



The Legacy of Life

"As my father planted for me, so do I plant
for those who come after me"

- The Talmud



President: **Victor Goldberg**

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The United Jewish Appeal Bequest and
Endowment Fund invites you to join in
leaving the legacy for the future. For
cover story see pages 24-26.

Message from the President

By Victor J. Goldberg

I regret not walking across the new
causeway between New Brunswick and
Prince Edward Island during its inaugu-
ral last month, since it is always wondrous
when places and people are brought together
by either an engineering marvel or instant
communication. In fact, at the Atlantic Jew-
ish Council, we consider it our job to bring
people together. We believe in building tem-
poral bridges notwithstanding the some-
times senseless distances separating peo-
ple living in the same city. I am pleased to
report that we sent **Rabbi David Ellis** in late
June to Glace Bay and Sydney for a span of
ten days as a guest chaplain. Our initial feed-
back indicates that Rabbi Ellis was warmly
received and appreciated. The Atlantic Jew-
ish Council remains committed to putting in
place a chaplain to provide the pastoral sup-
port required in the outlying communities,
and more news will be forthcoming.

I previously reported on initiatives to pro-
vide much needed help for our aging com-
munity and, in the last number of months,
our committee led by the indefatigable ef-
forts of **Kathy Zilbert**, working in conjunc-
tion with Northwood have made significant
progress. Commencing in September a pilot
"Meals on Wheels" program will be avail-
able for those seniors who wish to have a
Shabbat meal delivered. If the perceived mar-
ket proves itself, the Meals on Wheels pro-
gram can be expanded. We are also looking
at some type of transportation in the Spring
Garden Road, Halifax corridor, all on a user-
pay basis. More significantly, we have com-
menced serious discussions with Northwood
to designate a new state of the art unit in the
Manor Complex as a Jewish Home for the
Aged. Northwood would commit to the usual
capital infrastructure with our community re-
sponsible for the added
costs incurred for a ko-
sher kitchen and other
special requirements. Al-
though not yet absolute,
our meetings to date
have been extremely en-
couraging and a survey
will be sent to a number
of stakeholders in the
summer months to better
explore the actual need in
the community. This

very special
institution
would be a
significant
enhancement
to existing
services for
our seniors,
and will po-
tentially at-
tract people
from all over
Atlantic Canada. I hope that I can report
more concrete plans in my next President's
Report, but I am very optimistic at this
point.

While I have been concentrating my
efforts on the projects mentioned above,
our very capable office has been extremely
busy with numerous other activities as
have our Executive and Board Members and
many other volunteers. Our website and
home page are in the final stages and the
flow of information will be much easier in the
near future. The tasks are many, the distances
are huge, and our resources are few, but I
have no doubt that with everyone's commit-
ment of time and resources we can make
meaningful inroads in improving life for At-
lantic Canada Jewry and in bringing each of
us closer.

Special congratulations are in order to
Mark Rosen, newly elected National Vice
President and Chair of the Budget and Allo-
cations Committee, Council of Jewish Fed-
erations, and **Jack Prince**, Chair of our En-
dowment and Bequests Committee.

Whether you are in your cottage, in
camp, on vacation or in your garden, I hope
that you have a relaxing and healthy sum-
mer.



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action, conducts research and liaises with community groups and organizations to
help build a better Nova Scotia.

From the Desk of the Executive Director

by Jon M. Goldberg

By the time you receive this summer edition of *Shalom* I will be on my way to Israel. Keren Hayesod and United Israel Appeal of Canada have prepared a 5-day itinerary for myself and **Doron Fleisher**, our UJA campaign Shaliach in Israel, which will take us to Jerusalem, the north of Israel and end near Tel Aviv. We will be visiting a number of settlements and towns with whom Atlantic Canada will partner in our new plus Giving Campaign for 1997. Schools, hostels, immigration facilities, environment centres, extended care facilities, special ed programs and Ethiopian absorption centres are all on my agenda. Doron and I will take pictures and videos to bring back

to Atlantic Canada needs of the various people we encounter. This is an opportunity to provide a direct link with the end users of your gift dollars to Israel. I will be leaving Halifax on July 18 and returning on the 25th. A quick trip!, but time doesn't allow me to stay longer as I want to be at Kadimah on Visitor's Day and then visit Camp Biluim in Quebec the following week. By mid-August I will be preparing for our annual UJA campaign which begins around Labour Day. Doron and myself will look forward to meeting you and relating our experiences while together in Eretz Israel.

This edition contains some exciting news for the Atlantic Jewish Community. You will read

about our Wills & Bequests Program with more details to follow in coming issues. Very soon you may visit our Web Page on the Internet. Our Seniors initiative is fast tracking towards reality. I know many of our young people will be in Camp Kadimah, Kadimah-Israel, Biluim, Biluim Israel or a myriad of Israel summer programs. May they all return home happy, healthy and with hearts and minds imbued with a love for Kol Israel.

The Jewish Week is published in New York with a circulation of over 100,000. We receive it weekly in the office and I am taking this opportunity to reprint what I felt was a significant article written by **Samuel Heilman** under their Opinion col-



umn. My Heilman is a regular contributor and he holds the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish studies and sociology at the City University of New York. While written from a New Yorker's perspective, I believe it, in many ways, sums up for all of us the state of the Jewish experience throughout North America.

To all our readers, I will you a summer of good health, good weather and happiness.

Danger to Jews lurks within

Reprint. *The Jewish Week*, May 23, 1997
by **Samuel Heilman**

Jewish physical safety in [North] America has for much of the past 50 years been a given. That's why the recent stabbing of a Jewish student in a suburban Long Island high school by one of his peers, who did so out of apparent anti-Semitic bias, was shocking. These sorts of violent bias crimes have largely been on the wane.

To be sure, we recall the "pogrom" in Crown Heights a few years ago. But this, too, was rather the anomaly than the norm. Moreover, the Lubavitcher Chasidim were Jews, some reasoned, who remained in the inner city, in a relatively more dangerous neighbourhood, who stood out in their appearance and lifestyle and were easy targets for prejudice and violence in an urban environment where racial disharmony was on the rise at the time.

But in suburbia, where Jews have become indistinguishable from their neighbours, where Jewish children play in the same soccer leagues as their non-Jewish classmates, where Jewish parents belong to the same PTAs as every other parent, where the commuters on the train or sitting in their cars on the highways seem all

cut from the same cloth - how could there be violent anti-Semitism here?

Yes, every so often someone could be expected to paint a swastika on a house or synagogue. But however painful and reminiscent of bad times, this was a rather benign sort of bias crime. And for all its shock value, this crime - and even the Crown Heights riots - are not the news that should really raise the Jewish alarm. There is something far more insidious that is killing us.

That threat is not the Jewish physical survival but rather to Jewish cultural survival. For starters, most Jews no longer seem to know what being a Jew means. This is because American [and Canadian] Jews have become no less American [or Canadian] than any other group - and some might argue, even more American [or Canadian] than any other group. Already by 1962, a national survey by the American Jewish Committee found that no less than 43 percent of the respondents believed that Jews have no distinctive group traits at all. Thirty-five years later this is even more the case. When I ask my students or the many audiences before whom I lecture to articulate what an American Jew is, they are hard put to provide some clear and distinctive definition.

The Jews I ask occasionally come up with

some sort of halachic answer: born of a Jewish mother or converted by a legitimate rabbi. But no sooner is this definition offered than someone challenges it. What about those who claim a partilineal Jewish identity, or who constitutes a rabbi who can legitimately certify a conversion is valid?

And when I ask non-Jewish Americans to define a Jew for me, they are even more puzzled. Some will say something about liberal political values; others look to social action or high intellectual achievement. But as soon as those definitions are offered, someone else points out that not all Jews are liberals and certainly not all liberals are Jews. As for social action, that is hardly universal among Jews; Asians in America have exceeded Jews in the domains of intellectual achievement - at least as measured by the standardized scores on national examinations and university achievement.

The old stereotype of Jews being bankers and businessmen? The hard data can quickly disabuse anyone of using that definition. Moreover, if we look at two domains in which American Jews do play a significant role by virtue of their

Cont. on page 29

YAKOV'S CORNER

By Yakov Feig, Programmer

It's summertime!!! Summer is a great time of year for a Programmer. Aside from my duties at Camp Kadimah (I will be a Judaic Program Specialist working with the younger sessions and assisting in planning Special Days), I can reflect on the accomplishments of the past year and continue building toward next year.

At the campus level, we have a brand new Executive and Regional Executive that were elected in April 1997. Co-Presidents **Ian Epstein** and **Viva Press**, members-at-large **Erin Sperling** and **Ami Wise**, undergrad rep **Jasmine "Lizzie" Oore**, grad. rep **David Price**, and AYJAAC reps **Toni Fried** and **Charles Rak**, have worked hard to come up with an outline/budget for the 1997/98 academic year. In it, resources are put aside for programming at all campuses, recruitment on the smaller campuses, balanced programming encompassing all likes and tastes, as well as new initiatives,

and regional events. Action has already been taken at the professional level (myself and the other Campus Professionals) toward the establishment of a Joint Student Conference (all campuses Ontario and eastward) in February, 1998. In the words of newly elected co-president **Ian Epstein**, "The

APJSF is an organization for the students, by the students, with the exception of our fearless leader Yakov". With over 225 members stretching across 11 campuses, the APJSF is poised to meet upcoming challenges. If you know of a student coming to Atlantic Canada in the fall of 1997, please let us know at (902)422-7491, or e-mail at ai993@chebucto.ns.ca. Also, for those that are in Atlantic Canada during the summer months, the APJSF is organizing a few events including a hike to Cape Split (June 22nd) and

a Beach Party (August 17th). I am also pleased to announce that I am one of 40 campus professionals across North America that has been chosen to attend the Hillel Professional Israel Experience, a three week seminar beginning mid-June on management skills, experiencing Jewish Holidays on campus, the Israel Experience for students and a host of other subjects.

At the young adult level, AYJAAC, the Association of Young Jewish Adults of Atlantic Canada has decided to combine their efforts with the APJSF during the summer months in order to reflect the decreased numbers in both groups that are present during this period. However, they also have decided to organize an outing at the Atlantic Jazz Festival at some point between July 18 - 25th. With over 54 young adults in Halifax and 72 in Atlantic Canada between the ages of 23 - 39, our list is constantly growing. Our aim for the fall is to build this group across the Atlantic Provinces and to hold some regional and inter-city events.

At the youth level I continue to be pleased with the progress that has been achieved. The Atlantic Jewish Teen Leadership Council (AJTLC) has provided some fine programming for all age groups in Halifax with the steady guidance of **Jonathan "Judd" Freeman**, **Lauren Abrahams**, **Laura Gergely**, **Shawn Sadofsky**, **Debra Jacobson**, **Anna Kassner**, **Deborah Freeman**, and **Adam Conter**. I would like to congratulate the executive for planning wonder-

ful programs for all age levels. Even though we held programs for youth and teens this year in Moncton, Prince Edward Island, and Cape Breton (**Keren Fainaru** can be credited for organizing great youth programming in Newfoundland), more efforts must be made to make regional programming more democratic, that is "for the youth and teens, by the youth and teens, with the exception of their fearless leader Yakov". The partnership with **Ryan Hass**, **Yoram Abisror** and all our friends at **Canadian Young Judaea** remains a key ele-

ment in our youth programming. It is with great pleasure that we can announce that **Ryan** and **Yoram** have again offered to personally come down and run some programs in the Small Communities once every eight weeks. This should translate into an extra 4 - 5 programs for these communities during the 1997/98 calendar year. Efforts are also being made to increase the level of programming to these communities in general.

With regard to Israel programs, I am happy to report that we have had a large increase in teens, students, and young adults participating in a range of programs from kibbutz to Kadimah Israel.

Outreach remains a very important area as well. There is a large demand in schools, scout groups, day cares, and other groups to find out about a host of topics including Judaism, the holidays, anti-Semitism, Israel and other topics. I have been pleased to speak to a variety of different groups in Metro. As well, there has been a large demand for the Chanukah and Passover kits that the Atlantic Jewish Council obtained from the Saint John



Adam Conter aiming...



Munch away l-r: **Matthew McKnight**, **Andrew LeVine** and **Craig Fox** at Pool program.

Jewish Historical Museum. Also we have been blessed with many people, both official and non-official, that speak to various communities across Atlantic Canada on these issues, including **Phillip Riteman** who has generously donated his time to speak about the Holocaust to many different schools. We are very lucky to have these people, as outreach is the main way to combat ignorance and prejudice.

Cont. on page 30.

Report from Saint John

by Marcia Koven

The closing meeting of Sisterhood/Hadassah will take place on July 7th.

Mazel Tov to: **Bertha Goldstein Master** on her 80th birthday; **Gar Meltzer** on his 75th birthday; **Marni Goodman** on being accepted to medical school; **Jocelyn Cyr** on her recent Bat Mitzvah.

June 22 the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum held its official opening and reception, at which time our archives were dedicated to the memory of **Louis Michelson**, our longtime Gabbai and community leader and our #2 gallery was dedicated to the memory of **Rose (Selick) Freedman**, a longtime leader and community activist. At the same time we opened our annual Art Exhibition and Sale. This year we featured the photographic art of **Michelle Green Echenberg** of Montreal (formerly of Saint John). This show can be seen until September 2nd and is not to be missed!!! Our hours at the Museum are Monday - Friday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and also during July and August, Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. During the summer a display entitled

"The Image of Jewish Women in Saint John 1897-1997" will be available for viewing in the vestry of the Synagogue by request during Museum hours.

