

# Heritage



# ירשה

THE JOURNAL OF *The Jewish Archives & Historical Society of Edmonton & Northern Alberta*

**Volume 2, No. 1**

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**Nisan-Iyar 5759**



*Shaw Family - Courtesy Provincial Archives of Alberta Access #76.92/3 A18465 Mrs. Irving Lyons*

*The Shaw Family, circa 1907.*

*Front row, L-R, Mrs. Joe Shaw, baby Allie Shaw, (Greenberg), Bernard Shaw, Mrs. Bernard Shaw, Rose Shaw, (Newhouse).*

*Back row, L-R, Joe Shaw, Becky Shaw (Bloomfield), Ray Shaw, Morris Shaw, Evelyn Shaw (Nozick) Moses Shaw and Joshua Newhouse.*

*It's photos such as these and others, as well as documents, news clippings, community publications, organizational and institutional material, for which JAHSENA has launched a massive community search.*

## Enthusiastic Community Response to Book Project

Since the announcement by JAHSENA of its intent to publish a pictorial history book on Jews of Edmonton and Northern Alberta in the year 2000, there has been an outpouring of interest and support from all sectors of the Jewish community.

The book is slated to cover a century of Jewish life in the region, from 1893 to 1993 and its major contents will be hundreds of photographs, both currently on deposit with the Provincial Archives of Alberta and many still to be gathered.

Heading the effort in seeking material for the JAHSENA archives collection, Acquisitions chair Cori Friedman has formed a committee that will be approaching the community at large for photographs and documents. Mrs. Friedman will be coordinating her efforts with Joy-Ruth and Ed Mickelson, Oral History co-chairs, who have expanded their committee to record oral history interviews.

Community members interested in serving either committee should contact the chairs.

Not all material gathered will form part of the JAHSENA publication. The book of about 280 pages, mostly photographs, is not intended as a definitive history of our community. Rather, it will provide a post-card view of Northern Alberta Jewry from 1893 - 1993.

On a second track of the archival effort, for all material gathered, whether used for the book or not, will be an important collection, owned by the Jewish community through JAHSENA, available to writers, historians, students, researchers as well as families for genealogical purposes. This collection will be housed in the Provincial Archives of Alberta under a permanent Loan Collection. This PLC agreement does not extend to the Provincial Museum of Alberta.

In addition to JAHSENA board members other members of the Editorial committee for the book include Jack and Sylvia Chetner, Marion Hoffman, Irwin Huberman and Cecille Shaw. There will be other consultants for the project. □

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# Heritage ירשה

PUBLISHED BY The Jewish Archives & Historical Society of Edmonton & Northern Alberta

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## Mission

The Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta (JAHSENA) was founded in 1996 and a year later became a registered not-for-profit Society under the Societies Act of Alberta.

The aims and purposes JAHSENA are to gather, sort, catalogue, preserve and present the history, religious and cultural heritage of the Jewish people of Edmonton and Northern Alberta. To this end JAHSENA is involved in an ongoing effort of acquiring documents, photographs, memorabilia and recording oral histories of elders of the community.

By special Permanent Loan arrangements with the Provincial Archives of Alberta, material deposited by JAHSENA will belong to the Society on behalf of the Jewish community and will be available for research, genealogical study, publications and periodicals and serve as a central resource for students, teachers, authors, historians and others. Until suitable arrangements, can also be made with the Provincial Museum of Alberta we are not able to accept artifacts of any kind.

Membership fees are tax deductible. The fee categories are listed on the enclosed envelope.

## Opportunity Offered to Publish Family Histories

Jewish families in Edmonton and Northern Alberta will be given the opportunity of having their family histories published in the pictorial history book of the region slated for publication in the year 2000.

Because of space limitations, such histories will be limited to 500 words or less. Histories submitted may be as lengthy and detailed as each writer chooses and these will be filed in the JAHSENA collection for genealogical and historical reference. But for publication purposes the Editorial committee reserves the right to extract and edit material for the 500 word or less requirement. No photos will be published in this section of the book.

Contents should include the names of the first and second generations of each family, the country, city or region from where they came, if immigrants, year of arrival in Canada and/or Northern Alberta, types of businesses, professions and trades, years of births and deaths, married names of second generations if applicable, communal involvements if any, and any special distinctions or recognitions.

