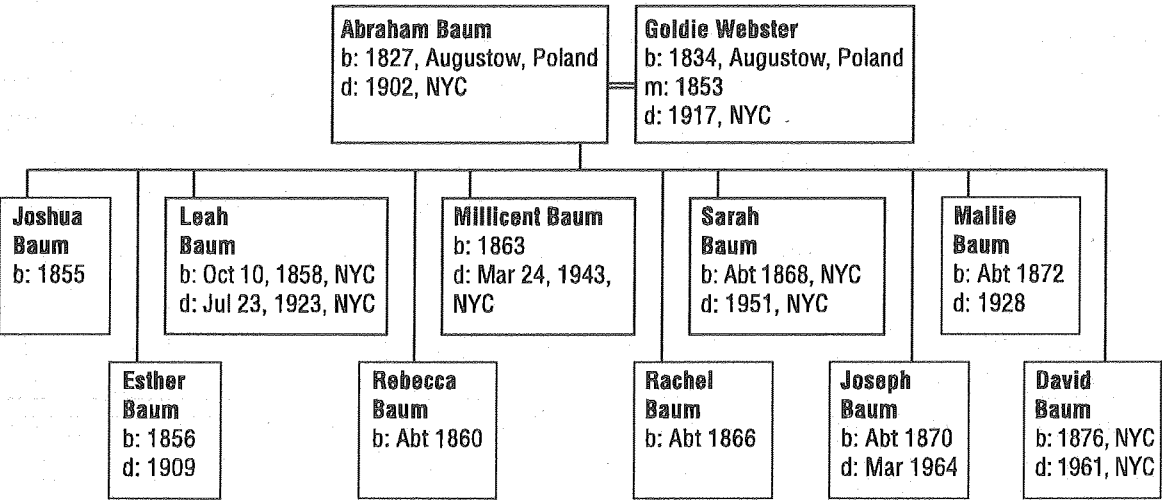


***THE CHILDREN OF
ABBE & GOLDIE BAUM***

Abbe and Goldie's family increased in a regular progression: first came Joshua (Shirley), then Esther, Leah, Rebecca, Millicent, Rachel, Sarah, Joseph, Mallie and David. Leah's story is in the Crohn section, for she married Theodore Crohn.



Joshua (Shirley) Baum was Abbe and Goldie Baum's eldest son. Though he died before most of us were born, we always heard about his vibrant personality and great promise. Apparently he died of ptomaine poisoning after eating tainted food. Shirley, as he was called, was apparently the apple of Grandma's eye, and was an accountant by trade. When still a young man he was engaged to Lena Weinberg of Baltimore, but apparently the marriage did not take place due to his sudden death. She later married Jacob Epstein, the multimillionaire owner of the Baltimore Bargain House, but she never forgot her first love. Many years later, when Leah Crohn attended her son's wedding in Baltimore she visited Mrs. Epstein, who, after so long a time, still talked of her great love for Shirley Baum.

Esther Jane (Baum) Ruskay: Brilliant and gifted, Esther was the eldest Baum daughter. She was blessed with the intelligence and compassion of her father and the soft kindliness of her mother. She was an accomplished musician who loved to improvise on the piano, was well read and altogether a cultured woman. She became a successful writer and for a time wrote a series of articles for the *New York Sun*. Her articles on Jewish subjects appeared in the old *Hebrew Standard* and the *Jewish Messenger*.

The turn of the century saw the beginning of the Jewish Publication Society. Until this time there was almost no Jewish literature available in the English language. A series of little red books on various subjects was published and one of these was *Hearth and Home Essays* by Esther J. Ruskay, published in 1902. The book deals with the pleasures of Jewish home life. Certainly this is a reflection of the joys which Esther experienced in the Baum household.

She was an organizer, a founder of the New York Section of the Council of Jewish Women (1894), of the Educational Alliance on the Lower East Side, the Young Women's Hebrew

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Association, the Vacation Home for Girls, and other budding pioneer institutions. A member of the first graduating class of Normal (Hunter) College, Esther taught school as well as piano to help earn a living.

Esther Ruskay was the first woman to speak from the pulpit of Temple Emanuel at 43rd Street and 5th Avenue. This was during America's 'melting pot' period. Complete assimilation into mainstream American life was considered the ideal an immigrant should strive for. The absolute negation of a Jewish image was considered desirable. Families were torn asunder when children broke sharply with their parents' way of life. In general, the Jewish leadership of those days approved of this process of alienation. For was this not America, where everything that smacked of the 'old country' was to be obliterated?

Esther Ruskay was among those few brave souls who spoke up. She and others felt that to be American did not mean being less Jewish. A woman leading the fight for Jewish identity was unheard of, but she did have allies, among them Dr. Joseph Mayer Asher, Mrs. Alexander Kohut, Mrs. Samuel Greenbaum, Prof. Solomon Schechter, Mordecai M. Kaplan, Professor Henry Leipsiger and many others. *The Jewish Press* started a great public debate between 'Sadie American' of the Council of Jewish Women and Esther Ruskay. The Council called for the complete assimilation of old-fashioned Judaism into American national culture. Mary Antin's book *The Melting Pot* was a best seller, and the debate continued for many months. The following excerpts are from a speech delivered by Esther before the Council of Jewish Women on May 9, 1894. I include them to illustrate her eloquent style and profound feelings, as she herself expressed them over one hundred years ago:

"The subject assigned to me, 'Revival of Judaism', covers a vast expanse of religious territory. Before starting to write my paper, I looked up the definition of 'revival' and found it to mean a return to life – an awakening. Clearly, then, Judaism was either dead or sleeping and needed to be awakened, and to me was deputed the task. I did not look up the word 'Judaism'. I thought I knew what this meant, and if I did not, there was no danger of my remaining unenlightened. In my experience, I have had served up to me splendid specimens of the accepted vernacular of modern Judaism, such as the 'essence of Judaism', 'rationalistic universal spirit of Judaism', all as pat and neatly rounded off into sentences as any orator ever succeeded in launching forth from the pulpit. Now then, I am not sure that I shall succeed in the 'awakening' part of my mission, but I am quite sure I shall arouse discussion and criticism, perhaps even censure and scorn".

Speaking of Hebrew, she said:

"Hebrew among the Jews is their universal shibboleth. Go where you will from East to West, from pole to pole – everywhere you will find in some out-of-the-way corner of the globe, a band of men closely united. In the heart of Asia, in the wilds of Africa, on the

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plateaus of Mexico, the 'Shema Yisroel' discovers a brother at your side, and is as sweet to the ear as the sound of running water to the thirsty traveler in the desert."

Thus did Esther Ruskay, who had been born in America, speak about the need to sustain our Jewish heritage. The full address was published by the National Council of Jewish Women on the occasion of its 70th anniversary.

Aunt Esther was beloved by hundreds. On a Saturday afternoon her home was a mecca for the Jewish intelligentsia. Her nephew Lawrence Crohn remembers listening to the sparkling conversation, and when at twilight Sabbath was over, watching her at the piano, playing the traditional tunes that she had learned from her father.

In a book of speeches by former Chief Justice Horace Stern of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, he reminds his readers of some famous Jewish names in Philadelphia's past: "There were Haym Solomon, Rebecca Gratz, Louise Hart, and Esther Baum... (Judge Stern mistakenly included Aunt Esther as a resident of Philadelphia).

She was a great homemaker. Her husband, Samuel J. Ruskay, was a tall, handsome gentleman of the old school. The family thought he looked like a Russian duke with his trim Van Dyke beard, elegant clothes, a white carnation in his lapel and a gold-handled cane. Their daughter **Ruth** died very young. The three sons, **Burrill**, **Cecil** and **Everett**, were personalities in their own right.

Sam Ruskay was the first member of the family to become a member of the Consolidated Stock Exchange. He had many ups and downs – the downs being more frequent. They lived at first in Tremont, the Bronx, in a big house, later moving to 86th Street and Second Avenue, where Esther wrote essays and poetry and composed music. Her sons matured here, and here she remained until she died.

Even in those early days, New Yorkers sought relief from the summer heat, making the Rockaways their principal summer stamping grounds. The Crohns were comfortably ensconced in Arverne-by-the-Sea, and Aunt Esther, always a nature lover, longed for cool ocean breezes. There was a wide stretch of sand dunes beyond Arverne which was completely uninhabited. She had the bright idea of setting up a few tents on the sandy waste – now known as Edgemere – a novel notion for a summer vacation. She convinced Remington Vernon, the wealthy owner, that this was a feasible idea. Soon two large tents were erected and a small wooden shack was built to provide shelter from the wild storms that sometimes blew in from the Atlantic. The Ruskay boys dug for fresh water. A few beds and draperies, rugs, wooden benches, and an oil stove made the tent livable. There were books galore and of course a piano. Soon others were attracted by this strange experiment. A regular tent colony soon developed. This lasted for a few years until real estate people began buying up the land. Now the area is densely populated throughout the year by people living in brick apartments and two-family houses.

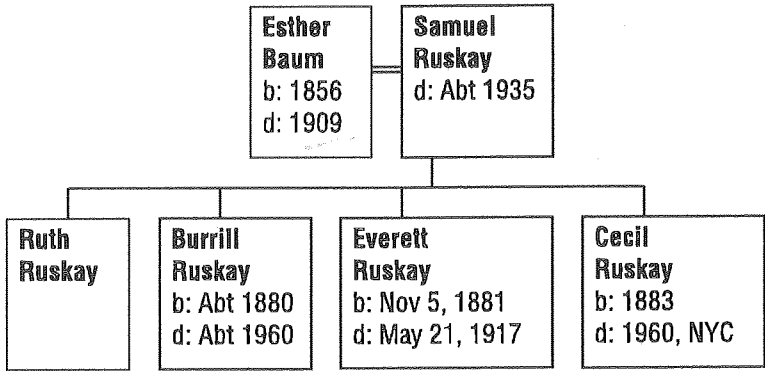
The more affluent relatives from Arverne and Far Rockaway were frequent visitors on a sort

of 'slumming' expedition. There were many interesting visitors: Sophie Liebowitz (who later married Cecil Ruskay) frequently journeyed from her palatial home in Arverne to see Aunt Esther, as did Cecil and his equally scintillating cousin Burrill Crohn, who was also a frequent visitor.

The three Ruskay sons grew up. Esther Ruskay became a national figure in the Jewish world, but tragedy lurked around the corner. She developed headaches, soon diagnosed as a brain tumor. Although brain surgery was in its infancy she bravely submitted to an operation.

During the last few weeks of her life, Dr. Asher (a rabbi and teacher at the Jewish Theological Seminary) visited her every day and read Psalms to her, especially the 23rd. She weakened gradually and passed away peacefully in 1909, unconscious of her family's, friends' and colleagues' sorrow – in fact, the entire community mourned her, including Henrietta Szold, Emma Lazarus, Rebecca Kohut, Belle Unterberg, Julia Richman and many other outstanding Jewish women.

