

Shalom!

Fall 2001 Vol. 26, No. 3

Stav 5762

שלום!

L'Shanah Tovah



***"Featuring a wonderful weekend
at the Glace Bay, Kuma-Haym"***

*"As the fruit grows ripe on the tree,
we understand what is meant by the sweetness of life."*

שלום

President's Message

By Dr. Sheva Medjuck



President: Dr. Sheva Medjuck

The Atlantic Jewish Council

Quarterly

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Wasn't it just yesterday that we were all welcoming the tulips in our gardens? How could the summer have disappeared so fast?

It was a very full and exciting summer at the Atlantic Jewish Council. It began with a bang in May when I attended the Canadian Jewish Congress Plenary, one of the best Plenaries that I have attended. It was a chance for us in the Atlantic region to reconnect with Jews from across Canada. The presentations and discussions in the various sessions were reinvigorating. The Atlantic region was well represented with 21 delegates. In June, I attended the Summer Board meetings of United Israel Appeal. Of particular significance for this region was the creation of a committee (under UIA's umbrella) to look at the needs and situation of small communities. Victor Goldberg has generously agreed to chair this committee.

Also in June, the AJC had a very successful Halifax community picnic at the Lieutenant-Governor's gardens. We are very grateful to their Honours, Lieutenant-Governor **Myra Freeman** and **Lawrence Freeman** for providing us with such a beautiful venue and for being so gracious to the AJC. In July, a special reception was held to honour Jack Prince for his dedication and commitment to the Atlantic Jewish Foundation. Jack has worked tirelessly, and with his characteristic kindness and warmth, to create a strong basis for the Foundation Fund. We are very indebted to him for all his work. We were feted by **Jim, Marcie** and **Avrum Spatz** who opened up their lovely home for this event.

The event of the summer clearly

had to be the Kuma Haym, held in August in Glace Bay. My congratulations go out to the organizing committee who did a superb job and who worked extraordinarily hard to make the Kuma Haym a tremendous success. On behalf of all the former Glace Bayers (and the "wanna be" ones as well), thank-you so very much Glace Bay for a wonderful time.

Currently, the Atlantic Jewish Council is involved with Mr. **Bill Casey**, Member of Parliament from Nova Scotia (Cumberland County), for a Halifax Peace Forum to be held in Halifax in October with 6 representatives from the Palestinian Authority and 6 from the Knesset. Of course, given the current situation in the Middle -East it is unclear on whether this will proceed. Mr. Casey is very optimistic that it will occur as scheduled.

Halifax is hosting the Canadian Jewish Congress meeting on September 9 (I am writing this on September 7). Typically CJC meetings move from Toronto to Montreal to Toronto, etc. It speaks very well to the place we have at the national level that they have chosen to meet in Halifax. The weather promises to be wonderful (26 Celsius), so hopefully, they will enjoy our wonderful city. Right after Rosh Hashanah, the Atlantic Jewish Council Executive will be meeting for its fall meetings.

My sister **Shulamith** and I would like to take this opportunity of wishing the entire community a very happy and healthy New Year. I particularly want to wish our brothers and sisters in Israel a Shana Tova. May the year 5762 bring a lasting peace to Israel.



From the Desk of Executive Director, Jon Goldberg My Summer of "5761"!

Here it is just a few days before Rosh Hashanah – a New Year – and fall is just around the corner.

I thought I might inform our readers of some of my activities over the summer months that brought into perspective my work here as Executive Director.

While in the north of Israel in July I had first hand experience at seeing how the Israelis are living with the threat of terror everyday. Someone had told me about a Shiva being held for a young soldier who was killed by a terrorist sniper just a few days before. He was 19 years old. I have never made such a visit. It was very difficult to meet the parents and family and express condolences. They were observing the Sephardic tradition of Shiva by literally being on the floor and I had to get down on my hands and knees to greet them, which was something I had never experienced before. Being there with the family I saw the result of 'terror' first hand.

Everyday I read in the paper stories about Israelis being murdered and just the day before, as I left Jerusalem, my cab driver had told me the news that a bomb had exploded in Haifa. The mood everywhere was very tense and tinged with despair. No one sees a way out and yet, because there is no choice, life goes on. I share this with you not to depress you but to encourage every one of you to continue your efforts in support of Israel. One way can be by giving to your UJA 2001 ISRAELNOW AND FOREVER Plus Giving campaign.

Yet my trip to Israel also let me spend a few days with our Kadimah-Israel program – eighteen 17 year olds who were

having a terrific time and whose visit meant so much to the Israeli people. That was a "high".

On my return to Canada early in August I was a guest at the Kuma Haym in Glace Bay. What a wonderful weekend! Hundreds of people with smiles on their faces, many probably returning home for the last time and all so proud of the contribution they and their community had made to Jewish life of Atlantic Canada and throughout North America.

As we begin a New Year at the AJC – my 10th. It's hard to believe a decade has gone by. I look back with a certain sense of accomplishment and I look ahead full of energy and vigor ready to confront the problems of Jewish life both here in Atlantic Canada and in Israel. We have done a lot but there is much more to do. It is my hope that 5762 will be bigger and better both qualitatively and quantitatively for the AJC. Our office here in Halifax is very fortunate to have such a thorough staff led by Marie Herschorn whose loyalty and personality have allowed me to at least begin to attend to the myriad of problems that crop up day to day. I know that many of you sometimes wonder exactly what goes on here at the AJC office. I can honestly say that we don't shy away from any problem or request. We certainly don't solve everything and sometimes we don't get it right but we never say "no". That is my philosophy and it puts a great strain on our staff whose support I most appreciate.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families a happy and healthy New Year. May 5762 be a year of peace for Israel and for all the Jewish people.

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From the Programmer's Desk

By Lysa Magder

As the days of summer are coming to a close in Atlantic Canada, I am beginning to think towards the new Jewish year, 5762. As is true this time every year, I find myself

spending time reflecting on last year and contemplating the possibilities of the year to come. Looking ahead, I am very excited about the programming for the upcoming year. This year, we have a vibrant and dynamic steering committee for the Jewish Students' Federation that bring with them many new and fresh programming ideas. I am eager to begin working closely with them to make this year a huge success.

Part of my reflection over the last year has, of course, included contemplation and concern over the perilous situation in Israel. As I am sure is true for many of you, I have been greatly affected by this crisis on many different levels. I suppose that the greatest effect was how the crisis forced me to get clear about my values, my values as a Jew, my values surrounding Israel and my values around Jewish community. All in all, I have further realized over the course of the year the importance of community work and the need to foster, nurture and sustain Jewish community here and to advocate and stand in solidarity with Israel as the homeland for the global Jewish

community. This said, I would like to thank all of the volunteers over this past year who took the time and put forth the energy to foster and facilitate all of the programs across the four provinces of Atlantic Canada. In all honesty, these volunteers are the lifeblood of our community and it is the contribution of their precious time and energy that sustains us as a whole. I would also like to thank **Jon Goldberg** whose encouragement and support is fundamental to the fruition of these initiatives.

Furthermore to the importance of advocacy and solidarity with Israel, many communities across North America are planning "ISRAELNOW AND FOREVER" solidarity programs on Sunday, September 23rd, 2001. In Halifax, we will be holding a wonderful program at the Beth Israel Synagogue beginning at 7:45 p.m. which will include a cantorial program with Cantor **Udi Speilman** and a presentation by Executive Vice President of the Canada Israel Committee, **Rob Ritter**. All communities across the region are asked to attend so please hold the date and join us in this initiative.

Wishing everyone across the region a happy, healthy, sweet New Year in 5762. *L'Shana tova tikatevun, vetechatemun!* May we see peace in Israel this year!

Prime Minister

August 5, 2001

Dear Friends,

These are difficult days for Israel. Our defense and security expenses are escalating and our economy is severely challenged by the present situation.

Government Ministries, except for those involved in matters relating to national security, are facing serious budgetary restrictions as a consequence of our necessity to earmark emergency funds for defense purposes. These spending constraints may unfortunately affect many social services and programs.

As a result, the Government of Israel has issued an urgent appeal for Jewish Federations across North America, including the UJA/CJA Federations of Canada, to reduce the impact of these spending cuts through enhanced annual campaigns. By contributing to the UJC/CJA campaigns, you will be supporting Israel in a time of crisis.

The Jewish community of Canada is respected around the world for its devotion to Israel and its sense of responsibility for all Jews in need. We, in Israel, recognize this remarkable characteristic of your community. We know that we can count on you to help us meet our current challenges.

The Jewish people are resilient and determined. With your help, we will emerge from these difficult times stronger than ever before.

Thanks you for your solidarity.
Shana Tova to you and your loved ones.

Ariel Sharon

Sincerely,
Ariel Sharon

New Year's Message from Israel President Katsav

Dear Friends,

In the Jewish tradition the high holy days are also a time for national soul searching. The past year was a year of challenge to the Jewish people. It was a year in which we hourly had to prove our national strength, our unity and our bond to our country – our homeland. Terrorism afflicted us indiscriminately and aimed at defeating Israel for political benefits. The terrorism experienced during the past year has been the most difficult and cruel ever encountered and it brought back forgotten images.

Despite the difficulties, Israel has not ceased aiming for peace and fulfilling its obligation to defend its citizens.

The people of Israel derive encouragement from the solidarity missions arriving from the Diaspora. The solidarity rallies with Israel taking place throughout the world symbolize the special attachment of the Jewish people with our homeland. Your continued efforts are important and unify us.

Dear friends, despite the difficulties and concerns, we must remember the historical achievements of the people of

Israel: The eight-fold increase of the Jewish population in Israel from 600,000 to five million, including the immigration and absorption of the Holocaust survivors from Europe, the Jews from Islamic countries, from the Former Soviet Union and Ethiopia; the revival of the Hebrew language; technological achievements; a modern democratic country; building an Israeli society and culture common to Jews who have come here from 102 countries and speak 82 languages.

Especially at this time, we are duty-bound to increase the attachment to the State of Israel and to deepen the Jewish education and Zionist heritage amongst us. I call on the Jewish communities in the world to visit Israel and to place the issue of Aliyah on their agenda. We are one people, we have one heritage and one destiny.

On the eve of the New Year, I convey to you and to your families my best wishes for a happy New Year, a year of ingathering of the exiles, a year of peace and security. We all hope and pray for better days for the Jewish people.

Shana Tova!

New Year's Message from Keith Landy, National President of Canadian Jewish Congress

At this time of spiritual renewal, all of us have the chance to reflect on the year that has gone by and to renew our commitment to a better future. This year, it is especially important for us to replenish our resources from the wellsprings of our tradition and our faith.

We have lived through a momentous and difficult year for the Jewish people. Whatever our individual and communal achievements, we have all become aware of the increasing hostility to Jews in many countries around the world and the threat to Israel's existence.

In Durban South Africa, at the International Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations prior to the UN's so-called World Conference Against Racism, I was exposed first hand to the virulent hatred Israelis and Jews in other countries must face on a daily basis.

The courage and resilience of ordinary Israelis who

must deal with the constant threat of violence are an inspiration to all of us in our ongoing struggle against the scourge of antisemitism and anti-Zionism, even here in Canada. They must have, they deserve, our unstinting support.

We are called upon to work together, as a united people with, courage and determination. In answer to the attempt to deny our rights and our existence in Israel, we respond not with "Next year in Jerusalem" but "This year." To those who seek to weaken our resolve, we answer that "Hashem will give strength to his people and [in this way] Hashem will bless his people with peace." Let us work for the unity and unwavering commitment of the Jewish people to survive and to prevail. May the New Year bring each of us health and peace to Israel and all the nations. "*Chazzak, Chazzak venitchazzek b'od amen.*"

Temple Sons of Israel, Sydney News

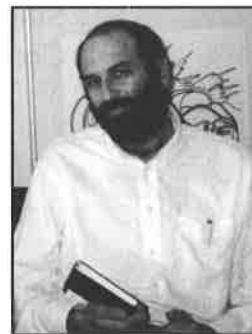
By Evelyn Davis

On August 18th Temple Sons of Israel in Sydney enjoyed a happy reunion, the visit from Rabbi Chaim Weiner, the Masorti Rabbi of the New London Synagogue in London, England. He was accompanied by his wife, Judy and 4 sons.

