



chicago jewish history

1943: Marshall Commandos Are City Champions in Stadium Win

“The juniors of Marshall High School and the seniors of Mount Carmel are proudly established today on the twin thrones of Chicago’s schoolboy basketball realm. Playing before the biggest crowd ever to see the cage sport played anywhere in the world—21,472 spectators jammed every inch of sitting and standing room in the Stadium—the new rulers won their crowns beyond all question of a doubt in the first postseason playoff ever held between the champions of the Public

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Marshall High School Junior Basketball Team, 1943.

ROW I: Julian Davis, Arnold Greenstein, Jack Brazier. ROW II: Irving Mazer, Hyman Tadelman, Sidney Zomlefer, Morris Kaplan, David Levitan, Charles Swibel. ROW III: Coach Lou Weintraub, Hillel Levin, Charles Kaplan, Irving Hartman, Morris Lenhoff, Manager Abe Weisberg. ROW IV: Orville Shane, Jerry Shuman, Ray Lowy, Marv Schufeldt, Sidney Swibel, Leon Herzog.

Yearbook photo by Daguerre Studio, 1943 Marshall Review.

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Mickey, Ruffy & Sonny

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CJHS Summer Tours: Reservation Form

Save the Date!
Sunday, May 18:
CJHS Program on
History of Cong.
Shaare Tikvah

“The History of Congregation Shaare Tikvah” will be the subject of the Society’s open meeting on May 18, at Cong. Shaare Tikvah-B’nai Zion, 5800 North Kimball. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m., after a social hour and refreshments at 1:00 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. Invite your friends!

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President's Column



Walter Roth

LET ME TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO thank the members of our Chicago Jewish Historical Society who have written, telephoned, or e-mailed me their reactions to reading my book *Looking Backward: True Stories from Chicago's Jewish Past*. I have been very gratified at the enthusiastic and favorable response.

One of the letters I received may be of particular interest to you, our readers, since it is also addressed to you. The letter is from Dan Sharon, Senior Reference Librarian of the Asher Library, Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies. Dan is a brilliant scholar and researcher with an "encyclopedic" knowledge of Chicago Jewish history. He wrote:

"Thank you again for your new book. I've started reading it, and I find it fascinating. You might pose the following question to readers of your quarterly journal, *Chicago Jewish History*: Why did a Polish American gangster in Chicago, who supposedly served as an altar boy in a Catholic church, change his name to the stereotypically Jewish one of "Hymie Weiss?" To me, this is one of the minor mysteries of Chicago history. I've looked at book after book that mentions Weiss, and no one answers this question. Indeed, no one even raises it. Allegedly, Weiss was the rival Capone feared most, and Capone finally had Weiss killed."

Dan also suggested another topic for discussion in our quarterly: the attacks on blacks and Jews that occurred in the late 1940s in Chicago—particularly the disturbances that took place in November, 1949 on Peoria Street in Englewood. While the police stood by, mobs assaulted the blacks and Jews who had just moved into the neighborhood and hurled rocks at their homes. The rampage seemed to have lasted for many days. Many of the prejudices and hatreds that caused the Peoria Street riots half a century ago remain with us today.

Dan Sharon has inspired many of our past articles and has unfailingly provided us with research material whenever we asked. He is the one who comes up with answers to tough questions, but now he has posed a couple of his own. If you can fill in the biography of the mobster called "Hymie Weiss" or know the specifics of the Peoria Street riots, please let me know. Dan has kindled our interest, and we are busy researching these subjects.

In the meantime, as we move from a long winter to a more hopeful spring, I trust that you had a festive Passover holiday—and fervently hope that peace will prevail in our country, in Israel, and in the rest of the world. ❖



chicago jewish historical society

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Chicago Jewish History

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Corrections & Clarifications To Our Year-End 2002 Issue:

On page 4 we described a guide to Jewish Florida as “recommended” by CJHS Past President Rachel Heimovics, now a Florida resident. Ms. Heimovics is actually the book’s primary author. The correct title, citation, and ordering information:

THE FLORIDA JEWISH HERITAGE TRAIL.

By Rachel B. Heimovics and Marcia Zerivitz. 2000. *Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources. Illustrated, paper, 44 pp.* \$10.50 each for 1 or 2 copies. (Includes postage and handling.)
The Jewish Museum of Florida
301 Washington Avenue
Miami Beach, FL 33139-6965
Phone (305) 672-5044

On page 6 we listed our video **THE ROMANCE OF A PEOPLE** but omitted the name of the executive producer/ director, Beverly Siegel. The video’s running time is 30 minutes.

On page 10 in the Covenant Club photograph Judge Henry L. Burman was incorrectly identified as Herman Berman.

CJH apologizes for the errors.

CJHS Meeting on May 18 *continued from page 1*

Tours of the synagogue building and its noted stained glass windows will be given during the social hour.

A panel of six persons will present the program. After greetings by current Rabbi Dennis Katz, the founding days of the congregation, from 1942 to the late 1940s, will be reviewed by Mayer Stiebel and Jay I. Weisman, both sons of founders. Mr. Stiebel is a retired kosher caterer and an activist in Chicago Conservative Judaism. Mr. Weisman, a lawyer, is active in the Lincolnwood Jewish community.

Solomon Gutstein, rabbi, lawyer, and former alderman of the 40th Ward, will review the period during which his father, Morris Gutstein, was rabbi of the congregation, 1947-71. Sol Gutstein will also discuss the synagogue’s stained glass windows, designed by A. Raymond Katz. The father and son Gutstein team co-authored a monograph about the windows.

Neil Handelman, a past president of the congregation, will speak on 1971-95. Irving Federman, the current president of Cong. Shaare Tikvah-B’nai Zion, will cover the period from 1995 to the present.

Letter to the Editor

Hebrew Classes in Chicago Public Schools

To the Editor,

In your article in the Year-End 2000 issue about Marshall High School you made the statement that “Marshall High School was, I have been told, the only Chicago Public School that ever offered Hebrew as a foreign language.” You stated it in a way that leads me to believe that you did not believe that as fact. Well, your doubt is well-founded.

In the late 1950s Sullivan, Von Steuben, and South Shore High Schools taught Hebrew for foreign language credit. My sister received two years of foreign language credit at South Shore as a result of taking Hebrew. My wife said that many of her friends took the Hebrew classes at Sullivan, and my sailing partner informed me that Hebrew was given at Von while he was there.

I hope this information will be useful to you. We enjoy reading *Chicago Jewish History* when it arrives in the mail.

