



DISCOVERY

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תגלית

# JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Hebrew Camp, c. 1947. Jack Chetner is the tall fellow in the middle of the back row. Photographer: Matthews. Source: Ellen Hector Barbarie. JHSSA #260

## Alberta's Hebrew Camp a First for Canada

By Jack Chetner

Jack Chetner's memoir of the Alberta Hebrew summer camp encouraged us to seek further information. Our archives contain a 1997 letter from Bill Cohen about his Hebrew Camp days. Rabbi A. Horowitz, in his memoir, *Striking Roots*, also provides further information about the start of the camp. We have included excerpts from these two sources as addenda to the Chetner memoir. There are some inconsistencies regarding dates and locations in the sources and we would like to receive verification of the exact dates and locations for the camps from our readers.

There were many firsts created by Rabbi Aron Horowitz in Calgary and other parts of Canada. One of them was the first Hebrew-speaking camp in Canada – "Techiyah"

(Rebirth), at Chestermere Lake.

In the mid-1940s many students of the Calgary Talmud Torah belonged to a "Chug Ivri" Hebrew-speaking club. The group would meet regularly at members' homes and have discussions on various important subjects entirely in Hebrew.

Many of these students were also members of "Yehuda Hatzair" (Young Judeans), and would attend their two-week summer camp held at Sylvan Lake or Gull Lake. These Young Judea camps were conducted in English. The "Chug" decided Alberta should have a two week Hebrew-speaking camp, and so work began to try and make this a reality.

Rabbi Horowitz found a small camp that would be available at Chestermere Lake, near Calgary, and a committee, including

Dvorah Smolensky, Esther Weisz and Jack Chetner, was formed to work out the details. We were all in our teens and in high school.

Where do you start? The daily programming was easy. We copied our experience in the Zionist Young Judean camps, but all

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# Nate Sanofsky comes to Calgary

*Nathan Sanofsky (1889-1979) was interviewed by JHSSA volunteers Bertha Gold and Helen Goldenberg in 1974. The following is an excerpt from a long interview, edited for publication by R. Kerr. We hope to publish the rest of the interview, dealing with Mr. Sanofsky's many business ventures, in a future issue of Discovery.*

I came to Canada in 1911, from Russia. My father was a *milner* [sic], a flour milner in Russia, and then he passed away young. He left alone a mother with 5 brothers and 2 sisters, and the brothers worked to support Mother.

When I was 13 years old I left home. Two brothers was way out in the Ukraine and they had their own business, and I thought I'll go to them – I was already a plumber, and what you call iron work. That was my trade. They had a big shop – they had 120 men working near Ukraine.

I went to work for them. Then they bought me a bicycle already, and everybody was rich and everybody came and asked me – Teach me how to ride a bicycle. They gave me one dollar, two dollars – the first bicycle in town. In a month's time I had enough money to buy 2 bicycles – next

month I already had 5 bicycles. [By now] I'm 17, and in a year's time I had 120 bicycles and I sent for a sister mine home, and she come down and I took her in and she helped me to run [it], and all the girls and boys used to come and help me. [Now] I rent the bicycles out – 50 cents an hour a new bicycle, 25 cents an hour, old bicycle. And to rent their license, and anybody took a bike had to sign his name in a book in case an accident, and what time he took it out and what time he bring back the bicycle. I made big money.

Then in 1910 they called me in the army and took me to Vilna. They asked me if I got a trade – I said no. They started training soldiers like with a mask and bayonet and they had [only] one mask, and I said to them – how would you like me to make you a couple of masks? "If you can make them, then you'll go free in the shop and they'll give you whatever you want." I went down and in two days I had two masks exactly the same as the ones they brought.

There was 13 soldiers Jewish in our company, and every day one used to desert. And the captain said, "Sanofsky, when are you going to desert?" And I said,

"When I'll have enough money, I'll go." Then I kept on saying, "I'm sick." They sent me every day to a doctor – "What's the matter?" At first I said it was my stomach. When the doctor hears that he gives a glass castor oil. Next time – "I have a sore hip." – put iodine on it. It was either castor oil or iodine. Finally they take you down – then the doctor said, "Well I'll send you to

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## President's Message

**Betty Sherwood**

One of the goals of the JHSSA is to educate both Jewish people and the general public about the accomplishments of southern Alberta Jewish communities and so in the early months of 2011, it seems fitting to take note of events as far back as:

1881 – Jewish lumbermen and farmers lived briefly in the Medicine Hat region.

1891 – 791 Jews had settled in the North-West Territories.

1901 – Frank, Alberta, named for Henry Frank, was founded.

