



JGSLI Programs – Sept. 2017 to June 2018

Program details are subject to change. Please watch www.jgsli.org for the latest information.

Date	Location	Speaker(s)	Topic
<p>Sunday, Sept. 24 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Mavens 1:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Rhoda Miller</p> 	<p><i>Did My Great-Grandmother Have a Family? A Documents and DNA Case Study</i></p> <p>Do you have a "floating" female ancestor that cannot be attached to a larger tree? "Brick walls" in Eastern European research often involve elusive female ancestors. This case study will demonstrate ways to break through those brick walls with problem-solving strategies utilizing records, oral history, photographs, mapping, and DNA.</p> <p>Rhoda Miller, Ed.D., CG® has been a Certified Genealogist since 1998, specializing in Jewish research and Holocaust studies. A past president and current board member of JGSLI, she led the publication of our award-winning book, <i>Jewish Community of Long Island</i>. Rhoda is a regular presenter at the annual IAJGS conference and to libraries and community groups and she recently taught several sessions on Eastern Europe at the Genealogical Research Institute of Pittsburgh (GRIP).</p>

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**Wednesday,
Oct. 18**
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Mid-Island Y-JCC
45 Manetto Hill Road
Plainview
www.miyjcc.org

Nolan Altman



***Cemetery Records and Their Importance
in Jewish Genealogy***

Headstone inscriptions provide one of the most important tools for Jewish genealogists -- patronymic names. Using a case study, the presentation will cover Jewish naming traditions and how they help link family members over generations. We'll also hear about the meaning of symbols and Hebrew inscriptions found on headstones and see examples of inscription trends, errors and oddities. Nolan will also discuss online resources to help find headstone information.

Nolan Altman, a CPA, is the president of NTA Consulting, a firm specializing in hedge fund services. A board member and past president of the JGSLI, he initiated and coordinates our Yearbook Project and our award-winning YouTube video project, and he edits our monthly, *JGSLI Online*. As JewishGen's VP for Data Acquisition, Nolan coordinates JewishGen's JOWBR (JewishGen's Online World-wide Burial Registry), Memorial Plaques, and Holocaust Databases. He is also a member of the board of the IAJGS.

***Grave matters, great refreshments!
Join us for wine and cheese
at this special evening meeting.***

Sunday, Oct. 22
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
(Mavens 1:30 p.m.)

Mid-Island Y-JCC
45 Manetto Hill Road
Plainview
www.miyjcc.org

Emily Garber



www.extrayad.blogspot.com

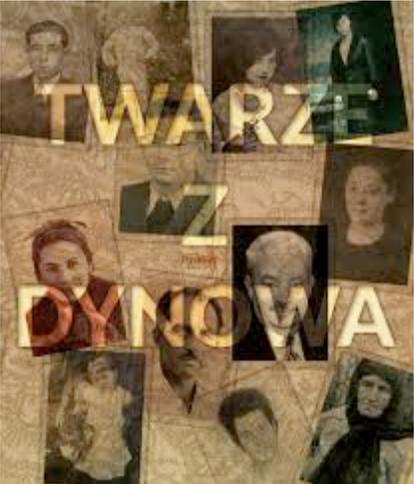
***Memory and Mystery:
Breaking Down Family Lore***

Does your family have stories that have defied genealogical documentation? What steps should be taken to understand them and determine the truth? This presentation explores exhaustively researching our stories and melding paper documentation with DNA evidence.

An archaeologist by training, **Emily Garber** has been researching her Jewish ancestry since 2007 and holds a certificate from Boston University's Genealogical Research program. Emily is a blogger, chair of the Phoenix Jewish Genealogy Group and owner of Extra Yad Genealogical Services.

