



## Restoring My Sephardic Portuguese Heritage: Honoring My Parents

by Isabelle Medina Sandoval

**A**s a daughter of native New Mexican parents, I was raised in a home in an adjacent state filled with love and Hispanic traditions. Speaking the archaic colonial Spanish of northern New Mexico while nourished on New Mexico cuisine, I was immersed in old-fashioned family values. However, our home differed from other Hispanic houses because there were no religious crosses or articles displayed anywhere in the house. My parents would take our family, on occasion, to a non-denominational church for spiritual guidance. Stressing the importance of adhering to a religious foundation, my mother made me memorize the Ten Commandments and the Twenty-Third Psalm when I was almost 10 years old. As a child, I was conscious that my family was one of the few Hispanic families in our town not attending the Catholic Church.

At home, education was esteemed. My parents prized the Bible, literature, books, school, music, art, discussion, thinking and reading at home. My siblings were my closest confidantes; later, they were my witnesses regarding our family traditions. My parents had honored their parents by valuing learning and respecting others in the community.

Visiting my maternal grandparents in Mora, New Mexico, I studied the adobe partitions of the house. No saints or crosses hung on the turquoise walls. I observed my grandmother sweep the

dirt from the corners to the center of the room and watched her discard the farm eggs having blood when she was making a cake.

When I stayed with my paternal grandmother in Las Vegas, New Mexico, I noticed the walls of the home were framed by elegant white lace curtains and family pictures. In my grandmother's bedroom, one small cross on the wall hung over her dresser. A tiny white ceramic rooster rested on the dresser below the cross.



Isabelle's Portuguese Passport

Wrestling with my adolescent individuality in a bilingual-bicultural world where English and Spanish customs and languages waged war for supremacy in a dominant English-speaking educational environment and society, I was at peace with my distinctive uniqueness. And, I asked incessant questions about family history of my maternal grandfather in Mora. Never tiring of my barrage of inquiries, my grandfather referred to the small 1891 journal written by his father in Spanish detailing our family history.

As a young adult, I completed the requirements to become a teacher/administrator while I majored in Spanish, English, reading and leadership. Meanwhile, I persevered studying family history and documented maternal genealogy to 1770 to substantiate my

great-grandfather's journal.

I purchased the 1973 edition of the book of *Origins of New Mexico Families* written by Fray Angélico Chávez. Describing one of the colonial families, Chávez wrote, "It was very possible that he was of Jewish extraction." I immediately recognized the ancestral New Mexico family links to Jewish ties. After my grandparents and mother died a decade later, I grasped the importance of family research.

In 1992, I heard Dr. Stanley Hordes speak in Colorado Springs about the crypto-Jews of New Mexico. Curious about the fresh information, I researched more family history and Jewish customs while attending various conferences relative to crypto-Jews. I treasure the 2005 text by Dr. Hordes, *To the End of the Earth*. This baseline book is an imperative standard for substantive historical documentation of New Mexican Jewish families.

At a conference in Santa Fe in 2016, I spoke briefly with Dr. Hordes about the

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Isabelle Medina Sandoval

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## President's Column



Happy New Year! On behalf of the Board, let me wish you, your family and friends a happy, healthy 2020.

2019 was another banner year for NMJHS during which we achieved the following:

- A successful Fall Conference in Taos; well-received and attended programming in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Las Cruces and Los Alamos
- First-ever collaborative program with the Historical Society of New Mexico, "Movers and Shakers in New Mexico History: from Colonial Period to Statehood"
- Completion of our New Mexico Humanities Council funded project, "Telling the Stories: The Personal Accounts of New Mexico Jews in Business and Community Life"
- Four New Oral Family histories collected with the support of the Jewish Federation Allocation Grant
- Successful Year 2 Life & Legacy Campaign to build our Endowment and, once again, the first participating organization to obtain 18 Letters of Intent, making us eligible to receive a second \$5,000 incentive grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. We have a wonderful L&L team!
- Funded Phase I of the Temple Beth Shalom History Project through our Research Fellowship program

As members and supporters, you make this happen through your membership,

### Sharing Your Family History

NMJHS continues to collect New Mexico Jewish family histories through oral interviews to share with the public and preserve in the New Mexico State Archives.

