“Family Matters”

Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center
at the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute
Warsaw, Poland

Mid-Year Report
January – July 2011

Yale J. Reisner, Director
Anna Przybyszewska Drozd, Associate Director
In this newsletter, we offer our friends, supporters and potential supporters some highlights of our work over the first six months of 2011. Our report includes dramatic tales of life-changing experiences, of discoveries, and of reunions. We show, indirectly, how we work, and we set forth how we hope to work in the future. We try to convey some sense of whom we are assisting and of the nature of the help we provide to those who approach us.

NEW GROWTH, NEW GRANTS

The Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center proudly announces receipt of two vital start-up grants from the Kronhill Pletka Foundation and the Koret Foundation toward the creation and launch of an interactive website. The new grants, of $25,000 apiece, will increase accessibility to the historical archives of the Jewish people in Eastern Europe.

Those archival collections are housed in significant proportion in the same institution that houses the JG&FHC, namely, the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute (JHI). The JHI is the world’s largest repository of Polish Jewish archival, bibliographic and other materials. Making its holdings readily available to the public around the world for the first time in the Institute’s 73-year history perfectly fits the profile and priorities of the Jewish Genealogy Center and its new philanthropic partner, the Kronhill Pletka Foundation.

With an interactive website, the JG&FHC will now be able to provide for direct, real-time consultations, workshops and presentations, and will publicize relevant news and announce new archival discoveries. The website’s “bulletin board” will serve as a platform to receive inquiries and to respond publicly to queries of broad general interest, to provide guides on how to do genealogical research, and to post boilerplate translations of the most frequently encountered vital records forms and texts.

The website will offer educational materials, such as a “Genealogy Tool Kit” and teacher’s guides for use in the classroom. The site will offer a home for what the Center has dubbed “luftmensch@in”® (virtual landsmanshaftin), chat groups of researchers sharing an interest in a particular ancestral town or village.

Links will be included to websites of partner organizations, such as those of active Jewish communities in Poland today; the Taube Center for the Renewal of Jewish Life in
Poland, which organizes guides and trips to ancestral towns; the Foundation for the Preservation of Jewish Heritage in Poland, which preserves Jewish heritage sites throughout Poland and conducts educational programs for Polish middle-school and high-school students; the JHI’s “lost communities” site, the “Virtual Shtetl” site of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews and the Polish State Archives, as well as to those of foreign partners, such as Yad Vashem, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Museum of Jewish Heritage, the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, France’s Mémorial de la Shoah, Jewish museums and archives and other kindred institutions.

Implicit in interactivity is interchange and exchange. The Center’s website will not only provide guided research and information to its clients worldwide, but will also gather family information, photos and documentation from our clients, enriching our picture of the life of Polish Jewry and making more information available to future inquirers.

The Interactive Website Project’s intended results mirror those of the Center itself: to educate people about the legacy of Polish Jewry; to encourage – by teaching people about the microcosm of their own family history – an interest in the macrocosm of Jewish history and of Polish history which were, in fact, part and parcel of the same history; to strengthen or to inspire – through reconstructing family sagas – a sense of belonging, Jewish identity and Jewish peoplehood; to overcome all-too-common Polish-Jewish prejudices; to reunite broken families; to help child survivors uncover and understand their family origins; to facilitate the sharing of information; to enhance the collections of the Institute, so that more information will be available in the future; and to enable friends and supporters to more readily make donations to the Center and the Institute.

The populations served by this project will be Jews of Polish descent, Poles of Jewish descent and anyone with an interest in Polish Jewry’s history and heritage, be they political, religious or secular; Hassidic or Misnagdish; Zionist or non-Zionist; affiliated or unaffiliated; Yiddishist or Hebraist — for all of those narratives are reflected in, and often stem from, the Polish Jewish experience.

Why this project is important now:

➢ This is a project long overdue. The treasures of JHI have been a “secret” for too long and it is in the interest of the Institute and of the public to make the JHI collections widely available. “If it’s not on the Internet, it doesn’t exist.”

