

# NEWS LETTER

Vol. IX, No. I

June, 1991

333 S. 132nd St. • Omaha, NE



*Dora Kirshenbaum*



*Dora Sherman Rosenblatt*

## Come One!! Come All!! to honor and salute **OUR GREAT GRANDPARENTS**

of the Omaha, Lincoln,  
Council Bluffs Jewish Communities

**Sunday, June 16, 1991  
Jewish Community Center – Auditorium 2 p.m.**



*Abe and Freeda Gendler*

Guest Speaker  
Rabbi Dr. Richard  
A. Freund  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Installation  
of Officers  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Ice Cream  
Social



*Dorothy Evnen*

**It's our 9th annual meeting, too!!**

# Election of Officers and Board of Directors 1991-1992 at June 16 Annual Meeting

## Executive Committee

President  
Vice President  
Treasurer  
Secretary  
Dues Secretaries

Museum Curator  
Ex-Officio/Co-Founder  
Exec. Director/Co-Founder

Louise Abrahamson  
Sally Malashock  
Carolyn (Rocky) Stern  
Jerry Freeman  
Shirley Berman  
Delores (Dee) Fox  
Lois (Ducky) Milder  
Oliver Pollak  
Mary Fellman



Louise Miller Abrahamson will be installed as president of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society on Sunday, June 16th at the Ninth Annual Meeting. She has previously served as vice-president of the NJHS and is presently co-editor of the Society's Newsletter.

## Board Members

*Susan Bernstein	Lois Friedman	Ilene Klein
*Jean Duitch	Saranne Gitnick	*Jean Ann Krupinsky
*Richard Fellman	Bernie Jonish	Sheldon Kushner

\*Denotes new board members

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## Three to Hartford!

Three delegates from our Nebraska Jewish Historical Society will be attending the 1991 National Conference of the American Jewish Historical Society May 30 to June 4 in Greater Hartford, Connecticut. Dr. Oliver Pollak, outgoing president, Louise Abrahamson, incoming president, and Ophira Bahar, NJHS archivist, will participate in some of the conference workshops and attend sessions on the theme of "The Coming of Ages of the American Jewish Community".

Reports on the Conference will be given at the first meeting of the NJHS board in June.

Rabbi Jonathan Rosenbaum, formerly of Omaha and presently at the University of Hartford, will participate in the closing session on "The University and the Community".

## Offerings from Oliver

The National American Jewish Historical Society convention is behind us and our tenth anniversary is in front of us. Yes, the NJHS approaches a decade of service! Our history includes newsletters and journals, exhibits and archives and much more!

Our 1990-91 displays in the Corridor of Jewish History museum included the history of Beth El Synagogue and World War II-Nebraska Jewish service men. An exhibit on the history of Temple Israel is in the making for June 1st. Our exhibits on the walls of the Jewish Community center add undeniable personality to the campus.

Our professional staff and volunteers, working out of, oh so small, quarters continues to develop oral interviews, receive and catalogue our archival donations, and serve as an informational resource for Omaha and national inquiries

Members can be justly proud as the NJHS forges into the late 90's carrying the responsibility of preserving over 100 years of Nebraska Jewish life!

Oliver B. Pollak President 1990-91

Louise brings to her new position years of experience in a variety of business and organizational activity which has culminated in her present position as Administrative secretary and receptionist in the Youth Care Department of Boys Town.

Most recently she has been elected Vice-president of the board of Directors of the Boys Town Federal Credit Union, co-sponsored a "Making It Work" workshop for "Governor's Committee for Employment of the Handicapped", authored and publicized a guide on "Campaign Workshop", has been a volunteer for Hadassah, Easter Seals, Heart Drive, Muscular Dystrophy and other civic campaigns. Louise, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. David Miller, was born in Calgary, Alberta, Canada where her father was a farmer. She and her husband Norman recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Their sons are Hugh and Steve and they have three grandchildren.

## WELCOME GREAT GRANDPARENTS!

Sunday, June 16th will be a joyous and exciting day for the great-grandparents of our Omaha, Council Bluffs and Lincoln Jewish Communities! We are looking for the names of all of these fortunate people and will be looking forward to hearing from all of you with more names to add to our list. GREAT- GRANDPARENTS – please come with your wedding pictures to add to our display honoring you. GREAT-GRANDPARENTS – come with your children, your grandchildren and your great-grand children so we can take a FREE picture of all of you for your memory book, and ours! Come and help celebrate this wonderful happening in our Jewish Community. The day is Sunday, June 16th! The time is 2 p.m.! The location is the auditorium of the Jewish Community Center!

*We'll be looking for all of you!*



Rose Marer

# Save Time - Use A Computer

By Miriam Weiner

Over 20 years ago in Des Moines, Iowa, I began a trek through my family history which ultimately led to New York, where I met many cousins previously unknown to me. To keep track of "who's who," I began making family tree charts by hand.