If you are interested in participating, contact the NMJHS office:

5520 Wyoming Blvd. NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87109  
505-348-4471, [admin@nmjhs.org](mailto:admin@nmjhs.org)

program attendance, and donations. We thank you!

Volunteerism is another important part of our success. We need you to help us sustain and enhance our efforts.



NMJHS President  
Linda Goff

Will you consider?

- Joining one of our standing committees
- Coordinating our Speakers Bureau Program
- Organizing membership outreach initiatives
- Providing new ideas of future NMJHS programming and events? What interests you?

We welcome and need your ideas and feedback to make us an even better organization to preserve and share New Mexico's rich Jewish history.

Please contact administrator Claudia Bloom, and a Board member will get in touch with you to continue the conversation.

Thank you in advance for your wonderful help and support!☆

### Welcome New Members

Beth Bloomfield  
Deborah Boldt  
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and follow us on Twitter at  
<https://twitter.com/NMJewishHS>.

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## Mission Statement

The New Mexico Jewish Historical Society is a secular organization that promotes greater knowledge and understanding of New Mexico's diverse Jewish experiences within a broad cultural context.

*Legacy* is the quarterly newsletter of the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society  
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## Restoring My Sephardic Portuguese Heritage (*continued from p. 1*)

Spanish and Portuguese Returns detailed by the respective Iberian nations of Spain and Portugal. I shared that I was heartened by the actions of these Iberian countries to provide a return for their exiled Jewish citizens of New Mexico. At the same time, I expressed that I had studied the Spanish Return and was not seeking this pathway. Dr. Hordes asked me to consider examining the Portuguese Return.

I reviewed the requirements for the Portuguese Return at [comunidade-israelitadelisboa.org/](http://comunidade-israelitadelisboa.org/) and [comunidade-israelita-porto.org](http://comunidade-israelita-porto.org). First, I had to secure approval from either the Porto or Lisbon synagogues to verify my Jewish Portuguese standing. I wanted to apply directly to a Portuguese synagogue to validate my Sephardic status. After synagogue approval, I could then petition the Portuguese government for dual citizenship.

Gathering my research on my father's genealogy, I ultimately learned of our Portuguese ancestry. I engaged myself in documenting crucial genealogy to present to the Lisbon Synagogue. In addition to the necessary format for the Portuguese Jewish genealogy descent, I was required to provide circumstantial evidence, direct evidence inclusive of the genealogical tree, family surnames, emotional connection, and the family language. After concluding three months of intensive documentation, I submitted my request to the Lisbon Synagogue. I incorporated 14 generations of family research, family surnames, medieval northern New Mexico Spanish language supported by my poetry/writing and other Jewish artifacts for the submission.

Several months later, after careful review by the Lisboa Certification Committee composed of members having expertise with the Iberian Portuguese Jewish Diaspora, I received my *Certificado* from the Comunidade Israelita

de Lisboa designating me as having a "*ligação familiar a comunidade Judaica sefardita de origem portuguesa*." I framed the certificate and placed it above my computer.

Secondly, I applied for Portuguese citizenship for Sephardic Jews. Along with the application written in Portuguese, I included the Lisbon Synagogue certificate, a copy of my passport, birth certificate, proof of residence and a



*Grandmother's ivory ceramic roosters.*

clean criminal record. At this point, I hired an attorney in Lisbon to file the paperwork. The language of Portugal is Portuguese; it was important to have a fluent Portuguese lawyer in Portugal advocate my case. The attorney translated several documents into Portuguese. This process required two years. At the end of the second year, my attorney informed me of my success, and I was issued a Portuguese birth certificate.

Thirdly, I traveled to the Portuguese Embassy in San Francisco to obtain the Portuguese Citizen Card. I made a second trip to the Portuguese Embassy a few months later to apply for the Portuguese passport. The total time from starting the genealogy research to obtaining the European Union Portuguese passport was almost three years. During this process, I often thought about the stalwart stamina my New Mexico fam-

ily members demonstrated to survive the Spanish, Portuguese and Mexican Inquisitions.

