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# HERITAGE

The Journal of THE JEWISH ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF EDMONTON & NORTHERN ALBERTA

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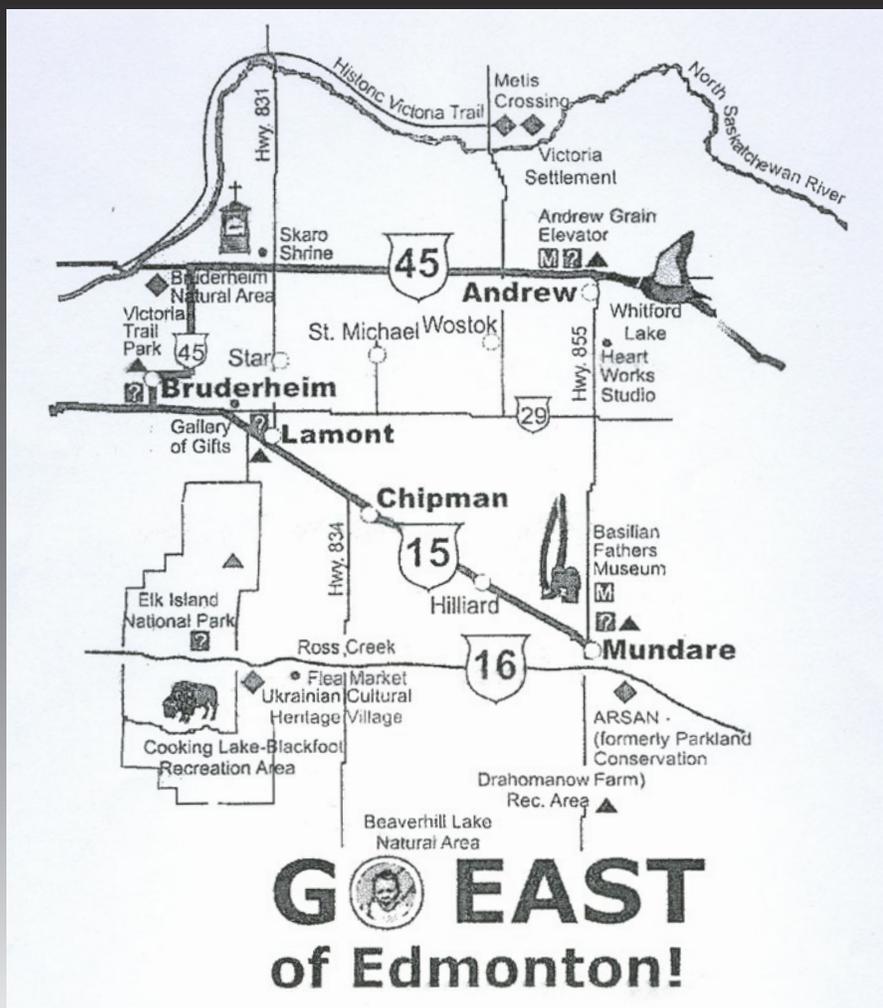
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## Map of Lamont County



Mundare, and the hamlets, villages and towns in Lamont County (located in east-central Alberta, approximately 52 miles east of Edmonton and 15 miles west of Vegreville) were home to many Jewish families. Dr. Eric Schloss has researched and written about Jewish settlement in the area, and you'll find the first part of his article starting on page 6 of this issue. Look for more about Lamont County in the spring.

Happy Hanukah!



## AGM report from the Co-Presidents,

by JUDY GOLDSAND and HOWARD DAVIDOW

October 2017

First of all, Co-President Howard Davidow and I want to extend a warm thank you to our retiring Board members. Jini Vogel, our past president, has been a devoted Board member for thirteen years. She was the Jewish Archives' dynamic president for five years from 2008 to 2013 and since then has continued to be an active volunteer. Her background in Information Management has been valuable in organizing our archival collection.

Lawrence Rodnunsky is leaving the Board after serving for four years.

Hal Simons has been a Board member for nine years and, besides being the Board Secretary for five years, has been our resident photographer.

Mel Wyne has also served on the Board for nine years. He's been a member of the Nominations Committee and was a Vice President from 2009 to 2012.

We thank all of you for your dedication to JAHSENA.

Since the last Annual General Meeting, our organization has published three editions of our *Heritage* Newsletter. In the Spring we produced a special edition that was a collaborative effort



Anna Linetsky, Gillian Horwitz and Debby Shoctor and Ken Wasserman at Doors Open.

with the Jewish Drop-In Centre to mark the 65th Anniversary of the Centre. It was mainly a photographic history of the Centre and was very well received.

Now, we want to tell you the latest news about the HB Kline Jewelry Store at Fort Edmonton that JAHSENA, in partnership with the Fort, established in 2013. Since the store was founded, the Jewish Archives has been supporting the presence of a staff interpreter to tell visitors about items in the store and, by association, about Edmonton's Jewish community. For 2017, JAHSENA again has contributed to the interpreter's salary. We are fortunate that this year the Fort hired Zachary Tankel, an Edmontonian in second year at McGill, to be the main interpreter. Zachary had a good knowledge of Edmonton's Jewish community and wrote a story about his experiences at the store in our last issue of *Heritage*.

