



DISCOVERY

The Journal of the

תגלית

# JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY of Southern Alberta

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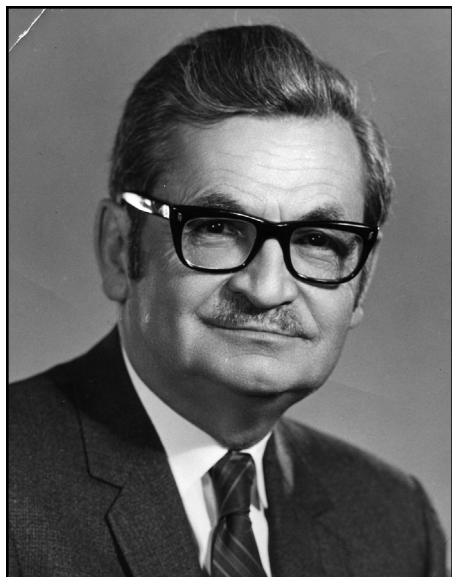
FEBRUARY 2007

## The Doctors Lander

By Jack Switzer

Much has already been written about Dr. David Lander, who practiced medicine in the towns of Black Diamond and Turner Valley from 1937 to 1990. In 2006 David Lander was named one of the Physicians of the Century by the Alberta Medical Association. It is therefore timely to re-tell his story, and bring into it the somewhat overlooked career of his mentor, partner and cousin, Dr. Harry Lander.

In the "Oilfields" – the name then given to the adjoining foothills towns that housed about 2,000 people – both doctors were equally notable. The Oilfields boomed after oil strikes near Turner Valley (notably in 1914 and 1936); oil and gas development dotted the area with wells, pipelines, refineries, and extraction plants. It was Canada's largest oilfield until the much bigger Leduc field began production in 1947.



Dr. David Lander. Photographer: Gordon Charmbury, Courtland's Studio, Calgary.

Both Harry and David Lander were born in Russia, Harry in 1903 and David in 1912. Their families immigrated to Winnipeg about 1922. Harry was able to study medicine at the University of Manitoba. In 1927 he set up a practice in east-central Alberta, at Veteran. One source cites him as a doctor in nearby Hemaruska, as well. (Many country doctors and other professionals traveled a circuit of neighbouring communities.)

His younger cousin, David Lander, sped through public school, finishing high school at 16. After two years of Arts at the University of Manitoba, he entered the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Alberta, and brought his parents and siblings to Edmonton with him.

David recalled, "My father, who was a labourer, could never afford to send me to University. It was through the generosity of Doctor Harry Lander, a cousin, that the expense of my education was paid."

David Lander became an M.D. in 1936, and took a job as a staff doctor at the Oliver mental hospital, just outside Edmonton. He disliked the institution's custodial emphasis, and quit after a year (during which he became a qualified pharmacist) to join Harry Lander in Veteran. The cousins soon moved on to their new practice at Turner Valley/Black Diamond.

The first mention of the Landers' arrival was in a Black Diamond newspaper in July, 1937. "Dr. Harry Landers from eastern Alberta has been looking over the oilfields. He contemplates practicing in the locality, providing suitable hospital facilities can be provided. He is a noted and capable surgeon."

The oilfields were a busy place for the



Dr. Harry Lander. Photo courtesy of Bill Locke and Cindy (Locke) Pock.

doctors. Drill-rig accidents were common, and there were occasional explosions and other industrial mishaps. Farms and ranches also provided patients. As well, there was the usual family practice work. But a doctor could make a living. Most families had a breadwinner, and the oil companies subsidized hospital operations, donated ambulances, and provided volunteers to help the local medical group.

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# President's Message

*Sheldon Smithens*

I am pleased to head a new and enthusiastic board of directors of the JHSSA. We continue to receive exciting valuable additions to our archives and library. Thank you to all those who have made recent donations.

I often find myself thinking about Jay Joffe<sup>21</sup>. His influence and his presence are still with those of us interested in the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta (JHSSA), especially in this fine publication, *Discovery*. Jay left us with a solid foundation.

Our exhibit, and indeed one of Jay's many achievements, *A Joyful Harvest*, has gained momentum since the inauguration at the Beth Tzedec and subsequent Medicine Hat run at the Esplanade. It will soon return from a most successful showing at the Provincial Archives of Alberta in Edmonton.

