over as newsletter chair.

5) Roberta Lovell presented her genealogical information and solicited suggestions as to follow up.

6) Robert reviewed the International Holocaust Tracing Service. Of 37,000 cases, the Tracing Service has had success in 10,000.

**“...the International
Holocaust Tracing
Service ... has had
success in 10,000
cases”**

Agenda for next meeting:

1) Brainstorming session on how to increase our membership; possibly with a mentoring program.

2) Updates on July conference.

3) Review of personal goals for upcoming year.

4) Short film.

Press Release: Cambridge Information Group Announces Agreement To Acquire ProQuest Information And Learning

(The following contains excerpts from the press release.)

Bethesda, Maryland (December 15, 2006) — Cambridge Information Group (CIG) announced today it has entered into an agreement to acquire ProQuest Information and Learning, a segment of ProQuest Company (NYSE: PQE), for approximately \$222 million.

Under the agreement, CIG will combine its Bethesda, Maryland-based CSA subsidiary with Ann Arbor, Mich.-based ProQuest Information and Learning to create a new, privately held independent company.

Both CSA and ProQuest offer libraries and their users access to high-quality electronic resources. CSA and ProQuest will serve a combined customer base of more than 25,000 library customers.

CSA's products include CSA Illumina, Ulrich's Serials Analysis System, and the recently launched CSA Illustrata, which permits searching and retrieval of charts, graphs, illustrations and their captions within articles and documents.

ProQuest is best known for its extensive collection of business, economics, general reference, genealogy, humanities, social sciences, scientific, technical and medical content. ProQuest's product lines include Chadwyck-Healey®, UMI® microform vault, ProQuest Digital Dissertations, Serials Solutions, and ProQuest Historical Newspapers™, an archive of 14 million pages dating as far back as 1764 which includes The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, The Christian Science Monitor, The Los Angeles Times, The Chicago Tribune, The Atlanta Constitution, The Boston Globe and The Hartford Courant.

Matt Dunie, currently president of CSA, will serve as president of the new company. Dunie commented, "The ProQuest Information and Learning and CSA products are complementary. We believe that both companies share many values — especially a focus on the needs of end users — and that the new company has a promising future."

David "Skip" Prichard, currently president of ProQuest Information and Learning, will be an active contributor to the transition process. Prichard said, "I believe the combination of CSA and ProQuest Information and Learning will be a successful venture and an important contributor to the library community. Both companies have a strong heritage, a deep sense of responsibility to the materials we present and an obligation of excellent service to the communities we serve."

Atsmi Uvsari My Bone & My Flesh

Is published quarterly by the Utah Jewish Genealogical Society. We reserve first electronic and print press rights.

All other rights are retained by the authors named or by the UJGS. We strive for accuracy, but cannot be responsible for unintentional errors. Views and opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent those of Atsmi Uvsari or the Utah Jewish Genealogical Society.

We welcome comments, submissions, and questions. Send them via email to our President, Robert Neu, at roneu1@yahoo.com or our Editor, Banai Lynn Feldstein, at banai@feldstein.info.