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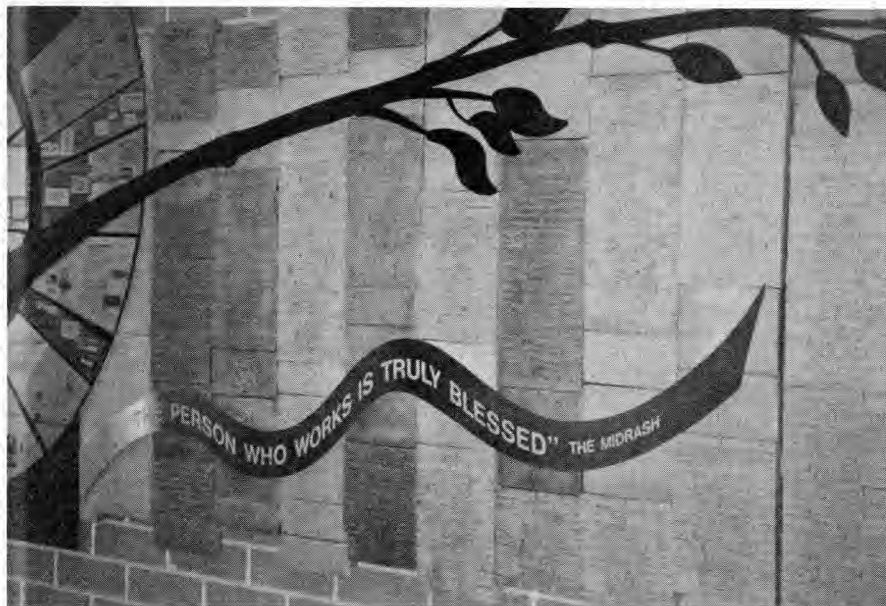
NEWSLETTER



of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society

333 South 132nd St. Omaha, Nebraska 68154 402.334.6441 e-mail: njhs@radiks.net January 1998

**"The person who works is truly blessed."
from the Midrash**



The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society has completed another monumental exhibit. This was a wonderful opportunity to delve into the history of all our business people. We undertook the job of listing and creating a visual display of the businesses that we, our parents, and grandparents started. From pushcart peddler to shopkeeper, from grocer to entrepreneur, little mom and pop shops to the largest and most prestigious of the community's businesses, this permanent sculptural relief is a tribute to all our merchants.

The Society thanks all who contributed and most special thanks go the Kirshenbaums: Joe and Audrey, Joe and Maxine and Kevee and Myrna for endowing and dedicating this work of art "in honor and in memory" of their parents Abraham and Yetta Kirshenbaum, Meyer and Dora Kirshenbaum, Joseph and Gladys Samuelson, Sam and Rebecca Wolf, and Sam and Gussie Zweiback.

For more on this exhibit, see pages 8 and 9.

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The Fifth
Commandment Fund



Video Oral History Project



Winner of Writing Contest
announced



Family Trees and Such



New Acquisitions 1997



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NJHS celebrates our Happy HISTORICAL 15th Birthday!

Can you believe that only fifteen years ago, on October 15th, 1982, the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society started its work of gathering the history of the Jews of Nebraska? And now on October 15, 1997, we marked our 15th birthday with almost 800 members, with a large,

stocked archival center and office, with a spectacular museum, with wall after wall in the Jewish Community Center showing off the history of our Nebraska Jewish population.

And we've done much more as a result of the tremendous effort, research, funding, financial and historical support from so many, many men, women and children, foundations and endowment funds.

It has been an exciting productive 15 years! It has been a time of growth and support from members, benefactors, and life members around the world!

Here's to those who have labored on our behalf! Here's to those who have shared their family history with pictures and stories! Here's to all who have helped us become the outstanding and growing Historical Society we are today!

And here's to the tomorrows where we will remember the yesterdays of Nebraska Jewish life and history!

Encourage the younger generations involvement.
Borrowing from Gail G. Trel, JHS of Greater Stamford....
"This generation (high school classes of 1950-1965) has a special place in time. When one is not quite a teenager, he/she is considered a "pre-teen". We consider younger persons who join the Jewish Historical Society to be "prehistoric".

LOZIER FOUNDATION DONATION
We are very pleased to announce that the Lozier Foundation has donated new industrial strength shelving for the Historical Society's collections storage area. This means that our storage capacity will increase by about 60%, and that is a conservative estimate.
A very SPECIAL THANKS are due Bob Braun, Vice President of Lozier and Alan Lozier, Chairman of the Board.

Shirley Berman Award Presented

Vera Parilman Lewis was the recipient of the Shirley Berman Volunteer Award at the 15th Annual Meeting of the NJHS. Presenting the award, a marble obelisk clock with the inscription "who gives from the heart," were David Berman and Sharon Berman Allen, children of Shirley Berman.

David said it was a special pleasure to present this award to Vera, the mother of one of his best friends, Howard. At the presentation were Howard, his brother Bruce from California, and Vera's sister Sylvia. Friends and relatives at the meeting were pleased to see Vera get the recognition after so many years of volunteer service not only to the NJHS, but also to the American Red Cross, Joslyn Art Museum, Jewish Federation, and Beth Israel Synagogue.