**Jerold Levin
Chicago**

Thank you, Mr. Levin. *CJH* welcomes informative letters like yours. We urge our readers who studied Hebrew in the CPS to write and tell us about their teachers and experiences. E-mail your message (or send it as a WORD doc. attached to your e-mail), or write to Editor Bev Chubat. Postal and e-mail addresses are listed on page 2.

Levy Mayer and The Iroquois Theatre Fire

BY WALTER ROTH

One century ago in Chicago, on the afternoon of December 30, 1903, a horrific event occurred at the Iroquois Theatre. In less than 20 minutes over 600 persons, mostly women and children, died in a catastrophic fire. The Iroquois was located on Randolph Street, between State and Dearborn, where the Oriental Theater now stands (refurbished and renamed Ford Center for the Performing Arts).

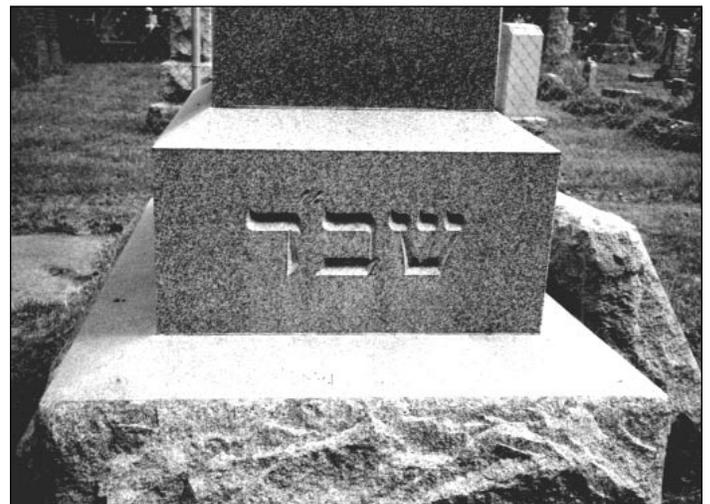
A recent book, *The Tinder Box*, by Anthony P. Hatch (Academy Chicago Publishers 2003), recalls, in personal interviews and collections of stories of survivors, the traumatic terror these people endured. It was the city's worst fire up to that time—and since then—the casualties far exceeding those resulting from the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

A rage seized Chicago, fanned by newspaper accounts of the tragedy. The public wanted to know who was responsible—whoever it was must be punished! Reporters discovered that recently enacted city ordinances had not been complied with: the sprinkler system did not work, the doors opened only from the inside, exit signs were missing, and the skylight was sealed shut. There were many other violations. Within a few days, the theater manager and other employees were arrested for manslaughter and a number of persons, including the Mayor, Carter H. Harrison, were held for action by a grand jury.

Among the cast of characters whose names now became known to the public were Marc Klaw and Abraham Lincoln Erlanger. These men, with other partners, controlled the Theatrical Trust, which from its offices on Broadway in New York City held a virtual monopoly on many “legitimate” theaters in America—including the Iroquois. The Trust owned the theaters and also controlled bookings and ticket prices. This aroused great antagonism. Leading clergymen of the day, together with the press and independent theater owners, held the Trust “responsible for the degradation of the American theatre” and the corruption of “Christian morals.”

As Hatch writes, “It was easy to dislike Marc Klaw and Abe Erlanger. And they were Jews.” With the arrival of thousands of poor Russian Jewish immigrants, with their strange language (Yiddish), dress and habits, anti-Semitism was rife in Chicago. The legacy of the Haymarket Riot and anarchist scares still gripped the city, spurred on by the sensationalism of the media.

Klaw and Erlanger were in financial trouble in 1903 and, with the Trust, were involved in bitter labor disputes. Chicago was in the grip of a transit strike. Still, the Iroquois Theatre was slated to open in November. The opening production was a musical comedy, *Mr. Bluebeard*, produced by Klaw and Erlanger, starring Eddie Foy. It was during a holiday



Left: Gravestone of Myrtle and Theodore Shabad. *Inscribed: “Beloved and only children of Henry and Fanny Shabad. Myrtle, born Oct. 4, 1889, died Dec. 30, 1903. Theodore, born March 23, 1891, died Jan. 1, 1904. Victims of the Iroquois Theatre fire, Dec. 30, 1903.”* **Right: Shabad family monument.** *Inscribed “Shabad” in Hebrew. Name is inscribed in Yiddish vowelized spelling on the other side of the stone. Waldheim Cemetery, Free Sons of Israel—Gate 31. Photos by Norman D. Schwartz.*

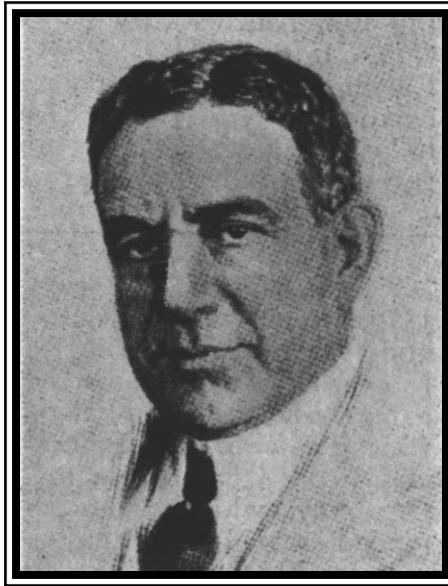
matinee performance of *Mr. Bluebeard*, before an audience composed largely of children, that the fire occurred.

The Klaw-Erlanger organization was later blamed for disregarding the safety of its patrons by violating city fire regulations, allegedly to cut costs in order to meet the opening date. It was said that such items as the fireproof curtain and fire-fighting equipment were not up to standard because of their need to cut expenses. *Life* magazine—not the magazine of the same name which came into existence later—mentioned Klaw and Erlanger in the caption of a cartoon showing the figure of Death blocking the way of the victims struggling to open the exit doors.

Initially the main target of the critics, such as the *Chicago Tribune*, was Mayor Carter H. Harrison, because of his “indolent” behavior toward municipal corruption at every level of local government. He was held for arraignment by the police. (However, within a week after his retention for a grand jury hearing, he was released on a writ of habeas corpus, since there was nothing to directly connect him with the operation of the Iroquois.) “Let no man escape,” one minister shouted as he viewed the gruesome theater scene.