<p>Sunday, Nov. 5 12:30 – 5:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Bonnie Birns, Chair</p> 	<p><i>Jewish Genealogy 101: Four Hours+ to Your Family Roots</i></p> <p>JGSLI's 27th Annual Family History Workshop</p> <p>... a review of the fundamentals of Jewish genealogy. Topics include interviewing relatives; identifying ancestral towns; Holocaust research; using censuses, city directories, ship's manifests, naturalizations, vital records, and other U.S. sources; European records; and internet resources. Early-bird rate (by Oct. 29): \$45. After Oct. 29 and at the door: \$55. Additional family member: \$15. Fee includes a workbook (one per family, on a flash drive), a copy of Avotaynu's <i>Getting Started in Jewish Genealogy</i>, a light lunch, and 2018 membership dues. Send checks to JGSLI, Attn. Bonnie Birns, 28 Madison Ave., Jericho NY 11753. Questions? Contact Bonnie (workshop@jgsli.org, 516.433.0130).</p>
<p>Sunday, Nov. 19 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Mavens 1:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Susan Rubenstein DeMasi</p> 	<p><i>Henry Alsberg: Unsung Jewish Hero</i></p> <p>The years following World War I brought unbearable suffering to Eastern European Jews. Henry Alsberg, a foreign correspondent and aid worker, wrote about the terrors he witnessed and risked his life to assist his co-religionists. As a volunteer for the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, he helped set up orphanages, farming cooperatives, and schools, and he arranged for the safe emigration of thousands of Jews to the Americas. Later, he brought his prized adaptation of the Yiddish classic, <i>The Dybbuk</i>, to the English-speaking stage and directed the New Deal Federal Writers' Project.</p> <p>Sue DeMasi, a librarian and writer, is the author of <i>Henry Alsberg: The Driving Force of the New Deal Federal Writers' Project</i> -- the first biography of this long forgotten hero.</p>

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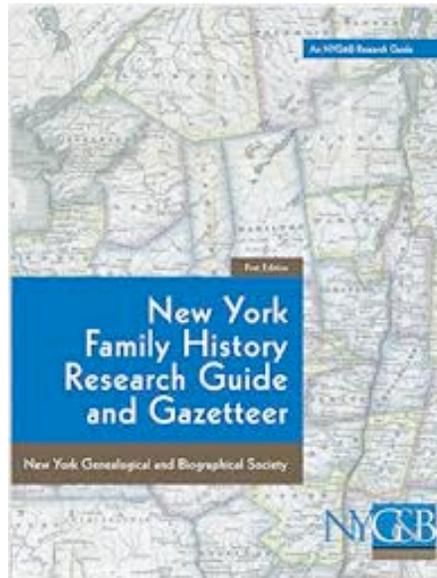
<p>Sunday, Dec. 10 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Mavens 1:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Nina Talbot</p>  <p>www.ninatalbot.com/FacesDynow.php</p>	<p><i>Faces of Dynow: Portraits and Stories from an Ancestral Town in Galicia</i></p> <p>Artist Nina Talbot's genealogical research led to the creation of a painting series, <i>Faces of Dynow</i>, depicting the lives of people from that Polish town from the 1920s through the present day. A book, also titled <i>Faces of Dynow</i>, was published in conjunction with the exhibit, which has been shown in Krakow, Zamosc, and Dynow, Poland. In addition to doing online research, Nina visited archives in Israel, Poland, and New York and interviewed descendants of her Neger and Spinrad families in the U.S. and abroad. She will discuss both her research and her art work in a talk illustrated with images, archival records, photographs, and audio clips of some of the interviews she conducted.</p>
<p>Sunday, Jan. 28 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Mavens 1:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Ira Poliakoff</p> 	<p><i>Synagogues of Long Island</i></p> <p>Ira Poliakoff grew up in Rockville Centre, the son of parents who joined the wave of returning servicemen who settled in Nassau and Suffolk Counties after World War II. A retired businessman, he has embarked on a second career: researching the history of synagogues. His book, <i>Synagogues of Long Island</i>, to be published in December, looks at the history of over 250 congregations that exist or have existed on Long Island – from the oldest shuls in Nassau and Suffolk, to those that came to be during the post-WWII “building boom.” Ira will discuss many of these synagogues and also the vast demographic changes that have led to synagogue mergers and closings in the last 20 years.</p>

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Sunday, Feb. 25
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
(Mavens 1:30 p.m.)

Mid-Island Y-JCC
45 Manetto Hill Road
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www.miyjcc.org

Susan R. Miller



nygbs.org

***New York's Genealogy "Textbook":
The New York Family History
Research Guide and Gazetteer***

Since its introduction in 2014, the *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* has been the *de facto* textbook for genealogists with New York families. This presentation will explain the best ways to access the vast information in the 856-page tome, winner of the 2016 NGS Award for Excellence: Genealogical Methods and Sources.