1911 – The cornerstone for the House of Jacob Synagogue was laid on 5th Ave. E.

1911 – In Lethbridge the Hebrew Congregation was incorporated.

1921 – Local women formed the Calgary Chapter of Hadassah.

1931 – Drumheller's Jewish population was 44.

1931 – The Polish-Jewish Family Loan Association was inaugurated.

1931 – A junior Hadassah group performed its first "Jewish" play in English.

1941 – Young Judea established its annual summer camp.

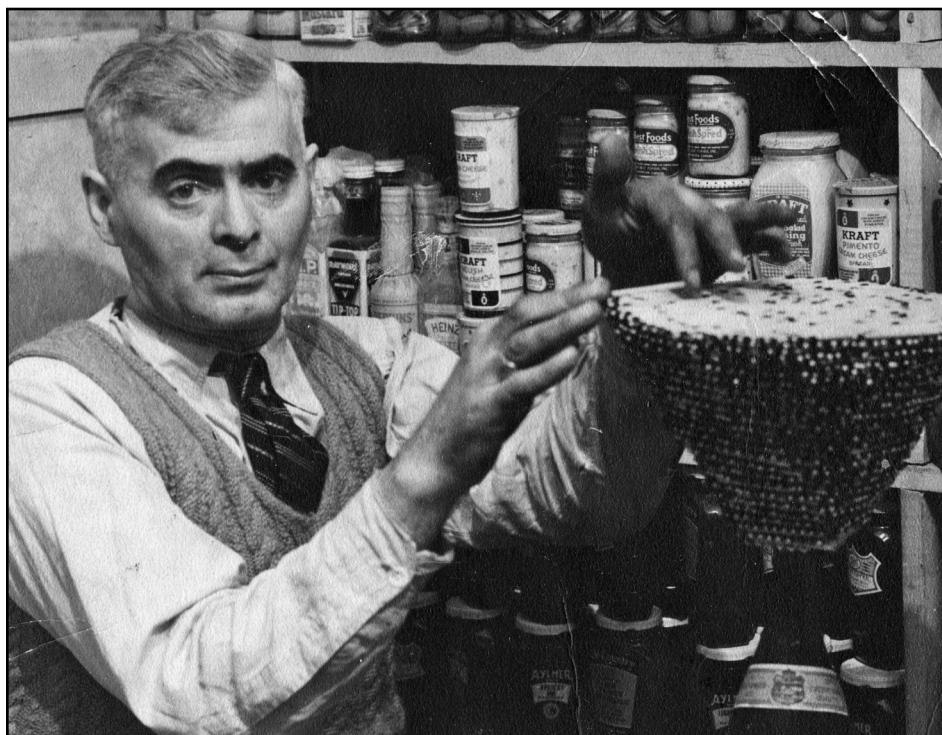
1951 – Beth Israel Congregation (est. 1935) affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

1961 – The Calgary Chevra Kadisha (est. 1904) opened its chapel on 17th Ave. W.

1971 – Calgary's first Jewish MLA, Ron Gitter, was elected.

1981 – The Calgary Jewish population reached 6,085.

The staff and volunteers of the JHSSA revel in the enjoyment and pride of keeping our history alive. Please join us by sharing the stories, photos, artifacts and documents of your family or organization.



**Nate Sanofsky in his store, Pleasant Confectionary, with his creation, a "bowl" atop the wine bottle made from Eddy matchsticks, without glue, 1939. Source: Riva Wolf. JHSSA #2521**

## Nate Sanofsky comes to Calgary

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*Chanukah menorah made by Nate Sanofsky in use at House of Jacob-Mikveh Israel, 1994. Many individuals and institutions benefited from Nate's skill as an iron worker. Photographer: David Cramer. JHSSA #2141.33*

the hospital. If you spend three months in the hospital and you come back sick, then you'll go home. But if you are alright you'll go for 3 years hard labour. Take this or the other." I said I'll go to the hospital. I thought, what have I got to lose?

I stayed three months and they gave me a letter saying I'm 100%. I went back in the army and I thought, that's no good. 'Cause the sergeant said already, "When the new papers come back and you're alright, there will be trouble for you Sanofsky." On Saturday I said to the sergeant – can I go uptown for a while? "Are you sure you're coming back?" "Sure I'm coming back. I've got everything here." And I left everything. I went to a *Yiddishe* [Jewish] store. I said I want to run away from the army. I want to give you my uniform. Will you give me a shirt and a pair of pants and shoes? "Oh, I can't do it – go to another store." I went to another store and he would do it. – I had to give 10 rubles. He gave me old pants and shoes and an old shirt, and I went to a barber shop and shaved off my mustache. And I go to the station and the train came in and I went back to Homli [Gomel?].