*A Joyful Harvest* is a treasure that the entire Jewish community can take pride in. I look forward to seeing JHSSA members, family and friends at the exhibit opening ceremonies at the Glenbow Museum in June. We also all look forward to the publication of the book version of *A Joyful Harvest* at that time.

This issue of *Discovery* features the stories of Jews who were active outside the larger urban centres. It highlights the JHSSA's commitment to record and preserve the history of the Jewish community throughout southern Alberta.

## The Doctors Lander

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An Oilfields history, *In the Light of the Flares*, notes: "The doctors (Harry and David Lander) were instrumental in starting the Turner Valley Hospital and worked hard getting additions and better equipment. They were available whenever needed, be it nights or weekends and always with compassion. They would rush to an accident or an emergency whenever called."

Former patients of the Doctors Lander are quoted in the sidebar to this article. The memories – and memorials – indicate the high esteem in which the cousins were held, and illustrate some of their more vexing and dramatic cases.

David Lander's family, including his parents, Isaac and Rose Lander, came with him to the Oilfields. His brother, pharmacist Ralph Lander, later came and opened a drug store in Black Diamond.

Harry Lander was by now married to Dave's sister, Adela. They raised three children, Clarice, Coleman, and David in Black Diamond. About 1947 Harry moved his family to a house on Carleton Street in Calgary, but continued to work a full schedule at the Doctors Lander Oilfields practice.

The Oilfields history recalls: "Dr. Harry was especially patient with the older and the terminally ill and they all loved him. During the year of his own terminal illness, he showed great courage by carrying on with his duties until just a few weeks before his death."

Harry died in 1963, after 36 years as a country doctor. Adela passed away in Calgary in 1980.

Just after Harry's death, the town of Turner Valley built the community's first swimming pool, and named it in honour of Doctors David and Harry Lander.

David Lander doctored on. Two younger doctors had come to the Oilfields, so he was able to spend more time public speaking and crusading for his medical reforms.

A heart condition forced David Lander to retire from active practice in 1970, after serving the oilfields for 33 years. He moved to Calgary and continued his advocacy work. He was tireless in his efforts to establish alcoholism as a treatable disease, to give more dignity (and fewer drugs) to the elderly, and to bring attention – and fund-

ing – to mental health issues.

His interest in psychosomatic medicine, begun during his brief service at the Oliver mental hospital, became, thirty years later, an important mission for Doctor Dave.

He advocated non-judgmental, compassionate and personal care.

He was among the first to suggest that many illnesses were not wholly physical – that sorrow, stress and loneliness contributed to many of the symptoms presented by his patients. David Lander took time to counsel his patients, to urge social involvement, physical intimacy, and positive attitudes to overcome depression and anxiety.

His grand-niece, Cindy Pock, says David Lander brought the ethics and teachings of the Torah into his work. "He believed in *Tikkun Olam* – repairing the world – in honouring and dignifying of our elders, and living in harmony with our family and our neighbours."

In 1985 David Lander traveled to Israel, to attend the First World Congress on Drugs and Alcohol, held in Tel Aviv. He presented a paper titled "Treatment of Alcoholism by the Family Physician", but was concerned that his message had not been heard by the Israeli health establishment.

A few months later he wrote to a friend in Israel, Faye Parks-Micay: "Since alcoholism is not regarded as an illness, many areas of the country (Israel) have inadequate or no services for alcoholics and this causes needless deaths and unnecessary suffering of not only alcoholics but also their families."

Honours from his peers, his patients, and the community were many – a few are listed in an adjoining column, as are some of the articles written by – and in praise of – Doctor Dave.

Doctor David Lander never married. He died in Calgary on July 5, 1993. In 2038 a time capsule in the cornerstone of the Oilfields General Hospital will be opened. In it are some of the medical instruments Harry and David Lander used in Black Diamond and Turner Valley, including a "maternity bag" they used for home deliveries.

The people of the Oilfields will not soon forget the Doctors Lander.

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# The Doctors Lander Remembered

Recollections by former patients show the challenges the doctors regularly faced, and the skill they brought to their work.

"One of Doctor Harry's patients tells of her baby daughter having pneumonia. Doctor Harry did not wish to admit her to hospital...so he drove out into the country, ten miles over winter roads, every day to see her.

