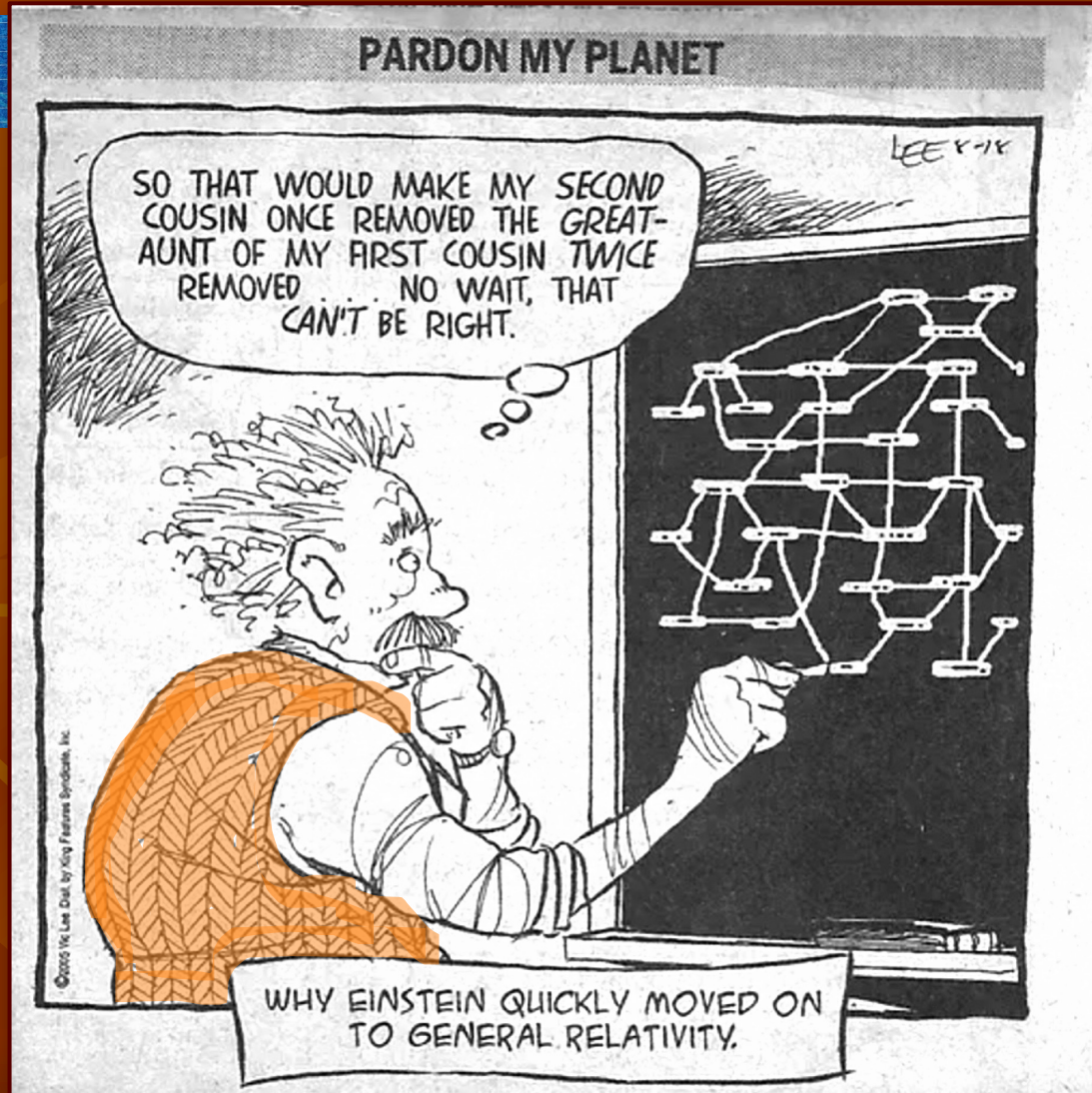


Verein Presents a Series: **Jews in Science**

Jewish Genealogy 101: The Fundamentals



**Monroe
Ginsburg**



**Gary
Kodner**

Jewish Genealogy 101

Gary Kodner & Monroe Ginsburg

An introduction to researching and documenting your family history and doing it right.