Another summer project that JAHSENA participated in was the Edmonton Historical Society's DOORS OPEN celebration during the first week of July. Its theme for 2017 was Canada's 150th Birthday, so JAHSENA, in partnership with Beth Shalom Synagogue, organized a program July 6th that featured our film, *From Pedlars to Patriarchs*, about Edmonton's early Jewish history. The program, chaired by Vice-President Gillian Horwitz, also included short presentations by Debby Shoctor and Ken Wasserman about their respective pioneer families. We were delighted to have more than 75 people attend (a record)! Many visitors took home a copy of JAHSENA's book, *From Generation to Generation, Jewish Edmontonians as Heritage Builders*, written last year. The book is available - today at the back - or from Audrey's

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# ירשה HERITAGE

The Journal of the Jewish  
Archives & Historical Society  
of Edmonton and Northern  
Alberta

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# New Members from the AGM!

The JAHSENA Annual General Meeting was held Sunday, October 15, at Beth Shalom Synagogue's lower auditorium. The new officers are:

President: Howard Davidow  
 Vice President (Outreach): Gillian Horwitz  
 Vice President (Membership and Casino): Miriam Rabinovitch  
 Secretary/Treasurer: Ken Wasserman  
 Past President: Judy Goldsand.

Four new Board Members were elected:



## **SYLVIA ALPERN**

Sylvia has been an Edmontonian since Centennial Year, 1967, when she emigrated here from London, England, with her husband, Michael, and two little boys. During the past 50 years she has been involved with boards of various general and Jewish community organizations, including executive positions with: Executive Women International; Beth Shalom Women's League and Beth Shalom Board of Directors. She has also been a member of Edmonton Chevra

Kadisha, Hadassah, and ORT. Sylvia has been the Edmonton Co-ordinator for Na'amat Canada since 1999.



## **PENNY HARDIN**

Penny was born in Camrose, AB, the daughter of Leon and Becky Warhaft, z'l, but has lived most of her life in Edmonton. She has been married for 36 years to Phil Hardin, another native Edmontonian, and they have two daughters, both married, and now they have an 'amazing' new grandson. Penny is a graduate of Talmud Torah and has been a long time member of Beth Shalom Synagogue. Her working career was spent managing her husband's medical practice off and on for close to 30 years. She was also active in Edmonton Hadassah-WIZO, served on the Edmonton Jewish Drop-In Centre Board, and was past president of Beth Shalom Synagogue Women's League. Penny presently serves as secretary of the Regional Women's League Board. She has been a Fringe Theatre Festival vol-

unteer and her hobbies include reading historical fiction, attending live theatre, travelling, and keeping in touch with family and friends near and far.



## **ALAN LYONS**

Alan was born January 17, 1935 in Edmonton, the son of Earl and Laura Lyons, z'l, and attended Talmud Torah, Oliver and Westglen Schools before earning a BA at the University of Alberta. He graduated in law from UBC and was called to the Alberta Bar in 1960. After working as a lawyer for a few years, he served in the Canadian Foreign Service as a diplomat from 1965 to 1993, with assignments in London, England; Central America; The Netherlands; Israel; Cuba; Kenya; San Francisco; and Wright-Paterson Airforce Base in Ohio as Canadian Liaison to USAF Materiel Command. Returning to Edmonton in 1994, Alan has served on various boards including Beth Shalom and the Alzheimer Society of Edmonton and Alberta. He has always been active in tennis and was a former Edmonton and Alberta Junior champion. Since 1998, he has been a Court Mediator for the Alberta Department of Justice. Alan married Dyanne in 2009. His daughter and her family and his son reside in Austin, Texas.



## **RUTH ELLEN SHAFIR**

Ruth Ellen was born in Winnipeg, the daughter of Norman and Sunni Silverman, z'l, and grew up in Edmonton. Her parents were very involved in many organizations within the Edmonton Jewish community. Ruth Ellen attended Talmud Torah through grade nine. She was active in Hadassah and Talmud Torah Parents' Auxiliary and is presently very involved in Beth Shalom Synagogue. Ruth Ellen has been Chair of the Beth Shalom Judaica Shop, a project of Women's League, for the last 15 years.

## **JAHSENA Recent Acquisitions**

*These items have recently found their way into the archives, and are available for research purposes:*

An article on Mundare (Part 1 of a series of articles on Small Town Alberta, see this edition) and family photos from Dr. Eric Schloss (see this edition).

Two boxes of correspondence, meetings, invitations and scrapbooks from BBYO past Presidents.

Historical documents on various topics from Stephanie Hendin.

Judaica items, music, documents and art from Leon and Deborah Miller.

Historic documents, awards and tributes from Dr. Dianne and Irving Kipnes.

6 cm of documents, newspaper and magazine clippings from Sharon Abbott.

*We are still accepting donations of books relevant to local family or organizational history. Should you have any questions about donations, please contact our office.*

### **IN APPRECIATION:**

A special thank you to Sharon Abbott who continues to comb through all local publications to bring us clippings, invitations, magazine articles and newsletters.

Thanks again to Jini Vogel and Alex Krimberg who continue to come into the office to help with organizing books and archives.

# A 'Northern Lights' Bat Mitzvah

BY SONYA JAMPOLSKY

At the same time that millions were gathering across this country to celebrate Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday, a small contingent of people from Edmonton's Jewish community flew north to the Yukon for a historical event of another kind.

In the late afternoon of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, with over 100 people present, Ava Blue Witten Jampolsky became a Bat Mitzvah in the city of Whitehorse. Not just any Bat Mitzvah, it's believed to be the first to ever take place in the Yukon. (A Bar Mitzvah took place on the shores of Lake Labarge on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1989).