A native of Sydney, Chaim made Aliyah with his family in 1971. He is the youngest son of Norman and Shirley Moraff Weiner and grandson of Sarah and the late Morris Weiner of Halifax.

Chaim and his sons participated in the services and added greatly to the enjoyment of the Shabbat.

The well attended Kiddush following services was hosted by his aunt and uncle, Evelyn and Harold Davis.



Rabbi Chaim Weiner

CONSULAT GÉNÉRAL D'ISRAËL



CONSULATE GENERAL OF ISRAEL

קונסוליה כללית של ישראל

**MESSAGE FROM THE CONSUL GENERAL OF ISRAEL IN
MONTREAL, MR. SHLOMO AVITAL, ON THE OCCASION OF
ATLANTIC CANADA'S NEW YEAR'S EDITION OF SHALOM
MAGAZINE**

To the Atlantic Jewish Council, leadership and members of the Jewish communities of Atlantic Canada:

On the occasion of the Great Jewish Holidays, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, it's with immense pleasure and honour that I extend my traditional best wishes to each one of you that the year 5762 will be a year which will bring prosperity, good health and peace.

In the light of the escalation of violence against the citizens of Israel in the last eleven months, Jewish solidarity between the people of Israel and the Jewish communities of the Diaspora has become a top priority; for this solidarity is the best assurance that the State of Israel will be strong enough to uphold any attempt of aggression against its citizens.

I wish from the bottom of my heart that through joint efforts we will achieve that goal and the bonds between the State of Israel and the communities of the Diaspora will get stronger and stronger for the well being and survival of the Jewish Nation.

Shana Tova,

Shlomo Avital
Consul General



*Mr. Shlomo Avital,
Consul General of Israel*

Articles from Rabbi David Ellis, AJC Chaplain



Mr. Abe Goldberg

ZICHRONO LIVRACHA – MR. ABE GOLDBERG

Within just the last few days, the Saint John community has lost one of its finest members, Mr. Abe Goldberg.

Abe is one of the last of those old world, Yiddishe figures we will see. Seventy years living in Saint John was not enough to

eradicate his old world roots and accent.

Until this past year, he was always a faithful member of the minyan, often leading the services. He would always bring his East European charm to observations about Jewish holidays. He once noted to me that no one would ever think much about eating eggs with salt water. But when we do so during the Pesach seder, understanding all of its symbolism, suddenly the eggs and the salt water become illuminating events, our way of eating our history.

A couple of years ago, Abe's family and the Saint John community celebrated his birthday. It was one in his nineties, but no one was quite sure precisely which one. Apparently, he had come to Canada on his brother's passport and never had precise records of his birth.

Mr. Abe Goldberg is survived by his son, Dr. Ben Goldberg of London, Ontario and daughter, Candice of Saint John, and his wife Ruth of Saint John.

THE KUMA HAYM

The Kuma Haym gathering in Glace Bay earlier this month is undoubtedly being written up by others in this issue, so I will not try to duplicate their words, other than to note the incredible success that it was. You would have thought that with such an undertaking, of accommodating hundreds of people over the weekend, there would have been some chinks in the planning.

But there were none. Everything worked, down to the finest detail. All put on by local involvement and talent, with a bit of outside help on the food from Janet Casey. It was an inspiring event that everyone involved is still talking about.

Along with all the others whose contributions I believe others will acknowledge, I would give a special tribute to Mr. Sidney Lipkus. From the beginning of the planning to its successful conclusion, Sidney was involved all the way, doing things that others might not do. For we Jews, as we have become prosperous, sometimes look down upon physical labour and would just as soon hire others do it. This is not at all in line with the Jewish tradition, which prizes the value of work.

This was not done during the Glace Bay Kuma Haym. Just within my sight during the time I was there, I saw Sidney driving around Glace Bay in his pickup delivering chairs, picking up food, ordering this or that piece of equipment and having it there on time. I am sure there were dozens of other tasks he was involved in which I did not see. Yet it was all done quietly, behind the scenes. So I hope you will not mind my giving you a special *yasher coach*, Sidney. You fulfilled the dictum of our Sages that one should *daber m'at v'oseh harbeh*, say little and do much. Maybe we rabbis should take a cue?!

FROM SEA TO SEA

On the one hand, we all know that our region is not a growing one, Jewishly speaking. We have lost many over the years, to passing away and to emigration. One would think I would gradually have less and less to do in my job.

And yet I seem to be constantly and increasingly involved with new events. Just within the last two days, I have had contacts with Jews from St. Stephen NB to Glace Bay, from Mill Village NS to PEI and the Miramichi. Numerous visitors from the States seem to be finding out about our region and passing the word on to others.



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Happy New Year to All!

A New Year's Message

A Time For Jewish Historical Affirmation To Confront Rejection And Terrorism

By Rabbi Saul I. Aranov, Beth Israel Synagogue

Locally, in Nova Scotia, the Jewish community of Glace Bay celebrated its centenary of Jewish Religious and social service. Their historical achievement is a testimony to what a small Jewish community can achieve. Their persistence should serve as a model for other larger communities to be steadfast in maintaining their Jewish institutions and practices such as daily minyan attendance and a continued commitment to Jewish education and services to seniors.

One of the issues that affected the Halifax Jewish community this year was the recital of public prayer at the legislative level of Provincial government. This issue has confronted communities across Canada. The position taken by Canadian Jewish Congress has been that in the spirit of a multicultural society denominational prayers should not be recited. Even a Jewish community the size of Halifax should stand on principle and should not be defensive in this matter. The struggle of the Jewish community of Ontario for subsidized Jewish education from their Provincial government has begun to bear fruit due to their persistence.

On the international scene this has not been a good year for the Jewish people yet it always seems that we require crisis situations to draw Jews closer together. The second Palestinian intifada fueled animosity from the Arab bloc of nations, which always becomes evident in the United Nations and its organizational bodies. The threat of equating Zionism with Racism has again raised its ugly head. It is hoped that the U.S. and Canada will be successful to have such a false charge removed before a conference on Racism, which will be held at Durban Natal, South Africa. I served as the Chief Minister of the Jewish faith in Natal for four years and I can attest that Durban in particular has been an aggressive propagation centre of Islam against Israel on the South African Continent for many years.

The Nations of Europe have generally favored the Palestinian cause against Israel because of their oil needs and the ever increasing number of Muslims who populate European countries. Those same nations have failed the Jewish people when they were on the brink of destruction. How then can Jews and Israel expect even handedness from the European Union. Israeli leaders correctly emphasize that what is at issue is the threat of international terrorism activity which afflicts the underbelly of Europe and Russia. Bin Laden, the international terrorist, has a hand in all terrorist activities by using Islamic Fundamentalists from a variety of terrorist organizations, which have even infiltrated Canada.

This generation has a disdain for history, yet the Jewish people are a millennial historical phenomenon. Fifty-four years ago the UN voted for the partition of Palestine. Two modern states could have evolved one Israeli and the other

Palestinian. However the Arab nations chose to destroy Israel at its birth while they sought to conquer the area to be added to their own domain. The Jordanians are a case in point. If they believed that a Palestine State should have emerged how then could Jordan justify their occupation of the West Bank for nineteen years while the world remained silent. Only with the success of Israel in the 1967 six day war did the world suddenly wake up to the idea of a Palestinian political entity. When the Jordanians perceived the Palestinians to be a threat to the Hashemite kingdom they crushed the Palestinian terrorists uprising. Israel, however, is expected to live on a higher level of morality.

When all the nations in biblical times rejected G-d's Torah which was offered to them it was only the Israelites who were prepared to make the commitment to covenant themselves to G-d's Torah. A consequence of this contract was that Israel would be established in a Promised Land.

"Your destroyers and they that made you waste shall go forth from you" (Isaiah 49:17)

In their passion for peace with the Palestinians during the aborted negotiations secular academicians and a number of Jurists led by Shimon Peres sought to create a new mood in the Middle East by pushing for a regional economic force that would march in tandem with economic globalization. They intended to recast Israel from being a Jewish state to a secular democratic state by redesigning the whole educational system of Israel. They sought to erase early achievements of the Zionist leaders by becoming hypercritical of Israel while expressing their perceived guilt for the way Palestinians suffered. The Palestinians meanwhile were disseminating hate of Jews in their school system.

One of the unseen miracles of the Jewish state was the Palestinian rejection of peace and their virulent hate campaign against Israel. The Barak government which intended to de-Judaize Israel was cast out just in time by the majority of the Israeli populace and a new government prevented de-Judaization of Israel from becoming a reality. The present Minister of Education Ms. **Limor Livnat** is strengthening democratic and traditional Jewish values in the school curricula of Israel.

On the occasion of this Jewish New Year 5762 which will bring this spiritual Sabbatical year to a close we have to engage in introspection to strengthen our commitment to our Jewish heritage by pledging to raise our standards in religious studies and practices. We ought not lower our guard by being gullible to the evil designs of our enemies. We must memorialize the martyrs of our people and pray that through our vigilance peace will someday prevail. A Happy New Year to all our Maritimers and their families.

Honouring JACK PRINCE, Q.C.

JULY 25, 2001

By Victor Goldberg

About 3 years ago the Atlantic Jewish Council was attempting to deal with our demographic reality. Many of our strong, committed and generous donors were aging with no real possibilities that when they passed on their gifts would be perpetuated. Our populations were not being replenished and it was becoming more and more difficult to operate solely on funds from our Annual Campaign. Our plight was not abnormal as more and more communities were contemplating and establishing bequest and endowment funds. Witness the creation of the Atlantic Jewish Foundation, a fund designed to allow donors an opportunity to recognize their local community through endowments that will be of benefit for years to come. Of course, such an endeavor requires a special person at its helm – someone who combines commitment, love of community, generosity and above all integrity. When we were contemplating potential chairs, one person's name consistently emerged, that of **Jack Prince**.

Having grown up in Halifax, I have known Jack and **Barbara** (and their kids) all of my life. In fact, Jack was the President of the Shaar Shalom when I was Bar Matzvhed. His family and mine have enjoyed a special relationship, and I always knew of Jack as one of the Chevra, one of the people that along with the late **Max Forman**, my father and a number of others were community leaders who epitomized the best of Halifax. I knew that Jack had worked with UJA, State of Israel Bonds, JNF, Weizmann Institute, Canadian Technion Society, Histadut, the Synagogues, and you name it, and of course he and Barbara had often times hosted receptions in their kosher home on behalf of Jewish causes. Until I became involved with Jewish communal life, I did not appreciate the unique nature of all of Jack's contributions and endeavors.

Jack combines generosity of spirit with, what I would call, smart philanthropy. He gives with his heart but uses his head. Look at some of his

past projects. He was the Founding Chairman of Beth Israel Endowment Fund, and during his 20 years at the helm raised well over half a million dollars. On his own, he raised \$150,000 for the Beth Israel Synagogue's Stained Glass Windows Project, and he and Barbara established scholarships at the Hebrew University and the Bar Ilan University not to mention bursaries at the Dalhousie Law School. You have already heard about Jack's involvement in Camp and UIA and, in fact, I believe that Jack was not only one of the founding members of the Atlantic Jewish Council but its Founding Chairman. While Jack would work for any worthy cause, he would always ensure that the funds were well utilized. Fast forward to the Atlantic Jewish Foundation, which Jack graciously agreed to chair.