Thank you Vera!



Remembering Yesterday

In the front of "A Girl's Commencement" book of memories given to Sara Fellman Saltzman by her brother Louis is a picture of the High School of Commerce graduate in 1921. The class song was to the tune "Let the Rest of the World Go By." Ida Dolgoff (Potash) wrote "I love pumpkin, I love squash, I love you, I do, by gosh!"

Other notes included those of Esther Potashnik, Sara Weiner, Celia Greenspan, Rosella Klein, Dorothy Rosenthal, Rebecca Azorin, and Anna Minkin. The most interesting is perhaps one written in Yiddish by Sara's mother, Ansa Mittleman Fellman.

Sarah, is now a 94 year old resident of the Blumkin Home. Her commencement book is a priceless memory of high school in the 20's. Undoubtedly there are other such "memory books" in family closets and basement drawers that could be archived at the NJHS. Bring your memories to our Archival office at the JCC.

Mary's Column: Albuming

If you are a gatherer of pictures as I have been all my life you too have sacks and boxes and drawers filled with photographs and articles and items about your children, your parents, your grandparents. etc.

So one day I decided to buy a bunch of photo albums, take out all the pictures from wherever and sort them according to my family, my husbands family, my dads family, my mothers family, and on and on. I started to fill the albums according to subject matter. Would you believe that I have already filled 40 albums and still have at least 20 more to go? One of my friends told me recently that his wife has already filled 80 albums with pictures of all their generations, about five or six back to the middle of the 1800's. Very nostalgic!

According to the publisher of the "Making Memories" magazine making a memory book or photograph album is fun, and you also know you will be passing it on to your children and hopefully to their children also.

Yes, "scrapbooking" can be nostalgic, creative, and historical so I suggest you get yourself some albums and get started!.

And this suggestion about any Nebraska historical pictures of family or events you may have duplicates of or no longer want--bring them, identified, to our NJHS office for our archives. We will add them to the history of the Jews of Nebraska! Have fun "albuming", and remember the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society too!

- Mary Fellman, Executive Director

List of Acquisitions for 1997

WE are sincerely grateful for all the donations of memorabilia we have received for the Archives this year. Thanks to all and we hope we have mentioned everyone.

Saul Libowski

Steamship ticket, 1935, from Germany; Birth Certificate in German, 1923; US draft registration cards, 1948

Leon Frankel, Pa

Clippings about his autobiography donated to the Martin's Run "Residents' Autobiographical Library."

Betty and Buz Rubin

Photo of Lake School, 1934; 1946 Beth El wedding pictures; other family photos

Joe Guss

Photo of Omaha Workman's Loan Association

Marshall Kushner

Advertising memorabilia, Commercial Duplicating Company

Eunice Denenberg

1935 Bill of Sale for Pew at Bait Amedrosh Adass Yashurin, \$100

Debbie Krochtengel, PA

1909 Postcard of Temple Israel

Arnold Stern

Grandmother's passport from Russia, 1910; documents from the Estate of Paul A. Steinberg, including: lease for Omaha Potato Market from dad; birth certificates for Paul, Certificate of Naturalization for Harry and family; army records; and Ketubah for Yaacov Mordechai ben Elisha

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

What better way to honor our mothers and fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers than with a gift to the new sustaining fund, a new category of giving which will enable us to proceed with old and new projects, with growing, with remembering!

The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society

welcomes your participation in THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

Since the founding of the NJHS 15 years ago, we have gathered thousands of historical items for our archives, presented outstanding exhibits for the walls and gallery of the Jewish Community Center, published informative annual newsletters and journals, created the Riekes museum (the first Jewish museum in Nebraska) and much more.

Some of our **future needs and goals** include:

- Video Oral History Project
- Temperature controlled storage and preservation
- Additional archiving and research
- New exhibits
- A lecture series
- Creation of a second museum
- Annual operating budget

These could cost over \$300,000!

In the past we have been blessed by the generosity of foundations and individuals. Now as we continue to grow, we need additional financial support to carry on our important work.

Let us hear from you! We ask for, we invite, we need your assistance to establish "The Fifth Commandment" sustaining fund! Call Mary Fellman, 393-3144 or 334-6441 about your participation in THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT sustaining fund. A lovely plaque honoring you and your parents or grandparents will be located on our Wall of Honor just outside of the Society's office at the JCC.

THANK YOU to those who have already committed to "The Fifth Commandment" sustaining fund!





REPORT: THE STATUS OF INTERVIEWS FOR THE VIDEO ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Ben Nachman, our Oral History Chairman, has notified us that six interviewers have been selected and have been trained. Funds are now available to begin this important work, although we are anxious to secure a large grant or donation to complete the project which we foresee will be a 4-5 year endeavor.

An assessment of the Blumkin Home by Bert Benson identified 15 potential interviewees. The criteria includes being of sound health and willingness to participate. Nine of the fifteen have already been interviewed by Debbie Brookstein.

