



Walnut Street
Synagogue

FOUNDERS' DAY

SEPTEMBER 15, 2019 · CHELSEA, MA

Honoring the past ✧ Building for the future

Sunday, September 15, 2019
2 pm to 5 pm



Walnut Street Synagogue
145 Walnut Street
Chelsea, MA

“

*No individual can be
constructed entirely
without a link with the past.*

”

– Achad Ha'am

Walnut Street Synagogue
PO Box 505-265
Chelsea, MA 02150
walnutstreetsynagogue.com

EDWARD J. MEDROS

President, Walnut Street Synagogue



I grew up in Chelsea and, although I now live in New Hampshire, my heart remains in my hometown on the Mystic River. It has been the honor of my life to serve as the president of Chelsea's oldest surviving immigrant-era shul. I feel that I am a caretaker for those who have gone before me. I am now the steward of this national historic landmark building, and the Sam Katz ark that ennobles its sanctuary, and all its records and relics. But I don't want to be Walnut Street's last president. On the contrary, we are here today because I am trying to preside over a rebirth of this holy shul. With the team of stalwarts we have now, and with what we hope will be an infusion of those whose roots go back to Chelsea, we want to restore and upgrade this building (which it clearly desperately needs!) and to make it once again into a vibrant center for Chelsea Jewry—a place where worship can continue, education can take place, and cultural and historic programs can draw and impact a new generation.



You will hear a lot more about this in the coming weeks and months. For today, I want to thank you for coming to Founders' Day to experience this shul, hear the speakers, enjoy the exhibits (and do look for your ancestors' names!), and hear a little klezmer. I hope your experience today will convince you that you want to get involved with our future.

Above our holy ark is the Ner Tamid, the Eternal light. This lamp symbolizes the commandment to keep a light burning in the Tabernacle outside the curtain surrounding the Ark of the Covenant (Ex 27:20-21). The Chelsea Jewish community has kept it lit in this building for 110 years. And we are determined to keep it lit for another 110 years.

Thank you for being part of this timeless community, and sharing the light of the past, present, and future.

B'shalom,
Edward J. Medros

Today's Program

2:00 pm

Registration

Light reception and schmoozing



3:00 pm

(upstairs in the sanctuary)

Edward Medros

Emcee and President, Walnut Street Synagogue

Harold Mindel

Long-time member, Walnut Street Synagogue

Rabbi Moshe Liberow

Spiritual Advisor



Rabbi Elyse Winick

Combined Jewish Philanthropies

Tom Ambrosino

City Manager, City of Chelsea

Samuel D Gruber, PhD

International Jewish art and architecture historian

Norman H Finkelstein

Boston Jewish historian and award-winning author

Herb Kupersmith

Honorary chair

Sheldon Young

Songwriter



Dessert reception to follow

Background music provided by Shirim Klezmer Orchestra

Shirim
klezmer orchestra

Sponsors

FOUNDERS' LEADERSHIP GIFT

Anonymous



FOUNDERS' SILVER

Timothy Fullum
The Kupersmith Family
The Medros Family



FOUNDERS' CHAI

Patti and Louis Grossman
The Krentzman Family



FOUNDERS' BRONZE

Harold Mindel
The Resnek Family
The Shapiro Family



PATRON

Thomas Barth
Aaron and Susan Stone Driben
Ellen Rovner and Michael Zimman



FRIENDS

Elizabeth Kessin Berman
Steve and Barbara Levine
The Shaffer Family
Harvey and Mildred Tobolsky



*Continued long life to
Agudas Sholom*

Happy and Healthy New Year to ALL



The Kupersmith Family

Committee

HONORARY CHAIR

Herb Kupersmith



COMMITTEE

Thomas Barth

Elaine Cohen

Carol Clingan

Edward Medros

Ruth Medros

Harold Mindel

Ellen Rovner

Devra Sari Zobot

Richard Zobot



WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:

Samuel Gruber • Norman Finkelstein

Carol Clingan and The New England Genealogical Society

Chelsea Community Cable Television • Ed Medros

City of Chelsea • Ellen Barth Alster •

Staff at Combined Jewish Philanthropies • Ellen Rovner

Chelsea Public Library • Tom Barth • Chelsea Record

Sheldon Young • Richard Zobot

Our neighbors and Volunteers



*Wishing all a Happy
and Healthy New Year*



Tim Fullum

FOUNDERS

Zalman Yoseph Abelovitz	Shlomoh Gold	Joseph Klein
Nahum Album	Dr. E. Goldberg (Dr. Elias Goldberg)	Yehoshua Klubok (Joshua Klubok)
Goodman Alpert	H. Goldberg	Assasur Kohen
Yoseph Alpert (Joseph Alpert)	J. Goldfarb (Jacob Goldfarb)	Benjamin Kohen
G. Anshelovitz	(Yud) Goldman	Issac Kohen
Yakov Gad Anshulevitz	M.L. Goldman	Shechmah Kohen
Matisyahir Aronovitz	(Sic) Goldman	Yoseph Elihu Kohen (Joseph Cohen)
Charles Arons	Moses Goldman	Yerachmiel Koltoff (Raphael Koltow)
Sam Arons (Samuel Aarons)	J. Goldshtein	L. Konikoff (Louis Konikoff)
Yoseph Aronson	Charles Goldstein	Zelig Kopelovitz
Nathan Aronson	G. Goldstein	M. Kopelvitz (Morris/Maurice Kopelvitz)
Mosheh Baker (Morris Baker)	J. Goldstein (Jacob Goldstein)	Harry Kopleman
Yitzchak Barr	M.G. Goldstein (Morris Goldstein)	S.A. Koritz (Simon Koritz)
Zab Barron (William Baron)	P. Goldstein (P. Goldstein)	Ike Kotzen (Isaac Kotzen)
Frank Berenstein	L. Goodman (Louis Goodman)	Morris Kraft
Moris Berlin	(Yud) Goodman	J. Krantzman
Israel Berner	J. Gordon (Joseph Gordon)	S. Krantzman
Morris Birenbaum	Morris Gordon	A. Kravitz
M. Bliss (Max Blass)	Charlie Greenberg (Charles Greenberg)	K. Kravitz (Kopel/Joseph Kravetz)
Alihu Blumberg (Elick Bloomberg)	Dov Aryeh Greenglass	Harry Krentzman
H. Blumberg	M. Gross (Manuel Gross)	D. Krentzman
J. Blumberg	S. Grotski (Samuel Grotski)	J. Krentzman
Mayer Borenstein	M. Gruzin (Max Gruzin)	Samuel Krentzman
Israel Brown	B. Guss	D. Lak
Abraham Shlomoh Chofetz	Moshe Tsvi Hamburger (Morris Hamburger)	H. Lak
Benjamin L. Cohen	Heshel Handlin	J. Lak (Joseph Locke)
Moshe Daniels (Morris Daniels)	Isser Hechter (Israel/Isador Hechter)	A. Lakub
Tsvi David Davidson (Harry Davidson)	Aaron Hershenson	Yoseph Lanier
Eliezer Dribin	G. Hillel	L. Lebovitz
Yisroel Tsvi Dribin (Joseph Driben)	David Horwitz	S. Lebovitz (Samuel Lebovitz)
Menachem Morish Falkoff (Morris Falkoff)	Hyman Horwitz	R. Lenz
Asher Anshel Feinberg (Asher Fineberg)	Elchanon Hurvitin (Louis Hurtivin)	J. Levenson
H. Feinberg (Harris Feinberg)	Louis Hurvitin	Lozer Leventall
M. Finesilver (Morris Finesilver)	A. Hurvitz	M. Leventhal (Max Leventhal)
Dr. M. Finestine (Dr. Max Finestine)	Rabbi Phillip Israelite	A. Levin (Abraham Levin)
M. Finger	H Jackofsky (Harris Jackofsky)	D.A. Levin
J. Flaysher	Isadore Jacobs	Elihu Levin
M. Forman (Michael Forman)	Jacob Joffe	G.H. Levin
L. Frank	Pinchas Kalipen	H. Levin (Hyman Levin)
G. Freedman	Michael Kamenkovitz	J. Levin (Jacob Levin)
Niman Freedman	Eliezer Kaplan	Louis Levin
S. Freedman (Samuel Freedman)	Gershon Kaplan	Max Levin
H. Freeman	L. Kaplan	S. Levin (Simon Levin)
Freshman (Joseph Freshman)	M. D. Kaplan	(Yud) Levin (Julius Levin)
L. Friedman (Leo Friedman)	Mocheh David Kaplan	Simon Levin
S. Friedman (S. Friedman)	Yahuda Lieb Kaplan	S. Levitt
H. Frier	Halevi Karnak	A. Lichtenstein (Abraham Lichtenstein)
Hirsh Gedess	David Karro	M. Lifshitz
L. Glickstein	Mosheh Karter	Issac Lindenblatt
	Abraham Katzen	David Lock
	(Yud) Katzker	Myer Lourie
	M. Kessel	David A. Lourie

