

Tel. (604) 264-0499  
Fax (604) 264-0497

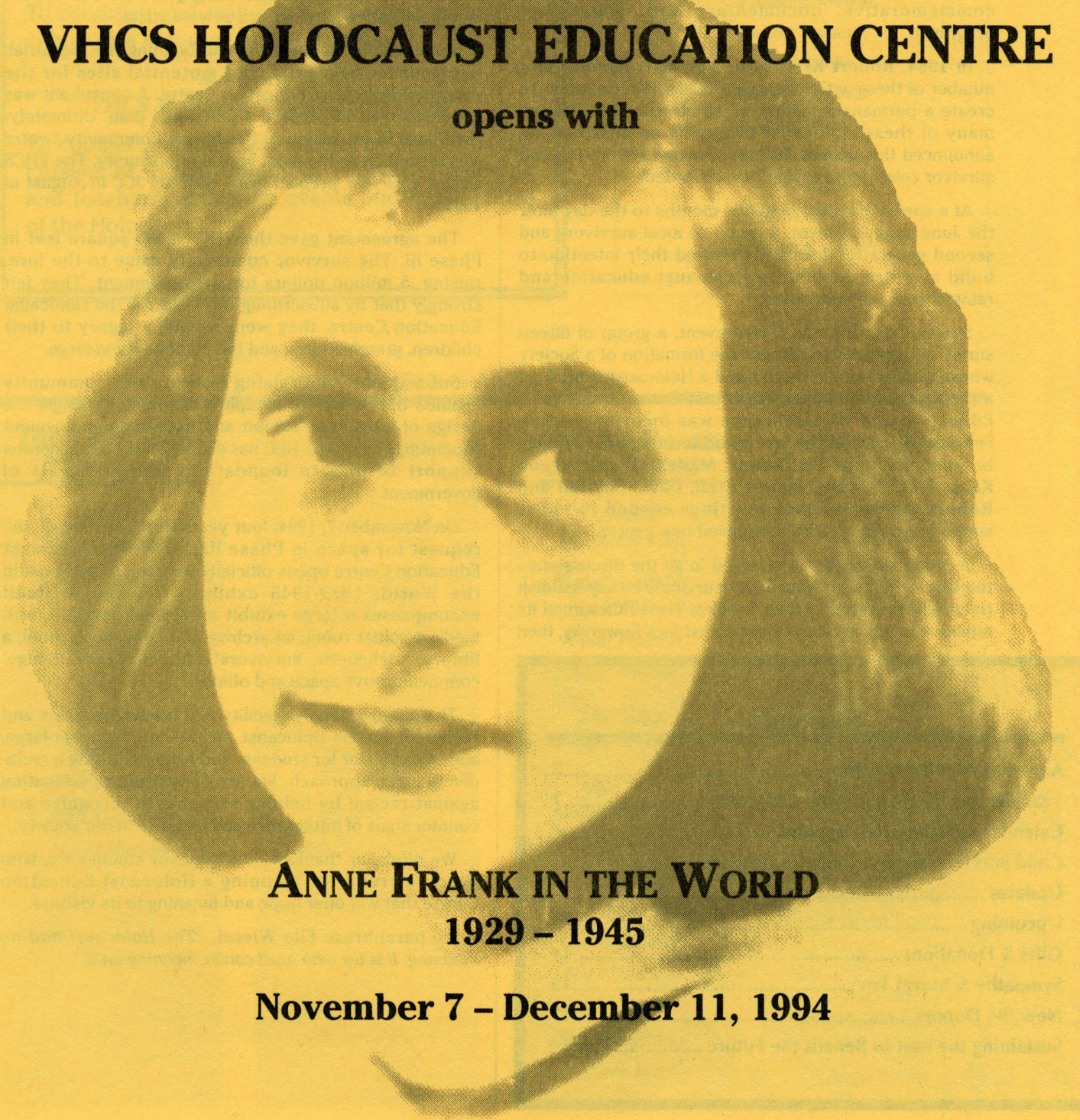
# Zachor Remember<sup>TM</sup>

The Newsletter of the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society 50 - 950 W 41st Ave., Vancouver, BC V5Z 2N7 November 1994

## Special Opening Issue

### VHCS HOLOCAUST EDUCATION CENTRE

opens with



**ANNE FRANK IN THE WORLD**  
**1929 - 1945**

**November 7 - December 11, 1994**



# A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE VANCOUVER HOLOCAUST CENTRE SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION AND REMEMBRANCE

by Robert Krell & Ronnie Tessler

*Dr. Robert Krell is the founding president of the VHCS. As a child, he survived the war in hiding in Holland. He is presently a psychiatrist in U.B.C.'s Department of Child Psychiatry. Ronnie Tessler, a documentary photographer for seventeen years, is executive director of the Society.*

The history of Holocaust education and remembrance in Vancouver goes back to the 1960's and 70's when various groups in the city began to organize commemorative, documentary and educational programs.

In 1984, Robert Krell, who was instrumental in a number of these activities, spearheaded a movement to create a permanent facility in which to co-ordinate as many of these Holocaust programs as possible. He announced this goal in June at a second generation and survivor celebration at Van Dusen Gardens.

At a special meeting held five months to the day after the June announcement, a group of local survivors and second generation formally declared their intention to build a centre devoted to Holocaust education and remembrance in Vancouver.

Shortly after the Van Dusen event, a group of fifteen survivors gathered to discuss the formation of a Society whose mission would be to build a Holocaust centre. As a result, the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance was incorporated on February 8, 1985. At the first board meeting the following became officers of the Society; Mariette Doduck, Leon Kahn, Freda Kaplan, Robert Krell, David Shafran and Robert Waisman. Many meetings ensued to enlist support and ideas for the proposed new centre.

A predominant theme emerged in all the discussions - the lack of a site for Vancouver survivors to say kaddish (memorial prayers) for their families. The VHCS turned its attention to this need and approached Jack Kowarsky, then

president of Schara Tzedek Synagogue, who agreed to chair the project.

The memorial was unveiled April 26, 1987, in the presence of 1,300 people. Many volunteers worked together to make this day the healing event it was. The memorial site, situated in Schara Tzedek cemetery, continues to serve as a gathering place for semiannual commemorative services and private visits.

Simultaneous to designing and building the memorial, a committee was exploring potential sites for the proposed Holocaust Education Centre. A consultant was commissioned to prepare a functional plan. Ultimately, the Phase III expansion of the Jewish Community Centre was settled on as the most logical opportunity. The VHCS signed a 99 year prepaid lease with the JCC in August of 1991.

The agreement gave the VHCS 4,400 square feet in Phase III. The survivor community came to the fore, raising .5 million dollars for the agreement. They felt strongly that by subscribing the lease for the Holocaust Education Centre, they were leaving a legacy to their children, grandchildren and the community-at-large.

Subsequent fund-raising in the wider community enabled the Society to complete the building, begin the design of a teaching exhibit and initiate an endowment (operating) fund. The HEC has also received the generous support of private foundations and all levels of government.

On November 7, 1994, four years from the date of the request for space in Phase III, the VHCS Holocaust Education Centre opens officially with the Anne Frank in the World: 1929-1945 exhibit. The Centre itself encompasses a large exhibit area, a 60 person multimedia seminar room, an archive and collections room, a library, kitchenette, survivors' and volunteers' lounge, commemorative space and offices.

This comprehensive facility will house programs and resources on the Holocaust for the community-at-large, and in particular for students and teachers. Using a multi-disciplinary approach, we are committed to educating against racism by helping students to recognize and counter signs of intolerance and injustice in our society.

We offer our thanks to the survivor community, who deserve credit for planning a Holocaust Education Centre that will offer hope and meaning to its visitors.

To paraphrase Elie Wiesel, "*The Holocaust had no meaning. It is we who must confer meaning on it.*"

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## Mission Statement & Mandates

**T**he Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society is dedicated to breaking down the walls of prejudice and intolerance through education and remembrance of the Holocaust.

### ***Mandate of the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society:***

To establish and maintain a Holocaust education centre as a resource for the community.

### ***Mandate of the VHCS Holocaust Education Centre:***

To combat prejudice and racism by educating the citizens of British Columbia, especially students and teachers, about the events and implications of the Holocaust.