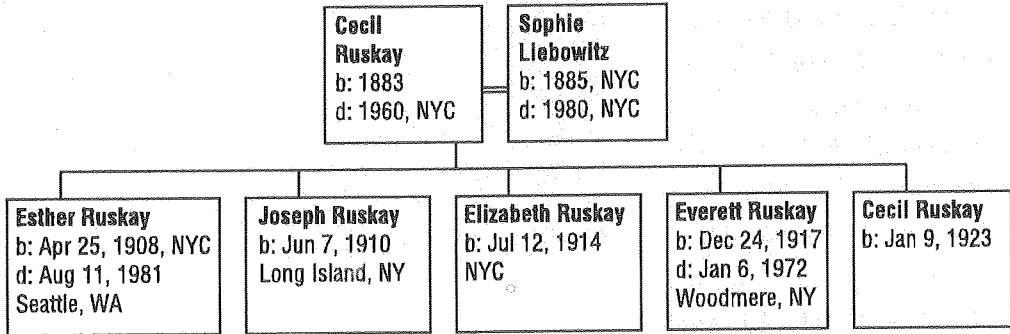
A large memorial meeting was held a year after her death at the Young Women's Hebrew Association which she had helped establish. A memorial plaque was affixed to the building, and later a room was named in her honor. On each anniversary of her death, her son Cecil read poetry and essays (some of which she had written) to the young women who frequented the 'Y'. He also read to youth at the Educational Alliance on the Lower East Side, and to the working women at the Vacation Home for Girls.



Burrill Ruskay was the eldest son. He left Columbia University in his junior year – a severe blow to his mother – but decided to join forces with his father on Wall Street. He never married, and was constantly trying to make a fortune from his ingenuous ideas. He played the piano by ear, like his mother, and created a new method for musical harmony. Burrill finally 'made it' on Wall Street, only to quickly lose it all again – the great pre-1929 stock boom lured thousands of people to Wall Street, where, for a while, Sam and Burrill Ruskay did well and for a short time lived in the lap of luxury. Before 1929 the House of Ruskay toppled over, leaving father and son without funds or friends. Cecil saw them over the crisis. Sam died a few years later but Burrill lived to be over 80. His lonely life was brightened by Sophie, Cecil's wife, and her children, who were devoted and attentive to their uncle.

Everett Ruskay was short but had his mother's strong features. He was class president (1902) at The College of the City of New York and was a member of the CCNY varsity baseball team. He received his law degree from New York University in 1904. When Cecil gained his law degree two years later, the two brothers proudly opened an office in the Flatiron Building. They starved like gentlemen until Everett discovered his talent for writing short plays (probably inherited from his mother). In quick succession came the well-known *Meanest Man in the World*, then *Cranberries*, the musical *Matilda* and *Forty Winks*. George M. Cohan purchased *The Meanest Man* with Alan Dinehart playing the lead. Everett became a member of the Friars Club and was well known among the theatrical set. He never married, though he was extremely and understandably attractive to women – he was scintillating, with a rare wit and cynical humor. He would tease Grandma by threatening to marry outside the faith, practically unthinkable in those days.

Everett's closest friend and collaborator was George Gartland, head of the New York City School System's Music Department. They planned to write musical comedies together, though tragically Everett died at thirty-seven. Large numbers of relatives and friends attended the funeral at which Dr. David de Sola Pool likened Everett's career to a flower which, though sadly short-lived, gave so much pleasure.



Cecil Ruskay had a good life, happy in his marriage to Sophie and his family of five children. He was a skilled lawyer, and his wit and deep understanding of human nature frequently enlivened the courtroom. Like his mother, he cherished Jewish tradition. And, like his mother, he possessed an artistic temperament. His life was full, encompassing the joy of a beloved family along with an eclectic interest in the arts.

Cecil loved the Bible as literature and often read to his children from Job, Jonah and the Ethics of the Fathers. They were one of the first families to live in Far Rockaway year round. Once settled, Cecil, like his maternal grandfather before him, soon found himself urging his peers to establish a synagogue. Before long Far Rockaway had a new place of worship – the first in the area – called Shaaray Tefillah. The congregation presented him with a gold watch as a token of appreciation. Like Abbe Baum's synagogue, Shaaray Tefillah has also remained a bastion of Orthodox Judasim.

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Cecil had many talents. One of his greatest gifts was his natural affinity for fatherhood. He and Sophie had five children: **Esther (Blix)**, **Joseph Asher**, **Elizabeth**, **Everett** and **Cecil**. Together they created an atmosphere of mutual love and respect, and Cecil was his children's friend and confidante.

Again like his mother, he was a poet (Sophie published a book of his poems). Cecil loved to speak about Byron, Keats and Shelley, but he liked Shakespeare, on whom he was an expert, best of all. He also learned to paint and etch and many of his fine works adorn his family's and friends' homes. When Sophie published a volume of nostalgic memories of old New York entitled *Horsecars and Cobblestones*, he illustrated it. The book described the time when the city spawned Jewish millionaires, socialists and oppressed working people.

The Inwood Country Club (of which he was an early member) held an exhibit of Cecil's paintings a short time before his death. He was a brilliant public speaker, one of the main attractions at family parties. Shortly before he died, his daughter Blix read some of his poems. One of them, *I Never Shall Grow Old*, was omitted. Cecil had a fatal illness and he didn't want his family to worry. Shortly afterward he passed away.

In addition to *Horsecars and Cobblestones*, Sophie wrote a book for teenagers entitled *Discovery in Aspen*. She was the only daughter of Simon and Fanny Liebowitz, prominent members of the New York community. Their firm, S. Liebowitz and Sons, manufactured standard American menswear.

At 93, Sophie lived in a small residence in West Hartford, Connecticut, near her daughter, Cecil Schatz. The inimitable Sophie read aloud and determinedly pedaled away on her exercise bicycle each morning. She died in her 95th year.



Sophie Ruskay

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These reminiscences were dictated to Blix Ruskay by Cecil Ruskay (son of Esther Ruskay and husband of Sophie) a few weeks before his death (1883-1960).

One of my earliest recollections of our life in New York City is of the greatest military celebration ever held. We had seats in the grandstand on Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street, where the big main public library now stands, to watch the largest parade this country ever produced. Troops marched from every state in the Union. There were two outstanding features: one was John Philip Sousa and his band – everyone knows his marches, even today – and the other was a contingent from Montana. This regiment brought in a group of real Indians headed by Sitting Bull, the great Indian chief who had dared to lead the attack against General Custer in 1874. He was condemned to die for his act of treachery, but was forgiven by the Great White Father and lived to march in full regalia up Fifth Avenue.

The President of the United States was there, and all the governors, and we were there, too, all day. It marked the beginning of an era of great prosperity for provincial Little Old New York, and prosperity for us, too, in that beautiful house at 57 East 91st Street. It was the era when the horse-car ran up Madison Avenue, and 42nd Street was considered way uptown, and when we rode horseback from Anthony and Rumps' Riding Academy on the corner of 91st Street. Just around the corner Andrew Carnegie had built himself a magnificent residence on Fifth Avenue, which is still standing today.

Those were the days when Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch first came into being. We were great lovers of the theatre, and one night Mother and Father took us to see *Little Lord Fauntleroy* at the Empire Theater, which is one of the few old landmarks of the theater district today at Broadway and 40th Street. As we walked back to Madison Avenue to get the horsecar, we reached Grand Central Station, and there was a great deal of excitement. Gorgeous people, society folk, ladies in long evening cloaks and gentlemen in spats and tall silk hats, carrying canes, were milling about. The band was playing and the Seventh Regiment marched into Grand Central Station. The Seventh Regiment was then what West Point is today. As the horsecar reached 67th Street and Park Avenue, we saw young boys milling about in gray uniforms with white stripes on their trousers. They were going to Buffalo to intervene in the famous Buffalo railroad strike. Grover Cleveland was President, and he had the right to order troops to protect government property. It was just like the theater, seeing those boys taking leave of their sweethearts. I couldn't have been more than nine or ten at the time, but it made an indelible impression.

Mother's purchase of the 91st Street house was quite something for her. She turned it into a little palace. It was a lovely neighborhood, so close to Central Park. She had built a two-storey extension in the

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back for her music room, where her beloved Knabe piano stood. It had been especially designed in white and gold, and there she held her soirees. She was a great pianist as well as a dedicated opera goer. Burrill, Everett, and I were just kids. We could never get enough of those musical evenings, and we would hang over the banister, mostly out of sight, after we had been sent to bed.

As a graduate of Hunter College and an English teacher at a time when women rarely accomplished either, Esther became a leader of the Jewish social world's 'younger set', a close friend of the Schiffs and the Warburgs. Dad, known by his initials as 'SS', would wander in and out. He was very straight, tall and handsome. He was something of a dandy, too, mighty fussy about his clothes, and very popular with the ladies.

I remember that my mother was concerned about his involvement in a highly speculative field. She believed that he had great talent for the law, and didn't want him to remain on the Stock Exchange even though at the moment he was doing very well. She arranged for a Harvard student to read law with him, and SS paid this student the munificent sum of \$3 an hour. Unfortunately, he was a shortsighted gambler, not particularly concerned with the future. One afternoon he came home having made an amazingly successful deal in the market that put \$3000 in his pocket, only to be greeted by the impecunious law student. It didn't take SS long to decide. He paid the young law student his three dollars, cancelled the lesson, and discontinued the pursuit of the law forever, much to mother's regret.

Dad lost his fortune and with it the house on 91st Street and all its furnishings, including the beloved white and gold Knabe piano, in the crash of 1893. The house was foreclosed and we fled to the Tremont section of the Bronx, then a wilderness. Mother never forgot the little organ grinder in the street in front of the house who played "Mid pleasures and palaces, there's no place like home" as we left it.

*Blix comments: Dad used to describe the wilderness that was Tremont when they moved there: no people, no playmates besides the goats out to pasture, foraging for wood to stave off the cold. He would tell us how the ink froze in the inkwell while Grandma Esther wrote her articles for *Hearth and Home Essays* and Jewish education publications.*

I guess in retrospect Dad never forgave SS for the uncertainties of their existence in those early years – which was, in a way, a sad and tragic foreshadowing of the Wall Street crash of 1929.

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Esther Jane Ruskay was known through her professional acting career as 'Blix' Ruskay. She pioneered the one-woman show, developing and presenting original materials for both adults and children, delving into her Jewish and Yiddish heritage in the beginning, but also further afield in later years. Blix was greatly beloved and admired for her artistic endeavors, and highly regarded in her adopted city of Seattle where she became the Director of Children's Theater at Bellevue Community College for two seasons. She took part in the Children's Art Center Foundation and also participated in the Bumbershoot Festival in 1975.

Her husband, Harvey Bresler, was a man of many talents and interests. He practiced law in New York City for a short time and then went into advertising and marketing. He was an avid reader, writer and a long-time book review contributor to *The Nation* and *The New York Times*. In later years he taught on the college level and was active in public service in Seattle.

Blix and Harvey had three children: **Lynne, Jane** and **Michael**.

