

FREE ADMISSION

LATINO

JEWISH LEGACY SERIES

February 3rd
Dr. Lawrence Bell, ASU West
"History of Jews in Latin America"

February 10th
Dr. Stanley Hordes, University of New Mexico
"The Conversos: Crypto-Jews of the Southwest"

February 17th
Ms. Dina Siegel Vann, National Latin/Latino Affairs Director, American Jewish Committee, Washington, D.C.
"Impact of Jews in Latin America and Mexico Today"

Thursdays -7:30 pm
Congregation Beth El 1118 W. Glendale Avenue
"Voyages to Freedom" Exhibit from ADL will be on displayed in lobby during February.

Partial funding for these programs have been provided by:

- American Jewish Committee • Arizona Jewish Historical Society
- Arizona Humanities Council • Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix
- Jewish Community Foundation • Jewish News of Greater Phoenix

 Celebrate 350
Jewish Life in America
1654 - 2004
ARIZONA

TEACHING ABOUT HISTORIC PLACES

Teaching about historic places helps bring history to life for our young people and nurtures our children to become caring stewards of the past. It is the goal of the **Arizona Jewish Historical Society** to provide a special Jewish place and valuable resources within our community to teach the value of the past and the hope for the future. Thanks to funding from the **Benjamin Goldberg Foundation**, the Arizona Jewish Historical Society has developed *3 lesson plans* for Jewish students: *To learn about the history of the Jewish community in Arizona, about prominent Arizona Jewish entrepreneurs, and about Jewish Women in Arizona.*

The **Cutler*Plotkin Jewish Heritage Center** is the Jewish place where students will be able to understand Jewish life in Arizona on a continuum of 100+ years. **Pardes Middle School** has visited the JHC and has found the excursion a wonderful way to expose young people to community roots. One child was able to stand in the same place where her great-grandfather had been a Rabbi in 1926. The archives of the AJHS provide the resource material for further study for our community. Jewish Day Schools and afternoon religious schools are using the oral histories that are found at www.azjhs.org/Shema for their research papers. **Har Zion Religious School** has used the website for their studies for a unit on 350 years of Jewish life.

Mitzvah Days have provided a place for the Jewish community to be involved in cultural diversity as when a group from **Brophy College Preparatory** came to help clean the sanctuary in the Fall. **Boy Scouts** have been involved at the JHC for work on the Eagle Scout badge twice this Winter.

Please call Risa Mallin, Executive Director of AJHS, to schedule a visit to this Jewish landmark in historic downtown Phoenix. 602-241-7870.

MYTH OR REALITY ON THE ARIZONA FRONTIER



This interesting picture was sent to AJHS by Marcus Salomon of San Jose, California. It is believed to be his great grandparents. Marcus knows that his family lived in Arizona in the late 1800's, but, unfortunately, he knows little else of his family.



**On December 17, 1862,
Major General Ulysses S Grant,
commander of the Military Department of Tennessee,
issued what has become known as General Order #11.**

The order read:

1. The Jews as a class, violating every regulation of trade established by the Treasury Department, and also Department orders, are hereby expelled from the Department. (Tennessee)
2. Within twenty-four hours from the receipt of this order by Post Commanders, they will see that all of this class of people are furnished with passes and required to leave, and any one returning after such notification, will be arrested and held in confinement until an opportunity occurs of sending them out as prisoners unless furnished with permits from these Head Quarters.
3. No permits will be given these people to visit Head Quarters for the purpose of making personal application for trade permits.

This order, one of the most infamous anti-Semitic acts in U.S. history, was issued because of Jewish involvement in the cotton black-market. Large profits were to be made importing southern cotton to northern mills. (Grant's own father was involved in a cotton speculating partnership with a group of Jewish businessmen in Cincinnati.) Jewish businessmen were no more active in this trade than other groups, yet at the time anti-Semitism was part of the "cultural baggage" of the European ancestry of America.

Upon hearing of Grant's order, President Abraham Lincoln immediately had it revoked and thus restored to American Jewry their fundamental rights as American citizens. Indeed, this incident taught American Jews a valuable lesson - an activist response in terms of protest and soliciting the support of sympathetic politicians could mitigate anti-Semitism. As for Grant, Jews must have forgiven his actions, because they voted for him in overwhelming numbers when he ran for the presidency in 1868 and 1872.

