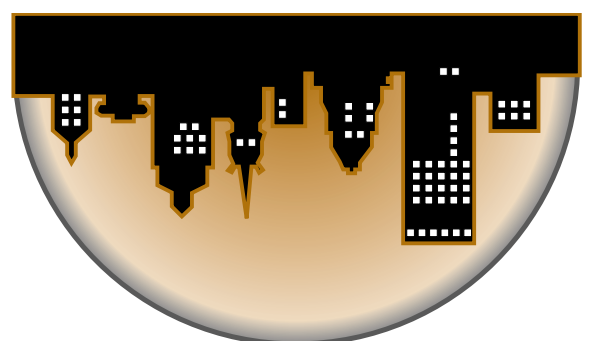


WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

The following individuals have donated materials to the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society's archives since November 11, 2004:

- Flora Abramson** – 4 photos of dinner dances, 1947-1949; 5 photos of 16th birthday parties, 1946-1947; photo of Maxine Engle's going-away party, 1947; photo of Haggadah reading.
- Frances Adashek** – Photo of pawnshop owned by David and Moritz Adashek, 1924.
- Eddie Adelman** – UW Foundation Center for Jewish Studies video; "Education for Life," "ORT Israel Program" and "Happy 75th Birthday WAO" video.
- Anonymous** – Photo of Alfred Goldberg at signing of the first United Parcel Services Labor Agreement, 1937.
- Grace Arnow** – Gimbel Brothers bill, 1919-1920; Gimbel ads; newspaper article about Jewish Convalescent Home, 1958; Riverside High School playbill; newspaper article on Les Arnow.
- Phil and Sally Askotzky** – Scanned photos of Lloyd Street School, Bay View Tire and Supply, weddings and other family events.
- Jean Atlas** – Tribute pamphlet on Alex Atlas, 2003.
- Barbara Blutstein** – Polacheck family tree; JNF almanac, 1987-1989; JCC materials and newspaper articles; Corporate Gifts Committee article, 1977.
- Rabbi Jay Brickman** – Sermons and eulogies given by Rabbi Jay Brickman.
- Dr. Lucile Cohn** – Bon Ton Sour Mix in original bottle; WWII service medals; WWII photos of Norman Cohn; photo of Lucile Cohn; newspaper articles on Norman and Lucile Cohn's 50th wedding anniversary.
- Andrea Cooper** – Background materials and sermons from her father, Rabbi Harry Pastor.
- Penny Deshur** – Burial records for use on Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society web site.
- Tobias and Miriam Enright** – Holocaust DP camps, immigration and genealogical records.
- Beverly Feiges** – Cookbook, Can't Believe it's Kosher! 2001.
- Linda Frank** – Robert Grossman's National Association of Realtors certificate, 1976; A.B. Zuckert Company scrapbook with articles and photos about Army-Navy Production Award; Emanu-El B'ne Jeshurun 125th anniversary picture that belonged to her mother, Sylvia Grossman; photo of Pi Lambda Phi, 1942; photo of Fallows house, 1941; Bigelow magazine, 1952.
- Ted Friedlander** – Newspaper articles on B.D. Eisendrath Tanning Company; *Milwaukee History Magazine*, 2001.
- Gerald Glazer** – Autobiography, 2002; newspaper article on Cissy Glazer; letter from Archbishop Weakland, 2002.
- Albert Goldberg** – Goldberg family newspaper articles; immigration records; copy of Louis and Dora Goldberg marriage certificate.
- Jonathan Goldstine** – Genealogical records on the Heine and Weinstock families.
- Dr. Victor Greene** – Paper by Nora Faires on Jewish life in Flint, Michigan, 2004.
- Donald and Mildred Hamilton** – Emil Hamilton articles; photo of Emil Hamilton family; photo of Donald Hamilton during WWII.
- Herbert and Ruth Hiller** – Photo of Tower View formal party, 1948.
- Annette Hirsh** – Birthing dress worn by Charles and Max Riegelman, c. 1890s; photo of Gilead B'nai B'rith Jr. coronation dance, 1942; photo of B'nai B'rith Girls Purim party, 1938 or 1939.
- Dr. Paul Jacobs** – Newspaper photo of Paul Jacobs at Simchat Torah march and rally, 1971.
- Marjorie Jacobson** – Washington High School yearbooks, 1942-1943; Whitefish Bay High School yearbook, 1971; Riverside High School yearbooks, 1921, 1925-1927; University of Wisconsin yearbook, 1932.
- Judy Kaplan** – Photos of Harold Shapiro.
- Goldie Katzoff** – Challah cover from Yaacov Ginsburg's Bar Mitzvah, 2004; hand-washing towel.
- Sally Kraus** – Photos of Camp Sidney Cohen.
- Bernard Kristal** – Photo of Milwaukee Jewish Convalescent Hospital Board members, 1964.
- Dr. Jay Larkey** – Newspaper articles on civil rights protests in Milwaukee, 1960s; family photos and genealogy; B'nai B'rith Human Rights awards program, 1972.
- Dr. Mordecai Lee** – *New York Times* newspaper articles related to Milwaukee, 1900-1930.