Rabbi Moses Peretz Jacobson of Kehilat Anshe Ma’ariv (K.A.M.), conducting the funeral for two Jewish children, called the fire “one of the great calamities of the age.” Another rabbi at a memorial service was quoted as saying, “This fire was not an act of God but due to ignorance, criminal neglect and recklessness.”

The inquest by the Coroner’s Office began in City Hall on February 7, 1905 with over 200



Levy Mayer (1858-1922)

History of the Jews of Chicago, 1924.

witnesses called to testify. At the same time a “deluge of suits” was filed against the Iroquois Theatre, its management, owners, and the City of Chicago. On January 25 the Coroner’s verdicts were returned, naming Mayor Harrison, Iroquois Theatre Manager Will Davis, the City Building Commissioner and others. Klaw and Erlanger, though often mentioned in testimony as responsible for the faulty curtains and other violations, were not named.

The Grand Jury, after its secret deliberations, returned its indictments on February 23, naming Will Davis, Stage Manager James Cummings, and Business Manager James Noonan. The Jury exonerated Mayor Harrison, but said there “should be a more intelligent administrator in City Hall.” The charge against the three indicted men was manslaughter.

In addition to the criminal charges, there were a host of civil suits against these and other defendants—Klaw and Erlanger among them. Klaw and Erlanger lived in New York, which perhaps

was one of the reasons why the Chicago grand jury did not reach them. They had their own attorneys in New York, deeply involved in the Iroquois cases, who soon turned to work closely with the attorney selected by the Chicago defendants to defend them in the coming legal battle. His name was Levy Mayer.

Levy Mayer was a brilliant Jewish lawyer whose parents had immigrated to the United States from small towns in Bavaria. He was born in 1858 in Richmond, Virginia. The Mayers relocated to Chicago where Levi began his primary education.

In 1876 he was graduated from Yale Law School. Too young to enter law practice, he started his legal career as researcher and librarian at the Chicago Law Institute. From there he was asked to become a partner by a prominent Jewish attorney and Reform Jewish community leader, Adolf Kraus.

The partnership, after a number of name changes, became, in the early 1900s, the firm of Mayer, Meyer, Austrian & Platt, one of the most prominent law firms in Chicago, specializing in corporate, banking, governmental, and international law. Levy Mayer was its dominant figure, with a reputation for brilliance and integrity. He had an imposing six foot tall physique and an enormous capacity to retain facts and cases. He was also said to speak clearly and was “looked upon as a combative adversary.”

It was reported that a day after the Iroquois fire, Klaw and Erlanger and their New York attorneys contacted Mayer to represent not only their interests but also others who might be indicted by the grand jury. Hatch, in *Tinderbox*, writes that Klaw and Erlanger, after a long

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Levy Mayer

continued from page 5

meeting with executives of the Theatrical Trust, selected Mayer and his firm to head the defense team. Some have said that it took enormous courage for Mayer to take this unpopular case.

Levy Mayer's legal brilliance was soon evident. He filed a motion to quash the charge against Davis because it did not properly specify the legal duty to discharge the acts complained of in the indictment, and he filed a motion for a change of venue so that Noonan and Cummings could get a "fair trial." This motion was granted and their case was moved to Peoria. On July 9, 1905, Mayer's strategy was marked with success when the two judges in Peoria and Chicago quashed the charges on similar grounds. There was no express duty binding the defendants. Mayer announced that "any future indictments would not be worth the paper they were written on."

Nevertheless, one month later another Chicago grand jury indicted Davis and two others on manslaughter charges. Klaw and Erlanger were not indicted, on grounds of insufficient evidence. Mayer promptly filed a motion to quash and it was not until January 13, 1906 that the Davis indictment was sustained by the Illinois courts. As a trial date loomed, Mayer promptly filed a motion for change of venue. In a brilliant stroke, he had many members of his staff collect over 12,000 affidavits attesting to bias and prejudice against the defendants.

The Davis trial was promptly moved to Danville, a town over 100 miles south of Chicago. The trial

began on March 7, 1907, and was expected to be lengthy. The prosecution was said to be prepared to call over 200 witnesses. As the first one—a woman dressed in black—was sworn in, Mayer rose to demand that the State produce the Chicago City Ordinances on which the indictments were based. As this was done, Mayer filed a lengthy 231-page brief attacking the validity of the ordinances. Hatch writes that at that moment, "the doors to the courtroom were flung open and a procession of bellboys and porters [entered] loaded down with piles of law books that they heaped on defense counsel's table." Levy Mayer continued to argue his case before an enthralled audience and a curious Judge.

The essence of Mayer's argument, which the research supported, was that the ordinances were invalid because the State of Illinois had not actually delegated to Chicago the power to enact its ordinances (this was before Home Rule was in fact granted to Chicago by the State legislature).

After a thirteen hour presentation, Mayer concluded his case and moved for a directed verdict. The Judge agreed. Without the benefit of the ordinances, the Judge directed the jury to return a not-guilty verdict in the manslaughter case, stating: "If it were in my power to bring back life and put the bloom of youth into the cheeks of these young girls by incarcerating the defendant in this case in the penitentiary for the term of his natural life, I would do it; but I cannot." It had taken two and a half years to conclude the trial. Levy Mayer's strategy had earned him a prominent place in Chicago judicial history, though the results were sharply criticized by many, in legal journals and the media.

For the victims and their relatives there was now only the consolation that civil actions might be more successful. Numerous suits had been brought after the fire, but after the long delay it appears that "most families of the dead and injured received not so much as a dime for compensation." Hatch reports that there were rumors that the Klaw-Erlanger organization eventually paid small amounts to relatives of the victims, but there was never any real evidence of that. In 1909, there was a report that Fuller Construction Co. had paid \$750 in thirty cases, but noted that over 400 cases were still pending. Since such suits are usually handled by plaintiffs' attorneys on contingency basis and since these attorneys knew they would be up against Levy Mayer in Chicago and other powerful lawyers in New York representing Klaw-Erlanger, it is doubtful that any litigation succeeded.

As for life insurance on the victims' lives, U.S. Judge Kenesaw Mountain Landis ruled in a "theater liability suit" that the Iroquois Theatre was not responsible for failure to comply with the Chicago ordinances providing for fire equipment on appliances of the Theatre. Landis, incidentally, is the Judge who would become the first Commissioner of Major League Baseball following the "Black Sox" scandal. Landis was responsible for the expulsion of a number of Chicago White Sox players for allegedly "throwing" games in the 1919 World Series. The attorney representing Charles Comiskey, the owner of the White Sox, was Levy Mayer.

