

The NEWSLETTER



of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society

333 S. 132nd St., Omaha, Nebraska 68154

February 1997



New Board of Directors: Backrow (left to right): Charlotte Slutzky, Ben Nachman, Bob Belgrade, Sheldon Kushner, Karen Pollak. Front row (left to right): Mary Fellman, Joanie Bernstein, Morris Lipp, Louise Abrahamson

1997

Board of Directors

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Morris Lipp

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Barbara Morrison-Bresler

Joanie Bernstein

Mary Fellman

Layout & Design

Julie Franks

Annual Meeting Draws a Crowd

The 14th annual meeting of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society was held November 3, in the Gordman Center of the JCC. Bernie Jonisch, outgoing President, spoke about 'goings on' at the society and introduced Barbara Morrison-Bresler, new Archivist/Historian who gave an update of Archival happenings. Mary Fellman, co-founder and Executive Director of the NJHS, described some of the endowments the Society has been fortunate enough to receive and told of how the funds have been used.

Charlotte Slutzky, along with David

Berman and Sharon Berman Allen presented the Shirley Berman Volunteer Award to Iz "Boggy" Bogdanoff. Everyone was invited to the opening of the Wall of Synagogue History exhibit in the adjoining Riekes Museum.

Progress on New Wall

The "Wall of Generations" in the entry hall to the Riekes Museum and the Gordman Center is in the works. Ideas for the wall, under the professional planning of Robert Bodnar of Robert Bodnar Company Museum Design will be presented to the NJHS exhibit committee in February.

The wall was endowed by Joe and Audrey Kirshenbaum, Joe and Maxine Kirshenbaum, and Kevee and Myrna Kirshenbaum in honor of and in memory of their parents. Look forward to the first showing of the new exhibit this year.

In this Issue...

- NJHS Honors "Boggy"
- New Archivist for NJHS
- Thoughts from Mary
- High Tech
- Wall of Synagogue History



Calendar of Events

March 5 Western Heritage Museum Tour-

Learn about the museums archival photography department and how to care for your own family photographs and heirlooms. Call 444-5027

June
Our first exhibit 100 years of Jewish Organizational Life

July 13-17
International
Conference of
Jewish Genealogy
in Paris, France
1-800-787-7457

October:
Back by Popular
Demand -
24th Street Exhibit

We're Celebrating!
NJHS 15th
Anniversary

**Sweetheart
Reunion Dance-**
Get out your old
BBYO Ad Books,
Photos and
Memorabilia

Coming Soon!
Travel & Leisure -
Trip to Historical
Jewish Chicago

A Message from Louise Abrahamson ...Chairman of the Board

Dear Members of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society:

My being involved in this wonderful organization has been one of the most exciting decisions I've made. It has enhanced my retirement years and has given me food for thought about what future generations will know and remember about our past.

Events do leave their mark and are deeply engraved on our mind; however, if there is no record or no recording, all is forgotten. We cannot and must not permit this to happen! As long as grandparents, parents, and family are living, information is available concerning past events and happenings. Once relatives are gone we must look elsewhere - to correspondence

with others, such as teachers, classmates, childhood friends, and to the Historical Society. They are great sources of remembrance and can often fill in the gaps that are missing.

I urge one and all of you to take the time to record your stories. Take the time now. It is vital that we record the discussions, the events, the opinions of times past so that we can forge a future from lessons of vision and courage in our past. Bring or send in photos of your families and businesses. These will add to our understanding of a beautiful heritage. Won't you help set the pace for the future of the NJHS by reminiscing and documenting?

Ruth Riekes Richards Remembered



A major endowment in memory of Ruth Riekes Richards has been made to the NJHS Henry and Dorothy Riekes Museum by her husband Morton Richards and daughters Nancy Friedman and Suzanne Singer.

The endowment, in recognition of the beauty and significance of the former Kapulier Synagogue ark, is, according to her family, "a perfect celebration of Ruthie's life."

Her daughter Suzanne said that "there were three pillars that formed the foundation of Mother's life--her religion, the Jewish community, and her family." "Ruthie" was active in many Federation Women's campaigns, synagogue, Hadassah, and Council for Jewish Women's activities throughout her lifetime.

A plaque will be placed next to the ark to recognize the generosity of the family of Ruth Riekes Richards.

Shirley Berman Volunteer Award Presented

Lifetime community volunteer Iz "Boggy" Bogdanoff was the recipient of the Shirley Berman Volunteer Award at the 14th annual meeting of the NJHS. Presenting the award, an inscribed marble obelisk clock, was past recipient Charlotte Slutzky along with David Berman and Sharon Allen, children of Shirley Berman.

Friends and admirers of 85 year old "Boggy" were profuse in their praise of this "man of good deeds." Former Senior Activities Director Mollie Delman said that "Boggy" would bring participants to enjoy the lunch at her Monday and Tuesday "Walk-in" programs, while he always "came to help, not to eat." Cantor Leo Fettman credited "Boggy," his friend of 22 years, with a call every Friday before Shabbat with "good Shabbos wishes" and noted that Boggy helped make a minyan every day either



"Boggy" Bogdanoff

at Beth Israel synagogue, the old Kapulier shul or the Blumkin Home. "He is a gentleman and a very gentle man", said Fettman. According to Tevie Turkel, daughter of Boggy's late friend Iz Bernstein, "dad called Boggy a good Sam because he is a good samaritan."

In his youth "Boggy" was a baseball and basketball player of note, and later an active member and officer of B'nai Brith. He worked at Nebraska Clothing Company for many years and was a partner in the Wardrobe for Mens Store with Milt Yudelson until retirement. Boggy is the father of two children, grandfather of five and great grandfather of four.

New Archivist for NJHS

Barbara Morrison-Bresler has been named Archivist-Historian of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. Since taking the position in early August, Barbara has been involved in writing a program for the computer catalog of the society's archives, accessioning voluminous new donations, and preparing several exhibits.

Mrs. Bresler recently was a staff member at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, Teaching and Learning Center. She holds a Bachelor of Art History from the University of Texas and a Masters in

Landscape Architecture from the University of Georgia. The emphasis of her studies has been historic preservation, documentation and archival research. Barbara also has several years of advertising and retail display experience, which are assets for working on exhibits, newsletters, brochures, and the Society's journal.

Barbara is the daughter of Shirley Mizes Morrison and the late Dr. Donald Morrison. Barbara and her husband Scott Bresler have two children.

High Tech Comes to the NJHS

At the Annual meeting, Sharon Berman Allen and David Berman announced the gift of a Hewlett Packard Scanjet Optical Scanner to the NJHS. The gift is from them and their sister Susan Anderson in honor of and in memory of their mother Shirley Berman. The scanner, a piece of advanced technology, will enable the NJHS to keep photographic

images in computer files while minimizing the handling of the often fragile originals. Less handling will ensure preservation for generations to come. The scanner will also provide a way to make copies of loaned photographs, which we can return to lenders. We are very excited to receive such a generous new piece of hardware.

