



**THE SER-CHARLAP FAMILY  
NEWSLETTER**

Vol. 2, No. 1

Nissan 5751, Spring 1991

**BOOKS AND BOOKS AND BOOKS AND. . .**

Jews have always been known as **The People of the Book**. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that the Ser-Charlap family has a long history of book related activities. Members of our family have been and are authors, publishers, printers, booksellers, and, of course, readers. With the world, once again, demonstrating that the veneer of civilization is dangerously thin, it seems appropriate to recall that we are doing our part to maintain a life imbued with learning, culture, and morality. This issue of the Newsletter is dedicated to those in the family who are, indeed, **The People of the Book**.

**THE FAMILY BOOKSTORE**

When Julius Ser (1440, Pl.8cb) spoke to the assemblage at our first convention, he described himself as a "recovering attorney". His recovery was accelerated by his love of books. In the early 1980s he helped his nephew, Mitchell Kaplan (1673), establish Books and Books in Coral Gables, close by the University of Miami. At the time Julius was still practicing law. In jest, he would plead with Mitch to find a niche for his uncle in the store. Mitchell was sympathetic. He, too, had studied law, following in the footsteps, not only of Julius, but of his father, Joseph Kaplan (1444). Mitchell viewed his uncle as a natural for the book business; Julius had always been viewed as a Renaissance Man. Today, the two work together in their successful establishment at 296 Aragon Ave. Books and Books has grown to be a gathering spot for the area's intellectuals. Regular poetry readings are held, and lectures have been given by such notables as Isaac

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Bashevis Singer, Susan Sontag, and Carlos Fuentes. The store maintains a hot-line to inform the community of upcoming events at this cultural haven. By calling (305) 444-POEM you may also be treated to a little verse. Mitchell has gained great respect among the business and literary leaders of the greater Miami area. He is Co-Chair of the annual Miami Book Fair International. Julius, pursuing his special interest, has been building a rare book section on the second floor. There, one can peruse volumes that were printed as far back as the mid-sixteenth century. Books and Books is not the glittery high volume mall store that has become so prevalent across America. Rather, it is a place to feel at home. Lots of wood paneling, comfortable seating, and nooks to browse encourage the true book lover. Mitch's mom, Helen (1442) often helps out, as this is indeed a Ser family enterprise. Julius and Mitchell encourage Ser-Charlap authors and scholars to join in their literary events. And all family members always receive warm welcomes.

**MESORAH PUBLICATIONS, LTD.**

Over thirty years ago, the well known Rabbi Emanuel Rackman bemoaned the fact that "most American Jews have only the vaguest notions of the nature of Orthodoxy and its spiritual and intellectual vitality." More recently, he reported that he was happy to report that "Orthodox Judaism is coping with that challenge very effectively, and much of the credit is due to those who conceived and are executing the program of the ArtScroll Series." He was speaking of our own Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz (661,Pl.4aa). Meir took up the challenge about fifteen years ago and today Mesorah, which publishes ArtScroll, is a thriving enterprise which is performing a true mitzvah for the Jewish community. Rabbi Rackman says that the "output now is phenomenal - well nigh a miracle." He goes on to say that the "translations are felicitous, the expositions abundantly clear, and the art work truly sophisticated. All in all [Mesorah is making] a historic contribution to the advancement of Torah study in English speaking countries." The ArtScroll Library also includes books for children, popular reading on Jewish subjects, biographies, Judaica classics, Haggadahs, Siddurim, beautifully produced Tanach (Bible) and Mishnah series, and the classic Vilna edition of the Talmud, newly annotated and elucidated in English. To learn more, call or write Mesorah Publications,Ltd.

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**THE SER-CHARLAP FAMILY NEWSLETTER** is published quarterly. We encourage submittal of news items, essays, poems, and articles of interest to the family. Correspondence should be directed to:

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By the way, Meir's great grandparents were Baruch Pasternak (504) and Kayla Kur (503,Pl.4). Both Pasternaks and Kurs are lines of our family. Through Kayla's side, Meir's lineage goes back through Gittel Ser Kur (3019,Pl.1a), thence to her father Zebulon (2155,Pl.A-1). Zebulon was the first to use the name Ser. He was the son of Abraham Charlap (2153).

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**BOOKS IN ISRAEL**

Our family's book connection is well represented in Israel. David Familja (250,pl.3eb) is in the printing industry with Masada Press in Givatayim. David's parents, Joseph (247) and Bella (248), were in Europe during World War II. Their story is one of heroic survival and rescue of many fellow Jews. David is the grandson of Rivka Ser (379) and David Familja (380), for whom he is named. They lost their lives during the Holocaust. David represents the resurgence of Polish Jewry in Israel. He is married to the charming Tova Michaeli (253) and has three lovely children, Amir (456), Asaf (457), and the youngest, Michal (4118) born in 1989.

