

NEWS



LETTER

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P.O. Box 23056, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502

JEWISH INDIAN TRADERS AND CURIO SHOPS

BY SHIRLEY JACOBSON

INDIAN TRADERS and curio shops are of great importance to New Mexican history simply because their goods and business give insight into historical contemporary life.

In addition to the many renowned Jewish merchants, such as the Ilfelds and Spiegelbergs, the Gold brothers, Abe (Abraham), Jake (Jacob), and (Moses) Aaron, and their father, Luis, were among the most prominent curio dealers in Santa Fe. The business was established in the 1860s and operated into the early nineteenth century.

The shops went through many metamorphoses seen from this

advertisement in the Santa Fe Daily New Mexican of April 12, 1889.

"Announced: 'Good News' New Store, New Goods, Lower Prices. Abe Gold. Native Produce. A free

Corrall (sic) in connection with my new store, to all coming to Santa Fe by team. Call and be convinced."

So well known was their shop on Burro Alley that anthropologist Adolph Bandelier, soon after his arrival in Santa Fe visited Jake Gold. In his journal (*The*

Bandelier and Jake Gold took trips together visiting the pueblos including Cochiti. Because of Bandelier's interest in New Mexico historical and archeological material he again wrote in his journal, "Previously had seen Mr. Gold who showed manuscripts (petition and grant) of 1711 and 1712."

The archives committee is planning a major Gold family exhibit and lecture in Santa Fe, March 1, 1997.

Jonathan Bartkin, Director of the Wheelwright Museum will share with the NMJHS his thorough knowledge of the Gold family in an informal talk, and loan material for the planned exhibit this coming spring.

Archives Chairwoman,

Shirley Jacobson would appreciate the loan of any material as well as input of any information relating to this unique New Mexican Jewish family—the Golds. Fax/phone 989-8966.



Ilfeld's department store on the Las Vegas plaza. The painted sign, now much faded, can still be seen today.

Southwestern Journals of Adolph F. Bandelier 1889-1892) he wrote "Went to see collection of Mr. Gold. A lot of fine pottery but all recent. Mr. Gold offers me the pottery at \$4.00 per dozen."

43 ATTEND TRINIDAD, COLORADO FIELD TRIP

by Felice Grad

Kudos to Claire Grossman, Lee Leven, Stan Hordes and their committee, who made the arrangements for this year's Memorial Day Field Trip to Trinidad, Colorado. Forty-three members from Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Carlsbad, and California attended.

The group took the train from Albuquerque, and were joined by others at Lamy Station. It was great to meet colleagues from other field trips and make new acquaintances. We arrived in Trinidad Friday evening, and to our surprise in this drought year, were greeted by rain. Hotel vans took us to the comfortable Days Inn.

Saturday morning we split into two groups for our tour of historic Trinidad, a city of 9,000 founded on coal mining. I was impressed with the many well-kept Victorian homes. We had tours of the Bloom Mansion, home of cattle baron, Frank Bloom and wife Sarah, and the territorial-style Baca House, home of Felipe and María Dolores Baca, which blends Hispanic folk art with Victorian furniture.

A highlight of the morning was the ceramic mural, created by Sister Augusta Zimmer, displayed in the lobby of the Mount San Rafael Hospital. Dedicated in Oct 1980, it took Sister Augusta four years to complete a history of the Trinidad community in ceramic. Afterwards we visited the Germanic-style Zion Lutheran Church.

In the afternoon some of us had a briefing in the magnificent campus library donated by

Jewish philanthropist, Dr. Freudenthal, while the others toured the Jewish cemetery. Bob and Jean Lamden came in from California to join their daughter, Schuli, who teaches in Santa Fe, returning to Trinidad where he was born

Colorado, founded in 1883. The synagogue is a gem. Made of brick and sandstone and in Victorian style, it has lovely stained glass windows. We were warmly greeted by Yetta Cibull, 65 year resident of Trinidad. An active member of the Jewish community, she told us about the synagogue and the small Jewish community. On the High Holy Days Jews from surrounding communities attend services. Stan Hordes led the group ushering out the Sabbath with an impressive Havdallah service. Dr. Freudenthal has provided funds through his trust to keep the synagogue running.

