

ירשה

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HERITAGE

The Journal of THE JEWISH ARCHIVES & HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF EDMONTON & NORTHERN ALBERTA

INSIDE



Jewish
Policemen

page 3



A Journey
Back in
Time

page 8



Beth
Shalom
Synagogue:
Community
Centre

page 10

New Cemetery Website:

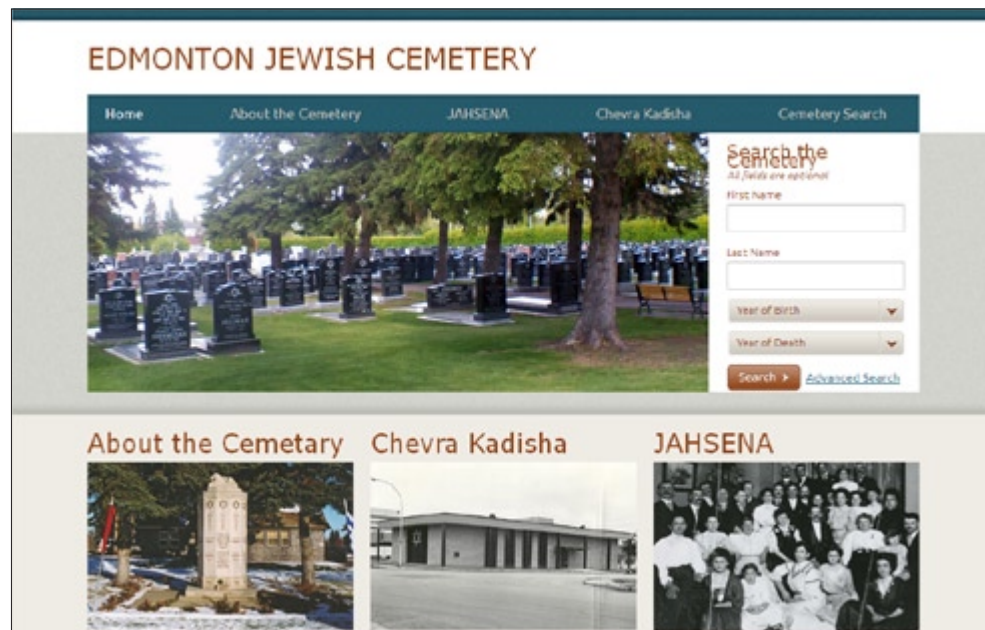
[www.
edmontonjewishcemetery
.ca](http://www.edmontonjewishcemetery.ca)

H.B. Kline store opens at Fort Edmonton Park



JAHSENA has completed our project to open the H.B. Kline Store at Fort Edmonton Park. The Gala Opening took place on June 9, 2013 and the store is now open for viewing! We invite you to visit the Park this Summer and see our wonderful creation! Check out more photos on our Facebook page!

New Website!



Watch for our new website, a joint venture with the Chevra Kadisha, funded by the Jewish Federation of Edmonton, which will be launched at the end of the month! It features the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery. Designed by Kyle Huberman of Pixel Designs,

it will make its debut this summer, and will feature photos and a history of the Cemetery, listings of the burials, as well as photos of the headstones and links to photos, obituaries and eulogies of the people buried there. Also, check out our main website, www.jahsena.ca,

which has been revamped by Kyle, and the Jewish Online World Burial Registry, which contains our Cemetery data and is currently available on www.jewishgen.org. The new website's URL is: www.edmontonjewishcemetery.ca.

ירשה HERITAGE

The Journal of the Jewish Archives & Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta

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DONATION CARDS

JAHSENA now has donation cards with historic pictures on them available for purchase. Mark your special simchas by sending a donation to JAHSENA. Contact the office for more details at: 780-489-2809. We have received the following donations:

SYMPATHY

To the Romanovsky Family, on the death of Rhoda Cohen, z'l, from the Board of JAHSENA.

To the Silverman/Shafir family, on the death of Suni Silverman, z'l, from the Board of JAHSENA.

To Fran Goldberg and family, on the death of Harry Goldberg, from the Board of JAHSENA.

To Fred, Dan, and Trig Singer and Trudy

Pekarsky, on the death of Millie Singer, z'l from Dena and Elliot Gelfand.

To Fred and Jenny Singer and Trudy Pekarsky, on the death of Millie Singer, from the Board of JAHSENA.

MAZEL TOV

To Debby Shoctor, on receiving the Queen's Jubilee Medal, from Stacey & Erin Wright.

