



# CHICAGO JEWISH HISTORY

## *Historical Personalities*



Walter Roth z"l.

## CJHS President Emeritus Walter Roth

Walter Roth arrived in the United States in 1938, with his father, stepmother, older brother, and older sister—a family of Jewish refugees from Nazi Germany. They came from the small farming town of Roth, near Marburg, and were transplanted in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood where there was a community of German Jewish emigrés.

Young Wally quickly grasped the English language, significantly by reading a series of history books on the American Civil War. He attended Hyde Park High School where he was an editor of the student newspaper, then the University of Illinois at Navy Pier where he majored in history and journalism, and finally the University of Chicago Law School where he graduated *summa cum laude* and was managing editor of the *Law Review*.

He spent a year after graduation on a kibbutz in Israel. Upon his return to Chicago he was hired as a law clerk for Luther M. Swygert, Senior Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. In 1953, he joined the law firm of D'Ancona, Pflaum,

Wyatt and Riskind. He also became active in the American Jewish Congress, and served as president of the local chapter for a number of years. In that capacity he wrote articles concerning civil rights and Zionism.

Walter Roth's own history brought him to the Chicago Jewish Historical Society. In 1979, he was persuaded by attorney Charles B. Bernstein—then CJHS Program Chairman—to help organize the Society's symposium, "The German-Jewish Emigration of the 1930s and Its Impact on Chicago." As Wally later wrote, "I soon found that the Chicago Jewish Historical Society and its activities appealed to me in profound ways. Even though I was an attorney by profession, history was my passion, and Chicago was the city that embraced me and my family after we escaped from Germany in 1938."

Dr. Irwin Suloway, a retired educator, then editor of the CJHS newsletter, urged him to submit articles. And did he ever! In Roth's own words, "I became devoted to the regimen of researching a particular subject or area that fascinated me in the history of the vibrant Chicago Jewish community. In particular, I enjoyed learning about our distinctive local personalities—the leaders who made a difference and the ne'er-do-wells who left an imprint." Soon each issue featured a Roth byline.

In 1988, Walter Roth was elected President of the Society. Twenty-two years of solid leadership followed, as did the writing. Upon the retirement of Dr. Suloway, young Joe Kraus became the editor of *Chicago Jewish History* and also the co-author of Roth's first book, *An Accidental Anarchist*. Three collections of Roth's journal articles were subsequently published. In 2010, he retired from the presidency and devoted himself to writing a family history, even as his health declined.

Walter Roth died on Saturday, January 19, 2019. Funeral services were held at Congregation Rodfei Zedek with interment at Jewish Oakridge Cemetery.

Condolences of the Society go to his loving wife, Chaya, and their children, Ari Roth (Kate Schechter), Judy Roth (Stephen Zeldes), Miriam Raider-Roth (Mark Raider), and to the grandchildren, Isabel Roth, Sophie Roth, Miko Zeldes-Roth, Tema Zeldes-Roth, Jonah Roth, Ez Raider-Roth, and Talia Raider-Roth.

It was my great privilege and pleasure to assist Wally as editor and colleague. — B.C.

## CO-PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



**Dr. Rachelle Gold.**

**H**ow does a pastime become a passionate commitment? How did I, a clinical psychologist by profession, find myself assuming a leadership role in a Jewish historical society? I reflected on this anew after the recent passing of our beloved, prodigious Walter Roth z"l, the Society's president emeritus.

I am fortunate to have known many wonderful people who shaped my interests, but I am certain that I would not be in the co-president's role without a defining encounter with Walter and his wife, Dr. Chaya Roth.

It happened some years ago when I was in the process of moving back to my Chicago hometown. I saw a copy of *Chicago Jewish History* during a family visit. I knew there was a Chicago Jewish Historical Society, and it was natural that my parents, Jacob and Harriet Gold, were members. My father loved history, and both he and my mother, proud natives of Chicago's Jewish West Side, were active in the Jewish community.

I was attracted by an announcement in the journal of an oral history workshop to take place during my stay. I attended, and it proved to be not just an educational experience, but a fateful one. After the workshop, Walter approached me, "a new face." When he learned that I was a psychologist, he introduced me to his wife, Chaya, also a psychologist, who promptly suggested a lunch date to get better acquainted.

Soon after, I enjoyed a delightful visit to the Roth home in which Chaya and I shared our professional interests, involvements in the arts, and our family backgrounds. As I later came to learn, she and Walter are each tremendously respected for their professional, scholarly, creative, and community accomplishments, but I was approached with such sincerity, warmth, and interest that I didn't feel a hint of intimidation. Rather, I was made to feel that the pleasure of our acquaintance was as much theirs as mine.

A few months later, when I was settled in Chicago, I received a call from Walter inviting me to join the Society's Board of Directors. Apparently he envisioned my potential contribution to the Society—an awareness that had not occurred to me. I was a little bemused, but honored to accept the offer, and began my service in 2002. And, if you will pardon the platitude, the rest is history, more gratifying than I imagined.

I have a twofold purpose in sharing my Chicago Jewish Historical Society beginnings. First is my desire to express my *hakarat hatov* (gratitude) and to pay tribute to an extraordinary individual and couple. Equally important, I want you, our devoted Society members, to be inspired by my story.

Become more personally involved in the Society! Consider joining the board, helping on a committee, or serving in other ways that we can discuss. Walter Roth recognized the spark in me, and I want to ignite it in you. Please contact me or Co-President Jerry Levin by email to [info@chicagojewishhistory.org](mailto:info@chicagojewishhistory.org), or phone the CJHS office (312) 663-5634, and we will talk. ❖



### **CJHS President Walter Roth Honored by His Family with the Gift of Books to Asher Library**

In a beautiful ceremony, sixty books were donated to the library in honor of Walter Roth on his 75th birthday, by his wife, children, and grandchildren. Books by and about notable German Jews, and on Chicago Jewish history are included. A report on the event appears in *CJH* Spring 2004.

#### **Gift Ceremony, Asher Library, April 18, 2004.**

From left: Glenn Ferdman, Director of Asher Library, Dr. Chaya H. Roth, Walter Roth, and Howard Sulkin, President of Spertus Institute. Roth family photograph.

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Send submissions to Editor, electronically (preferred) or via standard mail. Enclose SASE.

**E-MAILS TO CJHS****Armour Square***Inquiry:*

I have been a member of the CJHS for a number of years, but I don't think I have ever seen a mention of Armour Square in the journal. My father and grandparents lived in Armour Square, around 36th and State, from the early 1900s to the mid 1930s. Was this ever a Jewish neighborhood?

David Gaynon, Portland, Oregon

*Founding Board Member Dr. Irving Cutler replies:*

Let me first note that Armour Square is a very tiny community, one of the city's smallest. It is long and narrow—just twenty-one blocks long and four to five blocks wide, three miles south of downtown. It is overshadowed by the much larger and politically important adjacent community of Bridgeport. Early settlers included Swedes, Germans, and later Italians.