- Helga Levings** – Immigration card and German passport, 1938; photos of her family in Germany.
- Arlene Mann** – Bob Mann family history papers; photo of Thrift Shop; photo of S.T.P. dinner dance, 1946; photo of TAG dance, 1941; Emanu-El confirmation program, 1938; copy of World War I diary, 1918; evidence of forgeries from Allis-Chalmers Company strike vote, 1941; newspaper articles on her father Max Shimon and Watertown Egg Company; newspaper *China Press*, 1928; copy of her parents' marriage license, 1924.
- Paul Melrood** – Photo of his parents, 1972; JCC newsletters, 1960s; JCC athletic hall of fame program, 1970; UW-Milwaukee commencement programs and alumni reports, 1970s; newspaper articles about his involvement with various organizations; Beaux Arts Ball posters and articles, 1960s; World War II service records; International Association of Yiddish Clubs program, 2002; Perhifft Players articles and photos; Golda Meir sketch, copy of Golda's report card and articles on "Golda's Balcony."
- Fran Meyers** – 2 videocassette interviews with Leonard Schwade, Becky Pollock and Esther Schwade; photo of Fran Schwade's 3rd birthday party, 1943.
- Rachel Mishlove** – Photo of Levin family, c. 1900; photo of Fox River Company; photo of Atlas family.
- Mound Zion Cemetery (c/o Nelson Weine and Fred Mayer)** – Alphabetical listing of burials.
- Edwin and Nancy Ostermann** – Photocopied materials pertaining to Fried-Ostermann Co. and the 1930s strike; photos of Deer Park Lodge and Mt. Sinai groundbreaking; Woodmont Country Club family photo; Polacheck family tree; Felsenthal family history.
- Jerold and Sandra Perlstein** – Transcript of interview between Harry Perlstein and Rick Perlstein, 1993.
- Dr. Jack Porter** – Family photos.
- Lilian Post** – Wedding dress, 1934.
- Ethel Rabinovitz** – Copies of newspaper articles about Queen Marie writing her a letter, 1929.
- Clarice Resnick** – Lumaside, Inc. ruler.
- Marilyn Rosen** – Photos of Sam, Jennie, Izzy and Blanch Waldman; Passover photo; Rakita family photos.
- D. Reid Ross** – Family history, *Goodman-Sanderson Families of Milwaukee, Wisconsin*, 1992; genealogical materials.
- Jerry Safer** – Beth El Ner Tamid synagogue bulletin and correspondence, 1969.
- Scott Sampson** – Jewish Community Handbook, 1979; Hotel Corporation of Israel annual reports, 1960s; framed photo and newspaper article about Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sampson.
- Jean Samsky** – Small Shofar.
- Ted and Dorothy Sattler** – Hat box; newspaper article on Lee Lewis Haberdashers; WWI photo of Felix Sattler; photo of Sattler brothers in Austria-Hungary; photo of W.R.C. staff, 1973; photo of AZA Participation Cup, 1973.
- Gertrude Schwartz** – "Jewish Way of Life," Union Haggadah, 1908; "In Quest of Integrity," 1936; "Oscar Fredrik Dikter," 1907; Swedish report card, 1904; wedding photo; German thalers; steamship tickets and programs, 1907-1909; German correspondence, 1907; 3 lengths pure linen for trousseau, 1882; 3 detachable women's collars; 1 pair heavy knit, white stockings – woman; single white knit stocking; 1 hand-embroidered square piece; framed watercolor by Milwaukeean Sam Gansheroff.
- Ted Sernovitz** – Family trees.
- Bernice Spivek** – Books, *History of the Jews of Milwaukee* and *My Mother Golda Meir*; ration book holder, 1943.
- Spring Hill Cemetery and Mausoleum (c/o Michael Schuman and Sandy Kipp)** – Alphabetical listing of burials.
- Barbara Stein** – Play scripts from Beth El Ner Tamid, Fox Point-Bayside School, Hadassah and ORT, 1970s; Hadassah photos, programs, newsletters and newspaper articles.
- Sol Steingart** – Seder photo, 1927; Steingart family photo; Joseph and Mary Steingart wedding photo and marriage certificate, 1906; Joe Steingart naturalization certificate, 1916; Chetac football club newspaper article.
- Norbert Sweet** – 4 Korean War hats.
- Lillian Teplinsky** – Scanned photos of Kaufman families.



Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society
 860 North Prospect Avenue
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-3094
 A program of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Milwaukee, WI
 Permit No. 5632



MILWAUKEE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Number 21

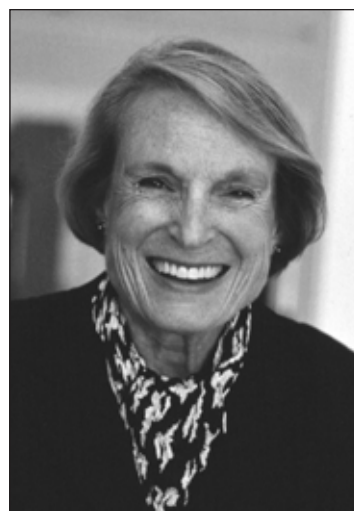
From the President

This issue highlights a slice of our Jewish past by featuring local resorts frequented by Wisconsin Jews. Our family spent many happy hours at Siebkens Resort as our children were growing up – eating their family-style dinners has always been my idea of the next best thing to being in the Catskills. Our editor, Jody Sussman Steren, did the extensive research and writing, as she has done for every newsletter since 1989. Jody’s contributions to the Historical Society are greatly appreciated by us and by her husband, Jeff, and son, Martin, who sponsored this issue in her honor. We thank them for their gift and we are so grateful to Jody for her amazing work.

The Historical Society suffered a serious loss with the death of Abe Chudnow, a staunch supporter of the society. Abe was ahead of the times because he understood that a strong historical society provides an effective and appropriate setting to help people learn about their Jewish past and understand their place in the history of our Milwaukee community. He supported us financially, gave us sound advice, and contributed materials that he had accumulated over the years. We nominated Abe for the Governor’s 2005 Archives Advocacy Award. Unfortunately, Abe’s death preceded judgment for the award, but the Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board so appreciated his contributions to the archival world that it will bestow a special posthumous memorial in his honor.

In addition to Abe Chudnow’s honor, we are pleased that the society has been selected to receive the State of Wisconsin 2005 Governor’s Archives Innovation Award for its web site. It is gratifying to know that people from outside our community appreciate the contributions that the society is making to preserve Milwaukee’s Jewish history. Congratulations to Mike Green and his very able committee for doing an outstanding job. Visit us online at www.milwaukeejewishhistorical.org.

Programming is an important part of our mission and we hope that you will enjoy what the Program Committee has planned for the coming year. Suzy Ettinger and Sally Waters will co-chair our summer luncheon on July 26, featuring author and historian Rick Perlstein, who will discuss the role of the Milwaukee Jewish community during the urban crisis in the summer of 1967. This is a period of our history not to be forgotten, and we hope you will learn from and remember with him.



Marianne Lubar

Have you ever tasted a pretzel? Rebecca Pelz is going to show us how to make them while we eat them and learn about the Jewish culture that spawned such a tasty treat. She will be kicking off our series “Food of Memories” this fall that we think may surprise you with the amazing variety of backgrounds we come from.

Again, let me thank you for your participation in the Oral History Program. This is an important legacy you are bestowing on your personal family and on your community family. One day in the near future, we hope you will see snippets of your interview – and others – on a screen in the new heritage museum. We are pleased to be included in the Jewish Community Capital Campaign, which is raising money to bring our cultural inheritance to us.

—Marianne Lubar

“My advice is to slow down, relax, and smell the lox and onions.”

—Mel Brooks—

(worked early in his career in the Catskills)

Contents

- Summer Resorts 2
- Volunteer Profile 3
- Contributors Back
- Upcoming Programs Insert
- Oral Histories Insert
- Web Site Update Insert

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
JOINS JEFF AND MARTIN
STEREN IN HONORING

JODY SUSSMAN STEREN



FOR HER DEVOTION
IN PRESERVING
MILWAUKEE’S JEWISH HISTORY.

Encyclopedia Judaica

We were pleased when Michael Berenbaum of Encyclopedia Judaica asked the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society to update articles on Milwaukee and Wisconsin for a new edition to be published in 2007. Melvin Zaret, Executive Vice President Emeritus of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, submitted an article on Milwaukee, and author Andy Muchin wrote about Wisconsin. The encyclopedia will appear first in book form and, one year later, in CD-ROM.

Dr. Jane Avner is a recent newcomer to Milwaukee and the Historical Society. While still in Cleveland, she was invited to submit articles on Cleveland and Ohio.

We are delighted to have all of these authors in our midst!

Of Note

“The Jewish Book Week Annual, published recently in New York, lists the Milwaukee Jewish Book Week observance in May, 1928 as the first community program of its kind in the land. Credit for the project is given, in Exhibit 1, to Congregation Emanu-El B’ne Jeshurun and Dr. Baron, Temple Beth El and Rabbi Kleinman and the Pioneer Women’s Organization and Mrs. I. Horwitz.”

—From Congregation Emanu-El B’ne Jeshurun’s
January 14, 1943 Temple Bulletin.