Jewish Mounties and Policemen – *who knew?*

By PAULA E. KIRMAN

The number of Jewish people in the RCMP and Edmonton Police Services, both currently and in the past, apparently is very few. “My son the police officer,” is not something about which many Jewish mothers boast. Indeed, finding interview subjects proved difficult. For example, at the RCMP, information is not collected concerning religious faith, although members can self-report ethnicity if they so choose.

Although there is such a dearth of Jewish people involved in law enforcement, there are a few with remarkable stories. We have also included a couple of women from Calgary because they are notable for their achievements.

THE RCMP

MORRIS WASSERMAN

Morris Wasserman (1891-1957) was an officer with the North West Mounted Police in the early half of this century. His father, Jacob, was one of the first rabbis in Saskatchewan, having come to work on the Wapella farm colony. As Cyril Leonoff says in his book, *Jewish Farmers of Western Canada*, “Jacob Wasserman was an itinerant farmer-rabbi, one of the earliest in the Canadian West. A scholarly, gentlemanly person, his East European training and natural aptitude was for the pulpit. However, he really didn’t enjoy being a rabbi and strongly pursued his efforts to be a farmer. Prior to the official founding of a congregation in Regina, Wasserman acted as mohel and shochet for that community. About 1896, Wasserman, a married man



Christine Silverberg. Supplied photo.

with [ten] children (one of whom was Morris), settled at Oxbow where he farmed 395 acres. There he was ‘reader’ of the Hebrew congregation. Three bad crop years at Oxbow and high interest rates put him into debt. In 1903, he bought a farm in Armstrong, B.C., where ‘farming was very rough.’ He moved to Naramata in the Southern Okanagan Valley where he had a fruit farm for ten years. There Wasserman fell ill with a heart condition and died in 1914.”



Morris Wasserman. JAHSENA archives photo.

Morris didn’t like the farming life, and, being a large, strong boy, decided to join the NWMP. His grandson Ken Wasserman says one of the memorable things his father and Aunt Estelle used to say about him was, “He could pick up a wood-burning stove with his teeth.” He married Anne Kline, daughter of H.B. Kline, and they had two children, Malcolm and Shirley. Anne had another child from her first marriage, Estelle, whom he adopted. Anne spent many years helping her father and Uncle Louis run H.B. Kline Jewelers, until it was taken over by her son, Malcolm.

While stationed up North, Morris apparently contracted encephalitis, which plagued him for the rest of his life. However, he was a proud man, and even in his later years, despite his illness, after retiring from the NWMP, he worked as a travelling salesman to help support the family.

EDDIE CHETNER

Chetner is a native Calgarian who served with the RCMP from 1951 to 1977. “I wasn’t a very good student and I had just completed high school and it appealed to me. The history of the RCMP around

Continued on page 4

JEWISH MOUNTIES AND POLICEMEN

Continued from page 3

Ed Chetner in uniform, Supplied photo.

southern Alberta I guess influenced me more than anything else,” he says of his career choice.

He trained in Regina and Ottawa, then went to Manitoba and was stationed in Dawson, Flin Flon, Brandon, Russell, and then onto Winnipeg. “I started out as a general investigator and when I got into Winnipeg I went into plain clothes working both at that time in the intelligence unit and then criminal investigation branch,” he explains.

Chetner’s work in intelligence does not allow him to share many of his experiences, but he did have a few interesting times he can talk about. “After Winnipeg I went to Toronto for a short period. Then I was in Tel Aviv for two years attached to the embassy, then returned to Toronto where I completed my service. The latter part of my service was all in intelligence. Basically, I ended up getting ready to retire and they asked me to stay for the Olympics in Montreal where I was embedded with the Israeli team. Of course, this was the Olympics after Germany, so there was high security involved. I was involved in many

VIP visits with Israeli people from Golda Meir on down. I remember doing security detail with Abba Eban.”

After retiring from the RCMP, Chetner became an investigator in the Provincial Ombudsman’s office in St. Albert, where he remained for 15 years. He rose to the position of Senior Investigator and was even Acting Ombudsman for around six months when the Province was in-between ombudsmen.

He recalls his family’s objections to his career choice. “It was not considered a position for a Jewish person. My mother feared I would last maybe two months,” he recalls. His family eventually let up and were proud when he went to Israel. However, his first detail with the RCMP was rough. “In those days when I went to Flin Flon, every night was fight night with hard rock miners who would be underground all day and spend the early evenings in the beer parlour, and when it closed we had to make sure they got home or put them up in a hotel. I learned an awful lot about life in one year up there—more than I did the rest of my life, actually.”

Chetner’s wife, the late Mavis Shugarman, was from Edmonton. The couple had two children (one of whom



Ed and Mavis Chetner, wedding, supplied photo.

was born in Israel). “I was very fortunate. I enjoyed what I did. I didn’t become a millionaire like most of the guys I grew up with but I have no regrets in my life,” he says.

EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

MITCHELL FELDMAN

Mitchell Feldman is one of the Edmonton Police Service’s newest recruits. Originally from Vaughn, Ontario (a city just north of Toronto), Feldman came to the Edmonton area in 2009 when he was posted to C.F.B. Edmonton with the Canadian Forces. Although he and his immediate family are from the Toronto area, Feldman has a number of cousins and extended family members in Edmonton as his grandfather moved here from Poland in the 1920s.

Feldman is the only member of his family involved in law enforcement – other members of his family are lawyers. “I became interested in law enforcement in my early twenties,” he says. “I wanted a career that was interesting and most importantly, rewarding. Being accepted into a police service is a difficult process that took a lot of planning. I attended Seneca College in Ontario and received a diploma in Police Foundations. Following this, I worked as a security officer in hospital in downtown Toronto, which provided me with some great experience, especially in understanding the difficulties that police and security officers encounter when dealing with people who have psychological disorders. In 2009, I joined the Canadian Forces as a member of the Military Police and worked as a patrolman at CFB Edmonton. This was a particularly interesting career for me, as members of Canada’s Military Police are unique in that they have the same role and power as other police services but also must enforce military law. In November of 2012, I had the good fortune of being accepted into the Edmonton Police Service, one of Canada’s

leading police services.”

Feldman and his wife, who are members of Beth Shalom Synagogue, are enjoying life in Edmonton and consider it their home now. “We have made some great friends and are now able to see our extended family that lives in Western Canada on a more regular basis. Edmonton is a growing city with great opportunities. It is also a great place to raise a family, and traffic in Edmonton is significantly better than in Toronto.”

In his spare time, Feldman enjoys watching and playing sports. “I really enjoy baseball and hockey. I’m going to be getting involved in the men’s league hockey again next winter and like all fans of Canadian baseball, I have high hopes for the Toronto Blue Jays this season.”

DARIN GOLDENBERG

Writer’s note: Several of the people featured in this article were discovered simply through word of mouth or some other anecdotal reference. In this case, I was at an event where there was a police presence and I happened to notice Constable Goldenberg’s name on his badge. Although I did not quite have the nerve to go up to him to ask if he happened to be Jewish, I was later able to contact him through EPS’ communications department. As it turned out, my hunch was correct. Here is Constable Goldenberg’s story in his own words.

“I was born and raised in mid-town Toronto. I moved to Edmonton in late 2008 when I got hired by the EPS. I’ve been with EPS since December of 2008, and currently work out of Downtown Division in a patrol squad.

“Both of my parents are Jewish and I was raised in a ‘Jewish’ home. Although we wouldn’t attend synagogue too often, I attended Hebrew school until my early teen years and was involved in the Jewish community. Both of my parents were born and raised in Toronto; however, my grandparents immigrated to Canada. My grandfather on my mother’s side immigrated from a small town in Russia and my grandmother from Poland. On my father’s side of the family, my grandmother also immigrated from Poland and my grandfather from somewhere in Eastern Europe, we’re not sure exactly where.

“I think my story of becoming a police officer would be somewhat of a common one in the sense that I think many young men dream of being a police officer. Ever since I was a young boy I wanted to “catch the bad guys” and so very much looked up to each and every police officer. The goal of becoming a police officer was always in the back of my mind. However, I left high school long before graduating to work full time. Through my late teens and 20s, I had numerous jobs: retail, warehouse work, clerical office work, etc, but I was never

satisfied ‘with what I do’ and always had aspirations of entering into the world of law enforcement.

“When I was about 30 years old, I made the decision to go after what I always wanted. I then hired a tutor and obtained my G.E.D. This was a must-have for me, as the G.E.D is a ‘base’ requirement to apply to a police force as far as education goes. Once I obtained the G.E.D, I took it one step further and attended a College-level Law Enforcement/Security diploma program.

“From there, I spent the next few years gaining the necessary experience in Law Enforcement needed to make my application to a police force competitive. In early 2008, I began the application process with EPS and was offered employment late that summer. A few months later, I relocated to Edmonton and began my recruit training.

“I don’t regret making all the sacrifices I had to make to get where I am today. Without a shred of doubt, I love my job. Being a police officer is one of the most challenging careers I can imagine. It requires you to be highly motivated and committed at all times, but is so personally rewarding. Every single day is completely different than the one before. You really never know what you’ll encounter during your shift. One of the great aspects of police work is that you get the chance to meet all different types of people, every day. I have made lifelong friends with so many members of EPS. It’s truly like one big family.

