THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE & THE HOLOCAUST: ONE MAN TAKES A STAND

Armin T. Wegner & The Armenians in Anatolia, 1915-1916

VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE
JANUARY 26 – MAY 22, 2009

Please join us for
Program & Reception

Sunday, April 26, 2009 | 3pm

Wosk Auditorium | 950 West 41st Avenue

WWW.VHEC.ORG

Armin T. Wegner & the Armenians in Anatolia, 1915-1916, a travelling exhibit produced by the Armin T. Wegner Society USA, is presented in Vancouver by the Armenian National Committee of Canada and the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre.
Yom HaShoah
Holocaust Memorial Day

27 Nisan 5769

COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIVE EVENING
7:30 pm | Monday, April 20, 2009
WOSK AUDITORIUM | JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTRE OF GREATER VANCOUVER

Featuring
Robbie Waisman, Buchenwald Concentration Camp Child Survivor
Claire Klein Osipov
Cantor Yaacov Orzech &
Eric Wilson, cello

ARTISTIC PRODUCERS WENDY BROSS STUART AND RON STUART OF WRS PRODUCTIONS

Yom HaShoah is commemorated by Jewish communities worldwide to reflect on the depth and enormity of the loss experienced by Jews during the Holocaust. In 2003, the Canadian House of Commons voted unanimously, to recognize Holocaust Memorial Day on the day corresponding to the Jewish calendar’s Yom HaShoah. Similar memorial days have since been proclaimed in every province, including British Columbia.

This year’s commemorative program will offer the community a unique opportunity to hear the first hand account of a Holocaust child survivor. Robbie Waisman was fourteen years old when he was liberated from Buchenwald Concentration Camp on April 11, 1945. Born in Skarszysko Poland, Robbie was the youngest of six children, but only he and his sister survived the war.

The Yom HaShoah Commemorative evening, produced by Wendy & Ron Stuart (WRS Productions), will feature Vancouver’s Claire Klein Osipov, a consummate performer of Yiddish music. Osipov has performed across Canada and on radio and television. She has made numerous recordings and has directed several children’s choirs.

Also featured on the program will be Perry Ehrlich and Lisa Ehrlich as well as a number of talented local young people performing Yiddish and Hebrew songs. As it is every year, a central element of the program will be the candle lighting ceremony in memory of those who perished.

Sponsored by The Gail Feldman Heller Endowment Fund & the Sarah Rozenberg-Warm Memorial Endowment Fund of the Vancouver Holocaust Education Centre

Please Join Us
Armin T. Wegner confronted two of the twentieth century’s genocides with words and images. An expressionist writer who photographed Armenian deportation camps while serving with the German Army in World War I, and who later protested against Nazi Germany’s anti-Semitic policies, Wegner serves as a remarkable catalyst for a discussion about the possibilities of action in the face of injustice.

At the outbreak of the First World War, Wegner enrolled as a volunteer nurse in Poland and was decorated with the Iron Cross for assisting the wounded under fire. In April 1915, following the military alliance of Germany and Turkey, he was sent to the Middle East as a member of the German Sanitary Corps. Between July and August, Wegner used his leave to investigate the rumours about the Armenian massacres that had reached him from several sources. Travelling along the Baghdad Railway, he observed the Ottoman army leading the empire’s Armenian population on forced marches through the Syrian desert, and encountered scenes of starvation, disease and murder.

Disobeying orders intended to prevent the spread of information about the atrocities, Wegner collected notes, documents, letters, and took photographs in the Armenian deportation camps. In a diary entry, Wegner describes the risk associated with his documentary enterprise:

*I have taken numerous photographs ... on penalty of death. I do not doubt for a moment that I am committing a treasonable act. And yet I am inspired by the knowledge that I have helped these poor people in some small way. ... Hunger, death, disease, despair shout at me from all sides. Wretched me, for I carried neither bandages nor medications ... I was overcome by dizziness, as if the earth were collapsing on both sides of me into an abyss ....*
Wegner’s suggestion that the act of photographing the victims could in some way help his subjects hints at the possibility of documentation – of the collection of evidence – as a form of resistance.

At the request of the Turkish Command, Wegner was arrested and recalled to Germany. While many of his photographs were confiscated and destroyed, he succeeded in smuggling images to Germany and the United States through clandestine mail. Visitors to this exhibit are privileged to be able to see Wegner’s photographs, which have defied such odds to reach museum audiences today. The photographs enable student visitors to consider the danger sometimes associated with image making, and encounter a context and moral universe very different from their own.