New Members are Invited...

We request the help of our members to encourage individuals to become members of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. Your assistance in inviting family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues to become members of the Society helps us fulfill our mission, provide services, and share programs with Omahans, outstate

Nebraskans, as well as those living out of state. Membership also makes a great gift for any occasion.

You can help by calling Dottie Rosenblum at 402-334-6441.

Membership information will be sent to you or someone you know.

Current Research at NJHS

Research going on at the NJHS Carl Frohm Archival Center:

Several students in Oliver Pollak's Jewish History class are researching the following topics:
Thorpeian Athletic Club
Harry Trustin
Camp Esther
Newman
Round Table of Jewish Youth/Jewish Youth Council

We have enjoyed working with them and trust their research papers will be scholarly and will be valuable additions to our archives.

BENEFACTORS
from \$1,000 to
\$100,000

- Frances & Norman Batt
- Pennie Z. Davis
- Rosaline & Sam Epstein
- Betty & Max Falk
- Mary Fellman
- Shari and Kerry Fields
- Nancy & Marvin Freedman
- Janie & Gary Fruchtman
- Ruth & Arthur Goldstein
- Shirley & Leonard Goldstein
- Herbert Goldsten*
- Rose & Gary* Gross
- Pam & David Gross
- Pearl & Gerald Gross
- Diana & Norman Hahn
- Ellen & Michael Hornstein
- Barbara & Louis Kahn
- Audrey & Joe Kirshenbaum
- Maxine & Joseph Kirshenbaum
- Myrna & Kevee Kirshenbaum
- Ethel* & Philip Klutznick
- Laurie & Bryan Misle
- Bernice Falk
- Mittleman
- Ramelle & Hubert Monsky

- National Council of Jewish Women, Omaha Section

- Patty & Steve Nogg
- Lee Jane & Sol Parsow
- Carol & Alan Parsow
- Kit & David Parsow
- Margo & Jay Parsow
- Debra & Steven Parsow
- Morton Richards
- Dorothy & Henry Riekes
- Elise & Norman Rips
- Joan & Norman D. Rips



Thoughts from Executive Director Mary Fellman...

"WOW" is about the best word I can use to describe the growth of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society this past year! Come visit our new enlarged combination archival center and business office at the JCC.

You will say "WOW" too. Our developing museum endowed by Henry and Dorothy Riekes is definitely another "WOW" since the unusual Wall of Synagogue History has been completed. It is a rich addition to our historical endeavors and a "must see." Call to make an appointment for a tour for your family, friends, and organizations.

We are moving in many directions at the same time with the excellent input by our archivist Barbara, our new president Joanie Bernstein, and many devoted members. And yet, reluctantly, I must share this thought with you.

In order to continue our important work

of gathering, computerizing, dissemination, exhibiting the history of the Jews of Nebraska, we need financial support of more benefactors at \$1,000, more life members at \$500, and hopefully more endowers at \$5,000. We couldn't have done what we have accomplished in the past almost 15 years if it wasn't for those who have already been so generous with us. We hope you will consider being a part of this group. It's true we are the largest Jewish Historical Society in the U.S. It's true we are proud of our supportive general membership. It is essential that we continue to do the important and unusual historical work we are now engaged in!

So, just call me at 402-393-3144 and let's meet and talk about how your family can be a major part also of remembering the past by giving us the financial support we need to continue to move ahead.

Yiddish Anyone?

Many people recently had the opportunity to attend the ninth annual Philip M. and Ethel Klutznick Symposium co-sponsored by the Jewish Cultural Arts Council, Jewish Federation of Omaha, and Creighton University. This year's topic

was *Yiddish Language and Culture: Then and Now*. Among the interesting guests and speakers from around the globe were several locals. Nebraska Jewish Historical Society co-founder and former President, Oliver Pollack gave a visual history lesson on the Yiddish Theater in Omaha. Robert Eisenberg, author of *Boychiks in the Hood* and Dr. Richard Freund from University of Nebraska, Omaha also spoke.

In conjunction with the symposium, the NJHS prepared a mini-exhibit displaying artifacts of Yiddish culture from our collection. Included were photos of Julius and Edith Schneider and Mary Brown, local Yiddish theater actors; a membership certificate to The Workmen's Circle

Arbeiter Ring (1918); The Constitution and By-Laws of the Omaha Hebrew Club (1928); and a 1917 copy of *A Romance of a Horse Thief* by Joseph Opatoshu. Also on display were flyers announcing meetings of Hadassah groups and the Mamaloshen society.

The society welcomes members of the community to donate other Yiddish language items pertaining to Omaha Jewish life. Of particular interest are brochures and posters of Yiddish theater and music productions in Omaha, photos, advertisements, and other Yiddish language memorabilia. If you or someone you know is interested in donating items please contact Barbara at 334-6441 or 6442.



Ad in Jewish Press, 1921

Omaha Chapter of Hadassah
PRESENTS
The Original Vilna Troup
IN TWO PERFORMANCES

Wed. Evg. April 6 - - - - The Dybbuk
Thur. " " 7 - - - - Mirele Efros

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

SEATS \$1.50 AND \$1.00 Exchange at Box Office

Theatre Ticket



Interesting Collections Received

Jewish Cultural Arts Council

JCAC, has donated 8 linear feet of information relating to Jewish arts and cultural activities from the years 1982 — 1994. We are very grateful for these files which include minutes of the Council and its various committees, slides and informational brochures on visiting exhibits, films, and speakers and programs pertaining to annual Yom Ha'Atzmaut programs. There is information on the Mamaloshen Society, the College of Jewish Learning, the Klutznick Symposiums, and many other interesting cultural events hosted by the J.

Does anyone have information, stories, brochures, posters, memorabilia from earlier activities of the original Cultural Arts Council?

The Ronell - Rosenblatt Collection

These are materials donated to us from Bob Cowan, executor of the Ann Rosenblatt estate. This acquisition is a portion of an even larger collection, part of which is at the Academy of Motion Picture Sciences in Beverly Hills, and part of which was sent to the New York Public Library, Music Division. The boxes include diaries, photographs of the 1920's and 1930's, and scrapbooks from Ann Rosenblatt's (she changed her name to Ronell) Omaha days. One scrapbook pertains to Sol Rosenblatt and the NRA hearings, one to Herman Rosenblatt and Central High theater productions. There are a few Omaha business photos of Rosenblatt's Cut Price Coal Co. and of the Western Hay truck and many family photographs. Materials pertaining to Ann's California days include costume stage jewelry pieces, music, textiles, and photos of family related to her husband, Lester Cowan, the movie producer.

Additionally, Robert A. Russell of Montana has completed a study of the family genealogy which includes the Rosenblatts, Rabinowitzs, and the Cowans. Along with 100 YEARS IN AMERICA AND OMAHA, NEBRASKA: A Testimonial to Chana Gerstein, Nahum Kranz, Chaym Rosenblatt, and their brothers and sisters, he generously donated to us many of the original documents he found while doing his research. What a valuable addition to our archives!