➢ The technical tools to do so are now available and the Institute has achieved a level of digitalization that makes this not only desirable, but finally possible;

➢ More archives are open in Eastern Europe than ever before. Now is the time to explore them and make their holdings known;

➢ The demand for genealogical information is not subsiding and might, in fact, be growing. The volume of inquiries reaching us is enormous and the website would provide one more means of effectively serving the public;

➢ The website will provide a channel for contributions of both documentation and funds. Both can be lost if not acquired in a timely fashion;

“THE CENTER’S WEBSITE WILL NOT ONLY PROVIDE GUIDED RESEARCH AND INFORMATION TO ITS CLIENTS WORLDWIDE, BUT WILL ALSO GATHER FAMILY INFORMATION, PHOTOS AND DOCUMENTATION FROM OUR CLIENTS.”
Other sources of funding: Our Center enjoys the generous support — *sine qua non* — of the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture, individual donors and other family foundations. For full list, see page 12.

**CENTER STATISTICS: JANUARY-JUNE 2011**

Over the first six months of 2011, we hosted a total of 564 clients in our office. They came from some twenty-four countries on five continents:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to these face-to-face encounters, we responded to over 1,000 emails, a handful of postal letters and countless telephone calls, each inquiry requiring substantial original research. Since we opened our new office space in 2010, we have already exceeded our capacity and are expanding again.

---

**Stories from Our Center:**

**The Search for Roots**

**LOST AND FOUND**

Ania had lost everything. Her parents saved her by giving her at the last minute to a couple they had known in entirely different times before the war. They weren’t friends. They were only close acquaintances, but soon she lost them, too. In the midst of the war, she was compelled to wander further and further from Warsaw, her family’s home, where she had spent the first happy years of her life.

She came to live in a place where no one knew her, where no one knew that she was a Jew.

Ania had to change her identity during the war. Yet she always remembered her real name as well as the name of her mother’s family. She remembered the address at which they lived, the view from her window, and that she was always the favored one, both families’ youngest.

Wartime was terrible. The family she lived with didn’t treat her well at all. As soon as she was able, Ania left them and spent the rest of her youth in a children’s home until, as soon as she was old enough, she set out on her own.

She’s proud of her small family. She’s proud of her husband, who has accompanied her throughout the years, the only one who is privy to her secrets. No one else knew the truth, not even her children or grandchildren. She didn’t want to talk about all she had lost. And she didn’t want to discuss her family background. Yet she always remembered every last detail about her family.

That’s why she came to us one day and shared her story. After all these years, she was suddenly seized by a fear that she might forget what her parents looked like and she desperately wanted to have a photograph of them. And she still lived in the hope that perhaps — just perhaps — they had survived after all, but hadn’t been able to find her. After all, no one knew where she’d gone once she had had to leave their acquaintances’ home back in Warsaw.

She would come back to us from time to time, completely unaffected by the fact that her greatest dream — finding a photo of her parents — was a nearly impossible goal. Especially as there had never been any trace of her family. The only clues that remained were the names of her mother and father.

But then the miracle happened. Thanks to her husband, her faithful partner who, throughout all of her searches, sat by quietly, but listened. It was he who one day said in our office that she was mistaken. He insisted that she had remembered her mother’s name differently a long time ago. Ania reacted strongly: she wore the pants in the family and it was her story she was telling.

But he was right. And suddenly we could find in the database of Yad Vashem, the Holocaust memorial in Jerusalem, a page of testimony and on it a photograph of a young couple. It was a photo of Ania’s parents and there, on her mother’s knee, was little Chana — in Polish, Ania.
And there were other members of the family, too, from that small town outside of Warsaw: her father’s brothers and his sisters. All had perished. But Ania’s grandfather had gone off to Palestine before the war and there he had started a second family after his first wife’s death. And it was her grandfather’s son who decided, long after the war, to commemorate in the Yad Vashem database all his relatives who had perished. He had attached his father’s family photos.

Now Ania is having a hard time keeping up with her correspondence. Letters arrive every day. She’s already managed to visit members of her family in Israel and the States. She’s been invited by relatives to Argentina and to France. Everywhere she goes, she’s greeted by delegations, dozens of people, all of whom want to meet her, to know her, to see her, to hear her. She’s even found a daughter of her aunt in Paris, the one she remembered who produced ladies’ handbags.

Once, she had been the youngest in the family and very special; now, she’s the eldest of the cousins and, she asserts with pride, special once again.

When she traveled to Israel, she was deeply concerned by one thing: “I’m afraid to tell them I’m baptized. I don’t know how they’ll react. But I won’t hide it either. I chose this and that’s just how it is.” They reacted well. No one was the least bit bothered.