September 17-21, **Shirley Burnstein** will lead a Motorcoach tour from Halifax to Portland, Maine with one overnight stop in Bar Harbor, two nights in Portland and the last night in Saint John, at which time you will have the opportunity of visiting the "World Famous Saint John Jewish Historical Museum."

November 19-23, **Marcia Koven** will lead a "must see" tour to the Holocaust Museum in Washington. The tour is being planned in concert with **Stan Cohen** formerly of Saint John and now a resident of Washington, who will help us include all Jewish points of interest in the area. Since we will be in the Washington area over Shabbat, Stan will make arrangements for us to attend his synagogue. For more information call Marcia Koven at (506)633-1833.

CAPE BRETON NOTES

Happy special Birthday to: **Louis Allen**, **Minnie David**, **Ruth Goldstein**, **Anita Lubetsky**, **Ellie Marshall**, **Norris Nathanson**, **Reva Nathanson**, **Bella Shore** and **Fruma Shore**.

Mazel Tov to: **Shayna Allen**, daughter of **Louis & Sylvia Allen**, on graduating from Acadia University with her Bachelor of Recreation Management and receiving the James D. Bayer Award for expressed qualities of leadership, fellowship and professionalism in recreation...to **Matthew Campbell**, son of **Wendy & Robin Campbell**, grandson of **Ivan & Dina Ross**, on his graduation from UCCB...**Leon Dubinsky** on receiving an honorary degree from University College of Cape Breton...**Jean David** on the Bar Mitzvah of grandson **Joel** in Vancouver, son of **Sheldon** and **Karen David**...**Louis & Ellie Friedman** on the birth of their grandson to son **Joel** and wife **Beth Corey**...to **Brett Hirsch**, son of **Lionel & Linda Hirsch**, who is off to Hebrew University in Jerusalem...**Ellie & Helen Marshall** on the birth of their grandson to daughter **Susan** and husband **Cory**...to **Irving & Diana Schwartz** on their new granddaughter **Sophie** to daughter **Joanne** and husband **Corey**.

Sylvia & Irwin Epstein have returned to Cape Breton from Toronto, and will be summering at their cottage in George's River.

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FREDERICTON NEWS

by Jennie Brown

Anniversary greetings to: **Dave & Bea Sherman**, 53 years; **Lou & Gladys Swetsky**, 49 years; **Sid & Rita Tobin**, 45 years; **Harry & Sarah Lang**, 41 years; **Dr. Carey & Sydelle Grobe**, 33 years; **Dr. Israel & Marlene Unger**, 33 years; **Bob & Roz Brown**, 32 years; **Weldon & Joan Levine**, 31 years; **Mitchell & Carolyn Budovitch**, 30 years; **Dr. David & Edie Besner**, 29 years; **Arnold & Judy Budovitch**, 28 years; **Joe & Cheryl Abrams**, 26 years; **Seymour & Marilyn Kaufman**, 23 years; **Saul & Molly Brown**, 19 years; **Dr. Mel & Marissa (Blanchard) Soicher**, 15 years; **Simmy & Carol Airst**, 14 years.

Mazel Tov to: **Bob & Roz Brown** on the engagement of their son **Neil** to **Anne**, daughter of **Dr. Julius & Sylvia Israeli**, Newcastle, NB - wedding to take place August 1998 in Fredericton; **Amelia Goldman** on the birth of her great grand-daughter, **Shlomite**, daughter of **Yosef & Michal Goldman**, Boca Raton, Florida - a grand-daughter for **Malcolm & Barbara Goldman** of Israel; **Leah Adilman**, daughter of **Anita & Dave Adilman**, on her graduation from Fredericton High School; **Karen Kaufman**, daughter of **Marilyn & Seymour Kaufman**, on her graduation from Fredericton High School; **Dennis Rosenfeld**, son of **Roslyn & Steven Rosenfeld**, on his graduation from Fredericton High School and upon receiving the **Frances McLaughlin Scholarship** for four years from **St. Thomas University**; **Paul Budovitch**, son of **Judy & Arnold**

Budovitch on his graduation from **Upper Canada College** in **Toronto**; **Harry Brown** who celebrated his 95th birthday on June 15th; **Harry Levine** on receiving the **Fellow Award** which is the highest award given by **Rotary Club International**. He also received an award from **Rotary Club South** for selling 150 tickets to the \$100 a plate **Rotary Dinner** - keep up the good work **Harry**; **Lewis David Goldenberg**, son of **Michael Goldenberg & Rosalie Smith**, grandson of **Evelyn Budovitch** and great-grandson of **Bertha Ibitsky** of **Montreal**, who was called to the **Torah** as a **Bar Mitzvah**.

Described as a passionate supporter of the **Literary Arts** on **Prince Edward Island**, **Charlottetown** poet **Joseph Sherman** earned top honours at the **10th Annual Island Literary Awards**. **Joseph**, son of **Bea & David Sherman**, known for his work with the magazine **Arts Atlantic**, won the award for "distinguished contribution to the literary arts on **Prince Edward Island**." The previous winner in the same category, who in paying tribute to **Joseph**, said he has been a passionate, tireless, eloquent, witty, intelligent and devoted patron and supporter of the literary arts. **Joseph's** poems have appeared in **Canada**, the **U.S.** and **Israel**.

The **Annual Youth Aliyah and Youth Services Brunch** was held **Sunday, April 13th** in the auditorium of the synagogue, chaired by **Dr. Marissa Blanchard**, President of the **Lillian Freiman** chapter of **Hadassah Wizo**. The guest speaker, **Patricia Joy Alpert**, National Presi-

dent of **Hadassah Wizo**, was introduced by **Marilyn Kaufman**, National Vice-President. Convenors of the brunch were **Cheryl Abrams** and **Carol Airst**. The National President was thanked by **Cheryl Abrams** and presented with a gift from the **Fredericton** chapter.

The **Interfaith Holocaust Memorial** which was organized by **Rabbi David Spiro** was held on **May 4th** at the **Hugh John Flemming Forestry Complex** with **Israel Unger**, Dean of Science at **UNB**, as guest speaker who shared with the audience his experiences of being a child during the Holocaust and of living in constant fear. He witnessed his grandfather being kicked down the stairs and shot by the Nazis. A Nazi was going to shoot his father but his older brother pleaded with the soldier and as he pleaded an officer appeared and told the soldier that the action was over. The audience was told that his father lived because of a few moments. Following the relating of his experiences there were statements of solidarity from **Rev. Stanislas Paulin** from the **Paroisse Sainte-Anne des-Pays-Bas**, **Rev. Doug Blaikie** from **St. Andrews Presbyterian Church** and **Rev. Brian MacIntosh** from **Wilmot United Church**. They all spoke of the difficulty of speaking about the Holocaust. Following a moment of silence the rabbi chanted the **Kael Molei Rachamim**.

Wishing all the reader of *Shalom* good health, happiness and an enjoyable summer.

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Israeli students visit Glace Bay High School

by Erin McNamara

Reprinted from Cape Breton Post, March 29, 1997

Teenagers who live a world apart found common ground in Neil Campbell's history class at Glace Bay Senior High School.

"I listen to Metallica," said Roy Cohen, 17, a high school student from Upper Nazareth, Israel. Students nodded in approval and some spoke of their own appreciation of the heavy metal band. Cohen and fellow student Tal Giniger, 17, were selected to participate in a Young Ambassador's program by the Israeli Department of Foreign Affairs, explained their chaperone, Yakov Feig, from the Atlantic Jewish Council.

They're touring Canada for a month, telling young Canadians about life in Israel. "We want to show you there is a normal life in Israel. Many people get the impression from the news that only violence happens over there, but we're here to tell you about our life," said Giniger. Israelis don't learn much about Canada in their school system, they said. "It's cold. It's huge," said Cohen.

"All we hear about is Quebec and the separation," Giniger said. Students asked them about the Jordanian soldier who fired on a bus

load of Grade 8 schoolgirls. Giniger mentioned the suicide bomber who entered a Tel Aviv coffee shop and blew himself and several patrons up. The history of armed conflict and terrorist attacks against

Israel make young people appreciate the need for the country's mandatory armed service for all, said Cohen.


"When you finish high school, you will find a job or go to university. Next year, both of us will be in the army. Most of us want to do it, we believe we need our army and we must do it," said Cohen. The pair brought a video which described the history, culture and lifestyle of the tiny Middle-Eastern country. Cape Breton is


about half its size, but Israel has 5.5 million people, they said. It is surrounded by 22 Arab countries and about 330 million people.

Israel is revered by Jews, Christians and Muslims, they said. Despite news reports of political and religious conflicts, the majority of people live their lives in peace in the cosmopolitan cities on the shores of the Mediterranean.




l-r: Tal Giniger, 17 and Roy Cohen, 17 addressing High School students at Glace Bay Senior High. While in Atlantic Canada they met with 3000 students in NS and NFLD





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NEWFOUNDLAND REPORT

by Claire Frankel-Salama

Holocaust Memorial Service - This year's Holocaust Memorial Service was held at the Synagogue, as usual, and attracted some 250 to 300 guests. Participants included **Dr. Ernest Deutsch**, who related his experiences in Frankfurt prior to *Kristalnacht*, and **Dr. Gerhard Bassler**, of the Department of History at Memorial University, who spoke about Holocaust denial. The **Rev. Justin Fromm** sang *El Moleh Rahamim* and the students of the Hebrew School and Youth Group lit candles in memory of the six million. The evening ended with a performance of the last two scenes of *The Anne Frank Story* by a group of students from I.J. Samson Junior High. Thanks go to **Arnold** and **Nancy Bennett** whose public relations efforts included persuading the St. John's *Evening Telegram* to do a story on the Holocaust before the event, instead of after the



l-r Professors Hesh Troper, Gerhard Bassler and Sam Revusky & Dr. Janice Draper at the Learned Societies in St. John's.

The first event, on Friday evening, May 30th, was a traditional dinner of *Cod au gratin* (I didn't say which tradition) followed by an Oneg Shabbat for 60 visitors and community members. Saturday services were followed by a luncheon for about 40, catered by the members of the Beth-El synagogue.

All participants were given a booklet, prepared by **Professor M e s s o d Salama**, containing a brief history of the Jewish Community of Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as abstracts and bi-

pers on Atlantic Canada included **Dr. Robin McGrath**, Dr. Gerhard Bassler, and **Dr. Sam Revusky**.

On the Sunday evening the CAJS sponsored a performance of Arnold Bennett's new play entitled *The Failure*. This play presents the major themes and life of the Montreal poet, **A.M. Klein**. This is accomplished through a dialogue between the poet (played by **Terri Andrews**) and the investigator (played by **Morris Hodder**) to the accompaniment of a fiddler and guitarist (**Jim Fidler** and **Sergei Tchepournov**). Sunday

evening's performance was followed by a discussion on Klein led by **Professor Ira Robinson**. The audience included visiting professors, local English teachers, poets and theatre lovers, all of whom went home richer for the experience. Reviews in local newspapers were extremely positive and preparations are underway to bring this production to Montreal.

Despite the pervasive RDF (rain, drizzle and fog for all you non-Maritimers) visitors went on boat rides to see the whales (who wisely stayed in sunnier climes) and the giant bird colonies at Bay Bulls and Cape St. Mary's. In the evenings many people went to the famous pubs of George Street. You haven't lived until you have heard **Professor Hesh Troper** sing all the words to *Colonial Boy*. Since that weekend we have welcomed participants in other Learned Societies from as far away as Australia, Israel, Texas and Halifax (**Professor Sheva Medjuck**).

On Sunday, June 22nd Beth-El held its end-of-the-year barbecue at the Bennett's. This year we bade farewell to **Robert, Susan & Sylvia Gross; John, Nadine, Alex & Daniel Hoenig; Jerry Lasky** and our beloved WUJS volunteer, **Keren Fainaru**.

The Grosses, who came to us from Slovakia via Italy, are moving to Toronto, while the Hoenigs, from Florida and Belgium, are moving to Virginia. Jerry is off to the "Mainland", and Keren will return to Israel after a coast-to-coast tour of Canada. (That's St. John's to Victoria, not Halifax to Vancouver!)

We also wish **Miriam Noel** and **Rufina Litvak** a fantastic summer at Camp Kadimah, and **Arielle** and **Daniel Salama** and Silvia



Pre-service supper at Beth-El Synagogue for members and guests (participants at the Canadian Association of Jewish Studies).

fact. Plans to hold a film, art and music contest at the High School level were announced by the MC of the evening, **Claire Frankel-Salama**.

June Report - One minyan...two minyans...three minyans. Into the synagogue they trooped. I began to lose count. This is St. John's, Newfoundland we're talking about.

So began a marvelous weekend of education, spiritual renewal, creation and strengthening of social ties, stimulating entertainment and the most miserable week of weather since our April 30th snowstorm. The Canadian Association of Jewish Studies held its annual meeting within the 1997 Learned Societies Congress at Memorial University.

ographies of the presenters. For all of the above we thank the AJC, the CAJS and a number of visitors and local community members for their generous contributions that made this fantastic weekend possible.

Sunday and Monday were replete with lectures and discussions. Professor Salama delivered a speech on **Rafael de la Penha**, a Portuguese Jew, who was awarded part of Labrador by William of Orange. Apparently one of his descendants approached the Israeli government with a most interesting offer. If the government paid for the legal costs to her claim, she would sell Labrador to Israel for the sum of \$1.00. Imagine - take a couple of ferries from Sydney, NS and visit the Promised Land! Scholars presenting pa-

Gross a great time in Israel.

