

Leslie Klein
30 Austerlitz Road
West Stockbridge, MA 01266

Keren Weiner
Routes to Roots
P.O. Box 386
Monterey, MA 01245

Dear Keren:

With the immense interest in Jewish Genealogy I have noted in my position with the Jewish Federation, I decided to enter the world of my own family history, with your guidance, unsure of where it would lead.

When you told me you found the earliest shipping record ever noted in Routes to Roots' history, and it was from my own family's journey, I knew this was a deep process of discovery that you were unfolding so deftly.

From the incredible photographs you took of my family headstones on your trek to Staten Island, and the ancient images and descriptions of the town in Poland, where my great grandfather had come from, you revealed a rich family history that I had not known.

My life has been re-defined in some ways, as I align with the adventurous spirit of my family, who embarked on a journey of discovery and a new life. These simple papers that you researched and made available, reveal the changes in their lives as they pioneered across country to an unknown 'wild west,' or remained east with the other masses of immigrants.

I cannot imagine how much work it took for you to compile my book of hundreds of pages of documents. The attention to detail and the beautifully written portrayal of my family's life journey was so thorough and enlightening.

All I can say is thank you, Keren, for giving us this wonderful gift.

Sincerely,



Leslie Klein
Program Director
Jewish Federation of the Berkshires

Dr. David Akin
Managing Editor
Comparative Studies in Society and History
University of Michigan
1007 East Huron
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1690

Keren Weiner
Routes to Roots
P.O. Box 386
Monterey, MA 01245

12 August 2007

Dear Keren,

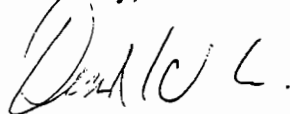
As part of my work as an anthropologist in the Solomon Islands over the past twenty-eight years I have collected and transcribed literally hundreds of genealogies stretching back a dozen and more generations. Many of these I compiled not for my own research but for Solomon Islanders worried that their family history would soon be forgotten and lost to future generations. For them, kinship is fundamental to defining oneself, and to be ignorant of one's genealogy is a tragedy.

My Islander friends have often asked me to tell them about my own family's history, and they are always struck by the sad irony that I can tell them very little, that I have already suffered the very loss I am helping them to avoid. But that was before you, Keren, set to work.

When you presented my family with our history this year, I was amazed at the thoroughness and quality of your work. I have spent enough time in archives to know how difficult a project like this is. I know, too, that I would not have been able to carry it off like you have, and you have taught me a lot about how this kind of research should be done. I teach a class in the anthropology of kinship here at the University of Michigan, and next winter I plan to use your work on my family as a case study for students who are interested in American kinship studies, and in pursuing their own family's history.

Keren, thank you so much for doing such a wonderful job. My family will always be indebted to you. I know my parents are as thrilled as I am to now have our history in our homes.

Sincerely,



Dr. David Akin

Dianna Downing
9 Main Road (Monterey)
Great Barrington, MA 01230
413 528-3381; dj.downing@verizon.net

June 14, 2007

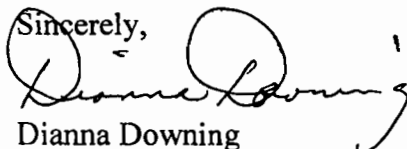
Keren Weiner
P.O. Box 386
Monterey, MA 50345

Dear Keren,

We come from a long line of book collectors, but the large tome you presented to our family is now the most valued book on the shelf. We presented a copy to my father for his 84th birthday last month, and he and my mother have not stopped talking about it, as they enjoy a flood of fond, nearly forgotten memories. These will now live on in our children, and their children, and so on down the line. How can we thank you enough for that?

I believe that your qualities as researcher and sleuth made this project more than your average genealogical survey. Names and dates on the page, some of them from as far back as the 1700s, came alive as they were put in a context that harkened back to places and times from the past. Your amazing navigation of regional courthouses and archives can be attributed, not only to your tenacity, but to how you worked with the clerks in charge of precious files as you verified all your findings with real documents. I know that your finesse and charm opened many doors for us, including the discovery of an amazing oral history from the early part of the last century that mentioned "old folks" my father remembers. As he said, "It was like sitting with Mom and her relatives on the front porch."

Our beginnings were humble ones, but you handled our family history like we were royalty. Thank you, Keren. You are a hero in our house.

Sincerely,

Dianna Downing

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August 1, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

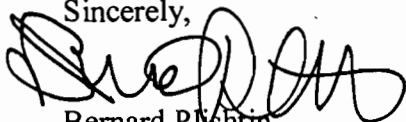
Keren Weiner is an unusually talented, dedicated, organized and resourceful person, and she applies all of these traits to her work. Keren initially worked with me several years ago in a software company. During that time she proved herself to be an invaluable resource to our new, growing venture by helping us manage a variety of development projects, streamlining our internal processes, and helping us build a successful roadmap that led to financing, product launch, and strategic partnership. At that time, her contributions in the area of research were already clear and very helpful in the ramp-up of our marketing efforts.

When I assumed my current position as Vice President of Business Development for Canyon Ranch, it became apparent I would need someone with superior experience in project administration and market research. Keren was my first choice. She worked with me in this capacity for two years prior to becoming a professional genealogist.

One of her strongest skills is in research and analysis, and with it an ability to identify business opportunities and trends and produce and deliver documents and presentations. During her tenure at Canyon Ranch, her strong research abilities have been applied in the areas of market trends and analysis, product and competitor reports, and strategic partner analysis. She is able to apply her experience, intelligence and creativity to each research project undertaken and is able to branch into corollary areas to investigate the next steps. She has an instinct for research and was able to find information quickly and naturally, with a relish for the challenge of finding the missing link that has eluded others.

I have no doubt she will be successful in the genealogy field, not only because she is professional, efficient, and easy to work with, but because she will invariably treat each project with respect and a commitment to quality. It is my pleasure to recommend her for research in the area of family history, a career which suits both her personality and her mental fitness. My only regret is that I likely will not get to work with her again! If you have any questions regarding Keren's work, please don't hesitate to call. I would be more than pleased to provide additional detail.

Sincerely,



Bernard P. Lishtin
Vice President, Business Development
Canyon Ranch
165 Kemble Street
Lenox, MA 01240
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bplishtin@canyonranch.com

KAREN WEINER
P.O. BOX 386
MONTEREY, MA, 50345

DEAR KAREN

WHAT AN EXTRAORDINARY ABILITY YOU HAVE
FOR DELVING INTO THE PAST AND BRINGING
A FAMILY HISTORY BACK TO LIFE

YOUR BOOK "THE FISCHER AND WEBER
FAMILIES" NOT ONLY REKINDLED MANY
POIGNANT MEMORIES FOR ME, BUT
WENT BEYOND THAT IN TRACING BOTH
FAMILIES FOR SEVERAL GENERATIONS.

IT IS WITH GRATITUDE THAT I THANK
YOU FOR THIS WONDEROUS DOCUMENT
ATION OF MY FAMILY, PARTICULARLY
OF MY MOTHER

Leonard Weber