There’s one thing, though, that Ania cannot forgive. Especially coming as it did from a member of her own family. One of the cousins in Argentina asked why she hadn’t looked for them after the war. “I should have been looking?! I was a child! And then I had to put a life together for myself. I didn’t even know where they were. Why didn’t they look for me?”

THE EAST IS “READ”

Letters we receive from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and elsewhere beyond Poland’s eastern border always sound different from those we get from America, Australia or even Poland. There’s something in eastern culture that we refer to in Poland as “the Russian soul,” which, even in the most prosaic of correspondence, always carries traces of poetry. These letters contain not just the sound of weeping, but of mournful, bitter tears combined with a sense of hope and trust, not just of melancholy, but of genuine grief and sorrow. Theirs is a world of openly expressed feelings in which gratitude is always undying.

We don’t get many of these letters. Ours is another world: suspicious, aware that the western world functions according to other sets of rules. So it’s only recently that those in the east have begun to seek out their roots in Poland. Those who write today are descendants of those who didn’t return to Poland, who started new families wherever it was that the Soviet authorities had sent them. They started new lives there. For years under Communism, contact with Poland was impossible. Besides, there was really no time: work, stud-
ies, children. Simply, everyday life took precedence.

David was from the town of Jedwabne. In 2004, he contacted a TV program that was helping people search for lost loved ones. He made a plea for information, but nothing happened, no one responded, no one found anything for him at all.

He writes of himself that, in 1940, he was sent to study at technical school in Grodno. When the German-Soviet war broke out, the school was evacuated beyond the Ural Mountains to Chelyabinsk. When he finished his studies there, he went to work. When he tried to find out what had become of his family, someone told him about the massacre in Jedwabne and said he shouldn’t go back, there was no one there left to find. But David knew that his mother’s family had left for Argentina before the war. He couldn’t remember his mother’s maiden name any longer, but he was determined to find them.

David died in 2008 and never lived to see his family reunited.

Word of his search reached us through various intermediaries. David’s letter was posted by his grandson on the Russian web portal “Odnoklassniki” [Classmates] which brings together former school colleagues through the Internet. A woman saw the posting and she happened to know a Pole who was both a genealogist and fluent in Russian. So she passed on the inquiry to him about the massacre in Jedwabne and said he shouldn’t go back, there was no one there left to find. But David knew that his mother’s family had left for Argentina before the war. He couldn’t remember his mother’s maiden name any longer, but he was determined to find them.

David’s family, it turns out, is well-known. In a matter of seconds, you can find them by entering their surname and Jedwabne into a search engine. They, his brothers and a sister-in-law, were among Jedwabne’s few survivors, having been saved by rescuer Antonina Wyrzykowski. And, when the war was over, they left to Argentina to join their mother’s family there.

Moments later, we found a current address and phone number for Dov (known in Poland as Berek), the youngest of the brothers. The elder brother, Moshe, had died some years ago, as had his wife. David’s son is named Boris, as he later told us, a name he received in memory (as they thought at the time) of his brother Berek.

And, once again, our office is filled with a cacophony of languages. Boris speaks only Russian and Ukrainian. Dov speaks only Spanish. We speak Polish, English, German, Hebrew. But, as it turns out, Dov actually does speak Polish, but he’s too excited and we can’t quite get through to him. He doesn’t believe what he’s hearing: “What? David’s alive? He survived? David? Why didn’t he come back to Poland? Why didn’t he come back?”

With the aid of some helpful translators, we manage to send off a letter to Argentina from Boris, translated into Spanish, in which he explains everything and encloses a photo of David. So that the family in Argentina will feel certain they’re really dealing with David’s family. And we’re a little uncertain ourselves if we should have believed the story we’d been told. Boris has a different surname and his ID card lists another father entirely. Boris explains that David lost his papers during the war and borrowed others from a friend. He altered a few of the details and took on a new identity. That sort of thing was certainly possible in the USSR. Luckily, Boris sent photos in his letter to Dov as

Thank you so much for the time you spent with us in your office regarding our families, our ancestry and any possible follow-up. I can see that your task is enormous and you give so much care and thought to each case and story.

