

NEWS LETTER

Vol. VIII, No. 2

October, 1990

333 S. 132nd St. • Omaha, NE 68154



Pvt. Yale Richards 1943

Join us for the
Opening of "World
War II - Nebraska
Jewish Servicemen"
Exhibit in the
"Corridor of
Jewish History"
Museum - JCC and
reception.

Sunday,
November 11, 1990
2-4 p.m. - in honor
of Veteran's Day



*P/FC Maurice Newman
Camp Roberts, California 1942*



*T/Sgt. Max Neiden, Air Force
England - 1944*



*Lt. J.G. Joe Soshnik
Brisbane, Australia
December, 1944*

Offerings by Oliver Pollak NJHS President

The Nebraska Jewish Historical Society is one of the most successful local Jewish History societies in America. We are almost 8 years old and our accomplishments are discussed coast to coast. Our office in the Omaha Jewish Community Center, small as it is, serves as the headquarters for a number of activities serving our membership of about 700 families and individuals. This size membership is unparalleled and the envy of other organizations and the national organization, The American Jewish Historical Society.

Our semi-annual newsletter and journal, "Memories of the Jewish Midwest", provide timely informative news, exchanges of ideas, and a mix of popular and scholarly essays that has attracted both Jewish and non-Jewish contributors. Our "Corridor of Nebraska Jewish History Museum", small as it is, is maintained by a dedicated group of volunteers who never cease to amaze me with their creativity, making old documents, pictures, memorabilia and scrapbooks come to life.

We have rich archives, and hosted the 1990 national convention of one of the oldest historical societies in America. We are justly proud of our place in Nebraska and what we can offer to the rest of the Midwest and the nation. We have our history and we have our future goals.

I have used the term "small as it is" a couple of times to repeat and dramatize that our efforts should not be judged by the limited number of square feet that we occupy at the JCC. We are cramped, but we are still getting our message out. Yet we must think of growth.

A few days ago an offer was made to the NJHS regarding some private papers that occupied over 16 office file drawers, over 32 square feet. The papers sounded interesting and of use to our society and community. But, how do we provide users of the archives access? Our museum contains temporary exhibits, yet we have various artifacts in the JCC basement and in off-site storage. Fortunately we have been able to adorn the walls of the JCC, and those displays provide lively conversation for four generations of viewers.

Our society illumines the Jewish history of the Diaspora. Our society tells the story of the Jews in the Midwest connecting one generation to another.

Company Coming to Omaha? Bring them to the JCC and see our Exhibits.

oooooooooooooooooooo

Thank you! Thank you Kevve Kirshenbaum for all the big and little things you do to help us to continue to function! You give us strength!



NJHS Annual Meeting – The Board

Seated: Mary Fellman, Oliver Pollak, Lois Friedman
Standing: Audrey Cohen, Rita Novak, Rocky Stern, Jerry Freeman, Shirley Berman, Louise Abrahamson

At JCC, June 6, 1990

Do any of our readers remember this house at 2411 Charles?



It is still standing today, looking ship-shape, and still has the Star of David shining bright and blue.

According to Jean Duitch, the house was owned and lived in by her grandparents Mr. & Mrs. Saul Katz who also had the Katz Hardware Store on 24th and Charles. According to Bess Nogg, her grandfather Mr. Zisslin, also lived in that house. We need more details please!

Class Reunions!!

In 1989, the class of 1939 from Technical High School, had a reunion. The photo here has three alumni who now live in Omaha. Helen Minkin Finkel, Helen Fogel Soiref and Sylvia Baum Davis. If there are other pictures of other reunions, please mail/bring them in to the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society office at the Jewish Community Center.



R. to L.: Helen Minkin Finkel, Helen Fogel Soiref, Sylvia Baum Davis

The next AJHS Conference will take place:
May 30 - June 4, 1991
Hartford Conn.

**NEBRASKA JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1990-1991**

Exec. Committee Position

President/Co-Founder.....Oliver Pollak
 President Elect.....Ilene Klein
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 (L-Z).....Rita Novak
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Ophira Bahar, Archivist, Dottie Rosenblum, Office Administrator

American Jewish Historical Society

Serving the Community Since 1892

May 23, 1990

Mrs. Lois Friedman
 1008 North 67th Circle
 Omaha, Nebraska 68132

Dear Lois:


On behalf of the Officers, Board of Trustees and, of course, the members of the American Jewish Historical Society, I want to express our thanks for the gracious hospitality shown us by the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society as well as the Omaha Jewish community. We owe much to you and your efforts as President. The input was truly appreciated particularly by those of us who were so intimately involved in the arrangements and operations of the meeting.