In the first few decades of the 1900s, there was a small Jewish community in Armour Square. Between 1891 and the 1930s, there were four synagogues in the area—two in adjacent Bridgeport, Kehilath Anshe Mayriv and South Side Hebrew Congregation—and two in Armour Square, Knesses Israel and Beth Abram. Some of the Jews living there owned small stores in the area. I knew of one family that had a dry goods store there. Knesses Israel in the 1920s was at 3428 South State Street, not far from where your family lived.

I doubt if there are any Jews in the community today and certainly no synagogues. Most of the residents of Armour Square at the present time are Chinese, blacks, and a small number of Hispanics and Italians.

**Temple Judea and Rabbi Rudolph I. Coffee**

What a good job Irv Cutler did in his article about the historic Temple Judea ("Another Synagogue Demolished in Lawndale," *CJH* Fall 2018). I am so sorry that it came down without fanfare. It would have been wonderful to save the cornerstone so that its contents could be retrieved and preserved.

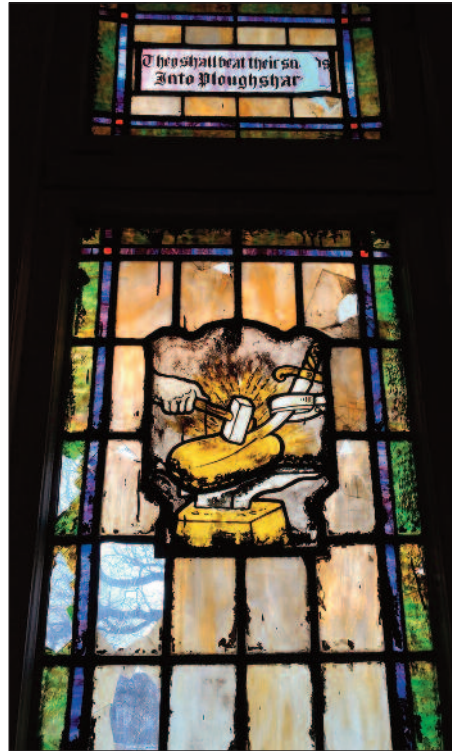
There must be a legal way to obtain the rights to these cornerstones. Perhaps a real estate lawyer would know how to do this so that the owner or demolition company would be legally required to turn over the cornerstone or its contents. It is so important to preserve such historic treasures.

One of the early rabbis of Temple Judea, Rudolph I. Coffee, is mentioned in an article in the latest issue of *Southern Jewish History*. The article concerns rabbis (among others) who were involved with prison chaplaincy and attending to Jewish prisoners. Rabbi Coffee was a pioneer when he began his involvement with incarcerated Jews at the time he was serving at Temple Judea. In 1922 he was credited with having visited more penitentiaries than any other rabbi in the country. Soon after that, he moved to California where he continued his efforts regarding Jewish prisoners there. (Mark K. Bauman and Leah Burnham: "The Atlanta Federal Penitentiary and Area Jews: A Social Service Case Study" v. 21, *Southern Jewish History*.)

Rachel Heimovics, CJHS Past President  
 Maitland, Florida

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## E-MAILS TO CJHS *Continued from page 3*



**Stained Glass Menorah Window and Isaiah Window, 2016.**  
**Former Temple Judea, 1227 South Independence Boulevard, demolished 2018.**  
*Alexander Feller and Tammy Hepps.*

### Photographs of Temple Judea

I was devastated when I read Dr. Irving Cutler's article on the demolition of Temple Judea. I was as shocked as he must have been on that tour to see an empty lot where Temple Judea used to stand. I follow Facebook groups and online newsletters about Chicago architecture preservation, and was surprised that I had not read of the demolition.

In 2016, my friend and fellow family historian, Tammy Hepps, visited Chicago. Since she is as interested in checking out Jewish cemeteries and old synagogues as I am, I took her on a driving tour of the Maxwell Street area and then ventured into North Lawndale. We walked along Independence and Douglas Boulevards and took pictures of the former synagogues and the Jewish ornaments and Hebrew lettering on the buildings. As we walked up to Temple Judea, we ran into the pastor who was just leaving after his Sunday service. We told him of our interest in the building, and he invited us in. We were surprised at how much of the synagogue interior remained.

He led us upstairs to unlit rooms decorated with ornate floor tiling and murals of biblical scenes. There were books from the Temple Judea library. I hoped to someday return to retrieve those books. I am attaching photos to this e-mail that Tammy and I took of Temple Judea to share with other members and perhaps to keep for future reference. (Two are shown here.)

Alexander Feller  
 Chicago

### Righteous Among the Nations

#### *Inquiry:*

I am hoping to fill in the Chicago side of a story of survival in Minsk Mazowiecki, Poland, during World War II. Zofia Michalczyk lived with her grandchildren, Barbara and Christopher Mystkowski, ages 9 and 8. She also took in boarders. In 1939, one boarder filed a municipal complaint against Zofia for being too fond of Jews and replacing her Christian tenants with Jews.

In the summer of 1942, Henryka ("Henia") Markus, age 16 or 17, knocked at the door of Zofia's house asking for help. Zofia took her in and hid her in the basement. Weeks after the war ended, a man came to the house to get Henia, who voluntarily left with him, presumably to join relatives. Zofia soon received a letter from Henia, now living in Chicago. Their correspondence continued for some time. One letter included a photo of Henia standing in front of a storefront, possibly H. Marcus tailor and cleaner at 550 East 50th Street. Zofia died in 1960. Barbara, now Ljubisavljevic, later emigrated to the US and lives in Cincinnati.

Rabbi Abie Ingber, Executive Director of the Center for Interfaith Community Engagement at Xavier University in Cincinnati, is looking for information about Henryka (Henia) Markus and her life in Chicago to complete his application for Zofia to be named a Righteous Among the Nations at Yad Vashem.

If you know more about this story, please contact Joan Pomaranc at (312)342-7135 or [jpomaranc@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jpomaranc@sbcglobal.net).

*Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker delivered his first state budget address on February 20, 2019. He concluded with a generous salute to a predecessor, Governor Henry Horner. This article was first published in the Fall 2007 issue of our journal.*

## Henry Horner, “The Real Goods”

EDWARD H. MAZUR

**Governor Henry Horner, Chicago Politics, and the Great Depression.** By Charles J. Masters. 2007, Southern Illinois University Press, 245 pages. Cloth.

**Henry Horner and his Burden of Tragedy.** By Thomas B. Littlewood. 2007, Author House, 314 pages. Paper.

The story of Henry Horner, the first Jewish Governor of the State of Illinois, from January 9, 1933, until his death in office on October 6, 1940, holds many contradictions.

Born Henry Levy into a family of successful Jewish entrepreneurs in the retail and wholesale grocery trade, on November 30, 1878, he managed to skillfully straddle the divide between the respectable good government crowd and the rough and tumble ward politicians of Chicago during the World War I era, the Roaring Twenties, and the Great American Depression.

