

# Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

presents

## From Genealogy to History: Exploring the Jewish 20th Century through One Family's Story

*David Laskin*

Sunday, November 17, 2013, 1:30 pm  
Temple Emanuel, Newton

In his new book, *The Family: Three Journeys into the Heart of the 20th Century*, David Laskin tells the story of his mother's family—eastern European Jews who split into three branches at the turn of the last century. Laskin will describe his genealogical research, which involved archives and resources on three continents—eastern Europe, the United States, and Israel—and how he used insights from family letters and memoirs and historical documents to enrich the family stories and understand the family history in the broader historical context of the Jewish 20th century.

Among other resources, he will discuss using archives in Israel; hiring researchers and guides in Belarus and Lithuania; using JewishGen, the US Holocaust Memorial Museum, the US Citizenship and Immigration Services; and employing Facebook and Twitter to help find a “lost” branch of the family.

**David Laskin** is an award-winning author who writes about the intersection between ordinary people and the seismic upheavals of our time. He holds a degree in history and literature from Harvard and an MA in English from New College, Oxford. *The Family: Three Journeys into the Heart of the 20th Century* is a book that reads like a novel, but is a work of history with every detail grounded in fact.

“*The Family* is as rich and poignant as any novel, only all true and impeccably researched.” —Erik Larson

After his talk, Laskin will have copies of *The Family* for sale and will sign books.

*Temple Emanuel is at 385 Ward St., Newton Centre, MA.*

*For detailed directions and maps, visit our web page at [www.emanuel.jgsgb.org](http://www.emanuel.jgsgb.org).*

**Admission is free for members, \$5 for non-members.**

**Refreshments will be served.**

✦ ✦ ✦ **!!! 12:30–1:15 pm—Ask the Experts! !!!** ✦ ✦ ✦

JGSGB members, bring your questions about U.S. research and resources and get help and hints from experienced researchers.



**Also from 12:30–1:15 pm—1st meeting of new Bessarabia SIG**



### Upcoming programs:

- Dec 15 1:30 pm, Rochelle Ruthchild, *Belarusian Encounters: Travel, Family Research & Connections*
- Jan 5 2:00 pm, Annual Lecture, at Hebrew College, Prof. Hasia Diner, *Wandering Jews: Peddlers & the Discovery of New Worlds*
- Jan 19 1:30 pm, Annual Help Day: Research & Translation Assistance

The JGSGB is dedicated to helping people discover and research their Jewish family history. We offer monthly education programs and a comprehensive beginners' course, maintain an extensive collection of research materials, and publish the award-winning journal *Mass-Pocha*.



866-611-5698

[info@jgsgb.org](mailto:info@jgsgb.org)

[www.jgsgb.org](http://www.jgsgb.org)