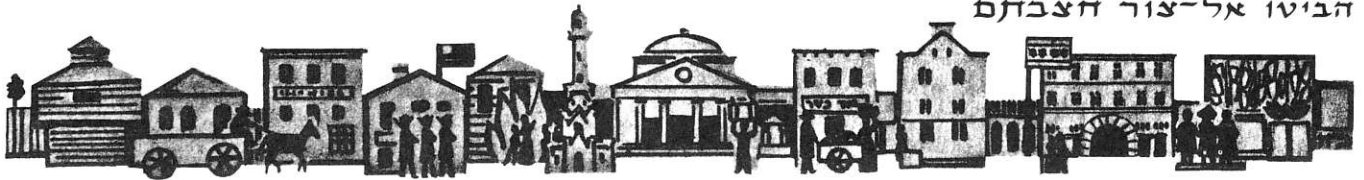


Look to the rock from which you were hewn
הביטו אל-צור הצבאתם



chicago jewish historical society society news

VOL. II - No. 1

FIRST ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

JANUARY 23, 1978

CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY BY OPENING 1ST EXHIBIT

The Society's birthday present to itself and to Chicago Jewry is the completion of the work on its first exhibit, "Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow"--a collection of artifacts belonging to Chicago's early Jewish settlers. The exhibit will open officially on February 12 to co-incide with the Society's next open meeting. The exhibit will be housed at Spertus College of Judaica.

Though small in size, the exhibit is rich in content. Featured among the beautiful and unusual items will be memorabilia of Michael Reese Hospital dating back to mid-19th century. These include the dedication letter, a diary, newspapers, medical reports and pictures. The collection will also display an antique sewing machine, a wedding dress, and a ketuba--all belonging to early Chicago Jewish families.

The opening of this exhibit is a crowning achievement of the Society's first year, as it represents the volunteer work of non-professional members of the Society, motivated and guided by their love for Chicago Jewry's fascinating past.

Exhibit Committee members: Ken Cohen, chairman; Roseann Chasman, designer; Marylou Seidenfeld, recorder; Miriam Brill; Sylvia Klein; Doris Minsky; Moselle Mintz; Elsie Orlinsky; Marcia Ross; Burt Robin and Norman Schwartz.

SPECIAL 1ST ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY 12 OPEN MEETING

RACHEL HEIMOVICS
WILL GIVE A SLIDE TALK ENTITLED:

*"Who Stole the Organ from Liebman
Adler's Shul?"*

The program will include slides of CJHS activities of its first year.

preceded by

CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION
&
OPENING CEREMONIES OF OUR 1ST EXHIBIT

"Preserving Yesterday for Tomorrow"

SPERTUS COLLEGE - BEDERMAN HALL
618 S. MICHIGAN AVENUE

1:30 P.M.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1978

* * * * *

CJHS ON TV

On Sunday morning, February 26th, our president, Muriel Robin, and our treasurer, Charles B. Bernstein, will be interviewed on "Some of My Best Friends." We suggest that you watch Channel 5 at 9 am for some of our best friends.

TODAY'S HISTORY MAKERS

Notable doings of Society members:

SOL BRANDZEL was honored by Hista-drut at a testimonial dinner on Sunday, Nov. 6 for his work for that organization and the Chicago Jewish community. Mayor Bilandic was present and Bayard Rustin spoke on the similarity of interests of blacks and Jews, concluding with the singing of "Let My People Go."

SHAINA PEARLE COHN's letter to the editor in the Nov. issue of the JUF News shed some light on early American Jewish governors.

DONALD KAHAN & BERT B. WEINSTEIN were awarded the honorary degrees of Doctor of Humane Letters and Doctor of Hebrew Letters, respectively, from Spertus College of Judaica at a recent convocation.

LECTURERS

Many of our members have been busy on the lecture circuit. The BERNSTEINS (CHARLES & ROBERTA) have been giving their dramatized talk, "Some Vignettes of Chicago Jewish History," and Chuck has done his talk on "The Whys and Hows of Jewish Genealogy" on several occasions IRVING CUTLER gave his slide lecture on "The Growth & Development of the Chicago Jewish Community" to Sunday morning breakfast groups at Congregations Rodfei Zedek (Nov. 13) and Shaare Tikvah (Dec. 11). . . . RACHEL HEIMOVICS delivered her talk entitled "The Pioneers in Our Closets" at Niles Township Jewish Congregation in the Fall, and her slide lecture on "History of Chicago Jewry" at Temple Jeremiah on Dec. 2. She has also been teaching a 23-week adult education course on Saturday afternoon at Temple Solel on "Chicago & the American Jewish Experience."