Who would have thought that a Jewish girl brought up in Manhattan would one day own a bookstore close to the edge of the Negev Desert? But that's the saga of Marcia Levine Mimran (5697,Pl.26b). Marcia made aliyah in 1981 and shortly thereafter married Michael (5702), who came to Israel from Fez, Morocco. They have two young children, Avital (5703) and Liana (5704). Marcia's Seforim (Marcia's Books) opened for business about a year-and-a-half ago in Qiryat Gat. Recently, Marcia opened a second store and is now thinking about still further expansion. Arthur (5657) and Sybil (5660), her proud parents, tell us that Marcia loves to receive relatives who are in the area.

Our family has a rich lineage of distinguished scholars and rabbis who lived in Eretz Yisroael. They have left an impressive legacy of their writings for us and for the entire Jewish people. This will be a subject for future newsletters.

## THE SACHAR CONNECTION

On the Saturday night of Sept. 15, 1990, which was the night of Selichot services 25 Elul 5750, we attended a lecture at The Huntington Jewish Center on Long Island. The speaker was Howard Sachar; the subject, "The Upheaval in Eastern Europe: The Jewish Fate and Fortune." Dr. Sachar is Professor of History at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. He is a consultant on Middle Eastern affairs for numerous government bodies and lectures widely throughout the United States and abroad. He has been Visiting Professor both at Tel Aviv University and Hebrew University in Jerusalem. Dr. Sachar has taught extensively in the fields of Modern European, Jewish, and Middle Eastern History, and has lived in Israel as Director of Brandeis University's Hiatt Institute in Jerusalem. He is the author of nine books. We had heard rumors that the Sachars were somehow related to the Ser-Charlap family, so after the lecture and before Selichot services, we approached Howard and told him about the activities in the family. He broke out with a broad smile, stuck out his hand, and said, "Cousin!" However, Howard did not know how he was related to us. He suggested that we contact his father Abram.

Abram Leon Sachar is the distinguished historian, educator, and university president, whose History of the Jews has been acclaimed worldwide. He received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Cambridge University, England and in 1923 joined the history faculty at the University of Illinois. In 1928 he was named National Director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations in American universities, a post which he held for twenty years. Dr. Sachar is a prolific writer of books and scholarly papers. He numbers among his friends some of the world's leading figures. He was the founding President of Brandeis University, where he maintains an office as Chancellor Emeritus. While preparing this newsletter we called Abram Sachar and had a delightful chat. We are, indeed, mishpocha. Abram's grandmother was Miriam Charlap. She was the wife of the revered Rabbi Bernard Abramowitz, who was born in Lithuania but emigrated to the United States. We were informed that some of Abram's nephews were working on a family tree and that he would put them in touch. Together, we will be able to determine just where this Charlap line fits in with our family.

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**AN AFRICAN ADVENTURE**

Larry (4416) and Judy (4407, Pl.A-9a) Rothberg have travelled to remote and primitive areas throughout the world. Now, Judy has written a lively account of her impressions of several African trips in Meet Me In West Africa: The Ivory Coast, Togo, and Senegal. Judy is an educator and this book is designed to enlighten, inform, and delight students, parents, and teachers. It treats the history, geography, government, economics, and culture of these areas. Judy received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Brooklyn College. She holds a Certificate in Guidance from Long Island University and is certified by Columbia University in Supervision and Administration of Elementary Education. She is a doctoral candidate at Columbia. Judy has taught and supervised teachers at the William Rall School, Lindenhurst, N.Y. for over thirty years. This book is hot off the presses and if you wish to order an autographed copy, contact:

Judith Rothberg  
 1 Cedar Lane  
 Glen Cove, N.Y. 11542  
 Tel: (516) 759-1779

Judy's brother is Al Jablowsky (4408). Al is in the process of preparing their mother's manuscripts for publication. Esther Jablowsky (4392), who wrote under her maiden name of Charloff was a well-known poet and composer. She wrote in Yiddish and Hebrew and had a regular column in the New York Yiddish newspaper Der Tog (The Day). Esther's father was the famous Rabbi and Cantor of Tykocin (Tiktin), Poland, who composed many liturgical gems. His name was Yitzhak Yaacov Charlap (4383, Pl.A-9) and he was married to Chaya Lifsche Belouze (4384). Saul Bellow is descended from the Belouze family. Esther's niece, Shayna Dinah Fingerhut (4406), survived the Holocaust and was known to be living in Jerusalem with her husband Sol Fingerhut (4415). We are trying to locate them or their children. Can anyone help?