Guided by Rabbi Dan Moscovitz from Vancouver's Temple Sholom, Ava led a Havdalah service in the art gallery at the Yukon Arts Centre. Proudly watching were her grandparents, Doreen Jampolsky and Larry and Marielle Witten from Edmonton. Her grandfather Murray Jampolsky, who died in 1984, adored Robert Service's *The Cremation of Sam McGee* and would have delighted in the event and the idea it took place under the 'midnight sun'.

Confirming Ava as the first to be Bat Mitzvahed in the Yukon is difficult, as the possibility of others can't be entirely dismissed. During the Gold Rush, several hundred Jews are believed to have come to Dawson City, just over 500 kms north of Whitehorse. With no record of a synagogue, there or anywhere else in



Ava Witten Jampolsky, second row, second from left, with friends, at what is believed to be the first Bat Mitzvah to take place in the Yukon.

the Yukon, all that remains from those days is a small cemetery, with just seven graves, overlooking the town of Dawson. Rededicated in 1998, by a group that included Ava's parents, marking 100 years since the Gold Rush, the Jewish Cultural Society of the Yukon has created a travelling exhibit about the Jewish people who had come north at that time.

Just like those who expended enormous amounts of energy climbing the Chilkoot Trail in pursuit of gold, Ava's parents, Fia Jampolsky and Joel Witten, had to summon the fortitude to hold a Bat Mitzvah in a community where venues are few and far between, Rabbi's are non-existent, and accommodation is at a premium in the summer months, let alone on Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. Born and raised in Whitehorse, Ava prepared for her day by meeting with Rabbi Dan Moscovitz every few weeks on Google hangouts. While she learned Hebrew and her Torah portion, her parents went to heroic measures to work out travel, accommodation, and catering.

Liturgical logistics were left to Rabbi Dan in Vancouver. Having grown up in California, he welcomed the challenge and opportunity to further explore Canada, travelling with his wife Sharon Mischler, their three children and an extra suitcase holding the 'Travelling Torah'. Shabbat was ushered in amongst the Mastodon bones and taxidermy at the Beringia Interpretive Centre. And recognizing that the presence of a Rabbi is a rarity in the north, Rabbi Dan offered to hold a Shabbat Morning Service for the visitors and Jewish Community in Whitehorse the next day.

Services took place on Fia and Joel's back deck, with the Rabbi and his Torah stationed next to the BBQ tools on the upper section, and participants on whatever chairs could be found on the lower. The envelope of yarmulkes quickly emptied, and the tardy had to stand at the back. Turning east to face the mountains and forest of rustling trees is something that can collectively be remembered as a once in a lifetime event. But perhaps



Ava with her grandfather, Larry Witten.



Shabbat morning service on the deck.

just as profound as the location, was the ritual of reciting the Mourner's Kaddish in a group who were bound to one another in so many different ways. Standing together, Jews and non-Jews, we paid respect to those who've gone before with a prayer that has been practiced for centuries, reinforcing the reasons why we come together as a community.

Before dispersing from morning services, Rabbi Dan addressed a quandary that had been raised by one of the guests. How do you know when Shabbat starts and is over, in a place where there's almost 24 hours of daylight? The Rabbi explained that there are several ways Northern communities can address this. The first is to adopt the hours of the closest southern community in which there's a Jewish community, or the other is to adopt the same hours as are being observed in Jerusalem.

With Edmonton as the next closest community and sundown past 9 o'clock, the Rabbi aligned us with Jerusalem and we all gathered once again for Ava's Bat

Mitzvah in the late afternoon of July 1st. Cold weather pushed the Havdalah service indoors into the centre of an art exhibit about photography and camera obscuras, the prototype of modern cameras. Mysterious and enchanting, it was the perfect environment in which to hold the ceremony. And later as we finished dinner in tents on the grounds of the centre, nature intervened once more with a little bit of rain that quickly dissipated into a vibrant double rainbow. Many migrated outdoors to watch in wonder, placing guesses at to where exactly, in Whitehorse below, the two pots of gold might be waiting.

While many like Fia, Joel, Ava and Lily, understand the spell of the Yukon, it became abundantly clear that weekend to the newcomers, that there is magic under the midnight sun. And that wonder is all the more powerful when you are part of something so meaningful, surrounded by the people you love and care about most. Thank you Ava, Lily, Fia and Joel for the privilege of sharing it with you.



Ava (right) with her cousin, Samara under the rainbow.

# JEWISH COMMUNITIES of MUNDARE & LAMONT COUNTY PART I

*Editors's Note: The early Jewish settlement of Alberta often began with one member of a family moving west to open a store in a small Alberta town, with other family members following later. Dr. Eric Schloss has researched and written the following account of Jewish settlement in Lamont County in east-central Alberta.*

## MUNDARE

Although the Jewish community of Vegreville, with its more eastern settlements, had a larger population in the early 20th century, Mundare, and the hamlets, villages and towns

in Lamont County (northwest of Vegreville) were also home to many Jewish people and families. However, to provide a more accurate perspective, the elk, bison, and moose population of nearby Elk Island National Park far exceeds the total number of Jewish people who ever lived in Lamont County.

Mundare is located approximately 52 miles east of Edmonton and 15 miles west of Vegreville, and is now situated 2 ½ miles north of highway 16 (Yellowhead) at the junction of highway 15 and 825. However, there were only dirt roads without many markings

during the main periods covered in this article.