-- Sandra W.
Los Angeles, CA
proof. Photos of the earliest members of the family and photos of the latest as well, including his family, his wife, his children and his grandchildren. And everything connects. You can’t fake decades of family photos. They finally make direct contact — and we breathe a deep sigh of relief. Boris isn’t worried about any language barrier: that’s what they made Google Translate for! They’ve also spoken by phone with the help of a Russian-speaking fellow in Argentina. Boris and family are planning to visit their uncle.

It’s just a shame that David didn’t live to see it all.

CHAIN REACTIONS

Sometimes things take on a momentum of their own: one piece of information leads to another that leads to another and so on.

Over the last few months, we have been privileged to take part in some remarkable discoveries, both involving Jewish women living in Warsaw. In one case, a contact from the United States prompted us to call an acquaintance in Warsaw who had the same name and town of origin. She acknowledged that our inquirer sounded like she could be related. The American knew of family in Israel and that family, in turn, knew of cousins in Argentina. The result? A few months later, we were visited by a very excited, multinational group of genuine cousins, most of whom were meeting for the first time. Together, they went to visit their ancestral hometown of Radom.

Similarly, a young woman who was working as an intern for the Taube Foundation (with which we share an office) decided to take advantage of our proximity and to ask about her own family. By the time we were done researching her unusual family name, we had found a network of cousins in Israel and the United States, in Argentina and in Mexico.

As one client told us recently, “it’s like a mystical experience watching you guys work.” Sometimes it feels like that to us, too.

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT

While we are often asked to undertake significant research, we find that often the most dramatic results come from guiding someone just a bit in a better direction. For example:

An Israeli professor came to us insisting that his family came from Kharkov. We explained that we were very sorry, but our Center specializes in Poland and Kharkov is in eastern Ukraine, so we wouldn’t be able to help him. But his family was from Poland, he insisted. They came from Kharkov. Krakow, perhaps? No, he knew it wasn’t Krakow. So we did some investigating of where his surname was known to have appeared. All indicators pointed to Hrubieszow, Poland. Might it be Hrubieszow? “Hrubieszow!” he shouted. “Of course, it was Hrubieszow!” And we were subsequently able to assist him, despite his initial — mistaken — certainty.

A client who had learned through us that his family was indeed Jewish proceeded to undertake extensive — and quite impressive — amounts of research, even teaching himself Hebrew so that he could read family tombstones. He returned to us recently proudly displaying an elaborate PowerPoint presentation about his family history. When we saw the names he had added to his tree, we were able to introduce him to another client of ours, also in Warsaw, who turns out to be a distant cousin. To-
gether now, the two have made some great strides in their research.

An American cantor is researching the history of the European cantorate. When visiting us, he bemoaned the shortage of source material on cantors. When we informed him of a new database of the 19th- and 20th-century Hebrew press and showed him what a search for the word “hazzan” (cantor) could produce, he was delighted. This resource has opened up some broad new vistas for him.

**MAKING THEIR MARK**

We are frequently asked for assistance on linguistic matters involving Hebrew or Yiddish names or terminology, as well as to review texts in Polish and English with technical Jewish content, just to be sure that there are no glaring errors.

Our colleagues at the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw had two requests: Could we translate a tombstone recently found in the town of Blazow? We translated it and that translation now appears on the Museum’s Virtual Shtetl website. The other request was to translate some mini-tombstones. These tiny facsimiles of tombstones, giving names and dates of death, were used in Poland as reminders of a yahrzeit, the anniversary of a loved one’s death.

We assisted the town of Zarki in devising an English text for their local Holocaust monument and we helped the Chief Rabbi’s Office in composing appropriate texts to mark the sites of three recently identified mass grave sites.

**FUNNY, YOU DON’T LOOK JEWISH**

For a variety of reasons, people are asked from time to time to document their Jewish background. And people are often at a loss as to how to do that.

A Jew from outside of Warsaw wanted to join the Jewish Socio-Cultural Association. The Warsaw-based staff of the Association didn’t know him and asked for proof that he was indeed Jewish. He produced a membership card from his hometown Jewish community. The Association clerk rejected it as insufficient evidence and instructed him to come to us for confirmation of his status. Based on material in the Jewish Historical Institute Archives combined with government-issued documentation, we were able to certify the gentleman’s Jewish background in short order.