Summer Resorts

Page through *The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle* from the 1930s and 1940s, one can find all sorts of ads for lake resorts – Silver Beach Hotel and Nudelmans in South Haven, Mich., and Whitcomb Sulphur Springs in St. Joseph, Mich. – but I would like to concentrate on Wisconsin's resort hotels – Ziebelman's Pine Terrace Resort on Fowler Lake in Oconomowoc, Schwartz's on Elkhart Lake, and Rosenheimer's on Big Cedar Lake in West Bend – that catered to a sizeable Jewish clientele.

The unifying feature these hotels shared was that they were within driving distance from both Milwaukee and Chicago, and were accessible by train. Trains served Elkhart Lake from 1873-1968. Cedar Lake Station was built just to serve the resorts on Big Cedar Lake and a taxi service transported guests back and forth from the station.

Until the 1920s, it was mainly the middle or upper classes that could afford these getaways. During the 1920s and 1930s, progressive industrialists, economists, and some union leaders began to talk about the idea of vacations for factory workers. The thinking was that paid vacations might improve productivity in the work force. Industrial workers were gradually getting the same vacation privileges that white-collar workers had been enjoying for 50 years.

New groups created their own resorts. Jews from New York City began going to the Catskill Mountains in the early 1900s. As the automobile became more affordable and paved roads opened up, there were new possibilities for travel.

"The idea of leaving the city for an escape from work, the idea that is, of a vacation, was foreign to Jews. Their "vacations" were the Sabbath and Jewish holidays. But the notion of getting away from the daily requirements of work was attractive and the idea of vacating their urban dwellings was extraordinarily alluring."

– FROM THE HAUNTED SMILE (PG. 110).

Pine Terrace

A popular summer activity in the 1920s was to take a Sunday afternoon drive in the country and enjoy a meal at the Pine Terrace dining room on Fowler Lake in Oconomowoc. Annette and Samuel Ziebelman of Milwaukee were Sunday dinner regulars and were approached by a realtor friend in 1928 to buy Pine Terrace. They knew nothing about running a restaurant, but decided to give it a try with the help of the Mertzes, from whom they bought the resort. The Mertzes stayed on until the early 1930s.



The front entrance of Pine Terrace features a fountain within the circular drive leading from Lisbon Road. Originally the mansion had seven pointed towers and elaborate palace gardens.

The large 19-room house, which included the restaurant, was built in 1879 by Henry and Peter Schuttler as a gift for Henry's bride, Maria Anheuser of the St. Louis brewing family. The estate originally included 220 acres of forest and farmland. They named the mansion *Mon Bijou* (My Jewel). After a series of tragic deaths in the house, Maria sold *Mon Bijou* in 1922 to Frank Chase who wanted to subdivide the property into home sites. Later that year, the house was sold to Louis Scharff, who then sold it to Mr. Mertz, who added cottages and operated it as Pine Terrace Resort.

Samuel Ziebelman continued with his work as the editor of the Milwaukee page of the *Jewish Daily Forward* from 1920 until 1952. He also ran Jewish hours in Yiddish on radio stations WEMP and WFOX on Sundays. The resort was closed during the winter and the Ziebelmans went back to Milwaukee each fall until 1931 when Oconomowoc became their year-round home. Once again, in 1946, they spent the winters in Milwaukee.

Annette removed the castle towers on the Pine Terrace house and converted the resort to the American plan serving three meals a day to all the guests, including those who were in the cottages. At

one time, kosher meals were served and Mrs. Ziebelman's mother made Jewish-style dishes on Friday nights.

While most of the guests were Jewish and came primarily from Chicago and Milwaukee, everyone was welcome. Some people stayed from the time school let out in June until Labor Day and returned year after year. Annette Ziebelman said, "Young people had their first love affairs here." Actress Charlotte Ray and her parents came to the resort for about 20 years. Nobel prize winner Saul Bellow came often to visit his parents while they were guests there. Knowing

Ziebelman through his newspaper connections, Mayor Daniel Hoan was also a guest. Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society volunteer Sharie Berliant and her brother Howard recalled many happy summers at Pine Terrace as children. Maureen Blumenfeld Eichenbaum went there with a friend's family as a teenager. She loved playing ping-pong on the house's screened-in porch.

Samuel Ziebelman died in 1959, but his wife kept the resort until 1982. In the early 1960s, meals were no longer served and the cottages reverted back to

housekeeping units. Rip O'Dwanny restored the property in 1986 and opened as a bed and breakfast in 1988, run by local historian Shirley Hinds. Condominiums have since been built on the lawn and garden areas between the house and the lake. Pine Terrace is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Schwartz's

While 19th century Oconomowoc was often referred to as the "Newport of the Midwest" due to the well-heeled clientele that summered there, Schwartz's Resort in Elkhart Lake originally catered to the Jewish carriage trade. Summer visitors began coming to Elkhart Lake in the late 1800s from Chicago and Milwaukee, and brought with them an interest in music, theatre and the arts.

