

Texas Jewish Historical Society

Preserving Jewish Heritage in Texas
Est. 1980



April, 2012 News Magazine



Marker Commemorates the Hub Shoe Store

by Terri Richardson

reprinted with permission from the Marshall News Messenger, Marshall, Texas



A crowd gathered on Thursday (February 2, 2012) afternoon to hear remarks and remember The Hub Shoe Store as a place for family, business, and community interest, all under one roof. "It's wonderful, this occasion, mainly for honoring the long history of The Hub Shoe Store," said Louis Kariel, Jr., whose father owned it before him.

A Texas Historical Commission marker was unveiled on that Thursday afternoon between the buildings at 109 and 111 E. Austin Street, in downtown Marshall. Both were the former homes of the shoe store and have been restored by their new owner, Michael C. Smith, for the law offices of Siebman, Burg, Phillips, and Smith.

"After working on many markers, this is a special thing for me," said Audrey Kariel, who worked at the shop with her husband as they also shared a life of public service and decades of commitment to quality-of-life projects in the city.

"Louis and his daddy always believed in public service and always tried to combine their work with public interests," Mrs. Kariel said. "We're very appreciative to Michael for helping to preserve that history." Ms. Kariel was glad to see in attendance former employees Marilyn Wicher and Dorothy Lundy, as well as her daughter, Nancy Kariel, who was visiting from Dallas.

"It gives me a warm feeling in my heart to know that the people who work here love it as much as my family



Louis and Audrey Kariel unveil the Texas Historical Commission marker for the Hub Shoe Store Thursday afternoon, now the law offices of Siebman, Burg, Phillips and Smith at 111 E. Austin St.

did," Nancy Kariel said. She said that she wished that her brother, Mark Kariel, had been there because he was the one who sold shoes while they were growing up (she gift wrapped).

The inscription on the marker highlights the owners and alludes to Marshall's early boom, as well as outlines the values of an all-family business:

"Mose Weisman opened Hub Shoe Store on E. Austin Street in 1897. The Weisman family migrated from Bavaria, Germany, to Syracuse, New York, and then to Marshall in the 1840s, where they became part of the town's thriving Jewish community. Weisman's nephew, Louis W. Kariel, purchased the business in 1924. Kariel, a World War I veteran, later became Marshall's first Jewish mayor. His son, Louis W. Kariel, Jr., became the store's sole owner in 1969 and continued a tradition of

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— Message from the Outgoing President —

by Rusty Milstein

There are several things that I wish to say in this, my last president's message: "As I approach the twilight of my...", "As the sun sets slowly in the west, I...", and "well, you won't have Rusty to kick around anymore." The last one is far from the truth, because my term as



president of TJHS has been a delightful and fulfilling experience. I probably have gotten more out of it than I have put into it.

There are many people to thank for their assistance during my time as

president that I will not even attempt to name them. But—there are two names that must be mentioned: Charles Hart, who has put his heart and soul into making the second edition of *Texas Jewish Burials* come to fruition, and Marc Wormser, who has streamlined our database and membership procedure (oh my—they're both Aggies!). For all of you who remain unnamed, I hope that you can feel my pat on your back for your help and guidance.

The TJHS membership is a diver-

sity of people who all come together for a common goal—the recording and preservation of the Jewish presence in Texas. Over the years, Mitzi and I have had the opportunity to become very close friends with some people whom we would have never have had the pleasure of meeting without TJHS. One couple, who shall remain anonymous, saved us with much-needed martinis after we had spent the afternoon with a woman named June in Monterrey, Mexico (note: a wonderful TJHS trip). So, Doris and Ed, your names will remain a secret. And by the way, whenever we get together with them, we still have martinis.

Over the past several administrations, we have also fulfilled an unwritten goal of TJHS: to meet in all parts of Texas where there has been a Jewish presence. We have been from El Paso to Texarkana, Amarillo to South Padre Island, and many places to where I never realized that there was ever a Jewish presence. We have also traveled. We have been to Monterrey, Mexico, cruised to Jewish sites in the Caribbean, and toured India, and we are planning to continue with our travels abroad. We have met with the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society in El Paso and Las Vegas, New Mexico,

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The Texas Jewish Historical Society April 2012 Quarterly News Magazine

The Texas Jewish Historical Society News Magazine is published four times annually. Stories about Texas Jewish history, oral histories, and requests for assistance with research are welcome, as are photographs and historical documents. Please provide color photocopies or scans at 300 dpi or greater, in .gif, .tif, or .jpg format, and send electronically to Assistant Editor Davie Lou Solka at editor@txjhs.org or by mail to 3808 Woodbrook Circle, Austin, TX 78759, 512-527-3799. Be sure to include your name and contact information.

Publisher-Editor Alexa Kirk
Assistant Editor Davie Lou Solka
Photographers Marvin Rich, Davie Lou Solka, and Marc Wormser

Note: The Texas Jewish Historical Society is unable to guarantee the safe receipt and/or return of documents or photographs. It is strongly recommended that you provide color photocopies of both color and black & white documents. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Visit us on the web at www.txjhs.org.



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— Message from the Incoming President —

by Marc Wormser

Dear TJHS Members,

I humbly accept the position of president of the Texas Jewish Historical Society. My efforts will be to continue the success and progress that this organization has realized through the efforts of previous presidents, board



members and the general membership. From its inception and creation in 1980 to the present, the organization's energy and mission have been strong in its efforts to preserve and document the Jewish history of Texas. The goal is to continue that progress.

I thank Rusty Milstein for his help in making the transition as painless as possible. And it

goes without saying that past officers have also been extremely helpful with suggestions and ideas as I have sought their input. Those calls will continue to come, rest assured. The world of knowledge that exists within TJHS will be utilized to its fullest.

I know that the board will assist me in making this year successful as we go forward. It will take all of us to grow and expand TJHS.

Again, thank you for your confidence and support. 🇺🇸

Marc Wormser
President, 2012-2013

President's Message, continued from page 2

with the Southern Jewish Historical Society in Little Rock, Arkansas, and Shreveport, Louisiana, and the Tulsa Jewish Genealogical Society in Tulsa, Oklahoma. At this time, there are plans for two more trips.

I know that the incoming administration will carry forward with the goals and ideals of the Texas Jewish Historical Society. Members, you will be in good hands.

It has been my honor and privilege. 🇺🇸

Howard R. "Rusty" Milstein
Immediate Past President*

**still waiting for my raise!*

Hub Shoe Store, continued from page 1

service as a city leader. The Hub Shoe Store closed in 2001, and today it and its proprietors continue to be remembered for a legacy of commerce and service in the Marshall community."