I find a letter from my brother – the addresses where to go, and I went to find them – relatives. [Nate and a cousin decide to leave Russia, and at a *Yiddishe*

registrar – "for 5 rubles you get anything" – he obtained a passport as Chaiken, his mother's name.]

In Berlin – they stopped me – my eyes got red. I went to an eye doctor. He said there's no use to go to Canada. They won't let you in, but if you want to go to London – in London you'll go see a doctor there. [We] went to London. I went every day to the doctor – he put drops in the eyes but it didn't help. My brother had a girlfriend – she ran away from Russia to London. Finally I found her and I told her the story. She said she had a friend, "He's got a captain who'll put you on a ship like nothing". He took me down to the ship and the captain said "Sure", took me inside the ship, and I stayed there and I come to Halifax.

On the ship is another boy, crying. He said he's got to have \$25 to show otherwise they don't let him off. I said, "Here. I got \$25 to give it to you, and when you get off you'll give me the money back." He got the \$25 and we all went off the ship. He went through the gate and I seen they put him in a car on the train, and me they put me in another room in the station and I can't go, and I seen already the train is going away and my \$25 is goodbye, is gone.

Well I sit there and wait. Finally two Jewish men come in. They said [in Yiddish] "How is it you came in on the ship and you never register with the doctor?" "I didn't know – they didn't call me to the doctor and I didn't hear about it." "Well I'm sorry", they said, "but I think we'll send you back." I said "You can't send me back. I ran away from the Russian army and if I go back they'll send me for three years to Siberia for hard labour." Well they went away and I was sitting there a couple of hours, and the two men came in – rich people – two Jewish men, and they start talking to me and I told them everything I did, and they went in the office to the officials and they talked and talked and they come out and they said – all right, you could go.

And I went away, and that's how I come. I never find out [who those people were]. I come to Calgary. I had my tickets to Calgary. The Chaikens were here and Jack [Horodezky] was here. I had their address – the Chaikens on 9th Avenue – the store.

I get off at the station and I thought I'd get a taxi to drive me down and I stayed with my suitcase, and I don't know what to



*Nate Sanofsky and son Abraham (Al) at Jewish National Literary Club picnic, 1925. Source: Riva Wolf*

do. I don't know where to go, and I go 9th Avenue East, at night. I walked in [to the grocery store] just before they closed – they closed at eleven. And I walked in to them, and Uncle Chaiken came and all of them. They took me home and that night I was staying with them.

## Letter to the Editor: Trail, BC Photo Correction

Thank you very much for sending me the copy of your issue. It was interesting reading, a lot of history there.

I was in Trail in 2000 and saw the great change in the city, the bridge that had seemed so high and so long was now very low and short as compared to the newer bridge. The hospital in which I was born was a parking lot. And the smelter was much closer to the downtown area where my father had his shop.

Two small alterations: Morris Goldstein's shoe shop was next door to his son-in-law Leo Levey. The photo from Dinah Spindel has someone called "Nana", definitely not Bessie Goldstein, my grandmother. Perhaps a member of Dinah's family?

Again, thank you.

Lola Gordon

## From our Archives

# Rabbi Lewis Ginsburg's Eulogy for Sydney Kahanoff, 1980

*Rabbi L. Ginsburg (1924-1993) was a well known speaker at many events in Calgary in the 1970s and 1980s. This touching eulogy (slightly abbreviated here) for Calgary businessman and philanthropist Sydney Kahanoff (1922-1980) was donated to our archives by Pat Kahanoff Smolensky. Today, the Kahanoff Foundation, established by Sydney in 1979 is one of Canada's largest private foundations.*

My Dear Friends: Out of the midst of a busy, vigorous and vibrant life, Syd Kahanoff has been summoned from us. I know of no words that can even adequately describe his departure from our midst. Our mind informs us of the grim fact, but our heart rejects the thought, and agitated by this inner division, one cannot in any detached way properly reflect upon it.

Only the Bible, with its economy of language and its rugged forthrightness, can give us a description of how a good man is taken from us. In the Book of Genesis, we read:

"And Enoch walked with G-d, and he was not; for G-d took him."