There are many problems with these hand-drawn charts, beginning with the obvious: in a short time it becomes necessary to tape several sheets together, resulting in a cumbersome and tacky chart. Nevertheless, virtually every family historian known to me began charting their ancestors in much the same manner.

A more serious problem than "looks" with these hand-drawn charts becomes apparent each time you make significant changes/additions to your tree. I would hate to estimate how many times I had to re-draw my charts in order to accommodate the new information. However, during the last 5-10 years, a number of computer programs, especially designed for sorting and charting family history data, have come on the market.

Life is much simpler now—it now takes a few minutes to add a new branch of cousins to my database and produce a revised chart reflecting all the new information. Each of my four grandparents had a separate family chart and in one case, the chart exceeds over 25 feet in length—a virtually impossible task without a computer software program.

The last few years have produced many publications, seminars, genealogy software programs, and experts all focused toward educating the genealogist in computerized genealogy. As a result, many hours previously devoted to laboriously revised family charts can now be devoted to discovering new sources of information, family reunions, visiting ancestral towns and, ultimately, publishing the family history.

There are many features of a genealogy software program which enables you to print standard reports such as the following.

•Family group sheets – includes everything known about each family member

\*Pedigree chart—all direct ancestors of an individual (parents, grandparents, etc., with name, dates of birth, marriage and death).

•Descendancy chart—shows all ancestors of an individual.

•Lists—the ability to print lists from user-defined fields (categories) of information about selected persons in a sequence (alphabetically, date, place, zip code).

•Special facilities—some programs allow you to print surname indexes, birthday and anniversary lists, and indexes by locality (such as all people born in Poland, buried in New York, immigrated through Boston, etc.)

As an example, I can print a listing of members of my family who perished during the Holocaust. Another report which has been surprisingly helpful to me is a listing by first name which enables me to detect duplicate entries and establish naming patterns between generations.

There is one myth I probably should dispel now. In the beginning I naively thought, by computerizing my family history data, I could discard many papers which were overflowing my filing cabinets. Somehow, it didn't work that way. The reports and charts generated from the computer have added to the paper collection, but have also simplified the retrieval of data.

Having my family charts on computer has also brought more cooperation from family members in the quest for information. Years ago, when I pestered relatives for information, copies of documents, and old photos, there were times when cooperation was "limited" or, in a few cases, non-existent. However, when I began producing family trees on computer which I could send to my many relatives, suddenly I found them more receptive to sharing information. First, they were anxious to correct entries (often the date of birth which seems to come in many variations) and also to add branches of the family entirely unknown to me.

Try "doing" your own Oral History on a tape recorder! Just sit and talk! You'll be amazed at how much history about yourself and your family you can do without effort. It's better than "putting off" until you can sit with someone and do your own "oral history". And your children will be ever grateful!

Once your family tree is computerized, you may want to send it to the many Jewish archives and libraries which collect family histories. Some years ago, I was able to track down a missing branch of my family by writing to the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati and requesting a copy of a family tree from its extensive genealogy collection.

Without question, the most important addition ever made to my family tree occurred a few years ago when my cousin Ricardo Odnopsoff, who lives in Vienna, sent me a hand-drawn chart on cardboard which he brought from Leningrad while visiting with our mutual relatives there. The chart was compiled by Leonid Obnopofov, my newly-discovered Soviet cousin, and listed names of over 50 members of my family, all descendants of or related to my great-grandparents. It was with pleasure and a few tears of joy that I entered this new data into my computer.

It is my intention to personally deliver copies of this 25-foot chart to these newly-discovered cousins now living throughout the U.S.S.R. On the other hand, I would be just as happy to deliver the charts in Israel.

**Organize Your Family History by Computer**, Miriam Weiner's first book, will be published by Jason Aronson, Inc. **The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy Vol. I.**

## We Need Your Help On Oral Histories

In order to obtain the oral histories of more 60-70 and 80 year old men and women in our Jewish community of Omaha, Lincoln and Council Bluffs we need people to conduct these interviews. If you know of a college student who is interested, a retired person or someone who would like to do some part-time work, please have them contact our office and let us know of their availability, summer time or year round. We pay \$5.00 an hour for this work and will be happy to interview all interested persons. The number to call is 334-8200, Ext. 277 or drop in at the office or call Mary Fellman, 551-7257.

## A Dramatic Way To Celebrate a Special Birthday!

That's what Dina Himelbloom's family was looking for to celebrate her 70th, and they did it with a joyous party including a nostalgic tour of "Dina's Omaha". We quote from the script written by her daughter and son-in-law Bev and Dick Fellman.