Attorney and author Charles J. Masters, in his important monograph, reveals that at various times in his political career, Horner found himself an ally of Chicago’s powerful Democratic Machine—founded by Irish politicians Roger Sullivan and George Brennan, perfected by Bohemian Anton “Tony” Cermak, and managed by Patrick Nash, Edward Kelly, and the 24th Ward’s Jacob Arvey. At other times, Horner found himself to be the object of the Democratic Machine’s wrath. While remaining a staunch Democrat,

Horner nevertheless found himself at loggerheads with the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt. His rise to power and struggle to remain in the leadership of Illinois government is a dramatic tale, full of political intrigue and twists of fate.

For example: Horner, elected Governor in 1932 as the candidate of “good government,” received his political start with Chicago’s legendary First Ward duo of “Hinky Dink” Kenna and “Bathhouse John” Coughlin—decidedly not good government types!

Henry Horner was the third son of Dilah Horner and Solomon Levy. His parents’ relationship was anything but harmonious, and in 1883 they were divorced. Afterwards his maternal grandmother, Hannah Dernberg Horner, invited Dilah and the children to move in with her, but only on the condition that they change their surname to Horner.

The future governor would be a lifelong bachelor who enjoyed the conviviality of the Standard Club, good whiskey, and a fine cigar. He was a member of two Reform congregations, Sinai and Kehilath Anshe Maariv (KAM). Throughout his career Henry Horner was extremely sensitive about the integrity of the Jewish community. For example, when Jewish merchants who supplied state institutions tried to hedge on their contractual obligations or substitute inferior merchandise for the original, his wrath was boundless. He would rage, “You have disgraced me and



**Henry Horner (1878-1940).**

*Illinois Historic Preservation Agency.*

you have disgraced our people...if you don't replace this merchandise, I'll get you in the Courts.”

He was a genial, well-spoken man, with a pince-nez and a moustache. He had the good fortune to be politically mentored by Jacob Lindheimer, a German Jew from Stuttgart, who became both Horner’s father figure and political sponsor. (Ironically, Lindheimer’s sons, Benjamin and Horace, would leave Governor Horner’s political camp and align with the opposition during the heated intra-party battles of the late 1930s.)

In 1915, with Lindheimer’s backing, Horner was elected to the first of many terms on the Probate Court. This was the perfect union of man and occupation. Henry Horner was a micromanager, a workaholic with a sense of fairness, who drew

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## Henry Horner *Continued from Page 4*

inspiration from Abraham Lincoln. Probate Court represented a huge administrative undertaking that was ideal for Horner's talents, especially his honesty and ability to track and organize assets. Horner became the benefactor of many, following the Biblical injunction to protect the widow and orphan. He gave his support to numerous social, philanthropic, and economic causes and was especially concerned with the "vulnerable peoples" of Chicago. He lobbied for more humane care in state institutions. In 1926, when the Illinois legislature voted a pay raise for judges, Horner turned over his increase to the Institute for Juvenile Research.

**T**here are two distinct parts to Masters' book. The first half provides the reader with a decent overview of Chicago politics and the Jewish community from the City's founding until the 1930s. Much of the material in this portion of the work is familiar to those interested in Chicago Jewish history. The stronger second half is a highly informative and fast-moving account of Horner's selection as the Democratic candidate for Governor, his primary and general election campaigns in 1932 and 1936, and his ensuing eight years as the state's chief executive.

Throughout his career, many around him—Democrat and Republican, Jew and non-Jew—thought that Horner lacked "toughness." Masters' book convincingly dispels this characterization and serves to remind us not only that the first Jewish Governor of Illinois was tough, but that he was a deeply principled man, committed to practical common-sense politics. In the political climate of the 1920s and 1930s where honesty was a liability, Henry Horner managed to maintain his political integrity even when he was targeted for political sacrifice by the Kelly-Nash Chicago Democratic Machine, abetted overtly and covertly by the Roosevelt administration.

Governor Horner vetoed the "Bookie Bill." This was a plan pushed by Mayor Ed Kelly to produce revenue for Chicago by regulating gambling on horse-racing, already a widely recognized illicit industry in local taverns. After the veto, Kelly was reported to have said to Cook County Democratic Party chief Pat Nash, "We're going to take that [expletive] out of the mansion. We're going to drop him down the chute, and there's nothing he can do about it." This sets the stage for a most exciting narrative—as Horner becomes an individual who brazenly fights the Machine and the President in order to do right for the people of Illinois.

Despite his prominent position in the annals of Chicago Jewry, Horner is a largely forgotten figure in the history of Illinois and the United States. Masters' monograph is the first full-scale treatment of Horner to appear in more than thirty-five years.

Writers who include him in their historical narratives offer contradictory and even dismissive characterizations of Horner. He is referred to as "weak," "lacking guts," and "a rubber-stamper." Some describe him as being "too independent," a "troublemaker," and an "obstructionist." A frequent comment is that he was "not a politician." However, we should remember that Henry Horner, first as Judge of the Probate Court from 1915 to 1932, and then as Governor from 1933 until his death in the fall of 1940, held elected office.

One of Henry Horner's legacies was the restructuring of an antiquated, unfair, and ineffective taxation system. With his prodding, a permanent voter registration measure was enacted that helped bring practices into the relatively orderly and reliable state.

Following his death, political and non-political figures of all persuasions agreed that Horner exemplified the best of good government. In the years that followed, Illinois politics would be characterized by suspicion, scandal, loose handling of public funds, and abuses of the public trust. Only then, in retrospect, could the electorate appreciate the protections that resulted from Horner's watchful eye, vigilance, and micromagement.

**S**inai Temple's Rabbi Louis Mann, who had persuaded Horner to sign the "Eyedrop Bill" that saved so many newborns from blindness, delivered the eulogy at the Governor's funeral. He lauded Horner's battle with "graft, corruption, dishonesty, and the spoils system" and attributed the Governor's death to his exhausting battle against corruption and betrayal.

Henry Horner's life and career indicates a craving for harmony and goodwill. Perhaps this was a result of watching the marriage of his parents dissolve in divorce. Yet he was not reluctant to grapple with conflict. Horner won the Governor's seat in the midst of the worst global economic depression in history and at a time when antisemitism and racism filled much of American life, while in Europe, Hitler was taking Nazi Germany down the ominous path to World War II.

Horner never seemed interested in increasing his personal wealth. Although those around him appeared continually to be searching for ways to enrich themselves, Horner dedicated his life to ensuring that resources went where they were intended. Henry Horner was a good guy with the tenacity of a lion—

he was a mensch in the truest sense of the term.

Thomas B. Littlewood is a former chief of the Springfield, Illinois, and Washington, D.C. bureaus of the *Chicago Sun-Times*, and Professor emeritus of journalism at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. *Henry Horner and his Burden of Tragedy* is a revised second edition of a 1969 biography.