We regularly provide certification of Jewish lineage to those who wish to make aliyah under the Law of Return, as well as to those who wish to take part in Jewish educational activities, such as the Birthright Israel program, Masa, yeshiva programs or Jewish summer camps. Our certifications are deemed reliable by the Jewish Agency, the Office of the Prime Minister of Israel and organizers of various programs in Poland and abroad.

The Orthodox rabbinate of Amsterdam contacted us to inquire if we could confirm that a woman who wished to marry in their community was, in fact, Jewish. In this case, unfortunately, we did not have any information in our holdings that could prove her case one way or the other. But we do receive similar queries from rabbis and rabbis the world over and our expertise is broadly recognized.

**HEIRS APPARENT**

Increasingly, we find ourselves being approached by individuals, law firms and real-estate development firms in-
interested in clearing title to properties still officially registered to pre-war owners. Given the disproportionate percentage of property owned by Jews prior to World War II, many of the heirs to such properties are Jews and we are asked to locate their heirs. Sometimes we can; sometimes we can’t. But sometimes we’re a step ahead of the game.

A couple of times a week, the Polish daily press carries legal notices. Some of them are notices from the regional court stating that a property is to be taken over by the city or sold by de facto residents. Before that can happen, the court is obliged to offer the heirs a chance to present themselves and defend their property rights. Of course, the vast majority of Jewish heirs either perished or left the country and they are not reading the Polish daily papers. Which is why we do. And we make note of each announcement in our database. The heirs might present themselves in time to make a claim. Even if not, it’s the nature of an inheritance case to compile genealogical information, so even a belated inquirer might benefit from knowing that a file on his or her family exists in a given courthouse.

Over the years, we have accumulated a great deal of information and we are beginning to find that names in these legal notices are already known to us. Over the last few months, we have read such notices and known just whom to call as the heirs were already longstanding clients of ours. In addition, using some public — though somewhat obscure — databases, we have been able to inform a number of people of cash, bonds and real estate held in Israel by their Holocaust-victim relatives, opening the way for them to file their claims.

One unusual side-effect of all this? A 78-year-old Polish man learned that he was Jewish only when he was contacted by a French probate court in an inheritance case. Now he has decided to join the Polish Children of the Holocaust Association.

---

**BRANCHING OUT**

As we hope has become clear by now, the Center’s work is at times dramatic and it is always fascinating and challenging. From time to time, we get to share our work and the issues we face with broader audiences.

During this reporting period, we had occasion to address a number of visiting groups, among them:

- A delegation from the Osher Marin JCC of the Bay Area in California;
- A large group of children of Holocaust survivors from Israel;
- A group of students from the Hillel Foundations of Stanford and Moscow Universities led by the NCSJ;
- American students from the CET Central European Studies program in Prague;
- Shalhevet, a group of high school students from San Francisco; and
- A visiting delegation of Orthodox travel agents from the US and Israel, scoping out the terrain before bringing tourist groups to Poland.

Center staff also had occasion to go further afield, conducting a workshop on genealogy at the Limmud Baltics conference in Vilnius, attended by participants from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

The Next Chapter Project, a special educational activity of the Taube Foundation and the Jewish Family and Children’s Services of San Francisco, once again involved our Center and others in working with high-school students and Holocaust survivors to document the lives of the

---

You are wonderful — absolutely fantastic! Of course, I will be making a donation to the Taube Foundation.

About Julius’ family in Pobiedro, I am simply amazed at what you have found. Since getting your email, my newly-found cousins in the USA have already located Minnie and Herman’s addresses up to 1930 in Camden, New Jersey. Herman had got married and had 12 children. I have all their names. They are now trying to find their descendants’ whereabouts. I am absolutely dumbfounded and excited. I just had no idea that there was all this family.

-- Leopold W., Edgware, England, UK
survivors both before and during the Holocaust. Working directly with the students via a Skype video connection, we were able to blend information from their interviews and from our research into an original volume of biographical sketches.

We also paid a highly-informative working visit to the Warsaw University Archives and obtained some exciting new information about Jewish holdings of Warsaw’s Modern History Archives that had never been accessible before.