"Another time a saddle pony had a badly cut foot, and as there was no veterinarian, Dr. Harry went out, stopped the bleeding, and treated the wound.

Lawrence Barker: "... (Syd Barker) was the first patient at the Turner Valley Oilfields Hospital (in August, 1939) – he had fallen through a pane of glass and had gashed both arms rather severely. Dr. Harry Lander put him in the hospital to sew him up and make sure all the glass was out of the wounds."

Bruce Mclean: "Dad had a very bad experience while we were still on the Millarville farm. A big truck tire rim cut his nose off. He held his nose in his hand while a neighbor drove him to Black Diamond, where Dr. David Lander had his office in the Black Diamond Hotel. Dr. Lander called help in from the beer parlor, and with a man on each arm and leg, the nose was sewn back on."

General store owner Max Zack credits David Lander with helping his wife, Irene, to regain most of her mobility after con-

tracting polio in 1938. Irene Zack was pregnant at the time, and Doctor Dave (as he became known to his patients) attended the birth to a healthy daughter, Naomi. The Zacks were one of a handful of Jewish families in the Oilfields.

Not all patients could be saved. Bert Ballard: "One night (in 1942) the farm horses came into the barnyard and Dad went out with the lantern. The dog went to chase the horses and they headed for the lantern light, running over and trampling dad. He lived some sixteen days after the accident and passed away in the Turner Valley hospital with Dr. Harry Lander attending him."

In 1953 there was an explosion at the Mercury refinery. Seven men were injured and one died. "Efforts by Drs. David and Harry Lander and the staff of the Turner Valley hospital for the emergency treatment and continued attention to the injured workers was greatly appreciated."

Aura Noble: "In 1940 both Allan and I were in bed with rheumatic fever. We were not the only ones with the same heart trouble that year, but we were the most fortunate, as Dr. Harry Lander had just completed a course on Rheumatic Fever at the Mayo Clinic."

Jean McFadyen: "When Dick was working on our house, he cut his hand very badly on an electric saw. The tendons were severed on his fingers, and Dr. Lander repaired them so well that Dick



*Harry and Adela Lander and family, c. 1942. Left to right: Clarice, Adela, David and Harry, with Coleman seated in the front. Photo courtesy of Bill Locke and Cindy (Locke) Pock.*

could continue barbering.

"The doctor and hospital bill were astronomical, and with no money coming in, the hope of paying them was dim.

"Dick received notice from the hospital that the bill was paid in full by 'The Good Fairy'. No one was ever told who The Good Fairy was... The Good Fairy has never been forgotten by the McFadyens. The Good Fairy helped many people in Turner Valley... "

Effie Conibear began nursing at the Turner Valley Hospital in 1956. She remembers the Doctors Lander with gratitude. "I shall always be thankful for the years I worked with these two doctors, and for the many things I learned from them, Doctor Harry with his dedication to his patients, and Doctor Dave, always insisting that we give TLC – tender loving care – to our patients."

*Continued on Page 7*

## A few of the honours bestowed on Doctor Dave:

National Mental Health Association Award for Alberta, 1956.  
University of Alberta Medical Alumni Award, for Distinguished Achievement (First General Practitioner to be so honoured), 1970.  
Naming of AADAC "David Lander Centre", Claresholm, Alberta (for treatment of alcoholism and other addictions), 1974.  
Alberta Achievement Award, in Recognition of Outstanding

Service in Medicine, 1976.  
Doctor of Laws, (Honoris Causa) University of Calgary, 1978.  
Sir Frederick Haultain Prize (\$25,000), Province of Alberta, 1983.  
Member (CM), Order of Canada, 1990.  
Alberta Centennial, inclusion among 100 Physicians of the Century, 2006. (posthumous)

## Some Articles by and about Doctor Dave:

Brian Brennan, "Dr. Dave Lander," p. 136-139, in *Alberta Originals: Stories of Albertans who Made a Difference*, Calgary, Fifth House Publishers, 2001.  
David Lander, "Mind Over Matter", *The Canadian Hospital*, July, 1958.

David Lander, "Life Begins Again – at 65!", *The Reader's Digest*, April, 1978.  
Sidney Katz, "Portraits of a Doctor Whose Specialty is People", *Maclean's Magazine*, November, 1963.  
Percy Wray, "Dr. Dave, G.P., My Most Unforgettable Character", *The Reader's Digest*, November, 1969.

