



# chicago jewish history

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**CJHS Silver Anniversary Exhibit  
Opens November 7, 2002  
at Spertus Museum**

## *Carl Fox and Rabbi Moshe Wolf: Jewish Firefighter and Fire Dept. Chaplain Address CJHS Meeting*



**Firefighter Carl Fox.** *Atlas Arms fire, Niles, Illinois, February 19, 1973. Collection of Carl Fox.*

On Sunday, May 5, the Society held an open meeting at the Chicago Fire Academy, 558 West De Koven Street—built on the site (legend has it), where the Great Fire of 1871 began. We met there to hear Carl H. Fox lecture on “Chicago Jewish Firefighters.”

In view of the horrific events of September 11, and the focus of attention on our nation’s fire-fighters, Mr. Fox’s subject had a special relevance and poignancy.

What compelled a “nice Jewish boy” to want to become a fireman? Carl Fox attended Shepard School at Francisco and Fillmore, across the street from a fire station, and that’s where he became a fire buff.

Mr. Fox was one of the founding members of the volunteer Chicago Civil Defense Fire and Rescue Service in 1957. He worked

as a copy boy for the *Sun-Times*, a police beat reporter for the City News Bureau, and an insurance salesman for Met Life, until he fulfilled his dream of becoming a professional firefighter. In 1963 he joined the Niles, Illinois department, eventually reaching the rank of lieutenant. He retired in 1985, and currently volunteers in the ER of Lutheran General Hospital.

His colleague in the Chicago Press Veterans Association, CJHS board member Harold Berc, encouraged him to research the subject of Jews in the Chicago Fire Department. He discovered such names as Bernstein, Gilbert, Katz, Kirchner, Kravitz, Levy, Marcus, Marks, Peretz, Rappaport, Weiner, Weisserman, and Palermo (whose mother is Jewish). Bobbie Sacks is a member of the Air-Sea rescue team. Most of the 40-50 Jewish people in the

*continued on page 15*

## President's Column



Walter Roth

### ABOUT THIRTY YEARS AGO, I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET ELI WIESEL.

He was spending a weekend in Chicago for a program sponsored by the Midwest Region of the American Jewish Congress. It was before he gained renown as undoubtedly the most eloquent figure to emerge from the Holocaust, and long before he received the 1986 Nobel Peace Prize.

A group of us spent the Sabbath with him, at the home of an AJC member. We engaged in discussions during the afternoon and sang Hebrew and Yiddish songs in the evening. The next day he addressed a large audience at a downtown hotel. There followed a panel discussion with several young people on subjects of interest to them. The "hot" topic was Israeli policy with respect to the territories recently won and occupied after the Six-Day War. It is hard to believe that thirty years later the topic is still with us.

Elie Wiesel's most recent visit here was on Wednesday, April 17, as a guest of the City of Chicago, to speak at the Harold Washington Library Center in celebration of "One Book, One Chicago."

The city's first "One Book" project was organized last fall, when Mayor Daley selected the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* as a meaningful book that all Chicagoans could read and discuss. The project was so successful that the Mayor decided to choose another book this spring—Elie Wiesel's Holocaust autobiography, *Night*.

*Night* was written in serial form, in Yiddish, ten years after the end of World War II when Wiesel was living in France. It is a 109-page book that relates in simple, powerful language the horrors he experienced as a 15-year-old boy deported with his family from a town in Hungary, first to a ghetto, and then to one death camp after another. Thousands of copies of *Night* were purchased at bookstores and borrowed from libraries. This "One Book" was a success, widely discussed in reading clubs, high school classrooms and the media.

Elie Wiesel began his talk at the library by noting that he had just returned from a visit to Israel. "I have never seen Israel so sad," he said, and went on to denounce the suicide bombers.

He spoke about his continuing struggle to comprehend the Nazis' attempt to exterminate the entire Jewish people. The atrocities in our time, as in Serbia and Africa, cannot compare with it, he said.

His usual calm manner changed to anger when he was asked about American policy during the Holocaust. He chastised FDR for denying a safe haven to the Jewish refugees aboard the ship *St. Louis*, and for refusing to order the bombing of railroad tracks leading to the death camps once Hitler's extermination policy became known.

Elie Wiesel concluded his remarks with this message for the audience: "Write your stories." This call to "bear witness" is not meant only for Holocaust survivors. It should inspire all of us in the Society to write our life stories and those of our families, and preserve them for future generations. ❖



chicago jewish historical society

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### Chicago Jewish History

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## CJHS Summer Tours 2002

**The Chicago Jewish Historical Society--in cooperation with the Dawn Schuman Institute--has planned three exciting Sunday tours of Chicago area sites rich in Jewish history. All tours are conducted in the comfort of an air-conditioned bus with restroom facilities.**

### SUNDAY, JUNE 23

#### **Milwaukee: New Museum, Old Neighborhoods**

GUIDE: LEAH AXELROD. The Milwaukee Art Museum has received international acclaim for its recent expansion and renovation. A museum docent will lead us on a tour of works by Jewish artists and an exploration of the dramatic new architecture. After lunch at the lakefront Pieces of Eight Restaurant we will take a drive-by and stop tour of the Jewish neighborhoods and the Lubavitch Chabad House.

#### **PICKUPS AT TWO LOCATIONS:**

**Marriott Hotel, 540 North Michigan (Rush Street Entrance)**

**8:00 am--Return 6:30 pm**

**Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 West Touhy**

**8:30 am--Return 6:00 pm**

\$59/Member of CJHS or DSI \$65/Nonmember

### SUNDAY, JULY 14

#### **Indiana Safari**

GUIDE: LEAH AXELROD. The communities of northwest Indiana--Hammond, Gary, Michigan City, East Chicago and Whiting--were once home to thousands of Jewish people. Our bus "safari" will explore their historic houses of worship and neighborhoods. Lunch will be at the Michigan City Yacht Club overlooking Lake Michigan.

#### **PICKUPS AT TWO LOCATIONS:**

**Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 West Touhy**

**8:00 am--Return 6:30 pm**

**Marriott Hotel, 540 North Michigan (Rush Street Entrance)**

**8:30 am--Return 6:00 pm**

\$50/Member of CJHS or DSI \$56/Nonmember

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

#### **Chicago Jewish Roots**

GUIDE: DR. IRVING CUTLER. The author of *The Jews of Chicago: From Shtetl to Suburb* leads a sentimental journey to the Maxwell Street area, Lawndale, Logan Square and Humboldt Park. We stop at the historic Garfield Park Conservatory to view Dale Chihuly's exquisite glass sculptures, which are dramatically displayed among the plants.

#### **PICKUP: Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 West Touhy**

**12:00 noon--Return 5:30 pm**

\$30/Member of CJHS or DSI \$36/Nonmember

**For information phone Leah Axelrod (847)432-7003.**

**Advance payment required.**

**Make check payable to: Chicago Jewish Historical Society.**

**Mail to: Leah Axelrod, 2100 Linden, Highland Park, IL 60035-2516**

### SUNDAY, MAY 19

#### **Spertus to Show "Maxwell Street: A Living Memory"**

Shuli Eshel's acclaimed documentary will be shown at 2:00 p.m. at Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies, 618 South Michigan Avenue. Historians Dr. Irving Cutler and Steve Reiss will make short presentations before the screening. Admission is free, but reservations are requested. Phone (312) 322-1769.