**THE UNBROKEN CHAIN**  
**Biographical Sketches and the**  
**Genealogy of Illustrious Jewish**  
**Families from the 15th-20th Century**  
 by  
**Neil Rosenstein**

Dr. Neil Rosenstein is one of the giants of Jewish genealogy. Born in South Africa, he now is a practicing surgeon in Elizabeth, New Jersey. Neil is a founder of the Jewish Genealogy Society and has written extensively about his research. The second edition of The Unbroken Chain was published in 1990 and it is described by the publisher as "An authoritative and unique English language Who's Who source for the history and genealogy of rabbinic leadership spanning five hundred years. Included is the intricate web of cousinhood relationships among these rabbinic families and their chassidic dynastic offshoots. . . an elaborate and complex cousinhood that will astound both student and scholar alike, in fact defying the imagination. The descendants of these rabbinic families and chassidic dynasties are traced from the prominent 16th century Rabbi Meir Katzenellenbogen of Padua and his grandson, Saul Wahl the Jewish King of Poland (1587). From rabbinic origins to the modern world one follows the lineage of famous Rabbis and Royalty, Barons and Bankers, Lords and Laymen, Philosophers and Pulitzer Prize Winners, Professors and Princes, National Leaders and Nobel Laureates, the family of Lord Immanuel Jakobovits, Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, editors of the *London Jewish Chronicle* and *Encyclopedia Judaica*, and personalities as varied as Buber, Marx, Helena Rubinstein, David Halberstam, Mendelssohn, world chassidic leaders, Abraham Joshua Heschel, the Dean of Canterbury, Menuhin, Lords and Barons de Rothschild, Freud's personal physician, the first woman judge in Israel, the founder of the Hebrew Medical Journal, Alaskan Chief Justice, and thousands of others from all walks of life." The Unbroken Chain consists of two hardcover volumes of over 1350 pages and costs \$69.95. To order call:

The Computer Center For Jewish Genealogy  
 Tel: (201) 353-5575

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 NEW ADDITIONS

**Jessica Elsie (Chaya Elka) Blier** (6056, Pl. 23b) made her debut on Feb. 5th. The Bliers have reported births in two successive issues of our Newsletter. In Vol. 1, No. 4 we reported the birth of Jessica's older brother Adam (5766), now one year old. Proud parents are Alan (5755) and Michelle (5764). Alan is the son of Robert (5749) and Rose Lew (5746) Blier.

**Michelle Charlip** (6326, Pl. A-11baa) was born in Brooklyn on Aug. 20, 1990. She is the first daughter for Alan (6213) and Michelle (6235) [Another Alan/Michelle pair] and first grandchild for Eddie (6093) and Roslyn (6099). Charlip is a variation in spelling of Charlap; they are derived from the same line of the family.

**Cindy** (6228) and **Nichole Charloff** (6227, Pl. A-9) are twin girls who arrived on Sept. 9, 1990. That makes four for parents Leonard (4422) and Regla (4434). Grandparents are Sol (4403) and Sally (4413). The great-great grandparents of the twins are Yitzhak Yaacov Charlap (4383) and his wife Chaya Belouze (4384) who are mentioned on P. 3.

**Amelia Hale Cohen** (5808, Pl. A-6a), born Nov. 28, 1990, is the first child of Alan Cohen (5521) and Anne Charlap (3784). Amelia will probably become a great musician. Her grandfather, "Moose" Charlap (3780), was the accomplished composer whose most famous work was the Broadway show "Peter Pan". Amelia's uncles are professional jazz musicians Billy (3787) [piano] and Tommy (3785) [bass fiddle]. They have recently concluded a successful run, along with their Mom, Sandy Stewart (3783), at New York's Michael's Pub. Sandy is a super vocalist.