Kodner clan c. 1890

Jewish Genealogy

- Jews have been tracking their ancestors for generations, and the Torah is loaded with genealogy
- We honor our ancestors - yahrtzeits
- Where we came from influences are identity, our customs, religious beliefs, and future generations
- **It's fun to search and discover**

Getting Started

- Start with yourself / what you know
- Add your immediate family/ancestors
- Include those who are living
- Create a family tree and build on it
- Set up organized files/folders
(digital and/or old school) best to do both
- Interviews and research (oldest first)

Genealogy should be more than names and dates

- Stories, letters, photos, family heirlooms, occupations/careers, places, events
- Not just a collection of old information, also an ongoing quest for new information
- **MOST IMPORTANT:** It's about getting it right, and recording it so it can be shared **accurately** to current and future generations

What you will need:

- **Storage:** Computer, folders, boxes
- Camera, recorder, computer
(smart phone can do all the above)
- Access to libraries, internet, research institutions, cemeteries
- Pedigree charts, family group sheets to collect and record/access information
(software will help keep you organized)

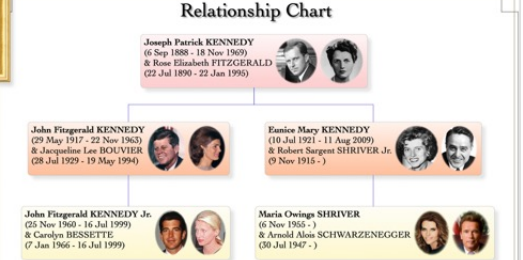
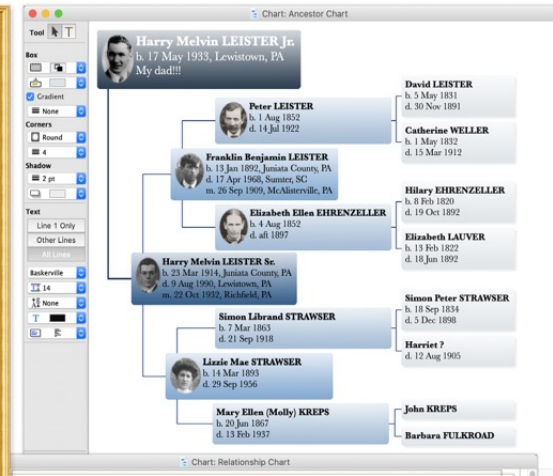
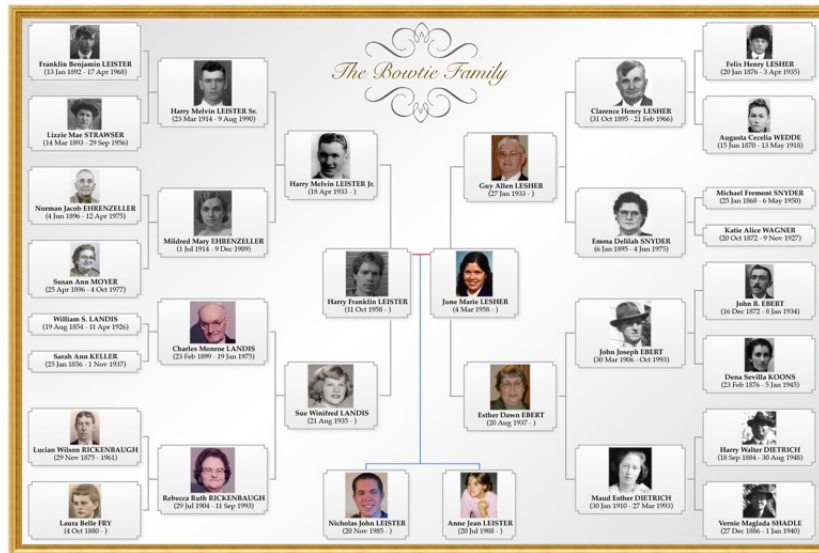
Genealogy Software (gedcom)

- **Reunion:** (for MAC users) leisterpro.com
- **Family Tree Builder:** best free software
- **RootsMagic:** popular with genealogists
- **Legacy:** wider range of reporting features
- **Family Historian:** good option for beginners
- **Family Tree Maker:** discontinued
- **Online Tree Builders:** Ancestry and others