Adapted from article by Dr. Fred Krome, American Jewish Archives



TODAH RABAH
**...to those who have attended programs in
Celebration of 350 years of American Jewish
History and to celebrate Jewish Holidays at the
Cutler Plotkin Jewish Heritage Center.
Thank you also to those who have taken
a leadership role in bringing the value of
history to our community.**



**ARIZONA JEWISH
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

4710 N. 16th Street, Suite 201
Phoenix, AZ 85016

**The Memory of
Yesterday...**

**Arizona Jewish
Historical Society**

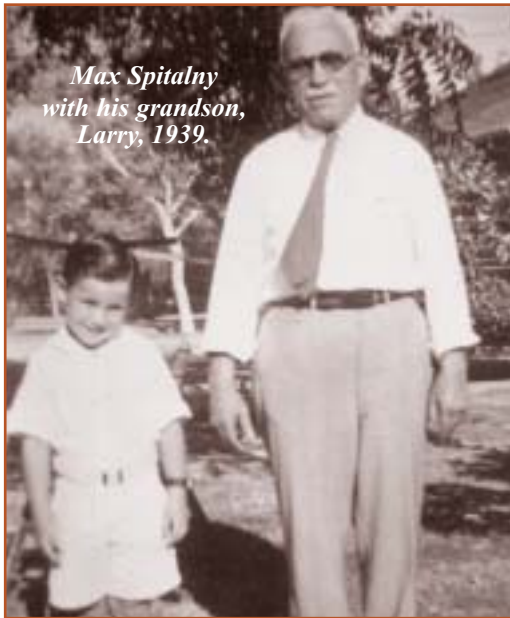
is dedicated to the preservation
of the Jewish contributions
to Arizona history.



*We invite your
participation and
contribution of your family
memorabilia and artifacts.*

NONPROFIT ORG
U S POSTAGE
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SERVICE to the JEWISH COMMUNITY



Max Spitalny
with his grandson,
Larry, 1939.

Grandpas are GREAT!!



Bruce Remer
with his grandson,
Matt Kriegsfeld,
1996.



350 STAMP EXHIBIT

The collection of US Postage Stamps with a Jewish connection has received rave reviews throughout the city. Arizona Humanities Council, Jewish Community Foundation, & Jewish Federation of Greater Phoenix have provided partial funding to help the Arizona Jewish Historical Society present this program during the year.

The exhibit will also be on display at the Detroit Jewish Children's Museum in February, Scottsdale Public Library in March, Temple Emanuel of Tempe beginning of April and Congregation Ner Tamid, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA end of April.

Special thanks to: Sandy and Lee Shedroff for making their stamp collection available for the community: Cindi Holt and her staff at Burton Barr Library; Tricia Serlin at VOSJCC; and Dr. Michael Rubinoff, ASU Religious Studies Department and U of Phoenix, whose insightful lectures have added depth to the exhibit.



Saul Silverman, Irv Pearlstein, Wolf Blitzer, Marty Shultz,
Malcolm Straus at Israel Bonds Dinner, 1988.

Saul Silverman
Interviewed by
Sharon Briskman
in 2000.
"I moved to
Phoenix in 1965
to accept the
position as
Executive Director
of the then Jewish
Community

Council and Welfare Fund. Subsequently, I changed the name to the Jewish Federation. There were between 13-14,000 Jews in Phoenix at the time. When I came here, I was used having the professionals met together. So I developed a Jewish professionals group for all the clergy and the extended clergy as well as the directors of all the agencies. We would meet once a month becoming good friends. We were able to share information as a team. In the area of religious matters, the Rabbi spoke for the community. The Federation spoke in the areas of community relations and fund raising and Israel."



Sam Schurgin
Interviewed by Evanne
Kofman in 1984

"There was a doctor in town by the name of **Dr. Joseph Bank**. History may not know this, but he is the man responsible for the founding of the Jewish Welfare Fund and for what is now called the Federation. He is the man who pushed the idea through and started it.

I traveled by car throughout the state in the 40s selling for **Charlie Korrick**. I was asked to contact all the Jewish people outside of Phoenix to see what they could contribute towards the Federation or towards the poor in Israel. That's how I came to know the **Mallins** in Prescott, the **Giss** family in Yuma, the **Kliban** family in Ajo. We had one Jewish customer in Blythe in the dry goods business. In Flagstaff there was a very famous Jewish man by the name of **Ben Fine** who ran a ladies ready-to-wear. There was a Jewish family in Clifton who had a shoe store, **Harry Rabinowitz**. There were two or three Jewish families in Holbrook."