Back in Germany, Wegner continued to bear witness through his letters, poems and other writings. Two texts in particular – not included in the travelling photo-based exhibition but added to the school program by the VHEC – are integral to the telling of Wegner’s story in the context of a Holocaust museum. In a remarkable open letter to American President Woodrow Wilson at the Paris Peace Conference of 1919, he wrote:

As one of the few Europeans who have been eyewitnesses of the dreadful destruction of the Armenian people... I dare claim the right of bringing to your attention this picture of misery and terror which passed before my eyes for nearly two years, and which will never be obliterated from my mind. The Armenian Question is a question for Christendom, for the whole human race. ... The voice of conscience and humanity will never be silenced in me, and therefore I address these words to you. This document is a request. In it the tongues of thousands dead speak.

Wegner again assumed the role of spokesperson for justice in a 1933 letter to Adolf Hitler. Written on April 11th – immediately following the Nazi state’s first coordinated anti-Jewish policy, a boycott of Jewish businesses and the offices of Jewish doctors and lawyers – this powerful letter is worth quoting at length:
After delivering the letter to Nazi Party headquarters with a request that it be forwarded to Hitler, Wegner was promptly arrested and tortured. He was interned in three concentration camps – Oranienberg, Borgermoor and Lichtenberg – and seven prisons before fleeing Germany and spending years of exile in England, Palestine and Italy.

Before passing away in Rome in 1978, Wegner received a number of accolades for his courageous actions. He was awarded the Highest Order of Merit by the Federal German Government in 1956. His native city of Wuppertal awarded him the prestigious Eduard-Von-der-Heydt prize in 1962. In 1967 he was awarded the title of Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem in Israel, and in 1968 he received the Order of Saint Gregory the Illuminator from the Catholicos of All Armenians.

In spite of these honours, it is possible to argue that Wegner’s altruism came to nought. His photographs merely recorded crimes in progress, while his words failed to prevent atrocities from occurring. Yet Wegner’s haunting images and resonant writings give form to a powerful ideal – the notion of a universal humanity – and to embody the impulse to bear witness and voice protest when that ideal is violated.

The Wegner exhibit and school program is a compelling companion for the VHEC’s exhibit, In Defiance: Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust, which draws on artefacts and testimonies of survivors who settled in Canada after the war to illustrate the diversity of Jewish responses to the Holocaust. Whereas In Defiance speaks to the “choiceless choices” of victims and the resistance that existed in the face of tremendous obstacles, the Wegner story prompts a consideration of a different type of resistance and vital aspect of social responsibility: the refusal to be a bystander in the face of injustice.

Please Join Us

The VHEC is proud to welcome Armin Wegner’s son Mischa Wegner as a special guest speaker along with genocide scholar Dr. Adam Jones (UBC Okanagan) at 3PM, Sunday, April 26, 2009 in the Wosk Auditorium, Jewish Community Centre. This event is presented in partnership with the Armenian National Committee of Canada. Please join us.
I HAVE MY MOTHER’S EYES
A Holocaust Memoir Across Generations
By Barbara Ruth Bluman

REVIEWED BY GRAHAM FORST

I Have My Mother’s Eyes relates the war-survival story of Susan (Zosia) Bluman as told to her daughter, the distinguished lawyer and arbitrator Barbara Bluman.

As a survivor story, this narrative is unique, in that it is actually a double-survivor story. As she recorded her mother’s memories, Barbara Bluman was in a fight of her own: she had been diagnosed with terminal cancer and given only a few months to live. Barbara’s own story is interspersed throughout the narrative with Susan’s, giving a larger scope to the meaning of “survival,” and also of heroism. For Barbara’s courageous efforts to complete her mother’s story in the few weeks allotted to her reveal that she had not only her mother’s eyes, but her mind and courage, and determination as well.

This fascinating narrative begins, as with many Holocaust survival stories, with a depiction of a comfortable life in pre-war Poland. What follows is a gut-wrenching depiction of the fragility of life in Warsaw during the German bombing of the Polish capital as Susan and her family experienced many hair’s-breadth escapes, fleeing from one burning building to another.

