

the

IAJGS

ECHO



June 2004

Powerful tools to assist in the effective management and growth of every JGS.

JGS Dues Structure and Fundraising Ideas

Earlier this year, IAJGS elicited survey data on the topic of dues structure from each JGS via The Presidents List Serve. 44 societies representing 8 countries and 1 SIG responded providing a 63% response rate of those surveyed. Thanks for participating!

The results are tabulated in an Excel spreadsheet. Too large to reproduce in this *ECHO* issue, the following are selected results in U.S. dollars. To receive a complete copy of the compiled data, email grapevynwest@comcast.net.

The avg. US individual member dues fee (JGS only) = \$23.30/member.

The overall avg. individual member dues fee = \$23.94/member.

The highest individual member dues fee charged = \$50/member.

The lowest individual member dues fee charged = \$15/member.

From 45 respondents, we learned that 34 offer a family dues structure. Many do not designate how many people qualify as a "family" while a majority (19) says that "family" is really a couple and limit this dues category to two people living at the same address. In one circumstance, 4 people was the limit.

Only 6 societies offer lifetime membership. Rates were broken out separately for individual verses family in this category in 5 cases. Individuals were charged a range from \$150-\$360 and families were charged \$225-\$500. In one JGS, lifetime membership could only be "conferred".

Interesting ideas surfaced within the "other" dues category. Reduced rates ranged from \$10-\$35 including out-of-town, international, senior, student, unemployed, multi-year, associate, adherent, and local Jewish historical society categories. Special increased rates ranged from \$36-\$100 including affiliate, sponsor, patron, sustaining, contributing, corporate, foundation, and JCC.

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JGS Checklist

- Share the **IAJGS ECHO** with your local officers and members.
- Complete and return the programming survey.
- Receive a FREE *Maps of Poland* CD by volunteering to index the town names on 2-3 district maps.
- Volunteer to serve as Chat Room Project Lead, Electronic Newsletter Index Coordinator, or to assist the IAJGS Cemetery Project Committee.
- Identify and communicate worthy issues to the IAJGS Public Records Monitoring Committee.
- Consider making a bid to host a 2007-2010 annual conference.
- Plan now to attend the annual IAJGS conference in Las Vegas including the new Management Training Institute.

Welcome to our newest JGS member society:

Jodisk Genealogisk Selskab I Danmark
(Jewish Genealogical Society of Denmark)

President Elsebeth Paikin
50 members

www.iajgs.org

June 2004

Meeting the Needs of Member Societies

An afternoon Management Training Institute will be launched for the first time during the 25th Conference on Jewish Genealogy to be held in Las Vegas July 10-15, 2005. Local JGS officers and leaders are encouraged to participate in these free sessions including outside speakers for treasurers, editors, and outreach efforts. Tentatively, this event will be held Sunday afternoon July 10th. Your suggestions for topics are welcome in advance.

Welcome to the second issue of the **IAJGS ECHO**. This publication serves as a periodic update from the IAJGS Board of Directors. We use this format to provide information about the activities of the IAJGS and also to share useful ideas that can be implemented at the local level. Topics include operations such as budget, leadership structure, volunteer recruitment, publicity, programming, and local projects. Member societies are encouraged to contribute original or reprint articles that provide exemplary examples of local JGS management.

- WHAT?** Information about IAJGS and local JGS operations and activities.
- WHY?** To provide better communication between the IAJGS Board and member societies.
- WHO?** For JGS leaders to share with officers and members at the local level.
- WHEN?** Published 3 times a year.
- WHERE?** Posted in PDF format at the IAJGS website. A link emailed to JGS Presidents for each new issue.

Submit articles to:

Ellen Shindelman Kowitt, Editor
8155 Fairmount Drive, #132
Denver, CO 80230 USA
grapevynwest@comcast.net

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There appears to be a range in what local societies charge for membership. Keep in mind there is a wide disparity in type of programming and workshops offered from JGS to JGS. Vastly different expenses are incurred as well. Some pay for meeting space and/or speakers while others do not. Publishing a newsletter, maintaining a website, and library acquisitions also dictate overall budget.

34 societies indicated they do publish a newsletter of some kind. The gamut ran from printed journal to electronic PDF format. None charge their own membership for copies, while 14 charge non-members for back copies or full-year subscriptions. There were often charges for international non-member subscriptions due to postage expense.

Other revenue generating activities provided useful ideas for raising additional funds and included meeting entrance fees from \$2-\$6 for guests, and also for members at times when an out of town speaker was lecturing. The sale of locally produced genealogical books, guides, 10-year newsletter CDs, and a "Shtetl Kettle" cookbook as well as the markup of IAJGS produced or other professionally produced materials generated income. A used genealogy and Jewish history book sale was mentioned. One-day seminars and workshops are popular, as are volunteer contributions, donations, and memorials. One JGS asks for volunteer contributions from those requesting local genealogical assistance - i.e. cemetery or local record lookups. A few indicated they offer paid advertising in their newsletter. A raffle, door prizes, annual lunch/brunch, and grant writing were among offerings. An intriguing idea was a "text/photo scan and burn to CD service" offered during a workshop costing \$10 for 5 documents. ■

Running IAJGS is a Team Effort

Working alongside 10 elected members of the IAJGS board of directors and a past president, are additional volunteers who serve on a variety of standing, special, and temporary committees. There are also past and present special project coordinators. As local JGS leaders constantly seek new blood to help out, IAJGS also needs to identify, motivate, and train new people to assist in running our 8,300+ member organization. So, help out by identifying individuals at the local level to fill one of the openings listed here.