### MAY 24-JULY 7

#### **Victory Gardens to Debut "The Old Man's Friend" by James Sherman**

A funny, touching new dramatic comedy by Chicago playwright James Sherman, author of *Door to Door*, *The God of Isaac*, and *Beau Jest*, will debut at Victory Gardens Mainstage, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave. Boxoffice (773) 871-3000. (Jim was the dramaturg for the CJHS public program on *The Romance of A People*.)

### NOW THRU JUNE 16

#### **"A Force of Nature: The Life and Work of Jens Jensen" at Cultural Center**

Learn about the legendary landscape architect of the Garfield Park Conservatory. Chicago Rooms, 2nd floor of the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St. Admission is free. Call (312) 744-6630.

# From Berlin to Chicago: “Lucky” Molecular Biologist Gunther Stent

BY WALTER ROTH

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society is engaged in an oral history project at the Selfhelp Home on West Argyle Street, interviewing elderly residents who were refugees from Nazi Germany.

In connection with this project, my attention was drawn to a book by the noted historian Walter Laqueur, *Generation Exodus: The Fate of Young Jewish Refugees from Nazi Germany* (Brandeis University Press, 1998). Laqueur himself was a young refugee from Germany who managed to reach Palestine. The book profiles a number of those young people and describes their adventures as they escaped and gained entry to lands where they could start life anew.

*Generation Exodus* includes only one refugee, Gunther Stent, who came to Chicago. I decided to try and find him.

By coincidence, my friend Manfred Steinfeld called me (Manny and I were both refugees from Nazi Germany who came to Chicago) to ask if I knew of the Laqueur book. I answered in the affirmative, and in turn queried him about Stent. Much to my surprise, he answered, “Of course I know him. I went to Hyde Park High School with him. We both worked as soda jerks in a drugstore at 53rd and Ellis.”

Manny had lost contact with him and suggested we search the Internet. We located him easily. There is a page about him on the Web site of the University of California-Berkeley: Gunther S. Stent, Professor Emeritus of Neurobiology. Included is a long list of his scientific publications.

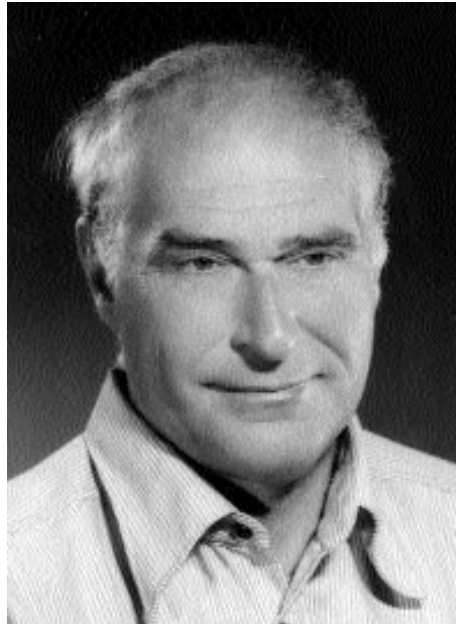
That same evening, I phoned him, and he returned my call the next day. Yes, he was the Gunther Stent mentioned in the book by Walter Laqueur, his good friend. And yes, he had attended Hyde Park High from 1940 until graduation in 1942.

Prof. Stent now teaches Philosophy and Ethics at UC-Berkeley. A most charming man, he told me that he had recently written a book about his early life.

Within a few days, I received a copy of *Nazis, Women and Molecular Biology: Memoirs of a Lucky Self-Hater* (Briones Books, 1998). The book made fascinating reading, and I recommend it highly.

Professor Stent writes that he was born in Berlin, into a genre of Jews who were very wealthy and completely attuned to German high culture. His early education was in rigorous, conservative, Prussian-style boys’ schools. He fully absorbed the atmosphere.

He writes: “Soon after the Nazis came to power in January 1933, I began to hate myself for being a Jew.”



Gunther S. Stent

He was envious of the smartly uniformed Hitlerjugend youth group that was, of course, closed to him. Gunther did get to dress up in a uniform the following spring when, at eight years of age, he became the youngest member of the Jewish youth group, Schwarze Fähnlein. Its leaders “asserted the German Jews’ integral membership in the German nation, were virulently anti-Zionist, and glorified Prussian military virtues.”

Toward the end of 1934 the Gestapo dissolved the Schwarze Fähnlein. These Jews who thought of themselves as super-German presented “not only an ideological challenge to the Nazi racist doctrine but also an impediment to the speedy cleansing of Germany of Jews.” Stent was expelled from the Bismarck Academy and reluctantly faced attendance at the all-Jewish PRIWAKI school.

Much to his surprise, he instantly fell in love with PRIWAKI. The Jewish teachers were young and friendly, the setting was elegant, the students were upper class and (most important) co-ed. English, French, and Hebrew language studies were emphasized, and Zionism was taken seriously. The students were being well-prepared for their inevitable emigration.

His wealthy businessman father fled the country in 1938 while Gunther remained in Berlin with his stepmother. His older brother went to London; his

sister and her husband left for America. After Kristallnacht in November 1938, Gunther escaped to Belgium, living in Antwerp until early 1940, when an American visa finally arrived. He managed to get to England and board one of the few ships still taking passengers to the United States after the outbreak of World War II. He landed in New York and came to Chicago to live with his sister and brother-in-law who had settled in the Hyde Park neighborhood, as did many other German-Jewish refugees.

**H**e comments on his high school days, noting the life-long influence of his demanding English teacher, Miss Rubovits, on his writing style. And yes, he refers to his job as a soda jerk: “My partner was a fellow German-Jewish kid at Hyde Park High. In later life, he became a multi-millionaire furniture manufacturer.” (This was my friend Manny.) Stent went on to the “big time,” as a short-order man at one of the busiest fountains in the city, Liggett’s Drug Store in the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad Terminal.

In the fall of 1942 he entered the “cornball” University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where, despite his lack of means, he was invited to join TEP, a Jewish fraternity. (They needed someone to raise their grade point average.) He was surprised to learn that despite the religious segregation in campus housing and social life, American Jewish students were not self-haters.

(As he integrated himself into American life, he coped with his self-hatred as a Jew. When he visited Israel in 1968, after the Six-Day War, to lecture, he was pleased to see a strong warrior nation in a sunny, developed land not unlike California.)

He “discovered science” at the U. of I., and it was as a scientist in a U.S. Army uniform that he returned to post-war Germany. By 1948 he was embarked on a career in the new field of molecular biology. His mentor was Max Delbrück. One colleague was James Watson. In 1952 Stent was invited to UC-Berkeley, where, during his long tenure, he has made fundamental contributions in three distinct areas: molecular biology, neurobiology, and the history and philosophy of science. His books include *Molecular Biology of Bacterial Viruses*, *Molecular Genetics*, *The Coming of the Golden Age* and *Paradoxes of Progress*. He edited the Critical Edition of *The Double Helix*, James Watson’s fascinating book about the discovery of DNA.