Support for descendants of crypto-Jews is imperative. Over the past three decades, I have acquired updated and crucial information regarding New Mexico crypto-Jews from sessions I attended that were supported by the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society. In my estimation, the most pertinent and accessible meetings for Hispanics in the Southwest interested in New Mexico crypto-Jews have been sponsored by the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society. As a result of attending noteworthy conferences, I served on the New Mexico Historical Society Board because I believe in the organization. I included documentation of my service with NMHS as an artifact for my application to the Lisboa Synagogue. And, I have made authentic friendships with members in the organization.

My other primary assistance stemmed from advice from spiritual leaders. Rabbi Albert Plotkin and Rabbi Marc Angel were instrumental in providing guidance and materials for me to read. In addition to the rabbinical assistance, I have valued my core friendships with Dennis Durán, Bertha Muske, Gerald González, Gloria Trujillo, Mona Hernández, Judy Frankel, Diana Bryer and Ron Hart. Conversations with the rabbis and friends kindled my personal research and introspection.

Family customs were puzzle pieces to connect my Portuguese heritage. As I delved into more research about my maternal grandmother, I discovered that sweeping the dirt from the corners to the center of the room was an Iberian Sephardic custom whereby women kept the dirt away from the mezuzah on the door. I also learned that my Grandmother did not use unclean eggs to keep a kosher kitchen.

*(continued on p. 6)*





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## Recap New Mexico Jewish Historical Society Fall Conference November 8-10, 2019

**"Jewish Life in Taos and Northern New Mexico: Past, Present and Future."**

by Harvey Buchalter



The charming and historic Sagebrush Inn and Suites was a fitting venue for the Society's Fall Conference as approximately 65 members and friends from New Mexico and neighboring states gathered for stimulating and informative talks, reflective religious services, a Silent Auction and Raffle, and lively entertainment.



*Naomi Sandweiss*

Taos, a perennially favorite locale, cooperated with balmy weather (balmy for Northern New Mexico) comfortable accommodations, and plenty to do during break-time from the conference. Many attendees delighted in traversing the "High Road to Taos" – from either Albuquerque or Santa Fe – enjoying the sights of the villages of Trampas, Truchas, Chimayo, Penasco, and Ranchos de Taos, reflecting upon their lost-in-time aspect.

Welcoming remarks on Saturday by Naomi Sandweiss, VP of the Society got the ball rolling. Naomi pointed out that the influence of Jews in Taos and Northern New Mexico overshadowed

their small numbers. In her talk on "The Gusdorf Family and the History of Taos," she described the significant role played by Bertha Gusdorf and her family in the banking and finance arena.



*Harvey Buchalter*

Rabbi Judith HaLevy, keynote speaker, took the participants on an autobiographical journey, highlighting her years as a rabbi in Santa Fe, her time in Taos, and the challenges of raising her family in places with few Jewish points of contact.

Presentations by Rabbi Chava Carp and Diana Breyer gave participants an artistic insight into both the secretive life of Northern New Mexico's crypto-Jews, as presented by Diana, and the more mystical, biblically inspired paintings (actually, a combination of painting and weaving) by Chava.

Dr. Noel Pugach then delivered a most informative talk on the life and practice of a mid-century physician who moved to Las Vegas, New Mexico, find-



*Rabbi Chava Carp featured with her artwork*

ing a niche for himself and his formerly fashion model wife. Noel's talk, "A Jew-

*(continued on p. 5)*

**Fall Conference** (continued from p. 4)

ish Doctor Moves West: Dr. Isaac Terr's Las Vegas Medical Practice," informed participants of the significance of his life and practice in small town New Mexico.

"The Jewish Roots of Flamenco," presented by dancer Lili Castillo, and guitarist Luis Campos, provided a fascinating and informative insight into the foundations of Spain's musical heritage, and its possible Jewish origins. Audience participation followed their performance as attendees watched their fellow participants mimic rather humorously, Flamenco's basic movements.



On Sunday, the conference presented Lance Bell's excellent talk on "Ernie Blake and the Development of the Taos

Ski Area." Ernie Blake's military service in World War II, his risk-taking in devel-



oping the challenging slopes of Taos' ski-basin, and anecdotes about the cast of characters who were his circle of friends was well researched and well presented.

Sunday's offerings included Sharon Niederman's spiritual journey "Finding My Lost Tribe: How My Time on Lama Mountain Confirmed My Jewish Identity," and the presentations of panelists Neal Friedman, and Bruce Grossman, all of whom gave delightful accounts of being "Jewish in Taos."