"The marker was the capstone for the renovation," Smith said. From photos to artifacts and other memorabilia, like the old neon sign, everywhere you look while touring the building is a reminder of its former purpose as a shoe store. Walls between the two addresses are long but not plain, as Smith has dedicated them to local

artists' use as a gallery, making the space useful to Marshall's creative community. The hub logo has carried over for use in the law office. On that Thursday, Smith wore it monogrammed on his sweater, and he presented monogrammed jackets to the Kariels. Marilyn Witcher and Dorothy Lundy, former employees, said that "the Kariels were some of the nicest bosses." Ms. Lundy said, "Mr. Kariel and Mrs. Kariel were wonderful. You just couldn't work for better people." 🇺🇸

We need Your Stories!

We are currently looking for stories with ties to Texas Jewish history! Any kind of story about your family history or your Temple's history can fill the pages of our quarterly news magazine. Write your story, and if you have questions or need help, call our

assistant editor.

Everyone has a story to tell, long or short. Your history is of interest to members across Texas and the nation! And you will be able to see your family's history in print. It is a wonderful keepsake and a valuable piece of genealogy for fu-

ture generations.

So what are you waiting for? Send your article to our assistant editor, Davie Lou Solka, at editor@txjhs.org, mail it to 3808 Woodbrook Circle, Austin, TX 78759, or call her at 512-527-3799.

- TJHS Winter Weekend, Fort Worth, Texas -



Suzanne Seriff discussed the "Forgotten Gateway; Coming to America Through Galveston" exhibit at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History.

Debra Winegarten played flute music as a welcome to meals.



Bobbie and Jerry Wells, Joyce Wormser, and Ruth Nathan.

Our hosts for Shabbat dinner—Dick and Julie Abrams with "Granny," one of their works of art.



Jan Hart and Cynthia Mondell.



Hollace Weiner, program chair for the weekend.



Jack Gerrick, chair for the weekend.

March 30- April 1, 2012



Nick Kotz, who spoke on Saturday night about his family, the Kallisons of San Antonio.



Samylu Rubin, Helene Toomim, and Amy Toomim Manuel



Bob and Shirley Gindler.



Marc Wormser presented Rusty Milstein with his past-president's pin.



Left to right: Marc Wormser (with Rusty Milstein behind him), Susan Lewis, Scott Langston, Davie Lou Solka, Ruth Nathan, Samylu Rubin, Claire Brooks, Sally Drayer, Vickie Vogel, and David Beer.




TJHS Members who attended the Annual Gathering.

TJHS Class at Tapestry of Jewish Learning in Austin

by Davie Lou Solka

On January 29, 2012, the Texas Jewish Historical Society presented a class at Tapestry of Jewish Learning in Austin. Tapestry, a day of Jewish

classes for the Austin community, is held at the Dell Jewish Community Campus and is sponsored by the JCC in Austin.

Center for American History at the University of Texas, and Charles discussed the Texas Jewish Burial Book II and explained how it can be used by historians, students, and those people who are searching for their roots. Jan discussed how to obtain an oral history and told how she wrote her books. "Shalom Ya'll," one of our traveling exhibits, was on display and remained throughout the day for everyone to see. 



Jan & Charles Hart, Davie Lou & Jack Solka, Sheila Rosenfield, and Claire Brooks in front of the TJHS traveling exhibit.

Presenters Davie Lou Solka, Charles and Jan Hart, and Jack Solka.

Presenters were Davie Lou and Jack Solka and Jan and Charles Hart. Davie Lou gave a history of TJHS and explained our many projects. Jack discussed our collection at the Dolph Briscoe



Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities

The Texas Jewish Historical Society awarded a grant to the Institute of Southern Jewish Life to research and publish the histories of Jews in Texas towns. These histories are available on the Institute's website and are called "Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities." We will print one of these histories in each issue of our News Magazine. Thanks to Dr. Stuart Rockoff, director of the History Department, for permission to reprint these articles. To see other towns, go to the Institute of Southern Jewish Life website and click on Encyclopedia of Southern Jewish Communities.

Ennis, Texas

Located in Ellis County, just thirty-one miles from Dallas, Ennis was established in 1871, when the Houston and Texas Central Railroad made its way to the area. It was incorporated in November 1873 with about three hundred residents. Jews arrived shortly after its establishment and were some of the first to

open businesses. Though a large Jewish population never existed in Ennis, Jews made an impact on the town.

William Jolesch immigrated to the United States in 1864 from Austria. He came to Ennis in 1875 and opened a successful dry-goods store. It was "one of the largest and most

influential businesses that Ennis ever had," said a local historian. Polish-born Phil Freeman, who arrived in Ennis in 1872, and Austrian immigrant Joseph Reisman partnered to establish the Reisman and Freeman Dry Goods Store. Leon Cerf, a Jewish immigrant from Loraine,

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— The Clarksville Pottery and Galleries — of Austin, Texas

by Davie Lou Solka

In 1976, Arnie Popinsky left a tenured professorship at the age of forty-five to look for a new path to meaning and fulfillment in life. When asked by his friends what he would do, he said that he would make pots and sell them. With his wife, Syd, he opened a gallery in the Clarksville section of Austin in mid-1970 and sold his work there. Fortunately for the Popinskys, the city was investing significant funds into redeveloping Clarksville. But the street where their gallery was located was under construction for two years. This allowed Arnie ample time to learn about running the business. When his teenage children weren't in school, they helped out by placing leaflets advertising the gallery when-

ever they could.

At first, Arnie sold his wares, but as the business grew and more people found the funky primitive studio and gallery, Arnie and Syd realized

that Arnie could not keep up with the demand. Syd urged him to bring in the work of outside potters for resale at the gallery. They also added jewelry, and this began the broad inventory of Clarksville Pottery.

Arnie and Syd found a wide range of

handcrafted art to add to the gallery, and they discovered that people at the markets were eager to share their experiences and knowledge. As the business became more successful, they began to enlarge their store. In 1985, they added a second floor, and it was at this time that Syd left her job with the Texas State Library and Archives to devote her time and energy to their expanding business.


A second gallery was opened in 1989 at the Arboretum in northwest Austin. While the new location thrived, the original location of Clarksville Pottery and Gallery gradually began to suffer from the changing shopping habits of a



Syd and Arnie Popinsky

growing city. The original building and home were sold, and the Popinskys moved to a new location in central Austin, next to Central Market. All three galleries represented local craftspeople, many of whom became lifelong friends.