The **Nozick family** came from Winnipeg to open a general and clothing store in Mundare in 1911 and remained for at least the next 10 years. The store was operated by the patriarch of the family, **Shnier Nozick** (1863-1938), together with his oldest son **Joseph** (1891-1952). Shnier Nozick's wife Leah looked after the house and family, and Joseph and his wife Ann raised three sons who were born in Edmonton but raised in Mundare: Manuel (born 1915), Alan (born 1917) and Roy (born 1919). Joseph's younger brother Leo (1895-1959) also lived in Mundare before leaving to join the Jewish Legion in Palestine in 1917. After his return, he married his cousin, Evelyn Shaw (of the large, related Vegreville Shaw family) and their son Mandel was born in Vegreville in 1922. The Shnier and Joseph Nozick families returned to Winnipeg and established clothing wholesales while Leo ran the branch in Edmonton for many years. The Nozicks and Shaws of this era were all born in Elizabetgrad, Ukraine, and emigrated to Winnipeg: 1905 (Joseph Shaw), 1906 (Shnier and Joseph Nozick), followed by the other main family members in the next two years. Their close relationship was due to the fact that Shnier Nozick's sister Sosia (1868-1918) married Dov



The Nozicks ca. 1926. Back row (left to right): Annette, Grandmother Leah, Manuel, Grandpa Shnier, Alan, Bella and Ethyl. Sitting: Don, Mandel (in costume) and Roy.



The Nozick family ca. 1938. Back row: Alan (Joe's son), Mandel (Leo's son), Don Budd (Woolia's son), and Roy (Joe's son).

Middle row: Mischa Nozick, his wife Emma, Sara (wife of Jack Nozick), Annette (their daughter), Jack Nozick, two unnamed cousins visiting from the United States, Woolia and Daniel Budd.

Front row (left to right): Leo Nozick, Bella and Ethyl (daughters of Mischa Nozick), Shnier Nozick (father of Leo, Mischa, Joe, Jack and Woolia), Ezra Budd (Woolia son), Leah Nozick (wife of Shnier), Joe Nozick (father of Manuel, Alan and Roy), Anne Nozick (wife of Joe) and Manuel.

Ber (Bernard) Shaw (1852-1934) who became the progenitors of the large **Shaw family**. The Shaws, who mainly settled initially in Vegreville circa 1911, included the brothers Joseph (1883-1954), Moses, Roy, Maurice, and the sisters Rose (Newhouse) (1889-1940), Becky (Bloomfield) (1895-1983) and Evelyn (Nozick) (1900-1994). They all eventually became well-known and active members of the Edmonton Jewish community.

**William Dlin** (1887-1954) was the first member of the Dlin family to settle in Canada. The family first lived in the small village of Yerki in the Pultava district of Ukraine, and later

relocated in 1906 to the larger nearby town of Mirgorod. William managed to avoid conscription in the Russian army, which was forcing young men into 25 years of hazardous service and, with a colleague and neighbor, Chaim Satanove, managed to reach Edmonton in 1910. Some members of the Hardin and Rodnunsky families (who had been neighbours of the Dlins in Mirgorod) had already settled there. William's son Dr. Ben Dlin reported that his father, shortly after his arrival in Edmonton, won a wrestling match with John Dower who was a new provincial champion.

William Dlin then decided to open

a small general store in Mundare in 1912, where, as a bachelor, he lived and worked in a small two room wooden structure. His younger brother Jack (1892-1970) managed to escape the Russian army that year, with the aid of his older brother Barrel and young nephew Saul, and joined William in Mundare. Jack Dlin began to operate his small Mundare store by 1913, and William decided to relocate in neighbouring Bruderheim, where he eventually married his wife Rose (1896-1963) in 1918. They raised five children in Bruderheim including Sarah, Howard, Barney (Ben), Norman and Rita.

*Continued on next page*

JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF LAMONT COUNTY*Continued from page 7*

Barney (Dr. Ben Dlin) (1924-2008) and Norman (1926-2005) compiled and wrote a comprehensive Dlin Family History utilized in this article. The William Dlin family finally settled in Edmonton in 1931, becoming very active in the early Edmonton Jewish community.

**Jack Dlin** had the longest residence of any Jewish citizen in Lamont County, operating his store in Mundare for 57 years until he passed away in



Top: Jack and Molly Dlin on main Street Mundare, outside Jack's store, ca. 1928.

Above: Jack and Molly's children, Bernie and Sharleen Dlin, in Mundare ca. 1937.

1970. He was very popular in the largely Ukrainian community, and was famous for the ice cream and confectionaries in his small wooden shop on the main street.

His small store also served as the local Greyhound Bus Depot as he was the local agent. Jack also regularly participated in the local Ukrainian holidays such as St. Peter's Day, serving ice cream, soda and watermelon to the faithful, and was often joined on those days by his brothers and their families from Bruderheim and Chipman.

He lived alone in his Mundare shop for many years until marrying his wife Molly (1902-1998) in the late 1920s. They were then blessed with three children, Sharleen (Dlin) Sherwin, Bernie, the consummate pharmacist (BSC Pharmacy U of A 1955) (1932-2015), who operated Hardin Drugs in Edmonton for many years, and the younger sister Rhetta. Sharleen, who lives in San Diego, told me she has very fond memories of growing up in Mundare, and provided many pictures of family life there. She said her mother and the children decided to move into Edmonton in the early 1940s to further their education, but her dad Jack wanted to continue to operate his shop



Ralph and Rose Chmelnitsky at the time of their marriage ca. 1914.

and stayed in Mundare until his death in 1970. The shop's classic ice cream chairs now are displayed prominently in the Mundare Town Museum.