# Louie Bikman – an Enterprising Life on the Border

By David Bickman

Louie Bikman, the youngest of Mayer Wolf and Raisa Bikman's six known children, was born with the name Leib Bikman on May 23, 1892, in either Nova Ushitsa or Vinkovtsi, Ushitsa county, Podolia Gubernia (province), in the Czarist Russian Empire. He was my grandfather's youngest brother.

Very little is known of his childhood, except that he was apprenticed to a tailor when he was only nine years old. It seems that his family was so poor it could not afford to send him to school beyond just a few years of *cheder*.

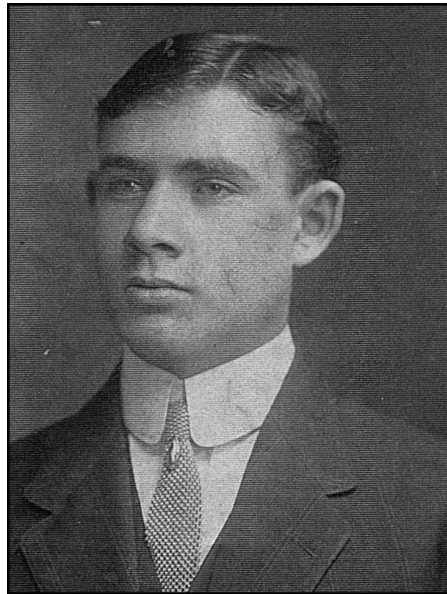
Leib and his older brother Max emigrated from Novo Ushitsa to avoid compulsory service in the Russian Imperial Army, in which three brothers (including my grandfather) had already served. In the spring of 1909, shortly after Leib's 19th birthday, Leib and Max left their home and crossed the river that then separated the Russian and Austro-Hungarian empires.

Once across the border the brothers boarded a train that ultimately took them to Bremen, Germany. There they purchased steamship passage on the S.S. Koeln to the New World.

Leib (soon to become Louie) and Max arrived at Baltimore, Maryland, on June 5, 1909. There they met a brother, Menasha, who had preceded them. The three men stayed in Baltimore for nearly two years, during which time Louie found work as a tailor. In late December of 1910 they were joined by older brother Zelman (Sam, my grandfather), and Max's wife Tuba (Tillie).

Early in 1911 Louie, Sam, Max and Tillie traveled by train to Billings, Montana, where a *landsman* named Fefferman had offered them employment in his hide and fur business. The Feffermans and another Nova Ushitsa family named Wyman (distantly related to the Bikmans) had plans to extend their fur and hide business to Lethbridge, across the border in Canada. They suggested the Bikmans move to Lethbridge and work for them there.

The four Bikmans (all but Louie later became Bickmans) traveled at various



Louie Bikman, 1909.

Photographer: N. Shulman, Baltimore, Maryland.  
Photo courtesy of David Bickman.

times by train and wagon to Lethbridge; Louie passed through Canada Customs and Immigration at Coutts on October 5, 1911. Records show that he was 20, a tailor, and possessed \$50 in cash. Abe Wyman and his family, traveling with Louie, were described as American citizens, and had \$1,000 with them.

Whether or not Louie ever worked in Canada as a tailor is not certain, though he was known to be reasonably skilled with his Singer sewing machine, which I inherited.

Just a month after he arrived in Lethbridge, Louie applied for a homestead on land just east of Coutts on the U.S.-Canada border. The land was part of a large tract that had previously been used to quarantine cattle prior to their export. In his homestead application Louie described his occupation as hide buyer.

Louie, as he was obliged to do under the homestead regulations, worked on his land and on other farms in the area for the next three years. One of his employers was a Jewish land owner, Joe Schwartz, of Milk River, who swore an affidavit verifying Louie's "apprenticeship" on his farm.

His application for full ownership of his homestead stated that his off-farm employment had included work in Med-

icine Hat as a tailor. His brother, Max Bickman, was by then living in Medicine Hat and ran a tailor shop. (Max and Tillie later returned to Lethbridge and then to Montana.)

Louie's homestead application was approved and he received title to his quarter-section on April 13, 1915.

Friends and neighbors in the Milk River-Coutts area described Louie as a very hard-working and diligent farmer who would work longer and harder than any other men in the region. In the early days it was difficult to make a living just from farming, so Louie worked at other jobs to make ends meet. He traveled by wagon over much of southern Alberta and northern Montana buying hides from cattle ranchers and selling them to merchants like the Feffermans and the Wymans.