While Dundee was beginning to be developed, the working people of Omaha lived in what we now call North Omaha and South Omaha. The wealthy resided in the Gold Coast area, near the Blackstone Hotel. Jewish families lived largely in the area bounded by 12th Street on the East, 30th Street on the West, and from Cuming to Ames. It was a thriving area, although many families were poor; and 24th Street was a main thoroughfare. We will be entering this area from the North, off the interstate highway and Florence Blvd. You will see the Missouri River on your left.

One can only imagine what Beryl Himelbloom thought the first time he saw the Missouri and settled not far from it.

Beryl, later known as Ben, came from Loz, Poland, in 1914. New York was being flooded with incoming immigrants, so HIAS began sending ships around the Port of Galveston, Texas. Beryl was assured work with his friend and fellow-countryman Max Blend, who was already in Omaha. Thus, Beryl made his way North from Galveston, and soon opened his own bakery in North Omaha. His address is listed in the city directory as 2211 Clark. His wife, Bess, and daughter, Ruth had to wait seven years before coming over. World War I had broken out in Europe. Dina was born a year after Bess arrived. Bess had been a talented dressmaker in Loz.

Dina was born January 24, 1921, in the Swedish Mission Hospital, in Omaha.

Her family was then living in a home at 22nd and Decatur with a barn out in back where Ben raised pigeons. When Ben built his white tile bakery building at 1511 North 24th, the family moved to a house behind the bakery. Sonia Roitstein and Helen Fried knew Dina at this early age when she went to Kellom School with Adele Mayper, Eve Kuznit and Sis Sklar.

From here we go to the location of the Old City Talmud Torah, or Hebrew School. Judah Wolfson was one of her teachers and was very inspiring, indeed. The Old Litviscshe Shul was where Dina and Beb got married, and there was a dinner at the JCC. Helen and Dave Shukert accompanied Dina to the Chupa, because her father had died some years earlier, and she wore Sylvia Paperny's bridal veil.

Some downtown locations are interesting to us because at the downtown library, Dina would check out the maximum number of books allowed each week. She has kept that up throughout the years. Also, you see the Paramount and other theatres, where musical and western films played. Saturday evenings, our couple could be found out to dinner, perhaps at Art Smith's Colony Club, or at Gorat's, then a movie. "Bloom Auto" was on upper Farnam.

Their first apartment was at 3037 California. (Just behind the present Days Inn Hotel) You can see the new St. Joseph Hospital, but it was at the old St. Joe that three of the four B's were born. In those early years of marriage, you could count on a good "maj" game with

Mickey Katzman, Adele Mayper Hornstien, Sis Sklar Adler and Dina.

Now we're headed to the Med Center where Dina is still working as a librarian in the McGoogan Library. She wasn't there when her sons were in medical school. She started her library career actually at NPI Library.

We head up now to 50th Avenue and Dina's first home. The first three kids were born here, and she used to go sledding with them out behind the house. Luckily, Phil Ringle's Pharmacy was just down the street, and Dr. Kully made house calls. Also, her in-laws lived only a few blocks away. The Bloom family belonged to Beth Israel Synagogue, and it was there that many nice occasions took place: Four kids and four Bar Mitzvahs...and a daughter's wedding.

Next Dina and Harold moved to 2502 North 53rd Street, where they still live, and you should see how full the attic is!

Next, Rosehill School—how long were you in the PTA, anyway? Now we see Louis' Market and Benson. Do you remember walking up to the Benson Library each week? Now she takes grandsons Alex and Eli each week to pick out books to read.

Mom, we've seen a little of your life. I hope we have sparked some pleasant memories since our last stop was in front of a library.

All of us join in the wish that you will continue to be inscribed in the book of life for many, many more years. We love you. Happy Birthday!



Bev Fellman and mother Dina Bloom



Ben Himelbloom Bakery next to Sam Fried's delicatessen.