The years of Syd Kahanoff were characterized by a verve for living. Unto life he brought activity, devotion, initiative and enterprise. His days were marked by love of wife, parents, devotion to siblings and

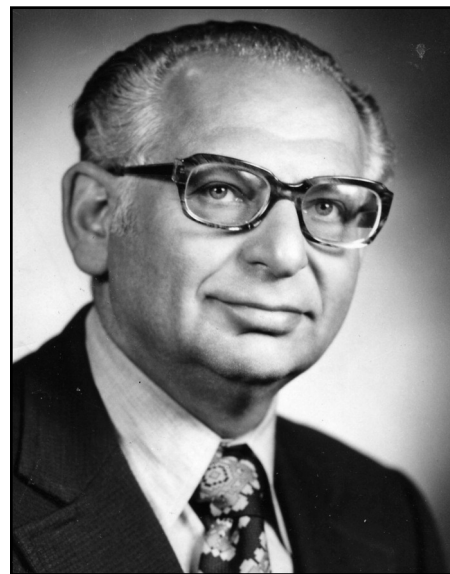
other members of family, loyalty to friends and associates, awareness of responsibility and duty.

Hence, at this afternoon's service, we speak not of his passing, but of his life. For Syd Kahanoff gave away the substance of his spirit to living. Apropos of years, such as those of Syd Kahanoff, the poet has written: "Let none of you weep for me / Especially you with whom I've smiled / Nor bow down your head in utter grief. / Put on no mourning, as if the pall / Induces forgetfulness and conceals all / We've done together. / We have lived: Remember! / Say not that I have died, that this is death. / Say that I have lived, enjoying each mortal breath. / We have learned and laboured and wrought. / What our hands found to do we sought / In quest to raise to nobler height. / My life was blessed in the living, / My death hallowed because of giving. / Life to me was challenge. / I was happy to live."

This simple sonnet tried to express what is in all our hearts. A good man's race is run – a marathon of good living. His victory we acclaim, although the runner is spent; yet, not before he attained his goal and felt the laurel of life securely in his hand. Life was his victory – not the grave's. Now he gives to those who come after him the charge that the course is never finished. We are urged to carry on the aspirations of this devoted man to reach the goals that he envisioned.

A native of Winnipeg, Syd was reared and educated in the Saskatchewan village of Mildred and in the high school in Prince Albert, subsequently studying engineering physics at the University of Saskatchewan. He entered the petroleum industry and achieved distinction in his chosen field.

Syd, who served four years with the air force, was a radar mechanic here and overseas, was co-founder and president of Voyageur Petroleum Ltd. He served that firm, which was established in 1966, as president until 1978, and resigned his post as board chairman only shortly before his passing. He held postings, including that of president, with the Independent Petroleum Association of Canada. Having resided in



*Sydney Kahanoff, 1970s. Source: Calgary Jewish News collection. JHSSA #1048*

Australia for some six years, he was a member of the team that found the first commercial petroleum site in Queensland, the Mooney Field.

He had been appointed by the previous government as a member of the Petro-Can Task Force. He was the sole representative from the Petroleum Industry to be named to that four-man unit.

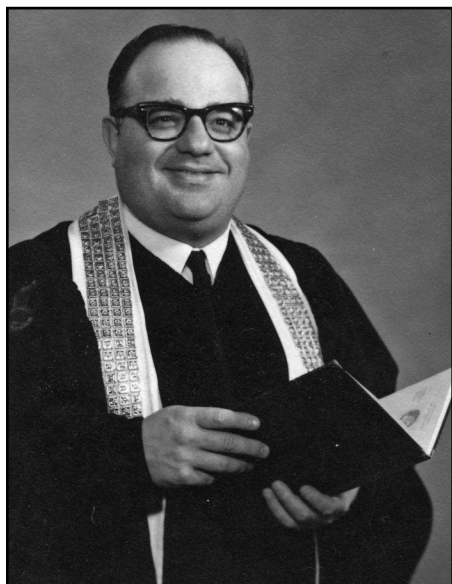
Syd was united in marriage with his beloved Fern in 1951. Together they walked the roadway of life hand-in-hand. They inspired one another in serving their fellow human beings. Their deeds, on behalf of community were many, particularly in the area of education, medical care and research and Israel, land and people. They did not aspire to publicity nor commendation for their human concerns. Rather, they saw a need and sought to meet it. Syd's own deep satisfaction came from enriching in many ways, subtle and overt, the lives of those about him.

Syd evinced great dedication unto his family. His love for his mother was beyond measure. In fact, his years were measured by a love of people. Hence, his response to those who needed his help, the gifts which he could and did provide.

He found joy in the pulse and beat of life and its dynamics. Yet, there was always time to pause for human concerns and for friendship. He knew challenge, significance, enthusiasm, happiness in the realm of business activity.

In the Torah we learn that Moses was

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*Rabbi Lewis Ginsburg, c. 1970. JHSSA #1802*



## Alberta's Hebrew Camp a First for Canada

*Continued from Page 1*

activities, including sports, would be in the Hebrew language.