The Society Board of Directors thanks all who gave generously to make the NMJHS Fall Conference a success.☆

### HELP GUARANTEE THE FUTURE OF THE NEW MEXICO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sandra Dietz Chair, Membership Committee

#### IT'S TIME TO RECRUIT YOUNGER MEMBERS

The future of NMJHS, in addition to researching and recounting the past, depends on attracting a new generation of members. A gift of membership to your child, grandchild, or great-grandchild will introduce your family's next generation to the colorful history of the Jewish people in our state. Consider membership as a wedding or Bat or Bar Mitzvah gift. Invite an old friend or new acquaintance to attend an NMJHS function. Help us grow our membership.

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**Murray Elowitz**  
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**Beth Moise:**  
Feb. 21, 1945 - Dec. 1, 2019

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## Restoring My Sephardic Portuguese Heritage *(continued from p. 3)*

I asked my Catholic sister about our paternal Catholic grandmother. I discovered from the interview that my sister accompanied our Grandmother to Catholic homes in Las Vegas during spring to take dishes of candy and cookies to celebrate the Fiesta of Saint Esther! This feast was banned by the Edict of Faith many centuries ago. I often wonder if my Catholic Grandmother questioned the significance of celebrating the non-Catholic Fiesta of Saint Esther which is celebrated at Purim. I have the ivory ceramic rooster, symbol of Portugal, belonging to my Grandmother.

My rationale for embarking on the Portuguese Return was to honor my father by validating his precious family stories. My identification signifies my ancestral individuality because I represent the whole of my parents. Far removed from being the 10-year-old girl learning the Ten Commandments,

my aim has always been to honor my father and my mother—the Fifth Commandment. Meanwhile, I have learned that my mother shares the same Portuguese ancestors! My wish is that my grandchildren are cognizant of our beautiful New Mexican Sephardic Portuguese heritage. May the memory of our Portuguese Sephardic ancestors be a blessing.✡

## SAVE THE DATE

**2020 NMJHS Fall Conference**  
In collaboration with the  
Texas Jewish Historical Society

**“West of Hester Street: The  
Galveston Movement and  
Jewish Immigration &  
Communities in the Southwest”**

**October 23-25, 2020**  
**Las Cruces, New Mexico**



# Murray Tucker Family History

by Murray Tucker



Most budding genealogists have a rough road to hoe in just starting their search. I was lucky. My mother got me started before I was 10, introducing me to the vast Schlesinger family of her father. Unfortunately, she had little knowledge of her mother who died when she was four. She did know where her mother was buried, but it took me many years to visit the small tombstone in West View, near Pittsburgh. Here I discovered her father's name, Dov Moshe Friedman. This was a dead end (excuse the pun) for a time. Because my sister was named for my mother's grandmother, Lieba, I at least had a start.

It was years before I discovered that Lieba and my grandmother, Rachel (Rosie) came from White Russia. In New York, I almost went blind looking at scrolls of microfiche of ship arrivals. I found my grandfather and grandmother (both 17, but not married) landing in Philadelphia. Lieba was also on that ship. I have yet to find Dov Moshe's father; the naming conventions were such that my mother's brother was named for Dov Moshe's father, who was Avraham Yaacov Friedman.

My mother's father, Jacob Schlesinger, was a tailor who was trained by his uncle, Morris Wolf, whose family lived nearby. I got to know several of them. Morris' father, Isaac, was Jacob's grandfather. His father was known as Anatol, but his Jewish name was Asher Anschul. Because my cousin was named for him, I also had that lead. All of that Schlesinger clan (there were many with that family name) came from what is now northern Slovakia near the southern border of Poland.

Because all of the generation preceding my mother had passed by the time I was seven, I never got to interview them. My fortune was better with my father's

family. Both of his parents came from areas of Ukraine near Kiev, my grandfather from D'Zhenkiv, my grandmother from Probisht (actual name is Pochgrebische). My grandfather, John Tucker (actually Yena Tocher), and all his close and distant relatives were in some way involved with cattle. His father was Meyer, the name given to my uncle and which appears on my grandfather's tombstone. Meyer's father was Joseph, passed to my father to continue the generations. Continuing the naming, my nephew is John and his first born was named Joseph.