*Nazis, Women and Molecular Biology* often reads like a novel. Stent describes his youthful relationships with women—his liaisons and love affairs—and includes excerpts of letters to and from his partners (discreetly changing their names). He writes of his interactions with some of the world’s greatest scientists, and makes a wry, modest assessment of his own accomplishments.

While Stent’s stay in Chicago was short, it was here that he began a new life as a proud citizen of his adopted land. ❖

**WALTER ROTH** is president of CJHS. In 1938 he came to the Hyde Park neighborhood of Chicago as a refugee from Nazi Germany.

## **SUNDAY, JUNE 16** **CJHS Seeks Volunteers** **for “Greater Chicago** **Jewish Folk Arts Festival”**

Every two years individuals from a cross-section of the entire Jewish community produces a festival that attracts thousands of participants.

This year’s all-day festival will take place at Caldwell Woods/Bunker Hill, Cook County Forest Preserves, Devon and Milwaukee Avenues.

The Society is seeking volunteers to host our information table, telling festival visitors about our work. If you can contribute some time, please phone the CJHS office: (312) 663-5634.

## **JUNE 30–JULY 2** **Chicago to Host First** **Ever Reunion of “One** **Thousand Children”**

One Thousand Children, Inc. (OTC) is presenting a special event celebrating the lives of a unique group of Holocaust survivors and their rescuers.

The first ever OTC Reunion will bring together the approximately 1,000 unaccompanied children who were rescued between 1934 and 1945 by bringing them to the U.S. and placing them with foster families across America.

The Reunion will include presentations by scholars, OTC children, rescuers, and members of the second generation. OTC children will be helped to locate each other.

This three-day event is part of “Chicago 2002: Living the Legacy—A Gathering of Descendants of the Shoah and Their Families,” to be held at the Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe St.

For more information about the “Chicago 2002: Living the Legacy” conference, visit the organizers’ Web site at [www.chicago2002.descendants.org](http://www.chicago2002.descendants.org) or e-mail: [chidos2002@aol.com](mailto:chidos2002@aol.com).

# The Street

BY HARRIET KARM BERMAN

*An earlier version of this memoir was written for the class "Writing for Your Family" at the Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) at Northwestern University.*

**O**n a mild midsummer day in 2000, as prelude to our son Joel's birthday lunch, we decided to combine and pursue two of his favorite interests: family history and architecture. We took the Chicago Architecture Foundation's tour of Maxwell Street. This was not a random choice; there is a magnetic pull to this area. The story of my father, Martin Karm, or Mischa, as he was lovingly called, resonates in this neighborhood.

In my memory, it was always referred to as "the Street." Maxwell Street was the place where my father, and at one time or another, his older brothers, Hyman and Max, earned their livings after they immigrated to the United States.

Hyman was the adventurous one who left Kiev several years before the Russian Revolution, and undertook the arduous journey to America alone. (Although the family spoke of coming from "Kiev," they most likely had lived in a Jewish shtetl in the Ukraine near Kiev.) Hyman came to Chicago upon the urging of cousins who had already made a successful transition to the New World. They encouraged him to do the same and be the mentor and helping hand to his family. Brother Max came the following year.

Hyman and Max worked at various jobs on Maxwell Street, saved their hard-earned money, and eventually were able to bring most of the Korczemski family (the name was later shortened to Karm) to Chicago in the early 1920s—mother, father, Hyman's wife and two sons, Max's wife and two sons, three sisters, a brother-in-law, and brother Mischa.

Handsome and outgoing, Mischa made friends easily and was adored by his family. His journey to Chicago began in a circuitous way. He had been conscripted into the Russian army. The term of service in those days was twelve years, and discharge was not easy to come by. He had to be creative in finding a way out. I remember him pointing to the ugly purple mass above his left ankle and, eyes aglow, telling my astounded brothers and me how he secretly shot himself in the leg so that he would be sent home to recuperate and could then desert the army.

Mischa embellished the story: "When I returned to

Kiev, people fainted in the street when they saw me! The neighbors thought they were seeing a ghost!" It seems that the family had received word that Mischa had died in the army. Sorrowfully, they had packed, bribed their way out of Kiev, and headed for the United States. Somehow Mischa caught up with them in Poland, where they had stopped to bury his sister's baby son who had died en route.

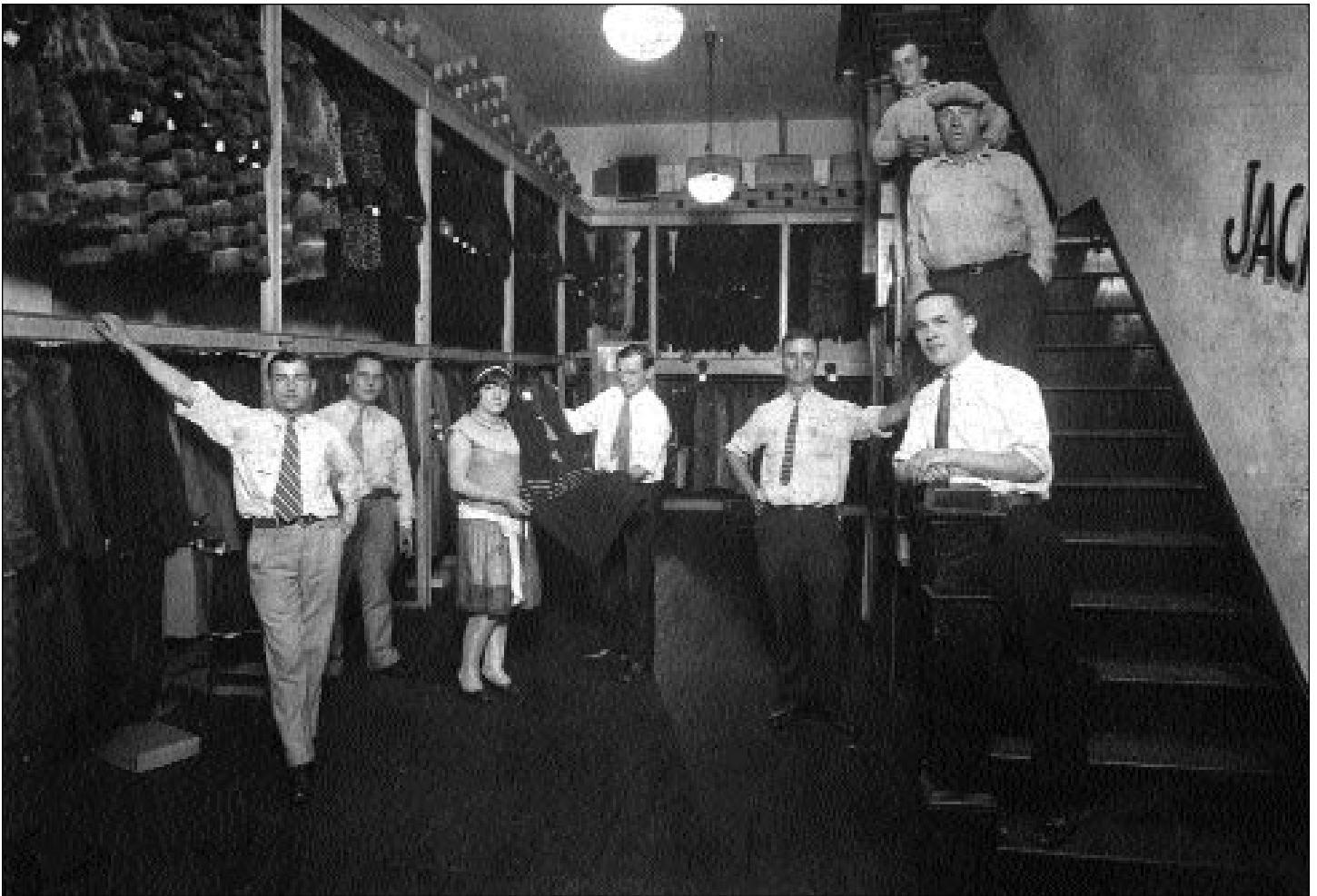
Mischa met my mother, Rose Levin, in an English class at the Jewish People's Institute (JPI) on Douglas Boulevard. They married when both were twenty. Mischa was working with his brothers on the Street.