I only hope that I can reciprocate your generosity and hospitality some time when you visit the Boston area which I hope you will do in the not too distant future.

Both Stan Rensberg and I also want to express our personal as well as professional appreciation since you made our jobs so much easier than they normally are.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,



Bernard Wax
 Director



Plans continue to be made for the production of the historical play "The Immigrants" at the JCC Theater and the accompanying exhibit of Jewish Immigrants to Nebraska and Council Bluffs, Iowa. Shown above are Jake and Bayla Krasne, who helped build that Jewish as well as the business community. If you have pictures or memorabilia about early immigrants who came through Ellis Island (which is now open to visitors) or through Galveston, PLEASE LET US HEAR FROM YOU! (334-8200, Ext. 277)

You'll want to know that the Flanagan-Monsky exhibit prepared by Boys Town and the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society is traveling around the country. It was recently shown at the International Convention of B'nai B'rith in Dallas in August. In September it was seen in Cincinnati at their main library by courtesy of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc. Plans are being made for it to be exhibited soon at the B'nai B'rith Museum in Washington, D.C.

The following letter was received from Al Abramson with regard to the exhibit.

Mary -

Just returned from B'nai B'rith International Convention in Dallas where exhibit was being viewed by delegates.

Fine comments were received. In addition, the young lady from Boys Town indicated that there was interest from many lodges wishing that the exhibit came to their communities.

Regards,

Al Abramson

Membership Since March 1990 Newsletter

Life:

Rebecca Wolf

Patrons:

E. Robert Newman
 Noddle Development Co
 (NDC Management)
 Sidney & Joyce Weisman
 (Also New Members)

New:

Richard Bialac
 Ruth & Oscar Belzer
 Mr. & Mrs. Martin Berger
 Bob & Lois Endelman
 Elaine & Everett Evnen
 Harry L. Freeman
 Michael Goodman, M.D.
 Flora Kean
 Margie Kirshenbaum

Diane & Larry Malashock

Jean & Sherman Neff

Sandi Raduziner

Marty Rosen

David Saxe

Lillian Stern

Phyllis Weinberg

Sol Weinberg

Sidney & Joyce Weisman (Patron)

Warren Wolpa

Annie Zabel

FROM THE NJHS MAILBAG...

Dear Lois,

Thank you for your thoughtful letter of June 6th. I am delighted to learn that you and Janice Blumberg spoke about the B'nai B'rith Klutznick Museum, and the desirability of our showing the important exhibit from Boys Town honoring Henry Monsky and Father Flanagan.

During this past week Joan Flinspach, Manager of the Hall of History at Boys Town and I spoke about this exhibit. We concluded an arrangement which will allow us to show it at the B'nai B'rith International Convention in Dallas this summer. Moreover, we think we have set in process the plans which will bring the exhibit to Washington for one month this autumn.

I share your enthusiasm for this exhibit, and I am eager to have it in Washington where we will launch it with appropriate fanfare. Among my first thoughts is the necessity of reaching out to the Nebraska congressional delegation whom we would want to be part of our opening ceremonies. I know that I can turn to Janice for all kinds of assistance, and together we look forward to working with you to make our plans come alive.

Michael Neiditch
Director

Dear Friends:

Jeanette and I are grateful to you for your thoughtful contribution in our honor. Your remembering us at this time of our retirement is very much appreciated. Please accept our best wishes for the continued growth of the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. Its work is of the greatest importance to our city and our state.

Jeanette and Isaac Nadoff
June 18, 1990.

I wonder if there is someone in the society who can help me. I probably need someone who might have a special interest in the town of Albion, Nebraska.

In my continuing study of the Jews who settled in northeastern Indiana in the nineteenth century, I have encountered several people who came to Indiana from Albion, Nebraska, probably as young adults, in the period 1880-1900. And I have some reason to believe that they had earlier lived in Indiana (or their parents had), before going to Nebraska.

They were Irma Becker, who married Isaac D. Straus of Ligonier, Indiana, of a wealthy Ligonier/Chicago family; her sister Belle, who married a man with last name Mayer of

Detroit; their brother Emanuel, who lived in Ligonier; and Victor E. Wolf, who attended a wedding in Indiana in 1885 and was from Albion, Nebraska.