The Board of Directors of the  
Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society  
is pleased to acknowledge  
the contributions of

ARCHITECT

—Peter Reese

MUSEUM DESIGN CONSULTANT

—David Cunningham

MUSEUM EDUCATION CONSULTANT

—Roberta Kremer

PROJECT MANAGER

—Jack Lutsky

INTERIOR DESIGNER

—Seoris Harrison

DESIGN CHAIRMAN

—Art Pouchet

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

—Ronnie E. Tessler

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**Ronnie Tessler**

Prior to joining the VHCS as Executive Director in 1990, Ronnie Tessler spent seventeen years as a documentary photographer. Her work focused on social and cultural issues in Canada and Israel. Her photographs were exhibited, published and collected by many public institutions in Canada and the U.S. Over the past twenty-five years, she has been a board member of various Jewish and community organizations.



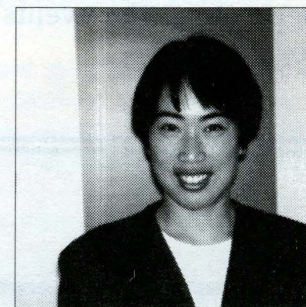
**Cindy Mayberger**

Cindy Mayberger graduated with a degree in English, and a Certificate in Public Relations Management from McGill University in Montreal. As a student she volunteered with various charitable organizations, while working as a freelance writer. Since moving to Vancouver, Cindy has continued to write poetry, and has participated in various community works. Her involvement with the Centre began in 1993, and she was brought on full-time as Administrative Assistant in May 1994.



**Judy Daughney**

Judy Daughney, who graduated from the University of Toronto, has been fundraising coordinator for the VHCS since March. She coordinated the Society's successful opening campaign to establish an Endowment (Operating) Fund. Previously, Judy worked on a Planned Giving program for the Canadian Red Cross in B.C. and Yukon. She is a past board member of the Vancouver Art Gallery and past president of the VAG volunteer committee.



**Cecilia Kalaw**

Cecilia is currently one of the coordinators of the Anne Frank Exhibition. She is a Vancouver resident and a graduate of Simon Fraser University. Cecilia has worked as a trainer and a community programmer in the field of multiculturalism and human rights for the last five years. She also does volunteer work on a wide range of social issues through community organizations such as the Filipino-Canadians Organizing for Action (FORA) and the Opposition Research Working Group.



**Teresa Pryce**

Teresa Pryce is a Vancouver writer, researcher and community organizer. She did graduate work in Art History, but has specialized in multiculturalism, immigration and community participation issues. Teresa has been working as a freelance consultant for several years on projects as diverse as Canadian citizenship, multicultural justice, and citizen's access to health. She joined the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society's staff as co-coordinator for the Anne Frank Exhibition.



**Frieda Miller**

Frieda Miller, who holds a Masters in Art Education, has extensive experience in teaching at both the secondary and elementary levels, in program development and in working with teachers. Frieda has taught education at both UBC and SFU and at the Vancouver Art Gallery, where she recently developed the Artscape Programme for teachers. Before coming to Vancouver, she taught art education at Concordia University in Montreal and co-ordinated a summer institute for teachers. She has taught and has acted as a consultant for the Quebec Ministry of Education



# ANNE FRANK IN THE WORLD: 1929-1945

by Teresa Pryce,  
Exhibit Co-coordinator

**A**fter many years of work and planning, the new VHCS Education Centre is finally ready to open its doors.

As part of its opening celebrations, and as an encouragement to have all British Columbians come and experience firsthand what the Centre has to offer, the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society is, proud to present the internationally acclaimed exhibit **Anne Frank in the World: 1929-1945**.

Planning for the project began early in the year with the appointment of **Rita Akselrod** and **Sharon Harowitz** as exhibition Committee Chairs. Next came the hiring of Exhibition Coordinators, **Cecilia Kalaw** and **Teresa Pryce**, local consultants with experience in organizing multicultural and anti-racist community programs. Under the direction of the Co-chairs, a Community Steering Committee was formed, made up of a group of dedicated volunteers with diverse backgrounds and skills. A volunteer drive began, recruiting hundreds of volunteers to organize, plan and implement the many facets of the project. No project of this size can be done without a reasonable budget, so the Committee immediately began fundraising. In less than 6 months, over \$65,000 was raised from the provincial and federal governments, foundations, and private donors.

The exhibit itself, courtesy of the Anne Frank Center USA in New York, is a photo documentary which recreates the world of Anne Frank and her diary. Set against the events of World War II and the Holocaust, it explores the socio-political climate that made it possible for racial discrimination to gain a foothold in the 1930's and 40's. By telling the story of Anne Frank and her world, the exhibition highlights the causes, instruments and dangers of discrimination, and the fragility of democracy. A complementary exhibit of artifacts and testimonies from local survivors will also be presented. The local exhibit is curated by Irene Dual.

The Anne Frank exhibition has drawn huge crowds as it has traveled around the world. Its opening in Vancouver marks the first time it has come to Canada's west coast. An education program, funded by the B.C. Ministry of Education, has been developed for approximately 5,000 schoolchildren by the VHCS' Education coordinator, **Frieda Miller**. This school program has been so popular, that there has been a long waiting list of interested schools since early September.

A calendar of events is available outlining many community programs, including a lecture by Vichy expert **Professor Richard Weisberg** of Cardozo School of Law in New York, relevant readings by authors, such as **Lillian Nemetz**, at the Vancouver Public Library, and several presentations of *Through the Eyes of a Friend* by

Seattle theatre company, **Living Voices** as well as **Carousel Theatre's** production of *Goodbye Marianne*.

*"What is done cannot be undone, but one can prevent it happening again."*

These words, from Anne Frank's diary in May 1944, were chosen by the exhibit organizing committee as its central theme. That is, we must acknowledge the horrors of the Holocaust, and honour the memory of its many victims and survivors, but at the same time we must each, as individuals, always take steps to prevent such horrors from happening again.

The exhibit at the Holocaust Education Centre opens to the public on November 8 and runs until December 11. Tickets, available at the door, are \$3 for adults and \$2 for youth. Organizations wanting to bring groups must pre-register with the Centre. Public hours are: Monday 9-5; Tuesday 9-9; Wednesday 9-5; Thursday 9-9; Friday 9-3; Saturday closed; Sunday 9-5.



# STICHTING Z W E M B A D „SCHUAGT” KRIMPEN/LEK-LEKKERKERK



Anne Frank's  
world: A  
swimming  
pool—"Jews  
not Allowed"



"Admittedly my factories produced light automatic weapons, poison gas containers, ovens, and special appliances for the Gestapo, but we also produced surgical instruments, safety pins, and clips for bandages. My conscience is clear."

(From Peter Ustinov's book "We Were Only Human")

**AUGUST 4, 1994**

was the 50th Anniversary of the Deportation of the Frank Family from the Secret Annex in an Amsterdam house.

## HOLLAND: RULES FOR THE UNDERGROUND

Translated from the Dutch by Jacques D. Barth

Leave your house! Forget those who remain behind.

Change your coat and hat once a week.

Denounce any words you have ever written. Do not write anything down - avert greeting anyone! Do not talk to anybody - even in trains. Confine your talking to "the weather could be warmer today", or indicate that "the sun could shine less bright".

Your closest neighbour may be a spy.

Never be scared! Never show your uneasiness. Do not ever stop and watch when an accident or fire has happened.

Try to evade every inspection, and if that is not possible - cough in your hand! Do not forget this song that I have written, because I am nobody and nobody knows knows me.

Remember that now numerous people live invisibly. You and I are alive to help them survive.

# TEACHING FOR RELEVANCE: THE HOLOCAUST

by Dan Connor

One of the challenges of being teachers of social studies at the intermediate level is teaching for relevance. How do we build connections between curriculum topics that seem remote, both in time and place, from the immediate concerns and values of our students? How do we teach so that the problems we present for analysis and the issues we ask students to resolve are engaging both emotionally and intellectually?

Teachers may feel that there is enough intrinsic interest and excitement in the intermediate social studies curriculum, e.g. the Crusades, the Mongols, the Black Death, the Renaissance, to stimulate adolescent curiosity. Yet not all students see it that way. For young people who are global witnesses to the civil war in Yugoslavia and the end of apartheid in South Africa, where is the connection to their world today?

Students might be helped to make such a connection by including a study of the Holocaust as part of the intermediate program. The questions it raises about the human condition connects with them as individuals who are concerned with fundamental values of right and wrong. And the echoes it contains from the past add a significance to curriculum topics that are otherwise distant.