**Ralph Chmelnitsky (Samuels)** (1892-1967) and his wife Rose (1893-1970) came as newlyweds to Mundare in 1914. He had emigrated from Russia to Winnipeg circa 1909 or 1910, where his older half-brother Jake lived, and he was soon followed by his parents and brothers A.D., and Joe. Rose (Israels) and her large family



Left to right: Mickey, Jack and Saul Dlin in the mid-60s.



Boba and Zeda Israels, parents of Rose Chmelnitsky.

also came to Winnipeg from Romania around this time. They were followed to Mundare in 1915 by Ralph's brother Joe (1894-1968) and his wife Fanny (Schloss) (1896-1997), my aunt. She, along with her mother and younger brother Alan (my dad), joined their father in Winnipeg in 1905 after leaving eastern Poland. Landing at Gros Ile immigration Centre in the St. Lawrence River near Quebec City, which was also a quarantine station, apparently my father had chicken pox which required him to stay for a longer period than usual. They then went on to join my grandfather in Winnipeg. Joe and Fanny were married in Winnipeg and spent their honeymoon at the new Alberta Hotel in Edmonton (now the restored CKUA building on east Jasper Avenue) and then proceeded to Mundare. Joe and Ralph established the Chmelnitsky General Store, selling both clothing and groceries and became the main competitors to the Nozick Store. Ralph and Rose's first child, Sadie (Sheckter), was born in 1915 and spent her early childhood in Mundare. Another child, Moishe, born 1917, tragically died of meningitis at the age of three. The family moved to Edmonton in 1920 or 1921 and



Ralph's parents, Herchel and Kayla Chmelnitsky.

Ralph opened the Christie Grant's Department Store in Edmonton on 101st Street next to the King Edward Hotel. Their family grew with the birth of Harold in December, 1922, who graduated in dentistry from the University of Alberta in 1944/5. He became a distinguished dentist and specialist periodontist in Edmonton for approximately 60 years. Younger siblings Evelyn and Ken, were also born in Edmonton and he eventually operated several fashionable ladies wear stores in Edmonton, including Burdines.

Sadie Samuels became a well-known pianist in Edmonton. She studied at the prestigious Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where she lived with my mother's family, and on her return to Edmonton in the late 1930's she became noted as a performer and piano teacher. She married Joseph Sheckter in 1944 and I have early memories of serving as the ring bearer for the marriage ceremony.

My aunt and uncle, **Joe and Fanny Samuels**, initially stayed in Mundare where he continued to operate the store. Their sons, Norman (born 1917) and Victor (Dr. Victor Samuels, born 1922) grew up as children in Mundare.

*Continued on next page*



Rose Chmelnitsky with daughter Sadie, ca 1916.



Left to right: Norman, Joe, Victor and Fanny Samuels, ca. 1926

JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF LAMONT COUNTY*Continued from page 9*

They finally moved to Edmonton in 1927 when Joe joined his brother and partner Ralph at Christie Grant's Ltd. for the next 40 years. Their youngest son Hershel was then born in Edmonton in 1929. He graduated in Medicine from the U of A in 1953 along with his classmate Dr. Ted Shnitka, and practiced orthopedic surgery in Brooklyn for more than 50 years.

Norman graduated in Commerce and Law from the University of Alberta in 1941 and became an officer in the Canadian Army in Western Europe (mainly Holland) during WWII. He subsequently moved to Vancouver with his family. Norman told me the story of our first encounter. He had the family car and was driving to his university classes on the cold winter morning of December 2, 1938 when he spotted a woman on 109 Street hitchhiking and frantically waving her arms. It



Alan Schloss with his Nash touring car, 1925.

was his mother, my aunt Fanny! She was attempting to get over the High Level bridge to the University Hospital in time for the expected birth of her nephew, yours truly. Norman was able to drive her there in time for the event! Dr. Victor Samuels graduated from the U of A Medical Faculty in 1948 as a classmate of Hymie Pollack, Morris Besney and Abe Satanove. He eventually practiced child psychiatry in Vancouver. His daughter, Judi Card, currently serves as the Chair of Edmonton Jewish Family Services.

My father, **Al Schloss** (1902-1998), decided to leave Winnipeg as a teenager circa 1919 to join his sister Fanny and brother-in-law Joe in Mundare and work in the Chmelnitsky store. He also did the books for the store as he was good at math. He told us that he lived with Fanny and Joe, and his duty every month was to go up to the attic and keep an eye out for the Mountie coming from Vegreville on his horse to inspect the village. As it was during Canada's prohibition, as soon as he saw the Mountie he had to warn the



Alan and Ann Schloss dancing, 1951.



Ben Shlain and Aaron Kagna at Emerald Lake, Alberta, enroute to Seattle in 1929.



Schloss family ca. 1914. Standing: Alan and Fanny (Samuels). Seated: William "Bill", Roy and Sara (Engle).

household to hide the still they kept in the house! He stayed in Mundare for four or five years and his closest friends at this time were **Ben Shlain** (also born 1902) and **Aaron Kagna** (born 1903) who worked in the Chmelnitsky store. My dad then decided to go to the Eastern U.S. to work in the clothing business and married my mother in Philadelphia in 1930. During the Depression he returned to Canada in early 1935, with my mother and sister Sondra, to operate J. Lawrence



Evelyn and Ben Shlain, 1932.