Neal Kurn
Interviewed by Bobbi Kurn in 1989.

"The growth of the Federation campaign was prompted by the 1973 Yom Kippur War. Prior to that time the campaign had slowly crept its way up through the guardianships of **Irv Pearlstein** and **Yale Simons**, and may have been or exceeded a million dollars. If I remember correctly, there was a tremendous burst of energy, passion in 1973 as the war began and we raised somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2.7 million. That was recognition, I believe, that there was a strong well of funds that were available for Jewish causes."

Malcolm Straus
Interviewed by
Dorothy Pickelner
in 1988.

"I think I've been a good example of a person that thrives in a community and gets on well there. Whatever wealth

or riches I have, monetarily, I feel that I should pay back to the community. I've been president of many organizations and always with pride and always knowing that I represent the Jewish community. I was the Chairman of the board of the Chamber of Commerce in the early 80s - the second Jewish chairman in their 100 year history. The first one was **Allen Rosenberg**.

While I was Treasurer of Temple Beth Israel we received a call that a fellow by the name of **Kivel** had died and left the Temple \$100,000 to start a nursing home. We, at the Temple, didn't know anything about nursing homes so we kept the money in the bank for the time when the Jewish community could start a nursing home."



Bernice Seigel
Interviewed by Sharon
Briskman in 2000.

"It was a growing, evolving community after the war. There was always some thing new happening; there were new people coming, things were growing. Memberships were growing in the clubs and groups. Some of the early members were remarkable people. We did good things, but it was also a lot of good fun. The goals were not so much what we did for somebody or some cause or some purpose, but it was just a general good feeling in the community.

I became closely attached to Hadassah, which was very strong in the community. I remember feeling quite honored that I won an election to the Federation Board. I remember feeling that Israel was where we needed to put our money. My own personal feeling was that Israel had nobody to help them except the Jewish community."

SAVE THE DATE!

Thursday February 3rd

LATINO - Jewish Legacy Series

Beth El Congregation at 7:30 pm

No charge

Dr. Lawrence Bell – ASU West

"History of Jews in Latin America"

Thursday February 10th

LATINO - Jewish Legacy Series

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No charge

Dr. Stanley Hordes – University of

New Mexico – "The Conversos,

Crypto-Jews of the Southwest"

Thursday February 17th

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Ms. Dina Siegel-Vann – National

Latin/Latino Affairs Director,

American Jewish Committee,

Washington, D.C. – "Impact of Jews

in Latin America and Mexico Today".

Sunday March 20th

"350 YEARS OF AMERICAN

JEWISH HISTORY"

Passages Lecture

Temple Beth Israel at 7:00 pm

Jonathan D Sarna, PhD

Thursday April 7th

FAMILY HISTORY LESSONS

"FINDING YOUR JEWISH

ANCESTORS."

Arizona State Library,

Archives and Public Records Dept.,

The historic Carnegie Library in

downtown Phoenix.

at 12 to 1 pm

Sunday May 15th

BLUE JEAN BRUNCH, ANNUAL

MEETING

Chaparral Suites at 9:30 am

Dr. Joel Gereboff, Leatrice Nach and

Earl Katz to receive Community

Builder's Award

Preserve the Scrapbook of Arizona's Jewish Community

PRESERVE--NOW!

Historic places tell a community where it came from - what previous generations achieved, what they believed, what they hoped to be. By protecting these reminders of the past, preservation also builds the present and the future, since it saves valuable resources and recalls a community's goals and dreams.

The Cutler Plotkin Jewish Heritage Center will provide all of those things and more. It will help the community understand the role the pioneer Jews played in the development of our state and our community. It will also bring the Jewish community to a visible place in the cultural diversity of Phoenix. It will allow the community to save and to restore the first synagogue built in Phoenix.

You can participate in this exciting project in many ways. Call Risa Mallin, Executive Director of the Arizona Jewish Historical Society 602-241-7870, to find out what you can do!

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SHARE?

AJHS is preserving the rich Jewish heritage of Arizona. Please share applicable memorabilia including letters, documents, business records (business cards too,) photographs of local Jewish holiday celebrations and life-cycle events, camps photos.