Originally titled *Horner of Illinois* and long out of print, the revised edition includes information on Jewish voting patterns and attitudes in Chicago that has become available since the original publication. (My writing and that of Walter Roth are cited.) The unique value of the book, though, is in Littlewood's own reporting and his first-hand knowledge of the political pressures and prejudices that buffeted Horner.

Carl Sandburg, in a 1961 interview with Littlewood, stated, "Henry Horner was the Real Goods...He collaborated with men who were purchasable without becoming purchasable himself. He got to high places without selling his soul." ❖

**DR. EDWARD H. MAZUR**, is a Past President and Past Treasurer of the CJHS. He is a member of the Society's Board of Directors and a frequent contributor of articles to our journal. Dr. Mazur is Professor Emeritus at City Colleges of Chicago, an urban historian, a lecturer, and a tour guide. He is Chairman of the City Club of Chicago.

### The Governor Horner Memorial Chicago Park District's Horner Park California and Montrose Avenues

In 1947, a Horner Memorial Commission formed to guide the project, with Chicago's beloved author Carl Sandburg serving as the chairman.

In 1948, sculptor John David Brcin completed the Memorial, a red granite sculptural pylon in the Art Deco style... The double-sided monument depicts the two stages of Henry Horner's political career. One face focuses on his years as a probate judge. It portrays a blindfolded female figure of Justice holding weighted scales above Horner's head. On the other side, Horner stands in front of the state capitol, representing his two terms as Illinois governor. Images of the people of Illinois frame both sides of the monument.

First dedicated in 1948 in Grant Park near the Buckingham Fountain, the monument was relocated in 1956 after the Chicago Park District completed construction of a new park and field house named in Governor Horner's honor.

— [www.chicagoparkdistrict.com](http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com)

## Samuel Alschuler *Democratic Party Candidate for Governor of Illinois in 1900*



**Samuel Alschuler.**  
**(1859-1939).**

*History of the Jews  
of Chicago, 1924.*

Ed Mazur shared a piece of political ephemera with *CJH*, a letter dated October 25, 1900, from the Hebrew Democratic Alschuler Club, located on Chicago's Near West Side. The writer praises the candidate: "We have had governors of Irish, Scotch, German, English, and Puritan descent, but never until now have the

Jewish residents of Illinois had an opportunity of electing a man of their own race to an office that is second in importance only to that of President of the United States."

Samuel Alschuler was born in Chicago in 1859, the second of the six children of Jacob and Caroline Steifel Alschuler, immigrants from Germany. In 1861, the Alschulers moved to Aurora, Illinois, then a small town, where Jacob established a prosperous real estate business.

Samuel studied law with a local attorney and was admitted to the Illinois Bar in 1887. An active liberal Democrat, he supported John Peter Altgeld's successful run for Governor in 1892, though he lost his own race for U.S. Representative. In 1898, Alschuler won a seat in the Illinois House of Representatives, and he was elected Minority Leader in 1898. He led the fight against the corrupt Chicago utility bosses, and his reputation for honesty earned him the Democratic Party's nomination for Governor in 1900. He lost to Richard Yates, but garnered more votes than the Presidential candidate, William Jennings Bryan. No Democrat would be elected Governor of Illinois until Henry Horner in 1932.

In 1901, Alschuler moved to Chicago and returned to the practice of law. In 1915, President Woodrow Wilson appointed him to the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. In 1936, failing health caused him to resign. ❖

*Edited and reprinted from an article in the Year-End 2000 issue of our journal*

## Sam Shapiro and Illinois Politics in the 1960s

JOY KINGSOLVER



**Sam Shapiro (1907-1987).** *Spertus Institute, Chicago.*

**S**amuel H. Shapiro was born in Estonia, his mother's native land, in 1907. His father, a Polish cobbler, had already emigrated to the United States. He brought his family to live in Kankakee, Illinois, as soon as he had established himself there. Samuel grew up in Kankakee, attended St. Viator College, and in 1929 earned a law degree from the University of Illinois. He became city attorney of Kankakee in 1933 and district attorney in 1936. In 1941, he enlisted in the Navy, serving in the Anti-Submarine Warfare Unit. After the war he was elected to the Illinois House of Representatives, where he made a name for himself as a sponsor of progressive mental health legislation and as a foe of corruption in the state hospital system. Among his admirers, he earned the nickname "Mr. Mental Health."

In 1960, he ran for lieutenant governor alongside Otto Kerner on the Democratic ticket. After a contentious campaign, during which Kerner was accused of being a pawn of Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley, they both won election. They were reelected in 1964.

Sam Shapiro was elevated to governor in the spring of 1968, when Kerner resigned to accept appointment

to the federal appellate court (his career on the bench was cut short by his indictment on federal charges).

1968 was a tumultuous election year, nationally and statewide. Shapiro secured the Democratic nomination for governor, but his opponent, Richard B. Ogilvie, was helped by Richard Nixon's strong showing in Illinois that year. The campaign was bitter; Shapiro's camp raised questions about Ogilvie's previous service as Cook County Sheriff and his hiring of Richard Cain, who was later indicted for bank robbery conspiracy.

The Jewish community seemed divided; in the Presidential race, many supported Hubert Humphrey, the Democratic nominee, but there was also support for Richard Nixon, who took a strong pro-Israel stance.

Shapiro was active in the Jewish community and had always been held in high esteem. In 1967, he was honored by the Jewish National Fund with a Keter Shem Tov, "Crown of a Good Name" award. He was a member of B'nai B'rith and the Covenant Club, and he and his wife Gertrude belonged to Temple B'nai Israel in Kankakee.

He was endorsed by many Jewish leaders such as Marshall Korshak, Jacob Arvey, and Philip Klutznick, who wrote articles and took out ads in the *Sentinel*. Ogilvie also worked hard for the Jewish vote, taking out full page ads in the *Sentinel* just before the election. In the end, the race was close: Ogilvie won, 2,307,295 to 2,279,501. Shapiro had carried Cook County, but lost most of the downstate counties. Shapiro's running mate, Paul Simon, won the race for lieutenant governor.

The Ogilvie-Simon administration was the only one in Illinois history in which the elected governor and lieutenant governor were from different political parties: the Illinois constitution now pairs the offices as running mates on a ticket.

After his defeat, Samuel Shapiro returned to the practice of law, commuting from Kankakee to his office in Chicago. He died in 1987. Thanks to the generosity of Sandi Goldsher Elkins, niece of the governor, and the assistance of the Chicago Jewish Historical Society, a collection of campaign memorabilia, correspondence, photographs, and newspaper stories has been placed in the archives of the Spertus Institute.