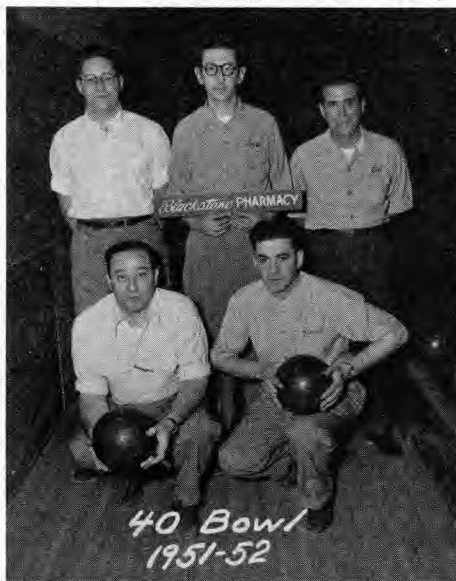
We anticipate a total of 500-1000 interviews in time. We are prioritizing the interviews by age: those over 80 first, then those over 70, 60, and 50. We will attempt to work initially with participants who were born in Omaha and then with those people who came to Omaha at an early age and in actuality grew up here.

If you know anyone we should include or if you wish to be interviewed, please call Barbara or Dottie at 334-6441 or 334-6442. This very important project will assure visual documentation of our vibrant Jewish community.

Bowling balls, pins, teams...

The next time you are at the Blumkin Home visit the small dining room and see the exhibit hung there by the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. There are five panels of photographs of our organizational bowling teams many years ago. You'll see people you remember and still see around town and at the JCC. The Home's residents are delighted with this new addition and we are grateful to our archivist Barbara Bresler, office manager Dotty Rosenblum, and part-time archival aide Bonnie Colcher for making it happen.

The next time you are at the Home ask a resident to join you for a "look-see"! This exhibit will be up for a couple of months and then another exhibit from the NJHS will go up for your viewing pleasure!



List of Acquisitions for 1997

Donald Vann

Photo of Birthday Party, 1930's

Julie Frank/Howard Kaplan

By-Laws and Roster of Members, Omaha Lodge No. 354, I.O.B.B., July 1917; Jacob Fried dues payment receipt for 1918

Bert Lewis

Picture of Jake Wine in Kapulier Shul

Israel M. Goodman

Confirmation Service, Tifereth Israel, Lincoln, 1942; Opening Prayer and Fourth Commandment written by Rabbi Harry Jolt

Carol Katzman/Jewish Press

Ongoing donations of photos and information on various Nebraska Jewish topics

Sandy Kurland

Numerous clippings from Council Bluffs Nonpareil of local interest

Mary Fellman

Talmud Torah Picnic Ticket at Nielsen's Park, July 9, 1911; Ongoing donations of ephemera pertaining to Omaha Jewish Communal life and Jewish contributions to the larger community, 1910-1997

Bob and Connie Kully

Sixteenth Annual ROAD SHOW, Central High School Auditorium from March 1930

Stan Silverman

Photo of Sam & Eva Lebowitz in Sam's Food Market, ca. 1930's; B'nai Brith Souvenir Recipe and Year Books 1951, 1953, 1955, 1957

List of Acquisitions for 1997

Linda Luttbeg/Gail Machov

"Leo's War Stories Revisted," film made for their dad Leo Eisenstatt

Shirley and Al Sorkin

Assorted advertising memorabilia from Rosen-Novak Chevrolet, Novak Cadillac, Julio's restaurant, and City Glass

Lois Epstein

Scrapbook and notecards on the Omaha Committee for Soviet Jewry's Bar and Bat Mitzvah "twinning program", 1981-1991

E. A. Kral

3 Audio tapes of Ann Ronell singing her music

Edward Jablonski, NY

3 video tapes produced by Lester Cowan featuring Ann Ronell's music

Gerald Meyer

Minutes of the pledge class of Beta Tau Kappa fraternity at Omaha University (now UNO) from Sept. 1948 - Feb. 1949

Al Abramson

Workmen's Loan Association brochures, Minutes of the Board of Memorial Hospital 1940-1956, and WMH financial statements of 1926-1929, and information pertaining to 100th Anniversary Celebration of B'nai Brith Omaha

Vera and Bruce Lewis

Photographs, postcards, advertising from Parilman plumbing

Reva Oruch

"Dvarim", 1895 edition, Russian coverplate 1902, belonged to Leo Ostravich

The Archivist's Report: A Place for Volunteers

There is so much going on at the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society, it's difficult to say what is most important or most exciting. There are exhibits which need restoration, there are new exhibits being planned. There are new materials delivered daily for acquisition, cataloging, and storage. There are publicity notices, events, and newsletters to produce.

I have been surveying the contents of our various collections, all of which are referenced somewhere, somehow, but not in a uniform catalog system. One of my major responsibilities is to make these collections accessible for research and exhibits. To enter our collections into the computer catalog system, this means categorizing or re-categorizing each item in the collection or at least each folder in each box. And how many boxes of materials do we have? A quick count of the Carl Frohm Archival Center yields 182 boxes of documents, 77 boxes of photos, and 13 cartons of unsorted materials waiting for accession and distribution into approximately 45 more document boxes. This amounts to about 168 linear feet of historical materials just in our Archives! We have at least this much and more in another storage area, some of which is cataloged and some which is not.