Jewish War Veterans, Epstein Morgan Post 260

Vera Lewis was very generous in donating to the society JWV materials including songs and letters for events; numerous certificates awarded to Jewish War Veterans of Omaha in recognition of volunteer service to patients during the years 1959-69, 1972-73, 1974-75, 1985 and 1986; and a number of photographs of the Post. Also donated are the Jewish War Veteran's scrapbooks from the 1940's and 1950's and the Epstein-Morgan Post Ladies Auxiliary Scrapbook. Thank you.

BENEFACTORS cont.

- Jeanne Lipsey
Rosenblum
Cynthia & Charles
Schneider
Phyllis & Irvin
Sherman
Alan Simon
Ethelyn & Lawrence
Simon
Judy & Jerry Simons
Suzanne R. Singer
Lynne & Ken
Weinberger
Anna & Ben Wiesman
- Alan & Marcia Baer
Foundation
- Morris C. Fellman
Memorial Fund
- Carl Frohm
Foundation
- Herbert Goldsten
Trust
- Milton S. and Corrine
N. Livingston
Foundation, Inc.
- Henry Monsky Lodge
- B'nai B'rith



LIFE MEMBERS

- Bette & Sam Alloy
Margie & Paul*
Alperon
Bob Belgrade
Beatrice* & Samuel
Bleicher
Frances & Louis
Blumkin
Rose G. Blumkin
Genevieve & Mel
Bornstein
Helen Brodkey
Greta & Marvin Camel
Jack E. Cohen*
Selma & Robert Cohen
Sylvia & Jerome Cohn
Mona & Sol Crandell
Etta & Harold (Bae)
Epstein
Lillian* & Harold
Farber
Mark Fellman
Ronald Fellman

LIFE MEMBERS
cont.

Darlynn & Tom Fellman
Harry Freed*
Sandra & Kenneth
Freed
Sophie Freeman
Lois & Lloyd Friedman
Roz & Ike* Friedman
Saranne & Jerry Gitnick
Rebecca Goldstein
Nancy & Don
Greenberg
Bernice & Norman
Harris
Sylvia Jess
Ferne Katleman
Dora Kirshenbaum*
Howard & Sharon
Kooper
Esther Greenberg Kunik
Dorothy & Louis Lipp
Stanford Lipsey
Sally & Edward
Malashock
Barbara & Stanley
Malashock
Sally & Stanley Mayper
Helen & Leo Meyerson
Frances & Jerome
Milder
Lois & Myron H. Milder
Bernice G. Miller
Tillie Olsen
Ramona S. Pepper
Karen & Oliver Pollak
Ruth & Bernard* Raskin
Elaine Richards
Shirley & Millard
Rosenberg
Rosalie & Milton Saylan
Terri & Phil Schragger
Susan Silver
Lorraine M. Silverman
Norma & Stanley
Silverman
Esther & Stuart Simon
Kathryn & Stephen
Simon
Eleanor & Stanley
Slosburg
Mickey Sturm
Joodi & Norman Veitzer
Ruth & Bernard White
Adele Chasanov Wolf
Elaine & Jim Wolf
Rebecca Wolf
Marsha Zimmerman
Charlotte & Morley
Zipursky

As I See It from the Archivists Chair:

Many people want to know what it is the archivist does? On any given day, I will answer the phone for various research inquiries into Jewish people, events, or places in Nebraska, Omaha, and the plains. I often meet with people when they come in to donate items to the archives and assess the incoming donations as to appropriateness to the Society's goals, By-Laws, and Acquisitions Policy. I determine the best place to file, store, and ultimately retrieve the item and record items in our new computer catalog.



Then there is the storage of our archival collection. Printed materials and photographs are placed in acid free envelopes, folders and boxes. Delicate items and textiles are wrapped in special tissue. Some items must be marked with archivally safe pens. I order these materials.

Another thing this archivist does is prepare materials for display and exhibit. Since I have been here at the beginning of August, I have researched and found materials for four exhibits; the permanent Wall of Synagogue History in the Riekes Museum, a mini-exhibit on the Yiddish presence in Omaha, a mini-exhibit of youth in the 70's, 80's, and 90's, and a mini-exhibit on Hanukkah. What a wonderful crash course in Omaha Jewish history!

Finally, I am familiarizing myself with all kinds of computer software, hardware and the INTERNET to help preserve the past 100 years or so and bring the NJHS into the 21st century. Come by sometime to schmooz, to see what I do, to be an extra pair of hands. Volunteer a couple of hours a week and help identify a photo or two. Join me in exploring the very rich history of Jewish Omaha.

See you soon...
Barbara Morrison-Bresler

“Men of Vision” exhibit was on View in the JCC Gallery until February 12

The display honors Boys Town founder Father Flanagan and his friend Henry Monsky who gave financial aid to help launch the home for boys in 1917. An informal reception was held on January 19 for NJHS board members, personnel from the present Boys Town, and the community. Father Val Peter spoke and members of the Monsky family were present.

The exhibit, originally created in 1989, has been viewed in a number of museums and community centers, including Ellis Island and the B'nai Brith Klutznick Museum in Washington, D.C. Those interested in showing the exhibit may contact Tom Lynch at Boy's Town, 498-1186.



Louise Abrahamson, grandson of Henry Monsky
Father Val J. Peter



Family Trees and Such

We have had a number of phone calls and written inquiries for family history information. In addition to Barbara Morrison-Bresler presenting a talk at the annual Class-a-rama, produced by the Jewish Cultural Arts Council, the following requests have come in:

Sally Tofle of St. Louis is seeking Council Bluffs data on the 1890's-1920's. Her family lived in Omaha too, 1893-1913. Abraham Goldstein, a junk dealer, worked for Aaron Ferer in the Iron Metal business. The name was changed to Chasen or Chazen. The family was originally from Kornetze in Ukraine. Other towns associated with them were Lacherinitz, Bilegerr, Yompele, all in Volynia province.

Perry Ruder, from St. Louis, seeking information on a Miriam Fellman and family.

Alvin Steuer Glazier is still seeking information on his grandparents Moses Hersch Steuer and Bessie Seiden, married in Omaha November 11, 1888. Moses could possibly be Morris Steuer having a grocery on Walnut Street in 1889. Any one having information pertaining to Steuer, Seiden, or Schoeffler families?

Bernie Webman requests information pertaining to his father's burial on March 9, 1917 in Omaha. His father died at either Methodist or Lutheran hospital and we are searching for any information which can lead us to a gravesite in one of Omaha's cemeteries. They were originally from Fremont and relatives include the Weinberg families.

Shirley Morrison seeks relatives of Jack Copeland, born 1900 in Omaha to Joseph C. Copeland and Effie Wallace Copeland. He graduated Central High in 1918, and attended University of Nebraska, Chicago University and Northwestern University. Are there any descendents of Copeland or Wallace still in Omaha?