I teach Grade 8 Social Studies as part of an interdisciplinary teaching team that includes science and English. As such, I was aware that many of our students were reading *The Diary of Anne Frank* as an English assignment. At the same time, *Schindler's List* was making the headlines. Some students had been to the film and were shocked and disturbed by it. They had many questions about the events and themes in the film which led me to ask some of my own about their awareness of the Holocaust. For the most part, the 86 students in our team had little knowledge of the Holocaust except in the most general way. They had a much greater understanding of World War II. This seemed to be a result of their annual experience of Remembrance Day assemblies and activities, but the Holocaust itself was not part of what they had been reminded to remember. This realization brought with it a very vocal frustration and concern: "Why haven't we been taught about the Holocaust? Do we ever get to study the Holocaust?"

The students were too interested to be put off by my assurance that there would be future opportunities for studying the Holocaust in the secondary curriculum. Together, therefore, we agreed that we should look at the Holocaust in grade 8 as a matter of priority.

The Holocaust, however, was a difficult topic to present to Grade 8 students. They lacked background knowledge and I was anxious in case they would be traumatized by the horrific nature of some of the resources used in the Senior curriculum. In my planning, therefore, I looked for learning materials appropriate for this grade level. I also looked for a context that would

make connections to familiar information.

The students had already been introduced to the hatreds and passions accompanying genocide through a study of the Crusades. They had investigated the problem of why Jerusalem was so important to Christians. So important that they would fight a two hundred year war against Muslims for control of the city and slaughter its Jewish population in the process. Our study included the founding histories and tenets of Christianity, Islam and Judaism and their early inter-relationships. References to the Papal decree of 1215 and Muslim decrees that Jews should wear distinguishing badges of yellow to separate them from the Christian and Muslim populations now had a foreboding significance.

Students again encountered the horrors of genocide in their study of the Mongol conquest of China. We would deal with it once more in our unit on the Black Death. In so doing, we made a connection both to the Mongols and the Crusades. This unit also provided a stepping stone to the genocide of Jews under the Nazis.

The Black Death originated in Mongolia. Andrew Nikoforuk's study, *The Fourth Horseman*, explains how the plague was carried by the conquering Mongol armies to the borders of Europe. From here it spread throughout the European continent to decimate one third of its population. In some European towns, ignorance of the true causes to the disease, combined with the prejudices that had fueled the Crusades, led many communities to accept an explanation of the epidemic as a Jewish conspiracy against Christian Europe. The result was a medieval Holocaust, a "holocaust burning" of synagogues and their congregations and the slaughter and expulsion of Jewish populations.

In their investigation of this topic, students were asked to identify "rescuers" - a focus that would be repeated later in their study of the life of Anne Frank. They noted the offer of Poland's King Casimir to provide a refuge for Jews fleeing from persecution. [The tragic irony that Anne Frank would die in one of the many concentration camps in Poland was apparent later.] King Casimir's humanity did little, however, to lessen the shock of learning about the horrific consequences of medieval anti-Semitism. Yet the students were prepared to explain it as a consequence of medieval ignorance and superstition. From this we built our connection to the Holocaust of Nazi Germany.

*Continued on next page*



When the students next came to class, their desks were arranged in a circle. In the center, draped over a chair, was a child's coat provided by the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society. The coat was from the 1930's. Sewn on its lapel was a facsimile of the Nazis' yellow star. In the centre of the star was written "Jood"—Dutch for "Jew".

The coat was passed around the silent circle of students. Each was asked what they noticed about it. Their answers were very detailed. They noticed the coat's size, style, quality, condition and, of course, they noticed the yellow star with its rough stitching. Students were asked what the star might mean. Those who had read *The Diary of Anne Frank* or seen *Schindler's List* led the discussion.

All the students were obviously moved by something surreal. They responded with great insight and honesty to such questions as, "Who do you think sewed this star on to the coat?", "What might a Jewish mother tell her child about this star?", and "How might a parent feel as he/she sewed this star to the child's coat?" The whole team then read excerpts from Anne Frank's diary explaining what the wearing of the star meant to her.

Because our timetable accommodates teaming, we were able, at short notice, to arrange a visit to Carousel Theatre's stage production of the *Diary of Anne Frank*. Student reports about this experience indicated the tremendous impact the play had on them emotionally. Together we investigated the reasons for their responses. Underlying all of them was profound concern about how and why such a tragedy could happen. Students could accept ignorance and superstition as explanations of the anti-Semitic horrors of the middle ages. But this was the twentieth century: this holocaust had occurred in the lifetime of their grandparents. "How could this have happened?" they asked. "How could the people of Europe have allowed this to happen?"

I had no answers to these questions. However, I was able to refer to the novel and film, *The Wave*, which describes an experiment by a teacher who looked for an explanation of how the Holocaust could happen in the willingness of his own students to sacrifice their individuality for the sake of acceptance by the group.

In our follow up to *The Wave*, students seemed to be impressed by the understanding that they should "never allow the group's will to usurp your individual rights." This led to a discussion of such rights, and to my question, "Where does this sense of the importance of the individual come from?"

This new investigation helped bring some closure to the medieval unit and our study of the Holocaust. It also provided a connection to another topic in the Grade 8 curriculum - the Renaissance, which we studied as a celebration of individual achievement and potential.

And so we had come full circle. From questions about the life of an individual, Anne Frank, we had moved through the Grade 8 curriculum, noting the consequences for individuals when they are seen only as members of a group and are the victims of group bigotry. We had returned to the value of each individual, offered by our study of Anne Frank and of the lives of the great figures of the Renaissance. Both

studies reminded us of what the individual heart and mind can achieve. This understanding is relevant to adolescent students struggling to be known and to establish their own identities. Our study of the medieval genocide and the Nazi Holocaust reminded us of the tragedy that has happened throughout history *and is happening again* whenever the fundamental rights and freedoms of the individual are ignored and suppressed. That understanding is *always* relevant.

## ANNE FRANK IN THE WORLD EXHIBIT: OUR COMMITTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

Mounting an exhibition of the size and importance of "Anne Frank in the World" is a major undertaking requiring the skills and time of a variety of individuals. Over 100 volunteers are participating in the VHCS Holocaust Education Centre opening exhibit.

The following volunteer committees were formed to do the work that will make this exhibit a meaningful community event.

**Exhibit Co-chairs:** Rita Akselrod and Sharon Harowitz

**Education Co-chairs:** Odie Kaplan and Kit Krieger

**Publicity Chair:** Graham Forst and Margot Holmes

**Community Outreach Co-chairs:** Barbara Bluman and Louise Stein Sorensen

**Fundraising Co-chairs:** Judy Daughney and David Ehrlich

**Bookstore Co-chairs:** Helen Alko and Myriam Dinim

**Docent Captains:** Fay Davis, Carol Downes, June Earnshaw, Louise Foran, Heather Korbin, Lani Levine, Liz Roelants

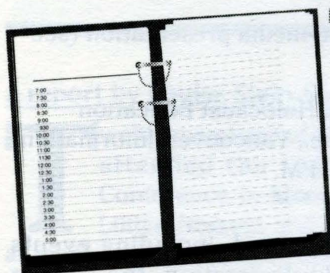
In addition we thank our exhibit staff, Anne LeBlanc, Caitlin Johnson and Carol Pearlstone.

We thank all of you for your ideas and time. A full list of volunteers will be published in the next issue of Zachor.



Presentation of \$20,000 cheque from the Department of Canadian Heritage to Anne Frank exhibit chairs, Sharon Harowitz and Rita Akselrod, by M.P. Herb Dhaliwal.

# CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS



## ***Anne Frank in the World: 1929 - 1945***

The exhibition is open 6 days a week,  
Monday 9-5, Tuesday 9-9,  
Wednesday 9-5, Thursday 9-9.  
Friday 9-3, Saturday closed, Sunday  
9-5. Adults \$3, children \$2.

### **Monday, November 7, 1994**

#### ***Opening of the new Holocaust Education Centre***

- Donors' and invited guests. Speakers include noted Holocaust historian Professor Yehuda Bauer, from Hebrew University in Jerusalem and Cornelis Suijk, International Director of the Anne Frank Center in New York, and representatives of government.
- 8PM, Wosk Auditorium, JCC. Reception following.