**Jillian Ariel Holtz** (5816, Pl. 11a), born July 5, 1990, the third child of Michael (1569) and Marcia (1567). Grandparents are Larry (1562) and Diane (1560) Jabben. Diane's grandparents are Enoch Velvel Kur (1542) and Zelda Smolarczyk (1546) and her aunt was Faiga Leah Kiejmacher (637), who  
 (continued on page 6)

## THE MENORAH JOURNAL

On July 14, 1886, in the small Lithuanian shtetl of Butrymonis, a son (4049,Pl.A-3a) was born to Marks and Bella Hurwitz. When the boy was six years old, the family emigrated to America, where he was known as Henry. At age eighteen, Henry was enrolled at Harvard University, where in 1906 he was instrumental in starting the Menorah movement which grew rapidly and spread to over eighty institutions of higher learning in the United States and Canada. The stated aim of the movement was "to advance Jewish culture and ideals through study and creative expression and to enrich and clarify the life of Jewry as an integral part of the life of mankind." By 1915 the movement gave birth to *The Menorah Journal*, a scholarly and literary Jewish publication which had no peer for the better part of fifty years. Leo W. Schwarz was a contemporary of Henry at Harvard. He has observed that "it was Henry Hurwitz who conceived and nurtured *The Menorah Journal* and served as its Editor from beginning to end. . . He possessed a cultivated mind and above all was a man of taste and imagination. By matchless skill and boundless devotion, he made *The Menorah Journal* what he intended it to be - a magazine of intellectual distinction and superior craftsmanship. His influence will abide in the one hundred and fifty-seven issues of *The Journal* he bequeathed as the cultural inheritance of American Jewry, and perhaps even more so in the periodicals for which it serves as a model and in the men and women who felt and thought with *The Menorah Journal* for two generations." Henry believed in his mission and the need to "reassert the Jewish conception of the wholeness of human life. The whole is religious and must be sanctified."

Henry Hurwitz set forth the editorial policy of the new organ in its very first issue, published in January 1915:

*Conceived as it is and nurtured as it must continue to be in the spirit that gave birth to the Menorah idea, The Menorah Journal is under compulsion to be absolutely non-partisan, an expression of all that is best in Judaism and not merely of some particular sect or school or locality or group of special interests; fearless in telling the truth; promoting constructive thought rather than aimless controversy; animated with vitality and enthusiasm of youth; harking back to the past that we may deal more wisely with the present and the future; recording and appreciating Jewish achievement, not to brag, but to bestir ourselves to emulation and to deepen the consciousness of noblesse oblige; striving always to be sane and level-headed; offering no opinions of its own, but providing an orderly platform for the discussion of mooted questions that really matter; dedicated first and foremost to the fostering of the Jewish "humanities" and the furthering of their influence as a spur to human service.*

Henry received two degrees from Harvard, an A.B. in 1908 and an A.M. in 1911. In 1917 he married Ruth Sapinsky (4041), a writer who contributed several memorable articles to *The Menorah Journal* under the name Ruth Sapin. They had two sons, David Lyon (4062,Pl.A-3ab) and Henry, Jr. (4061). Both are interested in the family association and have contributed some valuable documents to our archives. Ruth was the daughter of Jacob Sapinsky (4023,Pl.A-3) and Minnie (Dinah) Charlap (4019). Minnie's ancestry is illustrious. Her parents were Yosef Zev Charlap (3159) and Frieda Rambar (3162). Yosef Zev was the son of Yehuda Leib (3148,Pl.A), Rabbi of Mariampol, Lithuania. Yehuda Leib was married to the daughter of the renowned Shershaber Rabbi. Yehuda's father was the progenitor of our family tree, Abraham Charlap (2153). Henry Hurwitz had four grandchildren, one of whom Robin Inwald (4085) is deeply conscious of the *yichus* of her line. In 1964 The Jewish Publication Society of America published a collection from *The Journal*. Edited by Leo W. Schwarz, it is entitled *The Menorah Treasury*. Its contents lists such notables as Salo Baron, Israel Zangwill, Mordecai Kaplan, Isaak Babel, Martin Buber, I.L. Peretz, Luigi Pirandello, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Meyer Levin, Maurice Samuel, Lucy Dawidowicz, Emanuel Rackman, Felix Frankfurter, Louis Brandeis, Lewis Mumford, Saul Tchernichowsky, and many others who were discovered and fostered by Henry Hurwitz. Get a copy - it is truly a family heirloom.

**NEW ADDITIONS (cont.)**

married Chaim Bertche Kur (641). Jillian's other grandfather (not on our tree) is Manny Holtz, who established one of the most popular dining spots in Huntington, N.Y. - The Hamburger Choo-Choo.

Two new Pinedo babies arrived in Israel during the summer of 1990. They are the grandchildren of Hector (158) and Colonit (151,Pl.3ecd) Scher Pinedo. During August. **Ronit Pinedo** (5802) was born to Ron (184) and Bridgette (5801). Ron works for El Al Airlines and is stationed in Zurich, Swit. **Otal Pinedo** (5800), Ronit's 1st cousin, was born on Sept. 4,1990 to Gabi (183) and Ruth (185) of Petah Tikvah. Grandmother Colonit was born Catalina in Argentina. She was one of nine children of Yehoshua (128) and Taibe (133Pl.3e). They came to Argentina with Baron de Hirsch in the early part of this century. The name Scher was a corruption of Ser. Indeed, both of Yehoshua's parents were Sers; his mother was Liebe (124) and his father was Avraham (125), Liebe's cousin from the Wilna area.