“Unfortunately, I have no family here in Edmonton. As you can imagine, that can be difficult at times, but I travel to Toronto at least once a year to visit, and my parents try to come out here whenever they can.”

CALGARY

CHRISTINE SILVERBERG

Based in Calgary, Silverberg is the first woman in Canada to head a major police agency. She was appointed Chief of Police in Calgary in 1995, and retired from the position in 2000, after almost 30 years in the policing profession. “There was much



Ed Chetner graduation photo, supplied.

Continued on page 13

JAHSENA re-creates H.B. Kline Jewelry Store at Fort Edmonton Park

JAHSENA has partnered with the City of Edmonton and Fort Edmonton Park to re-create the H. B. Kline Jewelry Store in the Capitol Theatre Building on 1920 Street in Fort Edmonton Park. The store will serve as an interpretive space within the Park through which the story of Edmonton's Jewish pioneers can be told. H. B. Kline was one of Edmonton's earliest Jewish jewelers, and was in business from 1904-1972. Many of his descendants still live in the City.

The project was begun in late 2011 and was finally completed this May. The Grand Opening took place on June 9, 2013 at Fort Edmonton Park. JAHSENA would like to thank all the donors and committee members who participated in making this project possible. They are listed on the following pages. More photos of the opening can be found on our Facebook page, The Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta. Please "like" us to view the photos! And if you haven't already seen the store, please make a trip down to Fort Edmonton Park this Summer to see it.



Chief Factor Fran Olson presents a Plaque to JAHSENA President Jini Vogel.

Simons photo.



H. B. Kline Store, 1922, Anne Kline Wasserman and H. B. Kline. JAHSENA Archives photo.



Ribbon Cutting, Doug Goss, Stephen Mandel, Jini Vogel and Debby Shoctor. Kirman photo.



Ken Wasserman, great-grandson of H.B. Kline. Simons photo.



Guests at the grand opening of the H. B. Kline Store, Fort Edmonton Park, June 9, 2013. Kirman photo.



Nailing the Mezuzah to the door, with Rabbi Daniel Friedman and Committee Member Edward Van Vliet. Kirman photo.



Interpreters Mark Vetch and Danielle Weisz inside the store. Shoctor photo.



JAHSENA Executive Director Debby Shoctor and Edmonton Journal Columnist Paula Simons. Simons photo.

Continued on page 12

A Journey Back in Time

BY MICHAEL PAULL

It was August 25, 1984 and my wife, Colleen, and I arrived in Prague for a two-day camping trip. She reminded me of an article we saw several years earlier about "War Veterans from Canada who are Buried in Prague." She felt this would be a good challenge for me to try and find the cemetery where my Uncle Alex Podolsky is buried. So off I went to find the biggest war cemetery in Prague. I didn't quite realize how big the cemeteries are, but finding a Belgian who could speak English and German, and a Czech who could speak German and Czech was not easy. We found the gatekeeper, who only spoke Czech, to find out that I was at the wrong place. A discussion ensued, and the result was they felt the site was not the new Jewish cemetery across the street, but the Prague War Cemetery down the street. Half an hour later, I was in front of my Dad's brother's grave: "Alex Podolsky," who was killed in April of 1943. It was a very moving moment for me as I was the first of our family to find the gravesite.

In 2012, my cousin Michael Felber was in Prague and he also found the site. Because of his interest, Cory Felber, his mother, told me that she has her dad Mickey Dlin's diary from the war, and would I like to see it? In it were a couple of passages about Alex, as Mickey was a good



Jack Shugarman, Mickey Dlin and Alex Podolsky, England, 1941. JAHSENA Archives photo.

friend of Alex and also married my dad's sister, Sybil Podolsky. This whole experience of learning more about my family that I never knew was an enlightening one. In Mickey's diary he wrote, "28/04/43: On arrival I got three wires. Two birthday cables and the 3rd was from Harry [Uretsky]: "Alex missing, going to Wyton to get details." Everything seemed to go out of me. I always knew how much I loved Alex and I always worried about him & Harry but still I kept saying they'll be all right. And they will. They must be."

Fast forward to May, 2013 where Colleen and I have another opportunity to go to Prague and luckily enough, my dad Cecil came with us. The day after we arrived we jumped on the subway and arrived at the cemetery. I was relying on my memory of 28 years ago and where the grave site was. It started to rain and we walked around for over an hour looking for the site. I knew I was there before, but just couldn't remember the exact spot. Frustration set in, and we went back to the hotel, where I gathered my bearings and realized that we were looking at the first

cemetery that I was at and not the one down the street. Back to the cemetery we went, and had no problem going right to the place. The sun came out, the grounds were very well taken care of, and my dad got to visit his brother. It was a very special moment for all of us.