### **Monday, November 7 to 26, 1994**

#### ***Book Readings***

- Display and book readings on Holocaust-related themes, including local author Lillian Nemetz.
- Times vary. Vancouver Public Library branches. Watch your local library for details. Information, VPL 665-2280

### **Wednesday, November 9, 1994**

#### ***Kristallnacht Commemoration***

- Speaker, Professor Leonides E. Hill, Dept. of History, UBC, on "The Not So Twisted Path To Auschwitz from 1933-1939"
- A Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific Region/ Beth Israel Synagogue Adult Education program.
- 8PM, Beth Israel, 4350 Oak Street. Open to public. **Free.** Information, CJC 257-5101

### **Saturday, November 12, 1994**

#### ***Goodbye Marianne***

- Carousel Theatre presents the world premiere of a play based on a young girl's experiences as she flees her home in Nazi Germany to freedom and a new life in Canada. Written by local child survivor and playwright Irene Kirstein Watts.
- 8 PM. Rothstein Theatre, JCC. 950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Adults \$12, students \$8.50. Information, Carousel Theatre 665-6217.

### **Sunday, November 13, 1994**

#### ***Goodbye Marianne***

- 2 PM. Rothstein Theatre, JCC, 950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Adults \$12, students \$8.50. Information, Carousel Theatre 665-6217.

### **Sunday, November 13, 1994**

#### ***The Old Brown Suitcase***

- Reading and book signing with child survivor Lillian Nemetz, author of "The Old Brown Suitcase". A young girl rebuilds her life in Canada after the Holocaust years in Poland.
- JCC Cultural Arts Department annual Jewish Book Fair. Time TBA. **Free.** Information, JCC 257-5111.

### **Sunday, November 13, 1994**

#### ***Teachers' Workshop***

- Workshop on Holocaust education, anti-racism and the Anne Frank exhibit. Developed for teachers bringing their students to the Anne Frank in the World school programs. Special showing of Through the Eyes of A Friend (details below).
- 11 AM - 1 PM. Holocaust Education Centre, 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information, VHCS 264-0499.

### **Monday, November 14 -- Friday 18, 1994**

#### ***Goodbye Marianne***

- Several performances daily.
- Rothstein Theatre, JCC, 950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Adults \$12, students \$8.50. Information, Carousel Theatre 665-6217, JCC 257-5111

### **Saturday, November 19, 1994**

#### ***Vancouver Symphony Orchestra***

- Special community concert presented by the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra in celebration of the Anne Frank exhibition.
- Co-sponsors - Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver and the VHCS Holocaust Education Centre
- 8:00 PM Wosk Auditorium, JCC. 944 W. 41st Ave., Vancouver. **Free.** Information, VHCS 264-0499
- Exhibit open 7 - 10 PM. Adults \$3, children \$2

### **Sunday, November 20, 1994**

#### ***Through the Eyes of A Friend***

- Seattle theatre company, Living Voices, presents a dramatic multi-media performance based on the reminiscences of a friend of Anne Frank. Experience Anne's life as a school girl in Amsterdam and the hardships she and her family faced after they were arrested and deported by the Nazis. Especially developed for the Anne Frank in the World exhibit.
- 2 PM **Free with exhibit admission.** Holocaust Education Centre, 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information 264-0499. Sundays to December 11th.

*Continued on next page*

**Sunday, November 20, 1994**

***Vancouver Multicultural Society***

- Holocaust awareness programs. Multicultural tea and desserts. Join VMS members in this intercultural exchange. Address by a survivor of the Holocaust and a presentation by Living Voices "Through the Eyes of a Friend".
- 2-5PM. Open to public. VMS. 1254 West 7th Ave., Vancouver. Information, VMS 731-4648.

**Thursday, November 24, 1994**

***Two Young Lives in Hitler's Shadow: Anne Frank and Walter H.J.***

- Illustrated lecture by Professor Chris Freidrichs on the lives of 2 teenagers who lived and died under the shadow of Hitler. Anne Frank was Jewish. Her family left Frankfurt in 1933 hoping to escape the Nazi regime. Walter's father was an ardent Nazi, determined to mold his only son into a perfect Hitler Youth and dedicated German soldier.
- 7 PM. Free with exhibit admission.

**Sunday, November 27, 1994**

***Through the Eyes of A Friend***

- Living Voices of Seattle multi-media presentation (see Nov. 13).
- Free with exhibit admission. Holocaust Education Centre, 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information 264-0499. Every Sunday at 2PM.

**Tuesday, November 29, 1994**

***Professor Richard Weisberg***

- Lecture by law professor and Vichy expert from Benjamin Cardozo Law School, New York City. Co-sponsored by UBC Law School.
- 7 PM. Free with exhibit admission. Holocaust Education Centre, 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information, VHCS 264-0499.

**Sunday, December 4, 1994**

***Through the Eyes of A Friend***

- Living Voices of Seattle multi-media presentation (see Nov. 13).
- Free with exhibit admission. Holocaust Education Centre, 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information 264-0499. Every Sunday at 2 PM.

**Monday, December 5, 1994**

***Outspoken***

- Remembering the Pink Triangle. Discussion on the history of the persecution of gay people under the Nazis.
- 7:30 PM. Holocaust Education Centre. 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information, Stephen Hammond 876-1754.

**Sunday, December 11, 1994**

***Through the Eyes of A Friend***

- Living Voices of Seattle multi-media presentation (see Nov. 13).
- Free with exhibit admission. Holocaust Education Centre, 50-950 West 41st Ave., Vancouver. Information 264-0499. Every Sunday at 2 PM.

Many other programs are planned, including events sponsored by the World Sikh Federation, the Laurier Institute and the University of Victoria. Watch for details soon!

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU FROM  
THE SOCIETY TO THE FOLLOWING**

**The Vancouver Symphony Orchestra**

**Carousel Theatre and the participants in the  
Community Calendar events**

**Docent trainers Susan Rome, Donna Bryman,  
Hayne Wai and Dr. Michael Elterman**

**VHCS Education Coordinator Frieda Miller for her  
work on the teachers' and docent's resource  
packages**

**Irene Dual, who curated the exhibition of local  
Dutch survivor's testimonies and mementos**

**Announcement !!**

**The Vancouver  
Holocaust Centre Society's  
Holocaust Education Centre**

**opens**

**Monday, November 7, 1994**

**with**

**Anne Frank in the World:  
1929 - 1945\***

**co-chairs**

**Rita Akselrod & Sharon Harowitz**

**co-ordinators**

**Teresa Pryce & Cecilia Kalaw**

**For further information or to volunteer, call the VHCS  
offices at 264-0499**

\*an exhibit from the Anne Frank Centre  
of Amsterdam and New York

# CHILD SURVIVOR/HIDDEN CHILD CONFERENCE

MONTREAL, OCTOBER 7 - 10, 1994

## a report by Louise Stein-Sorensen

**T**welve members of the B.C. Child Survivor Group attended the Child Survivor/Hidden Child Conference in Montreal, including Robert Krell, Lillian Nemetz and Ruth Sigal, who participated as workshop facilitators and presenters.

It was the first time survivors and second generation persons were brought together. The conference was attended by approximately 150 second generation, out of an estimated 600 participants. The combination generated some fairly heated and, on occasion, quite emotional debates. This opportunity for inter-generational communication was one of the unique features of the Conference.

Seating at the Saturday luncheon was arranged by country of origin, and this opened up the chance for the discovery of old friends, much hoped for by participants, but sadly not often realized.

The opening session was one of the highlights. The speakers were Dr. Irving Abella and Dr. Robert Krell. Irving Abella pointed out that remembrance is the key for survival of Jewish life. It is the antidote against Holocaust denial—"the anti-Semitism of today". Each person's Holocaust experience is unique and must be told. We must revive long-repressed memories. The numbness of the post-war period must not be allowed to persist. The memory must never die. Silence convicts six million to oblivion. We need a picture of the daily lives of people under the Nazis: displays have been showing too many emaciated corpses and too many helpless people. The next generation must be made more aware of the positive spirit of our people, their struggles, values and dreams.

Robert Krell spoke from the perspective of the hidden child. We learned never to complain, to be silent and "to stay inside". After the Holocaust, our experiences remained unspoken, and even if we talked of it, we "did not say what had to be said." We did not think of ourselves as different, but that we had a secret. We remained well hidden and we never talked to "outsiders". Our "aleness" persisted. Some returning parents were "damaged goods". Second generation dare not ask questions for fear of hurting. The parents in their "smothering protectiveness" dare not tell stories for fear of hurting the children. There is still time for memory to speak.