To those of you who are staying around the Atlantic provinces this summer, why not follow Giovanni Cabotto and Elizabeth Windsor, and visit our sun-drenched shores? (Honest!!!) Friday evening services begin at 8:00 p.m. in the summer, while Shabbat morning begins at 9:30 J.S.T. Tell them Henry VII sent you. (My apologies to Cape Breton.)



l-r Terri Andrews, Prof. Ira Robinson, Arnold Bennett and Morris Hodder after the performance of Arnold Bennett's play The Failure.

Congratulations to...

...**Robert Mendoza** who graduated from Memorial University after serving as President of the Student Council. He was awarded the John Cabot Chevening Scholarship to the London School of Economics.

...**Elliott Noel, Polina Litvak and**

David Wolinetz who graduated from High School and are off to University. Elliott was accepted to the Shad Valley Programme this summer while David was awarded scholarship to University of British Columbia.

...**Sergei, Tamara, Polina and Rufina Litvak** on becoming Canadian citizens just before Rufina leaves for Camp Kadimah! Con-



l-r Prof. Messod Salama, Dr. Robin McGrath and Marcia Koven, presenters at the Canadian Association of Jewish Studies, Learned Societies.

gratulations!

...**Judy Wilansky** on the birth of her first grandchild, **Sonya**, daughter of **Rhonda Wilansky and Israel Benshai**.

...**Betty Barban** on the Bar and Bat Mitzvahs of her grandchildren.

PEI community report

by Rosalie Simeone

We had a fairly quiet winter here on the PEI peninsula. In February a small group of youth went to Moncton for the Moncton Mania. A good time was had by all. We had small celebrations for Purim and Yom Ha'atzmaut.

Our summer members are starting to return, and we welcome them back.

Congratulations and good luck to **Kate and Stephanie Lehmann**. Kate has a new job in BC - congrats! Best wishes also to **Ilil (Ben Elkana) McBean** who is returning to Israel. **Adad BenElkana** is also travelling to Israel to take part in a summer camp for returning Israelis.

Thanks to **Albie Goldman** for his generous donation to the Community.

Condolences to **Winston MacGregor** on the death of his mother, **Lucy (Smith)**, 26 January 1997, and to **Annabel Cohen** on the death of her father, **Harold Arthur Cohen**, 21 March 1997.

Upcoming events include a visit by **Dr. Baruch Gur** who will visit us July 16. Bye for now from the isthmus of PEI. What do you call a connected Island, anyway?

Dateline Halifax...

Summer has arrived and that means graduations. We would like to extend congratulations to the following families and graduates:

Mazel Tov to: - **Barrie & Bette Ross** on the graduation of their youngest son **David** from Ryerson University with a Bachelor of Social Work and minor in Public Administration; - **Frank & Hedda**

Medjuck and Bubby Dorothy Mark, on the graduation of daughter **Bena** from McGill University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Jewish Studies. Bena is the recipient for the second time of the Batist Prize for academic excellence. She has commenced her Masters of Arts Degree in the history of Jewish Biblical Interpretation; - **Norman & Sharron Ross** on the graduation of son **Jonathan** from the University of Windsor Faculty of Law. Jonathan will be returning to Halifax to do his articling with the firm of Goldberg Thompson; - **Laurie & Marsha Astroff** and **Bubby Betty Astroff** on the graduations of both of their children. **Robert** has graduated from Dalhousie Law School and will pursue a Master of Arts Degree at the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs in Ottawa. **Heather** has graduated from New York University with a Master of Social Work Degree in Clinical Counselling; - **Annalee Cohen** on the graduation of son **Jamie** from Dalhousie Medical School and his prize in respirology and cardiology. Jamie will be starting his residency in Internal Medicine in Toronto. Son **Jonathan** has graduated from Cambridge University in England with a Masters in Philosophy; - **Rabbi Saul & Dina Aranov** on the graduation of daughter **Sarit** from Sy Sims School of Business of Stern College, Yeshiva University, with a Bachelor of Science in Marketing; - **Harvey & Mildred Meretsky** on the graduation of son **Jonathan** from Harvard Law School.

The Atlantic Jewish Council also extends congratulations to all high school graduates on their achievements. Special recognition to **Jonathan Freeman**, son of **Larry & Myra**, on receiving the Birks Medal from Queen Elizabeth High School; **Simon McKnight**, son of **Jim & Lea**, who received an award from the Nova Scotia Economic Renewal Agency; and **Emily Schroeder**, daughter of **David & Linda**, on receiving a scholarship from both McGill University and Canada Trust.

Other Milestones...

Mazel Tov to: **Joseph Zatzman** on being named to the Order of Canada, one of 70 appointments and the only Atlantic Canadian.

Mazel Tov to: **Adam Conter**, son of **Howard & Karen**, on placing

Cont. on page 28.

Update #3 to 1996/97 AJC Directory

The following are changes to your AJC Directory since the *Shalom* Spring 1997, Vol. 22, No. 2. You can order your 1996/97 Directory from the AJC for \$10.00. If you have any other changes to the directory, please contact the AJC at (902) 422-7491, fax (902) 425-3722, or our new e-mail ajc.halifax@ns.sympatico.ca

New Brunswick

FREDERICTON

Mrs. Abe Budovitch - change phone # to: 363-2300

Jake Budovitch - change to: 99 Beaconsfield Street, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5H3, 459-4265

Joe Budovitch - change phone # to: 459-7326

Louis Budovitch - change phone # to: 459-4165

Drs. Sandra Byers & Larry Heinlein - change to: 135 Red Rock Road, Stanley, NB, E0H 1T0, 367-2443

Arnold & Rose Chippin - change phone # to: 453-0970

Gordon Chippin - change phone # to: 454-3531

John Coster & Nancy Davidson - change to: 34 Foley Court

Larry Eusler - deceased

Michael Goldenberg - change to: 171 Emerson Court, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5X7, 454-9926

Dr. & Mrs. J. Landau - change to: Dr. & Mrs. Josef Landau

Joan & Weldon Levine - moved to Toronto

Larry & Susan Mayer - delete

Dr. & Mrs. Mel Soicher - change to: Mel Soicher & Marissa Blanchard

Mr & Mrs. Louis Swetsky - change to: Lou & Gladys Swetsky

Mary Velensky - moved

MONCTON

Ivan & Nancy Cohen - change to: 15 Chiasson Street, Dieppe, E1A 6J4, 855-9185

David & Carol Ann Rinzler - change phone # to: 386-7771

SAINT JOHN

Linda & Norman Hamburg - change to: 141 Manners Sutton Road, Saint John, NB, E2K 2E2

Philip Hamburg - change to: 141 Manners Sutton Road, Saint John, NB, E2K 2E2, 642-9584

David Lubin - deceased

Susan Lubin - change to: Susan Isaacs-Lubin

Sima Selick - deceased

Alberta Stanton - change phone # to: 674-1978

Nova Scotia

DUTCH BROOK

Brendan Yazer - change phone # to: 562-6017

GLACE BAY

Edward Silbert - moved

KENTVILLE

Marla Davis - delete

Mrs. Aida Fritz - change to: c/o Grand View Manor, 110 Commercial Street, Berwick, NS, B0P 1E0

LUNENBURG

Carol Langille - addition: Box 1531, Lunenburg, NS, B0J 2C0, 634-3187

Dr. Daniel Hoffman - change to: 365 Avercrombie Road, New Glasgow, NS, B2H 1L3

PORTER'S LAKE

Bill & Milo Chernin - change to: PO Box 70, Porter's Lake, NS, B3E 1M1

SYDNEY

Robert & Mary Anne Cohen - change to: 35 Rigby Road, Sydney, NS, B1P 4T4, 562-1953

Maurice Gaum - delete

Ruth Goldstein - change to: 15 Military Road, #313, Sydney, NS, B1N 3K6

Mike Gurstein - change phone # to: 562-1055

TRURO

Dr. Gary Atlin - addition: 12 Hampstead Court, Truro, NS, B2N 3E6, 895-6463

WOLFVILLE

Shayna Allen - moved

Steven Cronenberg - moved

YARMOUTH

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Throp - moved

Newfoundland

ST. JOHN'S

Elizabeth Guy - change to: 66 St. Clare Avenue, St. John's, NF, A1C 6G4

Drs. Ehud Ur & Kim Burke - change to: Drs. Ehud Ur & Kim Blake, 977 Winwick Road, Halifax, NS, B3H 4L5, 492-0216

Prince Edward Island

CHARLOTTETOWN

Dr. Annabel Cohen - change to: 72 Trafalgar, Charlottetown, PE, C1A 3Z6

Peter MacNeil - moved



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HALIFAX

Steven Bernett - change to: 31 Canfield Court, Bedford, NS, , B4A 3S4, 835-2899

Lillian Borshy - change to: Northwood Manor, 2615 Northwood Terrace, #315, Halifax, NS B3K 3S5, 454-5274

Steven Budovitch - addition: c/o Glubes, 100 Main Street, Dartmouth, NS, B2X 1R5, 434-5511

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Carlson - change to: Kevin Carlson & Debbie Jacobson, 1546 Barrington Street, #509, Halifax, NS, B3J 3X7

Mira Chatt - 1651 Preston Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 3V2, 423-4642

Bill J. Chernin - moved

Jeff Chernin - addition: 5885 Spring Garden Road, #804, Halifax, NS, B3H 1Y3

Les Coleman - addition: 1546 Barrington Street, #302, Halifax, NS, B3J 3X7, 429-3498

Sophie Forman - deceased

Andrea Garson - change to: B0x 822, 142 Hemlock Drive, Elmsdale, NS, B0N 1M0, 883-8743

Margo Ellen Gesser - change phone # to: 425-3130

Ralph & Elana Gold - moved

Victor & Judith Goldberg - change to: 6174 Oakland Road, Halifax, NS, B3H 1P2

Ruby Jacobson - change to Apt. #304

Julia Jacoby - change phone # to: 454-8235
Alexander Kharchenko - addition: 6213 Duncan Street, Halifax, NS, B3L 1K4, 425-3219
Yael Kollett - addition: 6027 Bliss Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 2A8, 429-6933
Phyllis Lasky - addition: 24 Scarlet Road, Halifax, NS, B3M 1L1, 443-9440
Goldie Levine - deceased
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Markus - change to: 5780 Ogilvie Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 1C2, 492-0088
Hilary Moore - addition: 6128 South Street, #B5, Halifax, NS, B3M 1T3, 422-5116
Lillian Mosher - change to: 6369 Coburg Road, #702, Halifax, NS, B3H 4J7, 429-3229
Catherine Nathanson - change phone # to: 492-1143
Howard Nemiroff & Natalie Rubin - addition: 1052 Bland Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 2S8, 422-7171
Cindy Offman - change to: 114 Abrams Way, Halifax, NS, B3P 2S1, 477-9909
Freda Offman - change to: 1465 Brenton Street, #1102, Halifax, NS, B3J 3T3
Mark Offman - change to: RR#2, Hubbards, NS, B0J 1T0, 857-3088
Barbara Paton - change to: 1465 Brenton Street, #704, Halifax, B3J 3T3
Steven & Gloria Pink - change to: 91 Duke Street, Bedford, NS, B4A 2Z2, 275-5739
Ida Philipson - change phone # to: 477-3367
Brian & Diana Pleet - change phone # to: 477-3311
Jack P. & Barbara Rafuse - change to: Jack & Barbara Prince
Steven & Mandy Rains - addition: 6A Auburn Avenue, Halifax, NS, B3R 1K4, 477-3771
Sylvia Rockman - deceased
Peter Rosenthal & Libby Garrett - change phone # to: 425-3155
Gary & Jennifer Rubinstein - change to: Rubenstein
Ron & Brenda Shapiro - change to: 12 Mandeville Court #203, Halifax, NS, B3M 3H6
Joe Simon - deceased
Zena Snider - addition: 5663 Inglis Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 1K2, 429-3999

Dr. Jim & Marcie Spatz - change to: 1454 Birchdale Avenue, Halifax, NS, B3H 4E3, 422-9870
David & Eleanor Star - change phone # to: 477-2282
Doris Stone - deceased
Menny & Linda Suissa - change to: 6177 Inglis Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 1L6
Gary & Abbie Szulewicz - change phone # to:

423-3999
Lorne & Abby Weiner - moved
Martin & Cheryl Wexler - change phone # to: 477-4315
Myer Zatzman - change to: 5266 Green Street, Halifax, NS, B3H 4N2, 429-7005
Claire Zwerling - deceased
Stephen Zwerling - addition: RR#1, Boutillier's Point, NS, B0G 1G0, 826-7431

Glace Bay native donates ambulance

by Joel Jacobson

A dying wish of **Ben Lipkus** has come true. The Glace Bay, NS, furniture store operator passed away September 14, 1996, the second day of Rosh Hashanah, at 79 years of age. In his last few months, he decided to donate an ambulance to Israel through Canadian Magen

David Adom for Israel which provides health care supplies and emergency equipment.

"This wish has been granted," said **Sidney Lipkus**, Ben's son, who is still running the family business. "My mother was all for it. And we have dedicated the ambulance to my father and to his and my mother's late parents." The ambulance, bought in Pennsylvania by the Montreal-based Magen David organization, arrived in Glace Bay May 18 for dedication and then was shipped to Montreal for transfer to Israel.

"We probably donate about eight ambulances a year from Canada," said **Shirley Moscovitch** of the Magen David office. "But this is the first ever from Atlantic Canada." She said dedication plaques will be placed on the driver's and passenger's doors. The

driver's door will be dedicated to Ben Lipkus and his parents, **Beinus and Fanny Lipkus**. The other door will display a plaque naming Ben Lipkus and **Shalom and Elka Cohen**, parents of **Mrs. Ben (Rachel) Lipkus**.