These talks and many others are available through our Speakers Referral Service, run by Ruth Brandzel.

ORAL HISTORIANS BEING TRAINED

The Oral History Committee, jointly chaired by MARK MANDLE and MOSELLE MINTZ, held its second training session for volunteers on Jan. 19 at the Horwich JCC. Professor EDWARD MAZUR taught the group the techniques of conducting an oral history interview. Mazur teaches at Chicago City College and is an authority on Jews in Chicago politics.

If you are interested in learning how to do this work but missed signing up for the initial training sessions, call Mark Mandle at our office, 663-5634. More sessions will be scheduled in the future.

TYPISTS NEEDED

The Oral History Committee still needs typists to transcribe recorded interviews. Call our office if you are able to help in this area.

* * * * *

NATIONAL JEWISH ROOTS GROUP PLANTED

Elizabeth, N.J. (Oct. 23, '77)--

The Jewish Genealogical Society was founded here today by eleven persons, including CJHS treasurer CHARLES B. BERNSTEIN, who was elected a director.

The organization was conceived by an Elizabeth physician, Dr. Neil Rosenstein, who invited several genealogists, both professional and amateur, to his home to start the organization. Rosenstein is the author of The Unbroken Chain (Shengold, 1976), the monumental study of the Katzenellenbogen family.

Also present among the founding members were Dan Rottenberg, who popularized Jewish genealogy with his recent book Finding Our Fathers (Random House, 1977), and Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern, dean of American Jewish genealogists and author of Americans of Jewish Descent.

Anyone interested in this new organization can contact Charles Bernstein at our office, 663-5634.

CJHS WELCOMES DR. JACOB R. MARCUS

We are proud to announce the recent membership of DR. JACOB RADER MARCUS of Cincinnati, the well-known American Jewish historian and founder and director of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati. The Society looks forward to his participation in its affairs and his wise counsel in years to come.

Dr. Marcus has been on the faculty of Hebrew Union College since 1920 and is past president of the American Jewish Historical Society. He received the degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters, Honoris Causa, from the Spertus College of Judaica last June, along with fellow Society members, DR. DAVID GRAUBART and DR. BERT B. WEINSTEIN.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

- Membership in the CJHS is open to all. The dues categories are:
- \$ 5.00 Students & Senior Citizens
- 10.00 Contributing Membership
- 25.00 Sustaining Membership
- 50.00 Patron Membership
- 100.00 & up-Sponsoring Membership
- 25.00 Minimum contribution for synagogue and organization membership

To become a member, or to increase your membership contribution, send your check to CJHS Treasurer Charles B. Bernstein, 5457 S. Hyde Park Blvd., Chicago, Ill. 60615.

ARCHIVES MATERIAL

The Archives Committee welcomes your donations of personal and organizational materials. RICHARD MARCUS, chairman of the committee, will be happy to discuss your materials with you and arrange for their deposit in the Chicago Jewish Archives.

The Archives Committee also needs helpers to classify and file.

Call Marcus at our office 663-5634 to discuss donating materials or to volunteer your services.

BUS TOURS RESUME IN SPRING

CJHS-sponsored bus tours of historic Jewish Chicago will resume in the spring. Plans are now being made for a new series of interesting tours to a wide variety of historic sites. Watch the SOCIETY NEWS for further announcements.

Tours can be tailor-made to suit the needs of your group--children, teens, or adults. Call our office with your requests so that they may be considered in our plans.

