

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

c/o Pete Tannen, 289 States St., San Francisco CA 94114

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edited by Pete Tannen

November, 1981

OFFICERS

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|-----------------|----------------|--------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------------------|
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| Vice President: | Martha Wise | 564-9927 (San Francisco) | Treasurer: | Pat Futoran | 435-1713 (Tiburon) |

DECEMBER MEETING

TUESDAY, DEC 1, 1981 at 7:30PM at the CALIFORNIA FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN COMMUNITY ROOM at 1900 Noriega (at the corner of 26th Avenue) in San Francisco. Use the entrance to the left of the main door on Noriega and walk up the stairs. For further information call Carolyn Sherfy or Pete Tannen. Public transportation: 71 Haight-Noriega bus to 26th & Noriega.

Our December Program, GENEALOGICAL SOURCES IN THE BAY AREA, will be presented by our President, Carolyn Sherfy. This program should be of interest to all of our members, since there are several very good sources of genealogical information right here in the Bay Area, where you can find genealogical information ranging from 19th century Polish records to 20th century California records, just to name two examples. Carolyn's talk will be an overview of these local sources, including the California Genealogical Society, Magnus, Sutro, and Mormon Genealogical Libraries, the San Francisco and Oakland Public Libraries, and the National Archives Branch at San Bruno. Our handout for December, available to those who attend the meeting, will be a list of Genealogical Resources in the Bay Area.

NEW MEETING FEATURE FOR NEWCOMERS AND THOSE WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT GENEALOGY

In addition to our regular program, we will be trying out a new idea that was suggested by the N. Y. Jewish Genealogical Society. For those of you who may be new at genealogy or for anyone with specific questions or genealogical problems, several of us have agreed to arrive one half hour early, at 7PM, to informally answer your questions. So, don't stay away if you feel that you're too new at genealogy to benefit from our program, come early and get your questions answered.

FEBRUARY MEETING - NEW MEETING SCHEDULE

Our Society meets EVERY OTHER MONTH at California Federal Savings and Loan on Noriega in San Francisco. As of the February meeting, we will be changing our meeting date from the first Tuesday to the SECOND TUESDAY of every other month (Feb 9, Apr 13, Jun 8, etc.). This change is due to scheduling of the Community Room at California Federal Savings.

PAST MEETING

Our October meeting provided our members a chance to share interesting facets of their genealogical research with one another. Several people brought old family fotos and their genealogical charts with them, which were passed around the room. In addition we had an informal discussion of various aspects of genealogical research, including resources of the Mormon Library, how to obtain information from ships' passenger lists, origins of names, and how those present became interested in genealogy. A useful handout which can be used to translate typical Polish vital records found on Mormon microfilms was distributed to all those present. Newsletters and information which we have received from several other Jewish Genealogical groups were also passed around.

In addition, we talked about ideas for future programs, such as an entire meeting devoted to the use of the Mormon Library, another presentation on Yizkor Books, a workshop meeting, and a possible field trip to the Oakland Mormon Library. We welcome all ideas for program topics. Please bring your ideas to our next meeting, or give one of the officers a call. The officers are preparing a list of suggested program topics for future meetings, so we need your inputs.

We also are looking for volunteers for the positions of Program Chair and Recording Secretary, which are currently vacant. Any takers? Just let us know of your interest.

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A REMINDER ABOUT MEMBERSHIP, DUES, AND NEWSLETTER

This newsletter has been sent as a courtesy to all Northern California subscribers of "TOLEDOT - The Journal of Jewish Genealogy", to let them know of the existence of our San Francisco Bay Area Jewish Genealogical Society. (If there is a * following the zip code on your label, you have received this ONE COMPLEMENTARY COPY as a Toledot subscriber.) We would like to express our thanks to the Editors of Toledot for making these names available to us. Our meetings are open to all; you do not have to be a member to attend.

If you would like to be placed on our regular mailing list, please write to or call our Secretary, Pete Tannen. Anyone expressing an interest in receiving our newsletter will receive the next three bi-monthly issues; but after that, they will be retained on our mailing list only upon becoming a member of the Society and paying the \$10 annual dues (individual or couple). Pete Tannen maintains the membership and mailing list, so let him know of any additions, changes, or errors.

TRANSLATION OF NON-ENGLISH DOCUMENTS

The Washington, D.C Jewish Genealogical Group, Mishpacha, has come up with a good idea which we would like to try out here. They have contacted members of a Jewish Community sponsored retirees' apartment building who are willing to translate Polish, Russian, and Yiddish. Our Secretary, Pete Tannen has contacted the Activities Director of the San Francisco Hebrew Home for the Aged who is putting together a list of residents of the Home who would be willing to do some translation for us. In turn, we would be providing a service by our visits, since many of these elderly people may not see many outside visitors. If you would be interested in visiting a resident of the Home and talking with them in exchange for their help with a reasonable amount of translation, please let Pete know of your interest.

LECTURE ON YIDDISH MEMOIRS - RECOVERING A LOST LEGACY

On Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 P.M., Carole Malkin, author of the book, "The Journeys of David Toback", will speak on "Yidish Memoirs - Recovering a Lost Legacy". Ms. Malkin's book is based upon her grandfather's memoirs, which she discovered, translated, and recently published. This talk will be held at the Jewish Community Library, at 601 14th Avenue, San Francisco, near Balboa. Call the Library (751-6983) for further information. Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

SECOND ANNUAL SUMMER SEMINAR ON JEWISH GENEALOGY

At last summer's very successful seminar in New York, interest was expressed by many attendees in holding another meeting next summer. We are very pleased to see that the Jewish Genealogical Society of Washington will be sponsoring this conference on July 11-14, 1982, featuring visits to the National Archives, Library of Congress, and National Genealogical Society. If you think that you might want to go, let our President, Carolyn Sherfy know so that we might be able to arrange for group travel.

WORLDWIDE COMPUTERIZATION OF JEWISH GENEALOGY

We have just been informed that Rabbi Malcolm Stern, President of the (New York) Jewish Genealogical Society, in conjunction with the Bet Hatefutsoth Museum of the Diaspora, is involved in a new and exciting computerization project. Rabbi Stern is soliciting input from the other Jewish Genealogical Societies as well as from out of town members of his Society. Further information can be obtained from the Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc., 300 E. 71st St., New York, N.Y. 10021. Membership in a "Founders Club for World Genealogy" is available to the first 75 subscribers for \$1000 each, for which the Founder can list up to 2000 names on the new computerized system.