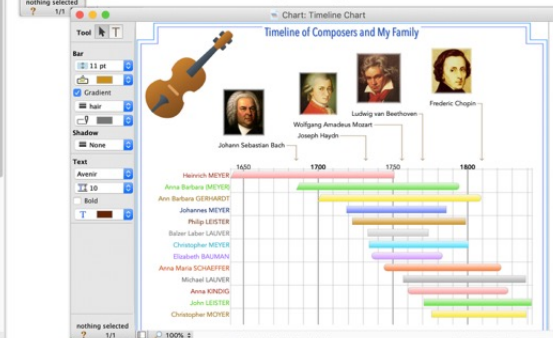
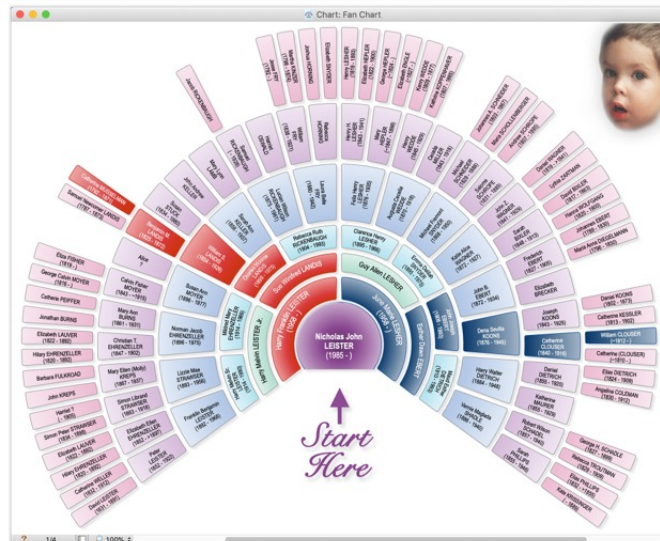
Genealogy Software – Mobile Devices



Reports / Charts / Family Trees



This chart shows only the relationship between JFK Jr and Arnold.



Useful Search Tools

Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex

- Phonetic algorithm invented in 1985 by Jewish genealogists Gary Mokotoff and Randy Daitch.
- Allows greater accuracy in matching of Slavic and Yiddish surnames with similar pronunciation but differences in spelling.

Steven Morse Search Engines
stevemorse.org

Ellis Island & Castle Garden
Other Ports
US Census
Phonetic Matching
Canada/UK Census
New York Census
Vital Records
Calendar, Maps, etc
Foreign Alphabets
Holoc & East. Europe
Genetics (DNA)
Create Search Application
8086
Publications
Recorded Lectures
Awards
Biographies/Interviews
Miscellaneous

Documenting Your Research:

- Keep good notes: date and identify sources
- Genealogy program is recommended
- Make recordings of interviews
- Fact check information, is it true? Can you verify it with more than one source?
- Watch for name changes, spelling variants, given name patterns
- Good archival practices: NO tape, acid papers, keep photos/documents out of light, separated by plastic sleeves, use folders and binders

DOCUMENT AND KEEP ORGANIZED

Interview Strategies

■ **Be a good Interviewer:**

- Ask permission, be respectful of people's skepticism, fears, and privacy
- Create a list of questions in advance
- Compose a form letter/email
- Contact people by phone or e-mail
- Interview oldest people first
- Make audio/video recordings
- Follow-up/verification

Getting it RIGHT

- The keeper of family information is an important responsibility
- Sharing inaccurate information will be passed on, repeated, difficult to correct
- Identify and record your sources, ask for sources from others

Common Myths

- Our name was changed at Ellis Island
- We have the same name, we must be related some how
- It's spelled differently, we can't be related
- All the records were burned or destroyed
- My Bubbie said... My cousin told me...
- It says so on the grave stone or death certificate - it must be correct
- I found it online, it must be true

Hierarchy of Information

- **Primary Information:** Recorded at the time of event or submitted by an eye witness or knowledgeable person, DNA does not lie
- **Secondary information:** Derived by hearsay or long after the event occurred (try to confirm)
- **Original Records:** Original information that has not been derived from other records
- **Derivative Records:** Information that has been collected, repeated, reproduced, transcribed or copied from a previous source.
(confirm and corroborate records/information)