The Popinskys sold Clarksville Pottery and Galleries in February 1999, because Arnie, who would soon be seventy, felt that it was time to sell. Because Arnie was in the hospital recovering from triple-bypass surgery, Syd and the lawyer signed the papers. The Popinskys had eleven years of traveling, playing, and having a good time, until Arnie's leukemia flared up and he died on May 6, 2010. They had been married for fifty-six years.

Arnie focused on local artists who brought their work into the galleries. He knew how hard it was for artists to make a living for their families, and he helped them in many ways. In May 2011, Claudia Reese, one of the most talented clay artists in Austin, hosted the Art of the Pot Dinner in memory of Arnie Popinsky and presented a plaque to his family in his memory. 



Arnie Popinsky



Arnie Popinsky

In Memoriam



Elinor K. "Lynn" Greenberg, TJHS board member, Houston, died on January 22, 2012. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Maida

and Albert Goodman; her son and daughter-in-law, Mark and Jennifer Greenberg; and four grandchildren and their spouses.



Rosalind Eldridge Horwitz, TJHS member, formerly of Beaumont, died on November 1, 2011, in Houston, Texas. She is survived by her daughters, Gail Eldridge, Meredith Johnson, and Betty Babendure; her daughter and son-in-law, Kay and Dennis Stein; her stepson and his wife, Larry and Mary Horwitz; five grandchildren and their spouses; and seven great-grandchildren.



Charles Irving Kaplan, TJHS member, died on September 5, 2011, in Houston, Texas. He is sur-

vived by his wife, Celine; his sons and daughters-in-law, Lee and Diana, David and Barbara, and Jay and Carolyn; his daughter and son-in-law, Nanette and Barry Putterman; and nine grandchildren.



Joel Mandel, TJHS member, died in Houston on January 26, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Shirley; his daughter, Cindy Kaplan;

his daughter and son-in-law, Marlene and Dan Siegman; his son and his partner, Barry Mandel and Scott Sawyer; and five grandsons.



William K. Nemzin, TJHS member, died in Houston in October 2011. He is survived by his wife, Lou Beth; his daughters and

sons-in-law, Gloria and Buzzy Bluestone and Marcia and Stan Katz; his daughter Brenda Nemzin; and four grandchildren.



Hershel Maurice Rich, TJHS member, of Houston, died on February 17, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Hilda; his

daughter and son-in-law, Renie Rich and Paul Carnoil; his daughter and her partner, Sharon Rich and Nancy Reed; and his special daughter and her husband, Mary and David Klein; eight grandchildren; and his brother and sister-in-law, Marvin (past TJHS President) and Shirley Rich.



Donald Lee Teter, president of the Texas Jewish Historical Society from 1994-96, died in Baytown on January 26,

2012. He is survived by his wife, Gertrude; his daughter and son-in-law, Joan and Ruben Linares; three granddaughters; and one honorary grandson.

May their memories be a blessing.

Greene Family Camp will hold a dedication of "Lake Jake" in memory of the friendship of Rabbi Lawrence "Jake" Jackofsky and David Toomin and the Isaac mayer Wise Academy Eco-Village. The dedication will be a day-long celebration on Saturday, July 7, 2012, beginning at 10:00 AM. The registration deadline is Friday, June 15, 2012. For online registration and more information contact <http://greene.urjcamps.org/dedication>.

Does TJHS Have Your Current Email Address?

Is your email address current? Has it changed since the 2010-2011 directory was printed? Have you changed email providers? If so, please send Marc Wormser an email at marc.wormser@att.net so that he can update your information in the database. To reduce postage costs and printing delays, we are going to



be electronically sending as much mail as possible, so don't be left out or behind—send your current information today!

Please put "email change" in the subject line and with your name in the text of your message, and send it today! Thank you.

France, reached Ennis in 1876 and purchased John Chancellor's grocery business. In July of that year, with his brother, Isidore, Leon opened the I. and E. Cerf Grocery Store, which was located on South Main Street.



The Jolesch Dry Goods Store

German immigrant Edmund Raphael arrived in Ennis in 1882 and planned to stay temporarily, but he ended up remaining for the rest of his life. He established his own public-notary office but later turned to banking, becoming the president of Ennis First National Bank. Born in Ennis, the Cerfs' sons continued working in town, with Leon's son, Moise, becoming a planter and rancher. Isidore's son, Louis, joined the family loan business.

Other Jewish business owners in Ennis were Central and Eastern European immigrants who arrived in the United States in the 1860s. Louis Levy left his native Germany in 1861 and found his way to Ennis to open a dry-goods store. Polish-born Abe Cohn came to the United


States in 1858 and opened a saloon. Dry-goods merchant Theodore Knoch and baker Ernest Lehman emigrated from Germany. Hyman Brin left Poland in 1864 and opened a dry-goods store, and Russian-born Samuel Wartelsky also immigrated in 1864 and opened a saloon.

Ennis's Jewish population reached its peak in 1879, with around fifty people from ten families. They were very involved in the larger community. The town's first elections were held in April 1874, and Joe Reisman was elected one of the five aldermen. Leon Cerf and Phil Freeman helped Ennis to be named a division point for the Houston and Texas Central Railroad in 1891, and they were part of an eight-man

committee, that went to Houston to lobby for the establishment of Ennis as the railroad's northern-division headquarters. With this designation, machine shops and a roundhouse were built in Ennis. They employed several hundred workers, which helped Ennis prosper. Adopting the name "Where the Railroads and Cotton Fields Meet," Ennis would have remained a small agricultural hub if not for the work of Cerf, Freeman and the rest of the committee. Freeman was also one of the Ennis Temperance Council's first members. Formed in 1873, the organization provided clean, wholesome entertainment as an alternative to the drunken revelry that was quite prevalent at the time.

The Jewish community of Ennis

began to organize in the late 1890s. On January 16, 1892, seven women established the Ladies Hebrew Cemetery Society. With Fannie Raphael as the leader, the Society worked to maintain the small Jewish section of the town's Myrtle Cemetery. In September 1890, the Jews of Ennis established a religious school. With A. Wolf as superintendent, the religious school met every Saturday in the Odd Fellows Hall. Sam Levy, E. Furstner, E. Raphael, Fanny Jolesch, and Sallie and Ettie Levingston worked as teachers. According to a few sources, this was a congregation, though there is no evidence that they held religious services, and there was never a synagogue building in Ennis. By 1900, the school was apparently defunct. In a 1912 questionnaire for the Industrial Removal office, a local Jew reported that there was no Jewish congregation in town. With Dallas so nearby, it was probably easier for Ennis Jews to travel to a Dallas synagogue for major Jewish holidays than to establish a small congregation.