Left to right: Roy (83), Alan (93), Fanny (Samuels) (99), Sara (Engle) (88) and William (86), in 1995, 81 years after the photo on the left.

and Company Department store in Camrose, in association with Joe and Ralph Samuels, for the next 40 years.

After he and my mother retired, they took occasional excursions around Alberta and once decided to go to Mundare, where he had not been for almost 60 years. I asked my mother how they enjoyed the visit and remember her saying, "Al was so surprised they had paved sidewalks in Mundare!"

The **Israel and Gittel Kagna family** emigrated to Edmonton in 1922 with their children Harvey, Aaron, Ruth (Brody), Dora (Brody), Sonia (Gelfand) and Jack, where Mr. Kagna established the Edmonton City Bakery. After leaving Mundare, Aaron lived for many years in Edmonton. He married Toby Katzin and they eventually moved their family to Vancouver.

**Noah and Luba Shlain**, together with their daughters and son Ben, left Winnipeg by 1920 to open a general store in Mundare. Ben eventually took dentistry at the University of Toronto and returned to practice in Mundare in 1926. His daughter Leah (Shlain) Neaman, now of Vancouver, informed me that her dad Ben and his pal Aaron Kagna took a trip to Seattle in 1929

where he met his bride Evelyn, whose family he had known in Winnipeg. They were married in 1930 in Seattle. Leah was born in 1931 and, when her mother tragically died in 1934, she was raised mainly by her grandmother Luba in Edmonton. She and my sister Sondra attended McGill University in the early 1950s. Dr. Shlain decided to do postgraduate work in Chicago and by 1936 had established a longstanding dental practice in Edmonton, retaining most of his Ukrainian patients from Mundare. His father, Noah, died in Edmonton in 1941, and his mother, Luba, in 1962. He passed away in Edmonton in 1984 after a successful dental and business career.

Another Jewish man working in Mundare was **Jack Saslow**, who was related to the Nozick family. During Jack and Katie (Baltzan) Saslow's 50th Wedding Anniversary celebration in Edmonton in 1969, my aunt Fanny broke up the crowd by relating the fact that the Jewish community in Mundare had a "Chivaree" for the Saslow newlyweds in 1919. A Chivaree was a traditional noisy disruption of major events such as a honeymoon, and, as my aunt

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JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF LAMONT COUNTY*Continued from page 11*

so eloquently and bluntly stated, “to interrupt them in their lovemaking!”

Other Jewish families who came to Mundare included the **Warhafts** and **Bergs**. David and Jenny Warhaft had moved to Mundare from Winnipeg with their young sons Leon and Sam in 1923 or 1924. Initially David worked for the Chmelniks (Samuels) but after a few years he established his own general store. Leon (1914-2009) and Sam (1916-2008) went through school in Mundare and their two youngest siblings were born there, Harry in 1925, and Ben in 1927. Harry said they were home births, as the Mundare Hospital was not built until late 1927. Previously, Jewish children in Mundare and district had usually been born in Edmonton, Lamont, or Vegreville. Harry fondly remembers his childhood in Mundare and even learned and retained the Ukrainian language. His parents and their sons eventually moved to Edmonton in 1935 where Jenny Warhaft passed away in 1939 and David in 1955. Harry proudly took his entire family to Mundare a few years ago to show them his childhood

“haunts”.

**Louis Berg** (1891-1985) came to Alberta in 1926 from eastern Poland and started working as a farm labourer and railroad worker although his background was as a businessman. He had married his young wife Regina (1902-1949) in 1921. Their daughter Fanny was an infant when she and her mother joined Louis, moving to Mundare in 1927. Initially he was associated with Saul Olyan in a small shop in the hamlet of Haight, Alberta, south of Vegreville. Soon, however, Louis established a store in Vegreville that was taken over by his niece Lily (Leah) and her husband Meyer Adler when the Bergs decided to move to Mundare.

Fanny (Berg) Nemtean, a longtime resident of Montreal, told me that she and her brother Sol (born 1933, U of A graduate MD 1956, classmate of Harry and Gary Brody, Noel Jampolsky and Sam Weisz) grew up in Mundare before the family moved to Edmonton in the early 1940s. Louis Berg moved to Montreal to be with his daughter after his wife Regina died at the young age of 46 in 1949. He passed away in Montreal in 1985. His son Sol prac-

ticed Urology in Baltimore for most of his medical career.

Others in Mundare for brief periods included Dave Nitikman, later of Saskatoon, and the Weitz family of Edmonton.

My Uncle, Bill (William) Schloss, born 1909, came to work in 1926 for the Chmelniks in Mundare and Edmonton, eventually moving to Regina to work in their older brother A.D.'s Christie Grant's store. He also ended up as his brother-in-law by marrying my Aunt Ada, a sister to A.D.'s wife Rebecca. They later moved to Stettler and eventually to Vancouver, where he was also in the clothing business.