I talked about family with my grandmother, Pessie or Rebecca, and with an aunt who was also a first cousin. My grandfather spoke little about his family, but I did learn from one of his daughters that he had two full brothers and three half-brothers. I also learned that one of the brothers had lived and died in Odessa. He had about seven children, one of whom, Ann Greenberg, lived in Baltimore. When my father died in late July 1976, Ann came to pay respects. My sister, Lynne, got a significant amount of information on Ann's family. But what I learned from Ann was also very significant. My grandfather mostly walked from his home in Ukraine to Hamburg. He was accompanied by another brother. They both wound up in Liverpool where they were taught English and elements of farming. Somehow John's brother got onto a boat for Uruguay. My grandfather was left alone in England. He never forgave his brother for deserting him, and his name was never to be mentioned. As far as I know I have relatives in Argentina who, by chance, are also called Tucker.

There is much more to report on what I learned from oral stories, but I'll save that



Murray Tucker

for another time. My studies of ancestors more than four generations before me required more time than I chose to devote. I turned to DNA services through [ftdna.com](http://ftdna.com). My first enlightenment was discovering how many men had close matches to me on the paternal side. The most revealing insight from the paternal gene study was that while, from Western Europe, my closest matches were to other Jews, I had a significant relation to non-Jews from Western Europe.

The next insights came from a review by a company, DNA Land, which has ceased and transformed itself into DNA Land 2. Before that occurred, my second cousin, Marvin, and I submitted our information. What came back was astounding. We both had 1.6% traceable to Sardinia, which is now a region of Italy where many Israelites immigrated after the destruction of the second Temple. The only common ancestors my cousin and I had were our great-grandparents, very little of either, except that I have a picture of Bessie's father, Dov Moshe Schakne, copied from my aunt's collection.

Now for the penultimate discovery, and it was mine alone: According to DNA Land, 6% of my genetic history comes from "Kalash," a people who reside in northeastern Afghanistan. Marvin does not share this with me. My mother's family is 100% in that amorphous group known as Ashkenazim. That left only my father's grandmother as the carrier.

Going into the history, Jews in Ukraine suffered a horrible holocaust in 1648 that wiped out most settlements. Repopulation occurred rather rapidly with immigrants from the west (Poland, which is where the Tucker name came from), the south (part of the Ottoman Empire, probably my Sardinia roots) and from the east. The last group was not associated

*(continued on p. 8)*

### **Murray Tucker Family History** (*continued from p. 7*)

with the Second Temple; they were more associated with the Babylonian exile and may have wound up in Afghanistan which was as far as Alexander the Great took his forces.

The study of my roots started as a young boy and has never ceased. Each time I learn more and find more. I share chromosomes with many people who, in the non-Jewish world, would be close

relatives. Jews had a habit of marrying close relatives and within geographical areas that makes using findings from such sources as Family Finder almost useless. The same is true for tracking maternal-based relatives. My maternal DNA is from greater Lithuania. I think there were perhaps five progenitors in this region. Thus I have hundreds of maternal matches including a woman who is married to a first cousin.

In conclusion, getting your story can be most interesting or boring – your choice. As for me, I'm satisfied as far as I have gone. Maybe one day one of my descendants will pick up my dusty tables and say, gee what an interesting study, I think I'll try to fill in the blanks. In a hundred years, much will be available, online at little cost. murtuc1@gmail.com ☆

#### **THE NEW MEXICO JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**in collaboration with**

#### **THE TEXAS JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

#### **Call for 2020 Fall Conference Papers and Sessions:**

#### **“West of Hester Street: The Galveston Movement and Jewish Immigration & Communities in the Southwest”**

**October 23 – 25, 2020 - Las Cruces, New Mexico**

The New Mexico Jewish Historical Society and the Texas Jewish Historical Society invite individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions to submit a proposal to present a paper or program panel session related to the 2020 Conference topic. The conference will focus on three broad themes:

- Jewish highways to the Southwest
- Southwest Jewish communities and Communal Life Large & Small: Then and Now
- Jewish Communities along the Border: North and South

Other related topics will be considered. Individual speakers should plan for 45 minutes and panel sessions should be no longer 60 minutes in length, including time for Q&A with the audience.