In 1938, Susan met her husband-to-be, Nathan (Natek) Bluman who tried vainly to persuade the family to get out of Europe while it was still possible. Susan left her family to join Natek in Lvov, from where, in 1940, they were able to escape to a Zionist kibbutz on the outskirts of Vilnius. However, Natek, again showing extraordinary foresight, began searching for ways to reach the New World.

And here is where the startling story of the courage and compassion of the extraordinary Righteous Gentile, Chiune Sugihara, is told. Even for those readers familiar with the unparalleled courage of this eminent Japanese hero, the story of Susan and Nathan’s procurement of an exit visa from Lithuania will catch their breath. Shortly after their meeting with Sugihara, the Blumans found themselves on a Trans-Siberian train, and then on an old Japanese freighter bound for Kobe, Japan. There, beneath snow-capped mountains and amid rows of beautiful Japanese “doll-houses,” amongst a welcome community of Jewish refugees, Susan and Nathan found peace in the eye of the surrounding world storm.

Eventually, the Blumans were afforded passage to Vancouver, where Nathan, a proud owner of a degree in agricultural engineering, found work as a swamper in the meatpacking factory owned by well-known Vancouverite Jack Diamond. Here, the Blumans raised their family, and, ultimately, found out about the horrific fate of their extended family in Europe.

This story, as absorbing as it is, is interspersed throughout by short passages set in a different typographic style, telling the contrapuntal story of Barbara Bluman’s personal battle with cancer, the breakup of her marriage and its effects on her and her children. Here is where Barbara and her mother truly meet: both showed tremendous resilience and strength when it was most needed, as they were both able to rebuild their lives before cancer claimed both of them. Barbara predeceased her mother by three years in 2001.

And now, thanks to the efforts of Susan’s granddaughter, Danielle, the reader, too, can see through Susan’s eyes, although they may be quite moist when the last page of these two touching stories is closed.
Writing Sophie Schwartz-Micnik’s biography was for René Goldman an act of filial piety. Although she was not his real mother and never adopted him formally, she provided him with guidance and love almost from the day they met in 1945. René, a long time member of the Vancouver Child Survivors’ group, was then a ten year old orphan who waited in vain for his parents to return from deportation. Schwartz-Micnik was childless and her husband had also been murdered by the Nazis.

Of the fifty-five years during which they knew each other, they only spent a few living together as parent and teenager, but until Sophie died in 1999, they found in each other some of the solace they so badly needed. Consequently their relationship alone would have been enough of a motive for Goldman to decide to write a book about her, but he had another reason for doing so: Schwartz-Micnik was an exceptional woman, an idealist, an individual of rare courage and compassion who always placed other people’s well-being above her own.

She was born in Lodz in 1905, and like many other Jewish young men and women who grew up in the newly emancipated Poland after WWI, she was deeply aware of social injustice and first became a Bundist, then a member of the illegal Communist party. She felt compelled to emigrate, first to Amsterdam, then to Belgium where she met and married Leizer Micnik, a Romanian Jew with similar political beliefs. Both settled in Paris in 1930 after Leizer had been expelled from Belgium. There they led the precarious existence of poor immigrants, at the same time continuing their membership of the Communist party. After the outbreak of WWII, both joined the Jewish urban underground resistance movement. Leizer was arrested and deported to Auschwitz where he was murdered. Sophie was responsible for saving hundreds of Jewish children and escaped arrest only because she was in hospital with appendicitis. She then fled to Lyons where she held various responsible positions in Jewish associations and earned the respect and admiration of fellow resistance fighters.

It was in Lyons that René Goldman and Sophie Schwartz-Micnik met when his aunt, unable to keep him because she already had three children, was seeking advice on where to place him. René remembers being immediately won over by her kindness and openness. Sophie advised René’s aunt to send him to one of the children’s homes set up by the Commission Centrale de l’Enfance, of which she became the Secretary General. In 1950, however, she was lured to leave France for Poland by the propaganda of the Polish Communist government. In Warsaw she became the Director of the International Press and Book Club, which comprised a bookstore and a reading room where foreign books, newspapers and periodicals were available. René, who had spent a summer in Poland with other Jewish war orphans, also decided to immigrate to Warsaw where he finished High School. However, living in the midst of the oppressive atmosphere of the end of the Stalinist era and horrified by the show trials in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, Sophie and René soon became disillusioned with the Communist ideology. René left Warsaw in 1953 to study Chinese in Peking (now Beijing). Sophie remained in Poland until 1968, having endured several waves of anti-Semitism, the last one of which deprived her of her job. She then returned to France where she obtained a small war widow’s pension as well as French citizenship. She died in the South of France in 1999. Sophie Schwartz-Micnik’s life story strikes a special chord in me because my parents had several women friends in Paris where we lived, who followed exactly the same tragic road as she did. Those women, born in Poland and members of the Communist party, were idealists who had been forced to emigrate in order to escape persecution, and had...
fought against the Germans during WWII. Some of them returned to Poland and Czechoslovakia after the war, only to be confronted by the cruel realities of the Communist regimes. They had to come to terms with this enormous disappointment and deserve to be admired for the courage they showed in adversity throughout their lives, and also for not losing their faith in the future of humanity.