Maddus	Z. Ross	S. Spitzer
H. Madow	S. Roz	Simon B. Stein
Issac Madow	Yoseph Aaron Rozenberg (Joseph Rosenberg)	Abraham Yitzchak Steinman
L. Madow	H. Rubenstein	Elchanon Stolyar (Harry Stoller)
Morris Madow	D. Rubik	M. Stone
Phillip Maggid	J. Rubik	Chayim Tsvi Stone (Harry Stone)
A.K. Mann (Albert K. Mann)	H. Rubin	Meyer Stone
Phillip Mann	H. Ruttstein (Harry Rutstein)	Zorah Strogoff (Joseph/Jacob Strogoff)
Hyman Margit (Hyman Marget)	Mosheh Yitzchak Salter (Morris Salter)	Louis Supovitin
V. Meltzer	Tuviel Salter	Willy Supovitin (William Supowitz)
M. Mendelsohn	Yoseph Sanderson (Joseph Sanderson)	Nissan Tak
Morris Minsky	Shmuel Sandler	Nissan Taymer (Nathan Taymore)
M. Morrison	Harry Saypeh (Harry Saypeh/Saip)	Nathan Thompson
B. Napoleon (Julius Napoleon)	Harry Sayvitan	H. Tiger
(Dsh) Nathanson	Jake Sayvitan	Mosheh Tiger (Morris Tigar)
S. Natupski (Simon Nataupsky)	Louis Sayvitan	Chayim Tigir (Hyman Tigir)
T. Natupski	Benjamin Sayvitz	Morris Tshays (Morris Chess)
A. Nelson	Yehoshuah Heshel Shaffer (Harry Shaffer)	Morris Tshernis (Morris Chernis)
A. Nitke (Aleksander Nitke)	Yoseph Shalik (Joseph Shalek)	Gershon Valpeh (Gershon Wolpe)
A. Noodelman	Isaac Shankman	Moshe Valper (Morris Wolper)
D. Novitin	Louis Shapiro	Israel Vatszman (Israel Wachman)
J. Oppenheim (Joseph Oppenheim)	Yoseph Shapiro (Joseph Shapiro)	Israel Videtzki
H. Oshri (Harry Oshry)	Yitzchak Yakov Sharff (Isaac Jacob Sharff)	Shrage Fayvish Videtzki (Phillip Widetsky)
J. Oshri (Joseph Oshry)	L. Shayvitz (Louis Shaevitz)	(Yud) Videtzki
J. Panzer	Sholem Sherman (Samuel Sherman)	Yedidih Vitzki
B. Portnoy	Jacob Shlomovitz	Lewis S. Weinberg
Dr. Raynkermot	Robert Shlossberg	George Weinstein
Louis H. Resnek	Yakov Tsvi Shnayersohn (Harry Sneurson)	Sam Wine
N. Reuvin (Nathan Rubin)	Michel Shore	Eli Winstein
B. Reznick	Sam Shvalb (Samuel Schwalb)	Moshe Wolfson
D. Reznick	A. Siegel (Abraham Siegel)	Yakov Yoffe
J. Reznick	L. Siegel (Louis Siegal)	Yakov Yunis (Jacob Yunes)
L. Reznick	Yakov Simon (Jacob Simon)	Kapel Zablatzki
Mosheh Leib Reznick	J. Slimovitz	Chayim Zelbavitan (Hyman Selbovitz)
J. Reznik	Tsvi Sloan	J. Zimbel (Julius Zimble)
Hyman P. Richmond	Joseph Slotnick (Joseph Slotnick)	Mordechai Zimbel (Max Zimble)
P. Richmond	Harry Smith	Yehuda Zimbel (Joseph Zimble)
S. Ringer (Sam Ringer)	Morris Smith	Btzalel Zlotnick
K. Rodgers	Yoseph Snyder (Samuel Snyder)	Aaron Shlomoh Zlotnik
B. Rogovin (Barnett Rogovin)	Elihu Sobel	Isser Zlotnik (Israel Zlotnik)
B. Ronsvan	Shabbat Solovay (Simon Salaway)	Zev Zlotnik
M. Rosenblum (Morris Rosenblum)		Yshieyahu Lieb Zukofsky
Rosenfield		
Abraham Rosenthal		
M. Ross (Michael Ross)		

FORMER PRESIDENTS

Nathan Aronson	Niman Freedman	Morris Salter
Frank Berstein (Frank Berenstein)	Mr. Goodman	Jacob Shaievitz
Harry Bloomberg	William Hoffman	Louis Shapiro
Gedalie Bornstein (Gedalie Bernstein)	Morris Hooker	Sidney Spiegel
Louis Brown	Harry Krentzman	Mr. Tiger
Murray Brown	Mr. Resnick	Louis Weinberg
	Myer Rubin	Morris Wolper



Chelsea City Council

City Hall
500 Broadway
Chelsea, MA 02150
(617) 466-4060
(617) 466-4065 Fax

September 9, 2019

FOUNDERS' DAY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Walnut Street Synagogue, home of Congregation Agudas Sholom, is a living Jewish historic landmark that has been serving the Chelsea community for 110 years at the corner of Walnut and Fourth Streets; and