Under his leadership we were able to leverage a residual bequest from the **Rebecca Cohn** Estate to a foundation which now boast assets of well over half a million with gifts in progress that should double that number in the near future. But that is only half the story, because while the Atlantic Jewish Foundation is the fund that holds the money we keep in our community, Jack's chairmanship involved canvassing potential donations for Israel and the greater Jewish community as well. In that regard, almost \$750,000 has been raised for Israel under Jack's chairmanship. In fact, largely due to Jack's hard work, he recently funneled well over \$400,000 to be used to help the children of Israel.

You could well imagine how trepidatious I was when Jack indicated some months ago that he felt that it was time for the next generation to take over and, unfortunately, although we tried to dissuade him from giving up his position, he stood firm but did agree to stay on as Honourary Chair.

While Jack is stepping back, he is not retreating where it really counts and is well aware of the difficulties facing Jews in Atlantic Canada today. For the

continued on page 10

A proud Barbara Prince looks on with friend, Carol Ann Silverman. ➡



Victor Goldberg presenting gift to Jack Prince, on behalf of the Atlantic Jewish Foundation. ➡

➡ Andrew Wolfson presenting Jack Prince, with a plaque on behalf of "Kadimah Fundraising."



Kadimah Israel 2001

By Amy Mendleson & AJ LeVine

During the summer of 2001, 18 teenagers and 2 staff from Halifax, Hamilton, St. Catharines, Toronto, Ottawa and Connecticut spent 5 weeks travelling and experiencing the land of Israel. The first day we got there, we took a tour of the Old City in Jerusalem, which is where we saw the Western Wall, walked through the Western Wall Tunnels, visited neighborhoods and took a general look at how Jews today are living in Jerusalem.

Everyday was packed with activities to do. Some consisted of bike rides, hikes through mountains, rappelling, zip-lining, swimming, sightseeing and so much more. We visited some parks such as Bet Guvrin-Maresha National Park, which is where we were archaeologists for a day. We dug up ancient pottery from 2500 years ago. Another park we visited was the Caesarea National Park where we saw Ancient Roman ruins, and learned about King Herod's time.

Last summer we were lucky to have 4 Israelis come to camp. This summer, we returned the favour by spending a weekend with their families and they spent a few days with us on our tour bus. During this weekend we experienced what it was like to live on their Kibbutz or Moshav. We learned what it is like to live as an Israeli teenager in Israel today.

Part of being an Israeli teenager is knowing that at the age of 18 you have to go to the army. For 5 days of our trip, we experienced what they will have to go through when we enrolled in Gadna. When we got there, we were given uniforms that we wore for the whole 5 days. Our day consisted of waking up at 5:30 a.m., morning pushups and sit-ups, field training, and journeys. At night we were given one free hour and bedtime was at 11:30 PM. Finally, what we were all looking forward to the most was being able to shoot a M16 at a shooting range. The Gadna experience wasn't the best one of the trip but we think everyone would agree that it was definitely the most memorable.



Andrew LeVine and Amy Mendleson of Halifax at Gadna, Israel, 2001.

For the last weekend we had in Israel, we went down to the most southern city of Israel, Eilat. In Eilat we snorkeled, spent time on the hot beach, went swimming and shopped on the boardwalk. We went on a jeep ride where, from one of the stops we made, we were able to see Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel.

When the trip was over, we were all very sad to leave but we had an amazing summer, full of memories and new experiences. This trip made us more aware of who we are as Jews and it changed every individual person in his or her own way. Hopefully in the future, we will be able to go back to Israel, either by ourselves, with a group or just with some friends. It is a good experience and it should be something every Jew experiences sometime in their life.

JACK PRINCE *continued from page 9*

past 4 years, we have had a Chaplain, **Rabbi Ellis** who spends half his time traveling to smaller communities to help those people that no longer have Rabbis to keep some Jewishness. Unfortunately, this program has been in jeopardy because of a funding cut. Jack, knowing our predicament, has generously donated over \$24,000 to the Atlantic Jewish Foundation to be used for chaplaincy. This will probably ensure that the position is retained for at least 1 or 2 years. Again, an example of judicious giving from a generous heart.

Jack, we know that you and Barbara are a team and that Barbara has been with you every step of the way. We know that your 2 children, **Seymour** and **Dana**, who work diligently for their communities and the State of Israel, are also generous like their parents. In fact, they are the true dividends of your conviction but it is unfortunate that, as with most of our kids,

they are establishing their lives in larger communities. I know that Seymour would have wished to be here but we are pleased that Dana came to celebrate this special occasion with us.

Jack, on behalf of the Atlantic Jewish Foundation, I would like to present you with a gift as a token of our appreciation for all of the work that you have done for so many years, and all of the wise counsel that you have given us. You are unique in that most people of your generation step back and say they have done it. You have never taken that attitude and have been a real inspiration for people like me who attempt to do one small bit of what you have done for so many causes and for so many years.

Jack, may you and your family go from strength to strength, and may our relationship and your involvement with this community continue in the years to come.

Washington Trip

From May 20th until May 24th groups of Jewish youth from different cities across Canada, with generous funding from The Asper Foundation, gathered in Washington D.C. to learn more about the Holocaust.



Trip to Washington, May 2001 – Atlantic Region Group

When we all met one night to discuss this trip, we had no idea of what it was all about. Dr. **Ether Cooper-Rosen** told us about a trip that small cities across Canada were participating in. All kinds of kids from grades 8, 9 and 10 were going to learn about the Holocaust and get a chance to visit the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. Of course, to go on this trip we had some things we had to do before going. We met for classes on Sunday nights for two hours and we had to complete five hours of community service. It was nice to see all of my friends once a week at these classes. **Aviva (Rubin) Schneider** taught the classes and, by the end, we had learned a lot about the Holocaust. We all soon became very excited about the trip.

On May 20th, eighteen students and three chaperones flew via Montreal to Washington D.C. and hopped on a tour bus. We visited a few places including the Arlington Cemetery and then arrived at our hotel. Some of us stayed with people that we didn't know from other cities and, everywhere we went in the hotel we saw a lot of other kids our age who were constantly introducing themselves. With approximately 300 kids staying in one hotel, it wasn't hard to bump into others on the way down to the lobby! We all ate dinner together and some of us saw friends from Camp Kadimah who had come from other cities. New friendships were created immediately and our group became closer, getting to know each other better. There was an incredible sense of belonging to this group of strangers which we could all feel. Everyone became friends quickly and we had fun exchanging stories.

The next few days were filled with many trips to different monuments, the White House and many museums, including the Holocaust Museum. This museum had so many

amazing parts. First we went to one exhibit which took us for a walk through "Daniel's Story", a book we had all read for our class. It was put together very well and it felt like we were actually walking through the book. Next we went to the permanent exhibit. Every floor was a different part/time of the Holocaust. They gave everyone a small book that told the story of a real person's life and, at each floor, we would read a new page. The museum was put together so that you would feel how they wanted you to feel. For example, they purposely stuffed a lot of people into one elevator so that we would feel crowded and anxious to get out. Then, we walked through a hallway with a lot of information on either side but we couldn't get to it all because of all the people so it effected our emotions. We felt frustrated, annoyed, and crowded. All of the feelings that we felt throughout the museum were powerful. The classes which we had had with Aviva gave us a better understanding and deeper knowledge, helping us understand some of the exhibits better. I found that at the end, when we watched a movie of survivors speak of their experiences, it was very meaningful after having been through the whole museum. We all found this a very moving part of the trip.

We also had the opportunity to go to some kosher restaurants and, of course, do some shopping too. The nights with all of our friends in the hotel were fun. When it was time to leave we were sad that we had to go and it felt like we had been together for so much longer than just four days. I think this was a great trip and a wonderful experience. I had an amazing time and I loved it. It was definitely unforgettable.

Shira Tsinman

Visiting Day – Camp Kadimah

A Fond Farewell

By Shalom Staff Reporter

On July 22, The Board of Directors of the AJC and the Camp Committee of Camp Kadimah officially bid farewell to 20 year Director, **Sheldon Cohen**.

Sheldon was presented with a plaque which will hang forever in the office denoting his two decades of service. Longtime Cohen Assistant, **Michael Soberman** was there to make the presentation and **Belarie Zatzman** presented **Freda Cohen** with a lovely bouquet of flowers.

Most importantly, the AJC honoured **Andrew Wolfson** and **Mark Rosen**, Co-Chairs of the Committee who retired from their positions effective September 1. Plans for a new sports field were unveiled to be called the "Wolfson Rosen Sportsfield".

In addition, each of the retired Co-Chairs received a full size Kadimah 2001 overhead picture mounted on a balsa frame.



◆ L-R: Incoming Co-Chair Jim Spatz
Outgoing Co-Chairs Mark Rosen, Andrew Wolfson
Incoming Co-Chair Victor Goldberg.

Michael Soberman presenting plaque to Sheldon Cohen.



Retiring Camp Kadimah Co-Chairs Mark Rosen and Andrew Wolfson – "A Legacy of Success".



L-R: Belarie Zatzman and Freda Cohen



The Director's Report

Camp Kadimah 2001

By Marty Zatzman, B.Sc., M.Sc., B.Ed., M.Ed., Camp Director

"Welcome to all 2001 campers and staff". These were my first words as the new Director of Camp Kadimah. It has been a long journey for me at Camp Kadimah. In 1962, a small boy from Dartmouth arrived at Kadimah as a Giborim camper. Over the last four decades I have been a camper, CIT, Counsellor, Program Director, Technical Director, Director of Administration and Assistant Director. I have taught in many of the specialties, including water-skiing, boating, sports as well as assisted in many of the fine arts areas, including Bama and Shirkud. I have worked for five directors and have met thousands of staff and campers, so many of whom I am still friendly with today.

This summer at Kadimah 2001 I have had the opportunity to work with a very talented staff. The following senior staff with whom I have worked the most closely deserve all of our praise.

Ann Raskin – Assistant Director: Ann is solid as a rock. She is organized, she is efficient and she has the respect of all

our staff. Her contribution to Camp Kadimah has been

absolutely excellent – it has been key in making our summer the success it has been. Ann loves to take part in the program and she has been seen throughout the summer in various activities around camp. Her "portfolio" includes working directly with the specialists. Her trouble shooting and advising with every member of our specialists staff has been terrific. Ann also spent much time on camp's recycling program, meeting the requirements of the local Lunenburg community, and making sure the Chadar ran smoothly.

Leigh Lampert – Director of Administration: Leigh has been superb in his job this year. His organizational ability is fantastic and it was nice to see how involved in the program he



became. He kept all of us on track and operations running so smoothly – he made Kadimah life much easier for everyone.

Mark Hecht – Rosh Kadimah: another example of a supremely organized and very efficient member of the senior staff. Mark's ability to problem solve and work with the section heads as well as campers attests to his real ability as a leader at Kadimah. His kindness and support of all campers and staff when dealing with issues has been excellent.

Alicia Richler – Program Director: again a super self starter, organized, innovative and efficient with all details of the camp program. It has been wonderful working with her on all aspects of the program. The night carnival was great and the Yom Hashoah program was really meaningful. Thanks Alicia for all the great programs.

The Section Heads

Krista, Byron, Nicole, Jonah, Danielle, Gabe, Jen, Rachel, Shosh, Aviva.

These people are on the front lines every day. They make all the decisions for their sections with some input from senior staff. The group is made up of over 100 years of Kadimah history. All were campers, all were junior staff, all were specifically chosen for their leadership ability. They were respected and loved by their staff and campers. They were sensitive toward campers and staff and always acted as positive role models for their sections.

The Specialists – another great summer in all areas that included Waterfront, Landsports, and the Fine Arts as well as Tzofit. The campers loved the Puelot and the Chugim. Thanks for the time at evening and special programs. The campers really enjoy your company.

The Bunk Staff – the hardest job day to day at camp. Most of these staff members found out that they really do love to work at camp with kids. The campers looked up to them and consider them friends for life. My old Kadimah counsellors are still my friends after 35 years. I loved my time as bunk staff. The job is 24/7 and even though many are exhausted at the end of the day they are excited to see what the next day may bring.