Our collections have grown beyond the confines of our archival space and I see more materials being offered to us that we cannot accept at this time. This translates into the need for more space, which then translates to more money raised and more money allocated into a balanced budget.

In the mean time, we can solve part of the dilemma. Volunteers! Volunteers can check-in materials on our handwritten accession list. Volunteers can work with me to catalog, do minor repairs to items, and then file and store items. Volunteers who are computer literate can help with the computer listings of our holdings. Volunteers can help fill our many research/genealogical inquiries. Volunteers are needed to identify photographs which were generously donated to us before we instituted our policy of accepting "only identified photographs". Perhaps you would like to help us plan events, mount exhibits, or work on this newsletter? Would you like to help us coordinate other volunteers? Whatever your interest, we have a place for you. Please call me at 334-6442 or drop in. See you soon.

- Barbara Morrison-Bresler

Ann Rosenblatt Ronell, continued...

In our last newsletter we described the acquisition of the very interesting Ann Rosenblatt Ronell collection. Shortly after, we received a phone call from a Mr. E. A. Kral in Wilber, Nebraska researching Ann Ronell for a colleague of his, Mr. Edward Jablonski of New York. Mr. Jablonski was writing an article about Ann Ronell for Nebraska Life magazine. We spent one afternoon with Mr. Kral perusing the collection, reading music, looking at photographs and scrapbooks and piecing together some items to forward to Mr. Jablonski.

After several correspondences, they chose a publicity photo of Ava Gardner, Ann Ronell, and Olga San Juan used for the movie "One Touch of Venus."

Since that day we have continued to receive other items for this interesting Collection. We now have audio tapes of the US Army Band in Washington, D. C. playing the "Ernie Pyle Infantry March" (1945), "Rain on the Roof" (1932), three versions of "Willow Weep for Me" including one of Stan Kenton and Orchestra playing, and "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?" with Ann Ronell playing piano and singing with the San Francisco Orchestra, Sept. 1940. These are such wonderful recordings and bring home the voice and music of one of our Central High graduates.

Three video tapes were also forwarded to us featuring Ann Ronell's music, produced by her husband Lester Cowan: One Touch of Venus, Love Happy with Marilyn Monroe and the Marx Brothers, and Commandos Strike at Dawn.

The Fall 1997 issue of Nebraska Life featured the photo and story by Mr. Edward Jablonski. We encourage everyone to review this magazine available at newstands from Hawaii to New England. It is published quarterly, here in Omaha, by Tom and Carol Collignon, 402-391-8018.

Ava Gardner, Ann
Ronell, Olga San Juan



List of Acquisitions for 1997

Sam Kohn

Martha Kohn Krasne's "high school memory book", 1922 Omaha Technical High School

Libby Dolgoff Fremer

Violin

Pam and Henry Monsky

Book, Career of a Nihilist, Stepniak, from Henry Monsky library

Everett Evnen

ZBT Nebraska 1922 framed charter; 3 ZBT Scrapbooks 1940-1953

Robert A. Russell

Biographical material on the Rosenblatt and Rabinowitz families, Morris Rosenblatt, Mollie Rabinowitz Rosenblatt and Lea Rosenblatt Duncan

Lawrence Lanphier

Family photos, artifacts, Hebrew books, sheet music and memorabilia from estate of Hymie Adler

Alvin Ross

Photos of School at old JCC; Omaha Israel Youth Pilgrimage, June 1976; Purim photo, Beth Israel

Helen & Harold Abrahamson

Logo and drawing from Aksarben Fixture and Supply

David Rosenberg

Hastings cemetery clipping; photo of gates of Mount Sinai cemetery

Alan Rosen, CA

"Free Premium Card" from Rosen's Grocery; Clippings of 50th Anniversary of Nate and Bebe Marcus and Nathan Marcus' exhibition; photocopy of Max Rosen in Rosen's Food Center

“The person who works is truly blessed.”

The Story Told

Our newest exhibit is about the economic life of the Jews of Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa. It includes the names of more than 1000 Jewish men and women who were merchants and owned their own businesses. The permanent display, a sculptural relief, occupies two walls at the entrance to the Riekes Museum and is constructed of metal, clay, and plastic laminate.

As artist Milt Heinrich sees it

“This history is still in the process of being written.” The story is told in two ways. “First, there is the picking and choosing of imagery, logos mostly, as if they were from a photo album - start-

ing at the center of the spiral and telling the story.” This spiral that Milt describes is divided roughly by decade and is a dramatic black and gold spiral of photographs, letter-heads, logos, and advertisements etched onto metal.

Milt continues...”Second, identification is not by time line, but by WHO did WHAT. Who were the grocers, who were the tailors... who started which business...” The names of the owners of grocery stores, clothing stores, tailor shops, garages, pharmacies and many other small and sometimes large businesses are carved into small, individual bricks of clay and organized into categories. The names represent the first member of the family to initiate the commercial venture, the one who started the business.

“The branch is like a family tree representing the growth of the merchant community layering symbols over symbols.”