WHEREAS, Jews from Eastern Europe began to arrive in Chelsea in the late 1800s to escape persecution and find a better home for themselves and their offspring in America; and

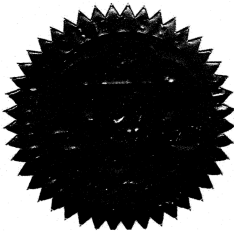
WHEREAS, their first prayer group was organized in 1887 and eventually evolved to form Congregation Agudas Sholom. Their nearly completed synagogue was consumed by the Great Fire of 1908; and

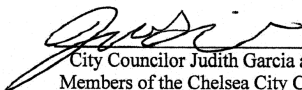
WHEREAS, the present building was built at the same site in 1909 and was thought to be the largest synagogue in New England and is the oldest remaining synagogue in Chelsea; and

WHEREAS, the Walnut Street Synagogue was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1993; and

WHEREAS, in a special tribute bridging the history and future of this iconic immigrant city, we will honor the Chelsea Jewish pioneers and their descendants who are building for the future by establishing the Chelsea Jewish Museum and Cultural Center; now therefore, BE IT

RESOLVED, that We, the Members of the Chelsea City Council, do hereby recognize September 15th, 2019 as Founders' Day and wish to thank the Walnut Street Synagogue for being part of our community for 110 years.




City Councilor Judith Garcia and All
Members of the Chelsea City Council

WALNUT STREET SYNAGOGUE FOUNDERS' DAY PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Walnut Street Synagogue, home of Congregation Agudas Sholom, is a living Jewish historic landmark that has been serving the Chelsea community for 110 years at the corner of Walnut and Fourth Streets; and

WHEREAS, Jews from Eastern Europe began to arrive in Chelsea in the late 1800s to escape persecution and find a better home for themselves and their offspring in America; and

WHEREAS, their first prayer group was organized in 1887 and eventually evolved to form Congregation Agudas Sholom, but the nearly completed synagogue was consumed by the Great Fire of 1908; and

WHEREAS, the present building was built at the same site in 1909 and was thought to be the largest synagogue in New England and is the oldest remaining synagogue in Chelsea; and

WHEREAS, the Walnut Street Synagogue was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1993; and

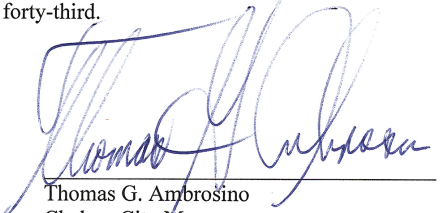
WHEREAS, in a special tribute bridging the history and future of this iconic immigrant city, we honor the Chelsea Jewish pioneers and their descendants who are building for the future by establishing the Chelsea Jewish Museum and Cultural Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **Thomas G. Ambrosino**, Manager of the City of Chelsea, do hereby proclaim **Sunday, September 15, 2019** to be,

Walnut Street Synagogue Founders' Day

And urge all the citizens of Chelsea to take cognizance of this event and to participate fittingly in its observance by recognizing the positive impact this historic landmark and influential congregation has had in our City.

Given this 15th day of September, in the Common Era 2019/5779, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-third.



Thomas G. Ambrosino
Chelsea City Manager

TRIBUTES

Loving memory, Celia Cohen, grandmother,
great grandmother, great-great grandmother,
Bubbe to all.
Elaine Cohen

In memory of Morris Wolper
by Allan and Paul Landau

In honor of all those who came before us and
sustain us.
Ken and Janice Isaacs

In memory of the Max and Ida Karas family.
Nick and Minna Karas-Marino

For our dear friend Ellen Rovner whose heart
and curiosity have enriched us all.
Fondly, Carol, Michele and Barry

FAMILY DONATIONS

Benton Abrams

Loving family of Gilbert N. Arons and
founder Charles Arons

Daniel Barth

David Barth

Robin Benmergui

Loving family of Past Presidents Louis Brown
and Murray Brown

Meryl and Larry Dannenberg

Sandra Gold

Mark Locke

Ana Melecio

Kenneth and Judith Rosenthal

Susan Ribock Shnidman

Barbara Young-Nair



chelsea jewish tours

Ellen Rovner, Ph.D.


chelseajewishtours.wordpress.com

ellen.chelseajewishtours@gmail.com

**In memory of
Joseph Driben
and the entire
Driben family.**



*Aaron, Susan,
Samuel and Alison Driben*



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**In memory of
CHELSEA JEWISH PIONEERS
*Niman and Emma Freedman***