#### **Proposal Guidelines and Submission:**

The Conference Program Planning Committee requests that interested individuals or panelists submit a proposal that includes the following:

Proposed Session Title;

Proposed Session Format: Individual speaker or panel session;

Proposed Name(s) and Titles of Presenter(s);

Proposed Length of Session;

Proposed Presentation Summary and/or Objectives of Presentation(s): approximately 150 – 200 words;

Resumes or Curriculum Vitae of Speaker(s);

Audio Visual Requirements, Availability TBD;

Contact information, including mailing address, daytime or mobile telephone, and email address.

To learn more about the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society visit: [www.nmjhs.org](http://www.nmjhs.org)

To ask questions about proposals, contact:

Linda Goff- [lagoff@hotmail.com](mailto:lagoff@hotmail.com)

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**Please Send Electronic Copies of Proposal Submissions to:** [admin@nmjhs.org](mailto:admin@nmjhs.org)

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: March 15, 2020**

**NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSAL ACCEPTANCE WILL BE SENT APPROXIMATELY: April 1**

**All Speakers MUST register for the Conference.**

**In addition, we strongly encourage speakers to engage the audience, NOT to read papers or read extensively from Power Point, if used.**



## *Upcoming Programs: Save the Date!!!!*

**March 1, 2pm**

CCA in Santa Fe: "The Trials of J. Robert Oppenheimer"

Please join us for an engaging event as we review a complex and revealing portrait of one of America's most influential scientists, J. Robert Oppenheimer. His work and leadership inspired fellow scientists whose work changed history. This PBS docudrama film examines his life and his "trials" during the McCarthy era when his loyalty and patriotism were questioned. A discussion about the film focusing on the morality and ethics of nuclear weapons and warfare and what Judaism teaches us will be facilitated by Rabbi Paul Citrin.

**Co-sponsored with the Santa Fe Jewish Film Festival and Temple Beth Shalom Adult Education Committee. Light refreshments will be served. Suggested donation \$15.**



**March 1, 2pm**

Temple Beth El & NMJHS Speakers Bureau: "A Mobster in the Family: Jewish Outlaws, Gangsters & Bandits"

Join us at Temple Beth El in Las Cruces as Naomi Sandweiss traces the history of Jewish gangsters in US history. **Light refreshments will be served.**



**March 14, 7pm**

Temple Beth Shalom Santa Fe: "The Jewish Catskills: A Summer Place"

Take a nostalgic trip from your childhood or memories of those summer holidays away from 'The City' and explore the well-known resorts of Grossingers and many others with Urban Historian, Justin Ferate.

**Co-sponsored with Temple Beth Shalom Adult Education Committee. Refreshments will be served. Suggested donation \$15.**



**March 22, 1pm**

Jewish Community Center of Greater Albuquerque: "The Jewish Catskills: A Summer Place"

Take a nostalgic trip from your childhood or memories of those summer holidays away from 'The City' and explore the well-known resorts of Grossingers and many others with Urban Historian, Justin Ferate.

**Refreshments will be served. Suggested donation \$15.**



## *Upcoming Programs: Save the Date!!!!*

### *March 15, 2pm*

Congregation B'nai Israel Albuquerque: "The Experiment in Jewish Learning"

The Experiment in Jewish Learning (EJL) was an outstanding lecture series that brought to Albuquerque leading scholars and public figures, who addressed major historical and contemporary issues. Among them were Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, Rabbi Nelson Glueck, Professor Hans Morgenthau, Chaim Potok, and Elie Wiesel. Noel Pugach and Shlomo Karni provided leadership until the Experiment ceased operation at the end of the 1980s. EJL was a key element in the transformative changes that occurred in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The lecture will also examine that context and EJL's significance.