Top: Heinrich and student Moses Thompson

Bottom: Mounting the exhibit

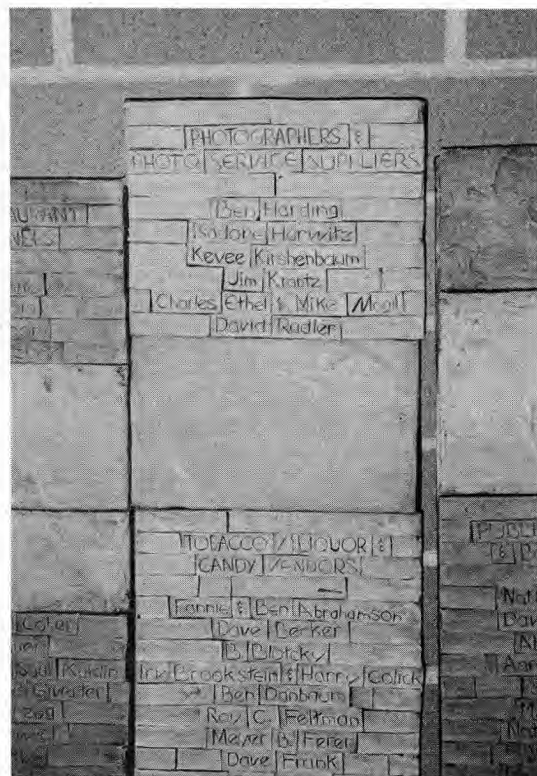


A Community Project

Our members, our Jewish community gave us so much feedback and so many interesting logos, stationery mastheads, and advertisements, editing was difficult. The task of historical documentation was undertaken by our Archivist Barbara Morrison-Bresler and the Sculpture Artist Milt Heinrich. Our ready assistants and ever vigilant researchers were our board members and volunteers who kept repeating to the people they knew "so what was your father's name?, who started the old grocery?, was it your grandfather, your uncle?, and where was the tailor shop?, was it a junk store or a scrap business?, did he sell fish too or just butcher meat, etc."

With any project as large and comprehensive as this, there were inadvertent oversights, and some names were omitted in the initial installation of the exhibit. Space has been designed into the sculpture so names can be added. NJHS is collecting additions to the exhibit and the artist will make one more firing of the hand sculpted clay names in the spring of 1998.

To everyone who contributed, grateful thanks for your items brought in, your stories, and the information called in. Any time you are at the JCC, come see the exhibit.



Top right:
Small section of names carved in clay

Bottom right:
Visitors to the exhibit, Annual meeting



List of Acquisitions for 1997

Barbara Malashock

Council, Hadassah, and Boy Scouts clippings and programs, 50's and 60's

Irv Yaffe

Yaffe printing memorabilia

Lorraine and Fred Teller

Hastings Jewish Cemetery information

BBYO/ Lisa Shkolnick

Photos and Slides of BBYO events, 1980's and early 1990's; Statues and Awards to BBYO groups, 1970's and 1980's

Dorothy Parilman

Arthur Parilman's Cadet uniform, Central High 1939-1941

Caryl and Bucky Greenberg

Family photos, clippings, AZA Parent's Day poster, photo of Wm. McKinley Lodge, IOBB, Omaha 1917

Carmen and Lenora / Blumkin Home

Notebook documenting 1980 Festival of Jewish Music for the Elderly

Jay Benton

JWV Poster

John Mitchell

Paper, The Thorpeian Athletic Club: A Portrait of Jewish Social and Athletic History in Omaha

Aileen Eisenstatt

Photo of Harry A. Wolf in his office in the Brandeis building; photo of Justin Wolf in army uniform given to Feders



Shana Novak Story

The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society is pleased to announce the 1st prize winner of the Creative Writing Contest sponsored by the Morris and Mary Fellman Endowment Fund. The Greatest Influence on My

Jewish Identity was the topic for this year's contest and Shana Novak, daughter of Linda Novak and Jerry Novak submitted her original short story entitled.... "Question what you learn in college." The Story will be published in the next issue of our journal, "Memories of the Jewish Midwest."

Nebraska Jewish Historical Society Annual Meeting

The 15th Annual Meeting of the NJHS was held Sunday, October 19, 1997 in the JCC auditorium. Joanie Bernstein and Bob Belgrade spoke about new directions and goals for the Society. Joanie thanked members of the Kirshenbaum family present who endowed the new permanent mural - "The person who works is truly blessed." Joanie also thanked the members of the Parsow and Simons families who have endowed our next permanent installation on 50th Wedding Anniversaries.

Mary Fellman, Executive Director, introduced a new sustaining fund for the Society, which has a \$5000 base. The Shirley Berman volunteer Recognition Award was presented to Vera Lewis.

Barbara Bresler, Archivist, again thanked the Kirshenbaums, and spoke particularly of the scope of the new exhibit and the dedication of the artist who created the work.

Milt Heinrich, Chair of the Art Department at Dana College was introduced and spoke about the design process and making sense of the volumes of data that made up the subject of the mural - the economic development of the Jewish merchant community of Nebraska and Council Bluffs, IA. Everyone got to meet the artist, visit with the Kirshenbaums, review this beautiful new addition to the JCC building, and enjoy some refreshments.