The story should really end there, but when we got home, JAHSENA got an e-mail from a woman in Prague who knew about Alex from the Heritage/Yerusha magazine of Fall 2006, and just wanted to know if anyone from Alex Podolsky's family had ever visited. Debby Shoctor sent me the e-mail and I responded to the woman, saying that by coincidence, we were just there! I received another letter from her and she said: "Glad to hear your Dad was able to see his brother's grave. I wondered who had left the stones. There had been another family who left a poppy wreath recently with a note to an uncle they had never met." The poppy wreath had been laid by Michael Felber.

In the future I will try and stay in touch with the woman from Prague who so graciously goes to visit and watches over my Uncle.



Cecil Paull in the Prague Military Cemetery. Paull photo.
Inset: Dedication stone, Prague War Cemetery. Paull photo.



Alex Podolsky's headstone, Prague Military Cemetery. Paull photo.



Michael and Colleen Paull in the Prague Cemetery. Paull photo.

BETH SHALOM SYNAGOGUE AS COMMUNITY CENTRE

By JUDY GOLDSAND

Beth Shalom Synagogue, as we now know it, was officially dedicated November 1, 1951, 23 years after the idea of a second Edmonton synagogue was proposed. The founding of our congregation actually occurred in 1928 when a group of members from the Beth Israel Synagogue decided that, due to overcrowding, they should hold High Holiday Services in the auditorium of the Talmud Torah on 103rd Street. Beth Israel gave its blessing to this plan and supplied the group with a Cantor and a

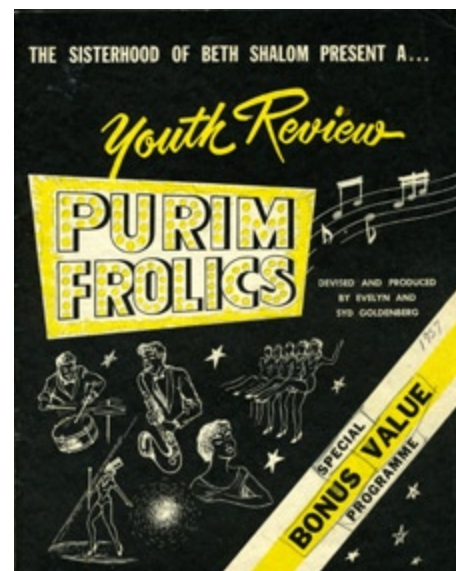
Reader. The group continued to meet during the next four years, developing a more modern approach to ritual and services. In October, 1932, under the chairmanship of Mr. J.H. Samuels, the new congregation was formally organized and Rabbi Jacob Eisen was engaged as the first spiritual leader. Rabbi Eisen named the congregation Beth Shalom – House of Peace. In December, 1943, Beth Shalom Congregation was incorporated. The congregation continued to meet in the Talmud Torah auditorium until



Purim Frolics, 1959. JAHSENA Archives photo.



Purim Party, Beth Shalom Synagogue, circa 1960. JAHSENA Archives photo.



Purim Frolics program, 1959.
JAHSENA Archives photo.

September 1951 when the current building was completed.

During the planning and fund raising period for the new building, many of the younger congregants felt that the building should be more than a synagogue. It should have the facilities of a community centre to meet the needs of the entire Jewish community. There was general agreement and additional fund-raising efforts were undertaken. On April 23, 1951, in the partially completed Beth Shalom building, the new Community Centre Association was formed with Hymie Baltzan elected as president. Its goal was to promote cultural, recreational and athletic activities with particular emphasis on youth.

A library, furnished and decorated by the National Council of Jewish Women, was set up. A large, well-equipped, air-conditioned gymnasium became operational (in the existing upper auditorium). In addition, meeting rooms, two auditoriums, a stage and two full kitchens were part of the facilities. The Youth Committee was chaired by Jack Newhouse; the Social Committee chair was Ed Dozar and the Cultural Program Committee was chaired by Norman Silverman.

Beth Shalom became the meeting place for special events and larger meetings of



Variety Show, Beth Shalom Synagogue, 1955. JAHSENA Archives photo.



Diamond Taxi Basketball Team. JAHSENA Archives photo.

several organizations including the National Council of Jewish Women, Hadassah-WIZO and B'nai Brith as well as the B'nai Brith Youth Organization. In 1952, the BB Lodge sponsored and received the charter for the 18th Wolf Cub Pack, formed through the efforts of George Levine and others.

Edmonton's Jewish youth in the early 1950s were especially excited to have a gymnasium for their use. Basketball teams used the gym several times a week for practices and games against other City teams. George Goldsand and Ron Wolch recall playing on one of these teams called "Blue Diamond Taxi" named for its sponsoring company, owned by Zane Feldman.