Unlike the Young Judean camp, we had no parent group making all the necessary arrangements for kitchen, food supplies and other essentials. We concluded that since we were all students at the Talmud Torah we would ask the Calgary Jewish Community Centre for use of their kitchen equipment and other aids.

So three nervy teens asked to attend a meeting of the Jewish Community Council and make a pitch for help. We were very positive in our approach, but were soon very disappointed. Mr. Samuel Dattner and Mr. Morris Wolochow, both of whom were very prominent in the community at that time, were against our request.

Mr. Dattner had just refurbished the kitchen equipment at the Community Centre and said they would not be loaned out to a group of kids. Mr. Wolochow was the treasurer of the Young Judean Camp Committee and could see no reason for another camp led by a group of kids. The Community Council agreed.

Dvorah, Esther and I, with tears in our eyes, got on our bikes and rode to the Smolensky house on 8th Avenue East. We were greeted by Dvorah's mother, Pauline

Smolensky, who immediately joined our anger at the Council for dismissing us. In his own quiet way, Dvorah's father, David Smolensky, calmed us down and patiently asked exactly what we required. After some discussion he said he would help us out by not only providing the pots, pans and dishes, but would, as well, take charge of providing the food and groceries for the camp. [The Smolensky family ran the large Riverside Hardware store.]

Work began in earnest to recruit campers and staff for the camp. Rabbi and Mrs. Horowitz, Ephraim and Dvorah Malamuth, and Mr. Walker, all teachers from the Talmud Torah, would be the leaders. A wonderful cook, Mrs. Lorinczc, was hired.

Counselors for the cabins were all senior campers and all paid the required camp fee. No one was paid or given a free ride.

It was not a large camp, but we had one camper from Winnipeg and two from Edmonton. The camp was a success and lasted for two years, 1945 and 1946. It was the forerunner of the larger Hebrew camp, Massad, in Eastern Canada, also created by Rabbi Horowitz and the Keren Ha-Tarbut (a Hebrew education alliance).

The camp did not lose money and paid all expenses, although in retrospect, with-

out the help and efforts of the Smolensky family we would never have been able to have this great experience of a Hebrew-speaking camp.

For me there is a personal postscript. Many years later I was to meet Mr. Samuel Dattner as the father of my wife-to-be, Sylvia. I wondered if he would remember the confrontation we had. He remembered the kids with "chutzpah", but respected our zeal and the fervor for our aims.

There were many firsts in our years at the Calgary Talmud Torah. Camp Techiyah was only one of them.

*Jack Chetner was born and grew up in Calgary, and graduated from the high school Hebrew program run by principal Aron Horowitz at the Calgary Talmud Torah. Along with several other graduates, he attended the Teachers Institute of the Jewish Theological Seminar and New York University, earning a graduate degree in education.*

*Chetner joined the faculty of the Edmonton Talmud Torah (a day-school) in 1952, and became principal in 1954. He left the school in 1972 and was active in national Hebrew Education and in real estate until 1992.*

*His parents were Abraham and Rachel Chetner, homesteaders at the Montefiore Jewish farm colony near Sibbald. He is brother to Dov and David Chetner, both of Calgary.*

## Eulogy for Sydney Kahanoff

*Continued from Page 4*

called to Mt. Nebo and was told by G-d to look into the Promised Land. And there on the summit of the mountain Moses died. Moses died, but the vision of the Promised Land remained and was later fulfilled.

No matter when we are called, the Promised Land is always a vision that beckons us, but into which we are denied entrance. Man is finite, but his dreams transcend his mortal frame. The mountain-climber ascends to the summit of one mountain only to see one higher, challenging him to scale it.

In the Alps there is a grave of a mountain-climber, and on its marker are inscribed these words: "He died climbing." This is the secret of man's divinity that defies his mortality. It is to climb and keep climbing, to bequeath to those who follow the vision of that which one was from afar and did not reach in order that others might continue to climb. This is the highest tribute we can pay to Syd - "He died climbing."

His memory is with us: a life fulfilled, a life of meaning, a precious heritage, the shade upon our right hand, the refreshing water, the inextinguishable light. May G-d's benediction be his crown of glory. May G-d's comfort be, for you, his dearest ones, your strength and your stay.