One of the weaknesses of the Conference was that because so many people registered beyond the deadline, the organization, especially of the workshops, suffered accordingly, as many sessions were overcrowded. A solution might have been to have workshops set aside for first time attendees only.

Late Sunday afternoon, we watched the excellent but heartbreaking movie "Leni", which was difficult to handle. The 1993 German feature film, directed by Leo Hiemer and recently premiered at the Montreal International Film Festival, boldly examines the issue of

German complicity during the Holocaust. It is based on the true story of a newborn baby girl who was taken in by a German couple in a small Bavarian village, only to be led away to a death camp at age 5. Quite ominously, Hiemer stated in an interview that because of the subject matter of this film, he had trouble getting it shown in his homeland and finding a German distributor. Consequently, he has been renting German theatres on his own and even screened the film in the town where Leni lived.

Whereas the Saturday evening programme of comedy, music and dance was a welcome opportunity to unwind, the programme accompanying the Sunday evening Gala Dinner was too heavy and ponderous for conference participants who were, by now, emotionally and physically exhausted by more than two days of emotion-laden sessions.

The next Conference will be hosted by the Los Angeles survivor group.

## UPCOMING

**Child Survivor Group - Dr. Serge Vanry**, president. This group has been meeting for four years on a monthly basis. As individuals they have attended four international gatherings of Child Survivors. They have published two newsletters. For more information call the VHCS office at 264-0499.

### Kindertransport Reunion

A reunion has been set for May 1995 in Frankfurt, Germany for members of the *Kindertransport*. For more information, please write: Mark Horowitz, P.O. Box 1457, Capitola, CA 95010.

### Kindertransport Pensions

Applications for pensions are now being received in Germany for *Kindertransportees* who held German nationality when they emigrated during the Holocaust. Information: Herbert Goldschmidt, Chairman of the Pension Sub-committee, P.O. Box 71105, Jerusalem, Israel 91079.

### Holocaust Survivors

receiving health damage pensions whose condition due to persecution has deteriorated and who can provide medical proof of the deterioration may be eligible for an increase in their pensions.

For further information, please contact:

U.R.O. Montreal (514) 481-7933

U.R.O. Toronto (416) 630-2920



## Memorial Services and Upkeep

**Leo Lowy, chairman.** "Another holiday memorial service took place on September 11, 1994 at the cemetery site. This was one of the most moving services we have had until now. Cantor Orzech, a son of a survivor of the Holocaust, did himself proud with his prayers for our loved ones.

Continued awareness on the maintenance and shape of our monument is necessary regarding its cosmetic appearance since there is a lot of pollution in that area. The granite needs extra care to be properly maintained, as it keeps losing its sheen. Unfortunately the brass lettering oxidized to the point that it needed either refinishing or painting, but due to the high cost of replating, painting will be the solution. Again, I would like to ask our members of the Society, and our visitors to the monument, not to put candles or flowers on the granite inscriptions as it causes permanent damage to the stone. We are at this time making plans for a special place at the site to put candles or flowers when you visit.

I apologize to people who were late for the service last month. Previously, members complained about having to wait for the service to start, and so we were conscientious this time in starting the service at the time we were given by the cemetery board."

## Trip to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Nine travellers left in mid October for Washington, D.C. and environs. The trip was co-sponsored by the JCC Seniors department and the VHCS.

## Jochen Gertz Artist's Talk

at the Vancouver Art Gallery, September 21, co-sponsored by the Vancouver Art Gallery, the VHCS and the Goethe Institute. The lecture was attended by about 135 people from diverse backgrounds; art lovers, students from Emily Carr College of Art and academics. Goertz presently has a major retrospective of his work at the VAG.

## Third Annual Conference for Children of Holocaust Survivors

The Second Generation Group is proud to have presented the *third* Annual Conference for Children of Holocaust Survivors and their spouses/partners. The conference featured distinguished psychiatrist **Dr. Joseph Albeck** and took place on Sunday, October 2, 1994, at Beth Israel Synagogue. The co-chairs were **Jack Micner** and **Deborah Ramm**. It was co-sponsored by the Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society for Education and Remembrance.

The Second Generation group is dedicated to promoting education and awareness about Second Generation issues and remembrance of the Holocaust, as well as establishing a sense of community and providing support for children of Holocaust survivors and their families. The Second Generation Group Board consists of **Sylvianne Feder, Jon Festinger, Rome Fox, Jack Micner, Max Pinsky, Deborah Ramm, Alina Wydra, and Corinne Zimmerman**.

Dr. Albeck, an acclaimed psychiatrist in the field of trauma, healing and Second Generation issues, is also a poet and author. He is one of the pioneers in encounter groups that bring together children of Holocaust survivors with children of Nazis.

Dr. Albeck's morning presentation, consisting of three segments, was open to the public. First, he presented a new framework through which to view the consequences of trauma in the Second Generation. Next, Dr. Albeck discussed his role as a participant in the dialogue between children of Holocaust survivors and children of Nazis. He discussed his views as to why it is important to pursue this dialogue. Dr. Albeck ended the morning with a reading of poems from his book, "Songs for the Last Survivor". The audience was engrossed with the issues raised and touched by his poetry.

The full conference program included viewing the controversial 1993 BBC documentary on the dialogue between children of Holocaust survivors and children of Nazis. Afterwards, small group discussions were led by several facilitators who had participated in a training period with Dr. Albeck. (Thanks to Sue Cohene, Ruth Hess Dolgin, Dr. Michael Kent, Naomi Ehren-Lis and Alina Wydra.) It was a powerful and well-received conference, raising emotional issues that the community will be discussing for some time.

## SECOND GENERATION MEETING

The next meeting of the Second Generation Group is scheduled for November 14, 1994. For more information regarding this meeting and other events for the coming year, please call **Deborah Ramm** at 325-2208.

## Translate from Yiddish?

If technology doesn't scare you, we need **you** to translate several child survivors' Yiddish diaries into English on a tape recorder. We will take care of the typing. Please phone **Ronnie** at 264-0499.

## UPCOMING

**Second Generation Group - Co-chairs, Max Pinsky and Alina Wydra.** A meeting to share stories and discuss the issues raised at the Third Annual Second Generation Conference will take place at 8:00 PM, Monday, November 14 at the home of Alina Wydra, 1904 Arbutus. For information call **Deborah Ramm, 325-2208** or **Alina Wydra at 325-2208.**

**Goodbye Marianne** - a play by Irene Kirstein Watts. Goodbye Marianne, based on the experiences of the playwright as a child in Berlin, is for young people and about young people. It delves into the issues of prejudice, discrimination, cultural dislocation and loss of family through the eyes of Marianne, a young girl about to leave Berlin for Canada on a kindertransport. Carousel Theatre, producer of the play, has worked with the author and the VHCS to produce the play's educational materials, which are being funded by a grant to the Society from the B.C. government.

Goodbye Marianne is being premiered in the Rothstein Theatre in the Jewish Community Centre on Saturday, November 12 and will run until Friday, November 18. Many schools are signing up to see the play in conjunction with a visit to the *Anne Frank in the World* exhibit. There is a possibility that the play will be performed for school groups in the Holocaust Education Centre during January/February.

**The Spectacular State: Fascism and the Modern Imagination** - an interdisciplinary three week event exploring historic and contemporary aspects of fascism in sites around the city. The VHCS will be sponsoring an exhibit prepared by curator Anne Rosenberg. A five-part film and lecture series is also scheduled. These events will occur at the Holocaust Education Centre between February 16 and March 5, with an artists' opening scheduled for the February 16 date.

**Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day** - will be marked on April 27, 1995 and will pay tribute to the 50th year since the Allies' liberation of the Nazi concentration camps during the winter and spring of 1945. A memorial service will be held at the memorial site at Schara Tzedek cemetery and a community commemorative event in the evening.

**Thanks to Scandinavia** - an exhibit on the rescue of Danish Jewry, co-sponsored by the Jewish Festival of the Arts Society and the VHCS, will open in the Holocaust Education Centre in April for a two month stay. School programs will be a feature of the exhibit.