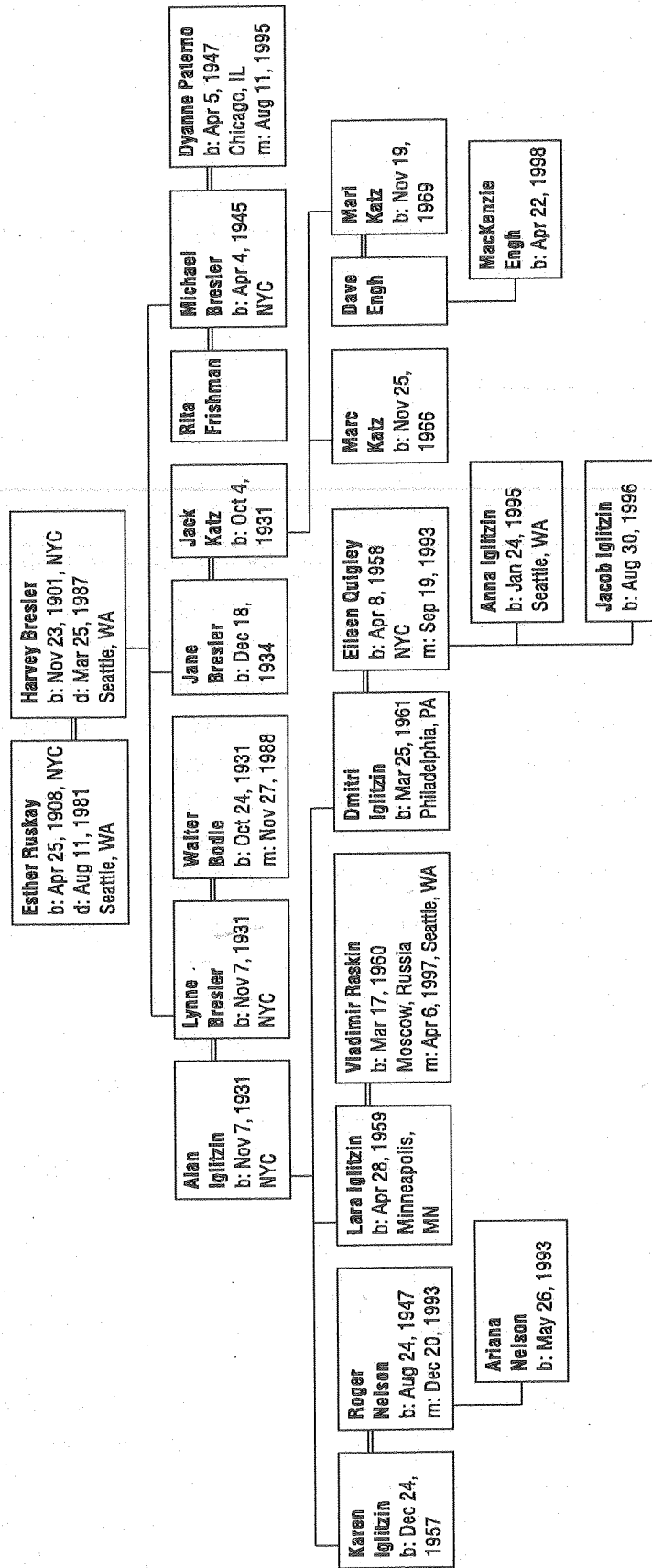
Lynne Bresler holds a PhD in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College and taught at the University of Washington's Political Science Department in Seattle for many years, as well as at positions in Washington, DC and in Los Angeles. Currently Lynne is a member of the Seattle Human Rights Commission, and does community service as a court mediator for the King County Dispute Resolution Center. Her first marriage to Alan Iglitzin, a violist and founding member of the Philadelphia String Quartet, ended in divorce. She and Alan had three children: **Karen, Lara** and **Dimitri**.

Lynne is now married to Walter Bodle. Walter has retired after 30 years of teaching in the Los Angeles' inner-city schools and moved with Lynne to Seattle in 1990. They have created a non-profit organization, Youth in Focus, which Walter directs and in which both are deeply involved. The organization provides photographic experiences to inner-city youth ages 13-19 and is now in its sixth year.

Karen (Iglitzin) Nelson was born in Minneapolis, grew up in Philadelphia and then lived in Seattle after the Philadelphia String Quartet moved out west. She attended Indiana University and got her Masters in violin at Yale 1981. She joined the Philadelphia Quartet as the first violin, touring India and South America and giving hundreds of concerts in the US. She became a professor at Western Washington University (Bellingham, WA), where she taught music for 12 years. She resigned her position in 1997 in order to raise her daughter **Ariana** and to become an independent chamber music consultant and coach. She and her husband Roger Nelson spent the 1997-8 school year teaching music at the Qufu Teachers' University

The descendants of Esther 'Blix' (Ruskay) Bressler

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in Shandong Province, China, while Ariana attended an all-Chinese kindergarten and became fluent in Mandarin. They return to China every year for a concert tour. They have released a CD, *Fiddling on the Yangtze*, and have their own website.

Lara (Iglitzin) Raskin is Executive Director of the Henry M. Jackson Foundation, established in honor of the late Senator Henry Jackson. The foundation funds public service, environmental and human rights activities in many parts of the world, especially in the former Soviet Union. Lara is a specialist in Russian history with degrees from the University of Washington and Georgetown University, Washington DC. Her husband Vladimir Raskin holds a PhD in Engineering, and is presently an Adjunct Professor in International Studies at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Relations, University of Washington.

Dmitri Iglitzin was born in Philadelphia. He attended high school in Seattle and Columbia University for two years, transferring to Yale where he received a BA in American Studies in 1983. Dmitri graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 1986, and is now a partner in a law firm specializing in labor and employment law in Seattle. Dmitri's wife, Eileen Quigley, grew up in Manhasset, Long Island, received her BA in Literature from Yale in 1980 and her MS in Journalism from Columbia University in 1983. She was a reporter for NBC News, National Journal in Washington, DC, and the New York bureau of *The Los Angeles Times* before moving to Seattle in 1988 to start *The New Pacific* magazine, a quarterly on policy for the Pacific Northwest. She currently is Director of Real Impact, a division of Real Networks, the leading provider in streaming media technology for the Internet. Real Impact consults to the nonprofit community to help organizations learn how to use the Internet to achieve their missions. Dmitri and Eileen have two children, **Anna Sophie** and **Jacob Bernard**.

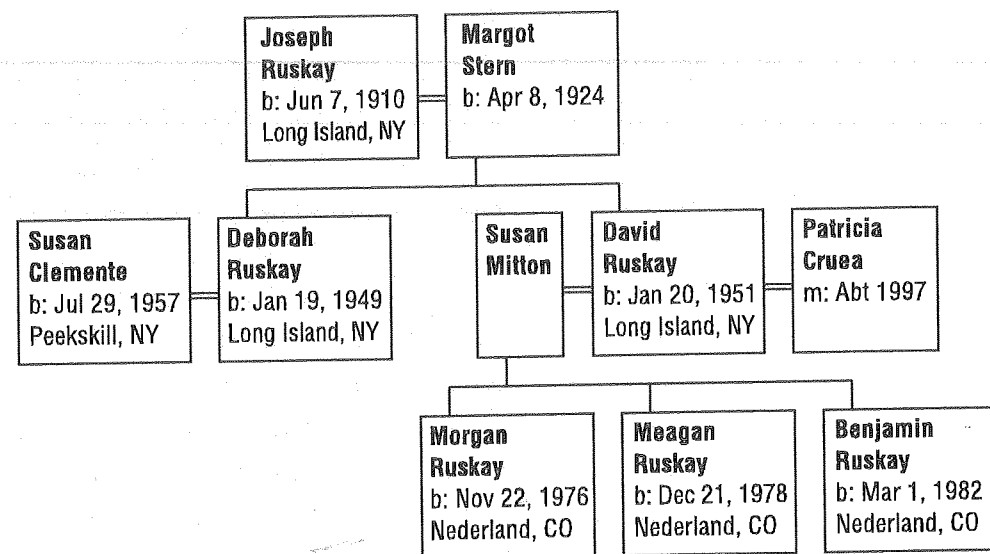
Jane (Bressler) Katz was an English teacher. She has written six books of documentary and oral history. The most recent is *Messengers of the Wind: Native American Women Tell Their Own Stories* (1995). She currently tutors English as a second language. Jack Katz is a practising attorney as well as an avid tennis player. Jane and Jack have two children, **Marc** and **Mari**.

Marc Katz is deeply interested in computers and photography. He is presently involved in the restaurant field.

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Mari (Bresler) Engh is a Montessori preschool teacher. Her husband David is a physical education teacher and a gymnastics coach. He holds an MA in Education. They have a son, **MacKenzie**.

Michael Bresler holds both an MSW from the University of Chicago and a PhD in Clinical Psychology from Northwestern University. He is in full-time private practice in Bridgman, Michigan, where he lives with his family. He enjoys jogging on his treadmill, surfing the internet, reading, and working on his outdoor fishpond. He and Dyanne, who has three grown children from a previous marriage, were married in 1995. She was born in Chicago, recently received her MA in counselling and is presently in private practice as a psychologist. Dyanne greatly enjoys working in her garden.



Joseph Asher Ruskay graduated from Columbia College and Columbia University Law School (1934) and is a practicing attorney specializing in anti-trust and securities litigation. Joe wrote *Leaves From A Family Tree*, a memoir chiefly about the Baum-Webster-Crohn family, published by Vantage Press, 1995. The book highlights the activities of unusual individuals who were deeply involved in the public life of New York City and played significant roles in the bustling world of community and Jewish affairs. His wife Margot (Stern) was in charge of the emergency psychiatric reception center at Bronx Municipal Hospital, and is now retired. She is, however, an active volunteer and runs bereavement groups as well as a JCC learning center course for seniors on the use of computers. Joseph and Margot have two children, **Deborah Sophie** and **David**.

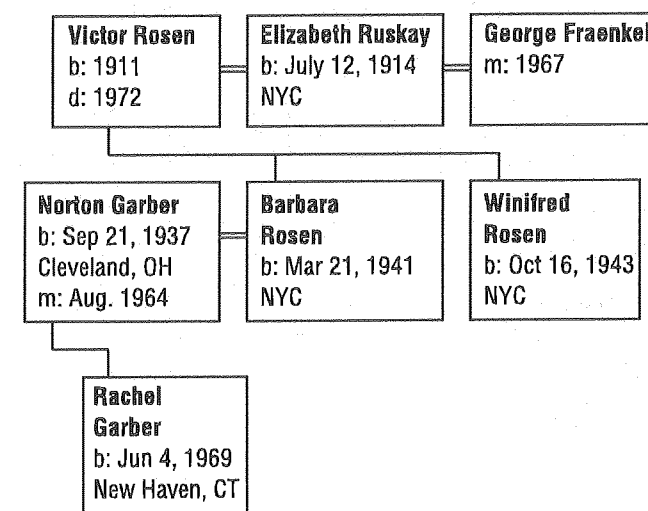
Deborah Ruskay lives in San Francisco with Sue Clemente, her partner of 15 years. Debbie is an elementary school teacher and Sue has practiced acupuncture and homeopathy, although at the moment she is in the process of becoming a teacher.

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David Ruskay was born on Long Island, New York, where so many of our ancestors lived, and now lives in Nederland, Colorado. He is a master electrician and has his own business. After his marriage to Susan Mitton ended in a divorce, he married Patricia Cruea. The entire family enjoys rafting, skiing and hiking. David and Susan have three children: **Morgan Rielle**, **Meagan Celine** and **Benjamin Paul**.