The Iroquois Theatre fire had enhanced Mayer's fame as one of Chicago's ablest attorneys, though not necessarily the most popular.

His career is covered in a biography written by Edgar Lee Masters of *Spoon River Anthology* fame. The details of the Iroquois Fire are amply covered in the book, but other aspects of Mayer's life are not mentioned. There is not a single mention of his Jewish heritage or the simple fact that he was Jewish.

H.L. Meites, however, in his classic work, *History of the Jews of Chicago*, mentions Levy Mayer a number of times and includes a summary of his life. In the chapter on leading Chicago Jewish lawyers, Meites also notes that Mayer served as Secretary of the Zion Literary Society, which was "the big cultural and social force in Chicago during the 1870s and 80s, and held crowded meetings every Friday night at Zion Temple."

Meites also comments that Mayer attained nationwide fame as a lawyer, "though with the passing of years, sad to state, he became estranged from Jewish efforts." Meites does report, however, that in 1916 Mayer was Chairman of a large public fund-raising gathering at the Auditorium Theatre to help Jews made destitute by World War I. Meites writes that the Auditorium event followed a dinner the night before at the home of Julius Rosenwald.

WALTER ROTH is President of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society.

Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington Commemorates Ben Hecht Pageant *We Will Never Die*

A special program marking the 60th anniversary of *We Will Never Die—A Mass Memorial to the Two Million Dead in Europe* was presented on Thursday, April 10, at the Rayburn Building in Washington D.C.

CJHS has a strong connection to this program in that President Walter Roth first suggested it to the Washington Society. (Mr. Roth has extensively researched and written about the pageant, and a chapter on it is included in his recently published book, *Looking Backward*.)

The program told the story of the collaborative work of controversial activist Peter Bergson, Hollywood's leading screenwriter Ben Hecht, and Hollywood luminaries who produced this performance to call attention to the plight of Europe's Jews.

A welcome from Honorary Committee Chair Representative Tom Lantos, Democrat of California, himself a Holocaust survivor, opened the program. The main speaker was Dr. Rafael Medoff, author, with David S. Wyman, of the new book, *A Race against Death: Peter Bergson, America, and the Holocaust*, who shared his insights about Peter Bergson, Ben Hecht, artist Arthur Szyk, and the impact of *We Will Never Die*.

The program also included a display of images from the original program at Constitution Hall, a selection of readings from the original pageant script, and showcase film of the pageant that has survived. ❖

Levy Mayer died on August 14, 1922, some say from overwork. He was a workaholic, completely engrossed in his law practice up to the last day of his life. Since his wife and two daughters were away in Europe at the time of his death, the funeral service was not held until their return on August 24.

A memorial was held at Sinai Temple, attended by a huge assemblage of leading personalities, mostly from the legal profession and the business world. Abraham L. Erlanger of Iroquois Fire fame was there.

The eulogies were numerous and full of tribute. One eulogy contained an interesting sentiment: "What Disraeli achieved in England, Mayer matched in America." He was interred in the family mausoleum at Rosehill Cemetery.

The Sentinel in its August 18, 1922 edition carried a story on Mayer's passing under the headline "Levy Mayer, Noted Jewish Lawyer Dead." It noted that Mayer had made gifts to a number of Jewish charities in his lifetime. "His residence[s were] a palatial suite in the Blackstone Hotel [and] a summer home and large farm in Manomet, Mass. The fortune of Mr. Mayer is estimated at \$25,000,000..." ❖

Save the Date! **Sunday, June 8—** **Labor Zionist Alliance** **of Chicago to Honor** **Clare Greenberg**

A musical reception for Clare Greenberg will be held on Sunday, June 8, at 2:00 p.m., at the Women's Club of Evanston, 1702 Chicago Ave.

She is being honored by the LZA for her years of work in behalf of the State of Israel. Appropriately, an Israeli cellist is to be the featured musical artist at the reception.

Mrs. Greenberg is a CJHS activist. A long-time member of our Board, she served as recording secretary for ten years, and currently chairs our membership committee.

Admission is \$18.00. For further information phone (847) 675-1677.

FROM THE
CHICAGO JEWISH
archives

Babette Mandel: Portrait of a Philanthropist

By Joy Kingsolver

Babette Mandel (1842-1945), great-niece of Michael Reese and wife of one of the founders of Mandel Brothers department store, came to Chicago at the age of three and grew up to become “one of the foremost woman philanthropists of Chicago,” as H.L. Meites expressed it. Her parents, Emanuel Frank and Elise Reese Frank, left Aufhausen in Bavaria in the summer of 1852, drawn by hopes of greater prosperity.

Michael Reese, an uncle then living in California, encouraged them to come to America and set aside funds for their support. After a journey by ship and stagecoach that took several weeks, the Franks and their ten children arrived in Chicago on Erev Yom Kippur.

The family settled in a house on Clark Street north of Madison. Sadly, in 1855 Emanuel Frank was killed in an accident, and though she excelled at school, Babette was forced to spend much of her childhood helping to maintain the household.

On April 18, 1871, when she was 29, Babette married Emanuel Mandel. Emanuel’s brothers, Leon and Simon, had founded a dry goods store with Leon Klein in 1855. The business was reorganized as the Mandel Brothers store when Klein retired and Emanuel was brought in as a third partner.

The Mandel Brothers store was then located near Clark and Van Buren Streets. When the Chicago Fire destroyed the building in October 1871, just six months after Emanuel and Babette were married, the Mandels re-established their store on the South Side.

In 1875 they moved to the Colonnade Building on State and Madison, owned by Marshall Field. Intent on building up State Street, Field persuaded the Mandels to stay by means of a generous, long-term lease, and soon the business was flourishing again.

The Mandels were active members of Sinai Temple, and in 1888, at a meeting held at Sinai, Leon and Emanuel were among those who pledged money to found the Jewish Manual Training School (later the Jewish Training School). The idea behind the School was to give immigrants manual skills that would enable them to support themselves, while also promoting Americanization. Located on the West Side, the School taught cooking, sewing, woodworking, English and citizenship to Eastern European immigrants.

Babette Mandel was prominent among those who organized the School, at first serving as a director, and then as its president. The Jewish Training School closed in 1912; the inrush of immigrants that had made it so essential was largely over by then.



Babette Mandel around the time of her wedding, 1871. *Chicago Jewish Archives.*

Chicago Lying-In Hospital and Dispensary was founded in 1895 with the help of Babette Mandel. She also served on its board. This was a maternity clinic at first housed in four rooms on Maxwell Street. It was later renamed the Chicago Maternity Center.