Gathering Information:

- Collect stories, biographies
- Google search (Google Alerts)
- Family parties and events
- Jewish Light, Newspapers.com
- Funerals, shiva houses, eulogies
- Travel – call on and meet relatives
- Post and match DNA

Where else to look:

- Synagogues: yahrzeits, plaques, histories
- Old Humashim, Siddurim
- Old Photos: collect, identify, label, scan, post online
- Obits, eulogies, news stories, books
- Cemetery records: headstones
- Websites: JewishGen.com, Ancestry.com, MyHeritage.com, Familysearch.org, newspapers.com, stevemorris.org
- Family records, genealogies, photos, data from other researchers, libraries/archives

Must places to look:

■ **Records/Archives:**

- Historical societies
- Mormon LDS records
- Public Libraries
- Municipal/Govt. archives & records
- Ancestry.com
- Jewishgen.org
- stevemorse.org
- Cemeteries, Monument cos.

More Sources, Records, Archives:

- Local/State/US Vital Records:
(Births, Marriages, & Deaths)
Naturalization Records
- Marriage Certificates
(Ketubahs)
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Certificates
- Public School Records
- Passenger Lists, Ship
Manifests
- Social Security Death Index
- Polish, German, Russian
records
- Holocaust Records
-Yad Vashem
- Synagogue yahrzeit records
- Canadian Passenger Lists
- Hamburg Passenger Lists
- Census Records
- City Directories / Phone Books
- Family Genealogies
- Military Records
- Newspapers, Obituaries
- Probate Records - Library
- Voter Registration Records
- Books- Periodicals
- Historic Maps
- Local/State/National Archives
- stlgs.org (St. Louis Genealogical
Society-Jewish Interest Group)

Immigration

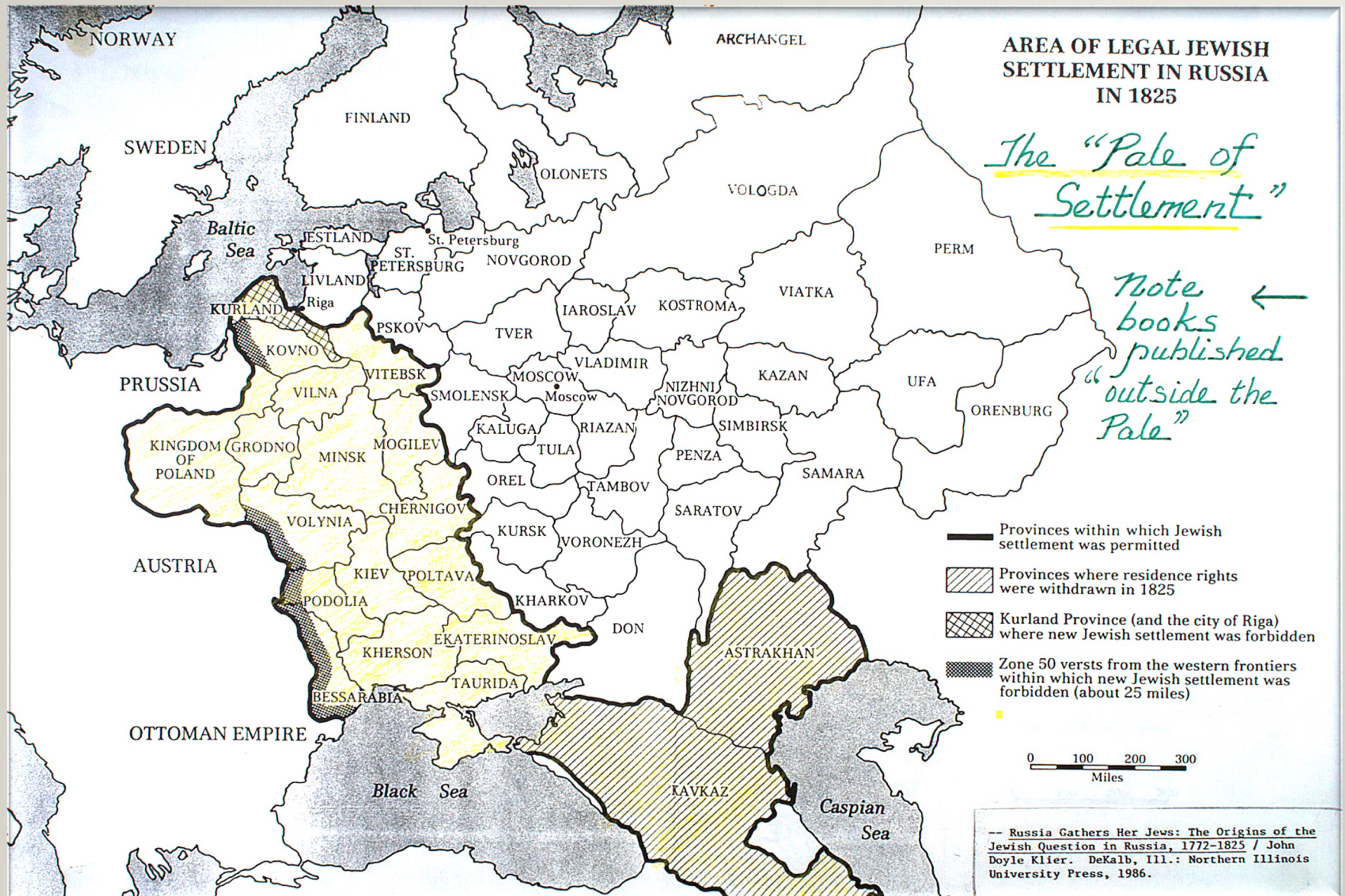
Ports of Entry:

- Ellis Island, NY 1892 - 1924
- Castle Garden, NY 1855-1892
- New Bedford, MA
- Boston
- Philadelphia
- Providence
- Charleston
- Portland, ME
- Detroit
- Baltimore
- New Orleans
- Galveston
- Savannah
- San Francisco
- Seattle
- Canada
- Latin America

European Ports: Hamburg, Bremen, Liverpool, Cherbourg, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Goteborg, LeHavre, Belfast, Naples, and others



Historic Maps



Every picture tells a story

Collect, Preserve, Identify, Analyze, and Digitize



Fadem Family c.1908



Cabinet Cards

<http://cabinetcardphotographers.blogspot.com>

Identify Relatives with photos

share your photos to help identify family members



Fadem family clan c. 1910

Photograph Headstones



Cemetery Maps

**Chesed
Shel
Emeth**

Hanley & Olive St. Road
University City, MO



HANLEY ROAD

1E	1W	13 E	13 W	30	45	45	46	46	61	61	62	62	77	77	78
2E	2W	14	29	31	44A	44A	47A	47A	60A	60A	63A	63A	76A	76A	79A
3E					44	44	47	47	60	60	63	63	76	76	79
4E	3W	15	28	32	43A	43A	48A	48A	59A	59A	64A	64A	75A	75A	80
4 1/2					43	43	48	48	59	59	64	64	75	75	80
5E	4W	16	27	33	42	42	49	58	58	58	65	65	74	74	81
6 1/2					42	42	49	58	58	58	65	65	74	74	81
6E	5W	17	26	34	41	41	50	50	57	57	66	66	73	73	82
6E	6W				41	41	50	50	57	57	66	66	73	73	82
7E	7W	18	25												

8E	8 1/2	19	24	35	40	40	51	51	56	56	67	67	72	72	83			
	8W				40	40	51	51	56	56	67	67	72	72	83			
12	9	20	23	36	39	39	52	52	55	55	68	68	71	71	84			
					39	39	52	52	55	55	68	68	71	71	84			
	10	21	22	37	38	38	53	53	54	54	69	69	70	70	85			
					E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R
					11	C	C	D	D	D								
11																		
		B	A															

S															
CHAPEL															

OLIVE STREET ROAD

**Genealogy can be Pursued in many ways.
Work at your own scale and pace.**

- **Extensive Research Project**
- **Your hobby or hire professional**
 - **Tell Stories**
 - **Leave a Legacy**
- **Create a Family Archive**
- **Write a family history**
- **Solve Mysteries**

Q&A

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