And... Some special thanks to our hard working admin staff of **Dave Reiss** and **Mindy Lampert** in the office. One of the great innovations this summer has been our Kadimah website – thanks to Reiss for an excellent job maintaining the site. Thanks to **Ruth Manly** who did an excellent job with the Iton and has helped out in all other admin areas. Thanks to **Anna Silver** for the great slide show. A special thanks to another old timer, **Bret Hirsch**. Bret was solid in the admin area. His love for camp and his experience have proven to be invaluable to Kadimah. Ace, thanks – was always there when we needed him. Thanks to **Joanna Mirsky** in Halifax and the Camp Committee for all the support in my first year as

Director. Thanks to **Anne Joudrey**, our terrific cook for another great summer and **Peter Wagner**, our site manager, for taking great care of our wonderful camp grounds.

Kadimah is a family to me. It is a place that brings many diverse campers and staff together in a wonderful community. Our six weeks together each summer are responsible for our life long friendships. Staff and campers are already talking about the summer of 2002. To my wife, **Belarie** – thank you for sharing in my life at camp; you are a wonderful woman – and my kids **Noah, Samahra** and **Sariana** – I love you all and thanks for your love and support.

Hope to see many of you back at Kadimah 2002.

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Club Massada

By Shirley Burnstein

At the May meeting of Club Massada, **Edith Schneiderman** retired from her position as president and handed her gavel to the newly elected president, **Ralph Garson**. We want to thank Edith for her years of direction as president. Under her leadership, Massada has grown in numbers, activities, and purpose. We know she will continue to support and advise us in all our future endeavors.

Ralph is known to our community for his many years of participation. He will certainly add life, experience, and tradition to our organization.

Our last season's luncheon meetings, held bi-monthly in the Northwood Activity Centre, provided us with camaraderie, activities and entertainment.

We encourage all seniors (55 plus) to join us for this coming year's programs which will include special celebrations for Hannukah and Jewish music month. We have started programming for the coming year. With your

participation, we can make Club Massada bigger and better than ever!

To begin our season, a dinner will be held on Sunday, September 9th, at Dofsky's Grill located at 1583 Brunswick Street in the Cambridge Suites Hotel. The cost is \$11.00 per person. You can expect further information on this event by phone or mail. All members are invited to attend.

Our bi-monthly meetings will commence on October 11th at 12:00 noon in the Northwood Activity Center.

We want to thank the Massada Executive for their input over the summer months. If you would like any information regarding Massada, please call the following:

Celia Fried – Membership Chairperson – 423-5533

Ralph Garson – President – 422-0757

Shirley Burnstein – Programmer – 475-3204

Anyone interested in becoming a member, please call Celia Fried and she will gladly arrange your membership.

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Jewish War Veterans of Atlantic Canada: Halifax Chapter

YMHA Hostel at Quinpool Road 1943



*(Photograph courtesy of Lil Mosher and currently in Beth Israel Synagogue Youth Lounge.
Thanks to Elliott Fineberg and Dr.Saul Green for assistance with some names)*

Back Row: Izzy Lang, Sam Rubin, Bob Stone, Harry Garson, Charles Zlatin, Henry Goldberg, ?,
Jack Hoffman, Lou Roza, Jack Bernstein, Harry Bernstein, Sid Warren, Max Pascal.

Middle Row: Don Arron, Meyer Zatzman, Saul Green, Isaac Gordon, Seymour Offman, Morris Fineberg,
Carl Arron, Len Fineberg, Mort Pliskow, Abe Leventhal, ?, Jackie Newman.

Front Row: Dr. M. Jacobson, Dr. Irving Nathanson, Howard Marcus, Frank Harris, Wilfred Mosher.

(Do you know the missing names? Have we got anything wrong? Let us know. Dr.J.B.Ross, Halifax Regional Commander)

The following Veterans were inadvertently omitted from the original list that first appeared in a past issue of Shalom. To the best of our knowledge this list is now complete. We thank **Lawrence Ferguson** and **Leonard Fineberg**, as well as others who were kind enough to update us. If there are any names left out or changes to be made please notify the Atlantic Jewish Council at atlanticjewishcouncil@theajc.ns.ca or Dr. Barrie Ross jbross@is.dal.ca.

Carl Arron
Donald Arron
Harry Bernstein
Simon Benjamin
Earle Bowman
Hymie Fineberg
Morris Fineberg
Saul Fried
Harry Garson
Irving Harris

Sam Gordon
Dr. J.I. Gordon
Dr. Sam Glick
Dr. Morris Jacobson
Sidney Jahin
Abe Leventhal
Isadore Lang
Larry Levine
Dr. Walter Morsen
Harry Newman

Jack Newman
Sidney Newman
Dr. Irving Nathanson
Israel Napsky
Morton Pliskow
Lou Roza
Leon Rozovsky
Seymore Offman
Max Pascal
Stanley Simon

Oscar Smith
Pat (Mrs.) Soloman
Dr. James Hammerling
Sidney Warren
Irving Webber
Earl Whitzman
Israel Whitzman
Manuel Whitzman
Charles Zlatin
Moe Zweigman

A Stranger at Kuma Haym

By Eli Shenhav, Jerusalem Emissary to the Maritimes, Jewish National Fund

A stranger? Not at all. How can a J.N.F. person be a stranger to a community that has supported the Jewish National Fund so generously for so many decades? The involvement of the "Sons of Israel" with the JNF started in 1976 and so it was only natural for JNF to sponsor the kiddush lunch on this special occasion.

Both the Sons of Israel Synagogue and the J.N.F. are celebrating their 100th anniversary this year.

August 2 First day, opening evening.... Arriving at Savoy Theatre – Glace Bay. Entering the hall, knowing no one....smiling faces welcoming me. What a friendly smile!! Welcome, please find your name at the registration table, but...keep smiling. Yes, they have my name there! What a nice present and with a tag bearing my name. Now, I'm feeling more connected. The flow of people doesn't stop. They are coming and coming, kissing, hugging, with voices of joy.

The people, (all of them smiling) are not letting me feel alone or not connected. When they see the tag with my name and JNF, they say, "How nice of you to come to our Kum A Haym! Thank you for hosting us. Our parents came here a century ago. We were born here etc." In particular, there was **David Ein**, who extended himself in every way possible to make my stay as pleasant as could be. **Elliot Marshal** and

Shirley Chernin, long-time supporters of JNF, greeted me. I spent time speaking at length with the Honourable **Myra A. Freeman**, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and his Honour **Lawrence A. Freeman**, both supporters of JNF. It was a good time to reconnect with friends of JNF from Halifax and from other cities in the Atlantic Provinces

Now I feel as though I am a part of the Kum A Haym. There are more friendly faces. You cannot be a stranger among Maritime Jewry. Saturday services at the Shul were full. I don't think it was ever so crowded. The walls had seen alot during the last century. I wish they could tell me their story – a story of a warm and loving community. It is a community that has faded, but the reunion was uplifting for the Shul.

So many people are given Aliyot. The Service is over. People are not rushing outside. The Shul is a part of them. No one wants to miss the opportunity to share the story with his or her neighbour.

It is strange but I'm also staying behind, looking at the names and the faces.

Thank you people of Glace Bay. Thank you for your warm hospitality. Thank you for letting me be part of this Kuma Haym.

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Cape Breton Chapters of Hadassah-Wizo

By Evelyn Davis

On June 19th, Sydney and Glace Bay Chapters held their annual pot luck supper. Reports of the various committees were read. In her report Glace Bay President, **Fanny Cohen** praised the work of the various members and Kovet pins were given to **Ada Simon, Libby Cohen** and **Judy Schacter**.

Etta Chernin reported on Youth Aliyah and presented Evelyn Davis with a Safta pin.

Evy Druker gave an analysis of our 2001 Bazaar and mentioned especially the relationship of the Cape Breton community and their support of our community. She presented a plaque to **Sam Mendleson**, who sold more tickets than anyone else and was such a help to our committee. Evelyn Davis presented Bazaar pins to **Betty Shore** and **Evy Druker**. **Faye David** presented the Bazaar Report. It was overwhelming. Evelyn Davis, Sydney President presented a pin to **Norma Claener** (in absentia) for many years as head telephone caller. **Jean David** was thanked for undertaking the position now that Norma has retired.

Evelyn Davis then presented a "Merit pin" to **Edith Lecker**, for outstanding work in selling Specific Gifts. On behalf of **Fanny Cohen**, a pin was presented to **Shirley Chernin** for her outstanding contribution to the Glace Bay Chapter and to Hadassah.

Shirley Dubinsky presented an article explaining how the actions of one person can make a difference. It was a very timely topic.

A raffle, a Chanuka apron, was won by **Anita Lubetski**. Guests of the evening included **Sylvia Epstein** and **Julie Zatzman**.

The supper was convened by **Shirley Dubinsky**.



Evy Druker and Shirley Chernin, Co-Chairs of the Hadassah-Wizo Bazaar, present a cheque to Jay Bigley of the Glace Bay Citizen Service League – our annual donation to a charitable organization from our Bazaar.



Evelyn Davis, President of Queen Esther Chapter of Hadassah-Wizo, presents a pin to Judy Schacter on behalf of Fanny Cohen.



Sam Mendleson receives an award from Bazaar Chairman Evy Druker.

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Around and About the Region ... What a Summer It's Been!



Their Honours Lt. Gov. Myra Freeman and Lawrence Freeman shown here with Camp Director, Marty Zatzman and their aide-de-camp, William Kazmel.



White Team March Past reviewed by visiting dignitaries, Camp Kadimah, 2001.



CJC President Keith Landy addresses Halifax community picnic June, 2001. L-R: AJC President Sheva Medjuck and Their Honours, Lieutenant Governor Myra Freeman and Lawrence Freeman look on.



"The Girls" enjoying themselves at the community picnic.



Youth at Government House, June 2001. L-R: Nathan Zilbert, Mira Chatt, Leah Zilbert, Norwegian War Hero Gunner Sonnsbey, Eric Goldberg, at a reception for Norway in Halifax.



Campers performing on Visitors' Day, Camp Kadimah, 2001.



Rabbi Ellis, AJC Chaplain (left), Rabbi Mendel Feldman and Chabad Lubovitch (right), toasting Beth Israel President, Bill Mosher.



Rabbi Aranov and his wife, Dina enjoying themselves at the picnic.



Yom Hashoah – PEI. Holocaust Survivor, David Korn (left) with Joseph Sherman.



AJC members of the AJC Executive meeting with Austrian Ambassador to Canada and Austrian Consul in Halifax, summer, 2001. L-R: David Korn, Consul Michael Novac, Austrian Ambassador to Canada Mr. Ettmayer, Mark Rosen, 1st VP and Victor Goldberg, Past President.



"Just Growing Boys"



Toronto businessman Martin Goose (second from left, front row) generously answered the call for financial assistance to the AJC Chaplaincy Fund. Shown here visiting the cemetery during Kumb-Ahaim L-R are Heather Goose, Victor Goldberg, Rabbi DAvid Ellis, Lisa Green and Barrie Green.

Congregation Son's of Israel – Glace Bay, Nova Scotia has a 'KUMA HAYM' – 100th Anniversary of the Shul – What it Meant to Me

By Elliot Marshall

I had – a – dream – a.Dream all the way from Ottawa to Cape Breton Island – to Glace Bay, N.S. – our destination.

As I drove in my vehicle with my family to go back home to my little settle, to my little Congregation, in Glace Bay to a Kum Ahaym – I had a dream.

Allow me to lead-up to this journey home.

I left Glace Bay in 1998, from the retail clothing business, moved with my wife Helen to Ottawa, where our two daughters and four grandchildren reside. For our going-away party, which the Congregation held for Helen & I, they presented me with a beautiful talit and honoured me to be the last President and now in absentia for the life of the Congregation. Sadly enough the shul is presently fading out but what a vibrant history, a story that would take a thick book and a great author to tell.