Morgan Ruskay is awaiting acceptance to medical school. She spent a year as a hospital volunteer and has taught advanced skiing in Aspen.

Meagan Ruskay recently returned from a trip around the world, during which she worked with native people on farms and taught in villages that had never before seen white people.



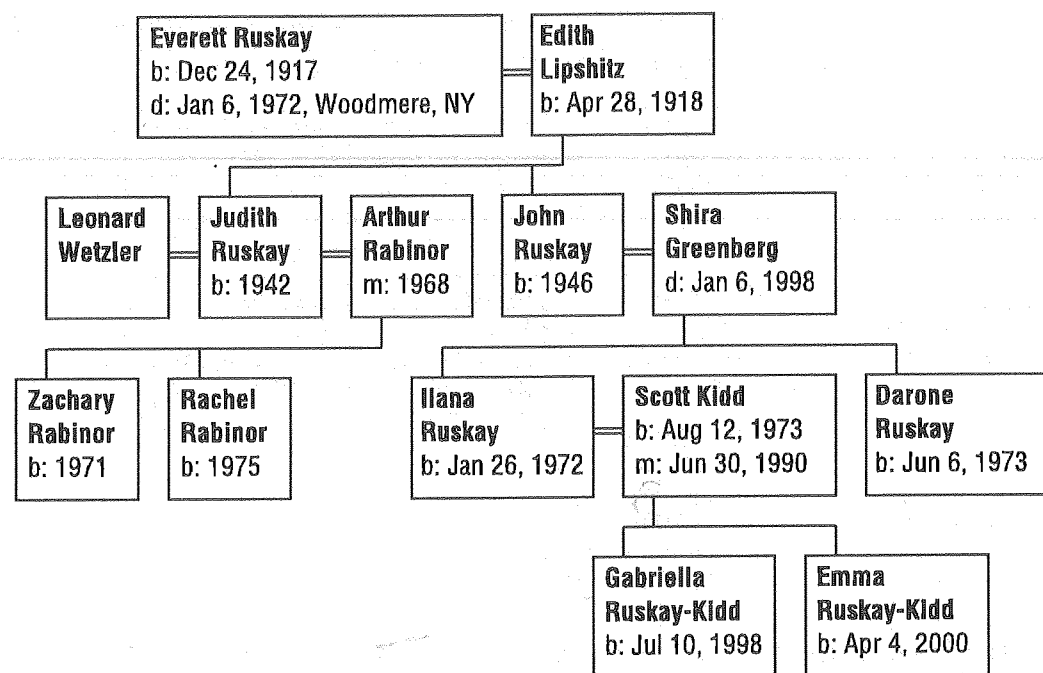
Elizabeth (Ruskay) Fraenkel (Libby) is a graduate of Columbia Teachers College, with an MA and PhD in dance therapy. She is the author of *Psychotherapy Through Dance*, worked on recreation projects for the maladjusted and was active in the New York section of the National Council of Jewish Women, directing the Books for the Young project. A long-time resident of New York, Libby, now 85, divides her time between Manhattan and West Palm Beach where she enjoys golf and her many friends. She is divorced from George. Elizabeth and her first husband, Victor Rosen, had two children, **Barbara** and **Winifred**.

Barbara (Rosen) Garber and her psychiatrist husband Norton live and work in Putney, Vermont, after many years of suburban living in New Haven, Connecticut. Barbara graduated from Sarah Lawrence College and NYU's Institute of Fine Arts. Barbara is a visual artist, while Norton graduated from Harvard University, earning his MD at NYU Medical School. He has practiced child psychiatry for many years in both Connecticut and Vermont. They live in a barn they renovated themselves. Norton is an avid musician and video artist. They have a daughter, **Rachel**.

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Rachel Garber is a graduate of Hampshire College, Massachusetts, and has an MA in Education from Harvard. She is currently working at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government where she runs a public service program in educational access for low-income students. She is deeply interested in technology, education and access.

Winifred Rosen graduated with honors from New York University and did graduate work in literature. She is an author and publisher of childrens' books. A resident of East Hampton, Long Island, Winifred is a landscape gardener, while continuing to write and publish stories.



Everett Ruskay and his wife Edith (Peggy) Lipshitz lived most of their married life in Woodmere, Long Island. Both were graduates of the Woodmere Academy. Everett worked with S. Liebowitz & Sons for seventeen years, and later had his own business, the Don Juan Boy's Shirt Company. He was an Army corporal during World War Two. After Everett's death Peggy married Lou Neidenberg, who passed away soon afterwards. In her late 50s she obtained her BA from Fordham University. She now lives in Manhattan where she is interested in the theater, opera and the arts, as well as in other voluntary activities. Everett and Peggy had two children, **Judith** and **John**.

Judy (Ruskay) Rabinor received her MA from City College in 1975 and her PhD from Fordham University in 1979. She is the Director of the American Eating Disorder Center of Long Island, and does a great deal of speaking and writing. She is completing her first book, *A Starving Madness, Tales of Hunger, Hope and Healing*, a book about eating disorders. The book begins with a true story about her grandmother, Sophie Ruskay, who was a source of inspiration.

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Her first marriage to Arnold Rabinor ended in divorce and she is now married to Lawrence Wetzler. Like Judy, he too is a psychologist by profession and a pianist by avocation. They live and work on Long Island and in Manhattan. Judy and Arnold have two children, **Zachary David** and **Rachel Everett**.

Zachary is completing his Masters in international relations pacific studies at the University of California at San Diego.

Rachel is beginning her graduate work at Columbia University's School of Social Work. Both she and her brother are avid adventure travelers.

John Ruskay, even in high school, had a special interest in Judaism, spoke Hebrew fluently, and was national treasurer of USY (United Synagogue Youth). He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh cum laude. During his college years, John was a student activist who participated in civil rights marches in Montgomery, Alabama with Dr. Martin Luther King, took an active role in the anti-Vietnam War movement and held leadership positions in Eugene McCarthy and Robert Kennedy's presidential campaigns.

He received his MA from Columbia University, followed by an MA in philosophy and a PhD specializing in Middle East politics. He was educational and executive director of the Society for the Advancement of Judaism in New York City and in 1973 founded Breira, a group committed to open discussion within the American Jewish community on Arab-Israeli and Palestinian issues. He was also Vice Chancellor for Public Affairs at the Jewish Theological Seminary, Education Director of the 92nd Street YM-YWHA, and is now Executive Vice President and CEO of the United Jewish Appeal – Federation of Jewish Charities of New York. John writes and lectures and has served on the Board of a number of important Jewish organizations. His wife, Shira B. Greenberg, was a graduate of the University of Michigan and Columbia Teachers College. She went back to school after several years in Special Education, graduating from Cardoza Law School. Shira held a number of legal positions, including US Attorney. She obtained an MSW from NYU and was Director of Social Work for the Visiting Nurse Service Hospice in New York until her death in 1998. They had two children, **Ilana** and **Darone**.

John will be marrying Robin Bernstein in late September 2001. Robin is the executive director of the Educational Alliance, the over one-hundred-year-old institution which now serves the Lower East Side in more than 26 sites and with which members of our family were involved in its earliest days. Robin has three children from a previous marriage.

Ilana Ruskay-Kidd graduated from Harvard College and the Bank Street College of Education, and is one of the founding faculty members of the Ella Baker School in New York. She is married to Scott Kidd, whom she met

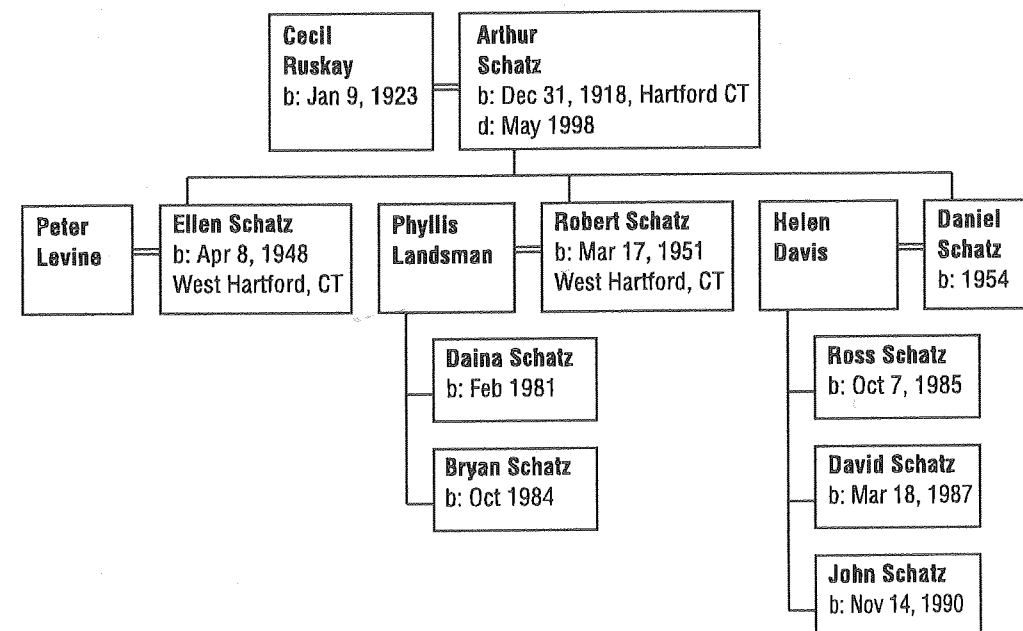
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at Harvard; he graduated from Columbia Law School and has clerked for two federal judges. They have two children, **Gabriella** and **Emma Simone**.

Darone Ruskay attended the Ramaz Jewish Day School and Stuyvesant High School. He graduated from the University of Michigan. He now lives in New York where he is Conference Director for the Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE).

Cecil (Ruskay) Schatz graduated from Cornell University and received her MSW from Columbia University. A long-time resident of West Hartford, Connecticut, Cecil is an active volunteer and supporter of Jewish and social service organizations, both in the US and Israel. She divides her time between Connecticut and West Palm Beach, where she is an avid golfer, swimmer and tennis player.

Her husband, Arthur Schatz, was a lawyer and senior partner at Schatz & Schatz, Ribicoff & Kotkin in Hartford, Connecticut. A graduate of Cornell University and the Cornell Law School, he served in the US Coast Guard during World War Two. His biography appears in *Who's Who in America* and *Who's Who in American Law*. Cecil and Arthur had three children: **Ellen**, **Robert** and **Daniel**.



Ellen Schatz is a graduate of Cornell University and Cornell Law School. She is an attorney with the Webster Bank in Hartford, Connecticut, specializing in commercial, corporate and banking law. Her first marriage, to Peter Levine, ended in divorce and she is now engaged to be married to Michael Carter.

Robert Schatz also graduated from Cornell University and Suffolk Law School in Boston. He practiced in the family firm of Schatz & Schatz, and is now in private practice specializing in employee stock ownership plans. He is married to Phyllis Landsman and they have two children, **Daina** and **Bryan**.

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Daniel Schatz received his MBA from Columbia University. He owns Powermarketing, a marketing consulting firm in Cresskill, N.J. He is married to Helen Davis. They have three children, **Ross**, **David** and **John**. The family enjoys snowboarding.