George Fogelson in Redondo Beach, CA is seeking information on the Meyer family residing in Omaha from 1900 - 1913? Henry and Marie Meyer were born in Germany, their children born in Nebraska were: Adolph 1885, Helen 1886, Charles 1888, and Margaret (Marguerite) 1889.

Jerry Wolfset of New Hempstead, NY seeks information on Kaplans or Naumbergs living in Omaha at the turn of the century.

Frank Denning of Addison, Texas researching maternal grandfather Stanley Casimir Rojewski. His father was Bonifacy Rojewski and his mother's maiden name was Bridget Krajewki, all Polish immigrants. Stanley was born November 16, 1891 in St. Paul, Nebraska in Howard County.

Received an e-mail inquiry...

Abraham (Avrum or Abram) Zlotky died 26 May 1943 in Omaha, Nebraska. Specifically, I want to find his parent's names. His first wife Rosa (Raiza) died about 1899 in Omaha. I would like to know if there is a record, or newspaper account of her death? Abraham married a second time in Omaha, August 1906 to Minnie ??? She died in May of 1939. Would there be a newspaper account of her marriage and death? It was thought that Abraham married a third time, again in Omaha. So that would be between 1939 and 1943, before he died. He would have been about 70 years old. That would certainly make the newspapers?

If you have any pictures, stories, or any other information you would be willing to share about the above inquiries, please contact Barbara or Dottie at 334-6441.



1997 PATRONS

Barbara & Jay
Lashinsky
Sandra & Edward
Belgrade
Rose & Saul Davis
Gloria & Howard
Kaslow
Paul Green
Alan Simon
Mae & Albert Mann
Kim & Jay Noddle
Harry L. Freeman
Joan & Martin Lehr
Guinter Kahn
Jean Waldman
Pearl & Jerry Gross
Nancy & Harlan
Noddle
Sarah & Ted Seldin
Pauline & Milton
Abrahams
Joel N. Cherniss
Betty K. Heyman
Helene & Norman
Krivosha
Frances & Richard
Juro
Joye Harris
Shirley Kulakofsky
Bettylu & Paul
Saltzman
Thama Lee & Willard
Friedman
Joyce & Sidney
Weisman

*Deceased



NEW MEMBERS SINCE 7/96

Bonnie Colcher
Gesher Newsletter
Barbara Gottlieb
Samuel Kirbens
Sarah & Julius (Doc)
Schreiber
Lesli & Michael
Shrago
Grace (Wolhner)
Weinstein
Sheldon Waxenberg



**Recent
Acquisitions
May 1996 -
January 1997**

Leonard L. Friedel
Photo of Leonard Friedel; photo of Monument honoring the 261st Medical Battalion of the 1st Engineer Special Brigade, 1944; aerial photograph of Normandy Beach; two issues of The Stars and Stripes

Hanna & David Gradwohl
Trunk from Germany with linens, bread box, leather boxes, Stationery, German Judaica books, and other items. Family genealogical information on Gradwohl, Speier, and Rosenberg families of Lincoln, NE

Thama Krasne Friedman
Plaque from Temple Israel for Millard Krasne (President June 1962-May 1964); Photo of Civic Center Plans-4/16/63; Scrapbook of Krasne news, Red Cross and Council Bluffs; Memoriam Book for Sara R. Krasne

Saranne Kaplan Gitnick
Various Plaques and awards from Federation and the JCC; BSE Degree, Univ of Ariz., May 1965; Address list - Offspring of Michael and Golda Kulakofsky, 1989; Wedding Pictures and announcements; School photos



Goldsten Wall of Synagogue History Exhibit Available for Viewing

The Society was very pleased to complete this exhibit, a retrospective of the congregations and their buildings in Omaha, Lincoln, and Council Bluffs that was made possible by a very large endowment from the Herbert Goldsten Trust.

The exhibit consists of 4 levels. At the very top are six halftone photos of life from our synagogues; a bar mitzvah, a wedding, marching torahs from an old synagogue building to a new home, laying a cornerstone for one of our synagogue structures in 1921. These photos create a wall-paper effect, providing a backdrop for the rest of the exhibit.

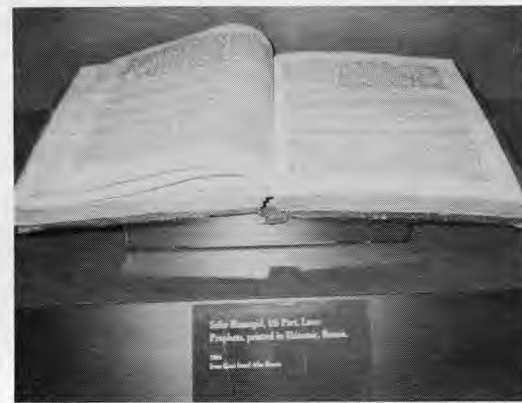
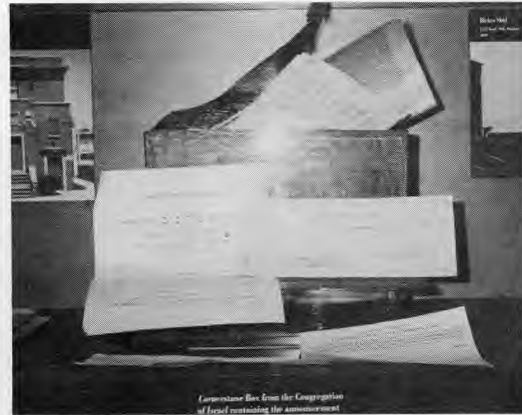
A three dimensional lighted representation of nine synagogue buildings forms the second level. Below this is a timeline of significant events for the congregations including their incorporations, name changes, and construction of the buildings.

A display case of unusual documents and synagogue objects from our archives is on the lowest level. Included are such

items as a cornerstone box from the South Omaha synagogue, also known as Congregation of Israel, a brass and copper washing cup from the Kapulier Shul, and a Constitution and By-laws booklet from the Congregation Bnai Jacob Anshe Sholem, 1922, written in Yiddish. Also displayed are a leather bound Siddur printed in Budapest found in the Kapulier Shul and a design award certificate given to Congregation Beth Israel from the American Institute of Architects.

In addition to the NJHS committee that assisted with the planning, Bob Bodnar was retained as exhibit consultant, designer, and "magician" to make this part of our museum a reality. Working with him was Doug Hartman, a researcher, editor and writer.

Committee members were Marty Shukert, Sharon Kirshenbaum, Mary Fellman, Margo Riekes, Bernie Jonisch, Ducky Milder, Barbara Bresler, and Dottie Rosenblum.



Recent Acquisitions cont.