Rose had an aunt and uncle, Goldie and Dave Seltzer, who lived in Bloomington, Illinois, where they operated an automobile agency and repair shop. They encouraged the young couple to move to the town. Shortly after their first child, my brother Jerry, was born, Mischa and Rose relocated to Bloomington and optimistically opened a Jewish deli. Alas, this was an idea before its time. In the late 1920s, Bloomington, Illinois, site of the state teachers' college, was not yet ready for lox, bagels, and hot corned beef sandwiches.

**T**hey returned to Chicago and Mischa began working on Maxwell Street again, as a salesman for Taxman & Dlugatch Clothiers. He built up quite a following of regular customers who always asked for "Martin." He worked ten long hours a day, six days a week. Wednesday was his day off, and my brothers Jerry and Paul and I eagerly anticipated it, even though we had to spend much of the day in school.

After some years, Mischa and a fellow salesman, Morris "Buby" Zolt, opened a small menswear store, Martin's Clothes, at 713 Maxwell Street. There were no visible prices on the garments they sold. Prices were determined by a complicated secret code written on each tag, and successful sales were the result of hard bargaining. Mischa was not the world's best businessman; he liked people too much and was a soft touch.

There was genial camaraderie among the merchants on the Street. They were good friends despite being competitors. On Sundays the Street was mobbed with bargain hunting shoppers. Street musicians abounded.



**Interior, Taxman & Dlugatch Clothiers (?).** Collection of Harriet Berman.  
Salesman Martin Karm is at the right. Can the savvy historians of CJHS identify any of the other people in the photograph and verify the name of the store?

Mahalia Jackson, the great gospel singer, frequently performed on the corner of Maxwell and Halsted.

My brothers helped out at the store on weekends, but I wasn't allowed to come along, probably because I was a girl. The exclusion didn't bother me much because I was terrified of the gypsies, who from their street level windows beckoned with forefinger to passing youngsters.

Eventually Mischa was able to leave the Street, if not the neighborhood. He and two partners, brothers named Cooperman, opened Clinton Clothiers on Roosevelt Road and Clinton Street. The building had a center entranceway. On one side was the men's clothing store that Mischa and the brothers operated. On the other side was a store where the Coopermans sold trousers. (They may have manufactured the pants, or perhaps they were wholesalers.)

Several years later Mischa was forced to retire because of heart problems. He sorely missed the hustle-

bustle of the Street and the social connection that it afforded. Early each morning he would be at the kitchen table in his fresh white shirt, tie carefully knotted, sipping his coffee listlessly, with nowhere to go in the long day ahead.

Joel's birthday tour of Maxwell Street turned out to be sentimental but disappointing. Mischa's store no longer existed. The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) had gained control of the area and was demolishing buildings on Maxwell and Halsted to make way for the 21st century. Modern university housing was being erected, surrounded by fenced-in parking lots. Even a pre-Civil War house on an adjoining street had been torn down. The preservationists had lost the battle. Nevertheless, on that day, the street musicians greeted us and happily played on.

*continued on page 10*

FROM THE  
CHICAGO JEWISH  
archives

## The Empire Room

By Joy Kingsolver

Visit the exhibit  
“Variations on a Theme:  
Chicago Jewish Music  
in the Twentieth  
Century and  
Beyond” in the  
6th floor gallery at  
Spertus Institute,  
now through August 31.

In the spring of 1933, despite the economic Depression and ominous news from Germany, Chicagoans were preparing to set aside their worries and celebrate the achievements of the modern age at “A Century of Progress”—the World’s Fair marking the city’s centennial.

Even before its official opening on May 27, the fair attracted thousands of visitors, who strolled through the grounds to gawk at the uncompleted exhibits. Anticipating a surge of visitors, the hotels of Chicago spruced up their nightclubs and ballrooms and booked new shows featuring top entertainers.

The Congress Hotel opened the Hawaiian Room; the Bismarck

dedicated its Walnut Room; the Blackstone presented a renovated Crystal Ballroom; and the Palmer House opened the Empire Room.

“If this sort of thing holds to its present pace,” wrote Charles Collins of the *Tribune*, “Chicago will have a night life better than that of the good old days in Vienna.”

The nightclubs offered many opportunities for Jewish performers and musicians, but none had so strong a Jewish presence as the Empire Room of the Palmer House.

Built on State Street by millionaire Potter Palmer in 1870, the hotel was soon destroyed by the Great Fire of 1871. The blueprints had been buried in the basement to

save them from the fire, so Palmer, after receiving a \$2 million loan, could begin rebuilding at once. The new Palmer House became a symbol of a rejuvenated Chicago.

The opening of the Empire Room on May 4, 1933, was attended by an overflow crowd who paid \$2.00 apiece for dinner and parked their cars for 75 cents. The show featured the tango dance team of Veloz and Yolanda, blues singer Judith Barron, Richard Cole’s orchestra, and Merriel Abbott’s International Dancers.

“The assemblage saw a floor revue that radiates class—and in abundant measure,” wrote Charlie Dawn in the *Chicago American*.



Merriel Abbott, daughter of Russian-Jewish immigrants, was born in 1893 and grew up on the South Side of Chicago. She established a dance school and was an instructor and choreographer, choosing her “Abbott girls” from among the students. Known for her high standards and strictness, she watched over all aspects of her girls’ education, going so far as to fine a girl if she gained too much weight.

“She taught the girls how to be ladies,” recalls Min Bobbin, who trained with Abbott as a young girl and performed under the name Sherry Wynn. “Success was very important to her. She had a drive that was terrific, but a soft and generous heart. Everybody felt her energy, and we all did our best for her.”