**Sean Michael (Avraham Beryl) Morrison** (5114,Pl.A-9c) was born on Sept. 18,1990 in Canada. He is the first child of Jeffrey (4449) and Leslee (5508) Morrison and the sixth grandchild of Barney (4409) and Vera Charloff (4399) Morrison. Sean is named for his grandfather, the eminent Rabbi and Cantor Boris Charloff (4385,Pl.A-9). Boris was born in Tykocin and studied at the renowned Warsaw Conservatory under Cantor Rosenblatt. He later emigrated to Canada.

**Eric Joseph (Aharon Yosef) Schwaber** (5809, Pl.3bc) was born on Nov. 6,1990, the first for Robert (320) and Loureen (2723). Eric is the tenth grandchild for Sidney (283) and Edith (286) Schwaber of Schenectady, N.Y. Sid is the grandson of Sarah Ser (Sahr) (5,Pl.3) who married Shlomo Silverburg (6) of Zaromb. Sarah was born in either Nur or Ciechanowiec. The new baby lives with his parents in Stamford, Ct.

**Rebecca Lynn Toback** (5817,Pl.7e) was born on Dec. 2,1990, the second child of William (1104) and Laurie(1069) and the fourth grandchild for Spencer (1046) and Carolyn

(1057) Kurtz. Spencer is the grandson of Chaya Gittel (677) and Morris Kristol (683). Chaya Gittel's parents were Shayna Parczewski (671,Pl.7) and Mattis Leml Kuhr (672). Going back further, Mattis' father was a Kur, his mother a Kuropatwa. Thus they were cousins. Mattis' grandmother was Gittel Ser (3019,Pl.1a) daughter of Zebulon (2155,Pl.A-1) and granddaughter of Abraham Charlap (2153,Pl.A).

**Joel Ross Zimmerman** (5980,Pl.17ca) was born Oct. 24,1990 to Clifford (2122) and Stacy (5979) of The Bronx,N.Y. Cliff is the grandson of Frieda Pakciar Zimmerman (2080) whose parents were Shmuel Yisroael (2075) and Rivka (2077). Their descendants include the Wax and Weintraub families, as well as the Zimmermans. We have been unsuccessful, to date, in contacting anyone on Plate 17ca. Can anyone help in bringing this large group news of our family activities?

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**MARRIAGES**

On Dec. 15,1990 **Alvin Atlas** (2357,Pl.17ccb) was wed to **Jill Loronto** (5982). The marriage was held in Birmingham, Alabama. Alvin is a veterinarian. His parents are Harry (2252) and Barbara (2380). His grandparents are the late Rabbi Eliyahu (2244) and Laura Morrell (2248) Atlas. Laura celebrated her 98th birthday on Jan. 15th. The newlyweds were both raised in Birmingham.

**Ephrat Brown** (867,Pl.4d) was married to **Itzhak Orbach** (5983) on Dec. 24,1990. The bride is a spokesperson for the Israel Antiquities Authority. Itzhak is an accounts auditor. Ephrat's parents are Ben Tzion (865) and Sarah Pasternak (807) Brown of Kiryat Ono, Israel. Her great-great grandparents were Baruch (504) and Kayla Kur (503,Pl.4) Pasternak. Kayla was a sister of Mattis Kur (672,Pl.1a) who, as mentioned before, derives from the Sers and Charlaps. The Pasternaks are intricately related to Lews, Kiejsmachers, Kurs and Sers.

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### FROM THE MAILBOX

Since the last newsletter we have received a large volume of interesting mail. Perhaps the most urgent follows.