Leaders of the MOI (Main d’oeuvre immigrée) - Lyon
Sophie - first row, second from the right

Sophie, President of the CCE accompanying a group of children by train to summer camp in Tarnos
Emanuel Ringelblum, who was a witness to history amidst extreme danger, engaged in an act of resistance as heroic as the armed struggle waged by the combatants of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. In France, the task of documenting the tragedy was taken up by Isaac Schneerson, who in April 1943 founded the Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine which is now an impressive research institution in Paris.

For most of the Jews of France, particularly the Yiddish-speaking immigrants who had few contacts with the Gentile population, armed struggle was not an option. In those hellish years any course of action designed to frustrate the murderous schemes of the Nazis and their French collaborators constituted resistance. In the wake of the massive round-ups in both the occupied north and the “free” zone of Vichy, and following the German invasion of the latter in November 1942, hiding Jewish children and procuring false identity papers and ration cards became pressing tasks. These illegal activities were cleverly combined with legal ones by organizations such as OSE, which operated a network of children’s homes in the Creuse and the “Amelot Committee”, which operated feeding centres and a medical clinic in Paris. I myself was sheltered in one of the OSE homes, the Chateau du Masgelier in the fall of 1942.

Members of the native French Jewish population rallied the Gaullist and Communist resistance organizations; they joined de Gaulle’s Free French Forces in London in such numbers that the general quipped that he felt surrounded by a synagogue! Meanwhile, Jewish organizations formed underground entities, several of which engaged in armed struggle. The Jewish boy-scouts joined the Zionist Armée Juive, which created combat groups in Toulouse and other southern cities, as well as the rural “Maquis” guerrilla units. They executed denouncers of Jews and smuggled Jewish children into Spain. The guerrilla company of the Tarn Plateau captured an entire German troop train in Castres in the summer of 1944.

But the most important Jewish resistance organization was the Communist led underground in Paris, Lyon, Grenoble, and other cities. During the pre-war years, the French Communist Party (PCF) had created a vast network of mass organizations. One such organization, the MOI (Main d’oeuvre immigrée) organized immigrant workers into ethnic sections: Jewish, Italian, Polish, Armenian, Romanian, etc. Each of these sections was led by a core of its own dedicated Communists acting under the direction of the PCF. In 1940 the MOI became a resistance network. Its Jewish section was the most dynamic and best organized and was headed by Adam Rayski who became a great historian of the Jewish Resistance in France during the post-war decades. The combat groups of the Jewish section, led by veterans of the International Brigades of the Spanish Civil War such as Joseph Epstein, engaged in spectacular acts of industrial and railway sabotage and attacks on cinemas, cafes, and other businesses serving the German army. In 1943, 18-year old Marcel Rayman and his Armenian companion Missak Manoukian shot Julius Ritter, Eichmann’s envoy in Paris, while in Lyon other Jewish fighters executed Carel, the Deputy Commissar for Jewish affairs. Alas, Rayman, Manoukian, and forty one other MOI fighters were captured, savagely tortured, tried for “terrorism” and executed in 1944.

The women’s committee of the Jewish section led by Sophie Schwartz distinguished itself in activities such as assistance to destitute Jews, operating secret printing shops which produced leaflets and newspapers in Yiddish and French, forging identity papers and ration cards, spiritng children out of the shelters of the UGIF (the French Judenrat) and hiding them with Gentile families and Catholic institutions. Women worked also as liaison agents, searched for secret apartments, reconnoitered targets for actions and smuggled and delivered weapons to men at the action sites. As
Resistance veteran Jeanne Pakin put it, the women’s work was largely of the non-visible kind, which did not attract medals.