Help Wanted

Electronic Newsletter Index Project Coordinator

IAJGS.org will host an online library where member societies may post PDF formatted versions of local newsletters. Seeking an individual to create the structure for receipt of JGS newsletters, convert them to PDF files, post online, communicate their presence, and identify copyright or licensing issues. Some technical experience necessary with strong coordination skills.
president@iajgs.org

Help Wanted

Chat Room Project Lead

IAJGS.org is set up to run a chat room where experts can lecture on a variety of genealogical topics. We need a coordinator to identify, schedule, and promote these online events. Line up the speakers, handle the announcements, establish a structure, siphon feedback, and work with the Webmaster to troubleshoot technical concerns.
president@iajgs.org

Help Wanted

Volunteers to Index the Town Names on Maps of Polish Districts (Powiats) For A New IAJGS Map CD

60 Polish district (powiat) maps have been prepared for viewing on an IAJGS *Maps of Poland* CD. Indexing of town names is required before this product can be distributed. Individuals who index 2-3 powiats will get a free copy of the finished CD. This shouldn't take more than a day of your time. If interested, contact Daniel@iajgs.org.

Standing Committees:

Membership and Membership Development - *Michael Brenner, chair, Michael Posnick, Joel Spector*

Bylaws Revision Committee - *Joel Spector, chair, Michael Posnick*

Public Records Monitoring Committee - *Jan Meisels Allen, chair, Joel Spector*

International Relations Committee - *Martha-Lev Zion, chair, Anthony Joseph*

Special Committees:

Conference Planning Guide Committee - *Michael Brenner and Arnold Tolkin, co-chairs, IAJGS board members, contributing authors*

Cemetery Project Committee - *Ellen Renck, chair*

Annual Committees (2004):

Nominating - *Alex Friedlander, chair, Anne Feder Lee, Anthony Joseph*

Achievement Awards - *Judith Frazin, chair, Michael Brenner, Sylvia Nusinov*

Stern Award - *Daniel Schlyter, chair, Michael Posnick, Linda Cantor*

Conference Calendar

July 4-9, 2004

– Renaissance Jerusalem Hotel, **Israel**

July 10-15, 2005

– Flamingo Hilton Hotel, **Las Vegas, NV**

August 13-18, 2006

– Marriott Marquis, **New York, NY**

Visit the IAJGS.ORG Website Often!

- See current and back **IAJGS ECHO** issues.
- Find info about past and future Jewish genealogy conferences.
- Gain programming ideas including the Film Lending Library.
- Order CD's including our newest *Maps of Poland, The Family Tree of the Jewish People, and Jewish Records at the Family History Library.*
- *Jewish Genealogy Yearbook 2004*, providing information on over 100 organizations.
- *Bibliography of North American Jewish Community Books*, listing more than 1,000 published resources.
- Learn about the complete history of IAJGS achievement and Stern awards including recipients.
- Contact info for all IAJGS member organizations and the IAJGS board of directors.
- IAJGS Code of Ethics for Genealogists.

Reminder on How to Maintain Membership in IAJGS

According to IAJGS bylaw requirement article 4, a JGS must have a minimum of 10 dues paying members, and schedule meetings 4 times a year or publish a newsletter twice a year. Other associations can apply as associate members.

Survey for Next Issue - JGS Programming -

In each issue of the **IAJGS ECHO**, we address operational issues of interest to member societies. If you would take a moment to answer the following questions about your local JGS programming, we will publish the collective results in the next issue. Email to grapevynwest@comcast.net no later than August 15th.

- 1.) What percentages are your members: beginner genealogists, intermediate, advanced?
- 2.) What percentage of your membership utilize a computer for research?
- 3.) What were your top three attended programs during the last year?
- 4.) Do you offer a beginner's workshop? If yes, how frequently and how many people attended this past year? Were they members or non-members?
- 5.) What was your most innovative program topic?
- 6.) How do you identify new speakers for your meetings?
- 7.) Does your JGS sponsor indexing projects locally? If so, please list and briefly describe goals.

Highlights of Spring Board Meeting

The IAJGS Board of Directors is required by organizational bylaws to meet four times a year. Two of those meetings occur during the annual summer conference. The other two meetings are scheduled in the fall and spring each year. The most recent board meeting was held on Saturday and Sunday March 20th and 21st in Philadelphia, PA. In attendance were Hal Bookbinder, Michael Brenner, Michael Posnick, Joel Spector, Anthony Joseph, Ellen Shindelman Kowitt, Howard Margol, and Daniel Schlyter. A summary of the March 2004 board meeting minutes can be found on the IAJGS website.