Inspired by the success of Hull House, Mrs. Mandel and others established the Maxwell Street Settlement in 1893 as a cultural center for newly-arrived Jewish immigrants.

Babette Mandel was a leader in many other organizations as well: Chicago Women's Aid, Sarah Greengbaum Lodge (United Order of True Sisters), the Chicago Section of the [National] Council of Jewish Women, and others.

The achievement she is best known for, however, is the establishment of the West Side Dispensary in 1903. Originally opened in 1899 at Clinton and Judd Streets, this building was inadequate, and Babette Mandel gave \$10,000 to re-establish it at Maxwell and Morgan Streets. Most of the patients were Russian or East European immigrants from the West Side. In 1910, she again gave a large sum of money to establish the Dispensary in new quarters—and at this time, the Dispensary was dedicated to the memory of her husband, Emanuel Mandel, who had died in an accident in 1908. Mrs. Mandel continued to support the clinic with large gifts over the years, and in 1928 it was incorporated into Michael Reese Hospital as the Emanuel and Babette Mandel Clinic.

Most of Babette Mandel's charity work was carried out while she raised their three children: Frank, Edwin, and Rose. When she died on March 12, 1945, she left \$50,000 to the Jewish Charities of Chicago and \$25,000 each to Michael Reese Hospital and the Chicago Maternity Center, among other bequests.

Her son Edwin became president of Mandel Brothers department store and was also president of Michael Reese Hospital. In 1960, Mandel Brothers was sold to the Weiboldt Corporation, which closed the store in the 1970s.

At a time when women were not expected to work outside the home, Babette Mandel, like many women of her generation, found a vocation and purpose that allowed her to extend her role as mother beyond the confines of the home. Her significance lies in the way she used her position of wealth and privilege to help the Jewish community at a time when immigrants were in desperate need.

Babette Mandel is one of many women featured in the current exhibition, "Shaping History: Chicago Jewish Women in the Twentieth Century," now on view in the Gallery of Chicago Jewish History at Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies. The Gallery is located on the 6th floor and is open M-Th 9-5, F 9-3, and Sunday 11-4:30 (for Sunday access, go to the Asher Library reference desk on the 5th floor). ❖

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

Report on CJHS Open Meeting: The Shomrim Society of Illinois

"The History of the Shomrim Society" was the subject of our program on Sunday, February 9 at Temple Shalom. The guest speakers were Lt. Bruce Rottner of the Chicago Police Department and Rabbi Moshe Wolf, chaplain of the CPD.

Lt. Rottner is past president of the Shomrim Society of Illinois, an organization of Jewish law enforcement officers. The Hebrew word for watchman is *shomer* and the plural is *shomrim*.

The first Shomrim Society was founded in New York City in 1924 at a time when Jews were just beginning to enter the law enforcement field in numbers. A national Conference of Shomrim was formed in 1958.

Lt. Rottner was impressed by a collection of essays he read in college, by Arthur Niederhoff of John Jay College. Included was "The Jewish Patrolman." Jewish immigrant mothers, it seems, were embarrassed by their sons' going into law enforcement. They would say, "My son is a policeman, but he teaches in the training division," or "He works with children." (To them, "cop son" sounded too much like *koptsn*—the Yiddish word for pauper or beggar.)

Bruce Rottner's college-educated parents stood behind his career choice. His late mother served for many years as librarian at Anshe Emet Synagogue. (As for his sports hero father, Mickey Rottner, see the article on page 11.)

The local Shomrim Society was founded in 1959 by Lt. Peter Harlib of the CPD. In 1967 sheriff's police and suburban officers were admitted to membership. Women were admitted in 1975, the first year that women of the CPD went on patrol—they were formerly matrons or youth officers. There are 500–600 Jewish officers in the CPD. The Shomrim Society numbers 300.

The organization sponsors social events and supports philanthropic causes. Gun aficionados participate in the annual Lox and Bagel Shoot. ("That's how the holes get in the bagels," Lt. Rottner once explained to his young daughter.)

Rabbi Wolf spoke of how, after 9/11, firefighters were lauded as heroes, but police officers were often forgotten. He reminded us to honor those who "serve and protect."

Commandos *continued from page 1*

League and the champions of the Catholic League. (James S. Kearns, *Chicago Sun*, March 28, 1943.)

“Junior” and “Senior” were not school year classifications. Since the 1920s the Chicago Public Schools and the Catholic Schools had organized basketball leagues. In order to involve as many students as possible, two varsity divisions were created, classified by weight—“lights” and “heavies”—but that plan didn’t work. Height became the criterion—Juniors, under 5’7” in the Public League and under 5’8” in the Catholic League, and Seniors, the taller boys.

The West Side, specifically Lawndale, was a terrific training ground for young basketball players. Instruction was provided at two popular boys’ clubs—the American Boys’ Commonwealth (ABC), funded by Jewish Charities, and the Boys’ Brotherhood Republic (BBR), funded by private philanthropists, where club and league play prepared youngsters for higher-level competition. The JPI (Jewish People’s Institute), a complete recreation and social center, had a fine gymnasium. Facilities were also available at the church-funded Marcy Center, the Nathaniel Institute (NI), and the city parks.

In the autumn of 1939 a Marshall High Junior team with that background worked out for the first time under their new basketball coach, Lou Weintraub. They went undefeated that season, and the next, and the next, and again! Marshall Junior teams amassed 80 straight wins before the 1943 game at the Stadium. (The streak went on for a record 98 games.)

Coach Weintraub and the physical education department had instituted a conditioning program the previous year, to prepare all the boys in the school for their future service in the armed forces. When a British commando raid on the French coast made headlines, the coach was inspired to name students who passed his rigorous program “commandos” and also to suggest that the nickname of Marshall athletic teams be toughened—from Orioles to Commandos.

The 1943 championship twin bill was played in a thrilling patriotic atmosphere. The teams were outfitted in contrasting red, white, and blue satin uniforms and warm-up jackets. The Seniors of Mount Carmel trounced Kelvyn Park 48-24. Mount Carmel’s Juniors used a stalling defense against the usually high-scoring Marshall team, but the Commandos beat them at their own game, 21-12. —*Bev Chubat*

Thanks to Martin “Red” Mottlow. His book, *Fast Break to Glory: Marshall High School’s 98-Game Basketball Winning Streak* (self-published, paper, 83 pages), provided the basis for this article.