Some argue that the activity of the MOI should be characterized as “resistance de Juifs” (i.e. Jewish participation in the French resistance) rather than “resistance juive”. My preference is for the latter, in that the heroes of the MOI were hamstrung by the discipline and requirements of the PCF, but they fought nevertheless as Jews. They saved Jewish lives and Jewish honour as much as the Zionist Armee Juive, which had to coordinate its activity with that of the French Maquis of its region. Either way, it is essential that, when we teach the story of the Shoah, we include in it the contribution of the Jews who fought against Nazism. Failure to do so is to perpetuate the myth that the Jews went “like sheep to the slaughter” and that would be an insult to the memory of our martyrs and to the truth.

Upcoming Events

VANCOUVER PUBLIC LIBRARY  |  BARBARA BLUMAN LECTURE SERIES

7:30pm – 9pm | Monday, April 13, 2009

Vancouver Public Library
Alice MacKay Room | Lower Level
350 West Georgia Street, Vancouver

To celebrate the launch of Barbara Bluman’s book

I HAVE MY MOTHER’S EYES
A Holocaust Memoir Across Generations

Published by: Ronsdale Press & the Wosk Publishing Program of the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society
WHAT’S NEW AT THE VHEC LIBRARY

BY SHANNON LABELLE | VHEC LIBRARIAN

DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY

The VHEC library now has an online wish list that identifies books, DVDs and other materials that we would like for our collection. The wish list is available on the VHEC library web page: http://www.vhec.org/library.html. Our hope is that this wishlist will allow us to: fill gaps in our collection, make more videos available in DVD format, circulate more recently published materials, and add more current and comprehensive resources to our reference collection.

If you would like to donate an item that you see on our wish list but do not want to purchase it online, please email library@vhec.org or call 604-264-0499 so that we can update the wish list to indicate that the item will be donated (this helps us avoid duplicate donations!).

Donors who provide the VHEC with a receipt for book donation purchases or who make a monetary donation in support of the library will receive a tax receipt. A gift plate will be placed inside materials donated to the VHEC library, and upon request these plates can be personalized with a dedication. Donations to the VHEC library are acknowledged quarterly on the library’s web page and in Zachor when space permits.

NEW CHECK-OUT SYSTEM

The VHEC library has a new system for checking out library materials. This new system was developed to protect the privacy rights of our library users. The next time you visit the VHEC library to borrow materials please bring your items to the reception desk so that they can be checked out to you using this new system.

NEW DISPLAY SHELF

Library materials that have a connection to our current exhibits are on display on one of the shelves in the library. We hope you will take a moment to view these materials the next time you visit the VHEC. Teachers and VHEC members are welcome to borrow display materials and other items from the collection for a two-week loan period. The general public is welcome to consult the VHEC library collection on-site.
CHANUKA 2008
Jody & Harvey Dales & family, Happy Chanuka. David Feldman
Lily Goldberg & family, Happy Chanuka. David Feldman
Rebecca & Mark Zelis & family, Happy Chanuka. David Feldman
Susie & Chaim Micner, Happy Chanuka. David Feldman
Art Szajman & family, Best wishes for Chanuka. David Feldman
Irene N. Watts, Happy Chanukah. Louise & Ike Stein Sorensen

GET WELL
Mary Knopp, Wishing you a speedy recovery. Survivor drop-in, Gloria Waisman & Gerri London
Mrs. Lola Robitschek, Wishing you a speedy recovery. Lisa Kafka
Harold & Bella Silverman, Thinking of you and wishing you well. Henry & Julie Gutchov
Barbara Silber, Wishing you a full & speedy recovery. Ken & Linda Glasner
Araina Waisman, Wishing you well. Mark & Gerri London

MAZEL TOV
Rose Lewin, Happy 90th birthday. Craig Finlayson & Gayle Morris, George and Frieda Wertman, Rachel Wosk, Roslyn Belle, Babs, Gary, Linda, Michael, Marla, Carly, Sam, Randy, Hilary & Auroaleigh Cohen, Morris & Gina Faigen, Sally Zimmerman, Debby, Mark & Karl Choi, David & Cathy Golden & family, Julie & Sheldon Kuchinsky, Bernice Neuworth, Miriam & Ppy Myerson, Barbara & John Lucas & Debby Freiman & David Schwartz, Chaim & Susie Micner, Rose & Ben Folk, Mark, Andy, Hailey, Brook & Morgyn Babins, Alisa & Marty Charach & family, Galy, Marvin, Adam & Kayla Shapiro, Harvey Adelman
Simon Berlin, Happy birthday. Frieda & Danny Shapiro