Rebecca Portia (Baum) Horowitz – Becky – was born after Leah. She was extremely stout, extremely pretty and extremely animated. She, also, taught school. Becky married Vincent Horowitz, an aristocratic, well spoken and highly educated gentleman. He had attended the Gymnasium in Odessa – in those days it was almost impossible for a Jew to be admitted to any Russian school of higher learning, and Vincent loved to impress us with this fact. He and Becky were very compatible. They had a big house in Tremont, Bronx. Their two children, daughters, died in early childhood.

Vincent, though very hard of hearing, was a successful merchant most of his life. Changes in the business world came suddenly in those days. At one point he heard that chicken farming was an easy road to financial gain, and thereupon purchased a chicken farm in Vineland, New Jersey.

An amusing incident about this farm involves me (Lawrence Crohn). I had had agricultural training, so I was invited to join them as an extra hand. One very cold night the chickens began to squawk very loudly. Uncle Vincent couldn't hear it and Aunt Becky couldn't go outside because of her arthritis. They rested easy, nevertheless, because they knew that I was there, but was I? Actually, I was attending a very special performance of *Aida* in Philadelphia which I couldn't resist. The train and trolley got me back to Vineland too late to save the chickens – they all froze to death!

Very soon Uncle Vincent had to abandon the venture, but he was a sturdy individual and would not be discouraged. He started a new business late in life and succeeded admirably. Poor Aunt Becky died before she could share it with him. He remarried in his late sixties or early seventies.

Millicent Baum was one of the first graduates of Hunter College in 1878, and, like her sisters, started teaching while in her teens. She taught at various public schools until she was assigned principal of PS 31 in 1899. She was principal of PS 101, the Andrew Sloan Draper Junior High School, from the time it was built in 1910 until her retirement in 1934. The school, at 111th Street near Lexington Avenue, was in a district that had a large Italian immigrant population. Among her famous pupils was the future Senator Robert F. Wagner and Fiorello LaGuardia, who later became mayor of New York City.

She was feisty, dour and crusty and a stern disciplinarian, but nevertheless kindly with her teachers and pupils. Hers was considered a model school. Her influence was such that she arranged teaching jobs for two of her young relatives (Burrill Crohn and Joshua Epstein), to help them pay their way through college. Like the other teachers in the family, she detested the rigid mechanical teaching methods which were still standard in most grammar schools and encouraged her staff to use more progressive and imaginative ways of teaching. A persistent innovator, she persuaded the Board of Education to adopt a number of curriculum reforms, including eye exams and eyeglasses for visually handicapped students. She also wrote a teacher training manual and a primer for young readers.

There were many socialists and other radicals in her district. Although a life-long Republican, Millicent was a firm believer in free speech, and when a student who gave a speech espousing socialist principles was threatened with expulsion, she intervened.

She enjoyed a long career as principal of the Andrew Sloane Draper Junior High School and later of the first NYC evening high school which was situated in the lower East Side. She never married and lived at home with her mother and sisters until late in life, but attended national education conferences and seminars all over the country and traveled extensively in Europe every summer.

At a reception in her honor at the Waldorf Astoria in 1934, Mayor LaGuardia, who visited PS 101 frequently, said Miss Baum's school "has been like a lighthouse in the neighborhood through the years. She and her work speak for themselves," he added, "I am proud to know such a sweet, fine and wonderful character."

When she retired at the age of seventy she became her old friend Mayor LaGuardia's educational aide. Without salary, she worked daily at City Hall on educational problems and frequently represented the Mayor at conferences on school matters and at meetings of educational organizations. The Mayor installed her next to his own office at City Hall where she became a troubleshooter for the school system and a sort of liaison with the Board of Education. She remained there for ten years. The mayor had a city vehicle bring her downtown in the morning and take her home each evening.

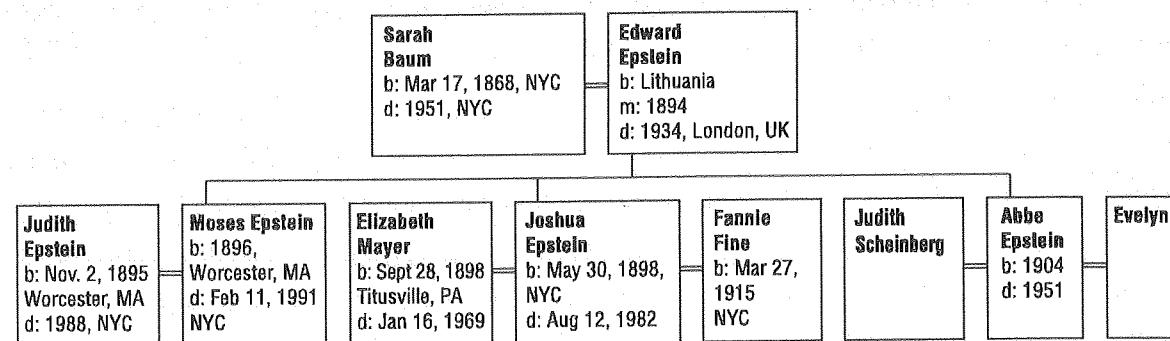
She considered herself a cross between the Mayor's nurse and bossy mother since she was constantly criticizing him – he brought his lunch from home in a brown paper bag, which she felt was beneath the dignity of his office. LaGuardia was also notoriously indifferent to his dress and appearance. On one occasion (and this was reported in the press), he was due to speak before a large public meeting. He arrived with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt on his arm.

As they came down the aisle, Millicent, seated in a front row, jumped out of her seat, rushed up to him and hastily adjusted his collar and tie which, as usual, were askew.

There is an almost incredible footnote to Millicent's story which reveals another side of her life that was kept secret from all but a few members of the family. While still in her early twenties, this bright, personable woman had an affair with her sister Esther's husband, that old reprobate Samuel S. Ruskay, which resulted in pregnancy and the birth of an illegitimate child. When her parents found out they quietly arranged for her to go to upstate New York where the child was born, thus averting a scandal. The boy was given up for adoption and Millicent resumed her teaching career. The incident was never mentioned and in time was almost forgotten. This severe, domineering, authoritative lady, a prominent and highly respected figure, was not only revered but became almost a family icon. Indeed, new additions to the Baum-Webster-Crohn clan, prospective brides and husbands, were frequently brought to her for approval.

She died at the age of eighty. Her death was noted by the newspapers in prominent articles which lauded her contributions to the city. Mayor LaGuardia closed City Hall for the day and delivered a touching eulogy at her funeral. In addition to praising her years of service in the public school system, the Mayor also referred to the ethical and moral principles she learned from her father.

Rachel Baum was next. We called her 'Aunt Rachie' or simply 'Aunt Ray'. Unlike her sisters, she was a homebody; self-educated with the family's gift for poetry. She suffered from a heart affliction from childhood and devoted herself to helping Grandma, after whose death she kept house for her sisters, and later on for her brother Joe the Doctor. Aunt Ray was kindly and always helpful to relatives and friends. She adored her young nieces and nephews, was a fine seamstress and expert cook, famous for her light-as-foam lemon pies. Despite her weak constitution, she was always busy and never took a back seat among her better educated sisters and brothers. We all mourned her untimely passing.



Sarah (Baum) Epstein was vivacious, vibrant and popular. She travelled daily to Inwood-on-the-Hudson, where she taught school (what else!). During the historic blizzard of 1888 she was marooned in a trolley car for 22 hours. We can just picture her helping the other passengers keep up their morale, despite the tension and cold. She was always in high spirits; an extrovert brimming with the joie de vivre.

As a younger sister, she took pride in her sisters' accomplishments, but soon her own personality shone through. Her friends were legion. She was strongly attracted to a young politician named Monte Lessler (America's first Jewish Congressman), but soon quiet, retiring, gentle Edward Epstein became interested in her and asked her father for her hand. Here was a son-in-law to warm her father's heart – a 'Talmud Hacham' (learned man), a true Litvak (Lithuanian) and a businessman. They were soon married.

Uncle Eddie was a dear person, noble and honest. After their marriage in 1894 they lived in Worcester, Massachussetts, where they were among the first Jews (along with Uncle Eddie's relatives) in this Yankee stronghold. Most of the Jews were new immigrants, so Aunt Sarah devoted herself to teaching them English and helping them adjust. Uncle Eddie and his brother Moe manufactured boys' trousers; the firm was called the Worcester Pants Co. They had good times and bad. Their first child, **Judith**, was born in Worcester, and they moved back to New York when she was three years old.

Many years later the Epsteins had a summer house in Princeton about fifteen miles from Worcester. I can remember the happy summer I spent with them. We used to call for Uncle Eddie each Friday afternoon in a horse-drawn carriage. We had pleasant Sabbaths and were frequently visited by their Gentile neighbors, many of whom were farmers.

One of Eddie's young relatives in Worcester was the eminent playwright S. N. Behrman who wrote *The Worcester Account* which depicted life in his boyhood community. It was later produced for theater under the title *The Cold Wind and the Warm*.

Everyone loved Aunt Sarah's charm, dynamism and keen sense of humor. Like her parents and sisters, she was profoundly concerned about the welfare of others. And she, also, was musical, with a rich contralto voice that rang out at family gatherings. She was a member of the first class at The Teachers' Institute, part of the Jewish Theological Seminary (as were her cousins Naomi Roseman and Lawrie Crohn). She worshipped her teacher, Prof. Mordecai M. Kaplan. Sarah was a founding member of Hadassah, attending the first

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organization tea at the Kaplans' home. Henrietta Szold, the Organization's famous founder, was there. Sarah was also a founder of the United Synagogue of America's Women's League and was its national president. She was a president of Ivriah (the Jewish Education Committee's Women's Division), the Ladies' Fuel and Aid Society, and the Yorkville Passover Aid group. Naturally, she was active in the Kehilath Jeshurun sisterhood, where she also served as president. She was a much sought-after speaker. Even after her daughter Judith became a famous leader and orator, Sarah remained prominent.

Judith used to relate that once, when she was National Hadassah president, she came to her mother with the War Department cable notifying her that her son David had been taken prisoner in the Battle of the Bulge. Judith was scheduled to conduct an extremely important conference that afternoon. She asked her mother if she should go through with it. "Such a question," Sarah exploded, "I'm going to speak at my Ivriah meeting, you go speak at yours!"

Sarah and Eddie made their first trip to Palestine in 1929. They loved the country, returning for a full year in 1932 when Judith joined them with her two children. Eddie and Sarah stopped over in London on the return trip home. While out walking, Eddie crossed the street to buy something, was hit by a car and fatally injured. He was mourned by the entire community.

