

Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston

presents

The Search for Major Plagge

Michael Good

Sunday, June 3, 2007

1:30–4:30 PM

Temple Emanuel, Newton Centre

Michael Good became interested in Holocaust history in 1999 during a family trip to Vilnius, Lithuania, with his parents to explore his family origins and hear their tales of survival during the Holocaust. During the trip, his mother told him of the mysterious German army officer, Major Plagge, who commanded her slave labor camp and saved over 250 of his Jewish workers from the murderous intent of the Nazis. She did not know what had become of the German officer. He had disappeared with the retreating German army in July of 1944.

Following this trip, Good set out to find this enigmatic officer, trying to understand who Major Plagge was and why a German officer would have acted so benevolently at a time when his countrymen were committing atrocities on a previously unthinkable scale. In his book, the author shares his parents' stories of survival and describes his search for the man who saved his mother's life. During this journey of exploration he built a team of camp survivors and researchers from Canada, France, Israel, and Germany to answer the questions that had haunted camp survivors and their descendants for decades. Good gradually reveals the story of a remarkable man of conscience, who transformed from an early supporter of the Nazi party into a covert rescuer of persecuted Jews.

Good is a family physician from Durham, CT and the son of two Jewish immigrants from Vilna, Poland. He grew up in West Covina California, outside of Los Angeles. He attended Occidental College in Los Angeles, received his medical degree from the University of Rochester's School of Medicine, and then trained in family medicine.

Temple Emanuel is at 385 Ward St., Newton Centre. For maps and detailed directions, visit our web page at <http://emanuel.jsgsb.org>.

Admission is free for members, \$5 for non-members.
Refreshments will be served.

The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston is a nonprofit organization of individuals interested in genealogical research. It conducts monthly educational programs.

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