Jerry M. Gitnick
 Numerous honorary plaques and framed citations for Judgeship, Bench and Bar of 4th Judic. Dist.; O Book, 1948; Reunion O Book, 1968; Creighton U. Yearbook 1954; Diploma Central High School, 1948; Elem. Lake School Certificate of Grad., 1944; newspaper clippings and various certificates

Anna (Tretiak) Gitnick
 Application for citizenship, no date; Framed photo of Ruth Hahn

Alon Mor/BBYO
 Chapter Charters for groups Weizman #1510 and No. 1; Miriam Albert Chapter Honor Roll, August 1984 to MZ Yoshanah; Chapter Charter Ediar BBG #710; Proclamation from Mayor Michael Boyle, May 3, 1984 AZA DAY; Kerrey Nebraska Proclamation, Soviet Jewry Solidarity Day, March 14th, 1983

Bob Gorelick
 Album of 6 Yiddish Phonograph 78's

Jewish Press
 Portrait of David Blacker; "Because of You" framed Distinguished Service Testimonial

Goldie Zusman Fineman
 Article about Mayer Gorelick's 100th Birthday from the California Senior Citizen, La Canada, CA: Genealogical info on Zusman

- A. Opening of "Wall of Synagogue History" in Riekes Museum
- B. Central section of "Wall", Beth Hamedrosh Hagadol
- C. Cornerstone box from South Omaha Synagogue, Congregation of Israel
- D. Sefer Hamagid, 1866, Zhitomir, from Bnai Israel Adas Russia
- E. Howard Kaslow, Mary Fellman, Karen Pollak viewing exhibit

**Recent
Acquisitions
cont.**

A Potato Hanukkah?

Debbi Brown, Assistant Director at the Anti Defamation League / Community Relations Committee, received an invitation to participate in "Winter on the Homestead 1996" at the Homestead National Monument of America, a subdivision of the National Park Service. This years "Festival of Prairie Cultures" focused on the different groups of people who lived on the plains during the homesteading era and the wide diversity of cultures that existed.

Debbi felt this a "window of opportunity" to educate Nebraskans about the winter celebration of Chanukah. With the participation of Barbara Bresler, Archivist of NJHS, and Dottie Rosenblum, office manager, a package was assembled and sent to Beatrice, Nebraska.

What seemed like a small project became much more. According to Debbi, "we tried to be true to the homestead

period and authentic in our presentation. There were handouts about the story of Chanukah, information about the custom of receiving "gelt," a "latke" recipe, the April 14, 1995 edition of the Jewish Press with historic information and stories about so many of our outstate Jewish Nebraskans. And even a potato hanukkah! Yes, Jewish homesteaders brought with them potatoes to eat and candles for light. Our Jewish mothers and grandmothers often made their own orange candles for the holiday. A hanukkah both practical and portable. Just like the exhibit.

Constantine J. Dillon, Superintendent said the exhibit drew comments of interest and allowed visitors to the Park a greater understanding of Jewish winter traditions and the celebration of Chanukah on the vast prairie land of Nebraska. **The NJHS was pleased to collaborate on this interesting project with ADL/CRC.**



JCC Sukkah, 1970's

Celebrations!!!

The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society recently received an invitation to participate in two very interesting projects. One, with the National Homesteaders monument in Beatrice, Nebraska and one from the Skirball Museum in Los Angeles. What they have in common is CELEBRATIONS.

The Homesteaders as noted in the above article were interested in Winter celebrations among various ethnic groups living on the plains. We responded with information pertaining to the difficult day to day life on the prairie of European Jewish settlers and the celebration of Chanukah and winter weddings.

The Skirball is building a Sukkah as a permanent part of their collection. We want to send

photos or photocopies of families, individuals, classrooms, youth groups, congregations, decorations, and the like for our contribution to this worthwhile project. CAN YOU HELP? Do you or anyone you know have photos or memorabilia from the Sukkot holiday? For that matter, do you have items pertaining to the celebration and observance of other Jewish or American family celebrations? Please call us to donate these items and contribute to a fuller understanding of how our Nebraska and Western Iowa Jewish communities celebrate.

family and businesses
M/M Israel Goodman, Milwaukee
40th Anniv.
Celebration brochure for Tifereth Israel, Lincoln; Souvenir Edition paper about the Cornhusker Hotel

Dr. Jerome Bleicher/ Council Bluffs Synagogue
Film, Bnai Brith Israel Commission, "Mine Eyes Have Seen..." 1959

Harry Otis
Transcript of two pages from Oral History of Jo Fishel

Molly Delman
Box of Film Strips from Sher Home

Bucky Greenberg
Pocket Knife from Leo Rosenthal Pipe Shop, 206 South 17th, Omaha, Brandeis Theater Bldg.

Elaine Frank Richards
news clippings - Let's Get Acquainted... A. D. (Al) Frank; Dr. Muriel Frank and Dr. Maurice Steinberg get married March 13, 1950; Photo of Al Frank; Art show, Beth-El Sisterhood May 3, 1963

Leonard G. Kulakofsky
Tzitzes belonging to grandfather Michael Kulakofsky; Diploma, 8th grade, Mason school, Louis K., Louis's bar mitzvah Tallis from 1906.

Jan & Karen Libman
Milton Livingston Testimonial Dinner

Mazel Tov! Mazel Tov!

A new exhibit "In Honor of thy Father and Thy Mother" remembering 50th wedding anniversaries and family reunions is now being developed for one of the walls in the Jewish Community Center "Hall of History." This wall has been endowed by the children of Lee Jane and Sol Parsow in honor of their recent 50th wedding anniversary and also in



Lee Jane Greenberg &
Sol Parsow
January 19, 1947



Maxine Rifkin &
Milton Simons
December 23, 1945

honor of the 50th anniversary of Maxine and Milton Simons. The Parsow children are Alan and his wife Carol, David and Kit, Jay and Margo, and Steven and Debra. The Simons' children include Dr. Jerry and Judy, Carol and Alan Parsow, Laurie and Bryan Misle, Shari and Kerry Fields. A plaque in their honor will be affixed to this wall.

Other celebrants of 50 or more years of marriage are asked to bring their family pictures to the NJHS Archival office for

inclusion in this permanent exhibit. Family reunion photographs will also be included. All photos must be identified before being exhibited.

According to NJHS President Joanie Bernstein, the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society is grateful to the families of the Parsows and Simons for continuing Jewish tradition in "honoring our fathers and mothers" who have been blessed with 50 years of married life.

President Joan Bernstein Writes about Blumkin Home Exhibit

The arctic cold that blew into Omaha during the month of January has given many of us reason to sit by a warm fire, read a good book, or lounge around with family and reminisce about the "good old days."

No group of people enjoys sharing stories about old friends and family members more than the residents of the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home. The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society will soon be providing a new and ever changing exhibit in the small dining room at the Home. It will include photographs of events, people, and places that will stimulate minds and encourage the sharing of past history. The exhibit which

will change every few months will be prepared by Barbara Morrison-Bresler, archivist.

