

Resident to Resident

Gerry Winerman Traces Family History to 1600s

By Carol Keochekian

A life adventure began in 1978 for Gerry Winerman when she began a genealogical search of her family. It all started when her second son started school full time, and she had spare time to fill. At the same time, she bought a pedigree dog which had a family history longer than she knew about her own family. As a result, she spent 25 years studying, lecturing and teaching genealogy for the Family History Library (part of the Mormon Library in Los Angeles) and the Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles.

Based on her research and personal findings, Gerry wrote articles for the Jewish Genealogical Society. She also served as president of the 500-member organization from 1980 to 1982. She continued to teach classes and would take the students to the Family History Library so they could research their own families. During this period, Gerry and members of her classes attended several conferences on genealogy in Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, and New York. She also hosted several gatherings for her newly found family members.

Gerry's research determined that she was a descendent of the Mendoza family, originally from the Seville area in southern Spain. The Jews of Spain had a very good life during the Golden Era (eighth-twelfth century), said Gerry. However, in 1492, the day that Christopher Columbus sailed, the Inquisition took place in Spain. This signaled the exodus of Jews to Italy, Greece and the Ottoman Empire. The Jews who remained were generally more affluent and had much to lose by leaving. They outwardly converted to Christianity, but covertly retained their Judaism. They were called Marranos.

In 1688, Gerry's seventh great grandfather, David Mendoza, left Seville at age 22 to go to Amsterdam, Holland. There he converted back to Judaism, was circumcised, and his family remained in Holland about 50 years.



In 1290, all Jews had been expelled from England. In 1655, Oliver Cromwell signed a pact with the Jewish Community of Amsterdam, allowing Jews back into England. In 1657 the Mendozas went to England for economic reasons. They worshipped and married there in the synagogue they helped to build. Between 1844 and 1848, some Mendoza descendants immigrated to America. Most of the family stayed in England, but others immigrated to Australia, New Zealand and South Africa.

Gerry discovered some 5,000 relatives, including her husband, Jerry's, relatives, while doing research. She also found her father's first cousin, Harry Mendoza of Australia, while checking Family Finder, a research tool. He said she must come to visit him – he was in his mid-80s and travelling to the United States was too difficult for him. The Winermans flew to Australia and cousin Harry filled them in on his recent family history. While there, Gerry gave lectures on genealogy to audiences in Sydney and Melbourne.

Prior to moving to University Village, Gerry and Jerry, lived in Sherman Oaks for 52 years. Their sons both have families: Larry lives in Newbury Park with his wife Giulia and their daughters, Sara and Erica; Dan, and his wife, Farah, live in New York City with their son, Lionel.



Village View



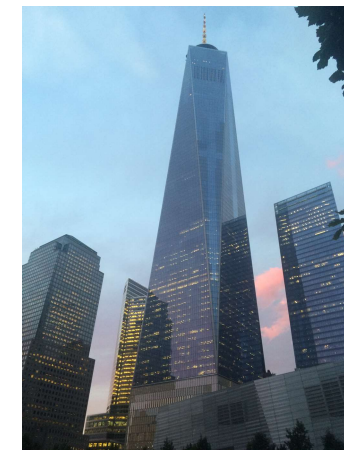
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PATRIOT DAY

By Holly Butler *(Reprinted from September 2019)*

Where were you on the morning of September 11, 2001? Like me, I'm sure you will never forget. I was tired...a 2 ½ year-old and 3-month-old will have that effect on you. It was about 6:00 in the morning in Los Angeles and my phone was ringing. All I wanted to do was sleep, but my caller ID announced that it was my mom



calling from Colorado. Since it was an odd hour for her to be calling, I answered the phone. I heard her sobbing... screaming, "What has this world come to?" I had never heard my mother in such a state before. I couldn't dream of what might be causing her this much distress. "Turn on the news!" As I looked at the TV screen, I was in complete shock and disbelief... feelings that I'm sure I shared with the entire nation. I literally could not comprehend what I was witnessing on my television. As the horrors of what I was observing started to sink in, panic began creeping into my veins. My babies... my babies... that's all I could think about. Just being one floor below them was too far away. I ran upstairs to their bedroom and held my daughters and cried and cried. What has this world come to, indeed?