Ron Bercov remembers in particular an AZA basketball game between Edmonton and Calgary, probably at the 1952/53 BBYO winter convention. He says it is etched in his memory because Edmonton won! Ron even remembers that the referee was Al Wachowich, who later became Alberta's Chief Justice.

Mel Wyne recalls coming to the gym several times a week and says that, since he lived on 95th Street and did not attend Talmud Torah, the games and meetings at Beth Shalom gave him the opportunity to meet other Jewish youth, many of whom became life-long friends.



Beth Shalom Children's Choir, 1955. JAHSENA Archives photo.

Edmonton's Jewish youth were very disappointed in the mid-1950s when the Beth Shalom Board decided that the gym should be closed as the noise from the games interfered with meetings held in rooms below. The gym space was subsequently used only as an auditorium for large special events.

Ruth Nolan and Norma Nozick fondly remember taking part in many skits and plays performed on the Beth Shalom stage, some sponsored by organizations and some by Beth Shalom. In December, 1947,

Edmonton Hadassah (Kadimah Chapter) staged a two-act musical called "Show Business" starring many of its members, including Sybil Dlin, Dasha Goody, Betty Kagna, Sara Shur and talented men such as Mal Wasserman, Al Ostrovsky (Osten) and Henry Bernstein.

Beth Shalom Sisterhood in 1957 presented a youth musical review entitled: "Purim Frolics", devised and produced by Evelyn and Syd Goldenberg. It featured a

Continued on page 12

BETH SHALOM COMMUNITY CENTRE*Continued from page 11*

cast of sixty, ranging in age from nine to fifteen. Participants included Ruth Ellen Silverman (Shafir), Carol Kettner (Ritch), Daryl Milner (Levine), Trudy Singer (Pekarsky), Miriam and Judy Newhouse (Miller) and Frankie Phillet, Avron Ritch and Bobby Ostry.

Many special events such as New Year's Balls and Purim Parties were highlights of the social scene at Beth Shalom.

Between 1954 and 1970, Beth Shalom was the centre of activities for Jewish seniors. The National Council of Jewish Women of Canada, in 1951, mandated that the Council chapters across Canada take on a project for seniors to be organized and staffed with Council members. Mrs. Anna Podersky, then president of NCJW Edmonton Section, started the Club by inviting seniors to parties at her home. Mrs. Rae Miller became president in 1954 and the group, which was named the Golden Age Club, started to meet twice weekly at Beth Shalom. The operating funds came from membership fees, annual donations by the NCJW's Economy Shop

and their annual Angels' Ball. Soon there were more than 100 members enjoying programs that included lectures, musical programs, painting classes and English lessons. The club had its own choir and drama group which performed concerts and plays.

With construction in 1963 of an addition to the Talmud Torah building on 133rd Street that included a large gymnasium and meeting lounge, much of the communal activity moved from Beth Shalom to the T'T Youth Centre as it was called and subsequently to the Jewish Community Centre on 156th Street when it was established in 1977. And in 1970, the Golden Age Club purchased an apartment building on 117 Street and most seniors' activities moved to that location.

In 2013, now that the JCC building has been sold and offices moved to an interim space, more of the community's special events are taking place in other Edmonton Jewish venues including Beth Shalom. And when Beit Horim (Our Parent's Home) is completed, adjacent to our building, it seem likely that Beth Shalom may again be more involved in providing services for Edmonton's Jewish seniors.

More Award Winners

In our last issue, we neglected to mention the following additional winners of the Queen's Jubilee Medal:

Norm Pollack, z'l, formerly a lawyer with the firm Witten, who passed away earlier this year of ALS; Arliss Miller, who is also a recipient of the Order of Canada, widow of the former Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench Tevie Miller, z'l, and who has volunteered for the Citadel Theatre, the Edmonton Symphony, the Jewish Community and other organizations too numerous to mention; and Dr. Lonnie Zwaigenbaum, a researcher and physician in the field of Autism, who moved here several years ago from Toronto, and who is also active in the Edmonton Jewish Community.

More Jewellers

Continued from the article in Winter Heritage, 2013.

MARCEL MAURER

Marcel Maurer passed away at the age of 75 on November 4, 1991. He was married to Raia for 50 years, and had two daughters, Trudy and Toby and two grandchildren, Angie and Daniel. Marcel founded Swedish Jewellers, which he ran for 32 years, until he sold it. At the age of 10, he wanted to be a watchmaker. This made his father unhappy, as he thought that working with such small machinery would ruin his eyes. Father and son did what Jewish people did in those days and consulted their Rabbi. The Rabbi advised that Marcel should be allowed to do what he wanted. He loved making beautiful things, and his experience in this industry gave him a great respect for all trades and professions. The Jewelry business earned him a good living, and he often became good friends with his customers.