Book Notes...

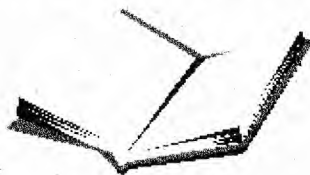
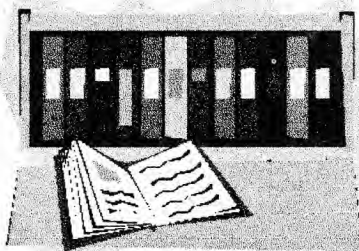
Going Home, a beautiful genealogical study written by Marshall Allan Widman about his Margolin relatives, includes 250 pictures of family members. The patriarch Joseph Margolin, born in 1852, is remembered by many of his 460 descendants, of which all but 60 were alive in 1996 when the book was written. Related to the Margolins and included in the book are the Belman, Bernstein, Breslow, Finkel, Fogel, Lederer, Mirviss, Mozer, Phillips, Platt, Rosenberg, Wexler, Widman, and Yaffe families. Our thanks to Mike Platt for making this family memoir available to the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society.

A collection of memories, stories, smells, sights, and sounds is **Lives Well Lived: I Remember Baubie and Zadie**, written by Diane S. Halperin. It honors Baubie and Zadie and takes us from the shtetle in Russia to Omaha, Nebraska. We thank Yale and Diane for our copy.

The grandson of former Jewish Press publisher David Blacker is the author of a new book **Dying to Teach** which is an educator's search for teaching immortality in a new way. The author David J. Blacker, is the son of Marcia Blacker and Dr. H. Martin Blacker, and is presently Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Administration and Foundations at Illinois State University.

A spiritual legacy, called an "ethical will", is a Jewish tradition that dates back thousands of years to biblical times. The ethical will covers intangibles like telling your children and grandchildren what was important to you, why you lived your life as you did, and how you would like to see them live their lives.

So That Your Values Live On : Ethical Wills and How to Prepare Them, a book written by Rabbi Jack Riemer and Nathaniel Stamfer provides examples of ethical wills and guidelines for how to prepare them. The book is available at the Jewish Federation Library.



List of Acquisitions for 1997

Lee Jane Parsow

Family photos and documents: 5 generations of Women; 1918 marriage certificate of Joseph J. Greenberg to Viola Meriam Hyman; photo of 3 grandmas (Sherman, Horwich, Hyman)

Harold Siporin

Photographs

Marilyn Sacks

South Omaha High School Year Book; photo, Terrace Park \$100,000 Club

Sadie Kohn estate

Family photos & memorabilia

Irv Gendler

Judaica art, historic Union Pacific Railroad photos, and bound volume of Central High Register, May 1944-May 1955

Carol Gendler

Numerous logos and letterheads from old Nebraska businesses

George Eisenberg

Assorted memorabilia from Eisenberg Company Inc., the Onion business

Lois Wine

Cherry Garden garage memorabilia

Dorothy Kaplan

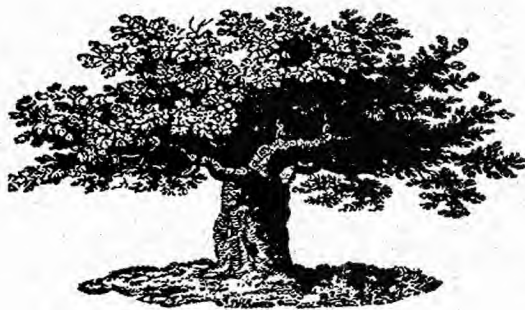
Kaplan Iron & Metal matches and deck of cards

Norma Novak

Nebraska City Novak automobile memorabilia

Millie and Irv Chudacoff

Metal and plaster statue of dancing wedding couple



Family Trees and Such

Gloria Strasburger wrote about her husband's grandfather, Mathias Strasburger who founded the Nebraska Clothing Co.; he was also one of the founders of the Corn Exchange Bank. She would appreciate any information.

A YIVO researcher contacted us inquiring about Leslie Mandelson Freudenheim's mishpoche from Omaha. Her father's name was Leon Mandelson. He was born (in Omaha?) around 1908. He married Elinor Sachs and they had three children. Leon Mandelson graduated from Creighton College and then went to Harvard Business School.

His older sister, Maybelle Mandelson Gordon, was married to a doctor or dentist, "Doc" Gordon. They had two sons. There was also another brother, Milton Mandelson.

They would like to know more. Dates, birth places, other Omaha relatives, etc. Are there any family records in Omaha? Does anyone know about the family and its place in the Jewish community? When did they come to Omaha? From where?

Ellen Barbieri of San Diego, California sent us an INTERNET request regarding her great-uncle Jacob Joseph Simon. Born in Danzig, Germany in 1850, he lived in a small Russian town near the

German border called Suwalki. His military record said he enlisted in Omaha, Nebraska and served in the Indian Wars 1873-78. He was at Camp Robinson, NE Jan. 1, 1876 to Nov. 1, 1876; in the field at Powder River Expedition from Nov. 1, 1876 to Jan 14, 1877; present at Omaha Barracks, NE Jan. 14, 1877 to July 25, 1877. His occupation at the time of enlistment was farmer. Where did he live and farm?; was there other family?; was he a member of a synagogue or Jewish organization?