Sidney Lipkus said his father, born in Sydney Mines, followed his father into the furniture business. "My grandfather came from Russia and was a peddler originally. He opened the furniture store and had his four sons involved with him. Now I'm carrying on the family tradition." He said his parents (mother Rachel was born in Glace Bay) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary August 11, about a month before Ben passed away. They had two sons. **Barry** lives in Toronto.

"One other wish my father had was that Barry would say kaddish as often as possible. He knew I couldn't because it is difficult to get daily minyans (at Glace Bay's Orthodox Sons of Israel Synagogue). I go to Sydney each weekend when they have services. But Barry is living in Toronto and has been able to attend daily minyans there. We're trying to grant my father's every wish."

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CJC comments on new federal cabinet

By Michael J. Cohen, National Director of Communications

Canadian Jewish Congress was extremely active during the recent federal election campaign as representatives from coast to coast met with candidates to talk about the issues of concern to the Jewish community. Copies of the Federal General Election Guide to the Issues: 1997, a compendium of the organization's positions and recommendations on key national and international agenda items were made available.

Domestic issues raised by CJC and its regions, including the Atlantic Jewish Council, dealt with Nazi war criminals resident in Canada, the promotion of national unity, combating anti-Semitism and racism and hate on the Internet.

When Prime Minister Jean Chretien appointed his new federal cabinet, CJC was quick to emphasize its concerns related to various departments. A number of ministries relate to the ongoing CJC agenda. The analysis which follows includes the names of the new ministers, with their predecessors in brackets.

JUSTICE: Hon. Anne McLellan (Hon. Allan Rock): Urgent prosecution of Nazi war criminals in Canada through the use of civil as well as criminal remedies (applies to cases underway and the need for immediate action against other suspects.) These cases will provide jurisprudence to take legal action against war criminals from other conflicts as they turn up in Canada; support for vigorous implementation of the anti-hate laws of the Criminal Code (in cooperation with provincial Attorneys-General). As well, we call on the Attorney-General to ensure the consistent implementation across the country of the new sentence-enhancement provisions for hate-motivated crimes

(in cooperation with Crown attorneys and Judges); prompt re-introduction of legislation to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act. Among other things, the Bill should clarify employers' obligations regarding "reasonable accommodation" for employees with disabilities; to consider various options to deal with hate on the Internet.

SOLICITOR GENERAL: Hon. Andy Scott (Hon. Herb Gray): Proactive efforts by CSIS (a) against white supremacist and neo-Nazi groups (under counter-subversion mandate) and (b) in fulfillment of its counter-terrorism mandate (with international partnerships as well). Changes to the CSIS Act should be implemented to permit the Service to warn directly endangered Canadians of threats to their lives; maintain effective, adequately-funded War Crimes and Special Investigation Section of the RCMP and ensure maximum cooperation with Justice Department counterparts.

NATIONAL DEFENCE: Hon. Art Eggleton (Hon. Doug Young): Root out white supremacist, neo-Nazi elements in Canadian Armed Forces and improve enlistment-screening and sensitization policies to ensure zero tolerance for racism in Canadian military; maintain effective anti-terrorist unit.

NATIONAL REVENUE: Hon. Herb Dhaliwal (Hon. Jane Stewart): Ongoing role of Customs Canada in preventing the importation of hate propaganda; ensure support for prosecutions of persons who willfully defraud the government by claiming "kosher food tax".

PUBLIC WORKS: Hon. Alfonso Gagliano (Hon. Diane Marleau): Ongoing role of Canada Post in keeping hate literature out of Canada.

HEALTH: Hon. Allan Rock (Hon. David Dingwall): Maintenance of national standards for Canada Health Act (as part of revised federal-provincial transfer payments).

The following ministers remain in their same portfolios:

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION: Hon. Lucienne Robillard: Vigorous action against suspected Nazi war criminals in denaturalization and deportation cases; ongoing concern about the declining importance of family reunification as the cornerstone of Canadian immigration policy (e.g., imposition of Right of Landing Fee; lowered proportion of family class in the total intake); vigorous implementation of criminal inadmissibility sections of Immigration Act to keep terrorists, hatemongers and war criminals out of Canada.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS: Hon. Lloyd Axworthy: Ongoing Canadian support for the State of Israel and the Middle East Peace Process; protection for and promotion of human rights in former Soviet Bloc and emerging East European countries and elsewhere (e.g., through G-7, United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Francophonie). Special emphasis on the elimination of anti-Semitism as a form of racism/discrimination.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS: Hon. Stephane Dion: Ongoing efforts to strengthen Canadian national unity.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT: Hon. Pierre Pettigrew: Monitoring national and community impact of changes to social safety net (Employment Insurance, Social Assistance, Canada Health and Social Transfer, etc.); implementation of Employment Equity Act and prompt tabling of new legis-

lation to bring Federal Public Service under the ambit of the Act.

SECRETARY OF STATE (MULTICULTURALISM) (STATUS OF WOMEN): Hon. Hedy Fry: Continued support for multiculturalism in Canada; ongoing role in developing anti-racism initiatives; ongoing role in promoting women's issues and impact of social policy changes on women.

CJC NOTES: In the last edition of *Shalom*, the address of the CJC World Wide Web Site was incorrectly listed. It should have read <http://www.cjc.ca>. We encourage you to make this site one of your favorites or bookmarks and access it frequently ... CJC will hold a conference in Ottawa on November 2 under theme of Social Cohesion Through Social Justice. Halifax's Sheva Medjuck, chair of the National Law and Social Action Committee, is spearheading this initiative...CJC officials continue to meet with World Jewish Congress and the Swiss Embassy in Canada to discuss restitution for Holocaust survivors and address the matter of dormant accounts.

Send your comments to Michael at mikec@cjc.ca

Visit the Atlantic Jewish Council on the Internet!!
WWW3.ns.sympatico.ca/ajc.halifax/main.html

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Kol Hastudentim Mega-Leadership Conference '97

by Toni Fried

As a newly appointed member of the APJSF executive I had the privilege of participating in the Kol Hastudentim Mega-Leadership Conference of 1997. While not a member of "Kol Hastudentim", the council of Jewish Student Unions for Ontario Universities and Colleges, I felt that the theme of the conference, "Leadership training and skill-building" was inclusive enough for even a Haligonian from Dalhousie University to attend. Altogether 60 students from 14 universities and colleges attended the conference held at Maple Lake Lodge (a two hour bus ride north of Toronto), May 15 to 18. The four days and three nights were so packed with activities and lecture/discussion sessions that I will only describe the highlights.

The conference commenced with a "Welcome and Introduction to Leadership Styles" (Jason Young, U. of T., and Bena Medjuck, McGill). Lions, beavers, monkeys and turtles took on a whole new meaning as we learned about leaders, behind-the-scene organizers, socializers and long-range planners. And so, like Dorothy with her lions and tigers and bears, my adventures began.

The first four sessions dealt primarily with programming and leadership skills. The first session, entitled "Engaging Students on Campus" (Pearl Groper and Joanna Levitt of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto) was not as engaging as its title would indicate. The message, conveyed by the presentation of various scenarios, was obvious: build programs around specific student populations, interests and locations, and do not try to fit students into predetermined programs. I must add, however, that the session was cut short due to time constraints and might have been more interesting had it been longer.

The second session, dealing with time management and listening skills (Brian Poser, York) was by far the most informative. Being a procrastinator myself, I found his time management tips very helpful: set deadlines, prioritize, do not take on too much at once, keep long-range goals in mind and, above all, start now! For both leaders and followers these are the most important listening skills: pay attention not only to *what* is said but *how*, i.e. tone of voice, facial expression, body language, and really make an

effort to understand what the other person is saying.

"10 Steps to Killer Presentations" (Jason Young), the third session, can be simply summarized: "tell 'em what you're gonna tell 'em, tell 'em, and then tell 'em what you just told 'em". If you still don't think they'll get the message, write it on an overhead, use lots of body language and practice, practice, practice!

The last of the four sessions, "Hard Core Programming 101", was not as fruitful as I had hoped it would be. We basically exchanged programming ideas and discussed which ones had been successful in the past, e.g. Shabbat potluck, speakers, camping, sports, programs with historic or holiday themes. Ironically, the most interesting idea I heard was in a later session, by Marni Disher. An inspiration from the Mike Meyers' sketch on Saturday Night Live, "Coffee Talk": students sit in groups and discuss a topic provided by the leader, who circulates as they talk amongst

Biomedical Ethics (Jason Young) where we discussed such controversial issues as cloning and euthanasia and compared our views with those of the Mishnah. It was an interesting session that left us with more questions than answers.

Shabbat ended with the "World-Famous



(l to r) Kol Hastudentim leaders Jason Young, Chair, and Shai Spetgang, Advisor

Jacobian Havdallah Ceremony" (Rabbi Benji Jacobi). When all sixty of us held hands and sang in the candlelight, the spiritual importance of this conference really hit home. That night I realized that it is not through the physical (rituals) or the intellectual (religious studies) that I will be able to attain a stronger, more spiritual Jewish identity but through the emotions brought on by connecting with other Jews and singing Hebrew songs and prayers.

The conference ended with a very inspirational speech by NETWORK alumnus, Steve Granovsky on "Fighting Apathy with Activism". His basic message was to be more proactive: to take an interest in Jewish affairs, to take a stand and to get involved.

While it may seem from my description that all we did was attend lectures, there were in fact a great many "extra-curricular" activities: nature hikes, boating, sports, games and social events which were fun and enabled us to get to know each other better.

I enjoyed the conference immensely! What a terrific opportunity to build leadership skills, meet other Jewish university students and discuss issues important to us. I learned a lot at this conference and hope to share and apply my knowledge and experiences with the students in our community. I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to Yakov Feig and the AJC for sending me to the conference.



APJSF members at Community Picnic, Halifax, June 1997

themselves'.

The last four sessions had more to do with moral, religious, spiritual and political issues. After the morning Shabbat services, there was a brief question and answer period with Rabbi Elliot Malamet from CHAT. He was very engaging and insightful and gave us some good advice: (1) one cannot make decisions from the outside; instead, one must take the plunge and experience things for oneself; and (2) life is not about comfort and distractions but about learning more about oneself and the world around us.

Later in the day, I attended a session on

SHIRLEY B. HONoured AT 16TH ANNUAL HALIFAX YWCA WOMEN'S RECOGNITION DINNER

Shirley Burnstein is admired for keeping audiences and participants crying, laughing and above all enjoying their involvement in stage musicals such as *Fiddler on the Roof* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour*



Dreamcoat.

She produced, wrote and directed the Halifax *Haggadah* - a chronicle of Jewish settlement in Eastern Canada (where young and old alike felt the ravages of the Holocaust in the boxcar scene and the joys of freedom in a new country).

All the while, she was lending her talents at Northwood Centre

where yet another group of people were finding their hidden talents and expressing themselves in music through her expertise and experience.

Shirley never speaks of her accomplishments. She reserves her pride for her family of three and their families. It is for others to say that she received her ATCM at age 18 from the Toronto Conservatory of Music. She has sung in recitals at Massey Hall in Toronto and in major cities across Canada with such legends as **Paul Robeson**, **Richard Tucker** and **Jan Pierce**.

For those of us in the Atlantic Jewish community with children, her legacy lives in our children who rehearsed with her at Camp Kadimah and community musicals where Shirley developed their individual talent but taught them how to work together to entertain others. For those of us with elderly parents, her gift is imparting the belief that age is no impediment to realizing potential and community involvement.

Gift of Israel Bar/Bat Mitzvah Registry

We are pleased to welcome the following new participants in the Gift of Israel program. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Registry reduces the trip cost to Israel through the combination of gifts from UIA, AJC, synagogues, family and friends as the participants watch their funds grow with interest in a special account opened for the child at the Bank of Montreal. Gifts made by the family and friends of these enrolled participants to the Gift of Israel will ultimately enable these children to turn their dream of Israel travel into a reality.

You can recognize the Bar/Bat Mitzvahs of the following children in Atlantic Canada by sending your gift **DIRECTLY** to the participant and noting on your cheque "For Your Gift of Israel Account."

LAUREN ROSEN (Halifax)
DAVID TAX (Halifax)

A Thank You

by Shirley Burnstein, AJC Seniors'
Programmer

Thank you **Victor, Jon** and the AJC for the honour bestowed upon me at the "Women's Recognition Dinner" held at the Westin Nova Scotian, May 29th, 1997.

It was an impressive ceremony and evening. I found myself in the company of many accomplished and contributing women also being honoured.

When I arrived home after the tribute, I started to think about the evening and what it meant to me.

I have been privileged to live in Halifax and be a part of this community the major part of my life. I have been privileged to enjoy good health, to have had supportive and encouraging parents who allowed me to leave home at the age of 14 to pursue a dream. I never thought I'd reap such joy and nachas for so many years. I look at faces whose children and grandchildren are now part of my endeavours. My children and grandchildren are involved in community happenings.

I am indeed privileged and thank all of you who have participated and allowed me to fulfill my dream.