About the Dream – What a Dream;

It takes eighteen driving hours by car to travel from Ottawa to Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. Thank heaven my wife Helen and daughter Susan did most of the driving as I spent practically the whole eighteen hours, sleeping with my dream.

My dream was made up of flashes, spot to spot, place to place, different time frames, not necessarily in order, one face to another, one incident to another, one story to another – happy times, sad times, but with abundance of nostalgia.



1933 – 5 years old, started cheder – **Rabbi Kirschenblatt** (still going strong in Toronto at 93) – I can picture and name every one of my chedar classmates and follow their careers up-to this day. During my chedar years I had Rabbi Kirschenblatt, **Rabbi Simon, Rabbi Weisblatt, Rabbi Kanteroff** – some directly from Europe, others from the U.S.A.

Stories come to my mind during my dreams – and – I always say – a story tells it best.

Funny Story – Chedar Times

NOTE; Adult discretion required to protect the innocent from the following scene

Perpetrators – **Max, Yuddie, Hymie**

Victims – **Murray, Albie**

As I tell of this incident, which is real, and it did take place, you have to remember that during this time frame is the 1930's – there weren't many organized programs for the youth; this happened in the basement of the Talmud Torah – three youths in their teens, who I will refer to as three Jewish vigilantes, bored, with lots of energy to spare, took two younger lads in their pre-teens, tied them up, then strung them up by their arms to the rafters, plugged their mouths with paper and left them there. If some people, upstairs, didn't hear them moaning and groaning, who knows what would have



been the outcome. Don't take this incident too, too literally, but the facts are true. That was making up your own games in the 1930's – some fun – it wasn't funny then but it became a very funny story, around the town, and then as we all grew up, and over the years many went away, whenever a group from home got – together, recollecting old memories, that story became a classic – more hilarious every time it was retold. What became of those boys? I'm glad you asked. Let me tell you. *Auf alle unsere kinder gesogt* –

3 Vigilantes –

One became a real estate tycoon in Toronto

One became a very successful engineer in Montreal

One became a successful realtor in New York

Two Victims –

One became a very big land and property developer in Toronto

The other a very successful career in three fields of medicine

Who knows, maybe that's the kind of experience kids need to motivate them towards achievement.

Another Humorous Story Came up in My Dreams

Habima players – theatre group – at the Talmud Torah in the late 1930's.

A Yiddish play in which a young lady of the community managed to get a small part. She just yearned to be in a play and was very excited about having a role in it – a two world line – ICH OUCH – which translates ME TOO – was assigned to her. She was so enthusiastic about being a member of the cast that she very loyally came to every rehearsal, never missed

one. In fact one night, it was in the winter, there was a terrible Atlantic snow-storm – she was the only one who showed up, rehearsed by herself. – Came the night of the show, she was so nervous and excited when she got her cue, she uttered OUCH ICH.

Just then I woke up laughing as **Helen** told me we were crossing the causeway to Cape Breton Island.

It's Wednesday evening when we arrive in Sydney, checked into our hotel, and prepare for the next four days, which I will try to describe.

THURSDAY EVENING REGISTRATION – and meeting and greeting at the newly renovated Savoy Theatre in Glace Bay. The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, one of our own Jewish ladies from the Maritimes, the Right Honourable **Myra Freeman**, opened the event. This event was organized and programmed by a committee of six people, expecting 400 attendees.

But now – how does one reflect back and walk through 100 years of history in four days. Put your imagination hat on – you are greeting and meeting among the gatherers, a generation before yours and three generations after. A lot I knew and have seen over the years, but many I hadn't seen for forty on years – and then of course new faces of the newer generations, the tough part that with the events of the weekend, taking place like clockwork – fast and furious – you don't have the time to flavor those valuable moments with them, to remember “those were the days” times, but still even with that obstacle they were precious moments and you were able to quickly utter and grasp enough sentences to deposit into your memory bank for forever and a day.

*Forgetfulness
leads to
Exile while
Remembrance
is the secret
of Redemption*

Hasidic saying



*In the spring of 2002, thousands of Jewish youth from
all corners of the world will gather together
in Poland and Israel
for an experience
that will last
a lifetime.*

March
OF THE LIVING

April 7-22, 2002

IN POLAND the group's visit will culminate with the “March of the Living” on Holocaust Remembrance Day, as they march together the 3-kilometre distance separating Auschwitz from Birkenau.

IN ISRAEL participants will celebrate the 54th anniversary of the creation of the State of Israel on Independence Day along with thousands of teenagers from Israel and other parts of the world.



PHOTOGRAPHY: STEPHEN EPSTEIN & MARY ZAHARAN



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For more information, please contact:
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E-mail: jgoldberg@theajc.ns.ca



www.marchoftheliving.org

The March of the Living is subsidized
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UJA Federations Canada and
private contributions

FRIDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON – in the middle of huddles and the scrums, two radio reporters, a T.V., and newspaper and magazine reporters were interviewing anyone they could corner. You tried to express your feelings in different ways to the various media, quite a difficult task.

Friday evening services in our Shabbat cleaned and prepared little Shul on Prince Street – would you believe 97 people showed up for services in the heat of 32 degrees Celsius – men and women, girls and boys, who a lot don't attend shul otherwise, but they wanted to be there for this special Shabbat. We had three Rabbis' and a Cantor attend our Kuma Haym. Incidentally, when the community was at its peak in the 1930's, we had two rabbis, one of which was a schechot, a Hebrew teacher, a Bal Tvilla, and a Bal Korah all rolled in one, as well we had three Jewish butchers at the same time – quite a vibrant community, wouldn't you say?

SATURDAY MORNING – SHABBAT SERVICES – There must have been 200 people piled into Shul again during a heat wave, how we managed to deal with it, – don't ask, but services went over without a hitch. The decorum was something to behold, big Shuls in big centers would have envied. Two Rabbi's oversaw the services, one of our local boys lead the Shachrut services, and I had the honour of reciting the Haphtarah, – the leined and led the Mussaf service.

I also delivered a few words, which was my custom when I was President. I insert them here in my coverage.

I'm not a Rabbi. I'm not a politician. I am just a retired merchant who happens to be a proud President, having been for 9 years, and now in absentia, of a small congregation, in a small Jewish community, which I love very much.

And Here We Are; Good Shabos –

Menachim Begin was asked by a journalist – what in your opinion, Mr. Prime Minister, was the best Jewish achievement – and he answered – “the day of rest”.

Just imagine, if you will, this Shul in the 1920's in the 1930's packed to capacity on Shabbat, on the High Holydays – the women upstairs, everyone praying and swaying, davening aloud to make sure G'd would hear, auctioning the honours, fighting for certain aliyahs – oh if we could only turn back the clock, back to those scenes even for a few moments, but of course we can't.

But what about this KUMA HAYM – Isn't it something? Only through the efforts of some wonderful people did this materialize.

Let me quote two sayings from our sages, that I think kind of sums up what this whole Kum Ahaym is all about – “*Kol Israel Have rim Zeh Lozeh*” – Jews are responsible for one another and “*Al Tifrosh Min Hatzibur*” – Do not separate yourself from your community.

Our history has taught us conclusively that the primary Jewish institutions' ensuring Jewish survival is the synagogue – this portable vehicle that we have carried with us to preserve the Jewish faith and the Jewish people.

When I was here as President, on Shabbat, I would give a little talk, a little sermon, a little message, if I could, relating to sedre, my Vice-President **David**, would give me that little hint, with a big smile, from his seat, pointing to his watch, implying “Gotta get going”. Well, things haven't changed, he's doing that now, so I'll take the hint, close now and say,”

Make this weekend an everlasting memory, enjoy it to the utmost”. Thank You.

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE SAVOY THEATRE – an evening of entertainment, fit for royalty and I say without hesitation, could have been presented on Broadway. Where was the talent from? Locally produced and trained – otherwise a byproduct of our community. Bear in mind that the Director of the show, our own **Sylvia Dubinsky Allen**, although she had access to certain talents, naturally wanted to choose a good co-ordinate show; would you believe that some of the



Special services at the Congregation Sons of Israel.



performers were literally picked up at the 11th hour, when she found out they were present. From my observations, and having been interested in all aspects of the entertainment industry, I don't think the professionals could have put a show like that together in 18 months let alone 1 month. Of course when I say the homebred Dubinsky musical group were in it, added, and all around it, most of you will know what I am saying.

I had the pleasure of participating in the evening of entertainment, reciting three of my poems – I would like to humbly submit one of them in my article.

LIVING JEWISH IN A SMALL TOWN

*Living Jewish in a small town, is easy as you go,
The less you practice it, the more of it you show,
It really isn't difficult, just to keep in mind,
It's to be a little Kosher; it's to be a little kind.*

*Take the time to make a living, but take the time to have some fun,
It's not a matter of great hurry, nor what makes Sammy run,
Enjoy your career or business, work at it with pride,
Don't let small things aggravate you; just let them float with the tide.
Don't allow it to be a case of, "I'm right and he's so wrong"
Stop a minute and rationalize, leave it stay it won't take long,
You'll see when you get over it, it really doesn't pay,
Now there's the makings of a leader, a real Mensch they're sure to say.*

*Go to Schul, recite a Maftir, meditate, a little prayer,
Don't let the problems pile up, then count them by each layer,
Let them fall where they may, you'll see you'll do just fine,
Sei gesunt, enjoy each Kiddish, and trink a glessele wine.
I know there are bills to pay, a mortgage to look after,
The car payment is always due, the kids education to look after,
Think of what our parents went through, with no one to consult,
They just dug in and dealt with it, and look at the result.
The product that came out, of this great little town,
Went on to great achievement, success and great renown,
Be glad you came from here, put a smile on not a frown,
Cause living Jewish is the way to go, make it Jewish in your hometown.*

SUNDAY MORNING – SERVICES AT THE CEMETARY – remembering our loved ones always

SUNDAY AFTERNOON TO EVENING – Picnic on the Mira at the Mira Boat Club – closing out the Kuma Haym.

Let's all go the bungalow – to all of you upper Canadians, the term word "bungalow" refers to what you would call a summer cottage or country home. I remember as a kid the Jewish picnics at different bungalows on the Mira River, owned by Jewish families of industrial Cape Breton communities, Glace Bay, Sydney, and New Waterford. The day went perfectly smooth, as did all the events of the Kum Ahaym- boat rides on the river, hot dogs on the land, veggies on skewers, desserts and drinks of every kind. Then as evening skies came into focus people started to leave, and we witnessed hugs and kisses of goodbyes and farewells. *Sei gesunt* and remember your roots, preserve them in your soul.

The crowd was divine, a glessale wine, the environment was clean, the weather was perfect, the food deliciously Kosher, the spirit invigorating. Thus Gaelicly said, "Will Ye No Come Back Again".

A humorous thought just came to me – during the days of the Kuma Haym an elderly gentleman was telling me of the good old days of summer in Glace Bay. Jewish men and their wives would take a stroll down through the main streets of the town; and he as a kid with his friends happened to be walking behind some Jewish merchants. Invariably, he said, you would clearly hear three distinct words, (with a Jewish accent of course) DEPOUSIT, BELENCE, A MOGAGE. – Translated, Deposit, Balance, and a Mortgage.

An added bonus was a message from **Rabbi Reuven Bulka** in which he extended greetings and good wishes to the Kuma Haym. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for the kind words he expressed about Helen and I in his message.

Putting on tefillin for Friday morning service.



To kind of sum up – some thoughts of an ex-native son of Glace Bay, which I am adding in. A message from brother, retired **Senator Jack Marshall**.

To the “Kuma Haym” committee.