*Kahanoff Family, 1940s. Back: Sydney and Pat. Front: Minnie, Albert and Abraham. Source: Pat Kahanoff Smolensky. JHSSA #828*

## Jay Joffe Memorial Program November 14, 2010

JHSSA was pleased to be able to acknowledge the hard work of student filmmakers at this year's Jay Joffe Memorial Program at the Beth Tzedec Jewish Film Festival. Ariela Karmel and Kaylie Magidson were presented with copies of *A Joyful Harvest* in recognition of their films, both featuring the personal histories of Calgaryans. Kaylie's film, *Journey to Canada: The Barrons*, was screened immediately before the feature film, *Jews and Baseball: An American Love Story*. The film was introduced by local filmmaker Jonathan Joffe who pointed out the proud history of the Calgary Jewish Men's Baseball League. The audience was treated to a fitting snack of chips and *Cracker Jacks* after the film.

# The Smolensky Sisters Recall Hebrew Camp

By Fay Smolensky Schwartz and Devorah Smolensky Heckelman

*The two Smolensky sisters have recently submitted their reminiscences about the founding of the Hebrew Camp in Alberta as part of an essay on the contribution of Rabbi Horowitz to Jewish education in Canada.*

... The objective was to have a total Hebrew speaking environment that would reinforce the school's formal teaching of language, culture and the sources. It was hoped that it would attract Hebrew speaking students from throughout the province and beyond.

The first task was to find an appropriate site. Max Katzin, Dave Smolensky and Fay Smolensky (Schwartz) investigated possible sites for a two-week camp with lake frontage. They chose a Pentecostal Camp on Sylvan Lake. It was not unusual for a church to run a facility, away from the city, that was quite primitive with no running water, no electricity and to rent it out to another group for part of the summer. In this case the campers were instructed to bring a large sack of a specified size that, when

filled with straw and placed on a wooden platform would constitute the mattress in the cabin.

In the spirit of *Chalutziyut* (pioneering), students did chores in the camp, often singing as they washed dishes, drew water, set tables, etc.

As with most community endeavors of an educational nature, a significant number of lay people provided support in volunteer services as well as financial resources. Of particular note was the contribution made by Pauline and David Smolensky in providing Kosher dishes and arranging for the delivery of Kosher meat, often delivered by Dave himself.

One episode remembered by a participant was the issue of kosher dishes. Two students, Jack Chetner and Dvorah Smolensky, appeared before the board of the Calgary Jewish Community Center to request the use of the kosher dishes and pots for the camp. The board argued the matter at length. At issue was the concern

that there would not be adequate *hashgacha* (supervision) and the dishes would be returned for use in the Community Center with questions as to their sustained *kashrut*.

Parents of Dvorah, seeing how upset she was upon her return comforted her and assured her that they would provide Kosher dishes, pots and pans – two new sets for meat and dairy – from their store at no cost to the camp. They acquired cutlery from an army surplus store and they *kashered* the two sets in the approved traditional manner. Dave even loaned the camp his car. In subsequent years camps were run by Horowitz at other sites, culminating with the final one at the Chestermere Lake Sea Cadet Camp, run by Dvorah and Jack.

Rabbi Horowitz moved to Montreal and founded the Canadian Camp Massad near St. Agathe in Quebec...several counselors were from among those Calgarians who had attended Camp Techiyah in Alberta. The Quebec camp opened in July of 1947.

## Bill Cohen – Happy Hebrew Camper

*Former Calgarian William (Bill) Cohen enjoyed his two weeks at Hebrew camp. He recalls Camp Techiyah in a letter from his home in California.*

The camp was held at Sylvan Lake, where the Calgary Hebrew School had rented for two weeks the camp facilities of the Pentecostal Church, at the north end of Sylvan Lake.

"And yes we all did speak Hebrew for two weeks at camp. All the activities were conducted in Hebrew. From sunrise service of raising the flag to all meals, discussions, games, food service, KP, etc., to flag lowering, it was all in Hebrew.

... I took no pictures and I have no pictures. It occurred to me that maybe my fellow campers or their children might have pictures or memorabilia that they wish to share with the historical society and its readers.

*Bill and Bernice Cohen now live in Cupertino, California.*

## Aron Horowitz – Hebrew and Hardship at Camp Techiyah

It was painful for me, as it was for the youngsters, when I saw them coming out crying from the meeting. The committee had absolutely refused to lend them the dishes of the community centre. The problem was resolved by Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smolensky, who lent them some dishes from their store.

They rented a ramshackle camp from a church. The cabins had no beds or other furniture. We slept on sacks filled with straw. There were no inside toilets or running water, and it took much resourcefulness to turn the surrounding grounds into a sports field.

They were inspired by what they had learned about Kibbutz life in Eretz Israel to model their camp after it. The name *T'chiyah*, revival, was chosen as a symbol of their participation in the rebirth of the Hebrew culture. Everybody shared equally in the expenses and in the work, and nobody received any pay.