Four years after the opening of the Empire Room, Merriel Abbott became its booking agent, auditioning and hiring performers. When the Palmer House was bought by Conrad Hilton in 1945, she became his first female executive, and was in charge of booking entertainment for all of the Hilton hotels. Her dancers continued to perform until 1957. She continued to work for Hilton until her death in 1977.

Lew Diamond & Merriel Abbott, c. 1945. Collection of Alan Klein.



**R**alph Ginsburg (who spelled his name “Ginsburgh” for professional purposes) was a member of the first violin section of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra from 1916 to 1923. He formed his own string ensemble, and, beginning in 1925, played in the main dining room of the Palmer House.

From 1932 to 1946 radio station WGN broadcast his music live from the hotel. The ensemble played background music during lunch in the Empire Room, and during dinner in the Victorian Room. The sweet string music (along with the murmur of conversation and clink of silverware) was enjoyed by a radio audience all over the Midwest. Ralph Ginsburg was a member of Temple Sholom. He died in December, 1965.

Lew Diamond, saxophonist and conductor, was one of the many musicians hired by Merriel Abbott. As a young boy, he had taken music lessons at Hull House, where a neighbor’s son, Benny Goodman, was also enrolled. At the age of 16 Lew formed his own band, and began playing in Chicago clubs in the mid-1930s. Diamond’s orchestra became the regular relief band at the Empire Room, playing there every Monday night and at other spots on other nights.

Alan Klein, Lew’s son-in-law reports that Glenn Miller and Gene Krupa were early members of the band. Lew’s relief band was more popular than some of the regular ensembles, he says. Lew Diamond’s band appeared with Sophie Tucker and other great headliners, and was the first professional band hired to play at Wrigley Field.

Norman Krone was a young trumpeter and violinist when he was hired by Lew Diamond. Krone began playing at the Empire Room in 1938 and looked up to Diamond as his mentor. In 1953, Lew Diamond collapsed on the bandstand and died of a heart attack. Norman Krone took over the band, playing for several years under Lew Diamond’s name before giving the band his own. Krone was a prolific composer and arranger,

Will Leonard wrote in the *Chicago Tribune*, “the show folk seem to be looking backward instead of toward a bright future.” The dwindling audience for show tunes and semi-classical music signalled a generational shift. Today the Empire Room is maintained in all its splendor, but is open only for private parties. ❖

**JOY KINGSOLVER** is Director, Chicago Jewish Archives, Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies.



**Norman Krone conducting his band in the Empire Room, 1960.**

*Chicago Jewish Archives.*

working with stars such as Red Skelton, Jimmy Durante, Bob Hope, Jack Benny, and many more. Norman Krone continued to play at the Empire Room and book other musicians there until his retirement. He died in 1992.

When the Empire Room closed in 1976, it was not a surprise. The music scene was changing, and as

● Sources for this article include interviews with Alan Klein and Sherry Wynn (Min Bobbin), the Norman Krone Papers at the Chicago Jewish Archives, and “Merriel Abbott” by Norma Libman, in *Women Building Chicago*, edited by Rima Lunin Schultz and Adele Hast (Indiana University Press, 2001), page 9.

## THE HENRY CROWN GALLERY: *Fragments of Chicago's (Jewish) Past*

Visitors to The Art Institute of Chicago usually head for the galleries displaying the museum's famous collection of French Impressionist paintings. They climb the great staircase (or ride an elevator) to the second floor and pass through a large hall displaying chunks of architectural materials. They may not look at the lettering high on the wall: "The Henry Crown Gallery: Fragments of Chicago's Past."

They open the big glass doors to the Pritzker Gallery and encounter Caillebotte's painting of a rainy Paris street scene, and they go on to visit many galleries of great art. But a stop in the Crown Gallery would be enriching, too. Its fragments reveal the importance of Chicago's Jews in the architectural history of our city.

### The Street *continued from page 7*

There is a postscript to the story. Back in the early 1950s, when Mischa and Buby were operating Martin's Clothes, I was a student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. One day I was infuriated to read a sensational editorial in the student newspaper, the *Daily Illini*. There it was—yellow journalism at its worst—an editorial criticizing the Maxwell Street merchants, claiming that they were bilking their customers and living in the lap of luxury. I blasted off a letter to the editor, refuting his words. When my letter appeared in the paper several days later, I felt satisfied that my father and the other hardworking Maxwell Street vendors had been vindicated.

Upon my next visit home, my father, eyes twinkling, placed both issues of the *Daily Illini* in front of me! "Where did you get those?" I sputtered in amazement. He smiled a slow, all-knowing smile and said, "Oh, the Street has its sources. Nothing escapes us. The editor's own grandfather has a store on the Street." ♦

**HARRIET BERMAN** *lives in Deerfield, Illinois with her husband, Dr. Myron Berman, a retired internist. She, too, is retired after a career of teaching in north suburban public schools and the Solomon Schechter Day School in Skokie.*

A painted cast iron frieze panel from the facade of the five-story Rothschild Store (1880-81, demolished 1972), at 210 West Madison Street, was designed by Louis Sullivan for the Jewish architect Dankmar Adler.

Dankmar Adler was the architect of the Rosenfeld Building (1881-82, demolished 1938), on the southeast corner of Washington and Halsted Streets. This building was constructed for Levi Rosenfeld, a prominent Chicago businessman. The fragment is a terra cotta spandrel designed by Sullivan for Adler.

The firm of Adler & Sullivan designed the Benjamin Lindauer house (1885, demolished 1959), at 3312 South Wabash Avenue. On display is a terra cotta corner piece from the chimney decoration. Adler & Sullivan were the architects of the Victor Falkenau house (1888-89), at 3420-24 South Wabash Avenue. Its displayed fragment is a terra cotta angel.

Adler & Sullivan's Chicago Stock Exchange (1893-94, demolished 1972), at 30 North LaSalle Street, is represented by a bank of elevator doors. (The superb reproduction of the Stock Exchange Trading Room is located inside the museum's Columbus Drive entrance.)

Architect Alfred S. Alschuler is represented by a section of a decorative terra cotta frieze for the lobby of the Thompson Commissary (1912, remodeled and converted to multi-purpose office space in 1982), 350 North Clark Street. The huge Thompson restaurant chain was the precursor of today's fast food restaurants, and the decoration depicts images of food and grain.

Other Jewish-related Chicago structures may soon yield fragments. Alschuler's Mercantile Exchange Building (1927), on the corner of Franklin and Washington, is slated for demolition. Will its bronze elevator doors, decorated with agricultural scenes, be preserved in the Henry Crown Gallery?

The Rosenwald Garden Apartments (1929), in the 4600 block of South Michigan Avenue, is a five-story complex designed by Ernest Grunsfeld (the architect of the Adler Planetarium), and later reconfigured by philanthropist Julius Rosenwald to provide low-cost housing for African-Americans. The future is dim for this uninhabited, city-owned building. A fragment and a photograph in the Crown Gallery may have to suffice.