An amusing event in December 1926 occurred in Mundare when my Aunt **Fanny (Schloss)** decided to have a reception for her 19 year old younger sister Sarah (Schloss), who was planning to leave Winnipeg after receiving her teaching certificate. Sarah and her younger brothers Bill and Roy had grown up in the Jewish orphanage in North end Winnipeg after their mother died in childbirth in 1914. The Mundare reception was written up in the Jewish Post by the Edmonton correspondent Morris Weinlos, who provided a detailed account, including the activity program and those in attendance from Mundare, Edmonton, Vegreville and Vermilion. It was apparent that my aunt was trying to arrange a “shiduch” for her single sister, as many eligible bachelors were among the invitees. These included Morris and Chaim (Harry) Weinlos and Claude Greenberg, who were all in medical school at the time, the brothers Harvey and Aaron Kagna, plus the very eligible Mundare dentist, Dr. Ben Shlain. My aunt Fanny must have been initially disappointed that the attempted shiduch did not succeed, but her sister Sarah, after teaching in Chipman for a few years, ended up



Left to right: Sol Berg (Being held), Lily Adler, Louis Berg holding Fannie Berg and Regina Berg, ca. 1933.

## EDMONTON NEWS

Mundare

(By MORRIS WEINLOS)

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Chmelnitsky of Mundare, received in honor of Miss Sarah Schloss of Winnipeg, sister of Mrs. Chmelnitsky, on the 25th and 26th of December, a party of young men and women from Edmonton and Vegreville.

The guests enjoyed one continued chain of sleighing, car riding, dancing, singing and playing, as the products of that excellent culinary art of Mrs. Chmelnitsky. The toast to the host and the hostess was offered by Dr. B. Shlain of Mundare, while Mr. C. Greenberg of Edmonton, called for a toast to the guest of honor.

The party was also entertained at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Shlain, by Miss Evelyn and Dr. B. Shlain, in the evening of the 26th.

All enjoyed an excellent little play presented by Miss S. Shaw and Master C. Greenberg, entitled: "Love in its Making." The old theme of the ever pulsing life and its purifying influence upon our conduct was well brought out.

Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. E. Lyons, the Misses A. and S. Shaw, all of Vegreville. Miss S. Wiener of Vermillion, Miss E. Shlain and Dr. Shlain and Mr. A. Kagna, all of Mundare. The Misses D. Kagna, C. Margolis, L. Newhouse. Messrs. C. Greenberg, H. Kagna, W. Schloss, C. Weinlos and M. Weinlos, all of Edmonton.

1926

Article from the Jewish Post, written by Morris Weinlos.

marrying Izzy Engle of Calgary in 1930 and remaining there for the rest of her long life, passing away at the age of 101 in 2008. Her sister Fanny also reached 101 years before her death in 1997 in Vancouver.

*The second installment will deal with the early Jewish settlement in Bruderheim, Chipman, Lamont, Hilliard and Andrew.*

## DONATION CARDS

JAHSENA has donation cards with historic pictures on them available for purchase. Mark your special simchas by sending a donation to JAHSENA. Contact the office for more details at: 780-489-2809. We have received the following donations:

### MAZEL TOV

To Dr. Dianne and Irving Kipnes on receiving the Peter Lougheed Award from JAHSENA Board.

To Jini Vogel for her special birthday from the JAHSENA Board and Staff; Dr. George and Judy Goldsand; Noni Schultheiss; Howie and Debbie Sniderman; Michael and Colleen Paull; Dan and Trudy Pekarsky; Larry and Marielle Witten; Alvin and Sue Winestock; Aaron and Jean Oshry.

To Ken and Annella Wasserman on the birth of their new granddaughter, Pearl, from the JAHSENA Board and Staff; Michael and Colleen Paull.

To Michael and Colleen Paull on the engagement of their daughter, Samara, from JAHSENA Board and Staff.

To Clyde Hurtig and Karen Farkas on the birth of their grandson from the JAHSENA Board and Staff.

### SYMPATHY

To Ruth Nolan on the passing of Carla Nolan, z'l from the JAHSENA Board and Staff; Michael and Colleen Paull.

To Jane Karstaedt on the passing of Edgar Karstaedt z'l from the JAHSENA Board and Staff.

To the families of Jeff Rubin and Gaylene Soifer; Randy and Jane Soifer; Laurie and Chuck Mozeson on the passing of Florence Soifer Ovics, z'l from Michael and Colleen Paull.

To Laurie and Chuck Mozeson on the passing of Florence Soifer Ovics, z'l from Dr. George and Judy Goldsand.

To Marilyn Cohen on the passing of Jack Cohen, z'l from Dr. George and Judy Goldsand; Michael and Colleen Paull.

To the family of Penny and Phil Hardin on the passing of Sheila Warhaft, z'l from Michael and Colleen Paull.

To the family of Dr. Jerry and Miriam Katz on the passing of Gloria Frankel, z'l from Michael and Colleen Paull.

To Shirley Grossman on the passing of David Grossman, z'l from Michael and Colleen Paull.

### GET WELL

To Sol Rolinger from Michael and Colleen Paull.

## On Display

### At the JCC...

Currently on display at the new JCC you will find an exhibit of artifacts from our collections. Come visit us at 10220-156 St., Suite 200 to see the exhibit and our new offices. If you would like to donate a book, document or a piece of memorabilia to add to our collection, call 780-489-2809.

### On the Web...

Check out the Archives Society of Alberta Exhibit prepared for Archives Week 2012, entitled "Looking Good, Alberta, Fashion in the Archives," at [www.archivesalberta.org](http://www.archivesalberta.org). Also check out the Peter Owen exhibit online at the same website under "Letters from the Trunk." Old issues of our newsletter, Heritage/Yerusha, are available on our website, [www.jahsena.ca](http://www.jahsena.ca). If you haven't done so yet, take a look at the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery website, [www.edmontonjewishcemetery.ca](http://www.edmontonjewishcemetery.ca), operated in partnership with the Chevra Kadisha.