Sue Miller is the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Director of Programs and editor of the NYG&B's magazine, the *New York Researcher*. She was a managing editor of the *New York Family History Research Guide and Gazetteer* and is the co-organizer for the New York State Family History Conference. She has researched her New England and New York families for more than 20 years.

Sunday, March 25
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
(Mavens 1:30 p.m.)

Mid-Island Y-JCC
45 Manetto Hill Road
Plainview
www.miyjcc.org

Dr. Andrew Zalewski



thelzopres.com

***Galician Globetrotters,
Barber Surgeons and Persistent Women***

From the 16th century, Galician Jews ventured to Italy to receive university medical educations. After university admissions were opened to Jews in the Habsburg realm, they attended schools in Lemberg (Lwow), Kraków, Vienna and Pest, developing literary talents, professional skills, and new world views. This talk will challenge stereotypes, probe internal debates in the Jewish community, and reveal cultural trailblazers and rebels. It will also demonstrate the value to genealogists of academic records.

A retired cardiologist, **Andrew Zalewski** is a member of the board of Geshen Galicia and edits its journal, *The Galitzianer*. He is the author of two books -- *Galician Trails: The Story of One Family* and *Galician Portraits: In Search of Jewish Roots*.

<p>Sunday, April 29 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (Mavens 1:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Daniel Horowitz</p>  <p>myheritage.com</p>	<p><i>Finding Relatives with MyHeritage DNA Matching</i></p> <p>Daniel Horowitz, Chief Genealogist of MyHeritage, has developed a new service that enables those who have been tested by different DNA companies to use MyHeritage's matching capabilities. Daniel will demonstrate how MyHeritage will display possible relationships based on the quantity and characteristics of shared DNA. He will also show how you can view a match's family tree.</p> <p>Trained as a computer engineer and an educator, Daniel taught for many years in his native Caracas. In 2005, he moved to Israel, where he has been active in the Israel Genealogy Research Association (IGRA) and the Horowitz Families Association. A member of the board of the IAJGS, he is a frequent speaker at its conferences.</p>
<p>Thursday, May 24 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. (Mavens 6:30 p.m.)</p>	<p>Mid-Island Y-JCC 45 Manetto Hill Road Plainview www.miyjcc.org</p>	<p>Ron Arons</p>  <p>www.ronarons.com</p>	<p><i>Sex, Lies, and Genealogical Tape</i></p> <p>For 20 years, Ron Arons has explored the colorful life of the great-grandfather he calls "a criminal, a chameleon, and a comedian." He will share his latest finds about this serial bigamist who served time in Sing Sing, double dipped on Social Security, and repeatedly lied on documents. Ron will also describe the wide range of records he used in his research and how he dealt with large discrepancies between them. Ron's unusual approach to genealogical research -- focusing on one individual -- brought his great-grandfather to life and shed light on events that happened years after his death.</p> <p>Ron Arons is an engineer and former marketing professional who now works full time as a genealogist. His numerous presentations in the United States and abroad include 14 talks at IAJGS conferences. He is also the author of <i>The Jews of Sing Sing</i>, <i>Mind Maps for Genealogy</i>, and <i>WANTED!: U.S. Criminal Records Sources & Research Methodology</i>.</p>

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Sunday, June 24
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
(Mavens 1:30 p.m.)

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**Judi Langer-Surinamer
Caplan**



www.uproots-genealogy-services.com/

My Hashava Experience

In the early 1900s many Jews helped build Palestine by opening bank accounts or buying stock in the Jewish Colonial Trust -- including Jews in Europe who later died in the Holocaust. Since 2006, Hashava has worked to find the rightful heirs to these assets. **Judi Caplan** will describe her experience documenting for Hashava the family of her "double relative" -- great-aunt and first cousin Feiga Gitelson Surinamer nee Hirschorn, Asset A1951.

A long-time member of the JGSLI, Judi has been doing genealogical research professionally since 1992. Her articles have appeared in *Avotaynu* and the *Jewish Star*, and she has spoken at several international conferences. She has also created two searchable JewishGen databases.