The Art Institute of Chicago is located on Michigan Avenue at Adams. Visit their Web site at [www.artic.edu](http://www.artic.edu) or phone (312) 443-3600. *Bev Chubot*

## THE SELFHELP HOME ORAL HISTORY PROJECT:

### *Sophie Manes*

**EDITOR IRWIN J. SULOWAY** wrote in the December 1984 issue of Chicago Jewish History: "The large number of Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany who began arriving in Chicago...in the middle 1930s were an energetic and gifted group. They almost immediately became self-supporting and developed religious and communal institutions of their own. Among these none is more vital or typical of this achievement than the Self-Help\* Home for the Aged at 908-20 Argyle Street.

*Its genesis and its fine record of service in the provision of a then highly unusual facility for senior citizens form an important chapter in Chicago Jewish history.*

*"What is today an impressive home...had its origins in a different sort of organization first founded in another part of the country. Self-Help for Emigres from Central Europe was founded in New York in 1936 by a distinguished group of German refugees as a mutual aid society concerned with employment possibilities, housing assistance, help for the sick, child-care and even the exchange of clothing among the recent Jewish refugees. Two years later a Self-Help of Chicago was established under the leadership of Dr. Walter Friedlaender, then of the University of Chicago.*

*"In the years after the war, the leadership passed to Dr. William F. Becker, and as the refugees became*

*continued on page 15*

\*Note that the spelling of "Self-Help" was changed to "Selfhelp" since the time Dr. Suloway wrote his article. The CJHS Oral History Project was proposed and developed by Society President Walter Roth. The following (excerpted) interview was conducted by Sheila Rodin-Novak on October 17, 2001 at the Home.

Sophie Manes was born on March 18, 1905 in Husen, Germany, a small community near the city of Dortmund. Her parents were Felix Ruhr and Amalia Wolf Ruhr. The family moved to nearby Derne and then to another small community in the area, Hostedde, and that is where Sophie Ruhr grew up. She tells Sheila that the people of the area worked as farmers or miners.

**CJHS** What kind of work did your father do?

**SM** My father was what they call a "fee handler." He bought cattle and sold [them] to the farmers. Not only cattle, but pigs, too. And he sold pigs to the miners. They would raise them and then slaughter them and have their meat for the winter.

**CJHS** Did your mother work?

**SM** When father was in the war, World War I, she kept the store open, yes, a little butcher shop... He was already forty-two years old when he was drafted. He was in Russia. He came back in, I think, 1918. They had to walk back. The

Germans were defeated, so they didn't come back in troops. Each one had to find his way home.

**CJHS** Do you have any memories of that period?

**SM** The times were hard. We always had a little meat because my mother kept the store open. The French soldiers...we were occupied. And I was going to high school in Dortmund by that time. They took the trains over and we wouldn't take the trains. We took the bicycle or walked, whatever we could do, because we wanted to show them that we wouldn't use the trains as long as they were in charge of them.

**CJHS** Can you describe the kind of house you grew up in?

**SM** It had two stories. Downstairs was a living room and a kitchen, and then my folks' bedroom, and a Wöhnzimmer, the better room that you don't use much. Upstairs were bedrooms. I was one of five girls. We always slept like sardines, one up and one down, one up and one down, three or four in a bed. And

my father's unmarried sister lived with us, too. Tante Johanna. We called her Tantchen (little aunt). She was rather small.

*The five Ruhr sisters (from oldest to youngest) were Hedewige, Lotte, Sophie, Helen, and Ilse. Four of them immigrated to the U.S.A. Hedewige went to Israel, and died there at age ninety-four. (Sophie visited Israel to celebrate her sister's ninetieth birthday.) Ilse lives in Skokie. She and Sophie are the only two that are still living.*

**CJHS** What kind of education did you have before you emigrated? And then did you work?

**SM** High school...I had learned how to sew, and [worked] in one of the nicest stores in Dortmund, as a seamstress. But I was still learning.

**CJHS** So, like an apprentice?

**SM** Yes, although I found some kind of letter where it says I was a "directrice." The directrice is the one in charge of a sewing room...

*continued on page 12*

## Oral History Excerpt

*continued from page 11*

**CJHS** Were you raised religiously?

**SM** We belonged to a temple in Dortmund. We would go there, but mostly for the High Holidays. I can remember that—people in all their finery, walking in front of the temple. Otherwise, my father always said he carried his religion in his heart. He didn't believe in going to a temple. And there were only about three Jewish families in Hostedde...

**CJHS** And what about your grandparents? Did you know them?

**SM** Only my [maternal] grandmother. She was a very good person, but I was afraid of her. She was very sarcastic. If my dress was a little too short, she said, "Aren't you afraid that you would step on your hem?" And I crocheted once a sweater that had a rather big neckline. She said, "Aren't you afraid you'll fall out of that neckline?" ... But she was loved in the town, the little town of Husen, because if anybody gave birth to a child, she would send soup there for the first seven days. They really, really loved her. She was a very good person. Only, like I said, very sarcastic. I wasn't there anymore when she died. Even after Hitler [came to power], when they buried her, they said the people from the little town went along. They didn't care. They went to the funeral. And it's quite a distance, in a different area, where the Jewish cemetery was.

**CJHS** Did you go to a Hebrew school or anything like that?

**SM** No, I didn't. But in high school, every Wednesday morning, [they] had a Jewish teacher for us.

**CJHS** What prompted your family, and you, particularly, to come over

to the United States in the 1920s?

**SM** Well, times were very bad... inflation in Germany. My husband's brother was here already. He came in 1912, I think. Really, there was no future for anybody there. And so my husband came over in 1925. We were already engaged. And then he sent me a visa, and I came over.

**CJHS** So tell me, how did you meet your future husband?

**SM** I think it was a demonstration ... against something. And we were marching. He worked for a millinery firm. His home was near Cologne, but he was working [in Dortmund]. That's how we met. And some friends had, like, a pensione where young men would eat. And he was eating there. And I knew the daughter of the family... But there was another young man, and he said to my husband, "Fingers off that one. I know the family. There is no money." But [my husband] didn't listen to him"

**CJHS** When you left Germany, did you come by yourself?

**SM** Yes. When a fellow asked my father, "How can you let one of your daughters go so far away?," his answer was, "I cannot offer her anything here." I had never been away from home and was apt to get homesick. But when my father said, "If you don't like it, you let me know, and if I have to, I'll take out another mortgage on the house and send you the money. You can come home." So that way, I felt, you know, I never was homesick.

*Sophie came by ship from Hamburg to New York, where she was met by cousins of her mother.*

**CJHS** What was your first impression of the United States?

**SM** When I got on the [subway] train in New York, everybody was

chewing. And I thought, "Why in the world can't they finish their breakfast at home?" I had never seen anybody, you know, chew gum all the time. Everybody just sat there chewing. I thought, "I can't understand this." And the dime store, stuff like that...