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Membership donations are used for the operating costs of the Society, which is a self-sustaining organization. Membership fees include spouses except for individual membership. Members are eligible to vote at the annual general meetings of the society. Membership

includes a subscription to our publication, Heritage/Yerusha. Fees cover membership year from September 1st to August 31st. Donations are tax deductible. We thank the above listed people for their support in the past year.

## FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS

*Continued from page 2*

Books or the JAHSENA office.

During the Spring and Summer, several "Who Am I?" sessions were held under the chairmanship of Izzy Gliener. Anyone in the community who has the time is welcome to join these monthly get-togethers to try to identify unknown people in JAHSENA's photo archives. Please call Colleen at the office if you would like to attend.

Last week, on October 2, in partnership with Federation, JAHSENA sponsored the Opening of an Exhibit called the "Canadian Jewish Experience: A Tribute to Canada 150". It was prepared in Ottawa and depicts Canada's Jewish history. It is on display in the City Hall foyer for the month of October.

We would like to extend appreciation to the Edmonton Jewish Community Charitable Foundation for a grant enabling JAHSENA to produce a new brochure which will be available shortly.

All of our Board members are

dedicated to the work JAHSENA does and deserve a big thank you! They contribute ideas and many volunteer hours towards our mandate of preserving the history of the Edmonton Jewish community.

A special thank you must go to Vice-President Miriam Rabinovitch who coordinated our recent Casino on May 29th and 30th. Casino funds are JAHSENA's major source of funding, so Miriam's efforts to get volunteers and her management of the event are most appreciated.

Howard and I and all of our Board members extend warm thanks to our Archivist, Colleen Paull, who manages the Archives most efficiently. The office has recently had several visitors wishing to use our Archives to search for information about people or previous events in our community. Colleen helps them find the relevant files and often adds her knowledge to whatever they are seeking.

And, finally, we thank all of you for your ongoing support.



City Hall Opening of Canada 150 display

## In Memoriam 2016-17

The following individuals were lost to us this year. We offer our condolences to their families and friends, and hope that their memories will be blessings to us all.

Daniel Abbott, z'l  
Doris Berelowitz, z'l  
Reva Bernstein, z'l  
Marty Blatt, z'l  
Alegro Buchuk, z'l  
Jack Isaac Cohen, z'l  
Suzanne Cohen, z'l  
Murray Cooper, z'l  
Shohan Felber, z'l  
Gloria Frankel, z'l  
Zena Frankel, z'l  
Herbert Freedman, z'l  
Barry Greenspan, z'l  
David Grossman, z'l  
Nancy Gurevitch, z'l  
Dr. Frank Jackson, z'l  
Edgar Karstaedt, z'l  
Michal Kheder, z'l  
Anatoly Klebanov, z'l  
Ester Leykina, z'l  
Sam Lucky, z'l  
Sofia Lungin, z'l  
Leon Melamed, z'l  
Joy Ruth Mickelson, z'l  
Fanny Middleman, z'l  
Gabriel Miller, z'l  
Isadore Monz, z'l  
Bella Nevler, z'l  
Carla Nolan, z'l  
Florence Soifer Ovics, z'l  
Fainer Rashkovezki, z'l  
Esther (Shappy) Rosenthal, z'l  
Fania Roskovezk, z'l  
Simon Shats, z'l  
Cecilia Shaw, z'l  
Abraham Shifrin, z'l  
Alexander Shumilovich, z'l  
June Skibin, z'l  
Edward (Bucky) Stochinsky, z'l  
Hilda Stoehr, z'l  
Leo (Sonny) Superstein, z'l  
Sheila Janice Warhaft, z'l  
Donna Weisler, z'l  
Dr. Tova Yedlin, z'l  
Shai Youz, z'l

Every effort has been made to identify all those who have passed away in the last year, but if we have omitted someone, please contact the JAHSENA office.

## Help Us Preserve Our Past for the Future!

I (we) would like to become part of the continuing quest into our historical past by joining the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta in the category marked. A charitable receipt will be issued. Membership for other than individuals includes spouses. Membership includes an annual subscription to Heritage/Yerusha, the Society's newsletter, published 3 times a year.

Enclosed is my cheque for \$\_\_\_\_\_ Payable to the Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta (JAHSENA).

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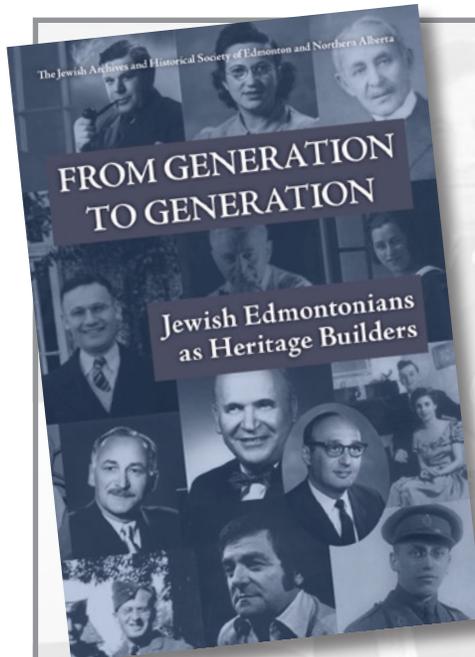
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 Edmonton Journal columnist

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