By 1900, the Jewish population in Ennis dropped to thirty-eight, and by 1912, it dropped to approximately twenty-five people from five families. But some Jews were still arriving in Ennis. Sam and Felice Rothschild came to the United States from Russia in 1911 and settled in Ennis, where they opened the New York Bargain Store. Gradually, more Jews left Ennis and only a few members of the town's early Jewish families remained. The 1954 City Directory lists members of the Cerf, Raphael, and Rothschild families as still living and working in Ennis. Today, the only remaining vestige of this onetime Jewish community is the twenty-one graves in Myrtle Cemetery's small Jewish section. 

From Our Archives

— The Golden Book of Congregation — Adath Yeshurun, 1891-1941

by Vickie Vogel

When Joan Katz handed me a copy of *The Golden Book of Congregation Adath Yeshurun*¹ for the TJHS archives, I couldn't resist a peek inside at this piece of Houston history. It was so timely, because I had just written a column about Daniel Frosch, and I knew that the Frosch family were members. Sure enough, there's a picture of David Frosch, Daniel's father, on page 22, since he was President from 1907-1909. He died in 1935, before *The Golden Book* was published, but his widow Sarah and son Max are listed as subscribers. The "In Memoriam" section lists David as well as his brother U. S. Frosch (Urban) who shared the house with David's family. Urban died in 1923. David's son Leon is included as well. Leon died in a hit-and-run accident in 1922.

Also in the Memorial list is Sadie Rose Nathan. In Daniel's written memories of his childhood, he talked about the great influenza epidemic in 1918 which claimed the life of Sadie Rose.

Other members of the Jewish community who have appeared in this column are mentioned in *The Golden Book*. A photograph of the youthful Sarah Lewis (Lippman) appears with other members of the choir.² A photograph of the Jewish Literary Society of 1908 in



Adath Yeshurun.

Photo from The Golden Book, used courtesy of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Houston.

front of Adath Yeshurun includes Leona Westheimer Leidecker, whose life was the subject of a Summer, 2010 article. Other familiar names appear throughout, so reading it was like a visit with old companions.

The Golden Book covers two generations of synagogue members. The initial organizational meeting and the early years are undocumented, but there was a need for a place of worship for Orthodox Jews in this growing city of 27,000. At the banquet held on April 27, 1941, Rabbi Sanders A. Tofield discussed the origins and importance of

the word "jubilee" and its place as a sanctified fiftieth year observed in ancient Israel.³ Europe was already plunged into world war, America would soon join in, and Rabbi Tofield wondered what the next fifty years would hold as our people struggled to be both American and Jewish. By the time the book was published, the United States was engulfed in war.⁴

A summary of the journey "from Egypt to Texas" puts the history of the Jewish community in perspective,

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followed by a brief general history of Houston, which had a 1941 population of 386,510. Adath Yeshuran resulted from a desire for traditional services according to the Eastern European ritual. There was no permanent meeting place, and services were held in private homes on important occasions only. As in many other communities, the first real estate purchase was for a burial ground on Buffalo Drive and San Felipe which became Adath Yeshurun Cemetery.

As new immigrants arrived, two minyanim developed—one Galician (Dorshe Tov) and the other Russian (Adath Yeshurun). In 1891, the two groups merged so that their numbers would be sufficient to engage a rabbi and a hazzan. H. O. Gordon, A. Sabel, and M. Strack signed the application for a charter of incorporation and the following year, officers were elected. P. S. Nussbaum became the first president, with B. H. Greenberg as vice president, J. K. Levin as secretary and L. Houseman, treasurer.⁵

By the mid-1890s, there were two rabbis living in the community: J. Hurwitz and Max Epstein. They officiated at weddings. The children received instruction from a number of teachers. When the community's size outgrew private residences, rented halls at Travis and Prairie, and at Prairie and Main were used. For the larger crowds of the High Holy Days, the Saengerbund (Turner Hall) was used.⁶

In 1895, a small-frame church building was purchased on the corner of Preston and Hamilton. The 1900 hurricane damaged the building, but even after repair, it proved too small

for the growing needs of a community bolstered by Jews relocating from Galveston. \$10,000 was borrowed, and a larger brick building was erected on the site in 1904. Due to expansion needs of an adjoining business, the building was sold for \$47,500 in 1905, and the congregation was once again in temporary quarters. At last, a lot was found on Jackson and Walker that was deemed suitable, and the synagogue was dedicated in 1908 in a celebration heralded by the *Houston Post* as well as by the *Jewish Herald*.

The Hebrew School was established in 1906 with the election of H. B. Lieberman as cantor and teacher. The earlier Sunday School had been organized and run by a group of young people who had formed the Bikkur Cholim Society in 1895. Their main purpose was helping the sick and poor, so the Sunday School had been an ancillary activity.

Dr. Wolf Willner was hired in 1907, and served as rabbi of Adath Yeshurun until 1924. Born in Strassburg, Prussia in 1863, he came to the United States at the age

of thirteen, and graduated from Yale in 1885. He had served Congregation Beth Israel in Houston from 1890 to 1892.

Other societies were formed with Adath Yeshurun as their center, including the Herzl Zion Society in 1893, B'nai B'rith in 1894, the Jewish Literary Society in 1906, and the Hebrew Free Loan Society in 1911. Dr. Willner served as president of the Texas Zionist Organization and as a B'nai B'rith delegate.

As the congregation grew, opportunities for disagreement became more common. A breakaway group known as the Beth Shalom Congregation formed, but later rejoined the original body. As World War I raged, the factions amended the bylaws and achieved conciliation. Dr. Willner and Dr. Henry

Barnston (Congregation Beth Israel) officiated at Camp Logan on alternate Friday evenings for the men in the army. Along with S. J. Westheimer, Dr. Willner led a campaign to buy Liberty Bonds. Dr. Willner, who occasionally preached in German, announced that the sermons were in Yiddish to reflect the patriotic spirit.