**From Holocaust to Hope** - A public address by **Professor Yehuda Bauer**, sponsored by Canadian Friends of Hebrew University, will take place on Thursday, November 3, 1994, at Beth Israel Synagogue. Professor Bauer is a preeminent Holocaust scholar and Chariman of the Center for anti-Semitism at Hebrew University in Jerusalem



"Ghetto", from a linoleum print of Alex Dimant

### "A DAY IN THE WARSAW GHETTO"

*a photo exhibit*  
at the Museum of History & Industry  
2600 24th Avenue East, Seattle, WA U.S.A.

**OCTOBER 1 - NOVEMBER 13, 1994**

Open daily 10:am - 5:pm.  
For information, call (206) 324-1125

### TRIBUTE CARDS

The VHCS gratefully acknowledges contributions through Tribute cards. To order a card for any occasion, please call **Grace Ehrlich** (327-8064), **Regina Feldman** (327-3358), or **Cindy** at the office (264-0499).

## GIFTS & DONATIONS

*Your generous contributions help the Society fulfill its mandate of Holocaust documentation, education and remembrance.*

Louise Sorensen—videotape

Michel Mielnicki—photos; documents; commemorative book; prisoner I.D.; videos

Peggy Shmid—videotape

Jack Margalit—photos of Jewish partisans

Jack Chivo—1940 Meyers Grosser Hausatlas

Dina Golovan—commemorative books

Paul Meyer—documents, photos, medals

Inge Manes—yellow star, documents, photo

Peter Suedfeld—Nazi document on intermarriage

Abe Schwartzman—personal letter

Mancy Koenigsberg—prisoner ID

Esther & Paul Comisarow—book

Teresa Pryce—article

Boris Shak—photos, books and memorabilia

In memory of Jacob & Rose Warm, Holocaust victims—from Sarah Rozenberg-Warm

Ivan & Laurie Gasoi -in honour of your 25th anniversary from Elayne & Howard Shapray.

Judith Forst-honorium from guest appearance on The Cooking Game

Andre & Sheila Anzarut

Reverend Bernice Gerard

Robert Haber

Harry & Mary Klonoff

Michel & June Mielnicki

Hershey and Yvette Porte

Roberto & Patty Schwartz

Tom Wollner

Alan Farber & Felicia Folk

Michael & Gail James

Helene Josefowicz

Clive & Lesley Kupritz

Hilda Lourie

Brenda E. Casey

Oscar Dirnfeld

Eva Berger

Elizabeth McVicar

Kebede Waynsmet

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Maria Pischanskaya

Wanda Melamed

Marianne Rev

Jack & Jennie Rootman

Stanley Fisher

Sarah Rozenberg-Warm

Ike & Louise Sorensen

Leslie Spiro

Marianne Tatar

Isaak & Bluma Tischler

Charles & Carla Wertman

Minnie Belzberg

Maurice & Dorothy Chechik

Maury & Ethel Wiss

Myra Saslaff

Sarah Saslaff

Rebecca Woogman

Bernie & Ethel Davis

David Smith

Derek & Reva Henriques

Gloria Harris

Benjamin & Maury Fishman

Dale Fratkin

Susan Quastel

### SPEEDY RECOVERY

Max Weiner—from Emmy Krell

Kit Krieger—from the VHCS Board

Bernard Goldberg—from the VHCS Board

Leon Kahn—from the VHCS Board; Dale Fratkin; David & Lil Shafran; Irving & Sharon Kates; Rita & Ben Akselrod; Esther Kaufman; Lyliane & Larry Thal; Sheila & Gary Romalis; Ida Kaplan

Anne Blair—with love from Cindy

Al Polsky—from Leo & Jocy Lowy

Berl Gempel—from Henry & Pola Nutkiewicz

Rosemary Mammon—hope you're feeling better, from Esther Kaufman

David Cunningham—from Ronnie Tessler

## SYMPATHY

**Corinne Woodrow**—in memory of your mother, from Larry & Lyliane Thal

**Jocy Lowy**—in memory of your brother, Aaron Kalensky, from the VHCS Board; David & Regina Feldman; Izzy & Bertha Fraeme; Henry & Rachel Wosk; Terry & Art Szajman; Ruby & Gerry Gales; Sid & Mariette Doduck, Ronnie Tessler

**Leo & Jocy Lowy & Family**—in memory of Aaron Kalensky, from Grace & David Ehrlich

**Harvey Berenbaum**—in memory of brother, from David & Regina Feldman; Grace & David Ehrlich

**Bernbaum Family**—in memory of Izzy Berenbaum, from Leo & Jocy Lowy

**Anne Flynn**—in memory of your brother, Alexander Rossi, from David & Regina Feldman; Izzy & Bertha Fraeme; Linda & Len Wise & Family; Jack & Margaret Fraeme; Susan Bluman

**Cookie Mackoff**—in memory of your brother, from David & Regina Feldman; Terry & Art Szajman; Grace & David Ehrlich

**Zelda Kalensky**—in memory of your husband, from David & Regina Feldman; Terry & Art Szajman; Ida & Victor Liff

**Beverley Klein**—in memory of your brother, from Henry & Pola Nutkiewicz

**Joe & Fran Cohen**—in memory of your son, from Henry & Pola Nutkiewicz; Leo & Jocy Lowy

**Miriam Eisner and Family**—in memory of your father and husband, Joe Eisner, from Don & Rachel Levine; Sam & Lola Haber and Family

**George Melzer**—in memory of your wife, from Henry & Pola Nutkiewicz

**Vera Cramer**—in memory of your husband, from Henry & Pola Nutkiewicz

**Gloria Shalinsky**—in memory of your mother, from Kenny & Andrea Shalinsky

**Ray Aceman**—in memory of your mother, Dora Rosman, from Susan Bluman

**Mr. & Mrs. W. Elperin & Family**—in memory of Harry Elperin, from David & Lil Shafran

**Bernice Shafran**—in memory of your son, David, from David & Lil Shafran

**Fran, Rachmiel, Mark, Leah & Ernest Odinek**—in memory of your mother and grandmother, from Susan Albersheim & Steve Barer

**Morris Cohen & Family**—in memory of your wife, from Leo & Jocy Lowy

**Ronnie Tessler**—in memory of your father, Manny, from Tammy Genesove, Marilyn & Bernie Hooper & Family; Larry & Lyliane Thal; Sharon Harowitz & Bob Willmot; Robbie Waisman & Family; Susan Quastel; Peter & Marla Gropper; Cindy Mayberger; Judy Daughney; David & Lil Shafran & Family; Rome & Hymie Fox; VHCS Board; Lynn & Mitchell Gropper; David & Grace Ehrlich; Odie Kaplan; Susan Bluman, Barry Dunner, Norman Gladstone and Birgit Westergard.

**Irene Lozowski**—in memory of your husband, from Hershel & Rachel Wosk

**Carol Marks**—in memory of your father, from Larry & Lyliane Thal

**Leon Schidlow**—in memory of your mother and grandmother, from Leon & Evelyn Kahn

**Molly Leikin**—in memory of Watanabe, from Sharon Harowitz & Bob Willmot

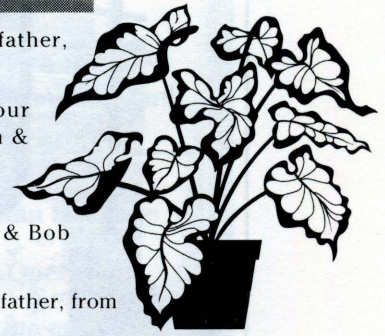
**Myrna Koffman**—in memory of your father, from David & Lil Shafran

**Helen Feinstadt**—in loving memory of your mother, from Anna Rosenberg

**Eileen Hertzman**—in memory of your husband, Victor, from Harry Winrob & Leyanne

**Mrs. L. Slavin**—in memory of your husband, Lionel, from Leo & Jocy Lowy; Izzy & Cookie Mackoff

**Sidnee Bell**—in memory of your sister, Pat, from Odie Kaplan



## MAZEL TOV

**Michel & June Mielnicki**—on the birth of your granddaughter, from the VHCS Board; Batia Karton & Nan Ravvin; Susan Bluman