Congratulations; I am very sorry I couldn't accept your gracious invitation to participate in this wonderful Kuma Haym event, but my thoughts and fondest memories are with you. Reflecting back for a moment, during the years of my youth in Glace Bay, going to cheder under the tutelage of Rabbi Kirshenblatt, leaves me with mixed feelings of happiness, sentiment, and an abundance of nostalgia. Although, and I take this responsibility to speak, on behalf of

my generation, our lives were interrupted by the War we accepted the challenge and obligation to defend our country and the human rights of our Jewish people. After the War most of us had to leave home, find new opportunities to establish careers and try to make a future for ourselves. I always was convinced, and I say this humbly, that coming from a small community, as Glace Bay, helped me immensely, taught me humility and instilled in me a strong foundation to build on. Even though your Congregation is dwindling, the name and the spirit of Congregation Sons of Israel will live on forever.

Respectfully Senator Retired Jack Marshall.



“Wonderful moments to remember!”

"Living Jewish in a small town is not a bad place for a Jewish boy and girl to come from"

That's all folks.

Elliot Marshall's dream comes true.

P.S. Comments from a few individuals.

My grandson, **Aaron**, 7 years old, made an observation about Cape Bretoners, Jewish or otherwise, which I thought, was interesting. He asked his Bubby Helen – "How come everyone here is so nice and friendly", well, answered Bubby Helen, that's your first lesson about your Cape Breton roots – "it's called Cape Breton hospitality, well known throughout the world".

Mort Abramsky from Kingston, Ontario, whose lovely wife **Shirley Borden Abramsky**, born and raised in Glace Bay, and whose heart always remained there; I must say at this time, contrary to Mort's following kind words, if anybody could find a way to transfer the ingredients created and nurtured in Glace Bay to another community, it would be she. After discussing with Mort the fact that other communities tried to have a Kuma Haym and failed to pull it off – his comments responding to my question to him: – Mort, if I were to ask you to express in a tiny sentence what impressed you most, and hit you, to what makes our community click – his answer – "A unique quality of spiritual and social connection of community" – thank you Mr. Mort Abramsky, a gentleman and a scholar.



*"A Gala Evening –
music, singing and lots of special wishes!"*

Honouring Avvie Druker as President of the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce

Appeared in the Cape Breton Post

Retired insurance broker Avvie Druker, is the first resident of Cape Breton to be elected President of the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce.

Locally the organization, an advocacy group for business and industry, is known as the Industrial Cape Breton Board of Trade.

"My goal is to raise the profile of the Chamber of Commerce across the province," said Druker, a past president of the local Board of Trade.

Druker, 69, believes government economic development issues stop at the Metro Halifax/Dartmouth boundary.

"I've said to premier (John) Hamm there are two economies in Nova Scotia – Halifax, and the rest of the province." He suggests the Premier take his 'Campaign for Fairness' which advocates a better offshore sharing arrangement and equalization payments with Ottawa, one step further and apply it to all regions so that everyone will benefit.

"Hamm is saying allow us to become a have province so we are able to contribute to this country. Our argument to him is if the economy of Cape Breton picked up we would not require so much in benefits from the province."

The Sydney resident was elected in May at a first time annual meeting of the provincial body held in Sydney.

On a national scale the Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade lobby governments on taxation and health Care issues. Infrastructure, like better highways and transportation systems, and the money needed to carry out that work are some of the major issues.

"We take position on a subject and advocate that to the government."

Druker said provincial issues, like transportation and

health care parallel what is happening nationally.

The local Trade Board recently hosted a meeting with the deputy ministers of five provincial departments. They heard our concerns about the delays in the development of offshore oil and gas, he said.

As a president for the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce, Druker sits as a director of the Atlantic Provinces organization who hold quarterly meetings.

During his one year term he will try to get chambers and boards more active in their own communities and participate more fully in the work of the provincial organization.

As a regional group the Atlantic Chambers of Commerce actively pursued the development of a highway trade corridor through New Brunswick and into the Eastern United States.

"That was a historic trade route until Confederation."

Sunday Shopping is another provincial issue, said Druker. "Our position is that government has no place in that decision process. It should be left up to businesses to do what the marketplace dictates."

Instead the government has said there will be no Sunday shopping for five years.

He is president of the Cape Breton Business Advancement Corporation who broker and mentor new businesses.

The group uses capital from severance packages of laid off miners and steelworkers to invest in new enterprises. They helped start seven enterprises employing more than 80 people.

The provincial office located in Truro which has as its Executive Director Bob Baxter.

FOUR - The Central Nova Business News, August 2001, www.trurochamber.com



Avvie Druker, president of the Nova Scotia Chamber of Commerce, presents past president Arthur Saffron with an appreciation award for dedication and dignified service to the provincial chamber.

New program a win-win deal for local businesses and students

More than 80,000 businesses have benefited from a national program that employs current students and recent graduates to provide information technology training to small to medium-sized businesses.

An Industry Canada partnership with the private sector, the Student Connection Program (SCP)

gives businesses the skills to effectively use the Internet and computer software. From beginner to advanced user, the SCP has a variety of training sessions that can be delivered in a group or one-on-one setting at the place of business, making it easier to fit the training into existing schedules as well as eliminating the need to attend classes.

The high quality, information technology training is available for a nominal hourly fee. Call student business advisor Robert Cahoon at 986-0613 or by email: rcagoon@tru.eastlink.ca for more information about the program in the local area or learn more at www.scp-ebb.com

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AJC Web Site Receives Extensive Revisions

Visit the AJC website at <www.theajc.ns.ca> The AJC website has undergone major revisions and many improvements which we believe will make it interesting, informative and useful to the Atlantic Jewish Community. Send in your e-mail address to the AJC. Don't miss out on our electronic communications!

By Israel Unger

Herewith a few highlights:

There are buttons for various subjects such as "kosher food", "University Students", "AJC Contacts". There are three items that I specially wish to draw to your attention. On the main page there is a button, "Current Events in Israel". If you click on that button it will link you to the latest edition of the Jerusalem Post and the English edition of Haaretz. We have also provided a button that lists Frequently Asked Questions, (FAQ's), about the Intifada and short as well as more comprehensive answers. We obtained this material from the Foreign Ministry of Israel.

The Holocaust Education button leads to a page that has a Glossary, Chronology and FAQ's about the Holocaust as well as a few pictures and appropriate music. Most of the subject pages have listed several links to other website with additional information in that area.

When you visit the AJC web site, you will find a useful site titled, "COMMUNITIES." We want to make this particular page more interesting and useful for members. Specifically we

want to put short-dated information that would normally be published in Shalom Magazine, and give it a home on the AJC "COMMUNITIES". This material will continue to be published in Shalom but now it will be available on the web site as well on a monthly basis. We want to accomplish this, and we need your help. We ask that the individuals who provide the community events to the AJC for Shalom also send it to Sandra Ireland<ireland@isn.net> What kind of news? All kinds...marriages, births, deaths, celebrations, anniversaries, new addresses, graduations, awards, events, news, help-wanted, and such. Please phone Sandra at 902-566-1427 (evenings before 10 p.m. are best) if you have any questions regarding how to submit material for Shalom Magazine. Until further notice, e-mail is a better way to communicate with her, but don't hesitate to phone if you want some help with submitting articles. I have already mentioned that Sandra Ireland is the website editor and it would be remiss of me not to advise you that Fran Morrison from Sydney, NS, is web master.



CHECK out the AJC WEBSITE

*It is new, exciting and interesting
There is a lot of activity at the
AJC website. If you haven't checked it
out, visit us at
www.theajc.ns.ca*

*Community news will soon be
coming to you ON LINE! Watch for an
announcement regarding the start date.*

*Community news will have
event dates, brief, good news
announcements, and a lot more.*

*See the complete article in this
issue of Shalom Magazine.*

SAINT JOHN JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM



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Shalom Report for Moncton by Nancy Cohen

Several events kept us busy in Moncton this past spring. Our **Sarevim, Eliezar and Na'ama Ghelber**, organized a Shabbaton for the Hebrew school children. A family Shabbat dinner was followed by a sleepover for the older children. After Shabbat morning services the children enjoyed an afternoon of programming, and when Shabbat ended they made their own havdallah candles. The kids had so much fun that they didn't want to leave. The Shabbaton was sponsored by the AJC and Canadian Young Judea, who sent their shaliach **Israel Poupko** to help out.

Close to 100 people attended the beautiful Yom Ha'shoah service which was organized by **Joan Sichel**. Upon arrival each person lit a memorial candle in memory of the six million. The Tiferes Israel singers sang a very moving song followed by readings by members of the congregation, and a performance by the award winning Hillsborough Girl's Choir. The guest speaker was **David Korn** of Halifax who spoke about his experiences as a young boy hidden in an orphanage.

Yom Ha'atzmaut was celebrated with a presentation of slides showing some of the highlights of trips taken to Israel by **Irving and Lillian Schelew, David and Margie Attis, and Evy and Barry Carnat**. For ease of presentation the slides were made into video format by Aaron Cohen. Special guests **Joanna Mirsky and Ezra Wexler** led us in some Israeli songs, followed by an Israeli style feast.

To help the children understand and appreciate the holiday of Shavuot Na'ama and Eliezar led a hike on the Dobson Trail. The children were given clues and had to find various things related to the holiday such as the ten commandments. At the end of the hike the children made pita bread over an open fire.

The Hebrew School closing was held in Barachois at David and Margie Attis' cottage. Children and adults had a great time playing games on the beach. Eliezar and Na'ama presented each child with a beautiful keepsake – a

personalized siddur with various blessings.

At the end of June it was time to say goodbye once again to our arevim. Like the two couples before them, Eliezar and Na'ama enriched our lives while they were here. Their youthful enthusiasm and creativity energized the community, and they were adored by the children in the Hebrew school. They will be greatly missed. We are now looking forward to meeting the new arevim, **Yaron and Revital Fuks** who will be arriving in early September.

Mazel tov to our graduates. **Danny Sichel** graduated from the Université de Moncton with a B.Sc in chemistry. **Shawna Rinzler** graduated from Kemptville College with a degree in equine studies. **Riva Coleman** graduated from Mount Allison University, and is continuing her studies in education at St. Francis Xavier. High School graduates are **Aaron Cohen, Chayna Cohen and Lewis Savage**.

The community was saddened by the deaths this spring of two long time community members, **Bessie Greenblat and Freda Selick**. Our condolences to their families.

Several children from Moncton attended Camp Kadimah this summer. **Aviva and Daniel Cohen, Ashley and Chelsey Coppel, and Nathan Rinzler** were all campers, while **Leigh, Jordan and Mindy Lambert, Daniel Rinzler, and Aaron Cohen** were on staff.

To mark the anniversary of the Dieppe Raid of World War II which took place on August 19, 1942, the Town of Dieppe held a memorial service at the town cenotaph. Two Magen Davids were recently added to the cenotaph to honour the Jewish men and women who were killed during the war. During the service prayers were read in Hebrew.

Mazel Tov to Daniel Cohen, son of **Ivan and Nancy Cohen** who will become bar mitzvah on September 1.

On behalf of all of us here in Moncton I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year.

News from Saint John – September, 2001

By Susan Isaacs-Lubin

The summer activity in Saint John centers around the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum and the Cruise ships. We once again ran a 'Jewish' tour of Saint John for Cruise Ship visitors. Visitors were treated to a bus tour of the area in which **Louis B. Mayer** grew up, a description of Jewish businesses of past and present, the Cemetery including the Chapel donated by the **Cummings** family, the Museum and the Synagogue. This tour has been very successful and we have had record numbers of visitors.

We are looking forward to the High Holy Days. This year we have engaged the services of Cantor **Mitch Smolkin** from Toronto for the first time. We will have a Kiddush on the Saturday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur and also a Community Break the Fast in the Vestry of the Synagogue.

Hebrew School starts in September and we will have at least 6 and possibly 7 children enrolled. We are fortunate once again to have **Moishe Granik** teaching. Two years ago, after **Jocelyn Cyr** graduated from Hebrew school, she continued on as an aide to help the younger children. Last year, **Heather Urdang** did the same. We are indeed proud of our youngsters who take on this responsibility.