By 1924, Dr. Willner had resigned to serve as general secretary of the Texas Zionist Association and Rabbi David Stern left Shreveport to take over the helm at Adath Yeshurun, but he resigned soon thereafter as a debate raged about new building and remodeling plans. Rabbi I. Segal of Waco replaced him, and the new building was dedicated in January, 1925. Among other dignitaries who spoke were Mayor Oscar Holcombe. Within a few months, the Adath Yeshurun Sisterhood was formed.

From 1927 to 1933, Dr. A. I. Schechter served as the congregation's rabbi. A program of adult education was added to the religious school. Rabbi Schechter joined with Dr. Henry Cohen, Dr. Maurice Faber, Dr. Samuel Rosinger, and Dr. David Lefkowitz to form the Kallah of Texas Rabbis with Rabbi Schechter as the first president. Their purpose was the advancement of higher Jewish learning.

When the Great Depression began, the Houston synagogues felt the strain as well. The adult education program had to be abolished at Adath Yeshurun. The Hebrew School staff was trimmed and economies were made where possible. In late 1932, the Congregation was shocked by the sudden death of Vice President Charles Streusand, whose unexpired term was filled by his son, Ben. Dr. Schechter resigned and moved to Rhode Island.

In 1934, Rabbi Sanders A. Tofield became the new rabbi. Hailing from Tulsa, Oklahoma, he was educated in New York and ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary where he was student body president. Prior to moving to Houston, he served as rabbi of Sinai

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Dr. Wolf Wilner. Photo from The Golden Book used courtesy of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Houston.

Congregation of Hillside, New Jersey for three years.⁷

Changing times led to a “more modern trend” while retaining “the traditional orthodox spirit.”⁸ The curriculum of the religious school was modernized with new textbooks and methods of teaching. 1935 brought the first community seder. A new prayer book was adopted for the High Holy Days to be more accessible to all ages. As many as 300 children were enrolled in the Sunday School. Cemetery improvements were made and a new entrance, the Zuber Gate, was dedicated. Newlyweds were given complimentary memberships. A city-wide Thanksgiving celebration included all congregations and various rabbis in 1936. This spirit of cooperation led to the creation of the Jewish Community Council of Houston with all congregations and organizations represented. A few years later, a joint picnic was held at McGregor Park for Beth El, Beth Israel and Adath Yeshurun on Lag B’Omer with athletic contests and competitive singing. It became an annual event and included Adath Emeth and Beth Jacob.

In 1937, Cantor Max Landman

arrived from Atlanta and organized a boys’ choir and a “ladies’ choir.” Interfaith organizations encouraged greater cooperation with the wider community. Rabbi Tofield was elected to the presidency of the Kallah of Texas Rabbis in 1940. The Jewish population grew along with Houston, and a larger facility was needed for Adath Yeshurun. Land was purchased at Almeda Road and McGregor Drive across from Hermann Park, but building was delayed by the war.

There were numerous Golden Jubilee events in 1941, the Gay Nineties Ball at the Lamar Hotel ballroom and the Golden Jubilee Banquet being the highlights. The Ball was designed for the younger generation to turn the clock back with those who were young in the Gay Nineties.

The Jubilee Banquet that was held on Sunday evening, April 27, 1941, was a lavish celebration, with Dr. Max Artz of the Jewish Theological Seminary as the keynote speaker. The kosher banquet, catered by Schwartzberg’s,⁹ fed over 700 guests at the Scottish Rite Banquet Hall. The *Jewish Herald-Voice* wrote that the hall was “a veritable

garden of beauty” with gold, blue, and white decorations.¹⁰ The Houston newspapers, the *Chronicle*, the *Post*, and the *Press*, covered the event.

The program opened with the singing of the Star-Spangled Banner, and an invocation by Rabbi Blumenthal of Congregation Beth El. Cantor and choir sang “Ma Tov.” Joe Weingarten, as toastmaster, recalled the early history of the congregation. Mayor C. A. (Neal) Pickett made a few remarks, stating, “The churches of America are the first line of defense against the pagan hordes.”¹¹ Dr. Henry Barnston praised Rabbi and Mrs. Tofield and the good feelings among the various congregations. Nine past presidents were introduced, along with other speakers.

Dr. Artz stated that Israel was the “seismograph for the rest of the world” as world calamities fall first on the Jews.

“The Jews are feared because Israel is an eternal people,” he said. “We persisted in remaining alive through the age-old persecutions. We have refused to die. We are a people of the Book. We have emphasized learning and the ar-

continued on page 16



Golden Jubilee Banquet. Photo from The Golden Book, used courtesy of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Houston

■ Congressional Medal of Honor for Dreben? ■

by Vickie Vogel

Many of you no doubt know the story of Sam Dreben, the Fighting Jew. Born in Russia, he emigrated to the United States in 1899 and enlisted in the army. He helped put down the insurrection in the Philippines in 1899, and participated in the rescue of Westerners during the Boxer Rebellion in China. Dreben learned to use a machine gun while stationed at Fort Bliss near El Paso, and fought in various liberation movements in Mexico and Central America. In World War I, Dreben distinguished himself in France and was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Croix de Guerre, and the Medaille Militaire, France's highest honor. General John "Black Jack" Pershing called him one of the bravest men he had ever known. Sam Dreben died in 1925.¹

A full version of Sam Dreben's life appeared in the Summer 1994 edition of the news magazine of the Texas Jewish Historical Society, written by Hymer Elias Rosen of El Paso.² Another article on Dreben appeared in the Summer 2001 edition, written by Gerard Meister, a memoirist and essayist who lives and writes in Palm Beach County, Florida.³

While Dreben received many medals, he was not awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor. Although the renowned Sergeant York received a lesser French award than Dreben's, York was presented with the CMH. Was anti-Semitism a factor?

A proposed law directs the re-evaluation of records of Jewish World War I veterans who received the DSC or the Navy Cross to determine if the Medal of Honor should have been awarded. However, only a relative of the veteran can request the investigation.

Gerard Meister searched for a Dreben relative in vain. He contacted TJHS to see if we could help. Presi-

dent Rusty Milstein forwarded the request to me. Meister wanted a Texas Congressman to fight for Dreben's right to a reevaluation without a relative's request. I suggested my own



Sam Dreben

Congressman, Lloyd Doggett, and Rusty, Gerard, and I contacted him. Congressman Doggett immediately responded by becoming a sponsor of the William Shemin Jewish World War I Veterans Act. Doggett wrote:

"I appreciate you raising this important issue with me. Because of your communication, I am now a sponsor of this bill, which will reward the selfless[ness] of many Jewish-Americans who have not received all the recognition that they deserve due to barriers like those you have encountered in identifying a veteran's living relatives. One of the greatest privileges I have is working to honor our veterans. Whether they served a week ago or half-a-century ago, they should receive all the honor and recognition that they have earned. I hope that you will let others know that I am now a sponsor."