(Is it coincidence? The county seat of Ligonier's area is Albion, Indiana.)

Ligonier had a significant Jewish community and is currently developing a museum to commemorate it.

Thanks for your help.

Mrs. Judith S. Stix
447 Westgate St. Louis, MO 63130

Under separate cover I am sending you my grandfather's shofar. It is for your museum. My grandfather came to Lincoln (from Lithuania) in the early 1880's. He had just become a shochet from then on until he retired (early 1940's). He was the shochet, cantor and mohel (circumcisions). He also taught Hebrew. When he and my grandmother came to Lincoln there were only two or three Jews there (including my great uncle, Lewis Poska.) After that, all my family on both sides came there. They all came before World War I. My grandfather was the Rev. Sonde Gorson. I hope your museum is progressing.

From Elaine Arenson.
(Letter dated April 2, 1990 - Elaine Arenson resides in Philadelphia)

I continue to find your *News Letters* very interesting and they always bring memories that have been dormant for a lot of years. The March 1990 issue is no exception.

However, in the interest of accuracy, I call your attention to the centerfold photo of the *Phi Beta Epsilon*. This is a picture of the charter members and was organized in 1928 rather than 1927. Many of this group: Max Kramer, Harry Levinson, Abe Fellman, Sal Michnick, Sam Shyken, Nathan Gillin, Al Fox and Leon Fellman did not matriculate

I recently joined the staff of the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York. Scheduled to open in 1992 in Battery Park City, on the Manhattan shoreline opposite the Statue of Liberty, the Museum of Jewish Heritage will include an exhibition area of approximately 12,000 square feet called "Renewal in America." One of four permanent exhibition areas focusing on modern Jewish history, "Renewal in America" will describe Jewish immigration to America and Jewish contributions to American life.

We would like very much to work on an arrangement between our institutions whereby we would cover conservation costs of artifacts borrowed on a long term basis, prominently display NJHS publications in our bookstore, and enter into joint ventures, including exhibitions, symposia and publications. We would also be pleased to encourage our many visitors (we estimate a half million a year) to visit important Nebraska Jewish landmarks, including Omaha's Jewish Community Center and its many historical exhibitions.

I look forward to learning more about your rapidly growing collection, especially the material you have on the Kapulier shul.

Sincerely,
Dr. Kenneth Libo
Curator of American Jewish History

until 1928. There was no one by the name of Lagman in this fraternity at any time.

The first row begins with Nathan Gillin and Al Fox. The second row begins with Max Kramer.

Phil Klutznick was the instigator. Irvin Stalmaster and Jack Marer were out of school and were sponsors.

Incidentally five of this group are from Council Bluffs as is a goodly number of present Omahans.

Sincerely,
Al Fox



Who? When? Where?
What Occasion?
Call 334-8200
Ext. 277

I am writing to ask for your help in locating some information about my family's history. My grandmother, nee Naomi Snyder, was divorced sometime between 1883 and 1887 from a man named Shutern (I know only that he was Jewish and had blue eyes—no first name, place of national origin, nothing). Naomi, also called Fanny or Nachama Snyder Shutern had two children with Shutern, Sarah and Sam, both born in this country in the early 1880's. Naomi then married my grandfather, Sam Friedman; they spent the next sixty years in Council Bluffs where they had three children, including my father.

Their story is spelled out in the article I submitted. Sam Friedman, my grandfather, adopted Sarah and Sam Shutern while they were both still very young, and they grew up with Friedman as their last name. I can find no official adoption papers nor any papers pertaining to the Snyder/Shutern divorce. It is possible — even likely — that neither the divorce nor the adoption would have gone through the secular courts, but I am certain that they would have gone through religious procedures. As Naomi lived in Denver for a while while married to Shutern, I looked there for papers but could not find anything.

Would you please check the archives in Omaha to see if any information is available. Of course I would gladly compensate you for any expense involved in this search and for copies of the documents. Thank you very much.

Richard Friedman, Ph.D.
1123 Park Avenue, Suite 1D
New York, New York 10128

Dear Ms. Bahar: Thank you very much for your letter of April 2, and for the story of the Omaha "Kapulier Shul". Both of my grandmothers and one of my grandmothers came to the USA from Kapula. My mother's father (Morris (Moshe) Siegel came in late 1896 or 1897. My father's father, William (Z'ev - Velvel) Saknowitz, came probably in mid to late 1898. As a matter of fact, upon his arrival he boarded with the family of his boyhood friend, my other grandfather, Morris Siegal. In about 1890 he was able to bring his wife "Faychee" and my father Herman (Chaim). An older brother "Elya" came from Kapula via

Anyone having any information about Morris Taller, who lived with the Platts (who owned the bottling company in Omaha) and who was a Hebrew School teacher, please contact the Taller family, 8542 East Guess Street, Rosemead, CA 91770.