The Community would like to extend our thoughts and best wishes for a speedy full recovery to **Stuart Urdang**. In the few years that Stuart has lived in Saint John, Stuart and his family have participated fully in all aspects of the Jewish Community. Stuart is at the Stan Cassidy ReHab centre in Fredericton and we wish him all the best and hope that he's back with us soon.

Senator **Erminie Cohen** retired in July from the Canadian Senate. Erminie was really an asset to the Senate and we in the Saint John Jewish Community were so proud of her. In the words of the Honourable **John Lynch-Staunton**, Leader of the Opposition: 'If Erminie Cohen was to be described in but a few words, being called the 'conscience of the Senate' would certainly be the most fitting, for she has brought to Parliament an active awareness and concern for those fellow citizens too often neglected, not to say too often ignored.' Thank you Erminie for all you have done during your years in the Senate.

Mazel tov to **Janet Holtzman** who was recently honoured on her retirement from the Saint John Regional Hospital Auxiliary. Janet was given the Senator Emerson Life Membership Award.

AJC Co-Sponsors Human Rights and Holocaust Education Teacher Workshop

By Marlene Unger, Chair Holocaust Education Committee

A successful and well-attended workshop/conference on Human Rights and Holocaust Education, co-sponsored by the Atlantic Jewish Council and the New Brunswick Department of Education was held on April 26 and 27, in Moncton, NB. This workshop was made possible through an initiative proposed by the Atlantic Jewish Council Holocaust Education Committee. This is the first Holocaust Education partnership conference with the NB Department of Education.

The conference organizers selected a venue to accommodate 125 participants, and were pleasantly surprised when 225 teachers applied to attend. This response has been interpreted as an indication of the interest and the importance of Holocaust and Human Rights education in the classroom.

The two day conference featured speakers whose expertise ranged from issues in the social justice system, human rights, teaching methods, racism to lessons from the Holocaust. Additionally, two child survivors of the Holocaust, **Israel Unger** and **Francis Weil**, talked about their memories of the Holocaust.

Highlights of the presentations are as follows: Prof. **Blye Frank**: Diversity, Equity and Social Justice, Chief **Dan Paul**: First Nations and Human Rights **Karen Mock**, B'nai B'rith:

Combating Hate in Canada and Lessons of the Holocaust
Senator **Erminie Cohen**: Poverty as a Human Rights Issue
Leo Adler of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre: Using Film in the Teaching of the Holocaust

The speaker's list also included **Richard Blacquiere**, **Ian Andrews**, **Heather Richmond** and **Janet Crawford**, New Brunswick teachers who provide Holocaust Studies in their classes, and **Avis Fitton**, History advisor for the NB Department of Education

"Resources for Native Studies," by **David Perley**, and "Racism in Different Mediums", by **Manju Varma**, were presented on the first day of this two day conference on Human Rights and Holocaust Education.

Day Two of the conference originally had two separate focus groups, but all the conference attendees selected the session on Holocaust Education. According to one of the participants, the selection of Holocaust Education session by a unanimous decision is a strong indication of the proactive interest in presenting excellent Holocaust Education to students in NB schools. This person also said he heard many of the educators say that it was the best workshop they had ever attended.

Living on "Elul Time"

By Rabbi Yochanan Samuels, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, Fredericton

There's an old joke which goes: "Last year, the High Holy Days were late. This year, they're early. Will they ever be on time?" Fortunately, the Jewish calendar offers a convenient way for the High Holy Days and their following acts to never catch us off-guard. It is the Hebrew month of Elul, which this year began on the 19th and 20th of August. This month precedes that of Tishrei, home to the heavy-hitting fall line-up of Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah.

During Elul, Jews begin a month-long preparation leading up to Yom Kippur. Our Sages tell us that the forty days between the first of Elul and the start of Yom Kippur are analogous to the forty day period that **Moshe Rabbeinu** spent on Mt. Sinai. As such, morning services are concluded with the sounding of the shofar, in order to begin arousing us from our spiritual slumber. In Ashkenazi congregations, the words of Psalm #27 penetrate our hearts like WD-40 penetrates a rusty door-lock. In words penned long ago by **David HaMelech**, we plead to G-D for help as we are beset by enemies around us, some internal, some external. Its beautiful verses include these inspiring words: "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I

fear?" and "Be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord."

During this month, Jews also seek to apologize to those whom they have slighted during the past year. This is the principle of Teshuvah, or repentance. Often asking for forgiveness is painful and humbling. But, our tradition wisely says that we must participate in such acts before engaging in Teshuvah with HaShem between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur.

So this year, let us allow our hearts to capture the spirit of Elul. We should attend morning services, even if we haven't done so in a while. We should speak candidly to someone with whom we've had strained relations, such as a spouse, sibling, parent or friend. Also, we should read reflective literature such as S.Y. Agnon's "The Days of Awe," or the writings of such spiritual thinkers as R' Shimshon Raphael Hirsch, z"l, and Menachem Mendel Schneerson, ztz", and others. By observing the precepts of Elul, and taking them to heart, we will be living the Jewish calendar, not just trotting out to shul when the congregational bulletin says to do so. And with our spiritual fortitude enhanced, the High Holy Days will be right on time.

Dateline Halifax

Mazel Tov to **Arnold Webber** who celebrated his 75th birthday in May, 2001.

Mazel Tov to **Alan** and **Janet Stern** on the birth of their grandson **Gabriel David** on June 5, 2001. Proud parents are **Debbie Jacobson** and **Adam Stern**, Vancouver. Proud aunt is **Debra Stern**.

Mazel Tov to **Adam Steven Berkovits**, son of **Cantor Ed** and **Roz Berkovits** who graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology from Indiana University. Adam is the grandson of **Rena** and **Arnold Webber**.

Mazel Tov to **Aaron Pink** on his graduation from ITI. Aaron is employed with the Department of National Defense.

Mazel Tov to **Martin Herschorn** who was appointed Director of Public Prosecutions for the Province of Nova Scotia.

Congratulations to **Evan Sadofsky** who played basketball with the Canadian team at the Maccabia Games in Israel and received the silver medal. Evan is the grandson of **Ginger Sadofsky** and son of **Marlene** and **Joey Sadofsky**.

Congratulations to **Steven Indig** and **Noah Pink** who received two bronze medals in swimming at the Maccabia Games in Israel this summer. Steven is the son of **Rosalie** and **Victor Indig**, Yarmouth. Noah is the son of **Joan** and **Ronald Pink** of Halifax.



Maccabia Games – Israel

L-R: Steven Indig, Normzan Katz, Evan Sadofsky, Noah Pink.

Mazel Tov to **Matthew Offman**, on his recent Bar Mitzvah. Matthew is the son of **Ardith** and **Joel Offman** and grandson of **Helen Offman**.

Mazel Tov to **Hershel Macaulay** on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah, son of **Cynthia Guzner** and **Rob Macaulay**.

Congratulations to **Joanna Mirsky** and **Ezra Wexler** on their recent engagement.

Our best wishes to **Lysa Magder** and **Mark Appleton** on their recent marriage.

Congratulations to **Andrea Blumenthal** on her recent marriage to **Edwin Lazear**. Our best wishes to parents, **Myrna** and **David Sherman** and **Jerry** and **Nancy Blumenthal**, and **Norma** and **Phil Lazear**.

Mazel Tov to **Millie** and **Harvey Meretsky** on the engagement of their daughter, **Tami Deborah** to Dr. **Adam Zinkin**, son of Dr. and Mrs. **Ed Zinkin** of Rochester, N.Y.

Mazel Tov to **Lorraine Hurtig** on her grandson's recent marriage.

Mazel Tov to **Edith** and **Isaac Schneiderman** on the occasion of their 55th anniversary.

Mazel Tov to **Dan Jockel**, son of **Klara** and **Pavel**, on representing Nova Scotia Tennis at the Canada Games this summer and did extremely well in competition.

Congratulations to our University graduates:

Simon McKnight, son of **Lea** and **Jim McKnight** and grandson of **Marianne** and **Lawrence Ferguson**. Simon graduated from St. F.X. University with a degree of Bachelor of Information Science.

Emily Schroeder, daughter of **Linda** and **David Schroeder**. Emily graduated from McGill University with a degree in Political Science.

Ezra Wexler, son of **Cheryl** and **Marty Wexler**. Ezra graduated with a degree in music from Dalhousie University, majoring in voice.

Sarah Newman Tamm, daughter of **Barbara Newman** and the late **Norman Newman**, graduated from the Fashion Institute of Technology, New York City, with a degree of Bachelor of Fine Arts, cum laude in fabric styling. She married **Erik Tamm** of New York City last September in Halifax.

Tova Rosenberg, daughter of **Drs. Ed** and **Victoria Rosenberg** and granddaughter of **Dr. Anne Hammerling** and the late **Dr. James Hammerling**, graduated in December, 2000 from DePaul University in Chicago with a Masters of Music degree for cello performance.

Joseph Rosenberg, son of **Drs. Ed** and **Victoria Rosenberg** and grandson of **Dr. Anne Hammerling** and the late of **Dr. James Hammerling**, graduated in May from Dalhousie University with first class honours in English, Bachelor of Arts. He will begin studies towards a Masters Degree in Literature at Queen's University in Kingston with a teaching fellowship.

Mazel Tov to **Adina Cieplinski**, daughter of **Nancy and Menashe Cieplinski** and granddaughter of **Peter Herschorn**, on her successful completion of the G.E.D. with high honours.

Mazel Tov to **Marianne Ferguson**, who celebrated her 7th birthday.

Mazel Tov to **Morris Strug** who marked his 80th birthday.

Mazel Tov to **Saul Green** to celebrated his 80th birthday.

Mazel Tov to **Dr. Irving Perlin** to celebrated his 80th birthday.

Mazel Tov to **Molly Rechnitzer** who celebrated her 65th birthday and best wishes on the occasion of your retirement.

Mazel Tov to **Celia Fried** on the recent marriage of her daughter **Wendy** to **Robert Wayne Bauer**.

Mazel Tov to **Lisa Goldberg**, daughter of **Paul and Lorri**, granddaughter of **Miriam and Leonard Goldberg**, who was elected Head Girl at the Halifax Grammar School. Lisa also received the John Szerb Leadership Scholarship.

Mazel Tov to **Eric Goldberg**, son of **Judith and Victor Goldberg** and nephew of **Jon Goldberg**, on his Academic Achievement Award for top marks in Grade 8 at the Halifax Grammar School.

Mazel Tov to **Jack and Barbara Prince** on the occasion of the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, **Zachary Prince** on September 1, 2001 at Temple Sholom in Vancouver, son of **Dana Price** and **Elana Sigal** of Vancouver. Maternal grandparents **Dr. Cecil and Ruth Sigal** of Vancouver.

We also congratulate our high school graduates:

Adam Conter, son of **Karen and Howard Conter**, grandson of **Deborah** and the late **Ralph Conter**, Halifax, **Shirley and Mort Abramsky**, Kingston, Ontario, and the great-grandson of **Ruby Hamburg**, Halifax, graduated from the Halifax Grammar with his International Baccalaureate Diploma. Adam also received the Birks Medal for outstanding leadership, the Debating Society Award, IBCAS Award and an HGS letter. Adam is attending McGill University with plans to major in business.

Noah Pink, son of **Joan and Ronald Pink**, graduated from the Halifax Grammar School and is attending the University of Pennsylvania where he will be a member of the swim team.

Andrew Gergely, son of **Marilyn Webster and Peter Gergely**, graduated from St. Pat's High School with a French Immersion Completion Certificate. He is attending Dalhousie University and plans to go into electrical engineering.

Kayla Wexler, daughter of **Cheryl and Martin Wexler**, graduated from St. Pat's High School with honours. She is attending Dalhousie University.