Meet the Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center Staff

Since 1994, Ania Przybyszewska Drozd and Yale Reisner have been assisting individuals and families in uncovering unknown aspects of their family history and in locating long-lost family members — in some cases, even members of their immediate family. In addition to receiving guests and responding to written queries from nearly every corner of the globe, they have lectured on genealogy-related topics at conferences, given workshops at Jewish cultural festivals and addressed audiences in synagogues and Jewish institutions across the U.S. and Canada, in both Eastern and Western Europe and in Israel. They serve as consultants to a range of institutions in Poland (e.g., courts, municipalities, press outlets and even the police), as well as assisting rabbinates in several countries, the Jewish Agency and the Israeli Prime Minister’s Office in assessing the Jewish background of Polish citizens.

The JG&FHC team have between them decades of experience, an excellent command of several languages and familiarity with many aspects of Polish Jewish history, culture and customs. They are at your service.

BROADCASTING OUR WORK

The issue of Polish Jews rediscovering their Jewish identity has garnered a certain amount of media attention. Many of those who learn of their Jewish background come to our Center to learn more about their family heritage. It is not surprising then that members of the media have approached us for information as well.

In recent months, Center staff have been interviewed by German print and broadcast media. An article appeared in Berlin’s Tagesspiegel and reports were aired on NDR and two other German radio outlets. TV Polonia, Polish television’s worldwide service, broadcast an interview with Center staff in April and Adam Zucker, an American filmmaker preparing a documentary on young Polish Jews, also recorded material for his upcoming film in our Center.

Our Center played an extensive — if off-camera — role in an episode of NBC Television’s celebrity genealogy program “Who Do You Think You Are?” Our staff prepared a considerable amount of material about the several generations of Polish rabbis who were the forebears of Oscar-winning actress Gwyneth Paltrow.
“The crown of the elders is their descendants
and the glory of the children their ancestors”
Proverbs 17:6

The Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center (JG&FHC)
is grateful for your financial support.

Your contribution enables the researchers at the Genealogy Center to assist you and your family along with hundreds of clients from Poland and around the world in learning more about their family histories and ancestral homes in Poland.

The Genealogy Center, a department of the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, provides consultations, individualized research and referrals. The Center is supported by the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture, grants from private and family foundations, and individual contributions. Contributions make it possible for the Genealogy Center to deliver its services in timely and efficient manner, as we meet the increasing demand for Jewish genealogical research from individuals, families and researchers worldwide.

Contributions may be made to the Center by check or wire transfer.

Checks for the JG&FHC should be made payable to:
Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture
Memo line: Genealogy, Warsaw

Mail to:
Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture
121 Steuart Street
San Francisco, CA 94105
ATTN: Shana Penn, Executive Director

For information on wire transfers, email: familyheritage@jhi.pl

Thank You.
The Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center wishes to thank its donors for their generous support over the last three years and moving forward:

FOUNDING GIFT
Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture

GIFTS OF $100,000+
Friend Family Foundation
Jewish Community Endowment Fund of San Francisco
Morris W. Offit Family
Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture

GIFTS OF $25,000+
Koret Foundation
Kronhill Pletka Foundation
Libitzky Family Foundation
Sigmund Rolat
Anonymou s Donor, Jewish Family and Children’s Services of San Francisco

GIFTS UNDER $25,000
Mrs. C.S. Blackman
Joseph Bratspis
Eileen P. Clarke
Harvey J. and Jane K. Cohen
Jacob Eilon
Corinne Evens
Dr. and Mrs. Ben-Ami Gradwohl
Naomi Granvold
Family of Yoel Halberstam
Shelley and John Hébert
Ittai Hershman
Larry Hochberg
Bracha Horowitz
The Javne Fund
Koret Foundation
Harvey Krueger
Mr. and Mrs. Philip L. Lapin
Evelyn and Leonard Lauder
Lucille and Henry Libicki
Stephen D. Nechtow
Jay and Marla Osborne
Michael Ronn
Marvin P. Schildkraut
Allison and Alan Schorr
Jeffrey Smith and Marc Smith
Shed Media US
Thomas Steinberg
Michael H. Traison Fund for Poland

For more information
Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center
Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute
ul. Tlomackie 3/5, 00-090 Warsaw, Poland
familyheritage@jhii.pl
(+48-22) 828-5962

This report co-produced by the Jewish Genealogy & Family Heritage Center at the Emanuel Ringelblum Jewish Historical Institute, ul. Tlomackie 3/5, 00-090 Warsaw, Poland, and the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life & Culture, 121 Steuart Street, San Francisco, CA 94105 info@taubephilanthropies.org www.taubephilanthropies.org