*Read Joy Kingsolver's biographical notes on the facing page.*



## Nominees to a Three-Year Term on the CJHS Board of Directors

*The election is being held at the CJHS Open Meeting on Sunday, March 10, 2019, before the Benjaminson presentation.*

### FRANCES O'CHERONY

**ARCHER** writes a popular blog called "Me and My Shadow" that explores the history of Albany Park and North Park communities, where she grew up. She has extensively researched the former Chicago Municipal Tuberculosis Sanitarium and conducts walking tours of the site as a volunteer of the North Park Village Nature Center. She is also involved with the Chicago Historic Schools website, which documents architecturally significant public school buildings. Frances' parents came to Chicago from Cuba in the mid-1950s, and they lived briefly on the South Side while her father completed a residency at Michael Reese Hospital. When she's not chasing down leads for new stories about her old neighborhood, Frances works as a freelance writer.

**JANET ILTIS** began her career as a speech/language pathologist in Morton Grove, then took time off to raise twin daughters, then resumed her career in the Chicago Public Schools. Today she is semi-retired.

Her interest in Chicago Jewish history stems from her family's genealogy. Janet's great-great-grandfather, Ignatz Jacob Kunreuther, was the first rabbi and shochet in the city, arriving in 1848 to become the rabbi at KAM. She has been a member of the CJHS since 1982 and has served many terms on the Board. She is a former Board member of Beth Emet The Free Synagogue in Evanston.

Currently Janet is a volunteer for P-DAT, the Post-Detention Accompaniment Team of the ICDI, the Interfaith Community for Detained Immigrants. She is also a volunteer at the Rohingya Cultural Center on Devon Avenue.

**JOY KINGSOLVER** is Senior Archivist at the Shel Silverstein Archives in Chicago. She was Director of the Chicago Jewish Archives at Spertus Institute for Jewish Learning and Leadership from 1996 to 2008 and regularly wrote a column for *Chicago Jewish History* called "From the Archives." Joy is currently working on a special project to facilitate the use of the Spertus archives in teaching. She has an MA in History and an MLS from Indiana University, and she is a member of the Academy of Certified Archivists.

**JEROLD LEVIN** earned a BS in Construction Management with a minor in Economics from Bradley University, and upon graduation joined the family construction business, Architectural Builders Co. After selling the business in 1985, he joined the Ben A. Borenstein Co. as a VP. He retired from full-time work in 2008. Jerry and his wife Evie live in West Rogers Park where they raised their two sons. They are longtime members of Temple Beth-El. Jerry is a past president of the congregation, now located in Northbrook. The Levins joined the CJHS in 1977 after meeting Founding President Muriel Rogers at the United States Bicentennial exhibition at the Museum of Science and Industry. Jerry has been on the Board for nine years and currently serves as the Society's co-president.

**MARK MANDLE** is a longtime member of the CJHS. He is a former secretary of the Society, and a former co-chair of the Oral History Committee. Mark has guided several Society tours, most recently a walk through Chicago's historic North Side Jewish cemeteries, and he has

contributed articles to *Chicago Jewish History*. He is active at KAM Isaiah Israel Congregation, and is a past member of the Board there. Mark is also a genealogist.

**PATTI RAY** began working for Hillel in 1971 as a graduate student at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She became the first woman Hillel Director in 1975 when she was appointed Hillel Director at the University of Illinois Chicago Circle. Patti left Hillel work in 1979 to start a family. She returned in 1987 to establish Hillel at Loyola University Chicago. She also directed The Cross-Campus Program of The Hillels of Illinois. Patti retired from The Hillels of Illinois in 2013 and is now an Adjunct Staff Member of Loyola's Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and Advisor to the Loyola-Israel Student Alliance. She is married to attorney Allen Ray. They have two children and three grandchildren.

**ALISSA TANZAR ZEFFREN** has been teaching high school history classes for the past eleven years. She currently teaches Bible and Jewish History at her alma mater, Ida Crown Jewish Academy, where she is also one of the Student Activities Directors. Alissa earned her BA in Jewish History and Judaic Studies from Hebrew Theological College, a member of the Touro College and University System. She earned two MAs from Loyola University Chicago in Modern European History and American History. Alissa lives in "Skevanston" with her husband Levi Zeffren, director of development at Akiba Schechter Jewish Day School, and their three children.

# Berthold Loewenthal

## *Banker, Civic Leader, Radical Reformer*

ROBERT A. SIDEMAN



**Berthold Loewenthal.**  
(1830-1906).

*The Standard Club's First  
Hundred Years, 1969.*

**B**erthold Loewenthal was born in Muhringen, Germany, in 1830. He left for the United States, apparently without a formal education, at the age of 20. Loewenthal settled in Rock Island, Illinois, at a time when the first railroad bridge across the Mississippi River opened there—built by the Rock Island Line. Soon after his arrival, Loewenthal and a partner opened Block & Loewenthal, Rock Island's first clothing store. Loewenthal soon became a highly successful member of the community. In addition to his store, he helped establish a successful wholesale liquor firm, was an early and active investor in the Rock Island Plow Works, a local startup, and he acquired a considerable amount of real estate. Loewenthal's success extended to public life: in 1856, voters of Rock Island's Second Ward elected him to the City Council. He married Nennchen (Nannie) Kaufmann.

Loewenthal moved to Chicago in 1863 and went to work as a tobacco merchant, a common calling of Jewish men at that time. Several years later, he became associated with a bank known as the International Mutual Trust Company, and in 1870 he took over as President and principal shareholder. The bank's name was appropriate, for it was particularly known for its foreign exchange department that maintained correspondent relationships with leading entities across Europe, including the Rothschilds.

As if to emphasize this aspect of the bank's business, Loewenthal renamed it "International Bank." He led the bank successfully for almost thirty years through panics and scares, busts and depressions. Its shareholders and customers were said to include leading Chicago families, manufacturers, and merchants.

In 1898 International Bank merged with the much larger Continental National Bank, a forerunner of the Continental Bank on LaSalle Street. Levy Mayer, a founder of the Mayer Brown law firm, who handled the transaction, called it "a junction of two strong and conservative banks." Continental National's significant local presence now combined with International Bank's important overseas business. Upon the merger, Loewenthal joined the board of Continental National, where he served with such prominent figures as J. Ogden Armour. Loewenthal remained a director of Continental National until his death.

By the late 1860s, Loewenthal and his family were living in a row house near Plymouth Court and Van Buren Street, where Chicago Sinai Congregation and the residences of leading Jewish families were located. Around 1870 the Loewentals moved to a more spacious home, settling at 1829 South Indiana Avenue, in what is today's Prairie Avenue Historic District, where he resided the rest of his life.

**I**n 1870, the same year he took over the bank, Loewenthal became President of the United Hebrew Relief Association, earliest predecessor of the Jewish Federation. Loewenthal could not have known what awaited the Jewish community toward the end of his two-year term: the catastrophic fire of October 1871. The fire destroyed the entire central business district, and with it employment for many Jewish breadwinners, not to mention Jewish-owned businesses, from department stores to the smallest enterprises, all lost.

Five of the city's seven synagogues went up in flames, while 500 Jewish families were left homeless, "300 among them destitute." At a time when philanthropy and social service were both in their infancy, Loewenthal no doubt had to carry much of the burden himself. While his own home was outside the fire zone, he, too, was personally affected: his daughter recalled "dozens" of people converging on their house as the fire raged.