WANTED: OLD FAMILY FILMS OF ISRAEL AND PRE-WAR EUROPE.

Do you, or anyone in your family, have any old home movies of pre-state Palestine. The Steven Spielberg Jewish Film Archives in Jerusalem are seeking film material of the settlements in Israel and the early years of the State (the period from 1930 through 1950), to add to its collection. Also of interest are films from pre-war Europe that would add to the Archives' story of the Jewish experience in the 20th Century. If you would like more information about the Archives and donating film, please contact the American Zionist Federation National Office, 515 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) 371-7750.

Liverpool to join him in their new home in New York.

I've been trying to do some family research, but unfortunately no one is left who can tell me very much. I am aware of Sacknowitz relatives in Eau Claire, WI. Minneapolis, MN and Venice, CA. Also, have just found some additional Sacknowitz relatives in San Antonio, TX.

Is there anyone in Omaha who is aware of any other Sacknowitz or Siegel families originating in Kapula? I would certainly appreciate hearing. Many thanks for your kindness and attention.

Arthur Wolf
531 E. 20th St.
New York, NY 10010.

Numerous people marveled over your display. It gained great recognition during the Showhouse season. I personally benefitted by working with the marvelous people in your group.

Jeanette Webster, A.S.I.D., Omaha Symphony Showcase. History Annex Room, Joslyn Castle, Omaha, NE



NJHS Display in Joslyn Castle for Omaha Symphony Showhouse, 1990

I couldn't resist sending the enclosed article to you.
It so happens I was born and raised in

Omaha, Nebraska and now live in this area (Lakewood, CA) since Aug 9, 1950.

I read in our Long Beach Federation news — the very article I am forwarding on you you. Small world, eh?

Now for another matter, if my memory serves me right — Omaha has a Jewish Museum of sorts. Am I right?

I have a Torah Fund box — an "original" one — it belonged to my grandparents and then my parents, all deceased — let them rest in peace.

I remember certain men would come to the homes — remove the money and then we would start saving again.

Now — card-board boxes are used for Torah Fund Savings. These type are no longer around.

Would you like to have this for the museum? Hopefully, I may be in Omaha to attend a wedding of my niece's son. I would bring it with me. Just let me know — the wedding is in June.

My niece and nephew are Marlene & Stewart Kahn. Their son Tom will marry Becky Goldberg.

So should you want the Torah Fund Box, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Goldie Fineman
4255 N. Josie Ave.
Lakewood, CA 90713

We now have the Torah Fund Box!

I need help! I am looking for my family. Most of them were lost in Hitler's death camps, but I have recently come upon some correspondence which tells me that some of my family survived. In 1956 and 1957, two families left Budapest, Hungary, for Cleveland Ohio. Their names are Laci Grosinger and his cousin Ladislav (don't know the last name). Luci would be about 68 years old. He came with his wife, child, and mother-in-law. His mother and father were Bozsi and Miklos Grosinger, who stayed in Budapest.

Another part of my family was alive in Budapest in 1946. Their names are Rozsi, Sandor, and Mancsi Lindenfeld and Lajos Laki. They talked about coming to America, but I don't know if that happened.

Would you put this information in your newspaper, together with my name and address? Maybe someone will know of their whereabouts.

If I can find their children or grandchildren, my 50 year search will not have been in vain.

Sincerely,
Bobbi Furer (Fried)
320 So. Newport Way
Denver, CO 80224

One hundred years old and



July 1989

Elizabeth and great-granddaughters Lauren & Jessica Kopp

Above: Elizabeth Venger Fried was born August 5, 1890 in Russia, to Aviezer and Esther Venger. She came to the United States with her mother in 1894. Her father had come to this country two years earlier and was residing in Fremont, Nebraska. The family lived in Fremont for twelve years where her brothers, Moe and Abe were born. During those years Elizabeth graduated from grade school. She could not continue her education because she had to help her father in his general merchandise store.