#### MISHPOCHA IN ISRAEL NEED HELP

*In the late 1930s, Elka Silverburg (279, Pl.3ba) presented a baby daughter to her husband Avram Rudatch (282). The infant Dvora (309) was the great-granddaughter of Sarah Ser (5) and Shlomo Silverburg (6, Pl.3). Elka died shortly thereafter and when the Germans invaded Poland in 1939, Avram served with the Polish army. He was killed in action, possibly murdered by Poles or Russians. Dvora was rescued by a neighbor who hid her from the Nazis. After the war she was placed in an orphanage, where a cousin, Aryeh Mankuta (we have not yet been able to determine how Aryeh fits on the tree) discovered her. Upon learning of Dvora's appearance, Moshe (280) and Toba Silverburg (277) Stalkowski went to fetch their niece from the orphanage. It is somewhat unclear, but just prior to the establishment of Israel, Dvora was sent there and placed in a Youth Aliyah camp. Some time later, the Stalkowskis arrived in Israel and the family was reunited. Dvora grew up and married Yohanan Levit, a handsome Sabra. The young couple became farmers in Moshav Ein Iron, not too far from Hadera. They raised fine fruits in their orchards and also raised five beautiful children, four boys and a girl. All served with the IDF. The children represent the rebirth of the Jewish people in Israel. Many of their relatives were victims of the Holocaust, along with too many others on our tree. Now Dvora and Yohanan require some assistance. They are proud people, but they have turned to the mishpocha for help. The following letter tells why.*

Dear Mishpocha,

Due to the work on the "family tree", we have been meeting many relatives whom we did not know. They visit us when they come to Israel and they are always welcome. We are happy to learn that there is a planned family reunion in Israel in July. We hope

no one is afraid to come. We Israelis feel very confident that there is nothing to worry about; the Israel Defense Force guards us well.

However, there is something we would like to ask of you. In the past, in our orchards we grew mostly oranges and avocados. Prices on these fruits have dropped and the market is not there. [ed.:The European Common Market has been favoring fruit from Arab farmers in Gaza, Judea and Samaria.] We have switched to fruits such as apples, peaches, and plums. The market for them is much more lucrative. Because summer fruits ripen in a shorter time, we were obliged to build a cooling house, which cost us a lot of money. To be in debt in Israel is ruinous. If we take out a loan we'd have to pay back twice the principal. We know that the family is very generous for many righteous causes. Would it be possible, from all the good people in America, to make us a loan, not a gift. It will be paid back in no more than two years. Everything would be handled through a bank, so there need not be any fear of being repaid. We require \$15,000. We would be forever grateful for any assistance. But if the matter is too difficult, please ignore the request; we will not be offended. Whatever happens, we look forward to seeing all the mishpocha here in July. With love from all the children and grandchildren.

Dvora and Yohanan Levit  
Ein Iron 30798 (near Pardes Hama  
Karkur), Israel

*ed. note: Anybody interested in helping can write directly to Dvora and Yohanan at the above address, or can contact us.*

Late January 1991

Just a note to let the family know that we called Israel to find out how our relatives were faring in the face of the SCUD attacks. We spoke to Dvora Levit (309, Pl.3ba) and she said they were well and in safe locations. She did say that windows were blown out of Itzak(305) and Malka (306) Stalkowski's apartment in Petak Tikvah. They were thankful that they and their young children were not hurt. Of course, a few hours after we spoke, Israel was again hit by missiles. Haifa was hit.

(cont. next page)

**FROM THE MAILBOX (cont.)**

At one time, one of Dvora's sons lived in Haifa, but he has moved. Tamara (315), the youngest of Dvora's children has finished her service with the Israel Defense Force and is starting college in a few days.

Israel has finally gotten some good press for their restraint in the face of these unprovoked brutal attacks. But how long will it last? When it's all over we will be asked to pay the highest price. Any jubilation now may be premature. We must wait to see if the Administration becomes a little more understanding of our position.

Our love to all the mishpocha.  
Sid (283,Pl.3bc) and Edith (286) Schwaber  
Schenectady, New York

Feb. 11,1991

Many good things have happened to this branch of the Charlap family since last we spoke. My father [Ellis Charloff,4388,Pl.A-9] has seen his 94th birthday, my mother [Lillian,4395] her 87th, and they are about to celebrate their 67th anniversary on Feb. 22,1991. We feel it should be headlined in our award winning publication *The Ser-Charlap Family Newsletter*. They must be the matriarch and patriarch of the family, if not in birthdays, certainly in surviving togetherness in anniversaries. For those well-wishers who care to send Mazel Tov, Mom and Dad's address is:

Ellis and Lillian Charloff  
Cypen Towers 314  
5100 NE 2nd Avenue  
Miami, Fl. 33137  
(305)751-2455

If and when you're in our part of the world, you and "ours" must drop in.

Sol Charloff (4403)  
Boynton Beach, Florida

*Ed. Note:* Reigning elder in the family is Laura Morrell Atlas (2248,Pl.17cc). She celebrated her 98th birthday in January. But Ellis and Lillian deserve their names in lights. How about a banner headline for all three.