Louie Bikman opened a butcher shop in Milk River in 1918, buying cattle from ranchers in the area, which he butchered and dressed himself. A powerfully-built man with large hands, he thought nothing of butchering a large steer alone.

In 1925 Louie went to Coutts to work on the construction of the Maple Leaf oil refinery, and he stayed on as a refinery worker until the plant closed in 1936. At Maple Leaf he rose through the ranks of blue collar jobs, eventually becoming a "treater".

Louie spent as much time as he could in Lethbridge during the early years. The 1911 Declaration of Incorporation for the Hebrew Congregation of Lethbridge lists Louis Bikman as one of the 19 charter members.

On December 4, 1914, "Louie Bikman" was granted Canadian citizenship.

Louie worked his homestead for more than 50 years. He remained a bachelor until April 2, 1927, when he married Marie Hacke in a civil ceremony at the courthouse in Shelby, Montana. At the time, Marie was a widow with two children. Louie and Marie had no children together.

In 1965, shortly after Marie passed away, Louie sold his farm and retired to Lethbridge. He was a kind, generous and

*Continued on Page 7*

# Photos to Identify

Please let us know if you have any further information about these photos from our collection.



Wedding party in Winnipeg. Photographer: Shapira's Photo. There are other photos of the couple standing on the left in our files.

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Wedding in the House of Israel, after 1945. Photographer: Rosettis Studios.

# Eva Brewster Focus of Lethbridge Holocaust Event

## Yiddish Writer Chava Rosenfarb Part of Historic Event

By Jack Switzer

Two Jewish women, Eva Brewster and Chava Rosenfarb, have received honorary doctoral degrees from the University of Lethbridge. Both are Holocaust survivors. Both were prisoners in Auschwitz, the Nazi's most notorious concentration camp. Both have written painful accounts of their ordeals. And now both form part of a Holocaust exhibit that opened on January 27<sup>th</sup>, International Holocaust Memorial Day, at the Galt Museum in Lethbridge.

Eva Brewster lived in southern Alberta between 1970 and her death in 2004.

The Galt Museum in Lethbridge has created an original exhibition, *Auschwitz: the Eva Brewster Story*, to bring Brewster's Holocaust experience and her hopes for peace to a wider audience.

Chava Rosenfarb was considered a major Yiddish writer well before she moved to Alberta a few years ago to join her daughter, Goldie Morgentaler, an English professor at the University of Lethbridge. Book signings by Rosenfarb are part of the programming at the Eva Brewster exhibition. Rosenfarb received her honorary doctorate at the U of L 2006 convocation.

Eva Levy (Brewster) was born in Berlin in 1922 to a wealthy merchant family, whose descendants had lived in Germany for seven centuries. The Levys were at first unwilling and finally unable to leave the growing anti-Semitism of the ruling Nazi party. Her father died in 1938, a day after the Nazis seized his business. Eva married Freddy Raphael in 1939; they had a daughter, Reha, whom they gave up to a non-Jewish family in the hope she might be saved.

Eva spent the early years of the war in the German resistance movement. She was arrested while delivering messages to a Swiss contact, but was jailed only briefly. Her freedom ended in April, 1943, when, as a birthday "gift" to Hitler, the S.S. rounded up 1,000 German Jews, herded them into cattle cars, and transported them to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp.

Only seven of the thousand survived the Holocaust, among them Eva and her mother. Her husband and daughter were



Eva Brewster.

Photo courtesy of the Eva Brewster Estate.

killed by Nazi brutality. After her liberation, Eva, fluent in English, helped the British army round up fleeing Nazis, and in 1947 she married Ross Brewster, a British officer.

Ross Brewster completed his veterinary studies, and took various government assignments in Africa. Eva was able to spend eight months in Israel, and joined Ross whenever his postings were comfortable enough for his wife and their two children. In 1962 they settled in southern Eng-

land and later moved to Scotland, where Ross took over his family's large farm.

The Brewsters moved to Canada, first to Edmonton, and in 1970 to Coutts, a Canada-U.S. border crossing town, where Ross worked as a veterinary inspector. Eva kept busy as well. A controversial letter she wrote to the Lethbridge Herald brought her Holocaust activism to the attention of the publisher.