Dinner at the Purgatoire Café was a unique experience. Owner and chef,

Sabine MacWaters provided us with a sumptuous dinner. I'll never understand how Sabine could serve 43 of us entrees of our choice in a dining room which has a capacity for 35. Each table was adorned with red geraniums. Sabine grew up Catholic, and only discovered in later years that she was of Jewish origin. Her grandparents were Holocaust survivors. Her husband's mother also was Jewish. David Scholder, formerly of Santa Fe and founder of the NMJHS, told us something of the history of Trinidad-information given to him by his mother. He has written articles on Trinidad Jewry for several periodicals. This was a grand finale to our memorable weekend.

I am looking forward to next years Memorial Day Trip!



Temple Aaron, Trinidad, Colorado, built in 1883.

and to visit the cemetery where some of his family members are buried. In our briefing we learned about the sex-change surgeries made famous by Dr. Biber, performed at the San Rafael Hospital.

We then visited the Loudon-Henritze Archaeology Museum which displayed early geological formations, plant and marine-animal fossils, a dinosaur track exhibit as well as artifacts found during excavations in the Trinidad area.

At 6:00 p.m. we attended an elegant reception at the A.R. Mitchell Museum of Western Art, named after Arthur Roy Mitchell, renowned Western artist and historian. We had time to see the Harvey Dunn exhibit as well as displays on Hispanic folk art, western artifacts and photographs.

After, we went to Temple Aaron, the oldest synagogue in

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AS I BEGIN TO WRITE my first President's Message, I can't help thinking that seven years ago I knew nothing about the Jews of New Mexico. I grew up as a Reform Jew in Cincinnati, Ohio, the seat of American Reform Judaism. My families on both sides are of German Jewish background. Since I have lived in New Mexico I have been enlightened by new information. I have learned that the wife of my father's medical partner had grandparents who spent much time here. Their names were Ilfeld and Staab.

I have certainly been enriched by learning about the Hispanic Conversos, and other Jews of New

Mexico, and I look forward to adding more fascinating information and history.

The Society has a strong and enthusiastic Board this year. We plan to continue with the many activities we have had in the past, adding more new and interesting programs. We also hope to expand our horizons by becoming more involved with other Jewish Historical Societies and their activities.

We have had a busy year so far. Since the last Newsletter, approximately 100 people attended the Annual Meeting in April; a huge success--thanks to Leona Hurst's wonderful and caring organization.

Forty-three members went to Trinidad, Colorado for our exciting annual Memorial Day Field Trip. Stan Hordes, Lee Leven, Norman Kerewsky and Kathryn Rubin, of Raton, worked tirelessly to plan our great weekend. Read Felice Grad's informative article for more details.

On Sunday, June 23rd, José Antonio Esquibel lectured in Albuquerque on the Jewish origins of Juan de Oñate. Our Archives reception is planned for September 5, and our 9th Annual Conference in Las Cruces on November 15, 16, 17 is well into the planning stages. More on that in our next issue.

We look forward to seeing many of you at all of these events.

—Claire Grossman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Ilfeld Auditorium Seat Drive

THE NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS University Foundation is grateful for the support of the Jewish Historical Society in the contribution of a named seat for Adele Ilfeld Auditorium in Las Vegas, NM. To cover the costs of renovating this 75-year structure, patrons and friends are being offered the opportunity to designate an inscription that will be mounted on the backs of new seats. The cost is \$300 per seat.

Ilfeld Auditorium, the largest theater in Northeastern New Mexico, is considered one of the finest public buildings in the state. It was built largely because of donations from Charles Ilfeld and his brothers in 1919 and 1920, and it is a highly visible reminder of the influence and impact of the Jewish community on the cultural and economic development of Northern New Mexico.