Ruth Carnat, Wishing you a very happy birthday. Danny Shapiro & Frieda Miller
Rosa Ferera, On your birthday. Alicia & Robert Matas, Hymie & Fay Davis
Matilde Gorden, On your special birthday. Rosa Ferera
Sheila Hector, On your special birthday. Morley & Fay Shafron
Paul Heller, Happy birthday. Lillian Boraks-Nemetz
Edwina Heller, In honour of your 95th birthday. Kitty, Irene, Dana & Lori Heller, Lillian Boraks-Nemetz, Tamara Frankel, Barbara Heller & Michael Karton, Frances Hoyd, Happy special birthday. VHEC Board & Staff
Howard & Simone Kallner & family, On the arrival of your daughter.
Robert Krell, In honour of your work. Beatrice & Lew Lewis
Robert & Marilyn Krell, On the birth of your granddaughter. David & Tanis Goldman
Candace Kwinter, Congratulations on your special birthday. Barry & Wendi Vaisler
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Sherman, Happy 60th Anniversary! Lana & Mendy Landa
Lucien Lieberman, On your special birthday. Carol & Peter Oreck, Reena & Stan Taviss, Barry & Ronnie Tessler, Elayne & Howard Shapray, Randy & Brian & Evelyn & Jack Huberman

Harley Mackoff, Mazel tov. Jocy, Gary, Tammy, Steven, Bun & Richard Lowy
Ralph Markin, In honour of your special birthday. Leslie Spiro
Michael Moscovich, On your special birthday. Grace & David Ehrlich
Matan Reshef, On becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Neri & Aron Tischler
Yvonne & George Rosenberg, On Lanny’s engagement to Oren. Bev & Jeff Davis
Charna Shapiro, In honour of your very special 91st year. Steve & Karen Kline
Laurie Mainster, On your 60th wedding anniversary. Henry & Julie Gutchov
Louise & Ike Stein Sorensen, On your 50th anniversary. Sidi & David Schaffer
Yacov Wagner, On your 70th birthday. Sharon & Irving Kates
Robbie & Gloria Waisman, On your 50th wedding anniversary. Lois & Walter Gumprecht, Gwen & David Tessler, Morley & Fay Shafron, Ben & Rita Akselrod
Gloria Waisman, On your special birthday. Morley & Fay Shafron

TRIBUTE CARDS
DECEMBER 2008 – FEBRUARY 20, 2009

SYMPATHY

The Golumbia family, In memory of Arnold. Birgit Westergaard & Norman Gladstone, Neri & Aron Tischler

Elizabeth Komar, In memory of Leon Komar. Joseph & Andrea Kowaz

Susan Albersheim & family, In memory of your Father & Grandfather. Wendy Oberlander, Gloria Smith

Jerry Adler, In memory of your Father & Grandfather, Mac. Philip & Sherry Levinson

Naomi Adler & family, In memory of Mac Adler. Ida Kaplan, Rob & Marilyn Krell

Tamar & Gabe Bandel & family, In memory of your Father. Ruth Stewart & David Hsu

The Bergida family, Sincere sympathy. Lisa Kafka
Beth Bogner, On the loss of your Mother, Craig & Carrie Diamond, Ken & Linda Glasner, Laurie & Ivan Gasio, Norman Gladstone & Birgit Westergaard, Vytte Porte & family, Jenny & Jack Rootman, Phyllis & Michael Moscovich

Leanne Coleman, In memory of your Mother, Jody & Harvey Dales

Barbara Duncan, In memory of your Mother, Selma Schindler, Miriam Friedman & Marion Cissarier, Robert & Marilyn Krell

Gwen Epstein, On the loss of your Husband. Gustav & Fran Grunberg

Gwen Epstein & family, On the loss of your Husband and Father, Michael. Mark Rozenberg, Beth & Leon Bogner

Dr. Pierre Faber, On the loss of your Mother. Ida Kaplan, Neri & Aron Tischler, Wendi, Barry, Shannon, Kelly, Ryan & Sean Vaisler

Mrs. Schneider & family, On your loss. Katie Freilich

Howard Gerber & family, On the loss of your Mother. David & Gwen Tessler

Mr. & Mrs. A. Permut & family, On the loss of your Mother. David & Gwen Tessler

I. Permut & family, On the loss of your Wife, Mother & Grandmother. David & Gwen Tessler

Zenia Fleisher & family, On the loss of my cousin, your Mother & Grandmother. David Feldman & family