Jewish National Fund wishes all its friends and supporters a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Mark Mendelson
Executive Director
Eastern Canada

Eli Shenhav
National Education Shaliach

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before I was born
so do I plant for those
who will come after me"*

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Nathan Zilbert, son of **Kathy** and **Arthur Zilbert**, graduated from Queen Elizabeth High School with honours with distinction. He was awarded the University of Toronto Book Award and a QEH Academic Achievement Award. He received a Scholarship to McGill University where he will be studying science.

Joe Herschorn, son of **Marie** and **Martin Herschorn**, grandson of **Peter Herschorn** and **Fidelia McC Carson**, graduated from St. Pat's High School with honours with distinction. He received a French Immersion Completion Certificate and Certificate of Achievement for highest marks in Math 12. He is attending the University of King's College Foundation Year Program.

Zachary Abrahams, son of **Joanne** and **Ron Abrahams**, grandson of **Lillian Pink**, graduated from St. Pat's High School with honours with a French Immersion Completion Certificate. He received a Book Scholarship from **Howard Epstein** and an academic scholarship from a former St. Pat's Class. He is attending McGill University.

David Tax, son of **Cara** and **Ted Tax**, grandson of **Ann Tax**, graduated from St. Pat's High School, with honours with distinction and a French Immersion Completion Certificate. He received the Gary Ewer Award of recognition for outstanding accomplishment in music during high school. David is attending Acadia University.

Sarah Rosenberg, daughter of **Ed** and **Victoria Rosenberg** and granddaughter of **Anne Hammerling**, graduated from Armbrae Academy and received the graduating class prize in English and Language Arts. She is studying towards a Bachelor of Science degree at Dalhousie University with an academic scholarship.

Daniel Zatzman, son of **Steven Zatzman**, graduated from Halifax West High School with honours. Daniel won the Birks Medal as well as other academic certificates. He will be attending the University of Western Ontario in London pre-accepted to the Richard Ivey School of Business.

To all our graduates, we wish you all the best in your future endeavors!

Condolences to **Mitchell** and **Eric Zusman** on the passing of their beloved mother, **Florence**.

If we have left out an important celebration or you would like to place an announcement, please call Marie at the Atlantic Jewish Council, 422-7491, ext. 24 or email mhschorn@theajc.ns.ca. I will be delighted to insert it in the next issue of Shalom. Those that are mentioned in this issue are those of which I have been informed.

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Appeal for Hesed Lev in Vladimir Russia

By Abraham Arnold, Winnipeg, Manitoba

In 1999 I visited the city of Vladimir Russia, 180 km. East of Moscow, where I was shown a building which used to house a synagogue that was closed by Soviet decree. This is a special appeal for Hesed Lev, the new Jewish community agency in Vladimir.

Earlier in 1999 Hesed Lev had purchased another building, with the support of the Russian Jewish Congress and some private donors, to serve as the "Jewish House" for their community. When I was there plans were being made to renovate this building to accommodate all Jewish community activities, including a chapel for religious services.

So what was I doing in Russia in 1999? I was on a mission, not from the Jewish Federation or the JDC, but from the Canadian Executive Service Organization (CESO), an NGO in the ambit of CIDA, the Canadian International Development Agency. CESO sends Volunteer Advisors to help new business development as well as non-profit organizations in community development. My visit to Russia, and to the city of Vladimir came in response to the initiative of a dynamic 35-year-old woman, **Natalie Itelson**, who serves as the Executive Director of Hesed Lev which receives the same kind of aid, through the JDC, as many other Russian Jewish communities. However, Itelson had heard from CESO and she decided to ask for a Volunteer Advisor. I was chosen for the assignment.

On a cold day in early December, we were taken to the new "Jewish House" (with no heat) to witness the distribution of Chanukah holiday parcels to elderly and needy Jews. This was part of the Hesed Lev welfare program, mainly for seniors, including holiday parcels to 250, monthly parcels to 150 and a daily meal to 20 people five times a week. An enlarged program for health and medical needs was being planned.

Hesed Lev, in its third year of operations, was already doing much more than welfare for the 500 Jewish families of Vladimir. I found a dedicated group of young people, led by Itelson, running a Sunday School for children and young people, ages 7 to 17, a talented music ensemble, a promising theatre group, a family club and other activities. We witnessed all these activities. Outstanding among them was a production of the play Exodus 47 (based on **Leon Uris'** novel), in Russian with Hebrew songs. There was also an exhibition of documents on Government-Jewish relationships in Vladimir including evidence of the Soviet regime's closure of the synagogue. Hesed Lev is a good example of the revival of Jewish life in Russia despite the departure of a million Jews from FSU countries and the difficult conditions facing those who remain, including some anti-Semitism.

Natalia's Russian husband, **Nicolai**, who strongly supports her work for Hesed Lev, was attacked last summer in front of the new "Jewish House". While in Vladimir we advised Natalia on budgeting and fund-raising, and also made program suggestions. Before and after our stay in Vladimir she took us to meet with leaders of some of the new Jewish organizations in Russia: the Jewish Arts Centre at the Choral Synagogue

where we were serenaded with Yiddish songs.

After we left Russia, Natalia went to Jerusalem for a three-month study course on fundraising and community work.

I had promised to seek some special help for Hesed Lev in Canada and I have been presenting the case for such help to my Federation friends.

I am aware of the help being provided by Toronto Jewry for needy Jews in Kievskaya, Ukraine and of Montreal's aid to Kishinev (now Chisinau) in Moldova. All of this support is transmitted through the JDC, from whose Jerusalem office I received advice on my assignment in Vladimir.

I believe however that Hesed Lev in Vladimir deserves special consideration from Jews in Canada, because of their exemplary efforts in reviving Jewish life in a small community.

Also not to be overlooked is that my visit there was sponsored by CESO as part of the overseas aid program of the Canadian Government. This is an added reason to seek contributions towards one or more of Hesed Lev's needs in Vladimir. Also, perhaps there are Jews in Canada whose parents or grandparents came from the Vladimir region. (Jews have lived in that region since at least the 17th century.) But you don't have to be related to someone over there to consider supporting them. We (my wife and I) found a common bond with many Jews in Vladimir. We met one Yiddish speaking man who was related to the **Dlin** family in Edmonton.

Since my visit to Vladimir I have continued to be in touch with Natalia Itelson and she has advised me of their special needs including:

1. A mini-bus for a dozen passengers to transport elderly and children to activities at the Jewish House in Vladimir, deliver meals on wheels to the house-bound and to transport members of the music ensemble and theatre group while on tour.
Estimated cost\$25,000.00
2. Office Equipment, including computers, a Xerox copier and building furniture.
Estimated cost\$29,000.00
3. A sound system and musical instruments.
Estimated Cost\$17,000.00

Can we find supporters for one or more of Hesed Lev's special needs? This appeal for aid is now being made through UIA Federations Canada, which would provide the usual receipts for all contributions and transfer the funds to Hesed Lev through the appropriate agencies. For further information contact Dov Harris, UJA Federations Canada, 4600 Bathurst St., #315, Willowdale ON M2R 3V3 (416) 636-7655 ext. 226).

Note: Abraham Arnold, who lives in Winnipeg, is a former Western Region Executive Director of Canadian Jewish Congress, a former PR Director of the Jewish Federation in Montreal and a former editor-publisher of the Jewish Western Bulletin in Vancouver. In retirement he continues to be active in the Jewish community, as a board member of the Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada and as an Executive member of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies.

Dateline Fredericton

Mazel Tov to **Anita and David Adilman** on the graduation of their daughters **Sari Lana** who graduated from Saint Thomas University May 14, 2001 with a BA in Psychology. Sari will be returning to University to resume her studies in Elementary Education. Mazel Tov to **Lea Naomi** who graduated from Carleton University on June 16, 2001 with a BA in Social Sciences.

Mazel Tov to **Sarah and Harry Lang** on their 47th wedding anniversary

Mazel Tov to **Miriam and Warren Cohen** on the engagement of their son **Dr. Rob Cohen** to **Lisa Grossman** daughter of **Mitch and Val Grossman** of Calgary.

Condolences to **Milton Levine** on the loss of his wife **Sandra**.

Condolences to **Dr. Peter Landau** on the loss of his Father **Dr. Josef Landau**.

Condolences to **Mrs. Evelyn Budovitch** on the loss of her Mother.

Condolences to **Joe Chippin, Arnold Chippin, Carol Airst and Ruth Chippin** on the loss of their Wife and Mother **Jennie**.

May the mourners be spared further sadness

Congratulations to **Judy (Chernin) Budovitch** who received the Queen's Counsel designation from the New Brunswick Court of Appeal on Dec. 15, 2000. Congratulations to **Paul Budovitch** son of **Arnold and Judy** and grandson of **Frank and Daisy Budovitch** and **Etta Chernin** on receiving his B.Comm. from McGill University on June 6, 2000. Paul graduated with joint first class honours in economics and finance and will begin the study of law at the University of Toronto in the fall.

Josh Beutel Wins Appeal Against Malcolm Ross

Reported by Israel Unger with Sandra Ireland

The Court of Appeal of NB, the highest court in New Brunswick unanimously overturned Judge Creaghan's verdict in the **Josh Beutel – Malcolm Ross** case.

The case had its origins in a Holocaust workshop intended for history teachers, but one which teachers of any discipline could attend. The workshop was held at the Synagogue in Saint John. Malcolm Ross, who had been dismissed from his teaching position for his antisemitic books and comments but still employed by the school board, announced that he would attend this workshop.

Ross showed up with his brother and was being "deliberately provocative" according to **Marlene Unger**, who also attended the workshop.

"He refused to wear a Yarmulka, would not eat lunch because it was kosher and had himself photographed in front of the Bimah holding a bible with a cross on the cover," **Marlene Unger** said. **Josh Beutel**, a well-known cartoonist, showed several cartoons at the workshop, including the one below. Ross now had his incident; he sued Beutel and the NB Teachers Association, the workshop sponsor, for defaming, humiliating and

causing him pain. The case went to trial in Moncton. Josh BEUTEL was defended by Hampton lawyer, **David Lutz** on a pro bono basis, while **Douglas Christie** well-known as **Zundel and Keegstra's** lawyer, acted for Ross. After a lengthy trial, during which Josh Beutel said, "I could hear the trains rumbling on their way to the death camps when I read Ross' books," Judge Creaghan ruled that Ross was indeed an antisemite and a racist, but that Beutel did not have a right to depict him as a Nazi. The verdict was greeted with amazement by most people in NB. **Ivan Levine's** reaction was typical. Levine said, "The judge has just said that if it walks like a duck, quacks like a duck and looks like a duck you are not allowed to say that it probably is a duck."

Beutel appealed Judge Creaghan's verdict, and so did Ross who wanted the damages increased. Which brings us to the top of this story. The Court of Appeal of NB has unanimously overturned Judge Creaghan's verdict, and ruled that Beutel's cartoon was "fair comment" and awarded costs to Beutel. Ross has until the end of August to decide to appeal this ruling, in which case, the issue would go to the Supreme Court of Canada.



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A Prayer

Rosh Hashanah

is a sacred time for the Jewish people. It is a time for reflection and for hope. As we pray for guidance to meet the challenges of our own lives this coming year, let us also remember our family in Israel. Let us resolve to always keep Israel in our prayers; and to rededicate ourselves to strengthen our solidarity with the Jewish homeland and its people at this difficult time. Let us resolve to educate ourselves, and in turn, to educate others to understand the truth.

Today, as our fellow Jews living in Eretz Yisrael are confronted with daily violence and tragedy,

we must stand shoulder to shoulder with them by collectively voicing our support.

This year our UJA campaign is focused to help ease the burden in Israel for those who have had their lives altered by the current hostilities. With an increased demand on the social service structure, such as family counselling for victims of terror and social assistance for those whose jobs have disappeared, we in Canada will do what we can to help support our fellow Jews.

When you are asked for your pledge this year, consider something more ... something that will help a person or a family in Israel. It is one more way we can show we care.

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