The epilogue to her book notes: "From that grew a weekly column that allowed Eva to express the strong views on democracy, individual rights and freedoms, intolerance and racial prejudice that were shaped by those two years in Auschwitz."

She contributed widely to local and national radio and television stations, to many magazines, and she regularly lectured to Lethbridge Community College journalism students. Active in local politics, she served a term as mayor of Coutts. Brewster received many accolades, notably her honorary doctorate from the University of Lethbridge in 1986.

In 1984 Eva's biographical work, *Vanished in Darkness; an Auschwitz Memoir*, was published. A revised edition, *Progeny of Light; Vanished in Darkness*, was produced in 1994.

Eva Brewster's story is again being told, as is a brief history of the massive Holocaust horror in which she was an unwilling victim, at the Galt Museum exhibit. It is open until April 29, 2007.

Lethbridge resident Chava Rosenfarb and her works will enrich the exhibit's run. She will be signing her books, among them her major work, *The Tree of Life; A Trilogy of Life in the Lodz Ghetto*. This is a fictionalized account of Chava's own experience in her native city of Lodz, Poland from 1939-1944, told in three parts. The trilogy was translated from Yiddish into English by the author and her daughter. She will also be reading and signing her collection *Survivors: Seven Short Stories* as part of the Galt Café series at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Rosenfarb, born in 1923, was already



Chava Rosenfarb, 2006.

Photo courtesy of the University of Lethbridge.

Continued on Page 7

## Eva Brewster *Continued from Page 6*

writing in Yiddish when she was among the tens of thousands of area Jews forced by the Nazis into the fetid Lodz ghetto. She survived four years of forced labor and near-starvation. When the ghetto was liquidated in 1944 its remaining inhabitants were shipped to concentration camps, where most died.

She survived Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen and soon after the war ended she married fellow ghetto and camp prisoner Henry Morgentaler. She continued writing, and the couple was able to immigrate to Canada in 1950. They had two children, writer/professor Goldie, and Abraham, a doctor at the Harvard medical school. (Her husband became a well-known physician; they divorced in 1975.)

Chava Rosenfarb has lived in Montreal, Toronto and in Australia, where she re-connected with Bono Wiener, who had headed the resistance group in the Lodz ghetto.

Her writing, in Yiddish and English, includes poetry, drama, novels, short stories and many essays. Her honorary doctorate was the first ever granted to a Canadian Yiddish writer.

Her address at the University of Lethbridge 2006 convocation included the following comments.

## Louie Bikman

*Continued from Page 4*

popular man who was particularly well-liked by his fellow Lions Club members. He passed away in Lethbridge on August 7, 1974 at the age of 82.

In his will, Louie gave \$1,000 to the Lethbridge Hebrew Congregation, and the residue was divided among his six nieces and nephews and his surviving brother, Max. My father (Abe Bickman, a nephew) was the executor.

Around 1922 my grandfather (Louie's

"My university was the Second World War. My classroom was the Lodz Ghetto, my teachers were my fellow inmates there – and especially the poets, painters and intellectuals of the doomed writers' community, incarcerated between the barbed wire walls of the ghetto, who accepted me at a very early age as a member.

"So I am a graduate of the Holocaust, of the death camps of Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen. I have matriculated in one of the greatest tragedies known to man. I have a degree from no other university. At least, not until today.

"...it is a degree conferred on me by this wonderful institution in this peaceful and pleasant city that I now call home."

brother) served a brief jail term for illegal possession of liquor intended to be smuggled into the prohibition-era United States. He felt Louie should have "taken the rap" and there were hard feelings between the brothers for several years. (With my grandfather in jail, my Dad, who was only 13, had to leave school and get a job. He was the oldest of five children, and had to support the family. It was a major embarrassment for the family that their dad was in jail.)

My family's feelings towards Louie did mellow to the point where, during Louie's latter years in Lethbridge, he became a welcome guest in our home, as we always had been in his home.

In spite of the old family quarrels between my grandfather and his younger brother, I have fond memories of Louie; he was always very kind and hospitable towards me. He often spoke to me about my father, and how highly he thought of him.