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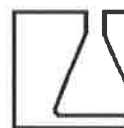
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From Around



Dr. Samuel S. Kottek well known Israel Medical Historian speaking at a community program Halifax, April 1997



Judy Bates and Evie Carnat dancing with Moncton kids on Yom Ha'atzmaut, Moncton, May 1997



Yom Ha'atzmaut: Chevra and Madrichim on an Independence Day outing, Halifax, May 1997



*Israeli Independence day display at Fredericton High School
Front l-r: Krista Byers-Heinlein, Kari Adilman, Karen Kaufman
Back l-r: Dennis Rosenfeld, Jason Goldenberg, Lea Adilman, Joel Orenstein*



Davka & Dudi performed in Moncton and Halifax on Yom Ha'atzmaut, May 1997



*Dancing the Hora
Yom Ha'atzmaut, Halifax, May 1997*

Summer 1997 Tammuz-Elul 5757

the Region



David Price and Roz Allen representing the community at the Multicultural Fair, Halifax, June 1997



Kathy Zilbert, Chairperson of the AJC Seniors Committee, updating the management committee, at a meeting in Halifax, June 1997



*The BBQ chefs l-r: Mark David, Murray Schwartz and Joel Pink
Halifax Picnic, June 1997*



*"Get Your Prizes"
Joanne Nozick Argand at Jewish Community Picnic, Halifax, June 1997*



*"In Line For Prizes"
Jewish Community Picnic, Halifax, June 1997*



"Kids in The Hood Mark Their Turf" l-r: Abi Suissa, Maya Budovitch, Rachael Goldberg & Robin Budovitch, Halifax Picnic, June 1997

Tammuz-Elul 5757 Summer 1997

A BRIEF VISIT TO FIVE JEWISH COMMUNITIES OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAVIA

by Linda Schroeder

On June 3, I spoke to the Masada Club about my recent trip to five Jewish communities of the former Yugoslavia. This past April I traveled to the communities of Belgrade, Novi Sad, Zrenjanin, Zagreb and Sarajevo to play flute recitals of Jewish music for these communities. Local musicians from these communities were able to join me in these concerts, as I had sent ahead music such as "Dodi Li", "Erev Shel Shoshanim", "Yerushalayim Shel Zahav", "Hine Ma Tov", "Tumbalalaika", songs from *Fiddler*, and Sephardic songs such as "Los Bilbilicos".



Jewish music at the Sarajevo Sunday School

During the recent war in Bosnia, *La Benevolencija*, the cultural-philanthropic branch of the Sarajevo Jewish Community, supplied internationally-donated tons of food, medicine, infant and elderly needs to all residents of Sarajevo and Bosnia. This continuing aid shared by the Jewish communities with their neighbors under conditions of great stress was the inspiration to share our international musical heritage with the communities. I played recitals in retire-

ment homes, a kindergarten, community clubs, and for the Sarajevo Jewish Community Sunday School, which welcomes equally children of all ages and ethnic backgrounds, to learn about and sustain Jewish culture. These children learn about the holidays, art, history, and music - they even have their own little choir, which has a most beautiful sound (their special songs are "Oseh Shalom" and "Adio Kerida" or Farewell to Spain). The Jewish community of Sarajevo has 600 remaining members; before the Holocaust the community had 12,000 members. Every Jew of the former Yugoslavia may immigrate to Israel, and many have done so. However, the Jews who remain choose to do so, many of them because of their dedication to their Jewish communities.

In the concert in Zrenjanin (70 Jews remain in this city, formerly Petrovgrad) a 75-year-old guitarist, 18-year-old cellist, and keyboard player joined me in the first Jewish cultural event since the Holocaust. This small community is one of several such communities which are just now becoming revitalized; they have recently acquired office space and a one-room sanctuary with wooden benches for their use.

In Belgrade and Novi Sad the concerts were at large Purim parties, and in Novi Sad the children also participated with dances such as "Hag Purim" and the story of Esther



Jewish music in Zrenjanin

in Serbo-Croatian. It was wonderful to see these children, as well as the ones in Sarajevo Sunday School and Zagreb kindergarten, continue their Jewish education in such a positive manner. The efforts of these communities to sustain Jewish culture under great adversity are certainly successful. At the concerts in the retirement homes near Zagreb and Belgrade, the residents enthusiastically joined in with the songs they knew, and even sang Sephardic and Yiddish songs of their youth after the concerts.

I hope that I was able to share the joy of our culture with the people of these communities, and that I could give even a fraction of what I received of the enjoyment and learning experience that the wonderful people in every community shared with me. (If you, the readers, would like to contribute to this effort in Sarajevo, please do so with the office of Shaar Shalom Synagogue - (902)423-5848.) They are stalwart, brave and inspiring people who live with their neighbors in a truly multicultural world. The concept of community is lived not only for its own sake, but in the more profound sense as well, and with this achievement of sharing good will, the rest of the world also becomes community.

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CHANGE OF NAME

Jack Prince Rafuse, Q.C. and Barbara Faye Rafuse
of 1773 Dunvegan Drive
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have changed their names to:
Jack Prince, Q.C. and Barbara Faye Prince

Halifax Mayor visits Israel

by Joel Jacobson

Halifax mayor **Walter Fitzgerald** couldn't find enough adjectives to describe a recent trip to Israel.

"Intensive. Overwhelming. Emotional. Informative. Educational. Enlightening. Unbelievable. It was all of those and more," said the mayor, who attended the 17th Jerusalem Conference for Mayors, the only Canadian of 60 mayors from 42 countries at the six-day combination of meetings and tours.

The conference was sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the American Jewish Congress and was held with the cooperation and support of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"I was so impressed with the people, with their determination to make Israel a peaceful country and to make it work," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "It was the best trip I've ever attended. We saw history, stayed at a Kibbutz, visited the tomb of Christ. At times I just couldn't believe I was there."

With his wife, **Linda**, the mayor had a pre-conference tour set up by **Jon Goldberg**, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council. The Fitzgeralds visited Metulla where they met **Mayor Yossi Goldberg** and toured Canada Centre. A former hockey player at Dalhousie University in Halifax, the 60-year-old mayor was offered skates to test the ice but declined.

Prior to the conference, the couple also



met officials of ZIM Lines, one of the major shipping companies using the port of Halifax. "We had lunch with them and the mayor of Haifa, and discussed the importance of ZIM to Halifax. They complained of high prices but we talked more of Halifax as an international port."

Mr. Fitzgerald and the other mayors met **Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu**. "I presented him with a pewter business card holder with an engraving of Halifax City Hall. It was a quick 30-second opportunity to say hello and

bring greetings," said Mr. Fitzgerald. "He was supposed to stay with our group for about 10 minutes but he spent 45 minutes chatting with various people."

Linda Fitzgerald went on the trip "with some apprehension because of news reports but I felt very safe at all times. Even while we were there, we'd see reports on CNN and

wonder if we were in the same place."

A grade one teacher in Halifax, Mrs. Fitzgerald was impressed with the passion of the people, "the joy they seem to have and their resourcefulness. I was fascinated by life on the kibbutz, by the lifestyle and the quality of life the people maintain.

"I was amazed that there is a fund, and I don't know if this is the same on all kibbutzim, that fully pays for the children to attend university after their army service. It was like an extended family as they work toward the common good."

The Fitzgeralds were entertained one evening by former Halifax resident **Linda Epstein** who has been working in Israel for more than 20 years. Her brother, **Howard**, an NDP candidate in the federal election, is a member of Mr. Fitzgerald's Halifax City Council.

"It was a wonderful experience," said the Mayor. "We saw so much of the country, the Golan Heights, Masada, the Holy City of Jerusalem, the place where Christ was supposedly crucified, the Wailing Wall, the Dead Sea, and the Holocaust Museum. I think Masada and the Holocaust Museum were the most emotional for me. The Museum will never leave me."

"I think of Halifax at 250 years old (in 1999) and then realize I was in a place that is 3000 years old."

FROM THE CAMP DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

by Sheldon Cohen

With Camp just a week away from beginning the '97 season, final preparations are being readied for what looks like another great summer. Our enrollment is 248 and still counting. This summer will see many improvements to our campsite as well as exciting programmes.

We are very happy to welcome back **Michael Soberman** as Assistant Camp Director and Coordinator of our CIT programme. As well, **Marty Zatzman** will return as Programme Director and **Belarie Zatzman** as Coordinator of Arts, Crafts and Drama. **Brian Indig** will return as Camp Administrator and Head of Waterfront will be **Ann**

Raskin. **Rob Matlow** is our Scouting Director and **Jo Mirsky** will be our head of Shirkud. **Shayna Allen** will be our Sports Director ably assisted by **Steven Indig**.

Section heads for 1997 consist of **Jason Altman** (Giborim & Goshrim), **David Barbarash** (Kochot), **Charles Rak** (Machar) and **Jacob Medjuck** and **Heidi Lipkus** (S'gan Rosh Machar).

Several Halifax doctors will be at Camp over the first three weeks while **Dr. Les Rosoph** will return for the final three weeks.

Many new and exciting programmes are being planned for the summer and surprises are in store. A beautiful mini-golf course

awaits one and all as well as new sporting activities and a variety of fun-filled cultural indoor and outdoor activities. New chugim are being offered and the many popular choices will be offered as well.

Visitor's Day is Sunday, July 27 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. We look forward to meeting you and trust you will spend an enjoyable time at Camp. Please feel free to call Camp and, if you'd like to visit at any time, please phone ahead and it will be our pleasure to arrange a visit and show you around.

Shalom.

Club Masada News

by Doreen Gordon

The first gathering of the new year for Masada members was held at Shaar Shalom where a theatre party had been arranged for the seniors. Beginning with lunch and a sing-a-long, led by **Yakov Feig**, a large number of seniors were then driven to the Empire Theatre in Bedford to see the movie *Evita*. Those present, who were perhaps unaware of **Eva Peron** and her connection to Hitler, and instead saw a **Madonna** more attractive than ever before, enjoyed the performance. I found I could not.

A regular meeting of Club Masada was held on Thursday, February 20th, at the Beth Israel Synagogue with 35 members and visitors attending. President **Bessie Rinzler** wished all those who were sick at home and in hospital a speedy recovery; there are several in the community who are ill. She also extended condolences to those who have lost loved ones recently. There have been several Jewish funerals in the past month.

A letter was read from Telecare of Northwood describing the service they provide for people living alone. This service is free; some of our members are already using this facility. They receive a telephone call every

day, when necessary, in order to check for health problems.

It was mentioned that there is a questionnaire in *Shalom* regarding any work having been done during the war by our own women and that the questionnaire should be answered.



Club Masada Executive Back l-r: Barbara Alberstat, Phil Alberstat, Borace Jacobson, Doreen Gordon, Marianne Ferguson Front l-r: Edith Schneiderman, Shirley Burnstein, Ella Morris, Bessie Rinzler, Sara Yablon

The program for the day consisted of guests from Northwood: CEO **Lloyd Brown**, **Barbara Yablon**, **Gael Phillips** and **Sheri Shortliffe**. **Kathy Zilbert**, who represented Atlantic Jewish Council, explained that this group of people were here to help make life a little more comfortable for seniors and to hear what their concerns are. Kathy is on the AJC Task Force for Senior Citizens Affairs.

After an introductory speech by Mr. Brown, a panel discussion

ensued. It seems that the seniors want independence with perhaps a Jewish care facility at home, kosher food, peer support, visiting, etc. Northwood will try to get together with seniors to deal some of the requests. Masada members were divided into four

groups for discussion led by **Rita Pink**, the women from Northwood and Mr. Brown. Results were tabulated and it was decided that further discussions will ensue.

Jewish Music Month was celebrated on February 23rd at the Shaar Shalom. The klezmer band members from Wolfville performed as if they'd been doing this all their lives; they were great! The choir that **Shirley Burnstein** gathered together in an amazingly short time also did very well! And the delicious food was so good that it seemed to disappear in no time, so a good time was had by all!

On the first Friday in March, President Bessie Rinzler invited me to join her at a meeting of the Halifax Seniors Council where we met up with **Shoshana Katz** and **Max Fishman**. I learned that Halifax Seniors Council encompasses all the Seniors groups that lie within the area of the Halifax Regional Municipality. The four Masada members were each asked to introduce themselves and it was soon obvious that Bessie Rinzler was already well known to several of the seniors there. After a pleasant afternoon, I decided, on the way out to bring back some flyers regarding ac-

tivities of other seniors. Obviously each group makes its own choices, but it occurred to me that our members might be interested in hearing about Spencer House Seniors Centre.

Spencer House is at 5596 Morris Street, a short distance from the former Halifax Infirmary. It is a drop-in center for seniors in downtown Halifax which provides daily lunch, a friendly visiting program for shut-ins, grandfriends - intergenerational program where children and seniors come together for a fun activity, internet access, monthly blood pressure clinics, income tax workshops, fun and fitness, line dancing, health education, pot-luck suppers, leisure activities, volunteer snow removal for seniors and disabled people living in their own homes, weekly foot care clinics staffed by the Victorian Order of Nurses, Tuesday Time-out for seniors reminiscing and games, etc., planned menu available each month at the reception desk at Spencer house, mall walk, computer workshops, plastic canvas craft, Dal dental hygiene sessions.

A meeting of Club Masada was held on Thursday, March 27th in the Shaar Shalom Synagogue with 25 members present. The meeting was opened by President Bessie Rinzler and **Vera Frank** was given a warm visitor's welcome. Condolences were extend to **Molly Whitzman** on the loss of her sister, **Ida Blumenthal**. A moment of silence was observed in memory of Mrs. Blumenthal.

A generous donation was received from **Reva Shane** upon the kind get-well wishes from Masada during her long sojourn in hospital. Condolences were extended **Janet Casey** upon the loss of her mother. A speedy recovery was extended to all those members who are ill at home or in hospital. Many thanks to **Marianne Ferguson** for her delicious hamentashen.

Shirley Burnstein announced that, thanks to **Cathy Fox** and the Sisterhood of Beth Israel Syna-

"RETIRED SENIORS CLUB" TRIP

BAR HARBOR, ME FALL TRIP

Are you interested in traveling with the **Retired Seniors Club** and having some fun with other members this fall? If there is enough interest, we will be offering a customized New England Fall Foliage Tour to our members. Here are some highlights: September 15-18, 1997

Including: 2 nights in Bar Harbor, 1 night in Saint John including dinner at Reversing Falls, Tour of Acadia National Park in Maine (2nd most visited park in US!), Jewish Historical Museum in Saint John, 2 continental breakfasts, Aquila tour Director

For more information contact **Shirley Burnstein** at (902) 429-4674 or Aquila tours at 1-800-561-9091.