* * * * *
*SOCIETY NEWS - Published by the Chicago Jewish Historical Society
618 S. Michigan Avenue, 60605
Telephone: 663-5634*

*Editor: ROBERTA BERNSTEIN
Copy Editor: JERRY ROBIN
CJHS Logo: ROSEANN CHASMAN*

* * * * *

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE OF THE CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP, MARCH 13, 1977

To collect, preserve and exhibit memorabilia and materials of every kind pertaining to the settlement, history and life of Jews and the Jewish community of metropolitan Chicago, Illinois; and to conduct education programs, encourage study and research, and disseminate information pertaining to the settlement, history and life of Jews and the Jewish community of metropolitan Chicago, Illinois.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is a very special privilege for me to write the President's Message for this issue of SOCIETY NEWS. It is a full year since the first seeds of our Society were sown, and the pages of this NEWS tell of many accomplishments and ongoing activities of the Society. The preceding pages indicate the wide range of activities in which we are engaged, and the following pages list the people and the organizations who support us. This message is placed between the activities and the "activitors" - a comfortable spot for a president!

The support of so many organizations and individuals indicates to us the importance of our Society in the Jewish community. Memberships (from \$5.00 student and senior memberships to sponsoring memberships of \$100 and up) are enabling us to provide the services that are being requested: bi-monthly open meetings, archival collecting for the Chicago Jewish Archives, historical exhibits, oral history interviews and transcription, a speaker referral service for Chicago area organizations and more....we invite your suggestions.

The exceptional contribution of the Spertus College of Judaica - the use of their facilities, including our beautiful Michigan Avenue office - deserves special mention. We are grateful to the Spertus Trustees and staff for making us welcome, and invite all of our members to enjoy the outstanding facilities available at 618 S. Michigan Avenue: the College, Library, Museum and Museum Store.

The officers, board members and committee members enable us to accomplish so much and to set and achieve many goals. Their dedication to Chicago Jewish History is making many things happen. We hope that you are participating; if not, may we invite you and your friends to join in the excitement of helping to preserve yesterday - and today - for tomorrow.

MURIEL ROBIN



HONOR ROLL OF OUR DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS

FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF MEMBERS WHO HAVE JOINED THE CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY DURING OUR FIRST YEAR, AND WHOSE SUPPORT AND EFFORTS HAVE MADE OUR GROWTH POSSIBLE.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

OFFICERS

- MURIEL ROBIN
President
- RUTH BRANDZEL
NORMAN SCHWARTZ
Vice Presidents
- CHAS. B. BERNSTEIN
Treasurer
- ALLENE FROST
Rec. Secretary
- ROBERTA BERNSTEIN
Corr. Secretary
- RACHEL HEIMOVICS
AJHS Liaison
- RICHARD MARCUS
Spertus Liaison

- Abelson, Sheldon M. & Judith M.
- Abrohams, Janice
- Ackerman, Miriam M. (Mrs. Chas.)
- Adler, Mrs. Harry
- Adler, M/M Robert L.
- American Jewish Congress Council of Greater Chicago
- Astrin, Mrs. Yvette S.
- Axelrod, Leslie
- Balkin, M/M Steven
- Belshaw, Carol & Terence
- Berc, Harold T.
- Berkin, Alice & Bernard
- Bernstein, M/M Norman

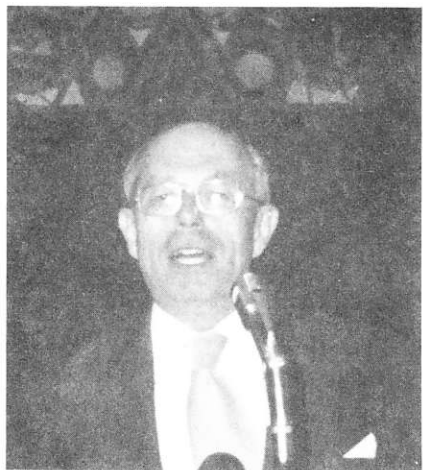
COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

- RICHARD MARCUS
Archives
- KENNETH COHEN
Exhibit
- MOSELLE MINTZ
MARK MANDLE
Oral History
- ROBERTA BERNSTEIN
News Editor
- DORIS MINSKY
Historian
- RACHEL HEIMOVICS
SHAINA P. COHN
Publicity
- RACHEL HEIMOVICS
IRVING CUTLER
Tours