Elana Sigal & family, In memory of your Mother, Ruth Sigal. Sari Zack Weintraub, Rob & Marilyn Krell, Gloria Chochinov, Sherry & Phil Levinson, Judi & Dan Majewski, David Bogoch, Harold & Marla Groberman


Leo Kron, Thinking of you at this difficult time. Rob & Marilyn Krell

Harold & Kathy Folk & family, In memory of your Mother & Grandmother. Philip & Sherry Levinson, Philip & Lori Barer

Felicia Folk & family, In memory of your Mother & Grandmother. Philip & Sherry Levinson

Miriam Gelmon, Deepest sympathy to you and your family. Lani & Mandarin Anda

Dr. Karen Gelmon & family, On the loss of your Father, Syd. Gloria & Robbie Waisman, Peter & Marla Gropper, Birgit Westergaard & Norma Gladstone

Hillel Goelman, On the loss of your Mother. Neri & Aron Tischler

Irving Goldenberg, On the loss of your Sister, Frankie Cohen. Robbie & Gloria Waisman

Rhona Gordon, On the loss of your Mother, Stella. Neri & Aron Tischler, Mark Rozenberg & family

Ruben & Brenda Grubner, On the loss of your Father, Joachim Grubner. Anita Shafraan & family, Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg, Robert Haber & family

Jeffrey Heinsheimer, In memory of Lore Heinsheimer. Frances & Barry Wainwright

Barbara Izen, On the loss of your Mother. Gloria & Robbie Waisman
Alan Jeroff & family, On the recent loss of your Father & Grandfather, Minno.
Mark, Jacob, Talya & Nirit Rozenberg

Tim Oberlander & Julie Martz, On the passing of your Father, Dr. Peter Oberlander.
Carole & Lucien Lieberman

Mr. & Mrs. Rubin Katz, On the loss of your Sister, Fela.
Lillian Boraks-Nemetz

Jeanne Gavie & Kevin Krygier & family, In memory of Kevin’s Grandmother, Franky Cohen. Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg & family

Shirley Levine, On the loss of your Husband, Jack. Jocy Lowy

Mark & Shirley Levine & Joan Pinkus, In memory of Jack Levine. Joseph & Andrea Kowaz

Philip & Sherry Levinson, On the loss of your Mother. Barry & Wendi Vaisler & family, Marla Guralnick & Joshua Pekarsky

Gary & Tammy Lowy, On the passing of Tammy’s Father, Artzie Basin. Sarah Richman, The Artistic Stained Glass Club

Tamar Lowy, In memory of Artzie and Harriet Basin. Jocy, Rick, Stephen & Bun Lowy

Jocy Lowy, In loving memory of Leo Lowy, Steve Chercover

Jocy Lowy & family, On the loss of your Sister & Aunt, Cookie. Sheila Gendis, Grace & David Ehrlich, Rose Jordan

Joel & Mia Mackoff, In memory of your Mother, Cookie. Judy & Neil Kornfeld, Barry & Wendi Vaisler, Robert Haber & family

Mackoff Family, On the loss of your beloved Mother & Grandmother. Aron, Al & Sam Szajman

Peppa Martin & family, In memory of Celina Lieberman. Tom Szekely & Janice Masur, The Lutsky Families

Anton Miller & family, On the loss of your Father. Mark Rozenberg & family


Judy Oberlander, In memory of your Father. Sari Zech Weintraub, Birgit Westergaard & Norman Gladstone, Susan Albersheim & Steve, Benjamin & Ami Barer

Cornelia Oberlander & family, In memory of Peter. Irene & Mort Dodek, Evelyn Kahn, Rob & Marilyn Krell & family, Inge Manes, Marla Guralnick & Josh Pekarsky, Fran & Sam Belzberg

Wendy Oberlander, In memory of your father. Barry & Ronnie Tessler

Beverly Philipp, On the passing of your Father, Arnold Colombia. Rob & Marilyn Krell & family, Philip & Sherry Levinson, Mark Rozenberg & family

Tom Satanove & family, In memory of Tom’s father, Max Satanove. Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg

Dr. Ernie Seidman & family, In memory of your Father & Grandfather. Hymie, Rome, Aylee, Danya & Aiden Fox