Approximate Cost: \$575.00 Cdn including all taxes per person based on double occupancy.

ATTENTION: VETERANS FROM ATLANTIC CANADA

by Maurice Jake, Moncton

Coming anywhere near Moncton or Saint John this summer? Why not drop in to Tiferes Israel Synagogue or the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum?

In the lobby of the synagogue is a memorial containing 384 names of Jewish War Vets of the Maritimes and Newfoundland, as well as an exhibit of eight decorated Jewish Vets, more than any at a single Royal Canadian Legion. The Field of Honour, part of the Moncton Jewish Cemetery, has 14 spaces open to any relative who lost a loved one in service. For more information

call **Maurice Jake** at (506) 855-0011 or write to him at 11 Ivan Court, #21, Moncton, NB, E1C 8T3.

Jewish War Heroes of the Maritime Provinces, W.W.II

Major **Issy Gold**, US Army; Wing Commander **Maurice Lipton**, Sydney, NS, Air Force Cross, mentioned in dispatches; **Aaron Gluestein**, New Waterford, NS, Distinguished Flying Cross; Lt. Colonel **Joseph Tanzman**, Saint John, NB, Officer of the order of the British Empire; Major **Max Morris**, Sydney, NS, Member of the Order of the British Empire, mentioned in dis-



War memorial exhibit in Moncton honours eight decorated Jewish soldiers from the Maritimes. A letter from a Protestant church and stained glass window commemorate three Jewish soldiers killed in action.

patches; Lt. **Samuel Brody**, Plaster Rock, NB, Bronze Cross, Netherlands; Sgt. **Leo Lighter**, Glace Bay, NS, mentioned in dis-

patches; Pvt. **Maurice Bernstein**, Halifax, NS, mentioned in dispatches.

gogue, packages of hamentashen were sent to the Jewish residents of Northwood for Purim. Program guest was **Ella Telichenko**, who is the owner of a beauty salon named Cleopatra's, is a beautician, nail technician and a masseuse. Ms. Telichenko described the work done in her salon and the members found it of great interest.

On May 1st a group of seniors, accompanied by Shirley Burnstein, went to Queen Elizabeth High School to see the performance of the musical, *Oklahoma*, performed by the students of QE in general and by **Jonathan Freeman** in particular for his major role in the production. By all accounts it was declared a smash hit!

Linda Schroeder, musician and librarian, was Masada's very special guest at our June meeting. Linda's tales of her travels with her flute can be found elsewhere in this issue of *Shalom*. Suffice it to say that our members and guests were enthralled.

The general meeting of Club Masada was held on June 3rd at Shaar Shalom with 47 members and guests in attendance. **Professor Barkoff** presented, for the benefit of the members, **Jacob Fisher**, a student in philosophy, who will be doing historical research in the archives for Shaar Shalom. A moment of silence was held in memory of **Doris**

Stone who passed away recently. Doris was a very active member of Masada who will be sorely missed.

Kudos to Shirley Burnstein for being honoured by the YWCA and CIBC for her contribution to the Jewish community and as a volunteer to the community at large.

Susan Charness was honoured by The Organization For Women's Achievements in Arts, Business and Professions in Toronto for her success in finding jobs for disabled persons and for her contribution to the Toronto Hadassah Bazaar. Susan is the daughter of **Rose Argand**.

On the evening of June 25th, a large contingent of Masada members (as well as many others from the community) took advantage of the offer to see a film at the Empire Theatres in Bedford. The film, featuring **Jack Lemmon** and **Walter Matthau**, called *Out to Sea* was light fun entertainment and a great hit. Everyone came away happy.

New slate of officers for Masada: President, **Edith Schneiderman**; Honourary Past President, Bessie Rinzler; Assistants to the President, **Barb Alberstat** and **Martha Markus**; Recording Secretary, **Ella Morris**; Treasurer, **Phil Alberstat**; Program, Shirley Burnstein; Publicity, **Doreen Gordon**; Hospital-

ity, **Borace Jacobson**; Representatives at Seniors Council, Bessie Rinzler and Molly Whitzman; Sick and Visiting, Marianne and **Lawrence Ferguson**; Telephone Convenor,

Mindy Jacobson; Telephone Committee, Molly Whitzman, Martha Markus, **Naomi Judah**, Shoshana Katz, **Jean Zlatin**; Photographer and Album, **Lawrence Ferguson**.

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WAR CRIMINALS MUST NOT GO UNPUNISHED

by Joel Jacobson

Neal Sher wants the "small fry" prosecuted and deported. The former head of the Office of Special Investigation (OSI) in the United States insists it took hundreds of thousands of "small fries" of Nazi Germany to make the Holocaust what it was. He is adamant that, "knowing they're in your midst, it is imperative to do something. There will never be perfect justice. But if we don't seek them out and have them deported, we are just giving Hitler a posthumous victory. That must never happen."

Mr. Sher was speaking to more than 200 people at a Halifax Yom Hashoah gathering at Shaar Shalom Synagogue. Organized by the Atlantic Jewish Council, the event brought together federal and provincial politicians, local government officials including Halifax mayor **Walter Fitzgerald**, provincial judges and members of the Jewish and non-Jewish communities.

Retired as director of OSI since 1994, and now in private law practice in Washington, D.C., Mr. Sher listened to survivor **Helena Jockel** of Halifax tell her story of facing the trauma of the death camps.

"Every survivor has a story that boggles the mind," said Mr. Sher. "And they continue to tell those stories. What will happen 50 years from now when the survivors are gone? Will

there be debates about whether six million died or was it gross exaggeration? As long as we face the possibility of Holocaust deniers, our work in hunting down Nazi war criminals is important - both in my country and in Canada."

He said cases are now being investigated in Canada. Positive statements are being made of an intent to move forward. "These cases educate and demonstrate the importance of calling to account the individuals who minimize the scope of the Holocaust, who challenge the credibility of survivors."

Mr. Sher reminded the audience there are horrible crimes and genocide occurring today but emphasized people can't lose sight of the fact that Hitler's war against the Jews was waged against a "defenseless people with no army, no state. How different world Jewry today might have been if Israel had existed in 1935 or if the British had allowed open immigration to Palestine," he said.

Mrs. Jockel named several members of the Halifax community, Holocaust survivors who needed power and moral strength to last through interminable months and years in concentration camps. Then she described how she was uprooted from her Hungary home, and among one million fellow countrymen, either moved to concentration camps or

killed.

"We saw the smoke from the crematoriums and smelled the burning flesh. At one

point, I saw my mother and two sisters on the other side of a wire fence. We met and talked but they were soon taken from me and sent to the gas chamber."

She said the bombardment of the camp by Allied forces "was the most beautiful sound. Despite everything," said Mrs. Jockel with a breaking voice, "I still believe that people are really good at heart."

During the program, members of six community groups each lit candles and read 10 names of Holocaust victims. In conjunction with the theme of the evening, that 20 per cent of the six million victims were under 15 years of age, those named were all between the ages of two and 15.

Similar commemorative ceremonies were held in Saint John and Fredericton, NB and in St. John's, NF.



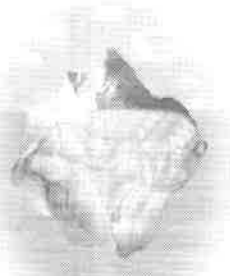
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Jewish War Veterans of Canada national news

Submitted by Gar Meltzer, Atlantic Post Commander

During winter of 1997, when many Canadians are enjoying the warmth of Florida or other southern climes, our National Commander too found himself in Florida. But his vacation time was not spent golfing, tanning or boating (not that these are bad); he busied himself spreading the word about the contribution of the Jews during the Second World War.

Sam Pasternak addressed nine American Jewish & non-Jewish War Veteran Posts, two churches and a Chamber of Commerce. In all, over 2000 Americans heard the message about Jewish involvement in WW II. It is shocking that even though our National Commander reminds people of what we Jews contributed to WW II it is received as if this news has been top secret for 50 years. This is information that we should be bringing to our children and grandchildren. This is what each of us must do and continue to do. The world must be made aware of our tremendous contribution to the hard-won victory.

When the National Commander returned home in early spring, National Command and the Metropolitan Toronto Police started a distribution programme of food certificates to the needy, the homeless and the indigent in our community. Both groups organized and ran a large dinner for the hungry, held at a large local restaurant. Over 350 people were served a hot meal. The public relations that has accrued because of these kinds of acts of charity has been tremendous.

National Command, through other charitable acts, was able to bring together many ethnic groups to discuss various problems. This group was organized several years ago and we were able to maintain this important committee. We feel that most ethnic problems hitting our homes can be solved immediately and without any bloodshed. This is and should be the goal of every good citizen of this county. One of the main problems we are faced with is that young people do not know how Canada became the best country in the world to live in. Young people do not know or understand the sacrifices that were made by young soldiers, airmen, sailors and women not much older than the youngsters of today. The young people of 50 years ago were called on to make sacrifices that we hope

people never have to make again. The National Commander hosted a round-table discussion at our office with a group of black teenagers from a local high school. This class was studying the Holocaust and wanted to know what was done by Jews here in Canada during the War. Without having an outstretched arm of the generation that will follow us of to receive the torch of recent historical knowledge, all will be lost to the deniers and the re-writers of history. There is a programme that has taken shape to bring to high school students the facts and figures and the horrors of WW II, which our National Commander has been asked to participate in and become one of the speakers. It is hoped that this programme will produce a film that will cover many of the branches of the Canadian armed forces.

Several weeks ago, National Command helped organize a Yom Hashoah V'Hagvurah programme. During this programme, to which over 600 people were in attendance, the National Commander memorialized the victims of the Holocaust and brought attention to the soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in the war against the Nazis and their collaborators. This remembrance should be made every time the victims of the Shoah are mentioned. We should be included in any programme that discusses or highlights the military contribution to the development of Canada. The National Commander is in continuous contact with the Ministers of Justice, Immigration, and Veteran Affairs. We have an ongoing dialogue regarding Nazis in Canada and to continually place pressure where and when required to goad the gov-

ernment into action.

The Jewish War Veterans are involved with other groups in attempting to shut down Zundel's hate filled Web site.

National Command is developing plans for the erection of a permanent memorial paying tribute to the Jewish War Vets and partisans of the 1st and 2nd WWs who made the supreme sacrifice for their people and country. The location of this memorial will be in Earl Bales Park of North York, where the Obelisk of Yad Vashem the memorial to **Raoul Wallenberg** is located. During the past few months, the National Commander addressed the Posts of Halifax, Montreal and Winnipeg, and will be visiting each post in due course. Israel's 50th Anniversary will be happening soon and we will be joining with the Jewish War Veterans from the United States, the U.K., South Africa and Israel in commemorating this important anniversary.



Some people want things to happen,
some wait for them to happen...

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The Bequest and Endowment Fund of the United Jewish Appeal of Atlantic Canada

Edited by Dov Harris, Director Bequest & Endowment Fund of UJA Canada

Ours is the generation that has brought the Jewish people to a defining moment in its history. We witnessed the birth of Israel and its astounding growth, the largest ingathering of exiles since the Biblical Exodus from Egypt and an unprecedented Jewish presence in political life, business and the arts here at home.

Never have we been as organized as we are today. Never have we been as blessed with the same resources. Never have we been as powerful in our sovereign homeland, Israel. Yet, nothing can be taken for granted. The price of our success and acceptance in the wider community has been a loosening of the ties that bind us to one another, to our history and to our traditions.

We now stand at the crossroads. Either we can risk the steady disintegration of our communities or we can do something about it. Our generation has learned from bitter experience where silence leads and how much we can achieve when we place Jewish destiny in our hands.

It is with this spirit that we have taken the initiative to create a community-wide Bequest and Endowment Fund (The B&E Fund) in Atlantic Canada.

The B&E Fund is our covenant for continuity. It will allow us to introduce new projects and maintain funding for current programs to serve the generations that follow.

Unlike your contribution to an annual Appeal, an endowment is a permanent source of funds, created by a donor, either by means of a gift during his/her lifetime or through a bequest in a will.

The B&E Fund will provide you with a spectrum of giving opportunities across the Jewish agenda. These priority programs and projects will enable you to support an area of Jewish life in Israel or your local community.

The B&E Fund of the United Jewish Appeal of Atlantic Canada provides secure funding for critical needs beyond a donor's lifetime and gives the community a permanent source of financial resources for urgent situations.

Never have Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel's words resonated with more meaning.

"Every individual is a pillar on which the future of Judaism rests... Each Jew is obliged to say 'Into my hands has been given the future of the entire Jewish people... We will either forfeit or enrich the legacy of the ages.'"

Structure and Operation

THE B&E FUND WILL OPERATE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

1. Undesignated Funds

Funds which are bequeathed or endowed to the B&E Fund without any specified intended use will be equally divided immediately upon receipt between the Atlantic Jewish Council (for local needs) and the UIA (for programs and projects in Israel). It is difficult to predict and foresee unanticipated demands and emergencies but we must be prepared.

Undesignated funds provide the necessary flexibility to respond when urgent situations arise, e.g. Jewish Rescue (Operation Exodus). As a result, they are the most desirable source for fulfilling our mutual mandate.

2. (a) Designated Funds for Local Needs

Designated Funds for local needs will be managed by the Board of Trustees of the Bequest and Endowment Fund of the Atlantic Jewish Council (AJC), along with counsel from its Professional Advisory Committee and its Investment Advisory Committee.