The Standard Club was founded in 1869 with a slate of officers and directors that did not include Loewenthal; one year later Loewenthal was installed as President for the first of two terms. The Standard Club was founded for social purposes, but from the beginning it had a strong civic orientation. Many early



### **The Standard Club.**

Southwest corner Michigan Avenue and Twenty-Fourth Street.  
From the book *The Standard Club, Chicago*,  
created by the Standard Club, 1912, frontispiece.  
Collection of the Chicago History Museum. ICHI-067951.

members were leaders of Chicago's Jewish community, so it was only natural that the Club quickly became the site of events such as meetings, banquets, and receptions that benefitted Jewish organizations across the city. Often, these same community leaders took important roles at the Club, and Loewenthal's own commitment to the Jewish community may have been a factor in his selection as President only a year into the Club's existence and just seven years after his arrival in the city.

**T**he Chicago Public Library was established in the wake of the fire of 1871, and from the beginning the Library Board of Directors included one informal "Jewish seat." Its first occupant was Julius Rosenthal, a widely known lawyer who assembled Chicago's first law library (today the Cook County Law Library in the Daley Center); later came Emil G. Hirsch, the city's most prominent rabbi. In between them was Berthold Loewenthal, who in the 1870s and '80s spent seven years on the Library Board, four of them as President.

From its earliest days, the Board was intent on erecting a splendid new central library on Michigan Avenue—today's Chicago Cultural Center—that would be the pride of Chicago and a public building of national significance. The city administration felt it could spend only so much on it, fearing taxpayer resistance. So the Library Board, during Loewenthal's

tenure and beyond, took it upon itself to raise additional funds from private sources, as Millennium Park was financed in recent years. One has only to spend a few minutes in Preston Bradley Hall today to realize that its sumptuous ornamentation, featuring the world's largest Tiffany-domed ceiling, may have been an instance of private philanthropy stepping in, and that the vision and generosity of Loewenthal and others in creating a world-class building has been realized.

**T**he University of Chicago was launched in May 1889 with a significant grant from John D. Rockefeller. He conditioned his offer to backers of the university, led by William Rainey Harper and his chief fundraiser, Thomas W. Goodspeed, to first raise a substantial amount themselves, and do so by June 1, 1890. However, the campaign faltered as the deadline approached. Goodspeed, who became the university's first historian, wrote what happened next:

On February 20, 1890, [Goodspeed and a colleague] called on B. Loewenthal, a Jewish banker, who expressed great interest and promised to inaugurate a campaign among his people.

Loewenthal convened a meeting at the Standard Club on April 8, 1890, to which he invited the entire membership. The resulting fund drive, co-chaired by Loewenthal and Emil G. Hirsch, turned the corner. As Goodspeed wrote:

This generous cooperation was one of the essential factors in the final success achieved. The fact that the Standard Club and the Jews generally were making this volunteer contribution for the new institution did much to invite public attention and to interest all classes of citizens in the campaign.

In a much earlier unpublished letter of appreciation to members of the Standard Club, Goodspeed was more candid:

Gentlemen: when we were in the utmost danger of failing in our efforts to secure the establishment of the University of Chicago, the Club came to our relief. The contributions [Loewenthal and Hirsch] handed me enabled me to meet the conditions imposed upon us and thus secure the establishment of the University. It has been felt by the [Baptist] denomination that inaugurated the campaign and by the Board of Trustees of the University that the action of

*Continued on Page 16*

## Berthold Loewenthal *Continued from Page 15*

the Standard Club was one of notable public spirit and liberality. It will be held in lasting and grateful remembrance...

Loewenthal's personal generosity to the university included endowment of a fellowship in chemistry, given in memory of a son.

**B**erthold Loewenthal also made a significant, even unique contribution to Reform Judaism. Chicago Sinai Congregation is best known for its radical approach to Jewish worship, which the congregation adopted in two bursts. In 1874 Sinai initiated Sunday services, the first synagogue to do so, while in 1883 came other drastic measures, such as the elimination of Hebrew. While these were proposed by two different rabbis—Kaufmann Kohler in 1874 and Emil G. Hirsch in 1883—both sets of reforms were accomplished during the presidency of Berthold Loewenthal, who served in that position from 1872 to 1879, and again from 1882 to 1885. It is a testament to Loewenthal's

leadership skills that he was able to secure approval for such controversial measures from a board with vocal opposing factions.

Loewenthal himself belonged to Sinai's radical faction. As a longtime Jewish leader, he watched as increasing numbers of families became indifferent to the faith; in particular, he saw an entire generation of young people reject the prevailing Orthodoxy with nowhere else to turn. He and others at Sinai felt that many people were in danger of being lost to Judaism entirely unless drastic measures were taken to make religion, and religious practices, relevant to their lives in a free and diverse society. Rather than diluting Judaism, radical Reformers felt they were actually strengthening it. Yet some of Loewenthal's own proposed measures—such as moving the High Holidays to Sundays—went too far even for Hirsch. At a celebration of Sinai's 25th anniversary in 1886, Loewenthal sounded notes of pride mixed with defiance:

Sinai Congregation is today recognized and usually denounced as the most radical Reform congregation in America, if not on the face of the globe. We are proud of the distinction of being the best abused congregation on the continent; that of itself would be sufficient cause for celebration.

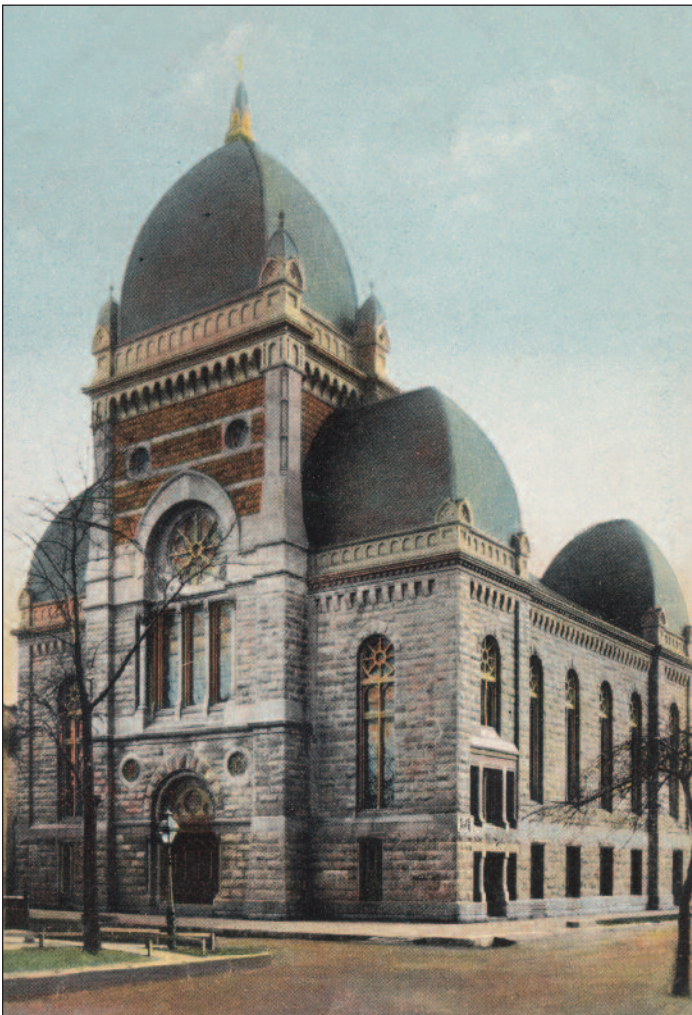
Berthold Loewenthal died in 1906, survived by his wife and only two of their six children. Shortly after his death, an anonymous reporter for *The Reform Advocate*, probably Emil G. Hirsch, wrote of him:

He possessed a powerful and keen intellect, was a man of force, independence and excellent judgment, and it was this masterful mind of his that always won him great admiration. He understood men and measures, and it was seldom that any problem presented to him proved too perplexing. ❖

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**ROBERT A. SIDEMAN** and Merle A. Branner are co-authors of "Martha Newman: Pioneer on the Suburban Frontier" (*Chicago Jewish History*, Winter 2014). He is a member of the CJHS.

**Sinai Temple.** Indiana Avenue and Twenty-First Street, c. 1890. Chicago History Museum, ICHI-065605 © Chicago Historical Society, all rights reserved.



# Sheldon Harnick: From Chicago to Anatevka

EDWARD H. MAZUR

When discussing and writing about Jewish emigration from Europe to the United States, we usually view it as a movement from Old World ports of embarkation to our New World shores—or as a local urban historian like myself would write, “From Anatevka to Chicago.” But in the case of the megahit musical “Fiddler on the Roof,” it is just the opposite—“From Chicago to Anatevka.”

**S**heldon Mayer Harnick, the “Fiddler” lyricist, was born on April 30, 1924. He traces his career back to his Chicago childhood, when his mother wrote doggerel for birthdays, bar mitzvahs, and weddings, and his sister wrote serious poetry. Young Sheldon opted for comic verse. He was raised in the decidedly non-Jewish northwest side Irving Park neighborhood. He attended Carl Schurz High School on Addison and Milwaukee Avenues, where his poems were published in the school newspaper. Already stagestruck, he acted in an Off Loop production of a play called “Those Extra-ordinary Greeks,” that closed after one performance.

During World War II Harnick was drafted into the Army. In his three years of service, he never saw combat. “I do have a bayonet wound, but it came from trying to open a can of peanuts with my bayonet.” In his free time he wrote songs for his comrades to send to their girlfriends, and he met a theatrical agent, Saul Lerner.

After WWII Harnick enrolled at Northwestern University, enticed by the school’s annual revue, “The Waa-Mu Show.” (He had intended to study violin, but a shoulder injury ended that dream.) His talented fellow student Charlotte Rae performed one of his songs, “I’ve Got Those Gotta-Go-Home-Alone-Tonight Blues.” She introduced him to a recording of the musical “Finian’s Rainbow” that encouraged him to become a lyricist.

Rae preceded Harnick to New York. She convinced him to come there, too, because, “I kept telling him, I’ve seen a lot of musicals, and his material is better than most of them.” He moved to New York in 1950. He saw his first Broadway play, “The Member of the Wedding,” that brought stardom the young Julie Harris. He placed a few songs in Off Broadway revues, and then had a Broadway breakthrough in Leonard Stillman’s “New Faces of 1952” with a comic solo, “The Boston Beguine,” performed by Alice Ghostley, which became a showstopper. But television put an end to the revues, and Harnick began writing for book shows, musicals with a narrative structure.

**W**hile working on a stage adaptation of the book “Shangri-La,” Harnick was introduced to the composer Jerry Bock. Their collaboration would become one of the most famous in musical theater

history. They had great successes with “Fiorello!” and “She Loves Me,” but “Fiddler” was their masterpiece—a global phenomenon, staged almost 20,000 times since the 1990s. (Starting with the pre-Broadway tryouts in Detroit, over time, and in many cities, Harnick hosted Shabbat dinners with local rabbis and the production’s actors.) Unfortunately, Harnick and Bock had a falling out in 1970 and stopped working together.

Bock passed away in 2010. Jerome Robbins, the brilliant director-choreographer of “Fiddler,” died in 1998. So Sheldon Harnick is the only surviving member of the original creative team.

**I**n December 2018 and early January 2019 a fresh production of “Fiddler” played in Chicago. This production is part of a twelve-month national tour. It follows a Broadway revival that marked the 50th anniversary of the show’s 1964 premiere.

Countless audiences, Jewish and non-Jewish, have seen “Fiddler” at least once over the years. In my case, this latest production was the fifth time that I enjoyed Tevye, the dairyman who debates with God, his outspoken daughters, the bottle dance, and the atmosphere of Anatevka, a fictional shtetl like the real Ukrainian villages that existed in the Jewish Pale of Settlement in Czarist Russia. “Fiddler” is based on a beloved series of Yiddish stories by Sholem Aleichem.

I have shlepped my wife Myrna, our parents, our daughter Amanda, and our grandchildren Alden Lily and Dempsey Harrison to the show so many times that if a Chicago passport existed, our family’s documents would display many Anatevka stamps!

The Broadway role of Tevye was originated by Zero Mostel, and the Hollywood movie’s Tevye was Chaim Topol, an Israeli. Yehezkel Lazarov, the current Chicago Tevye, is also Israeli.

Thanks to the influences of his rhyming mother and poet sister; his early publisher, Schurz High School; his theatrical training ground, Northwestern University; and his good friend, Charlotte Rae, Sheldon Harnick’s Chicago beginnings contributed to the enjoyment of “Fiddler” for my family (again and again!) and for millions of others in theaters around the world. ❖



## BEYOND CHICAGO: ILLINOIS JEWISH ROOTS

# The Radwine/Picker Family of Christian County

CANTOR SAM RADWINE

**O**ur story begins with my grandfather, Sam (Shia) Picker (1874-1950). Most of the information I have about him is anecdotal, shared by my mother, Leila Claire Picker Radwine, and her sisters, Edna Picker Frankel Harris, and Rita Picker Rubens.

Sam Picker was born in the Russian Empire in what is now Belarus. He was the son of Herschel and Etta Picker. His siblings were brothers David, Louis, Myram, James, and sister Clara. Clara married Solomon Sicular and did not come to America.

Immigration records show Sam entering the US through New York. He made his way to St. Louis, where he worked in a shirtwaist factory. As with so many of his contemporaries of the day, he “went out on the road,” as a traveling peddler. Sometime in the mid

1890s he settled in Assumption, Illinois, a small farm town south of Decatur, in Christian County. There he married Etta Lewis, who was from Springfield. Sam and Etta had four children—Edna, Rita, Paul, and Herschel. Sam established “Picker’s Clothing” on the main business street in Assumption.