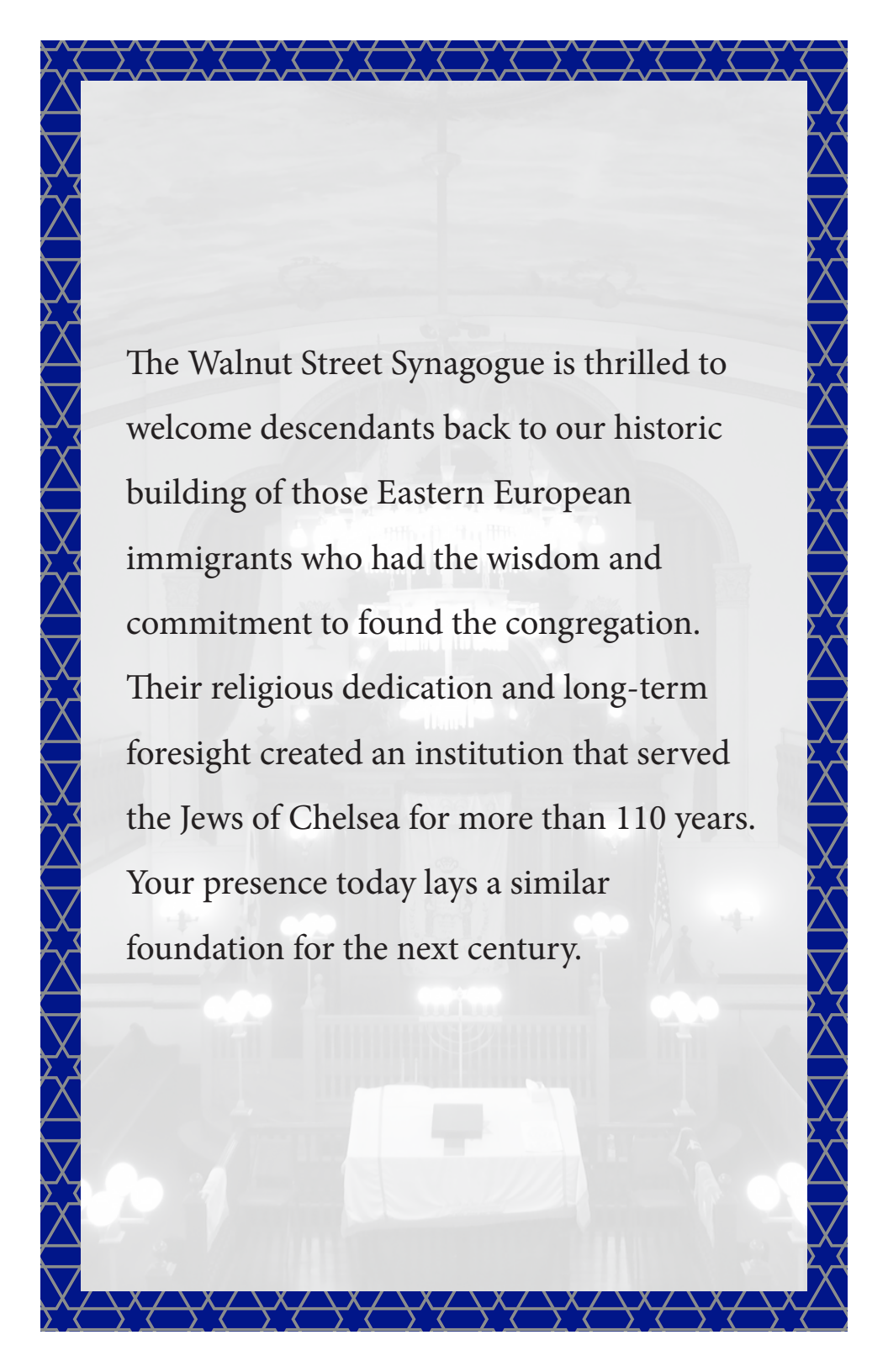
**First President of the
WALNUT STREET SYNAGOGUE
*Niman Freedman***



**CHELSEA HIGH SCHOOL
Class of 1917
*Dora Freedman Jackson***

Tom Barth

**THE RESNEK FAMILY
congratulates the Walnut Street
Synagogue
and wishes everyone
a happy and healthy new year.**



The Walnut Street Synagogue is thrilled to welcome descendants back to our historic building of those Eastern European immigrants who had the wisdom and commitment to found the congregation. Their religious dedication and long-term foresight created an institution that served the Jews of Chelsea for more than 110 years. Your presence today lays a similar foundation for the next century.



SAMUEL D. GRUBER, Ph.D.

International Jewish art and architecture historian



Sam is an internationally known art and architecture historian. A focus of his work has been on the preservation of synagogues, cemeteries, and other Jewish historic landmarks across the United States and in Eastern and Central Europe.

Sam writes a blog, Sam's Jewish Art and Monuments, to document his studies at historic sites. He is currently an instructor in Jewish studies at Syracuse University and Cornell University.