*David Bickman is a Calgary lawyer, a JHSSA Director, and an avid genealogist. This article is a shorter version of one published in the July 2000 issue of **Shorashim**, the Journal of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Southern Alberta.*

## Harry Lander and "Kitchen Table" Surgery

*Continued from Page 3*

Ellinor Merriken recalls Dr. Harry Lander in her book, *Nose Hills*, about life in a farming area of east-central Alberta, where Harry practiced between 1927 and 1937.

"It was nearly midnight when our phone rang and Elmo Dowker, our neighbor asked if I could come over to Larsen's right away, as Yolanda was very sick and he was afraid she would die before morning.

"It was a bitterly cold night, at least forty below outside...Roy hitched the team to the cutter, while I dressed and collected necessary supplies to take with me. ...When we got there Dr. Lander was walking the floor, still dressed in his buffalo overcoat, mittens and muskrat cap. It was beastly cold in the house, and the five little children were huddled around the stove, with

the husband, who was just getting over a spell of sickness, trying to keep the fire going.

"After examining her, Doctor Lander decided that he must operate and that called for another doctor to assist. It was twenty-five miles to Coronation, and the doctor there promised to meet Roy at Talbot, which was half way. The horses had to plunge through snowdrifts...

"After waiting a couple of hours, Dr. Lander decided that his patient could not wait any longer, so he stripped down to his shirt sleeves in that cold house and went to work. I had already sterilized the instruments in an old dishpan that jiggled and jumped all over the stove and made such a racket that Yolanda could not stand it and begged us to let her alone and let her die.

"I held the coal oil lamp, which was

the only light there was, first in one hand, then in the other... It took an hour before we finished.

"Then, about five in the morning, Roy drove in with the other doctor, and both were nearly frozen. They were glad it was all over. Both doctors agreed that it was a mercy operation and that Yolanda had only a thousand-to-one chance to survive. Evidently all she needed was that one chance, for she pulled through.

"Next morning, Dr. Lander drove back to our house and went to bed for a while, so as to get some rest before starting back to town (Veteran), where, no doubt, there was another call waiting for him. I stayed on as a nurse for two more days without sleep..."

## JHSSA News

### New Office Space

Our move down the hall on the second floor of the Calgary JCC is finally complete. We now have room you to ask you to come in and have a seat when you come to research, to donate material or just to visit. Thank you to Cheryl Goulet for her donation of a large computer desk for the new office.

### A Joyful Harvest Exhibit

Our exhibit has closed at the Provincial Archives of Alberta and is back in storage until it opens at the Glenbow

Museum on June 29th. In her review of the exhibit in Edmonton's *Vue Weekly*, Agnieszka Matejko wrote:

"It is a story movingly expressed in these photographs...as the title of this show, based on Psalm 126, suggests, 'Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy.' From the early photographs of impoverished farm kids to the frightened eyes of a war orphan, the photographs gradually begin to tell a different story. The progression is so clearly visible in the faces in this show – the hopes of a better future were fulfilled."

### A Joyful Harvest book

We are now awaiting the final proofs of *A Joyful Harvest* from our book designer and then the book will

be sent to the printer for publication by mid-June. Thank you to all those who have supported this project through sponsorships.

### New JHSSA Tribute Cards

Six new images have been added to our tribute card selection. Due to rising costs, the minimum cost of sending a tribute card is now \$10. Blank cards are available for pick up in our office for \$50 for 10 cards or \$5 individually. Library books can be donated for a minimum donation of \$36 and certificates for our Book of Heritage are \$100.

To order a tribute card for any occasion, please contact our volunteer, Carey Smith, at 253-5152 or carey-smith@shaw.ca

## Oral History Workshop with Bertha Gold

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Calgary JCC Room 1

If you are interested in conducting oral history interviews for the JHSSA or just want to prepare your own history, you are invited to join long time volunteer Bertha Gold for an oral history workshop.

Bertha has been overseeing the JHSSA oral history program for many years. She will be offering tips on conducting oral history interviews with our elders. She will deal with the best questions to ask and with ways to keep the conversation flowing. She will also deal with the technology used to record oral history interviews. This workshop is not limited to JHSSA volunteers. It would be useful for anyone planning to do family histories or for any organizational volunteers who want to conduct interviews to record the history of their organization.

To sign up for the Oral History Workshop, please contact the JHSSA office at 444-3171 or jhssa@shaw.ca

Please contact us early to avoid disappointment. Space will be limited.



Photographer:  
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## DISCOVERY

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