## NJHS Acquisitions August 1990 – May 1991

Helen Cherniack	Story of Wessel family
Eva Bernstein	Photo: Flowers of Zion
Roie Meyers	Typed interviews for "Our Story", NCJW Omaha branch project.
Ruth Abrahams	Arenson, Gordon families photos (Lincoln, NE)
Sally Venger	Beth El Sat. School. 1935; Photo: 1938 Golden Spike Days.
Donald Dandy	Workmen's Circle Membership certificate, Joseph Dandy 1918
Ruth Lasser	Photo of father Aaron B. Levine in WWI uniform
Phillip Ratner	Binstein and Lipsman butcher shop 1933
Carolyn Schimmel Magid	Schimmel family genealogy
Miriam Grossman	Holocaust material clippings, articles
Molly Lipsman	Two certificates of registration re: The American Immigrant Wall of Honor on Ellis Island (Abraham Chaim Lipsman, Esther Saltz Lipsman)
Dr. Abe Faier	Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity certificate 1932, AZA certificate: Omaha public schools diploma June 17, 1927
Steve Rosenblatt	1956 scrapbook, Johnny Rosenblatt oil portrait, basketball group 1928-9; Plaque: American Legion, Omaha Post No.1 Plaque: citation from U.S. President Eisenhower 9/13/58
Grace Dansky Saferstein	(Teaneck N.J.) Temple Israel confirmation service 5/13/63; Jewish Youth Council Roster 1962-3, "Seventeen" class of 1926 Central High, 11th Annual Road Show – Cadet Officer's Club 1925, Central High Senior Glee Clubs of Central High program 1925 Piano recital program 6/25/23: Clippings Central High: Betty Steinberg betrothal photo and notes –World Herald ZBT photo 1928
Eunice Denenberg	8x10 photo Federation fund raising event, Talmud Torah Purim play 1938 (4 photos)
Bea Sommer	Photo motion picture industry N.D.A. Code Hearing, Wash. D.C. 9/12/1933: Album WWII: Herman and Sol Rosenblatt Portrait, painting Sol Rosenblatt
Sam Rosenstein	Photo of father Morris and Sam Rosenstein in grocery store
Louise Abrahamson	Homestead papers belonging to David Miller, daughter Louise Miller Abrahamson, son Dr. Daniel M. Miller
Frances Batt	Baseball style cap, orange, Israel's 25th anniversary
Lois Wine	Knights of Zion certificate issued in Usher Shwartz' name, Ivre New year's Eve program 1927; War ration book – Lois Moskovitz 1942, Business cards Milt & Mick Moskowitz
Lloyd Friedman	Class reunion (40th), Omaha Central HS 1974
Jake Adler	1936 Maxwell House Coffee Haggadah
Elaine Abrams Clearfield	Tallit and Tefillin, photos of father and grandfather
Norman Batt	Jewish Community Center Building plans 20th and Dodge
Mace Jabenis	Photo Junior Hadassah 1935
Lillian Friedlander Stern	Temple Israel Confirmation class
Celia Cooper	8x10 photo of grandchildren
Audrey Sophir	Night lettergram from William McKinley Lodge of BB congratulating her parents Mr. & Mrs. Sugarman on her birth.
Ethelyn Simon	Family picture of Rabinowitz-Rosenblatt families 1901
Lois Friedman	Photo of family in front of store,.1915/16 No. 16th st.



Great Grandmother Lena Grossman

### Interested in a tour to N.Y. and Ellis Island?

Let us hear from you if you would be interested in a Nebraska Jewish Historical Society tour to Jewish New York and to the restored Ellis Island where so many of our ancestors first arrived in the United States. Call our office or drop us a line and say "I want to Join you " for this exciting tour!

## Donations Since October, 1990

In honor of	Esther & Eddie Dolgoff – 50th anniversary; Susie Kaplan – Birthday; Joanne & Jerry Freeman – 40th anniversary; Mickey Greenberg – Birthday; John & Cindy Stern – Engagement & Marriage; Dorothy Kushner – 90th birthday; Meyer Ferer – birthday; Dina Bloom – birthday; Mary Fellman – birthday; Leo Meyerson – birthday; Buddy Goldstein – birthday; Louise & Norman Abrahamson – 50th anniversary
Recovery of	Mary Fellman, Nancy & Shel Rips, Jack Epstein, Rose Fellman, Shirley Berman
Thank You	Phyllis & Max Bittner, Mary Fellman, Judge Samuel Cooper
Donation	Alan Baer
In memory of	Al Rimmerman, Herb Meiches, Morris Nadler, Fannie Denenberg, Rose Wolpa, Sarah Cooper, Rosa Goldstein, Clare Howard, Ruth Glick, Anita Marer, Jule Newman, (Jerry Dann's mother) Allie Dann, Ilene & Don Klein's Grandson, David Hoberman, Ann Bernstein, Arthur Paley, Abe Magzamin, Fred Critz, Dorothy Sommer, Irving Blank

### Remember – Celebrate –

Make your contributions through NJHS! Donor cards and Morris C. Fellman cards are the way to go when you want to make a contribution in honor of, in memory of, or to remember an event or someone special. It's easy, just call the NJHS office. 334/8200, Ext 277. Your purchase of these cards helps us maintain many projects, preserve and publish material that has to do with the life of Jews in Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa.

# FROM THE NJHS MAILBAG...

...In May of 1989, you graciously donated to us three boxes of material on the Brandeis family and their stores. Please accept this delayed letter as thanks for your kind donation. It is through the generosity of organizations and individuals like you that the Historical Society of Douglas County has become one of the area's premier historical education and research facilities.

Thank you again for your donation, your support of our Center and support of historical research in our area.