Manuscripts MUST be typed, double spaced, and written in English, with the name, address and phone number of the author in the right upper hand corner.



*Samuels Clothing Store - Courtesy Provincial Archives Access #75.159 Mary Samuels*

*Shown in front of the Samuels Clothing Store, circa 1919, located at 105<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 101<sup>st</sup> Street, are L-R, Saul Wainberg and Kiva Samuels.*

*If you have any photos of early small businesses, or of early professionals, doctors, lawyers, engineers, etc., we'd like to see them along with brief historical notes.*

The name of the family must appear as the heading of the manuscript. Manuscripts must be MAILED to the JAHSENA office and received no later than June 30, 1999. Manuscripts shall remain the property of JAHSENA and will not be returned. There is no charge involved for publication and no compensation given to the author.

The Editorial Committee reserves the right to reject material not deemed suitable for publication. A covering letter addressed to JAHSENA must accompany each manuscript giving JAHSENA permission to publish the manuscript and to use the information contained in the manuscript as it sees fit. The letter must be signed by the author. □



Courtesy Provincial Archives of Alberta Access #75.405 Burton Margolus First Annual B'nai Brith Golf Tournament 1937

Bottom row, L-R, Aaron Kalensky, Henry Hurtig, Fred Swartz, Abe Aaron. Second and Third rows, L-R, Sam Wyman, Bert Shubin, Danny Podersky, Billy Levine, Dave Wiseman, Louis Podersky, Max Weinlos, Ben Leibovitz, Louis Friedman, Irving Lyons, Fred Podersky, Sam Goldsmith, Norman Samuels, David Garfin, David Klein, Harry Bloomfield. The tournament was held at the Prince Rupert Golf Course.

## Raye Dolgoy's Memories of Golden Age Club

By Joy-Ruth Mickelson

### "Do You Remember The Golden Age Club?"

Raye "It all began with Dr. Reva Gerstein, the National President of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW). Dr. Gerstein believed that "looking into the needs of seniors was an extremely important facet of the NCJW's services." These were the words that began a conversation that I had with Raye Dolgoy, when she shared with me the story of how the Golden Age Club started in Edmonton.

"We started at the Golden Age Club in 1954, with Mrs. Raye Miller chairing it. She invited a number of us to join with her to get organized. I was vice-chair in charge of services for NCJW then and we started in a very small way- phoning some of the elderly people and speaking with them to see if they would like this kind of organization. At that time we were all green and ignorant about senior needs, so we did some studies. When we got the group together- about twenty seniors- and asked them what they would like, we got numerous answers. "We don't know yet" they said, "we'll see how it goes". And that's how it got started."

Raye told me that eventually the group became very large and that they would "get anywhere from 120 - 150 seniors out to meetings." Originally they alternated their meeting place between the Beth Israel and Beth Shalom synagogues but eventually NCJW negotiated with Beth Shalom and they met there every Wednesday evening. NCJW organized drivers to assist members to get to the meetings, and telephoners to solicit opinions from the members about the kind of programs they wanted. She continued, they said: "We want doctors to speak, professionals to speak. One gentleman told me: 'I would love to learn to how to paint' and a lady said 'I would love to learn English.' So we started an English group and Jenny Promislow was our first teacher- she was wonderful. The consensus of the students was: She opened the world for us."

The fun that the Golden Agers had included their participation in dances "they loved dancing"; their enjoyment of their own painting and art exhibitions; their giving of themselves to other groups- they gave Purim hamantaschen

— Continued on Page 4

## Organizations Briefed on History Book

A brunch was held late last year to brief organizational and institutional presidents or their representatives on the planned JAHSENA pictorial history. Hosted by Dianne Kipnes at her home for about 20 people, there was an enthusiastic response from those present for the opportunity to have the histories of their respective groups published.

While the book, scheduled to be launched in 2000, is not intended as a definitive history of the community or various groupings within it, this will represent the first time in the history of Northern Alberta Jewry for them to publish brief histories of their respective organizations, institutions and agencies under one cover.

A number of groups have since been hard at work gathering and writing material for the intended publication based on the parameters of the briefing pamphlet. Daniel Kauffman could be contacted for any questions regarding this material.