**Co-sponsored with B'nai Israel. Light refreshments will be served. Suggested donation \$10.**



### *April 23, 7pm*

HaMakom Santa Fe (2230 Old Pecos Trail): "Crypto-Jews: Who They Are and Their History; A Personal Journey; and Their Future"

Join us for a panel discussion about the Crypto-Jews of New Mexico and their history led by author and researcher, Norma Libman. Isabelle Sandoval, retired educator and poet will share her personal story through her poetry and writings, "Exile Ended: A Return to Portuguese Citizenship." Rabbi Jordi Gendra, the first Spanish born Rabbi since the Inquisition and comes from a Converso background, will discuss his own journey and the Spanish Government's Right of Return Program for those worldwide Sephardic Jewish descendants wishing to reclaim their heritage

**Co-sponsored with the HaMakom Continuing Education Committee. Light refreshments will be served. Suggested donation \$10.**



Norma Libman



Isabelle Sandoval



Rabbi Jordi Gendra Molina



### NMJHS “Pioneer” Society Donors

**The following members have made their commitment to ensure our Legacy will be passed down to the next generations by contributing to our Endowment Fund. We reached our Years 1 and 2 goal of 18 Letters of Intent and continue to work on identifying additional participants. Won't you join us today?**

#### **As of 3/31/2018:**

Dorothy Corner Amsden  
 Gloria Abella Ballen & Ron Duncan Hart  
 Lance and Julia Bell  
 Stuart Feen & Carol Sonnenshein  
 Bill & Margrethe Feldman  
 Carla Freeman, z”l  
 Sheila Gershen  
 Linda & Ed Goff  
 Betty & Keith Harvie  
 Kathleen Kahn Mahon  
 Cynthia & David London  
 Steve & Beth Moise, z”l  
 Noel Pugach  
 Bob Rubenstein  
 Naomi Sandweiss  
 Rae Siporin  
 Anonymous

#### **As of 12/31/2019:**

Anonymous (1)  
 Rick & Kathy Abeles  
 Wayne Bobrick  
 Patricia Carlton  
 Alan & Diane Chodorow  
 Sandy Dietz  
 Doris Francis-Erhard  
 Talia Freedman  
 Marcia Greenbaum  
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 Norma Libman  
 Stephen P. Margulin & Iris S. Weinstein  
 Paul Sklar  
 Marcia Torobin  
 Murray Tucker  
 Sarah Winger

#### **NMJHS Legacy Team:**

Lance Bell  
 Diane Chodorow  
 Linda Goff  
 Naomi Sandweiss

# Legacy

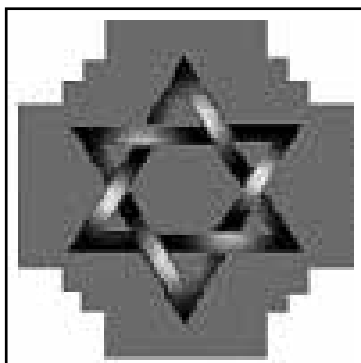
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## Membership in NMJHS

For information contact the NMJHS office at 505-348-4471 or [admin@nmjhs.org](mailto:admin@nmjhs.org) to request a membership brochure. Alternatively, you can download a membership application from the NMJHS website, [www.NMJHS.org](http://www.NMJHS.org)



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Check for future events at [www.nmjhs.org](http://www.nmjhs.org)

**January 26:** Santa Fe Jewish Film Festival presents *Those Who Remained*, Center for Contemporary Arts, 1050 Old Pecos Trail, 11:00 a.m.

**January 26:** Fiddler on the Roof: A Journey Through Tevye's Story, presented by Albuquerque Chapter of Hadassah, Jewish Community Center, 5520 Wyoming Blvd. NE, Albuquerque 12:15 p.m.

**February 9:** B'nai Israel Centennial Big Event, 100-year anniversary, 4401 Indian School Rd. NE, Albuquerque, 6:30 p.m.

**February 23:** A History of the First Arab-Israeli War. Benny Morris, Israeli historian and author. Temple Beth Shalom, 205 East Barcelona Rd., Santa Fe, 4:00 p.m.

**February 23:** Israel Advocacy Workshop, Jewish Community Center, 5520 Wyoming Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, 10:00 a.m.

**February 28:** Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Strength and Refuge: A Joyous Exploration of the Psalms. Temple Beth Shalom, 205 East Barcelona Rd., Santa Fe, 4:00 p.m.

**February 29:** Santa Fe Desert Chorale, Strength and Refuge: A Joyous Exploration of the Psalms. Program at Cathedral of St. John, 318 Silver S.W., Albuquerque, 2:00 p.m.

See "Save the Date" content inside for more details of NMJHS programs March and April