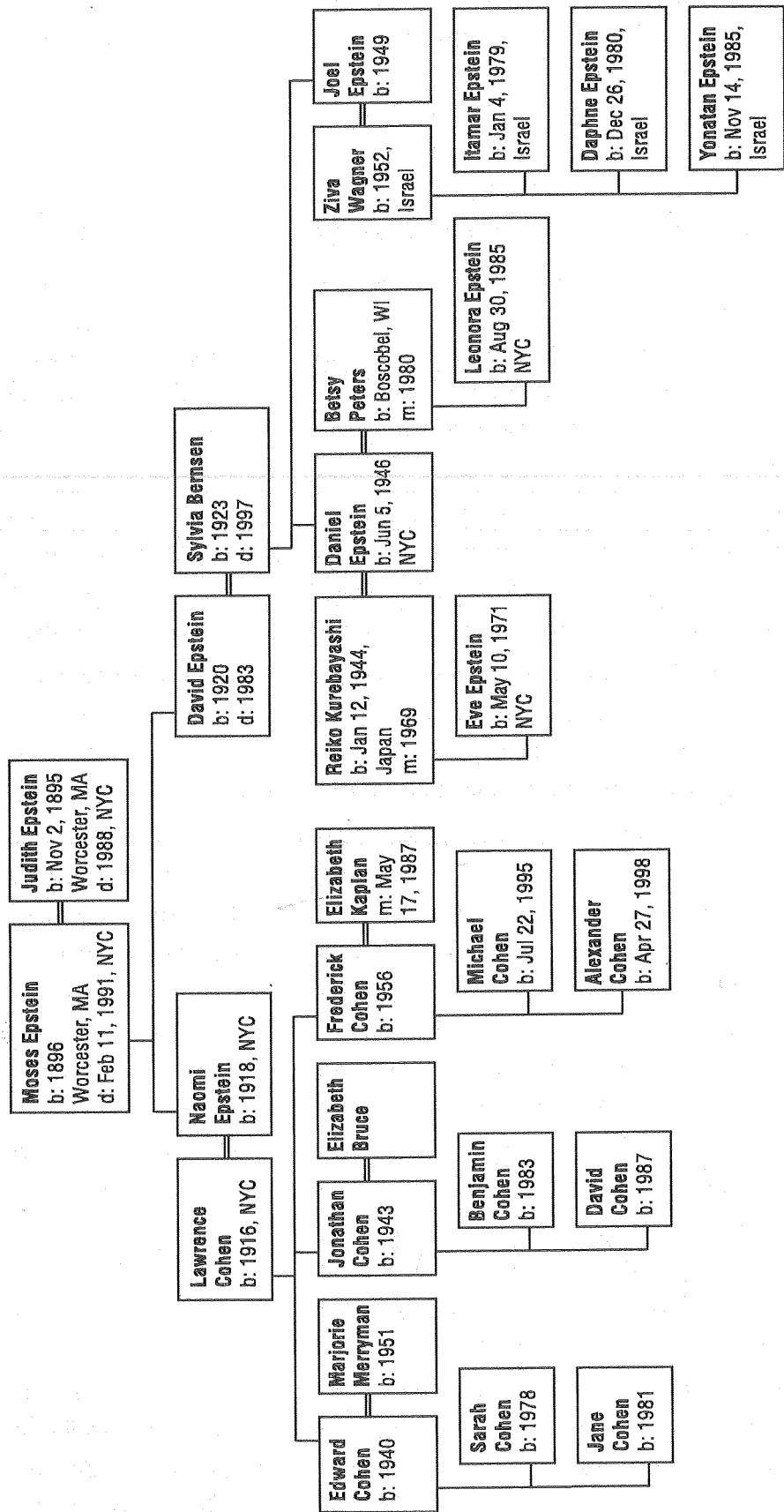
Sarah continued to live a useful and happy life surrounded by her children, grandchildren, two brothers and myriad friends. In her 70s, she travelled to Mexico and to Hawaii by herself. She continued to speak at public meetings. She was an enjoyable speaker, mixing humorous anecdotes with more serious thoughts; her talks always had a warm spiritual quality.

Her birthday, which she shared with Rabbi Stephen Wise, was on St. Patrick's Day. He always remembered it, and it became the annual date of an eagerly anticipated, huge reception to which prominent Jewish leaders were invited. Our entire family frequently held a gala dinner reunion in her honor which included original presentations that lasted until long after midnight. The New York Chapter of Hadassah held a "This is Your Life" celebration at the Hotel Astor for her 75th birthday, at which President George Shuster of Hunter College, Rebecca Kohut and Professor Kaplan spoke. One of the last survivors of the Blizzard of '88 Club was there too.

Her personal magnetism was truly amazing. Before she became ill her apartment in the Hotel Bolivar was a mecca for young people, and many brought their suitors to her for appraisal and approval. She never missed a Sabbath service at the SAJ (Society for the Advancement of Judaism) unless she was ill, singing in its choir until she was over 80. She would often nod off while they sang and then wake suddenly, immediately catching up. She and Eddie had three children: **Judith, Joshua** and **Abbe**.

Judith Epstein was a prominent figure on the American Jewish scene in the 1940s and 50s. She was a sought-after speaker, and never failed to enthrall the large audiences her name summoned. It is no exaggeration to say that at that time she was the best known Jewish woman in the United States, and was listed in *Who's Who in America* for

The descendents of Judith Epstein



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several years. In 1963 she was named 'Layman of the Year' by the Religious Heritage of America Association. Sargent Shriver, head of the Peace Corps, was named 'Catholic of the Year' at the same time and shared honors with Judith at a dinner in Washington.

Judith was national president of Hadassah, an organization whose membership was over three hundred thousand, the largest women's organization in the world. She was a member of the Actions Committee, the governing body of the World Zionist Organization. Her name was not only familiar but respected by high government officials in Israel. She received a silver plate inscribed with a tribute by former Israel Prime Minister David Ben Gurion for outstanding service to Israel. A children's home at the Youth Aliyah village in Magdiel, Israel, was named after her in recognition for her significant contributions to Youth Aliyah during her presidency of Hadassah.

Judith married Moe Epstein (no relative) confusing many. He rejected the prince consort role and was a personage in his own right. A highly successful businessman (a Rayon Corporation of America VP), he kept busy, even after retirement, as a consultant to the industry where he was considered an authority on synthetic yarns. Judith and Moe had two children, **Naomi** and **David**.

The official biography of Judith Epstein
(provided by the Hadassah Organization)

Judith Epstein was National Hadassah President twice, from 1937-1939 and from 1943-1947. Born in Worcester, Massachusetts, into a family which had settled in the U.S. in 1846, Mrs. Epstein became involved in work for the Jewish people while still in college. She rose from the ranks to become one of the most distinguished leaders of her people.

In her years with Hadassah, she held almost every chairmanship, including that of Zionist Public Relations, Membership, and Editor of the Hadassah Magazine. She traveled to virtually every Jewish community in this country bringing to these communities her interpretations of the then current international scene.

As a leader of American Jewry, Mrs. Epstein attended every important Zionist meeting in the United States and abroad. Mrs. Epstein served as National President of Hadassah twice during years of great historic significance. As National President in the days immediately preceding the creation of the State of Israel, Mrs. Epstein's training as a public servant was chiseled in days of crises. At a time when Israel was a mere vision, without the benefit of government officials to take up its cause, Judith Epstein was among those who were thrust into the forefront of the fight for the Jewish people's national aspirations.

Mrs. Epstein died in 1988 at the age of 92.

Eliezer Kroll adds: "I recall a most moving event. I attended, probably in 1945, a Zionist rally in Manhattan where Judith was to speak. The Chairman announced that Judith had been informed that her son David, a prisoner of war, had just arrived back

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in New York. A few minutes later I ran into Judith's mother Sarah and asked her why she hadn't gone with Judith to greet her grandson. 'This,' she said with tears in her eyes, 'is Judith's celebration.'

Many years later, in 1984 or 1985, I was invited as a representative of the State of Israel to address a National Hadassah Convention in Washington, D.C. Sitting and beaming in the front row was my cousin Judith Epstein. In my short address I emphasized the effect people like Judith had had on me during my teens and credited her with having been a major influence on my decision to move to Israel."

Naomi (Epstein) and Lawrence Cohen are retired and live in Westport, Connecticut. He was a professor of industrial engineering at Columbia and directed the New York City study on staggering work hours to ease transit problems. They have three children: **Edward, Jonathan** and **Frederick**.

Edward Cohen graduated summa cum laude from Brandeis, received an MA from the University of California at Berkeley and followed with a two-year fellowship to write music in Paris. Now a composer, Edward teaches at MIT. He is married to Marjorie, also a composer. They have two daughters, **Sarah** and **Jane**.

Jonathan Cohen has a PhD, is a mathematician and professor of math at De Paul University in Chicago. He is married to Elizabeth Bruce, and they have two children, **Benjamin** and **David**.

Frederick Cohen is a graduate of NYU's Film School and works as a lighting technician on movies, television commercials and episodic television. He produced a prize-winning documentary film entitled *New Yorker Special* about the D'Aquisto guitar and its builder. His wife Elizabeth is home taking care of their two boys, **Michael Harrison** and **Alexander Joseph**.

David Epstein graduated from Harvard and married Sylvia Bernsen, an early childhood teacher, of Chicago. She later taught on the college level. He studied city planning at Columbia for a year and then served a three-year stint during World War Two. He was taken prisoner during the Battle of the Bulge and held in Germany for four months. After returning to the United States, David became a builder and later worked at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC. They had a boat and loved to sail. After David's death, Sylvia divided her time between Israel (Haifa) and the United States. They had two children, **Daniel** and **Joel**.

Daniel Epstein is a professional concert pianist. He performs in recital, as soloist, with orchestra and in ensemble – he has been a member of the Raphael Trio for 25 years. He teaches at the Manhattan School of Music in New York. After his divorce from Reiko Kurebayashi he married

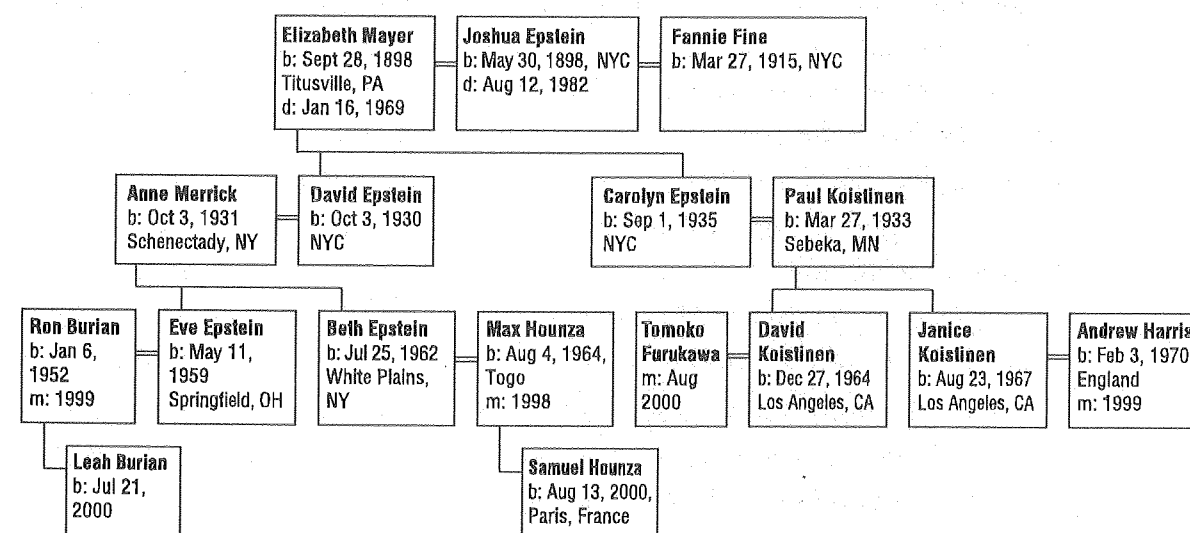
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Betsy Peters, a soprano who has sung opera, in recitals and chamber music concerts. She went back to school and earned a Master of Divinity from the Hebrew Union College in New York. She is now a cantor at Temple Emanuel in Worcester, Massachusetts (coincidentally the birthplace of Daniel's grandmother, Judith Epstein). In 1992 Dan and Betsy purchased an old home in North Adams, Massachusetts which they run as a musical bed and breakfast. Daniel and Betsy have a daughter **Leonora**, in addition to Daniel's daughter **Eve**.