Barbara Gottlieb, Director of Jewish Senior Services, was delighted when she was approached by the NJHS with their suggestion to provide the exhibit. The newly decorated dining room has bare walls at the moment. The staff at the Home has been searching for an innovative way to make the room look like a small cafe.

Through the cooperation of the Historical Society and the Blumkin Home, a cozy little niche will be provided for both residents and visitors.

Recent Acquisitions cont.

brochure, 1951: photo of Milton w/ Julie Libman grand niece; Photo of Milt/Corinne and David, Mary Jo, & Marcia Belmont

Bess Brodkey
Dr. Philip Sher's book, Wisdom from the Bible and Talmud; Henry Monsky: The Man and His Work by Monsky and Bisgyer

Vera Lewis
picture of the mah-jongg group: Roselle Libowski, Jenny Bear, Reva Ruderman, Dorothy Strauss, Adele Greenberg, Ida Mann, Vera Lewis, Dorothy Peltz

Nancy Taxman
Genealogy info on the Akiba Waxenberg family, related family names: Taxman, Goldenberg, Steinberg, Weinberg, Hurwitz, Siegel, Crespin, Nelson, Abramsky, Regev, Barshadsky. Documents pertaining to Frohm, Taxman, Waxenberg, and Goldenberg families

Linda Mann
Photo of Carl Frohm

Ethelyn Simon
The Michael Kulakofsky Family Oral History", October 1996

Miriam Simon and Josephine Fraenkel
Ca. 1930's Camp Fire Girl Dress and Headband; Family documents including Hand-written and

**Recent
Acquisitions
cont.**

illuminated ketubah from Slutzk, 1909 and cert. of Naturalization for Abraham Srol Rubnitz and wife Esther Molly Rubnitz, 1917; Birth certificates for Abraham and Esther, Russian pharmacy school diploma, high school Slutzk gymnasium diploma and other papers from life in Russia

Don/Ozzie Nogg
Mezuzah, hand carved by David Lazarus, originally gifted to Alex Katz, Ozzie's dad; photo of 1940's party, Highland Country Club at the Paxton Hotel, youth in costume for 4th of July; assorted family and friend photos of Nogg, Perlmeter, Zacharia, Polsky, Nefsky, Fogelson, Fleisher, and Gerelick families

Sam & Mollie Kohn
Photo of 50th Anniversary, newspaper photo of swimmers Evelyn Zweiback Fellman and Molly Ackerman Kohn; assorted family pictures; photo of Sam Kohn, ca. 1940, in front of S & M Grocery at 21st & Chicago

Hal & Madeleine Firestone
Program from Haym Salomon: Patriot '76 and script of the musical play by Firestone and Schwartz

Sally Marer Jonisch and Bernie Jonisch
Photos of Sally

Excerpt of Interview with Bess Haykin Stern, June 12, 1989

Interviewed by Lisa Fried and Debbie Cohen

Interviewer: Bess, can you tell us a little bit about your child history and about your family?

Bess: I was born in Russia and I came to Omaha when I was kindergarten age. I started kindergarten in Omaha at Kellom School. I went to Kellom until the 5th grade. Then my parents moved to the south part of town which had very few Jews at that time. I went to Farnam School.

Interviewer: Could you tell us who your parents were?

Bess: My parents were Grace and Joseph Haykin.

Interviewer: Can you tell us a little bit about what it was like in Russia. When did you come over, etc.?

Bess: I was too little to really remember. I was about 4. I think it took us 15 days to cross the ocean. In those days it was not first class and my mother was seasick the whole time. But we arrived and my father was already here. In fact, my father had made two trips back and forth.

Interviewer: Did you meet him here? (Omaha)

Bess: Yes, he was living here and he met us. We lived on 18th and Clark... in those days it was not a strictly Jewish neighborhood. Most of the Jewish families lived on North 24th Street. We only lived there a short time and then my father had a grocery store on 25th and Cuming Street for a couple years. Then in 1915 we moved to 27th and Howard.

Interviewer: What else can you tell us about your parents? What did they do in Russia?

Bess: In Russia my father worked as a foreman in a match factory. After he came here, he did very difficult work. He was one of those freight people and he got \$15 a week. That was considered a pretty good salary in those days.

Interviewer: What language did your parents speak at home?

Bess: Russian

Interviewer: When did they learn English?

Bess: Well, they just came here. They really didn't have any formal education. They spoke what we used to call "broken

handwriting". When my father was in business he learned to take orders and they could converse.

Interviewer: Do you speak Russian?

Bess: I can understand a few words and my mother taught me a little saying that I can say. There's several people living here who were brought over recently from Russia. There's one man ... he can only understand a little English so I can converse with him in Yiddish. He said he's going to teach me Russian but I don't know who I'll speak to. I did know how to speak it when I came here but I was just a little girl. I had no occasion to use it because my parents spoke Yiddish to us.

Interviewer: So you were brought up with Yiddish?

Bess: Yes, my parents spoke Yiddish. Children learn very fast so as we learned English, we'd speak English to them. But they still used to converse with members of their family, like aunts and uncles, in Yiddish. I can't read or write it but I can speak it quite well. But my brother who was a scholar, he always used the correct Yiddish words for everything. When he was in the war he used to write us letters. We used to laugh so hard when my dad would read his letters to us because he would use Yiddish.

Interviewer: Was it hard for your family to get out of Russia?

Bess: Not in those days. When my father was 80 years old, my brother David persuaded him to write the story of his life. My father could remember when he was 3 years old. So he wrote it in Yiddish and my brother was supposed to translate it into English. Well, my brother passed away very unexpectedly in 1958. But my brother had a friend from New York who went to the University of Nebraska and he lived at our house. He didn't have any parents and sort of adopted us. So he translated the story in a stenographer's notebook in long hand. It's not a book but it's just the story of his life. He gave it to me and I wrote it double-spaced on legal size paper sheets. Then a nephew of mine in Richmond, Virginia made copies so each of the grandchildren has a copy of the story of his life.

Only my oldest grandchildren remember my father. He lived with my husband and me for 19 years. He was a very wise, understanding man and he lived to be

Excerpt of Interview with Bess Haykin Stern (continued)

93. He was a very gentle, understanding man and I quote him all the time. When he had his 93rd birthday, he loved it that all the grandchildren came and the aunts and uncles. Somebody said "Mr. Haykin, how does it feel to be 93? That sounds like a pretty ripe old age." He said, "look my dear, if you don't have birthdays, you're not here." I always think of that.

P.S. Bess Haykin Stern is 93 in 1997. She still lives in Omaha at the Blumkin Home. Her interview and her father's autobiography referred to here in her interview are both in the archives of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society.



Oral History - Video History

We have been consulting with Ben Nachman about the very important work he has been doing to video tape Holocaust Survivors for the Spielberg Project. He is now working with us to teach and guide us through a process to video tape some of the elders in our Jewish Community. WE WANT TO START SOON! If you want to be interviewed, know someone who we should include, or you want to help with the interview process, please call Barbara at 334-6442.