Etta Picker died in 1918. Shortly after her death, Sam traveled back to New York to visit family. There he met a distant cousin, Hilda (Hadassah) Yohalem. Hilda and her family had immigrated to New York from Antipol, Poland. Sam and Hilda were married on March 2, 1920, in New York City. Sam brought Hilda back to Assumption, her first venture out of the New York area. On April 21, 1921, Hilda gave birth to her only child, Leila Claire—my mother.



**Purim Carnival, Temple B'nai Abraham. Decatur, Illinois, c. 1930.** *Leila is in the second row from the top, fifth from the left. Over her left shoulder is her niece, Edith Frankel (Shapiro.), who was actually two months older than Leila. Photos courtesy of Sam Radwine.*

Some time around 1930, my grandparents, mother, and Uncle Herschel moved to Decatur, where Sam began helping his daughter Edna in her drugstore. Rita had already left home to teach school. Sam's son Paul had suffered for years with mental illness. At some point in the late 1920s, he entered the Illinois State Hospital in Jacksonville, where he lived until his death in 1957.

Prohibition was lifted in 1933, and Sam eventually opened a wholesale liquor distributorship in Decatur. The family were members of Temple B'nai Abraham, where my mother, Leila, was confirmed. She graduated from Decatur High School.

Around 1938, Sam and Hilda moved to Taylorville, Illinois, where there was an opportunity to open a retail liquor business. They found other Jewish families who had established businesses, some dating back to the 1870s. Among them were the Marblestones, Summers, Bravermans, Frisches, Cohens, Cohns, and others who were probably there for a while, but did not stay.

During World War II, when travelling was difficult because of gas rationing, a rabbi from Springfield would come from time to time, and hold a service for Taylorville families in my grandparents' home.

My mother then lived and worked in Springfield, where she lived with her cousins, Cecile and Clyde Meiers. Though we were only related by marriage, Cecile remained a close family member for the rest of her life. My mother related many stories of the war years in Springfield. She told of the period when Cecile's sister, Selma Harris Strauss, was living with them. Selma's husband, Captain Jacque Strauss, of Peoria, was aboard a troop carrier that went down in the Atlantic, and he was reported missing in action. For the rest of her life, my mother could hear Selma's shrieks as the grey War Department sedan pulled up to their home to bring confirmation of Jacque's death.

**T**he war years brought USO gatherings specifically for Jewish servicemen at Temple B'rith Sholom, which was down the street from the Meiers home. It was at one of these events, sometime in 1944, that Leila met Staff Sergeant Harry Radwine of Chicago. He was stationed at Camp Ellis.\* A courtship ensued, and when Harry got his orders for overseas, he and Leila decided to marry. Their wedding took place at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Springfield, on March 4, 1945. Their attendants were Leila's cousin Edith, and Harry's cousin, Henry Hankin. Rabbi Ferdinand Isserman of St. Louis officiated.

\*Camp Ellis was a United States WW II Army Service Forces Unit Training Center and prisoner-of-war camp between the towns of Bernadotte, Ipava, and Table Grove in Fulton County, Illinois. German prisoners of war were guarded by the 475th and 476th Military Police Escort Guard Companies. — *Wikipedia*.



**Leila Claire Picker and Harry Radwine, 1945.**

Leila opened "Lee's Ladies and Children's Apparel" on the south side of Taylorville Square. Beginning in the late 1960s, Harry went to work for the State of Illinois in Springfield. The clothing store closed in the 1980s.

Leila gave birth to three sons, all born at St. Vincent's Hospital in Taylorville. I am the eldest, born in 1952; Nathaniel Jacob was born in 1956, and David Herschel in 1959. Given the lack of a Jewish community in Taylorville, it was important that the family make an effort to maintain Jewish identity. We were members of Temple B'rith Sholom in Springfield, where we all became bnai mitzvah and confirmands. We were also active in the Temple youth groups. My father served the congregation as President in the 1980s.

Each of us attended the University of Illinois (UIUC), where I graduated with a BA in Music and Nat with a Business degree. Nat has had a real estate appraisal business for many years in Springfield. He is the father of Zachary Radwine, MD, Zoey Radwine, RN, and Mira Radwine, and zeyde of three Radwines.

After two years at the U of I, David continued his education until graduation from the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, NY. He continued in the food industry in Chicago and Springfield.

I was ordained a cantor at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1981 and served congregations in Connecticut and California before retiring to Rogers, Arkansas. I have also served on the faculty of HUC/Los Angeles. Currently I am on the faculty of the Academy for Jewish Religion/California.

There are many small-town Jews like my forebears, who, because of many circumstances, blended into the American melting pot. It is only through their strength of faith and character that Jewish identity and commitment could be sustained through the generations.

May their memories be for a blessing. ❖

Harry returned to Taylorville after the war. He and Leila lived with Sam and Hilda. Harry opened a variety/drug sundries store on the east side of Taylorville Courthouse Square. Picker's Liquors was located in the back of the store.

Sam Picker died in 1950. Hilda maintained the liquor business into the mid 1950s. Around that time, Harry and

Look to the rock from which you were born  
הביטו אל-צור חצבתכם



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## Our History and Mission

The Chicago Jewish Historical Society was founded in 1977, and is in part an outgrowth of local Jewish participation in the United States Bicentennial Celebration of 1976 at an exhibition mounted at the Museum of Science and Industry by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and the American Jewish Congress. Three years after celebrating our “double *chai*,” the Society’s

**Tribute Cards for Celebrations or Memorials** The card design features the Society’s handsome logo. Inside, our mission statement and space for your personal message. Pack of five cards & envelopes \$18.00. Individual cards can be mailed for you from our office at \$5.00 per card, postage included. Mail your order and check to the CJHS office, 610 South Michigan Avenue, Room 803. Chicago IL 60605-1901. You may also order online at our website.

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All issues of our Society periodical from 1977 to the present are digitized and posted on our website in pdf format. Click on the Publications tab and scroll down through the years. There is also an Index to the issues from 1977 to 2012.

## ABOUT THE SOCIETY

unique mission continues to be the discovery, collection, and dissemination of information about the Jewish experience in the Chicago area through publications, open meetings, tours, and outreach to youth. The Society does not maintain its own archives, but seeks out written, spoken, and photographic records and artifacts and responsibly arranges for their donation to Jewish archives.

**Membership** in the Society is open to all interested persons and organizations, and includes:

- A subscription to the Society’s award-winning quarterly journal, *Chicago Jewish History*.
- Free admission to Society public programs. General admission is \$10 per person.
- Discounts on Society tours.
- Membership runs on a calendar year, from January through December. New members joining after July 1st are given an initial membership through December of the following year.

Life Membership	\$1,000
Annual Dues	
Historian	500
Scholar	250
Sponsor	100
Patron	65
Member	40
Student (with I.D.)	10



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