We applaud Gerard Meister for his crusade to get Sam Dreben, the Fighting Jew, the recognition that he deserves for his service to his country, and we appreciate Congressman Doggett's efforts on Sam's behalf.

References

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sam_Dreben

² It is reprinted at <http://www.jewish-history.com/wildwest/dreben.html>

³ <http://www.pencilstubs.com/magazine/authorbio.asp?AID=126>. 

Update

The Texas Jewish Historical Society contributed funds to repair vandalism that occurred at the Montefiore Cemetery in Las Vegas, New Mexico, in the summer of 2011. These funds were presented to the New Mexico Jewish Historical Society, which reports that the cemetery was restored by caretaker Ted Herberger. The cemetery was rededicated on October 7, 2011, with Rabbi John Feldman officiating. He was joined at the ceremony by members of the Las Vegas, New Mexico, community.



The Montefiore Cemetery in Las Vegas, New Mexico.

Hidden Family Fortunes

by Debra Winegarten

Every family has a myth or two. Generally, the myth explains why the family isn't as rich as it could be or as famous as it ought to be or how it were related to royalty or some famous person "back in the day." Like all myths, there's often a glimmer of truth shining far beneath the surface, which, if polished just right, might emerge.

Or so we thought, which is why my mother, Ruthe Winegarten, and I set out on our journey to uncover the truth to the story that my grandmother Celia, may she rest in peace, so often told. "We'd have been rich if only your great-grandfather, *olev shalom*, hadn't sold that property in Wills Point and moved to Dallas. You know, years after he did that, they found oil and built a big well. We would have been millionaires!" To make any sense of this at all, we have to go back to Boston, Massachusetts, in the early 1900s.

One day, Celia's father (my maternal great grandfather), Max Cohen, came home from the fish market, his clothes reeking from the herring, kippers, and mackerel that he had spent his day packaging for his customers. After showering and putting on fresh clothes, he turned his attention to the cup of freshly brewed tea that his wife, Jennie, placed gingerly on the kitchen table in front of him. Rifling through the stack of bills, he asked her, "Nu, vas es zis?" fingering the envelope with a postmark from Texas, a land which seemed at the time as far away from Boston as Max and Jennie's native Grodno.

The January 1907 letter, from his cousin Sam Martin, said "Come to Wills Point, Texas. You can have the clothing store, I've made my fortune. Me and the wife are headed back to New York City. She misses her family."

The day before, Max's business partner had called Max a poor fishmonger for the last time. Max had picked up a chair and hit his partner over the head with it. And that was the end of their

business relationship in the Boston fish market. Max and Jenny talked over Sam Martin's Texas offer and decided that this could be HaShem's way of giving them a fresh start in a new place. So, off to Texas they went with their two young daughters, four-year-old Celia and two-year-old Doris. The Cohens packed their little household in several steamer trunks and boarded a train from Boston to the small Texas town of Wills Point, 50 miles due east from Dallas.

"We would have been millionaires," my Grandma Celia told me, 60 years later. "But Papa didn't stay in Wills Point very long—maybe six months or a year at the most. Wills Point was pretty wild in those days. The Texas and Pacific Railroad came right across the town to the south, and the streets were made of dirt. It was a prosperous place as Texas towns go, with fields of cotton growing in all directions and dotted with cattle ranches. My parents had just got settled and started to recoup the cost of moving across the country when Mama, may she rest in peace, told Papa that she was miserable. 'I can't stay here,' she said, 'I need to see a Jewish face.'"

So Max packed up his little family again and moved to Dallas, which was a big city at the time. They bought a modest house in South Dallas, not far from Fair Park. Max helped start a synagogue, Agudas Achim, and became a fruit merchant. He bought produce at the downtown Dallas Farmer's Market on Fridays, then drove his horse and buggy 23 miles east to the small town of Forney, where the farmers came into town on Saturdays to pick up their weekly provisions. That ride took him the better part of a day, each way.

With his broken English, deep Russian accent, beard and payot, Max must have seemed out of place in that farming community. A devout Jew, it was hard on him to have to work on Shabbat, the holiest day of the week,

when Jews were commanded to cease work and spend the day worshipping God. Keeping kosher was nearly impossible, and because Max wouldn't eat the local meat or chickens in Forney, his wife would pack him hard-boiled eggs for protein, since they didn't need to be refrigerated.

Max couldn't afford to buy property for a store, so he put a roof over an alleyway and built a wooden floor, using buildings on either side for walls and then building the front and back walls of the store. How he managed to get away with doing that without the townspeople pitching a fit has been lost to history.

The town children remembered the Russian merchant who spoke English with a funny accent and gave them candy with liquor in it. One night, to play a practical joke on Max, they took his buggy and managed to put it on the roof of his store. No one in the small town remembered how he got it back down.

Max's daughter, Doris, who would, on occasion, make the trip with him, remembered that they had to cross five bridges each way, and sometimes heavy rains washed out the bridges. Those were the bad times, because not only did the produce rot, but that week's money was forfeited. Times were hard for the Cohen family, and two more daughters, Esther and Rosa, soon joined the fold, making more mouths to feed.

"We didn't know that we were poor," my grandmother Celia told me. "We always had plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables to eat, and on Friday mornings, before leaving for Forney, Papa would bring home a chicken for Mama to make for the Shabbat meal. Somehow, she would stretch that chicken until it lasted the whole week. Oy, if he had only stayed in Wills Point. They discovered oil on that property, and we would all be so rich today."

continued on page 17

Honor or Memorialize a Friend or a Loved One With a Donation to the TJHS Endowment Fund

When you honor or memorialize a friend or a loved one with a donation to the Texas Jewish Historical Society's Endowment Fund, you help support important programs. Send the honoree's full name, type of honor (memorial, congratulations, or occasion—birthday, anniversary, award, new child or grandchild, etc.) and your name, along with a check in the amount of your choice, to

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the
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June 22-23, 2012
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2012**
Board Meeting in
Big Spring

**The deadline for the
July 2012 TJHS News
Magazine is June 15.**

TJHS Travelers On the Road Again!