In the wake of that tragic day, President George W. Bush proclaimed September 11, 2002 as the first Patriot Day in the United States of America. Many Americans refer to Patriot Day as 9/11 or September 11.



Patriot Day is an annual observance on September 11 to remember those who were injured or died during the terrorist attacks in the United States on that infamous day in 2001.

In 2005 we took our (now three) daughters to Pepperdine University on Patriot Day to see the awe inspiring installation of 2,977 flags

representing the lives lost on 9/11. The memories of that September morning flooded back as I watched our little girls twirling around the flagpoles and running up, then rolling down the grassy hills. Emotions are certainly mixed when you hear the laughter of children in such a somber setting. Proof that life must go on as we honor the fallen.



Ten years later we took our girls to NYC and visited One World Trade Center and Freedom Tower. The memorial was truly something to behold. By now our daughters were old enough to know what had happened and why

this memorial was built. As I watched my "big girls," memories of that early morning, holding my babies and crying, came flooding back once again. This time I was able to hold my three daughters and talk to them about love, freedom, and remembrance.

Weekly Activities		SEPTEMBER 2021 MONTHLY ACTIVITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS						
Sun	Open Art Studio—all day (AC) 2:00 Social Bridge (LR)	Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
Monday	7:30 Rabbit Walk (RD) 8:30 Pickle Ball (TC) 10:15 Mobility & Strengthening with Dario (CH) 12:15 Balance I (CH) 1:00 Pinochle (LR) 1:00 Balance II (CH) 2:00 Tai Chi with Kimiko (CH)	UVTO Locations			1	2	3	4
Tuesday	8:30 Water Aerobics (Pool) 9:15 Hatha Yoga with Deirdre (CH) 10:00 Needle Crafters Club (AC) 10:15 Fit-Tastic with Dario (CH) 11:30 Cardio-Fit with Jeri (CH) 1:00 Poker (MCT) 1:30 Hand and Foot Card Game (LR) 1:30 Mexican Trains (MCT) 2:00 Beginners French Class (BD) Limit 6 4:00 Advanced French Class (BD) Limit 6							
Wednesday	7:30 Rabbit Walk (RD) 8:30 Pickle Ball (TC) 10:15 Mobility & Strengthening with Jeri (CH) 10:30-12:30 Window Shoppe (AC) 12:15 Duplicate Bridge (LR) 12:15 Balance I (CH) 1:00 Pan at the Poker Table (MCT) 1:00 Pinochle (MCT) 1:00 Balance II (CH)	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Thursday	8:30 Water Aerobics (Pool) 8:30 Open Tennis (TC) 9:15 Meditation/Gentle Chair Yoga with Deirdre (CH) 10:15 Fit-Tastic with Dario (CH) 11:30 Cardio-Fit with Jeri (CH) 12:30 Ping Pong (CH) 1:00 Poker (MCT) 1:00 Social Bridge (LR) 3:00 Scrabble (MCT)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Friday	7:30 Rabbit Walk (RD) 8:30 Pickle Ball (TC) 10:15 Mobility & Strengthening with Chris (CH) 11:15 Bocce Ball (BBC) 1:00 Mindful Meditation (Zoom)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Sat	8:30 Open Tennis (TC) 9:00 Tai Chi with Kimiko (CH) 10:15 Mobility & Strengthening (1390) (Pre-recorded) 10:15 Line Dancing (CH) 11:00-12:00 Window Shoppe Donations (AC) Contact: Donna Keister, 2003	26	27	28	29	30	KEY	
		The monthly calendar is subject to change. Check the Portal or the weekly Update for the most current events.						