**MAZEL TOV  
ELLIS, LILLIAN,  
and  
LAURA**

**MARRIAGES (cont.)**

Although we don't have the exact date **Mordecai** (532,Pl.2a) and **Heidi** (6052) **Weitschner** were wed recently. Mordecai should be finishing his requirements to be a physician, having studied at Albert Einstein Medical School of Yeshiva University. He is the son of Samuel (519) and Tova (525) and the nephew of Rabbi Isaac Weitschner. His mother was Anna Sier Weitschner (472), whose father was Tifke (Tuvia) Sier (470). Tifke, with his brother Samuel (552), ran the Sier Family Bakery at 242 Delancey St. on NYC's Lower East Side.

In June of 1990, **Faiga Yenta Zlotowitz** (896,Pl.4aa) became the bride of **Ephraim Perlowitz** (5981). Faiga's father is Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz (661) and her grandparents are the late Rabbi Aaron Zlotowitz (565) and his wife Frume Pasternak (564). Faiga and her seven brothers and sisters are also descended from Kur, Ser, and Charlap ancestors.

**Celeste Elaine Sear** (1516,Pl.8aa) was united with **Adam Neal Lourie** (6225) on Feb. 10,1991. The bride is the daughter of Alan Sear (1322), Prof. of Public Health at Florida St. U. in Tampa. Her grandparents are Louis (1305) and Rose Ella (1313) Sear of Chattanooga. Adam, a medical student at Emory University, bears a distinguished name. Lourie is a variation of Luria, the family of famous rabbis which must intertwine with the Charlaps somewhere in the past. The new couple is living in Decatur, Georgia.

**MAZEL TOV TO ALL THE NEW BRIDES, GROOMS, AND PARENTS**  
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**FROM THE MAIL BOX (cont.)**

January 21,1991

Yesterday, I called my cousin **Sonia Kiejsmacher** (646,Pl.5aa) to see how the war is affecting our Israeli mishpocha. She lives in Haifa and it took me 13 hours to get through. Thank G-d, they are all fine. Her daughter **Bella** (649) is a beautiful and accomplished person. Sonia told me that she had a recent and successful exhibit of her painting and sculpture. She is in her early

(cont. on page 10)

## TWO SUDDEN AND DIFFICULT LOSSES FOR THE FAMILY

### MARTIN STANLEY (MORT) KUHR

Mort Kuhr (1131,Pl.7f) died as he lived, experiencing life to the hilt. He was President of a hiking club and on December 8, 1990 he was leading them on an exploration of the grounds of the Gettysburg National Monument. He was in good spirits, chatting amiably with his companions, and thoroughly enjoying himself. Suddenly, he collapsed and left this world.

Mort was beloved by all. And he gave his all in everything he did. He was an excellent tooling engineer, teacher, lover of nature, and lover of people - especially his family. He adored his wonderful wife Anna (1135) and was the epitome of the good father to his children. Beryl (1141) is married to Patrick Bair (1506). They live in Harrisburg, Pa. where they use their law backgrounds to promote a just society. Daughter Eve (1143) lives in London with her husband Jonathan Hersov (1147). They are involved with helping people, following in Mort's footsteps. Mort's son Saul (1142) lives in Massachusetts where he is building up the W.G. Fry Company. He recently bought this paper converting operation and it was discussed in the last issue of the newsletter. Mort and Anna were having a great time helping Saul establish the business. We were asked to let the family know that Saul would love to welcome mishpocha who live nearby or who are passing through. His address is:

<u>Business</u>	<u>Home</u>
Saul Kuhr	Saul Kuhr
W.G.Fry Corp.	River Run #7301
102 Cabot Street	80 Damon Road
Holyoke, Ma 01040	Northampton, Ma 01060
(413)534-5665	(413)584-8764

The love and esteem for Mort was evidenced at the funeral service. One after another, family and friend spoke from the pulpit of the great human qualities of this man. His brother Irv (1130), his sister Ada Golden (1132), his daughters, and his hiking friends told the large congregation of his accomplishments and menschlichkeit. The family, his friends, and his neighbors in Elkins Park, Pa. will all miss Mort Kuhr - an extraordinary man.

### STEWART LESLIE (SENDER) MILLER

Within a week of Mort Kuhr's passing, Stewart Miller (297,Pl.3be) suddenly died. Stewart was the son of Harry (275) and Shaindel Silverburg (33) Miller. He, along with his sisters Sylvia Pearlman (291) and May Fingerhut (295), has given encouragement and support to family solidarity. A few years ago, Nancy and I visited Stewart and his lovely wife Diane (300) at their home in Warwick, Rhode Island. We had never met. Upon opening the door, Stewart threw his arms around us, announced that he was a kissing cousin and gave us a greeting which went with his self-description. He was an exceptionally warm and giving person. Perhaps it is best to share these thoughts contained in a note that we received from Diane:

". . . I shall miss him all the days of my life for he was husband, lover, father, brother, and best friend to me - a man who brought life and laughter wherever he went. He made a room buzz and hum and he found great joy in whatever he did. He preferred to see only the best in people. He loved family and was looking forward to seeing all the relatives at future reunions."