Roger L. Reeves  
Director, HSDC Library/Center

I am sure I have a lot of material that you might be interested in. I could not find the address of the Rosenberg History Library in Galveston so could you please give me the address or send a copy of my letter to them. I will be in the U.S. until the middle of December. I am very excited about the idea that we might probably work together or exchange material. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kavin Schultz

Thank you for your letter of April 3rd and the copies of the publications that I requested. Reading Mr. Lipp's article resulted in my finding references to my maternal grandfather, Louis Moskovitz, to his mother's family Raduziner and my maternal grandmother's family, Lapidus, as well as the families of many of my old Omaha friends. I thought the enclosed picture might be of interest about the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, it is a 1958 pledge class of ZBT. Back row (L to R) Arnold Ban, Allan Noddle, Bill Goldman, Larry Herman, Lee Blatt, unknown, Bernard Wolff, Bernie Katz, Steve Friedman. Middle Row (L to R) Steve Rosenblatt (pledge father) Aunt Jene (housemother) Paul Shyken. Front Row (L to R) Ronald Simon, Harold Kaiman, Jordan Greene, Stuart Kutler, Tom Platt

Dr. Harold Kaiman,  
Cleveland, OH

Thank you very much for the nice tribute you paid my beloved brother John Rosenblatt in your last publication. Could you please send me 6 or 7 copies. I am enclosing a contribution to your fine organization and always look forward to receiving your "Journals".

Lylyan Rosenblatt Merritt, L.A.CA

Just returned from Florida and read the story with interest of Johnny Rosenblatt in the "Newsletter". I know that somewhere, sometime, my dad Horace was part of the baseball story - I believe he was a coach/manager. What have you for the "Murphy Did-Its"? I remember traveling all over the state with him for games. This should be recorded in the "Omaha Bee News" for which he worked. He was also one of the founders of the Beth El Mens' Club. I remember he wrote a great skit.

Shirley Rosenblum Drooz, Albany, N.Y.

Thank you so much for sending the books so promptly. I have a brother who lives in Maryland, and I want to send him one of the books. I must have known the name, sounds familiar - I've been away from Omaha for 49 years and my memory has slipped some. I regret I can't provide you with any memorabilia pertaining to Johnny's baseball career. Unfortunately, when my mother moved to California all the pictures and articles were stored in John and Freeda's home and after Freeda passed away all the momentos were lost when their house was closed.

I do remember that when Johnny was 13 he was already playing



Ida Potash

baseball and had organized a team and convinced the President of Bell Telephone Co. to buy suits and equipment for the team. I have fond memories of our family going to various parks where the games were played. Thanks again for sending the books.

Lylyan R. Merritt L.A., CA

Thank you for the clipping from the Omaha World Herald. I hope that some of your members will take advantage of viewing MOSAIC if in Florida. I enjoyed my stay in Omaha very much and look forward to seeing you in Hartford.

Henry Green, MOSAIC Director  
Coral Gables, IL

I received your letter requesting material about my father, Ben Danbaum. I do have quite a bit of memorabilia pertaining to him but am hesitant to give it up. I will request that it be given to you when anything happens to me.

Years ago I did give many things to the Omaha World Herald so it is possible you can get some things from them. I am putting your letter in my file so I will always have it.

Sonyla Rabin



**DAY JUNE 16! YOU'RE INVITED!**



*Mollie and Sam Kohn*

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Missouri Valley History Conference, I wish to thank you and the NJHS for exhibiting at the MVHS in March. Conference registration was up from 1990 as was the number of publishers and exhibitors. The consensus from participants and exhibitors was that the program and exhibits were the best in years.

I will be coordinating exhibits for the 1992 MVHS in 1992 and will contact you again to give you more details. Again, thank you very much for your support and look forward to working with you in March 1992.

Les Valentine, 1992 MVHC Exhibits Coordinator, Omaha

I am compiling information for a guidebook to Jewish museums and collections throughout North America. I understand you have a small museum open to the public. If so, and if you would like to be listed, please answer questions and return the info to me as soon as possible. This guidebook will have wide distribution and I hope to be as inclusive as possible.

Nancy Frazier, No. Amherst, MA

During the recent performance of "The Immigrant" at the JCC Theater, those attending enjoyed an extra bonus – a wonderful photographic exhibit of our immigrants at approximately the same vintage as the arrival date of Haskell Harlik, the main character of this true story. We wish to thank the NJHS and offer our praise and gratitude to Ophira Bahar for her outstanding efforts in making this a memorable exhibit. It was enjoyed by so many people.

Marcia Lipsman

On behalf of Clarkson Hospital and the JCC of Omaha, we would like to thank you for your participation in the "Self-Help Festival" on Sunday, October 28th. We are grateful for your support and involvement in this program. We have heard many positive responses from several of the more than 345 persons who attended.

Carla Merritt, Chuck Arnold, Eugene Zweiback, M.D.