Christine Himmel in Oregon called asking for resources pertaining to synagogues, cemeteries. Her grandmother, Ethel Nemes, was born in Omaha in 1913 and lived in an Orphan home. Ethel had a brother, Joseph Eugene Nemes, born May 17, 1911. Ethel's mother, Christine's great grandmother, was Julia Gelb Nemes who died in Lancaster County November 29, 1921, and was buried November 30, 1921. The family was originally from Hungary. Christine is looking for any possible descendants that are part of her family. We were very happy to make a

few phone calls and located a burial plot for Julia Nemes at Bnai Jacob cemetery and a Jewish Press obituary for her. She now has confirmed that she is Jewish by matrilineal descent!

Rich Sinykin of Minneapolis is searching for information on Kapulye, Minsk Gubernia, Russia. He also found us on the INTERNET. He is particularly interested in knowing about surnames...families who have roots to Kapulye from circa 1870-1890. He wants to know if there is a Yizkor book translated for the town of Kapulye. (We sent him a map of the town that we had in our files and copies of articles about the Kapulier shul in our community.)

Rick Mogil of Studio City in California wrote us searching for any information on the Marcus (Markushevich) family and the Mogil family (Mogilavsky, Mogelofsky, Mogilevsky).

Perry F. Haberman reached us by e-mail over the INTERNET. He was seeking information on a Joe Rosenbloom, a former Omaha sheriff in the early 1900's and also a relative Max (Muni) Rosenbloom.

Anyone with responses to these queries, please call 334-6441 or 334-6442.

Research requests for the archives -

Anyone with responses to these queries, please call 334-6442.

Steve Davis was seeking information on the riots of 1919 and the 1960's in and around the 24th Street area of Omaha. Looking for documents, photos, names of people or businesses which may have been affected, etc.

Dr. George Goodwin of Providence, Rhode Island called in seeking information on the two Lincoln congregations, the architecture of the buildings and their dedications, and similar information about Omaha synagogue structures still standing.

Omaha World Herald

January 13, 1911

Weddings and Announcements

The wedding of Miss Cora Rothschild, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Rothschild, to Mr. Morris Joseph of Des Moines took place Thursday evening at six o'clock in the parlors of the Metropolitan Club. The ceremony was performed by Rabbi Cohn of Temple Israel.

The bride wore a handsome gown of white satin, with trimming of pearl and crystal passementerie, en train. the bridal bouquet was a shower of white Violets. The bride wore a beautiful diamond lavalier, the gift of the groom.

Mrs. Lou Verveer of Des Moines, sister of the bride, was matron of honor. She wore an exquisite white chantilly lace gown over yellow satin and carried yellow roses.

Mr. J. Joseph of Chicago, brother of the groom, was best man. The ushers were Ralph Rothschild of Chicago and Mr. Burton Joseph of Des Moines.

A large number of out-of-town guests were present.

The parlors of the club, where the ceremony was performed had an elaborate decoration of yellow roses, smilax and ferns. The dining room, where supper was served, had an effective trimming of pink roses, ferns and pink lights.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph will reside in Des Moines, Iowa.

The above article was sent in by **Mrs. Jack (Barbara) Klein.** "The enclosed article concerns the wedding of my mother and father, Cora and Morris Joseph. I am aware that the residence at 3821 Farnam St. is still there. I have no way of knowing if you possess this information or any other relevant to my family. But I would appreciate anything else you might be able to tell me. Thank you.

... I am hoping you might be able to find and copy for me the birth certificate of my grandfather, Harry Caesar Solomon. He was born in Hastings, Nebraska, October 25, 1889. He had a twin brother who died at birth. His parents were Jacob Carl Solomon and Lena Fist Solomon. Sincerely, **David H. Solomon**

Molly Needleman is doing a poster presentation on the history of the Omaha Jewish Community for a topical project, Migration and Immigration. Her project was displayed December 6th at District 66's History Fair.

Melissa Beaty from Morin Middle School is doing a project on important institutions in Omaha and researching the JCC building. She took photos and looked at historical material in our archives.

Patricia Moses in UNO history class with Oliver Pollak is writing about Joan Micklin Silver and her films.

Emily Gardner, a doctoral candidate at Fordham University, is looking for letters, journals and diaries of American Jewish women of the westward migration, from 1855 to 1910.

Thoughtful Contributions

Contributions to the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society are a most thoughtful way for you to memorialize or commemorate an event and, at the same time, support the Society. These funds enable us to continue our work in the preservation and dissemination of information concerning Jewish life and experiences of the Omaha area. All contributions of \$5.00 or more will be printed in future newsletters.