- Besser, Francine
- Best, M/M Michael
- Bleicher, M/M Leo E.
- Block, M/M Lawrence
- Bloomberg, M/M Leo
- Bournstine, Charles
- Briskin, M/M Lawrence
- Brody, M/M Robert S.
- Cember, Dr./M Herman
- Chasman, Richard
- Chicago Women's Aid
- Cohen, Grace
- Cohen, M/M Joseph A.
- Cohen, Matthew
- Cohen, Prof. Sheldon
- Colton, Ralph F.
- Congregation Anshe Mizrach
- Covich, Edith S.
- Cutler, Mrs. Irving
- Derin, Albert & Dahlia
- Dixler, Rosalie
- Draznin, Herman J.
- Drebin, Philip
- Einisman, Myron S.
- Epstein, Mrs. Bernard
- Epstein, M/M Samuel
- Fainman, Burt

MEMBERS AT LARGE

- LEAH J. AXELROD
- SOL BRANDZEL
- ROSEANN CHASMAN
- NANCY COHEN
- BERNARD EPSTEIN
- JACK FROST
- SALLY GOLDSMITH
- BARBARA MARCUS
- JOSEPH MINSKY
- ELSIE ORLINSKY
- BURTON ROBIN
- MARCIA ROSS
- SIDNEY SORKIN



- Fajerstein, M/M Sam
 Fefer, Blossom Vigdor
 Feinhandler, Dr./M Emanuel J.
 Finkel, Dr./M Asher J.
 Finkelstein, Michelle
 Fishkin, Dr./M Martin
 Flander, Mrs. M.M.
 Fox, Etha B.
 Frank, M/M Stanley
 Free Sons of Israel
 Freiler, Mrs. A.J.
 Friedland, M/M Sidney
 Friedman, M/M Alvin F
 Friedman, Peter & Andrea
 Forst, Bonnie
 Garb, Florence
 Gerson, Mrs. Elizabeth
 Gertz, Walter & Shary
 Gimpel, Arnold & Phyllis
 Ginsburg, M/M Bernard
 Ginsparg, Elise
 Glossberg, Mrs. J. Wm.
 Gold, Dr./M James S.
 Goldenberg, M/M Ralph
 Goldenberg, Roselyn L.
 Goldman, Linda
 Goldman, Shirlee Sobel
 Goldsmith, Dr. Walter
 Goldstein, M/M Michael (Marsha)
 Gomberg, Helene
 Goodman, Mrs. Jack
 Gordon, Mrs. Hannah
 Gould, M/M Joseph E.
 Graubart, Rabbi/M David
 Greenberg, M/M Daniel
 Greene, Evelyn
 Greenfield, Gertrude
 Greenthal, Grete
 Greenwald, Lee
 Grossberg, Edmund J.
 Grubman, Charlotte
 Gutstein, Rabbi Morris
 Gutter, Lawrence
 Hakimian, Friedoon
 Handler, Ronald & Marianne G.
 Hartman, Ms. S.E.
 Hast, Malcolm & Adele
 Heilbrunn, Joan
 Heimovics, John
 Herman, Jack & Sandra
 Horvitz, Myron & Dovie
 Horwich, Arthur N.
 Hunt, M/M James E.
- Hurwitz, Dr./M Paul
 Hymen, M/M Herbert M.
 Izenstark, Lillian L.
 Jackson, Clara
 Jacobs, M/M Irwin (Selma)
 Jacobson, Sara
 Jarrow, M/M Myles A.
 Jarrow, M/M Richard
 Josephy, Dr. Karl & Marcia
 Kahan, Ms. Donna W.
 Kahn, M/M Albert
 *Kahn, Nat M. Esq.
 Kane, Gladys
 Kaplan, Susan R.
 Karoll, M/M Sam
 Karp, Melvin A & Pearl R.
 Katlin, M/M Frank
 Klein, M/M Elmer
 Klein, Selma
 Klugman, Arnold & Harriett
 Komaiko, Dorothy
 Kopstein, Max & Esther
 Krevitt, Rosanne E.
 Krucoff, M/M Larry
 Kurtz, Rabbi & Mrs. Vernon
 Landy, M/M Nathan
 Lappe, M/M Leonard
 Lapping, Irwin
 Lavin, M/M Martin
 Lawitz, Leslie & Ruth B.
 Lefkowitz, M/M Elliot
 Leopold, Mark & Jacqueline
 Lerner, M/M Herman H.
 Lerner, Michael S.
 Levin, M/M Jerold
 Levin, Lawrence
 Levin, Rose
 Levin, Shirley L.
 Levine, Carrie
 Levinson, M/M Joseph
 Levy, Herbert
 Lewis, Eli
 Lichter, M/M David
 Lidschin, Rose J. (Mrs. Max)
 Lieberman, M/M A.
 Lipman, M/M Dan
 Loevy, M/M Arthur
 Lubin, Cantor & Mrs. Abraham
 Manning, M/M Herbert
- Marcus, Dr. Jacob Rader
 Marks, Elaine
 Marks, Marcella
 Marovitz, Judge Abraham Lincoln
 Martin, M/M Donald
 Maslin, Rabbi Simeon J.
 Massel, M/M Seymour
 Mazur, Dr. Edward H.
 Melnick, Dr. Curtis C.
 Meyer, Richard A.
 Mintz, Dr. & Mrs. S. Bernhardt
 Needlman, M/M Allen
 Newberger, Mrs. Philip
 North Shore Congregation Israel
 North Shore School of Jewish Studies
 Novar, M/M Leon
 Oberman, Rosalie
 Olshansky, M/M Harold
 Orlinsky, Harold
 Orlov, Charles & Sarah
 Patinkin, Norman J.
 Paul, M/M Morton
 Pepper, Sonia
 Perelmuter, Rabbi H. G.
 Plaut, Max L.
 Pock, Arnold, D.P.M.
 Podolsky, M/M Ray
 Polin, Dr./M Stanton
 Porwancher, M/M K.
 Prochovnick, M/M Ammiel (Payah)
 Rehbock, M/M Hans
 Reicin, M/M Edward
 Remer, M/M Theodore G.
 Rest, M/M Edwin
 Rhodes, M/M Richard S.
 Ringer, Jack
 Rissman, Bertha Read
 Robbin, M/M Irving
 Robin, Carol
 Robin, David & Kathy
 Robin, Jerry
 Robinson, Susan
 Rolnick, Joseph
 Rose, Sandy
 Roseff, Mrs. Alexander K
 Rosen, Stanley
 Rosenberg, Alan M. & Helene