Sonny Saken. Collection of Leonard B. Saken.

Sonny Saken

(1916–1994) *Following are excerpts from letters and clippings sent to us from CJHS member Leonard (Babe) Saken of North Hollywood, California, about his late brother.*

Nathan (Sonny) Saken is pictured fielding a 16-inch softball, something he did expertly as a Windy City player, along with Hermie Cohen, Marty Singer, Ben Branman, Shorty Lipman and dozens of others.

He was a gifted all-around athlete, beginning as a little kid on the West Side at Lawson playground. There he met Frank Heidenreich, the legendary director of playgrounds, who became Sonny’s athletic mentor and close colleague in later years.

When the Saken family moved to the North Side, Sonny starred on the Senn High School baseball team. He later played minor league ball at Freeport, Illinois. He was on the first B’nai B’rith basketball team to compete against the CYO. Although he was a fine student, the dire conditions of the Depression required him to work and help with family expenses, and he didn’t go to college.

Mr. Saken became a successful businessman. He formed the Macy Jewelry Company on Van Buren Street, later renamed S&N Jewelers and located on Dearborn Street. His partner was his softball pal, Ben (Nicky) Branman. For a time they catered to the sports professionals, and their store was decorated with autographed photos of those celebrities. A Cubs or Sox player who hit a home run was rewarded by S&N with a gift to charity in his name or a piece of jewelry.

He was a founder of the B’nai B’rith Sports Lodge, where he helped create scholarships for needy and worthy young men. He was posthumously inducted into the Lodge’s Jewish Athletes Hall of Fame in 1996.

Through a generous memorial donation from the Saken family to the park district of Highland Park, the baseball diamond in that suburb’s Lincoln Park has been beautified and renamed Sonny Saken Field.

Ruffy Silverstein

(1914-1980) *Following are excerpts from a column by Bill Gleason in the Chicago Sun-Times, June 26, 1979.*

Ralph (Ruffy) Silverstein had started wrestling as a juvenile at Lawson playground, on 13th Street between Homan and St. Louis. He polished his skills at the BBR, the JPI, and Crane Tech.

“Dr. Ralph Gradman, one of Silverstein’s teammates...said the other day, ‘He had a very low center of gravity and tremendous strength in his upper body. There wasn’t anybody he couldn’t take down from the standing position...’

“Eddie Gold of the *Sun-Times* sports staff recalled a time a few years later when Ruffy was the swimming coach at the JPI. ‘He would lie flat on the floor and let 10 or 12 of us young kids jump on him and pin him. Four on his ankles, six on his chest, two on his thighs. Then he’d slowly rise from the mat and catapult us all over the room.’

“In his prime Ruffy weighed

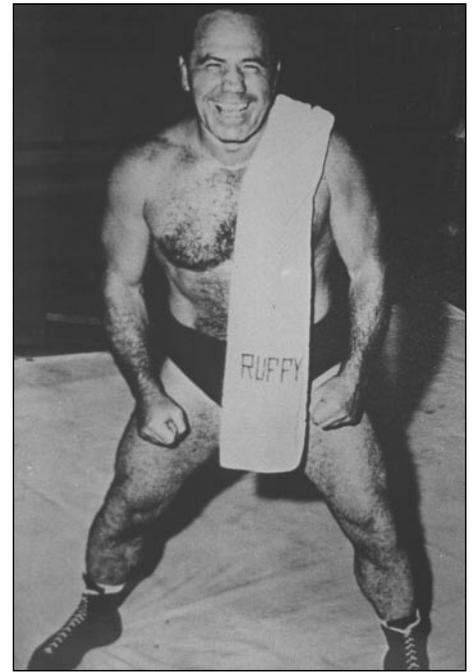
225 pounds. He was only 5’-8.” He was near his prime when he wrestled for the University of Illinois. In three years of varsity competition he did not lose a match. He was NCAA champion and national AAU champion.

“Ruffy’s wife, Evelyn, remembered that his superiority enabled him to introduce showmanship to intercollegiate wrestling...

“He became a professional wrestler after he was graduated from Illinois [in 1937]. Pro wrestling still had credibility then...and Ruffy was the ideal ‘good guy.’

“After service in World War II Silverstein returned to wrestling [but]...he was too good, too much the pure wrestler to become world champion. Ruffy became a Chicago school teacher, passing on what he had learned on the playgrounds, the boys’ clubs and the schools of the West Side.

“About two years ago, as he was preparing to retire from teaching, he began to notice a loss of coordination. In November of 1977



Ruffy Silverstein.

Evelyn Silverstein, Ruffy’s widow, gave us this photo and the Gleason column some years ago. Evelyn Silverstein died on March 6, 2002.

Ruffy’s physical problem was diagnosed as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ‘Lou Gehrig’s Disease.’ ...”

Mickey Rottner

Following are notes from my phone interview with Mickey Rottner on March 24, 2003, the day after he celebrated his 84th birthday.—B.C.

Mickey Rottner played high school basketball at Tuley, graduating in 1936. In the depth of the Depression, as the youngest of nine children raised by their mother, he couldn’t afford college. He worked at any job he could get until 1939, when he was awarded a basketball scholarship to Loyola University Chicago.

Mr. Rottner was an outstanding basketball player at Loyola, and was named All-American in 1942, the year he enlisted in the Army.

After four and a half years in the service, during which he played ball for top Army teams, he returned to Loyola, attended night school on the GI Bill, and completed his credits for a degree in Economics.

A new pro basketball league was formed in 1946-47, the Basketball Association of America, (later to become the NBA). The teams played in large arenas in big cities and looked to sign college stars who had made their reputations in those same venues. One of the charter teams was the Chicago Stags. Their home was the Stadium, and they signed Loyola’s Mickey Rottner.

The Stags won the Western Division title, but lost the championship to the Philadelphia Warriors.

Three pro seasons were enough for veteran Mickey Rottner. (His current NBA pension is larger than his pro contract of \$8,000.) He retired as a player and became a scout for the Stags’ successors, the Packers and the Zephyrs. Among the owners were prominent Chicago Jewish businessmen Charles Lubin, Dave Trager, Sam Karlov, Henry Mann, and Art Ludwig.

As Mr. Rottner closed out his pro career he was honored by the B’nai B’rith with a “Night” at the Chicago Stadium, and he was given the gift of a car. The keys were presented by his dear friend, Rev. William A. Finnegan, S.J., dean of Loyola’s college of arts and sciences—to “Michael O’Rottner.” ❖



Sol Brandzel ז"ל in 1984.
Chicago Jewish Archives.