NJHS Fund and Morris & Mary Fellman Endowment Fund for Jewish Youth Activities

In Honor of:

Birth of Marian & Irv Nogg's
grandson
Birth of Bev Gendler's grandson
Sarah Kirshenbaum's Bat
Mitzvah
Leah Raful's Bat Mitzvah
Miriam Simon's honor from
Hadassah

In Memory of:

Ethel Rosenstein
Charlie Fellman
N.J. 'Nick' Rips
Mike Milder II
Barry Epstein
Eileen Sacks
Julius 'Julie' Cohn
Charlie Sherman
Nate Bernstien
Stanley Kully
Myer Rosenbaum
Pearl Hurwich
Len Schultz
Gertrude Kagan
Ruth Marks
Saul Davis
Charles Schlaifer
Millie Frankel
Jean Soshnik
Calvin Weinberg
Patsy Lee Zingerman
Maynard Finkle
Ida Kaiman
Louise Sherman
Maurice Katz
Esther Rice
Judah Wolfson
Gertrude Chapman

Recovery of:

Margie Lincoln
Norman D. Rips
Mollie Delman
Helen Lipp
Peggy Krasne
Irv Malashock
Lois Barish
Dan Miller
Frank Ackerman
Ida Gorelick
Nate Schwalb
Max Neiden,
David Meyers
Ed Belgrade

Birthdays of:

Morton Fisher
Mary Fellman
Marshall Haykin
Bobbi Liebowitz
Lloyd Maller
Shirley Goldstein
Rhoda Herzoff

Anniversaries of:

Betty & Bus Rubin
Lois & Lloyd Friedman
Sue & David Meyers
Janet & Mort Glass
Jim & Shirley Lipsey
Sonia & Irving Forbes
Dorothy & Myer Kripke
Jean & Wally Elkon

Members who passed away since our last Newsletter

We note the recent passing of the following NJHS members and extend heartfelt condolences to their families.

May their memory be for a blessing.

Nate Bernstien	Saul Davis	Ed Dolgoff
Charlie Fellman	Al Fox	Millie Frankel
Gertrude Kagan	Harold Karp	Esther Rice
N.J.'Nick' Rips	Ethel Rosenstein	
Shirley Schaffer	Charles Schlaifer	
Len Schultz	Louise Sherman	
Al Sophir	Calvin Weinberg	

Our sincerest thanks to Louise & Norman Abrahamson and Terri Jonisch Lowell, Joe Lowell and Evan Jonisch Lowell - in memory of Rose Fellman Marer - for providing the mezuzot on the doorposts of the Henry and Dorothy Riekes Museum.

Your gifts are very much appreciated.

New Members Since Last Newsletter

We welcome the following **NEW MEMBERS** that have joined this fiscal year. We appreciate your support.

Benefactors

Shari & Kerry Fields
 Laurie & Bryan Misle
 Carol & Alan Parsow
 Kit & David Parsow
 Margo & Jay Parsow
 Debra & Steven Parsow
 Judy & Jerry Simons

Members

Leanne & Frank Goldberg
 Shane & C. David Kotok
 Jay R. Lerner
 Joel Rich
 J. Burnell Webman
 Raymond & Sandy Weinberg
 Arlene & Bernie Hockenberg

Diane Graul
 Beth & Steve Leeds
 Maxine Quinn
 Steve Blotky
 Alan Rosen
 Eve and Ben Heisler
 Nancy and David Friedland

The Board of the NJHS recently voted to simplify its membership classifications in order to make it easier for members and new members to belong to our organization.

The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society is supported solely upon membership dues and donations. It is not, at this time, an agency of the Jewish Federation, and does not receive any support from the Philanthropies annual campaign.

It takes about \$60,000 a year to operate the basic functions of the society, including office rent, staff salaries, publishing newsletters and office supplies. Our goal is to support the basic budget totally through membership dues.

Our membership categories are:

Basic.....	\$25	Sponsor.....	\$50
Patron.....	\$100	Life Member.....	\$500
		Benefactor.....	\$1000

The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society needs and genuinely appreciates your support by purchasing a membership. Please encourage your friends and family to also support the NJHS by purchasing a membership. Gift membership for friends and family make a great and lasting impression.

- Larry Novak and Bob Belgrade, Finance Committee

Nebraska Jewish Historical Society • 333 South 132 St. • Omaha, NE 68154

Tell your Nebraska and out of state Jewish friends about NJHS! **Give a gift of NJHS membership for any occasion!**

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 City _____ State ____ Zip _____

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 Life Member.....\$500.00
 Benefactor.....\$1,000.00

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A Happy Healthy 1998 To All!

“From Generation to Generation”

A quick look around the Jewish Community Center Theater on September 18th for “From Generation to Generation” revealed an audience of all ages and all backgrounds. The Opening Night performance of the musical, written by Karen Javitch and Elaine Jabenis, was presented as a benefit for the Society. All present enjoyed the music, the lyrics, the humor, the drama.

Through a mix of music and the spoken word, the cast tell the story of the aging and ailing Rose Lieberman who writes an ethical will to leave for her granddaughter. The essence of the story reflects the ongoing work that the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society does.

We are honored to have been the recipient of this benefit performance and honored by the contributions of our Golden and Silver patrons. We are grateful for the generosity of Karen and Gary and her family. We also are thankful to co-writer and producer Elaine and to the great cast of actors of all ages.

It was an evening of laughter and tears, an evening of support for the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. **TODAH RABAH!**