Thank you so much for your help in our search for clues about Lazar Brown and his family. The items you gave us, the article about Jewish Homesteaders and the file on Reuben Brown were the keys to finding out about our family. I found the recorded homestead deeds of members of our family and their deeds of sale and a warranty deed, plus mortgage records...Thank you again for all your help. I will send more information as I find it. Also, please enroll me and my mother as members of the NJHS.

We contacted Adrian Brown of Council Bluffs, son of Reuben and he is a cousin. His grandfather and my mother's grandfather were brothers. We met with him and he brought several pictures and added some information about the family. Other members of the family that he knew of still in Omaha are Leroy Canfield and Robert and Joel Pitlor. Leopold Unger of Council Bluffs is also related. I have included a family tree (still a bit rough) of what I know so far. You can see another name is Newman (two sisters married Newmans) also Lazar Brown ran a confectionery store in Omaha.

Lyn Cowan, Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150

It was a pleasure to meet you at the Jewish Federation dinner in Lincoln a few weeks ago.

I will try to get all my papers, etc. organized and when I have the chance to come to Omaha I will bring them to your office to see what you are interested in. Several items have been sent to the Holocaust Museum in Washington (books) and others to the Archives of a concentration camp in Ulm, Germany. I think the library at the Jewish Community Center has my book, "Child of Two Worlds", written in 1979; also they have a copy of my little paperback book, "From the

Heart". Should you wish copies I can see that you get some. "Child of Two Worlds" is still available at the price of \$13.00, plus \$3.00 postage from the publisher.

Illness in my family has kept me from many things, but I hope to get at my projects one of these days!

Hannie Wolf, Ablion, NE

Just a note to tell you that I read the October 1990 issue of the NJHS "Newsletter" with great interest. It is well written and reflects your program and success. I congratulate those who are responsible for the issue.

Joseph Levine, Exec. Sec'y  
Indiana Jewish Historical Society

When I saw the picture in the recent Newsletter of the house at 2411 Charles Street, it brought back vivid memories of my sitting at Mr. Zisslin's knee five days a week. Mr. Zisslin taught me Hebrew and was my Melamed. We talked about many things and I found him to be a delightful person.

Toby Kagan

During my research at the American Jewish Historical Society in Waltham., I was shown the article in the Jewish Press about Galveston and I became very excited about it. I am working on my Ph.D. from "East to West" – East European Jewish migration through Germany to the United States (1881-1914). I published several articles (in German) concerning this subject. Also, I am going to lecture at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati and the Jewish Genealogical Society in New York. I will devote time to the Galveston movement and therefore am collecting material concerning Galveston. I am working in a new museum project – The Emigration Museum in Boemevhaven – we hope to open in 1992. We are collecting everything concerning migration through, to, and from Germany. We are trying to establish a library and an archive. We collect genealogical records, letters, pictures and graphics and are working on a bibliography migrations. Because all of the ships passenger lists from Bremen were destroyed during World War II, we are trying to reconstruct whatever possible. Kavin Schulz, Pelham, N.Y.



Barron, Herman  
 Berman, Ray  
 Bernstein, Gerald  
 Berstein, Marvin  
 Brown, Spencer  
 Bush, Robert

Chandler, Robert  
 Chasen, Jay  
 Chernick, Harry  
 Crandell, Sol  
 Davis, Harvey  
 Farber, Edwin

Forman, Jack  
 Goldware, Bernard  
 Green, Avrom  
 Greenberg, Saul  
 Greenberg, Walter  
 Grunger, Samuel

Harris, Lee  
 Katzman, Daniel  
 Kuklin, Floyd  
 Lagman, Albert  
 Lehr, Milton  
 Lerner, Sanford

Levinson, Myron  
 Manvitz, Justin  
 Martin, Richard  
 Pearlman, Philip  
 Potash, Leonard  
 Potash, Yale

Raznick, Byron  
 Richman, Harry  
 Robinson, Ben  
 Rothkop, Theodore  
 Schwartz, Benjamin  
 Solomon, Jack

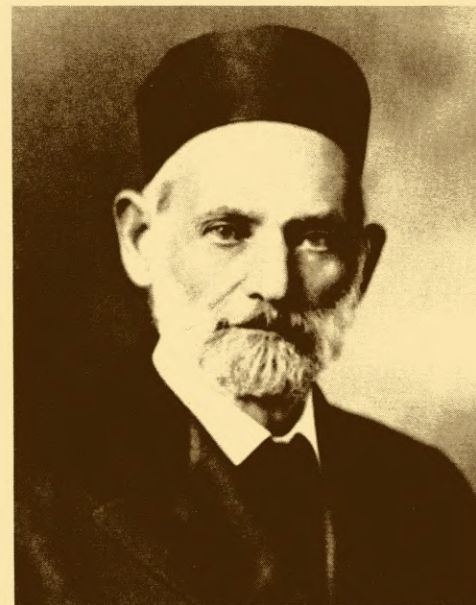
Stern, Donald  
 Thorman, Jack  
 Turkel, Norman  
 Weinstein, Harold  
 White, Lee  
 Zuber, Morton