The family moved to Norfolk, Nebraska when Elizabeth was sixteen, then to Genoa when she was eighteen, and lived there for ten years. During that time Elizabeth again worked in her father's general merchandise store as the bookkeeper and cashier. On holidays she was in charge of decorating of the store and did so very artistically. When she was twenty-four she married and her son, Stuart, was born a year later.

In 1918 the family moved to Merna, Nebraska where her father again had a general merchandise store in which Elizabeth worked. During the years in Merna she was active in Eastern Star and other community activities.

The family moved to Omaha in 1924 where her father opened M. Venger and Sons Tobacco Company in 1925, which he operated with his sons Moe and Abe. Elizabeth worked in the business until she retired at the age of eighty-four. During those years the family lived near 33rd and Chicago Streets and Elizabeth frequently walked the three miles to work since she enjoyed being active.

In later years Elizabeth had her own apartment until age 95, then moved to Remington Retirement Center where she resided until moving to the Blumkin Home on July 1, 1990.

Elizabeth is a long-time member of Hadassah, having been active in the B&P Division for many years. She was also a member of Pioneer Women, and a member of Beth El Synagogue since its early days.

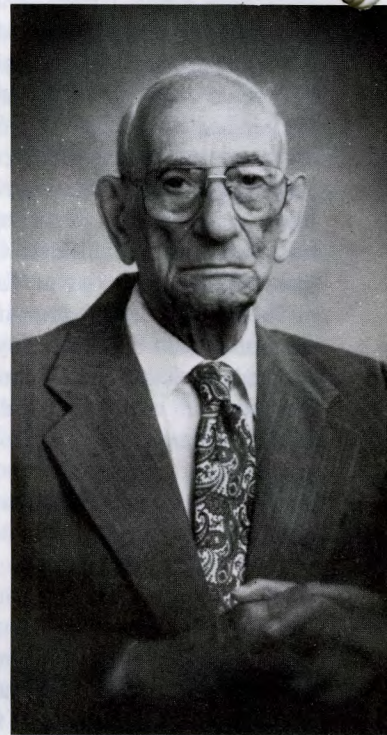
Her family consists of her son and daughter-in-law, Stuart and Phyllis Fried, her grandchildren, Richard Fried of Denver, and Ellen and Henry Kopp of Baltimore, and her great granddaughters, Lauren Ariel and Jessica Rosalyn Kopp.

Abraham Magzamin was born on Dec. 4, 1890 in Jarocin, Poland. In 1909, he came to America via Rotterdam, Holland on the vessel The New Amsterdam. He came through Ellis Island and lived in New York for two years. He worked in a factory making ladies handbags and attended night school to learn English.

In 1911 he came to Omaha and in 1912 married Anna Habler. He was employed by L.G/ Doup furniture and mattress manufacturing company and later in real estate. Abe received his naturalization papers in 1924.

Abe has six children, Ben Magzamin, Sylvia Sidman, and Reeda Pellman of Omaha, Ruth Babendure, Houston, TX., Gertrude Hermanson, Monrovia, CA., and Jackie Malnova, West Palm Beach, FL. There are 14 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren.

Abe has been a member of Beth Israel Synagogue for 78 years.



Abraham Magzamin



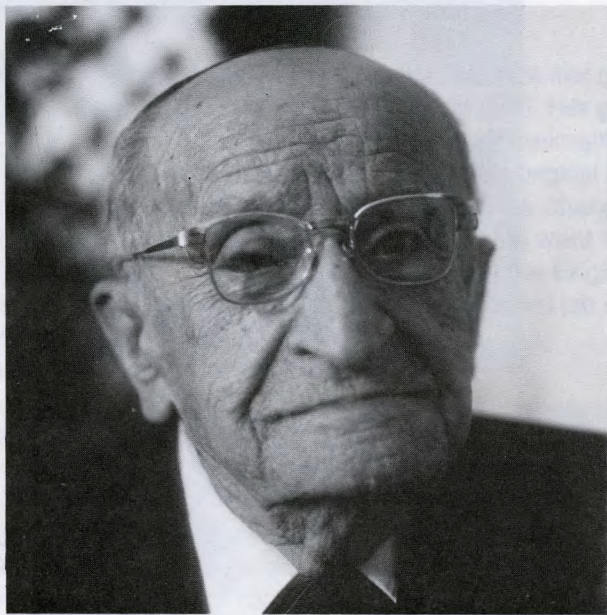
Left: Abe Magzamin and Rabbi Isaac Nadoff



Right: Morris Epstein
95th Birthday

Still going strong—to 120!