If you have been thinking about this project, now is the time to act. Renovations are scheduled to be complete this fall. It will be important to represent the Jewish commu-

nity in the renovation of Ilfeld, as it was so well-represented in the initial construction. Please call NMHU at 505-454-3199 to speak to Elizabeth Orem or Phillip Uzdawinis about the Ilfeld Renovation Project.

—Gunther Aron

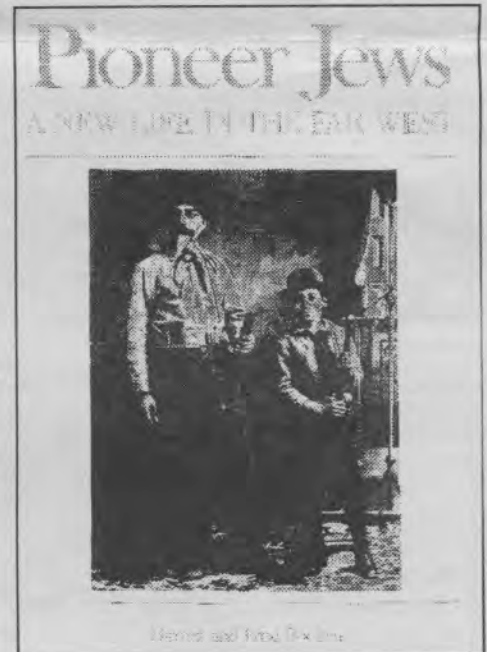
Holocaust Survivors Names Sought

STEPHEN SPIELBERG has funded The Shoah Visual History Foundation to capture and preserve the stories of Holocaust survivors. This is the most important comprehensive such program. Requests for Survivors, particularly in small American communities, and for people interested in recording these stories, was made in the recent Summer 1996 issue of NETWORK. Interested participants should contact: Shoah Foundation, P.O. Box 3168, Los Angeles, CA 90078-3168.

The Foundation has recorded more than 14,000 video tape interviews in thirty countries, half the interviews anticipated at completion in three years.

NOTE: NEW P.O. BOX NUMBER

Western Jewish History Book Reprinted



THE SEVENTH PRINTING of PIONEER JEWS: A NEW LIFE IN THE FAR WEST by Harriet and Fred Rochlin is now available in bookstores near you. The Rochlins spoke in Albuquerque at the 2nd Annual Conference of the NMJHS in 1989.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

New Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: (day) ____ - ____ - _____ (night) ____ - ____ - _____ (fax) ____ - ____ - _____

AMOUNT PAID:

<i>Individual</i>	\$ 24.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Supporting</i>	\$ 60.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Family</i>	\$ 40.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Sustaining</i>	\$ 100.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Individual Senior</i>	\$ 15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Patron</i>	\$ 250.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Student</i>	\$ 15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>Gift</i>	\$ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

(dues and gifts are tax deductible)

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRING?

To see if you are one of those whose membership has expired or is about to expire, check the date which appears on the bottom of your address label. If your membership has expired, please renew *now*. Fill out the above Renewal Form and return it to the Society with your check payable to NMJHS. In that way, you will continue to participate in the exciting and challenging work which the New



New Mexico Jewish Historical Society
P.O. Box 23056
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Thursday, September 5, 11:30-1:30 pm
Shirley Jacobson
NMJHS ARCHIVES RECEPTION
New Mexico Records Center and Archives
Santa Fe

Sunday, October 20, 10:00 am
CONGREGATION MONTEFIORE
CEMETERY CLEANUP
Las Vegas, New Mexico

Sunday, October 27, 2:00 pm (tentative)
LECTURE BY ARTIST JUAN SANDOVAL, DESCENDANT OF
CRYPTO-JEWS FROM NORTHEAST NM
Temple Beth Shalom, Santa Fe

Friday-Sunday, November 15-17
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Las Cruces, New Mexico