An ongoing search for material from members of groups no longer in existence is also continuing. These include the Menorah club, Cubs and Boy Scouts, New Yiddish School (Peretz School) Yiddish Theatre, etc. □



Courtesy Dr. Frank Weinstein, JAHSENA "Off To Play"

This photo of an AZA Regional Tournament in Edmonton; circa 1936, has some individuals who could not be identified. Should you be able to help us out, call Uri Rosenzweig at 481-1997 or Cori Friedman at 486-5745. Front row, L-R, Sam Shnitka, Hymie Medwinsky.....Alex Goldenberg, Hersh Gofsky, Jack Goodman, Hy Baltzan, Carl Safirin, Frank Weinstein, Mickey Dlin. Second row, L-R, Butch Hurtig, Jack Switzer, Sid Kovnats, Curley Gurevitch, Freddie Podersky, Joe Dvorkin, L. Fratkin, Alex Podolsky, Max Satinove, Norm Samuels. Third row, L-R, Joe Libin,.....Alex Sasslovsky (Sherwood), Dave Pollack, Penny Shragge, Teddy Aaron, Mort Mickelson, Morris Sasslovsky, Abe Satanove. Fourth row, L-R, Jack Singer, Morely Cohen, Norman Mortan, Abe Rosen, Joe Bugis, Dave Kline, Chud Tarnow, Teddy Cohn. Top row, L-R, Morris Switzer, Ben Leibovitz, Gene Rollingher, Art Samuels, Dan Podersky, Harry Uretsky, Sid Gurevitch, Fred.....

## Golden Age Club

Continued from page 3

to the Shumka dancers who had come to entertain them-and-their celebrations of Jewish festivals.

For Raye, a critical point was the training of volunteers which, she said, was recognized by NCJW, who provided the volunteers for service. Raye noted that Alice Abells was one of the young people trained and "Dasha Zottenberg was our music director at the time and Alfie Simons was the chair of the social arrangements. They were all wonderful.

They still are wonderful! Those of our community who attend the Drop-In Centre recognize these names, and many unnamed others, as volunteers 'par excellence' who continue the giving of themselves in a generous and altruistic way. Thank you, Raye for sharing the history that led to the creation of the Drop-In Centre and for your involvement, past, present, and future.

The history of the Drop-In Centre and those volunteers who played a major role from its beginnings is another remarkable story still to be told.

Post-Script: If you have any memories of the Golden Age Club or any documents/posters of events please let us know. We welcome more stories. □

## Oral Histories Committee Seeks Additional Volunteers

The Oral Histories committee of JAHSENA headed by Joy-Ruth and Ed Mickelson has been formed and additional volunteers are needed to participate in this project to record interviews with first and second generations of community members for the JAHSENA archives.

Serving on the committee thus far are: Phyllis Adler, Becky Fayerman, Cori Friedman, David Friedman, Norma Grobman, Honey Isaacs, Diane Jampolshy, Faye Kay, Alan Lyons and Lil Soroka.

An information package is provided to all interviewers and audio tapes of all interviews will become part of the JAHSENA archives collection to be housed in the Provincial Archives of Alberta under a permanent loan agreement.

Members of the community who are unable to serve on this committee may wish to record their own interviews with parents or even grandparents or other older relatives and the committee is prepared to offer guidelines for such interviews.

Already housed in the Provincial Archives of Alberta as part of its own collection on the

Jewish community are about 43 interview tapes with past elders of the community completed some 20 years ago. Members of the community at large have the opportunity to listen to these voices from the past at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

Included in this collection are interviews with; Lola Berner, R.M. & Sarah Bernstein, Becky and Harry Bloomfield, Manual Bogoch, Mr. & Mrs. Ted Cristall, Jennie Davis, Helen Dlin, Saul Dlin, Abraham Estrin, Abraham Fratkin, I.R. Friedman, Lottie Friedman, Israel Garfin, Hyman Goldsmith, Samuel Hardin, Anne Hardin, Lillian Kline, Saul Laub, Ben Leibowitz, M.I. Liberman, Earl Lyons, Lottie Lyons, Charles Margolus, L.A. Miller, Raye Miller, Oscar Tunis, Minnie Pekarsky, Anne Podersky, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Podersky, Anne Podersky, Fanny Podolsky, Rabbi & Mrs. Abraham Postone, Mania Rudnunsky, Mary Samuels, Katie Saslow, Sarah Shragge, Samuel Slutger, Fred Swartz and Morris Weinlos. There are 22 oral history interview tapes of former farming colonists. These were done by Reevan Dolgoy. For any information about the Oral History project or to volunteer for the committee, please call Ed or Joy-Ruth Mickelson at 487-2958 □

### Edmonton: The Early Days - 94/95th Street, South of Jasper.

Did any members of your family or friends or neighbours of your parents / grandparents / uncles / aunts / cousins / mishpacha / machatenim live on 94th or 95th streets, south of Jasper? Or on the west or east side of the street or on 101A Avenue? Do you know their neighbours' names and addresses?