Marcel was a musician and played many different instruments. He served on the Board of Beth Shalom and gave to many charities. Apparently Swedish Jewellers was named as such because that was the country which offered Marcel asylum after World War II. Swedish Jewellers was the first authorized Rolex dealer in Edmonton, starting in 1953.

Doors Open Edmonton

JAHSENA is pleased to announce that, in partnership with the Edmonton Chevra Kadisha, we will be offering tours of the Edmonton Jewish Cemetery on Sunday, July 7th, 2013, at 11 am and 1pm. Please call the JAHSENA office to register.

JEWISH MOUNTIES AND POLICEMEN

Continued from page 5

focus on me when I was Chief of Police for many reasons – and it was a noteworthy tenure from several points of view, including the fact that I was a woman and Jewish,” she says.

Silverberg married Ben Silverberg in 1971 and converted to Judaism through the Reform branch when the couple's first child, daughter Rebecca, was born in 1985. Divorced in 2004. The couple also raised a son, Avi, before divorcing in 2004. Rebecca is currently studying for an M.A. in Conflict Resolution at the University of Tel Aviv and is engaged to a Jewish man.

Silverberg has received many awards for her community work and professional endeavours, including being named one of Alberta's most influential people, Police Chief of the Year, Canada's 100 Most Powerful Women, and the YWCA's Woman of Distinction. She has been ceremoniously honoured with an aboriginal name by the Peigan Nation, Alberta, named an Honourary Nigerian for her work in the Afro-Caribbean communities, and amongst her many distinctions holds an Ontario Medal for Police Bravery and the B'nai Brith Woman of Valour Award.

Now a lawyer with the firm Wolch, deWit, Silverberg and Watts, Silverberg holds an M.A. (Criminology) from the



Christine Silverberg in uniform.
Supplied photo.

University of Toronto, an LL.B. from the University of Calgary, Professional Accreditation in Public Relations (APR), and certifications from the Ontario and Canadian Police Colleges and the FBI's National Executive Institute. In addition, Silverberg is a graduate of the Queen's University School of Business Executive Program.

BELLE TOREN

Toren is also a Calgary attorney who had a former career in policing. In fact, she and Silverberg were colleagues at the same law firm at one time. Born in 1952 to an observant Modern Orthodox Jewish home, Toren served as a police officer in Greensboro, North Carolina, very soon after that department started recruiting women.

“Both my parents came to the USA separately from Pinsk, formerly Poland, now Belarus,” she says. “I grew up on a former poultry farm in a prominent Jewish area of Rockland County, NY, about 40 km. NW of New York City. My father was a founder of Israel Bonds and a leader in the UJA in our community. He was also a gunrunner for the Jews of Palestine prior to and during the 1948 War of Independence.”

Toren volunteered during the Yom Kippur War, made aliyah, became a member of a kibbutz, and married before returning to the USA in July of 1978. “Upon my return from Israel, I joined the Greensboro Police Department in North Carolina (‘GPD’) as a police officer. My brother lived in North Carolina. I remained with the GPD assigned to patrol duties for three years (1979 - 1982) until my graduation from Guilford College with High Honors, summa cum laude, and a 4.0 average,” she says. “I was a GPD officer during the Klan-Nazi Shootout on Nov. 3, 1979 and the period of turmoil that followed.”

However, a career change was in the works. “For most of this period, I balanced full-time officer duties with a full-time undergraduate program. I went to Duke



Belle Toren, Greensboro Police Department, ca. 1980. Supplied photo.

Law School on partial scholarship and graduated with a JD with High Honors in 1985. After six years at a Dallas law firm, I moved in-house with Triton Energy Corporation.”

From 1999-2000, Toren was the President of the Association of International Petroleum Negotiators and she is currently a member of the Executive Committee of the Calgary Chapter of the AIPN. After Triton was acquired by Hess Corporation, her family moved from Texas to Canada in waves. “My husband, Hanoach Toren, and our youngest son, Yuval, moved in 2002, so Yuval could train at the Olympic Oval. Our other son moved after his 2004 high school graduation to attend the U of Toronto. I moved to Calgary in 2005 and started work at Gowlings in 2006 so I could article as part of the admission process for the Alberta Law Society. During this period, I met Christine Silverberg. She assumed the role of my faithful mentor by guiding me through my admission to the Alberta Law Society. Although both of us ultimately departed Gowlings, we remain close friends.”