Call Jack Fradin, AJHS archivist, 602-241-7870, for additional information.

We would also appreciate your special stories of Jewish life here in Arizona. The following questions are meant to serve as a guide:

- When and why did you come to Arizona?
- Tell something about the neighborhood where you lived.
- An anecdote if being Jewish affected your work or community life.
- What types of social and/or recreational activities did you participate in, and were they within a "Jewish sphere?"
- Describe synagogue/Jewish community organizations in which you have been involved.

Written stories or audio tapes will be gladly accepted. Call Mark Sendrow, Oral History Project Chairman, 602-241-7870, for further information.

And, of course, we could always use a couple of bucks to assure the preservation of your valuables.

SAVING YOUR PERSONAL MEMORABILIA

Ask yourself:

1. Does it lift your energy when you think about it or look at it?
2. Do you absolutely love it?
3. Is it genuinely useful? Perhaps the object no longer has a place in your life.

A GUIDELINE FOR DECIDING

Here is a guideline of what to keep - or not:

- **Postcards:** Save those from good friends.
- **Journals:** Some inane, some insightful -- save accordingly.
- **Magazines:** Save those with significant dates or events.
- **Slinky:** Save -- for children/grandchildren.
- **Birthdays cards:** Gone -- few are meaningful.
- **Datebooks:** Boring!
- **Empty envelope:** A rare sample of late father's handwriting. Save!
- **Dad's track shorts and Mom's pill box hat:** Save.
- **Photos:** Tossed random shots. Save a few unflattering shots just for fun!



Aaron Goldberg Business Poster, circa 1890.

EASY ARCHIVING OF YOUR MEMENTOS

• How to Save Letters

Unfold letters and put the envelopes behind them. Do not staple or clip. Place a sheet of acid-free tissue between each letter, then wrap the pile in tissue.

• How to Save Ephemera

Don't mix materials such as postcards, slides, and bumper stickers. Archival-quality boxes are best. Plastic and regular cardboard can destroy paper.

• How to Save Fabric, Dolls, and Other Textiles

Wrap in archival-grade polyester film (Mylar) or in plain, prewashed muslin, then place in an archival-quality box. If possible, don't fold clothing.

Adapted from "Real Simple Magazine".

HISTORY MANNERS



Wedding picture of Mr. and Mrs. Harris Caplan while he was stationed at Luke Air Force Base

AJHS is dedicated to the preservation, collection and exhibition of materials relevant to the Jewish community in Arizona and the Southwest.

- ___ \$50 Supporting member
- ___ \$100 Circle of Friends
- ___ \$180 Chai Circle
- ___ \$250 Research Circle
- ___ \$500 Builders Circle
- ___ \$1000 Curators Circle

Membership PLUS a donation to help continue a special project

- \$ ___ Education Fund
- \$ ___ Endowment Fund
- \$ ___ Jewish Heritage Center Restoration
- \$ ___ Jewish Heritage Fair
- \$ ___ Oral History Fund

Thank you for your tax deductible gift. Checks should be made payable to AJHS.

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

Name (please print)

Address

City State Zip

Phone

e-mail

*Your family most likely has a picture equally wonderful for our archives.

Call 602-241-7870



4710 N. 16th St., #201, Phoenix, AZ 85016

HISTORY MANNERS

A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU
to the 300 + individuals and families who have become members of the AJHS for the calendar year 2005.

Our fiscal year begins with the Jewish New Year. We hope those who haven't paid their dues will write a check now that it is 2005.

Together we will preserve the past for the next generation!

NEW MEMBERS:

Ms. Linda Aarons

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Abraham

Mrs. Sylvia Arnold

Ms. Linda Enger and
Mr. Lionel Hammel

Dr. Jeanette Flom and
Mr. Robert Mautner

Mr. and Mrs. David Goodel

Mr. Norman Kogen

Mrs. Gertrude Kosowsky

Mr. and Mrs. Irving Kozinets

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lasner

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Lynn

Mr. Joel Neuman

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Nevins

Dr. and Mrs. Jack Poles

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Remer

Dr. and Mrs. Marc Ross

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Scarf

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schwarz

Mr. and Mrs. Stefan Silverston

Drs. Alan and Dale Singer

Ms. Sara Ziskin

If you are not a member today, we encourage your membership and participation in our projects, activities and exciting vision of the AJHS. • 602-241-7870 • azjhs@aol.com