Rev.
Gendler



Rev. Arthur Gendler came to the U.S. from Russia in 1921, and became head of the Kosher Meat Dept. at Cudahy Packing House. He and his wife, Esther, raised 8 children. He is a Torah scholar and still studies every day. In the past, he has conducted services both as a rabbi and a cantor.

To this day, people still come to his home to learn from him and to partake of his knowledge of the Torah.

Rev. Gendler with wife and daughter Sally Wintroub



MORRIS EPSTEIN, was honored as he celebrated his 100th birthday. On May 15th, the family of Morris Epstein gathered to celebrate with him. Morris was born in Parich, Russia. His father was a cattle buyer and Morris chose to follow in his father's footsteps. He also learned to be a "shochet" and developed skills to become a butcher. He served in the Russian army, however, after sustaining an injury, he was found unfit to return to duty. Soon after his discharge from the Russian army he became engaged to Sarah. He was 26 at this time, and soon thereafter they were married. In 1922, Morris, his wife and two sons, Simon and Hymie came to the United States. Several of Morris' family were already in the United States and located in Omaha. Before they left Russia

another child, a daughter, Ida was born. After his arrival in Omaha Morris was hired by the Kulakofskys to work as a butcher in their store called Central Market. Morris worked there for 46 years and managed their wholesale meat department. Another daughter was born, Rose, who completed the Morris Epstein family. Sarah Epstein died in 1971. This was a great loss for the children and Morris. One can only say, after visiting with Morris that he is a bright, sharp and pleasant man who still displays a lively interest in the world around him. His vision is dim but his eyes sparkle with humor, his hearing is impaired, but one needs to be on their toes because he has many stories to tell.

Mrs. Smeerin and great-grandson Jonathan



Ida Smeerin was born Ida Falcoff in 1890 in Shtolen, a small city in Russia.

At the age of 14 years Ida and a girl friend of the same age were smuggled out of Russia to the port at Hamburg, Germany and from there to Ellis Island and New York City, where she was met by an uncle.

On 1912 she married Rubin Smeerin. In 1916 at the invitation of relatives they moved to Sioux City, Iowa with their first born, Florence. Their second daughter, Sara, and son Norman were born in Sioux City. In 1922 the family moved to Woodbine, Iowa where Ida & Rubin operated a department store for 18 years.

After several years in Omaha and Ventura, California, where Rubin died in 1977, Ida came to the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home in 1983, where she still resides.

Right: Montreal, Que June, 1962
Grandpa & Pretzel



We Did It! We hosted the American Jewish Society National Conference in May and we did a GREAT JOB! Thanks to all!



*Above
Local members - Beth Brodkey and Sally Malashock visit in hospitality.*

*Right
Oliver Pollak and
conference guest.*



*Left:
Conference
guests visit with
Oliver Pollak
and Evelyn
Alperin in
Hospitality Suite.*



*Above: Sadie Newman at session on Sioux City Jewery.
Above: Hostess Sue Meyers and conference guests.
Right: Dottie Rosenblum and Ophira Bahar looking at Mini-World War II exhibit.*

Please forgive my being so very, very slow to say "thank you" for what turned out to be a superbly fun AJHS conference.

And thank you, too, for choosing such remarkable people to share in our Holocaust survivor's presentation. Did you know how different the three of them were, and what a moving experience it would be to hear Ann, then Steve, and finally Dora, speak to what it means to be a child of Holocaust survivors? They were really wonderful. I do wish we had a tape.

In collecting material about my mother's family for Michael Bell's Iowa Jews project, I realized I could probably also contribute some things to your collection. Somewhere I know I have this photo (enclosed) of my uncle, Irving Greene, who married Naomi Cohn of Omaha (or perhaps it was Naomi Cohen), and who worked on the Omaha Bee and lived in Omaha until he died, about 1943. I also have some family photos, I believe, and could put you or one of your volunteers in touch with his children, if you'd be interested.

Rhoda G. Lewin

Roots Project

By Aaron Bernstein, 12 years old
Son of Mark and Lynn Bernstein in Dallas
Grandson of Gerald and Lois Bernstein

My great grandmother, Anita Weintroub, was born on May 10, 1902, in a little town named Kupel in Russia. She was one of six children in the family. Her father was in the grain business. Her family lived in a huge, beautiful two story house.

In grade school Anita had a home tutor. For her upper grades she went by train to a school in Odessa, Russia, on the coast of the Black Sea. The family was very religious and they celebrated every Jewish holiday.