**Gerry & Sheila Bermann**—on your 20th anniversary, from David & Lil Shafran

**Harry & Rachel Wosk**—on your 40th wedding anniversary, from Regina & David Feldman

**Berl & Luba Gempel**—on the birth of your granddaughter, from Jack & Margaret Fraeme

**Susan Rome & Tom Mills**—on the birth of your daughter, from the VHCS Board

**Marilyn & Derek Glazer**—Happy 30th anniversary, from Irvine Wolak and Susan & Joe Stein

**Sally Zimmerman**—on your special birthday, from Art & Terry Szajman; David & Regina Feldman

**Gertie Lerner**—on your special birthday, from David & Regina Feldman

**Miklos & Veronica Horvat**—on your 50th anniversary, from Harold & Julie Shatsky; Estika Hunning

**Bernice Neuwirth**—on your special birthday, from Esther Kaufman

**Fay & Hymie Davis**—on the birth of your first grandchild (and grandson), from Barry & Ronnie Tessler

**Leon & Evelyn Kahn**—on the birth of your grandson, from the VHCS Board



*Art Pouchet, VHCS vice president and design chairman with executive director Ronnie Tessler in the completed guest reception area.*

### WISH LIST

***The VHCS would be grateful to anyone who could provide the following:***

- 35 mm camera with 35 mm lens and 50 mm macro and flash.
- Drymount press
- Cutlery set
- Step ladder
- Tool kit with drill, hammer, level, carpenter's measuring tape, etc.
- Overhead projector
- Large paper cutter
- Slide projector
- Fire-proof safe
- Projection cart

*If you can help us, please call Ronnie at 264-0499*

### Video Wish List

- Rescue in October
- Raoul Wallenberg, Between the Lines
- Source: A Haven in the Caribbean
- Theresienstadt: Gateway to Auschwitz
- The Assisi Underground
- Not Like Sheep to the Slaughter: The Story of the Bialystock Ghetto
- Miracle at Moreaux
- The Boat is Full

*If you can help us, please call Frieda at 264-0499*

### Just Published

"The Old Brown Suitcase" by Jagna Boraks-Nemetz, Ben Simon Publications, Port Angeles and Brentwood Bay, 1994. Teachers manual available.

**CAROUSEL THEATRE PRESENTS THE  
WORLD PREMIERE OF A NEW PLAY BY  
IRENE KIRSTEIN WATTS**

### "Goodbye Marianne"

Saturday, November 12 at 8:00 PM  
&  
Sunday, November 13 at 2:00 PM

**Norman Rothstein Theatre, JCC**

**Information 685-6217 or 257-5111**

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**The Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society and  
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**Telephone (604) 264-0499; Fax (604) 264-0497**

*You are welcome to visit us between the hours of  
9:00 AM and 5:00 PM on weekdays (excepting  
Jewish and statutory holidays).*

## NEW 1994 DONORS

*As of Oct. 21, 1994*

Steve Barer & Susan  
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& Gail Mainster  
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David & Chela Herman  
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Geoffrey Druker &  
Rozanne Kipnes  
Al & Myrna Kolberg  
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Gertrude Lerner  
Cara Loeb  
Harold Gutovich & Gail  
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Herb & Barb Silber

Larry & Lyliane Thal  
Dr. Perry & Karen  
Trester  
Vinegar Family  
Arlaina Waisman  
Gerald & Shery  
Wittenberg

### New Founders

Moshe & Shoshana  
Fidelman  
Edgar & Marilyn Gaerber  
Paul Meyer  
Avrum & Goldie Miller  
Serge & Brenda Vanry

**Thank you to the  
following for  
increasing their  
pledges!**

Abe & Rachel Fox  
Sam & Lola Haber  
Irvin Lerner  
Celina Lieberman  
Leo & Jocy Lowy  
Mary Szasz  
Tom Szekely

## 1994 FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

The 1994 Fundraising campaign follow-up resumed in September after a brief lull during the summer holidays.

The Vancouver Holocaust Centre Society, as of October 23, has successfully raised \$435,000 towards its Endowment Fund. Our sincere thanks to all our very generous donors and hardworking campaign volunteers.

A decision has been made by the Acknowledgements Committee to inscribe all survivor-founders and all donors whose gift was more than \$5,000 onto the sculpted glass Donors Wall at the entry to the Holocaust Education Centre. The three categories into which the inscriptions will fall are as follows:

**GUARDIAN—\$18,000**

**BUILDER—\$10,000**

**PATRON—\$5,000**

The VHCS would be pleased to accommodate any donor who wishes to upgrade their pledge in order to be listed as a Guardian, Builder, or Patron. Other categories of donors will be tastefully inscribed (according to their wishes) into a **Golden Book** situated underneath the wall.

Please consult with our Fundraising Coordinator **Judy Daughney** at the VHCS office (264-0499) who will be pleased to assist you in this regard.

**The VHCS expresses its appreciation to  
the following sponsors of the Anne Frank  
in the World:1929-1945 Exhibit**

**The Department of Canadian Heritage**

**Canadian Job Strategies Operations**

**The B.C. Ministry of Education**

**Multiculturalism B.C.**

**The Jewish Federation of Greater  
Vancouver Endowment Fund**

**Shalom Branch of the  
Royal Canadian Legion**

**Equitable Life**

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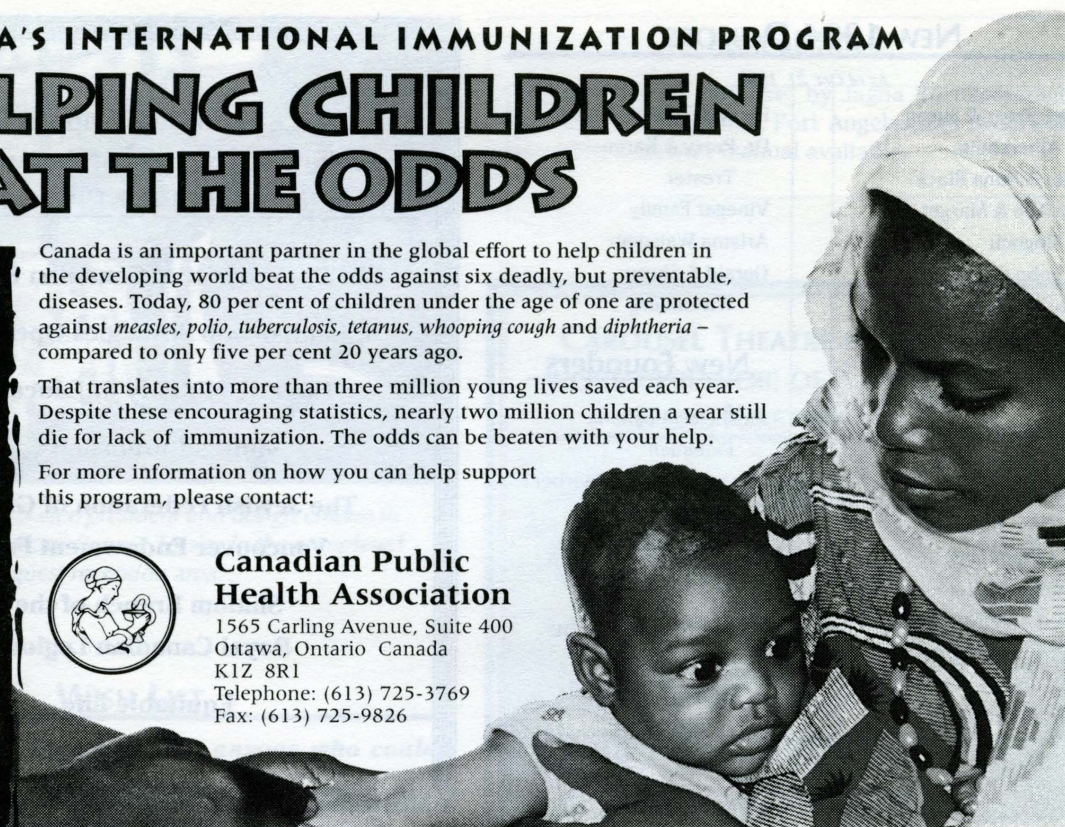
That translates into more than three million young lives saved each year. Despite these encouraging statistics, nearly two million children a year still die for lack of immunization. The odds can be beaten with your help.

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### Canadian Public Health Association

1565 Carling Avenue, Suite 400  
Ottawa, Ontario Canada  
K1Z 8R1  
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Fax: (613) 725-9826



The following poem is reproduced from the *Child Survivor* Autumn, 1994 Newsletter "No Longer Alone" From "Garden of Steel", Ekstasis Editions, Victoria, B.C., 1993, by Lillian Nemetz, (Jagna Boraks) a child survivor of the Warsaw Ghetto and two years in hiding.