*deceased

Rosenberg, Lester J.
 Rosenblum, Frieda T.
 Rosenstein, M/M Myron
 Ross, Dr. Lawrence S.
 Rozran, Andrea Rice
 Sabin, Arthur J.
 Sachs, Mrs. Jean B.
 Sacks, Rhoda
 Sagalovitch, Hadassah
 Salario, Zoralyn V.
 Salita, Etta
 Salk, Erwin A.
 Samber, M/M Morris
 Saposnik, M/M Rubin
 Schachtman, Samuel &
 Rita
 Scheller, Prof. Arthur
 M., Jr.
 Schero, Mrs. William
 (Mabel)
 Schorr, Elena Gould
 Schub, Mrs. Geula
 Schulner, Ethel B.
 Schuman, Harry L.
 & Dawn R.
 *Schwartz, Mrs. Jacob X.
 Schwartz, Mrs. S.D.
 Seefor, M/M Sol
 Seidenfeld, Mary Lou
 Segal, Irving &
 Edith
 Seligman, Dr./M Jack
 Shapiro, Chas. & M.R.
 Foundation, Inc.
 Shapiro, Ruth L.
 Sherman, M/M Morris
 Shure, Arnold &
 Frieda
 Silberman, Abbott &
 Jeraldine
 Silverglade, Dr./M
 Lee B.
 Silverstein, Nathan
 & Edna
 Silversweig, David F.
 Simon, Dr./M A.J.
 Simon, Rabbi & Mrs.
 Ralph
 Singer, David G.