This page of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity out of the 1947 Cornhusker of the University of Nebraska was sent to us by former UN Professor of Political Science David Fellman who at that time was Chairman of the University Publication Board. Dr. Fellman has since gone on to the University of Wisconsin and to a nationally recognized career as a Political Scientist. At Wisconsin, he occupied the Endowed Chair as Vilas Professor in Political Science for 15 years, was a Fullbright professor at the London School of Economics, and National President of the American Association of University Professors. His latest book "Defendants Rights Today" has received wide recognition as have his other books on defendants rights.

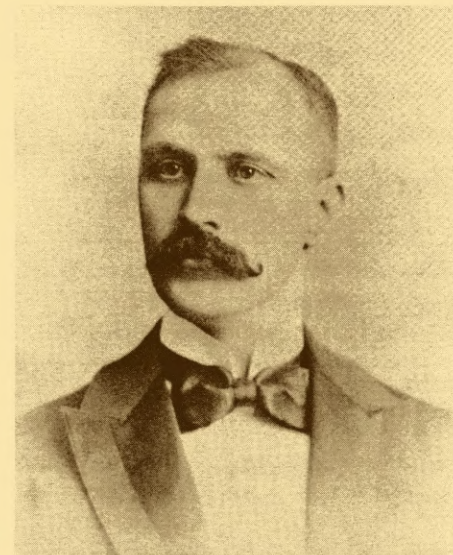


## The Way Things Were in the 1890's Jewish Community of Omaha – A Century has passed into History!

- 1889-92 Rabbi William Rosenau, first graduate of the Hebrew Union College to serve the Congregation of Israel (later to become Temple Israel).
- 1891 New Boston Store was built by the Brandeis family at Northwest corner of 16th and Douglas and was destroyed by fire in 1894.
- 1891 Establishment of Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and Jewish emigration, colonization and resettlement of Eastern European Jews in Nebraska.
- 1891 Metropolitan Social Club built a club house at 21st and Harney.
- 1890 Bikur Cholim Society rented the former Garneau church building at 12th and Jackson. Started a Shabbat school for "poor Jewish youth". Rabbi Benson conducted services.
- <sup>1908/2</sup>  
~~1891~~ Charles S. Elgutter, Isadore Ziegler, Martin Sugarman among the first Jewish attorneys to begin law practice in Omaha
- 1891 Abraham J. Blotzky set up a fruit business which grew into a large commission business later operated by sons Louis and Paul
- 1891 Rabbi Henry Grodzinsky was the first Orthodox Rabbi engaged in Omaha
- 1892-98 Rabbi Leo Franklin, 22 years old, came to Temple Israel for six years.
- 1892 Omaha Hebrew Club gave conventional charity, provided legal assistance for members
- 1892-3 Political clubs appeared: The Hebrew Silver Club, the Omaha Hebrew Republican Club, Nebraska Jewish Republican Club
- 1893 Max Meyer lost his business of 30 years during the great depression and eventually moved out of Omaha.
- 1895 Omaha Lodge #130, Independent Order Brith Abraham and Young Men's Benevolent Association founded by a group of recent immigrants.
- 1896 National Council of Jewish Women Omaha Chapter founded by women of Congregation of Israel.
- 1897 Lithuanian Jews started congregation Beth Hamedrosh Hagodol
- 1898 Edward Rosewater, promoter of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition



Rabbi Henry Grodzinsky



Samuel Katz  
Temple Israel First President



Dr. Leo M. Franklin  
Temple Rabbi 1892-98

### Temple Israel Celebrates 120 years of the Good Life!!

The NJHS Exhibit honoring Temple Israel opens June 3, 1991.  
Share your pictures with us! Call-Come in.



This is the first Temple Israel, which was located at 23rd and Harney Streets and which was also the first Jewish synagogue in Nebraska. The present Temple Israel stands at 7023 Cass St.

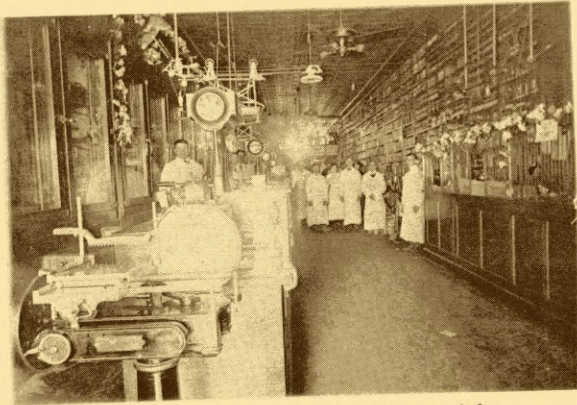
**Businesses and  
Store Fronts of Yesteryear  
We Need More From  
YOU!**