Help Needed for "The Cemetery Project"

NJHS is planning, with the help of volunteers, to undertake a major project - to build a computer database of all Jewish burial information in Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa. This project is part of an international effort by the Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies to survey and index Jewish burials throughout the world. Phase 1 is a listing of the cemeteries; Phase 2 is gathering of data on those interred in the individual cemeteries. Some of the information will come from a survey of gravestones at the various cemeteries, (we need volunteers to go to the cemeteries and record the information, some of which may be in Yiddish and Hebrew). Some information pertaining to deaths and burials will come from the Chevra Kadisha. Some data may also be found in various record books held at the synagogues and temples in our area and outstate. Please call Barbara at 402-334-6442 or 334-6441 if you can help with this project. This will be a great service to the continuation of the story of many families and a great aid for genealogical research.

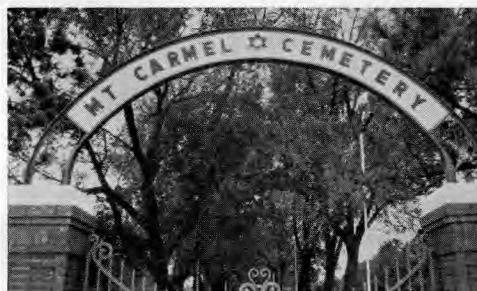


Related to this project, we are searching for more information on the Mount Sinai Cemetery Association, incorporated January 1924, 1886 in Hastings, used by Jewish families of Hastings and Grand Island. Also, in the American Jewish Year Book, volume of 1907-1908, there is mention of B'nai Jehuda Cemetery on N. 14th St. in Lincoln (now called Mount Carmel) and another "DISUSED" Cemetery "two and a half miles north of the city.

Anyone have any information on that?

Have you seen the Jewish Cemeteries of Omaha, Council Bluffs, Lincoln? Do you have any pictures? What about tombstone rubbings?

Get ready for a Spring Tour of Omaha's Jewish Cemeteries!



Recent Acquisitions cont.

Elaine Marer 9th Birthday party; Jenny Rosenblatt, Sara Saltzman, Rose Marer; Wolf Jonisch at the National Bottling Co.; Beth Israel Synagogue Book of Remembrance, 1959; Anne Katzman Commemorative Calendar from Hadassah (Bernie's sister); 1939 news photo of actors in "The Three Bears"; assorted newspaper clippings

Fred Mogul
copy of his article on CB Jewry and Hanukkah, World-Herald

Barb Micek
news clipping from Grand Island Independent, 12/11/96 about Hanukkah in Albion, the Wolfs

National Council of Jewish Women / Kim Noddle
16 Poster boards of historic Council of Jewish Women pictures and brochures; Assorted Council memorabilia including pennants; Table decorations, centerpieces from 100th Anniversary celebration

Joanie Jacobsen / National Council of Jewish Women
2 copies of script "A Sentimental Journey"

Lois Friedman
picture and obit of Harlan Milder from Lloyd Maller, The Crimson and Blue 1920 yearbook of Council Bluffs High

Recent Acquisitions cont.

School, The Cornhusker 1921 yearbook

Pam Kohll
Minutes, by-laws, stationery from the Society for Survivors of the Holocaust 1985-1994

Bernie Webman
Xeroxes of Fremont newspaper articles and advertisements for Mrs. Webman's Grocery; article about Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Grodzinski, written by Yitchok Springer and published in the Yated Ne'Eman paper

Joanie Bernstein
"IF for Council Members" song written by Mrs. Carl Furth, Omaha and program from Midwest Interstate Conference of the Council of Jewish Women, held Omaha, November 1, 2, and 3, 1925

Sadie Fried
3 photos of "the girls" Celia Wolk and friends, circa late 1920's

Barbara Chandler
Photos "from my grandmother's basket": Mrs. Faulk, unidentified child Faulk, Harry and Robert Adreme, Rose Kraft, Rose Biessman, Elaine Lagman, and several other unidentified photos

Harriet Kubby Sperling and Sherm Sperling
Heyn Ball team photo with "the star" Harry Kubby

Jo Rubnitz Fraenkel



From the Mailbag....

My sister and I are enjoying a new copy of Our Story.

The man on page 20 is our maternal great grandfather. The girls pictured on page 143 are our mother Sarah, in the middle, and our aunts. Gertrude Newman is now in her early 90's, lives in Minneapolis, and is doing quite well. She still drives, goes to the office every day, and is an inspiration to the rest of the family. Esther Davis died in May 1992; Sarah Geiger in 1996, at age 83.

My sister and I were recently in Omaha for a family reunion and were most impressed with the Community Center. In the hallway is a picture of "City Talmud Torah - 1925." The young woman in the front row, wearing the dark dress is our mother, Sarah German. The young woman in the center of the rear row is her first cousin, Sarah Baum.

Carolyn Geiger

I was pleased to hear that the new owners of the former Beth-El Synagogue were going to set aside an area to remember Beth-El. Gerald and I were married at Beth-El 49 years ago, our children were Bar and Bat Mitvahs there after years of Hebrew school, my son Mark and Lynn were married there. And now the stately building will stay to remind us, thanks to the new owners.

Sincerely, **Lois Bernstein**

Dear Barbara:

We want to thank you for your time and effort in touring our students through the Jewish Museum and exhibitions at the JCC. The information you shared with our class was interesting and helped the students appreciate their community. Thanks again and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely, **Seth Bornstein and Jane Batt**, Instructors

Dear Ms. Morrison-Bresler,

Thank you for your letter giving me the addresses of the Jewish cemeteries in Omaha. I have written them all today and hope to receive information on the burial locations of many Taxman-Waxenberg-Frohm family members.

I have been corresponding with Sheldon Waxenberg in New York about the family

genealogical study. He tells me there are Frohm family members still in Omaha. Could you send me addresses of any surviving Frohm family members?

From the material I left with you, my husband Robert Taxman, is the son of Milo Waxenberg Taxman and Amelia Urkov Taxman. Milo was the son of Jacob J. Taxman and Sophia Waxenberg Frohm Taxman. Sophia was the daughter of Janus (Joshua) Waxenberg and Edis Waxenberg. Sophia had been married to Will Frohm in 1893, had one daughter Sadie. Sophia married J. J. Taxman in Rock Island, Ill. in 1899. The 1900 census lists Sadie Frohm, step-daughter of J. J. and daughter of Sophia. Birth date for Sadie was 1894. J. J. also had been married before, and had two sons at the time of his marriage to Sophia. I have no idea what happened to their previous spouses. I do not know what J. J.'s first wife's name may have been. As you know, the 1890 census was lost, and what a pity. It would have been important to both sides of our family search.

Thank you for all your help.