A trip is being planned to Portugal, Spain, and Morocco that will include Jewish sites. It is a sixteen-day tour, and we will leave on Friday, December 7, 2012. Come with us on this journey and discover three countries, languages, and cultures. We will relive the glory days of the Lisbon empire, wander through Madrid, and visit the Synagogue of Transito; then we will cross the Mediterranean to the city of Casablanca. View the full itinerary at <http://www.goaheadtours.com/tours/IAF/portugal-spain-morocco.aspx>. For information about a group discount, contact Vickie Vogel at vickvogel@yahoo.com.

Our Mississippi trip has been postponed. For more information, contact Ruth Nathan at rcsparkles@aol.com. 

Visit us on the web at www.txjhs.org.

istocracy of the mind. We were a small people in a small land and produced a small Book and at the same time we were a great people in a great land and the Book has proved to be a great Book...We are outspokenly critical... We are the moralizing people among nations."¹²

Rabbi Geller of Congregation Beth Jacob gave the grace after meals. Greetings received on the joyous occasion are excerpted.

Photographs of servicemen con-

to be nearer to its students, who found transportation increasingly difficult. A consolidated Hebrew School with Congregation Beth El was another cost-cutting measure.

The Golden Book concludes, "It is hoped that the reader will have found a measure of satisfaction in having become acquainted with the many incidents of the life of Adath Yeshurun, and many who have had a long-time connection with the Congregation will doubtless indulge in nostalgic rev-

tographs and descriptions of Adath Yeshurun organizations and activities, such as the Women's Auxiliary, the Sisterhood, the Haskallah Club (a social and cultural club), the Men's Forum, the Hebrew School and Sunday School, Adath Yeshurun Alumni (A.Y.A.), Boy Scouts of American Troop No. 247, and the Hevrah Kaddisha. A list of confirmands, graduates, and bar mitzvahs includes many familiar names in Houston's history. There are photographs of the confirmation classes of 1917, 1920, 1934, 1940, 1941, and 1942. The last section, In Memoriam, lists names and Hebrew dates of death as well as civil death dates in most instances.

In 1946, Adath Yeshurun merged with Beth El, forming the current Beth Yeshurun. Although officially Conservative, daily Orthodox minyanim are held in the chapel.¹⁴ Some of the early photographs can be found in the Heritage Room at Beth Yeshurun.¹⁵

The Golden Book of Adath Yeshurun is a slender but enticing volume, containing the hopes and history of a portion of the Jewish community as Houston grew from medium-sized Texas town to major city, working its way through a great depression and two

world wars.¹⁶

References

¹ *The Golden Book of Congregation Adath Yeshurun: Commemorating Fifty Years of Service to the Jewish Community of Houston, Texas 1891-1941*. Houston: D. H. White & Company, 1942. As a hard-back book, it is not in our TJHS archives, but instead located in the University of Texas PCL stacks, call number 296 H818G. All information for this article is from *The Golden Book* unless otherwise referenced.

² Sarah was written about by her son,

continued on page 18



SISTERHOOD OFFICERS, BOARD AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN 1942-43

Seated, left to right: Mrs. Saul Prensky, Mrs. Morris Shapiro, Mrs. Ben Goldstein, Mrs. Moe Mandel, Mrs. Harry Paine, Mrs. Harry Kessler, Mrs. Israel Weiser, Mrs. David Jaffe, Mrs. Ben Sachs. Standing, left to right: Mrs. Ben Streusand, Mrs. Archie Landau, Mrs. Archie Abramson, Mrs. Sam Kaminsky, Mrs. Mose Krafcheck, Mrs. Celia Oshman, Mrs. I. Berkman, Mrs. Jack Kaufman, Mrs. I. Dushkin, Mrs. S. P. Kleinman, Mrs. Maurice Caplan, Mrs. Meyer Zuber, Mrs. John Mendlovitz, Mrs. Charles Meyer, Mrs. Sam Rosenberg.

Sisterhood, 1942-43. Note TJHS Founder Rabbi Jimmy Kessler's mother on the front row. Photo from The Golden Book, used courtesy of Congregation Beth Yeshurun, Houston

nected to Adath Yeshuran are included in *The Golden Book*, with a prayer that they return safe and sound. Classes were given in first aid, and many members joined the Houston Defense Guard, the Auxiliary Fire Department, or volunteered as Air Raid Wardens and Spotters. War Bonds were promoted and women rolled bandages. Rabbi Tofield initiated a program for children to save money to purchase bonds. The Hebrew School was relocated to Albert Sidney Johnston Junior High School

erie. Although the Congregation had its problems and reverses, much real progress has been made, and although the war has to some extent prevented a continuation of this progress, the future is a bright one and we look forward to a more interesting chapter in the next decade."¹³

The end of the book includes a list of officers and trustees, as well as members. The Golden Jubilee Committees and subscribers are listed with committee photos, followed by pho-

Yiddish was spoken in the Cohen household, and all four daughters grew up being able to understand and speak it. Celia even learned how to read and write Yiddish, taking classes at the Hebrew school in South Dallas when her public-school classes were done. Max Cohen's temper came with him to Texas, and Celia remembered how he exploded when one of the girls accidentally used a meat fork or knife instead of a milk fork. He would snatch the offending utensil out of his daughter's hand, yell at her for her inattention, and run into the backyard, where he would bury it for 24 hours in order to purify it.

When Max came back inside, Jennie would say to him, "Nu, even my father, olev shalom, who was such a learned man that he corrected errors in the Torah, knew better than to mess with the business of the kitchen." I often joked with my grandmother Celia that we should take a metal detector and go back to her house in South Dallas to see if there was still any forgotten silverware buried there.

By the time that Celia was in high school, Max moved the rest of the family to Forney while Celia stayed in Dallas to finish school. Doris, who was two years younger than Celia, was so smart that she was the valedictorian of Forney High and attended class only three days a week, helping Papa in his store on the other days.

In 1997, while working on our family history, my mother, Ruthe Winegarten, olev shalom, and I decided to take a road trip from Austin, where we both lived, to Wills Point. We wanted to see the old store, take pictures of the oil well, and commiserate on our lost fortune. We arrived in that dusty one-stoplight town on a hot thirsty Thursday August afternoon, the kind where when you step out of your car's air-conditioning, your skin recoils and the heat just sucks the sweat right off your brow before you even know what hit you.

Once we got into the heart of town, we easily spotted the county courthouse

from Highway 80. I opened the creaky courthouse door and stepped into the smell of aging papers and smoke-infused wooden floors.