We will all miss Stewart for we saw the same qualities enumerated by Diane. In addition to Diane, his sisters and their families, Stewart leaves two married children, Mark (371) and his wife Barbara (376) of Los Angeles and Karen (372) and husband Michael Jacobson (377). Stewart was also a grandfather. Joseph Benjamin Miller (446) is four years old. Stewart was named, as so many others in the family, for Sender Ser (1,Pl.1). May they be united, along with Mort Kuhr, and may their souls be bound with the immortal souls of our Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and all the other righteous men and women of our family and people who have preceded them.

**FROM THE MAILBOX (cont.)**

thirties, tall, very attractive and sweet.

I'm delighted to learn of the close connections to the Levines (Lew, Lewin). I knew Jeanette (407,Pl.3g) and Jack (411) Levine. They had a knitting mill and used to send me sweaters. Several stores in Chattanooga carried their line. About 20 years ago, on a visit to New York, I spoke to their son Al (413). He knows of close relatives in Kansas City. I would like to look them up. At our Brown's reunion, Sid Family (198,Pl.3f) also spoke of some Kansas City relatives but didn't know how they were connected. *[ed. It's very complicated, but we have an extremely large family in KC consisting of Levine, Danowitz, Pasternak, Kopito, lines and others.]* I sure wish this family research had been started about 30 years ago. My parents would have been thrilled by it all. When I learned of the Mankutas at the convention, I could hardly believe it. I hadn't heard the name since I left Nur as a youngster. To find that my first cousin Zewel Mankuta (1275,Pl.5a) was also a cousin to Harry Mankuta (1832,Pl.17b) and Ann Kohn (1834), and that their Uncle Itche Mankuta (640,Pl.5a) was also my uncle because he was married to my mother's sister "Tall Tillie" Kiejmacher, still makes my hair stand up.

Kansas City would be a great site for a future convention. It has a lot to offer and there are so many from our shtetls who live there. Harry (647) and I send our best to the family.

Ann Dubrov (644,Pl.5ab)  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

I recently met a gentleman in Boston, Seymour Small (5514,Pl.20ca), who recognized my name as part of the Ser-Charlap family. He showed me a copy of the detailed genealogy of this family and it roused my interest. . . I noticed that the family somehow traces back to King David. I heard that apparent fact from a lecturer at Queens College, N.Y. in 1951. Please let me know how I can obtain a copy of the tree and how I might contribute constructively to its continued development.

Herbert Charlip (6131,Pl.A-11a)  
Fairfield,Connecticut

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**COME WITH THE FAMILY  
TO ISRAEL**

With the successful conclusion of the Gulf War, travel to Israel is expected to peak this summer. Our family reunion and tour is definitely on. Please make your reservations now. We must insure seats on EL AL and maintain our hotel space in Israel. This will be a memorable occasion. Beside having a wonderful tour of the country, we will meet with relatives in most of the places we visit. A grand reunion in Jerusalem will be the highlight of the two weeks in Israel. Our Israeli relatives have been alerted and many who had no idea of the family will meet for the first time. Others who hadn't seen each other for many years, as far back as the 1930s, will be reunited. Brochures were sent out with the last newsletter. If you need information, please call Arthur at (516)754-1742 or Cochava Prystowsky (2130,Pl.17c), our Israel Travel Consultant, at 800-634-7312. Send in your \$200.00/person deposit now. It is imperative to insure your place with the family. We will leave from New York on July 14,1991 and be in Israel until July 28. For those going on the optional one week extension to Spain, we will leave Israel on July 29. We want this trip to be a family success story and for you to have the time of your life. Our team in the USA and in Israel is working to make this a memorable journey. On Passover we say "Next year in Jerusalem." In 1991 (5751) let us make it "This year in Jerusalem." Now is the time to show solidarity with Israel and with our family. **COME TO ISRAEL, COME HOME TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS.**

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This year Purim was a double Hag Sameach (joyous holiday). We celebrated the demise of Haman and the defeat of his modern counterpart, the present Butcher of Baghdad. May the peace that now envelops our people continue and may the entire family enjoy a meaningful celebration of freedom on Passover. **A ZEISEN PESACH.** And please remember **"THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM"** with THE SER-CHARLAP FAMILY REUNION AND TOUR!  
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