*Sophie traveled by train to Detroit, to relatives of her mother. There she married Henry Manes. After the wedding, the couple established their home in Chicago, where Henry was already living and working. Sophie and Henry (called "Heinz") were married for forty-one years, from 1926 until his death from heart disease in 1967.*

**CJHS** So your English was pretty good when you came over? [Sophie says that she studied English in high school and with a Berlitz teacher.]

**SM** Oh yeah. And we decided just to talk English all the time. We went to Englewood night school... An eighth grade certificate I got.

**CJHS** What work did your husband do? Did you work here?

**SM** In Germany he was a salesman. Here he worked for Marshall Field's, first for the Davis Company, that was part of Field's, and then for Field's wholesale.

I went to work right away, for Blum's Vogue, you wouldn't remember, one of the finest stores on Michigan Avenue. And then I worked for Carson Pirie for a little while. Dressmaking. Then I worked for Laschin (sic). That was another very nice store on Michigan Avenue, until I became pregnant and my daughter was born. Then I quit and started sewing at home.

*The Manes's daughter Rosemarie was born in 1930. She is married to Donald Farrington. "A really English name...He is gentile," says Sophie. The Farringtons have three children*

and three granddaughters. The youngest, a two-year-old, is named Sophie Rose, after her great-grandmother and grandmother.

**SM** She doesn't know that we don't... [Jews don't name children after the living]. But she asked me and I said I would be honored if you named her after me. So she named her Sophie, little Sophie.

**CJHS** Did you ever go back to Germany?

**SM** Yes. I went back in 1931... because I had told my father I would come back in five years and visit—and I did...

*Sophie's parents immigrated to Chicago in 1937. Her father worked with one of his sons-in-law "who had a little milk store in South Shore."*

**SM** We [lived at] 53rd and Blackstone... My daughter was born when we lived there. Then my husband lost his job and we had to move to a cheaper apartment.

**CJHS** When did he lose his job?

**SM** In 1932. He would come home at night and say, "So-and-so got his pink slip." So-and-so, every week. When he came home and said he got his pink slip, I said, "Thank goodness. We don't have to worry about that anymore." So we moved to Cornell. My brother-in-law who was in the wholesale meat business would bring me some meat Friday nights. My sister-in-law would give me some dresses. So we managed, but it wasn't easy to get through.

And I sewed. I even employed one girl. My husband would do odd jobs and get a dollar or so. He and the manager from where we lived on Blackstone, they were good friends, so he gave him sometimes a job, you know, a dollar a day.

In 1935 we opened a small store on Lake Park Avenue and 50th,

right across from the Kenwood School, and called it the Kenwood School Store. We were in the same business for thirty-two years, until my husband died. Not in the same location, because they relocated Lake Park Avenue, so we had to move to Hyde Park Boulevard. And when they... I don't think they tore that down... we moved to 53rd Street. We had a small store there. We called it the Card Nook, called it our retirement store. That was about '62 or '63. My husband died in '67. So then I sold the store.

**CJHS** How did you come to open up a store? How did that happen?

**SM** Well, we had to do something. So my husband's brother gave us, I think, or signed for, about \$400 with the wholesale house so that we could buy merchandise there. So we started. And in 1933, there was the World's Fair. Swift introduced ice cream there for the first time... [Swift] put a fountain in our store. We had a little store, and the next year enlarged it... We had a very nice fountain and a back bar... And besides that, we had a postal substation. When we first got it, we got three hundred dollars [a year]. The last year, three thousand dollars that paid. But it was a... job.

**CJHS** Did you both work in the store?

**SM** At first I would go over, like at noon, when school was out, and help out. I don't know just when I gave up sewing and worked in the store full time. We had to leave [Rosemarie] alone, but she knew she could call us. It was only right across the street. That post office, when the war broke out, they were sending mail to the soldiers. [The line of customers would stretch] almost a block long... I really learned how to make packages.

**CJHS** Did you [belong to] a synagogue in Hyde Park?

**SM** We joined K.A.M. My daughter was confirmed from K.A.M.

**CJHS** Did you go to there often?

**SM** Not really. We had the store open on Sunday, and then late... and then, of course, K.A.M. joined with [Isaiah Israel]. After my husband died, I joined Sinai. And when I moved here, they gave me a life membership.

**CJHS** What was it like for you when you first became a parent?

**SM** Well, I was working. I wished I could, like other people, push a baby buggy. I never had a chance to. When [Rosemarie] was a little older, I had a girl take her out and take care of her... I'll have to ask my daughter how she feels about it. Oh, I know that I often wished I could go and do like other women, push the baby buggy. That I know.

*Rosemarie helped out in the store, but "was always busy with school." She graduated from Hyde Park High School and Grinnell College, and earned an advanced degree from Northwestern University.*

**CJHS** How would you describe yourself today? Would you describe yourself as an American, a German, an American Jew, Jewish?

**SM** I feel more Jewish than I did before, that's for sure. My friend is quite religious, and she said, "I don't knit on Shabbat." So I don't knit on Shabbat. I feel good. And I enjoy it. I really enjoy being here.

**CJHS** If you were talking to your grandchildren, what out of your life would you hope they could learn from your experiences?

**SM** Do the right thing. That's all I can say. ❖

## *CJHS Open Meeting Reviews 60 Year History of Ida Crown Jewish Academy*

The Society's open meeting on Sunday, March 10 was held at Ida Crown Jewish Academy, 2828 West Pratt Avenue. ICJA is a high school that provides both a secular and a Jewish education. It was founded sixty years ago as the Chicago Jewish Academy, on the West Side, and has been a vital presence in the Chicago Jewish community ever since. Program Chair Charles B. Bernstein introduced three distinguished Academy alumni who reviewed the school's history: Rabbi Bernard Neuman, Rabbi Harvey A. Well, and Rabbi Leonard A. Matanky.

Bernard Neuman was born in France. His family was able to escape in 1941, and settled in Chicago. He was graduated from the Academy in 1951, and earned university degrees while concurrently studying at the Hebrew Theological College, where he received *smicha* (rabbinical ordination). He became a financial advisor and is now a senior vice-president of Morgan Stanley.

He spoke about the early years of the Academy, naming Menachem B. Sacks as the prime mover in its establishment in 1942 as Chicago's first Jewish day school. Its first home was in the Hebrew Theological College on Douglas Boulevard. There were 42 students at the start and tuition was \$60 a year. Secular teachers, usually non-Jewish, were hired to teach secular subjects

at an annual salary of \$3,000. In order to gain accreditation from the North Central Association, which requires that a school have a separate building/library, the Academy moved to its own home on Wilcox Street.

Harvey Well was born in Memphis. He came to Chicago on his own to attend the Academy, and his family followed. He was graduated in 1960, and went on to HTC where he received *smicha*, while at the same time earning university degrees. Since 1978 he has been superintendent of schools of the Associated Talmud Torahs of Chicago. He has served as rabbi of Congregation Or Torah in Skokie since 1989.