**If so please call:**

Ed or Joy-Ruth Mickelson at 487-2958 JAHSENA - Oral History committee

## Military Important Chapter of Community History



*Courtesy Provincial Archives of Alberta Access #76.228 Mrs. Jack Shugarman "Off To War"*

*Mickey Dlin, Alex Podolsky, Moe Marder and Harry Uretsky, board the train in Edmonton for places unknown during World War II. Of the four friends, only Mickey Dlin survived the war. Photos and stories related to both World Wars are being sought by JAHSENA for its archives collection.*

*If you have any material, please contact Beryl Nahornick*

Canadian Jews fought in both World Wars I and II and the story of the Edmonton and Northern Alberta Jewish communities participation will be one of the important chapters in the pictorial history book that JAHSENA intends to launch in the year 2000.

The Society is seeking photographs, stories and other information regarding service men and women for its archival collection. Those having such material are asked to contact Beryl Nahornick responsible for military research for JAHSENA.

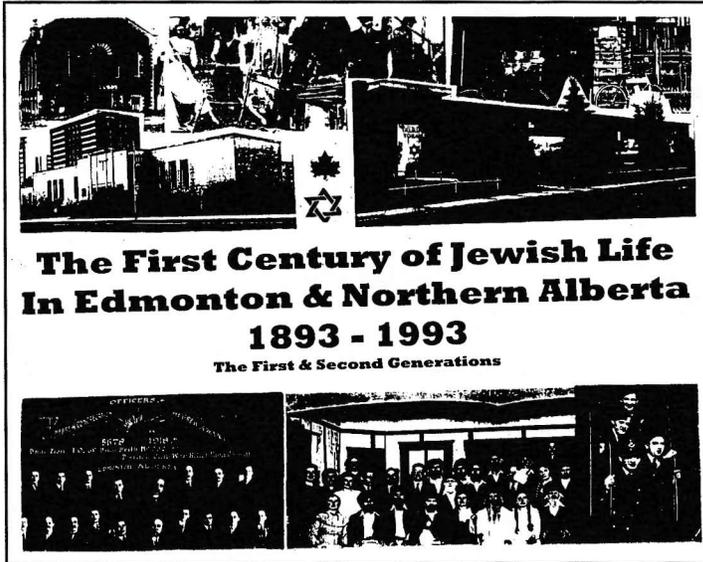
According to two publications produced by the Canadian Jewish Congress after World War II, "Canadian Jews in WWII", Part 1, Decorations and Part 2, Casualties. Some 16,883 Canadian Jews served in the armed forces, almost 10% of the total Canadian Jewish community, with the following breakdown by branch; Army 10,235, RCAF, 5889, Navy, 596, Allied Forces 163. 197 were decorated, 420 were killed, died or missing and presumed dead, 334 were wounded and 85 were POWs.

**Have any  
Photos  
or  
Stories  
about  
our  
Servicemen  
or Women?**

**Call...  
Beryl  
Nahornick  
452-1006**

According to the Canadian Census, Edmonton's total Jewish population in 1941 was only 1,449. The names of eleven service men who were killed are inscribed on the cenotaph in the Jewish cemetery, but no complete list of all those who served exists today.

In addition to service records Jewish men and women in Northern Alberta, individuals and Jewish groups, were active on the home front during the wars raising funds, according hospitality to service men and women visiting or stationed in Alberta and engaging in various other war efforts. JAHSENA is also seeking photos and records of such activities as well. □



## *Contents*

### **1. The Beginning, 1893 - 1913**

The flow from Eastern Europe, farm colonies, Pine Lake, Rumsey/Trochu, Sibbald, Abe Crystal, Wm. "Boss" Diamond, Rabbi Hyman Goldstick. Edmonton Hebrew Association, First Beth Israel Synagogue, Chevra Kadisha, Talmud Torah.