He has served as president of the International Society of Jewish Monuments, Founding Director of the Jewish Heritage Council of the World Monuments Fund, and Research Director of the U.S. Commission for the Preservation of America's Heritage Abroad.

He has written two books — *American Synagogues: A Century of Architecture*, and *Jewish Community and Synagogues (The Great Architecture Series)*. He has also contributed articles to various publications.

Sam received a B.A. in Medieval Studies from Princeton University, and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University in Art History and Archeology.

MILESTONES IN THE HISTORY OF JEWISH

1864

First Jewish resident of Chelsea, Nathan Morse, arrives

1897

Chelsea Hebrew School moves to Winnisimmet Street

1909

Congregation Agudas Shalom formed from merger of Ohabei Shalom, Agudas Achim and Beth Hamidrash Hagadol

1890

Talmud Torah (forerunner of Chelsea Hebrew School) opens at 23 Medford Street

1900

Chevra Kadisha of Chelsea is incorporated

1903

Chelsea YMHA and YMHA opens

1915

Future Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis delivers keynote address for national conference of the American Federation of Zionists before a crowd of 5000 on Everett Avenue

1899

Chelsea Charitable Hebrew Loan Association (became Chelsea Free Loan Association) is incorporated

1908

Great Chelsea Fire (building under construction destroyed)

1916

Bikur Cholim is formed

1891

Chelsea Hebrew Ladies Charitable Society (became Jewish Family Society) is incorporated

1909-11

Current building is constructed, with four floors and 1109 seats in sanctuary

1887

First gathering for services takes place at the home of Monas Berlin (evolved into Congregation Ohabei Shalom on Cherry Street)

1901

Land at Walnut and Fourth Streets is purchased for synagogue

H CHELSEA AND THE “QUEEN OF SHULS”

1930

Bellingham Lodge, Knights of Pythias, is formed

1979

Chelsea Hebrew School closes

1925

Chelsea Hebrew School (AKA Chelsea-Revere Hebrew School) opens on Washington Avenue

1941

Walnut Street Synagogue's cemetery is dedicated in Everett

2010

Leonard Florence Center for Living opens on Admirals Hill

1944

Mortgage for synagogue at 145 Walnut Street is burned

1993

Walnut Street Synagogue is added to National Register of Historic Places

1933

Torf Funeral Services opens

1983

YMHA/YWHA closes

1941

Or Israel Talmudic Academy is founded

1993

Restored Walnut Street Synagogue is rededicated after two-year fundraising campaign

1937

Chelsea Hebrew School Ladies Auxiliary is formed

1973

Another Chelsea Fire damages much of city

1919

Chelsea Jewish Nursing Home opens on Lafayette Street

1997

Florence Cohen Levine Estates opens on Admirals Hill

IN MEMORY OF

*Samuel Weinberg,
Etta Weinberg and Irene
(Dolly) Weinberg*



*Harry Weinberg
Formerly of Grove Street*

GOOD WISHES TO

Walnut Street Synagogue

*for many years of a vital Jewish
presence in the community.*



*From the Krentzman Family
In honor of our grandparents
Sarah and Samuel Krentzman*



NORMAN H. FINKELSTEIN

Boston Jewish historian and award-winning author



Norman H. Finkelstein is a Boston Jewish historian, author, educator, and retired public school librarian.

He is a long-term instructor in the Prozdor program at Hebrew College where he received the Louis Hilson Memorial Award for the Advancement of Jewish Education.

Norm has written eighteen books, including two which have won the National Jewish Book Award – *Forged in Freedom: The American Jewish Experience*, and *Heeding the Call: Jewish Voices in America's Civil Rights Struggle*. He also was awarded the Golden Kite Honor Book Award for Nonfiction for *With Heroic Truth: The Life of Edward R. Murrow*.

He is a member of the Authors Guild, the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, the Association of Jewish Libraries, and the Biographers International Organization.

Norm is a graduate of Chelsea High School. He received his undergraduate from Boston University, and his graduate degree from Hebrew College.

Special Thanks

We are grateful to the following organizations and individuals who contributed to the extensive genealogical research on our founders:



JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF GREATER BOSTON

Carol Clingan

Jessie Klein, *co-president*

Carolyn Kohlman, *co-president*

David Rosen



The Wyner Family
Jewish Heritage
Center™

at NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

JEWISH HERITAGE CENTER

Rachel King, *Director*

Stephanie Call, *Associate Director of Archives and Education*



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Alice Kane, *Library Patron Services and Consultations Manager*

Melanie McComb, *Staff Genealogist*

Helen Herzer

Barbara Porter

Marie Wells

Lois Lober

Sheila Thomas

Mary Alice Yost

Greg Thumith

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

*The Karll Family
and the Shefschick Family*



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SHELDON YOUNG

Musician and Songwriter



Sheldon Young, a member of the Chelsea High School graduating Class of 1947, who studied music at Boston's Conn School, is a lifelong songwriter. As he told the Chelsea Record in 2012: *"I've written many songs, I've been writing songs all my life."*

Sheldon's haimish lyrics evoke the warmth and nurturing of the Chelsea Jewish community, a community that blossomed with the religious and cultural richness of the Old Country in our own welcoming America.