"Can I help you?" the woman behind the hundred-year-old mahogany desk asked, her cloud-white coiffed bird's nest hairdo reminding me of Liz Carpenter's adage, "Our hair must be big enough to offset the size of our butts." We explained our mission as she eyed us with that "You're-not-from-around-here-are-you?" look. It's the look that she probably reserved for the rare traveler who dared stop in this town that itself "stopped" in the 1940s, about the time that the Texas and Pacific Railroad quit running through here.

I handed her a copy of the *Wills Point Chronicle* from 1907, with the ad for Sam Martin's men's clothing store, and asked if the building was still in existence.

"Honey, that old thing ain't been here for years. I think it burnt down, or got tore down, or maybe the tornado got it, I cain't remember which." Disappointed, my mother and I glanced at each other and I asked what was there now.

"Why, it's the feed store, of course. Everyone knows that," she said, shaking her head, as if to point out the fact that perhaps we weren't part of everyone.

"Well, could you point us there?" I asked. We hadn't driven six hours from Austin in the blistering Texas heat only to be told that we couldn't see something.

"Look here," she said, "you go just across the street, turn right, take your next left, go two blocks, turn left again, and then again, and it'll be on your left. Hell, you drove right past it coming into town."


How she knew which way we drove into town remains a mystery to me, but I was all too glad to get out of that place. Her suspicion made me feel so that creepy I couldn't wait to be anywhere else.

We pulled the car in front of the two-story building with the same ad-

dress as Sam Martin's clothing-store ad, and I hopped out. I snapped a few pictures, took one more for good luck, and climbed back into the cool respite of Mom's big Buick, glad to be out of the crackling midday heat and the county clerk's scrutiny. Sadly, for miles around there were no signs of oil fields—only cotton.

We drove back towards Dallas in silence, with me wondering all the while what caused my grandmother to invent that story about our family's lost fortune.


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Debra L. Winegarten, a third-generation Texas Jew, lives in Austin, where, by day, she works in the Astronomy Department for the University of Texas. By night, she writes. Find out more about her work at www.sociosights.com. 

Request

The following request has been received by the Texas Jewish Historical Society.

I am looking for people who (or whose families) were involved with any of the Workmen's Circle groups in Texas. Based on interviews I've done so far, Dallas, Galveston, Houston, San Antonio, and Waco all had some sort of organized leftist/secular Yiddish life. One interviewee referred to them as "Lyceums." He traveled around the region with a Yiddish theater troop organized by the Houston chapter.

Most surviving participants would have been children when these groups were at their peak. If you know of anyone who might be of help, or if you know where I might look for more information, please contact me. Thank you. ~Josh Parshal, Oral Historian, Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life; P.O. Box 16528, Jackson, MS 39236, phone: 601-362-6357, fax: 601-366-6293, jparshall@isjl.org. 

Welcome New Members!

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Has Your Address Changed?

If you have any changes in your information, please send them to **Marc Wormser at 1601 S. Riviera Ct., Pearland, TX 77581, 832-288-3494, or marc.wormser@att.net.**

Golden Book, continued from page 16

Sheldon Lippman, in the November, 2011 issue of the TJHS News Magazine. Sarah's husband Leslie Lippman was the subject of a "From the Archives" article on his wartime letters (February, 2011).

³ The date for the Jubilee was fixed on the date of chartering, although the congregation formed a few years earlier. p. 58.

⁴ pp. 9-10.

⁵ Almost all names are designated by initial(s) only.

Women's given names are seldom recorded.

⁶ The Saengerbund was a German singing society organized in 1883 in Houston for German immigrants. It had over 1,000 members until World War I, when Germans became reluctant to draw attention to themselves. After the war, membership again grew. When World War II broke out, the group changed its name to the Houston Singing Society. Their first home was Turner Hall. <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/taro/uhsc/00007/hsc-00007.html>; <http://www.houstonsaengerbund.org/about.html>.

⁷ p. 49.

⁸ p. 38.

⁹ Schwartzberg's Restaurant with "Kosher Zion Products" was located at 2617 Chenevert. <http://www.ebay.com/itm/Schwartzbergs-Restaurant-2617-Chenevert-Houston-TX-MB-/260399666260>.

¹⁰ p. 59.


¹¹ p. 60.

¹² p. 59.

¹³ p. 48.

¹⁴ <http://www.isjl.org/history/archive/tx/houston.html>.

¹⁵ email Lonnie Schooler, February 27, 2012.

¹⁶ You can purchase a copy of *The Golden Book* at http://books.google.com/books/about/The_golden_book_of_Congregation_Adath_Ye.html?id=sAXRAAAAMAAJ. 

Mazel Tov

to the following

Texas Jewish Historical Society Members

Dr. Kay Goldman, of Texas A&M University, is the first winner of the Lou Halsell Rodenberger Prize in Texas History and Literature, for her manuscript "Designing Women, Texas Style: The Frankfurt Sisters of Dallas and Page Boy Maternity." The manuscript will be published in the spring of 2013.

Debra L. Weingarten's new book, *There's Jews in Texas?*, won the 2011 *Poetica Magazine* national contest. The book is a collection of poems that recounts Debra's experience of growing up in Dallas in the 1960s, sharing family holidays, and her return to Judaism following the death of her beloved mother by suicide, and it ends with a recounting of her recent trip to Egypt. The book can be ordered from Debra's website, www.sociosights.com.

Please send information for this column to
Davie Lou Solka at editor@txjhs.org.

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The following donations have been received by the Texas Jewish Historical Society:

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The Texas Jewish Historical Society has compiled two museum-quality photo exhibits, with explanations, depicting early Jewish life and contributions. Both exhibits highlight the lives of Jews in Texas since the early part of the century.

Each exhibit is comprised of approximately thirty-six photographs that can be either self-standing with an easel back or hung on a wall. There is no charge for the exhibits, and they will be shipped, prepaid freight via UPS in waterproof

boxes, to your location. The only expense to the borrower will be the shipping of the exhibit back via UPS ground.

The exhibits have been displayed in various locations in Texas and other parts of the United States, including Rhode Island and California. They are an excellent program for schools, congregations, and other organizations. To schedule the exhibits, please contact Jack Gerrick at 817-927-8765 or email him at texbed@charter.net

Can You Guess This Member?

This picture is of a couple who are members of TJHS. Do you recognize them? Email your guess to Davie Lou Solka at editor@txjhs.org. The first person who guesses correctly will receive one free year of membership! The winner will be announced in the next issue. Previous winners are not eligible to win again. The identities of this lovely couple will be revealed in the next news magazine. 



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