Rabbi Well spoke about his era, which he called the "golden age" of the Academy, 1961-75. During this period the Academy moved to Torah Center on Melrose Street (now the Florence Heller JCC). The boys and girls came from all segments of the Jewish community. The religious classes were taught by a staff of rabbinical "giants," including Rabbis Nahum Sacks, Fefferman, Sender, Eugen, and David Silver. The school, the youth group B'nai Akiva, and Camp Moshava offered strong peer reinforcement. But the spirit of "community and unity" ebbed, he said, when HTC opened a boys' high school in 1961, and a separate girls' high school (ultimately named Hannah Sacks Bais Yaakov), opened in 1963.

Ida Crown Jewish Academy opened in 1968, and Chicago-born Leonard Matanky was graduated in 1976. He has *smicha* from HTC, and holds numerous university degrees. He has served as rabbi at Congregation K.I.N.S. of West Rogers Park since 1994, and is president of the Chicago Rabbinical Council. He has been dean of ICJA since 2000.

He spoke of the school today. Enrollment is 330, about 50/50 boys and girls. Secular classes are coeducational, religious classes are single sex. Annual tuition is \$12,000, but about half the students are on scholarship. ICJA is constantly evolving, reflecting the "best opportunities and also the difficulties of today's society." He called the Academy "an extraordinary modern Orthodox institution, based on community, Torah, and the Land of Israel." ♦



**Ida Crown Academy, March 10, 2002.** From left: CJHS President Walter Roth, Rabbis Harvey A. Well, Leonard A. Matanky and Bernard Neuman, and Society Program Chair Charles B. Bernstein. Photograph by Norman D. Schwartz.

## THE SELFHELP HOME

*continued from page 11*

more secure financially, the main focus of the organization [became] care for its elderly persons.

"In 1949 the Chicago Home for Aged Immigrants was founded. In 1951 it was renamed the Self-Help Home for the Aged and moved into a converted mansion at 4949 South Drexel Boulevard. Increased demand and changing neighborhoods caused the move to a newly-constructed building at 908 Argyle Street in 1963.

"There, residents were housed in a modern, purpose-built structure. That same year, Dr. Becker's widow Dorothy assumed the executive directorship of the home....[The late Dorothy Becker assisted Dr. Suloway in the preparation of this 1984 article].

"What made the Home unusual from its earliest days was the self-help concept which enabled residents to lead independent lives in a caring group environment...

"[In 1974] during the presidency of Frederick Aufrecht, funds were raised for an adjoining building... The top two floors of this nine-story building provide nursing facilities for those residents who need them.

"Throughout the years the home has continued to emphasize the self-help principle...The not-for-profit organization which runs it is independent of the various umbrella organizations the Chicago Jewish community has created."

Today the Selfhelp Home serves a much broader Jewish population, with residents from a variety of backgrounds. Other changes have occurred: paid professionals now do much of the work that was once completely done by volunteers. Living facilities have been enlarged and upgraded, from efficiencies to apartments. The Home continues to

## Firefighters

*continued from page 1*

department are paramedics, not firefighters. Jody Warrick, a Jewish woman, is the chief paramedic.

The first woman firefighter in Chicago was Jewish. Lauren Howard joined the department in 1980. Since 1995 she has been Captain of Engine Company 97. Two of her nieces (also Jewish) are Chicago firefighters: Relief Lieutenant Lisa Barber of the 5th District, and Lieutenant Linda Parsons, who serves in the Division of Training at the Academy.

Mr. Fox named Jewish officers in Chicagoland districts: his son Mike, Jeff Goldfarb, and Stu Gootnick in North Maine, Barry Liss in Skokie, Alan Berkowsky in Evanston, and more.

He then introduced Moshe Wolf, an Orthodox rabbi for 23 years, who has been the unpaid Jewish chaplain of the Chicago Fire Department for the past 11 years, and of our Police Department for 19 years. (He earns his living as a management consultant.)

*provide a full schedule of cultural activities and educational events, and serves excellent kosher meals.*

*Linda Liss Fine, Director of Selfhelp since 1989 is a registered nurse. Herbert L. Roth has held the office of president for about ten years. Selfhelp Home's immediate past president is Rolf A. Weil.*

*CJHS is grateful to the officers, board, and staff of the Selfhelp*



**Egon Weiner, *Pillar of Fire*, 1961.** Sculpture in front of the Chicago Fire Academy commemorates the Great Fire of 1871. View is from the corner of De Koven and Jefferson Streets, looking from the south. Photograph by Norman D. Schwartz.

His father was a New York City police chaplain. Rabbi Wolf is tall and broad-shouldered. He understands the tough police and firefighter culture, and deflects anti-Semitism with humor. He is present at all two-alarm (or bigger) fires, and ministers to all who request his services. ❖

*Home for approving our oral history project. So far we have recorded over a dozen interviews with its residents. The tapes and transcriptions are on file at the Chicago Jewish Archives, and are available for use by appointment. Call (312) 322-1741.*

*We hope our readers enjoy the story of the humorous, courageous, self-reliant Sophie Manes. ❖*



# About the Society

## What We Are

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society was founded in 1977 and is in part an outgrowth of local Jewish participation in the American Bicentennial Celebration of 1976. Muriel Robin was the founding president. The Society has as its purpose the discovery, preservation and dissemination of information concerning the Jewish experience in the Chicago area.

## What We Do

The Society seeks out, collects and preserves appropriate written, spoken and photographic records; publishes historical information, holds public meetings at which various aspects of Chicago Jewish history are treated; mounts appropriate exhibits; and offers tours of Jewish historical sites.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to become more involved in the activities of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society? We'd love to have you! Following are the various committees on which you can serve. Contact the Society at (312)663-5634 or any of the Chairpersons listed here.

### ■ PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Do you have a great idea for a meeting topic? If you are organized and creative, friendly and outgoing, the Program Committee would welcome your help in planning and implementing our bi-monthly and annual meetings. Call Charles Bernstein (773)324-6362.

### ■ MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Society's membership continues to grow, and you could help us introduce Chicago Jewish history to even more people. Share your ideas and energy! Contact Janet Iltis (773)761-1224 or Clare Greenberg (773)725-7330.

### ■ TOUR COMMITTEE

Bring your creativity and organization to planning and promoting our popular roster of tours on Jewish history. Contact Leah Axelrod (847)432-7003.

### ■ EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Do you like to write? Are you a great proofreader? You can contribute to our quarterly publication, *Chicago Jewish History*. Contact our editor, Bev Chubat (773)525-4888.

## Membership

Membership in the Society is open to all interested persons and organizations and includes a subscription to *Chicago Jewish History*, discounts on Society tours and at the Spertus Museum store, and the opportunity to learn and inform others about Chicago Jewish history and its preservation.

## Dues Structure

Membership runs on a calendar year, from January through December. New members joining after July 1 are given an initial membership through December of the following year.

Life Membership .....	\$1000
Historian .....	500
Scholar .....	250
Sponsor .....	100
Patron or Family .....	50
Individual or Senior Family .....	35
Synagogue or Organization .....	25
Senior Individual or Student .....	20

Make checks payable to the Chicago Jewish Historical Society, and mail to our office at 618 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago IL 60605. Dues are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

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