William Schwartz, a Plymouth businessman, purchased 40 acres of land on Elkhart Lake in 1872 and built his resort. Noting that two other resorts were doing well, he felt the lake could support a third establishment. By 1875, he submitted the original village plat making Elkhart Lake a recognizable village. The resort was turned over to his brother John in 1879 and William began construction of a larger building on top of

the hill, which he sold to his brother in 1883 for \$10,000. He proceeded to build another resort across the street, naming it Belleview House, which later became Siebkins Resort, a hotel that also advertised in the *Chronicle* to attract Jewish clientele. Adding to the luxury was the completion of a \$3,000 opera house and a greenhouse erected by William in 1888. The year 1895 marked another change in ownership with the purchase of the resort by Sigmund Bloomfield (*Americanization of Blumenfeld*) of Chicago. The resort officially became Schwartz Hotel in 1896.

By 1924, the hotel was much larger and the 25 cottages on the premises became available for purchase. In the same year, the hotel underwent another ownership change as Charles Goldammer and Gussie Reimers purchased it. Although it was illegal, Schwartz's had a gambling casino – as did many other Wisconsin resort hotels – until after World War II when reform set in. On the market again, the resort was sold to William Geftman of Chicago in 1946. American sports car racing also became extremely popular in Elkhart Lake at this time. Summer theatre has always been part of the entertainment there and both Shelley Berman and Tom Bosley appeared in the 1949 and 1950 seasons.

Another cultural attraction was the Harrand Theatre Arts Camp run by sisters Sullie Harrand and Pearl Harrand, and Byron Friedman of Chicago. From 1955 to the 1970s, classes were given in singing, dancing, and musical comedy. Parents of the campers would come to see the shows and enjoy a meal at Siebkins' excellent dining room. Marlene and Bert Bilsky have good memories of coming to performances. The camp was later used by BBYO for leadership and Judaism Institutes.

Schwartz's eventually developed into a family resort with boat rides, ping-pong, softball, tennis, and swimming in the pools or at the beach. There were day camps and a nightclub with dance music for adults. A social director ran bingo and showed movies. And of course, there was the food. The old joke from the Borscht Belt about eating being the principal activity could be applied to Schwartz's. Comedian Joey Bishop once observed about Catskill hotels, "It looked like a home. When you walked in, there was bread on the table, pickles on the table ... you could ask for more food." The abundance of food was a deliberate statement that Jews would not have to worry about their next meal. This feeling freed immigrant Jews emotionally in ways that non-immigrant gentile Americans would not understand (*The Haunted Smile*).

Amy Sloan and Robert Brickman acquired Schwartz's in 1982 and in 1984 added a new heated building for winter use, making it a year-round resort. It has been a long time since the clientele was predominantly Jewish.

Rosenheimer's

Rosenheimer's Hotel was situated on the southwest corner of Big Cedar Lake between Slinger and West Bend. Baruch Schleisinger Weil, founder of Slinger, Wis., had bought the land in 1850. His sons Eugene and Adolph Weil formed the Cedar Lake Park Hotel Corporation in 1886. They built the largest hotel on the lake with 60 rooms that could accommodate 250 people.

The Cedar Lake Station was built so resort guests who came to Big Cedar Lake by train wouldn't have to go to Slinger. The Weil brothers were friends of the Wisconsin Central Railway president who agreed to construct the station. People came to this area from throughout the Midwest and went from the train station by



Rosenheimer's Resort pavilion and hotel complex in the mid-1920s.

Continued on page 3

Volunteer Profile— Sharie Berliant

Milwaukee native Sharie Berliant began volunteering at the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society in 1999 after her father passed away. Keeper of the Berliant family memorabilia, she has donated family photos, information on the Ha-Kodimo Club, and professional photos taken at birthday parties to the society's archives. She was familiar with the archives because her father did a taped interview in 1989 or 1990.

Sharie also has worked as a kindergarten and first-grade teacher and vocational counselor in San Francisco. She most enjoys sifting through private collections and unlocking the connections she finds. To her, it's like putting together a puzzle. Meeting new people, renewing friendships and working with the collections makes her time at MJHS pleasurable. She also is involved with the Wisconsin Small Jewish Communities History project, which is part of the Wisconsin Society for Jewish Learning.

A Simpler Time

The automobile changed the way people spent their leisure time and their ability to get from place to place. Notice the ad for two synagogues' annual picnics in 1936. Transportation was available from the end of the streetcar line at 35th Street and Fond du Lac Avenue to Highway 55 for DeWirt's Grove or the Five Mile House where the picnics were held. Highway 55 is now known as Fond du Lac Avenue. Does anyone remember where DeWirt's Grove or the Five Mile House was located?