Sincerely, **Nancy Taxman**

To the Journal of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society,

I am writing you regarding an article which appeared in your journal: Memories of the Jewish Midwest, Summer 1986. The article is entitled, "Simeon Bloom, Nebraska's First Jewish Lawyer," by Louis E. Lipp.

I would like to ask for permission to reproduce the article in Western States Jewish History, a historical journal that focuses on Judaism's influence on the Western states and the West's influence on Judaism.

Thank you, **Joanne Fine**,
Editorial Assistant, Los Angeles, CA

To whom it may concern:

I am a professional theatre director and playwright working in the Washington DC community, and am currently writing a play about a friendship between an African-American musician and a Jewish butcher in Omaha of the mid-1950's. I chose Omaha as the setting because of fond childhood memories I have of visiting my mother's sister there. She was for many years a domestic who worked primarily in the homes of Jewish

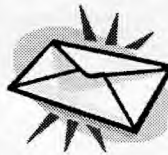
From the Mailbag (cont...)

doctors and businessmen. She often spoke kindly of her employers who treated her with respect at a time when race relations in America were not always amicable.

For historical accuracy, I am looking for information—personal accounts, newspaper articles, etc.—that speak of what daily life in Omaha was for working class, “ordinary” Jews.... I would also like to get a feel for what challenges a kosher butcher faced at that period in history, and if there are place names I can add to my script that would give it more authenticity.

I anticipate producing the play here in Washington in the Fall of 1997,...I hope in some small way it may help promote understanding and compassion between Blacks and Jews who have both suffered from racism and discrimination.

I would be enormously grateful for any assistance or guidance you could give me in this quest.



Sincerely yours,
Jennifer Nelson

Donations

In memory of: Julius Katzman, Richard ‘Pete’ Lee, Bradley Berman, Lazier Kavich, Mort Soiref’s sister, Charlotte Rich, Louis Shafton, Annette Ricklin Oettinger, Janet Stern, Wally Provost, Norman (Bud) Rice, Bernard Raskin, Edwin Milder, Mary Wine, Rae Brodkey, Leo Meyerson, George Kagan, Marilyn Pred, Ruth Kavich, Zoie Reikes’ mother, Bud Bernstein, Paul Sacks, Sarah Osoff, Wilma Jane Balick’s mother, Harold (Skee) Fisher, Ida Potash, Jerry Belzer, Ben Cohen, Dora Weinberg

Birthdays of: Ruth Rifkin, Ruth Belzer, Bob Endelman, Howard Bloom, Tillie Plotkin, Paul Grossman, Annie Allen, Harry Allen, Phyllis Bittner, Stanley Mayper

Anniversaries of: Jo & Stephen Fraenkel, Miriam & Joe Soshnik, Lois & Bob Endelman, Mr & Mrs Stuart Goldberg, Aileen & Leo Eisenstatt, Frances & Jerome Milder, Janet & Ernie Wintroub, Lee Jane & Sol Parsow

In honor of: Shirley Goldstein receiving ‘Honorary PhD of Humanities’ from UNO, Jack Baker named ‘King of Aksarben’, Iz Bogdanoff presented with ‘Shirley Berman Volunteer Award’, Lauren Feigin’s Bat Mitzvah, Rebecca Fellman’s Bat Mitzvah, Birth of Maxwell Charles Gendler, Marriage of Jon & Dana Wintroub

Recovery of: Esther Claire Brown, Marcie Gallner, Barbara Frankel, Irving Forbes, Iz Bogdanoff, Judy Brodsky, Sam Fried, Pam Monasee, Mary Fellman, Paul Sacks, Jack Epstein, Fritz Cassman, Arthur Abrams (Lincoln, NE), Ann Fleishman, Hermene Zweiback, Sylvia Swartz

NJHS Donation cards are available at \$5.00 minimum. Morris C. Fellman Memorial fund cards are available at \$5.00 minimum. Contact Dottie Rosenblum at 334-6441 or send your check information to:
NJHS, 333 South 132nd St.,
Omaha, NE 68154

Recent Acquisitions cont.

SDT Tenth Biennial Convention program, June 22-25, 1940; Testimonial Banquet Program; Convention Bookmark; “Wise Data From Theta”; and set of tickets from the Convention

Beth Israel/Reva Ruderman
SYO-NCSY photo Winter Conclave 1971

Sylvia Bernstein Ross
1916 L'Shanah Tovah postcard



In Memory of our Treasured Members

- Rae Brodkey
- George Kagan
- Julius Katzman
- Lazier Kavich
- Ruth Kavich
- Leo Meyerson
- Edwin Milder
- Annette Ricklin Oettinger
- Marilyn Pred
- Wally Provost
- Bernard Raskin
- Charlotte Rich
- Paul Sacks
- Dora Weinberg

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Tell your Nebraska and out of state Jewish friends and family about NJHS! **Give a Gift of a NJHS Membership for any occasion!**

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The Greatest Influence on My Jewish Identity

This is the topic for the Creative Writing Contest sponsored by the 1997 Morris and Mary Fellman Endowment Fund for Jewish Youth Projects. This competition for young adult writers is open to high school students and young adults up to the age of 40. A 1st prize of \$100 will be given by the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society for the best original short story about your Jewish life in Nebraska and Council Bluffs. 2nd prize will be \$50 and a 3rd prize of \$25 will be awarded.

COMPETITION RULES

1. Authors should submit a typed manuscript of no more than 5000 words which has not been published or received an award.
2. Name, age, address and phone number of the author should appear on a separate cover sheet.
3. Only one entry per author is permitted.
4. Entries become the property of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society which reserves publication rights.
5. Entries should be sent to:
Morris and Mary Fellman Endowment for Jewish Youth Projects
Nebraska Jewish Historical Society
333 South 132nd Street - Omaha, NE 68154
6. Deadline for submitting essays is May 15, 1997.

Judging will take place between June and August. Judges will be announced at a later date. The winning story will be published in the next NJHS journal. Other entries will be entered into the Society's Archives located at the Omaha JCC.

For further information about the contest, contact NJHS, 333 S. 132nd St., Omaha, NE, 68154, 402-334-6441 or 6442.

Beginning in 1997, the Morris C. Fellman Memorial Fund will be known as the "Morris and Mary Fellman Endowment Fund for Jewish Youth Projects." This fund was originally established in 1983 following the death of Mr. Fellman. It has been used to fund the activities and prizes of the Morris C. Fellman Essay Contest and other youth related projects such as tours of Jewish Omaha by the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. The new endowment fund will continue to support the upcoming essay contest, tours of Jewish Omaha for teenagers and other activities such as video oral histories and exhibits of youth.

According to Mary A. Fellman, co-founder and first president of the NJHS, "I hope this endowment fund will bring more young people into the work the NJHS does to remember generations past and teach our high school students how to learn the history of their parents and grandparents." Contributions to the fund are welcomed from persons sending memorials, get-wells, or congratulations. Cards will be sent noting the donation. Please contact Dottie at 334-6441.