(b) Designated Funds for Needs in Israel

Designated Funds for needs in Israel fall under the aegis of UIA which has its parallel Board of Trustees, Professional Advisory Committee and Investment Advisory Committee.

The capital amount of such endowments must remain intact for a period of no less than ten (10) years. It is the intention that only the interest may be applied for programs and projects.

Endowments are insurance for the perpetuation of financial resources to maintain and strengthen local Jewish communities and solidify our roots with Israel and world Jewry.

Many opportunities are available for endowing special projects and programs in the Atlantic Region and in Israel.

Naming the Project

The decision to name a major project of your choice, selected from our priority list is yours. You may decide to perpetuate your own name, the name of family members past and present or someone who is near to you.

The Bequest and Endowment Fund of the United Jewish Appeal of Atlantic Canada

The Talmud Yerushalmi declares "they who occupy themselves with the needs of the community are as though they occupy themselves with Torah." As Jews, we are nurtured and strengthened by the "Kehilla" - the community.

The cost of programs and projects vary from under \$10,000 to over \$500,000. Capital sums would be held in perpetuity, in the

name of the donor's choice and the interest only applied toward the program chosen by the donor. Specific programs and projects will be highlighted in future issues of Shalom. Please contact the Director of the B&E Fund, Jon Goldberg, at the AJC for further information.

Each of the following projects/programs highlights an aspect of communal life vital to the future health of our community here and in Israel.

IN ATLANTIC CANADA:

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Senior Citizens Living Facility

Northwood and the Atlantic Jewish Council share a 25-year history of co-operation that became a more formal partnership this year, with an agreement to co-develop and deliver services to respond to the specific needs of the Jewish community. Knowing that the Jewish Council had conducted a study in 1993 to assess the needs of Jewish seniors, Northwood approached the Council with an offer to help them formulate solutions and actions plans. The groups got together for meetings and discussions, and identified several key areas. These include transportation services to assist Jewish seniors with everything from getting groceries and attending cultural events to visiting the doctor, and a Kosher Meals on Wheels/Wheels to Meals service. The working groups also identified the need to establish a centre for Jewish seniors that would provide them with a single entry point for access to nutrition and wellness counseling, homemaking, personal care and nursing services, as well as podiatry and other clinical services.

PROGRAMS:

Cemetery Preservation in Atlantic Canada

Jewish Family Services for Families in Need

Scholarships for Otzma Program

(One year work/study program in Israel followed by a minimum of one year of community service at home)

Scholarships for degree courses in Jewish communal service,

Jewish education or studies leading to a rabbinical degree

Services for Seniors

Jewish Theatre and Arts

Israel Experience Scholarships

Scholarships to Institutes of Higher Learning in Israel

Holocaust Education Fund

Camp Kadimah scholarships

Chaplaincy

Jewish Historical Museum

IN ISRAEL:

CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Israel Arts and Science Academy, Jerusalem: Science

Wing, Arts Wing, Humanities Wing; each wing as a whole or components in each wing

Holocaust Education Institute, Netanya; Pedagogical Centre

Three classrooms

Dormitories

Community Club, Kibbutz Sassa

Arts Centre, Bik'at Beit Shean

Day Care Centre, Yerucham

"Micha" Centre for hearing impaired children, Beersheva

Centre for Deprived Children

Youth Club, Moshav Ein Yahav

Senior Citizen's Day Care Centre, Upper Galilee

PROGRAMS:

Nativ Scholarships granted by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

A local aliya advisor in the former Soviet Union for one year

One year at an absorption centre

Netzer Olami Leadership Development, Zionist Education Program of the World Union of Progressive Judaism

Scholarship for post high school study for a student from Ethiopia

Selah year long pre-academic course for an immigrant high school graduate without parents in Israel

Allocation to Israel Centre for Guide Dogs for the Blind for consultation and care for the blind

Allocation for therapy for battered women

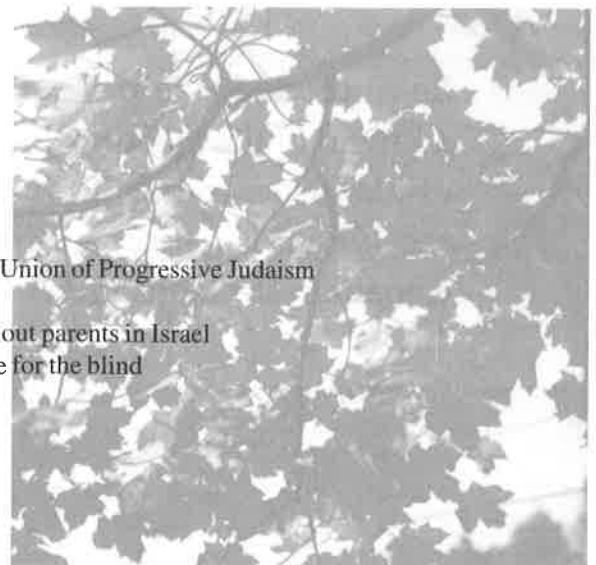
Retraining for immigrant women from Syria

Alsam Organization for the treatment of children of drug abusers

Halfway House for Girls in Distress

Keren Klitah organization for a program for immigrant youth in distress

Midreshet Yerushalayim for a program in Judaic studies for Russian immigrants



The above lists of programs and projects are a sampling of what is available. The Director of the Bequest and Endowment Fund of Atlantic Canada should be contacted for further information regarding a more detailed description of the program, cost, availability of matching funds, etc.

Your planned gift

The 1997 Federal Budget has afforded donors with an unprecedented opportunity to plan a giving strategy which optimizes both the use of charitable tax credits and the yield to the B&E Fund.

Future issues of *Shalom* will outline various giving strategies. A comprehensive brochure dealing with this subject has already been prepared and is available upon request from the office of the Atlantic Jewish Council.

A planned gift is a very individual matter - a thoughtful commitment to the future. The Bequest and Endowment Fund is eager to help you achieve your charitable objectives with a gift to the future well-being of our people.

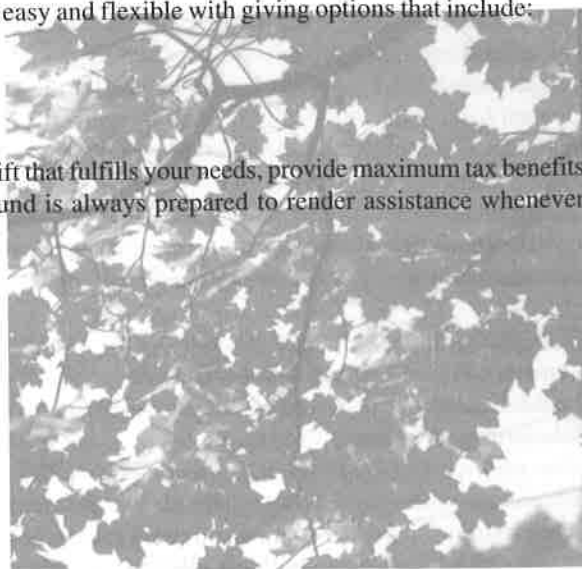
Participation in the B&E Fund of the United Jewish Appeal of Atlantic Canada is easy and flexible with giving options that include:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
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| * Securities | * Property |
| * Charitable life insurance | * In memoriums |

Your legal and financial advisor can guide you in choosing the best way to make a gift that fulfills your needs, provide maximum tax benefits and does the most good. The Professional Advisory Committee of the B&E Fund is always prepared to render assistance whenever needed.

For further information, please contact:

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Bequest & Endowment Fund
United Jewish Appeal of Atlantic Canada
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Halifax, NS B3J 2L2
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WE SHOULD BE ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THE ONGOING DRAMA OF EXILE AND REDEMPTION

by Rabbi Saul Aranov, Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax

From the days of the prophet Isaiah over 2700 years ago until our own days there has been an ongoing debate between those who perceive redemption to come quickly and others who expect it appear gradually. Redemption is one side of the eschatological coin, the other side being destruction and exile. During each summer season we commemorate the destruction of the first and second Jerusalem Temples and the city of Jerusalem over a three week period commencing on the seventeenth of Tammuz and ending on the ninth day of Av.

The Talmudic masters of 1800 years ago had the knack to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat. From the moment that the Romans destroyed the Second Temple in 70 CE they declared that the messianic expectation already began its impetus. They made their claim by virtue of the fact that if the prophecies of doom and destruction were realized so also must the prophecies of restoration and spiritual redemption be fulfilled.

While we like to make the instantaneous leap from destruction to redemption we ought to pause to consider what are the causes that lead to national disasters and even tragedies that individuals experienced. The literary prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel followed by Medieval authors of the Kinot — elegies, have related the national disasters of Israel to the moral shortcomings of the Jewish people; for idolatrous and unjust practices before the first Temple's destruction to the baseless enmity between fellow Jews before the destruction of the Second Temple. Maimonides summarizes these views in his "Code", Laws and Fasts, Chapter 5:1 "We commemorate past disasters by fasting to awaken our hearts to enable us to embark on the path of repentance by recalling that our wicked ways and those of our antecedents brought these disasters upon us and by recalling those sad events of the past we will turn to the proper path and we will confess

our transgression". Maimonides distinguishes between occasions and acts which will promote the repentance process such as by engaging in a period of National Mourning for past failures but not that those occasions are themselves days of Repentance.

Another halakhic distinction is drawn by Maimonides in his "Code", Laws of Prayer, 13:18, when we mourn a loss of innocence for past sins which we did not perpetrate, such as the sin of the Golden calf for which we read the Torah portion "Vayehchal" at morning and afternoon services of fast days. The reason that we commemorate these events is that apparently our own present behavior still falls short as the Temple still has not been rebuilt so that the sad days have not yet been transformed to days of Joy.

Maimonides differentiates between the commemorative occasions in which we were not originally personally involved and contemporary communal calamities such as occasions of drought, famine and pestilence (such as AIDS) when a different biblical reading (the portion on blessings and curses) is to be read as an act of repentance, as we desire to get to the root of our moral failings that bring on the more recent disasters. Whereupon we engage in prayers of supplication and other religious acts such as the dispensing of charity, etc., which could alter the calamitous course of events to a more favorable state of affairs.

Hence, we ought to be aware that the period of commemoration of national tragedy which culminates with Tisha B'av (when we also recite elegies for the victims of the Holocaust) should promote feelings of repentance in us well before the Elul season. May we merit to rejoice in the building of the Holy Temple by building vital institutions such as nursery schools, day schools and senior citizen facilities in our own community.

Today the divisiveness and dissension

that prevails among Jews is indicative that we still have not reached the point when ultimate redemption can transpire.

Other seminal events in Jewish history have left a deep impression on us such as the expulsion of the Jews from Spain on the ninth of Av in 1492 and their expulsion from Portugal in 1497. However, while some expected a speedy messianic expectation to follow there were some positive results that occurred as spin offs from those tragedies. Those who were expelled brought their spirit of achievement and vitality to other lands where they energized the local Jewish Communities that were otherwise in a state of lethargy. This scenario occurred when Spanish Jewish refugees settled throughout the Mediterranean Basin and eventually revived spiritual centers in the Holy Land that were in a dormant state for many years.

The workings of Divine Providence in history set the stage for a dawning of Jewish spiritual renaissance in Western lands, just as the sun of rich cultural achievement was setting in Eastern lands during the early middle ages. In our own times we have witnessed a rapid transformation as the light of life and learning was extinguished in European centers only to be given miraculous new expression on the shores of North America. More dramatically the Holocaust which transpired over a twelve year period from 1933-1945 saw a restoration begin with the establishment of the third Jewish commonwealth in Israel only 35 months later, in May of 1948. These events usher in a new impetus of spiritual searching and regeneration. Let us contribute positively to the ongoing redemptive process.

We must work at preparing for the redemptive era by creating spiritual institutions that will help to perpetuate Jewish living. We must also strengthen existing institutions.

Visit the Atlantic Jewish Council on the Internet!!

WWW3.ns.sympatico.ca/ajc.halifax/main.html

Joseph Simon - "An indomitable spirit who made the Impossible Possible"

Editor's note: Joseph Simon, 96, died peacefully at home on May 3rd 1997, "a man of dignity and commitment and a pillar of the Halifax Jewish community." The following is an excerpt from a eulogy delivered by Rabbi Aranov

Joseph Simon was born in Halifax to his sainted and revered parents, **Samuel and Rivka Simon**, originally of Dorbyan, Lithuania. His parents were imbued with the pioneering spirit of Aliyah Aleph, the first modern migration to the Holy Land in 1889. Today, we are preoccupied with Holocaust memories yet we should not forget the sacrifices and suffering that the first Cholutzim endured more than 100 years ago, when they went to colonize the Holy Land. Joseph Simon's parents had four children in the Holy Land where they succumbed to sickness. I believe that the flame of Zionist fervor that was kindled in the hearts of Joseph Simon's parents left an indelible impression on him throughout his life.

Orphaned of his mother by age 11, Joseph Simon was fashioned in the crucible of hard work. He was a self-made man who possessed an independent spirit. He was predeceased by his sister **Fannie Simon**.

Joseph Simon met "that new girl from Montreal," **Basha Bessie Harris**, when she was only 12 years old. In 1926 she became his wife. She predeceased him five years ago — they would have been married for 71 years. Their marital union brought them their only daughter, **Jean LeVine**, and two grandchildren, **Lennard LeVine** and **Sandra Della Vedova**, as well as five great-grandchildren.

Joseph Simon calls to mind his biblical namesake, Joseph. While he was an ardent Zionist and early supporter of the State of Israel, as he visited it for the first time in the early 1950's, his main field of activity was in the Diaspora in Halifax and in Bermuda. He was a traveler, and like the ancient mariner, he weathered all kinds of storms but he was the captain of the ship who always brought it to a safe haven.