Although the duration of the camp was only two weeks, it contributed much to the

strengthening of the movement. The campers spoke only Hebrew throughout this time.

The treasurer, Yaakov Chetner, who planned the budget, made the

purchases, etc., was a mere boy of fifteen. Their spirit and sense of achievement were high and they continued to speak for years about their camp experience.

From Aron Horowitz, *"Striking Roots: Reflections of Five Decades of Jewish Life,"* 1979, p.116. Rabbi Aron Horowitz was principal of the Calgary Talmud Torah from 1942 to 1946, and from 1952 to 1955. Horowitz was educated in Palestine and in New York. Much of his career was spent in Canada, where he was a Hebrew educator, a high-ranking Zionist official, and an active proponent of Canadian Hebrew School education.



Rabbi Aron Horowitz, 1944. JHSSA #71

# Thank You to all our 2011 Members

*Membership donations are used to support the projects and operations of the JHSSA which is an independent, self-sustaining organization. We issue official tax receipts for all donations. Our membership year is from September to August. Welcome to our 20 new members. Special thanks to all those members who have made extra donations beyond their membership fees for our 20th anniversary year. Please inform our office of any omissions or corrections.*

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Cyril Leonoff  
George & Connie Nagler  
Fred Schaeffer  
David Sidorsky  
Nat & Betty Starr  
Marc & Suzanne Waterman  
Fred & Joyce Zemans

## Calgary Members

Ethel Allman  
Gerry Barron  
Jean Barron  
Shel & Cylia Bercovich  
Rudy & Jeanette Berger  
Francine Wapple  
Bermack & Sheila Bermack  
Marni Besser  
David & Sonia Bickman  
Wayne Bobroff  
Anne Brodsky  
David Busheikin  
Geta Churgin  
Jeri Churgin  
Cheryl Cohen  
Emanuel & Donna Cohen  
Geneva Cohen  
Les & Mim Diamond  
Lorne & Zena Drabinsky

Jerry & Faith Dubisky  
Norman & Ruth Dvorkin  
Dave & Delsie Dworkin  
Reva Faber  
Paul Finkleman  
Halley Girvitz  
George & Sonda Goodman  
Sam & Anne Goresht  
Bruce & Jeannie Groberman  
Henry & Avrona Gutman  
Lucille Hanson  
Nelson & Debbie Halpern  
Zelda Hanson  
Naomi Hashman  
Cy & Mona Joffe  
Jonathan Joffe  
Lily Joffe  
Sandra Kalef  
Ariela Karmel  
Irena Karshenbaum  
Larry & Deborah Katz  
Naomi Kerr  
Morley & Eta Kerr  
Sarah Jane Kerr-Lapsley  
Oscar Kirshner  
Allan & Annette Kolinsky  
Frances Kolinsky  
Sharna Laven  
Leslie Levant  
Jean Libin  
Saundra & Harold Lipton  
Julius Lister  
Barry Litchinsky  
Kaylie Magidson  
Betty Mayer  
Lee Moster  
Roberta Nitkin  
Susan Podlog  
Mel & Reata Polsky  
Tiby Presma  
Shirley Rabinovitch  
Agi Romer Segal & Eliezer Segal  
Ben & Mona Rosenbaum  
Molly Ross  
Stuart & Irene Ross  
John Rothschild & Carol Weiner  
Leah Saltman  
Marilyn Samuels & David Cramer  
Harry Sanders & Kirsten Olson  
Miriam Sanders

Allan & Sharon Sattin  
Robert & Tamara Seiler  
Judy Shapiro & Richard Bronstein  
Harry & Janet Sherman  
Ruth Sherwood  
Svetlana Shklarov  
Morley & Cheryl Shore  
Laura Shuler  
Mackie Shuler  
Brian & Gail Sidorsky  
Helen Signer  
Morley & Karen Sklar  
Tillie Sklar  
Pat Smolensky  
Barry & Debby Smolkin  
Jerry Snukal  
Jerry & Judith Sperakow  
Sam & Ida Switzer  
Jack Van Ameringen  
Helen Walker  
Sandra Morton Weizman  
Jack Wise  
Edward Wolfman  
Leon & Lillian Zimmerman  
Elliot & Minnie Zuckier  
Calgary Jewish Academy  
Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Post #2

## Out of Town Members

Francis Bondaroff  
Rena Cohen  
William & Bernice Cohen  
Gary & Francoise Dvorkin  
Tish Dvorkin  
Barry Finkelman  
Mel & Deana Fishman  
Judith Ghert  
David Joffe  
Lucien & Carole Lieberman  
Chuck Mozeson  
Ida Rodich  
Roberta Sheps  
Andria Spindel  
Goldie Steele  
Chiara Switzer  
Jay Switzer  
Sharon Switzer  
Bev Walker  
Elizabeth Yan  
Allen County Public Library

## JHSSA News

### JHSSA 20th Annual Meeting October 18, 2010

Over 85 people were in attendance at our 20th AGM, featuring special guest, Alberta Minister of Culture and Community Spirit, the Honourable Lindsay Blackett. An excerpt from Minister Blackett's speech follows below.