### **2. The Early Years, 1914 - 1945**

World War I, First Talmud Torah Building, 1923, First Day School in Canada, 1933, Arbiter Ring, Yiddish Day School, Yiddish Cultural Activities, the Depression, shift from farm colonies, start of Beth Shalom Congregation.

### **3. The War Years, 1939 - 1945**

The Holocaust, Jewish War Efforts, the Military.

### **4. The Military**

### **5. The Boom Years, 1945 - 1975**

Holocaust survivors, Leduc Oil find, 1947, Israel statehood, Beth Shalom Synagogue built, 1952, Jewish Community Council formed 1954, new Talmud Torah built 1953, new gym & Youth Centre additions 1963, Hillcrest purchase, JCC, 1975.

A major Project of the  
**Jewish Archives & Historical Society**  
 of Edmonton & Northern Alberta

*All funds received from the sale of this book  
 will be used to further the work of the Society.*

## **6. The Growth Years, 1976-1993**

Immigrant and Migrant flow to Edmonton, merger between Jewish Community Council and UJA to form Federation, 1982, JCC integration by Federation, 1993.

### **7-16. Jewish Institutions & Agencies**

Beth Israel, Beth Shalom, Beth Ora, Chevra Kadisha, Talmud Torah, the New Yiddish School, Menorah Academy, Jewish Family Services, JCC.

### **17 Jewish Organizations**

### **18 Weddings**

### **19 Celebrations**

### **20 Early Businesses, Professions**

### **21 Academia**

### **22 Vegreville**

### **23 Ft. McMurray, Small Town Alberta**

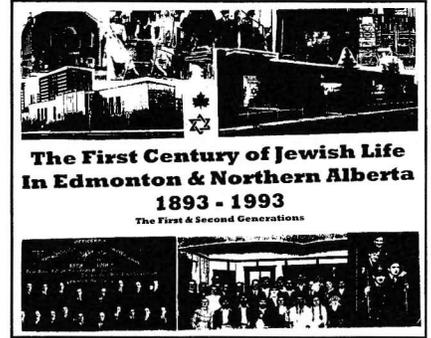
### **24 Family Histories**

The proposed book will cover the period 1893-1993, with 280 - 296 pages and about 350-400 photos.

*This publication is a work in progress and is subject to change by the editorial committee or the Society Board. Any contribution of documents or photographs are welcome, but publication cannot be assured.*



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# Enshrine Your Family Name in this once in a Lifetime Publication!

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## CHAPTER SPONSORSHIP PLEDGE & APPLICATION

I (we) understand that JAHSENA intends to publish a pictorial history book, "The First Century of Jewish Life In Edmonton and Northern Alberta - 1893 - 1993," to be launched in the Year 2000; that this book will have at least 24 chapters and be a limited, numbered edition of 500 - 750 copies.

I (we) understand that the publisher intends to solicit and secure a limited number of people for sponsorship of individual chapters at \$2000 per chapter. Sponsors may be individuals, immediate families, or a combination of individuals, organizations, and may include dedications for special occasions or in memory of individuals. Sponsorships will be listed on the first pictorial page of each chapter. The chapter selected by each sponsor will be assigned on a first come first basis.

I (we) understand that if for unforeseen reasons this book is not published, my (our) payment of \$2000 for chapter sponsorship will be reimbursed in full by JAHSENA.

I (we) understand that sponsorship of a chapter is accepted on the basis that the Editorial Committee and publisher will have complete editorial control over the contents of each chapter.

Charitable receipts for income tax purposes will be issued. Cheques for \$2000 must be received before chapter sponsorship is confirmed.

NAME of Contact Person .....

Address ..... Postal Code .....

Phone #(Home) ..... (Office) .....

I hereby submit this application for Chapter Sponsorship. My Cheque for \$2000 is enclosed. I (we) select

Chapter# \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ to sponsor. If it has already been selected, I (we) agree that the Editorial Committee will select another chapter in its place.

Date ..... Signature, Contact Person .....

Inscription: .....

.....

.....

ACCEPTED on behalf of the JAHSENA SOCIETY .....

## THANK YOU

*Membership donations are now the only source of revenue for the operating costs for the Society which is a self-sustaining organization. Membership fees include spouses except for individual memberships. Members are eligible to vote at the annual and general special meetings of the Society. Fees cover uniform membership year from September 1st to August 31st.*

*We thank the following for their support received by the publication date.*

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