Continued from page 2 Summer Resorts

bus or taxi to the various hotels on the lake. At the end of the 1915 season, about 2,300 people waited to board trains, a testament to the popularity of this area at one time. A fire destroyed the station in 1926.



The water slide was a popular resort attraction.

The hotel was sold to John Rosenheimer Sr., one of 11 children of Lehman and Barbara in 1893. His sons, Meyer and John Jr., built the dance hall and saloon in 1920. The dance hall could accommodate 1,400 people, but was not open in the winter because there was no heat. Rosenheimer also operated a steam passenger boat, *Witch of the Waves*, which took guests around the lake for 25 cents.

John Sr. died in 1923, leaving Meyer and John Jr. to run the hotel. John managed the hotel and

cottages and Meyer oversaw the tavern and dance hall. One of the cottages was called the "band box" and was used by the dance bands that played there. Rosenheimer's attracted famous big bands such as Guy Lombardo, Wayne King, Kay Kayser, Art Cassal and Louis Armstrong. The beach was also a big draw. To create a large beach stretching well into the lake,

sand was placed on the ice in the winter and when it warmed up, the sand would fall to the lake bottom.

A fire burned down the hotel in 1931. Four years later, John Jr. sold his resort holdings to Meyer, who remodeled the tavern and hall, enclosed the porch and added a room for slot machines.

By the 1940s, dancing was less popular so roller-skating was featured twice a week. During World War II, dances and skating parties had low attendance. Meyer Rosenheimer sold the resort to Ernst Kuhn, Paul Guember and Ed Starke in

1944, ending 49 years of his family's ownership. During the 1950s, portions of the resort were sold, then resold. On April 15, 1957, part of the resort was purchased by the Cedar Lake Yacht Club. The remaining property was transferred to the yacht club in 1965 and the buildings were razed. The yacht club occupies the property today.

Larry Orenstein, longtime volunteer and staunch supporter of the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society, remembers it taking an hour to drive to

Rosenheimer's. His family, the Weinshels, had a cottage next door, which they bought in 1916. A relative, Joe Weinshel, still lives there.

The era of Jewish resorts in Southern Wisconsin is over. It began its decline in the 1950s and 1960s, and it is doubtful that a large hotel or resort will again be built on Big Cedar Lake due to the ease of commuting to Milwaukee and a lack of attractions to draw people in, like the American Club in Kohler. The rising expectations of the middle class and the search for better amenities has changed the resort climate. The advent of air conditioning and television also rang a death knell for summer hotels. People no longer just take vacations in summer and time-shares allow people to "own" a home on the water for a week or two. Interstate highways, motels and the American love affair with cars allowed vacationers to go anywhere.

Sharon Madnek recalls: "My sister and I often found ourselves on Schwartz's front porch at the end of the afternoon ... pleading with our parents to let us play one more game of shuffleboard before heading back home. It feels good to remember Schwartz's now ... people and places and a time that are no more except in my memory."

If you remember summer lake resorts that catered largely to a Jewish clientele, please call the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society at (414) 390-5700 or send your memories by e-mail to info@milwaukeejewishhistorical.org. You also may write to: Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society, 1360 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3094. Photos of resort activities also would be appreciated.

MILWAUKEE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2005 • NUMBER 21

The Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society is a program of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation.

Please address all correspondence and suggestions to: Kathleen E. Bernstein,
Director, Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society,
1360 North Prospect Avenue,
Milwaukee, WI 53202-3094, 414-390-5730
www.milwaukeejewishhistorical.org
info@milwaukeejewishhistorical.org

Marianne Lubar, *President*
Jody Sussman Steren, *Editor*
Kathleen E. Bernstein, *Director*



MILWAUKEE
JEWISH
FEDERATION

Yes! I want to help preserve the past with a tax-deductible donation of:

Friend: \$25

Supporter: \$50

Benefactor: \$100

Patron: \$500

Name _____

Phone (day) _____

Address _____

Charge \$ _____ to Visa Mastercard

Card No. _____ Expiration _____

Signature _____

Please make your check payable to the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society or fill out the credit card information above and mail it to the Society, 1360 North Prospect Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202-3094.



MILWAUKEE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

N E W S L E T T E R

Number 21

Upcoming Programs

Watch your mail for more information about the following events!

Summer Luncheon and Lecture

July 26, 2005 - Noon

Peck Hall, Jewish Home & Care Center

Milwaukee native Rick Perlstein, author, historian and chief national political reporter for the Village Voice, will present "How Milwaukee Was Different: The Long, Hot Summer of 1967." Perlstein's speech will be accompanied by an exhibit from the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society's archives, which illustrates the Jewish community's involvement during this period in Milwaukee's history.

Cost to attend is \$20 per person.