A new slate of directors was elected. Retiring directors David Bickman, Trudy Cowan, Maxine Fischbein, Darlene Switzer Foster and Harriet Libin were thanked for their years of service on the JHSSA board. Marni Besser, Lil Hershfield, Harry Sanders and Laura Shuler were elected to the board. At a subsequent meeting, the board elected Betty Sherwood as president and Sandra Lipton and Paul Finkleman as vice presidents.

The AGM program also featured *Big Shoes to Fill: Footsteps of our Pioneers*, a presentation of selections from our archives that was compiled by Barb Joffe and Therese Nagler and performed by them together with David Busheikin, Trudy Cowan, Shari Finkleman, Maxine Fischbein and Laura Shuler, with musical accompaniment by Deb Finkleman.

From Minister Blackett's address:

*Our country and our province were built through immigration. Alberta's cultural mosaic is as diverse as the landscape stretching across the province. We need to make sure we capture our stories, before they fade.*

*Through examining our history, we learn valuable lessons that make us stronger – as individuals and as a society. By protecting*

*and sharing your story through the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta – you are making your communities stronger. Strength can be drawn from the past.*

*This society provides a valuable resource for students, historians and others looking for information about their roots. You are helping future generations know where they came from and be inspired to work towards an even brighter future...*

*Thank you to each of you for your efforts to preserve, protect and share your part in Alberta's history. Volunteers are the heart of community spirit and your efforts have led to the 20 years of success for this society.*

### Calgary: A New Illustrated History presented by Harry Sanders January 9, 2011

The weather outside was frightful, but here was so delightful – here being the JCC Chapel, warmed by the wonderful stories of Harry Sanders, local author and historian. Also a JHSSA Director, Sanders offered a sneak peak at his upcoming publication, *Calgary: A New Illustrated History*, sharing snippets of Calgary's past with an enthusiastic audience of over 20 people.

Using completed sections of his book as a jumping-off point, he freely elaborated on places and personalities, adding a Jewish side-bar whenever there was one, as well as the occasional 'inside' look at the process of putting together an illustrated history.



AGM coordinator Sandra Lipton (right) presenting special guests, CJCC President Adam Singer, MLA Paul Hinman and the Honourable Minister Lindsay Blackett with the JHSSA publication, *A Joyful Harvest*, on October 18, 2010. Photographer: Donna Riback. JHSSA #4107.33

### JHSSA Spring Program: CALGARY SONGS

*Original songs celebrating the legends and characters from Calgary's colourful history.*

Written and performed by  
Paulo Finkleman,  
Calgary Songwriter and  
Recording Artist.

**Sunday, March 27, 2011  
3:00 - 5:00 pm  
Calgary JCC**

### DISCOVERY

#### Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta

Founding President: **Jay Joffe**<sup>†</sup>

Past President: **Jack Switzer**

President: **Betty Sherwood**

Vice-Presidents: **Sandra Lipton, Paul Finkleman**

Treasurer: **Lil Hershfield**

Secretary: **Zena Drabinsky**

Director at Large: **Brenda Eisenberg**

Directors: **Shel Bercovich, Marni Besser,**

**David Busheikin, Clifford Eisenberg, Barry Finkleman,**

**Sheila Gurevitch, Noel Hershfield, Barbara Joffe,**

**Deborah Katz, Therese Nagler, Donna Riback,**

**Harry Sanders, Svetlana Shklarov, Laura Shuler,**

**Carey Smith, Sheldon Smithens**

Honourary Directors: **Hy Belzberg, Jack Edelson,**

**Henry Gutman, Mel Polsky**

Archivist: **Agi Romer Segal**

Office Staff: **Naomi Kerr, Roberta Kerr**

Editors: **Jack Switzer, Agi Romer Segal**

The editors welcome submissions for publication relating to areas of Calgary and Southern Alberta Jewish history. All articles should be typed, documented and sent for consideration.

Statements of fact or opinion appearing in *Discovery* are made on the responsibility of the authors alone, and do not imply the endorsement of the editors or the JHSSA.

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