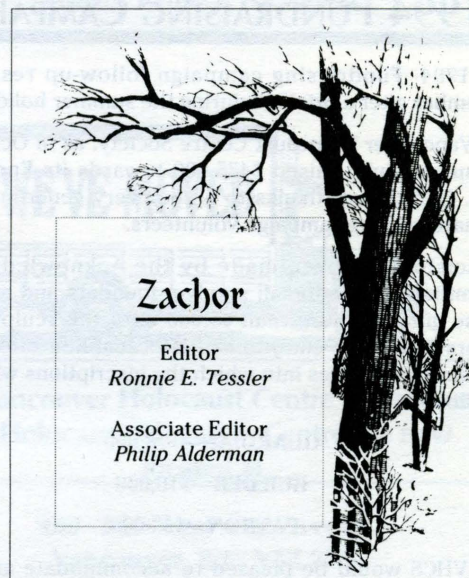
### Star of David

Imprisoned  
between the high walls  
of despair  
the eyes  
of a little shadow  
cast 6 millions beams  
onto the star of David

but the star eclipsed  
by the black swastika  
yellowed by the smoke  
from the burning  
ghetto  
shone darkly  
on the ruins  
of a people

today  
over a desert  
whose earth  
moistened by six  
million tears  
blossoms with hope

the star of David  
burns brightly  
above another wall  
with the flame  
once kindled  
in the eyes of a little  
girl  
the shadow of a child



### Zachor

Editor  
Ronnie E. Tessler

Associate Editor  
Philip Alderman

## SUSTAINING THE PAST TO BENEFIT THE FUTURE

*For the past eight months, Pam Tranfield has been cataloguing and describing the VHCS collection of archival materials. Pam aided in creating a "user friendly" computerized data base for the Society's collection of artifacts, photographs documents and rare books.*

**By Pam Tranfield, Archivist**

**H**ow many of us sit down at certain times in the day, close our eyes, just for a moment, and "collect our thoughts." We may be in a moment of quiet, when feeling peaceful within while riding the bus or enjoying the real silence of our own home. Why is it important to "collect our thoughts?" To come to a place of inner peace? To reach the jumping-off place for a new idea? To make sense of a memory or piece of knowledge, however painful? Collecting our thoughts allows us to consolidate what we know, to move forward from the place of questioning towards more questions, and perhaps conclusions. Once collected, our thoughts allow us to make decisions, or give us fuel for further thought and action.

Collecting our thoughts is a meditation, but only the products of actions resulting from those thoughts are visible to ourselves and the world in general. The thoughts are ephemeral, but the activity of collecting our thoughts, and the benefits of that activity, are not unlike the actions and results of collecting material items. Materials items, the artifacts, papers and photographs made visible to the public in museums and archives may indeed provide the impetus for new ideas, answer questions or bring about feelings of satisfaction or inner peace. A display of hockey uniforms and skates from the Toronto Maple Leafs of the 1950's may create nostalgic feelings within certain visitors. Similarly, photographs of an individual's hometown, available for viewing in an archives may raise fond memories in a researcher.

However, collecting and creating visible access to historical material does not occur only for the purpose of entertaining or placating the public. Galleries and archives also collect and use items from the past which evoke feelings of pain, anger and even horror. In short, collecting is a means by which society retains and presents the truths of its existence, glorious or horrific. Artifacts, papers and photographs are the testament of memories which cannot be spoken, feelings that are painful to raise, and the counter to lies which individuals will attempt to perpetuate.

Collecting and preserving the material items accumulated by individuals in the course of their lives also allows for a representation of those lives to exist, whether in fragments or in large frame. The one photograph existing of a beloved brother means his face will not be forgotten. The file of letters from father to daughter provides a snapshot of a family's life over a period of time. Active conservation, such as that which takes place in a museum or archives, is the key to preserving such treasures.

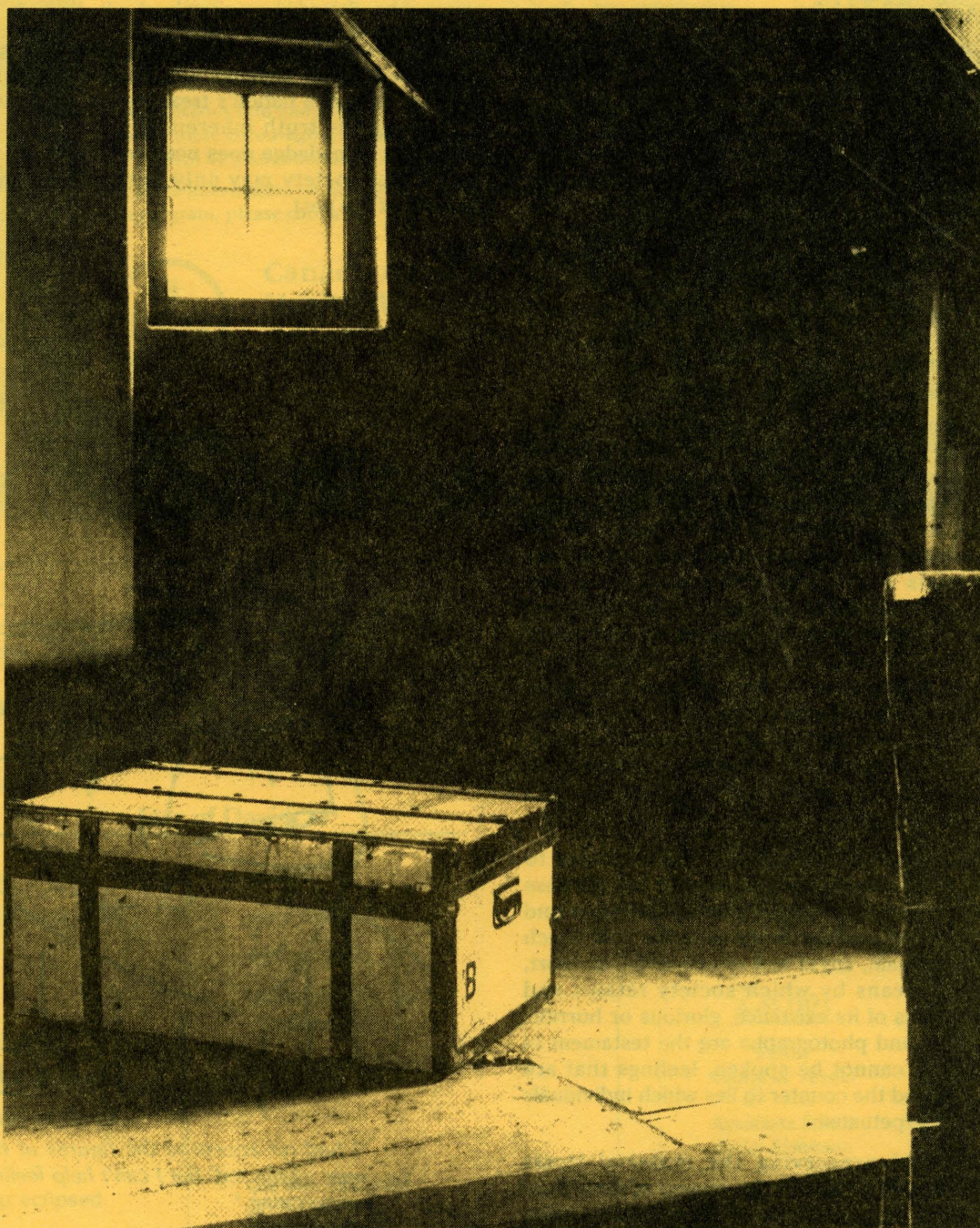
To collect, in archival and museum terms, is synonymous with preservation. Preservation means the physical care of a nation's treasures as a means toward preserving the truth inherent in the the era of their collection. Knowledge does not necessarily create inner peace, but society may only progress by facing the realities of the past.



*"I had no access to the figures of how many were eliminated, but I can't help feeling you are exaggerating."*

(From Peter Ustinov's book "We Were Only Human")

*"What is done cannot be undone, but one can prevent it from happening again."—Anne Frank  
May, 1944*



*The attic of the Annex, in Amsterdam,  
where Anne Frank wrote much of her diary*

*"Remember. For there is, there must be, hope in remembering" — Elie Wiesel*