M. Dave Brodkey Furniture Store in South Omaha. 1895



Goldstein-Chapman's, 16th and Farnam



Original Table Supply, Nathan Simon left, co-owner B.A. Simon



Ben Soshniks Grocery Store, Council Bluffs, 1933



Uncle Sam's (Siporin) Market, 1404 N. 24th, 1955



Sol-Novitsky grocery, 1915, 1010 No. 16th

*Samuel  
Lois' Grandfather.*

# New Members Since October 1990

## New/Life Members

Pam & David Gross

## New Members

Bernice & Morris Adler  
 Joe & Freda Bucheister  
 Esther Rae & Leon Chesnin  
 Anne G. Cohn  
 Betty Falk  
 Barbara & Warner Frohman  
 Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Goldberg  
 Sylvia & Henry Greenberg  
 Francine Hornstein  
 Richard Jacobson Family  
 Dr. Harold Kaiman  
 Alan & Doree Kalfen & Family  
 Rabbi & Mrs. Mendel Katzman  
 Sam & Helen Kovitz  
 Mrs. Leah Kupfer  
 Carolyn & Bernie Magid  
 Harold Mann Family  
 Joan Marshall  
 Leonard Nathan  
 Sonia Danbaum Rabin  
 Lola Reinglass  
 Bruce & Carol Rosen  
 Ed Rosen  
 Rebecca Rosenbaum  
 Nell M. Rubinow  
 Bruce & Liz Shakman  
 Dorothy S. Shapiro  
 Helen & Mort Soiref  
 Betty Weissman

## Patron Members

Ellie Batt  
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 Barbara & N.J. Rips  
 Dr. & Mrs. Paul Saltzman  
 Jean & Robert Waldman  
 Beryl Weiner  
 Joyce & Sidney Weisman  
 Janis & Donald Yale

.....

## A bit of information about our guest speaker on June 16th

Rabbi Dr. Richard A. Freund is Associate Professor of Philosophy and Religion at the University of Nebraska at Omaha where he teaches Bible, Judaism, and World Religions. Before coming to Omaha he served as a professor of Judaic studies at St. Lawrence University in upstate New York and the University of California at San Diego

We are very pleased to have Dr. Freund as our guest and speaker about "great-grand parents in Jewish history". It is a fascinating subject! Join us Sunday June 16th at 2:00 p.m.

## Archival Notes From Ophira

I thought you would like to know what has been happening in our small but crowded archival office in the past six months. We are now very happy to own an IBM PC computer which was donated to us to use for cataloging the archival material and our membership list, thus being up to date with other archives in the country.

I am happy to say that our NJHS archives have been used for research by several university students. We also received numerous requests from all over the country about Nebraska families. Among them: Monsky, Brandeis,

Holzman, Bloomfield, Mayer, Holland, Ginsberg, Ginsburg, Horwich, Rubenstein, Rabinowitz, Rosewater, Kaiman and Moskowitz.

We have material on some of these families because you gave it to us, and we would appreciate receiving additional material to help other people compile information about their families.

We would also appreciate some help in identifying hundreds of photos. You do not have to spend too much time here. Just stop by, and say: "I have half an hour (or more) to look at photos". And even if you are only passing by, stop in and say "Hello" to us and we will be glad to show you around, and explain our work.

See you at the NJHS Archives, Ophira Bahar, Archivist

## Thank You From NJHS

The Board and staff of NJHS would like to extend a special thanks to Alan Simon of Omaha Steaks International for his generous donation of an IBM Computer.

**Gift a membership!**

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- Sponsor.....50
- Organization.....30
- Donor .....25
- Family .....15
- Individual or Student.....10

**Tell your Nebraska Jewish Friends about the NJHS**

# The Way We Were!



The Racusin Children and Mother  
 Left to right: Sadie Cherniss, Edna Rosenthal,  
 Clara Butler, Fannie Abrahamson  
 Middle row L to R: Billy Racusin, Geta Romon  
 Racusin Mazie, Marie Blacker  
 Front row: Lena Rosinsky, Rose Levin



The Arbitman Children  
 Mary (Fellman), Annie (Allen) and Morris



Brother Daniel and sister  
 Louise (Abrahamson) Miller



Doris Levenson (Haykin) and  
 sister Jean Levenson (Duitch)  
 1943, in Beth El's First  
 Talmud Torah Graduation.

The Adler Girls  
 Alice (Goodman) Back row  
 Evelyn (Zysman) and  
 Sylvia (Brodkey)



Searching for more  
 photos of brothers,  
 sisters, cousins, etc.

NJHS  
 333 S. 132nd Street  
 Omaha, NE 68154  
 Mary Fellman and  
 Louise Abrahamson, Editors

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