Sheldon writes songs whenever he is inspired by events or people. In his poem CHELSEA he wrote:

Chelsea
Brings back a million memories
Brings back together families
Familiar places, familiar faces
Only in Chelsea by the sea
Say it slow because you know
You don't want it to go away

Sheldon, son of the late Norman Bernard Young and the late Sarah Young, grew up with a piano at home so he has always been around music! While Sheldon now lives in Boston, he remains an active member of the Walnut Street Synagogue and still attends regularly. His contributions to the shul were recognized during a program arranged by Herbie Kupersmith.

IN HONOR OF CONGREGATION AGUDAS SHOLOM
WALNUT STREET SYNAGOGUE

*Like A "Fiddler on the Roof" when the congregation prays the music plays;
new words to the music of "Sunrise Sunset"*



This is the Shul I once attended
This is where I was once a child
This is where I remember hearing
DAHVEN SHTILL

This is where I sat with my parents
This is where we would come to pray
I can still hear the Chazen singing
AH ZOY SHAIN

Sunrise, Sunset, Sunrise, Sunset
Swiftly flow the days
Faces through my mind as I gaze

Sunrise, Sunset, Sunrise, Sunset
Swiftly flow the years
One season following another
Leaden with happiness and tears

I can remember crowds of people
There were so many everywhere
Dressed up for Shabbos and for Yom Tov
Each week of each year

Here there will always be a minyon
At Walnut Street Agudas Sholom
And always a voice to remind us
DAHVEN SHTILL

Sunrise, Sunset, Sunrise, Sunset
Swiftly flow the years
One season following another
At Congregation Agudas Sholom

*New lyrics by Sheldon M. Young
Original lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, Music by Jerry Bock
From the show "Fiddler on the Roof"*

WHAT IS YIDDISHKITE, WHAT IS JEWISHNESS



What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
It's in every part of your being
Every time your heart is beating
You are left with a very warm feeling

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
Tzedaka, tzedaka, tzedaka
Donation, donation, donation
We give with our hands with all of our
heart
To benefit a charity
Of which we want to be a part.

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
You have the answer when you ask the
question
It's in the very word you mention
See how it captures your attention

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
It's in the very life you're living
Everything you do and say is revealing
In everything you say, in everything you do
It's obvious you are a Jew

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
It's in the cholent, the kugel and the
tzimmes
It's the fish with the very hot radish
And after we have feasted deserving a
machiah
It's time to rest, digest and wait for the
Messiah

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
A little bit of wine, a little bit of liquor
But not to drink and forget and be
shikkur
There are six hundred thirteen
commandments to remember

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
It's in every holiday we celebrate
In every single prayer we articulate
In every greeting to each other when
we speak
As in a special good Shabbos every
seventh day of the week

What is Yiddishkite, what is Jewishness
Sometimes there seems no end to the
praying
Every prayer that we say we keep on
saying
When we end with Omaine we must
remember
To begin over again
on Rosh Hashonah

*Lyrics and music by
Sheldon M. Young*

To honor
MORRIS WOLPER
from the Wolper Family



*Founding member, past president
of the Walnut Street Shul*



ZABOT AND ZABOT-HALL FAMILIES
IN MEMORY OF

*Kopel and Sarah Zablotsky
Hyman and Ruth Zabot*



*May we continue to be a source of strength to
the Jewish community*

SHALOM MAGAZINE

Passover/Spring 2019 Edition



THE HISTORIC WALNUT STREET SYNAGOGUE OF CHELSEA

By Tom Barth

Just across the Tobin Bridge from Boston, literally next to Route 1 southbound in Chelsea, lies a living Jewish historic landmark.

The Walnut Street Synagogue, home of Congregation Agudas Sholom, has been serving the community for 110 years at the corner of Walnut and Fourth Streets.

Jews from Eastern Europe began to arrive in Chelsea in the late 1800s to escape from pogroms. They began to meet for prayer in private homes starting in 1887. The first group evolved into Congregation Ohabei Shalom which later merged with Congregations Agudas Achim and Beth Hamidrash Hagadol to form Congregation Agudas Sholom in the first decade of the 1900s. Their nearly completed synagogue was consumed by the Great Fire of 1908.

The present building was built at the same site in 1909 and was thought to be the largest synagogue in New England with a seating capacity of 1,109 in the sanctuary on the second and third floors when it opened.