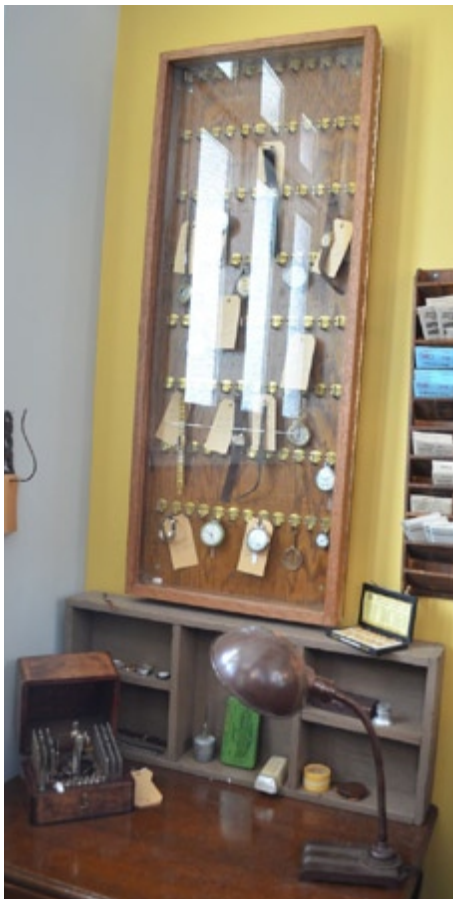
Toren is currently the Vice President, Legal and General Counsel of Central European Petroleum Ltd., which operates in Germany. She also maintains her own law office, which currently supports a client with interests in petroleum exploration in Sub-Saharan Africa.

H.B. KLINE JEWELRY STORE

Continued from page 7



Judaica display. Shoctor photo.



Watch Repair Kiosk, H. B. Kline store.
Shoctor photo.



First look at the store – Doug Goss, Chair, FEMCO Board, Mayor Stephen Mandel, Archivist Debby Shoctor, JAHSENA President Jini Vogel.



H. B. Kline Store interior Shoctor photo.



Interpreters out front of the H. B. Kline Store in Fort Edmonton Park. Simons photo.



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JAHSENA Recent Acquisitions

These items have recently found their way into the archives, and are available for research purposes:

10 cm. of newspaper clippings and collected items, donated by Sharon Abbott.

1 cm. of text, donated by Jewish Family Services.

27 photos, 130 curling pins, 6 curling patches and 10 cm text, donated by the Laskin Family in trust to the Estrin family, and in turn to JAHSENA.

1 bound copy of "Don't You Know it's 40 Below?" By Jack Kates, donated by Suzanne Davis.

Numerous artifacts donated to the H.B. Kline store through JAHSENA, by Ken Wasserman, Maury Wasserman, Hess Nyenhuis, Susan Yedgarova, Debby Shoctor, Bill Dolman, Freya Wasel, Clive & Luba Allen, Kayla Shoctor, Helen Rosenberg, Ted Power, Beryl Nahornick and others.

43 books from the collection of Rabbi David Kunin, on various subjects, donated to the JCC library.

1 photograph and 12 newsletters, donated by the Talmud Torah Society of Edmonton.

1 AZA hockey jersey, 1 AZA pin and 1 Birthright T-shirt, donated by Daniel Larson.

124 photos and 30 cm. of text, relating to Camp B'nai Brith Pine Lake, donated by Howie Sniderman.

9 bound volumes, donated by Beth Israel Synagogue.

1 photograph and 5 cm. misc. text, donated by Sue & Alvin Winestock.

2 Talmud Torah cloth patches, donated by Natalie Soroka.

The Jewish Archives & Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta is always looking for new donations. If you have any personal papers, photographs, negatives, books, audio-visual recordings or other items relating to the history of the Jewish community of Edmonton and Northern Alberta that you would like preserved for generations to come, please contact our office at (780) 489-2809.

NEW MEMBERS

JAHSENA would like to welcome the following new members:

Deborah Horwitz, Ottawa, ON
Paula Snyder, Edmonton, AB

Karen and Abe Hering, Edmonton, AB

"FROM PEDLARS TO PATRIARCHS: A LEGACY REMEMBERED" and "BITTERSWEET MEMORIES: THE WAR YEARS"

The Jewish Archives and Historical Society of Edmonton and Northern Alberta is taking orders for copies of "From Pedlars to Patriarchs: A Legacy Remembered," and its sequel: "Bittersweet Memories: The War Years" its documentary films about the history of the Edmonton Jewish Community. If you are interested in obtaining a copy of these films, they are available on DVD for \$18. Please contact the Archives office at 780-489-2809.



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