"Food of Memories"

September 2005

The Joseph & Rebecca Peltz Center for Jewish Life

The Historical Society will explore the importance of food in Jewish life through a series of discussions and demonstrations based on the experiences of Jewish immigrants in Milwaukee. Rebecca Peltz will kick off the series with her famous onion pletzels as featured in The New York Times.

Book Talk and Signing

November 2005

Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society

Martin Hintz, author of 69 books in the Milwaukee Public Library, spent hours at the Historical Society conducting research for his new book, Images of America: Jewish Milwaukee.

Hintz will discuss what he learned and be available to sign copies of his book.

Oral Histories Program

Fall/Winter

The Historical Society continues to preserve Milwaukee's Jewish community through its Oral History Program. To place your name or that of a loved one on the waiting list, contact the Historical Society by e-mail at info@milwaukeejewishhistorical.org, or call the office at (414) 390-5700. Remember, your story is our history!

Roots New York Mini-Mission

May 2006

New York, N.Y.

Co-sponsored by the Historical Society and Jewish Awareness, an annual program of the Women's Division of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, this two-day trip to New York is open to all adults. More to follow.

Oral Histories

In May, we continued to Celebrate 350 Years of Jewish Life in America through the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society's Oral History Program. From May 16-19, 59 interviews were conducted at the Helfaer Building, including some of Milwaukee's New Americans and Jews by Choice. We look forward to interviewing more of these two groups in the future.

The Jewish Community Foundation sponsored the spring program, with additional support from Marianne Epstein and the Miriam & Bernard Peck Foundation, Ltd. We thank them for their generosity. We also thank Barbie Blutstein and Tybie Taglin, co-chairs of the Oral History Program, and the following people who participated throughout the week:

Lucille Atlas	Larry Orenstein
Jane Avner	Miriam Orenstein
Romaine Backer	Gertrude Palakow
Joan Barnett	Phil Paley
Philip Barnett	Frema Pittelman
Judy Baruch	Donald Polacheck
Irvin Becker	Isabelle Polacheck
Sharie Berliant	Jack Porter
Ruth Berman	Ida Pumpian
Aaron Bernstein	Alla Rabinovich
Eliot Bernstein	Amos Rapoport
Kathie Bernstein	Barbara Recht
Gerry Biller	Clarice Resnick
Joel Biller	Pat Rieselbach
Barbie Blutstein	Leonid Salganik
Doris Chortek	Dorothy Sattler
Harriet Dorf	Ted Sattler
Jerry Dorf	Ruth Schudson
Yvonne Dunkelmann	Ted Sernovitz
Nina Edelman	Barbara Shikora
Laurence Eiseman	Ma'ayan Silver
Ed Elkon	Dorothy Singer
Milton Ettenheim	Peter Slonim
Suzy Ettinger	Michael J. Spector
Ruth Farber	Bernice Spivek
Gloria Freschl	Barbara Stein
Stephen Freschl	Margie Stein
Ellie Gettinger	Harriet Steinberg
Lucille Glicklich-Rosenberg	Sol Steingart
Margaret Goodman	James Stillman
Barbara Heilbronner	Norbert Sweet
Mildred Hoffman	Tybie Taglin
Jay Hyland	Marci Taxman
Paul Jacobs	Lillian Teplinsky
Marjorie Jacobson	Chai Tuchman
Alvin Kaplan	Herman Tuchman
Earl Kaplan	Leslie Usow
Helen Kaplan	Andrea Waxman
Judy Kaplan	Michael Waxman
Audrey Keyes	Nancy Weiss-McQuide
Stanley Kritzik	
Amy Lang	
Jay Larkey	
Valentin Levin	
Ellin Levy	
Gerald Levy	
Karen Loeb	
Roger McConnell	
Arlene Mann	
Linda Marcus	
Tom McHenry	
Marilyn Meissner	
Rick Meyer	
Fran Meyers	

Kudos

The Milwaukee County Historical Society held its 52nd annual recognition ceremony on May 2. Avrum Chudnow posthumously received the Courtland R. Conlee Community Service Award. Tom August received the Marion G. Ogden Prize for his article in *Milwaukee History* titled "In the Midst of Many Peoples: A History of Jewish-Gentile Community Relations in Milwaukee."

This issue was sponsored by the Chudnow Museum of Yesteryear, a private museum that exhibits the history of Jewish immigrants, their occupations and families.

Celebrate 350: Jewish Life in America

If you get the chance to visit the Civil War battlefield in Vicksburg, Miss., you can't help but see the Anshe Chesed Cemetery, situated on the Second Texas Lunette, an area of heavy fighting during the siege of Vicksburg in 1863. The cemetery had been at another location but was moved to its current site in 1864, 40 years before the creation of the Vicksburg National Military Park. The tombstones are very different from those you would see in Milwaukee. The Jewish community was comprised of families from Germanic areas of central and western Europe (Alsace-Lorraine, Baden and Bavaria) who began settling there in 1821. They were mainly merchants and peddlers who contributed to the growth of the Mississippi River towns into commercial centers.