The first floor still houses two chapels, one for daily minyan and one for Shabbat services, and a kitchen. The second floor houses men's seating, the bimah, and the carved wooden ark. The third floor houses the women's gallery with seating nearly equal to that in the men's section.

The Chelsea Jewish community opened a Cheder (school), built a Mikvah (ritual bath), established a Chevra Kadisha (burial society), a Free Loan Society and formed 18 synagogues by the early 20th century. The density of Jews per square mile was considered to be the second highest in America outside of New York City. The Walnut Street Synagogue was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1993.

Looking forward, plans are to establish the Chelsea Jewish Museum and Cultural Center at the Walnut Street Synagogue that will house the community's artifacts, including items from synagogues that have closed. The facility will have exhibits and host cultural programs open to the entire community that will reflect its long immigrant history.

Descendants of Chelsea Jewish pioneers will be honored with a Founders' Day program on Sunday, September 15, 2019. Details will be provided on the synagogue website and Facebook page.

A Facebook group, "*Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now*", has been created for former and current Chelsea Jews and their families and friends to post memories, stories, and photos.

HERB KUPERSMITH

Honorary Chair



Herb Kupersmith, known far and wide as Herbie, has been a member of the Walnut Street Shul for most of his 80 years. He came to Chelsea when he was two and became Bar Mitzvah in 1952 in the historic main sanctuary, with 650 people in attendance.

Herb developed a love of sports at an early age, and was a basketball star both at the Williams School and at Chelsea High School. After high school, his first job was selling shoes at Kennedy's and Filene's. From there, he had other jobs in sales before taking a position at Bobbie Brooks, a sportswear company, where he set sales records and remained for 25 years. After that, he worked in the clothing business in both sales and manufacturing and, to this day, is working selling giftware to TJ Maxx and Marshalls!

Although Herb moved to Marblehead with his wife Sondra (Cookie) to raise his three daughters, Karyn, Stacy, and Marci, his connection to Chelsea has never wavered. He was inspired to a lifetime of service by his grandmother, Fannie Sugarman, and his mother, Sally Kupersmith, to whom he pledged to "keep the shul open." There is no aspect of the life of the shul that hasn't benefitted from his work, especially fundraising--he led the effort for the major restoration in 1993. Herb is famous for not having a rolodex or computer, and carrying all his contact information in his personal bag.

In recognition of Herb's decades of tireless and dedicated commitment to the Walnut Street Shul, he is being given the inaugural presentation of the HERB KUPERSMITH HINEINI AWARD, to be given periodically in his honor.

High Holidays Schedule

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Sunday, September 29

Candle lighting, Mincha and
Maariv 6:12 pm

ROSH HASHANA DAY 1

Monday, September 30

Shacharis 9:30 am
Torah Reading and Shofar 10:30 am
Taschlich 5:30 pm
Mincha/Maariv 6:10 pm

ROSH HASHANA DAY 2

Tuesday, October 1

Shacharis 9:30 am
Shofar approximately 12:00 pm
Mincha/Maariv 6:10 pm
Holiday ends 7:08

EREV YOM KIPPUR

Tuesday, October 8

Candle lighting/fast begins 5:56 pm
Mincha followed by Kol Nidrei and
Maariv 5:50 pm

YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, October 9

Shacharis 9:30 am
Yitzkor approximately 11:45 am
Mincha 5:00 pm
Neilah 5:50 pm
Maariv 6:50 pm
Holiday ends 6:54 pm

**In dear loving memory of our
father Norman Bernard Young
our mother Sarah Young and
part of their family**

**Norton Howard Young
Elaine Young
Neal Harvey Young**

**of 56 Arlington Street
where the tree of Yiddishkite
blossomed.**



*Sheldon M Young, Carol Bell,
Sandra Padulsky,
Carl W. Young, Jordan Young,
and Barbara P. Nair*

**In tribute to my father
and mother
who introduced
The Walnut Street Synagogue
to me at age 6, and
I have been going ever since.**



Harold Mindel

Continued Success Walnut Street
Synagogue
and A Happy and Healthy
New Year to All



Sharon and Rony Shapiro

In honor of Herb Kupersmith
for his Chesed and dedication
to the Walnut Street Synagogue.

Mazal Tov to the Walnut Street
Synagogue of Chelesea on
the special occasion of its
Founders' Day Event.



*With best wishes,
Jerry and Leslie Harris*



לְדוֹר וְדוֹר
From one generation
to the next.



*Ellen Rovner and
Michael Zimman*

Notes



*The Medros Family
congratulates the
Walnut Street Synagogue
on Founders' Day.*



*Continue to honor the past
and build for the future.*



*Mazal Tov on this
special occasion.*

*Wishing you blessings as
you go forward.*



The family of Joseph and Rae Gann