Eve Epstein attended Williams College and is currently Managing Editor of *Angeleno Magazine* in Los Angeles.

Joel Epstein lives in Israel with his wife Ziva (Wagner) and his three children, **Itamar, Daphne** and **Yonatan**. After completion of his military service, Joel resumed his post as an AP Tel Aviv correspondent, later moving into hi-tech, and is currently employed in a start-up company. He is an accomplished violinist and enjoys sculpting. Ziva has an Education degree from the University of Tel Aviv, and supervises and writes curriculums. But what does an educator do for relaxation... paragliding. Her purple paraglider can be seen floating over the cliffs near Zichron Yaacov.

Itamar Epstein is serving in the Israel Defense Forces as a computer specialist. His sister **Daphne** recently finished her service as an Army nurse and lives in Tel Aviv.



Joshua Epstein was named after his uncle Joshua (Shirley) Baum. He was a gifted intellectual and highly public-spirited. Along with his wife Elizabeth he was active in Jewish and general community life, and espoused many major causes. Always in advertising, he was special promotions counsel for HJ Heinz, devising advertising geared specifically to the Jewish consumer. He was a founder of Doyle, Dane &

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Bernbach, at the time the world's tenth largest advertising agency. He was a talented writer and among other things wrote many radio scripts. His clever skits, lyrics and poems enlivened many family gatherings.

Elizabeth taught English literature in New York's Alcuin School for Girls. They lived in Sunnyside, New York, then in Cedarhurst, where Elizabeth became president of the Lawrence-Cedarhurst Hadassah chapter. Josh and Elizabeth had two children, **David** and **Carolyn**. After Elizabeth's death Josh married Fannie Fine.

David Epstein lives in Lexington, Massachusetts with his wife Anne. Both are graduates of Antioch College. David received his MFA and PhD from Princeton and an MFA from Brandeis following his M. Mus. degree from the New England Conservatory of Music. He was professor of Music at MIT and conductor and music director of the MIT symphony orchestra, music director and conductor of the Harrisburg symphony orchestra, the Worcester orchestra and Worcester Festival.

David has recorded with the MIT symphony orchestra for EMI and Vox Records and has appeared on television with them. He has been a guest conductor with many major orchestras in Europe, Israel, Mexico and the United States, is the author of *Beyond Orpheus: Studies in Musical Structure* (MIT Press, 1979) and *Shaping Time: Music, the Brain, and Performance* (Schirmer Books/Macmillan, 1995), and has composed many works, a number of which have been recorded. His *First Symphony*, winner of the Fromm Prize, was played by the Spokane Symphony Orchestra. The *Movement for Orchestra*, winner of the Louisville Orchestra Award, is played frequently. *Four Songs for Soprano, French Horn and String Orchestra* was played in New York City's Town Hall and enthusiastically reviewed by *The New York Times* and *The Herald Tribune*. His *Piano Trio* was first performed at Aspen, Colorado.

David and his wife Anne were commissioned to write a piece for narrator and orchestra, *Night Voices*, which was nominated by the Boston Symphony Orchestra for the Pulitzer Prize. Anne is the author of several books, most recently *Good Stones* (Houghton Mifflin), which was nominated for the Dorothy Canfield Fisher Award. David and Anne have two children, **Eve** and **Beth**.

Eve (Epstein) Burian graduated from Princeton cum laude and earned an MS in Journalism from Columbia. She lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband Ron and infant daughter **Leah**.

Beth (Epstein) Hounza graduated cum laude from Princeton and received her PhD in Cultural Anthropology from NYU in 1998. She is currently working in Paris as a professor and academic coordinator for NYU's French study abroad program. Max works as a supervisor and social worker at a center for troubled children. They live outside Paris with their infant son **Samuel**.

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Carolyn (Epstein) Koistinen lives in Los Angeles with her husband Paul, a professor of American history at California State University. Paul has published three volumes of his projected five volume work on the economic mobilization for war in the United States from the Revolution to the present, and is working on the fourth volume. Carolyn retired in December 1999 after almost 20 years in her second career after many years as a teacher, as a multi-line insurance agent, selling and servicing all types of insurance. Paul and Carolyn have two children, **David** and **Janice**.

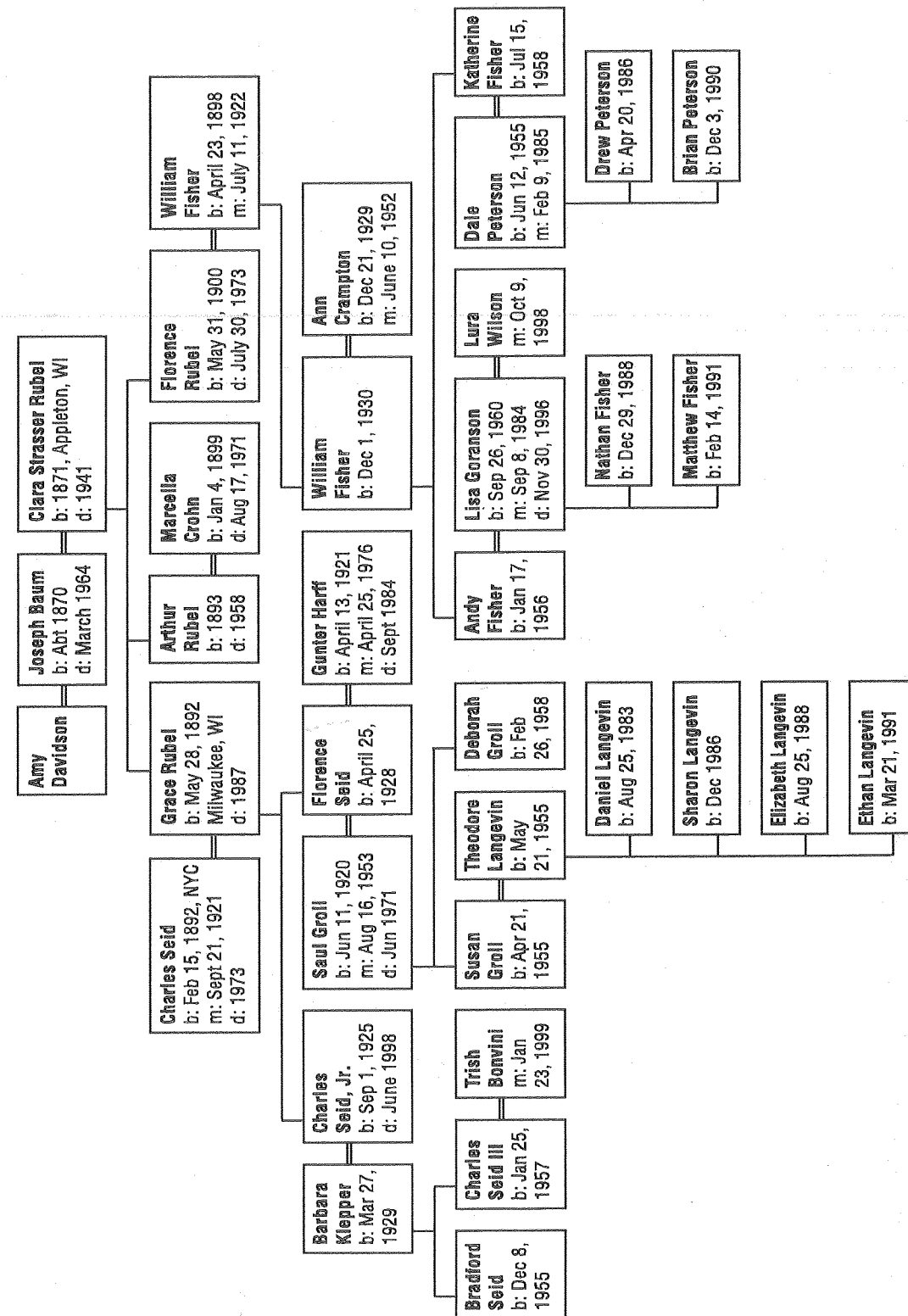
David Koistinen completed his PhD in American history at Yale, and teaches American history at The American University in Beirut, Lebanon. He is married to Tomoko Furukawa.

Janice (Koistinen) Harris completed her Phd in English from the University of Michigan. She and her husband Andrew are currently living in England.

Abbe Epstein was more reticent than his brother and sister (more like his father whom he resembled physically) and had a quiet, dry sense of humor. Like Josh, he was attracted to liberal causes which he supported with enthusiasm, time and talent. He too was in advertising, and started out as a journalist, having studied in the Columbia University School of Journalism. He lived in Paris for three years where he was a reporter for *The New York Paris Herald*. He married Evelyn, and had two children, both of which were born mentally and physically retarded and eventually had to be institutionalized. Towards the end of his life he married Judith Scheinberg. Unfortunately, Abbe suffered a severe heart attack while swimming in Candlewood Lake, Connecticut, and died at the age of 47.

There is an amusing story about Abbe. At the age of eighteen he decided to see Europe. He managed to work his way over, but had a problem getting back. So he became a stowaway on the *SS George Washington*. He was discovered, put in the ship's prison and let out only to do his chores. As he swabbed the decks Abbe was noticed by a young rabbi. The rabbi protested to the ship's captain, telling him that he knew the young man's family, but to no avail. As they neared land, the rabbi cabled Aunt Sarah and Uncle Eddie in Abbe's name to meet their son at the pier. Imagine their surprise at seeing him in chains upon arrival at Hoboken! They had to sign a bond to free him. The rabbi who had sent the cable was the then young Mordecai M. Kaplan.

The descendants of Joseph Baum



Joseph Baum: After Joshua, Abbe and Goldie's eldest son, there was an uninterrupted procession of girls. But finally two more boys, Joseph and David, were born. True to the pattern set by all the early families, Joe became a doctor and Dave a lawyer. And also true to the family tradition, these two taught school, probably to get themselves through their post-graduate studies.

A portrait of Uncle Joe is that of an old-fashioned country doctor. He wore a Prince Albert beard, striped pants, and an old-style long jacket. People then expected their doctor to visit them any time, night or day. And this was before modern transportation. Uncle Joe had little time to prescribe more than a good physic for almost any ailment. He excelled with his wonderfully therapeutic jovial bedside manner. In fact he was a great psychologist without benefit of formal training. He graduated from the NYU School of Medicine with honors. After graduation he worked for the Board of Health but soon went into private practice. We remember him so well, particularly since he cared for us as children. He brought most of my brothers and sisters into the world. I believe he received the munificent sum of \$100 annually to keep us (Theodore and Leah Crohn's eleven children) well, and my father used to complain that the price was too high.