Oral History Excerpt: SOL BRANDZEL

Attorney Sol Brandzel, 89, died Wednesday, March 19 in his Lincoln Park home after suffering two strokes in the last year. He was a former president of the Chicago Board of Education, a former chair of the city's Board of Ethics, and a progressive and gentle union reformer with the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, of which he was international director until his retirement in 1980.

Mr. Brandzel, with his late wife, Ruth, was a founding member of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society. He was a member of our board of directors until recent years, and on our advisory board until his death. He served as on-screen moderator of the CJHS *Stashover* videotape, a project he organized. It was an interview of ten former residents of the Staszow area (see below) who had survived their concentration camp experiences and later became Chicago residents. He addressed our December 5, 1994 open meeting on the topic "Jewish Labor Union History."

Mr. Brandzel is survived by his devoted life partner, Esther Zackler. Other survivors include daughters Merle Brandzel Geller and Lisa Fierce, son Joel, brother Louis, and five grandchildren.

This interview took place on Sunday, January 29, 1984 at the home of Sol and Ruth Brandzel. The CJHS interviewer was Sidney Sorkin.

CJHS Mr. Brandzel, where were you born?

SB I was born in Poland, in a little town called Staszow [STA-*shov*]. . .

CJHS And what year was that?

SB 1913. The year was recorded, but usually measured only as "summertime" or "winter." I chose my birthday arbitrarily—June 5, 1913—when we came to this country in 1920.

CJHS And your entire family came at that time?

SB No, my father had been here. He had come originally around 1907 or 1908. I don't know why he came to Chicago—there must have been some *landsmen* here at the time. He got a job at Hart Schaffner & Marx, although he had been a shoemaker in Europe, not a tailor, and he became involved in organizing the workers there. In 1910 they had the strike that led to the formation of the unions, and he was ostracized—blacklisted—for his union activities. He couldn't get any job in the tailoring trade, so he went back to Europe in late 1910 or 1911.

He chose to return to small town life in Poland, where he didn't have the freedom that he had here. He was unhappy after having a taste of what this country was like, although it was hard work and all that. So he left for America again, around 1913, before I was born, intending to bring his whole family here. But the war

intervened, and I never saw my father until I got here. I came with two older brothers—I was then six and they were nine and twelve—and my mother.

CJHS And you came right to Chicago?

SB We came via steerage to Ellis Island—the whole immigrant bit—in April of 1920. In fact we celebrated *Pesakh* at Ellis Island. The *Pesakh* we celebrated there was notable for me. It was the first time I had tasted an egg. I remember vividly that first taste of an egg.

Ellis Island was quite an experience. I was originally rejected. I was malnourished and had a big [distended?] stomach. They were undecided about whether or not I was going to be admitted into the country. If not, my mother was not going to come, and I doubt whether my brothers would either. But after I was separated from my family for a few days in the hospital facilities on Ellis Island, [the doctors] finally decided to pass me. We came to Chicago via train from New York. . . .

CJHS Do you remember where you lived—your first residence—in Chicago?

SB We lived in Wicker Park, which at that time was a very heavily Polish Jewish area—Orthodox. It had to be Orthodox because most of the Jewish people just came off the boat. With its little stores and *shtiblekh* and the people who lived in that area, it was like a Polish *shtetl* relocated in America.

CJHS Would you recount your education?

SB I can't recall ever not knowing English, but I obviously could not have known the language when I

started kindergarten. My father spoke English, but with a strong accent. He had virtually no education, and my mother had no education whatsoever—not in Poland, and certainly not here. At home they spoke Yiddish.

My father could read the English section of the Yiddish *Forverts*, but had to struggle with it. One of the reasons he never attained a high office in his union, [the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America], was because he could not read and write and speak a good English. Those were important requirements.

After about four years we moved to a building at 711 North Monticello, which my father and his brother-in-law had bought. That was interesting to me, because my father, although he was not philosophical, understood fully what being a socialist was. He knew the difference between a worker and an owner—and I could never conceive of him as an owner.

The neighborhood was largely Italian, my mother had to travel to the old neighborhood to buy kosher food, and I was harassed and sometimes beaten [by the Italian kids]. It didn't make sense to live there. So after a year they sold the building and we moved to Logan Square, a congenial Yiddish neighborhood, where we lived on the first floor of a three-flat my father and uncle owned. It was their last capitalist venture.

I graduated from Chopin grammar and went to Crane Tech High School. I would walk to Crane along Oakley Boulevard, and pass through two neighborhoods, Italian and black, both of which frightened me. Interestingly enough, I received virtually no harassment from the black community.

CJHS Were there any special activities or interests that you had as a teenager or young man?

SB I loved baseball—softball and hardball. The Jewish boys played Sunday mornings on a sandlot near Tuley High. I played semi-pro during the summer for a couple of years in Peoria and places like that.

My family led me to my love for classical music—my older brother, particularly. He had a fairly decent tenor voice and was given lessons for a while. He used to be in the chorus of the old Civic Opera and sang in the synagogue on the High Holidays. I listened to a great deal of music at home as a result of his involvement. He bought a piano for the house and arranged for me to take lessons from the daughter of a *landsmann*.

CJHS And after you graduated from Crane?

SB I went to Crane Junior College, in the same building, for two years.... Since I was the only one in my family who could handle a screwdriver, I began attending night classes at Lewis Institute, which later

became part of the Illinois Institute of Technology. But then I decided to study law....

CJHS What law school did you attend?

SB I went to DePaul night school for four years, graduating in 1938. I worked from 1930 to 1938 at a variety of clothing companies... I was conditioned a great deal by what I saw in those factories. The workers were relatively well paid as compared to other industrial workers at the time, since they were among the first who were organized, but they worked at a pace that was amazing and heartbreaking. True, they did have a little time for themselves—a rest period in the morning and a break in the afternoon—but unlike a break you get in an office when you work on an hourly basis, it was at their own expense. It was piecework.

CJHS What impelled you to go into law?

SB I always wanted to work for the union—to be a labor lawyer. In fact, when I graduated from law school I applied to [the Amalgamated] for a job. But they felt it was not ethical to let children of union officers become involved. Since my father was an officer—albeit an unpaid officer, a shop steward—I was turned down. It wasn't until years later, in 1950, when the union was short of potential future leadership that they sought me out.

CJHS Did their sense of ethics come from Judaism?

