

Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County* (JGSCV) (*and surrounding areas)

The Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley and Ventura County (JGSCV) will hold a **Zoom** meeting, Sunday, December 11, 2022 1:30-3:30 p.m. Open only to JGSCV members (see below for membership app). Ask the Experts/Schmoozing Corner begins at 1:10 PM. Genealogical Chanukah gifts for JGSCV paid members by name drawing for 2023 will be done at end of meeting for those whose renewals for 2023 are received by December 10 at address on the renewal form. **Zoom link will be emailed to members a few days before the meeting.**



The Program: Reclaim the Records



Tired of being told by archives, libraries, and government agencies that the genealogical records you want are “unavailable”? We were too, so we figured out how to do something about it. We're Reclaim The Records, a new not-for-profit activist group of more than 5,300 genealogists, researchers, historians, and journalists. We use Freedom of Information (FOIA) laws - and sometimes even lawsuits - to obtain copies of previously inaccessible archival record sets, which we then put online for free public use. Learn how you too can access historical and genealogical records from local, state, and federal government archives, agencies, and libraries -- even if they claim you're not allowed to see the records.

Speaker: Brooke Schreier Ganz is the founder and president of Reclaim The Records, a non-profit organization that fights for better public access to historical and genealogical materials held in government archives, agencies, and libraries. One of the largest open records activist groups in America, RTR has filed and won multiple Freedom of Information lawsuits at the city, state, and federal levels. Brooke was the inaugural winner of the Massachusetts Genealogical Council's Shirley M. Barnes Records Access Award. And when not busy suing the government, she also builds huge free record search platforms, including for Geshet Galicia and IGRA's All Israel Database.

There is no charge to attend the meeting. Anyone may join JGSCV. Annual dues are \$30 for an individual and \$35 for a family.

<https://www.jgscv.org/pdf/membership%20application.pdf>

For more information contact: information@JGSCV.org or call Jan Meisels Allen@ 818-889-6616 See: www.JGSCV.org