He was a patriarchal figure long before he attained his seniority. He was a leader by virtue of his ability to get things done. He made the impossible, possible. The most difficult tasks were given to him. This was especially so in regard to Baron De Hirsch Congregation-Beth Israel Synagogue where he was the longest serving President from 1935-1946 which included the turbulent times of the Second World War.



Preliminary negotiations which began in 1921 to achieve a merger with the Webber-Proctor Street Congregation could only be brought to realization, fifteen years later, through Joseph Simon's efforts. Over the years successive synagogue presidents sought Joseph's sound counsel and common sense in synagogal affairs just as the Biblical Joseph's brothers turned to him to maintain family unity and providence. Again like the biblical Joseph, Joseph Simon was known for his sartorial splendor. He always wore white shirts and a red handkerchief in his jacket pocket. He was Dapper Dan the lover of his fellow man.

Joseph Simon was a prince of Philanthropy. When a new synagogue was to be built he wired the first contribution of \$5000 from Bermuda which got others to give substantial sums making the Oxford Street Synagogue a reality. The Mdrash poses the question how come for forty years only Joseph's coffin accompanied the Holy Ark of the Almighty during the wilderness trek? The answer that was given was the he who lies in that coffin fulfilled everything that was contained in G-d's Holy Ark. Joseph Simon was a major contributor to Yeshiva University which sought to unite Torah wisdom with the disciplines of science. He also contributed to many community based organizations in both the Jewish and general communities.

The Biblical Joseph is characterized as "Tsaddik Yesod Olam", the righteous man who was the foundation of the world. When an idea came to Joseph Simon even at 3 am, he would act on it immediately if not sooner. He was an avid reader and acted on what he

read. This was true not only in business matters but also when he engaged other people. He had a glimmer in his eye and smiled broadly expressing his appreciation for human association.

Today is the twelfth day of the Omer count. The Hebrew letters for number twelve spell "Be" which means the soul that the Lord placed in me was pure, a prayer that we recite upon arising every morning. Joseph Simon's soul came pure into this world and so he left in Purity. May his memory be a blessing.

Dateline Halifax...

Cont. from page 9.

4th at the Provincial Junior High Debating Championships in Antigonish, NS. Adam has earned a spot on the Nova Scotia Junior High Debating Team and will be representing this province at the National Junior High Debating Championship in Winnipeg. He has also recently won the Atlantic Junior Squash Open for under 14 years; - **Harry & Leona Freeman** and **Dr. Sid & Anetta Chernin**, on their 50th Wedding Anniversaries. Best wishes to both families; - **Lauren Rosen**, daughter of **Mark & Ethel Cooper**, **Amy Mendleson**, daughter of **Irwin & Joy**, and **Ava Tsinman**, daughter of **Boris & Laura** on their recent Bat Mitzvahs.

Congratulations to **Mark Rosen**, 1st Vice-President of Atlantic Jewish Council, who was recently been elected as Chairman of the Budget & Allocation Committee of the Council of Jewish Federations of Canada; **Dr. Barrie Ross**, who received the Senior Membership Award of the Canadian Medical Association for distinction in his medical career and for having made a significant contribution to the community and the profession.

Congratulations to **Rabbi Mendie & Bassie Feldman** on the recent birth of their son; to **Howard & Beth Ellenberger** on the birth of their daughter; to **Menashe & Nancy Cieplinski** on the birth of their first granddaughter by daughter **Adina**, proud great-grandparents **Peter & Sylvia Herschorn**; and to **Ruth & Ralph Garson** on the birth of twin grandchildren.

We regret the passing of community members: **Sophie Forman**, **Doris Stone**, **Joseph Simon** and **Claire Zwerling**.

Cont. from page 3.

high numbers - motion pictures and university faculties - the question arises as to what exactly is "Jewish" about their presence? The answer to that question, of course, brings us right back to having to define what Jewish is in America.

Some might argue that **Dicken's** famous opening lines in his *A Tale of Two Cities* best captures the Jewish experience in [North] America during these last years:

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us..."

This is a time when [North] American Jews have experienced a minimum of prejudice, when almost all domains of life have been opened to them, but it is also a time of extraordinary assimilation, of swelling rates of intermarriage and of large numbers of people simply ignoring their Jewishness completely. This is a time in [North] America when there is no shame in being a Jew and yet fewer American Jews seem to know what being a Jew means. This is a time when Jews have no trouble building synagogues, but they have all sorts of trouble filling them. This has been a time when the quality of Jewish education for those who receive it is perhaps higher than ever before in history, the output of Jewish scholarship, whether in the yeshivas or in university Jewish studies programs, is overwhelming in its scope and amplitude.

Never before in [North] America has so much Judaica been published. But it is also a time when most Jews receive the most minimal level of such education, a time when a majority of the people of the book do not read the great books of Jewish life, and even if they wanted to, most could neither read nor comprehend the great corpus of Jewish literature in its Hebrew (or Aramaic) original. Along with the many cultural islands populated by prodigious Jewish scholars there is a surrounding sea of those who are Jewish illiterates.

This is a time when [North] American Jews can and do marvel at the accomplishments of or worry about the Jewish state in Israel, but when less than half of them have ever visited it and practically none of them would even entertain the thought of living there. This is a time when Jewish wealth and power reaches into the corridors of [North] American power and influence, when Jewish money endows symphony orchestras, art museums and major universities, but the number of those who work for the Jewish community or give to Jewish causes shrinks daily. So while the stabbing of a Jewish high school student may lead on the 11 o'clock news, the real news - the headline that should really trouble those who care about Jewish safety - is that in [North] America most Jews do not know who or what they are and Jewish cultural integrity is under attack. And by whom? To quote Pogo: "We have seen the enemy, and it is us."

When we stop knowing what a Jew is, the character of the Judaism will become so watered down and washed out that it will barely be visible to even those few who look for it. While some may worry about a swastika here or there or an anomalous stabbing, we would better shift our energies toward strengthening the active core, those who have made commitments filled with Jewish content and who still have a clear sense of what it means to be a Jew.



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Holocaust survivor celebrates 50 years of living free

Reprint. Shari Hennessy Ferrer, The Miami Herald, March 20, 1997

Editor's Note: Herman & Anna Newman spent 45 years in Halifax. All who knew them miss their presence in our community.

At 15, he was little more than a skeleton. Burned with typhoid fever, starved and unable to walk, **Herman Newman** was barely alive when he was liberated from the Nazi concentration camp at Dachau on May 3, 1945. After two years in the camp, he was the only survivor in his family.

After spending another two years in an English hospital, Newman stepped off a ship onto a Halifax, Nova Scotia, dock to start a new life. Newman celebrated the 50-year anniversary of that moment with his wife **Anna**, and about 50 friends March 12 at Hillcrest Country Club in Hollywood. "I personally have very successfully survived. I love my fellow man. I am not afraid of the world," said Newman, 68, who spends winters in his Three Islands condo in Hallandale and his summers in Toronto. "I'm a happy person now."

That was Newman's message while the Czech born Jew has plenty to mourn - the loss of his entire family, his youth, his coun-

try - Newman chooses to celebrate. He chooses, he says, to live. "I love life so much, I love my freedom so much, there is not room for anything else," Newman said. "I am a free man and I have choices. It would be self-destructive to be angry. I have always sought peace and contentment. I am living a beautiful life full of contentment."

After arriving in Halifax in 1947, Newman went to night school and completed the 11th grade. He then went through various jobs as a janitor and clothing store clerk. Newman met his wife at a mutual friend's Sweet 16 party, and they were married within a year. Soon after, while in his mid-20s, Newman started his own residential development company, Fairfax Development, which he still owns today.

The Newmans have three grown sons and eight grandchildren. So the party at Hillcrest was decidedly festive, the Newmans said, with an emphasis on all they have shared with each other and their friends. One of those friends is **Charlotte Chaney**, who was a 23-year-old nurse on the medical team that helped liberate Dachau. Though they never met personally during the liberation,



Newman located Chaney after seeing her in a newspaper article three years ago.

Chaney and her husband, who live in Hillcrest, have become like family, the Newmans said. "It was renewal of life again,

not only for Herman but for me to see him there," Chaney said. She presented Newman with a framed replica of a Torah at the party, saying it represented the Jewish people whom Hitler was unable to destroy.

"To know what could have been with six million people..." she said, referring to those who did not survive the Holocaust. "Herman has accomplished so much. What six million people more could have accomplished with their brains... It should never be forgotten."

Newman never forgot. He lectures regularly at high schools and colleges in both Canada and South Florida about what he experienced while living under Nazi rule. "We are fortunate we are living today because most of those kids didn't make it," Newman said. "For them, we must remember."



My Caucus colleagues and I are always interested in hearing from you. Please let us know of any issues which are of concern to you and to your community. You can reach us by calling **1-800-363-1998** or **424-2731**, by faxing **424-7484**, through e-mail — **pccaucus@fox.nstn.ns.ca.**, or by using our TTY/TTD number — **424-8924**.



John Hamm
Leader of the Opposition

YAKOV'S CORNER

Cont. from page 4.

is the main way to combat ignorance and prejudice.

Finally, it is wonderful to help organize and participate in many community events across the region. Recently, I was happy to help organize Yom Hashoah in PEI and Halifax, Yom Ha'atzma'ut in Halifax and Moncton and the Jewish Community Picnic in Halifax, as well as leading services in Sydney and Glace Bay during Shavuot. All these events would not be possible without the many volunteers, too numerous to mention in an article that is way too long anyway. However, **THANK YOU EVERYONE, YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!!!** Finally, we cannot forget the one man who is involved with every successful event put on by the Atlantic Jewish Council in our region. A big Todah Rabbah to **Jon Goldberg** for all your support, advice and effort.

Wishing everyone a great Summer!!!

Life in Israel

By Joel Jacobson

Editors Note: Linda Epstein is the daughter of Pay and the late Leah Epstein and sister to Halifax alderman Howard Epstein and Ruth Epstein

Linda Epstein came home. But only for a quick visit, for her heart is in Israel, her work is in Israel and her life is in Israel.

"I did a lot of traveling before I attended (Osgoode Hall in Toronto) law school," says the Halifax native during a whirlwind trip through the Nova Scotia capital to visit her father, brother and a bevy of friends developed in her early years. "I was in Israel about four times, and on the fifth, (after law school and post-graduate work), I decided to make Aliyah. I stayed and I'm happier for it."

Today, Jerusalem-resident Linda Epstein is director of the Jewish Federation of Chicago in Israel. She hasn't used a lot of the legal education she amassed at Osgoode and at the Sorbonne where she earned a masters in international law. But she is working long hours ensuring visitors from the Chicago community, Jewish and non-Jewish, see and understand Israel and see how the money raised by the federation is invested in Israel.

"About \$1 million each year is directed to Kiryat Gat, (centre of a region about an hour's drive southwest of Jerusalem and

twinned with Chicago) for education, social, regional development and people-to-people programs. In six and a half years, the population of Kiryat Gat has increased from 27,000 to 50,000. We're sending people to Chicago for programs in leadership development. Chicago is sending teens and others to Israel to help run day camps and other programs. It has been a beneficial partnership for both sides."

She sees a passion in the country as well as an emotional and intellectual challenge. "In my new position (she simultaneously worked for 10 years as an English language broadcaster for Kol Yisroel and with the Council of Jewish Federations of North America in Israel), I've learned a lot. I'm amazed at the dedication people on both sides of the ocean have helping the less fortunate in creative ways."

She has never been concerned for personal safety. "Statistically, it's more dangerous to live in North America than in Israel. It's more dangerous to drive on the highways than to worry about political violence. I'm more concerned for the region as a whole because there was a time when the dispute about land was mainly political. Now it has religious overtones. It is much more difficult when people are asked to compromise their basic philosophies."

Yet she sees room for solving the problems. "The underpinning is political and leaves room for resolution. When the Oslo discussions, between 1993 and 1996, were alive and well, they taught people peace was possible. Now that they've been shown that, they won't let it go away that easily. I really believe the majority on both sides want to see a resolution."

Before seeking aliyah, Epstein applied to the Canadian Foreign Service and was 31st on the short list of 3,500 applicants. "The budget allowed for 30 to be hired," she laughs. "I thought learning French in Paris (at the Sorbonne) would move me up on the list for the next time but there never was a next time."

In 1993, after working 10 years in Israel, the inquisitive and industrious Epstein quit her jobs, sold her car, rented her apartment and backpacked for a year in the Far East. "It was the most intelligent thing I ever did in my life. It's easy to get caught in daily demands and it's best to take time to get perspective again. You become narrow because you must make choices in limited perspective on



Linda Epstein in Jerusalem

a constant basis. It's necessary to pull back."

She met younger people, and talked about world issues that concerned them. "I wanted to know what motivates them because they'll be the leaders when I'm old. I found they were concerned about the environment but had much less knowledge of geo-politics and less sense of history."

Today, Linda Epstein also sits on the Israel resident committee of the United Israel Appeal, made up of former Canadians. The committee checks out projects where Canadian funds have gone. "We assist and guide the decision

makers in Canada," she says.

On her recent trip "home", Epstein spent time in Chicago in federation meetings, visited friends in Toronto and Ottawa and then hit Halifax for some R and R. But by the end of the three-week sojourn, she was ready to return to Israel and her adopted home.



On behalf of Halifax Regional Council and our citizens, I welcome this opportunity to extend best wishes to members of our Jewish Community.

Shalom.

*Walter R. Fitzgerald
Mayor
Halifax Regional Municipality*

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