Sitkoff, Donna L.
 Smith, M/M Barry L.
 Sochen, June
 Sontz, Arthur &
 Beverly
 Sorkin, Mrs. Sidney
 Specter, M/M Samuel
 Spertus, Philip
 Spitzer, Lottie
 Stackler, Ronald E.
 Statland, Mrs. Sam
 Stern, Dr./M Jack
 Stern, Janet &
 Charles
 Stern, M/M Marshall
 Stern, Rabbi & Mrs.
 Sholom
 Stillerman, Merwin
 & Frieda E.
 Taymor, Mrs. Aaron
 Uhry, Jane
 Walchirk, M/M Oscar
 Wax, M/M Bernard
 Weiland, M/M Martin
 Weiler, Marvin M. &
 N. Sue
 Weinberg, Elaine
 Weinstein, Bert B.
 Foundation
 Weinstein, Mrs.
 Emilia
 Weinstein, M/M Ted
 Weiss, M/M Irwin
 Wexler, Mrs. Gertrude
 Willens, Rita &
 David
 Wolf, M/M Henry P.
 Wolfson, Sally T.
 Zemsky, Morris H.
 Zite, Jay Weller &
 Sharon
 Zucker, Eugene

This list includes
 all members who joined
 the SOCIETY during its
 first year. The names
 are listed as they
 appeared on the mem-
 bership applications.
 We hope that we have
 not omitted any name
 that belongs on these
 pages, and sincerely
 apologize for any omis-
 sions or errors. Please
 notify our office to
 request corrections.
 Our first fiscal year
 ends on June 30, 1978
 and all memberships
 will be due for renewal
 at that time. We antic-
 ipate your continued
 support and your positive
 response to our member-
 ship letter.

IN MEMORIAM

Nat M. Kahn (1895-1977)

The Society records with sorrow the sudden passing Dec. 13, 1977, of member NAT M. KAHN, Esq., a distinguished and widely admired chronicler of Chicago Jewish history for over 35 years.

Nathan Maurice Kahn was born in Chicago on January 9, 1895, to Max and Anna (Rosenthal) Kahn, who came to Chicago from Lithuania in the 1880's and operated a delicatessen on Maxwell St. and at other locations on the "Vest Site", as Mr. Kahn fondly referred to it. A brilliant student, he passed the bar examination before graduating from Chicago Kent College of Law. He practiced law continuously for 61 years, achieving renown as one of the most respected members of the Chicago bar and one of the nation's leading probate lawyers. He was the author of more than 100 published articles on probate law.

A devotee of the theatre, he wrote plays on the theme of probate law that were enacted statewide, and for 39 years he had a part in the annual Chicago Bar Association "Christmas Spirits" show. Only a week before his death, he delighted patrons at the show with his portrayal, in a huge sombrero, of a sleepy worker at the Panama Canal.

His writing talents were also lovingly put to use in the field of Chicago Jewish history, and it was his fondness for the past that led Mr. Kahn to the CJHS. A raconteur par excellence, Mr. Kahn began to write periodic letters of news from home to his son when the latter went away to college in 1941. Gradually, this correspondence grew into a monthly newsletter of ten or more legal-sized, single-spaced typewritten pages. The "Blockbuster", as it was called, included nostalgic reminiscences of people and events, such as life on the "Vest Site", the careers of famous lawyers whom Mr. Kahn had known, and stories of other people, both prominent and not so prominent in Chicago, whose paths crossed Mr. Kahn's.

Gradually, friends asked to receive the "Blockbuster". At last count it had 127 subscribers, including the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati. Mr. Kahn added the Chicago Jewish Archives to his list when he joined the CJHS in July, 1977. The "Blockbusters" were replete with humorous quips. A standard one in every issue was that all subscribers had lifetime sub-

scriptions--for the life of Mr. Kahn, not the subscriber.

The "Blockbusters" unfold the evolution of the Chicago Jewish community and its members, from the ghetto days when an Orthodox college student refused to eat the candy a free-thinking friend offered him during Passover, to the North Shore restaurant 60 years later when that same college student enjoyed a lobster dinner.

Mr. Kahn is survived by his wife of 56 years, the former Goldie Newman; as well as a daughter, Carol Eisenschiml of Highland Park, Ill. whose husband Ralph is the son of the late noted Lincoln scholar, Otto Eisenschiml; a son, Morley David Kahn of Greenwich, Conn., who is married to the former Yvette Greifer of Providence, R.I.; and a daughter-in-law, the former Betty Ginsberg of Chicago, who is the widow of Mr. Kahn's elder son, the late Richard Gordon Kahn, also a distinguished probate lawyer.

Nat M. Kahn was a man in love with Chicago Jewish history and he translated that love into an enjoyable and informative record for the next generation. The Society will miss the "Blockbuster" and its enthusiastic author.