SB Well, the people I was applying to were primarily the Jewish leadership—men like Sam Levin, the leader of the union in the City of Chicago, and vice-president of the International—and incidentally, a member of the Chicago Board of Education back in the 1930s—and Frank Rosen, secretary-treasurer of the International. I think they had a general sense of social ethics and secondarily a Jewish identification....

I was admitted to the bar in June of 1938... There was a great deal of unemployment, so I applied to the Chicago Relief Administration. They hired me, but not as a lawyer. I was an intake worker, taking care of all the emergencies that [desperately needy] people might have. It could be a person was short of food or did not have a place to stay. It was a valuable experience—really on the front line of needs in the city of Chicago.

One important thing—it was at that office I met Ruth, my wife, who was then a student in the School of Social Work at the University of Chicago...

In June of 1939 I got my first law job—with the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C. I applied for the job and sought the assistance of Sam Levin, and through him, [received a recommendation from] Sidney Hillman... *continued on page 14*

Sol Brandzel

continued from page 13

My job in the NLRB legal department lasted for about a year...until the budget of the labor board was reduced, because of the expansion of the military effort. Many of the socialists were having their budgets reduced.

Fortunately, I had taken the Civil Service exam, and after about a month I was hired by the Illinois Department of Labor in the Office of Unemployment Compensation...where I worked until I was drafted on June 11, 1942.

I was sent to Officer's Candidate School and graduated as a Second Lieutenant....They shipped me out to the Quartermaster Depot in Jersey City, NJ where my primary duty was as a Labor Relations Officer...to resolve any labor dispute that impeded war production. Every now and then we

were ordered to give priority to the "Manhattan Project." None of us had any idea what it was about.

We used to have prisoners of war, mainly German and Japanese, used primarily as farm workers. I remember going to an agricultural camp that was being given an award for production and seeing how the migrant workers lived, as opposed to the way we were taking care of the POWs. I recall one time, a major company...I came back and told [my superiors] not to give them an Army-Navy Award because of the way they treated their workers. I had my head chewed off.

In September or October of 1950 the president of the union happened to run into my father at the Amalgamated Bank, then on the second floor of a building on the southeast corner of Monroe and Dearborn. The union hierarchy was getting older—there was no young Jewish leadership coming in. So they began making inquiries of

their trusted assistants. Where were the young people? As soon as he found out about me, he wrote me a letter. In a matter of weeks I was hired. At long last, I was hired to do what I wanted to do. ❖

CJHS Welcomes New Members

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Blechman
Dr. Morris Fishman
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Gordon
Shirley Gerard
Geoffrey Grossman
Margaret Kuhn
Frieda Landau
Allan Lesser
Lily Levy
Abner J. Mikva
Sherman Rosen
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sutker
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Teshler
Howard Warady

CJHS Mourns Elaine Suloway

Elaine Fox Suloway, 81, of Chicago and formerly of Oak Park, died of kidney failure on March 25 in Kindred Hospital Lake Shore in Chicago.

In earlier years Mrs. Suloway had played an integral role in CJHS, serving on the board of directors, as recording secretary, and as a member of the publications committee. She was a diligent and exacting proofreader and typist for *Chicago Jewish History* during the decade that her husband Irwin Suloway was its editor.

Elaine and Irwin had gone to high school

and college together, and were married in 1947.

Ill health forced their retirement from *CJH*, but they continued their involvement in the Society on our advisory board.

It was so good to see them, smiling, arm-in-arm, at the CJHS 25th anniversary program at Spertus last November.

For over 30 years Elaine Suloway recorded hundreds of books for Educational Tape Recordings for the Blind.

She is survived by husband Irwin, son Stephen, daughter Anne E. (Timothy Baker), and grandson Asher Suloway-Baker.



Elaine Suloway ^{Z'L} and Irwin Suloway in 1987.
Photograph from The Chicago Jewish Historical Society: A Ten Year History, 1977-1987.

CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Summer Tours 2003

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society--in cooperation with the Dawn Schuman Institute--has planned three exciting summer day trips to Chicago area and downstate Illinois sites rich in Jewish history. Tours are conducted in the comfort of an air-conditioned bus with restroom facilities.

SUNDAY, JUNE 29

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.

PICKUP 12:00 noon — Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 West Touhy — **Return 5:00 pm**
\$30/Member of CJHS or DSI \$40/Nonmember

Register Today!
Last Year's
Tours Sold Out!

SUNDAY, JULY 20

In Our Own Back Yard GUIDE: LEAH AXELROD.

Visit Aurora and Naperville synagogues. Tour Jewish Waldheim with the administrator, Ilene Bass, and learn the meaning of traditional Jewish gravestone symbolism and design. Discover the synagogues and organizations of early Chicago, represented by sections in this historic cemetery. Bring a picnic lunch—cold drinks provided.

PICKUPS AT TWO LOCATIONS:

9:00 am — Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 West Touhy — **Return 5:00 pm**

9:30 am — Marriott Hotel, 540 North Michigan (Rush Street Entrance) — **Return 4:30 pm**

\$40/Member of CJHS or DSI \$50/Nonmember

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

Jews in the Illinois Heartland GUIDE: LEAH AXELROD.

Travel across the prairie to Bloomington, Champaign and Danville. Visit the synagogues and hear the history of each community. The University of Illinois is the home of the first Hillel, founded in 1929. We will tour the UIUC campus and meet with faculty. Bring a picnic lunch—cold drinks provided. Dinner included.

PICKUPS AT TWO LOCATIONS:

8:00 am — Bernard Horwich JCC, 3003 West Touhy — **Return 9:00 pm**

8:30 am — Marriott Hotel, 540 North Michigan (Rush Street Entrance) — **Return 8:30 pm**

\$60/Member of CJHS or DSI \$70/Nonmember

For Information phone: CJHS Leah Axelrod (847)432-7003 or DSI (847)509-8282



Summer Tours 2003: Reservations

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June 29 Jewish Roots \$30/40

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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? The Program Committee would welcome your input. Join in the planning, implementation, and presentation of 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! Call Clare Greenberg (773) 725-7330.

■ TOUR COMMITTEE

Bring your knowledge of our area to the planning, enrichment, and promotion of our popular roster of tours on Jewish history. Contact Leah Axelrod (847) 432-7003.

■ EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Contribute your writing to our quarterly publication, *Chicago Jewish History*. We are eager to receive articles and memoirs from our members—reports and reminiscences of events and unique personal experiences in your own Chicago Jewish history. Contact 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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