Sheldon & Juli Smollan, On the loss of your Father, Bert Smollan. Anita Shafran & family, Debbie & Eddie Rozenberg & family, Ben & Rita Akselrod

Bob & Darlene Spevakow, In memory of your Mother & Mother-in-law. Beth & Leon Bogner


Wendi Vaisler, On the loss of your father, Mac Adler. Jody & Harvey Dales, Ben & Rita Akselrod, Anita Shafran, Birgit Westergaard & Norman Gladstone, Frieda Miller & Danny Shapiro, Philip & Sherry Levinson, VHEC Board & Staff

Linda & Joel Wener, In memory of Miriam Bromberg. Jenny & Jack Rootman

Elaine Wolfman, On your loss. Katie Freilich

THANK YOU

Robert Beisser & Allan Black, For hosting the VHEC and VJFF film reception. VHEC Board & Staff

Peter Parker for speaking at Coyote Creek Elementary. Gale Slobask

Serge Haber, For speaking to the grade 6/7 class at Kingswood Elementary. Sandy Sanderson

Karen Cohen, Thank you. George & Frieda Wertman

Jonathan Friedrichs, For your contribution to the VHEC’s 6th Biennial Shafran Teachers’ Conference. Nina Krieger

Esther Glotman, Thank you. Lillian Boraks-Nemetz

Marla Guralnick, In your honour. The Pekarsky Family

Adam Jones, Thank you for contribution to the VHEC’s 6th Biennial Shafran Teachers’ Conference. Nina Krieger

Robert Krell, For sharing your story. Mami & Jeremiah Katz

Seymour Levin, For speaking to the class. UBC students, 303 Holocaust Literature Class & Dr. Roberta Kremer

Alain Mielnicki, Thank you. Greg Diamond

Shannon Moore, For your contribution to the VHEC’s 6th Biennial Shafran Teachers’ Conference. Nina Krieger

Alan Rosen, For your contribution to the VHEC’s 6th Biennial Shafran Teachers’ Conference. Nina Krieger

Danny Shapiro, A special thank-you. VHEC Staff

Yosef Wosk, For your support of our survivor interview project. The VHEC Board & Staff

TO THE VHEC VOLUNTEERS

OUTREACH SURVIVOR SPEAKERS:
Janos Benisz, Lillian Boraks Netzem, Alex Buckman, Marion Cassier, Mariette Doduck, David Ehrlich, Bente Nathan Thomsen, Serge Haber, Katy Hughes, Chaim Kornfeld, Rob Krell, Inge Manes, Peter Parker, Claude Romney, Louise Sorensen, Peter Suedfeld, Robbie Waisman

DOCENTS:
Becky Adirim, Hagop Jack Agopian, Nora Ayanian, Varoujian Basmdjanjian, Beth Bogner, Pam Cyr, Fay Davis, Reva Dexter, Myriam Dinim, Debby Freiman, Phillipa Friedland, Patricia Friedman, Caroline Harris, Osvanna Kadian, Catherine Kolm, Joel Kolm, Brian Kut, Lucien Lieberman, Ivan Linde, Alexis Martis, Cathy Papaner, Cynthia Ramsay, Rina Vizer, Heather Wolfe, Josie Wolfsen

SPECIAL PROJECTS & MAILING:

OUR APOLOGIES FOR ANY OMISSIONS OR ERRORS TO VOLUNTEER CALL
ROME FOX 604.264.0499

TRIBUTE CARDS | 15
SAVE THE DATE

7:30pm – 9pm | Monday, April 13, 2009
BOOK LAUNCH
I Have My Mother’s Eyes by Barbara Bluman
Vancouver Public Library | Alice MacKay Room (lower level)

12 Noon | Sunday, April 19, 2009
YOM HASHOAH CEMETERY SERVICES
Schara Tzedeck Cemetery | 2345 SW Marine Drive, New Westminster

7:30 pm | Monday, April 20, 2009
YOM HASHOAH COMMUNITY COMMEMORATIVE EVENING
Wosk Auditorium, JCC | 950 West 41st Avenue

3pm | Sunday, April 26, 2009
THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE & THE HOLOCAUST: ONE MAN TAKES A STAND
ARMIN T. WEGNER & THE ARMENIANS IN ANATOLIA, 1915-1916
PROGRAM & RECEPTION
Wosk Auditorium, JCC | 950 West 41st Avenue