When Anita was seventeen years old she and her family were forced to leave Russia because the conditions were not good for Jewish people. From Kupel they traveled to Poland by train. They stayed in Poland for a year and got their passports to the United States. While in Poland they visited France and stayed there for a month. Anita said it was great. When it was time to come to the United States, they traveled as second class passengers on a boat. They sailed across the Atlantic Ocean to Ellis Island, New York.

They arrived in the United States on August 21, 1921. From New York the family traveled to Omaha, Nebraska by

train where her grandparents had been since 1905. Her grandparents were in the coal and animal feed business.

Anita's original name was Chana Soref but it was changed when she arrived here. She went to many, many classes to learn the English language.

Anita's first job in the United States was



Anita Wintroub
NJHS 5th Anniv. Gala
October 12, 1987 - Omaha JCC

in a department store. On April 6, 1924, she got married to William Weintroub. William was a door to door business salesman. Together they had three children: my grandmother, Lois, my great uncle, Leon, and my great aunt, Estelle.

William Weintroub is deceased. Anita lives in the Rose Blumkin Home in Omaha, Nebraska. She is eighty seven years old.

Great Grandmother Anita's Stories

Conditions were so bad in Russia that bandits used to ride around the streets chopping off the heads of Jewish people. Anita's father hid all his children in a closet under the stairway in their house.

When the family was on the ship to the United States, they traveled in the second class section. They had their own cabin, and were treated better than the people in the steerage. From the deck they were on, they dropped fresh oranges to the people traveling below.

On Ellis Island everyone had to be checked for disease. If they had anything wrong they were sent back. Anita's younger sister had a little rash on her head. The family was afraid she wouldn't pass. When they were being checked, Anita rushed through with the baby, and they passed!

From the train ride from New York to Nebraska, Anita's father packed a case of sardines so the family wouldn't go hungry. Anita has NEVER eaten sardines again!

Profile:

Sylvia Telpner

By her son
Zeph Telpner

Mother and dad liked to host parties and picnics at home in Fairmont Park and in various parts in Omaha. When times weren't so good, mom served spaghetti. When times were better, there were roasts, chicken and turkey. During World War II, my brother Gene was a prisoner of war. He sneaked a message to our mother that food parcels to American prisoners by U.S. organizations were adulterated. Mother wrote to President Roosevelt, General Eisenhower and Walter Winchell. She started an inquiry that ended when a

representative from the neutral nation of Switzerland visited my brother at prison camp. The food parcels improved. My mom wrote letters and worked always for "fair play". My mother and father were married for 46 years when my dad contracted Lou Gehrig's disease - caring for my dad seemed to drain energy and bruised her heart and soul. After dad died mom fell and had back surgery which left her dependent upon wheelchairs and constant help. At 80, the nurse would wheel mom to a microphone at the Ville DeSante Nursing Home where she sang requests for the other residents. Her voice remained vibrant and her songs brought the residents laughter and tears as they were carried back in time. "My mother - my brothers, sisters and I always thought that she was unique." (Reprinted from Midlands Business Journal)

I noticed that the March, 1990 NJHS News Letter published excerpts from my profiles about Harold Bernstein and the Suvalsky's. You have credited the source as the Midwest Business Journal. The actual name is the "Midlands Business Journal". I am pleased that you were able to use your excerpts from column.

I have enclosed copies of my other profiles of Jews in business in the local area. If you would like to reprint or excerpt from these columns, you are welcome to do so.