Anshe Chesed Cemetery

Our collections are used in many ways

The following people and organizations have conducted research or borrowed materials from the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society since November 11, 2004:

Rabbi Steven Adams – Research on Rabbi Swarsenky.

Aimee Bachar – Research and information sent regarding Wisconsin Jewish history web sites.

Nir Barkin – Research and information sent for thesis on early history of Milwaukee's Jews.

Mary Davies – Research on Yiddish theater for a documentary.

Marni Davis – Research and information sent regarding German Jews in Milwaukee.

Juliette Digonnet – Research and information sent regarding Yiddish theater.

Miriam and Esther Enright – Research on their family.

Terry Eubanks – Research and information sent regarding Rabbi David Shapiro.

Irwin Fischman – Research and information sent regarding the Fischman family.

Jeff Fishbach – Research for a term paper about civil rights.

Dr. David Frolick – Research and information sent regarding Rabbi Elias Eppstein.

Linda Gale Sampson – Research on Lizzie Black Kander and the Settlement House.

Debbi Gartenberg – Research for her thesis.

Sandra Gelman – Research and information sent regarding the Marks family.

Jonathan Goldstine – Research and information sent regarding the Heine and Weinstock families.

Donald and Mildred Hamilton – Research on the Hamilton family.

Rebecca Herzfeld – Research and information sent regarding Rabbi Moritz Spitz.

Martin Hintz – Research for a photograph book on Milwaukee Jews.

Sandy Hoffman – Research and information sent regarding Holocaust survivors.

Jewish Family Services – Research and information sent regarding JFS volunteer lists for the 1980s.

JPELDE@aol.com – Research and information sent regarding Camp Sidney Cohen.

Abigail Kogan – Research and information sent regarding the Cohen family.

Sally Kraus – Research on Children's Outing Association.

Barbara Kupetzky – Research and information sent regarding United Synagogue.

Michael Lasnover – Research and information sent regarding Louis Lasnover.

Richard Leroy – Research and information sent regarding Sigmund Levy and Sarah Silber.

Louise Marwill – Research and information sent regarding the Rosenfeld family.

Helen Mautner – Research and information sent regarding Edith Klein.

Jennifer McNaughton – Research on Jewish immigration to Milwaukee.

Rachel McPhie – Research for a paper on the Perhft Players.

David Moss – Research for a Jewish Community Center project.

Andy Muchin – Researched papers of Rabbi Louis Swichkow.

Jacque Nodell – Research for a paper on the civil rights movement.

Burton Ostrower – Research and information sent regarding Rabbi Solomon Scheinfeld.

Richard Reiser – Research and information sent regarding his family.

Allen Rems – Research and information sent regarding Samuel and Tillie Wendorf.

D. Reid Ross – Research and information sent regarding the Primakow family.

Manny Rotter – Research and information sent regarding Rabbi Swichkow's marriage records.

Merton Rotter – Research on the Jewish Community Center.

Stephanie Seldin Howard – Research and information sent regarding Soviet Jews in Milwaukee for a documentary.

Rabbi Ron Shapiro – Research and information sent regarding Edith Klein.

Carol Sklenicka – Viewed videotapes on Israel.

Deborah Stern – Research and information sent regarding Philip Miller.

Charles Wallens – Borrowed Star of David slides for a presentation.

Ted Wedemeyer – Research on the Social Science Club.

Esther Weingrod – Looked at Chai Society photos.

Liza Wiemer – Research on Saul Sorrin.

Eva Zaret – Photo requests.

Web Site Update

We are pleased to announce that the Milwaukee Jewish Historical Society is the recipient of the State of Wisconsin 2005 Governor's Archives Innovation Award for our web site. We won by meeting the following qualifications:

Experimenting with new approaches to raising awareness and appreciation of historical records as keys to Wisconsin's cultural heritage.

Using new technologies for disseminating information about historical records.

Using historical records to reach new audiences.

The award will be presented during Archives Week in October 2005.

Since the debut of our web site, our research requests have increased dramatically. Over the past nine months, we have received e-mails from New York, California, Washington, Israel and Germany, just to name a few. One researcher in Florida wrote, "what a wonderful society and Web site. Our families settled in Milwaukee and Racine in the early 1900's. We were able to find out the cemeteries where some of our relatives are. Thank you for having this information. You don't know what it means to us."

A researcher in Israel wrote, "Shalom. Thank you for your detailed answer. We were very happy to see this beautiful site. We hope to visit it from time to time in memory of our grandparents and relatives who came from Russia and lived in your nice city."

If you have not had a chance to see us online, please visit our web site at www.milwaukeejewishhistorical.org.

We welcome your questions and comments.