His first marriage was to Amy Davidson, a nurse. They had no children. Although she was domineering and difficult to live with, she was essentially a fine woman. Unfortunately, she succumbed to a horrible, mysterious and incurable disease.

Uncle Joe moved to Far Rockaway, New York, where he developed a large practice. He became active in local affairs and was called the unofficial mayor. He was one of the earliest physicians in an area that lacked a hospital, and was a familiar sight on the Rockaway landscape in his horse-driven buggy. For years he lived alone, but had Mrs. Rich, a competent housekeeper and friend. Later Grandma and Aunt Ray lived with him. The local rabbi was a frequent boarder, as was Rabbi Henry Morais, an old family friend. Poor Henry! A somber, formidable person, he had to put up with a host who always had a comic and often salacious story on the tip of his tongue.

Uncle Joe loved music, especially light opera, concerts and the performances of the Metropolitan Opera. He also sang and had a beautiful rich baritone voice like his father's. Joe's second wife, Lalla Rubel, was born in Appleton, Wisconsin. Her first husband Albert Rubel had died of tuberculosis when their children were less than 10 years of age. She remained in Milwaukee and struggled for a few more years, but then was encouraged by her sister, who had moved east with a wealthy husband, to move to New York. There she met and married Joseph Baum MD. She was a handsome, grand lady. Our new stepcousins **Grace**, **Arthur** (who became Marcella Crohn's husband) and **Florence** were warmly welcomed and became beloved members of our family.

Grace (Rubel) Seid married Charles Seid. He was the only member of his family born in the United States, his parents and four siblings having come from a small town on the Polish/German/Russian border. Charles served in World War One and met his future wife on the Long Island Railroad as they both commuted to work. Charles was in the textile

and yarn production business with companies such as American Bemberg and the Celanese Corporation. During WWII he was one of the Washington Rayoneers who went to Washington to lobby for the fabric used for parachutes during the war. Eventually he had his own business, CK Seid Associates, a yarn brokerage firm.

Grace contributed as much as possible to the war effort and was very active in both the temple and the Red Cross. They had two children, **Charles Jr.** and **Florence** who fondly recalls the Seabee 'parties' she was allowed to hold at home during the war.

Charles Seid Jr. graduated from Brown University and married Barbara Klepper, an Emerson College and Katherine Gibbs graduate. He was production manager for Beaunit Mills. During the war he was a midshipman and a commissioned ensign on the *SS Bonhomme Richard* aircraft carrier in the Pacific. They had two children, **Bradford** and **Charles K.**

Bradford Seid graduated from NYU at Albany with an MA and PhD. He is currently a professor at Stroudsburg U., Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania.

Charles K Seid III graduated from NYU at Oswego and has been in sales in the garment industry. He is married to Trish Bonvini.

Florence (Seid) Harff graduated from Pembroke College and worked for her father at CK Seid Associates. She married Saul Groll and they had two children, **Susan Lalla** and **Deborah Grace**. Saul attended CCNY and was an engineer with the US Navy's Bureau of Ships, seeing active duty in the Ryukyus campaign of World War Two. She became a doctor's secretary and was widowed in 1971. Florence married Gunther Harff in 1976 and moved to California, where she owned the Dr. Personnel Agency of Orange County. After Gunther's death she moved back to New York and became a real estate agent.

Susan (Groll) Langevin graduated from Brown University and received her MA and PhD in Psychology at the University of Wisconsin. She has done research in her field and currently teaches at Quinnipiac College in Connecticut. She and Theodore have four children: **Daniel**, **Sharon**, **Elizabeth** and **Ethan**.

Deborah Groll has been employed by personnel agencies and for several years ran an agency of her own.

Arthur Rubel married **Marcella Crohn**, one of Leah and Theodore Crohn's daughters. Notes about him and his offspring are found in the Crohn section.

Florence Rubel married William Howard Fisher and had a son, **William**.

William Fisher married Ann Mackay Crampton, who studied at Beloit College in Wisconsin, while Bill studied at the University of Illinois. Later they both attended Lake Forest College. Bill was in the Navy during World War Two, and was a salesman for the Kordite Corporation, a plastic packaging firm. Bill and Ann are divorced; he has retired. They have two children, **Andy** and **Katherine**.

Andy Fisher is building a Bed & Breakfast on Lake Superior at Finland, Minnesota. He has two children, **Nathan** and **Matthew**, from his marriage to Lisa Goranson, who died in 1996. He is now married to Lura Wilson.

Katie Fisher spent her early years in Wisconsin but at the age of 11 moved with her parents to Minnesota, where her husband Dale was also raised. She is a client care manager in a real estate office. Dale is on the technical staff of a large printing company where he is a color specialist. Katie and Dale have two children, **Drew** and **Brian**.

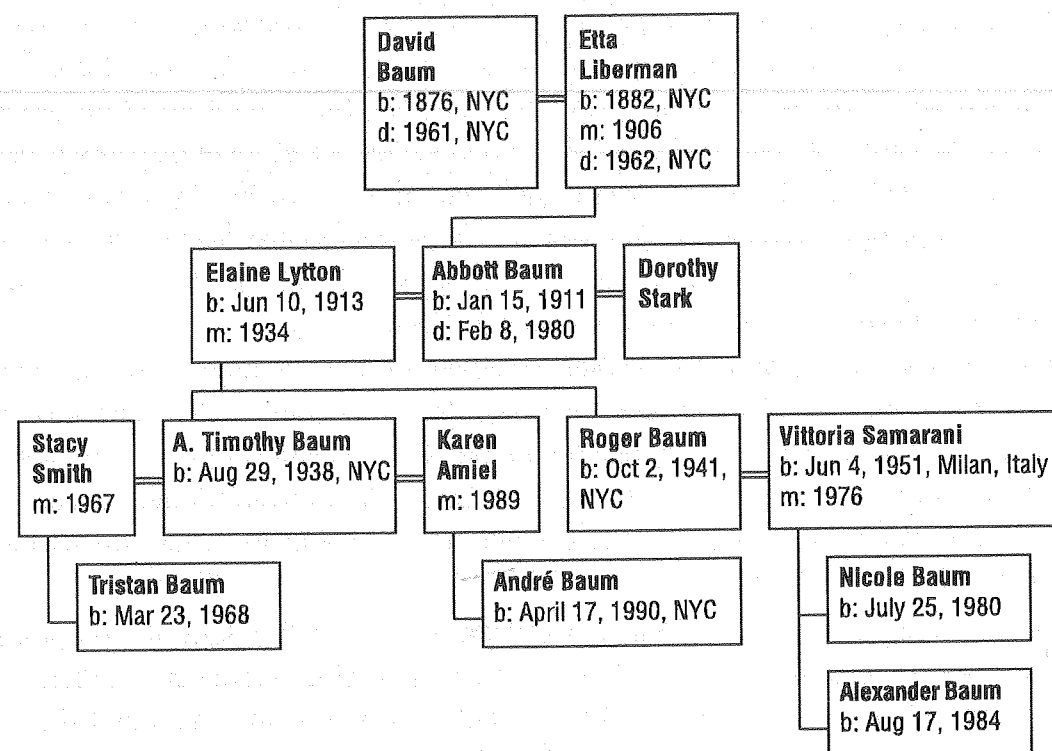
Mallie Elizabeth Baum was the youngest Baum daughter. Her name came from the Hebrew *malka*, or queen. She, too, started to teach at an early age, and remained a teacher throughout her lifetime. During this time few women were allowed to work in offices and professions, but schoolteaching was considered entirely proper. Like Milly, Mallie was beloved by her students, her colleagues and her principal. She taught at PS 82 at First Avenue and 70th Street, and wrote original songs and scripts for all its public ceremonies. After her death the school put up a bronze plaque in her memory which may still be seen in the building. A eugology appearing in *The New York Times* stated that "she composed one hundred and fifty school songs in addition to her manifold holiday and graduation skits", and that she had "taught two generations of students in the same family."

Hers was a diverse personality. A complete extrovert, she was interesting, sparkling, worldly, well-travelled, well-educated and charming. No one could ever explain why she never married. She was always finicky and joked that she was waiting for a "rich middle-aged man with a gold watchchain across his fat middle". When such a man actually did come along and wanted to marry her, she did not accept. Either the chain wasn't thick enough or the middle was too thick.

She initiated and organized family parties, wrote the songs and arranged the programs. Her geniality enlivened every gathering, large and small. After Grandma Baum died, she lived with us (the family of Theodore and Leah Crohn). When mother died in 1923, our home was lonely, especially for Papa. Aunt Mallie brought us cheer. She was especially loving towards Ruth Dickler who lived with us for a while with her father Burrill. Ruth recalls many amusing incidents, one of which is the sight of Aunt Mallie lacing her own corset by tying the laces to the doorknob and walking briskly away from it.

Mallie's death from pneumonia at fifty-five brought sorrow to her family and her host of friends. We shall never forget how her pupils came to our apartment and filed past her deathbed, bareheaded, in mournful silence.

David Baum, our Uncle Dave, was the family's youngest. He was lively, affectionate, and loved life. Graduating from NYU in 1896, and then from NYU Law School in 1899, he was a successful lawyer and chief counsel for United Cigar Stores for many years. He was a most dutiful son, bringing happiness into his mother's waning life. He also manifested unflinching devotion to his sisters and to his brother Joe, especially during the latter's failing years. A real family man, he loved reminiscing to his nieces and nephews. He remembered endless details of our family's past and was a loyal member of the synagogue founded by his father. David married Etta Liberman, the only daughter of a well-known, wealthy family, also members of the synagogue. She graduated from Normal (Hunter) College in 1900. Etta was not only a handsome woman, but was sweet, dignified, and exceedingly kind.



The couple celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary at the Waldorf-Astoria on June 12, 1956, surrounded by their family and old friends as well as several of Etta's bridesmaids. Their only child **Abbott** was named in memory of his grandfather Abbe.

Abbott Baum received his BA from Columbia in 1929, majoring in English. He became a stockbroker with Simon, Strauss & Himme (who had offices in the Savoy Hilton) in 1929 and was a broker for 50 years. Abbott was a loyal, attentive and devoted son all his life. His warm affection for his parents brought them untold happiness. He married Elaine Lytton, a very beautiful woman, who was an assistant sweater buyer for Abercrombie & Fitch. After their divorce Abbott married Dorothy K. Stark. She worked for the New York section of the Council of Jewish Women for 25 years, was on its board and was chairman of Council Corner, the New York section's

fund-raising shop. Abbott and Elaine had two children, **Abbott Timothy** and **Roger**.

A. Timothy Baum is a graduate of Trinity College, where he majored in English. Some of his poetry has been published in *The College Review*. Timothy is considered an expert on Surrealist art and is frequently consulted by major auction houses and art galleries. He married Stacy Smith and they had a son, **Tristan**, who is a real-estate broker and resides in Manhattan. After his divorce from Stacy he married Karen Amiel and they also had a son, **André**. Both children are named after the founders of the Surrealist movement.

Roger Baum represented Citicorp in South America and Europe for many years and met his wife Vittoria (Samarani) in Milan. They married in Milan in 1976, returned to New York in 1978, and have lived in Chicago since 1979. They have two children, **Nicole** and **Alexander**. Nicole is in her second year at Tufts University and Alex is in his first year of high school in Chicago.