Sincerely,
Zeph Telpner

NJHS Acquisitions March 1990 - October 1990

- **Janet Ickowicz:** Essay describing her husband Louis' life: Survival during the Holocaust.
- **Marcia Kushner:** 1947 Tifereth Israel confirmation class (Lincoln) program; The Six-Shooter / AZA May-June 1949.
- **Dr. Ed Malashock:** Photos: ZBT pledge class: 1940/41, 1941/42, 1942/43; Red Cross women volunteers marching WWII 1939, Phi Delta Theta: Founding Members of National Jewish Medical Fraternity, U of NE College of Medicine 1945.
- **Marion Graetz:** 8x10 photo 1957 Lincoln BB 377 presents rec. room furnishings to Air Force Base Unit in Lincoln.
- **Ruth Goldenberg/Rosalyn Perlman:** 11 8x10 SDT-UNL Sorority invitation and program 1938, 1941, 1969; 1932 Tifereth Israel Confirmation Book; 1932 Confirmation program, photo.
- **Miriam Grossman:** Six editions of Life magazine/stories related to Israel.
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- **Charlotte Kuklin:** Family photos, business and Tifereth Israel congregation, newspaper clippings.
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- **Annie Allen:** Hadassah Scrapbook Regional Conference, St. Louis, MO 5/10-13, '70; Hadassah and ZBT photos, Hadassah scrapbook 1955-61
- **Lou Lipp:** Pi Delta Sigma 1927 photo (Fraternity)
- **Barbara Taxman:** Scrapbook from Harry Trustin's memoirs.
- **Goldie Fineman:** Tzdakka box which belonged to her parents Azrael and Sony Zusman.
- **Ilene Klein:** Copies of documents: Jacob Abramson naturalization papers, Russian passport, bills of sale for seats in Shul: B'nai Jacob-Anshe Shalom
- **Ann Margolin:** 3 charity boxes: Central committee "Knesseth Israel Inc."; United Charity Institutions of Jerusalem; Great Palestine Orphan Asylum; Diskin Soc.; Various newspapers related to Israel's six-day war, 25th anniversary.
- **Sol Mann:** Central High Reunion Roster 50th Anniversary: group picture; photos from reunion; Framed: Roll of Honor WWII: They Died that We Might Live; JWV AUX Velvet Curtain.
- **Lou Lipp:** Photos, essays, and other correspondence/Highland Country Club.
- **Gerald and Pearl Gross:** A resolution expressing sympathy upon the death of their mother, Sora Mara Gross, sent by the B'nai Brith Lodge #354 to Bernard and Jacob Gross, two of her sons. March 25, 1915.
- **Mary Fellman:** Ongoing variety of Memorabilia.



From the "Israel Connection" – Seeking: FALK, Israel. Israel Falk b: Meudt, Germany, 1823, d: Nassau Germany, 1908. Children: Isaac, Ferdinand, Elsie, Adolf and Leopold Moritz, Julius Israel. Also seeking HARRIS, HERSKIWOTZ, MITTLEMAN, Norman Joseph Harris (Herskowitz) b: Austria 1964, m: Leba Mittleman (b: Austria 1865), d: Scranton, PA USA. Children: Harry, Rose, Frank, Sarah, Jacob, ??? Ruth and Freda. Contact Julian Falk, 2131 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219, USA.

A Request to the Living about

Remembering the past. Please sign this page, add it to your safety deposit box with your will and other valuables, and by so doing instruct and direct your dear ones to pass family memorabilia (that they do not want) on to the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society. In that way, nothing of historical value will be tossed out and lost to our archives.

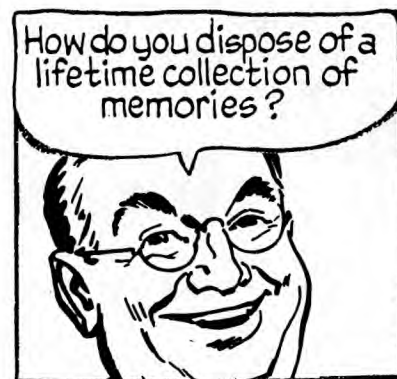
Your Name

Date

Name of person in charge of your memorabilia

NJHS Acquisitions March 1990 - October 1990

- **Janet Ickowicz:** Essay describing her husband Louis' life: Survival during the Holocaust.
- **Marcia Kushner:** 1947 Tifereth Israel confirmation class (Lincoln) program; The Six-Shooter / AZA May-June 1949.
- **Dr. Ed Malashock:** Photos: ZBT pledge class: 1940/41, 1941/42, 1942/43; Red Cross women volunteers marching WWII 1939, Phi Delta Theta: Founding Members of National Jewish Medical Fraternity, U of NE College of Medicine 1945.
- **Marion Graetz:** 8x10 photo 1957 Lincoln BB 377 presents rec. room furnishings to Air Force Base Unit in Lincoln.
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Your Name

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Name of person in charge of your memorabilia



Pledge Class Sigma Delta Tau 1939-40

*Back row L to R - Elaine Kaiman, Helene Albert, Sylvia Katzman, Bernice Himelstein, Rhoda Krasne.
 On arm chair - Sylvia Epstein (l) Aronita Daskovsky (r)
 Front row - Sareva Braverman, Rose Goldstein, Anna Arbitman, Marjorie Lipp*

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